Pembangunan dan Pelaksanaan NEHAP Malaysia
29 April 2013
PICC, PUTRAJAYA
BAHAGIAN PERKHIDMATAN KEJURUTERABAAN
KEMENTERIAN KESIHATAN MALAYSIA
CONTENTS OF PRESENTATION

- Sustainable Development
- Definitions
- Role of Health Authority in General
- Roles of Health Authority in Environmental Health – WHO
- Reality of Environmental Health
- What is NEHAP?
- Objectives of NEHAP
- Decision of Cabinet Meeting
- Rationale to Develop NEHAP
- Chronological Events on the Development of NEHAP Malaysia
- Implementation Process
- Implementation Mechanism
- NEHAP Guidance Documents
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- Sustainable Development is defined as the development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”. (Brundtland Report, United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development. (WCED), 1987).


- In order to achieve sustainable development, attention is to be focused on the right to healthy and full-value life in harmony with nature.
  - First principle of the Rio Declaration.

- Environmental health and development has a very close relationship and they are inter-dependence of each other.
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- RIO+10: Earth Summit 2002 held in Johannesburg
  - Building Partnership for Sustainable Development.

  a) A green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; and
  b) The institutional framework for sustainable development.
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- RIO+20: A green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

  UNEP’s Working Definition of a Green Economy –

  “A system of economic activities related to the production, distribution and consumption of goods and services that result in improved human well-being over the long term, while not exposing future generations to significant environmental risks and ecological scarcities”.

- Next Rio+30 in 2022?
A FOLLOW THROUGH FROM RIO 1992 – NEHAP

• European Conference on Environmental and Health (1994), Helsinki
  ➢ All Member States of WHO European Region had decided to develop their respective NEHAP to address their countries’ specific environmental health problems and needs.

• Asian Region:
  ➢ 1st. Ministerial Regional Forum on Environment and Health in Southeast and East Asian Countries in Bangkok, August 2007
    ❖ All Ministers responsible for Environment and Health, including Malaysia had agreed to develop, implement and regularly update their respective NEHAP.
  ➢ 2nd. Forum in Jeju, Republic of Korea, July 2010
    ❖ All member countries re-iterated their commitment to develop and implement NEHAP.
DEFINITIONS

- **Health** is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. (WHO)

- **Environment** means the physical factors of the surroundings of the human beings including land, water, atmosphere, soil odour, taste, the biological factors of animals and plants and the social factor of aesthetics. (Laws of Malaysia, Act 127, Environmental Quality Act, 1974)

- **Environmental Health** means “Environmental Health comprises of those aspects of human health, including quality of life, that are determined by physical, chemical, biological, social and psychosocial factors in the environment”. (WHO, 1993)
ROLE OF HEALTH AUTHORITY IN GENERAL

- Reduce disease burden in the country;
- Estimating contributions of various environmental & social factors to health;
- Formulating health and environmental policies in partnership with relevant sectors; and
- Advocating, facilitating and fostering the inclusion of health issues in the work of competent agencies.
ROLES OF HEALTH AUTHORITY IN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH – WHO

- **Leadership function**
  - To advocate preventive measures,
  - To foster community capacity to manage health-environment interactions,
  - To carry out health impact and risk assessment, and
  - To conduct epidemiological surveillance of environment-related diseases.

- **Advisory and participative function**
  - To train personnel to identify, evaluate and control environmental hazards to health,
  - To establish and operate environmental control programs and services,
  - To develop and implement interagency emergency respond capabilities,
  - To collaboratively norms, standards and legislations,
  - To incorporate evaluations of health implications as an integral elements of socio-economic development and planning, and
  - To foster and carry out research.
REALITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

- Environmental health issues are complex, multi-disciplinary, and cut across various sectors.
- Development activities by various stakeholders have potential impacts on the environment and health.
  - Close collaboration between sectors of environmental health and development is crucial for effective environmental health management to ensure resilient socio economy and improved quality of life and environment.
  - In order to address major environmental health problems and needs for action, many countries world-wide have prepared and implemented their respective NEHAP.
REALITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

- Many modern problems that face policy-makers and environment and health practitioners are complex in nature and far-reaching their effects (A.B Knol et al 2010)
- The most obvious examples at international scale are:
  - Climate change
  - Security of resource supplies such as food, water and energy
  - Environmental pollution
  - Urban development
  - Population growth
  - Global economy
WHAT IS NEHAP?

• NEHAP represents a comprehensive, holistic and inter-sectoral way of planning and implementing environmental health action at the national level.
  
  ➢ Involves the processes of planning, developing, adopting and implementing environmental health actions in a holistic and comprehensive manner that requires multi-disciplinary and inter-sectoral collaboration at the national level.
  
  ➢ NEHAP presents strategies on how to improve environmental health within the country and defines the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders.
OBJECTIVES OF NEHAP

- To develop and maintain human health and sustainable development through the management of environmental health with a systematic and holistic manner in the country.

