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ERA-ENVHEALTH

MONTHLY NEWSFLASH



ANNOUNCEMENT OF ERA-ENVHEALTH'S SECOND CALL FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS

THIS MONTH'S NEWS:
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Five European organisations in the ERA-ENVHEALTH network have joined efforts to **organise and fund a Second Call for Transnational Research Projects.**

Context

At the 5th WHO-Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in March 2010 in Parma (Italy), European governments pledged to ensure that all current and future mitigation and adaptation climate change measures, policies and strategies integrate health issues at all levels. The Regional Framework for Action "Protecting health in an environment challenged by climate change" was welcomed by all 53 WHO European Member States in the Declaration's Commitment to Act. Governments also vowed to reduce social and gender inequalities in exposure to risk.

January 2012

ERA-ENVHEALTH Second call on

Air pollution in urban areas – health impacts on vulnerable groups under changing conditions.

With its programme and calls, the partner organisations in ERA-ENVHEALTH aim to:

The ERA-ENVHEALTH partners: ANSES, ADEME, BeISPO, Swedish EPA and UBA are now preparing the launch of a second call.

- solve environment and health issues of European and national concern by mobilising and supporting scientifically excellent research;

The second call should be **launched in January 2012** and will be open to proposals for transnational scientific research projects that:

- promote transnational, collaborative research projects of international excellence at European scale and scope;

- link scientific advancement to challenges in environment and health research, policy and practice,

- create new funding opportunities in Europe for excellent environment and health science, complementing existing schemes at the EU and national levels;

- generate new knowledge and insights,
- generate added value by linking expertise and efforts across national borders, leading to research projects designed at the appropriate scale and scope.

- disseminate research findings and encourage their use and application; and

- bring a transnational vision as a support to policy-making.

- contribute to effective and lasting linkages between relevant actors in European environment and health science and policy-based organizations in support of evidence-based policy and practice;

- support policy implementation.

More information in January 2012

on the ERA-ENVHEALTH website:

www.era-envhealth.eu

HAPPY NEW YEAR
AND ALL THE BEST
FOR 2012!

REMINDER:

NEXT DEADLINES

- **29 December 2011: deadline for comments on the draft programme for the final ERA-ENVHEALTH conference**
- **End of January 2012: draft report on EU-wide priorities for collaborative research on E&H and ERA-ENVHEALTH action plan for common activities**
- **20 January 2012: signature of the 2nd call MoU by the funders**
- **End of January 2012: launch of the ERA-ENVHEALTH second call**

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ERA-ENVHEALTH'S FINAL CONFERENCE – SHARING A VISION FOR E&H RESEARCH IN EUROPE – DRAFT PROGRAMME PARIS, FRANCE, 13-14 JUNE 2012

The ERA-ENVHEALTH network is pleased to offer you the opportunity to share experiences and take part in high-level discussions on E&H research and policy in Europe during the final conference of the project in Paris on the 13rd and 14th of June 2012.

Over four years of collaboration, carried out with the support of EU funding, the partners of the ERA-ENVHEALTH network (16 E&H funders from 10 countries and representatives of various stakeholders) have joined forces and resources to help increase the relevance and efficiency of E&H research in Europe.

Under the current financial crisis situation, it has never been as important to share and collaborate in order to maximise the impact and efficiency of E&H research funding in Europe.

ERA-ENVHEALTH's results and actions will be integrated into the debates during the two days and external visions are sought to bring in the points of views of all stakeholders.

Session 1) Environment and Health research in Europe

A unique source of information for E&H stakeholders

Day 1 will provide an overview on E&H research in Europe and will focus on discussing priorities.

The main aim of this session is to provide an overview of the European Environment and Health research landscape and funding flows, and to discuss the added-value of transnational funding.

Session 2) Research priorities in E&H

The main aim of this session is to discuss the different strategic visions and key challenges for E&H research with the different stakeholders.

Research and policy-making are closely linked and multi-disciplinary research approaches for public health and especially in environment and health are required in order to effectively tackle environment and health challenges.

These discussions will enable a deeper understanding of the E&H concerns and how research may contribute to resolving them.



The conference will take place at the Maison Internationale, Cité Internationale Universitaire, Paris 14^e, France

A shared vision

Day 2 will be structured around enhancing the use of science in policy, illustrated by relevant case studies and tools.

Session 3) Linking science to policy

The main aim of this session is to facilitate the sharing and pooling of experiences, results and resources, which is becoming more and more necessary, particularly in this time of financial crisis.

Research plays a fundamental role in the development of policies. The challenges, particularly for environment and health issues, will be discussed from the points of views of the different stakeholders including policy-makers and knowledge-brokers. Frameworks and tools developed to help science respond to the needs of policy will be discussed and case-studies presented.

Session 4) Perspectives

The aim of this session is to close the conference by having a round table discussion, in particular on the integration of E&H research into policies by the different stakeholders, and looking at the future of Environment and Health research.

These discussions will bring dynamism to Environment and Health research by analysing the impact of research and its effectiveness for policy.

