



# Workshop and Environment and Health Air Quality Research Needs and Opportunities in FP7

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## Wrap Up Observations & Comments

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concaawe

- Terrific spirit of openness and consensual working
- Huge amount of knowledge / opinions shared
- Good air quality is an international ambition with regional dimensions .. But what is poor AQ?
- Integrated policy : need to retain a public health overview of the nett contribution AQ has for impaired health
  - whatever is done mustn't result in trading one problem for another
- How to make policy judgements in the face of uncertainty?
  - The more we know about AQ, the more we know what we don't know
  - Should research be driven by policy? Or policy informed by science?
- To what degree do we really need to do more AQ research?. And if we do, can we learn from the past?

- Improve the existing science base
  - Better integration of relevant disciplines
  - Accept that some studies are an investment for tomorrow
- Scientific understandings
  - No golden bullet .. vehicle emissions, noise,
  - AQ components versus AQ 'source responses'
  - Indoor versus ambient exposure versus time activity patterns
- New research groups
  - Applicability of international findings for Europe
  - Complexity of managing multi-centre collaborations
- New methods for undertaking research
  - MEME .. concepts can be as complex as you want them to be
  - Research with policy relevant components .. Cost effective interventions
  - Prospective studies for chronic / non-standard outcomes

- New partnerships
  - Potential for new co-operations especially where resulting science and/or skill sets are weak
- Better use of existing relationships
  - COST action, mining and creation of Networks
  - Learnings from other disciplines e.g. occupational settings; monetisation and actuarialisation
- Establishment / exploitation of related areas of science
  - Leveraging existing works e.g. MESA
  - E.g. CEFIC LRI activities on intake fractions
- Proactive systematic evaluation of scientific and technological advances
  - Prevention is better than cure (or Precaution)
  - REACH, planning, IPPC

# A New Way Forward?

- What can FP7 deliver? What can't it?
  - Does FP7 have a role to fund a broad range of work that wouldn't otherwise be possible.
  - What needs to be done to support the residue? And how?
- What is necessary/achievable now, tomorrow and beyond?
  - Time horizons need to respect societal change
- Recognition of major shifts that Policy interventions will have on the AQ mix
  - Wood burning, particle traps, biofuels .....
- AQ has been improving so do we have the metrics to show health benefits.
  - Evidence of effectiveness of policy interventions
- Recognition by industry that we need to become more actively engaged in and support activities that lead to a better understanding of the effects of air quality