



Baden-Württemberg

LANDESGESUNDHEITSAMT BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG  
IM REGIERUNGSPRÄSIDIUM STUTT GART



# Newsletter

WHO Collaborating Centre for Housing and Health  
Baden-Württemberg State Health Office



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## Publications and Resources

### Tackling health inequalities by improving the quality of housing

The quality and environmental context of housing is increasingly considered as being one of the main dimensions of environmental inequality. Housing conditions are one of the mechanisms by which social and environmental inequality translates into health inequality. Based on the evidence available, WHO has scaled up activities to address health inequities due to substandard housing conditions and has been developing new *Housing and Health Guidelines*. First draft recommendations focus on crowding, housing accessibility and safety, thermal comfort (i.e. heat and cold), energy affordability and transport within the residential environment. Other housing-related topics, such as water, sanitation and air quality will also be addressed. The Guidelines will be finalized in the second quarter of 2016. The WHO Guideline Development Group met on 13–15 July in Morges, Switzerland. For more information, click [here](#).

### WHO Collaborating Centres Network for Children's Environmental Health

Children are especially vulnerable to physical, chemical and biological environmental threats. Environmental factors account for one third of the global disease burden in children. Therefore, it is necessary to strengthen global capacity for children's environmental health research and training to protect children's health around the world. WHO and its Collaborating Centres Network for Children's Environmental Health prioritize preventing disease and injury and promoting children's well-being through healthier environments. For more information, click [here](#).

### UN-Habitat releases International Guidelines on Urban Territorial Planning



UN-Habitat has released guidelines to provide national governments, local authorities, civil society organizations and planning professionals with a global reference framework that promotes more compact, socially inclusive, better integrated and connected cities and territories that foster sustainable urban development and are resilient to climate change.

The International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning serve both as a source of inspiration and a compass when reviewing, developing and implementing urban and territorial planning frameworks. The Guidelines will be soon available in 7 other languages: Arabic, Chinese, French, Persian, Russian, Spanish and Vietnamese. The Habitat guidelines are accessible at <http://unhabitat.org/un-habitat-releases-international-guidelines-on-urban-territorial-planning/> together with a compendium of inspiring practices.

### Public consultation on the EU Energy Performance of Buildings Directive

This public consultation launches the review of the directive, which is due by the end of 2016. The consultation forms one part of the evaluation of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive. The evaluation should reflect the experience gained and progress made since the adoption of the Directive. If necessary, the European Commission should make proposals on the basis of the evaluation. Further details on the public consultation are available at <https://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/consultations/public-consultation-evaluation-energy-performance-buildings-directive>.

## Literature

In this section we will provide a collection of recent housing and health publications from a variety of backgrounds. Literature published in German or French, respectively, is indicated with the German flag  or the French flag .

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## Allergies and Respiratory Diseases

### [Risk factors for asthma: is prevention possible?](#)

Beasley R, Semprini A, Mitchell EA.  
Lancet. 2015 Sep 12;386(9998):1075-85. [Review](#).

### [The association of respiratory symptoms and indoor housing conditions among migrant farmworkers in eastern North Carolina.](#)

Kearney GD, Chatterjee AB, Talton J, Chen H, Quandt SA, Summers P, Arcury TA.  
J Agromedicine. 2014;19(4):395-405. [Free Article](#).

### [Exposure to household endotoxin and total and allergen-specific IgE in the US population.](#)

Min KB, Min JY.  
Environ Pollut. 2015 Apr;199:148-54.

### [Indoor Fungal Exposure and Allergic Respiratory Disease.](#)

Osborne NJ, Thornton CR, Sharpe RA.  
Curr Allergy Asthma Rep. 2015 Dec;15(12):71.

### [Eczema and indoor environment: lessons from the International Study of Asthma and Allergies in Childhood \(ISAAC\) Phase 2.](#)

Tsakok T, Weinmayr G, Jaensch A, Strachan DP, Williams HC, Flohr C; ISAAC Phase 2 Study Group.  
Lancet. 2015 Feb 26;385 Suppl 1:S99.

## Indoor Air

### [Semivolatile organic compounds in homes: strategies for efficient and systematic exposure measurement based on empirical and theoretical factors.](#)

Dodson RE, Camann DE, Morello-Frosch R, Brody JG, Rudel RA.  
Environ Sci Technol. 2015 Jan 6;49(1):113-22. [Free Article](#).

