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# NEWSLETTER

*International Federation of Environmental Health*

**March 2019**

**Briefing from Dr. Selva Mudaly, IFEH President  
Update March 2019**



*Mr. Selva Mudaly, President IFEH*

Dear Colleagues and Esteemed Members of the IFEH,

This is the first Newsletter for 2019 and we endeavour to communicate with our members and keep them informed on all that is happening at the IFEH.

Firstly, let me wish all our dear female members, a very happy International Woman's Day. I hope all of you were spoilt by your partners, employers and friends.

This year will be a very busy one for the IFEH, especially with the coming activities, i.e. the Academic Conference in Uganda, the Strategic Planning session on the 7/4/2019, the 2019 World Environmental Health Day and the coming World Environmental Health Conference in Malaysia in August 2020.

I personally invite all of you to get involved in the IFEH activities as this is your Organization and all of you need to contribute in some way.

The IFEH is a member of the Science and Technology partnership in the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 – 2030.

The IFEH had received the draft roadmap to support the Science and Technology for implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 – 2030 (UNISDR).

The Chairperson of the IFEH DRR Committee, Mr. Henning Hansen, submitted our comments and supported this roadmap, after he received comments from some of our members. Please go to our website to see our comments to this document.

The Honorary PRO, Mr. Jesper Christensen has been busy compiling this edition of the Newsletter, but he needs all of you to assist him by submitting information and news from your regions.

Once again, a big thank you to all of you for submitted articles/news for the Newsletter, we value your support.

Regards,  
Dr. Selva Mudaly- President- IFEH  
Regards, Dr. Selva Mudaly

### **Shooting in Christchurch, New Zealand IFEH President Message**

The President, the Board of Directors and all members of the International Federation of Environmental Health, are deeply shocked to learn about the tragic and terrible attacks on two mosques in Christchurch. IFEH President Dr. Selva Mudaly express his most sincere condolences and sympathy to the families of all the deceased and the people of New Zealand.

### **Disaster in Malawi and Zimbabwe – tropical cyclone Idai. IFEH President Messages**

The President, the Board of Directors and all members of the International Federation of Environmental Health, are saddened by the recent disaster and devastation of the tropical cyclone “Idai” in Malawi and Zimbabwe. President Dr. Selva Mudaly express his deepest thoughts to the families who lost their homes and all their belongings and deepest condolences to the families who lost their loved ones.

Full details in the letters from the President on IFEH website to [Malawi Environmental Health Association](#) and [Zimbabwe Environmental Health Association](#)

### **Updates for the 3rd IFEH Academic World Conference on Environmental Health 2019 Kampala, Uganda, 9 - 11 April 2019**



**The theme of the conference is:**  
Environmental Health: a cornerstone to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

The conference will bring together practitioners, researchers, academics, policy makers, students and the entire environmental health fraternity from around the world to discuss recent research findings, developments, best practices, and innovations to advance environmental health training and practice.

It is expected that through the diverse group attending the conference, participants will be able to deliberate on environmental health interventions relevant for attainment of the 17 [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#).(SDG).



A number of competent [keynote-speakers](#) ensure a high professional level. With less than three weeks for conference start everybody looking forward for this big event.

IFEH supports the conference and believes that the participants will receive a great academic benefit while the conference also provides good opportunities for networking with colleagues and members from Africa and other countries

Full details of the conference are on the [IFEH website](#) or by going to the [congress website](#)

### **In cooperation with IFEH the Environmental Health Students' Association (MUEHSA) in Uganda initiates a project for promotion of food hygiene and safety at St. Martin Primary School - Mulago.**

The IFEH decided in 2017 to start an initiative of having an environmental health related project established in every conference hosting country. This time the responsibility was rendered to MUEHSA which has tirelessly in its capacity continued to promote environmental health in Uganda and Africa at large. In regards to the theme of the World Environmental Health Day 2018 “Food Safety and Sustainability”, MUEHSA is proposing a project focusing on promotion of food hygiene and safety at one of the neighboring primary schools (St. Martin Primary School, Mulago). The school is government-aided and therefore, managed by Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA). In partnership with KCCA, MUEHSA plans to improve the food hygiene and safety at the school.

[Work Plan for the IFEH-MUEHSA project can be seen at the IFEH website.](#)

### **Update: Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030**

IFEH is holding a formal partnership with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR). The partnership is on Science and Technology - S&T Partnership.

In order to pursue the important agenda on disaster risk reduction (DRR) the IFEH has formed the IFEH DRR Committee, chaired by Mr Henning Hansen, Hon Vice President of IFEH, ENVINA Denmark. The Committee is in the process of gathering relevant information on work done on DRR and Disaster Management through out the IFEH member organisations and associated academic members. A new webpage on DRR has been launched on the IFEH website: [www.ifeh.org/drr](http://www.ifeh.org/drr)

UNISDR has initiated an update of the existing [Roadmap to Support the implementation of the Sendai Framework](#) The revision aims to reflect changes in the global discussions on risk and resilience since 2016 as well as progress and experiences at the national and local levels in the implementation of the Sendai Framework.

