

# HEAT WAVES, FLOODS AND THE HEALTH IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

A Prototype Training Workshop for City Officials

2010



### © World Health Organization 2010

All rights reserved. Requests for permission to reproduce or translate WHO publications — whether for sale or for noncommercial distribution — should be addressed to the WHO Centre for Health Development, I.H.D. Centre Building, 9th Floor, 5-1, 1-chome, Wakinohama-Kaigandori, Chuo-ku, Kobe City, Hyogo Prefecture, 651-0073, Japan (fax: +81 78 230 3178; email: wkc@wkc.who.int).

The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

The mention of specific companies or of certain manufacturers' products does not imply that they are endorsed or recommended by the World Health Organization in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned. Errors and omissions excepted, the names of proprietary products are distinguished by initial capital letters.

All reasonable precautions have been taken by WHO to verify the information contained in this publication. However, the published material is being distributed without warranty of any kind, either express or implied. The responsibility for the interpretation and use of the material lies with the reader. In no event shall the World Health Organization be liable for damages arising from its use.

Printed in Japan.

## **CONTENTS**

OVERVIEW	2
SESSION 1:	An overview of climate change and human health: risks and responses 5
SESSION 2:	Health situation in cities 13
SESSION 3:	Weather, climate, and climate change 17
SESSION 4:	Health impacts of climate extremes 25
SESSION 5:	Climate change and infectious diseases 35
SESSION 6:	How much disease could climate change cause? 47
SESSION 7:	Stratospheric ozone depletion 53
SESSION 8:	Monitoring health impacts of climate change 57
SESSION 9:	Public health research focus in studying climate change 67
SESSION 10:	Assessing community vulnerability and adaptive capacity 71
SESSION 11:	Planning public health interventions to address climate change and its health impacts 81
CONCLUSIO	NS AND RECOMMENDATIONS 91
Answers to Quic	k Quizzes 93

Contents

## **OVERVIEW**

During the sixty-first World Health Assembly in 2008, health ministers from 193 member states approved Resolution WHA 61.19 Climate change and health. Member states are urged:

- to develop health measures and integrate them into plans for adaptation to climate change as appropriate;
- to build the capacity of public health leaders to be proactive in providing technical guidance on health issues, be competent in developing and implementing strategies for addressing the effects of, and adapting to, climate change, and show leadership in supporting the necessary rapid and comprehensive action;
- to strengthen the capacity of health systems for monitoring and minimizing the public health impacts of climate change through adequate preventive measures, preparedness, timely response and effective management of natural disasters;
- to promote effective engagement of the health sector and its collaboration with all related sectors, agencies and key partners at national and global levels in order to reduce the current and projected health risks from climate change;
- to express commitment to meeting the challenges posed to human health by climate change, and to provide clear directions for planning actions and investments at the national level in order to address the health effects of climate changes.

In order to respond to this call, there is a need to develop the capacitities of the health sector and its partners on three key points: understanding climate change, understanding how it impacts health, and developing means of adapting to climate change to avert or minimize its health effects.

This training package, which targets city officials as its primary users, aims to help develop competencies in these three areas. It contains reading materials, as well as a guide for study. The package is designed to accompany a workshop, but it can also be used for self-paced learning in

a less structured setting. After going through this training programme, the learner will be able to develop action plans at the city level to address the health impacts of climate change. The learner will also be able to draft resolutions that city councils and leaders can adopt in support of these actions.

Exercises in the training manual help the learner achieve four important objectives that contribute to the global response to climate change: raising awareness in communities, engaging partners at all levels, promoting and supporting the generation of scientific evidence, and strengthening health systems to cope with the health threats posed by climate change.

The main resource is the book: Climate Change and Human Health: Risks and Responses (Editors: McMichael, Campbell-Lendrum, Corvalan, Ebi, Githeko, Scheraga, Woodward WHO/WMO/UNEP. 2003). The learner will also be using resources from the Intergovernmenal Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and reports from the World Health Organization (WHO).

In terms of entry level compentence, a city official dealing with health problems and issues is expected to already have background knowledge on topics such as infectious disease, cardiovascular disease, diarrhoea, malnutrition and the physiological effects of temperature extremes. Prior knowledge of disaster management (e.g., caring for populations affected by floods), and public health program planning, is advantageous. It is also essential to have a good grasp of the procedures and mechanisms through which action plans can be pursued and implemented (e.g., how to have resolutions or ordinances approved, or how to secure funding).

There are many technical terms in the readings, largely within the realm of ecology, the environmental sciences and in particular, meteorology and climatology. It is important that the learner apply knowledge in these branches of

Overview 2

science to a very practical concern: assessing the impact of climate change in one's city, and planning public health interventions to address this threat. The knowledge gained here can be the starting point for change in one's community.

## Objectives

After going through this manual, the learner should be able to:

- Define key terms and concepts of climate change and human health
- Describe the effects of climate change on human health
  - ▶ Identify the health impacts of climate extremes
  - Explain the link between climate change and infectious disease
  - Determine the approximate magnitude of the health impacts of climate change
  - Explain the interaction between ozone depletion and greenhouse gas-induced warming
- Describe the effects of climate change on the learner's city
  - ▶ Analyse the current health situation
  - ▶ Identify the main climate-related health threats
  - ▶ Identify vulnerable populations
- Plan public health interventions to address climate change and its health impacts
  - Discuss issues related to monitoring health impacts of climate change
  - Discuss key areas that can be addressed by public health research
  - Describe possible policies and measures to respond to climate change

## How this Manual is Organized

This manual is divided into eleven Sessions.

- Session 1: An overview of climate change and human health – risks and responses
- Session 2: Health situation in cities
- Session 3: Weather, climate, and climate change
- Session 4: Health impacts of climate extremes
- Session 5: Climate change and infectious diseases

- Session 6: How much disease could climate change cause?
- Session 7: Stratospheric ozone depletion
- Session 8: Monitoring health impacts of climate change
- Session 9: Public health research focus in studying climate change
- Session 10: Assessing community vulnerability and adaptive capacity
- Session 11: Planning public health interventions to address climate change and its health impacts
- Conclusions and recommendations

Each Session has the following sections:

- Objectives Learning objectives are stated for each session. Use these as guides for gauging level of accomplishment of tasks to be done in this training programme.
- Study Time and Workshop Time In this section, the learner is advised to allot time for self-study. Although a number of hours is recommended for each session, more self-study time is recommended for topics that are not very familiar. Self-study is important as not all topics will be "lectured" in a classroom setting. Advance preparation gives more opportunities to reflect on issues, and often results in better group discussions. The learner will also be able to identify the areas where more guidance or information are needed, and questions can then be posed to resource persons. Workshop Time will be determined by the facilitator/coordinator.
- Readings This manual is based on the book Climate Change and Human Health: Risks and Responses (Editors: McMichael, Campbell-Lendrum, Corvalan, Ebi, Githeko, Scheraga, Woodward WHO/WMO/UNEP. 2003). Throughout this manual, there will be references to chapters from this book as well as from resources from the IPCC and WHO. These materials are available on the accompanying CDROM or on the web. Note that the session titles do not exactly correspond to the chapters in the book.

3 Overview

- Quick Quizzes In many of the sessions, there are tests on factual knowledge, with answers given on pages 93 to 95. This self-assessment can be used as a guide to check understanding of a topic. If difficulties are encountered, it is best to go through the readings again, or ask a resource person to explain the topic. Remember that memorization of facts and figures is not the end goal of this training program. More important is the development of skills for analysis and application of knowledge gained.
- Activities These give opportunities to apply knowledge and skills learned in solving problems in one's own context. Throughout this manual, there are
- references to figures in the text Climate Change and Human Health: Risks and Responses, represented by this icon . Activities may be accomplished individually or in groups, depending on the design of the workshop. Not all activities need to be completed, and in some cases, options are provided. Instructions regarding activities will be discussed by your workshop coordinator/facilitator.
- Worksheets These help to structure responses to questions in the Activities. The forms aid in preparing presentations and in compiling workshop outputs into a personal or group portfolio. The accompanying CDROM contains a digital version of these worksheets.

## **SESSION 1:**

An overview of climate change and human health: risks and responses

## Objectives

After completing this session you should be able to:

- Define key terms and concepts on climate change and human health
- With other participants, establish a common framework on climate change and human health

## Study Time

2 hours

## Workshop Time

90 - 120 minutes

## Readings

Climate Change and Human Health: Risks and Responses (Editors: McMichael, Campbell-Lendrum, Corvalan, Ebi, Githeko, Scheraga, Woodward WHO/WMO/UNEP. 2003)

- Preface
- Chapter 1 Global climate change and health: an old story writ large

### Quick Quiz

- The primary challenge facing the world community
  is to achieve sufficient reduction in
  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ so as to avoid dangerous
  interference in the climate system.
- 2. The answer to Question #1 is comprised principally of carbon \_\_\_\_\_\_, although other gases like methane, nitrous oxide and various human-made hydrocarbons are also involved.

- 3. During the 20th century, world average surface temperature increased by approximately \_\_\_\_\_ degrees C, which exceeds the upper limit of natural (historical) variability.
- 4. As a society becomes wealthier, more literate and better able to exert legislative control, do the following community-wide environmental hazards increase or decrease?
  - Heavy air pollution
  - b. Household wastes
  - c. Coliform bacteria in water
  - d. Heavy metals
  - e. Chlorofluorocarbon emissions
  - f. Carbon dioxide emissions
  - g. Biodiversity loss
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_ refers to the supplies of food, water and raw materials, and the environmental "sinks" into which waste is emptied. It is large in modern industrialized societies.
- 6. \_\_\_\_\_ refers to actions taken to lessen the impact of climate change.

### **Activities**

### Activity 1-1

Study Figure 1-1 

, which shows the global temperature record since instrumental recording began in 1860.

- 1. Why is there such a large variation in the high and low estimates for future decades?
- 2. What are the central estimates for 2050 and 2100? How much higher are these temperatures compared to the present time?

3. To what extent is the temperature increase attributable to human influence?

### Activity 1-2

Study Figures 1-4 and 1-5 , which show the interrelationships between major types of global environmental change, including climate change, and their effects on health.

