

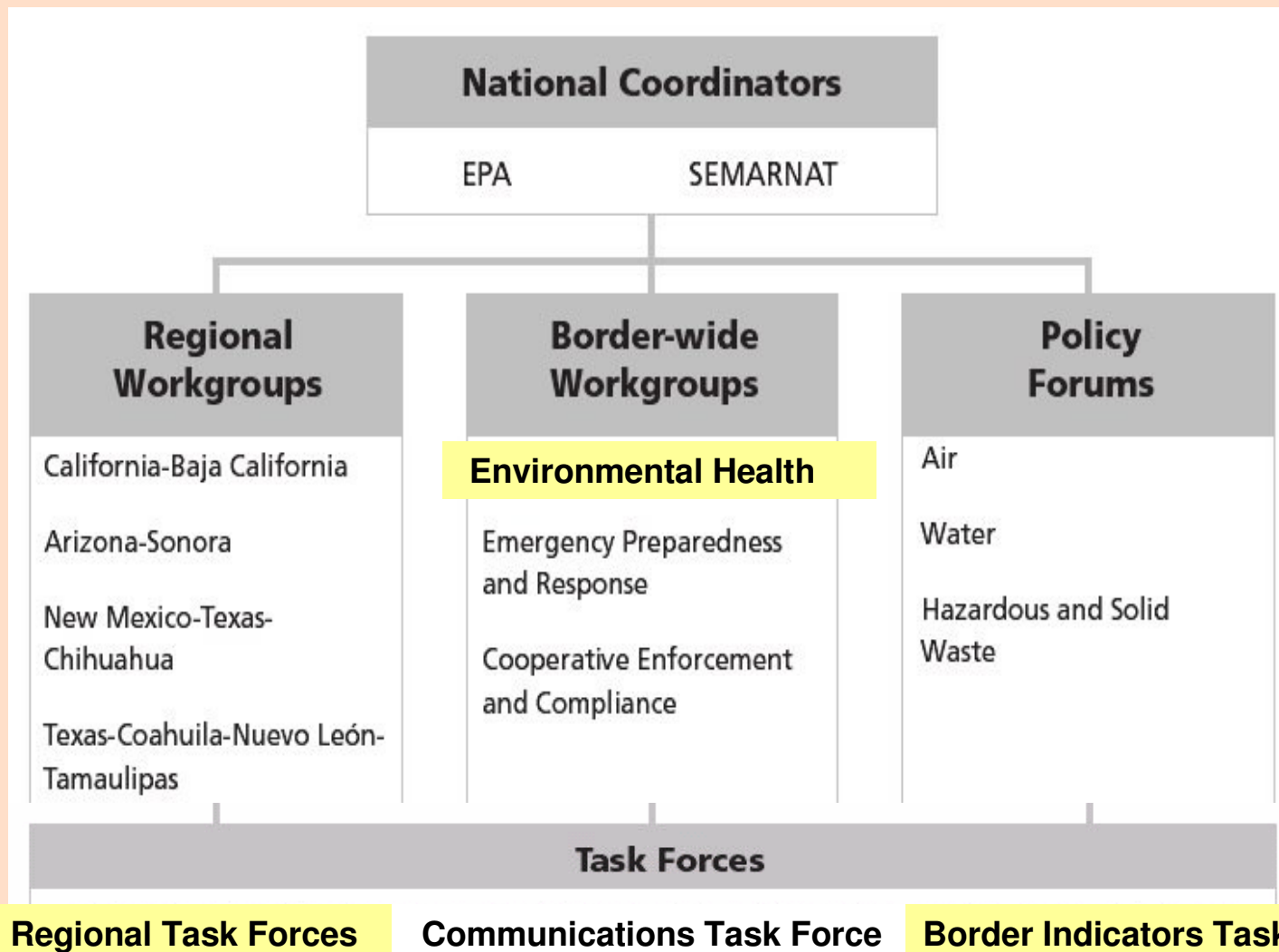
US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Border 2012 Environmental Health Work Group Annual Meeting



