

## Executive Summary



[www.eu-humanbiomonitoring.org](http://www.eu-humanbiomonitoring.org)  
[www.hbm-inventory.org](http://www.hbm-inventory.org)

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### *Project Objectives*

The project is outlined as coordinated action which aims to enable networking and co-ordination of those institutes playing an active role in European biomonitoring research with a focus on the integration of environmental monitoring and health data and those institutes transposing research results into policy programmes. The research and innovation activities themselves are funded by other means. Accordingly, very close and intensive networking and co-ordination of the involved parties is crucial in order to achieve the overall objectives:

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

*Contractors involved*

<b>Partic. No.</b>	<b>Participant name</b>	<b>Short name</b>	<b>Country</b>
1	BiPRO GmbH	BiPRO	Germany
2	Flemish centre of Environmental Technology	VITO	Belgium
3	Federal Environmental Agency	UBA	Germany
4	Nofer Institute for Occupational Medicine, WHO Collaborating Centre	NIOM	Poland
5	Instituto de Medicina Preventiva, Faculdade de Medicina de Lisboa	IMP	Portugal
6	University of Copenhagen	UCPH	Denmark
7	University of Leuven	KUL	Belgium
8	National Institute of Public Health Surveillance	InVS	France
9	ENVIRON	ENV	The Netherlands
10	State General Laboratory, Ministry of Health	SGL	Cyprus
11	Initiativ Liewensufank asbl International Baby Food Action Network	IL-IBFAN	Luxembourg
12	Shell Health Services / CONCAWE (Oil companies' European organisation for environment, health and safety)	SHELL	Belgium
13	Institute for Medical Research and Occupational health	IMI	Croatia
14	ARPA Lombardia	ARPA	Italy
15	National Hellenic Research foundation	NHRF	Greece
16	Institute of Environmental Medicine, Karolinska Institute	IMM,KI	Sweden
17	Regional Authority of Public Health Banská Bystrica	RAPH	Slovakia
18	National Institute of Public Health	NIPH	Czech Republic
19	Federal Environment Agency	UBA-A	Austria
20	Finnish Institute of occupational Health	FIOH	Finland
21	Health Protection Agency	HPA	UK
22	National Institute for Health Development	NIHD	Estonia

The main working fields in this reporting period were the following:

<b>WP</b>	<b>Main working field</b>
1	Maintenance of the inventory
1	Adding of new functionalities to the online inventory
2	Concept for study design
2	Concept for organisation of laboratory work
3	Concept to translate HBM data into risk management and policy support
4	Preparation of conference proceedings for the workshop on ethical practises and communication in human biomonitoring
5	Development of a communication concept
5	Finalisation of the concept for coordination of a EU HBM pilot project
5	Finalisation of socio economic optimisation
6	Utility and sensitivity of biomarker

7	Overall management
8	Continuous communication

*Results achieved and intentions for impacts*

Work package's 2 (guidelines) main achievement was made in the work on all deliverables. Regarding the study design, several key-issues were tackled, e.g. the pre-selection of sampling locations and participants, the number of samples per MS and the necessity of broad information campaigns to safeguard a successful recruitment. In addition the concept for inter laboratory comparison and the organisation of lab work has been finalised as well.

In work package 3 (integration scenarios) main achievement was to make further progress in objectives 3.4 (To develop scenarios to transfer and integrate biomonitoring results into risk management and environmental and health policy). In the previous reporting period WP 3 developed a "Multistep Approach" that outlines how HBM data can be translated into risk management and policy support. The quality of the framework was further improved by highlighting more in detail two additional topics of major importance for risk managers and policy makers, namely risk reduction strategies and policy implementation for Scenario 2 chemicals. All the different aspects eventually were brought together in a "Concept to establish biomonitoring as a policy making tool on a European level". Furthermore WP 3 developed "Guidelines for integration scenarios and implementation strategies for biomonitoring results to be tested in the pilot study" which bring together a number of key aspects and recent policy developments which the future European Network on Human Biomonitoring needs to take into account: HBM and REACH, HBM and health examination surveys, HBM and INSPIRE

Within WP 4 a workshop was realised successfully in Copenhagen March 2007 with more than 50 attendants from industry, governments, science coming from many European countries and the USA resulted in a number of documents on ethics and communication. Agreements have been made between ESBIO and the web based journal Environmental Health to publish contributions in a special proceedings volume with papers from the speakers.

In work package 5 (socio economic consequences and communication) the main achievement was the further elaboration of the socio economic optimisation for an EU pilot project. Furthermore a communication concept has been developed which take into account the different needs and expectations of different target groups while providing a common ground for all communication activities within a project.

During the whole reporting period members of ESBIO were active in the communication with policy representatives and HBM experts in order to provide a common basis for a following HBM EU pilot project.

This approach is essential in order to elaborate the most appropriate strategies for the expected pilot project and to convince Member States to participate and to ensure the following expected future impacts:

- ⇒ Availability of harmonised standards for laboratories will facilitate organisation and realisation of biomonitoring laboratory work
- ⇒ Availability of harmonised ethical standards will facilitate the implementation of each individual biomonitoring activity
- ⇒ Integration of environmental monitoring, health monitoring and research opens new possibilities for biomonitoring as a policy and monitoring tool and contributes directly to wider policy and societal objectives; contribution to increased cost effectiveness of biomonitoring activities and on the development of new concepts on complementary and effective monitoring activities in the fields of health and environment.
- ⇒ As an outcome of the project and a consequence of a coordinated European biomonitoring approach, improved information will result from much broader and more representative data. As a consequence policy development can rely on more significant scientific information and better policy making tools.
- ⇒ Improved biomonitoring allows the acceleration of the evaluation and utilisation of scientific results as a basis for policy making
- ⇒ Improve the relationship between biomonitoring research and environment and health policy
- ⇒ The realisation of numerous synergies related to planning, organisation, realisation and evaluation of biomonitoring activities will lead to decreased costs for biomonitoring
- ⇒ The increased comparability of biomonitoring data will allow establishing information on regional disparities within Europe; the identification of regional disparities can be enhanced by specific elements of the project design.