



Task Force on Health Recent results



**World Health
Organization**

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR

Europe



**Organisation
mondiale de la Santé**

BUREAU RÉGIONAL DE L'

Europe



Weltgesundheitsorganisation

REGIONALBÜRO FÜR

Europa



**Всемирная организация
здравоохранения**

Европейское региональное бюро

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WHO Regional Office for Europe



TFH Agenda - 16th Meeting

Bonn, 11-12 June 2013

1. Review of the progress in research on health impacts of particulate matter and ozone
2. Recent evidence review on health aspects of air pollution in support of revision of EU policies (REVIHAAP and HRAPIE projects)
3. Monitoring and modelling of air pollution and its health impacts in countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia
4. Health aspects of biomass combustion for residential heating
5. Methodologies and approaches for quantification of burden of disease due to air pollution
6. Work plan of TFH

16th TFH Meeting

Participating countries / parties

- Albania
- Armenia
- Azerbaijan
- Belgium
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Croatia
- Finland
- France
- Georgia
- Germany
- Ireland
- Kyrgyzstan
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Poland
- Serbia
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- Turkey
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom
- + experts (incl IIASA), WHO and observers

****Financial contribution from Germany and Switzerland***

Projects REVIHAAP and HRAPIE

- Objective: provide the European Commission and its stakeholders with scientific evidence-based advice on health aspects of air pollution
- Work in support of the review of EU air quality legislation due in 2013
- Address health considerations only
- Jointly financed WHO and EC, coordinated by WHO/Europe
- Final report now available on WHO website
- Project HRAPIE underway until Sept 2013



Review of evidence
on health aspects of
air pollution –
REVIHAAP Project

Technical Report



This publication arises from the project REVIHAAP and has received funding from the European Union.

REVIHAAP Main conclusions

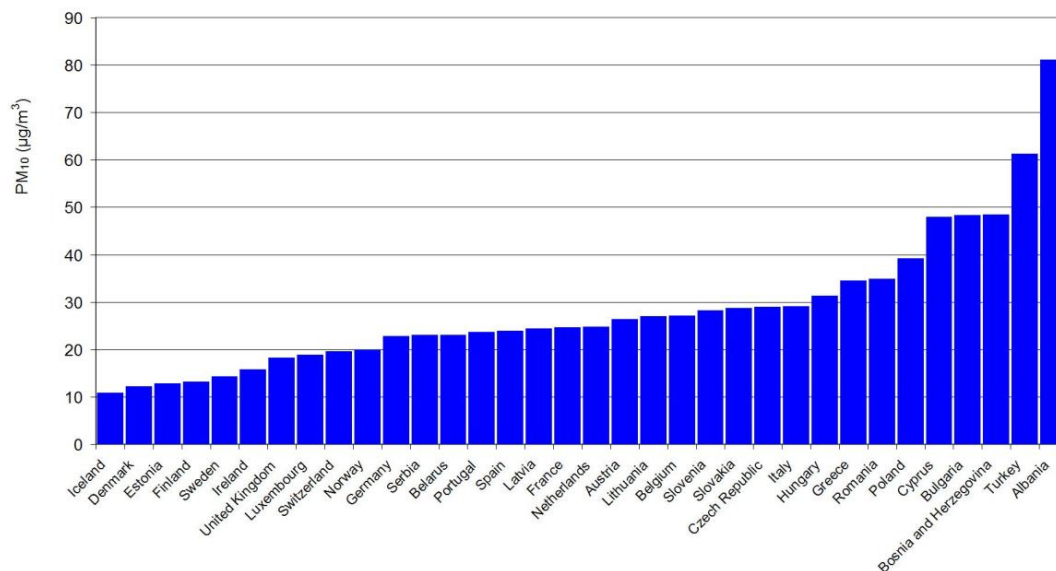
- Considerable amount of new scientific information on health effects of PM, ozone and NO₂ has been published in the recent years
 - Evidence has *strengthened*
 - Effects observed *at levels commonly present in Europe*
 - Supports the scientific conclusions of the WHO Air Quality Guidelines, last updated in 2005
 - Indicates that the *effects can occur at air pollution concentrations lower than those serving to establish the 2005 Guidelines*
- Provides scientific arguments for the decisive actions to improve air quality and reduce the burden of disease associated with air pollution in Europe.

