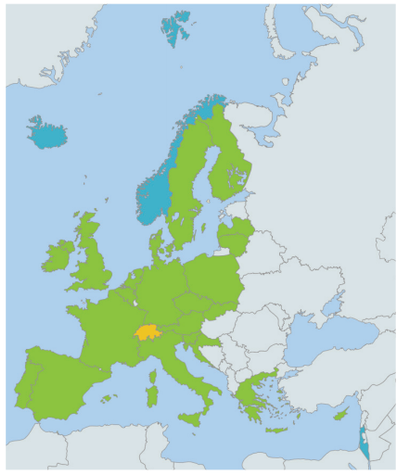
HBM4EU

science and policy
for a healthy future

Consortium partners



- EU Member States
- Associated States
- Associated to parts of H2020

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Project coordination
HBM4EU is coordinated by the
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About HBM4EU

People are exposed to a complex mixture of chemicals in their daily lives through the environment, consumer products, food and drinking water and at work.

HBM4EU will use human biomonitoring to assess human exposure to chemicals in Europe, to better understand the associated health impacts and to improve chemical risk assessment. At the level of the individual, human biomonitoring data can inform medical treatment or guidance on the need to reduce exposure.

HBM4EU partners will establish a dialogue with policy makers to ensure that our results can be used to support the development of policies, to evaluate existing policies and to design measures to reduce exposure to toxic chemicals.

Our results will inform the safe management of chemicals and so protect human health in Europe.

The HBM4EU project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 733032.

Science to policy

HBM4EU will form a bridge between science and policy. Our research will explore current questions in chemical risk assessment and management and will deliver answers that help policy makers to protect human health.

Policy makers, stakeholders and scientists will together shape the strategic direction of HBM4EU activities. This transparent and collaborative approach will ensure our research generates knowledge that addresses genuine societal concerns.

Knowledge will be actively and effectively communicated to policy makers, so that they might design targeted and effective policy measures to reduce human exposure to chemicals, as well as evaluating the effectiveness of existing policies.

A European Human Biomonitoring Platform

A major hurdle to the reliable assessment and management of chemical risks is the current lack of harmonised information at European level concerning the exposure of citizens to chemicals.

Human biomonitoring supports the assessment of human exposure to chemicals by measuring chemicals, their metabolites or markers of subsequent health effects in body fluids or tissues.

HBM4EU will draw on existing scientific excellence and build capacities to establish a European Human Biomonitoring Platform, with the aim of harmonizing human biomonitoring activities in our 26 partner countries.

This platform will deliver comparable, European data on human exposure to chemicals and mixtures of chemicals, as a scientific basis for policy making to improve chemical safety.

Chemical exposure and health

For many chemicals, the health impacts associated with exposure remain uncertain. The impacts of human exposure to mixtures of chemicals and emerging substances are also poorly understood.

Under HBM4EU, we will combine health information with the results of human biomonitoring in order to inform our understanding of exposure-response relationships.

We will assess the potential health impacts of chemical exposures in different age groups and across genders, as well as exploring the impact of factors such as socio-economic status, lifestyle, diet and environmental conditions.

We will also investigate the effects of exposure to mixtures of chemicals, and will use cutting edge technologies to search for emerging substances in human matrices that may serve as early warnings of future concern.