### [Assessment of indoor environmental quality in existing multi-family buildings in North-East Europe.](#)

Du L, Prasauskas T, Leivo V, Turunen M, Pekkonen M, Kiviste M, Aaltonen A, Martuzevicius D, Haverinen-Shaughnessy U.  
Environ Int. 2015 Jun;79:74-84.

### [Characterizing the peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor \(PPAR \$\gamma\$ \) ligand binding potential of several major flame retardants, their metabolites, and chemical mixtures in house dust.](#)

Fang M, Webster TF, Ferguson PL, Stapleton HM.  
Environ Health Perspect. 2015 Feb;123(2):166-72. [Free Article](#).

### [Concentrations of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in resuspendable fraction of settled bus dust and its implications for human exposure.](#)

Gao P, Liu S, Feng Y, Lin N, Lu B, Zhang Z, Cui F, Xing B, Hammond SK.  
Environ Pollut. 2015 Mar;198:1-7.

### [Personal day-time exposure to ultrafine particles in different microenvironments.](#)

Gu J, Kraus U, Schneider A, Hampel R, Pitz M, Breitner S, Wolf K, Hänninen O, Peters A, Cyrys J.  
Int J Hyg Environ Health. 2015 Mar;218(2):188-95.

### [Levels of polybrominated diphenyl ethers and novel flame retardants in microenvironment dust from Egypt: an assessment of human exposure.](#)

Hassan Y, Shoeib T.  
Sci Total Environ. 2015 Feb 1;505:47-55.

### [Monitoring indoor exposure to organophosphate flame retardants: hand wipes and house dust.](#)

Hoffman K, Garantziotis S, Birnbaum LS, Stapleton HM.  
Environ Health Perspect. 2015 Feb;123(2):160-5.

[Personal and indoor PM2.5 exposure from burning solid fuels in vented and unvented stoves in a rural region of China with a high incidence of lung cancer.](#)

Hu W, Downward GS, Reiss B, Xu J, Bassig BA, Hosgood HD 3rd, Zhang L, Seow WJ, Wu G, Chapman RS, Tian L, Wei F, Vermeulen R, Lan Q.  
Environ Sci Technol. 2014;48(15):8456-64.

[Characterizing distribution, sources, and potential health risk of polybrominated diphenyl ethers \(PBDEs\) in office environment.](#)

Li Y, Chen L, Wen ZH, Duan YP, Lu ZB, Meng XZ, Zhang W.  
Environ Pollut. 2015 Mar;198:25-31.

[Indoor air quality in Portuguese schools: levels and sources of pollutants.](#)

Madureira J, Paciência I, Pereira C, Teixeira JP, Fernandes EO.  
Indoor Air. 2015 Jul 17. [Epub ahead of print]

[Children's Health and Indoor Air Quality in Primary Schools and Homes in Portugal-Study Design.](#)

Madureira J, Paciência I, Ramos E, Barros H, Pereira C, Teixeira JP, Fernandes Ede O.  
J Toxicol Environ Health A. 2015;78(13-14):915-30. *Free Article.*

[Exposure assessment of organophosphorus and organobromine flame retardants via indoor dust from elementary schools and domestic houses.](#)

Mizouchi S, Ichiba M, Takigami H, Kajiwara N, Takamuku T, Miyajima T, Kodama H, Someya T, Ueno D.  
Chemosphere. 2015 Mar;123:17-25.

[Investigation of Childhood Lead Poisoning from Parental Take-Home Exposure from an Electronic Scrap Recycling Facility — Ohio, 2012.](#)

Newman N, Jones C, Page E, Ceballos D, Oza A.  
MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep. 2015 Jul 17;64(27):743-5. *Free Article.*

[Wood burning stoves produce PM2.5 particles in amounts similar to traffic and increase global warming.](#)

Robinson DL.  
BMJ. 2015 Jul 14;351:h3738.

[Children's Indoor Exposures to \(Ultra\)Fine Particles in an Urban Area: Comparison Between School and Home Environments.](#)

Slezakova K, Texeira C, Morais S, Pereira Mdo C.  
J Toxicol Environ Health A. 2015;78(13-14):886-96.

[Occurrence of phthalate diesters in particulate and vapor phases in indoor air and implications for human exposure in Albany, New York, USA.](#)

Tran TM, Kannan K.  
Arch Environ Contam Toxicol. 2015 Apr;68(3):489-99.

