

WORKSHOP SESSION SUMMARY
POST-CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS
2018 National Trainers' Exchange

1. Session Title and Presenter's Contact Information:

Workshop title: Environmental Justice and Worker Health Equity
Presenter (s) Name: Yodit Semu
Presenter Organization: UCLA- Labor Occupational Safety and Health
Presenter Email: ysemu@irle.ucla.edu

2. Workshop Summary:

This workshop explores popular education approaches to integrate environmental justice and worker health equity into training for workers and community members. Class, race/ethnicity, gender, age, education and language are all factors that affect workers' access to jobs, resources and exposure to job hazards. The workshop includes a case study and activities that instructors can adapt to a variety of settings to ensure training is relevant to participants, stimulate critical analysis and provide tools to take action to improve environmental conditions in the workplace and community. We will demonstrate how principles of environmental justice and worker health equity apply to a case study of the Exide battery recycling facility in Vernon, California, which exposed workers and community members to lead for decades. A community cleanup initiative (one of the largest of its kind), includes a local hire job creation provision and an opportunity to train workers, who are also members of the community. The workshop consists of three parts: 1) Overview of environmental justice and worker health equity, 2) Demonstrations and interactive discussions of an environmental justice case study focused on community cleanup of soil contaminated with lead generated by Exide, and 3) Discussion, feedback, and resource sharing. Handouts, tools and materials include: EJ lesson plan and case study, video, and mapping activity.

3. Main Points/ Key Points Raised from Participants:

Environmental Justice issues in local areas.
Breaking down "justice": visual exploration of what equality and equity looks like with respect to redefining justice as removing barriers all together.

4. Workshop Handouts/ Resources:

Attached separately