



# Update on WHO and TFH activities

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Geneva, Switzerland  
March 2015



# Presentation outline

- **18<sup>th</sup> TFH meeting**
  - **Assessment and trends reports**
  - **Publication on residential heating**
- **WHO activities:**
  - **World Health Assembly Resolution on Air Pollution and Health**
  - **Mid-Term review meeting of the WHO Environment and Health Process**
  - **Conference on Health economics and air pollution**
  - **Revision of WHO Air Quality Guidelines**
  - **Update of WHO AirQ tool**

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# 18<sup>th</sup> TFH meeting – 14-15 April 2015

- Review of the progress in research on health impacts of particulate matter and ozone,
  - including new evidence on economic evaluation of health effects of air pollution
- Update on the revision of the EU air policy
- Communication and public health messages for air pollution
- Monitoring and modeling of air pollution and its health impacts in countries of eastern Europe, the Caucasus and central Asia
- Current activities and work plan of TFH for 2016-2017
  - Including CLRTAP assessment and trends reports



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# CLRTAP Assessment and trends reports

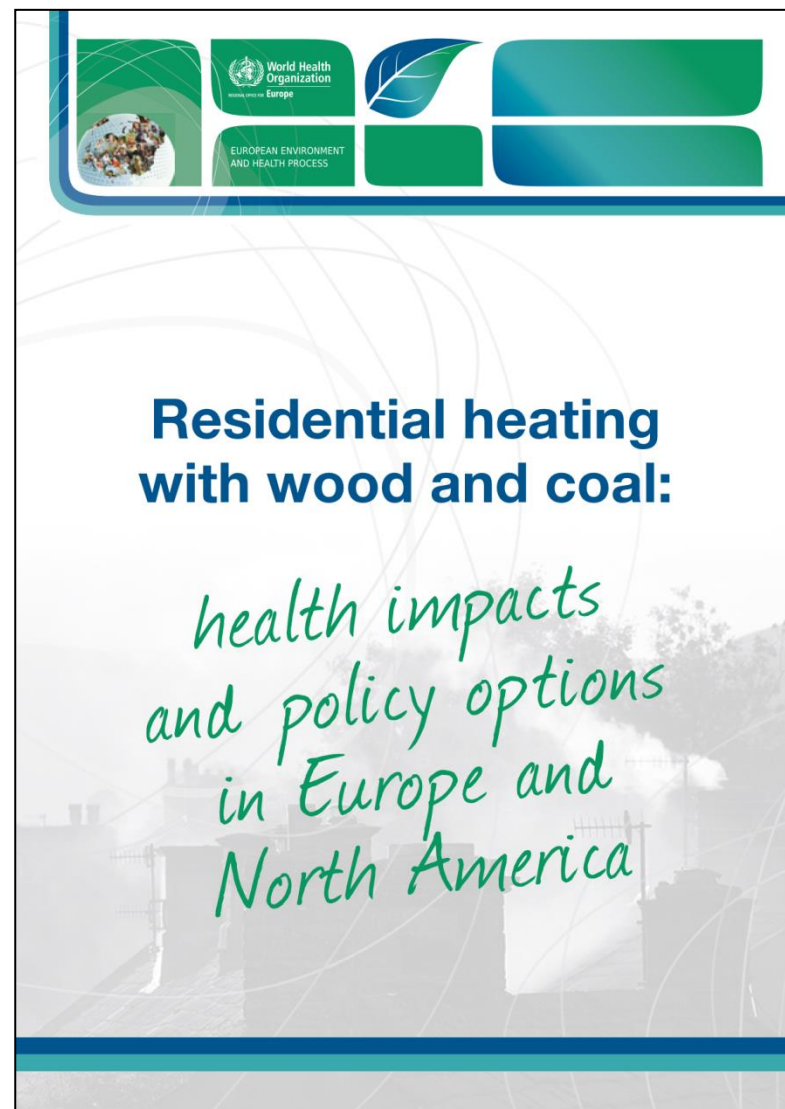
- Drafts to be presented and discussed at the TFH meeting
- Revised version to be completed after meeting
- Assessment report:
  - 2 questions on health impacts and policy framework / involvement of health sector
- Trends report:
  - Mainly PM10, PM2.5 and ozone
  - Trends in population exposure, % population exposed above WHO guideline values, in number of monitoring stations



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# WHO Publication

- English publication available on the web now at: <http://www.euro.who.int/residential-heating>
- Russian version available soon



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# World Health Assembly Resolution

- **68<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly meeting, 18-26 May 2015**
- **Global Resolution on Air Pollution and Health to be proposed**
  - **Will highlight strategies for reducing health impacts of air pollution**
  - **Expected to clarify the role of the health sector and Member States in addressing air pollution and health issues**
  - **Will include specific commitments for Member States and WHO**



EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT  
AND HEALTH PROCESS

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# WHO European Environment and Health Process

- High level meeting on 28-30 April 2015 in Haifa, Israel
- Mid-term review meeting to discuss progress towards commitments laid out in the Parma Declaration in 2010
- Ministers of Health and Environment of the WHO European Region have committed to reduce exposure to air pollution, decrease diseases, and take advantage of the approach and provisions of the LRTAP protocols and support their revision, where necessary



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# Parma Declaration (RPG 3 – air quality)

- *We will take advantage of the approach and provisions of the protocols to the 1979 Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution and we will support their revision, where necessary.*
- *We will continue and enhance our efforts to decrease the incidence of acute and chronic respiratory diseases through reduction of exposure to ultrafine particles and other particulate matter, especially from industry, transport and domestic combustion, as well as ground-level ozone, in line with WHO's air quality guidelines.*
- *We will strengthen monitoring, control and information programmes, including those related to fuels used in transport and households.*



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# WHO Conference on health economics and air pollution

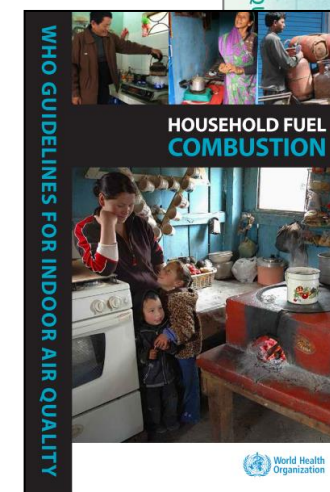
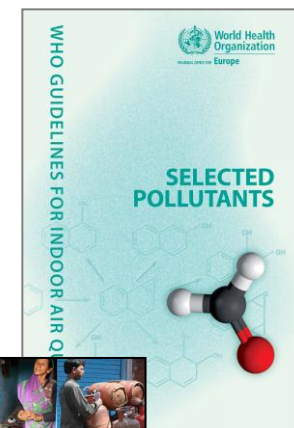
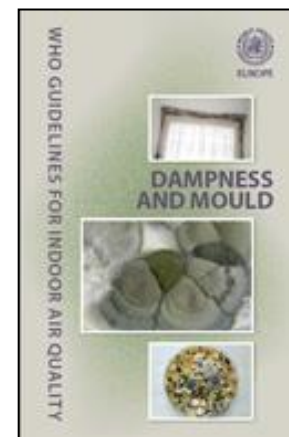
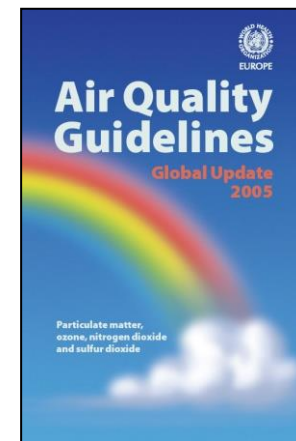
- **27-28 November 2014 in Bonn, Germany**
- **Discussion of a joint WHO/OECD publication draft entitled “Health Economics and Air Pollution” (including a policy brief)**
- **Range of issues discussed:**
  - **Choice of economic tools and methodologies**
  - **Gaps and challenges to address**
  - **Scope, trends and emphases**
  - **Communication aspects**



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# WHO Air Quality Guidelines

- **Ambient air quality guidelines**
  - **Global update (2005)**
  - **Next revision (start in 2015?)**
- **Indoor air quality guidelines**
  - **Dampness and mould (2009)**
  - **Selected chemical pollutants (2010)**
  - **Household fuel combustion (2014)**



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# Update of the WHO Air Quality Guidelines

- **Expert consultation to identify priorities for future revision of guidelines**
  - **Planned for September 2015 in Bonn, Germany**
  - **Involve global experts in atmospheric chemistry, exposure assessment, epidemiology, toxicology**
  - **Discuss health evidence on air pollutants, methodological issues and implications of recent research for guideline development**



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# Update of WHO AirQ tool

- **WHO tool for quantification of the health impacts of air pollution**
  - **Plan for the development of an up-to-date software tool, ongoing throughout 2015**
  - **Follow-up to meeting held in May 2014 on “Methods and tools for assessing the health risks of air pollution at local, national and international level”**
  - **Tool will be presented at TFH meeting**



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