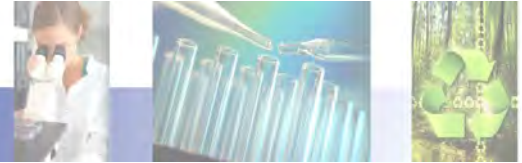




FP7-ENV-2007-CSA-1.2.3-01 Grant Agreement 219 337

## ERA-ENVHEALTH MONTHLY NEWSFLASH



### ERA-ENVHEALTH GA MEETING AND WORK SESSIONS 3-5 OCTOBER 2011, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM



#### THIS MONTH'S NEWS:

##### SEPTEMBER 2011

**ERA-ENVHEALTH ANNUAL GA MEETING AND WORK SESSIONS**

**REPORT FROM THE 23RD ISEE ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**ERA-ENVHEALTH WEBSITE STATISTICS**

**CONFERENCES**

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

**CONTACTS**

This year's General Assembly meeting and work sessions are to take place in Belgium, in **Brussels from the 3rd to the 5th of October, 2011**, hosted by BELSPO and FPS.

The General Assembly meetings are attended by a representative of each partner involved in the project and the members of the External Advisory Committee. External participants can also be invited. This year, as the project has entered its final year, the focus is on joint activities.

The final agenda of this meeting is as follows:  
**Monday 3 October 2011**

**14.00 to 18.00: evaluation steering committee meeting** : discussion on the evaluation criteria for the second part of the evaluation of the 1st call.

*Restricted attendance to the evaluation steering committee members.*

**Tuesday 4 October 2011**

**9.30 to 10.20: welcome and introduction, presentation of the participants**

**10.20 to 12.30: session on communication issues** including potential new partners and discussion on the final conference preparation.

*Attendance is open to all participants.*

**14.00 to 18.30: session dedicated to the scientific progress of the project**, in particular the progress of WP4 and a presentation by the 2 projects funded under the 1st call and progress of task 1.3: linking science to policy.

*Attendance is open to all participants.*

**19.00 - till late: dinner and social event**

**Wednesday 5 October 2011**

**9.00 to 10.30: session dedicated to the management and financial issues**

*Restricted attendance to the GA representatives.*

**10.30 to 15.30: Work session on possible joint activities (follow-up to the prioritisation exercise and action plan discussion) and on the second call.**

*Attendance is open to all participants.*

**15.30 to 17.00: Discussion on the future of the network.**

*Attendance is open to all participants.*

**17.00: Closure of the meeting**

The objectives of this GA meeting are to focus on the progress and discuss collectively the main tasks left in the project, in particular to advance the work on bridging the gap between science and policy and preparing building blocks for priorities in Environment and Health research.

Preparation of the final conference and discussion on the future of the network will also be major themes of this meeting.

This year, we are pleased to have a presentation of Serbia's Environment and Health activities by Biljana Filipovic, Senior Advisor for International Cooperation, Ministry of Environment, Mining and Spatial Planning, who may be interested in joining the activities of the project.

#### REMINDER:

##### NEXT DEADLINES

- **16 September 2011: deadline for task and WP progress reports and GA presentations**
- **16 September 2011: deadline for financial reports**
- **3-4-5 October 2011: ERA-ENVHEALTH GA meeting and work sessions**
- **November 2011: report on EU-wide priorities for collaborative research on E&H**

The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Community's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement n° 219 337.

This publication reflects only the author's views and the Community is not liable for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.

## 23RD ISEE CONFERENCE, 13-16 SEPTEMBER 2011, BARCELONA, SPAIN

The International Society for Environmental Epidemiology (ISEE) is an international organization with almost 1000 members from more than 60 countries. There are regional chapters and local groups in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Mediterranean, Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, South Asia, and East Asia. The annual international conferences bring together many members and non-members and provide an excellent forum for the discussion of problems and benefits related to the environment and human health.

For this 23rd conference, hosted by CREAL (center for research in environmental epidemiology, Barcelona, Spain), specific themes were discussed including:

- Sustainable transport and health: Impact of transport on health and approaches to reduce health impacts,
- Impact of climate change,
- Early exposure - later life: in utero and early life exposures and effects in later life, and
- New methods and technologies.

