Climate change adaptation by city and state health departments

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Winter 2009
West Harlem Environmental Action (WE ACT)
The public health impacts of climate change

- Extreme heat events
- Climate-sensitive diseases (e.g. West Nile Virus)
- Air Quality

Action taken under PlaNYC

- *Climate Risk Information*
  - New York City Panel on Climate Change, 2009
- PlaNYC Climate Change Initiative #2:
  *Work with vulnerable neighborhoods to develop site-specific protection strategies*
Examples of programs in other cities

- Seattle, WA:
  Vulnerable Populations Action Team (VPAT)

- Chicago, IL:
  Extreme Weather Operations Plan

Moving forward…

- Sabrina McCormick on NYC programs:
  “… fragmented and reactionary”

- Maintain communication channels with at-risk, hard-to-reach populations.

- Have a coordinated plan of action!