[Indoor air quality in green buildings: A case-study in a residential high-rise building in the northeastern United States.](#)

Xiong Y, Krogmann U, Mainelis G, Rodenburg LA, Andrews CJ.  
J Environ Sci Health A Tox Hazard Subst Environ Eng. 2015;50(3):225-42.

[Perchlorate in indoor dust and human urine in China: contribution of indoor dust to total daily intake.](#)

Zhang T, Chen X, Wang D, Li R, Ma Y, Mo W, Sun H, Kannan K.  
Environ Sci Technol. 2015 Feb 17;49(4):2443-50.

## **Mould and Dampness**

[Fungal compositions and diversities on indoor surfaces with visible mold growths in residential buildings in the Seoul Capital Area of South Korea.](#)

An C, Yamamoto N.  
Indoor Air. 2015 Oct 28. [Epub ahead of print]

[Continental-scale distributions of dust-associated bacteria and fungi.](#)

Barberán A, Ladau J, Leff JW, Pollard KS, Menninger HL, Dunn RR, Fierer N.  
Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2015 May 5;112(18):5756-61.

[The ecology of microscopic life in household dust.](#)

Barberán A, Dunn RR, Reich BJ, Pacifici K, Laber EB, Menninger HL, Morton JM, Henley JB, Leff JW, Miller SL, Fierer N.  
Proc Biol Sci. 2015 Sep 7;282(1814).

[Asthma and allergy development: contrasting influences of yeasts and other fungal exposures.](#)

Behbod B, Sordillo JE, Hoffman EB, Datta S, Webb TE, Kwan DL, Kamel JA, Muilenberg ML, Scott JA, Chew GL, Platts-Mills TA, Schwartz J, Coull B, Burge H, Gold DR.  
Clin Exp Allergy. 2015 Jan;45(1):154-63.

[Concentration and determinants of molds and allergens in indoor air and house dust of French dwellings.](#)

Dallongeville A, Le Cann P, Zmirou-Navier D, Chevrier C, Costet N, Annesi-Maesano I, Blanchard O.  
Sci Total Environ. 2015 Dec 1;536:964-72.

[Review of bioaerosols in indoor environment with special reference to sampling, analysis and control mechanisms.](#)

Ghosh B, Lal H, Srivastava A.  
Environ Int. 2015 Oct 2;85:254-272. [Epub ahead of print] **Review.**

[Comparison of Air Impaction and Electrostatic Dust Collector Sampling Methods to Assess Airborne Fungal Contamination in Public Buildings.](#)

Normand AC, Ranque S, Cassagne C, Gaudart J, Sallah K, Charpin DA, Piarroux R.  
Ann Occup Hyg. 2015 Oct 21. pii: mev075. [Epub ahead of print]

[An evaluation of antifungal agents for the treatment of fungal contamination in indoor air environments.](#)

Rogawansamy S, Gaskin S, Taylor M, Pisaniello D.  
Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2015 Jun 2;12(6):6319-32. **Free Article.**

[Submicron fungal fragments as another indoor biocontaminant in elementary schools.](#)

Seo S, Ji YG, Yoo Y, Kwon MH, Choung JT.  
Environ Sci Process Impacts. 2015 Jun;17(6):1164-72.

[Identifying risk factors for exposure to culturable allergenic moulds in energy efficient homes by using highly specific monoclonal antibodies.](#)

Sharpe RA, Cocq KL, Nikolaou V, Osborne NJ, Thornton CR.  
Environ Res. 2015 Nov 4;144(Pt A):32-42. [Epub ahead of print]

[Visible fungi growth and dampness assessed using a questionnaire versus airborne fungi, \(1→3\)-β-D-glucan and fungal spore concentrations in flats.](#)

Sowiak M, Jeżak K, Kozajda A, Sobala W, Szadkowska-Stańczyk I.  
Int J Occup Med Environ Health. 2015;28(1):130-46. **Free Article.**

## Light and Radiation

[Lung cancer risk from radon exposure in dwellings in Sweden: how many cases can be prevented if radon levels are lowered?](#)

Axelsson G, Andersson EM, Barregard L.  
Cancer Causes Control. 2015 Apr;26(4):541-7. **Free Article.**

[UTILITY OF SHORT-TERM BASEMENT SCREENING RADON MEASUREMENTS TO PREDICT YEAR-LONG RESIDENTIAL RADON CONCENTRATIONS ON UPPER FLOORS.](#)

