

# State Environmental Health Directors

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# Acknowledgements

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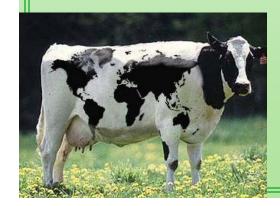


#### Problem statement:

#### We need a national EH policy-setting voice

What results do we really want? All states to buy into and use the benefits of such an association. This helps elevate EH issues within public health and broader contexts.

What is the payoff? A unified EH body, sharing ideas, developing best practices, working together to solve common issues.







#### **Mental Models:**

#### What thinking leads to the choices being made?

- EH Programs vary from state to state.
- "State EH directors" did not have a national "home".
- Excellent examples (e.g., State Preparedness Directors, State AIDS Directors, Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists, National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians).
- Some states' EH programs are in other agencies than health.
- Some states may not see a need for such a formed group.

#### Other issues?

Too many organizations to join.





### **Benefits**

- Access EH best management practices, response resources and brain trust throughout the nation
- Provide cohesive approach to priority EH issues
- Discuss handling of challenging situations
- Develop of EH standards





## Benefits (cont'd)

- Unify and give voice to state EH programs
- Provide a mentoring opportunity to interested states



#### Interventions

- Joining can assist in mutual aid issues such as disaster response.
- Targeted workgroups to address systems issues
- Assure rapid communication to keep states engaged



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## First Steps

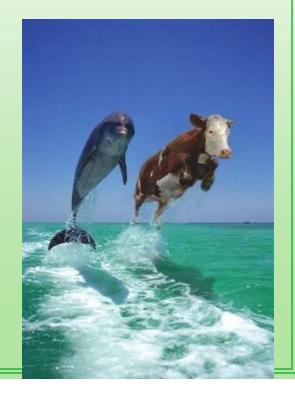
Work through State Health Officers to identify SEHDs (ASTHO).



### **Action!**

- Facilitated brainstorming session to prioritize EH needs (ASTHO)
- Development of contacts
- Development of shared website
- Operational guidance
- Launch!





# Workgroups

- Census of states' programs
- Marketing EH with EH partners
- Indoor air standards
- Climate change





# \*\*Join EPHLI\*\* Questions?



