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# NEWSFLASH

Sharing initiatives to help tackle Environment and Health challenges in Europe

July 2024

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## EDITORIAL

The ERA-ENVHEALTH network is pleased to share its new Newsflash. We are looking forward to sharing information on our activities, events, research projects and opportunities in the environment and health area. We hope in this way to contribute to their visibility and to stimulate exchange and collaboration among different actors involved in environment and health and enhance networking opportunities.

[Visit the network's webpage](#)



## Get to know us

### ANSES - French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety

It is a public administrative body reporting to the Ministries of Health, the Environment, Agriculture, Labour and Consumer Affairs. Since 2010, ANSES has been providing the scientific benchmarks needed to protect us from health risks related to food, the environment and the workplace, or from risks affecting the health of animals and plants. An agency of scientific expertise, it monitors and assesses these health risks, and devotes research activities to them. It helps advance scientific knowledge to support public decision-makers, including during health crises.



**Adrienne Pittman** - Assistant Director of the European & International Affairs Department.

She has over ten years of experience in coordinating large and complex projects, and notably coordinated the ERA-ENVHEALTH project funded under FP7,

from which stems the ERA-ENVHEALTH network. More recently, she coordinated the preparation, launch and implementation of the European Partnership on the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals (PARC), coordinated by her team at ANSES, and which started in May 2022.

[Go to ANSES website](#)



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## Highlight of the month

PARC Meetings Marathon - Hall in Tyrol (Austria)

[Go to the PARC website](#)

To kick off the third year of the Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from chemicals (PARC), a series of meetings took place from May 13 to 16 2024 at UMIT Tyrol (Austria). After the monthly Management Board meeting, the consortium meeting, open to all PARC participants, reviewed PARC's progress, focusing on 4 cross-functional themes: the implementation of data and IT tools for risk assessment of mixtures, regulatory applications of new methodological approaches, human and environmental monitoring in support of risk assessment, and environmental risk assessment. In order to develop synergies with other research programmes and partnerships, workshops held with relevant partnerships (e.g. Biodiversa and EPAA), networks (NORMAN), EU projects and clusters (e.g. ASPIS cluster, Athena, ERGO and Goliath projects) presented the complementary nature of PARC and these different programmes. A presentation of the "Science for Policy" approach by the JRC put into perspective the communication challenges between science and policy. Poster sessions and a presentation of PARC with interactive tools completed the conference programme.

Meetings of the International Board, the Stakeholder Forum and the Governing Board provided an opportunity to exchange views on PARC's progress and the impact of its results, as well as on the direction to be taken for future activities.

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With more than 170 participants on site and 180 online, these meetings were held under excellent conditions, thanks to the preparation of the PARC coordination team, the enthusiastic involvement of PARC scientists and the fantastic technical support of the UMIT team, who were intensively mobilised for this hybrid event.

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## Current initiatives

### First Meeting of the European Health Process (EHP) Partnership on Human Biomonitoring



On November 28th 2023 the first full-day in-person meeting of the new EHP Partnership on Human Biomonitoring (HBM) was successfully held in Tbilisi, Georgia. This new partnership was previously launched at the 7th Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health of the European Region of the World Health Organisation in Budapest July 2023. The EHP HBM is led by the German Federal Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) and co-lead by Georgia. It aims to extend the application of human biomonitoring as a scientific tool to inform policy decisions, to share experience and to build capacity in the WHO European Region and serves as a platform for regular exchanges of experience and examples of good practice in the field of HBM.

There was a large number of participants from 17 countries who attended and at the time of the meeting already 18 countries committed themselves to the partnership with increasing interest of other Member States who would like to join, i.e. Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Croatia, Estonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Lithuania, Luxemburg, The Netherlands, North Macedonia, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland and the UK. The meeting started with welcoming words from the host country by the Vice Minister of the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia Tamar Gabunia and the First Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia Nino Tandilashvil, followed by Anita Breyer, Director-General for Chemical Safety, Immission Control and Transport at BMUV, Germany. Lastly, the welcome was closed by Silviu Domete, Head of the WHO Country Office in Georgia.

Main content were the fruitful and lively discussions on four different topics – „Sharing concepts, tools and information“, „National HBM programmes“, „Promoting regulation and policy impact“, „Communication in HBM“ – regarding how to shape the future work of the EHP Partnership HBM by gathering the participants expectations on outputs from the partnership and setting priorities. The meeting was followed by a two-day WHO training workshop in which experts from Germany, Spain and WHO introduced the background and basic principles of HBM. The workshop was based mainly on the WHO educational course “Human biomonitoring. Basics”.

*Authors: Rosa Lange and Marike Kolossa, German Environment Agency (UBA)*

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## Save the date

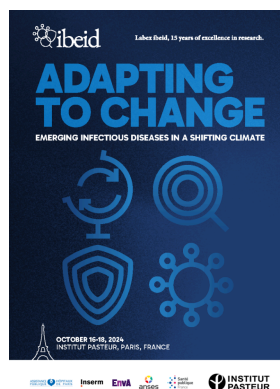


EUROTOX 2024

Copenhagen, Denmark

September 8-11, 2024

[More information](#)



Institut Pasteur, France

October 16-18 2024

[More information](#)



ISES 2024 Meeting

Montreal, Canada

October 20-24, 2024

[More information](#)

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## New opportunities



The online knowledge base and community platform for people involved in chemical risk assessment, launched by PARC.

[Join Parcopedia](#)

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## Join us

### What?

ERA-ENVHEALTH is an active transnational network which includes stakeholders in the Environment and Health field, stemming from a previous European-funded project which ended in 2012. It is a forum to discuss challenges, visions and emerging issues.

### Why?

The main purposes for the network are to share and exchange information and promote networking and joint activities (such as the annual open conference on specific topics of interest and newsflash).

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The network is based on "contributing and sharing"; each organisation participates on a voluntary basis.

## CONTACTS

Do not hesitate to get in touch with the network either through your national contact point and member of the network or by contacting:

Adrienne Pittman  
ANSES  
European & International  
Affairs Department

[Contact Adrienne](#)

	Acronym	Name	Country
	<b>ANSES</b>	French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety	France
	<b>CNR</b>	Italian National Research Council	Italy
	<b>EPA</b>	Environmental Protection Agency	Ireland
	<b>FPS HFCSE</b>	Federal Public Service Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment	Belgium
	<b>INSA</b>	National Institute of Health Dr Ricardo Jorge	Portugal
	<b>PHAS</b>	Public Health Agency of Sweden	Sweden
	<b>RIVM</b>	National Institute for Public Health and the Environment	Netherlands
	<b>Swedish EPA</b>	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency	Sweden
	<b>RECETOX</b>	National Centre for Toxic Compounds in the Environment, Faculty of Science, Masaryk University	Czech Republic
	<b>UA</b>	University of Aveiro	Portugal
	<b>UBA</b>	German Environment Agency	Germany
	<b>UoWM</b>	University of Western Macedonia	Greece

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