



UFIPOLNETnews No. 6 2-Aug-2006)

Dear reader,
here are NEWS for measuring ultrafine particles in ambient air and related subjects.

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1 **UFIPOLNET: 4 times NEW: URL + Web-Pages + Flyer + Signboards (EN)**

- The new URL of the project web page is much shorter and easier to remember: www.ufipolnet.eu.
- There is also a new subtopic called "Neues / NEWS" on the website. You can find there important dates and events like Workshops, press events or congresses related to UFIPOLNET.
- There is also a new Flyer in the download section. If you need printed copies of the flyer, please tell me by email how much you need.
- The signboards arrived yesterday. During the next months they will be fixed at the measuring stations in Stockholm, Augsburg, Dresden and Prague.

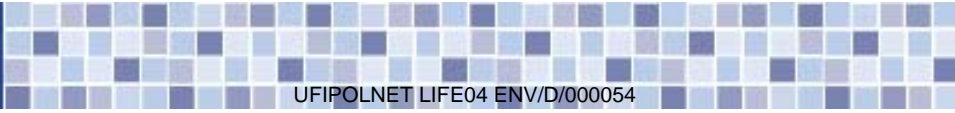


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2 **Breathing easy: action to tackle air pollution (EN)**

LINK: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/news/lifeflash/lifenews07_06.htm#breathe

“Air pollution is a longstanding concern for the European Union. Some of the earliest EU environmental legislation set limits on pollutant emissions such as car exhaust fumes. Air quality is a major concern because there is a direct link between air quality and human health. It is estimated that there were 370,000 premature deaths in the EU in 2000 caused by poor air quality. A number of different factors



affect air quality, and so EU actions to clean up the air must address a number of different policy areas, including transport, industry, energy, urban planning and broader environmental questions such as climate change.

Overall, the Commission wants through the air pollution strategy to achieve the following by 2020 compared with 2000:

- 47 percent reduction in loss of life expectancy as a result of exposure to particulate matter
- 10 percent reduction in acute mortalities from exposure to ozone
- Reduction in excess acid deposition of 74 percent and 39 percent in forest areas and surface freshwater areas respectively
- 43 percent reduction in areas or ecosystems exposed to eutrophication”

Source: LIFENews July 2006 (27-Jul-2006)

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3 The Descartes Prize (EN)

The Descartes Prize for Research, which exists since 2000, was complemented with a new Descartes Prize for Science Communication in 2004. By means of this new prize, the European Commission intends:

- To stimulate interest and careers in science communication.
- To improve the quality of science communication with the public.

see http://ec.europa.eu/research/descartes/communication_en.htm

In its Science Communication part, it targets organisations or individuals having achieved outstanding results in science communication and having been selected as winners by European and/or national organisations which carry out existing science communication prizes of any kind. This implies that prize organisers can send their winners as candidates to the EU prize, in one of the following categories:

- Professional scientists engaged in science communication to the public;
- Popularising science through the written word (e.g. newspaper articles, popular science books);
- Popularising science through audio-visual and electronic media (e.g. scientific television or radio documentaries, websites);
- Innovative action for science communication;
- Editorial policy for the promotion of science whatever the media.

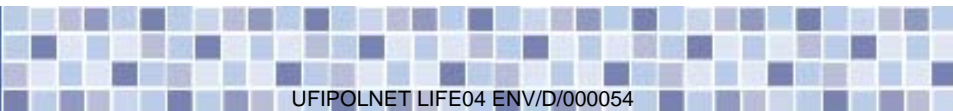
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4 DustConf 2007 How to improve air quality International Conference in Maastricht, The Netherlands 23 - 24 April 2007 (EN)

Dust or particulate matter, expressed as PM 10 / 2.5, is becoming the most important air pollutant in Western Europe. In many areas, especially in and around major European cities, air quality does not meet the European standards. Local governments have to meet increasing demands for a better environment, when at the same time traffic, industry and agriculture are extending and intensified.

Practical approaches to tackle emissions of particulate matter from industrial, agricultural and domestic stationary sources.

The main targeted topics for the conference are:



- Reduction plans at national, regional and local level (experiences with practical implementation of EU policies)
- Dust emissions from the agricultural sector
- Dust emissions from industrial sectors
- Dust emissions from domestic sources

Other topics that can be addressed are:

- Cross media effects (e.g. energy consumption, waste production)
- Spatial planning in relation to air quality management
- Particle size distribution, reduction of PM 2,5 also by abatement strategies for PM precursors
- Integrated approach for reduction of PM for different types of activities: livestock farming, waste management, power generation
- Guidance on quantification of emissions and emission inventories

More information on DustConf 2007 will be available at www.dustconf.com soon.

Contact by E-mail: dustconf@senternovem.nl

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5 Narrowing the Gap between Scientists and Policy Makers (EN)

Source: Science for Environment Policy; 26 July, 2006 Issue 32

see original article: <http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/toc/jpe/43/4> (free access)

Despite the increasing emphasis on the necessity of an evidence-based environmental policy, there is evidence that the information flow between scientists and policy makers is very limited, and therefore, the results of research are not always fully exploited. To narrow this gap would help to achieve research more clearly directed at issues that influence policies, and policies that are based more objectively on sound science.

Recently, an innovative experiment has gathered 38 environmental stakeholders including researchers, academics, policy makers and lobbyists for a two-day workshop in the UK. The academics acted as facilitators, helping the policy makers arrive at a short-list of key questions of significant relevance to policy, from an initial list of more than 1000, gathered by a wide group of 654 policy makers and scientists.

After the workshop, the participants came up with a list of the "top 100" ecological questions most in need of a scientific answer for supporting environmental policy. These questions were categorised into 14 headings, including pollution, climate change and urban development.

The results from the workshop clearly demonstrate that there is a mismatch between problem formulation by scientists and by policy makers. This is due to the fact that while scientists tend to address specific questions, policy is driven by broad issues and more general questions.

According to the study, to avoid this problem, it is necessary that all key stakeholders are involved from an early stage in the policy development process and in the formulation of the problem to be addressed. Furthermore, all relevant information should be available and communicated in a clear and accessible form, including information regarding the scientific uncertainties associated with the scientific evidence.

Source: William J Sutherland et al (2006) « The identification of 100 ecological questions of high policy relevance in the UK », *Journal of Applied Ecology*, 43 (4): 617-627, doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2664.2006.01188.x

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UFIPOLNET: <http://www.ufipolnet.eu> **NEW!**

UFIPOLNET = Ultrafine particle size distributions in air pollution monitoring networks
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