“Health effects of particulate matter - Policy implications for EECCA countries”



HEALTH EFFECTS OF PARTICULATE MATTER

Policy implications for countries in eastern Europe, Caucasus and central Asia



Status of monitoring and modelling of air pollution

- Presentations confirmed that monitoring of PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} is still limited in eastern part of WHO European Region
 - Monitoring stations not representative of population exposure (located in remote areas)
 - Measurements sporadic and do not reflect long-term exposure (dependent of availability of funds and proper maintenance of equipment)
- Needs for implementation identified by participants:
 - Revision of legal and normative base for air pollution management
 - Reassessment of location of air pollution monitoring stations to reflect population exposure
 - Support to public health institutions for development of action plans
 - Increase general knowledge and expert capacity

THE PEP Subregional workshop

Almaty, Kazakhstan

- “Green and health-friendly sustainable mobility: Focus on urban central Asia”, 26-27 September 2013
- **Objective:** Encourage transport, health and environment policy makers to work together in developing strategies and measures for sustainable and healthy urban transport
- WHO Presentation on “Health effects of transport-related particulate matter: Policy implications for Central Asia”



THE PEP Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme



WHO Capacity building workshop – 16-18 October 2013

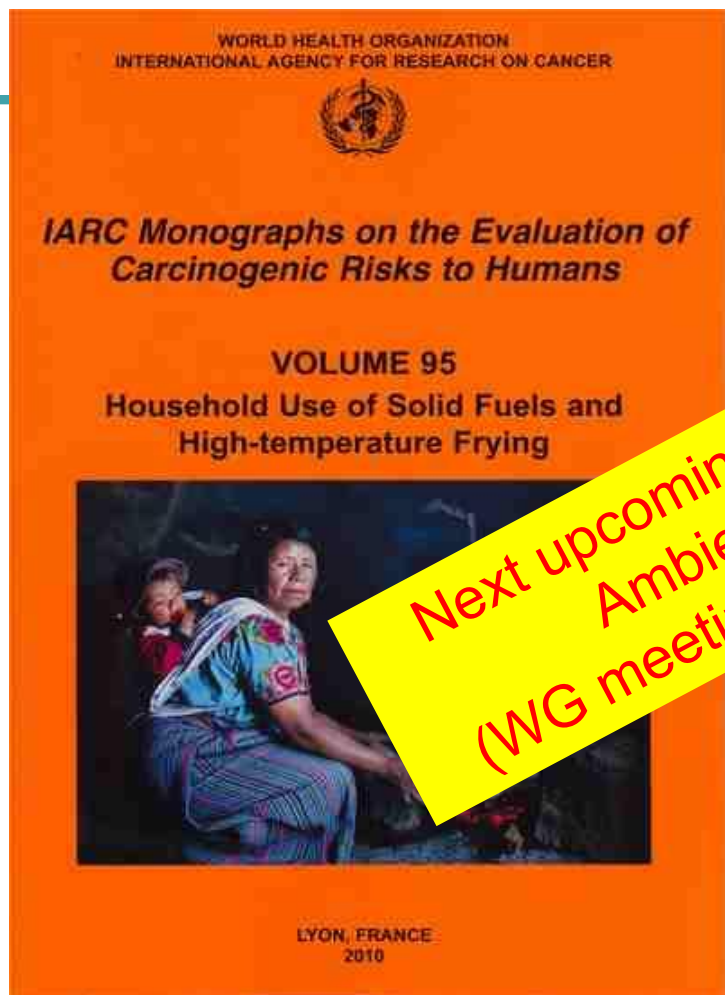
- **Multiple exposures and risks: evidence review, knowledge transfer and policy implication training workshop**
 - Includes a one-day session on **Ambient air quality monitoring and health impact assessment (HIA)**
 - Approaches to quantify health impacts of air pollution
 - Population exposure monitoring, especially of PM as an indicator of ambient air pollution
 - Examples of HIA, methodology and results
 - Interactive lectures on estimation of effects of short- and long-term exposure to air pollution
 - Use of HIA for development of EU policies on air quality

Biomass combustion for residential heating



- Background paper presented to the TFH meeting June 2013
- Concern as household wood combustion for heating seems to be rising in some countries due to the increasing costs of alternative energy sources and the public perception that it is a “green” option
- Discussion on health effects of biomass-based solid fuels (including coal)
- TFH viewed a need to present scientific findings on health effects and related policy implications to a larger audience of decision-makers and administrators
- **Policy document to be developed for the next TFH meeting in 2014**

IARC Monographs



Next upcoming IARC monograph
Ambient air pollution
(WG meeting 8-15 October 2013)

International Agency for Research on Cancer
World Health Organization
PRESS RELEASE
N° 213
12 June 2012

IARC: DIESEL ENGINE EXHAUST CARCINOGENIC

Lyon, France, 12 June 2012 -- After a week-long meeting of international experts, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), which is part of the World Health Organization (WHO), today announced that diesel engine exhaust is carcinogenic to humans (Group 1), based on sufficient evidence of an increased risk for lung cancer.

