

## 1st Global Heat Health Forum

**Proposed to be held in September/October 2017 in either Bangkok or Hong Kong**

**Background**

Leading health, weather, and climate experts[[1]](#footnote-1) convened in Chicago in July of 2015 to discuss current practices to address the growing global problem of extreme heat and its health impacts. The workshop focused on the application of both weather and climate information, identified the basis for a common framework, and produced an action plan wherein participants agreed to work together on an integrated approach to extreme heat. Participants agreed to reconvene within 2 years to discuss progress and the way forward in an international context, as well as to review national developments toward the international goals. The current proposed forum is a follow up to this workshop, with the expressed intent to launch the Global Heat Health Information Network (GHHIN) as a mechanism to fulfil the identified needs and accelerate implementation of heat-health priority actions.

**Forum Goal and Objectives**

The forum serves as an international platform to promote the integrated use of climate, weather, and health information for evidence based policy and actions to improve the management of extreme heat risks. The forum will bring together the community of experts and practitioners implementing various aspects of heat health information systems and action plans in order to share experience, inform a global common agenda, strengthen the network, and formally launch the **Global Heat Health Information Network** .

**Aims**

* Provide the opportunity for national, regional, and international sharing and networking between heat - health experts;
* Share experience and identify emerging issues across five common thematic areas;
* Provide a learning session on understanding and communicating heat risks;
* Specific focus on communicating heat risk, will engage local and global media in heat health communications;
* Review and codify the global technical agenda and launch GHHIN.
* Achieve agreement on the highest priority gaps in research, information, and action.

**Expected Outcomes**

* Increased awareness within the global health and meteorological community of the health decisions, concerns, timeframes, and needs for improved information to inform local action to reduce heat risk;
* Improved networking and exchange information on good practices (i.e. locally feasible and sustainable actions), tool and resources, and lessons learned across health, and climate and weather agencies that are developing and delivering heat wave early warning and early action systems;
* Documented and prioritized community needs, with an action plan to drive fulfilment of these needs.
* Agreed global agenda for GHHIN to support members to advance the common framework.

**Proposed Agenda**

**Day 1:** Global Experience in Heat Health Action and Information Systems

* + **Welcome**
  + **Keynote**
  + **Critical Scientific Advances on Heat Health and Emerging Research Needs**
  + **National Progress Updates and Lessons learned on key issues, synthesis of research and data needs as per:** 
    - Institutional Capacity and Partnerships
    - Communication and Engagement
    - Data, Forecast Products and Information
    - Research on Vulnerability, Heat Parameters and Health Outcomes
    - Health Action

**Breakout Sessions on Emerging Issues/Priorities/Challenges/Innovations**

* + - Institutional Capacity and Partnerships
    - Communication and Engagement
    - Data, Forecast Products and Information
    - Research on Vulnerability, Heat Parameters and Health Outcomes
    - Health Action
* **Evening Interactive cocktail**  - Structured Networking and sharing innovation session // / More than posters, possibly create specific thematic booths where innovations can be showcased by theme.

**Day 2:** Thematic Workshop: Communicating Extreme Heat

**Part 1: Learning space – invited speakers, coaching, designing messages and products**

Invited speakers from broadcast media and social research to reflect on how to communicate   
(and not communicate) risk before and during a heatwave to trigger protective behaviour. E.g. as a meteorological scientist, how to communicate across timescales as information transitions from probabilistic to deterministic - seasonal/sub-seasonal? As a health worker, media journalist, etc. How can heat waves be used as focusing events such that post-event communication inspires resilience and mitigative action, and keeps the memory of the event alive to ensure lessons from the experience are maintained?

**Part 2: Hands on Workshops** working with a national or regional outlook. Communicate summer prediction on extreme heat. What to do with this once you go home. How to connect with the information? How do you build a consensus forecast across a region with many sovereign states?

1. **Workshop for Media (b) Workshop for Scientists**

**Day 3:** GGHIN Meeting - 1

* + Launch network
  + Form workgroups to refine work plan based on Day 1 emerging issues session
  + Discussion time on Regional Nodes
  + Affirm priorities
  + Seek/commit engagement for coordination and work plan activities

**Closing Launch**

* + Press Conference

# Logistics and Planning

Participants – 125 - 150 pending resources

Special invitation and organize activities with and for the media

Focus Regions:

* North America (NIHHIS – US, Mexico, Canada via NACSP and NACCHH)
* Europe (Leaders are UK, DE, FR…)
* Southest Asia & South Asia

Possible Logistics: UCAR: Brian Jackson

Resource Requirements: 65,000-80,000 USD

# Engagement Plan

* Announcement letters – save the date message by June 15?
* Seek Sponsorship
* Base budget for Media Engagement.

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| Agency/Organization | | Role to Play | Status of Engagement |
| * WMO * NOAA * USGCRP * CDC * EPA * NIH/NIEHS * USAID * US State * CIMH * SMN (Mexico Met) * INSP (Mexico NIH) * COFEPRIS (Mexico CDC/FDA) * BKMG (Indonesia Met) * JMA (Japan Met) * UKMet/PHE * DWD * HKO * European Commission * Wellcome * CKDN * Health and Environment Canada * Future Earth * US Mission Bangkok * WHO Regional Offices * NRDC * ESRI * Google | |  |  |
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1. the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), German Deutscher Wetterdienst (DWD), the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the Global Framework For Climate Services (GFCS) and many other research and operational health partners from India, the UK, Australia, Canada, and Sweden [↑](#footnote-ref-1)