

# EUROPEAN SCIENCE FOUNDATION - COST ACTION 633



## Particulate Matter: Properties Related to Health Effects

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### Objectives:

- 1) To increase the information on the particulate matter (PM) characteristics throughout Europe, describing the PM-system with respect to geographical and meteorological conditions, particle formation processes and their transport with special regard to the European aerosol situation (compared e. g. to the US).
- 2) To increase the information on health effects of PM throughout Europe with special regard to geographical, seasonal and source-related aspects.
- 3) Improve the scientific basis for setting environmental standards in Europe and for defining cost-effective abatement measures to reduce particle and particle precursor emissions.

COST 633 will reach these objectives by bringing together scientists working in diverse fields (atmospheric PM system and measurements, epidemiology, toxicology and modelling) to a multidisciplinary expert group. Three working groups were instituted to work on the tasks (See separate pages)

### Tasks:

- 1) To review existing data and methods both with respect to particulate matter and health studies.
- 2) To identify methodological gaps and geographical areas without adequate COST 633 relevant data, as well as target component classes in different aerosol fractions and emission sources.
- 3) To consolidate and expand emission inventories.
- 4) To review and further develop models for source apportionment as well as integrated assessment models.
- 5) Propose future research activities.

As in all COST actions, there is no financial support except for exchange of information. All research has to be done within existing nationally or internationally funded projects. Short-term scientific missions for performing clearly specified tasks within the action can be funded.