Barros N, Steck DJ, William Field R.  
Radiat Prot Dosimetry. 2015 Sep 25. pii: ncv416. [Epub ahead of print]

[Residential Radon Exposure and Skin Cancer Incidence in a Prospective Danish Cohort.](#)

Bräuner EV, Loft S, Sørensen M, Jensen A, Andersen CE, Ulbak K, Hertel O, Pedersen C, Tjønneland A, Krüger Kjær S, Raaschou-Nielsen O.  
PLoS One. 2015 Aug 14;10(8):e0135642. *Free Article.*

[A geospatial approach to the prediction of indoor radon vulnerability in British Columbia, Canada.](#)

Branion-Calles MC, Nelson TA, Henderson SB.  
J Expo Sci Environ Epidemiol. 2015 Mar 25. [Epub ahead of print]

[Indoor dampness and mould health effects - ongoing questions on microbial exposures and allergic versus nonallergic mechanisms.](#)

Cox-Ganser JM.  
Clin Exp Allergy. 2015 Oct;45(10):1478-82.

[Sensitization to fungal allergens: Resolved and unresolved issues.](#)

Fukutomi Y, Taniguchi M.  
Allergol Int. 2015 Oct;64(4):321-31. *Free Article.*

[Microbiome interplay: plants alter microbial abundance and diversity within the built environment.](#)

Mahnert A, Moissl-Eichinger C, Berg G.  
Front Microbiol. 2015 Aug 28;6:887. *Free Article.*

[Residential Radon Exposure and Incidence of Childhood Lymphoma in Texas, 1995-2011.](#)

Peckham EC, Scheurer ME, Danysh HE, Lubega J, Langlois PH, Lupo PJ.  
Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2015 Sep 25;12(10):12110-26. *Free Article.*

[Incidence rates of chronic lymphocytic leukemia in US states are associated with residential radon levels.](#)

Schwartz GG, Klug MG.  
Future Oncol. 2015 Oct 30. [Epub ahead of print] *Free Article.*

## Smoking / Environmental Tobacco Smoke

[Home smoking policies in urban households with children and smokers.](#)

Bleakley A, Hennessy M, Mallya G, Romer D.  
Prev Med. 2014 May;62:30-4.

[Do public smoking bans have an impact on active smoking? Evidence from the UK.](#)

Jones AM, Laporte A, Rice N, Zucchelli E.  
Health Econ. 2015 Feb;24(2):175-92.

[Prevalence of smoking restrictions and child exposure to secondhand smoke in cars and homes: a repeated cross-sectional survey of children aged 10-11 years in Wales.](#)

Moore GF, Moore L, Littlecott HJ, Ahmed N, Lewis S, Sulley G, Jones E, Holliday J.  
BMJ Open. 2015 Jan 30;5(1):e006914. *Free Article.*

[Husband's smoking status and breast cancer risk in Japan: From the Takayama study.](#)

Wada K, Kawachi T, Hori A, Takeyama N, Tanabashi S, Matsushita S, Tokimitsu N, Nagata C.  
Cancer Sci. 2015 Apr;106(4):455-60. *Free Article.*

[A meta-analysis of passive smoking and risk of developing Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus.](#)

Wei X, E M, Yu S.  
Diabetes Res Clin Pract. 2015 Jan;107(1):9-14. *Review.*

## Housing and Ageing Society

[The Relationship of Built Environment to Health-Related Behaviors and Health Outcomes in Elderly Community Residents in a Middle Income Country.](#)

Blay SL, Schulz AJ, Mentz G.  
J Public Health Res. 2015 Aug 11;4(2):548.



[Age-Friendly Communities.](#)

Geller L.

Can Nurse. 2015 Jan;111(1):23-7.

[Air quality of nursing homes and its effect on the lung health of elderly residents.](#)

Maio S, Sarno G, Baldacci S, Annesi-Maesano I, Viegi G.

Expert Rev Respir Med. 2015 Nov 4:1-3. [Epub ahead of print]

[Objective and subjective measures of neighborhood environment \(NE\): relationships with transportation physical activity among older persons.](#)

Nyunt MS, Shuvo FK, Eng JY, Yap KB, Scherer S, Hee LM, Chan SP, Ng TP.