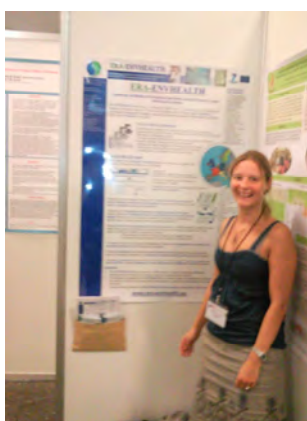
Thus, many of the important challenges that our society is facing were discussed and a number of these specific themes were introduced by the plenary speakers:

- Professor Christopher Wild, director of IARC (, discussed research priorities with regards to environment and cancer.
- Professor Ferran Sagarra, director of the School of Architecture of Barcelona, presented Barcelona's design and public health based on the extension plan (Eixample) created by Ildefons Cerdà, an engineering and utopian socialist who took into account public health concerns.
- Professor Joel Kauffman, University of Washington Medical Center-Roosevelt, presented on environmental epidemiology in the context of translational science: lessons from studies of air pollution & cardio-vascular diseases.
- Professor Bert Brunekreef, director of the Institute for Risk Assessment Sciences at Utrecht University, discussed issues related to transport and health, in particular with regards to the promotion of active modes of transport.
- Professor Brenda Eskenazi, Jennifer and Brian Maxwell professor of Maternal and Child Health and Epidemiology at the School of Public Health at the University of California, discussed early exposures and later effects in life: revisiting the Barker hypothesis.
- Professor Linda Birnbaum, director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), discussed how toxicology can inform environmental epidemiology - a new approach to Environmental Health.



The conference reached a level well above the expectations of the organisers. The conference helped further the development of environmental epidemiology with more than 1200 participants from over 60 countries.

Air pollution is usually the major theme of ISEE conferences. Once again this was the case with 20 sessions discussing particular issues related to air pollution but this year the gap between air pollution and other themes was smaller. Climate change has year after year gained momentum and become a "popular" theme. Another major theme this year was children's health and early-life exposures with 10 sessions dealing with these themes. Regarding the types of exposures or pollutants, the most represented were of course air pollutants, particularly those related to transport issues, and metals including arsenic, pesticides, chemicals and in particular phthalates, not to mention heat. The sessions focusing on health effects dealt mainly with cardiovascular and respiratory diseases, asthma and allergies, cancer, and effects on reproduction and neurodevelopment. Several sessions also focused on methods and tools, in particular exposure assessment. In addition, several symposia were held on the concepts of ethics and scientific inference in public policy. Regarding this issue, the ISEE Executive Council undertook a process to evaluate whether the Society should form a Policy Committee and an online membership survey was carried out to clarify the standing committee's mission and scope. There was clear support from the ISEE membership for establishing a Policy Committee, taking policy positions on the professional practice of environmental epidemiology and providing expert opinion on scientific questions related to environmental epidemiology.



The abstracts of the conference are available on the [Environmental Health Perspectives journal](http://ehp03.niehs.nih.gov/article/info:doi/10.1289/ehp.isee2011) website:

<http://ehp03.niehs.nih.gov/article/info:doi/10.1289/ehp.isee2011>

*The ERA-ENVHEALTH poster was well received at the conference.*



## ERA-ENVHEALTH WEBSITE STATISTICS

The ERA-ENVHEALTH website provides the tools to disseminate the project objectives and results and gives up-to-date information on the ERA-ENVHEALTH project progress, results and achievements. Also, through the link to the databases, the website fosters exchange, within the ERA, at the national and regional level with regards to E&H programme planning and funding. The project website also provides the link with CIRCA, the project information exchange platform to facilitate access to the restricted information for the partners.

The ERA-ENVHEALTH website statistics are monitored every year as they are part of the project progress indicators. Tables showing the statistics, including number of visitors over a given period, number of pages accessed and duration of the visits, are available from the launch of the website in March 2009 to the end of the first reporting period (31 August 2009), from March 2010 to February 2011, and from March 2011 to August 2011 (see table below).

Report: Summary - <a href="http://www.era-envhealth.eu">www.era-envhealth.eu</a>	
Period: 01/03/2011 - 31/08/2011	
Total number of visits	1740
Total number of pages accessed	5267
Mean number of pages accessed per visit	3.10
Mean duration of the visits	03:07

Due to the modification of the service provider handling the statistics of the website, there is a lack of statistics between September 2009 and February 2010, where only the number of visits is available: 4006 in total.

Since its launch, various improvements to the website (content and structure) have been implemented. Further areas for improvement appear continuously during the lifetime of the project, in particular at the annual GA meetings when the dissemination strategy is evaluated by the partners and updated. Indeed a specific discussion, in view of the continuation of the network, is to take place to discuss new ideas for the website at the GA meeting in October 2011 in Brussels.

