Assessment of heavy metal pollution within EMEP

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Main activities on heavy metals in 2020

- Operational activities:
 - Emissions collection, gap-filling, gridding (CEIP)
 - Monitoring data collection and analysis (CCC)
 - Model assessment of pollution levels (MSC-E)
- Co-operation and research activities (MSC-E):
 - Co-operation with national experts (case studies Germany)
 - Scientific co-operation on mercury pollution (countries, AMAP)
 - Co-operation with the effect community (WGE)

Status report 2020



Technical and data reports



Case studies for the EMEP countries (2010-2020)

Objective:

Assessment of HM and POP pollution on a country scale involving national experts and variety of national data

Countries involved:

Czech Republic, Croatia, Netherlands, Belarus, UK, Poland, Spain, France, Germany

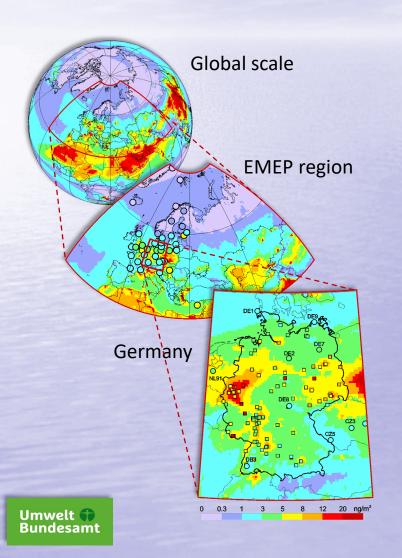
Main outcomes:

- Refined information on pollution levels
- Analysis of national emissions
- Improvement of modelling approaches



Participating countries

Country-scale assessment of HM pollution in Germany

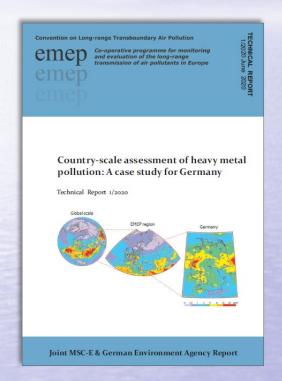


Main features of the study:

- Model assessment of Pb, Cd and Hg levels in Germany in 2014-2016
- Multi-scale modelling approach (global, regional, local)
- Thorough evaluation of modelling results vs. observations (EMEP and national)

The project was jointly funded by EMEP and the country (UBA, Germany)

Country-scale assessment of HM pollution in Germany



In collaboration with:

G. Schütze, S. Feigenspan and K. Uhse (UBA)

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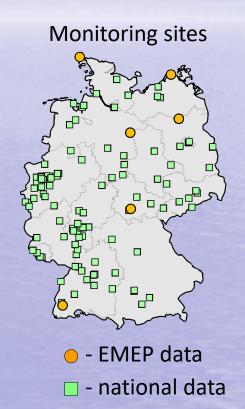
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Lessons learned for the EMEP assessment

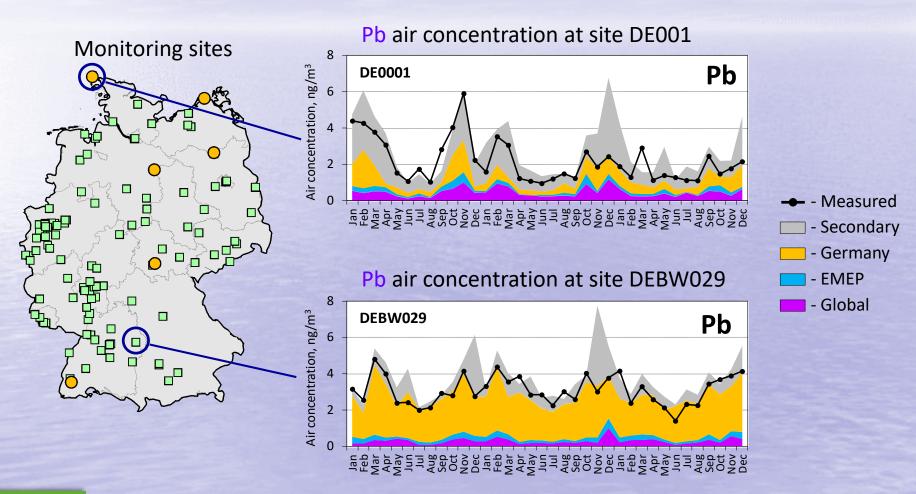
- Use of national monitoring data largely expands the scope of the analysis but requires additional metadata (location, methodology etc.)
- Modelling results are sensitive to detailed emissions data (spatial distribution, height, chemical speciation etc.)
- Fine resolution modelling (0.1°×0.1°) simulates regional/national background but still does not reproduce effects of local pollution
- The multi-scale modelling allows distinguishing different pollution scales for targeting national, regional and global policies





Interlink of different scales (Germany)