Int J Behav Nutr Phys Act. 2015 Sep 15;12:108. *Free Article.*[Measurements of speech intelligibility in common rooms for older adults as a first step towards acoustical guidelines.](#)

Reinten J, van Hout N, Hak C, Kort H.

Stud Health Technol Inform. 2015;217:415-22.

[\["The Impact of Poverty on Elderly's Health in the District of Altona" Key Findings of The Second Altona Health Report\].](#)

Wollesen B, Bischoff L, Stehr G, Niessen J.

Gesundheitswesen. 2015 Sep 3. [Epub ahead of print] [Secondhand Tobacco Smoke Exposure and Neuromotor Function in Rural Children.](#)

Yeramaneni S, Dietrich KN, Yolton K, Parsons PJ, Aldous KM, Haynes EN.

J Pediatr. 2015 Aug;167(2):253-9.e1.

## Home Safety

[Parental perceptions of barriers and facilitators to preventing child unintentional injuries within the home: a qualitative study.](#)

Ablewhite J, Peel I, McDaid L, Hawkins A, Goodenough T, Deave T, Stewart J, Kendrick D.

BMC Public Health. 2015 Mar 24;15:280. *Free Article.*[A review of community management of paediatric burns.](#)

Cox SG, Martinez R, Glick A, Numanoglu A, Rode H.

Burns. 2015 Jul 15. pii: S0305-4179(15)00168-0. [Epub ahead of print]

[Children and unintentional firearm death.](#)

Hemenway D, Solnick SJ.

Inj Epidemiol. 2015;2(1):26. *Free Article.*[Acute alcohol intoxication in a child following ingestion of an ethyl-alcohol-based hand sanitizer.](#)

Hertzog JH, Radwick A.

Int J Clin Pharmacol Ther. 2015 Jul;53(7):557-60.

[Intentional and accidental paracetamol poisoning in childhood - a retrospective analysis.](#)

Kominek K, Pawłowska-Kamieniak A, Mroczkowska-Juchkiewicz A, Krawiec P, Pac-Kożuchowska E.

Postepy Hig Med Dosw (Online). 2015 Apr 9;69:452-6.

[Better balance, fewer falls.](#)

Lamb SE, Lamb JE.

BMJ. 2015 Jul 23;351:h3930.

[Domestic bioethanol-fireplaces-a new source of severe burn accidents.](#)

Neubrech F, Kiefer J, Schmidt VJ, Bigdeli AK, Hernekamp JF, Kremer T, Kneser U, Radu CA.

Burns. 2015 Oct 27. pii: S0305-4179(15)00311-3. [Epub ahead of print]

[The epidemiology of fractures in infants - Which accidents are preventable?](#)

Wegmann H, Orendi I, Singer G, Eberl R, Castellani C, Schalamon J, Till H.

Injury. 2015 Sep 3. pii: S0020-1383(15)00512-4. [Epub ahead of print]

[A multicenter study of preventable contact burns from glass fronted gas fireplaces.](#)

Wibbenmeyer L, Gittelman MA, Kluesner K, Liao J, Xing Y, Faraklas I, Anyan W, Gamero C, Moulton S, Nederveld C, Banks A, Ryan CM, Conway JA, Reilly DA, Fish J, Kelly C, Peltier G, Schwantke E, Conrad PF, Caruso DM, Richey KJ, McCrory K, Elfar MS, Pittinger T, Sadie C, Greenhalgh D, Palmieri T, Grossman PH, Richards KM, Joyce T, Pozez AL, Savetamal A, Harrington DT, Duncan K, Pomerantz WJ, Dillard BD.  
J Burn Care Res. 2015 Jan-Feb;36(1):240-5.

[Individual and household-level risk factors for sporadic salmonellosis in children.](#)

Williams S, Markey P, Harlock M, Binns P, Gaggin J, Patel M.  
J Infect. 2015 Sep 28. pii: S0163-4453(15)00292-3. [Epub ahead of print]

## Housing Conditions

[Associations between air pollution and socioeconomic characteristics, ethnicity and age profile of neighbourhoods in England and the Netherlands.](#)

Fecht D, Fischer P, Fortunato L, Hoek G, de Hoogh K, Marra M, Kruize H, Vienneau D, Beelen R, Hansell A.  
Environ Pollut. 2015 Mar;198:201-10.

