

Wednesday 29th February

NEBEI workshop at TFRN7:

Further quantification of the effects of air pollutants on ecosystems

English/Russian translation will be available at this workshop

Objectives

The main objectives of this workshop are as follows:

1. To update participants on progress with NEBEI, the Network of Experts on Benefits and Economic Instruments
2. To understand how information on effects is factored into European policy making on air pollution
3. To consider the description of effects can be extended and made more meaningful

Preparation for the workshop

If possible, it would be useful for participants to consider the following questions ahead of the meeting:

1. What do you know about the decision making process under the LRTAP Convention?
2. Do you think that further work is needed to improve understanding of ecological impacts?
3. Do you have suggestions for future activities that NEBEI might be involved with?

Schedule

09:30 Start of the morning session
11.00 Coffee
13.00 Lunch
14.00 Start of the afternoon session
15.00 Coffee
16.00 End

Agenda

1. Introductions by participants
2. Introduction to NEBEI
 - a. What is NEBEI?
 - i. Who is involved?
 - ii. What are its objectives?
 - b. Work on economic instruments.
 - c. Work on benefits assessment. *This will report on analysis in the context of revision of the Gothenburg Protocol and analysis of climate scenarios out to 2050. It will include information on health impact assessment of particular relevance to non-EU countries.*
 - d. What tools and models should be used to quantify benefits for input to the policy debate? *This will consider the role of different models and modelling frameworks. There have, for example, been a number of requests that quantification of effects within the GAINS model should be expanded, but does this place too much of a burden on an already complex model? Might other tools provide a more flexible framework for this modelling?*
3. How does quantification of effects and benefits influence decision making? *This part of the workshop will consider a number of important questions on the subject of how science interacts with policy making. For example, to what extent do people working in different spheres (policy, ecology, economics) understand the decision making process? To what extent do different types of effect, on health, ecology, economy and employment, affect the decisions that are reached?*
 - a. European perspectives
 - b. National perspectives
 - c. Open discussion
4. Can we generate more meaningful indicators for ecological effects? *Assuming that Item 3 on the agenda will not conclude that the science – policy interface works perfectly, we need to ask how we can improve the communication of the science and economics to policy makers.*
 - a. Indicators for health, materials and crops, and the ecosystem services approach
 - b. ECLAIRE Project
 - c. Open discussion
5. Future plans for NEBEI
 - a. Planned activities
 - b. New ideas *Participants are invited to raise issues that they would like NEBEI to consider.*
6. Conclusions