

Folder eCC\_00019136 is in stage Annual\_Report\_Review

**Name of the University, Hospital, Research Institute, Academy or Ministry**

Curtin University

**Name of the Division, Department, Unit, Section or Area**

Faculty of Health Sciences

**City** Perth **Reference Number** AUS-78

**Title** WHO Collaborating Centre for Climate Change and Health Impact Assessment

**Report Year** 02-2022 to 02-2023

**1. Annual report on the agreed workplan**

**Describe progress made on the agreed workplan. For each activity, detail (1) the actions taken, (2) the outputs delivered, as well as (3) any difficulties that may have been encountered. Three responses are expected. [maximum 200 words per activity]. Indicate, if an activity has been completed previously, has not yet started or has been placed on hold.**

**Activity 1**

Title: Assist WHO in strengthening the institutional capacity in Member States for HIA through activities coordinated under the HIA Network Asia Pacific

Description: HIA is one of the important policy tools for the health sector to influence other sectors. The Regional Framework for Action on Health and Environment (RCM 2016) recommended WHO to provide support for HIA policies, plans and tools within Strategic Action 1. WHO is asking the CC to undertake activities to support its implementation of this recommendation. WPRO will use the HIA Network Asia Pacific as a knowledge network for Member States contributing to institutional capacity building in relevant countries to exchange their experiences in strengthening governance and institutionalization of HIA, as the implementation of the Regional Framework on HAE

Status: ongoing

During 2022 the Centre managed the HIA Network Asia Pacific, including website portal, member communication, newsletters and expansion of membership (now at 80 members, including new members from Malaysia, Fiji and Tonga).

**Activity 2**

Title: Support WHO in developing educational materials for HIA and organizing annual HIA training events

Description: HIA is one of the important policy tools for the health sector to influence other sectors. The Regional Framework for Action on Health and Environment (RCM 2016) recommended WHO to provide support for HIA policies, plans and tools within Strategic Action 1. WHO is asking the CC to undertake activities to support its implementation of this recommendation. WPRO will use the materials and training events of this activity for Member States (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Philippines and Viet Nam) to build HR capacity to implement the HIA policies, according to the Regional Framework on HAE.

Status: ongoing

During 2022 Virtual HIA training course delivered using materials provided by WHOCC, Department of Health Thailand and National University of Laos Lao PDR.

In December 2022 the Centre provided Technical Assistance for Training/Workshop on the Conduct of HIA and Preparation of HIA Reports, Philippines Department of Health.

**Activity 3**

Title: Development of guidance materials for sector- or topic-specific HIA tools

Description: HIA is one of the important policy tools for the health sector to influence other sectors. The Regional Framework for Action on Health and Environment (RCM 2016) recommended WHO to provide support for HIA policies, plans and tools within Strategic Action 1. WHO is asking the CC to undertake activities to support its implementation of this recommendation. However, WPRO has constraints of HR resources to support Member States in this subject. Therefore, WPRO is asking the Centre for this activity. WPRO will use the practical guidance and tools developed by this activity for Member States to use in their enforcement of HIA.

Status: ongoing

During 2022: Delivered online workshop on HIA for air pollution to Australian Centre for Air pollution, Energy and Health Research (CAR).

**Activity 4**

Title: HIA-related research on health impacts of climate change and health co-benefits of climate actions (mitigation and adaptation)

Description: There are urgent needs in Member States of WHO for HIA of the impacts of climate change and health co-benefits of mitigation and adaptation. WHO is asking the CC to undertake activities to support its implementation of this recommendation. WPRO will use the services and outputs of this activity for Member States (particularly the PICs and the Mekong countries) to identify/estimate the impacts of climate change and climate actions on health and health systems.

Status: ongoing

During 2021-2022 the Centre built up the WHOCC's considerable track record in climate change and health research. Recent key publications provided below.

Beggs et al (2022) The 2022 report of the MJA-Lancet Countdown on health and climate change: Australia unprepared and paying the price. MJA.

