

Environmental Public Health Performance Standards (EnvPHPS)

Sharunda Buchanan, M.S., Ph.D.
Division of Emergency and Environmental Health Services
National Center for Environmental Health
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
sdb4@cdc.gov

American Public Health Association
Washington, D.C., November 5, 2007



NACCHO Exchange

Promoting Effective Local Public Health Practice

Volume 6, Issue 2
Spring 2007
The Changing Face of
Environmental Health

What's Inside...

- 6 President's Column
- 8 Executive Director's Column
- 9 Preparing Local Public Health for

20 NACCHO Exchange

Process Evaluation of PACE EH *Continued from page 19*

For many health agencies and communities, however, the journey has been much less profound. A dialogue has begun between agencies and the community but has not yet had a significant impact. The evaluation suggested that resources and the presence of a "champion" with political clout within the agency were key in determining outcomes. The sites in which the transformation was most pronounced have staff members who are passionate about the value of community involvement and about redefining the ways in which the agency works with the community. These sites also have resources that they can dedicate towards this end. Agencies with few resources are likely to be able to make only small steps. These agencies hope to have a blueprint for action—PACE EH action plans—should resources become available.

Small steps have potential long-term impact. PACE EH can be useful when resources and political support are scarce. PACE EH has three legs: (1) scientific assessment; (2) community change; and (3) agency capacity building. Advances in all three do not need to occur for the process to have value. Changes of the magnitude envisioned by the PACE EH

The National Environmental Public Health Performance Standards and Their Implications for Environmental Health Infrastructure and Practice

By Sharunda Buchanan, MS, PhD, Director, Division of Emergency and Environmental Health Services, National Center for Environmental Health; Sarah B. Kotchian, EdM, MPH, PhD, Associate Director, University of New Mexico Institute for Public Health; and Patrick O. Bohan, RS, MS, MSEH, Assistant Professor, East Central University, Ada, Oklahoma.

Recent threats from emerging and reemerging diseases, bioterrorism, global warming, and other environmental health issues, as well as increasing pressure at all governmental levels for proof of agency effectiveness, emphasize the need for the strong public health infrastructure called for in *Healthy People 2010*. It is not enough to provide excellence in such specific programs as food protection and liquid waste; there is also an urgent need to ensure that the public is getting healthier as a result of these programs.

Environmental health agencies have been concerned with measuring their



History

- 2001 – Capacity Building Program; PHPO
- 2003 – Ph.D. Dissertation; IPA
- 2003 – CDC Strategic Planning
- 2004 – Think Tank (Steering Committee)
- 2005 – NPHPS Coordination
- 2006 – EHSB Strategic Planning



