

UN ECE 3rd Meeting of Parties
Cavtat, 1- 4 June 2004

Building Good Practice in EHIA

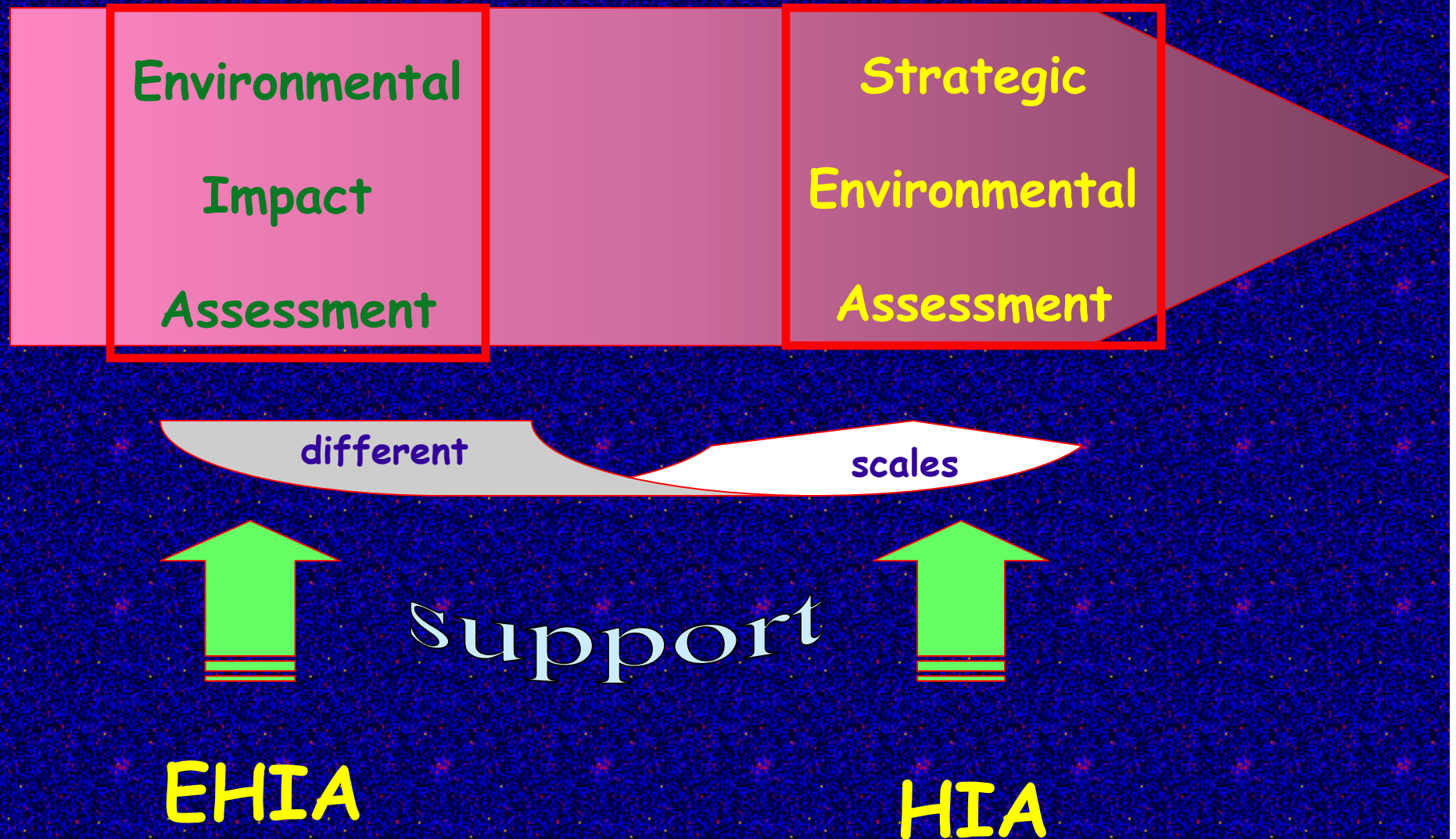
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Outline of the presentation

- Outlook of differences between EHIA and HIA
- Principles of assessing the interaction between environment & health
- Where do we stand, now?
- Country experience - case of Poland.