[Housing interventions and health: Quantifying the impact of indoor particles on mortality and morbidity with disease recovery.](#)

Milner J, Chalabi Z, Vardoulakis S, Wilkinson P.  
Environ Int. 2015 Aug;81:73-9.

[Trajectories of Outdoor Mobility in Vulnerable Community-Dwelling Elderly: The Role of Individual and Environmental Factors.](#)

Smith AR, Chen C, Clarke P, Gallagher NA.  
J Aging Health. 2015 Oct 20. pii: 0898264315611665. [Epub ahead of print]

[Special Issue: Physical activity, sedentary behaviour & the indoor built environment.](#)

Building Research & Information 2015;43(5).

## Housing and Mental Health

[\[Home safety and severe mental disorders: Developing an evaluation tool\].](#)

Désormeaux-Moreau M, Dumont C, Aubin G, Larivière N.  
Can J Occup Ther. 2015 Apr;82(2):129-40. ■ ■

[Childhood trauma and neighborhood-level crime interact in predicting adult posttraumatic stress and major depression symptoms.](#)

Lowe SR, Quinn JW, Richards CA, Pothen J, Rundle A, Galea S, Ressler KJ, Koenen KC, Bradley B.  
Child Abuse Negl. 2015 Oct 20. pii: S0145-2134(15)00365-8. [Epub ahead of print]

[AFFORDABLE HOUSING, HOMELESSNESS, AND MENTAL HEALTH: WHAT HEALTH CARE POLICY NEEDS TO ADDRESS.](#)

Martin EJ.  
J Health Hum Serv Adm. 2015 Summer;38(1):67-89.

[The Social Determinants of Mental Health.](#)

Sederer LI.  
Psychiatr Serv. 2015 Nov 2;appips201500232. [Epub ahead of print]

[Green Space Attachment and Health: A Comparative Study in Two Urban Neighborhoods.](#)

Zhang Y, van Dijk T, Tang J, Berg AE.  
Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2015 Nov 12;12(11):14342-14363.



## Thermal Comfort / Energy

### [Thermal and health outcomes of energy efficiency retrofits of homes of older adults.](#)

Ahrentzen S, Erickson J, Fonseca E.  
Indoor Air. 2015 Aug 7. [Epub ahead of print]

### [Heat protection behaviour in the UK: results of an online survey after the 2013 heatwave.](#)

Khare S, Hajat S, Kovats S, Lefevre CE, de Bruin WB, Dessai S, Bone A.  
BMC Public Health. 2015 Sep 10;15(1):878. *Free Article.*

### [The relationship between housing and heat wave resilience in older people.](#)

Loughnan M, Carroll M, Tapper NJ.  
Int J Biometeorol. 2015 Sep;59(9):1291-8.

### [Higher energy efficient homes are associated with increased risk of doctor diagnosed asthma in a UK subpopulation.](#)

Sharpe RA, Thornton CR, Nikolaou V, Osborne NJ.  
Environ Int. 2015 Feb;75:234-44.

### [Inverted U-shape relationships of the weather as biometeorological and hospital admissions due to carcinoma in situ and benign neoplasm in Germany in 2009-2011.](#)

Shiue I, Perkins DR, Bearman N.  
Environ Sci Pollut Res Int. 2015 Jun;22(12):9378-99.

### [Impact of climate change on the domestic indoor environment and associated health risks in the UK.](#)

Vardoulakis S, Dimitroulopoulou C, Thornes J, Lai KM, Taylor J, Myers I, Heaviside C, Mavrogianni A, Shrubsole C, Chalabi Z, Davies M, Wilkinson P.  
Environ Int. 2015 Oct 7;85:299-313. [Epub ahead of print] *Review. Free Article.*

## Urban Planning / Built Environment

### [Health risk assessment of various metal\(loid\)s via multiple exposure pathways on children living near a typical lead-acid battery plant, China.](#)

Cao S, Duan X, Zhao X, Wang B, Ma J, Fan D, Sun C, He B, Wei F, Jiang G.  
Environ Pollut. 2015 May;200:16-23.

### [Environmental influences on physical activity in rural Midwestern adults: a qualitative approach.](#)

Chrisman M, Nothwehr F, Yang G, Oleson J.  
Health Promot Pract. 2015 Jan;16(1):142-8.

### [Green spaces and cognitive development in primary schoolchildren.](#)

Dadvand P, Nieuwenhuijsen MJ, Esnaola M, Fornes J, Basagaña X, Alvarez-Pedrerol M, Rivas I, López-Vicente M, De Castro Pascual M, Su J, Jerrett M, Querol X, Sunyer J.  
Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2015 Jun 30;112(26):7937-42.

