

ESCAPE Newsletter 5

February, 2010



ESCAPE is a collaboration of more than 30 European cohort studies including some 900,000 subjects. It is aimed at quantifying health impacts of air pollution and at reducing uncertainty.



Greetings!

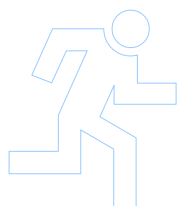
This is the fifth ESCAPE newsletter with information about our progress. We've reached an important milestone, the delivery of our first progress report. In addition, we're in the middle of the change from first to second year field campaigns. Finally, we're gearing up for the next plenary meeting, June 14-16!

Bert Brunekreef, PhD, Coordinator

Progress report and mid-term review

The progress report has been submitted to our project officer on January 27, 2010. Thank you all for your contributions and for sending your contributions to us in time! You receive the report together with this newsletter. Our project officer informed us that the review will be remote, so there will be no need for a meeting with the consortium (this is also the reason that we re-scheduled the 2nd plenary meeting to June 2010). As soon as we have received feedback from the project officer and/or reviewers, we'll let you know. Due to some changes (e.g. a new beneficiary and changes of the ESCAPE Work Programme) an amendment of the contract will be necessary. We will try to implement this all in one step, and will inform you when it is time again to do the necessary paperwork.

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2nd annual meeting

The 2nd annual meeting will be on **JUNE 14-16 (MON-WED) 2010**. As we wish to have a full 3-day meeting, please plan on arriving Sunday June 13.

We plan to have separate WP meetings during the meeting in such way that each WP will have at least half a day for a specific WP meeting (given some overlap between the WPs).

The venue will be hotel Mitland in Utrecht. We already blocked hotel rooms and will soon ask to sign up for the meeting.

A detailed program for the workshop will also follow.

Health WPs

All health WPs developed draft study protocols that have been included in the progress report for the EU. These protocols will be further developed in the upcoming time period.

All health WPs will have their regular telephone meetings. WP4 will have a meeting in Basel on March 15-16, 2010. In addition, there will be time for WP specific meetings during the plenary meeting in June 2010.

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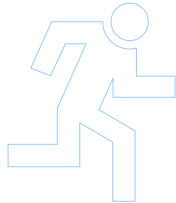
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GIS analyses and exposure model development

A workshop on GIS analyses and LUR modelling analyses for the groups that measured in the first year has been planned for April 26-29 2010. This workshop will be repeated for the groups that measure air pollutants in the second year. It is important that the groups that measured in the first year start collecting GIS data as soon as possible. Collection of GIS data should be finished before the workshop in April in order to work at the workshop with your own local data. Please carefully read the ESCAPE exposure assessment manual for procedures and deadlines. The manual has been distributed and can be found on the website. If you have any questions about the exposure assessment manual or about the described procedures or timelines, please e-mail Rob Beelen (r.m.j.beelen@uu.nl).

Geocoding of addresses of study participants

Geocoding of addresses of study participants is an important step in the exposure assessment process. The addresses should be made available by the individual studies within the Health WPs. If needed geocoding can be conducted by the groups that will do the GIS analyses and exposure assessment. An ESCAPE geocoding manual can be found at the ESCAPE website. A description of the different steps in exposure assessment and who is responsible for which step, can be found in the ESCAPE exposure assessment manual (see ESCAPE website).

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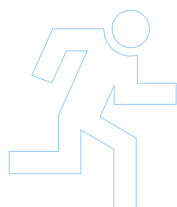
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ESCAPE related projects

TRANSPHORM

TRANSPHORM is a project on the health impacts of transport related air pollution. It officially started on **January 1, 2010**. ESCAPE WP lead institutes are integrated in this study, which will support a fair amount of additional exposure measurements and modelling for the ESCAPE cohorts. Measurements for the TRANSPHORM project have been scheduled for: Athens, Helsinki, Copenhagen, London/Oxford, Paris and Rome in addition to the extra measurements we already took in the Netherlands, Oslo, Barcelona and Munich

VE³SPA

CONCAWE has decided to fund a validation study, in which we will be doing personal exposure measurements in three ESCAPE areas (Utrecht, Barcelona and Helsinki) to validate the exposure models we're building for ESCAPE. The project has been named VE³SPA (Validation of ESCAPE Exposure EstimateS using Personal exposure Assessment). More information about the project can be found on the VE³SPA website: <http://www.escapeproject.eu/vespa/> or send an e-mail to Denise Montagne (D.R.Montagne@uu.nl) who is working as a PhD student on this project.

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ESCAPE website

The ESCAPE website address is:

www.escapeproject.eu

In the "Products"-section all ESCAPE manuals, SOPs and previous newsletters can be found.

If you have any documents or information that you would like to have available or would like to add on the ESCAPE website, please let us know.

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