- 1. Trace the pathway from regional weather change to an increase in vector-borne diseases.
- 2. Describe the health effects of changes in temperature extremes (more heatwaves and less winter cold).
- 3. Describe the effects of increases in extreme weather events (floods, cyclones, storm-surges, droughts).
- 4. What disease conditions would increase if there are low supplies of freshwater?
- 5. What disease conditions would increase if there is loss

- of agricultural productivity?
- 6. How does conflict over decreasing resources affect human health?

### Activity 1-3

There is a hierarchy of control strategies that can help to protect population health in the advent of climate change: administrative/legislative, engineering, and personal/behavioural.

- Cite an administrative or legislative strategy in your city that protects population health in the advent of climate change.
- Give an example of an engineering strategy that can be adapted to protect population health in the advent of climate change
- 3. Describe three specific personal/behavioural strategies that you can do (or are already doing) as an adaptation to climate change.

	Date:	WORKSHEET 1-1
	Name/s:	
г	T' 11 TO 1:11 1 11 1.	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
rre	om Figure 1-1 🖾 , which shows the global temperatur	e record since instrumental recording began in 1860:
1.	Why is there such a large variation in the high and low	estimates for future decades?
2.	What are the central estimates for 2050 and 2100? He present time?	ow much higher are these temperatures compared to the
3.	To what extent is the temperature increase attributable	to human influence?

	Date:	WORKSHEET 1-2
	Name/s:	
	om Figures 1-4 and 1-5 🗠 , which show the interrelation luding climate change, and their effects on health:	onships between major types of global environmental change,
1.	Trace the pathway from regional weather change to an	increase in vector-borne diseases.
2.	Describe the health effects of changes in temperature e	xtremes (more heatwaves and less winter cold).
3.	Describe the effects of increases in extreme weather eve	ents (floods, cyclones, storm-surges, droughts).
4.	What disease conditions would increase if there are lov	v supplies of freshwater?
5.	What disease conditions would increase if there is loss	of agricultural productivity?
6.	How does conflict over decreasing resources affect hum	nan health?

Date:		WORKSHEET 1-3
Name/s:		
		o protect population health in the advent of climate change
administrative/legislative, engineering, an		
Cite an administrative or legislative strategy	in your city tha	at protects population health in the advent of climate change.
	1 . 1 1	
Give an example of an engineering strategy t	hat can be adap	ted to protect population health in the advent of climate change
Describe three specific personal/behavioura	al strategies that	t you can do (or are already doing) as an adaptation to climate
change.	Ü	
1.		
2.		
3.		

## **SESSION 2:**

## Health situation in cities

## Objectives

After completing this session you should be able to:

- Examine data on the health situation of your city
- Analyze how the health situation might be affected by climate change

## Study Time

2 hours

## Workshop Time

30 - 60 minutes

## Readings

#### **Documents on National Health Statistics**

Possible sources of information include:

- World Health Organization (http://www.who.int/countries/en)
- Nationmaster
   (http://www.nationmaster.com)
- Ministry of Health website
- Ministry of Tourism website
- Ministry of Environment website

### Weather/climate information

- Websites of meteorological insitutes/centers (http://www.worldweather.org)
- Weather reports from news agencies

Climate Change 2007: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (Ulisses Confalonieri and Bettina Menne. [M.L. Parry, O.F. Canziani, J.P. Palutikof, P.J. van der Linden and C.E. Hanson (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom. 2007.

Chapter 8 – Human Health

## **Activity**

### Activity 2 -1

Find out about the following statistics in your city/country:

- Population
- Average height above sea level
- Temperature range
- Extreme weather events (floods, cyclones, stormsurges, droughts)
- 10 top causes of morbidity and mortality
- Under-5 mortality
- Childhood malnutrition statistics
- Immunization coverage
- Water and sanitation statistics
- Life expectancy
- Malaria/dengue/vector-borne disease prevalence
- Recent disease outbreaks
- Public/private spending for health

Discuss how the above statistics might change in the future because of climate change. You will find out more about the impacts of climate change in the succeeding sessions but at this point, record your thoughts (inferences) about how you think these statistics will be affected.

13 Session 2: Health situation in cities

## Quick Quiz

Here is a Quick Quiz on health and climate change. Are the statements true or false? Discuss your answers with a partner or a small group.

1.	Population health is not affected by climate change.	True	False
2.	Climate change can influence a rise in infectious diseases.		
3.	Chronic disease risks are likely to increase with climate change.		
4.	Child health can be affected by climate change.		
5.	Environmental pollution is caused by climate change.		
6.	Older people are more susceptible to heatwave-related deaths.		
7.	It is unlikely that climate change could cause social disruption.		
8.	Climate change influences the distribution of vector-borne infections such as malaria and dengue.		
9.	Seasonal distribution of allergens is unlikely to be influenced by climate change.		
10.	Disease outbreaks such as diarrhoeal diseases can be related to climate change.		
11.	Climate change increases the risk of flooding.		
12.	Malnutrition in developing countries might be worsened by climate change.		
13.	Extreme weather events increase mortality rates.		
14.	Climate change affects water supply.		
15.	Increased demand on health systems occurs with climate change.		

Session 2: Health situation in cities

Date:			WORKSHEET 2-1
Name/s:			
Country Statistics for			
Population	Current [	Data (Year)	Possible Effect of Climate Change
Average height above sea level			
Temperature range			
Extreme weather events (floods, cyclones, storm-surges, droughts)			
10 top causes of morbidity and mortality			
Under-5 mortality			
Childhood malnutrition statistics			
Immunization coverage			
Water and sanitation statistics			
Life expectancy			
Malaria/dengue/vector-borne disease prevalence			
Recent disease outbreaks			

Session 2: Health situation in cities

Public / private spending for health

## **SESSION 3:**

## Weather, climate, and climate change

## Objectives

After completing this session you should be able to:

- Differentiate between the terms "weather" and "climate"
- Describe the Greenhouse Effect
- Explain how climate has changed over the past thousands of years
- Compare recent climate changes (over the past 150 years)
   with those which have occurred over the past millennia
- Describe the projected climate changes in the 21st century, based on results of climate modelling

## Study Time

3 hours

## Workshop Time

60 - 120 minutes

## Readings

Climate Change and Human Health: Risks and Responses (Editors: McMichael, Campbell-Lendrum, Corvalan, Ebi, Githeko, Scheraga, Woodward WHO/WMO/UNEP. 2003)

Chapter 2 – Weather and climate as health exposures

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Working Group I, Third Assessment Report

### Quick Quiz

1. Put a check on the column that designates whether the definition refers to "weather" or "climate" or both.

	Weather	Climate
Always changing		
Considered in a time scale of minutes to weeks		
Day-to-day changing atmospheric conditions		
Considered over multiple years (e.g., a 30-year average)		
Characterized by temperature, precipitation, wind, cloudiness and humidity		
Characterized by soil moisture, sea surface temperature, and concentration and thickness of sea ice		
Average state of the atmosphere and underlying land or water in a region over a particular time scale		

2. Study Figure 2-2 磨 on the Greenhouse Effect. State whether the following statements are True or False.

	True	False
Most of the radiation from the sun is absorbed, which warms the Earth.		
The Earth and atmosphere reflect some radiation back out to space but some of this radiation hits greenhouse gas molecules in the atmosphere.		
Greenhouse gases include water vapour, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, halocarbons, and ozone.		
Greenhouse gases serve to cool the temperature of the Earth and lower atmosphere.		
Without the greenhouse effect, the Earth would be 33 degrees colder than present.		
Without the greenhouse effect, diurnal temperature range would be more stable.		

### **Activities**

### Activity 3-1

Study Figure 2-4 , which shows three schematic diagrams of global temperature variations.

The **lower panel** shows global average surface temperatures from the present (the right edge of the panel) to 1000 years before present. The Medieval Warm Period and Little Ice Age, both of which had important impacts on human development, are small variations compared with earlier variability. The middle panel shows global average surface temperature from the present (the right edge of the panel) to 10 000 years before present. The warming at the end of the last ice age is shown at the left edge. The top panel shows global average surface temperature from the present (the right edge of the panel) to 1 000 000 years before present. The high degree of volatility in global temperature is clear. Historically, global temperature was rarely as warm as it was in the 1980s (and surface temperature has increased since then). Comparing the top and lower panels shows that the Earth's climate has been relatively warm and stable for the past 10 000 years compared with earlier periods.

Make sure you understand these concepts. If you have questions, discuss these with a resource person.

Try explaining the graphs to a colleague or to another participant.

### Activity 3-2

Study Figures 2-4 and 2-5 . These show more recent temperatures, with those in the last 140 years having instrumental records. Global temperatures have been increasing since 1960, with a more rapid rate of increase in recent years. Temperature has been changing more rapidly over the past few decades than at any other time for at least the past 1000 years. Make sure you understand these concepts. If you have questions, discuss these with a resource person.

Try explaining the graphs to a colleague or to another participant.

#### Activity 3-3

Figure 2-7 shows General Circulation Models (GCMs) used to examine climate going back to 1850. The model estimates (in grey) were matched with actual observations

(in red). In the left graph, the GCMs were run with only natural climate forcings (such as volcanoes, etc.). There is a poor fit between the model runs and the observations. In the middle graph, the GCMs were run with only anthropogenic forcings (primarily greenhouse gas emissions). There is a better fit between the model and the observations, although there is still a poor fit in the middle of the 20th century. The right graph shows that when the GCMs included both natural and anthropogenic forcings, there is a good fit between the models and observations.

Using these graphs, explain the following statement:

Warming in the last 1,000 years "is unusual and is unlikely to be entirely natural in origin."

- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Working Group I, Third Assessment Report

What do the graphs tell you about the ability of models to provide useful projections about future climate? What

are the limitations of modelling in predicting climate conditions?

### Activity 3-4

Study Table 2-2 , which estimates confidence in observed and projected changes in extreme weather and climate events.

How likely would the following phenomena occur in your city? What would be the possible health effects?

