



National Institute for Public Health
and the Environment (RIVM)
Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport
The Netherlands

1th EPCAC meeting

Bratislava, Nov. 27, 2019

Guus Velders

1th workshop – Bratislava, 27 nov 2019

“Towards Clean Air in Cities”

Hosted by: Water Research Institute

Organized by: UNECE Expert Panel on Clean Air in Cities

Slovak Ministry of Environment

European Urban Agenda Partnership on Air Quality

Around 80 participants:

Scientific institutes

Governments

Cities

Industry

NGOs



Conclusions (1)

1. Attaining EU limit values is necessary, but not sufficient to reduce the health effects of air pollution
2. Multi-level approach is important to improve air quality
 - Contributions from different levels depend on specific city
 - Information on regional/local level and source apportionment is important for informed policies
 - PM most important air pollutants for health effects. Secondary PM originates from 10-100s of kms.
3. Taking actions in cities is not only good for people inside city, but also for surrounding region

Conclusions

Conclusions (2)

4. Move from concentration to exposure
 - Exposure profile depends on people behavior
 - Also link to indoor air pollution
 - May require other measurement strategy
5. Information on trade-offs with measures for AQ, climate change, agriculture, mobility is important
6. Agriculture is important for air quality (secondary PM)
 - With NH_3 measures, also consider potential increases in N_2O and nitrate (in ground water)
7. Information on local costs of air quality measures is lacking
 - How important is this?
 - Measures often taken by other parts of local government

Next steps (1)

1. Need for information on health effects of certain PM fractions
 - WHO studies, see Mike Holland presentation
 - Related: UFP and EC/BC: distribution, concentrations, sources, measures: Emerging issue?
2. Source apportionment for many cities in Europe
 - Live database needed
 - Communicate to local authorities
3. Need simple tools to inform public and policymakers and link with complex models
 - Idea: run policy scenarios with a range of models → ensemble outputs

Next steps

Next steps (2)

4. Information on costs and benefits of measures on local level
5. Quantification of benefits from local city measures to surrounding regions
6. Addressing how to engage cities in expert panel
 - Demonstrate examples that work to get cities onboard and in action
 - Connection with C40 or covenant of majors

What is next for EPCAC

- Annual workshop
- Next meeting: Sept. 29, 2020 in Oslo
- Back to back with Fairmode meeting
- Organized by Roald Wolters (ministry of Infrastructure, NL)
Rob Maas, Guus Velders (RIVM, NL)
- Focus:
 - Position paper on modelling different spatial scales
 - Route plan for model intercomparison for city background concentrations

Next meeting