Introduction to Environmental Health and Disasters
Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia – 18 - 20 August 2014

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The course concluded with an exercise, which focused on the preparation and response activities related to a flooding scenario which was relevant to those in attendance. This allowed participants to identify what was to be undertaken when preparing for and responding to a local and wide spread flood damage. It also allowed participants to understand disaster response frameworks, challenges faced and tools for systematically addressing environmental health risks.

The course evaluation found the content met all expectations. All participants indicated they would recommend the training to other professionals. On average the awareness level of environmental health risks associated with a disaster increased by 40%. Also, all participants indicated they would use the concepts covered in their disaster management activities.

The course could not have been successful the interaction of the participants. A special thank you goes to Hita Suryadhi and Herry Purnama (Udayana University), and Margaret Hind (EHA) for helping organise the course.

The course was delivered by Dr. Peter Davey (Griffith University), Tim Hatch (IFEH; ADPH), and Gavin Hammond (Townsville (Australia) City Council).

As part of continuing to implement its disaster risk reduction initiative, IFEH plans to work with CDC, NEHA, Griffith University and its partner organisations to deliver courses in Australia, Europe, Africa, Indonesia and New Zealand during 2015. For further information please visit www.ifeh.org.