### [Associations Between Residential Proximity to Power Plants and Adverse Birth Outcomes.](#)

Ha S, Hu H, Roth J, Kan H, Xu X.  
Am J Epidemiol. 2015 Aug 1;182(3):215-24.

### [Exposure to fine particle matter, nitrogen dioxide and benzene during pregnancy and cognitive and psychomotor developments in children at 15 months of age.](#)

Lertxundi A, Baccini M, Lertxundi N, Fano E, Aranbarri A, Martínez MD, Ayerdi M, Álvarez J, Santa-Marina L, Dorronsoro M, Ibarluzea J.  
Environ Int. 2015 Jul;80:33-40.

### [Size-dependent distribution and inhalation cancer risk of particle-bound polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons at a typical e-waste recycling and an urban site.](#)

Luo P, Bao LJ, Li SM, Zeng EY.  
Environ Pollut. 2015 May;200:10-5.

[Respiratory hospitalizations of children living near a hazardous industrial site adjusted for prevalent dust: a case-control study.](#)

Nirel R, Maimon N, Fireman E, Agami S, Eyal A, Peretz A.  
Int J Hyg Environ Health. 2015 Mar;218(2):273-9.

[Green areas around homes reduce atopic sensitization in children.](#)

Ruokolainen L, von Hertzen L, Fyhrquist N, Laatikainen T, Lehtomäki J, Auvinen P, Karvonen AM, Hyvärinen A, Tillmann V, Niemelä O, Knip M, Haahtela T, Pekkanen J, Hanski I.  
Allergy. 2015 Feb;70(2):195-202. [Free Article.](#)

[Human exposure to environmental health concern by types of urban environment: The case of Tel Aviv.](#)

Schnell I, Potchter O, Yaakov Y, Epstein Y.  
Environ Pollut. 2015 Sep 3. pii: S0269-7491(15)30034-8. [Epub ahead of print]

## Social Inequality

[Relationships between socioeconomic and lifestyle factors and indoor air quality in French dwellings.](#)

Brown T, Dassonville C, Derbez M, Ramalho O, Kirchner S, Crump D, Mandin C.  
Environ Res. 2015 Jul;140:385-96.

[Socioeconomic Determinants of Multimorbidity: A Population-Based Household Survey of Hong Kong Chinese.](#)

Chung RY, Mercer S, Lai FT, Yip BH, Wong MC, Wong SY.  
PLoS One. 2015 Oct 9;10(10):e0140040.

[Impact of socio-economic status on ear health and behaviour in children: A cross-sectional study in the capital of India.](#)

Gupta D, Gulati A, Gupta U.  
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## Event Announcements

### 2015

#### **6. Innenraumtag des Arbeitskreises Innenraumluft**

Ministerium für ein lebenswertes Österreich (BMLFUW)

24. November 2015

Vienna, Austriche

Further Information: [6. Innenraumtag 2015](#)

#### **Nanotechnology based sensors and detection methods - workshop**

December 1–2, 2015

Ispira, Italy

Further Information: [Nanotechnology based sensors and detection methods - workshop - JRC Science Hub - European Commission](#)

### 2016

#### **53rd International Making Cities Livable Conference**

June 13-17, 2016

Roma, Italy

Further Information: [53rd Conference | International Making Cities Livable](#)

**14<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Indoor Air Quality and Climate**

July 3–8, 2016

Ghent, Belgium

Further Information: [Indoor air 2016 |](#)**17<sup>th</sup> IUAPPA World Clean Air Congress - Mega-City Perspectives**

August 28 – September 2

Busan, South Korea

Further Information: [IUAPPA 2016](#)**41<sup>st</sup> IAHS World Congress on Housing**

September 13–16, 2016

Algarve, Portugal

Further Information: [IAHS2016](#)**ROOMS 2016 meeting**

October 6-7, 2016

Concarneau, France

Further Information: Not available yet

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**Message Board**

In this section we will inform you about activities and projects related to housing and health that are being carried out by WHO or the WHO CC. This may relate to ongoing activities and projects, as well as invitations to participate in data collections or case study projects.

