



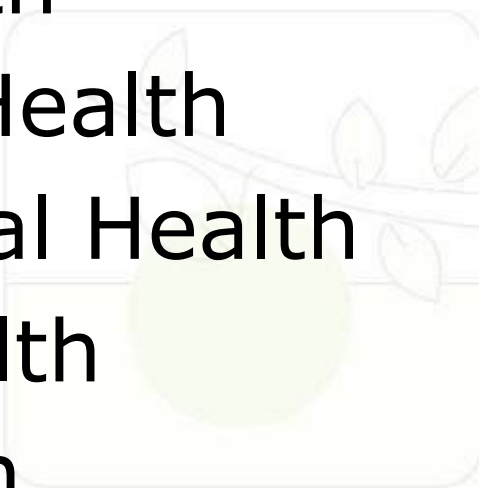
Generaldirektion
Gesundheit & Verbraucher

Climate Change and Health
CoR Brussels 24 June 2008



Climate Change

- Public Health
- Individual Health
- Occupational Health
- Animal Health
- Plant Health





Public Health

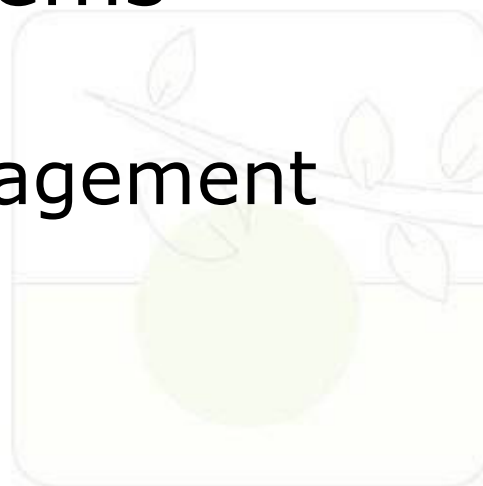
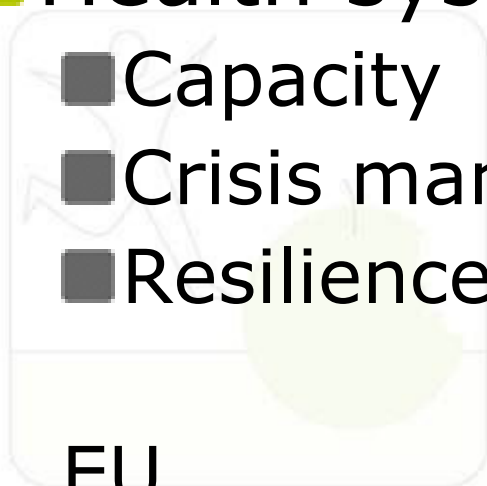
■ Health systems

- Capacity
- Crisis management
- Resilience

EU

Coordination

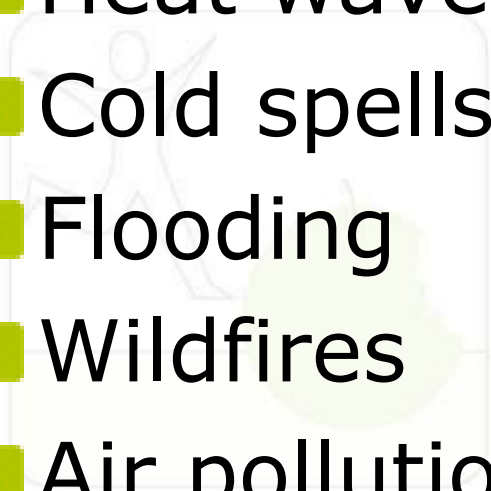
Recommendation





Extreme weather and health

- Heat waves
- Cold spells
- Flooding
- Wildfires
- Air pollution
- Water availability





Health Issues

- Airborne diseases
- Cardiac, cerebro vascular problems
- Infectious diseases
- Ultra violet radiation (cancer, cataracts)
- Mental problems



SANCO Activities in Adaptation

- Note to the Commissioner 2005 on the human and animal health consequences of climate change (CC)
- Discussion in SANCO WP Health and Environment
- Workshop on Health effects of CC 2007
- SANCO website information
http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_information/diss/emination/unexpected/unexpected_en.htm
- EuroHeat Heat wave probability tool
- Forest fire information system JRC
- European Flood alert system JRC



Extreme weather conditions

Systematic reviews of empirical studies provide the best evidence for the relationship between health and weather or climate factors, but such formal reviews are rare. Published evidence so far indicates that:

- climate change is affecting the seasonality of some allergenic species as well as the seasonal activity and distribution of some disease vectors;
- climate plays an important role in the seasonal pattern or temporal distribution of malaria, dengue, tick-borne diseases, cholera, diarrhoeal diseases and some other infectious diseases;
- heat waves, cold spells and flooding can have severe and long-lasting effects.