INDOOR EMISSIONS FROM HOUSEHOLD COMBUSTION OF COAL

Indoor combustion of coal was considered by a previous IARC Working Group in 2006 ([IARC, 2010a](#)). Since that time, new data have become available, these have been incorporated into the *Monograph*, and taken into consideration in the present evaluation.

- 1. Exposure Data
 - 1.1 Constituents of coal emissions from household use of coal
 - 1.1.1 *Types and forms of coal*

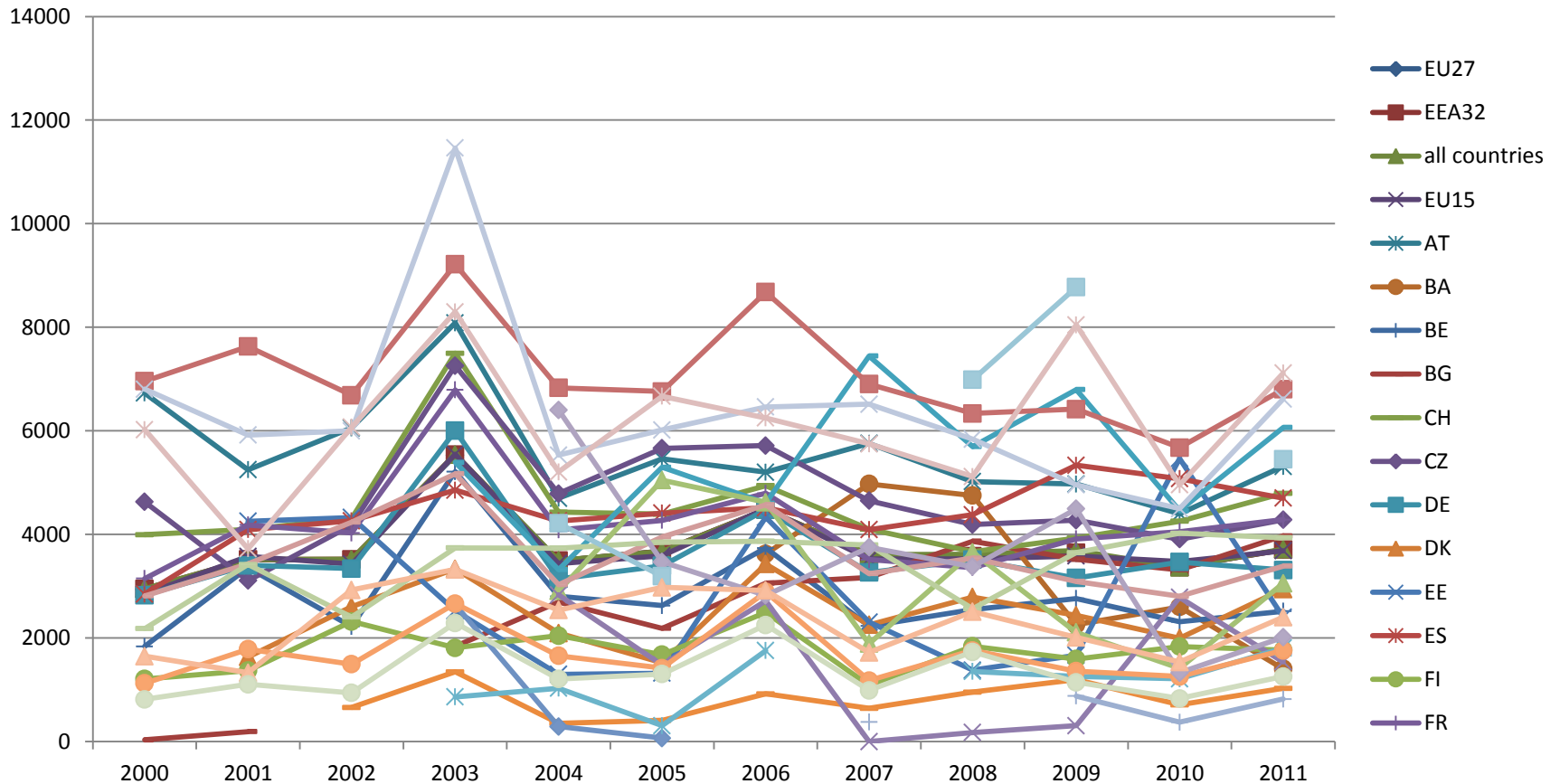
Coal is a highly variable fuel, which ranges from high heating-value anthracite through
 - 1.1.2 *Constituents of coal emissions*

When using small and simple combustion devices such as household cooking and heating stoves, coals are difficult to burn without substantial emission of pollutants principally due to the difficulty of completely pre-mixing the fuel and air during burning. Consequently, a substantial fraction of the fuel carbon is converted to products of incomplete combustion. For example

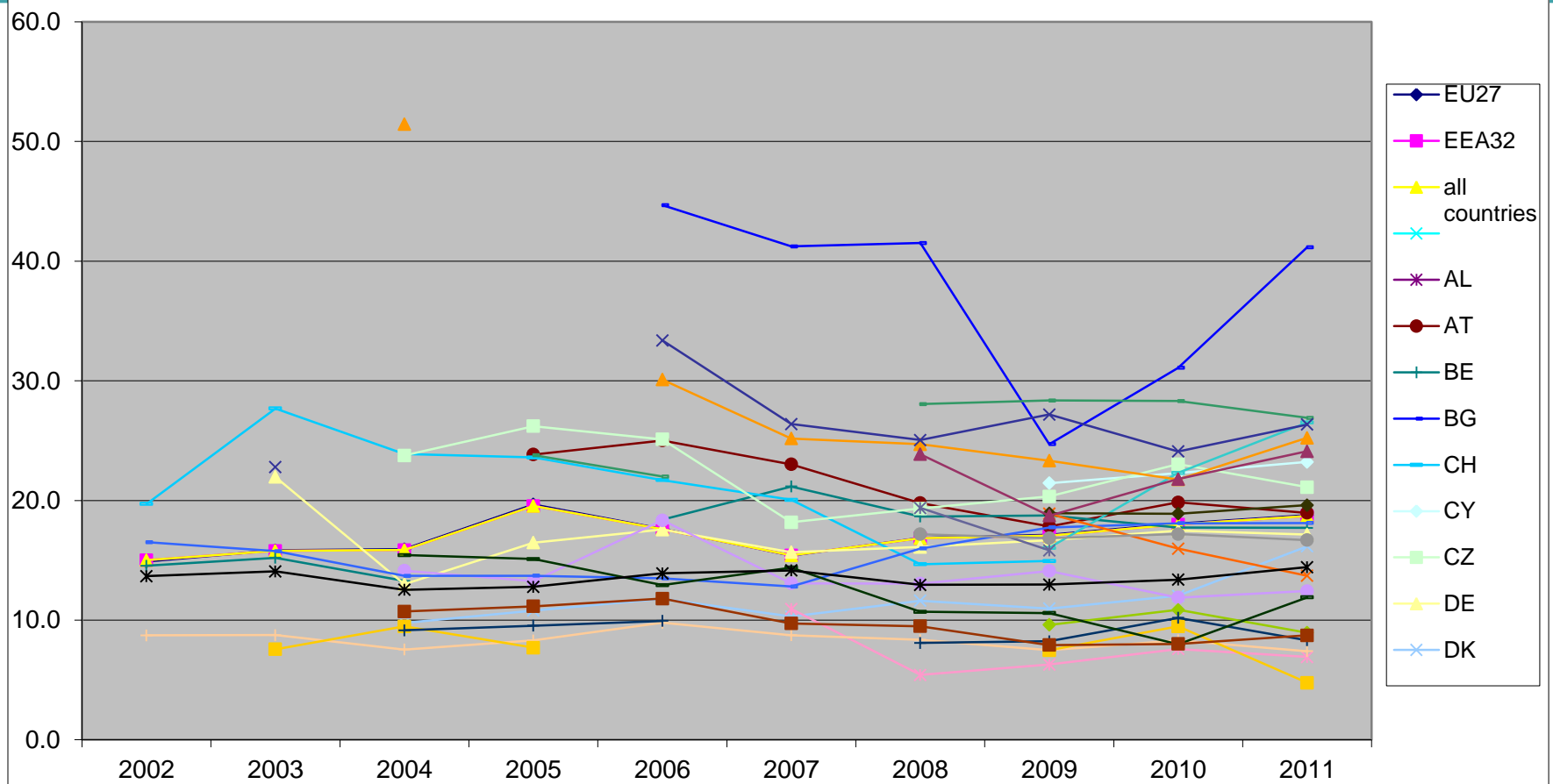
TFH Ongoing work plan 2013-2014

- Review of the progress in research on health impacts of particulate matter and ozone
- Development of publication on “Health effects of biomass combustion for residential heating – policy implications”
- Dissemination of information, capacity building and collaboration with EECCA countries
 - WHO Training workshop 16-18 October 2013
 - Translation of REVIHAAP summary report in Russian
 - Presentation of TFH brochure in Kazakhstan

ENHIS Ozone data – 2000-2011



ENHIS PM_{2.5} data – 2002-2011



ENHIS PM₁₀ data – 2000-2011

