



REGIONE DEL VENETO



“CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE CHALLENGES FOR PUBLIC HEALTH: ENGAGING THE REGIONS” 24 June 2008, Brussels

CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS

EU and Member States should:

1. Agree a cut of at least 30% in the EU's domestic emissions of greenhouse gases by 2020;
2. Develop national and regional communication and awareness raising activities on climate change that provide the health care sector with sustainable solutions for public health and climate change;
3. Further investigate the co-benefits to health of climate change mitigation efforts that can help reduce the disease burden in the European Union, especially among the most vulnerable groups.

Health authorities, health professionals and all those working in the health sector should:

1. Take advantage of their expertise and respected social status to raise public awareness of the health benefits of mitigation and adaptation efforts;
 2. Make available key facts on health and climate change to national, regional and local health policy makers, professionals and staff in the European Union. The information should share examples of “good practice”, highlight the needs of the most vulnerable, and emphasise the potential for cost savings where they exist;
 3. Set an example by promoting and supporting the “greening” of health services, especially “win-win” projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve health through investment in sustainable transport schemes, renewable energy, improved energy and resource efficiency, and sustainable procurement options;
 4. Establish and influence the development of local adaptation activities, including early warning systems, health system preparedness, and health care planning;
 5. Advocate climate-friendly and healthy policies in all sectors, including energy, transport and housing in collaboration with health and environment groups;
 6. Champion the need for cuts in greenhouse gases and investment in communication and awareness raising activities with politicians and other decision-makers.
- 26 June 2008