

Oregon's HIA Capacity Building Program

September 2013

*Andrea Hamberg
HIA Program Coordinator*



- (1) the real-time, practical challenges and strategies for success in building relationships with other departments,
- (2) how to achieve robust stakeholder engagement within the limits of state government, and
- (3) strategies for sustainable funding.

- 1) Intro to HIA program (1 min)
- 2) 2 of your biggest successes in building capacity with other departments/states & 1 thing that didn't work well (3 min)
- 3) 2 successful strategies of achieving stakeholder engagement & 1 thing that could have been improved or didn't work (3 min)
- 4) Three or less strategies that you are using to develop sustainable funding (2 min)
- 5) Last minute thoughts or advice (1 min) [optional—time could be used on 1-4.]

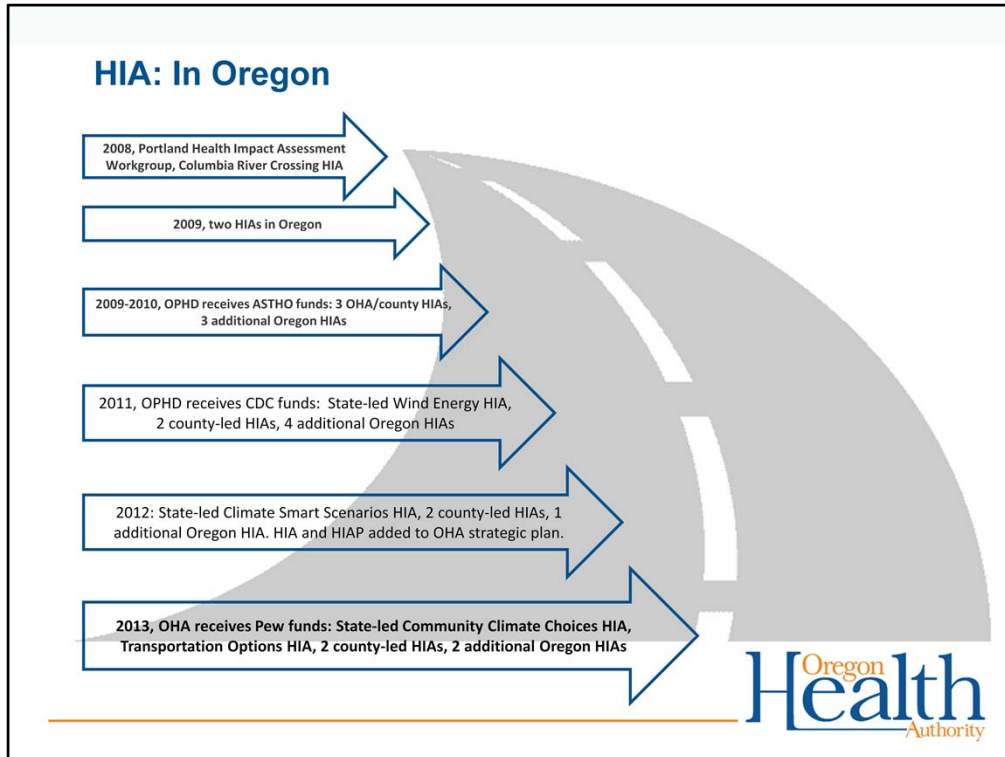


Key points: build while doing, making it up as we go along; capacity building and stakeholder engagement are critical to our plan for sustainable funding

We envision an Oregon where human health and health disparity impacts are actively considered in relevant projects, policies, and plans across sectors.

The Program goals are focused on catalyzing change in three key areas: promoting HIA among decision-makers and community partners; institutionalizing HIA practice into existing mechanisms, and expanding support for practitioners. Specifically, our 5-7 year goals for this work are:

- State decision-makers support HIA practice, demonstrated by routine requests to assess the health impacts of plans, policies, and projects.
- Oregon HIA practitioners have the capacity and technical expertise necessary to respond to these requests.
- In order to respond flexibly to requests for assessment, HIAs receive at least 50% of funds non-grant sources such as committed funding from agencies and local foundations



[First a little info about our program/HIA in Oregon](#)

[Critical collaboration between OHA and Oregon non-profits](#)

In 2012, OHA finalized a strategic plan that highlights Oregon's current and future leadership potential in the areas of HIA and HIAP. The HIA Program works to capitalize on our inclusion in the plan by reaching out to other programs in the Division to inform, train, and include.

Oregon Health Authority HIAs



- **Biomass Boilers Desktop HIA** – Statewide (2010)
- **Strategic Health Impact Assessment on Wind Energy Development in Oregon**– Statewide (2013)
- **Climate Smart Communities Scenarios HIA**– Portland Metro Region (2013)
- **Community Climate Choices HIA**—Portland Metro Region (assessment)
- **Transportation Options Topic Plan HIA**—Statewide (scoping)
- **Highway Safety Program HIA**—Statewide (screening)



OHA does HIAs when the the project is likely to have a regional or statewide health impact, when the impacts are likely to be significant, and/or the local health department does not have the capacity to conduct the HIA on their own.

