

ANNUAL REVIEW 2011



Promoting public health through a healthy
environment in Europe and beyond



Health insurers tackle environmental causes of disease

The 38 federations of not-for-profit health insurance societies of the International Association of Mutual Benefit Societies (AIM) have added their voices and weight to the environmental health prevention community in Europe through a strategic alliance with HEAL for awareness-raising, research, information and best practice exchange and policy work.

AIM's new membership in HEAL is an expression of the recognition that the environment has become increasingly important in health matters: in 2010, AIM had issued a declaration on environmental prevention as an outcome of their first ever conference on this issue. In 2011, the eight mutual benefit societies in Belgium also joined HEAL as individual organisations.



The partnership between HEAL and mutual benefit societies is strengthened through collaborations at the national level: in France with HEAL member RES and in Belgium through the inter-mutualist working group on environmental health.

Geert Messiaen, representing AIM and the Belgian Mutualities, presents the health insurers' view on why environmental health is key to prevention at the HEAL AGM 2011.