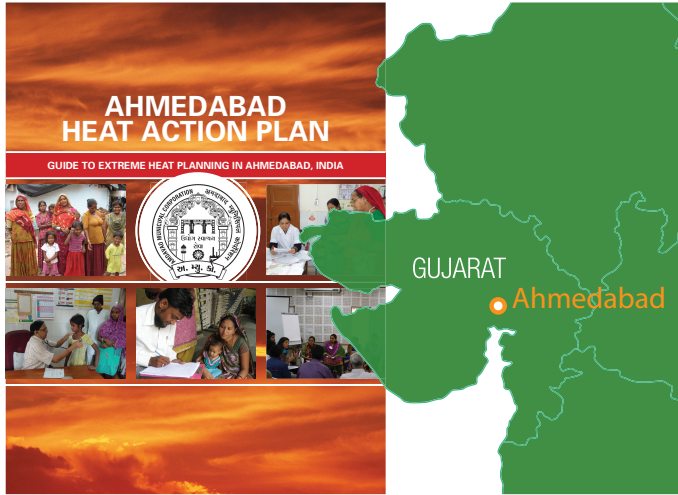


Increasing Resilience to Extreme Heat Health Risks Across Rapidly Urbanizing India



OVERVIEW

As climate change is expected to increase the frequency and severity of heat waves and the associated health risks, led by the city of Ahmedabad, NRDC, IIPH, and our partners are piloting an innovative early warning system and interagency disaster risk reduction plan. Through raising awareness, increasing health care capacity, and issuing early heat alerts, our pioneering heat action plan in the city of Ahmedabad increases preparedness and resilience to extreme heat and ultimately saves lives.

AHMEDABAD'S HEAT ACTION PLAN

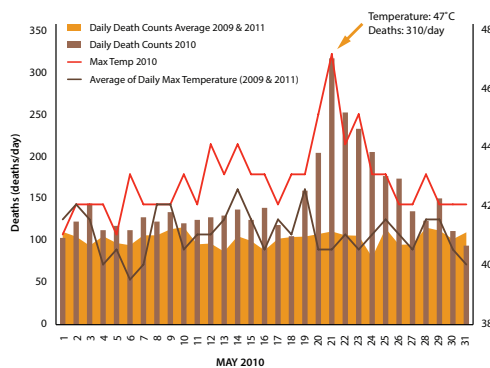
Heat waves are becoming increasingly severe, exacerbated by climate change. After a deadly heat wave hit the rapidly urbanizing city of Ahmedabad in 2010, the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) partnered with a coalition of academic, health, and environmental groups to improve the city's heat disaster response with a comprehensive early warning system and preparedness plan for extreme heat. Identifying the city's most heat-vulnerable residents (children, the elderly, slum communities, and outdoor workers), the Ahmedabad Heat Action Plan was launched in 2013 and deploys a three-pronged approach to reduce heat-related health risks:

1. Building public awareness of health risks through trainings, public advertisements, and community outreach.
2. Implementing an early warning system that coordinates government agencies, health officials, emergency response teams, and media outlets to alert the public of impending heat waves.
3. Increasing capacity among health care workers to recognize and treat heat-related illnesses.

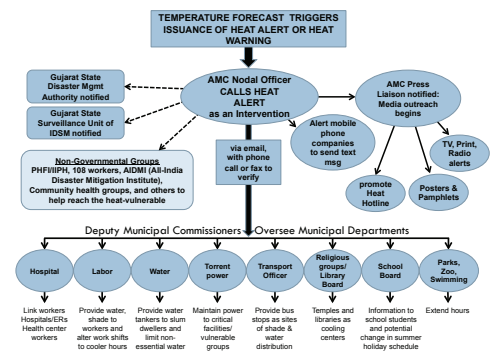
LOOKING AHEAD: SCALING HEAT ADAPTATION ACROSS INDIA

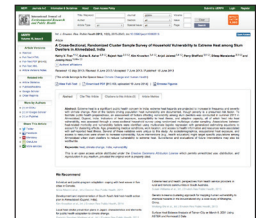
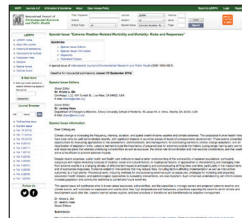
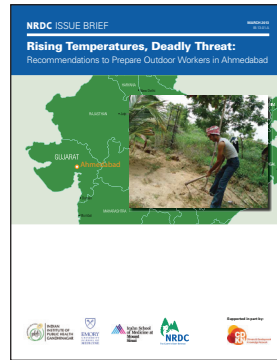
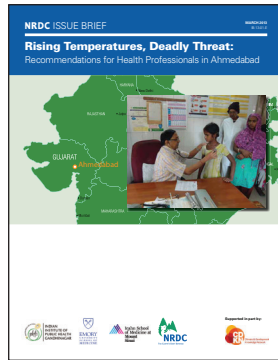
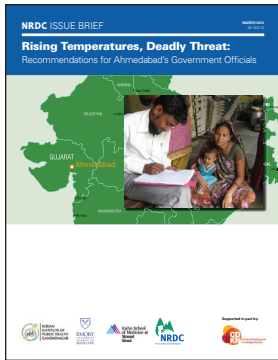
Based on the lessons learned from Ahmedabad's Heat Action Plan, we plan to expand the project's impact, collaborating with leading cities and states in India to tailor and implement their own early warning systems and heat preparedness plans. We will also work with the Indian government to mainstream heat wave planning at the state and national levels, supporting disaster risk reduction plans to increase communities' resilience to extreme heat and overall capacity in climate adaptation efforts across India.

Deadly Threat:
Ahmedabad 2010 Heat Wave Temperatures and Death Count



Communications Chart
for Ahmedabad Heat Action Plan





Inside Story: Addressing heat-related health risks in urban India: Ahmedabad's Heat Action Plan: <http://cdkn.org/resource/addressing-heat-related-risks-india>

PlosOne: Heat-Related Mortality in India: Excess All-Cause Mortality Associated with the 2010 Ahmedabad Heat Wave (March 2014) <http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0091831>

International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health: Development and Implementation of South Asia's First Heat-Health Action Plan in Ahmedabad (Gujarat, India) (January 2014) http://www.mdpi.com/journal/ijerph/special_issues/weather-risks

Journal of Environmental and Public Health: Neonates in Ahmedabad, India, during the 2010 Heat Wave: A Climate Change Adaptation Study (January 2014) <http://www.hindawi.com/journals/jeph/2014/946875/>

A Cross-Sectional, Randomized Cluster Sample Survey of Household Vulnerability to Extreme Heat among Slum Dwellers in Ahmedabad, India (June 2013) <http://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/10/6/2515>

Project partners with:



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