

Dr Edris Hoseinzadeh, head of the Environmental health engineering Department, Saveh University of Medical Sciences, Saveh, Iran commemorates World Environmental Health Day:

"Resilience is a crucial concept in the fields of sustainability and urban development. According to the United Nations' definition of disaster risk reduction, resilience refers to the ability of systems and human communities to respond, mitigate impacts, adapt, and recover from the consequences of various hazards in a timely and effective manner. This process is achieved through the preservation and restoration of essential functions and infrastructures of systems and communities. A resilient city is one that can quickly return to its pre-crisis state. However, natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes, storms, and tsunamis continuously cause significant human and financial losses, making them one of the major challenges facing cities. Developing countries, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region, experience the highest levels of damage and impact from these disasters, influenced by geographical conditions, climatic characteristics, crisis management, and economic circumstances. Cities face multiple challenges in the area of resilience, including:

- Population growth
- High urban density
- Climate change
- Ecosystem degradation
- Limited financial and institutional resources
- Inefficient management
- Inappropriate urban development
- Lack of adequate awareness and knowledge

To address barriers and enhance urban resilience, comprehensive planning and organization are necessary. The greatest health risks will occur in communities and populations currently affected by climate-related diseases. Environmental health experts have played a significant role in monitoring, controlling, and ensuring the quality and health of both the environment and human beings for several decades. They continue to have an important role in developing strategies and actions to protect communities from the challenges of climate change. Environmental health encompasses the study of environmental factors harmful to human health, the identification of these factors, and the prevention and mitigation of their adverse effects. Given Iran's vulnerability to global environmental challenges, particularly the consequences of climate change on health, environmental health specialists urge the officials of the School and the city of Saveh to pay attention to the alarms raised regarding environmental health and environmental issues. The Environmental Health Engineering group at this school welcomes collaboration, consultation, studies, and actions aimed at addressing and solving these issues".

A commemoration ceremony was held at the School of Medical Sciences in Saveh, Iran to mark World Environment Health Day. The event, organized by the Department of Environmental Health Engineering, focused on the theme of "Creating Resilient Communities through Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation." Attendees included faculty members, students, officials, managers,

and representatives from executive agencies. The ceremony took place in the conference hall of the SDH Research Center. A detailed report of the ceremony is available at <u>www.ehe.savehums.ac.ir</u>

