

Objectives

- Development of a coordinated approach for biomonitoring based on existing expertise and experiences available in Member States surveillance programmes and results from research
- Elaboration how biomonitoring results can be integrated most efficiently with environmental monitoring and registered health data
- Development of strategies to communicate biomonitoring results to stakeholders (population affected, regulators, politicians) including the establishment of websites publicly available and with links to national and international activities resulting in full transparency for the stakeholder
- Elaboration of scenarios for the use of biomonitoring results for policy making

Background

The European Environment and Health Strategy adopted by the European Commission in 2003 presented a new vision on how to address environment and health in an integrated way and puts health in the centre of environmental policy. Based upon the Strategy the Commission adopted in 2004 a Communication on the Environment and Health Action Plan 2004 – 2010. In Action 3 of this Action Plan the European Commission announces to develop a coherent approach to Human Biomonitoring in Europe in close cooperation with the Member States.

For the implementation of Action 3 the Commission has set up a Technical Working Group on HBM (TWG), consisting of HBM experts from several MS including Croatia. This TWG has been expanded to include more Member States and is now called the Implementation Group (IG).

Given the complexity of the issues a STEP-BY-STEP approach has been set up:

The first step (2004-2006) consists of the technical preparation of the European Pilot Project. For this reason the EU Commission has launched the ESBIO project. The project team consists of nearly all members of the Implementation Group on Human Biomonitoring.

The second step (2006-...) is the EUROPEAN PILOT PROJECT, which is a "learning by doing tool". It aims to test out the developed coordinated approaches and to facilitate the establishment of collaboration networks and the sharing of methodologies.

Implementation in 8 work packages (WPs):

• WP1 - Updated inventory of biomonitoring research and non-research actions and databases

Contact: mfreis@fm.ul.pt

- ✓ Conference „State of the art“ to be held in Lisbon, Portugal
- ✓ Updated inventory in electronic form
- ✓ EU platform for exchange of experiences and expertise (www.HBM-inventory.org)

• WP2 - Guidelines for best practice on coordinated approach for biomonitoring in EU to be tested out in a EU Pilot Project

Contact: marke.kolossa@uba.de

- ✓ Protocols for sampling; recruitment, collecting, analyses, organisation of laboratory work
- ✓ Questionnaires for the Pilot Project



• WP3 - Guidelines for integration scenarios and to integrate biomonitoring with environmental and health monitoring; use of biomonitoring results for policy making

Contact: greet.schoeters@vito.be



- ✓ Links of HBM results to environmental monitoring, health monitoring and research
- ✓ Concept to establish biomonitoring as a policy making tool on a European level

• WP4 - Ethical issues and concept for communicating biomonitoring information to participants in the Pilot Project

Contact: l.knudsen@pubhealth.ku.dk



- ✓ Workshop with stakeholders
- ✓ Justified concept for dissemination and communication of results within participants of HBM

• WP5 - Socio-economic consequences, communication to stakeholders and follow up of the EU Pilot Project

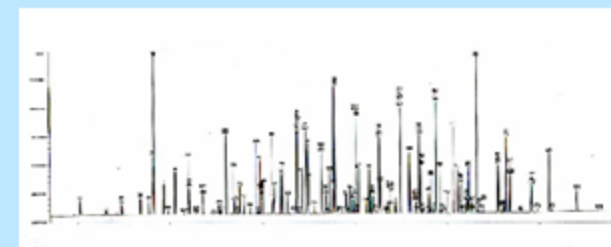
Contact: reinhard.joas@bipro.de

- ✓ Assessment of alternatives for costs and benefits
- ✓ Concept for follow up of the Pilot Project

• WP6 - Utility and Sensitivity of Biomarkers

Contact: majakub@imp.lodz.pl

- ✓ workshops to be held in Lodz, Poland



• WP7 - Coordination and management of the consortium including communication issues

Contact: reinhard.joas@bipro.de

• WP8 - Dissemination and overall Communication

Contact: reinhard.joas@bipro.de