



## Contribution from Non-Governmental Organisations to the Children's Environmental Health Actionplan for Europe (CEHAPE) – Examples from Germany

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After the agreement on the development of National Environmental Health Action Plans (NEHAPs) across Europe, Germany implemented its Action Program Environment and Health (APUG) in 1999. It networks the areas environment, health and consumer protection on federal, federal state and municipal level including non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The German Network Children's Health and Environment (NCHE) was founded in 2001 to connect NGOs at the interface between children's health and environment. Later that year the network ensured the participation of NGOs at the first National Forum Children's Health and Environment.

On the European level further efforts were made to promote children's health by creating clean environments. The Children's Environmental Health Action Plan for Europe (CEHAPE) is one of the main outcomes of the 4th Ministry Conference on Environment and Health (2004, Budapest). The success and failures of the implementation in the various countries were reported during the Intergovernmental Midterm Review (2007, Vienna). One result of the Conference in Vienna was to continue with the focus on children (and other vulnerable groups) until the next Ministry Conference in 2009 and further on.

Regional Priority Goals (RPGs) for CEHAPE implementation:

RPG I: Safe water and adequate sanitation

RPG II: Protection from injuries and adequate physical activity

RPG III: Clean outdoor and indoor air

RPG IV: Protection from diseases caused by hazardous chemicals, physical and biological agents and hazardous working environments

Against this background the German Network Children's Health and Environment (NCHE) has started a project of collecting examples of good practise from NGOs acting within Germany under the guidelines of the CEHAPE. The compilation of a manual for the identification and assessment of the projects will primarily orient to the four Regional Priority Goals (RPGs). These goals are an essential element of the CEHAPE to highlight the main commitments on children's health and environment.

In the context of the search for examples of good practice the NCHE will extend the four RPGs by a focus on projects with participation of children and adolescents. After the evaluation, first results will be presented in Germany and the work will be completed for the next Ministry Conference (2009, Parma). The political implications will be published in an up-dated "Children's Agenda 2009" with recommendations for deriving actions – a tradition so far since 1999. \*

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1999  
APUG

2001  
NCHE

2001  
National Forum  
Children's Health and Environment

2001  
Children's Agenda (1st edition)

2004  
CEHAPE

2004  
Children's Agenda (2nd edition)

2007  
Vienna

2008  
Madrid

2009  
Children's Agenda (3rd edition)

2009  
Parma



### References:

Federal Ministry of Health, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (2007): A liveable environment for our children. Report by Germany on Implementation of the WHO „Children's Environment and Health Action Plan for Europe“ (CEHAPE). Bonn  
www.apug.de  
www.kinderumweltgesundheit.de

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