Development of EIA - SEA and health aspects therein



Summary of differences between EHIA and HIA

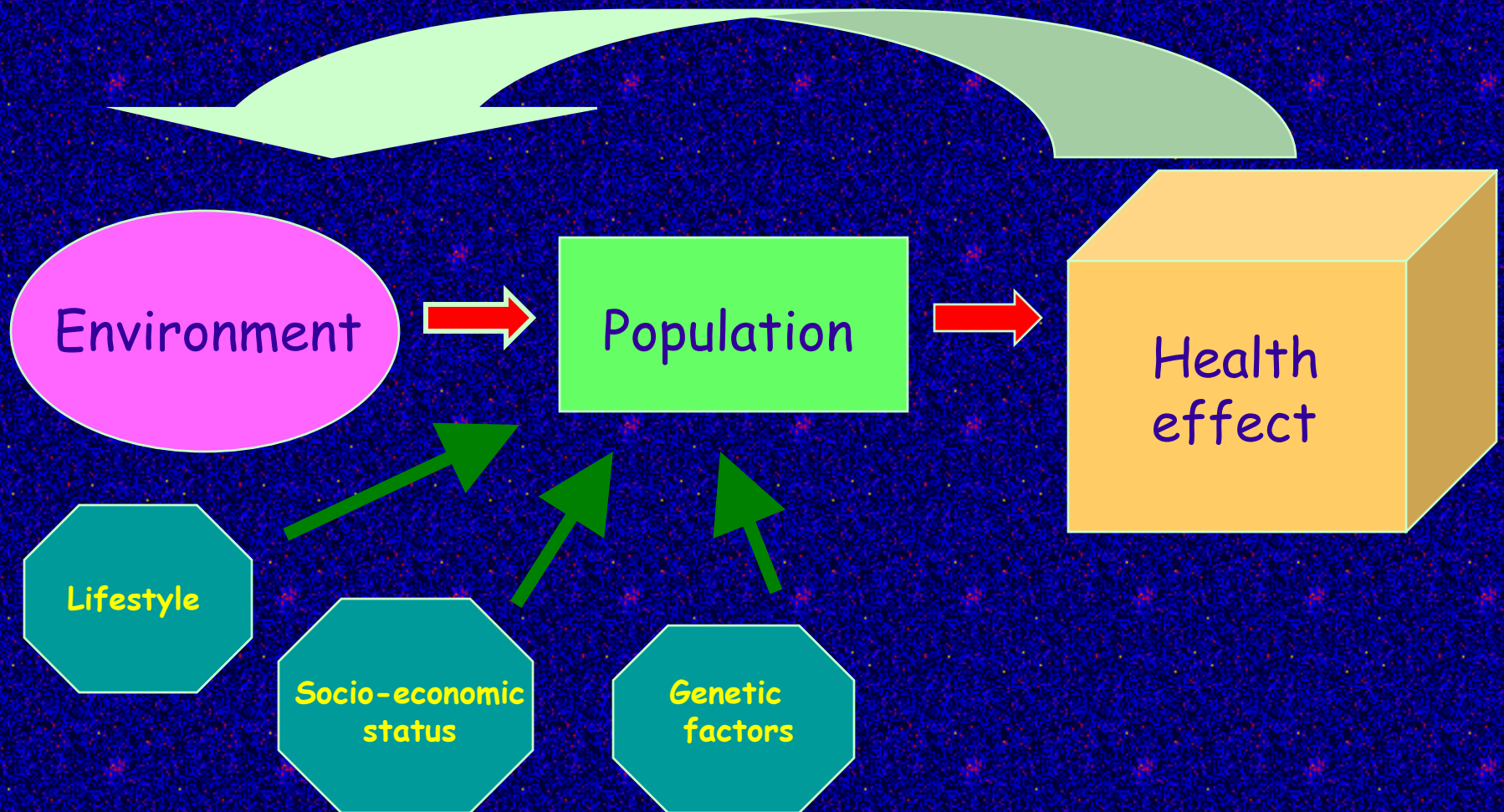
- Different scales of the problem "local" vs. "non-local"
- **EHIA** - tools and methods intended to support **EIAs**
EIA methodologies fairly advanced
- **EHIA** can use e.g. **Health Risk Assessment** methodology predicting likely health outcome of planned enterprise
- **HIA** - tools and methods intended to support **SEAs**
SEA methodologies not adequately elaborated, by now
- **HIA** methodology should be broader - focused on the *determinants of health*

