



Chapter Name: European Chapter

Date of Report: 2023-05-25

Chapter Chair: Hanna Boogaard, Petter Ljungman

Chapter Leadership:

Current council members include Hanna Boogaard, Petter Ljungman, Carla Ancona, Ana Vicedo-Cabrera, Kurt Straif, Elaine Fuertes. We recently elected Ebba Malmqvist to replace Maria Foraster who stepped down as council member, pursuing a new career.

We have a large group of active associate members who join in our monthly calls and participate and contribute to our activities. These include 21 members: Adjani Peralta, T.H. Chan School of Public Health, US; Aina Roca-Barceló, Imperial College London, UK; Artur Badyda, Warsaw University of Technology, Poland, Alexandra Schneider, Helmholtz Zentrum, Munich, Germany; Annette Peters, Helmholtz Zentrum, Munich, Germany; Barbara Hoffman University of Dusseldorf, Germany; Bénédicte Jacquemin, French Institute of Health and Medical Research INSERM, France; Danielle Vienneau Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute and University of Basel, Switzerland; Massimo Stafoggia, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden and Dep of Epidemiology Lazio Region, Italy; Meltem Kutlar Joss, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute and University of Basel, Switzerland; Mette Sørensen, Danish Cancer Society, Denmark; Michelle Turner, ISGlobal, Spain; Mireille Toledano, Imperial College London, UK; Payam Dadvand, ISGlobal, Spain; Rajini Nagrani, Leibniz Institute for Prevention Research & Epidemiology-BIPS, Bremen, Germany; Sierre Clark, UK Health Security Agency, United Kingdom; Tamara Schikowski Leibniz Institute for Prevention Research & Epidemiology-BIPS, Bremen, Germany; Ulrike Gehring, Utrecht University, the Netherlands, Zorana Andersen, University of Copenhagen.

We recently welcomed Marine Savouré, French Institute of Health and Medical Research INSERM, France as our new SNRN Europe Liaison. She is already part of the organizing team for the next ISEE Young in Rennes, France. We also welcome Susanne Breitner, Helmholtz Zentrum München, Germany as new associate member.

We would like to thank Lorenzo Fabbri, ISGlobal, Spain, for his service as associate member and SNRN liaison who decided to step down due PhD work commitments. We also would like to thank Maciek Strak for his service who have now stepped down as associate member.

Overview of recent chapter activities:

The Europe Chapter has been heavily involved in activities associated with the ongoing revisions of the EU Ambient Air Quality Directive (AAQD). The European Commission's proposal includes important steps to achieve cleaner air but falls short of what is ultimately needed to maximize public health benefits, and a clear path towards complete alignment with the 2021 WHO Air Quality Guidelines is missing.

We are working closely with the Policy Committee, the European Respiratory Society, the Health Effects Institute and recently building ties to the European Society of Cardiology. On top of our previously reported joint-statements, commentary in Environmental Epidemiology and letter to the EU Environmental Ministers, we have organized the following:

1. Together with ERS and HEI we have organized a successful full day meeting of stakeholders and scientists in Brussels on May 24th discussing the current AAQD in light of the evidence <https://www.healtheffects.org/meeting/brussels-meeting-air-pollution-and-health-taking-stock-proposed-revision-ambient-air-quality>. The meeting was also live-streamed, and we will make the slides and recording available online shortly. We are also planning a workshop report in a journal for wider dissemination.
2. We have organized 2 well visiting and appreciated training sessions teaming up with HEALS and EEB involved in promoting environmental health to improve our communications and understanding of the decision-making process to help us identify effective ways to bring the science to the decision makers.
3. We are identifying ways for dedicated members to reach out to their member state key policy brokers to disseminate the science at the member state level.

We continue to work to better include scientists from Eastern and Southeastern Europe, based on our previous engagement and are organizing an in person meeting in Eastern Europe in the fall.

In June of 2024 we will arrange the ISEE Young Conference in Rennes, France. This is being spearheaded by Benedicte Jacquemin and the planning process has begun.

Several of our associate members and council members also participate in other committees including the policy committee, the main council, the travel committee and the BEEP award committee.

These ongoing and planned activities are strongly related to ISEE's strategic plan to bring scientific knowledge and engagement to public health and environmental policy, including improving our communication. We also strive to expand engagement in research and capacity building through targeting geographical areas in Europe where environmental health is particularly threatened such as in Eastern Europe, foster collaboration and knowledge exchange. We also recognize the importance of engaging young researchers and providing a platform for exchange of ideas and experiences as well as training.

We spent €3000 on the Brussels meeting, some funds on our website and \$1500-2000 is planned on our Eastern Europe in person meeting. We have received and spent an additional \$5000 from the main council for the Brussels meeting; \$2000 was spent to support capacity building and networking for SNRN members or members from Eastern Europe.