Brownsville, Texas
March 16-17, 2006

Border 2012 Structure



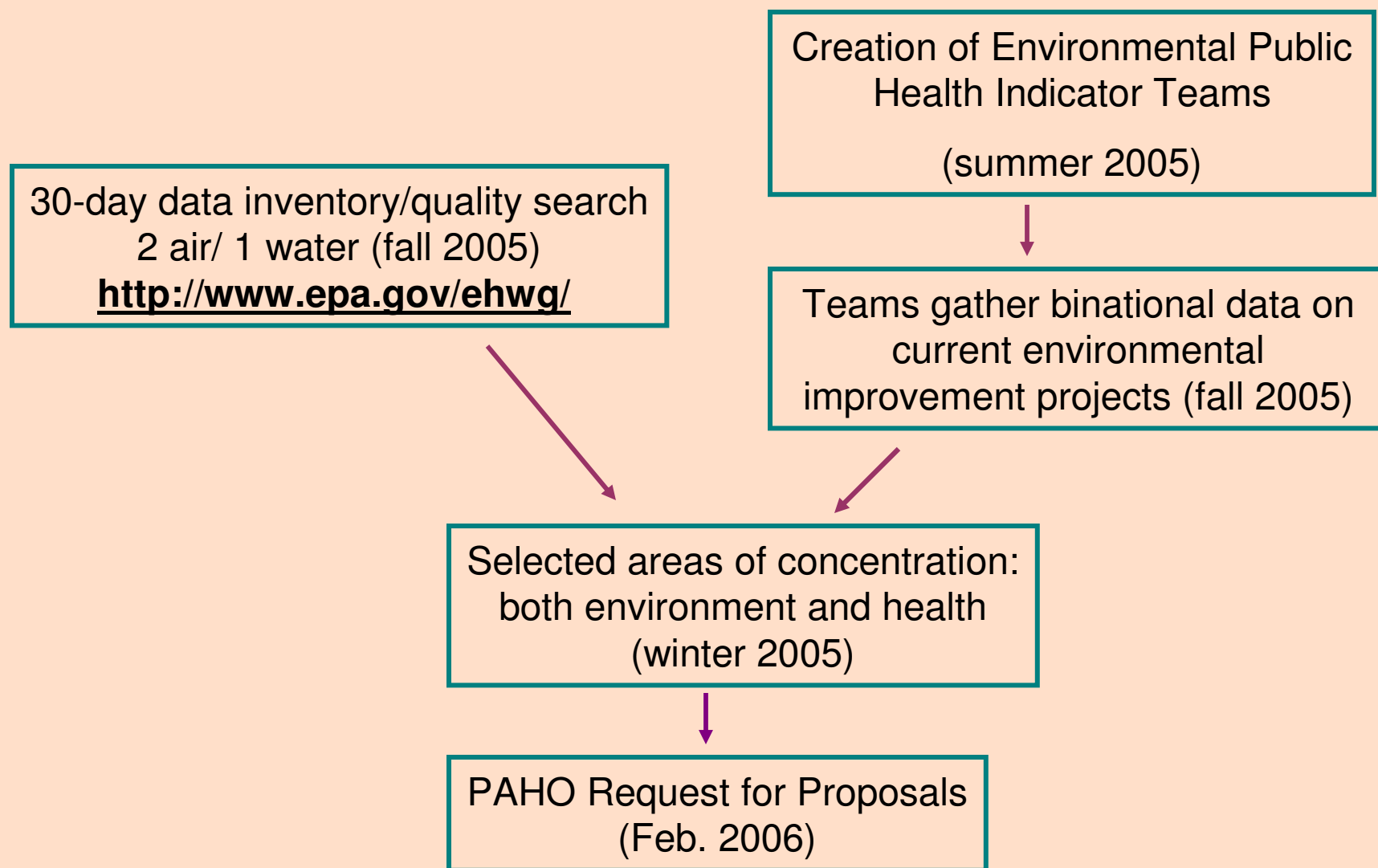
Background

- Under previous Border XXI Plan, EHWG reoriented to focus primarily on **supporting** the Air and Water work groups
- Focus retained under Border 2012 with emphasis on **development of indicators** to better reflect public health impact of improvements in air and water quality
- 2005 EHWG meeting laid out action plan for **continuation of indicators work**