**WHO work on indoor, built and urban environments****WHO report on environmental inequalities in the Kosovo region**

Drawing on data from a larger UN project, this report gives a first assessment of the scale of environmental inequalities in the two municipalities of Obiliq/Obilić and Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje, and the role of socioeconomic, demographic, spatial and ethnic determinants in creating these inequalities. The analysis is based on a field survey and focuses on environmental vulnerabilities in relation to housing, water/hygiene/sanitation, environmental conditions and affordability constraints. The findings show marked inequalities in environmental disadvantage, with the greatest inequalities being associated with socioeconomic and ethnic determinants. Yet, spatial and demographic determinants also play a role.

The report resents a range of examples of the variability of environmental inequalities and vulnerabilities, and shows various examples on how environmental inequality and vulnerability can be assessed in methodological terms.

The report is available [here](#) and Serbian and Albanian versions will be launched in November.

**WHO World Report on Ageing and Health launched**

The World Report on Ageing and Health presents a status quo assessment that addresses the relationship between ageing and health and the various requirements for age-friendly societies and environments, including adequate housing conditions. The report finds that comprehensive public health action on population ageing is urgently needed. This will require fundamental shifts, not just in

the things we do, but in how we think about ageing itself. The World report on ageing and health outlines a framework for action to foster Healthy Ageing built around the new concept of functional ability. Making these investments will have valuable social and economic returns, both in terms of health and wellbeing of older people and in enabling their on-going participation in society.

The report can be accessed [here](#).

### **International lead poisoning prevention week of action**

The World Health Organization (WHO) is preparing for the third International lead poisoning prevention week of action, with the elimination of lead paint as the theme. Lead exposure, particularly in childhood, can result in lifelong negative health impacts, including impaired cognitive development. No safe level of exposure to lead has been identified. The elimination of leaded gasoline in most countries has contributed to a significant reduction in exposure, as shown by declining mean population blood lead concentrations in those countries. However, lead paint remains an important source of exposure for children and workers in many countries.

A recent survey conducted by WHO and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on behalf of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint, found that more than 65 countries do not have legally binding controls on lead in paint. Market surveys in some of these countries have shown that paint containing large quantities of lead remain on sale to the public. More action is needed by governments to phase out lead paint. The campaign will take place 25–31 October 2015.

For more information on the International lead poisoning prevention week of action, click [here](#).

### **UN Sustainable Development Summit 2015: adoption of SDGs**

In late September, the UN Sustainable Development Summit adopted the new sustainable development agenda that proposed the so-called SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals). There are 17 SDGs with 169 targets to be achieved by 2030. Various goals and targets relate directly to healthy urban and built environments, such as e.g. SDG 6 (water/sanitation), SDG 7 (access to sustainable energy), or SDG 11 (cities and human settlements). More information on health-relevant SDGs can be found on the [WHO website](#) while a general overview of the summit and the adopted SDGs is available at the [UN site](#).

### **World Habitat Day**

The United Nations has designated the first Monday of October of every year as World Habitat Day. The purpose of World Habitat Day is to reflect on the state of our towns and cities, and on the basic right of all to adequate shelter. It is also intended to remind the world that we all have the power and the responsibility to shape the future of our cities and towns. The theme for World Habitat Day 2015 is *Public Spaces for All*.

Streets and public spaces have often been overlooked and undervalued, but are increasingly being considered the backbone of cities. Public spaces are places which are accessible and enjoyable by all without a profit motive and take on various spatial forms, including parks, streets, sidewalks, markets and playgrounds. In 2011, UN-Habitat adopted resolution on sustainable urban development through access to quality urban public spaces. Good public spaces enhance community cohesion and promote health, happiness, and well-being for all citizens as well as fostering investment, economic development and environmental sustainability.

For further information on World Habitat Day, click [here](#).

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Landesgesundheitsamt Baden-Württemberg  
im Regierungspräsidium Stuttgart  
Baden-Württemberg State Health Office

WHO Collaborating Centre for Housing and Health  
Head: Dr. Karlin Stark  
Nordbahnhofstrasse 135  
70191 Stuttgart

phone +49 (0)711 · 904 35000

fax +49 (0)711· 904 35105

[who.cc@rps.bwl.de](mailto:who.cc@rps.bwl.de)

[www.whocc-housing-and-health.de](http://www.whocc-housing-and-health.de)

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**Editors:**

Dr. Snezana Jovanovic, Dr. Annette Rebmann

Dr. Guido Fischer, Stefan Kluge