

Interagency Crosscutting Group on Climate Change and Human Health (CCHHG)

U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP)

The Interagency Crosscutting Group on Climate Change and Human Health (CCHHG) is charged by the USGCRP with planning, coordinating, implementing, evaluating, and reporting on federal research and related scientific activities on the human health impacts of global environmental change. The CCHHG integrates relevant science and technology programs and capabilities through interagency, interdisciplinary, and intergovernmental collaborations spanning basic research to decision making to application. The ultimate goal is to build communities that are healthy and resilient to climate change impacts.

The CCHHG focuses on all impacts of climate change on human health. Direct health impacts may include increased illnesses and deaths from extreme heat events, injuries and deaths from extreme weather events, and respiratory illnesses due to changes in air quality. Indirect health impacts include illnesses and deaths that may arise from climate-related changes in ecosystems, infectious agents, or agricultural production. The group also considers unintended hazards, as well as potential health benefits, that may arise from climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies. The CCHHG incorporates a *One Health* approach, recognizing that human health is inextricably linked to animal, ecosystem, and environmental health.



Workstreams

- **Adaptation**—including support for the Interagency Climate Change Adaptation Task Force
- **Assessment**—including support for the National Climate Assessment
- **Education and Engagement**—including coordination with broader USGCRP education and communication activities
- **Monitoring, Early Warning Systems, Data Integration, and Surveillance**—including coordination with the U.S. Group on Earth Observations (USGEO) Health and Environment Community of Practice
- **Research**—including development of a health and climate change research framework, gap analysis and prioritization of research needs, and coordination of joint funding opportunities



Co-chairs

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development
- White House Office of Science and Technology Policy

USGCRP Participating Agencies & Departments

- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Defense
- Department of Energy
- Department of Health & Human Services
- Department of Interior
- Department of State
- Department of Transportation
- National Aeronautics & Space Administration
- National Science Foundation
- Smithsonian Institution
- U.S. Agency for International Development
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



Engagement

The CCHHG engages with traditional USGCRP agencies, as well as other federal agencies with relevant missions and programs. Stakeholder engagement is also critical to inform prioritization of research needs, increase understanding of potential health impacts from various sectors, and increase coordination with on-the-ground public health applications at the regional, state, local, and tribal levels. The CCHHG engages stakeholders as appropriate through mechanisms such as workshops, listening sessions, and other forms of information sharing.



For more information on the USGCRP Interagency Crosscutting Group on Climate Change and Human Health, please visit:

<http://www.globalchange.gov/what-we-do/cchhg>