- Higher maximum temperatures and more hot days
- Higher minimum temperatures and fewer cold days
- Reduced diurnal temperature range
- Increase of heat index (temperature and humidity)
- More intense precipitation events
- Increased summer continental drying
- Increase in tropical cyclone peak wind intensities
- Increase in tropical cyclone mean and peak precipitation intensities

	WORKSHEET 3-3
S:	
	- ! d 1 - 4 1000
origin."	g in the last 1000 years "is unusual and is unlikely to be entirely

Date:	WORKSHEET 3-4
Name/s:	

## How likely would the following phenomena occur in your city? What could be the possible health effects?

Higher maximum temperatures and more hot days	Likelihood of Event	Possible Health Effects
Higher minimum temperatures and fewer cold days		
Reduced diurnal temperature range		
Increase of heat index (temperature and humidity)		
More intense precipitation events		
Increased summer continental drying		
Increase in tropical cyclone peak wind intensities		
Increase in tropical cyclone mean and peak precipitation intensities		

## SESSION 4:

## Health impacts of climate extremes

## Objectives

After completing this session you should be able to:

- Identify potential health impacts of climate extremes
- Identify possible health impacts of climate extremes in your city

## Study Time

3 hours

## Workshop Time

90 - 120 minutes

## Readings

Climate Change and Human Health: Risks and Responses (Editors: McMichael, Campbell-Lendrum, Corvalan, Ebi, Githeko, Scheraga, Woodward. WHO/WMO/UNEP. 2003.)

- Chapter 3 International consensus on the science of climate and health: the IPCC Third Assessment Report
- Chapter 5 Impacts on health of climate extremes

Climate Change 2007: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (Ulisses Confalonieri and Bettina Menne. [M.L. Parry, O.F. Canziani, J.P. Palutikof, P.J. van der Linden and C.E. Hanson (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom. 2007.

Chapter 8 – Human Health

For more information on communicable diseases following floods, see "Communicable diseases following natural disasters: risk assessment and priority interventions"

available from: http://www.who.int/diseasecontrol\_emergencies/guidelines/CD\_Disasters\_26\_06.pdf

### **Activities**

In Activities 2-1 and 3-4, you noted possible effects of climate change on health in your city. In this session, we will further discuss the relationship between climate and health.

Climate change currently contributes to the global burden of disease and premature deaths. Human beings are exposed to climate change:

- directly through changing weather patterns (temperature, precipitation, sea-level rise and more frequent extreme events) and
- indirectly through changes in water, air and food quality and changes in ecosystems, agriculture, industry and settlements and the economy. (See Activity 4-1)

Emerging evidence of climate change effects on human health shows that climate change has:

- altered the distribution of some infectious disease vectors,
- altered the seasonal distribution of some allergenic pollen species, and
- increased heatwave-related deaths. (See Activity 4-2)

Projected trends in climate-change-related exposures of importance to human health will:

- increase malnutrition and consequent disorders, including those relating to child growth and development,
- increase the number of people suffering from death, disease and injury from heat waves, floods, storms, fires and droughts (see Activity 4-3),
- continue to change the range of some infectious

- disease vectors (see Activities 5-1 and 5-2),
- have mixed effects on malaria; in some places the geographical range will contract, elsewhere the geographical range will expand and the transmission season may be changed (see Activities 5-3 and 5-4),
- increase the burden of diarrhoeal diseases,
- increase cardio-respiratory morbidity andmortality associated with ground-level ozone,
- increase the number of people at risk of dengue, and
- bring some benefits to health, including fewer deaths from cold, although it is expected that these will be outweighed by the negative effects of rising temperatures worldwide, especially in developing countries.

### Activity 4-1

Study Figure 5-1 . Find out about any unfamiliar terms. The El Niño/Southern Oscillation (ENSO) causes droughts in some regions, and floods in others. Where these overlap and interact with suitable ecological and socioeconomic conditions (within dotted lines), they may cause disease outbreaks (dark shaded area). For example, flooding in which a stream overflows its banks can result in changes in mosquito abundance and contamination of surface water, both of which could lead to disease outbreaks. Explain how ENSO affects your city. (Note that it is possible that your city is not directly affected by ENSO, however, your city may still be affected because of trade ties with, migration to/from, disease spread from neighbouring areas which are directly affected.)

#### Activity 4-2

Hot days, hot nights and heatwaves have become more common. An increase in the frequency or intensity of heatwaves will increase the risk of heat illness for the entire population. However, older age groups, the urban poor, rural populations, and outdoor workers are particularly vulnerable. Risk is increased at an individual level because of certain predisposing factors:

- Age and disease profile, including obesity
- Lack of acclimatization
- Low level of fitness
- Long-term high-level exercise or heavy physical

- work e.g., workers in the following industries: construction, agriculture, forestry, fishing, metal works
- Dehydration due to reduced food and liquid intake
- Intestinal problems
- Use of drugs diuretics, or drugs affecting the temperature regulation system such as stimulants, ß-blockers, anticholinergics, digitalis, barbiturates, and other medications
- Alcohol abuse
- Fatigue, sleep deprivation
- Low socioeconomic status
- Poor or substandard housing conditions
- Low prevalence of air conditioning
- Poor ventilation in homes, buildings, indoor workplaces
- Exposure to pollution, e.g., from forest fires
- Behaviour (such as use of protective clothing)

Discuss the presence of these risk factors in your community.

### Activity 4-3

Floods are the most frequent natural weather disaster. Impacts of recent storm and flood disasters show that even high-income countries are not well prepared to cope with extreme weather events. Adverse health impacts are greatest in low-income countries. Those at greater risk include, in all countries, the urban poor, the elderly and children, traditional societies, subsistence farmers, and coastal populations.

Following is a list of some of the impacts of hurricanes and floods on health and health care provision:

- Immediate deaths and injuries from trauma or drowning
- Non-specific increases in mortality
- Population displacement
- Adverse effects on food production
- Problems with freshwater availability and quality
- Increased risk for infectious diseases leptospirosis, hepatitis, respiratory diseases, diarrhoea, cholera, cryptosporidiosis, typhoid fever, and other vectorborne diseases
- Exposure to toxic substances contamination of drinking water with dangerous chemicals from storage or from chemicals already in the environment

- Mental health effects post-traumatic stress disorder, behavioural disorders in young children; these effects may be a larger health burden than immediate deaths and injuries.
- Increased demands on health systems
- Loss of/damage to hospitals and health facilities

Discuss how your community currently deals with hurricanes and floods. Describe your community's emergency response system. As climate change affects the frequency and severity of these weather events, discuss how the community might be able to improve its response capabilities.

Date:	WORKSHEET 4-1
Name/s:	
plain how the El Niño / Southern Oscillation (ENS	O) affects your city.

Date:	WORKSHEET 42
Name/s:	
t the risk factors for heat illness in your commun	nity and estimate which populations are most affected.
Risk Factors	Demographics (who, where, how many)

Date:	WORKSHEET 4-3
Name/s:	

How does your community currently deal with hurricanes and floods? Describe your community's emergency response system. As climate change affects the frequency and severity of these weather events, discuss how the community might be able to improve its response capabilities.

Characteristics of current emergency response system for extreme weather events	Needed improvements/modifications in light of climate change

# **SESSION 5:**

# Climate change and infectious diseases

### Objectives

After completing this session you should be able to:

- Explain the link between climate change and infectious diseases
- Discuss malaria as an example of an infectious disease whose prevalence is likely to increase with climate change

### Study Time

3 hours

## Workshop Time

90 - 120 minutes

### Reading

Climate Change and Human Health: Risks and Responses (Editors: McMichael, Campbell-Lendrum, Corvalan, Ebi, Githeko, Scheraga, Woodward WHO/ WMO/UNEP. 2003)

Chapter 6 – Climate change and infectious diseases

Climate Change 2007: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (Ulisses Confalonieri and Bettina Menne. [M.L. Parry, O.F. Canziani, J.P. Palutikof, P.J. van der Linden and C.E. Hanson (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom. 2007.

• Chapter 8 – Human Health

### Quick Quiz 5-1

For this session, you will need a good working knowledge of how infectious diseases are transmitted.

Study Figure 6-1 . This summarizes the four main types of transmission cycles for infectious diseases. Draw a line between the types of disease and their matching descriptions.

The pathogen is transmitted through physical contact or droplet exposure. However,

Indirectly transmitted

Directly transmitted anthroponoses

Indirectly transmitted zoonoses

Directly transmitted zoonoses

The pathogen is transmitted through physical contact or droplet exposure. However, these agents are spread naturally among animal reservoirs and the infection of humans is accidental; examples include Hantavirus and rabies.

These are a class of diseases defined by pathogen transmission between two human hosts by either a physical vehicle (soil) or a biological vector (tick). The complete transmission cycle includes the pathogen, the vehicle or vector, and the human host. Examples include malaria and dengue fever.

These are diseases in which the pathogen is normally transmitted directly between two human hosts through physical contact or droplet exposure, such as measles, TB, and HIV.

The complete transmission cycle includes the pathogen, the vehicle or vector, the animal reservoir, and the human host; Rift Valley fever is an example.

### **Activities**

### Activity 5-1

There are many drivers of health issues. Weather and climate are not the only determinants of climate-sensitive health outcomes. Other key factors influencing the state of health of a community include:

- Population growth
- Urbanization
- Public health funding
- Scientific developments
- Environmental conditions
- Number and distribution of populations at risk
  - Poor
  - ► Children
  - ▶ Elderly
  - Immunocompromised

For example, increasing urbanization in unplanned communities without access to safe water and sanitation

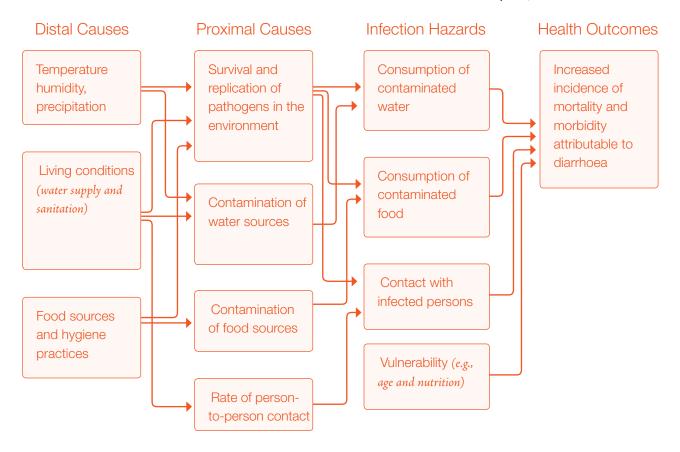
will increase diarrhoeal disease independent of any effect of temperature. However, temperature, humidity, and precipitation can affect the proximal causes of diarrhoeal disease, particularly the survival and replication of pathogens in the environment, and the contamination of water sources. The proximal causes then determine infectious disease hazards. (See Figure below)

Discuss how increased incidence of mortality and morbidity attributable to diarrhoea might occur in your city. In your setting, what other factors (boxes) should be included in this model?

