

ESCAPE Newsletter 11

December, 2011



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 11th ESCAPE newsletter with information about our progress.

Dear ESCAPE friends,

Time flies, and it's hard to imagine we're already into the last year of ESCAPE. Excellent progress has been made thanks to your collective efforts, and much still needs to be done to make the project a complete success. I was extremely pleased seeing the progress at the September Barcelona meeting, and I look forward to the final stage with much optimism.

For now, I'd like to wish all of you a relaxing holiday period, and a happy and productive new year!

Bert Brunekreef, PhD, Coordinator

Dates next ESCAPE plenary meeting

The next ESCAPE plenary meeting will be organized at Monday and Tuesday **June 11-12 2012 in Utrecht**. Please mark these dates in your agenda! The meeting will be a 2-day full day meeting, so please arrive the evening before.

This will also be the final ESCAPE plenary meeting. But just before summer 2012 most of the epidemiological results will be ready, so we will have a lot to discuss.

More information about hotel booking, agenda etc will follow later.

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ESCAPE no-cost extension granted

The ESCAPE no-cost extension has been approved. The end date of the project is now month 54, which means November 30 2012. The aim is however still to have most deliverables ready by the summer next year. See also the **most recent DoW dated October 18 2011** which is available at the ESCAPE website.

New ESCAPE project officer

From December 15 2011 Jose Jimenez will be our new project officer in Brussels. Please find below the e-mail we received from Claus Brüning:

Dear Bert,

Just to inform you that due to an internal re-organisation my colleague Jose Jimenez will take over the ESCAPE project as of 15 December. He will basically follow the air pollution research file (and related health impacts) at European level, which is very much in line with his professional background.

An official notification letter will follow. It was a pleasure working with you, and I see ESCAPE already now as a success story. My regards to the members of the consortium and again thanks for the good collaboration.

Best regards,
Claus

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Exposure assessment

Finalizing land use regression (LUR) model development and exposure assessment for the cohort addresses has priority. LUR models have been developed for all first year areas, while for half of the second year areas models have been developed. The aim is to have exposure assessment ready by the end of January. This deadline is important because the exposure estimates for the cohort addresses are necessary for the epidemiological analyses.

Please also make sure that you are familiar with the ESCAPE exposure assessment manual and the extended procedures for exposure assessment for cohort addresses and for extrapolation back in time. These procedures are available on the ESCAPE website.

If you have any questions about LUR model development and/or exposure assessment please contact Rob Beelen at the coordinating center (r.m.j.beelen@uu.nl).

Workshops WPs 3-6

WP 5 was the first WP that had a statistical workshop with the first ESCAPE epidemiological analyses on November 14-15 2011 in Munich. It was a very fruitful meeting also generating new questions that are currently being discussed.

WPs 4 (January 17-18 2012 in Basel) and 6 (March 7-9 2012 in Turin) have also scheduled workshops, while WP 3 is also planning one.

These workshops are very interesting as they will show the first ESCAPE results.

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ESCAPE website

The ESCAPE website address is:

www.escapeproject.eu

In the "Member"-section all ESCAPE manuals, SOPs, meeting minutes and progress reports can be found (the "Member"-section is password-protected but the password is available upon request).

We would like to have all key documents, such as manuals, analytical protocols etc, available on the website. In that way all these documents are available for all ESCAPE participants and everybody uses the same version. Separate sections for each work package have been made at the website to make WP-specific documents available.

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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