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# NEWSFLASH

Sharing initiatives to help tackle Environment and Health challenges in Europe

*October 2024*

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## EDITORIAL

The ERA-ENVHEALTH network is pleased to share the October issue of its Newsflash. Find here information on our activities, events, research projects and opportunities in the environment and health area, stimulating exchange and collaboration among different actors involved in environment and health and enhancing networking opportunities.

Visit the network's webpage

**Umwelt  
Bundesamt**



## Get to know us

### UBA - Umweltbundesamt - the German environment agency

The UBA is the main environmental protection authority under the jurisdiction of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV). Founded in 1974, UBA provides scientific policy advice to BMUV and other federal bodies concerning e.g. the development of legal and administrative regulations.

Our overarching task is the early identification of environmental risks and threats, their assessment and the timely search for practicable solutions. This requires a close link between experimental research and a science-based development of concepts. The wide range of our tasks includes, for example, conducting research in our own labs and informing the general public about the environment as well as its impact on human health



**Judith Meierrose** – Scientist in the section “General Aspects of Environment and Health”

As a biologist and environmental scientist, she has been working at UBA since 2005.

Her work in the field of environment and health focuses on international cooperation and environmental communication.

She has been involved in the ERA-ENVHEALTH network from the very beginning.

[Go to UBA website](#)



[Register here](#)

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## Highlight of the month

# MUNI | RECETOX

2024 ERA-ENVHEALTH Open Conference:  
Research infrastructures in support of E&H policies  
Online conference organised by RECETOX (Czech Republic)

Wednesday 20 November 2024 14:00-18:00

Research infrastructures are facilities that provide resources and services for research communities to conduct research and foster innovation. The conference on Research Infrastructures will focus on the role they play in supporting environment and health policies in Europe. It will highlight the current European long-term efforts such as EIRENE, PARC, EHEN and SPHERA and especially examine the extent of the success for each infrastructural network, partnership and/or project in bringing both environment and health sectors together. Presentations about relevant activities in all four above mentioned clusters will outline the research infrastructure(s) achievements and needs to be able to consolidate efforts and improve the effectiveness in the area of environment and health. The outcomes of the conference will enable organisations in the E&H domain to better understand and identify how research infrastructures can enhance innovation in E&H and can provide input into their vision for future E&H research and activities in support of policy.

**Please register by 13 November 2024**

[Register now](#)

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The 2023 ERA-ENVHEALTH conference on Wild Fires - Climate Change and Health, brought together over 70 attendees in Aveiro (Portugal) and online.

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## Current initiatives

LED's in toys: ANSES calls for a revision of the "eye safety" section of the European standard



The safety of electric toys is verified according to a European standard that was updated in 2020. ANSES recently conducted an in-depth examination of the new protocol for verifying that toys containing LEDs are safe for eyes. It concluded that the revised version is unable to guarantee compliance with the limit values for protecting children's eyes. ANSES therefore recommends suspending application of the updated part of the standard relating to eye safety and revising it without delay.

[Read the ANSES opinion](#)

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Save the date



EXIMIOUS symposium

*Emerging contaminants:  
health risks associated with  
microplastics and indoor air  
quality*

Online

October 31, 2024

15:00-17:00 CET

[More information](#)



17th European Public  
Health Conference

*Sailing the waves of  
European public health:  
exploring a sea of  
innovation*

Lisbon, Portugal

November 13-15, 2024

[More information](#)



**anses**

Antimicrobial resistance in  
animal health: a One  
Health approach

Online

November 19, 2024

[More information](#)

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## New opportunities

**Two calls for  
research  
proposals to  
gain a better  
understanding  
of  
environmental  
and  
occupational  
health risks**

Under the National Research Programme for Environmental and Occupational Health (PNR EST), ANSES is launching two calls for research proposals. The aim is to gain a better understanding of issues that are still relatively unexplored, but which are considered to be of major importance to human health and ecosystems.

**Calls open until December 2024.**

The two calls for proposals are being issued simultaneously: one is general, focusing on the themes of environmental and occupational health, while the other is specifically on the potential effects of radiofrequencies on health.

Scientists wishing to contribute are invited to send their letters of intent presenting their proposals:

- by 10 December 2024 for the general call for proposals
- by 17 December 2024 for the call on radiofrequencies and health

[Find out more](#)

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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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