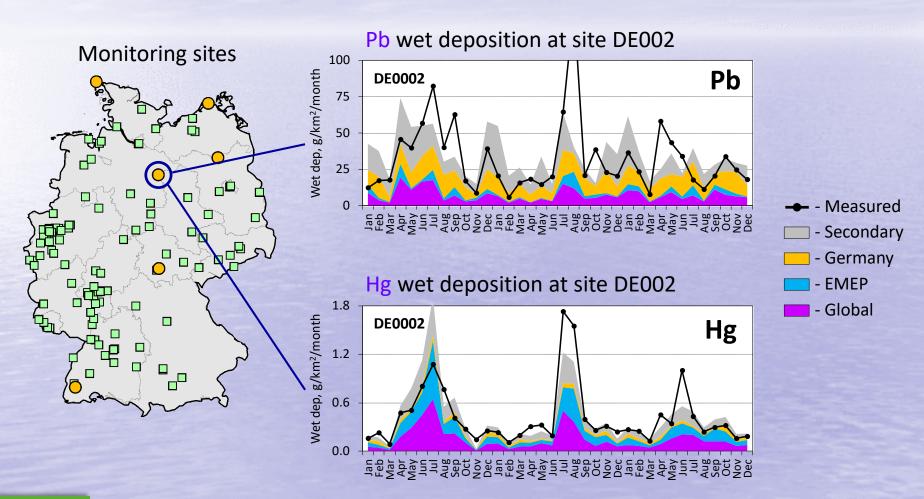
Contribution of global/regional/national sources to HM pollution





Interlink of different scales (Germany)

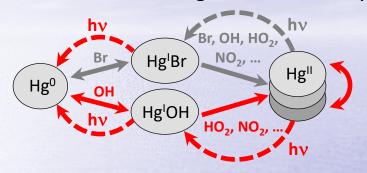
Contribution of global/regional/national sources to HM pollution



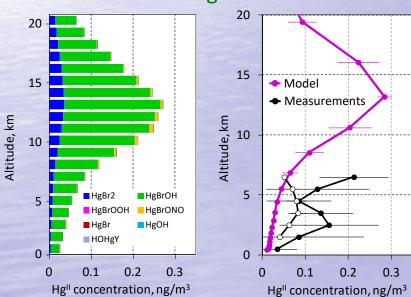


Study of Hg atmospheric chemistry

General scheme of Hg redox chemistry



Simulated Hg^{II} concentration



Objective:

 Analysis and evaluation of new Hg oxidation/reduction mechanisms in the atmosphere

Current activities:

- Collaborative study by international research group (EMEP/MSC-E, Spain, France, USA, Canada, UK, Germany)
- MSC-E contributes with model evaluation of the new mechanisms

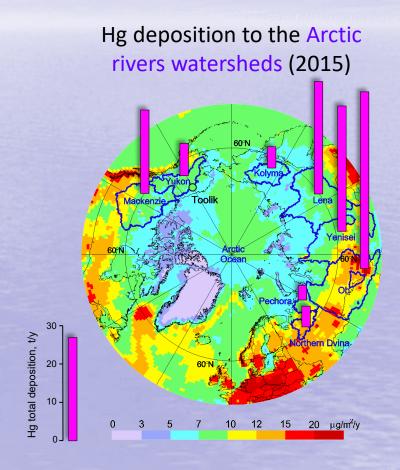
The new results were submitted for publication in *PNAS*

Mercury pollution of the Arctic

Contribution to the AMAP Mercury Assessment 2021

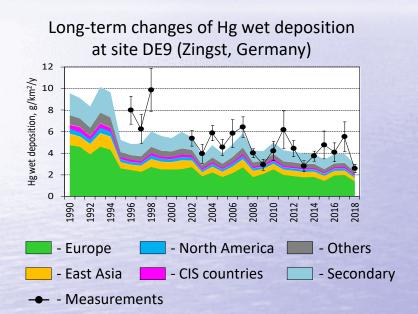
Information included:

- Multi-model assessment of Hg deposition to the Arctic in 2010 and 2015
- Mercury deposition to the Arctic rivers watersheds
- Sources apportionment of Hg deposition to various sub-regions of the Arctic





Attribution of long-term pollution changes (in co-operation with TF HTAP)



TF HTAP workshop (virtual) with participation of modelling groups, AMAP, Minamata and Stockholm Conventions (December 2020)

Objective:

 Analysis of the key factors effecting longterm Hg and POP pollution changes (direct and secondary emissions, climate and LU change, etc.)

Tentative program:

- Analysis of available global Hg and POP emission inventories and measurements
- Multi-model assessment of long-term trends (1990-2019) in EMEP and other regions
- Sensitivity simulations to identify effect of various factors

Co-operation with ICPs (WGE)

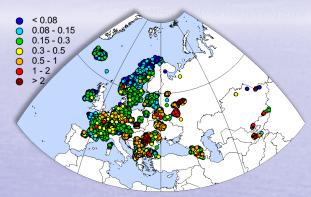
Current:

 Joint analysis of heavy metal measurements in moss in co-operation with ICP-Vegetation (TF meeting, Riga, January 2020)

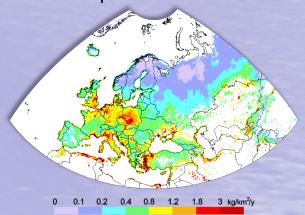
Potential:

- Analysis of heavy metal trends in co-operation with ICP-Integrated Monitoring and ICP-Forests
- Information exchange with ICP-Waters on Hg deposition to water bodies
- Co-operation with CCE on assessment of exeedances of heavy metal critical loads

Cd concentration in moss



Pb deposition to forests



Main future activities

- Attribution of long-term changes of Hg pollution (cooperation with TF HTAP, AMAP, Minamata Convention)
- Scientific co-operation with national experts on research of Hg atmospheric chemistry
- Country-scale pollution assessment (case studies)
 - Generalizing and application of gained experience to EMEP operational modelling
 - Initiation of a new study
- Co-operation with the effect community (WGE, ICPs)