Building a Global Consortium on Climate & Health Education

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Key Messages

• Essential to connect health & climate practice through educational hubs

• Key areas of overlap for public health’s application of climate data: heat-health, air pollution, storm alerts – all with enormous impacts, likely to increase with climate change

• Mailman SPH leading a Global Consortium on Climate & Health Education, sharing climate-health info via online, professional, academic curricula

• Education helps mainstream public health into climate services & urban planning – to build healthier, more secure future communities
Key Messages

• Essential to connect health & climate practice through educational hubs
CLIMATE AND HEALTH PROGRAM
IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES
PAT KINNEY, DIRECTOR
JEFF SHAMAN, CO-DIRECTOR
MAILMAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
Mailman CPH Mission:

• To foster innovative scholarship on the human health dimensions of climate change impacts and vulnerabilities, providing information of direct value in adaptation and mitigation planning

Approach:

• Research carried out by a core group of faculty and PhD students
• Innovative MPH certificate curriculum
Key Messages

- Key areas of overlap for public health’s application of climate data: heat-health, air pollution, storm alerts – all with enormous impacts, likely to increase with climate change
Academic research—evidence base for building climate resilience

Azhar et al. *PLOS ONE* (2014)
Allergenic Ragweed Pollen Season Lengthens

Change in Ragweed Season Length (Days)

-0.3
-1.4
26.9
17.0
24.2
19.7
13.0
14.2
10.6

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Key Messages

• Mailman SPH leading a Global Consortium on Climate & Health Education, sharing climate-health info via online, professional, academic curricula
Health Educators Climate Commitment to Educate Tomorrow’s Health Leaders on the Impacts of Climate Change

• Commit to ensure training the next generation of health professionals to effectively address the health impacts of climate change among our communities and patients.

• Commit to strengthen the knowledge base in the area of climate and health from a position of the best science and academic rigor.
Global Consortium for Climate & Health Education

- Mailman SPH to provide leadership in building a global coalition of public health, medical & nursing institutions, committed to training a future generation of leaders who understand the health risks of climate change
Key Messages

• Education helps mainstream public health into climate services & urban planning – to build healthier, more secure future communities
Climate mitigation for the future means substantial health benefits today.
CLIMATE SUMMIT

WHAT IF IT'S A BIG HOAX AND WE CREATE A BETTER WORLD FOR NOTHING?

- ENERGY INDEPENDENCE
- PRESERVE RAINFORESTS
- SUSTAINABILITY
- GREEN JOBS
- LIVABLE CITIES
- RENEWABLES
- CLEAN WATER, AIR
- HEALTHY CHILDREN
- ETC. ETC.
Thank you!

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