

Group 1 National Hub Template (HBM data for Awareness)

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<p>Introduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Background information on the evolution and status of HBM in your country. 	<p>European countries have large bio-monitoring databases containing the results of studies on concentrations of metals, endocrine active compounds, as well as other organic compounds that are not toxic to human health. Unfortunately, Poland does not have a properly structured and coordinated biological monitoring program capable of providing population exposure data. The establishment of such a program takes on particular importance when the population of children is a group to which special attention should be paid.</p> <p>Poland is planning to create a National Bio-monitoring Platform to harmonize activities across Poland. The platform will be a source of unified data on exposure to chemical agents and their mixtures, providing a basis for shaping health policy aimed at improving chemical safety and protecting health and life of the population.</p> <p>Experience gained during the implementation of research programs such as Cophes, Democophes, HBM4EU and others allows us to say that the platform will be professionally run and will provide a lot of data for the Polish and European society.</p>
<p>Main text - Results and Discussion ENSURE YOUR NARRATIVES ARE REFERENCED AS FAR AS POSSIBLE</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Description of issue(s) which have resulted in the raising of awareness. Include brief description of sample population, substances of concern and whether local/regional/national. 	<p>At the local level, a biological monitoring programme to assess environmental exposure to arsenic was conducted in Poland, by NIOM. This population was also included in the assessment programme for priority substances under the HBM4EU programme. Of key importance was the exposure assessment of the child population as a particularly vulnerable group.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Description of HBM programme if it exists e.g. implementation of a HBM module into HES 	<p>In Poland does not exist national biomonitoring programme</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe which ministries (Environment, Health etc.)/policy makers and stakeholders involved/steering/financing the HBM programme. Give examples - specific chemicals or outcomes. 	<p>Ministry of Education and Sciences</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steps/processes needed or used to get the attention of policy makers. 	<p>The key need is to get the decision-makers interested. As an Institute of Occupational Medicine we try to participate and win projects promoting biological monitoring both in the occupationally exposed population and in the general population. Unfortunately, the interest is very low. In Poland, scientific centres conduct population/epidemiological studies. However, they are not harmonised. The attempt to create a biological monitoring centre is on hold.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe barriers e.g. funding; challenges e.g. participant recruitment; opportunities e.g. enhancing cross government working and linking of env data with exposure measurements currently at play in your country with regards to HBM. • Have any of these barriers been addressed by HBM4EU? If yes - describe. 	<p>-lack of funding -in the case of occupational exposure to chemical substances, lack of agreement on biological monitoring, which, unlike work environment assessment, is not mandatory -lack of interest on the part of the decision-making centres</p> <p>in the case of HBM4EU, with the exception of funding, we had problems in bringing together groups exposed to chromium and e-waste, also linked to the epidemic situation</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other players who would be beneficial in raising awareness and working together to promote HBM 	<p>In the case of the Polish reality, only the introduction of obligatory biological monitoring at the European level can have an effect.</p>
<p>Future plans -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there plans to use HBM data in the future for policy or awareness - give clear examples. Will the data from HBM4EU be used? 	<p>Data from HBM4EU will be used as an example of the need for this type of research and disseminated at meetings with decision-making institutions, scientific conferences, etc. The research report will also be submitted to the Ministry of Education and Science as the financier of the Polish part. It is hoped that the results of this project will facilitate and remove barriers in the implementation of the PARC project</p>