# **International Federation of Environmental Health**

London, England, United Kingdom IFEH Board of Directors

## **BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP**

What is the International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH)? Simply put, the IFEH is the only international professional association that speaks for environmental public health professionals from around the world. The motto of the Federation is 'Caring for the environment in the interest of world health.' With over forty (40) member countries in five (5) Federation Regions, and over sixty (60) thousand members, numerous Academic Associate Members and a cadre of Individual Members. The IFEH is truly a global organization. The Federation is an organisation whose full members are national associations representing the interests of environmental health professionals within their country. Preference will always be given to a national body embracing the generic approach to environmental health, as expressed in the Federation's Declaration of Kuala Lumpur.

No other professional organization covers the continuum of global environmental health issues, from climate change; to food protection; to drinking water and recreational water quality; to marine environment protection; to on-site wastewater and solid waste disposal; to industrial pollution; to indoor and outdoor air quality; to epidemiology; to tobacco reduction; to recycling and many more environmental health initiatives.

The Federation continues to be the only association for environmental health professionals in the World. The Federation continually works to support and promote the health of persons around the world, and is the only association to do so. The IFEH strives to enhance environmental public health science and activities internationally. The IFEH's Policy Statements, which are found on the website <a href="www.ifeh.org">www.ifeh.org</a> are recognition of the organization's vision, concern and stewardship for the environment.

The Federation works to disseminate knowledge concerning environmental health and promote co-operation between countries where environmental health issues are transboundary. It promotes the interchange of people working in this sector and the exchange of member's publications of a scientific and technical nature.

Individuals may show their support for the Federation by becoming an Individual Member. Persons who are successful in applying to join this category of membership will be kept up to date with IFEH news, will receive periodically any documents issued by the Federation and will be entitled to use the letters **MIFEH**. Individual Members including associate members and affiliated organizations may participate in Federation activities but will have no voting rights.

The mandate of the IFEH is: information/knowledge transfer, holding World Congress events, Council meetings, environmental health advocacy and the promotion of field studies in environmental health control. The benefits of Individual Membership, Full membership, Associate membership and Affiliated membership in the IFEH are outlined below.

**INFORMATION & KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER:** The Federation provides ongoing opportunities for professional development with World Congresses held every two (2) years. The IFEH interacts strongly within the International environmental health community, governmental and non-governmental agencies globally on key and emerging environmental health issues and is proactive in advancing the science of environmental health. Individual Members benefit from these interactions.

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**WORLD CONGRESSES:** The IFEH holds World Congresses every two (2) years. The location is determined via a bidding process of member or affiliate organizations. Congresses are intended to promote education, knowledge and experience exchange and facilitate professional development, personal contact and networking opportunities. Congress programs have a local and international flavour, presented by environmental health professionals with a vast range of experience and expertise covering a broad spectrum of topics. Parallel sessions and workshops are part of the program. Local technical tours are held in concert with the educational agenda. Council meetings, the Annual General Meeting, the International Faculty Forum and Regional group meetings are generally held in conjunction with each World Congress.

**ADVOCACY:** The IFEH works to continually protect the health of all persons on environmental issues, while continuing to promote the science of environmental health and the profession globally.

**WORLD ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DAY:** World Environmental Health Day, an initiative of IFEH, is celebrated annually on 26 September by governments and environmental health professionals around the globe.

**MEETING ATTENDANCE:** Individual Members, Associate members and Affiliated organisations are encouraged to attend Council meetings; however they cannot make motions nor participate in voting. Attendees are afforded a unique opportunity to become engaged in international organisational governance and emerging environmental health issues in various parts of the world. Participants can learn about international business management in the not-for-profit sector including such aspects as World Congress planning, development and delivery as well as strategic planning.

**VOTING PRIVILEGES:** Only delegate representatives of full member organisations have voting privileges at Council meetings and the Annual General meeting in matters of federation business. Members not able to attend have the opportunity to vote by Proxy.

**TWINNING & PRACTITIONERS EXCHANGES:** IFEH members are eligible to participate in country exchanges in either a formal or non-formal setting. Only membership in the IFEH allows individuals this fabulous opportunity to spend time in other member countries and experience differing environmental health and cultural issues.

INTERNATIONAL FACULTY FORUM: Academic Associate Members may join and participate in the International Faculty Forum (IFF). The IFF meets in conjunction with the World Congress and via e-mail. Academics are encouraged to become an Individual Member

**ERIC W FOSKETT AWARD:** Any member of the Federation is eligible to nominate individuals or be nominated for the Eric W Foskett Award which is sponsored by the IFEH and is presented to either an individual or an organisation during the World Congress President's Dinner reception. Recipients must have made a notable contribution to the work of the Federation by helping it to fulfil its aims and objectives. Award winners are listed on the Federation website.

**HEDGEROW BURSARY:** The purpose of the Bursary is to assist Member Association delegates to attend Council Meetings & Annual General Meetings, but cannot be used for travel to or from Regional Meetings. Members of the academic community and/or the International Faculty Forum are not eligible for the bursary.

## And much more!!!

P.S. Look for the new Student Association membership category coming soon!!

8/31/2013