Joint BITF and Environmental Health Achievements

- Completed a *Strategy for Indicator Development* for the Border 2012 Program
- Developed a *Preliminary Set of Binational Indicators* per program goal and objective and work towards *State of the Region* indicators report
- Funded pilot projects on health-based air environmental indicators

Air and Water Indicators



2005-2006 Environmental Health Indicators Action Plan

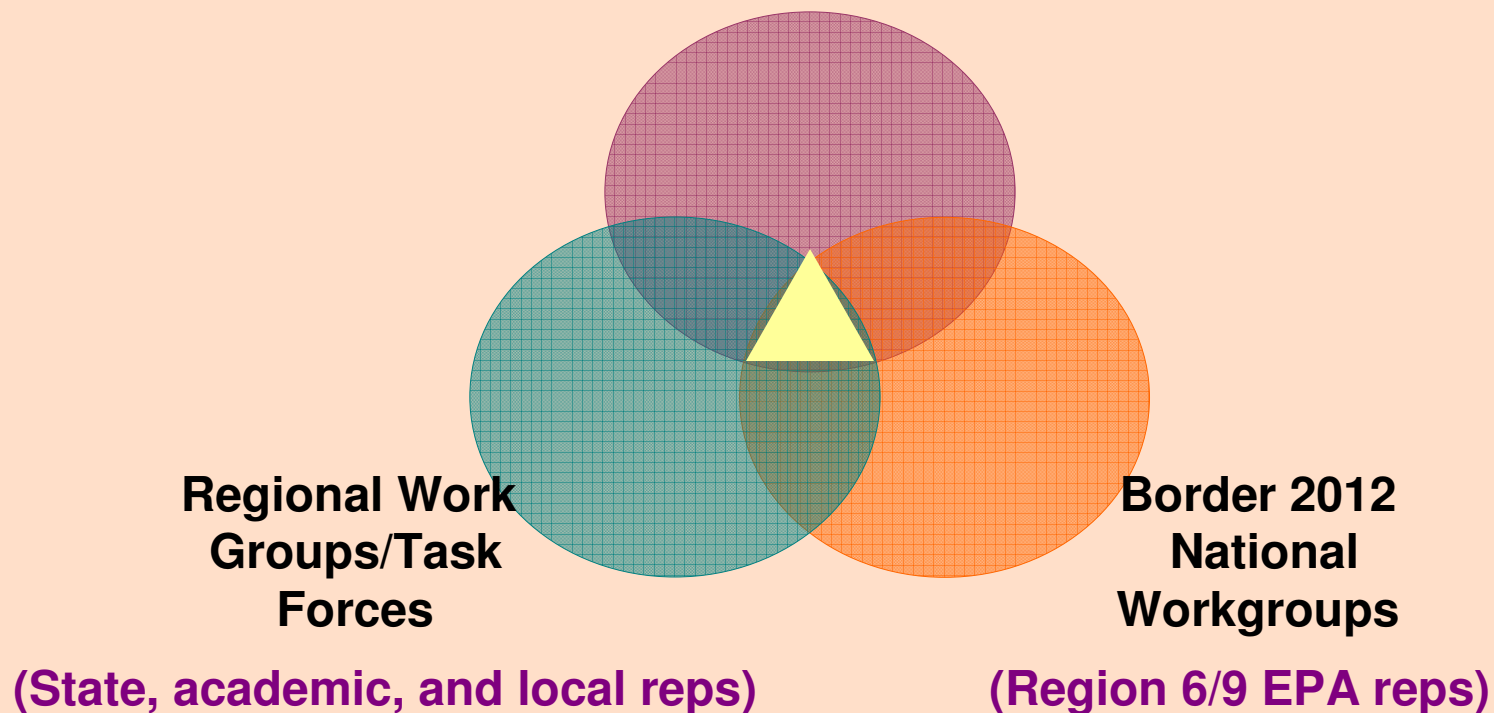
- ✓ Form two working teams on Air and Water
- ✓ Within 90 days, develop Action Plan
- ✓ EHWG co-chairs will appoint a U.S. and Mexico facilitators
- ✓ Participants from Air & Water Policy Forums & each Border E.H. Health Task Force
- ✓ Crear dos equipos sobre agua y aire
- ✓ Desarrollar un plan de trabajo dentro de 90 días
- ✓ Co-lideres van elegir facilitadores de MX y EU.
- ✓ Participantes de los foros políticos de aire y agua y de todos los equipos de trabajo de salud ambiental regionales

