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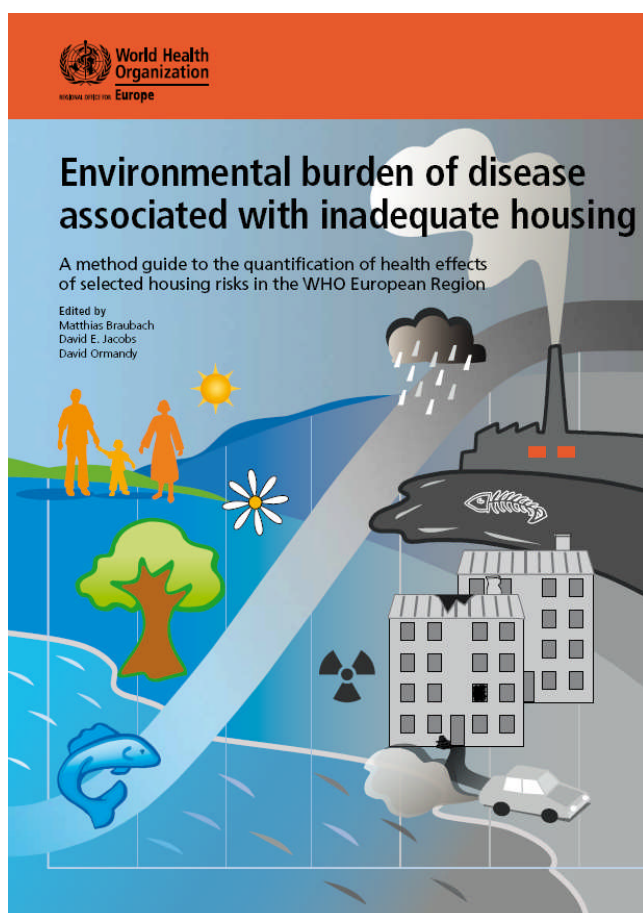


**World Health
Organization**

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR **Europe**

Environmental Burden of Disease associated with inadequate housing

Methods for quantifying health impacts of selected housing risks in the WHO European Region



Inadequate housing accounts for tens of thousands of deaths in the WHO European Region and causes or contributes to many preventable diseases and injuries, including respiratory, neurological and cardiovascular problems and cancer. However, a quantitative assessment of the health impacts of inadequate housing conditions has not yet been undertaken.

This publication reviews the evidence on exposure to housing-related hazards and associated health effects, and provides guidance on how to quantify health impacts from inadequate housing for selected housing risk factors. The environmental burden of disease due to inadequate housing is estimated for eleven housing hazards, providing methodological examples to the housing and public health community to further quantify the health impacts of inadequate housing conditions.

Improving housing in a way that removes or at least minimizes the negative impact on health and safety and promotes a healthier living environment is good for the residents and beneficial for society. The findings set out in this report provide ample justification for the principle that health should be at the centre of housing policy. Making housing healthy, affordable and sustainable should be a prime objective of all professionals and policy-makers involved in any aspect of housing and of health, and the significant contribution of adequate housing to a healthy lifestyle should be more widely recognized.

WHO Regional Office for Europe
2011, vii + 227 pages
Free of charge
Available in English only

Available online only:

Full report providing full assessment and evidence reviews:

<http://www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-publish/abstracts/environmental-burden-of-disease-associated-with-inadequate-housing.-summary/full-version>

Summary report:

<http://www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-publish/abstracts/environmental-burden-of-disease-associated-with-inadequate-housing.-summary>