

## September 2012 – BUILD A BETTER FUTURE WITH EHA!

On behalf of IFEH (International Federation of Environmental Health), EHA (Environmental Health Australia) members and supporters take the time today to promote and celebrate 'World Environmental Health' Day 2012 – the Federation's second annual 'WEH Day'. This is the first time EHA has promoted this important day in Australia. EHA intends to continue the tradition in 2013 at the next National Conference in Perth, Western Australia.

The 2012 WEH Day theme is "build a better future". All environmental health professionals strive to address the Federation's theme with our policies and work practises to respond to the multitude of emerging EH issues and continue to address traditional aspects of the work we do. Prevention of disease and promotion of healthy lifestyles also feature in the work of EHA members. This is important if we are to build a better future for the communities of Australia.

This year on WEH Day in Australia, we acknowledge a year passing since WEH Day's inauguration in Bali 2011, go to [www.ifeh.org](http://www.ifeh.org). Regrettably, EHA doesn't have an Australian WEH Day song to perform in 2012. Is there a group of 'EH students' or young EH professionals in Australia who have the talent to show our Indonesian colleagues that we have what it takes? The challenge is set today for a song or an essay to match the 2011 performance. EHA can't wait to hear a demo or read an essay to be selected in time for WEH Day on Thursday, 26 September 2013. EHA will consider what prize would be appropriate for the winner of such a special occasion.

EHA and EHA State Associations are confident that the 2012 WEH Day theme was clearly in mind when meeting face to face in Adelaide in June. EHA worked over two days to rebuild the national agenda and establish the organisational and strategic directions for the national body. EHA made commitments to represent the interests of all EHA State Associations and the EH profession across Australia. EHA is confident that the Adelaide action list will build a better future for EHA members. The EHA September newsletter is the latest source of those achievements and intentions.

The overarching focus of EHA is sustainable development to protect the communities of Australia – our future. Since 2008 the by-line of EHA has been 'our health, our environment, our future!' This is entirely consistent with this year's WEH Day theme. It is clear that EHA has continued to maintain consistency with the Federation's worldwide theme by developing the theme for the national conference in November 2012 – "Advancing Quality of Life".

As we celebrate WEH Day today and build a better future, it is timely to remind EHA members and supporters to register for this important annual event and gather at Surfer's Paradise on Queensland's Gold Coast to find out how to advance quality of life.

Happy WEH Day 2012!

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### ON THIS DAY HISTORY MADE IN BALI 2011!

September 2011 – PROCLAMATION *By the Council of the International Federation of Environmental Health* – "WORLD ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DAY"

The International Federation of Environmental Health therefore deems it fitting to further promote the improvement of environmental parameters and services of environmental health professionals by declaring that 26 September be celebrated as World Environmental Health Day. PLEASE GO TO [www.ifeh.org](http://www.ifeh.org) to view Bali 2011 Song and 2012 activities – enjoy!