

RESEARCH ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS

INTRODUCTION

The newsletter gives information on current research issues on climate change, on natural hazards and on risks to health from the environment. Research on these issues is being funded by European Commission's Research Directorate-General, Environment Directorate.

The target audience is researchers, public authorities, students and others who are committed to or interested in the areas covered by the newsletter. Please forward the newsletter to anyone you believe will have interest in receiving it. Contact point for registering or cancelling your registration for the newsletter is given at the bottom of the page.

Science & policy-making



CLIMATE CHANGE

Accra climate change talks 2008

The latest round of UN climate change negotiations took place in Accra, Ghana, between 21 and 27 August. The Accra climate change talks focused on a strengthened and effective international climate change deal under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, as well as work on emission reduction rules and tools under the Kyoto Protocol. This is part of a negotiating process that will be concluded in Copenhagen at the end of 2009. Delegates discussed emission reductions, sectoral approaches to combating climate change and the role of deforestation. The meeting was the third and final UN meeting this year before high-level talks begin in Poznań, Poland, in December. The meeting aimed to "clarify the tools and rules available to industrialised countries to reach emission reduction targets beyond 2012". [More info](#)

29th Session of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

The 29th Session of the IPCC took place in Geneva, Switzerland from 31 August 2008 to 4 September 2008. Key was the election of the new bureau of IPCC, which will guide the work on the 5th assessment report due in 2013 / 2014. [More info](#)



NATURAL HAZARDS

New EU initiatives on disaster prevention and disaster risk reduction in developing countries

Over these last few years, Europe's forest fires, floods and droughts have become fiercer and more intense. This has a

For your agenda

Second Symposium on the Ocean in a High-CO₂ World, 6-9 October 2008, Monaco.
[More info](#)

1st International Conference on Risk Assessment "A Global Risk Assessment Dialogue" Brussels, 13-14 November 2008
[More info](#)

European Conference on Human Biomonitoring: From Biomarkers to Human Biomonitoring as a Policy Support Tool in Environmental Health, 4-5 November 2008, Paris
[More info](#)

Publications

European Research on Environment and Health Funded by the Sixth Framework Programme

devastating affect on people's lives, their livelihood and the environment. In 2008 the European Commission plans to publish a Communication on an integrated approach to disaster prevention. More info.

The Development Directorate-General of the European Commission recently closed its public consultation for the preparation of a Commission Communication on an EU Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction in Developing Countries. It aimed at gathering views and opinions on disaster risk reduction in the context of development cooperation, with the view of informing the development of an EU Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction in Developing Countries, to be adopted by the European Commission in November 2008. More info.

EU project highlights



ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH

NECTAR: A new EU research cluster on health impacts of endocrine disrupters launched

Three projects, clustered under acronym NECTAR (*Network for Environment Chemical Toxicants Affecting Reproduction*), were selected from the first call of FP7, Environment theme, dealing with long-term health impacts of endocrine-disrupting chemicals. These are: DEER (*Developmental effects of environment on reproductive health*): focus on male reproductive health problems; CONTAMED (*Contaminant mixtures and human reproductive health - novel strategies for health impact and risk assessment of endocrine disrupters*): Focused on the development of biomarkers for combined exposures of chemicals and long-term delayed effects of chemical cocktails; and REEF (*Reproductive effects of environmental chemicals in females*). The projects had a common kick-off meeting in Copenhagen on 22 May 2008, in association with a workshop 'How Are We Affected by Endocrine Disrupters'. more info

ENVIE (Coordination action on indoor air quality and health effects) ending

EnVIE, a coordination action of 20 participants from 12 countries, funded by the Scientific Support to Policy programme of FP6, identified three major issues as key questions regarding indoor air: Exposure, health effects and characterisation of spaces and sources. The project will end at the end of October 2008. Final results will be presented in the 2nd EnVIE Conference 'Policies for millions of indoor environments' to be held in Brussels on September 16-17. Project website.

2nd call outcome: Twenty-one projects to be negotiated on climate change, environment and health, and natural hazards

The second call for proposals of the Environment theme (FP7-ENV-2008-1) was published in November 2007 and closed in

February 2008. The sub-activity 'Pressures on environment and climate', with an indicative budget of €42M, had nine topics open. Ten projects have now entered negotiations. The sub-activity 'Environment and Health' had six topics open with an indicative budget of €20M available. Seven projects are now under negotiation. The 'Natural hazards' sub-activity had five topics open with an indicative budget of €14M. Four projects are being negotiated. more info on open topics.

Third call for proposals launched on 3 September 2008

The third call for proposals of the Environment theme (FP7-ENV-2009-1) was published in September 2008 with a deadline for applications in January 2009. The sub-activity 'Pressures on environment and climate', with an indicative budget of €32.5M, has nine topics open including an ERA-NET on Climate change impacts and responses. The sub-activity 'Environment and Health', with an indicative budget of €21M, has five topics open, including a European coordination action on human biomonitoring. The 'Natural hazards' sub-activity had four topics open with an indicative budget of €13M. More info on open topics to be found on the call page.

Contact information:

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