HIA Capacity Building: Local health



Oregon county HIAs, funded by OHA

- Walkability/Safe Routes to School—Wasco County/North Central Health District
- Accessory Dwelling Units – Benton County
- Tumalo Community Plan—Deschutes
- Barrett Park Development—Hood River County
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan—Crook County
- Proposed Intersection Modification – Benton County
- Transportation Plan’s Active Transportation Policies – Washington County
- Housing Stock Upgrade Initiative HIA—Curry County
- Traffic Speed on South Third St. Corvallis HIA—Benton County



The state can't do it all; you'll hear that from me a lot today.

When a project impacts largely within one county, we work to ensure that county health departments

We've trained more than **1000 Oregonians**, including representatives from **33 county** local health districts and **one tribal government** health department

- Four two-day in person HIA 101 trainings
- Two 1/2 –day in person HIA 101 trainings
- Nine HIA-specific HIA trainings
- A 5-part series HIA 101 webinar series
- HIA and Climate Change training for experienced HIA practitioners
- And reached an additional 450 public health professionals at local and national presentations
- More than 500 community members have been engaged on the Wind Energy in Oregon HIA

A success story:

HIA Capacity Building: Regional HIA Network



Oregon
Health
Authority

Started in 2008, group of people interested in HIA, began with a massive infrastructure project HIA.

Stakeholder Engagement: Community partners



Oregon
Health
Authority

Frame used with this audience was about expectation management: This assessment is not a way to stop a project, or make sure it happens. It's also not new research. OHA is going to look at what current science says about wind energy facility siting, and try to answer the questions we've heard from ODOE and community members. We're here because, before we do our assessment, we want to understand your communities better.

Stakeholder engagement was critical to the strategic HIA on wind energy siting in Oregon

Started scoping with listening sessions;

- Why do you live where you live?
- What do you value about your community?
- What challenges is your community currently facing?
- What questions/comments/thoughts do you have about wind energy?

HIA reveals unequal impacts. Unequal impacts can happen to any population. In the case, the population with the greatest exposure to risky sound are the landowners who rent out their land to wind energy developers (although, because of the way perception influences the way we hear sound, these people may not have negative health impacts).

Stakeholder Engagement: Agency and local government partners



Oregon
Health
Authority

Key messages: Use HIA/stakeholder engagement/to teach partners about HIA/also, to teach PH to engage in other disciplines/to teach other disciplines about the focus on social determinants of health/holistic view of health/insistence on improving health disparities.

EPHT
DEQ
Metro

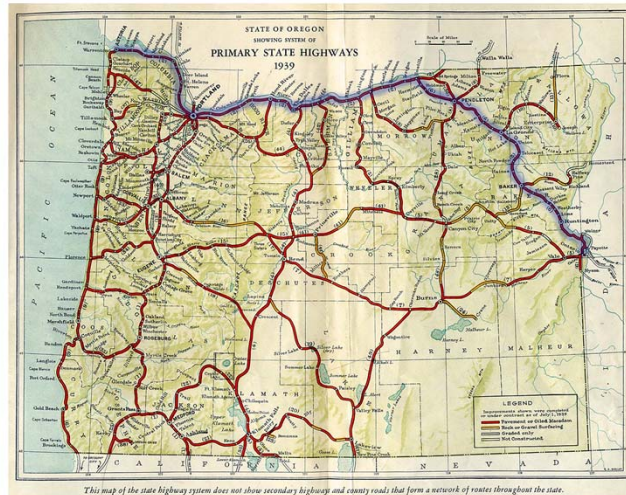
The Climate Smart Communities HIA (CSC HIA) describes the health impacts of proposed carbon-reduction strategies to decision-makers, and ensure that the best health-promoting elements are included in the preferred scenario.

Advisory group

The CSC HIA will bring together public health experts; land use, planning and transportation experts; and community health, environmental and community-development advocates. The advisory group will help determine the scope of the HIA, ensure that equity issues are considered, and offer available resources and expertise for consideration.

- Regular communication
- Clearly communicate expectations/roles/responsibilities
- Rely on the group to provide support framing findings and drafting recommendations

Partner: Oregon Department of Transportation



Oregon
Health
Authority

Fee-for-service model

Benefits:

- funding source
- Integration into agency work

Challenges:

- Being ready for the request
- Using



Can't have one without the other: we view capacity-building, stakeholder engagement, and funding to be linked.

One of the best outcomes of our minigrants is the development of relationships between county health departments and other sectors. Sitting in Hood River County scoping meeting, planner "oh, I'm starting to see how these decisions affect health!"

The Health in All Policies (HiAP) approach recognizes and addresses the fact that many of the determinants of health lie outside of the health sector. HiAP encourages governments to take a more inclusive approach by making the improvement of population health a shared goal across all sectors of governance. HiAP is an instrument to address the [social determinants of health](#) through intersectoral and 'whole of government' policy and governance. It thus assesses and addresses the potential impact on health of policies that originate in government sectors other than health.