

**Environmental Health Disparities Workshop:
Connecting Social and Environmental Factors to Measure and Track
Environmental Health Disparities**

May 24-25, 2005

Michigan Union, University of Michigan

530 S. State Street, Room 2105B

Ann Arbor, Michigan

Final Draft Agenda

Day 1, Tuesday, May 24th

8:30 Registration and breakfast

9:00 Welcome – Devon Payne-Sturges and Gilbert Gee

Genesis of workshop

Overview of agenda and objectives

9:10 Introductory remarks by workshop co-sponsors

Center for Research on Ethnicity, Culture and Health

EPA's Office of Children's Health Protection

EPA's National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory

EPA's Office of Environmental Justice

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

9:25 Introduction of participants – Sean Casey, workshop facilitator

9:45 Introduce concept of environmental health indicators: *America's Children and the Environment* report – Tracey J. Woodruff

Nationally relevant measures for three components: environmental contaminants, body burdens, disease and disorders

10:00 Environmental justice, regional equity and residential racial segregation – Rachel Morello-Frosch and Russell Lopez

10:15 Organizing framework for evaluating environmental health disparities – Gilbert Gee

10:30 Break

10:45 Identifying health outcomes for environmental health disparities (Introduction to small group exercise)– Devon Payne-Sturges and Sean Casey

Diseases or conditions that may be related to exposure to an environmental hazard (or environmental pollutants);

Disease or conditions for which there may be racial/ethnic and economic disparities; and

Diseases or conditions that might render a population/community more vulnerable to exposure to an environmental hazard (or environmental pollutants).

- 10:50 Brainstorming “Top 10” health outcomes for environmental health disparities (small group exercise) – Sean Casey**
Of all the health outcomes out there, which 10 are most pressing & relevant for the study of environmental health disparities?
- 12:30 Lunch*
- 1:30 Multi-level considerations – Mah-Jabeen Soobader and Catherine Cubbin**
Can we think our indicators in a multi-level fashion?
For indicators at the macro-level, which are proxies for individual measures and which are factors in their own right?
How do measure at each level and what is the data source?
- 1:45 Criteria to consider in selecting environmental health indicators – Kirstin Crowder**
Given that indicator criteria will vary by program type and purpose, what characteristics should indicators have for a program that examines the social and environmental factors that produce health disparities?
- 2:00 Brainstorming indicators (small group exercise) – Sean Casey**
Thinking about the "Top 10" health outcomes, what are the indicators for the outcomes and the related social and physical environments that should be used to track these health outcomes and their processes?
How do you measure the indicators?
What data sources hold these indicators (e.g. Census, NHANES, NHIS, EPA?)
- 3:15 Break*
- 3:30 Report back to larger group on brainstorming indicators (group discussion) – Sean Casey**
- 4:15 Catch up on any outstanding issues/review tomorrow’s agenda – Sean Casey**
- 4:30 Adjourn for the day**

Day 2, Wednesday May 25th

- 8:30 Breakfast**
- 9:00 Review and summarize previous day – Sean Casey**
- 9:30 Introduce concept of interaction, population vulnerability and cumulative risks/impacts – Gil Gee and Hal Zenick**
- 10:00 Group discussion on vulnerability and potential interactions – Sean Casey**
What indicators could be examined together to assess potential synergistic effects between potential risk factors for health outcomes?
What indicators should we examine together to highlight risk factors that may render certain groups more vulnerable to the adverse effects of environmental exposures?
- 10:30 Break*
- 10:45 Indicators of environmental health disparities and their applicability at the local level – Donele Wilkins, Azibuike Akaba and Bhavna Shamasunder**
How often are environmental health data used by community organizations for advocacy and social change? How is the data used?

What characteristics of the data are important so they are useful and relevant for communities?

Are data representative of the local community important, or are data at larger scale (county/state/region/national) also important to have?

Are there environmental health issues that communities are concerned about for which data/indicators do not exist currently?

11:30 Group discussion on accessibility and utility of indicators for all audiences- Sean Casey

12:00 Lunch

1:00 Policy Implications – Bunyan Bryant

1:30 Group discussion on policy implications

2:15 Summary and next steps – Sean Casey

2:45 Closing comments – Gilbert Gee and Devon Payne-Sturges

3:00 Adjourn