Principles of assessing the interaction between environment & health

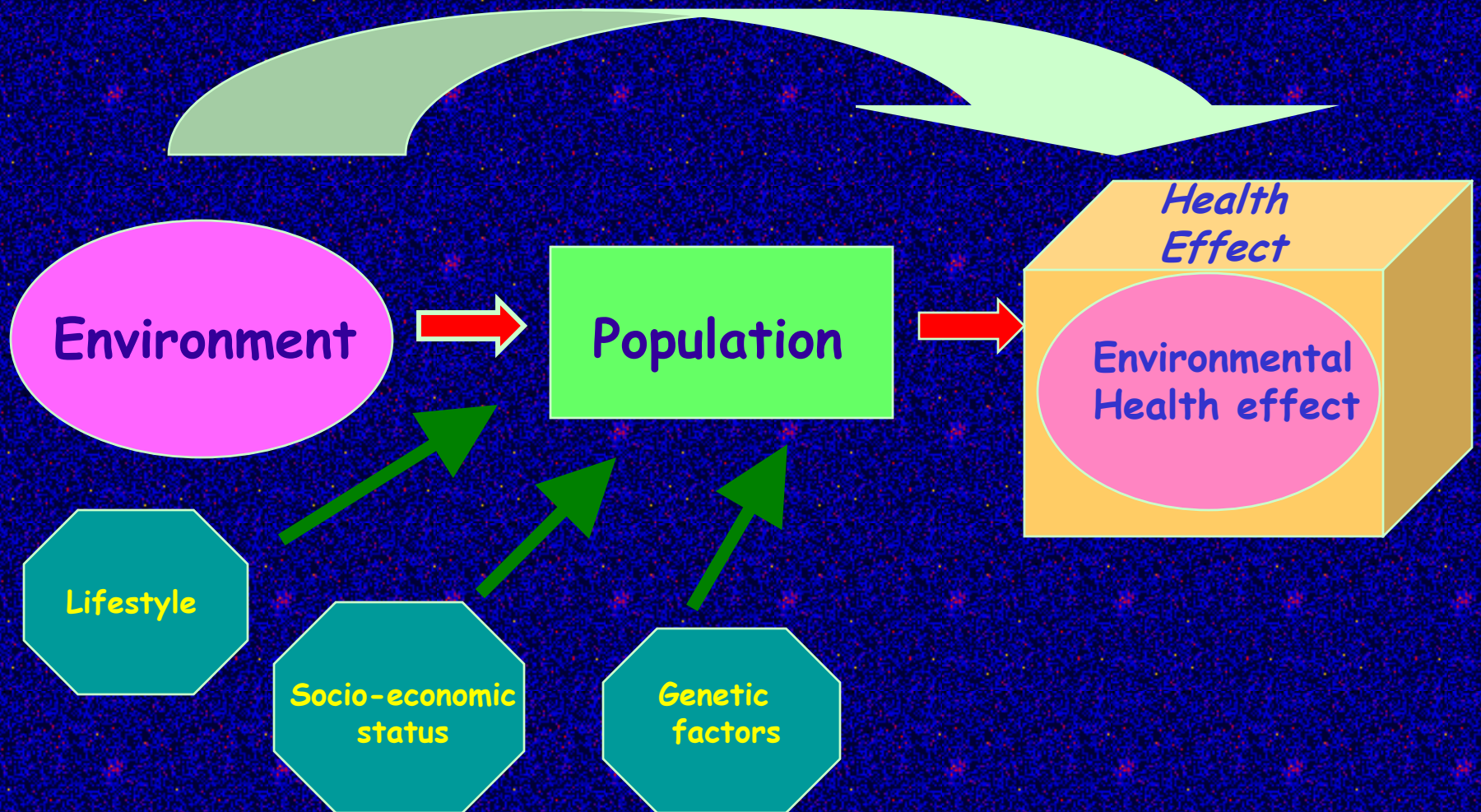
Two alternative/complementary approaches

- Epidemiological
- Health Risk Assessment

Epidemiology - occurrence & distribution of diseases and health determinants in populations; measures of association between exposure and health outcome



Health Risk Assessment - given the hazards what is the likelihood of developing adverse health effects ?