- To strengthen collaboration and cooperation between various sectors for effective use of resources in improving human health and sustainable development.
DECISION OF CABINET MEETING

• A memorandum on the Development and Implementation of National Environmental Health Action Plan Malaysia (NEHAP) was tabled to the Malaysian Cabinet on the 5th. of December 2012.

• The decision of the meeting was received by Engineering Services Division on the 24th. December 2012; which is read as follows;

  “Bersetuju supaya KKM mewujud dan mengkoordinasikan NEHAP dalam menangani isu-isu dan keperluan negara yg berkaitan dengan kesihatan alam sekitar susulan komitmen negara di peringkat antarabangsa”.
Prominent topics of the approved paper are:

- Rationale
- Implementation mechanism
- Scope
- Framework
RATIONALE TO DEVELOP NEHAP

- Impact of environmental factors on Health
  - Globally, an estimated 24% of the disease burden (healthy life years lost) and an estimated 23% of all deaths (premature mortality) was attributable to environmental factors. (WHO 2004)
  - The report also mentioned that out of 102 major diseases, disease groupings and injuries – 85 categories were attributable to environmental risk factors
  - Note: Disability-Adjusted Life Year (DALY) – The measurement that combines the number of years of healthy life lost due to premature mortality and number of years lived with disability
RATIONALE TO DEVELOP NEHAP

• **Impact of environmental factors on Health**
  - Environmental factors caused more than 80% of the leading diseases. (WHO 2006)
  - Each year, 13 million deaths are caused by environmental impacts. In developing countries 1/3 of the morbidity and mortality are due to poor environmental factors. (WHO 2006 on environmental health)
  - New Global Annual Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS) Report – 2010 stated that:
    - “Unsafe water, inadequate sanitation and the lack of hygiene claim the lives of an estimated 2.2 million children under the age of 5 every year. Of these deaths, 1.5 million are due to diarrhoea, the second leading contributor to the global burden of disease”.
  - Climate change is a significant and emerging threat to public health. Main impacts to health from this phenomena include common vector-borne, water-borne and air-borne diseases which is known as climate sensitive diseases.
DISEASES WITH THE LARGEST ENVIRONMENTAL CONTRIBUTION
RATIONALE TO DEVELOP NEHAP (cont..)

- **International Commitment**
  
  - 1st Ministerial Regional Forum on Environment and Health in Southeast and East Asian Countries (Bangkok 2007), Malaysia had agreed with the Forum Charter, in which one of the objectives is to develop and implement a cost-effective NEHAP.
  
  - 2nd Ministerial Regional Forum on Environment and Health in Southeast and East Asian Countries (Jeju 2010), Malaysia had reaffirmed through the Jeju Declaration to adopt the charter and accept the declaration, thereby agreeing to cooperate to develop and implement NEHAP or equivalent plan, that aims to improve environmental quality; enhance public health (including child health); and to ensure the health of future generations.
  
  - Note: The 3rd Forum will be held in KL on the 9 to 10th of September this year!!
RATIONALE TO DEVELOP NEHAP (cont..)

- In line with existing national policies
  - Malaysia’s Second Outline Perspective Plan (1991 – 2000) emphasize on environmental issues and development by stating that:
    - “During the Plan period, Malaysia will continue to take appropriate action to ensure that development is sustainable, balanced and environmentally sound”.
  - The National Vision Policy in Malaysia’s Third Outline Perspective Plan (2001 – 2010) stated that Malaysia will continue with the principles of sustainable development and environment friendly to ensure that the environment is clean, healthy, and attractive, and at the same time able to maintain the aspirations and needs of the country.
RATIONALE TO DEVELOP NEHAP (cont..)

- **Effectiveness of resource utilization**
  - Government agencies in various sectors have developed and implemented programs that are directly or indirectly related to Environmental Health by using a large amount of the country's financial provisions.
  - However, the extend of health impact could not be ascertained.
  - NEHAP provides performance indicators to assess the progress of implementation of NEHAP.
  - Indicators will be established to measure, assess and evaluate effectiveness of all programs and activities carried out in relation to Environmental Health.
DEVELOPMENT OF NEHAP

- As a follow-up to the 1st Ministerial Regional Forum on Environment and Health in South East and East Asian Countries:
  - MOH has been entrusted to play a prominent role in the development of NEHAP for Malaysia by the Economic Planning Unit (EPU), Prime Minister’s Department.

- With the cooperation of WHO Malaysia, a contractual partner was engaged to assist MOH to develop NEHAP Malaysia.
  - Under his guidance who also led a stakeholders consultative workshop during his two week stint in Malaysia in September 2009, a NEHAP draft guidance document was established.
Environmental Health Baseline Information gathered from various stakeholders by the Environment & Development Institute (LESTARI), University Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM).

1st Malaysia NEHAP Seminar held at the Putrajaya International Convention Centre (PICC).
- Attended by relevant stakeholders.

