

WAVE side event
“Women as the Voice for the Right to a Healthy Environment”
 Belgrade 10 October 2007

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Diversity and participation

Voices of many groups in society are not sufficiently heard,

- poor communities
- marginalized groups
- minority groups
- Immigrant groups
- future generations
- ...

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Not all voices are heard



Women’s experience and capacities are essential, but their views often under-represented in policy processes

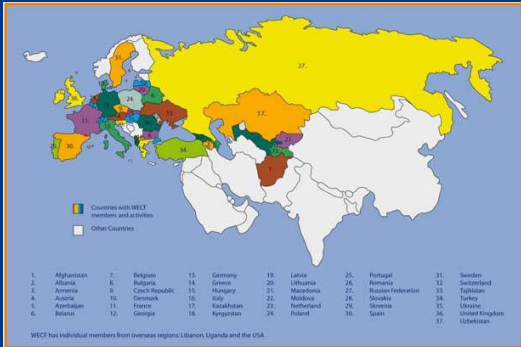
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WECF is a network of 80 women’s and environmental organisations in 30 countries

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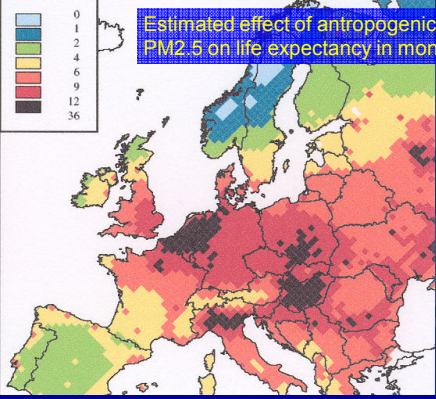
Countries with WECF members and activities



1. Afghanistan	7. Belgium	15. Germany	18. Latvia	25. Portugal	31. Sweden
2. Albania	8. Bulgaria	14. Greece	20. Lithuania	26. Romania	32. Switzerland
3. Armenia	9. Czech Republic	15. Hungary	21. Macedonia	27. Russian Federation	33. Tajikistan
4. Austria	10. Denmark	16. Italy	22. Moldova	28. Slovakia	34. Turkey
5. Azerbaijan	11. France	17. Kazakhstan	23. Netherlands	29. Slovenia	35. Ukraine
6. Belarus	12. Georgia	18. Kyrgyzstan	24. Poland	30. Spain	36. United Kingdom
					37. Uzbekistan

WECF has individual members from overseas regions (Bahrain, Uganda) and the USA

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Estimated effect of anthropogenic PM2.5 on life expectancy in months

Low-income and immigrant communities living along busy roads are most exposed

Right to a Healthy Environment

- A healthy environment is a prerequisite for the healthy development of every human being,
- A healthy environment is not only the physical environment but also the biological environment
- The environment is the foundation and sustainer of our economies, our societies, and our lives
- A healthy society is a productive one
- We ask for the full respect of our environmental rights as an integral part of our human right to life

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Right to participation and decision making

- Women are key in moving to equitable and sustainable societies
- Right of all citizens, women in particular, to be equally participate in policy making
- Full access to environmental justice



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Thank you!

WECF



Women in Europe for a Common Future

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Br. J. Cancer (1981) 43, 169

MALIGNANT LYMPHOMA AND EXPOSURE TO CHEMICALS, ESPECIALLY ORGANIC SOLVENTS, CHLOROPHENOLS AND PHENOXY ACIDS: A CASE-CONTROL STUDY

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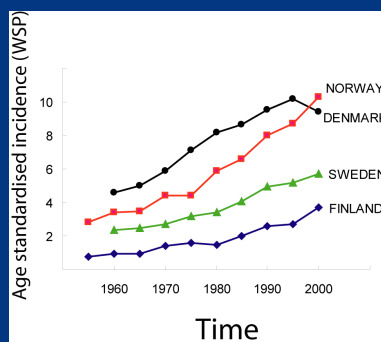
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Summary.—A number of men with malignant lymphoma of the histiocytic type and previous exposure to phenoxy acids or chlorophenols were observed and reported in 1979. A matched case-control study has therefore been performed with cases of malignant lymphoma (Hodgkin's disease and non-Hodgkin lymphoma). This study included 169 cases and 338 controls. The results indicate that exposure to phenoxy acids, chlorophenols, and organic solvents may be a causative factor in malignant lymphoma. Combined exposure of these chemicals seemed to increase the risk. Exposure to various other agents was not obviously different in cases and in controls.

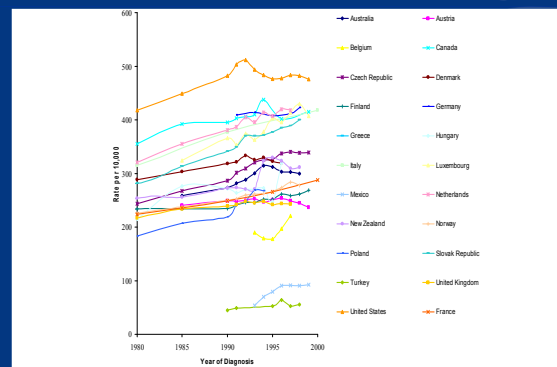
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Rates in testis cancer



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Cancer incidence in the world



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Source: OECD

Individual tragedies, social cost

- EU could save up to 161 billion Euros per year if they could reduce air-pollution deaths (WHO Bulletin Belli, et al (2005))
- Children with better health can be expected to attain higher education levels and therefore be more productive in the future
 - DG SANCO European Commission DG Health and Consumer Protection (2005). The contribution of health to the economy in the European Union, pg. 12.

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