

SynAir-G Workshop Series: Improving indoor air quality for healthier children

Episode 2: Improving Indoor Air Quality: SynAir-G Innovations and Policy Impact

Athens, 7th October 2024, 17:30- 19:00 EEST | 16:30- 18:00 CEST

07/10/2024 17:30 pm	
<p>17:30 – 17:45 15 min Session Type: Keynote speech</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Welcome and Introduction</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Nikolaos G. Papadopoulos, SynAir-G Coordinator • Prof. Christos Zerefos, Secretary General of the Academy of Athens • Mr Ioannis Sakiotis, Head of Press Office and Political Reference, Representation of the EC in Athens
<p>17:45 – 18:15 30min Session Type: Panel Discussion</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Clean Air Indoors: the role of EU Policies in reducing Air Pollutants</p> <p>Session Description</p> <p>The session will provide a panel discussion focusing on the current situation of the EU regulations on IAQ, the impact of IAQ studies at the EU level and the broader policy implications.</p> <p>Session Objective(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the impact of IAQ studies on EU policy. • Explore the wider implications of IAQ studies, including EU initiatives to support better indoor air quality and a comparison of IDEAL cluster projects data. • Present the IDEAL Cluster Policy Brief and discuss its key points and recommendations. <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHO regional office (TBC) • IDEAL Cluster Project Officer (TBC) • Alex Borg, EDIAQI project <p>Moderators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panagiotis Chaslaridis, EFA Senior Policy Advisor



<p>18:15 – 18:45</p> <p>30min</p> <p><u>Session Type:</u> Panel Discussion</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Enhancing IAQ in Greek schools: national strategies and implementation</p> <p><u>Session Description</u></p> <p>A panel discussion involving various stakeholders from Greece to discuss the local context and implications of the SynAir-G project.</p> <p><u>Session Objective(s)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the local implications of IAQ in Greek schools and its impact on children (and workers health) • Engage civil society, patients, local authorities, and school workforce in the conversation. • Identify challenges and opportunities for improving IAQ in Greece. <p><u>Speakers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs Chrisanthi Ikkou, Principal of 8th Primary schools in Zografou, Athens • Policy Maker (Ministries of Education, Health and Environment) (TBC) • Patients' representative (TBC) • Dr. Vicky Xepapadaki, Pediatrician and Associated Professor, Pediatric Clinic Allergy Department University of Athens (TBC) <p><u>Moderators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Nikolaos G. Papadopoulos, SynAir-G Coordinator
<p>18:45 – 18:55</p> <p>10min</p> <p><u>Session Type:</u> Problem-Solution Discussion</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SynAir-G Innovations: Shaping the future of Clean Air</p> <p><u>Session Description</u></p> <p>The session will focus on presenting the initial results and innovative methodologies of the SynAir-G project.</p> <p><u>Session Objective(s)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To present the first results of the SynAir-G project. • To showcase innovative methodologies used in the project. • To share insights and project advancements (status of pilots e.g. Greece, Finland, innovative sensors units), <p><u>Speakers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Nikolaos G. Papadopoulos, SynAir-G Coordinator
	<p style="text-align: center;">Wrap up and Closure</p> <p><u>Session Description</u></p>

<p>18:55 – 19:00</p> <p><u>Session Type:</u> Oral Presentation</p>	<p>Concluding remarks and summary of the key points discussed during the event.</p> <p><u>Session Objective(s)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To summarise the key takeaways from the presentations and discussions. To provide final remarks and closing thoughts on the SynAir-G project's progress and future directions. <p><u>Speakers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prof. Nikolaos G. Papadopoulos, SynAir-G Coordinator
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Context:

The [SynAir-G](#) workshops are part of the WP7 – Data management, Guidelines, Dissemination and Exploitation, aiming at exchanging know-how and practices between partners and stakeholders to present the project and validate its impact indicators while gathering feedback and state-of-the-art advancements in the field of indoor air quality and its impact on health.

Over the course of the project, 3 workshops will be organised, to facilitate the discussion, and engage the public, while presenting the results as the project progresses.

Moreover, the workshop series will be the opportunity to further strengthen the synergies and cooperation with the [IDEAL cluster](#) and other EU funded projects to discuss and showcase best practices and solutions in other contexts.

Background and Objectives:

Air pollution is currently Europe's largest environmental health risk¹. More than 95% of our urban population is exposed to unsafe levels of pollutants such as fine particulate matter, with at least a quarter of a million deaths yearly in the EU attributed to this pollutant alone.

Everyone is affected, however, children and those with hypersensitivities are more vulnerable. It is our obligation, but also our best interest, to keep the air as clean as possible in all outdoor and indoor spaces, particularly at schools.

The SynAir-G project, part of the IDEAL Cluster, through which the European Commission aims at addressing the issue of Indoor Air Quality, is coordinated by the National Kapodistrian University of Athens and focuses on synergistic interactions between chemical and biological pollutants: the occasions where co-presence of pollutants can be much more harmful than each pollutant alone.

Taking advantage of a SynAir-G expert meeting in Athens, the second SynAir-G workshop organized by EFA will tackle the challenging task of translating scientific findings into practical applications. This includes addressing the political and operational challenges and exploring emerging solutions for improving indoor air quality.

Target audience:

The workshop is open to all the relevant stakeholders, including researchers, clinicians, SMEs, civil society, patients, local authorities and school workforce.