#### Activity 5-2

Temperature and precipitation affect vector- and rodent-borne diseases in various ways. For a comprehensive listing, refer to Table 6-1 .

What vector- and/or rodent-borne diseases might increase in your city because of climate change? Draw a model (similar to the one shown on Activity 5-1) that illustrates this.



### Quick Quiz 5-2

Climate change has mixed effects on malaria. Write INCREASE or DECREASE in the blanks below.

- 1. As temperature becomes warmer, malaria is projected to \_\_\_\_\_\_ in higher latitudes and altitudes.
- 2. During droughts, mosquito activity is reduced and, as a consequence, the population of nonimmune persons
- 3. When the drought breaks, there is a much larger proportion of susceptible hosts to become infected, therefore there is a potential \_\_\_\_\_\_ in transmission.
- 4. In some areas, droughts may favour increases in mosquito populations due to \_\_\_\_\_\_ in mosquito predators.
- 5. In the long term, when the mosquito vector lacks the necessary humidity and water for breeding, the incidence of mosquito-borne diseases \_\_\_\_\_\_
- The northern limit of Plasmodium falciparum
  malaria in Africa is the Sahel, where rainfall is an
  important limiting factor in disease transmission.
  Malaria has \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in association with longterm decreases in annual rainfall in Senegal and
  Niger.
- 7. In India, as temperature becomes warmer, malaria is projected to \_\_\_\_\_\_ in higher latitudes and altitudes.
- 8. In Australia, anopheline vectors are projected to expand their habitat southward, but future risk of endemicity is not expected to \_\_\_\_\_\_ because of the health service's capacity to respond.

### Activity 5-3

Visit the website of MARA/ARMA (Mapping Malaria Risk in Africa/Atlas du Risque de la Malaria en Afrique): http://www.mara.org.za.

This project mapped and modeled the current distribution of malaria in sub-Saharan Africa. The website contains prevalence and population data, and regional and county-level maps. MARA/ARMA developed a biological model based on the minimum and mean temperature constraints on the development of the *Plasmodium falciparum* parasite and the *Anopheles* vector, and on the precipitation constraints on the survival and breeding capacity of the mosquito.

#### Search for the following:

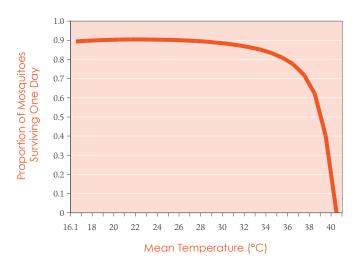
- Map showing the distribution of malaria in Africa
- Map showing the endemic/epidemic risk areas in Africa
- Map showing the duration of the malaria season in different parts of Africa
- Malaria prevalence model
- Population distribution

How will the distribution and prevalence of malaria be affected by climate change?

To help you in answering this question, consider the following graphs showing how the development of the parasite is affected by temperature.

For a detailed discussion, refer to this reference: MARA/ARMA. 1998. Towards an Atlas of Malaria Risk in Africa: First Technical Report of the Mara/ARMA Collaboration.

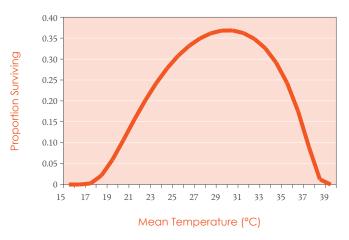
# Relationship between temperature and daily survivorship of Anopheles



Chapter 3, Focus B-Modeling. Durban. Available online from: http://www.mara.org.za/

Temperature is a major factor determining the distribution and incidence of malaria. Temperature affects both the *Plasmodium* parasite and the *Anopheles* mosquito, with thresholds at both temperature extremes limiting the survival or development of the two organisms. *Anopheles* must live long enough to bite an infected person, allow the parasite to develop and then bite a susceptible human. As shown, the proportion of mosquitoes surviving one day decreases when ambient temperature increases above 35°C.

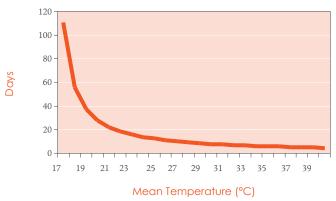
Proportion of vectors surviving time required for parasite development



The lower temperature threshold of 18°C is based on the time required for parasite development and length of mosquito survivorship at that temperature; below 18°C few parasites can complete development within the lifetime of the mosquito (see next slide). mosquito survivorship rate peaks at 31°C. At this point, almost 40% of the mosquitoes survive long enough for the parasite to complete its development cycle. temperatures rise above 32°C, the mosquito's probability of survival decreases. However, higher temperatures enable the mosquitoes to digest blood meals more rapidly, which in turn increases the rate at which they bite. This increased biting rate coupled with faster development of the parasite leads to increased infective mosquito bites for those mosquitoes that do survive. The upper temperature threshold for both mosquitoes and larvae to survive is 40°C.

The number of days required for the parasite to develop decreases significantly as temperatures rise.

Relationship between temperature and time required for parasite development



Activity 5-4

Many factors affect the range and incidence of infectious diseases. In addition to climate, there are also sociodemographic factors and environmental influences.

### Sociodemographic influences

- Human travel, trade, and migration
- Disease control efforts
- Drug resistance
- Nutrition

#### Environmental influences

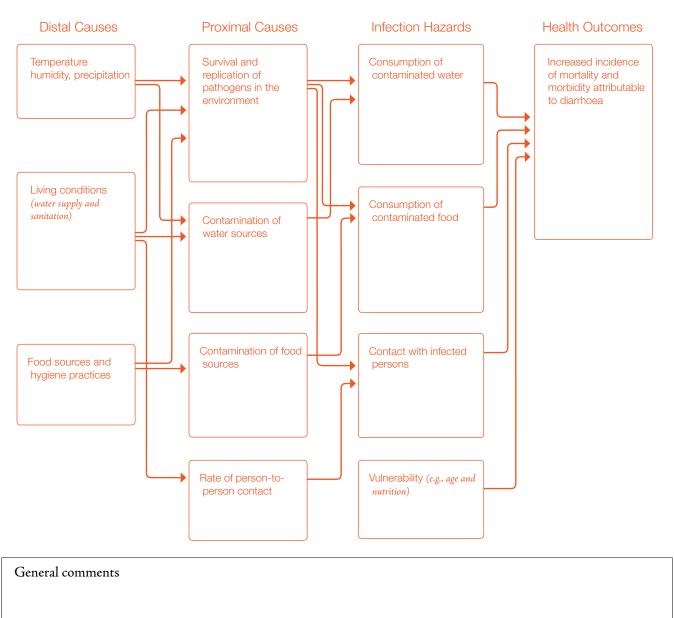
- Land-use, including deforestation, agricultural development, and urbanization
- Ecological influences

Climate change has mixed effects on the range of diseases such as malaria; drug resistance, disease control programs, and land use are probably more important factors. However, this does not mean that climate change might not play a larger role in the future.

Discuss current efforts toward malaria prevention and control in your country. What factors support or hinder their success? How would your work be affected by the projected change in the distribution of malaria?

Date:	WORKSHEET 5-1
Name/s:	

Explain how climate change might increase the incidence of diarrhoea. In your setting, what other factors (boxes) should be included in this model?



te:			WORKSHEET
me/s:			
vector- and/or rodes	nt-borne diseases might increa	ase in your city because of cli	mate change? Draw a
ar to the one shown o	n Activity 5-1) that illustrates	this.	
Distal Causes	Proximal Causes	Infection Hazards	Health Outcome

/s:	
the distribution and prevalence of malaria be affected by climate change?	

Date: Name/s:	WORKSHEET 5-4
cuss current efforts toward malaria prevention and cont cess? How would your work be affected by the projected	trol in your country. What factors support or hinder the change in the distribution of malaria?
Characteristics of current system for malaria prevention and control	Needed improvements/modifications in light of climate change

# **SESSION 6:**

How much disease could climate change cause?

### Objectives

After completing this session you should be able to:

Determine the approximate magnitude of the health impacts of climate change

### Study Time

2 hours

# Workshop Time

60 minutes

# Readings

Climate Change and Human Health: Risks and Responses (Editors: McMichael, Campbell-Lendrum, Corvalan, Ebi, Githeko, Scheraga, Woodward WHO/ WMO/UNEP. 2003)

 Chapter 7 – How much disease could climate change cause?

### World Health Report 2002 (WHO)

 Chapter 4 – Environmental Health Risks http:// www.who.int/whr/2002/chapter4/en/index7.html

Global Burden of Disease Project (WHO) http://www.who.int/topics/global\_burden\_of\_disease/en/

Climate Change 2007: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (Ulisses Confalonieri and Bettina Menne. [M.L. Parry, O.F. Canziani, J.P. Palutikof, P.J. van der Linden and C.E. Hanson (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom. 2007.

Chapter 8 - Human Health

### **Activities**

Activity 6-1

Visit this website:

Global Burden of Disease Project (WHO) http://www.who.int/topics/global\_burden\_of\_disease/en/

Familiarize yourself with the Global Burden of Disease Study, which began in 1990. The Global Burden of Disease (GBD) 2004 project updated the 1990 and 2000-2002 studies.

The objective of the study is to quantify the burden of disease and injury in human populations. The burden of disease refers to the total amount of premature death and morbidity within a population. The study aims to produce the best possible evidence-based description of population health, the causes of lost health, and likely future trends in health in order to inform policy-making.

The GBD study introduced a new metric – the Disability-Adjusted Life Year (DALY) – as a single measure to quantify the burden of diseases, injuries and risk factors. The DALY is based on years of life lost from premature death and years of life lived in less than full health.

Regarding climate change, the Comparative Risk Assessment 2000 study compared observed and projected climate conditions (based on several climate change scenarios) with a counterfactual situation, represented by average climate conditions during 1961-1990, when the effect of carbon emissions on climate was thought to be minimal. Health outcomes were selected which include: heat and cold related cardiovascular disease mortality, diarrhoeal disease, vector-borne diseases, inland and coastal floods, and malnutrition.

In the GBD 2004 study, estimations were done using projections from the original analysis, then linked to health outcomes, including malaria incidence, diarrhoea incidence, malnutrition (via the effects on yields of agricultural crops) and flooding. Potential risks to health include deaths from thermal extremes and weather disasters, vector-borne diseases, a higher incidence of food-related and water-borne infections, photochemical air pollutants and conflict over depleted natural resources.

