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1 Ultrafine Particles in Urban Air (Final conference UFIPOLNET); Tu. 23.- Wed. 24.10.2007 Dresden (DE/EN)

The UFIPOLNET final conference will take place in Dresden at the SAB from 23 - 24 October. Six themes are planned, covering UFIPOLNET + LIFE, Measurements of Ultrafine Particles, Health and Particles, Modelling Particles, Political Dimensions of Particulate Matter, Practical Measures to Reduce Particles. More information will be available in February on the website of UFIPOLNET and will be circulated as well by the distribution list of this newsletter. The new instrument UFP 330 by TOPAS GmbH will be presented there as well.

Date: October 23 - 24, 2007
 Place: Sächsische Aufbaubank, Dresden, Germany
 Early Registration Sep-2007
 Call for Poster March/April
 Abstract deadline presentations Sep-2007
 Late Poster Oct-2007

Source: www.ufipolnet.eu (Feb-2007)

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2 Feinstaub im Ohr (Apotheken Umschau Jan-2007) (DE)



Luftschadstoffe wie Stickstoffdioxid und Feinstaub, deren Konzentrationen bei hohem Verkehrsaufkommen zunehmen, können bei Kindern akute Mittelohrentzündungen hervorrufen. Das fanden Wissenschaftler des GSF-Forschungszentrums für Umwelt und Gesundheit, Neuherberg, in einem Projekt mit vier niederländischen Universitäten heraus. Ausgewertet wurden Daten von rund 4800 Kindern und 40 Messstationen aus beiden Ländern. Eine Zunahme der Feinstaubbelastung um drei Mikrogramm pro Kubikmeter Luft erhöhte das Risiko einer Erkrankung um bis zu 25 Prozent.

Source: Apotheken Umschau, Jan. 2007,
 gratis erhältlich in Apotheken in Deutschland

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3 UFIPOLNET presented by EU-COM website under sorting LIFE projects by countries (21.12.06) (EN)

The Commission DG Environment has begun grouping projects by country and by theme to allow more targeted promotion of LIFE projects and their results. They give overall information on LIFE in each country in the national language(s) plus in English. They will be helpful for projects in all their contacts with journalists.

Two of 22 projects in the Environment branch of LIFE (UFIPOLNET is one of the two projects) are presented more detailed (see page 2 + 8).

Thematic lists of projects related to hunting, tanneries, olive oil, the Mediterranean, pig manure, different urban issues, EMAS and many other sectors may be found at the "projects by theme website" and give direct access to the projects' summaries, websites and layman's reports.

Original source: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/news/lifeflash/lifenews12_06.htm#2006review
Source: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/countrydocuments/germany_de_may06.pdf
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/thematicdocuments/urban_health.pdf
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/projectsbythemes.htm>

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4 Forschungsstrategie zur Nanotechnik (22.12.2006) (DE)

Das UBA, die Bundesanstalt für Arbeitsschutz und Arbeitsmedizin sowie das Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung haben eine gemeinsame Forschungsstrategie zur Nanotechnik entwickelt. Ende November stellten die Bundesbehörden den Entwurf der Strategie beim Bundesumweltministerium in Bonn vor.

Die Nanotechnik gewinnt zunehmend an Bedeutung. Derzeit befinden sich etwa 230 Nanoprodukte auf dem Markt. Die Verwendung der Nanoteilchen ist sehr vielfältig. Natürliche Nanopartikel gab es schon immer – etwa als Ultrafeinstäube aus Vulkanausbrüchen oder Waldbränden. Neu sind die synthetisch hergestellten Nanopartikel mit völlig neuen und teilweise unbekannten Eigenschaften. Und hierin kann das Gefahrenpotential liegen. Ziel der Forschungsstrategie ist es deshalb auch, mehr über die Wirkung von Nanopartikeln auf die menschliche Gesundheit und die Umwelt zu erfahren. Derzeit gibt es keine Testsysteme für die Untersuchung von Nanopartikeln in der Umwelt. Die Datenlage über die ungewollten Wirkungen der Nanopartikel ist bislang sehr düftig.

Original source: UBA aktuell 5/2006. Informationen aus dem Umweltbundesamt (www.uba.de)
Source: <http://www.umweltbundesamt.de/technik-verfahren-sicherheit/nanotechnologie/index.htm>

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5 3rd International Symposium on Nanotechnology, Occupational and Environmental Health Aug-29 – Sep-1 (EN)

The 3rd International Symposium on Nanotechnology, Occupational and Environmental Health will be the premier international symposium of 2007 addressing the potential occupational and environmental impacts of nanotechnology. It will bring together researchers and practitioners from many different backgrounds and countries with one aim: To share the latest knowledge on identifying, assessing and managing or governing nanotechnology-specific risks to occupational health and the environment. Worldwide investment in nanotechnology-approaching US\$10 billion per year in research and development according to some sources-underlies the tremendous potential these technologies have to change and improve our lives. At the same time, potential negative side effects of emerging technologies are being increasingly questioned. There are fears that innovation without a sound understanding of risk

will lead to unanticipated harm to human health and the environment, or to a wholesale rejection of emerging nanotechnologies. Coordinating and applying critical risk-based research is essential to ensuring the development of responsible, sustainable nanotechnologies, and removing these fears.

Tutorials: (examples):

- Health-Related Exposure Assessment of Nanoparticles, Dr. Rob Aitken, IOM, UK
- Investigating the Effects of Nanoparticles on the Environment, Prof. Vicki Stone, Napier University, UK
- Nanoparticle Dosimetry in the Lung, Dr. Winfried Moller, GSF, Germany

Date: August 29-September 1, 2007

Place: International Conference Hall, Academia Sinica, Taipei Taiwan

Deadline for Abstract Submission: March 15, 2007

Source: <http://nano-taiwan.sinica.edu.tw/EHS2007/index.htm>

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6 Know your poison (Mumbai Newsline India 14-Jan-2007) (EN)

by Anumeha Yadav

With monitors in Colaba, Dadar, Mulund, Khar, Andheri, Mahul and Dharavi, NEERI study to keep tabs on area-wise sources of air pollution

Mumbai, January 13: Whether it is the murky skyline that you get to see from your window or the respiratory ailment that refuses to go away, by the end of the year you will have access to accurate data to what poisons the air where you live and thus, be in a better position to fight it.

A source apportionment study to find out details of not just the load of pollutants in the air all across the city but that will zero in on the exact amount being contributed by different sources—vehicles, small industries, construction work in an area—has been initiated by the National Environment Engineering Research Institute (NEERI).

“The aim is to be able to have a detailed inventory for each source because unless that is done and all pollution sources examined and checked, steps like improvement in fuel quality prove inadequate,” said Rakesh Kumar, scientist and head NEERI, Mumbai.

(...)

So, a resident of Mohammed Ali Road will be able to know the exact pollution load the vehicles entering the area are bringing with them, a resident of Parel will be in a position to find out whether it is dug-up roads or the smoke from an old neighbourhood bakery that is to be blamed for the pollutants she is inhaling.

(...)

“We will use the findings to see how they are linked to respiratory health over the long term; that is something we do not realise because the effects of air pollution on our bodies often manifests after years,” said Dr Amitha Athavale of Environmental Pollution Research Centre at KEM Hospital.

Source: <http://cities.expressindia.com/fullstory.php?newsid=217510>

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UFIPOLNET = Ultrafine particle size distributions in air pollution monitoring networks

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