In that light IFEH has contributed with a number of improvement proposals that can be seen on the IFEH website: [www.ifeh.org/drr](http://www.ifeh.org/drr).

The IFEH has by the UNISDR been invited to participate at the next coming high level [Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction - GP2019](#), taking place in May 2019 in Geneva at the UN headquarter. Henning Hansen will attend on behalf of the IFEH. In connection with this World Conference there will be meetings with other S&T Partners which Henning Hansen will attend to. It is intended that the new S&T Roadmap on which the IFEH has commented should be finalised and implemented.

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### **Update on the Global Charter for the Public's Health**

Members will know that the IFEH is a [Partner of the World Federation of Public Health Associations \(WFPHA\)](#).

The WFPHA has Dec. 15, 2018 released a joint paper in collaboration with the European Public Health Alliance: "The Global Charter for the Public's Health: how can we use it to tackle Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)?"

AMR is a multisectoral problem, which must be dealt with on a regional, national, and supranational level. To systematically tackle AMR, there is a need for a framework that takes these preconditions into account. The Global Charter for the Public's Health is one promising useful framework developed by the WFPHA. This report represents one of the outcomes of our last year workshop on this topic. The Global

Charter's implementation is maintaining it's progress! Read the full report [here](#).

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### **World Environmental Health Day 26 September 2019**

The theme for World Environmental Health Day (WEHD - 2019) has not yet been determined, and there is no presentation of the theme in this newsletter. The topic will soon be published on the IFEH website

IFEH strongly encourage the reader to keep an eye on the website in order to be updated on the topic and to start preparations of the 2019 theme as soon as it is published.

Look up for more details about this year's theme on [IFEH.org](http://IFEH.org).

### **How to get involved**

We encourage all member organisations and regional groups, academic associates and associate members to set up local initiatives and events to celebrate World Environmental Health Day.

We would specifically ask Universities to encourage and support their students in producing short videos on topics important to them.

Regarding information about planned national / regional initiatives as well as short videos we will provide opportunity for this to be displayed on the specific page on the [IFEH website](#).

This opportunity is open to all – regardless of membership of the IFEH. Please send information about your initiatives to Hon. Webmaster Henning Hansen [webmaster@ifeh.org](mailto:webmaster@ifeh.org) or Hon. PRO Jesper Christensen [pro@ifeh.org](mailto:pro@ifeh.org)

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### **General information to members**

The Federation works to disseminate knowledge concerning environmental health and promote co-operation between countries and member organisations.

Sharing of information between members are important.

The IFEH website offers several options for knowledge sharing – one of the opportunities is to take part in the IFEH special interest groups. The groups covering 16 different professional fields – drinking water, food safety and security, waste, public health etc. Look at the website for more information <http://www.ifeh.org/sig>

### **Professional networking**

Another way to share information is through the IFEH Facebook group ([facebook.com/ifeh.org](https://facebook.com/ifeh.org)) or [LinkedIn IFEH Group](#).

### **Twinning arrangements**

Exchange between members of IFEH

There is an agreement between the national associations within the IFEH, opening the possibility for members of the national associations to swap office and chair for a period of up to two or three weeks.

It is highly recommended by the IFEH Council, that members of a National Association within the International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH) take the chance to see how the environmental health work is carried out somewhere else in the World.

Look at the website for more information  
<http://www.ifeh.org/twinning/index.html>.

### **IFEH Magazine/Journal and newsletter**

Environment and Health International is the journal of the International Federation of Environmental Health. The magazine is published twice a year.

The last magazine was published in December 2017 and can be seen at [IFEH.org](http://IFEH.org)

This edition has interesting articles on

- the production of Jameson Whiskey in Cork
- the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 in the UK
- sustainability principles into all operations of motor sports
- the challenges of Healthcare waste management within hospitals
- the importance of measles vaccination
- the need to train the consumer so they can make an informed decision when purchasing foods

Members are invited to submit short articles or executive summary from longer articles that can be published in the Magazine.

The regular IFEH Newsletters are a source of information on the daily goings-on at the Federation (the latest newsletter is always available as a downloadable file at [IFEH.org](http://IFEH.org)).

Also small news items are welcome for the newsletter.

Articles for coming issues of the magazine please send to Kathryn Young E-mail: [kathy.young@dit.ie](mailto:kathy.young@dit.ie)

Small news items for the newsletter please send to Jesper Ø. Christensen - [pro@ifeh.org](mailto:pro@ifeh.org).