



Building Mental Wellness and Psychosocial Resilience for Climate Change

Workshop: June 12, 2017, 12:30 – 2:30 pm

Location: Vue Room, 12th Floor

Social Media: #ClimateChangesHealth

Welcome:



Surili Sutaria Patel, MS
APHA Senior Manager, EH

Featuring:



Bob Doppelt, MS, MS
ITRC Coordinator



Lise Van Susteren, MD
Forensic Psychiatrist



Year of
Climate Change
and Health Series



2017: The Year of Climate Change and Health



Climate change is the leading public health issue of our time.
At the American Public Health Association, we envision a future when climate change is a national priority with broad social and political support. A future when our nation addresses climate change in ways that improve public health and health equity, spurring the healthiest nation in one generation.

—Georges Benjamin, MD, executive director



Marshaling the Public Health Response to Climate Change

The Challenge

- Climate change poses “unacceptably high and potentially catastrophic risk”¹ to human health
 - Heat waves and related mortalities
 - Changing patterns of disease transmission
 - Threats to food security
 - Water contamination
 - Rising seas and flooding, and resulting damage to health infrastructures

These challenges exacerbate health inequities that communities of color and low-income people already face

¹ N. Watts et al., “Health and Climate Change: Policy Responses to Protect Public Health,” *Lancet* 386, no. 10006 (2015): 1861–1914.

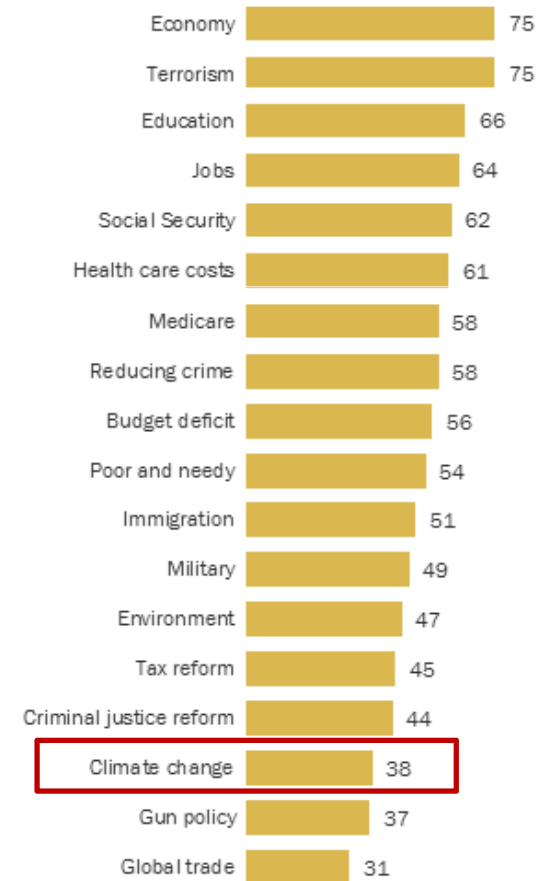
Marshaling the Public Health Response to Climate Change

The Challenge

- The public consistently ranks the issue as a low priority for taking action
- At the federal level, the topic has become so politically polarized that action is paralyzed

The public's policy priorities for 2016

% rating each a top priority for Obama and Congress



Source: Pew Research Center, "The Public's Policy Priorities for 2016," January 21, 2016, www.people-press.org/2016/01/22/budget-deficit-slips-as-public-priority/1-21-2016_06/.



Year of Climate Change and Health

Main Goals

The following goals articulate major advancements APHA seeks to achieve in 2017:

1. **Raise awareness** by educating members that climate change is a public health issue and not just an EH or environmental issue.
2. **Mobilize leaders** that are interested in climate change but have not started to take action.

Climate Change Partnerships

Getting Involved

MONTHLY THEMES	
January	Kick Off
February	Climate Justice & Health
March	Clean Energy
April	Transportation & Healthy Community Design
May	Air Quality, Lung and Heart Health
June	Mental Wellness
July	Agriculture and Food Safety & Security
August	Water Quality
September	Extreme Weather
October	Vulnerable Populations, Focus on Children
November	Tribal and Indigenous Health
December	Co-Benefits

Year of Climate Change and Health Partnership Levels



Year of Climate Change and Health Partnerships



Year of Climate Change and Health



Building Mental Wellness and Psychosocial Resilience for Climate Change

Monday, June 12, 2017 12:30pmET – 2:30pmET
American Psychological Association
750 First St NE, Washington, DC 20002

AGENDA

11:30am-12:30pm	LUNCH AND NETWORKING (in-person participants only)	
12:30pm-12:40pm	WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS <i>Goal: Provide an overview of the urgent need, methods, and benefits of building personal and psycho-social-spiritual (human) resilience for the traumas and toxic stresses of climate change</i>	Surili Sutaria Patel Bob Doppelt Dr. Lise Van Susteren
12:40pm-1:00pm	OVERVIEW OF THE MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE	Dr. Lise Van Susteren

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1:00pm – 1:20pm	ADVANCING RESILIENCE CAPABILITIES WITHIN INDIVIDUALS <i>Goal: Explain and practice skills and tools that can enhance the capacity of individuals and groups to cope with climate adversities without harming themselves, others, or the environment, and use them as transformational catalysts to learn, grow, and increase wellbeing.</i>	Bob Doppelt
1:20pm – 1:40pm	BUILDING HUMAN RESILIENCE THROUGH PRACTICE AND POLICY AT THE ORGANIZATIONAL AND COMMUNITY LEVELS <i>Goal: Explain and learn about practices and policies organizations and communities can adopt to spot when they are "trauma organized" and transition to "trauma-informed human resilience enhancing enterprises" that help increase personal, social, and ecological wellbeing.</i>	
1:40pm – 2:00pm	APPLICATION OF HUMAN RESILIENCE SKILLS <i>Goal: Learn through examples of how human resilience skills are being applied internationally and in the U.S, and their many benefits</i>	
2:00pm – 2:30pm	Q & A	Bob Doppelt Dr. Lise Van Susteren
2:30pm	ADJOURN	