



The National Conversation on Public Health and Chemical Exposures

***2010 National Tribal Science Forum
Listening Session
June 8, 2010***



ATSDR

- **One of 11 federal agencies in DHHS**
- **Works with other federal , state, local, and tribal agencies**
- **An independent agency, but**
 - CDC performs many of the administrative functions
 - CDC Director serves as the ATSDR administrator



Core ATSDR functions

- **Protecting the public from toxic chemicals**
 - Focus on hazardous waste sites and releases
 - Example: Public Health Assessments
- **Building the science base on toxic chemicals**
 - Example: Research on asbestos; Hazardous substances emergency events surveillance
- **Educating health professionals and the public**
 - Example: Toxicologic Profiles
- **Registries**



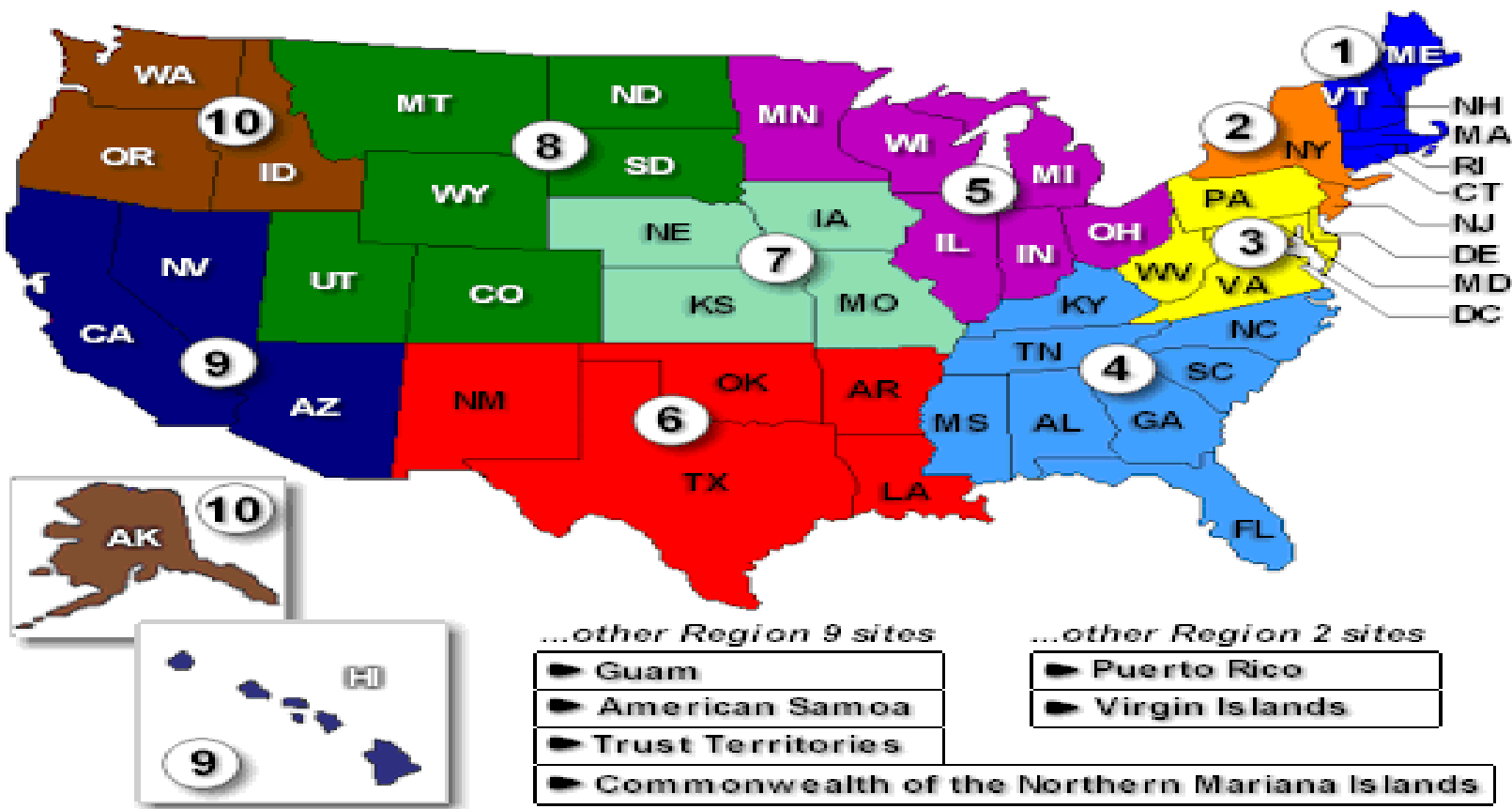
Special ATSDR features

Many ATSDR activities are possible only through partnerships:

