ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AUSTRALIA

Endorsed by IFEH

DRAFT PROGRAM - EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: FIRE, HEAT AND FLOOD

13 and 14 July 2016

Penrith Panthers, 123 Mulgoa Road, Penrith (TBC)

Facilitated by: Tim Hatch, Alabama Department of Health; Deputy Director, Peter Davey, Griffith University

Short Course Objectives

- Introduce how environmental health infrastructure and practices are linked to fire, heat and flood related disasters.
- Provide an overview of key environmental health urban and regional infrastructure and how this can be affected by fire, heat, flood and climate change.
- Understand what should be considered to mitigate the environmental health risks after a fire, heat or flood related disaster.
- Provide guidance on responding, assessing and addressing the environmental health impacts of disasters using a population-based focus.

Background

There has been a steady increase in the quantity and frequency of disasters in the past few decades[1]. During the last quarter century, more than 3.4 million lives have been lost due to disasters, with billions more affected, and tens of billions of dollars spent on repairing damage and reconstructing lives[2]. Between 1980 and 2005, 90 per cent of the natural disasters, 72.5 per cent of casualties and 75 per cent of economic losses were caused by weather, climate and water related hazards such as droughts, floods, windstorms, tropical cyclones, storm surges, extreme temperatures, landslides and wild fires, or by health epidemics and insect infestations[3].

Good environmental health disaster management has a significant role in addressing the impact of disasters on environmental health infrastructure and consequently the public. This includes protecting and mitigating risks to systems required for general health and wellbeing, such as water supply, food safety, sewerage, waste management and stormwater[4].

As the world's population and density continues to increase, the risk disasters pose to environmental infrastructure and conditions will continue to rise. Furthermore, increased urbanisation and industrialisation place a greater proportion of the world community at risk with the majority of the population migrating to urban disaster-prone areas that are often without an adequate level of environmental health protective infrastructure[5].

This course will introduce the environmental health risks during a response to a fire, heat or flood related disaster. This includes the need to conduct assessments to identify and address key risks such as those relating to drinking water, shelters, overcrowding, food safety, wastewater, disease-causing vectors, solid waste and hazardous materials. Many of these risks are within the existing roles of many environmental and health professionals, however, a fire, heat or flood related disaster response has unique challenges and a specific skill set is required from a range of professions and all levels of government.

The content is guided by a partnership between the International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Environmental Health Association (USA) and Environmental Health Australia.

<u>Please note:</u> This course provides an introduction to the Environmental Health and Disaster Management course held annually in Townsville.

[1] De Smet, H., Lagadec, P. and Leysen, J. (2012), Disasters Out of the Box: A New Ballgame?. Journal of Contingencies and Crisis Management. doi: 10.1111/j.1468-5973.2012.00666.

[2] Hogan D, Burstein J (2007). Basic Perspectives on Disaster. Lippincott Williams and Wilkins, Philadelphia.

[3] World Meteorological Organization. WMO Disaster Risk Reduction Programme. Accessed 23 February 2012; Available from: http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/drr/

[4] Commonwealth of Australia (2008). Report of the 6th National Conference - Sustaining Environmental Health in Indigenous Communities.

[5] World Health Organization. Statistical Information System Page. Accessed 30 May 2011. Available at http://www.who.int/whosis

