Health Impacts of Air Pollution: Using the Second Version of AirQ+

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The need for assessing the health impacts of air pollution has been growing dramatically not only in relation of the need to evaluate policies and monitoring their impacts but also in relation to worsened air quality conditions in many places and a widespread raised awareness on the negative effects of air pollution. Since twenty years the World Health Organization - Regional Office for Europe (WHO) offers a software package that allows the calculation of the impacts of air pollution on mortality and morbidity. Through the development of the AirQ software in the years 2001-2005, World Health Organization provided a functional tool useful not only for estimates of the impacts of air pollution but also to support the discussion on methodologies and the need to develop monitoring station networks. In 2016 the AirQ software was updated and expanded and WHO put AirQ+, a user-friendly software, available for download. In 2019 a second version of the software expanded the previous features and included additional support texts for the users. The general aim of this workshop is to introduce participants to the general principles of health impact assessment (HIA) and air pollution, to support the understanding of modelling air pollution health effects, and to using the second version of AirQ+ for hands-on exercises to assess impacts of air pollution. The workshop is significant for participants interested in the general principles of health impact assessment (HIA) and air pollution, and for those involved in the understanding of modelling of air pollution health effects using tools, specifically AirQ+ that will be used for hands-on exercises, to assess the impacts of air pollution. Participants will benefit from learning the
use of AirQ+ for various health outcomes, the utilization of life table analysis and the production of burden estimates.