Climate change was estimated to be responsible for approximately 3% of diarrhea, 3% of malaria, and 3.8% of dengue fever worldwide in 2004. Total attributable mortality was 141 000 (0.2%) deaths, and the attributable burden was 5.4 million (0.4%) DALYs (see table below). About 43% of the DALYs were estimated to have occurred in the WHO South-East Asia Region, 38% in countries in Africa, and 14% in countries in the Eastern Mediterranean region. Around 85% of worldwide attributable mortality were child deaths.

Climate change will have the greatest effect on health in societies with scarce resources, little technology and frail infrastructure.

#### Activity 6-2

Chapter 7 of the book showed you how to estimate burden of disease attributable to a risk factor. For each such factor, we need to know:

- Burden of the disease
- Estimated increase in risk of each disease per unit increase in exposure ("relative risk")
- Current population distribution of exposure, or future distribution as estimated by modelling exposure scenarios

On the global scale, much work has already been done on selected health outcomes as seen in Activity 6-1: direct impacts of heat and cold, episodes of diarrhoeal disease, cases of dengue and *Falciparum* malaria, fatal unintentional injuries in coastal floods and inland floods/landslides, and non-availability of recommended daily calorie intake.

What country/city data do you currently have in order to estimate burden of disease due to climate change? What data need to be generated? Which agencies in government

Deaths and DALYs attributable to five environmental risks and to all five risks combined by region, 2004.

Risk	World	Low and middle income	High income
Percentage of deaths			
Indoor smoke from solid fuel	3.3	3.9	0.0
Unsafe water, sanitation, hygiene	3.2	3.8	0.1
Urban outdoor air pollution	2.0	1.9	2.5
Global climate change	0.2	0.3	0.0
Lead exposure	0.2	0.3	0.0
All five risks	8.7	9.6	2.6
Percentage of DALYs			
Indoor smoke from solid fuels	2.7	2.9	0.0
Unsafe water, sanitation, hygiene	4.2	4.6	0.3
Urban outdoor air pollution	0.6	0.6	0.8
Global climate change	0.4	0.4	0.0
Lead exposure	0.6	0.6	0.1
All five risks	8.0	8.6	1.2

Source: WHO (2009) Global health risks: mortality and burden of disease attributable to selected major risks. Geneva.

or the private sector might be of help? List information sources, particularly websites. These would be very useful in Session 8, Activity 8-3.

### Activity 6-3

Read Chapter 8 – Human Health, in Climate Change 2007: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability, particularly section 8.4.2.1 about vulnerable urban populations, and section 8.4.2.4 on populations in coastal

and low-lying areas.

What are the main climate-related health threats your city?

Use the Ishikawa fishbone diagram to identify the actionable root causes of a problem (within a given time frame and limited resources).

Read more about Ishikawa diagrams at: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ishikawa\_diagram

Date:		WORKSHEET 6-3
Name/s:		
n 1 . 1. 1		
hat are the main climate-related tionable root causes of a problem	health threats in yo (within a given time	our city? Use the Ishikawa fishbone diagram to identify te frame and limited resources).

# **SESSION 7:**

# Stratospheric ozone depletion

# Objectives

After completing this session you should be able to:

- Explain interactions between ozone depletion and greenhouse gas-induced warming
- Describe the effects of ozone depletion and increased exposure to ultraviolet radiation on health

# Study Time

2 hours

### Workshop Time

120 minutes

# Reading

Climate Change and Human Health: Risks and Responses (Editors: McMichael, Campbell-Lendrum, Corvalan, Ebi, Githeko, Scheraga, Woodward WHO/WMO/UNEP. 2003)

 Chapter 8 – Stratospheric ozone depletion, ultraviolet radiation and health

### Quick Quiz

True or false?

		True	False
1.	Stratospheric ozone destruction is a separate process from greenhouse gas accumulation in the lower atmosphere.		
2.	CFCs and NO <sub>2</sub> are examples of anthropogenic greenhouse gases that are also ozone-depleting gases.		

3.	Warming in the troposphere induces cooling of the stratosphere, which	
	exacerbates ozone destruction.	
4.	Loss of ozone leads to warming of the stratosphere.	
5.	Global climate change may delay recovery of the ozone layer.	
6.	Global climate change is likely to alter patterns of personal exposure to solar radiation, leading to a rise in skin cancers.	

### **Activities**

#### Activity 7-1

Study Table 8-1 M, which summarizes possible effects of solar ultraviolet radiation on the health of human beings. Some of the certain or possible health impacts of stratospheric ozone depletion are listed. Many epidemiologic studies have reported an association between UVR exposure and skin cancer in fair-skinned people. High intensity UVR also damages the outer tissues of the eye, leading to a number of health impacts. UVR exposures cause both local and whole body immunosuppression in humans and experimental animals; however, little direct evidence exists for UVR exposure influencing the patterns of infectious diseases. A variety of other effects have been reported.

Discuss how increased incidence of these disease conditions will affect your city.

#### Activity 7-2

Study Figure 8-3 M which estimates ozone depletion and skin cancer incidence in the US fair-skinned population under a scenario of no restrictions on emissions of CFC, a scenario reflecting the original Montreal Protocol

A Prototype Training Workshop for City Officials

of a 50% reduction in the production of the five most important ozone-depleting chemicals by the end of 1999, and a scenario reflecting achievement of the Copenhagen Amendment to the Montreal Protocol (production of 21 ozone-depleting chemicals reduced to zero by the end of 1995).

The graph does not take into consideration that climate change is projected to delay the healing of the ozone hole by at least several decades. With a partner or a small group, discuss how the graph might be altered if climate change is considered. What do you think are the implications of this? (Note, this is a discussion activity so there is no worksheet.)

te:	WORKSHEET
me/s:	
uss how increased incidence of di	s caused by exposure to ultraviolet radiaten will affect your city.
Disease	Impact

# **SESSION 8:**

# Monitoring health impacts of climate change

## **Objectives**

After this session, you will be able to:

- Discuss issues related to monitoring the health impacts of climate change
- Explain criteria for selecting diseases for monitoring to measure the impact of climate change
- Select diseases for monitoring in your own setting
- List data needs for monitoring the health impact of climate change
- Plan your own monitoring system for specific categories of health impacts

### Study Time

3 hours

# Workshop Time

45 - 60 minutes

# Readings

Climate Change and Human Health: Risks and Responses (Editors: McMichael, Campbell-Lendrum, Corvalan, Ebi, Githeko, Scheraga, Woodward WHO/WMO/UNEP. 2003)

- Chapter 4 Looking to the future challenges for scientists studying climate change and health
- Chapter 10 Monitoring the health effects of climate change

WHA 62.11 Climate change and health: Report by the Secretariat to the Sixty-second World Health Assembly. 6 March 2009.

Protecting Health Health from Climate Change: Global Research Priorities. World Health Organization. 2009.

Summary Report: WHO workshop on research

priorities for climate change and health in urban settings. 27-28 November 2008.

### **Activities**

### Activity 8-1

Detection and measurement of the health impacts of climate change are needed to provide evidence on which to base national and international policies related to adaptation and mitigation measures. Three issues related to monitoring are: (1) documenting evidence of climate change, which requires collecting data to demonstrate that the climate has changed in the area being monitored; (2) attributing changes in health outcomes to climatic change, which requires separating its influence from other factors; and (3) appropriately collecting and analyzing health and climate data, as well as data on potential modifiers of the relationship between climate and health, so that there is sufficient confidence that any observed change in health is the result of a climatic effect rather than an alteration in population susceptibility.

Issues related to monitoring health impacts of climate change

- Evidence
  - Not just seasonal and inter-annual variation
- Attribution
  - Influence of climate has to be separated from the other influences on health outcomes
- Effect modification
  - Climate and non-climate factors change over the time scale at which climate change is evident
  - Extent of adaptation is one determinant of vulnerability

Read the scenarios on Worksheet 8-1 and find out whether they are real or "reel" (manufactured as in a movie) cases of impact of climate change. Justify by discussing the three main issues for monitoring. Use the worksheet for your answers.

Criteria for selecting diseases for monitoring health impacts of climate change

- Evidence of climate sensitivity
  - Demonstrated through either observed health effects of temporal or geographical climate variation, or evidence of climate effects on components of disease transmission process
- Significant public health burden
  - Monitoring should focus on diseases that are significant threats to public health
- Practicality
  - Dependable, consistent, long-term data records needed for both health outcome and environmental factors

### Activity 8-2

Given that limited resources will be available to implement new (or revise existing) monitoring systems, priorities must be identified. Criteria for selecting diseases for monitoring climate sensitivity (demonstrated include evidence of through either observed health effects of temporal or geographical climate variation, or evidence of climatic effects on components of the disease transmission process); potential to significantly threaten public health (diseases with a high current prevalence and/or severity) and considered likely to become more prevalent under climate change; and practical issues such as choosing monitoring sites where change is most likely to occur. Priorities will vary between regions with differences in current climate, level of socioeconomic development, and spectrum of disease. Monitoring systems should take account of local needs and be alert to the appearance of potential new health concerns. List potential diseases for monitoring in your own setting using the above criteria. Select which number (rating) corresponds to your perceived evidence of climate sensitivity, magnitude of public health burden and practicality. Use the following rating scale 1=very low, 2=low, 3=fair, 4=high, 5=very high. Add all the numbers to get a total score. The disease which gets the highest score should be top priority for monitoring.

#### Activity 8-3

There are many research areas in the field of climate change and health. During the World Health Assembly in March 2009, it was acknowledged that:

There are some important gaps in our knowledge, in particular about the current and potential future impacts of climate-related risks, the degree of population vulnerability, characteristics of vulnerable groups, the type of surveillance and alert and emergency management systems, the most useful indicators for monitoring and evaluation of the criteria for action, as well as the comparative effectiveness of different adaptation and mitigation policies for health promotion and protection.

### This requires that we:

- Assess the burden of disease attributable to climate change and project it to future years using existing and new approaches.
- Review and develop methodologies and guidelines on how to evaluate vulnerability to climate changerelated health effects at local, national and regional levels.
- Develop a clearinghouse of existing health protection strategies in Member States and make the information widely available. Assess comparative effectiveness, including cost-effectiveness.
- Support and monitor research to improve public health knowledge on the health risks of climate change and on the most effective interventions to manage those risks.
- Assess the health impact of adaptation and mitigation policies in other sectors and identify the most effective actions which have the potential to benefit health.
- Identify and develop indicators to monitor climate

- change-related health outcomes within surveillance systems.
- Work with other relevant scientific organizations to develop a comprehensive international assessment of the economic costs associated with the health effects of climate change under different scenarios of adaptation and mitigation action and/or inaction.

