Building Capacity for Health Impact Assessment in Oregon

Nancy M. Goff, MPH
HIA Program Coordinator
Background

April 2008:
Oregon HIA Workgroup convened

June 2008:
Columbia River Crossing

December 2008:
State Capacity Building project

Oregon Public Health Institute
Upstream Public Health Coalition for a Livable Future
Northwest Health Foundation
Kaiser Permanante
Portland State University
Multnomah County Health Dept
Capacity Building Activities

- Practice
- Collaboration
- Infrastructure Development
Capacity Building: Conducting HIAs

- Park Development
- Walkability
- Accessory Dwelling Units
- Comprehensive Plan
- Bike and Pedestrian Plan
Capacity Building: Two-day training
Capacity Building: Workshop or Webinar
State-led HIAs

School Biomass Boilers

Wind Energy

Oregon Health Authority
Successes

- Partnerships
- Building capacity through different activities
- HIA Network growth

Challenges

- Time and resources
- Responding to demand
- Finding projects in rural areas
- Securing buy-in from leadership without precedents
Lessons Learned

- Invest in pilot HIAs- “Just do it”
- Leverage programs and relationships
- Involve planners as early adopters
- Raising awareness through different opportunities for engagement is important
- Focus on the process
Nancy M. Goff, Program Coordinator
nancy.m.goff@state.or.us
971-673-0024
www.oregon.gov/dhs/ph/hia