The Impact of Climate Change

Wherever you live climate change threatens your health!

The global increase in temperature causes variations in the:

**PHYSICAL SYSTEMS**
- Rise in sea levels
- Extreme weather conditions
- Increased natural disasters

**BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS**
- Increased droughts & wildfires
- Warmer oceans
- Displacement of flora and fauna in terrestrial and marine ecosystems

**HUMAN HEALTH**
- Reduced Air quality – asthma, cardiovascular diseases & respiratory diseases
- Rising temperatures – dehydration & heat related illnesses
- Impact on water & food quality – water borne diseases, destruction of crops & reduced food production
- Increase in vector borne diseases.

How can we Prevent Climate Change?
10 ways that we can play our part to reduce climate change at NO COST:

- Wash your clothes with cold water
- Unplug unused electric devices
- Be careful how you use water
- Eat less meat
- Reduce food waste
- Work from home 1 day a week
- Get involved in a community climate change project
- Don't drink bottled water
- Bring your own shopping bags
- Start composting

Did you know that the Environmental Health Practitioner (EHP) in your area can assist you to develop a project to reduce climate change?

EHPs focus on water quality, food control, waste management, health and hygiene investigation of premises, investigation and prevention of communicable diseases, vector control and environmental pollution control. EHPs work in communities where they do environmental monitoring, disease investigation as well community education campaigns.

World Environmental Health Day 26 SEPTEMBER
Let's take action for climate change through environmental health

The South African Swiss Global Environmental Health Research Chair is addressing health effects of climate change, air and water pollution in South Africa.
The World is facing the biggest challenge ever called: 

**Climate Change**

We are changing the world we live in through our actions.

**The earth’s temperature will increase by 1.5 degrees Celsius in the next twenty years.**

The hotter our Earth the bigger the effect on our land and how we farm, how we live and what will make us sick. For example:

- Farm workers will have to work in very intense sun which can have a bad impact on their health.
- Heat-related illness and deaths mostly due to heatwaves.
- More of the same diseases such as malaria, dengue, dengue fever, and asthma.
- Diseases expanding to different areas in our countries and even from one country to another.
- Droughts or severe flooding.

While climate change is alarming, it is working together that will ensure a better future for our children.

Did you know that the Environmental Health Practitioner (EHP) in your area can assist you to develop a project to reduce climate change? EHPs focus on water quality, food control, waste management, health and hygiene investigation of premises, investigation and prevention of communicable diseases, vector control and environmental pollution control. EHPs work in communities where they do environmental monitoring, disease investigation as well as community education campaigns.

**World Environmental Health Day 26 SEPTEMBER**

Let's take action for climate change through environmental health.

The South African Swiss Global Environmental Health Research Chair is addressing health effects of climate change, air and water pollution in South Africa.