

Ecohealth 2014 Statement Working Group and Reference Group Terms of Reference

The three co-convenors of EcoHealth 2014, the 5th Biennial International EcoHealth Conference titled "Connecting for health, ecosystems and society", *The International Association for Ecology & Health (IAEH)*, *The Canadian Community of Practice in Ecosystem Approaches to Health [CoPEH-Canada]* and the *Centre de recherche interdisciplinaire sur la biologie la santé et l'environnement [CINBIOSE] of The University of Québec at Montréal [UQAM]* have identified the issue of global climate change as being of particular importance to the international ecohealth community and a timely focus for a statement emerging from the EcoHealth 2014 conference. In order to ensure a successful process, the conference co-convenors propose a core Working Group supported by a Reference Group prepare a conference statement to be presented at the EcoHealth2014 conference (11-15 August, 2014) in Montreal and to use this document as a call to action for the ecohealth community. The terms of Reference for the functioning of both the Working Group and the Reference Group are outlined in this document.

Working Group:

Working Group Mandate: To engage, oversee and support the membership of IAEH and those engaged with EcoHealth 2014 conference in developing and disseminating a statement on the implications and responsibilities of the international ecohealth community on the issue of global climate change.

Specific objectives of the EcoHealth 2014 Statement Working Group are to:

- (a) determine the frequency and nature of Working Group and Reference Group meetings and processes;
- (b) develop a process of engagement prior to and during the conference;
- (c) ensure effective communication with relevant committees and collaborating organizations;
- (d) oversee the development of the draft Statement and its iterative refinement for release at the end of the conference;
- (e) develop a communication plan, next steps and follow-through strategy post EcoHealth2014 conference;
- (f) consider the use of supportive technologies to advance the statement writing process.

Working Group Composition: The EcoHealth 2014 Statement Working Group will be a group of ~6-8 people. The following perspectives and/or responsibilities will be included in the Working Group and may overlap in one person:

- members of the governing bodies (or their designates) from the three organisations co-convening the Ecohealth 2014 conference: 1. The International Association for Ecology & Health, 2. The Canadian Community of Practice in Ecosystem Approaches to Health, and 3. CINBIOSE;
- member(s) from Emerging Scholar and Professional (ESaP) networks in ecohealth;
- member(s) with previous experience of IAEH processes relevant to Statement development (e.g. EcoHealth 2012 Kunming Statement, Abidjan Statement 2013);
- member(s) of the Conference Steering Committee, to serve in a liaison role;
- member(s) with experience/involvement in global climate change in relation to ecohealth;
- member(s) with local experience and connections;
- other strategic representatives to be identified.

Working Group Time commitment for participating on the Ecohealth Statement Working Group

- Approximately one monthly teleconference/Skype meetings (max. 90 minutes), between March 2014 to August 2014;
- Inter-meeting electronic communications in order sustain the development of the statement and associated processes;
- Attendance at EcoHealth2014 (11-15 August, 2014), with ongoing interaction during this time;
- Participation in a follow-up conversation and evaluation to benefit from lessons learned.

Reference Group:

Reference Group Mandate: The Reference group will function in a consultative and creative fashion to support the Working Group in the refinement of the Ecohealth 2014 statement.

Specific objectives of the EcoHealth Statement 2014 Reference Group are to:

- (a) provide advice and responses to the Working Group as the drafts of the Statement are developed;
- (b) ensure that the statement and associated processes are in keeping with the mission and intent of the International Association for Ecology & Health and EcoHealth2014 conference conveners;
- (c) ensure that the statement is appropriately inclusive of relevant facets of global climate change in relation to ecohealth, and is poised to make a significant contribution to the international discourse leading up to CoP20 (Lima, Peru, December 2014) and CoP21 (Paris, France, December 2015).

Reference Group Composition: The EcoHealth 2014 Statement Reference Group will include the Working Group members, plus additional members. The following perspectives and/or responsibilities will be included in the Reference Group and may overlap in one person:

- member(s) who will be broadly representative of the membership of the EcoHealth2014 conveners, reflecting, as much as possible: geographic representation (considering Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Oceania, and Northern America), a range of disciplinary backgrounds, gender balance, experience across research, education and practice and diverse academic affiliations (government, academic, non-government organizations, community stakeholders and other relevant groups);
- member(s) with experience/involvement/expertise in global climate change in relation to ecohealth and spanning, where possible the natural, social and health sciences, humanities and related knowledges;
- other strategic representatives to be identified.

Reference Group Time commitment. The Reference group will be less involved than the working group in the mechanisms and processes of producing the statement, with time commitments as follows:

- provide feedback on at least three drafts of the conference statement;
- attendance, as possible, at EcoHealth2014 (11-15 August, 2014), with ongoing interaction during this time;
- participation in follow-up conversations to refine strategies for communicating and disseminating the conference statement;
- participation in an evaluation to benefit from lessons learned.

Support/recognition for Working Group and Reference Groups:

We are collectively appreciative of Working and Reference Groups members for volunteering their time in the development of this important contribution to address one of humanity's principle, urgent and complex challenges and will acknowledge the contributions of people comprising the groups as and when appropriate.

Limited infrastructure support is available to support the conduct and activities of the Working Group and Reference Group. Appropriate recognition of Working Group and Reference Group members will be forthcoming in products and publications arising from this process. No honoraria or travel funds will be provided.