Indicator Partnerships

(CDC, EPA, PAHO, SALUD/COFEPRIS)

US and Mexican lead for each group

EHWG



2005-2006 Environmental Health Indicators Action Plan

- ✓ Fund mechanism to identify environmental & health data sets for limited number of indicators
- ✓ Financiar un mecanismo para identificar bases de datos de un listado de ciertos indicadores de salud y del medio ambiente

Three reports were produced by contractors
(available at: <http://www.epa.gov/ehwg>)

- Two on air quality/ respiratory diseases
- One on water quality/ gastrointestinal diseases

Environmental Health Indicator Development 2005-2006 Action Plan

- ✓ Teams will then delineate and **prioritize data/information gaps** towards which efforts and resources will be directed
- ✓ **Issue a second RFP** through PAHO-FEP to continue indicator development
- ✓ Los equipos van a identificar y **priorizar datos y faltas de información** para dirigir esfuerzos y recursos
- ✓ **Solicitar propuestas a través** de OPS-FEP para continuar desarrollando indicadores

Focus Area: Air

HAZARD	EXPOSURE	HEALTH
Quality of ambient air: Ozone, PM ₁₀ , CO, NO _x , SO ₂	?	1. Asthma prevalence (<18) 2. Acute Respiratory Infections (<5, morbidity rates) 3. Acute Respiratory Infections (mortality rates) 4. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) mortality

Environmental quality- particulates and diesel exhaust

Health effects- respiratory/cardiovascular health

Environmental interventions- reduce traffic idling at border crossing, paving roads, diesel retrofits on vehicles

Focus Area: Water

HAZARD	EXPOSURE	HEALTH
Quality of water: Physical Chemical Biological	?	1. Diarrhea (<5, morbidity and mortality) 2. Hepatitis A (<18) 3. Amebiasis 4. Shigellosis 5. Typhoid fever

Environmental quality- contaminated drinking water and little waste treatment

Health effects- gastro-intestinal diseases

Environmental interventions- access to healthy water distribution and waste treatment systems

Status of PAHO RFP

- January 2006: Issued call for letters of Intent
- Letters due early March 2006- received 30 letters of intent
 - 11 on water
 - 13 on air
 - 6 on tires
- April 2006: Review full proposals. Anticipate funding 2-4 projects.
- Late May 2006: projects receive funding

Other Priorities for 2005-2006

With HRSA:

- ✓ Establish an electronic forum (E-group) for environmental health information exchange for health professionals
- ✓ Create a methodology to evaluate the effectiveness of environmental health education and training interventions

Agencia de Recursos de Salud y Servicios:

- ✓ Establecer un foro electrónico (E-group) para el intercambio de información sobre salud ambiental para profesionales de salud
- ✓ Crear un método para evaluar la efectividad de las intervenciones de capacitación sobre salud ambiental

Environmental Education Projects

- US-Mexico Border Bi-national Environmental Health eGroup
- **Three aims:**
 - Identify common health and environmental problems
 - Identify needs and opportunities for collaboration
 - Share successful solutions

Environmental Education Projects

- **Study:** “Clinical Impacts Test of Promotoras-Led Education on Child Pesticides Exposure”
- **Testing the question:** Does **training and educating** promotoras on environmental exposures and potential health risks produce **measurable improvements in the health** of the communities they serve?