

# **LEAVING COAL IN THE GROUND: BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY AND ENDING A GLOBAL HEALTH CRISIS BY 2030**

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Invitation to participate in a Workshop at the International Union for Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE) 2010 World Conference on Health Promotion, International Conference Center, Geneva, Switzerland, Monday, July 12th. Time: 1815 to 1930 hours. Room 15.

## **Title of the Workshop – *“Leaving Coal in the Ground: Building a Sustainable Economy and Ending a Global Health Crisis by 2030.”***

The main purpose of this IUHPE workshop will be to engage in an open conversation about how to begin organizing a worldwide movement of health professionals and educators, public policymakers, private sector executives, NGO leaders, grassroots activists, and global citizens, for the express purpose of legally phasing out the mining, transporting, and burning of coal worldwide by 2030. This campaign will make extensive use of communications strategies and social media in order to reach and involve millions of people throughout the world. At the workshop, we will strongly encourage audience participation in a facilitated discussion about how to build an effective global movement during the next few years.

Participants attending the workshop will be aware of the global health dangers of coal, both from the extensive damage caused by mining and transporting coal, and from the hazardous pollution generated by burning coal, including the harmful effects of carbon dioxide emissions in accelerating catastrophic climate change. Workshop participants will be familiar with the considerable evidence of coal's excessively negative impacts on human, animal, and plant life, as well as on ecosystems vital for basic survival.

At the workshop we will discuss future scenarios for global investment in energy conservation and overall resource efficiency combined with innovation in renewable energy production, storage, and distribution, and in other clean and green technologies, enabling billions of people worldwide to thrive and prosper by “leaving coal in the ground” and building a sustainable economy. Phasing out coal by 2030 through sustainable economic development will increase employment, raise incomes, and enhance general living standards, while at the same time vastly improving the natural environment, global health, and international peace.