

Projects of the NCHE

In 2001: Networking of NGOs

The project comprised the coordination of the contribution of non-governmental organisations to the programme of the Munich Forum on Children's Environment and Health. Additionally, a Children's Agenda 2001 was approved. (APUG-project, BMG - Federal Health Ministry 2001; project execution: NCHE c/o Ökologischer Ärztbund).

In 2002 - 2003: Guidelines for Paediatric Environmental Medicine

Several guidelines have been developed to improve the competence of paediatricians. They serve as basic information and aid for all paediatricians and are available in electronic form free of charge. There are guidelines regarding respiratory diseases, disorders of the neurological-neuropsychological development and pollution by tobacco smoke, mould fungus, lead and mercury, respectively. These guidelines were approved by the Gesellschaft Pädiatrische Allergologie und Umweltmedizin (Society for Paediatric Allergology and Environmental Medicine; www.gpau.de) (APUG-project, BMG - Federal Health Ministry 2002/2003; project execution: NCHE c/o Ökologischer Ärztbund).

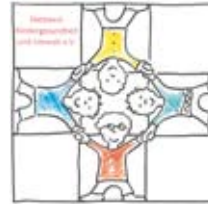
Since 2002: Advanced Training as Prevention Assistant

The advanced training is the result of a curriculum development that has been worked out with the assistance of diverse cooperation partners in 2002-2003 (APUG-project, BMG - Federal Health Ministry 2002/2003; project execution: NCHE c/o Ökologischer Ärztbund).

Since then 12 training courses have been held with more than 300 attendees. Since 2008 the now 84-hour advanced training has been complying with the curriculum „Prevention at Childhood and Youth“ of the Bundesärztekammer (German Medical Association) with regards to contents and timing. In the future the advanced training activities will be carried out by the Deutsche Akademie für Prävention und Gesundheitsförderung (DAPG; German Academy for Prevention and Health Promotion, www.dapg.info).

Since 2001 every year at least one conference of the NCHE has taken place.

The NCHE started in 1999 as a corporation between different stakeholders with interest and experience in the field of children's health and environment. After the founding as a legal entity in 2004 the NCHE is now functioning as a coordinator of the work of ca. 30 initiatives and societies all working in the children's health and environment area .



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For 20 Years Environment and Health



NCHE

Network Children's Health and Environment.

League for a Future Fit for Grandchildren e. V.

Responsible for the content are the authors.

For 20 Years Environment and Health in Europe

In 1989 a new era has started in Europe. For the first time those responsible at top-level did not only perceive the correlation between environment and health. Adequate to the importance of the problem a Europe-wide process has been started aiming to reduce environmental effects that are harmful to health. Provider of the process is the World Health Organisation (WHO), which today encompasses 53 nations.

“Every individual is entitled to an environment conducive to the highest attainable level of health and well-being” the European nations phrased in the “European Charta on Environment and Health”. In 1989 the Charta was approved at the First European Ministerial Conference on “Environment and Health” that was initiated by the WHO and was held in Frankfurt am Main. In 1994 the Second European Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in Helsinki decided that every country is supposed to develop a National Action Plan Environment and Health.

In Germany a wide **Alliance for Environment and Health** was constituted in 1996, which presented its “Action Plan Environment and Health” of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in 1998. The following year the **Network Children’s Health and Environment (NCHE)** was founded, a part of the alliance that focussed on children and created the “**Agenda for Children’s Health and Environment 1999**”.

Germany presented the Action Programme Environment and Health (APUG; www.apug.de) at the Third Conference in London in 1999.



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In 2004 the **Fourth European Ministerial Conference** in Budapest focussed on the subject “The Future for Our children”. The documents **Budapest Declaration** and **Children’s Environment and Health Action Plan for Europe (CEHAPE)**, which both were approved there, substantiate the previous resolutions.

Representing NGOs the **NCHE** was part of the official German delegation. By means of the updated “**Agenda for Children’s Health and Environment 2004**” the **NCHE** was able to present some important fields of action for preventive measures from the NGO-point of view at the highest level. First concern was the aspect of sustainability; with regard to it the term “fit for grandchildren” was introduced that unmistakably stresses that ultimately every policy should be oriented toward the aim to ensure a liveable future for our grandchildren.

In 2007 the conference **Intergovernmental Midterm Review** in Vienna made up an interim balance. Germany released the report “A Liveable Environment for Our Children” about the implementation of the **Children’s Environment and Health Action Plan for Europe - CEHAPE**.

Today, with the completion of the **German Health Interview and Examination Survey for Children and Adolescents (KiGGS)** including **German Environmental Survey 2003/06 (GerESIV)** for children and other modules data representative for Germany are available concerning health related environmental pollution regarding children and adolescents (www.kiggs.de). The **NCHE** campaigns for a continuation of the research.

The **NCHE** will present a Germany related report to the **Fifth European Ministerial Conference 2010** in Italy headed “Contributions of NGOs to the Implementation of the Children’s Environment and Health Action Plan for Europe” (**CEHAPE**). The **Umweltbundesamt (UBA, Federal Environment Agency)** supports this project in the context of promotion of associations. An updated **Agenda for Children’s Health and Environment 2010** and a collection of good practice examples of projects will also be part of the report.



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The Europe-wide process for environment and health will continue beyond 2010.

At this point we would like to invite all non-governmental organisations to continue supporting the campaign for a healthy environment for our children together with us. This is more important than ever, particularly in respect of the topics **environmental equity** and **climate change** that will become more pivotal in the future.