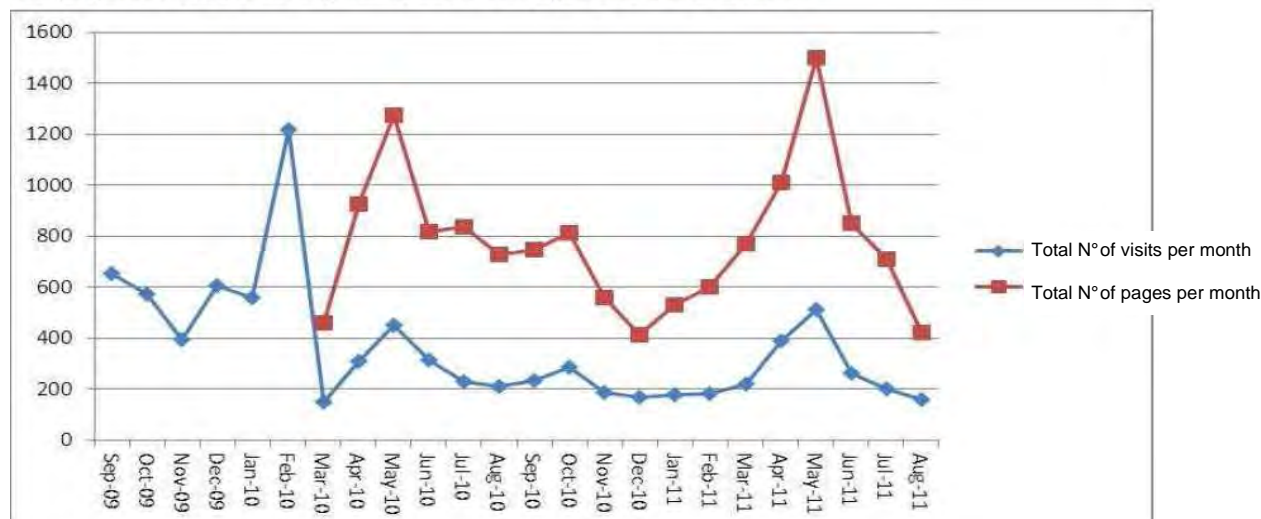
The statistics show that the introduction of the newsflash in January and February 2010 had a big impact as did the potential new partners special newsflash in May 2010. The newsflash issue number 15 in April 2011 which summarised the results achieved also had a big impact on the number of visits and number of pages accessed.

The monthly newsflash implemented since December 2009 clearly increases the impact of the project's dissemination strategy and introduces regular informal communication with the partners and stakeholders. It is currently being sent to over 1700 contacts.

Please inform Adrienne Pittman ([adrienne.pittman@anses.fr](mailto:adrienne.pittman@anses.fr)) and Mohssine El Kahloun ([mohssine.elkahloun@belspo.be](mailto:mohssine.elkahloun@belspo.be)) of important E&H meeting or reports to be disseminated through our newsflash.

Project website: [www.era-envhealth.eu](http://www.era-envhealth.eu)

The graph covering from September 2009 to August 2011 is as follows:





## CONFERENCES

# INCHES



International Network on Children's Health, Environment & Safety

### The 6th International Conference on Children's Health, Environment and Safety is taking place in Lodz, Poland at 14-16 November 2011

This conference - the sixth after Amsterdam (1998), Washington (2001), London (2004), Vienna (2007) and Bangalore (2010) offers a world-wide platform dealing with health problems of children caused by important environmental influences.

The objectives of this conference are:

- to provide an international forum for the latest research findings in children's environmental health;
- to define the relationship between environmental contaminants and children's health;
- to strengthen the importance of prenatal exposure to environmental factors on pregnancy outcome and children's health
- to identify opportunities to minimise childhood prenatal and postnatal exposure to environmental contaminants;
- to provide insight in the activities in the field of science and policy interface;
- to build a platform of knowledge at an international level;
- to develop a greater awareness among health professionals about children's health and the environment;
- to initiate future directions in research in the field of children's environmental health

The conference is organised by the International Network on Children's Health Environment and Safety (INCHES), the Nofer Institute of Occupational Medicine (NIOM), the WHO Country Office in Poland and the Polish-Norwegian Research Programme.

<http://www.inchesnetwork.net/>

Contact for more information: [inches2011@wp.pl](mailto:inches2011@wp.pl)

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

**3,4,5 OCTOBER 2011: ERA-ENVHEALTH GA MEETING AND WORK SESSIONS (BRUSSELS, BELGIUM)**

**23-27 OCTOBER 2011: 21ST ISES CONFERENCE (BALTIMORE, USA). [Link](#)**

**7-9 NOVEMBER 2011: EPHMODERN CONSULTATIVE MEETING 2011 (BERLIN-POTSDAM, GERMANY). [Link](#)**

**14-16 NOVEMBER 2011: 6TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CHILDREN'S HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY (LODZ, POLAND). [Link](#)**

**30 NOVEMBER 2011: ANSES SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE – REPORTING THE RESULTS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH RESEARCH PROGRAMME (PARIS, FRANCE). [Link](#)**

**12 DECEMBER 2011: INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON CANCERS AND ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURES (PARIS, FRANCE), CO-ORGANISED BY ANSES. [Link](#)**

PLEASE INFORM US OF IMPORTANT  
E&H MEETINGS OR REPORTS

## CONTACTS

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