Hanigan, I. C., & Chaston, T. B. (2022). Climate Change, Drought and Rural Suicide in New South Wales, Australia: Future Impact Scenario Projections to 2099. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health

Chaston, T. B., et al. (2022). Mortality Burden of Heatwaves in Sydney, Australia Is Exacerbated by the Urban Heat Island and Climate Change: Can Tree Cover Help Mitigate the Health Impacts? Atmosphere

Hanigan, I. C., et al. (2021). Avoidable mortality attributable to anthropogenic fine particulate matter (PM2.5) in Australia. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health.

Hime N, et al.. (2022). Weather extremes associated with increased Ross River virus and Barmah Forest virus notifications in NSW: Learnings for public health response. Australian & New Zealand Journal of Public Health.

Malik A, et al. (2021). Environmental impacts of Australia's largest health system. Resources, Conservation and Recycling.

Standen, J. C., et al. (2022). Aboriginal Population and Climate Change in Australia: Implications for Health and Adaptation Planning. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health.

2022: Developing a study on Climate Change and Fire Smoke Haze in Malaysia during the 2019 megafire event. The WHOCC's core budget was used to support this work, which is part of a larger research project on Fire Emissions to Transboundary Air Pollution and public health risks in the Asia-Pacific region (EFETAP) with an international group based across Indonesia, Malaysia, United Kingdom and Australia. This project includes an ongoing knowledge sharing and mentoring component for early, mid- and late-career researchers from Malaysia through the Curtin University campus in Sarawak, Malaysia.

## 2. Annual report on other activities requested

Should WHO have requested activities in addition to the agreed workplan, please describe related actions taken by your institution [maximum 200 words]. Please do not include in this report any activity done by your institution that was not requested by and agreed with WHO.

In July 2022 WHO requested the WHOCC for EHIA to provide Technical Assistance to support the Philippines to carry out a Training/Workshop on the Conduct of Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and Preparation of HIA Reports. The work had been advertised twice but there were no proposals submitted, and we suspect that this may be due to the fact that the Philippine HIA system is relatively new, key institutions are hesitant to submit a proposals. Three senior staff from the Centre attended in person during December 2022: Dr Aditya Vyas, Dr Helen Brown and Ms Diane Katscherian.

## 3. Resources

Indicate staff time spent on the implementation of activities agreed with WHO (i.e. those mentioned in questions no. 1 and no. 2 above). Do not include any data related to other activities done by your institution without the agreement of WHO. Please indicate staff time using the number of “full-day equivalents” – a day of work comprising 8 hours (e.g. 4 hours work per day for 7 days should be recorded as 3.5 full-day equivalents).

Number of staff involved (either partially or fully)

Senior staff	Mid-career staff	Junior staff, PhD students
4	1	0

Number of full-day equivalents, total for all staff involved

Senior staff	Mid-career staff	Junior staff, PhD students
40	10	0

Implementation of the agreed workplan activities (i.e. those mentioned in questions no. 1 and no. 2 above) normally require resources beyond staff-time, such as the use of laboratory facilities, purchasing of materials, travel, etc. Please estimate the costs of these other resources as a percentage of the total costs incurred (e.g. if you incurred costs of USD 100 and the value of your staff time was USD 50 which makes the total of USD 150, please report 33.3% and 66.7%).

Percentage of costs associated with staff time	Percentage of costs associated with other resources	Total
100.00	0.00	100.00

## 4. Networking

Describe any interactions or collaboration with other WHO Collaborating Centres in the context of the implementation of the agreed activities. If you are part of a network of WHO Collaborating Centres, please also mention the name of the network and describe your involvement in that network [maximum 200 words].

1. WHOCC for EHIA Director Dr Ivan Hanigan was Lead Rapporteur and Deputy Director Dr Aditya Vyas was Moderator for the working party on Environmental Health and reported back to the conference at the WHO CC Forum Cambodia <https://www.who.int/westernpacific/whocc-forum/fourth-forum> for the topic of synthesis of Climate Change, Environment and Health theme. Achievement included raising awareness of data driven calculation of burden of disease.

2. The CC is a founding member of the Australian Network of WHO Collaborating Centres (<https://ausglobalhealth.org/whocc-network/>) hosted by the Global Health Alliance Australia. The CC actively participates in network activities such as newsletters and meetings.