

CONTEXT OF THE CONFERENCE

1. The current methods and institutions for setting science agendas, funding research, directing innovations and assessing their risks are not able to cope with the challenges posed by the complexities, uncertainties and ignorance about the systems that characterise our current environments. Understanding and managing our inter-linked technological, biological, ecological and socio-political systems requires new approaches and paradigms.
2. It is essential that there are Scientific concepts and research programmes which are independent of the interests and influence of the developers and promoters of current and new technologies. The choice of technological pathways and the assessment and management of their hazards should be opened up to wider groups of stakeholders from outside the narrow elites who currently define and dominate these activities.
3. Scientific data and knowledge is usually confined to closed networks. It is necessary to bring together the different types of knowledge existing in different networks and to promote better communication between scientists, professionals, public interest groups and policy makers.
4. Solutions to the current social, economic and environmental crises require transdisciplinary approaches that can embrace both complexity and the needs, knowledges and interests of different societal groups.

GOALS OF THE CONFERENCE

1. Increase public and political awareness of social, economic and environmental risks of current and new technologies and discuss effective means for e.g. technology and risk assessments, product approvals, and liability schemes.
2. Provide a forum for open public debate where experts from different fields can address the following questions and issues:
 - What are the public health and environment risks of technologies such as modern biotechnology, nanotechnology, electromagnetic fields, and novel chemicals? What are the private and societal needs that are addressed by these technologies?
 - Which are the current policies and procedures for shaping and assessing these technologies?
 - Which are the main barriers to avoiding or minimizing risks and how can they be overcome?
 - How can the precautionary principle be best applied? Why is there a lack of comprehensive and strong policies and institutions that could better support public interests?
 - How can the marginalization of independent research, neglect of its results, and the undue influence of vested interests that inhibit change for the public good be overcome?
3. Create an Action Plan with concrete and realistic activities to support the changes needed, including changes in scientific paradigms and practices and in the control of technological choices.

ORGANISERS

ENSSER www.ensser.org

The European Network of Scientists for Social and Environmental Responsibility (ENSSER) brings together independent scientific expertise to develop public-good knowledge for the critical assessment of existing and emerging technologies. The objective of ENSSER is the advancement of public-good science and research for the protection of the environment, biological diversity and human health against adverse impacts of new technologies and their products.

EEA www.eea.europa.eu

The European Environment Agency (EEA) is an agency of the European Union. Its task is to provide sound, independent information on the environment. The EEA is a major information source for those involved in developing, adopting, implementing and evaluating environmental policy, and also the general public. Currently, the EEA has 32 member countries.

FUNDACIÓN VIVOSANO-HDO www.health-defense.org

The Health Defense Organisation (HDO) aims to raise public awareness on the risks of technologies, substances and products that surround us and to strengthen European public policies to protect both people's health and the environment. It works with scientists, doctors, NGOs and other similar groups to achieve the democratization of science. We work with more than 27 organizations in 12 European countries.

CÁTEDRA UNIVERSIDAD-EMPRESA-SINDICATO: TRABAJO, AMBIENTE Y SALUD

www.catedraupmistas.es

"University-Industry-Union: Work, Environment and Health" is the result of a framework agreement between the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM) and the Instituto Sindical de Trabajo Ambiente y Salud (ISTAS). It acts as a technical & scientific body on environmental and occupational health.



REGISTRATION FEES

	Early (Friday 29th April)	Late (After 29th April)	On site
Non Members	350€	450€	475€
Reduced fee (students)	150€	175€	200€
Organiser's Member	150€	150€	175€

Payment: bank transfer to the account
ES94 2038 1168 2860 0053 7072
Recipient: Fundación Vivo Sano, Bank: Bankia

Contact:

Health Defense Organization
www.health-defense.org | contacta@vivosano.org
+34 912 999 411

CONGRESS ON RISKS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH & THE ENVIRONMENT

TIME FOR CONVERGENCE IN EUROPEAN TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND RISK ASSESSMENT



INTERNATIONAL ENSSER MEETING

16-18 May, 2012
Complutense University of Madrid, Spain



WEDNESDAY MAY 16

12:30 - 13:30 REGISTRATION AND WELCOME BUFFET

13:30 - 14:00 OPENING

- Prof. Dr. Antonio Uceda Antolín, Rector, The Technical University of Madrid (UPM).
- Prof. Dr. Antonio Notario Gómez, Director, E.T.S. Forestry Engineering.
- Organisers: - Hartmut Meyer, ENSSER.
- David Gee, EEA.
- Irina Rodriguez de la Flor, HDO.

14:00 - 14:15 *Inherent logic of HT GE crops and bad policy choices?*
Roundup Ready Agriculture in Argentina

- Dr. Angelika Hilbeck, Chairperson, ENSSER, Switzerland.

14:15 - 15:45 ROUNDUP READY AGRICULTURE IN ARGENTINA

Analysing the the ‘package’ of GE crops, soy bean production, pesticide sprays and export commodities.

- Prof. Dr. Walter Pengue, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, *Overview about GE soy agriculture in Argentina, Agro-ecological effects.*
- Prof. Dr. Andres E. Carrasco, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, *Health implications of glyphosate and pesticide dominated agriculture - Medical research aspects.*
- Prof. Dr. Gilles-Eric Seralini, University of Caen, France, *Health implications of Roundup and requirements for health safety testing of HR crop plants - molecular and biosafety aspects.*
- Dr. Medardo Avila Vazquez, Médicos de pueblos fumigados, Argentina, *Health implications of glyphosate and pesticide dominated agriculture - Clinical and societal aspects.*

15:45 - 16:30 COFFEE & TEA BREAK

16:30 - 18:30 VIP PANEL DISCUSSION OF THE ARGENTINEAN CASE STUDY AND GOALS OF CONFERENCE

- Jose Bové, MEP, Vice Chair of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development.
- Ana Mato, Minister of Health, Social Services and Equality.
- Miguel Arias Cañete, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Environment.
- Domingo Jiménez Beltrán, Founder of OSE and former director of EAA.
- Dr. Henry Dahl, Inter-American Bar Foundation.
- Simon Birkett, CEO of the Campaign for Clean Air in London.

18:30 - 19:30 OPEN DEBATE WITH INTERPRETACION SPANISH

19:30 - 20:00 CONCLUSIONS OF DAY 1

Christine Von Weizsäcker (ENSSER, Germany).

THURSDAY MAY 17

09:15 - 09:30 INTRODUCTION

09:30 - 11:50 HORIZONTAL ISSUES SESSION

Law and Policy Frameworks for Science and Technology Assessment

- James Thornton, Ceo Client Earth, Belgium, *Aarhus convention: access to justice, access to participation & information.*
- David Gee, EEA, Denmark, *Precautionary principle and early warning.*
- Dr. José V. Tarazona, Scientific Chair European Chemicals Agency, Finland, *Risk Assessment under REACH and beyond. Scientific challenges and opportunities.*
- Dr. Angelika Hilbeck, ETH Zürich, Switzerland, *Integrity of independent science for the public good at risk.*
- Claire Robinson, Earth Open Source, UK, *EU debate on independent science and risk assessment.*
- Open Debate & Conclusions.

12:00 - 13:00 LUNCH

13:00 - 13:30 COFFEE, TEA & FRUIT

13:30 - 15:30 VERTICAL ISSUES WORKSHOP 1

Chemicals & Pesticides

- Dr. Lisette Van Vliet, HEAL, Brussels, *Introduction into EU law and policy Framework on chemicals & pesticides.*
- Dr. András Székács, Academy of Sciences, Hungary, *(eco) toxicological problems regarding pesticides, their chronological summary and main examples.*
- Dr. Nicolas Olea, University of Granada, Spain, *Bisphenol A & other endocrine disruptors.*
- Dr. Miquel Porta, IMIM – Hospital del Mar, Spain, *Impact on human health of Persistent Organic Pollutants.*
- Open Debate & Conclusions.

15:30 - 16:00 COFFEE & TEA BREAK

16:00 - 18:00 VERTICAL ISSUES WORKSHOP 2

Nanotechnology

- Vito Buonsante, ClientEarth, Belgium, *Introduction into EU law and policy framework.*
- Prof. Dr. Juliane Filser, University of Bremen, Germany, *Risk Assessment of Nanoparticles - between Details and Pragmatism.*
- Prof. Dr. Mercy W. Kamara, Roskilde University, Denmark.
- Prof. Dr. Vyvyan Howard, University of Ulster, UK.
- Open Debate & Conclusions.

18:00 - 18:30 COFFEE & TEA BREAK

18:30 - 20:30 VERTICAL ISSUES WORKSHOP 3

Electro-Magnetic Fields

- Alex Swinkels, The International EMF Alliance (IEMFA), The Netherlands, *Introduction into EU law and policy Framework on EMF.*
- Prof. Sc. Med. Yury Grigoriev, Chairman, Russian National Committee on Non-ionizing Radiation Protection, Russia, *Mobile communication and the health of the population: risk assesment, social and ethical problems. The Russian view.*
- Dr. M^a Jesus Aranza, University of Zaragoza, Spain.
- Open Debate & Conclusions.

FRIDAY MAY 18

09:00 - 09:15 INTRODUCTION

09:15 - 11:00 POLICY WORKSHOPS TO DEVELOP ACTION PLAN (4 groups)
(8 groups: 4 vertical & horizontal topics)

11:00 - 12:00 PRESENTATION OF THE DRAFT ACTION PLAN IN PLENARY SESSION
By eight conference board members.

12:00 - 13:00 LUNCH

13:00 - 13:30 COFFEE, TEA & FRUIT

LAUNCH OF EEA PUBLICATION “LATE LESSONS FROM EARLY WARNINGS” VOLUMEN 2

13:30 - 14:00 INTRODUCTION: THE CHALLENGES OF THE NEW PUBLICATION

- Domingo Jimenez Beltrán, Founder of OSE and former Director of EEA.
- Dr. Angelika Hilbeck, Director ENSSER.

14:00 - 16:00 CHAPTERS PRESENTATION

- Bisphenol A and harm to children.
Presentation: Dr. Andreas Gies. Commentator: Dr. Nicolas Olea.
- Mercury pollution of M. Bay and beyond.
Presentation: Dr. José Tarazona. Commentator: Dr. András Székács.
- Nanotechnology.
Presentation: Dr. Stefan Foss Hansen. Commentator: Dr. Vyvyan Howard.
- Genetically modified organisms.
Presentation: Dr. David Quist. Commentator: Dr. Gilles-E Seralini.
- The pill and feminized fish.
Presentation: David Gee. Commentator: Dr. Juliane Filser
- Towards better victim compensation and protection of early warning scientists.
Presentation: David Gee. Commentator: Prof. Henry Dahl.

16:00 - 16:30 COFFE & TEA BREAK

16:30 - 18:30 CHAPTERS PRESENTATION

- Governance of innovation and risks.
Presentation: Prof. Dr. Bryan Wynne. Commentator: Dr. Mercy Kamara.
- EMF.
Presentation: Prof. Dr. Yuri Grigoriev. Commentator: Dr. M^a Jesus Azanza.
- Access to Justice.
Presentation: James Thornton. Commentator: Vito Buonsante.
- DBCP pesticide and male infertility.
Presentation: Dr. Miquel Porta. Commentator: Dr. Nicolas Olea
- Knowledge into action.
Presentation: David Gee. Commentator: Dr. Hartmut Meyer.
- Cost of inaction.
Presentation: David Gee. Commentator: Simon Birkett.
- NGO response.
Presentation: Dr. Lisette Van Vliet. Commentator: Alex Swinkels.

18:30 - 19:00 OPEN DEBATE

18:30 - 19:00 CLOSURE

21:00 - 23:00 CONFERENCE CLOSURE DINNER