



Network of reference laboratories and related organisations for monitoring and bio-monitoring of emerging environmental pollutants

NORMAN

Network of reference laboratories for monitoring and biomonitoring of emerging environmental pollutants

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The views expressed are purely those of the writer and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of the European Commission



NORMAN Workshop - 27-28 Nov 2006



NORMAN - FP6 - Priority 6.3

17 partners
Coordination: INERIS
Start date: 1 Sept 2005
Duration: 3 years



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NORMAN objectives:

- Creation of a network among European reference laboratories and related organisations dealing with emerging environmental pollutants for which Europe-wide data are lacking.
- The approach will foster:
 - exchange of data and information on emerging substances
 - validation and harmonisation of common measurement methods and monitoring tools to meet the demands of risk assessors and risk managers.



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Emerging environmental pollutants

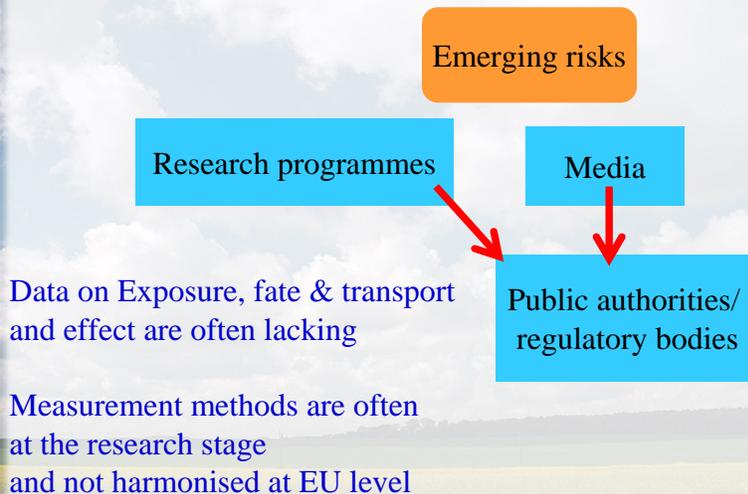
‘Substances that are not part of routine monitoring programmes but have been shown to occur in the environment and may be candidate for future regulations, depending on the results of research on their effects and their occurrence in the environment’



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Public authorities & emerging risks



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Addressing these gaps is essential for conducting meaningful research

- That is, research that produces results that are:
 - comparable
 - repeatable
 - accepted by the scientific community
 - and on which reliable systems for risk identification , assessment and management can be based
- Need for fully validated, internationally agreed, procedures
 - for the determination of occurrence and effects of emerging substances



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NORMAN has a role in this process

- Creation of a network of reference laboratories and related organisations dealing with emerging environmental pollutants for which Europe-wide data are lacking.
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Activities / services provided by the network:

- **Information exchange and sharing**
 - Workshops (4 events during the course of the project)
- **Scientific observatory**
 - Newsletter (5 issues during the course of the project)
 - NORMAN Contact Points to help info gathering
- **Collection / evaluation of data**
 - Database of experts / organisations and projects
 - Database of monitoring data
 - Database of mass spectra of unknown substances



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EMPOMAP

MAP OF KNOWLEDGE - Emerging pollutants

- Three modules
 - Experts (S1-1)
 - Organisations (S1-2)
 - Projects (S1-3)
- Main goal
 - Help the identification of experts and stakeholders dealing with specific emerging substances in Europe



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The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address <http://www.ei.sk/norman/empomap/>. The page features the NORMAN logo and the text "Network of reference laboratories for monitoring of emerging environmental pollutants". The main content area is titled "EMPOMAP: database of leading European experts/organisations/projects dealing with emerging substances". It describes the database as a pan-European resource for experts, organizations, and projects. The page lists expected uses of the database, such as defining research needs, coordinating national programs, and facilitating expert forums. It also mentions that the database is being developed as a web application and provides contact information for the NORMAN coordinator, Valeria DULIO.

EMPOMAP: database of leading European experts/organisations/projects dealing with emerging substances

EMPOMAP is a pan-European database containing information and links to the leading European experts (module S1-1), organisations (S1-2) and projects (S1-3) dealing with emerging substances.

