

Planning the Future: Strategic Directions for NIEHS and the Environmental Health Sciences Community

Worker Training Program Grantee Meeting

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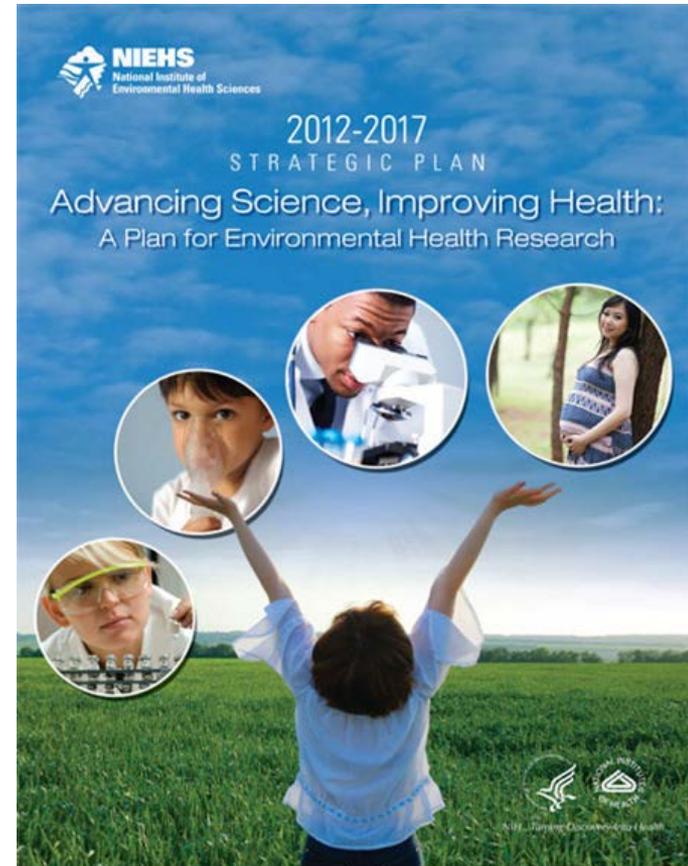
NIEHS Strategic Planning – Overview

Planning for Institute direction for next 5 years

- New Mission and Vision statements
- Development of Supporting Themes
- Strategic Goals and implementation

Three phase process

- I. Broad-based stakeholder input (February-July)**
 - Visionary Ideas solicited on the Web
 - Stakeholder Community Workshop July
- II. Draft Mission, Vision, and Supporting Themes**
 - Strategic Planning Workshop Oct. 13-14
- III. Develop Strategic Goals and Implementation**



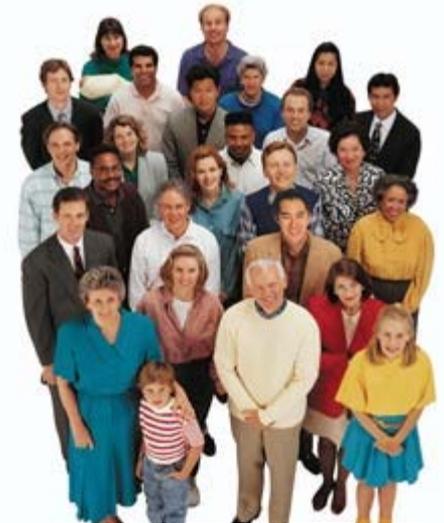
Mission and Vision Statements

The mission of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences is to discover how the environment affects people in order to promote healthier lives.



The vision of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences is to provide global leadership for innovative research that improves public health by preventing disease and disability.

PREVENTION





Strategic Goal #1:

Identify and understand fundamental shared mechanisms or common biological pathways (e.g., inflammation, epigenetic changes, oxidative stress, mutagenesis) underlying a **broad range of complex diseases**, in order to enable the development of broadly applicable prevention and intervention strategies.

Strategic Goal #2:

Understand **individual susceptibility across the life span to chronic, complex diseases** resulting from environmental factors, in basic and population-based studies, to facilitate prevention and decrease public health burden.

Strategic Goal #3:

Transform exposure science by enabling consideration of the totality of human exposures and links to biological pathways and create a blueprint for incorporating exposure science into human health studies.

Strategic Goal #4:

Understand how **combined environmental exposures** affect disease pathogenesis.

Strategic Goal #5:

Identify and respond to **emerging environmental threats** to human health on both a local and global scale.

Strategic Goal #6:

Establish an **environmental health disparities** research agenda to understand the disproportionate risks of disease and to define and support public health and prevention solutions in affected populations.

Strategic Goal #7:

Use knowledge management techniques to create a **collaborative environment** for the EHS community to encourage an **interdisciplinary approach** to investigate, analyze, and disseminate findings.

Strategic Goal #8:

Enhance the teaching of EHS at all levels of education and training (K-professional) to **increase scientific literacy** and **generate awareness** of the health consequences of environmental exposures.

Strategic Goal #9:

Inspire a diverse and well-trained cadre of scientists to move our transformative environmental health science forward; **train the next generation of EHS leaders** from a wider range of scientific disciplines and diverse backgrounds.



Strategic Goal #10:

Evaluate the economic impact of policies, practices, and behaviors that reduce exposure to environmental toxicants through prevention of disease and disabilities; invest in research programs to test how prevention improves public health and minimizes economic burden.

Strategic Goal #11:

Promote bidirectional communication and collaboration between researchers and stakeholders (policy makers, clinicians, intervention/prevention practitioners, and the public) in order to advance research translation in the environmental health sciences.

Emerging environmental threats

- Identifying emerging threats
- Working towards a research response
- Table-top exercises and training
- Community engagement
- Dialogue with stakeholders
- Research programs that provide added value
- Recent example – health effects from hydrofracking



Environmental Health Disparities

- Environmental Justice Strategic Plan for DHHS
- WTP continues the dialogue at the national level
- Active participation in the HD Summit Oct 31- Nov 3



- Environmental and Occupational Justice themes
- Partnerships with NIOSH and other agencies

Environmental Health Education

- Worker training and education innovation
- Lessons learned from WTP can be applied to EHS education
- Increase science and environmental health literacy
- Training health professionals on EHS and Occ Med prevention



Communication

- Trusted source of information
- Access and availability
- Innovation in dissemination through social media and other modalities
- Engage stakeholders as communication partners



- Developing and using best practices in environmental health communication and research dissemination



Thank you!

NIEHS Strategic Plan Website

<http://www.niehs.nih.gov/strategicplan>

