

# International Network on Public Health and Environment Tracking (INPHET)

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INPHET

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Public Health &  
Environment Tracking

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## International Network on Public Health & Environment Tracking

The International Network on Public Health and Environment Tracking (INPHET) was formed to address common interests and activities in numerous countries to advance environmental public health tracking/surveillance and to enhance use of these data to inform public health actions.

What is environmental public health tracking (EPHT)? Environmental Public Health Tracking (EPHT) is the ongoing collection, integration, analysis, and interpretation of data about environmental hazards, exposure to environmental hazards, human health effects potentially related to exposure to environmental hazards. It includes dissemination of information learned from these data and implementation of strategies and actions to improve and protect public health.

- 20 countries –  
111 experts
- 370 members  
on distribution  
list



# INPHET workshops and symposiums

- 7th WHO Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health, Budapest, 2023
- Symposium at ISEE, Athens, 2022
- TAIEX Workshop in Tbilisi, Georgia, 2019
- Workshop at ISEE, Utrecht, 2019
- Planetary Health, Edinburgh, 2018
- Symposium at ISEE, Sydney, 2017
- Symposium at ISEE, Rome, 2016
- US CDC EPHT Summit, Atlanta, 2016
- XXXVIII National Congress of the Italian Association of Epidemiology, Naples, 2014
- Initiation of INPHET Workshop, Modena, 2014
- Workshop at ISEE, Basel, 2013
- Symposium at ISEE, South Carolina, 2012

# INPHET

- **Experts Survey:**

<https://surveys.phe.org.uk/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=94K1m5m5L>

- **Current working groups:**

Workgroup	Lead Organisation
Human Biomonitoring	Department of Public Health, Denmark
Low and middle income countries cooperation	National Research Council, Italy
Tracking Carbon Monoxide	ICORN network
Outdoor Air Pollution Task Force	-
Southern Hemisphere Tracking Network	ESR (New Zealand)

# INPHET Expert Profiles

- 111 experts registered (to Aug 2023)
  - 39 working in academia
  - 38 working at national government level
  - 12 regional government
  - 13 local government
  - 5 NGOs

\*some experts work in more than one role

\*survey live from May 2015

# INPHET Expert Profiles

- **Continents:**
  - 68% Europe, 13% North America, 9% Asia, 7% Australasia, 3% Africa
- **Topics (EPHT activities experts are or have been engaged in)**
  - Health surveillance in relation to outdoor air hazards - 67%
  - Outdoor air hazard surveillance - 57%
  - Biomonitoring of exposure - 44%
  - Health surveillance in relation to indoor air hazards - 30%
  - Health surveillance in relation to extreme weather events - 34%
  - Indoor air hazard surveillance - 35%
  - Vector or climate-related hazard surveillance - 33%
  - Biomonitoring of health effects - 35%
  - Health surveillance in relation to water hazards - 25%
  - Water hazard surveillance - 29%
  - Food hazard surveillance - 23%
  - Dust hazard surveillance - 22%

# INPHET Expert Profiles

- Other experience documented:
  - Post disaster hazard surveillance
  - Chemical hazard surveillance
  - Risk assessment of hazards and health
  - Noise and health surveillance (3)
  - Epidemiological ecological study design, e.g. cohort studies
  - Mathematical modelling
  - Information management and infrastructure development
  - Waste management
  - Health Impact Assessment
  - Data linkage

# INPHET Expert Profiles

- Why are experts working on these topics?
  - Decision by public health agency/institute employing me - 64%
  - Decision by research group - 65%
  - Decision by policy makers in government - 31%
  - Legal requirement - 15%
  - Other, please specify:- training requirements, collaborations, funding, incidents or complaints, personal or shared interests

# INPHET Expert Profiles

- Skills offered to the network:
  - Epidemiology - 78%
  - Exposure assessment - 53%
  - Stakeholder management - 23%
  - Health Impact Assessment - 39%
  - Analysis or review for policy makers - 36%
  - Communications - 26%
  - Teaching / training - 50%
  - IT - 3%
  - GIS - 21%
  - Toxicology - 11%
  - Public health information system development, operation, or evaluation - 46%
  - Other, please specify: designing an active surveillance system, extensive experience of use of hazard and disease surveillance, and environmental NGO perspectives



# INPHET Expert Profiles

- How do experts feel that they can benefit as an INPHET member?
  - Research - 82%
  - Networking - 67%
  - Teaching - 47%
  - Improve management of hazards - 39%
  - Improve coordination and comparability of EPHT activities - 42%
  - Other, please specify: building collaboration with international partners, learning opportunities, funding opportunities and proposals, 'social transparency, social cohesion, environmental justice', support policy making