Among the expected uses of the database are:

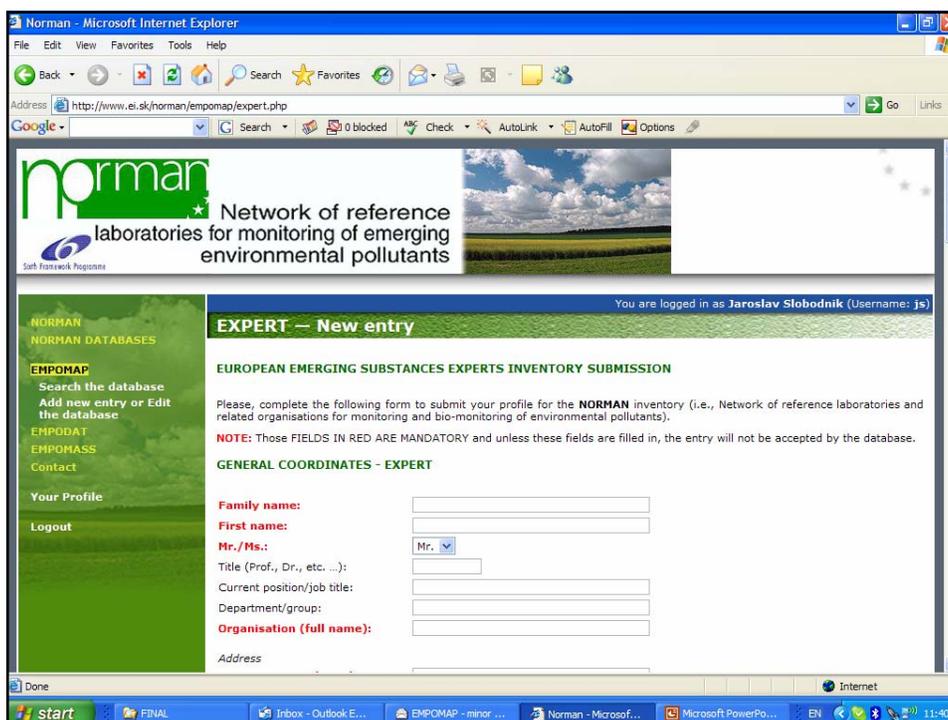
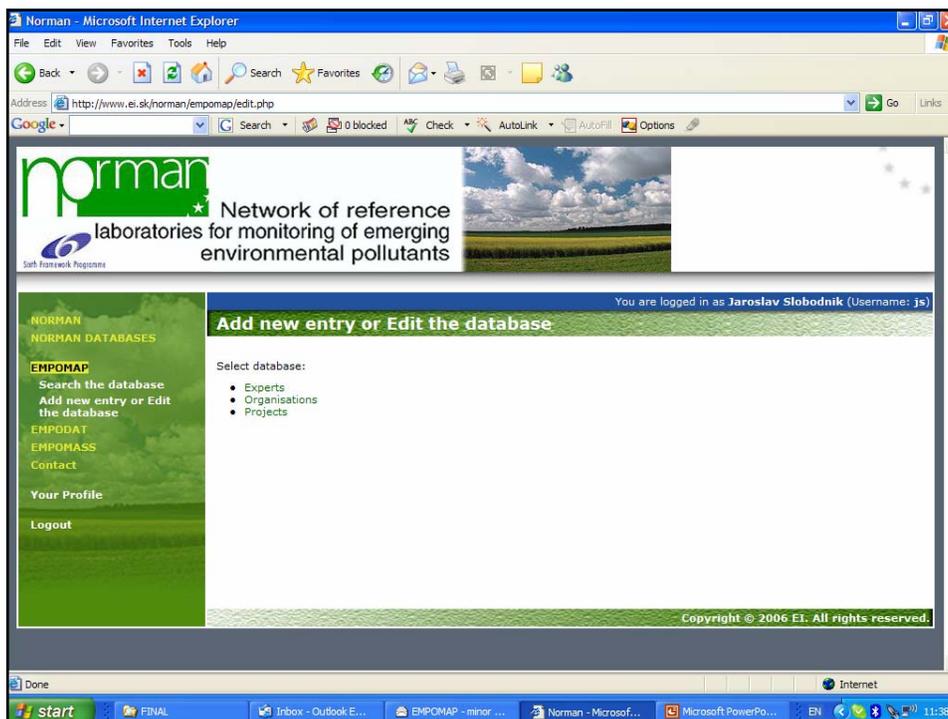
- Definition of the current state and future needs of research on emerging substances in Europe;
- Help in co-ordination of national research programmes in order to avoid duplication of research;
- Facilitation of the process of setting-up a forum of experts and stakeholders concerned with a specific emerging pollutant;
- A tool for finding related monitoring data;
- A link to other European databases dealing with related topics.