Collaboration with WHO Malaysia Office via WHO’s Biennial Budget Programme (Agreement for Performance of Work) for technical support for the Development of NEHAP Framework.
- Prof. Dr. Jeffery T. Spickett from Curtin University, Perth, Australia was engaged as the Contractual Partner.
CHRONOLOGICAL EVENTS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEHAP MALAYSIA (cont...)

1 Jun 2010

With the agreement of the DG of MOH, NEHAP draft uploaded by WHO onto the web page of the Regional Forum on Environment and Health in South East and East Asian Countries.

http://www.environment-health.asia/index.cfm

2 Jun 2010

NEHAP Technical Working Committee Meeting 1/2010 held to improve on the draft of the NEHAP document.

15 Aug 2011

Presentation of working paper on the development and implementation of NEHAP Malaysia in the Director General of Health Meeting to seek consent from the committee.
CHRONOLOGICAL EVENTS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEHAP MALAYSIA (cont...)

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**CHRONOLOGICAL EVENTS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEHAP MALAYSIA (cont...)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 Nov 2011</td>
<td>Presentation of working paper on the development and implementation of NEHAP Malaysia in the MOH Planning and Policy Committee Meeting to seek the approval for implementation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 Aug 2012</td>
<td>Memorandum Cabinet paper for the implementation of NEHAP Malaysia approved by the Minister of Health.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Dec 2012</td>
<td>Memorandum Cabinet paper tabled by the Minister of Health in the Cabinet Committee Meeting and approved for implementation by the Committee.</td>
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IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

- MOH is responsible for strengthening collaboration between ministries, agencies and other stakeholders.
- Malaysia NEHAP framework needs the support of the Government to ensure that all relevant agencies and sectors are committed to improving the quality of Environmental Health.
- NEHAP documents produced will be used as a guide and reference in the implementation of NEHAP.
- The detail of implementation process will be further elaborated in the next presentation (Presentation 4).
IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM

NEHAP Steering Committee
[Chaired by DG of MOH]

NEHAP Secretariat /Core Team

Representatives from Relevant Ministries & Central Agencies
Representatives from State Government of Sabah & Sarawak
Chairman of Technical Committee
Chairmen of various Thematic Working Groups (TWGs)
Experts of various fields according to Environmental Health Areas of Concern
IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM (cont..)

- NEHAP Secretariat & Core Team
  - For successful implementation of NEHAP, a Secretariat and a Core Team comprising of officers within the Ministry of Health have been formed as suggested in the Memorandum Cabinet.
  - Engineering Services Division will play the role of the Secretariat.
IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM (cont.)

- Members of NEHAP Core Team:
  - Engineering Services Division
  - Disease Control Division
    - Communicable Disease (CD)
    - Non-Communicable Disease (NCD)
    - Surveillance
  - Food Safety and Quality Division
  - Health Informatics Center
  - Pharmaceutical Services Division
  - Environmental Health Research Center (EHRC)

- Implementation mechanism will be further elaborated in the next presentation (Presentation 4).
NEHAP GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

“Part 1 – Framework on Environmental Health for Malaysia”
A structured guidance document to address environmental issues that have adverse impacts on health

“Part 2 – Strategic Plan for Environmental Health for Malaysia”
Provides three main strategies to achieve the objectives set out in the framework of NEHAP document

“Part 3 – General Format for Action Plan for Environmental Health for Malaysia”
This part specifies the General Format of Action Plan which will be used as a guide by the relevant Thematic Working Groups during the implementation stage of NEHAP.

NEHAP document especially in Part 3 is intended to take into account dynamic changes over time
Part 1: Framework on Environmental Health

- Objectives, definitions & structure of Framework;
- Rationale for a National Framework on Environmental Health;
- Rationale & basic requirements for the development of the National framework;
- Principles, vision, mission, objectives & strategies; and
- Implementation process.
**NEHAP GUIDANCE DOCUMENT (cont..)**

- **Part 2**: Strategic Plan for Environmental Health
  - Environmental health areas of concern;
  - General issues requiring improvement;
  - Millennium Development Goals & environmental health components;
  - Government policy;
  - Environmental health strategies comprising of the following 3 broad areas:
    - Institutional components & government structures – policies, procedures, economic factors & legal framework;
    - Essential functions of environmental health;
    - Essential support functions for environmental health;
  - Coordination and management of Strategic Plan for Environmental Health (SPEH); and
  - Performance indicators.
**NEHAP GUIDANCE DOCUMENT (cont..)**

- **Part 3:** General Format for Action Plan for Environmental Health

  - This part specifies the General Format of Action Plan which will be used as a guide by the relevant Thematic Working Groups during the implementation stage of NEHAP.

  - Involves the use of three formats as follows:
    - Format for TWG Discussion;
    - Format for Action Plans; and
    - Cost Benefit Ranking Matrix for Proposed Actions.

  - The Action Plans will be dynamic in nature as they will be subjected to continuous revision by the sectors involved.
THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION