



# Progress report Working Group on Effects

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EB December 2012

# Outline

1. Support to the revision of the GP
2. Progress of the work under WGE. A few examples
3. Outcome of the WGE meeting in 2012:
  - The call for data from CCE
  - Upcoming reports
  - Invitation to countries to contribute with results from national activities
4. Comments to the Ad hoc Group of Experts' report on the Action Plan
5. Meeting between countries supporting the ICP centres and TFs. Berlin 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct-
6. Back to back meetings between the EMEP and WGE in 2013
7. Adoption of the revised strategy by EB

## Some personal comments

The work by WGE and its subsidiary bodies is not known to an extent that it deserves. There is a need for improvements in communication and visibility activities

WGE and in particular the ICPs and ICP centres have significantly increased their activities to meet requirements in the LTS.

Monitoring and mapping are on-going processes in most countries and data should be more widely used in order to further strengthen the motivation for air pollution control

Many countries support scientific research related to the WGE needs. Monitored data could however be more widely available for scientific collaboration (c.f. EMEP)

The work by countries is seldom given enough credit

## Support to the Gothenburg Protocol

The **Guidance document** on health and environmental improvements 2020 relative to 2000 was presented as at the 30<sup>th</sup> session of the EB  
At the WGSR meeting in September the principles of the document was approved but there was a request to update the document according to commitments in GP revision. This update will be ready in the beginning of 2013.

**Impact Assessment report.** The report was prepared and submitted to the WGSR as an informal document for the GP revision and has been presented at TFIAM, WGE and in other bodies.

All subsidiary bodies of WGE were together with parts of EMEP involved in the preparation of these reports.

*The first document is available as an informal document for the 30<sup>th</sup> session of EB and the second as an informal document for the 50<sup>th</sup> session of the WGSR*

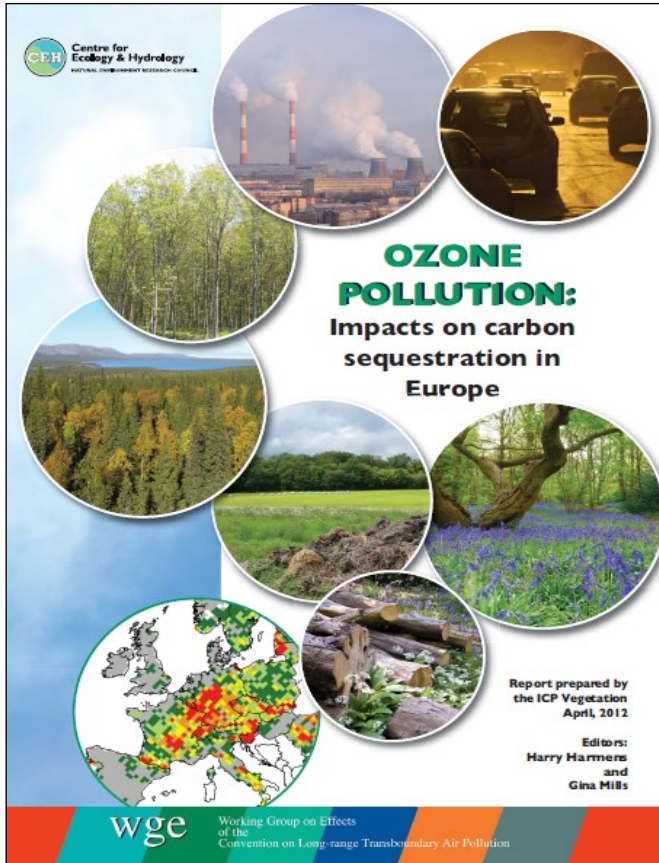
## Progress of work – some examples

WGE has taken on board the Long Term Strategy and changed priorities in relation to several issues in the strategy.

Several reports have appeared this year just mention two examples of particular interest;

- A report by the TF Health/WHO on Health effects of particulate matter – prepared in particular for the EECCA countries. The report is forwarded for adoption at this meeting.
- Report on ozone impact on carbon sequestration

# Ozone impacts on C sequestration



- ❑ Deposition of ozone to vegetation and its effects on C sequestration (*deposition to vegetation, role BVOCs, processes, variation ozone sensitivity, feedbacks*)
- ❑ Ozone effects in a changing climate (*elevated CO<sub>2</sub>, warming, drought, N deposition*)
- ❑ Impacts of ozone on C storage the living biomass of trees (2000 & 2040) (*application of DO<sub>3</sub>SE, case study northern & central Europe*)
- ❑ Impacts on C storage: a global perspective (*application of JULES*)
- ❑ Potential impacts on C sequestration in croplands and grasslands
- ❑ Conclusions and recommendations

Harmens and Mills (eds.)  
April 2012

# WGE Impacts Brochure



English



French



Russian

The Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) provided financial support for printing

# The WGE meeting

## WGE decisions

- ICP M&M / CCE 2012-2014 call for data that links air pollution to biodiversity with focus on simple generic biodiversity indicator termed “No Net Loss of Biodiversity” (NNLB) but also open for other approaches
- Preparation of a joint report on air pollution effects on biodiversity and ecosystems in 2013 - coordinated by ICP Vegetation.
- Preparation of a joint report on historical trends in air pollution impacts - coordinated by ICP Modelling and Mapping to be discussed at WGE bureau meeting

## Other issues

- Some countries presented reports at the WGE meeting. Countries were invited to contribute with national reports at coming WGE sessions.
- ICPs were in particular asked for activities related to EECCA countries.. Several countries are involved but participation needs to be improved
- Discussions with EMEP on joint preparations of country reports.



# Impacts of air pollution on biodiversity and ecosystem services

## WGE report 2013

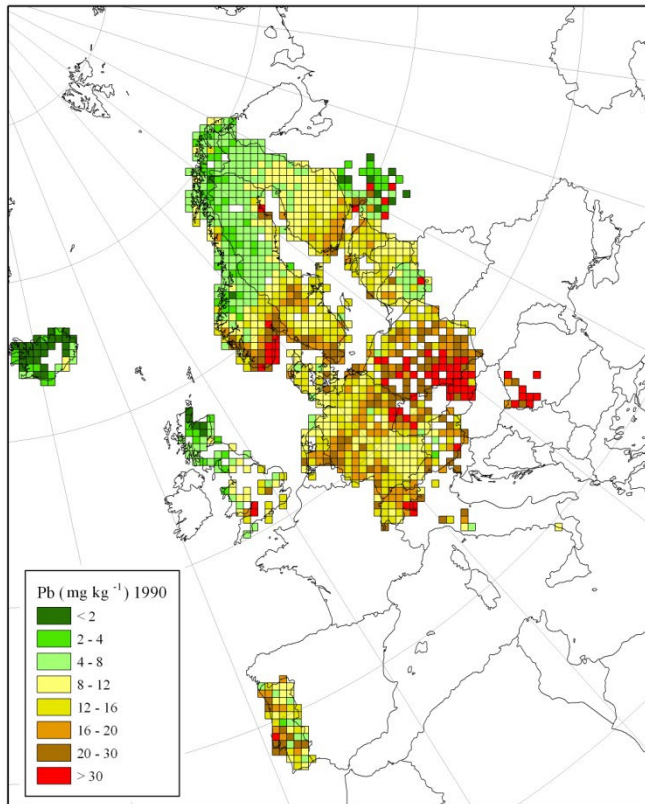
# Aim

- ❑ Extend knowledge on endpoints and indicators for use in (integrated) assessments in support of effect – based policies
- ❑ Review current knowledge

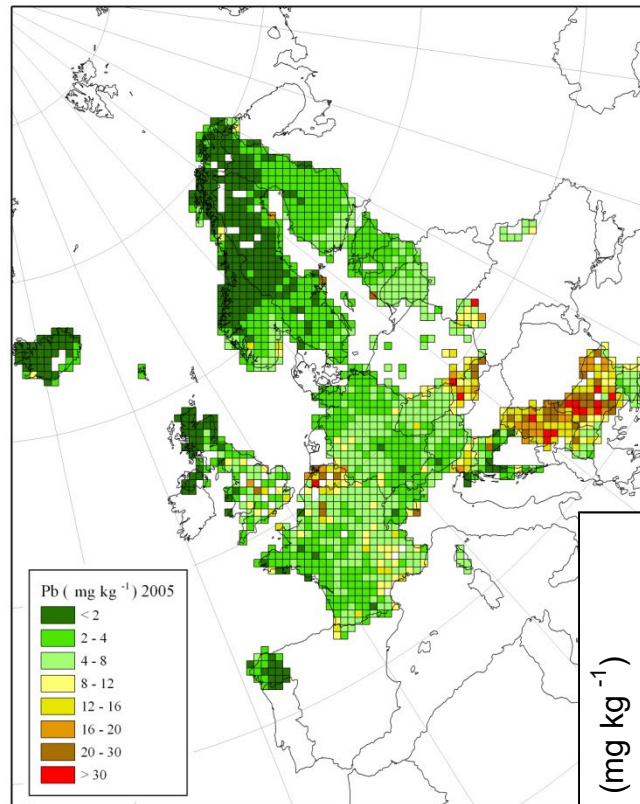
# Timeframe

- ❑ **15 Feb 2013:** Submit contributions (20–22 Feb: Ext Bureau meeting)
- ❑ **1 April 2013:** Draft summary for EU Thematic Strategy to be circulated
- ❑ **1 May 2013:** Submission summary to EU
- ❑ **1 July 2013:** Circulation first draft full report
- ❑ **1 Sept 2013:** Submission draft report as informal document to EMEP/WGE/WGSR
- ❑ **15 Oct 2013:** Submission final report for printing, available at EB in Dec.

# ICP Vegetation: Decline in lead concentration mosses since 1990

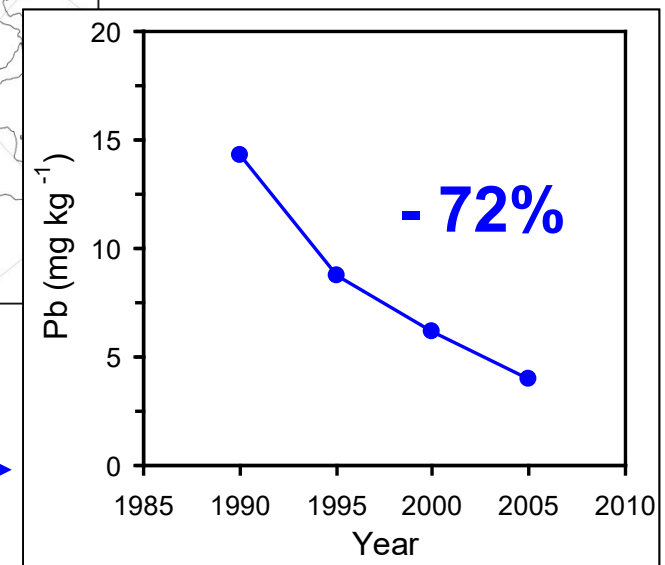


1990



2005

Europe-wide trend 1990-2005 →



## The LTS and the Action Plan

WGE had the opportunity to read and comment a preliminary version of the report by the Ad Hoc Group of Experts at the WGE session in September

- WGE welcomed the review of the ICPs
- There were mixed opinions on a merge of WGE and EMEP
- WGE decided to recommend EB to wait with any decisions on a merge until after the review of the ICPs
- WGE welcomed the idea of a Assessment Reports every 5(?) years

# The future of ICPs – meeting with funding countries in Berlin 2<sup>nd</sup> October

## Background:

All ICPs are crucially dependent on financial support from host countries for Centres and Chairs (Finland, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and UK)

Germany and the chair of WGE invited these countries to an informal meeting. All countries except Italy (co-financing ICP materials) participated.

Four questions were put forward as a basis for discussions:

- Reasons for countries to support ICPs
- Financial support over coming years
- Willingness to support increased collaboration between ICPs
- Will a possible WGE/EMEP merge affect countries' willingness to support the ICP work

## Some outcomes of the meeting in Berlin 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

Financial support will continue at present levels although some countries reported concerns that it may change due to the economic situation. One country expressed some prerequisites for its support.

Support is given to particular activities and not to any particular CLRTAP organisation

A merge of (some) ICPs needs to be considered very carefully

A majority (but not all) of the countries were of the opinion that a decision on merging EMEP should not be taken until after ICP review

Countries realize that there are unique and highly policy-relevant values of the data collected

Seven out of eight countries financing ICPs are members of the EU. EU countries are well represented in several of the ICPs.

Visibility of its support is important for some countries

Long term financial mechanism would be welcomed

## Additional information

EMEP and WGE will continue to have back-to-back meetings

Bureaux meetings in February

Ordinary meetings in September

The revised long term strategy for WGE, which was approved at the WGE meeting in 2011, needs approval by the EB



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION**