



Ispira, 20 May 2005

***COST Action 633: Particulate matter; Properties related to health effects***

**Obj.: Invitation to deliver aerosol data to the COST633 data base**

Dear Colleague,

This letter is the official invitation from the COST Action 633 Steering Committee to provide aerosol data to the COST633 aerosol data base.

COST (<http://cost.cordis.lu/src/home.cfm>) is an EC sponsored intergovernmental framework for European CO-operation in the field of Scientific and Technical Research, allowing the co-ordination of nationally funded research on a European level. The COST Action 633 "***Particulated matter: Properties related to health effects***" (<http://cost633.dmu.dk>) focuses on heterogeneities in Particulate Matter (PM) health effects. One of its main objectives is to highlight differences and similarities in aerosol characteristics over Europe, as well as long term trends in PM component concentrations over the last 15 years.

To achieve this task, we have started to compile **existing** aerosol data collected at locations ranging from rural to kerbside sites. Beyond PM mass concentrations, we are focusing on PM component concentrations in various size fractions (major ions, OC, EC, trace elements, etc...) and particle number size distributions. The final scope of this activity is to synthesise aerosol data collected in Europe over the past 15 years in a single document, to make them accessible to modellers, policy makers, NGOs, etc... One or more review papers should also be published in the peer-reviewed scientific literature. These products will not display raw data but averages and standard deviations only (e.g. monthly averages). No data will be used for these review papers without prior consent given by the data providers. Each provider whose data are included in publications will be given the option to be co-author. There will **NOT** be any commercial use of these data.

The data delivered to the COST633 database will be accessible only to the COST633 working group members (people providing data will automatically become WG members on request). It is recommended (but not compulsory) to submit data according to the proposed formats (templates available at <http://cost633.dmu.dk>). Files can easily be uploaded to the database using the "[Files Management System](#)", which can also be accessed from the COST Action 633 web page. You can also contact your National Representative in COST633 to get her / his assistance.

At the end of the COST633 project (Oct. 2007), data sets can be transferred to the WMO World Data Center for Aerosol, which would guarantee their accessibility to the whole world for decades. Data providers will be asked for their consent before any transfer of their data will be made.

We are looking forward to having you involved in the COST633 aerosol data compilation. If you have any more questions, please feel free to contact either your national representatives or either of us.

Sincerely yours,

Prof. R. Hitzengerger  
COST Action 633 Management Committee Chair

Dr. J.P. Putaud  
COST Action 633 Working Group 1 Chair

