

Climate Change Futures: Health, Ecological and Economic Dimensions



The Center for Health and the Global Environment
Harvard Medical School

Swiss Re



The Climate Change Futures Project

The Climate Change Futures: Health, Ecological and Economic Dimensions (CCF) project examines the physical and health risks of climate instability. CCF is a three-year effort by the Center for Health and the Global Environment at Harvard Medical School, and is supported by Swiss Re and the United Nations Development Programme. Key findings of the study will be presented Tuesday, November 1, 2005, at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, York.



CCF is unique for several reasons. The project:

- Involves corporate stakeholders directly in the assessment process.
- Offers multi-dimensional projections and recommendations for the coming five to ten years, unlike other assessments with projections far off into the future
- Takes a broad view of health, focusing on human diseases, while including diseases and infestations affecting natural systems that can have profound economic effects via the loss of resources and the services the environmental systems provide.
- Brings together the wisdom of a multi-sectoral group of researchers (public health professionals, veterinarians, specialists in agriculture, marine biology, forestry, and climatology), and representatives from the corporate, NGO and United Nations sectors to assess the emerging pattern of risks.
- Uses climate scenarios that explore the possibility of much greater variance and the growing potential for surprises and shifts that could have the greatest overall impact on human health and well-being.

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To learn more, please contact:



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The Mission of the Center for Health and the Global Environment at Harvard Medical School is to study and promote a wider understanding of the human health consequences of global environmental change. The Center believes that people will protect the natural environment when they realize its importance to their health, and the health and lives of their children.



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UNDP is the UN's global development network, focused on helping countries build and share solutions to the challenges of energy and the environment, democratic governance, poverty reduction, HIV/AIDS, and crisis prevention and recovery. At the United Nations Millennium Summit, world leaders placed development at the heart of the global agenda by adopting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which set clear targets for reducing poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, environmental degradation and discrimination against women by 2015. On the ground in 166 countries, UNDP helps the UN system and its partners raise awareness and track progress on the MDGs, while using its extensive network to connect donors and developing countries, private and public sectors and policy advice and programme resources to help nations achieve these goals.

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