



Global Initiative on Children's Environmental Health Indicators (CEHI)

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Photos: F. Gore

About this newsletter

CEHI newsletter has been set up to engage partners with the Global Initiative on Children's Environmental Health Indicators (CEHI). It aims to provide up-to-date information on relevant global, regional and national indicator activities. This newsletter does not intend to cover general Children's Environmental Health issues. We welcome your feedback and input.

To sign up or for further information, please contact us at:

cehindicators@who.int or visit: <http://www.who.int/ceh/indicators/en/>

Readers interested in receiving regular updates on children's environmental health may subscribe to:

- HECANET ([Healthy Environments for Children Alliance](#)) newsletter
- CEHN Community ([Children's Environmental Health Network](#)) newsletter
- INCHES ([International Research and Information Network on Children's Health Environment and Safety](#)) newsletter

New publications

"**Inheriting the World: the Atlas of Children's Health and the Environment**" was launched on 23 June 2004 at the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in Budapest, Hungary.

• Posters

These posters are adapted from Inheriting the World: The Atlas of Children's Health and the Environment. They can be printed as A4 posters.

• Maps

These maps constitute the main maps from Inheriting the World: The Atlas of Children's Health and the Environment and do not include text or additional graphics. The relatively small jpg-files are suitable for use in PowerPoint presentations or word files.

Please see <http://www.who.int/ceh/publications/atlas/en/>

"**From Theory to Action: Implementing the WSSD Global Initiative on Children's Environmental Health Indicators**" was launched at a workshop in San José, Costa Rica on children's environmental health indicators organized by PAHO.

Also available in Spanish: "**De la teoría a la práctica: Indicadores de Salud Ambiental Infantil: Implementación de una iniciativa lanzada en la Cumbre Mundial sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible**".

Please see http://www.who.int/ceh/publications/924159188_9/en/

"Burden of disease attributable to selected environmental factors and injuries among Europe's children and adolescents" was launched on 23 June 2004 at the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in Budapest, Hungary by the WHO Regional Office for Europe, European Centre for Environment and Health.

Please visit http://www.who.int/quantifying_ehimpacts/publications/9241591900/en/

Pilot projects

Regional pilots are already underway in Africa, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, and North America. Two regional pilots will be highlighted in each newsletter; news on other pilots is available on the [CEH web site](#) in the indicators section (regional pilots).

PAHO Pilot

The Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), with support from the United States Environmental Protection Agency and WHO, convened a workshop on children's environmental health indicators in San Jose, Costa Rica, 8-10 September 2004. Through participatory discussions and group work, representatives from 16 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean agreed on standardized indicator concepts, and selected priority indicators for monitoring children's health and the environment. Based on the outcomes of this workshop, PAHO will circulate a revised list of children's environmental health indicators to all countries in the Pan-American region and initiate their collection for a first report on children's health and the environment in Latin America and the Caribbean.

For further information on regional indicator pilots, please see

<http://www.who.int/ceh/indicators/indregpilots/en/>

EURO Pilot

The WHO Centre for Environment and Health in Rome, Italy, and the WHO Centre for Environment and Health in Bonn, Germany, are closely coordinating activities on CEH indicators with existing European work on general environmental health indicators. Indicators will serve to monitor the Regional Priority Goals within the Children's Environmental Health Action Plan for Europe (CEHAPE) that were adopted at the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Environmental Health in Budapest in June 2004. The Regional Priority Goals include: i) reducing morbidity and mortality by improving access to safe and affordable water and adequate sanitation; ii) reducing health consequences from injuries and promoting physical activity; iii) preventing and reducing respiratory disease and asthma due to outdoor and indoor air pollution; and iv) reducing the risk of disease from exposure to hazardous chemicals.

For further information on the CEHAPE, please see

<http://www.euro.who.int/document/e83338.pdf>

Review of CEH information in international surveys

There exists a large amount of information regarding environmental health; these data, however, may not always be readily accessible or available. A data review on children's environmental health is now available on our website. This review provides information at a glance related to children's environmental health in existing surveys [i.e. Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS), World Health Survey (WHS), Living Standards Measurement Survey (LSMS) and Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey (MICS)]. The data is presented according to WHO regions, countries, data source, year and topic, and links directly to the information source.

For further information on the CEH data review, please see

<http://www.who.int/ceh/publications/statistics/internsurveys/en/>

Solid fuel use included in DHS & MICS surveys

Indoor air pollution from solid fuel use is responsible for 1.6 million deaths every year, with nearly one million deaths falling on children under five years of age. Yet, reliable information on cooking practices with solid fuels (i.e. biomass fuels and coal) is not widely available. In an effort to improve the reporting of the Millennium Development Goal indicator "proportion of population relying on solid fuels" WHO and UNEP jointly requested the inclusion of additional questions in the revised core questionnaire of the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS). The DHS as well as UNICEF's Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey from now on will typically collect information on three important cooking practices: type of fuel, type of stove and cooking location.

For further information on indoor air pollution and the Millennium Development Goals, please see <http://www.who.int/indoorair/en/>.