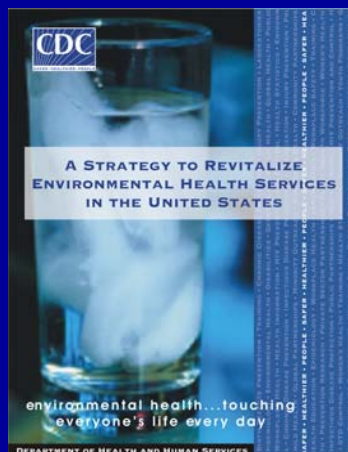
CDC's Strategy and Goals



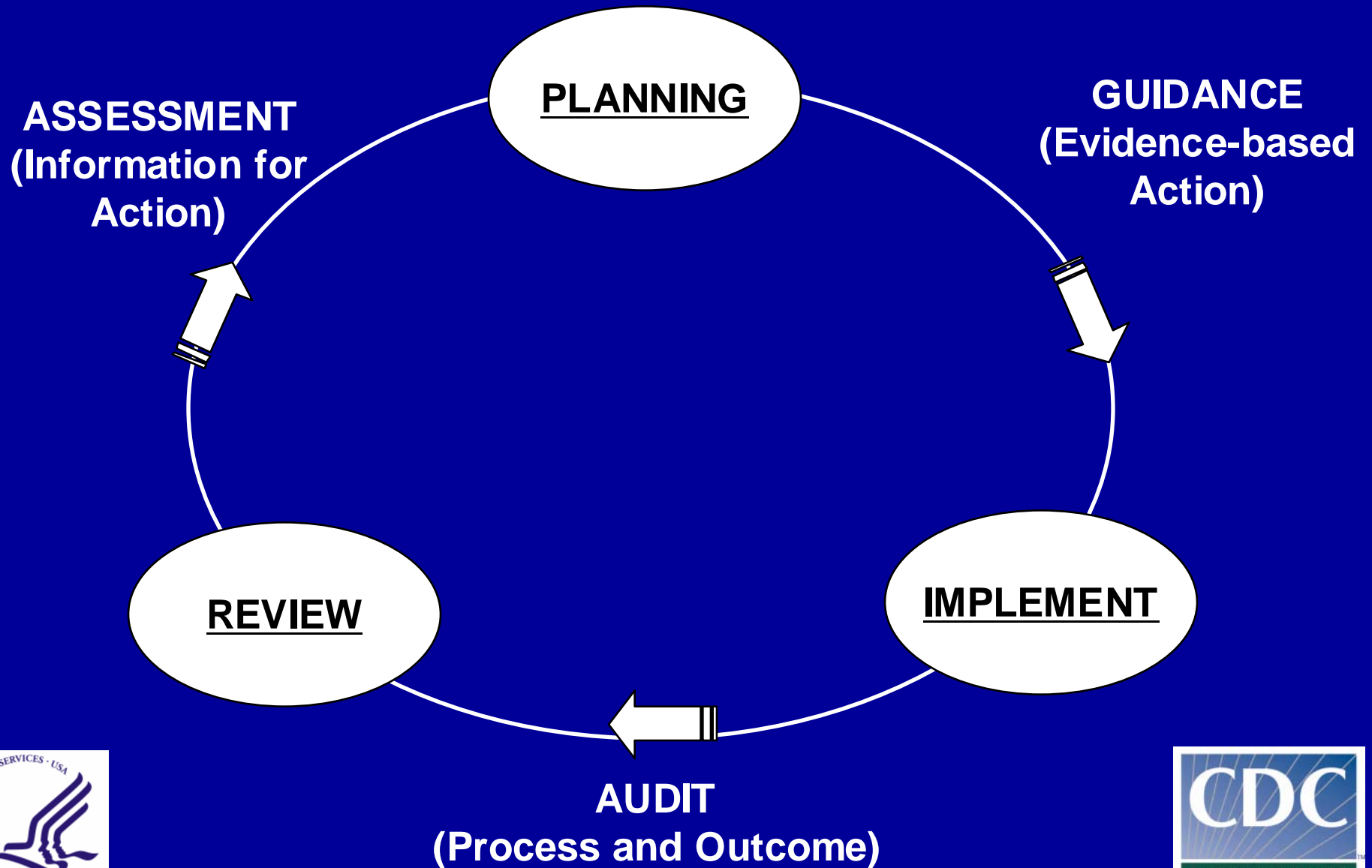
Vision

Full capacity of environmental public health programs to anticipate and prevent the spread of illness/disease outbreaks from existing and emerging threats

(“Revitalized EPH System”)



Goal: Continuous Assessment



It Makes Sense!

- EH makes up 20% of local public health programs
- EH workforce desires focused, yet simple standards
- Time is right
 - Complement current NPHPS efforts
 - Move toward accreditation



How Local Agencies Can Use EnvPHPS

- Assess jurisdiction capacity to perform the 10 essential services
- Identify gaps in the EH system to perform the 10 essential services
- Develop action plans to address gaps in or barriers to meeting NEnvPHPS standards
- Educate staff about EH's role in preventing disease and reducing hazards



CDC's Role in Implementation

- Technical assistance/training
 - EH indicators
- Action planning
 - Acting as liaison
 - Networking
 - Raising awareness
 - Identifying innovative/best practices
 - Gaining resources



EnvPHPS: Next Steps

- Gain stakeholder support – Jan 2007
- Build consensus – April 2007
- Pilot draft instrument – June 2007
- Finalize draft standards – September 2007
- Implement program – September 2008
- Continuous assessment – Ongoing

Version 5/22/07

Monitor environmental and health status to identify and solve community environmental health problems					
	Fully Met 100%	Substantially Met 50% - 100%	Partially Met 25% - 50%	Minimal Activity 0% - 25%	No Activity 0%
1.1.1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.1.2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.1.3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.1.4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



EnvPHPS: Progress

- Partners on board
- Initiative gaining momentum
- NEHA preconference workshop (June)
- NEHA online workshop (ongoing)
- NEW: NEnvPHPS toolkit (e.g., PACE EH)
- *NACCHO Exchange* article



NACCHO Exchange

Promoting Effective Local Public Health Practice

Volume 6, Issue 2
Spring 2007
The Changing Face of
Environmental Health

What's Inside...

6 President's Column

8 Executive Director's Column

9 Preparing Local Public Health for

20 NACCHO Exchange

Process Evaluation of PACE EH *Continued from page 19*

For many health agencies and communities, however, the journey has been much less profound. A dialogue has begun between agencies and the community but has not yet had a significant impact. The evaluation suggested that resources and the presence of a "champion" with political clout within the agency were key in determining outcomes. The sites in which the transformation was most pronounced have staff members who are passionate about the value of community involvement and about redefining the ways in which the agency works with the community. These sites also have resources that they can dedicate towards this end. Agencies with few resources are likely to be able to make only small steps. These agencies hope to have a blueprint for action—PACE EH action plans—should resources become available.

Small steps have potential long-term impact. PACE EH can be useful when resources and political support are scarce. PACE EH has three legs: (1) scientific assessment; (2) community change; and (3) agency capacity building. Advances in all three do not need to occur for the process to have value. Changes of the magnitude envisioned by the PACE EH

The National Environmental Public Health Performance Standards and Their Implications for Environmental Health Infrastructure and Practice

By Sharunda Buchanan, MS, PhD, Director, Division of Emergency and Environmental Health Services, National Center for Environmental Health; Sarah B. Kotchian, EdM, MPH, PhD, Associate Director, University of New Mexico Institute for Public Health; and Patrick O. Bohan, RS, MS, MSEH, Assistant Professor, East Central University, Ada, Oklahoma.

Recent threats from emerging and reemerging diseases, bioterrorism, global warming, and other environmental health issues, as well as increasing pressure at all governmental levels for proof of agency effectiveness, emphasize the need for the strong public health infrastructure called for in *Healthy People 2010*. It is not enough to provide excellence in such specific programs as food protection and liquid waste; there is also an urgent need to ensure that the public is getting healthier as a result of these programs.

Environmental health agencies have been concerned with measuring their

