



NExUS Ongoing Projects and Activities Thu Nov 23 09:49:29 EST 2017

Name	A Comparative Assessment of Heat Health Warning Systems in Boston, New York
Description	Many cities in the United States have introduced heat health warning systems (HHWS) in order to reduce mortality and morbidity associated with heat waves. Some evidence suggests that existing HHWS, early warning combined with actions to assist vulnerable populations, are saving lives, but the evidence is insufficient to guide the design of effective HHWS. We will conduct a comparative assessment of the major HHWS in the highly urbanized northeast. We will compare detailed evidence about the institutional structures of the three HHWS in order to understand which components are effective in saving lives and why, and what other cities can learn about how to reduce mortality and morbidity from heat waves under different climatic and socio-economic conditions. We will analyze how effectively each HHWS is serving the needs of the most vulnerable groups and what are the lessons for making HHWS responsive to the needs of the most vulnerable.
Category	- Climate-change Specific Projects
Sector	- Public Health and Safety
Focus Area	- Changes in Extremes of Weather and Climate
Region	- Regional Or State -- New England -- Mid-Atlantic
Status	- Ongoing
Timelines	Date of completion, March 2013
Lead Agencies	NOAA Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments (RISA)
Contacts	Malgosia Madajewicz, Columbia University, mm1174@columbia.edu