Health

High Level Plenary 2 and Workshops 2A and 2B

Rapporteurs and Drafters:
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• Recommendations:
  – More research needed
  – Engagement with social and behavioural sciences
  – Gender-sensitive communication strategies
  – Benefits of moving to a low-carbon society
  – Partnerships with health communities are crucial
  – Focus on females in education and outreach
RECOMMENDATION

- Promote and encourage cross-disciplinary research linking climate change, health, and gender in order to develop sufficient information to adequately inform policy.
  - Policy development needs to be evidence-driven
  - Little research available that links climate change, health and gender considerations with policy development.
  - Community-level, gender-disaggregated data often not available
RECOMMENDATION

• Engage with the social and behavioural sciences research to help us improve our information and communication mechanisms leading ultimately to improved decision making.
  – Understand how weather and climate information is used
  – Better appreciation of how people assess risk
  – Leads to impact-based forecasts and warnings, communicating specific behaviours designed to protect personal and family health
  – A complex issue, gender and diversity are just pieces of this larger puzzle.
RECOMMENDATION

• Devise communication strategies that recognize potential gender-specific barriers to accessing weather and climate information, both technological and cultural.
  – Access to communications technologies are often influenced by gender, among other considerations
  – Focus on communication pathways that are used by and familiar to women
RECOMMENDATION

- Promote awareness that moving to a low carbon economy and society will have the effect of improving public health, especially for women and children.
  - Strong linkage between climate change and increased hazards such as vector-borne diseases
  - Indoor and outdoor air pollution
  - Unsustainable transport systems
  - Poor nutrition
RECOMMENDATION

- Encourage NMHSs to engage with the health community to bring together health, weather and climate experts for joint training, operational partnerships and other initiatives
  - Training health professionals in the use of climate data
  - Training climate experts in the needs of health communities,
  - Co-locating climate observing stations with health sentinel sites
  - Engaging female health actors
  - Working through the health system will automatically bring a gender-focus to information transfer
  - Engage with animal health experts also where relevant
RECOMMENDATION

- Encourage NMHSs to develop education and outreach programmes with a particular emphasis on science education for girls and women
  - Improve the understanding of science in the community
  - Develop programmes with schools, especially girls’ schools
  - Ensure training programmes reach into the rural communities and are not just urban-based