- Has an Office of Tribal Affairs
- Close relationship with EPA
- Works at the state, tribal, and local level
 - Offices in all EPA regions
 - Strong community orientation



Regional Office Map





***The National Conversation
on
Public Health and Chemical
Exposures***



National Conversation on Public Health and Chemical Exposures

Vision: Ensure that chemicals are used and managed in ways that are safe and healthy for all people

Goal: Create an action agenda which will help government agencies and other groups protect the public from harmful chemical exposures



Why now?

- **Recognition of many exposure pathways**
- **Recognition of broad range of health outcomes**
- **Biomonitoring**
- **Large numbers of chemicals**
- **New approaches to toxicity testing**
- **Environmental justice**
- **Green chemistry**
- **Recognition of the need to better coordinate with tribes on these issues**



Shared Ownership

- Leadership Council
- Partners
- Work Group members
- Participants





Leadership Council and Work Groups

- Leadership Council-NIHB representative
- Monitoring
- Scientific Understanding
- Policies and Practices
- Chemical Emergencies
- Serving Communities
- Education and Communication

National Indian Health Board



RESOLVE
30 Years of Results Through Consensus



Tribal Representation on the Leadership Council and Work Groups

Leadership Council	Stacy Bohlen, National Indian Health Board
Monitoring	Nancy John, Cherokee Nation
Scientific Understanding	Susan Hanson, Shoshone-Bannock Tribe
Policies and Practices	Kristin Hill, Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Epidemiology Center
Chemical Emergencies	Syndi Smallwood, Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians
Serving Communities	Steve Crawford, Passamaquoddy Tribe at Pleasant Point
Education and Communication	Rosemary Ahtuanguaruak, Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope



Work Group Chairs

Work Group	Chair
Monitoring	John Balbus, NIEHS
Scientific Understanding	Kevin Teichman, EPA ORD
Policies and Practices	Dick Jackson, UCLA
Chemical Emergencies	Andrea Kidd Taylor, Morgan State
Serving Communities	Peggy Shepard, WE ACT
Education and Communication	Kathy Rest, Union of Concerned Scientists



Web Dialogues

Dialogue	Dates	Proposed Purpose
<p>Web Dialogue #1</p> <p>National Conversation: Vision</p>	<p>April 5-7, 2010</p>	<p>To exchange information about the National Conversation's vision, process, and major issues for consideration</p>
<p>Web Dialogue #2</p> <p>Draft Action Agenda for Public Comment</p>	<p>December 2010</p>	<p>To obtain public input on draft work group reports</p>



Community Conversations

- **Locally convened, small groups**
- **Toolkit available**
- **Using results**
- **Time frame: May – June 2010**



The Community Conversation Toolkit is now available for download at http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/nationalconversation/Community_conversations.html.



Progress and Milestones

Timeframe	Activity
June – Sept 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kick Off Meeting (June 26) • Work Group members selected
Oct – March 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work Groups and Leadership Council began meeting
April 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Web Dialogue #1
May – June 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Conversations
Aug 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work groups issue draft reports
Oct 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work groups issue final reports to Leadership Council • Meeting of National Tribal Organizations and Federal Agencies
Nov 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership Council issues draft action agenda
Dec 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Web Dialogue #2 (proposed)
Jan 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership Council issues final action agenda



Still time to give input: Join the Conversation!

- ***Web:*** www.atsdr.cdc.gov/nationalconversation (sign up to receive updates)
- ***e-mail:*** nationalconversation@cdc.gov
- ***Facebook:*** www.facebook.com/nationalconversation
- ***Twitter:*** www.twitter.com/natlconvo
- ***Participate in next Web Dialogue***