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DRAFT PROGRAM

Day One – Wednesday 13 July 2016

8.30 - 9.00	Registration / tea and coffee / pre-evaluation	
9.00 - 9.15	*Opening session* *Welcome and introductions* *Tim Hatch, Alabama Department of Health (CDC nominee); Deputy Director,* *Peter Davey, Program Director and Senior Lecturer, Griffith University, Past President IFEH*	*Jody Houston* *President,* *EHA (NSW) INC*
9.15 - 10.30	Climate Change – Weather Trends *Part 1: Weather trends – NSW Office of Environment and Heritage* *Part 2: Overview Research NSW Office of Environment and Heritage* This session will examine weather patterns and trends over the past century and the impacts on environmental health in the community	*Matthew Riley*
10.30 - 11.00	*Morning tea*	
11.00 - 12.00	Communicable Diseases in Australia and Asia Pacific	*Peter Davey*
12.00 - 1.00	*Lunch*	
1.00 - 2.30	Emergency Management Theory and Practice *Part 1: International Principles of Planning/Response/Recovery* *Part 2: Blue Mountains Bush Fires*	*Jason Green*
2.30 - 3.00	*Afternoon tea*	
3.00 - 4.30	NSW Emergency Ground Experience This session will provide on the ground experience and personal accounts of recent emergency events in NSW *Part 1: Blue Mountains City Council* *Part 2: Warrambungle Shire Council* *Part 3: Rural Fire Service*	*Jason Green* *Mayor Cr Peter Shinton* *Deputy Commissioner Rob Rogers*
4.30	Day one close	
5.00	Networking drinks sponsored by EHA (NSW) INC at Penrith Panthers	

Day Two – Thursday 14 July 2016

8.00 - 8.30	Registration / tea and coffee / pre-evaluation	
8.30 - 10.00	Emergency Management – Planning and Preparation	*Tim Hatch* *Peter Davey*
10.00 - 10.30	*Morning tea*	
10.30 - 12.45	Emergency Management – Response and Recovery	*Tim Hatch* *Peter Davey*
12.45 - 1.45	*Lunch*	
1.45 - 2.30	Emergency Management – NSW Community	*Tony Burns*
2.30 - 4.15	Emergency Management – Long Term Recovery	*Tim Hatch* *Peter Davey*
4.15	Day two close	

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Target Audience
Environmental health specialists, professionals and students who plan to broaden their understanding of the role environmental health has during the preparedness and response phases of disaster management. Participants can be from the local, provisional, state, federal, international and private sectors.

Course Cost
Registration: EHA Members $ 718.18 + $ 71.82 GST = $ 790.00

Non-Members $ 900.00 + $ 90.00 GST = $ 990.00

Online Registration
See www.ehansw.org.au

Accommodation:
Mercure Hotel
Website: www.mercurepenrith.com.au
Email: reservations@mercurepenrith.com.au

Information about our presenters:

Tim Hatch MPA, REHS
Deputy Director of External Affairs for the Alabama Department of Public Health's Center for Emergency Preparedness
National (USA) Registered Environmental Health Specialist
CDC Accredited Trainer

Contract Instructor - Loma Linda University (California)
Part Time Faculty - University of Findlay (Ohio)
Regional Vice-President of NEHA (USA)
Sessional Lecturer at GU, EHADI partner

Tim is highly qualified and experienced professional in Environmental Health and Disaster Management in America. Tim is the subject matter expert for their Environmental Health Training for Emergency Response course and the Healthcare Leadership course. Tim's disaster responses include: Hurricane Ivan (2004), Hurricane Katrina (2005), Kentucky Ice Storm (2009), widespread water outage in rural Alabama (2009), Gulf Oil Spill (2010), and Alabama Tornadoes (2011). Tim has made it his personal goal to learn all that he can about the environmental impacts on human health. Tim has spent the last few years responding to disasters across the south of America and he has learnt a lot about how environmental health fits into disaster preparedness and response. Tim Hatch is an Accredited USA CDC Atlanta Disaster Trainer, a sessional lecturer at GU and an EHADI partner.

Dr Peter Davey
Senior Lecturer, Griffith University, School of Environment
Hon Vice President IFEH

Dr Peter Davey is a Senior Lecturer and Program Director at Griffith University. Teaching and researching across Environmental Protection and Management, DRR - Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation - CCA, Quarantine and Community Planning - SDG Issues. Peter is Director of the Indonesian Sustainable Development Centre - CESDI at Nathan campus Brisbane. He has conducted over 20 professional short courses in the Asia Pacific mainly in Indonesia and recently in Europe in Environmental Health and Disaster Management. Peter is a certified UNISDR Global DRR Trainer. Peter is an Accredited EHO and a Fellow of EHA.

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