

## Why:

Monitoring environmental hazards is critical for the prevention of disease. Environmental Public Health Tracking (EPHT) can provide timely, accurate and systematic environmental data to public health decision makers on how to reduce the environmental health burden. Thus, EPHT represents the essence of proactive public health practice, since the ultimate goal of such a system is to guide public health action.

As a whole EPHT is useful to:

- ❖ Monitor environmental precursors of disease;
- ❖ Merge, integrate, analyse and interpret environmental hazards, exposure and health data;
- ❖ Examine relationships between environmental hazards and diseases;
- ❖ Identify populations at risk from environmental hazards;
- ❖ Implement and evaluate intervention and prevention strategies;
- ❖ Inform public health policy makers.

A key distinction between EPHT and traditional surveillance is the emphasis on data integration across health, human exposure and hazard information systems.

On 19<sup>th</sup> August 2013, in Basel, Switzerland, at the 25<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the International Society for Environmental Epidemiology (ISEE), a pre-conference Workshop on “Environmental Public Health Tracking: practical methods for priority setting and evaluation” was conducted. Participants included staff from national or regional institutes of public health or environmental protection, as well as university researchers in epidemiology or other disciplines related to environmental public health.

## What:

Based on feedback from the ISEE workshop, the proposal for an International Network on Environmental Public Health Tracking (INPHET) was

endorsed. Specifically the need to strengthen existing networks in environmental health among national and regional public health institutes, as well as developing new initiatives across both Europe and other continents. A two day workshop was proposed to advance these ideas. The workshop will consist of a series of interactive working parties chaired by key international experts in environmental public health. The working parties will focus on three main dimensions to help address the priorities, challenges and needs of public health professionals:

- ❖ Partnerships: strategies and opportunities instrument in developing an international network;
- ❖ Science and Data: data availability, indicators, methods and training;
- ❖ Ethics and Confidentiality: legal frameworks, relationships with industry, data exchange and confidentiality.

Discussions at this workshop will focus on procedures to initiate INPHET and explore:

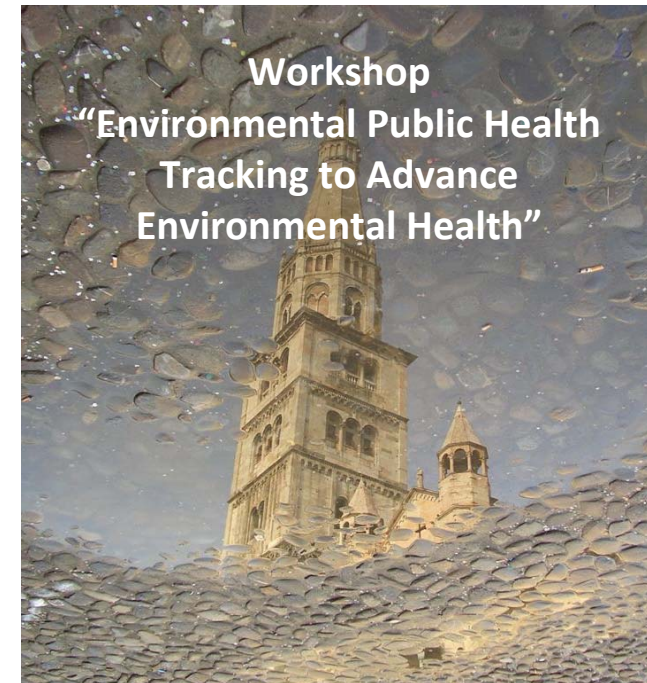
- Advancing environmental health by tracking exposures, hazards and health effects;
- Identifying INPHET goals in a way to align with broader public health infrastructure needs, yet retaining a focus on environmental health surveillance;
- Identifying partnerships with mutual potential benefits and explore strategies to deliver and receive information;
- Identifying processes that can strengthen communication about the INPHET and collaborations among stakeholders;
- Supporting/co-ordinating/leading any initiative (such as bids for support) which need to be “winnable”, based on persuasive approach and realistic expectations.

Participants will attend a working party to examine particular issues at depth during the workshop. The findings of the workshop will be published in a peer reviewed journal.



*In collaboration with:*

**Regione Emilia-Romagna, Comune di Modena, AUSL Modena, Rete Città Sane-OMS**



**Modena, Italy - 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> May 2014**

*Sala del Consiglio Comunale  
Municipality of Modena  
via Scudari, 20*



**Patronage:  
University of Modena and Reggio Emilia**

# Agenda

## Who:

### Scientific Committee:

#### Lina Balluz

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, US

#### Paolo Lauriola

ARPA Emilia-Romagna, Italy

#### Giovanni Leonardi

Public Health England, United Kingdom

#### Sylvia Medina

Institut de Veille Sanitaire, France

#### Jan Semenza

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, Sweden

#### Tony Fletcher

Public Health England, United Kingdom

### Key persons include:

#### Paola Angelini

Emilia-Romagna Region, Italy

#### Roberto Bertollini

WHO Europe, Belgium

#### Paola Borella

University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Italy

#### Kees de Hoogh

Imperial College London, United Kingdom

#### Ivano Iavarone

WHO Coll. Centre on Contaminated Sites, Italy

#### Nunzia Linzalone

CNR Pisa, Italy

#### Lisbeth Knudsen

Department of Public Health, Denmark

#### Piedad Martin-Olmedo

The Andalusian School of Public Health Granada, Spain

#### Brigit Staatsen

Nat. Inst for Public Health and Env. (RIVM), Netherlands

## 1<sup>st</sup> day - Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2014

**10.00-13.00 Preparatory meeting of the workshop**  
Scientific committee/Founding members/WP co-ordinators

### 14.00-14.30 Welcome address

#### Liliana La Sala

Head, Department of Public Health, Ministry of Health

#### Luciana Sinisi

Head of Environmental Determinants of Health, ISPRA

#### Emanuela Bedeschi

Head, Public Health Service, Emilia-Romagna Region

#### Mariella Martini

Director General, Local Health Authority, Modena

### 14.30-14.45 Introduction of the workshop (aims, organisation, expected results)

G. Leonardi, P. Lauriola

### 14.45-15.20 The background to EPHT; methodological processes, data sources, collection and management, implementation and evaluation of EPHT

L. Balluz, T. Fletcher, S. Medina, J. Semenza

### 15.20-15.30 Introduction to the working parties

G. Leonardi, P. Lauriola

### 15.30-16.00 Coffee break

### 16.00-18.30 Working parties

WP co-ordinators and all attendees

## 2<sup>nd</sup> day - Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2014

### 9.00-9.15 Welcome address

#### Simona Arletti

President, Healthy Cities, Municipality of Modena

#### Stefano Tibaldi

Director General, ARPA Emilia-Romagna

### 9.15-11.20 Working parties

WP coordinators and all attendees

### 11.20-11.45 Coffee break

### 11.45-12.15

#### Sandro Gozi

Undersecretary For European Affairs, Italian Government

### 12.15-13.30 Discussion, Conclusion and close

All attendees

### 13.30-14.30 Light lunch

### 14.30-17.30 Post-workshop meeting: action planning for pursuing the proposals arising from the Workshop

Scientific Committee/Founding members/WP co-ordinators

### CONTACT

#### Meri Scaringi (ARPA)

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### Logistic information:

<http://www.arpa.emr.it/index.asp?idlivello=91>

<http://www.retecittasane.it/>