In 2009, WHO published Protecting Health Health from Climate Change: Global Research Priorities. This document recommends five focus areas for the global research community.

- Assessing the risks
- Identifying the most effective interventions
- Guiding health-promoting mitigation and adaptation decision in other sectors
- Improving decision-support
- Estimating the costs of protecting health from climate change

Read about these research areas. Which research questions are of interest to you? Which research efforts would your city support? Find out more about the local, national and international efforts in these areas and see how you can contribute.

Consider holding a workshop on determining your city's research priorities and create a document that encapsulates your city's research agenda. For an example of this, see Summary Report: WHO workshop on research priorities for climate change and health in urban settings. 27-28 November 2008.

### Activity 8-4

A broad range of data is needed to monitor the impacts of climate on health. The specific meteorological variables required will depend on the health outcome of concern. Climate measurements at the local scale, and in important microclimates, should be recorded in study sites where health outcome data are being collected. Monitoring should be sensitive and specific enough to quantify changes in the intensity and temporal and geographic distribution of the health outcome. Data also need to be collected on other explanatory factors, such as the age structure of the population at risk, the underlying rates of disease, the level of socioeconomic development, environmental conditions (for example, land use), the quality of health care, and the effectiveness of control measures. All data need to be collected on the same temporal and spatial scale (see Figure 10-1 ).

Plan for your own monitoring of the health impacts of climate change. Use the worksheet overleaf.

Date:	WORKSHEET 8-1
Name/s:	

# Real or reel impacts of climate change?

Scenario	Evidence	Attribution	Effect Modification	Verdict: Real or Reel
Increased deaths among     the very young and very old     during heat wave				
2. Chest pains, nausea, and pulmonary congestion in areas that are warmer by 2 degrees Celcius (four degrees Fahrenheit)				
3. Deaths due to extreme weather events (typhoons, floods, drought)				
4. Increased incidence of skin cancer				
5. Outbreaks of new infectious diseases like SARS, avian flu				
6. Re-emergence of malaria				
7. Increased cases of cholera				

Date:	WORKSHEET 8-2
Name/s:	

# Prioritizing diseases to be monitored

Disease to be monitored	Evidence of climate sensitivity		Magnitude of public health burden			Practicality					Total score					
1.	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	
2.	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	
3.	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	
4.	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	
5.	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	
6.	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	
7.	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	
8.	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	
9.	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	
10.	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	

Date:	WORKSHEET 8-4
Name/s:	

How can you monitor the health impacts of climate change in your city? Use the table below as a guide for structuring data collection efforts.

	Principal health	Target population	Sources/methods	Other variables	
	outcomes	population	HEALTH DATA	METEOROLOGICAL DATA	
Thermal extremes					
Extreme weather events					
Food- and water-borne diseases					
Vector-borne diseases					

# **SESSION 9:**

Public health research focus in studying climate change

### Objectives

After this session, you will be able to:

- Explain the focus of public health research in studying climate change and its impact on health
- Discuss key areas that can be addressed by public health research in relation to climate change
- List possible topics for research on climate change and health

# Study Time

3 hours

# Workshop Time

60 minutes

# Readings

Climate Change and Human Health: Risks and Responses (Editors: McMichael, Campbell-Lendrum, Corvalan, Ebi, Githeko, Scheraga, Woodward WHO/WMO/UNEP. 2003)

- Chapter 4 Looking to the future challenges for scientists studying climate change and health
- Chapter 13 Conclusions and recommendations for action

### **Activities**

### Activity 9-1

Public health research focus in assessing the potential health effects of climate variability and change include:

- Establishing baseline relationships between weather and health
- Seeking evidence for early effects of climate change
- Developing scenario-based models
- Evaluating adaptation options
- Estimating the coincidental benefits and costs of mitigation and adaptation.

Study Figure 4-1 . Consideration of the links between science and policy development must be incorporated in each of these steps.

Key areas to address in current and future research include:

- Identifying areas where the first effects of climate change on human health will be apparent,
- Improving estimates of climate change impacts by a combination of anticipated trends in adaptive capacity and climate scenarios, and
- Identifying the most helpful ways of expressing uncertainties associated with studies of climate change and health.

Study table 13-1 Me which lists examples of priority health research areas for different risk factors resulting from climate change.

For your own city, list some priority topics for possible public health research. Use the worksheet overleaf.

Date:	WORKSHEET 9-1
Name/s:	

List possible topics for research on climate change and health. Use the table below as a guide.

Type of public health research	Risk factors	Health effects	Possible research area	Topic sentence
Relationship between climate and health				
Evidence for early effects of climate change				
Scenario-based models				
Adaptation options				
Benefits and costs				

# **SESSION 10:**

# Assessing community vulnerability and adaptive capacity

## Objectives

After this session, you will be able to:

- Define the vulnerability and adaptive capacity of individuals and communities
- Identify vulnerable populations
- Discuss determinants of adaptive capacity
- Explain steps in assessing vulnerability and adaptive capacity

# Study Time

3 hours

## Workshop Time

60 minutes

# Reading

Climate Change and Human Health: Risks and Responses (Editors: McMichael, Campbell-Lendrum, Corvalan, Ebi, Githeko, Scheraga, Woodward WHO/WMO/UNEP. 2003)

- Chapter 9 National assessments of health impacts of climate change: a review
- Chapter 11 Adaptation and adaptive capacity in the public health context

#### Quick Quiz

Fill in the blanks.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_ is the degree to which individuals and systems are susceptible to or unable to cope with the adverse effects of climate change, including climate variability and extremes.

e answer	to #1	. 18 a	runction	OΙ
Ľ	answer	: answer to # i	: answer to # 1 is a	answer to #1 is a function

•	, which includes the extent to which
	health, or the natural or social systems on which health
	outcomes depend, are affected by changes in weather
	and climate (the exposure-response relationship) and
	the characteristics of the population, such as the level
	of development and its demographic structure;

to the weather or climaterelated hazard, including the character, magnitude and rate of climate variation; and

and actions in place to reduce the burden of a specific adverse health outcome, the effectiveness of which determines in part the exposure–response relationship.

3. Adaptation includes the strategies, policies and measures undertaken now and in the future to reduce potential adverse health effects. \_\_\_\_\_ describes the general ability of institutions, systems and individuals to adjust to potential damages, to take advantage of opportunities and to cope with the consequences. The primary is to reduce future vulnerability to climate variability and change.

4. \_\_\_\_\_ describes what could be implemented now to minimize the negative effects of climate variability and change. In other words, it encompasses the interventions that are feasible to implement today (in a specific population).

#### **Activities**

#### Activity 10-1

Who are the most vulnerable in your city? Where are they? How many are they?

In general, the vulnerability of a population to a health risk depends on the local environment, the level of material resources, the effectiveness of governance and civil institutions, the quality of the public health infrastructure and the access to relevant local information on extreme weather threats. These factors are not uniform across a region or country or across time and differ based on geography, demography and socioeconomic factors. In a city, the urban poor cannot choose where to live and as a result end up in the worst part of the city environment, prone to floods, landslides, fire or extremes of temperature. Effectively targeting prevention or adaptation strategies requires understanding which demographic or geographical subpopulations may be most at risk and when that risk is likely to increase. Thus, individual, community and geographical factors determine vulnerability.

Populations, subgroups and systems that cannot or will not adapt are more susceptible to weather and climate (for example, the urban poor who live in low-lying areas, slums and informal settlements, children, elderly adults, etc.).

#### Activity 10-2

In this activity, you will study the determinants of adaptive capacity.

To explain the observed diversity in the ability of systems to adapt (primarily to natural hazards), the IPCC offered the hypothesis that adaptive capacity is a function of a series of determinants:

- the range of available technological options for adaptation;
- the availability of resources and their distribution across the population;
- the structure of critical institutions, the derivative allocation of decision-making authority and the decision criteria that would be employed;
- the stock of human capital, including education and personal security;
- the stock of social capital, including the definition of property rights;
- the system's access to risk-spreading processes;
- the ability of decision-makers to manage information, the processes by which these decision-makers determine which information is credible, and the credibility of the decision-makers themselves; and

• the public's perceived attribution of the source of stress and the significance of exposure.

Use the worksheet overleaf to identify the indicators of adaptive capacity in your country/city.

#### Activity 10-3

Systematic assessments of the potential human health impacts of climate variability and change are needed to inform the development of adaptation strategies, policies, and measures to lessen projected adverse impacts. Guidelines have been developed for country-level assessments to help policy-makers make evidence-based decisions on risk management programs to increase resilience to current and future climates. The steps in an assessment typically include:

- 1. determining the scope of the assessment;
- 2. describing the current distribution and burden of climate-sensitive diseases;
- identifying and describing current strategies, policies, and measures designed to reduce the burden of climate-sensitive diseases;
- reviewing the health implications of the potential impacts of climate variability and change in other sectors;
- 5. estimating the future potential health impacts using scenarios of future changes in climate, socioeconomic, and other factors;
- 6. synthesizing the results and drafting a report; and
- 7. identifying additional adaptation policies and measures to reduce potential negative health impacts.

Key issues for ensuring that an assessment is informative, timely, and useful include stakeholder involvement, an adequate management structure, and a communication strategy.

Conduct an assessment of the vulnerability and adaptive capacity of your country/community. Follow the steps provided in the worksheet and write a narrative report.

		WORKSHEE
e/s:		
on to the effects of climate charsons are at risk?	ange, who are the most vulnerable	groups in your city? Where are th
Who	Where	Estimated Number

Date:	WORKSHEET 10-2
Name/s:	

Identify indicators of adaptive capacity of your country/city. Then rate using the following scale: 1=very low, 2=low, 3=fair, 4=high, 5=very high. Analyse where you need to suggest interventions to improve your country's/community's adaptive capacity. Explain your rating in the space below.

