

A New Era for *EHP*'s International Program

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Environmental Health Perspectives (*EHP*) took a major step in extending its international presence when we began translating selected journal content into Chinese in 2001. Today, after 85 issues and more than 1,400 translations of *EHP* articles, we are announcing our decision to discontinue publishing our Chinese Edition in order to pursue new forms of international outreach.

Since its inception, the Chinese Edition has reached Chinese-speaking audiences in China, Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan, as well as other countries all over the world. Our readers have included public health workers, environmental health sector professionals, researchers, policy makers, business executives, journalists, and members of the general public.

To expand distribution of the Chinese Edition, *EHP* established a partnership with Shanghai Municipal Center for Disease Control and Prevention in 2004. Through this cooperative effort, the Chinese Edition not only reached more people but was also improved by a higher quality of translation and production.

Importantly, this partnership established a communication channel with the Chinese research community. We shared information with Chinese scientists on the criteria and standards for a good research paper. We encouraged them to submit their best work and to conduct peer reviews for *EHP*. Over the years since we started these efforts, we have seen a dramatic increase in the quantity and quality of environmental health sciences research from Chinese-speaking locales.

Now we are refocusing the scope of our International Program. Rather than focusing on one country—China—we will find opportunities to reach out to the broader group of low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). These countries are at a marked disadvantage in responding with evidence-based solutions to the disproportionate burden of environmental health challenges they face. The lack of resources and capacities in LMICs are illuminated now by the daunting reality of both ongoing environmental health disparities and the COVID-19 pandemic (Graham et al. 2018; Mesa Vieira et al. 2020; Ranson et al. 2010; Yamey 2012).

We plan to pivot to focus on LMICs through our existing International Program and establish new partnerships to help us reach new audiences and foster the development of the environmental

health sciences in resource-poor locales. We invite submissions about environmental health issues in LMICs, especially from LMIC-based authors. We hope to expand the international pool of environmental health scientists conducting research that meets the rigorous expectations of *EHP*. We plan to partner with scientific societies in efforts to mentor investigators and build the capacity to conduct rigorous science and prepare papers for international journals, including *EHP*. We will also call upon the expertise of our Associate Editors to help us identify high-priority environmental health topics in LMICs. We look forward to redefining our International Program in the months to come.

EHP remains committed to disseminating high-quality scientific research and trustworthy news to a wide audience. As former National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences Director Kenneth Olden and *EHP* Editor-in-Chief Thomas Goehl pointed out (Olden and Goehl 2002) shortly after the launch of the Chinese Edition, “*EHP*'s goal has been to provide a forum for the discussion and presentation of environmental health issues at the local, national, and international levels. This sharing of information is a critical step in improving the global environment and human health.”

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