



Reducing UPOPs and Mercury Releases from The Health Sector in Africa

Module 5 *10 Facts* *about preventing* *disease*

UNDP

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Lesson Objectives

At the end of presentation, participants will know

1. the importance of a healthy environment
2. The impact of the environment on health

(Source:

http://www.who.int/features/factfiles/environmental_health/environmental_health_facts)



10 Facts about preventing disease - I

- ▶ Worldwide, 13 million deaths could be prevented every year by making our environments healthier.





10 Facts about preventing disease - II

- ▶ In children under the age of five, one third of all disease is caused by the environmental factors such as unsafe water and air pollution.



10 Facts about preventing disease – III

- ▶ Every year, the lives of four million children under 5 years – mostly in developing countries – could be saved by preventing environmental risks such as unsafe water and polluted air.





10 Facts about preventing disease - IV

- ▶ In developing countries, the main environmentally caused diseases are diarrhoeal disease, lower respiratory infections, unintentional injuries, and malaria.





10 Facts about preventing disease - V

- ▶ Better environmental management could prevent 40% of deaths from malaria, 41% of deaths from lower respiratory infections, and 94% of deaths from diarrhoeal disease – three of the world's biggest childhood killers.





10 Facts about preventing disease - VI

- ▶ In the least developed countries, one third of death and disease is a direct result of environmental causes.



10 Facts about preventing disease - VII

- ▶ In developed countries, healthier environments could significantly reduce the incidence of cancers, cardiovascular diseases, asthma, lower respiratory infections, musculoskeletal diseases, road traffic injuries, poisonings, and drownings.





10 Facts about preventing disease - VIII

- ▶ Environmental factors influence 85 out of the 102 categories of diseases and injuries listed in The world health report.





10 Facts about preventing disease - IX

- ▶ Much of this death, illness and disability could be prevented through well targeted interventions such as promoting safe household water storage, better hygiene measures and the use of cleaner and safer fuels.





10 Facts about preventing disease - X

- ▶ Other interventions that can make environments healthier include: increasing the safety of buildings; promoting safe, careful use and management of toxic substances at home and in the workplace; and better water resource management.





Open Discussion:

- ▶ Is the environmental health situation in your healthcare facility creating any risks?

- ▶ Please answer:
 - Which environmental factor is creating a risk in a healthcare setting?
 - Who might be in risk?
 - What could be done to overcome this risk?