Adaptive Capacity	Indicators		Rati	ng S	cale	
1. Economic resources		1	2	3	4	5
2. Technology		1	2	3	4	5
3. Information and skills		1	2	3	4	5
4. Infrastructure		1	2	3	4	5
5. Institutions		1	2	3	4	5
6. Equity		1	2	3	4	5
7. Health status and pre-existing disease burdens		1	2	3	4	5

Dat	te:	WORKSHEET 10-
Nar	me/s:	
ndu	uct an assessment of the vulnerability and adaptive	e capacity of your country/community. Use the workshee
uide	e for writing a narrative report.	
Ί	The current distribution and burden of climate-sensi	tive diseases
Т	The association between climate and disease outcome	es

A Prototype Training Workshop for City Officials

	Current strategies, policies, and measures to reduce that burden (adaptation baseline)
_	
	Health implications of the potential impact of climate variability and change on other sectors
	Health implications of the potential impact of climate variability and change on other sectors
	Health implications of the potential impact of climate variability and change on other sectors
	Health implications of the potential impact of climate variability and change on other sectors
	Health implications of the potential impact of climate variability and change on other sectors
	Health implications of the potential impact of climate variability and change on other sectors
	Health implications of the potential impact of climate variability and change on other sectors
	Health implications of the potential impact of climate variability and change on other sectors
	Health implications of the potential impact of climate variability and change on other sectors
	Health implications of the potential impact of climate variability and change on other sectors
	Health implications of the potential impact of climate variability and change on other sectors
	Health implications of the potential impact of climate variability and change on other sectors
	Health implications of the potential impact of climate variability and change on other sectors
	Health implications of the potential impact of climate variability and change on other sectors
	Health implications of the potential impact of climate variability and change on other sectors
	Health implications of the potential impact of climate variability and change on other sectors
	Health implications of the potential impact of climate variability and change on other sectors
	Health implications of the potential impact of climate variability and change on other sectors
	Health implications of the potential impact of climate variability and change on other sectors

Assess	sment of vulnerabilitycontinued
5.	
6.	Synthesis of results
7.	Additional adaptation measures to reduce potential negative health effects

# **SESSION 11:**

Planning public health interventions to address climate change and its health impacts

## Objectives

After completing this session you should be able to:

- Plan specific public health interventions to address the health impacts of climate change
- Highlight which aspects of the plan can be implemented in one year

## Study Time

2 hours

## Workshop Time

90 - 120 minutes

# Readings

Climate Change and Human Health: Risks and Responses (Editors: McMichael, Campbell-Lendrum, Corvalan, Ebi, Githeko, Scheraga, Woodward WHO/WMO/UNEP. 2003)

- Chapter 12 From science to policy: developing responses to climate change
- Chapter 13 Conclusions and recommendations for action

#### **Activities**

#### Activity 11-1

Adaptation to climate change is needed because, as discussed previously, the Earth is committed to decades of climate change even after stabilization of greenhouse gas emissions is achieved. Further, climate change may occur more rapidly and with greater intensity than currently projected. The extent to which impacts are experienced will depend on the effectiveness of adaptation. Current societies are only

partially adapted to weather and climate, so improving adaptation will provide benefits now and in the future.

Adaptation is needed because:

- Climate change cannot be totally avoided
- Climate change may be more rapid and more pronounced than current estimates
- The severity of impacts will depend on the capacity to adapt and its effective deployment
- Immediate benefits can be gained from better adaptation to climate variability and extreme events
- Climate change brings opportunities as well as threats

Explain these five points in the context of your city.

#### Activity 11-2

Adaptations can be viewed in terms of existing or new risks. For existing risks, current programs should be modified to take climate variability and change into account. For example, low-lying and flood-prone areas in slums and informal settlements can be prioritized for slum-upgrading and city health officials can point out the critical importance of relocation of high risk homes and households. Current food safety programs may need to be enhanced to encourage proper food handling in a warmer world. prevention programs, such as vector-control programs, that have been neglected over the past few decades may need to be re-instituted to address concerns about the spread of vectorborne diseases in a warmer climate. For example, although climate change likely played a small role in past reductions in malaria incidence in temperate developed countries, this does not provide reassurance that climate will not play a larger role in determining the future range and intensity of malaria transmission. Because of the uncertainty about projected changes in climate and population health, it will be prudent to implement adaptation measures that will reduce disease burdens or increase population resilience no matter what the future climate would be.

Climate also will bring new risks, such as when thresholds are crossed either because a disease was close to its boundary conditions or because there was a sudden and/or large change in prevailing weather conditions. The best way to address these potential risks is to be prepared.

The following questions need to be addressed when designing adaptation policies and measures.

- Adaptation to what?
- Is additional intervention needed?
- What are the future projections for the outcome?
   Who is vulnerable?
- Who adapts? How does adaptation occur?
- When should interventions be implemented?
- How good or likely is the adaptation?

Adaptation to what – is adaptation required to flooding, the spread of vector-borne disease, etc.? The policies and measures implemented must be specific to both the weather/climate hazard and the health outcome of concern.

The effectiveness of interventions needs to be determined before improving current programs or implementing new ones. Are there additional interventions that could reduce the current burdens of climate-sensitive health outcomes? Would a heat event early warning system be useful? Additional surveillance?

Using projections of changes in climate and socioeconomic conditions, what are the likely impacts? Which population groups are likely to be at the highest risk? For example, ageing of populations in developed countries is likely to increase population vulnerability to heat events.

Who will undertake the adaptations – individuals, communities, nations? Will the adaptation be reactive to climate change or proactive? How can the process be facilitated? It is important to bear in mind that adaptation to climate change will work best when the affected groups are actively engaged in the process. Using participatory processes that enable people to express their doubts, fears and concerns is critical to achieving sustained adaptation.

When should the interventions be implemented? For example, there is concern about malaria spreading to

highland areas of Africa. Surveillance systems should be established at the edges of the current distribution where changes in temperature and/or precipitation could provide a suitable climate for malaria vectors. Once surveillance has identified the presence of the vectors, then programs to distribute treated bednets could be implemented.

Finally, the effectiveness of all interventions should be monitored and evaluated to ensure that public health funds are being used effectively and efficiently.

Action planning: What specific adaptation interventions in cities can be established, supported and disseminated to protect public health within a one-year time frame?

#### Activity 11-3

Your answers in Activity 11-1 and 11-2 can be transformed into a City Resolution. A resolution is simply a statement of commitment to take action.

A resolution typically has the following parts:

- Title Begin with the words "Resolution to..." and end with "in \_\_\_\_\_ City." Alternatively, you can start with "Resolution of \_\_\_\_\_ City..." then state the action that you want to undertake. Make sure that the name of your city is in the title.
- Resolution number Assign a unique number to the resolution. Check city records for numbering system.
- A short summary of contents This is a sentence or short paragraph describing the purpose of the resolution and what it aims to achieve. Start with "Resolution calling for (what) by (how, persons/ groups involved)..."
- Proponents The document should show the name of the person/committee/group that drafted and/or approved the resolution.
- Date and place of approval Note when and where the resolution was approved by the appropriate person/ committee/group. This can be written as "Duly passed on..." This information can be written with the title at the beginning of the document, or at the end.
- Justification for action This is a set of statements explaining the problem and why you are taking action to

resolve it. Use your answers in Acitivity 11-1 as a guide. Here are examples of how to begin each statement:

- ▶ Recalling...
- ▶ Realizing...
- ▶ Noting with concern...
- ▶ Recognizing the importance of addressing...
- ▶ Recognizing the need to...

It is also possible to use the word "whereas" to precede each statement. For example:

- ▶ Whereas, according to...
- ▶ Whereas, in the past...

End each statement with a semi-colon (;) except for the last statement which should end with a comma (,).

• Actions to be taken – This is the most important part of the resolution. Look closely at the Action Plan that you created in Activity 11-2 and pick out the concrete actions that should be undertaken by the person/committee/group making the resolution. The statements should be clear and concise. Make them SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Time-bound). It might be helpful to place numbers on the action points. Start by having only two to five action points in your resolution.

The format of the statements varies, but typically starts out with a verb (action word). For example:

- ▶ Requests (the Mayor, all city residents, etc.) to...
- ▶ Urges (the Mayor, all city residents, etc.) to...
- ▶ Hereby resolves to...
- ▶ Hereby adopts the recommendations of...
- Calls for...

It is also possible to begin the statement this way:

 Now, therefore, be it resolved, That (person/ committee/group)...

Some suggestions on writing resolutions:

 Review actual city resolutions to see the generally accepted format of the document in your particular

- setting.
- If there are different target groups for the same action points, specify these groups in the resolution and adapt the action points to each group's needs, capabilities and resources.
- Remember that it is often better to draft several resolutions detailing specific actions, than one big resolution that has no focus.

For an example of a resolution on climate change and health from the World Health Assemby, see WHA 61.19 (available on the workshop CD-ROM).

The following links show examples of city resolutions on participation in climate protection campaigns. These do not focus on the health implications of climate change, but they can serve as guides or inspiration for your formulation of a city resolution specific to public health related actions.

- Here is a template for writing a resolution prepared by the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign http://www.iclei.org/documents/USA/resolution.pdf
- Here are some examples of city/county resolutions related to climate change:
  - ► Joint resolution of the Board of County Commissioners and the Port Townsend City Council to commit to addressing energy use and climate change/global warming http://www.co.jefferson.wa.us/ commdevelopment/PDFS/Climate\_Change/ Co\_Res\_44-07\_City07-022.pdf
  - Resolution of the City and Borough of Juneau, Alaska Serial No. 2397: A resolution regarding CBJ Participation in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign http://www.juneau.org/assembly/ agendas/2007/2007-03-05/Resolution\_2397.pdf
  - Resolution of the City of Vancouver, Canada on Greenhouse Gas Emission Targets http://www.communityenergy.bc.ca/sites/ default/files/motionb3.pdf

Date:		WORKSHEET 11-1
Name/s:		
Explain the five statements below in the	context of your	city.
Climate change cannot be totally avoide	d	
Climate change may be more rapid and	more pronounce	d than current estimates
The severity of impacts will depend on	the capacity to ad	lapt and its effective deployment
Immediate honofits can be rained from	hattar adaptation	to climate variability and extreme events
inimediate benefits can be gamed from	setter adaptation	to chimate variability and extreme events
Climate change brings opportunities as	well as threats	

Date:	WORKSHEET 11-2
Name/s:	
se the worksheet as a guide for writing a climate change action plan for yo	ne city
	ur city.
Focus area for adaptation	
Justification for adaptation strategy/measure/policy	
justification for adaptation strategy, measure, postey	

A Prototype Training Workshop for City Officials

Climate change action plancontinued
Persons, groups, agencies involved
Description of specific adaptation strategy/measure/policy to be created or implemented

Climate change action plancontinued
Possible barriers or difficulties and how to overcome them
Monitoring and evaluation plan

A Prototype Training Workshop for City Officials

Dimate change action plancontinued				
Timetable (one-year time frame)				
Estimated cost				

# CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

# Key Principles in Agenda 21 and UNFCCC

- Precautionary approach
- Costs and responsibilities
- Equity

#### Precautionary Approach: Agenda 21

In order to protect the environment, the precautionary approach shall be widely applied to States according to their capabilities. Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation.

