



# WHAT CAN BE ACHIEVED THROUGH A TWINNING PROGRAM?

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ENVIRONMENTAL  
HEALTH AUSTRALIA



# Timeframes



## May 2016

- Two EHA (QLD) INC members spent time in Zambia shadowing local Environmental Health Officers (QUT student contact from Kitwe).
- Attended the *14th International Federation of Environmental Health, World Congress, Malawi.*
- Conference Presentation on **IFEH Twinning Program.**

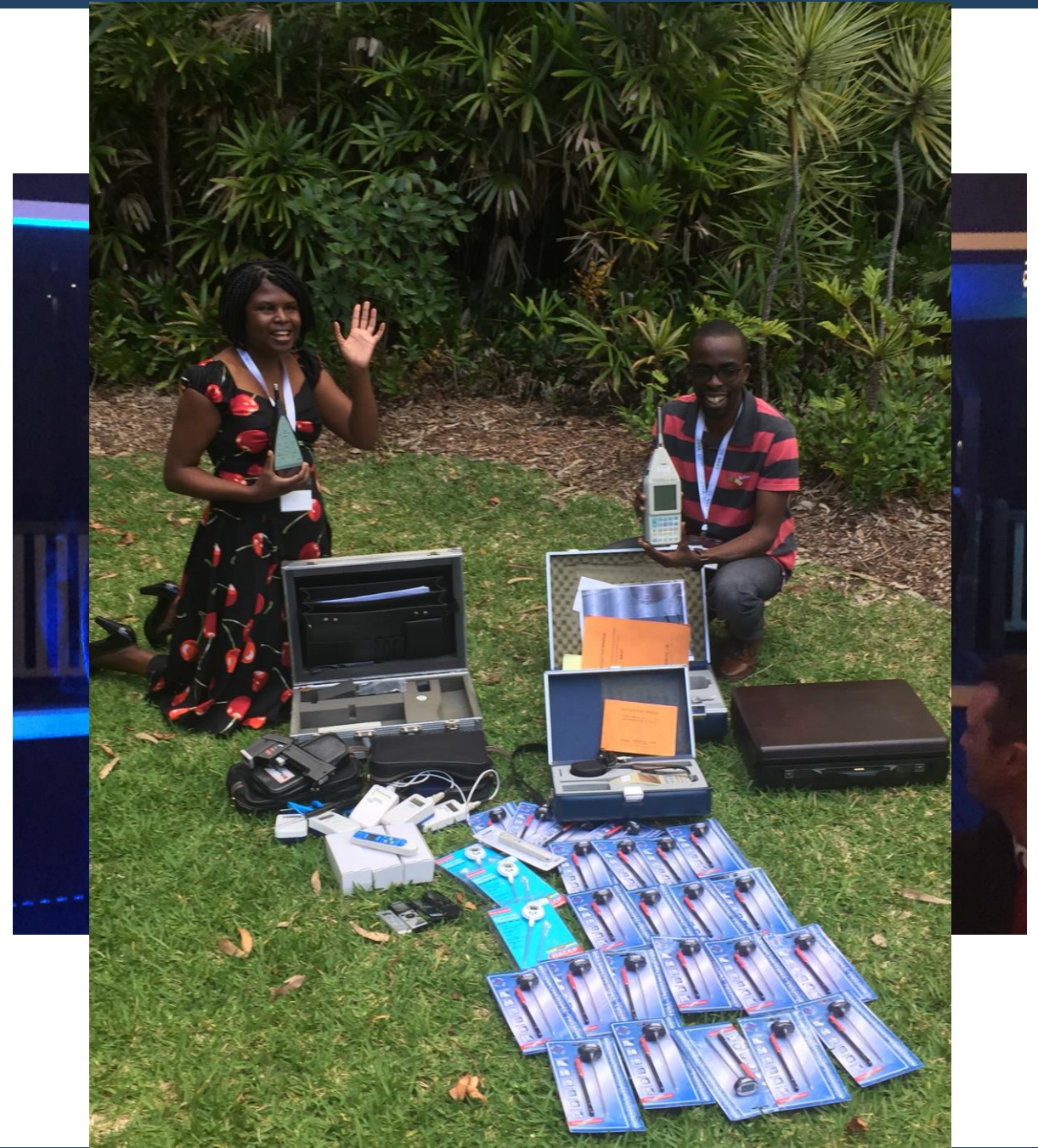
## May 2016 cont.

- EHA (QLD) INC members met a ZIEH member and discussed the twinning program opportunity.
- EHA *International Professional Development Procedure* was approved on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2016, which supported the *IFEH Twinning Program*.
- The Twinning Program between ZIEH and EHA was endorsed by IFEH.