The recent heat waves in the EU make us question the ways in which our societies are changing, and how we organise them. The experience of 2003 shows that those most likely to die of the heat are the old, the chronically ill, and the isolated. Northern, southern, central and Eastern Europe are at risk.

Heat waves in Europe are associated with significant morbidity and mortality. A preliminary analysis of the 2003 heat wave in Europe estimated that it caused thousands of deaths in Europe. Ongoing epidemiological studies will better describe and contribute substantial evidence to the understanding of health effects of heat waves in Europe and add significantly to targeting interventions.

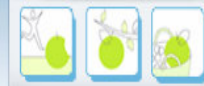
The main challenge for the future is the aging of the population, particularly the growing number of very old people, and how they live in our cities (in terms of housing and social integration) or in nursing homes (quality of healthcare and management). There is no doubt that age is one of the main risk factors, particularly for those over 75 or 80 years, but age-associated factors are also very important. Case-control studies carried out in some Member States found that loss of autonomy and social isolation played a major role in the risk factors for the elderly, as did living directly below the roof of a building, in a heat island, particularly in cities.

Browse the Theme

- ▶ [Public health responses to heat waves](#)
- ▶ [The 2003 European heat wave](#)
- ▶ [The 2006 European heat wave](#)
- ▶ [The 2007 European heat wave](#)
- ▶ [EU Projects to improve Public Health knowledge on extreme weather/heat waves: risks and responses](#)

[Important legal notice](#)

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European Heat wave and hot alert systems
 Heat wave probability - Climate Information Decision Support Tool for Heat in Europe - EuroHeat Project

Meteoalarm - Eumetnet (The Network of European Meteorological Services)

European Forest Fire Information System - Joint Research Centre

What's new ?

Stakeholder consultation in preparation of a White Paper on Adaptation to Climate Change - 16th Mar. 2008



Projects and results

- Canicule
- EuroHeat
- Book Extreme weather preparedness and response (finalised soon)
- cCash
- EuroSun
- ECDC report from 2007 WS on Infectious diseases in a changing environment



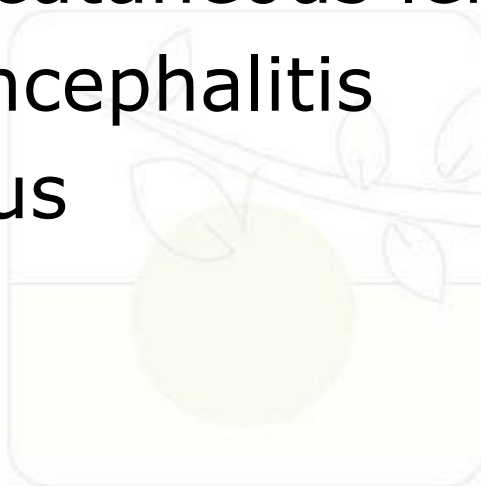
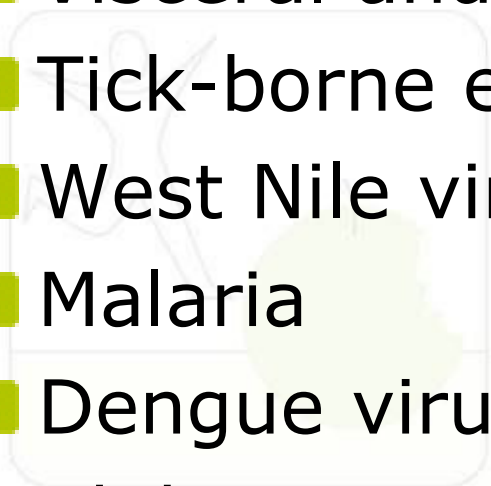
Preventing and managing Heat waves

- Prediction Early warning ECDC EPIS
- Awareness rising in public authorities and health professionals
- Implementation of Action plans
- Public information