The precautionary principle is one approach used by policy-makers to decide when to institute policies and measures to protect a population from potential hazards with serious or irreversible threats to health or the environment before there is strong proof of harm. Invocation of the precautionary principle is a recommendation to implement policies and measures in the face of scientific uncertainty that harm will occur. It is essentially a "better safe than sorry" approach.

The precautionary principle posits that significant actions may be justified when the degree of possible harm is large and irreversible, such as sea level rise and the other possible consequence of anthropogenic climate change. The choices of possible actions range from doing nothing to banning a potentially harmful substance or activity. Many factors influence the choice of specific actions, including an assessment of the possible severity of the potential harm and the degree of scientific uncertainty associated with that assessment.

#### Precautionary Approach: UNFCCC

The Parties should take precautionary measures to anticipate, prevent or minimize the causes of climate change

and mitigate its adverse effects. Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing such measures.

#### Costs and responsibilities

- Mitigation of and adaptation to climate change will come at a cost
- Decisions on the policies and measures to be implemented need to be taken in light of other pressing public health issues
- It is important to seek opportunities for win-win solutions that make sense no matter what happens with the weather

Adaptation to and mitigation of climate change will come at a cost, and the human and financial resources required will likely be diverted from other public health issues. Therefore, decisions on the policies and measures to be implemented need to be taken in light of other pressing public health issues. Once individuals, communities, and nations have identified what they want to adapt to (e.g. increased frequency of heat events, or the possible spread of tick-borne encephalitis), then they need to decide what, when, where, and how measures will be implemented. The decision of whether to adapt now or later should be based on a comparison of the present value of expected net benefits associated with acting sooner or later. Addressing these questions has become more urgent with the realization that health-related climate change impacts are already occurring.

Adding adaptation measures into existing programs may not be costly. For example, integrated vector management programs could adjust some monitoring sites to determine if a vector or the disease it carries is expanding or contracting its range. The focus should be on win-win strategies that are designed to improve public health no matter what changes in weather and climate actually occur. In addition, there are opportunities to adapt to multiple factors. For example,

91 Conclusions and recommendations

the existence of federal flood insurance in the United States provides an incentive for development in high-risk coastal areas (as strongly evidenced in the 2005 hurricane season), which increases the risk of injury and death to coastal populations (Scheraga et al. 2003). Elimination of federal flood insurance today would reduce the size of the coastal communities currently at risk (at a financial cost to individuals living in coastal communities), and at future risk due to rising sea levels.

#### Equity

 Agenda 21: The right to development must be fulfilled so as to equitably meet the developmental and environmental needs of present and future

- generations.
- UNFCCC: The Parties should protect the climate system for the benefit of present and future generations of humankind on the basis of equity.

The Knowledge Network on Urban Settings, WHO Commission on Social Determinants of Health, notes how health inequity is created by both social and environmental determinants of health and that equity needs to be achieved within social groups of the city. It is recommended that local governments undertake municipal adaptation strategies to ensure that vulnerable groups and the urban poor in particular are given priority attention in planning, implementing and monitoring actions on climate change and health.

Conclusions and recommendations 92

# Answers to Quick Quizzes

#### Answers to Quick Quiz: Session 1

- 1. Greenhouse gas emissions
- 2. Carbon dioxide
- 3. 0.6
- 4. Increase or decrease?
  - a. Heavy air pollution decrease
  - b. Household wastes decrease
  - c. Coliform bacteria in water decrease
  - d. Heavy metals initially increase then decrease
  - e. Chlorofluorocarbon emissions initially increase then decrease
  - f. Carbon dioxide emissions increase
  - g. Biodiversity loss increase
- 5. Ecological footprint
- 6. Adaptation

### Answers to Quick Quiz: Session 2

- 1. **False.** Population health is affected by climate change at many levels, such as when there are extreme weather events that can cause deaths and decreased crop yield.
- True. Climate change can influence a rise in infectious diseases because of altered distribution of some infectious disease vectors such as mosquitoes that cause malaria and dengue.
- 3. **True.** Chronic disease risks are likely to increase with climate change in relation to extreme weather events as well as increase in air pollution and malnutrition.
- 4. True. Child health can be affected by climate change because of decreased food production and increased cases of infectious diseases. Estimates from the Global Burden of Disease Study in 2004 show that of worldwide climate change attributable mortality, 85% were child deaths.
- 5. **False**. Environmental pollution is causing climate change.
- True. There is an expected rise in heat related cardiovascular mortality due to climate change. Older people are more vulnerable to these effects.

- 7. **False.** Climate change can cause social disruption because of possible decreases in food production and freshwater supply.
- 8. True. Malaria and dengue cases may rise in some areas and decrease in others because of climate related changes in mosquito habitats. Development of the malaria parasite is also affected by temperature changes.
- False. Climate change can alter seasonal distribution of allergens. In combination with hotter temperatures and air pollution, those with asthma are at higher risk of having more frequent attacks.
- 10. **True**. Diarrhoea outbreaks are likely to increase when there is lack of freshwater supply. This can be due to water scarcity, or contamination as a result of flooding or saltwater intrusion. Children under the age of five are at highest risk.
- 11. True. Climate change is linked to changes in precipitation patterns and higher risk of flooding. Floods are increasing in intensity and frequency. Floods contaminate freshwater supplies, heighten the risk of water-borne diseases, and create breeding grounds for disease-carrying insects such as mosquitoes. Floods cause drownings and physical injuries. They damage homes and infrastructure, and often disrupt medical and health services.
- 12. **True**. Food production is adversely affected by drought or flooding. A delay in the start of the rainy season means a shortened growing season and reduction in the amount of water available for crops. Agricultural production is diminished by storms and flooding. Extreme weather can delay food transport.
- 13. True. Extreme weather events such as extreme heat and cold result in immediate increases in mortality. Heat-related mortality has a shorter lag time than cold-related mortality. Hot temperature shocks or heat waves are associated with an immediate increase in mortality, particularly for the elderly. Cold waves are associated with a spike in mortality not only during the cold days but also in the weeks that

93 Answers to Quick Quizzes

- follow. Infants, older adults, the poor, and those with cardiovascular and respiratory diseases are at highest risk.
- 14. **True**. Changes in precipitation patterns and melting of glaciers are two main causes of reduction of freshwater resources. Coastal communities could lose sources of freshwater supplies as sea levels rise and saltwater intrude into freshwater aquifers. Also, floods resulting from severe storms can cause contamination of freshwater supply.
- 15. True. Increased morbidity due to extreme weather events, migration and population displacement, altered distribution of infectious disease vectors, and increased incidence of infectious diseases, result in an increased demand on health systems. Consider also that health facilities can be damaged during extreme weather events, and health personnel are themselves among those exposed to health risks. It is expected that overburdened health care systems will face increased demands from communities.

## Answers to Quick Quiz: Session 3

1. Put a check on the column that designates whether the definition refers to "weather" or "climate" or both.

Always changing  While weather changes over a short period (hours, days), climate changes over longer time spans (decades, centuries, millennia). What is alarming is that the pace of climate change has been significantly accelerating because of anthropogenic factors.	Weather 🗸	Climate
Considered in a time scale of minutes to weeks	✓	
Day-to-day changing atmospheric conditions	✓	
Considered over multiple years (e.g., a 30-year average)		✓
Characterized by temperature, precipitation, wind, cloudiness and humidity	✓	✓
Characterized by soil moisture, sea surface temperature, and concentration and thickness of sea ice		<b>✓</b>
Average state of the atmosphere and underlying land or water in a region over a particular time scale		<b>✓</b>

Answers to Quick Quizzes 94

1. Study Figure 2-2 🔀 on the Greenhouse Effect. State whether the following statements are True or False.

	True	False
Most of the radiation from the sun is absorbed, which warms the Earth.	✓	
The Earth and atmosphere reflect some radiation back out to space but some of this radiation hits greenhouse gas molecules in the atmosphere.	✓	
Greenhouse gases include water vapour, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, halocarbons, and ozone.	<b>√</b>	
Greenhouse gases serve to cool the temperature of the Earth and lower atmosphere.		✓
Without the greenhouse effect, the Earth would be 33 degrees colder than present.	✓	
Without the greenhouse effect, diurnal temperature range would be more stable.		✓

#### Answers to Quick Quiz: Session 5-1

- Directly transmitted anthroponoses include diseases in which the pathogen is normally transmitted directly between two human hosts through physical contact or droplet exposure, such as measles, TB, and HIV.
- Directly transmitted zoonoses are similar to directly transmitted anthroponoses in that the pathogen is transmitted through physical contact or droplet exposure. However, these agents are spread naturally among animal reservoirs and the infection of humans is accidental; examples include Hantavirus and rabies.
- Indirectly transmitted anthroponoses are a class of diseases defined by pathogen transmission between two human hosts by either a physical vehicle (soil) or a biological vector (tick). The complete transmission cycle includes the pathogen, the vehicle or vector, and the human host. Examples include malaria and dengue fever.
- For indirectly transmitted zoonoses, the complete transmission cycle includes the pathogen, the vehicle or vector, the animal reservoir, and the human host; Rift Valley fever is an example.

#### Answers to Quick Quiz: Session 5-2

- 1. increase
- 2. increases
- 3. increase
- 4. decrease
- 5. decreases
- 6. decreased
- 7. increase8. increase
- Answers to Quick Quiz: Session 7
- 1. True
- 2. True
- 3. True
- 4. False. Loss of ozone further cools the stratosphere, hastening the process of ozone destruction.
- 5. True
- 6. True

#### Answers to Quick Quiz: Session 10

- 1. Vulnerability
- 2. Sensitivity, exposure, adaptation measures
- 3. Adaptive capacity
- 4. Coping capacity

95 Answers to Quick Quizzes