# September 2016

- EHA/ZIEH Twinning Program – Type Two occurred.
- ZIEH delegate visited Queensland, Australia for a 4 weeks:
  - Attended and presented at EHA (QLD) INC State Conference
  - Work experience in South-East Queensland
  - Donated equipment / raised funds for the Twinning Program.





May 2017

Team of 6 EHA members visited Zambia to conduct CPD training.

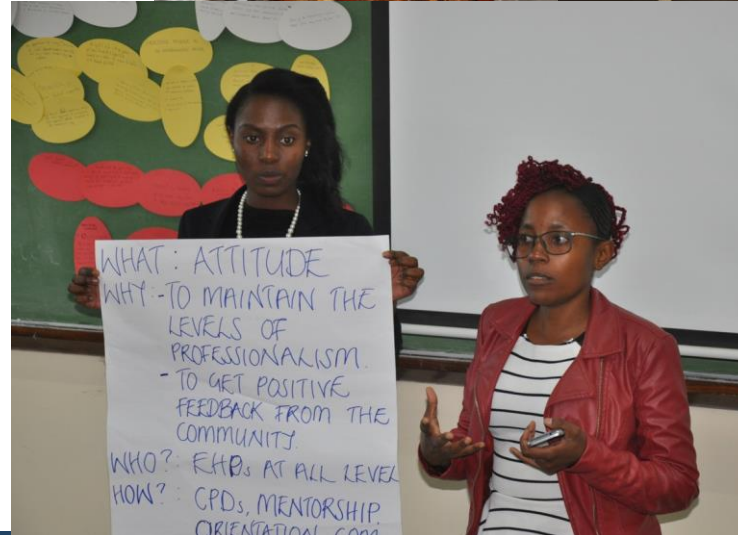
Team members:

- Belinda Davies EHA (QLD) INC
- Belinda Strachotta EHA (QLD) INC
- Amanda Hutchings EHA (QLD) INC
- Anthony Komives EHA (Tas) INC
- Nancy Bird EHA (QLD) INC
- Andrew Waters EHA (WA) INC



## *Seven workshops:*

- Risk-based food inspection (4 days)
- Mosquito management (2 days)
- Environmental health leadership (1 day)
- Environmental health risk identification and management in hospital / clinical settings (2 days)
- Environmental monitoring of landfill and mines (1 day)
- Noise pollution (1 days)
- Infection control in beauty salons, hairdressers, tattooists and body piercers (1 day)





# 107 Zambian EHOs attended the workshops





# Future plans - Biennial Program

## *2018 EHA/ZIEH Twinning Program*

March 2018

- 5 ZIEH members will travel to Australia:
  - Edgar Mulwanda
  - Martha Mutalange
  - Elizabeth Musa
  - Kennedy Nduna
  - Comfort Chisenge
- 1 week of environmental health workshops at QUT.
- 2 weeks of work experience with local and state government agencies.
- Two EHA states involved.



# Benefits of the Twinning Program



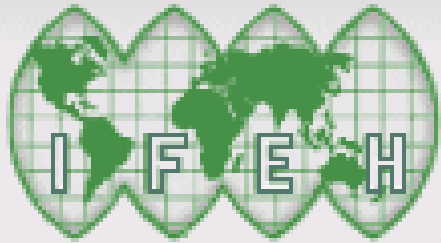
- Generate interest amongst EHA and ZIEH members → more active members.
- Capacity building.
- ↑ in EHOs' confidence, exposure to new concepts and ideas.
- Knowledge and expertise shared between and within countries.
- Learn about environmental health challenges in different countries.
- ↑ profile of environmental health in both countries.
- Gain appetite to learn international best practice and the need for continuous improvement.
- Opportunity for disused operational equipment to be used by EHOs who don't have the equipment.
- Helps achieve EHA and ZIEH strategic objectives.

**FRIENDSHIP, NETWORKS AND MENTORSHIPS**



# Lessons learnt

- Clear expectations and financial arrangements need to be agreed upon by both associations at the start of each program.
- Information kits should be provided to participants at the start of each program.
- Debriefs are required at the end of each program – identify what worked well and what can be improved.
- Hosting in ZIEH/EHA member homes strengthens friendships, cultural understanding and reduces costs.
- There is a lot of work involved, so it important to have enough people involved to share the workload.
- Improvements in timeframes – allow enough time for VISAs (entry into Australia).
- Courses should be designed to meet local needs and offered at different locations, to support greater participation.
- Freight for donated goods is expensive.



**International Federation of Environmental Health**

IFEH Twinning Program:

<http://www.ifeh.org/twinning/index.html>



*“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful,  
committed citizens can change the world.  
Indeed, it’s only thing that even has.”  
... Margaret Mead*