A detailed programme will be posted beginning of 2012 on the ERA-ENVHEALTH website: www.era-envhealth.eu

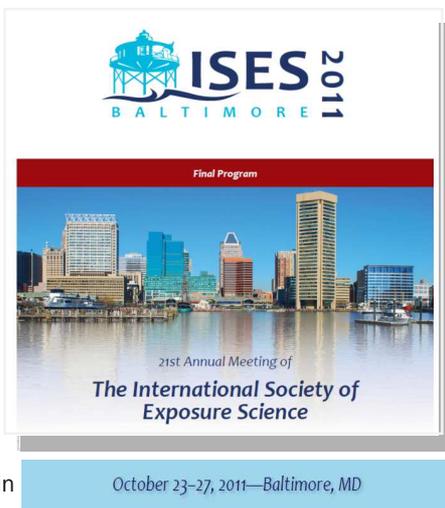


CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

REPORT FROM THE 21ST ISES CONFERENCE – ADVANCING EXPOSURE SCIENCE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The 2011 meeting of the International Society of Exposure Science gathered scientists from all over the globe to share current research activities and explore emerging trends in exposure science and environmental health.

The theme this year – Advancing Exposure Science for Environmental Health – reflects the importance and expanding role of exposure science for a healthy environment. This can be described not only in terms of human health, but also in terms of the impact on the environment.



This was the premier international exposure science event bringing together scientists, engineers, and policy-makers from a variety of disciplines to highlight significant scientific achievements and awareness of the role of exposure science in environmental health.

The conference took place from Sunday, October 23 through Thursday, October 27, Baltimore.

More information is available at: http://ises2011.memberclicks.net/assets/ises2011_program_book_final.pdf

HEALTH AT THE DURBAN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE



The Climate Change Conference was held in Durban, South Africa

The World Health Organization (WHO) was in Durban, South Africa for the Climate Change Conference of Parties (COP) 17 from November 28 to December 9, 2011, continuing to work with the international community to promote health within the climate change debate.

At least 12 side events were organised touching on aspects of health and climate change ranging from: improving support for health adaptation and health-promoting mitigation policies in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and sustainable development negotiations; implementation of the African regional framework for health adaptation; and a "Climate and Health Summit" led by the NGO community.

For more information on WHO's key messages, recommendations for the negotiations, and a list of health side events, please visit the web site:

http://www.who.int/globalchange/mediacentre/events/2011/durban_climate_change_conference/en/index.html

For any further information, please do not hesitate to contact WHO:

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UPCOMING EVENTS	
14-16 MAY 2012:	PPTOX III – ENVIRONMENTAL STRESSORS IN THE DEVELOPMENTAL ORIGINS OF DISEASE: EVIDENCE AND MECHANISMS (PARIS, FRANCE). LINK
13-14 JUNE 2012:	ERA-ENVHEALTH FINAL CONFERENCE (PARIS, FRANCE). LINK
2-5 JULY 2012:	7TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE SCIENCE OF EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT–X2012 (EDINBURGH, UK). LINK
26-30 AUGUST 2012:	ISEE 2012 – ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ACROSS LAND, AIR AND SEA (COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA, USA). LINK



THREE MILLION EUROS FOR RESEARCH ON EVIDENCE-INFORMED POLICY MAKING IN PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

In REPOPA, researchers are going to study how best to integrate research knowledge, expert know-how and real world policy making process.

REPOPA

REsearch into POLicy to enhance Physical Activity

The kick off meeting of the REPOPA - Research into Policy to Enhance Physical Activity - project took place in Copenhagen, Denmark, in November 2011.

The Unit for Health Promotion Research of the University of Southern Denmark (SDU) will lead the **five-year** project in **six European countries** and in **Canada**.

The project will consist of an initial mapping phase on how policies are developed now, followed by two parallel interventions on how policy making could be done:

- to increase cross-sector collaboration
- to include citizens into policy development.

The project will conclude by developing and testing best policy making practices and tools. There is strong research evidence on the importance of physical activity on health. Further, several recommendations and policies to enhance physical activity have been developed in various countries and also on the EU level.

In spite of this, physical activity level is far from optimal. It is acknowledged that physical activity depends not only on individual factors and health care action, but also on policies in other sectors, social and cultural factors, and environment.

This kind of research is multi-disciplinary relying on political science, social and behavioral science methods. It is based on the current health promotion approach, which is characterized

by equal partnership and collaboration between academics, practitioners and policy makers – emphasizing the fact that real world policy making integrates research knowledge with practical know-how and contextual priorities and values – thus the term **evidence-informed policy making**.

EU Framework 7, Health Research, has awarded the Esbjerg-based Unit for Health Promotion Research at SDU 3 million Euros to lead and coordinate this project, which will study how best to base physical activity policy making on research evidence and at the same time take into account the realities of local, regional and national politics, resources and priorities.

More about the REPOPA project www.repopa.eu

Professor Arja R Aro at SDU will lead the project with the health promotion team in Esbjerg and the sports science team in Odense, both in Denmark.

The participating Institutes are: National Research Council, Italy; National Institute for Health and Welfare, Finland; Tilburg University and Netherlands Institute for Health Promotion, the Netherlands; Babes Bolyai University, Romania; Herefordshire Primary Care Trust, United Kingdom; University of Ottawa, Canada.

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PLEASE INFORM US OF IMPORTANT E&H MEETINGS, PROJECTS OR REPORTS

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