Infectious diseases

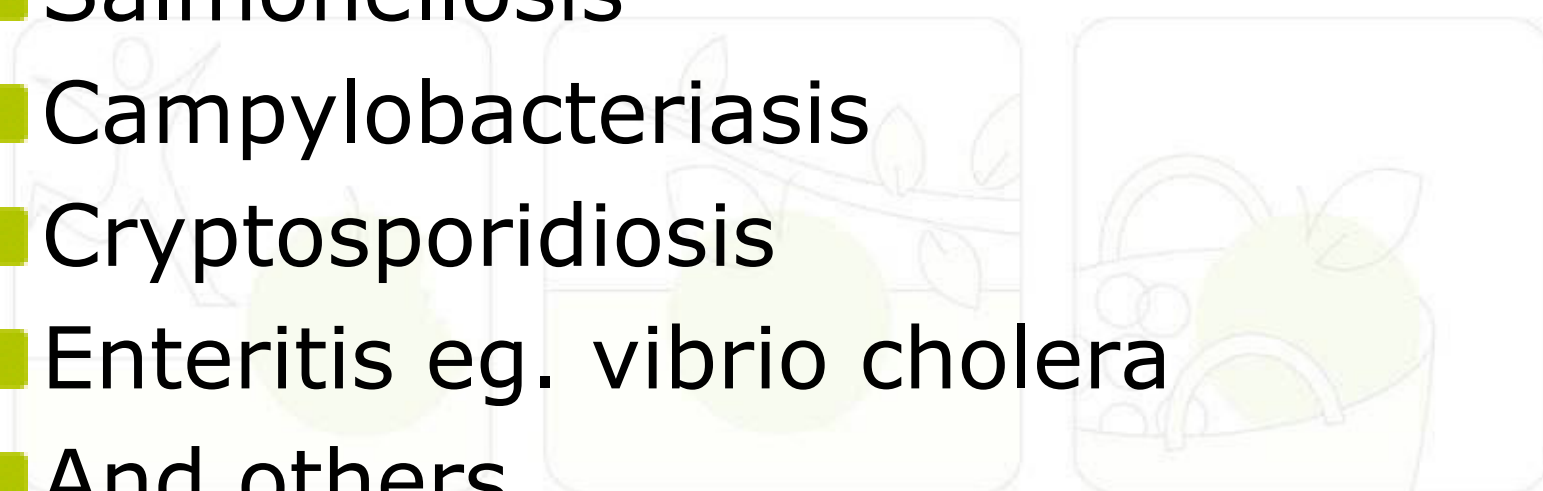
- Visceral and cutaneous leishmaniasis
- Tick-borne encephalitis
- West Nile virus
- Malaria
- Dengue virus
- Chikungunya
- Rift valley fever





Water related infectious diseases

- Salmonellosis
- Campylobacteriasis
- Cryptosporidiosis
- Enteritis eg. vibrio cholera
- And others





Future perspectives

- One Commission approach to adaptation
- White Paper on adaptation to climate change
- End of May: Draft of Impact assessment
- 21 October: Adoption of WP

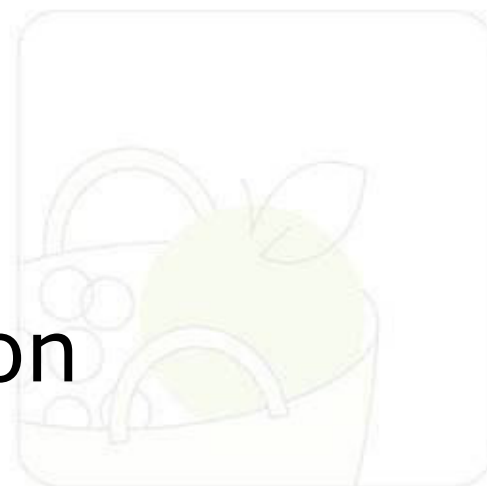
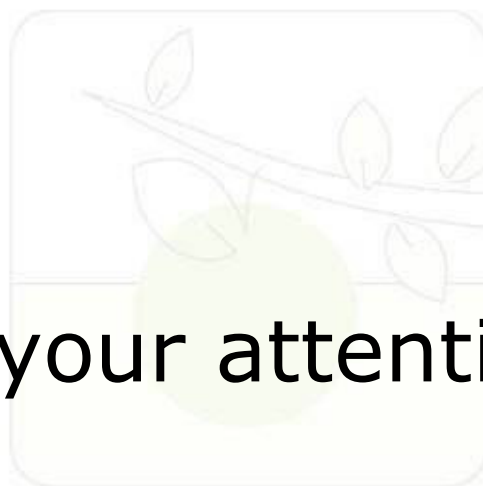


Conclusions

- Still a lot to do
- Defining scope of the White Paper related to health aspects
- Close cooperation between all sectors
- Include implementation of results into the public



Final



■ Thanks for your attention