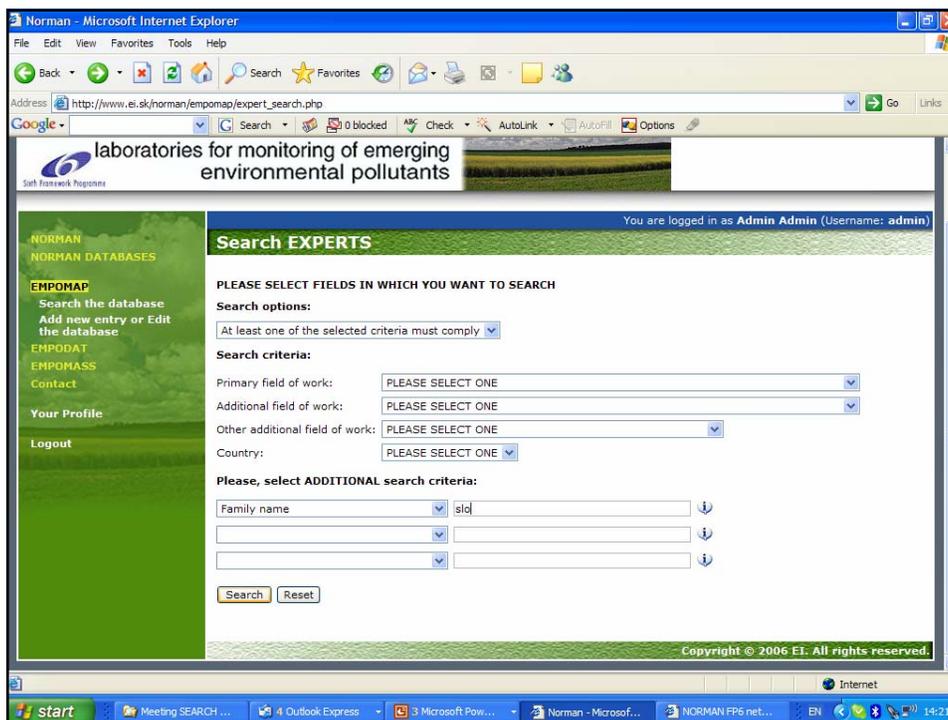
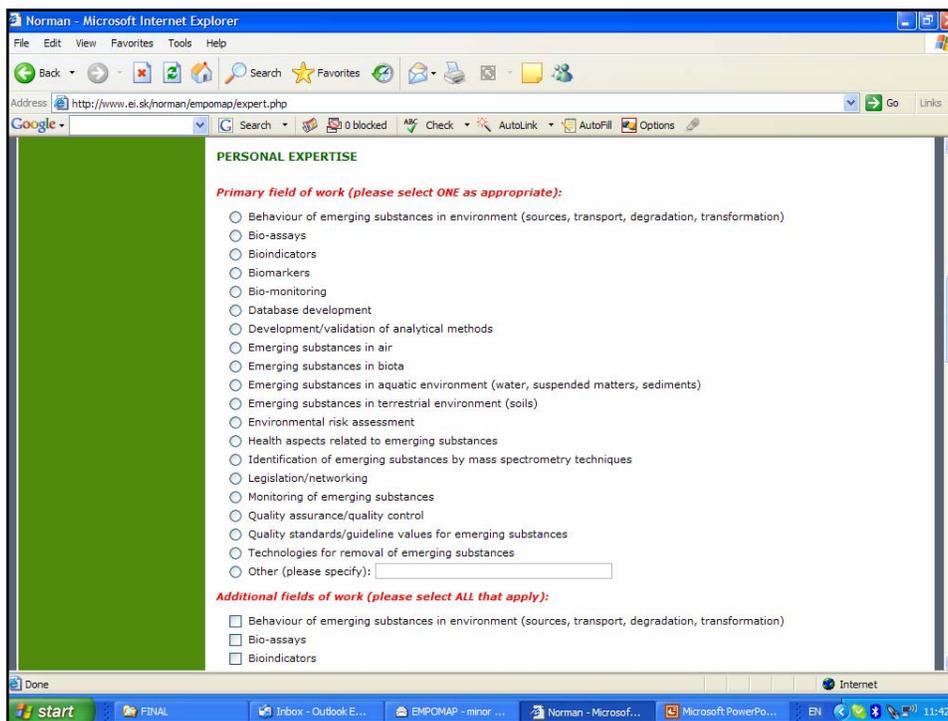
The database is being developed as a web application. In the initial stage the information is collected via Excel-based questionnaires. After finalising the web application in October 2006, a tool for the on-line registration and restricted-access editing/update of the information will be activated.

How to register

For more information on how to become a member of the NORMAN network, please, contact the NORMAN coordinator, Valeria DULIO.

