

ESCAPE Newsletter 1

November 25, 2008



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 newsletter is the first one in which the coordinating center of the ESCAPE project will try to keep all involved (and/or interested) in ESCAPE informed about important developments. Please give us feedback!

Bert Brunekreef, PhD, Coordinator

Succesfull exposure workshop in Utrecht

On September 17-18 an exposure workshop was organized at IRAS in the Netherlands. There were in total 25 participants from all the groups that will start their measurements in the first year. During these two days there were explanations and discussions about site selection, how to conduct PM and NO_x measurements, and about everything else related to field work and the measurement campaign. Participants could practice the use of sampling equipment.

During the workshop leaflets about the ESCAPE project were distributed. If you would like to receive copies of the leaflet, please let us know.

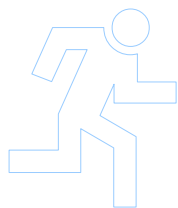
ESCAPE contract finally signed

After a long period of negotiations and continued refinement of the Description of Work and the Consortium Agreement, the ESCAPE contract has finally been signed by the EU and by all involved parties. We anticipate the first payment from the EU anytime, and we will distribute the first term right away to all participating centers.

Meeting about GIS

On December 9 the exposure assessment working group will meet in London for a one-day meeting. During this meeting the procedure for exposure assessment model development will be discussed.

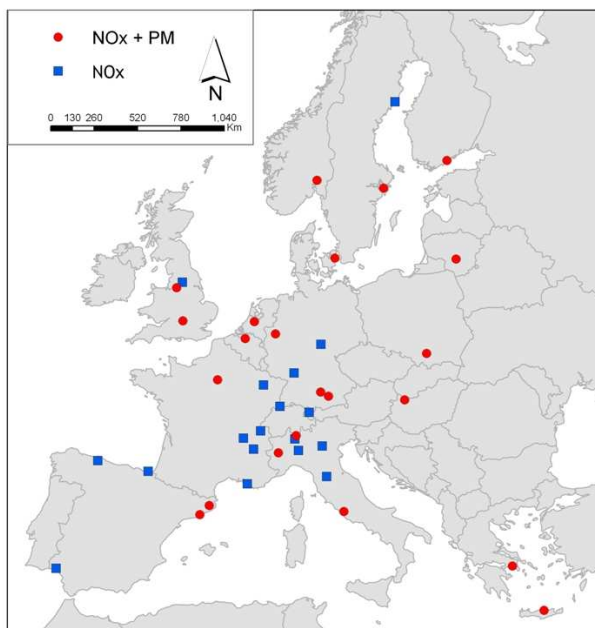
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ESCAPE measurement campaign has started

The ESCAPE measurement campaigns have successfully been started in the Ruhr Area and Munich. They will commence soon in Stockholm, The Netherlands, Belgium, Umeå, Switzerland and Barcelona, Girona and other Spanish areas, as well as in Oslo, Manchester and Heraklion. Monitoring equipment is being distributed in support.

The map shows where measurements eventually will take place.



**Institute for Risk
Assessment Sciences**
PO Box 80178
Jenalaan 18d
3508 TD Utrecht
Netherlands

T 31 30 2539494

F 31 30 2539499

E-mail
r.m.j.beelen@uu.nl

www.escapeproject.eu

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Health endpoint workpackages

Work in the four different health endpoint work packages ((1) low birth weight, asthma and allergy in children, (2) respiratory diseases in adults, (3) cardiovascular diseases in adults, and (4) mortality and cancer in adults) has also started with telephone conferences, meetings during conferences and contacts with study coordinators within their work packages.

ESCAPE website is online

The project website is online, visit www.escapeproject.eu. On the website you will find information about the structure of the project, methods, time planning and links to the partners. There will be also a section with products such as Description of Work, Consortium Agreement, study manual and published papers and presentations. If you have any documents you would like to have available or would like to add on the ESCAPE website, please let us know.

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