Search the database Add new entry or Edit the database





NORMAN has a role in this process

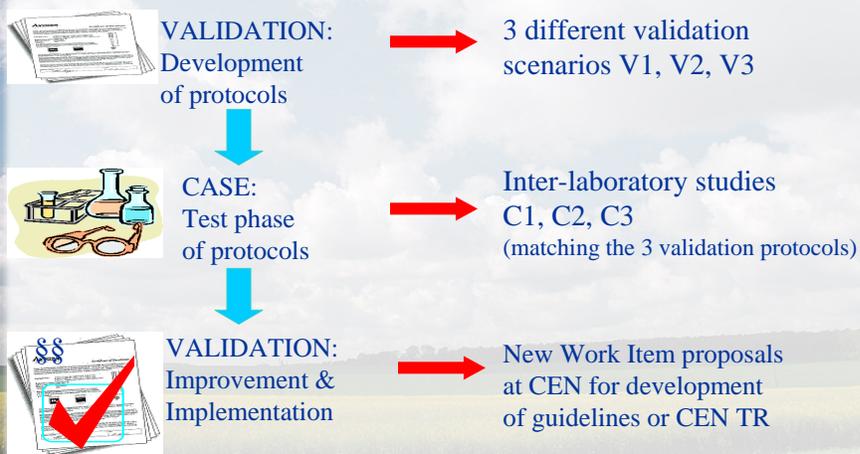
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Development, Testing & Implementation of the VALIDATION protocols



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Why validation protocols for emerging pollutants?

Background:

- Reliability and comparability of monitoring data on emerging pollutants (EP) is often limited
- Methods for analysis of EP (or their effects) are often not fully validated, not harmonised or not suitable for all relevant matrices

Objectives:

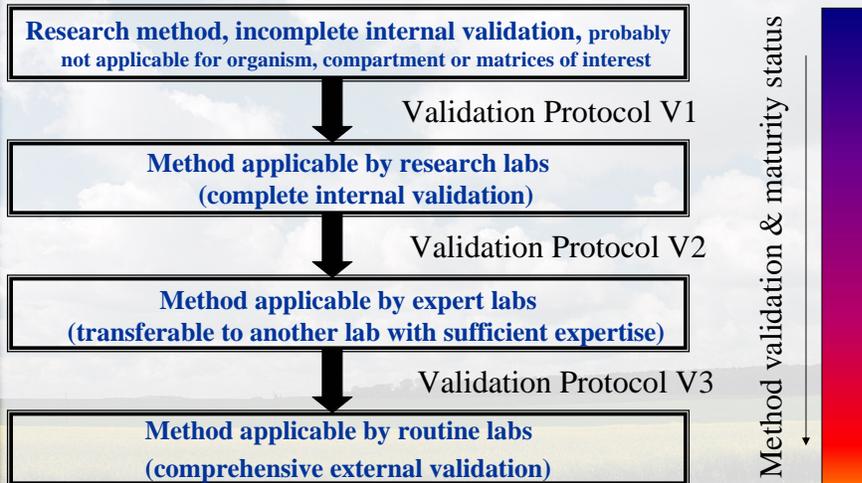
- provide structured protocols for optimisation and validation of monitoring & bio-monitoring methods for EP
- accelerate the establishment of methods which are fit for purpose
- development of three validation protocols (3 levels of "validation maturity") addressing different monitoring needs



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Validation Procedure & Protocols



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Scope of the validation protocols

Chemical methods



Biological methods



Air

Soil &
Sediment

Water

Marine
systems

Biota

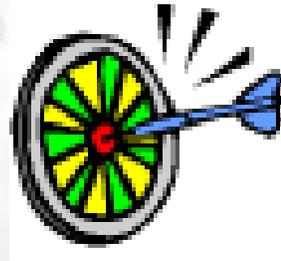
! Protocols applicable to all types of monitoring & biomonitoring methods (chemical & biological) and environmental matrices.



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NORMAN Final objective :



- Implementation of a self-sustainable network



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What activities for a future permanent network?

Scientific watch Expert group Interlaboratory Workshops /
 Info sharing meetings studies - methods conferences
 -Databases validation Meetings
 -Exchange with RTD /training for
 projects Position papers routine labs
 - Newsletter
 List of priority topics
 for research



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For more information you can visit:
<http://www.norman-network.net>

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Next NORMAN Workshop: New tools for bio-monitoring of emerging pollutants

- Two-day workshop
- Autumn 2007, Amsterdam, Vrije Universiteit
- Bio-monitoring
 - Current state-of-the-art:
 - In situ, *in vitro*/ *in vivo* bioassays, biomarkers
 - End-points
 - Discussion of methods, gaps, limitations and difficulties
 - Link between biological and chemical data (TIE/EDA)
 - Requirements and initiatives for validation and harmonisation at EU level
- Exchange of data
 - Up- and downloading of emerging pollutants data from Norman databases (working in small groups, ½ day): EMPOMAP and EMPODAT



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