Health Risk Assessment:

open, inclusive & iterative procedure

HRA Structure:

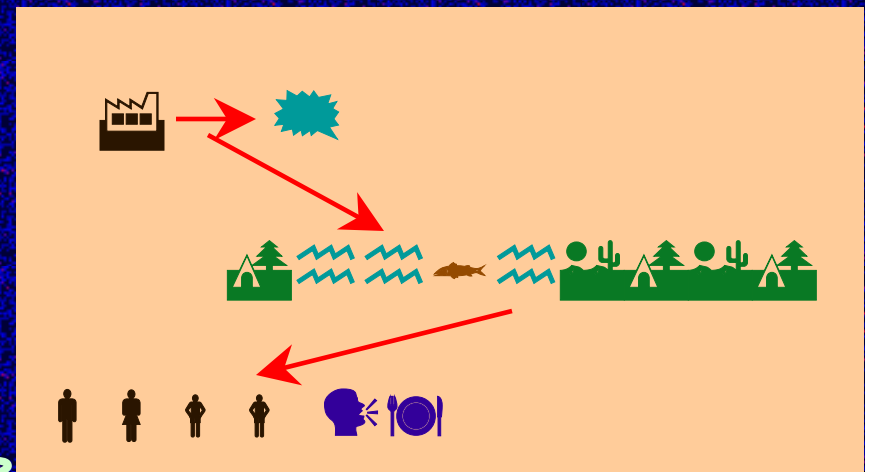
- hazard (issue) identification
- dose-response relationship
- exposure assessment
- risk characterization

Dose-response relationship

- a part of causal inference
- data for converting exposure into health effect

Exposure

- source of exposure
- susceptible population
- pathway - route of exposure



Risk Characterization

Excess lifetime probability of developing adverse health effect

Where Do We Stand Now?

- In the aspect of **SEA/HIA** - there is a **WHO** initiative on producing a background paper on "**Principles and Practice in HIA**" to outline the existing experience, approaches and clarify ambiguities - lead by **Carlos Dora, WHO**
 - * discussed during IAIA Vancouver Meeting
 - * expected to be completed soon
- In the aspect of **EIA/EHIA** - there was also a **WHO** initiative on producing the "**EHIA Guidelines**" - lead by **Dinko Kello, WHO** (**Barry Sadler, Martin Birley, Aleg Cherp et al.**)



Environmental health impact assessment guidelines for Europe

WHO Regional Office for Europe,
Copenhagen, Denmark

" 1.2 SCOPE AND PURPOSE

The prime objective of EHIA guidelines is to improve the EIA procedures in the European countries.

These guidelines are intended to assist in incorporating health considerations into EIA legal frameworks and practices.

For present purposes, EIA is taken to exclude strategic environmental assessment (SEA) of policies, plans and programmes, and to be limited to its application at the project level as defined under the legal and procedural requirements.

The developmental objective is to improve the EIA legal framework and practice by introducing the EHIA in the national legislation and procedures, to introduce appropriate education and training for the EHIA specialists, and to establish appropriate accreditation procedures for EHIA specialists and institutions.



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It is also anticipated that the guidelines would have wider use and application by other organisations and individuals with responsibilities in the areas of development planning, environmental management and public health. A broader aim of the guidelines is to promote integration of health impacts and considerations into all forms of development and environment decision-making.

The long-term objective is to improve the SEA procedures by better application of EHIA, and to improve the procedures for developmental strategies of specific economic sectors based on the concept of sustainable development.

The guidelines are meant to provide a ready-for-use, EHIA tool kit, rather than a sourcebook or reader on the subject. Therefore, these guidelines should not be considered to be a manual. ... "

Other activities

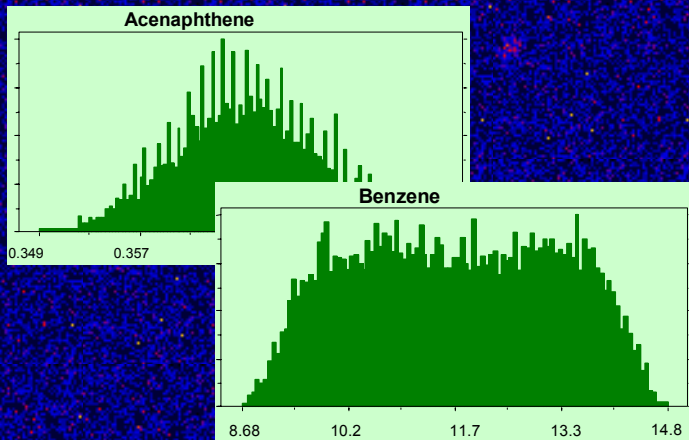
- EC "The European Environment & Health Action Plan 2004-2010" - needs to conclude environmental monitoring with the assessment of health impacts
[Budapest June 2004] *view of the Integrated Monitoring of Heavy Metals WG co-chair M.Biesiada*
- WHO Regions for Health Network - a thematic activity in HIA - sharing experiences to be summarized during a conference in 2005
lead country: Poland
contact person: M.Biesiada

Country experience - the case of Poland.

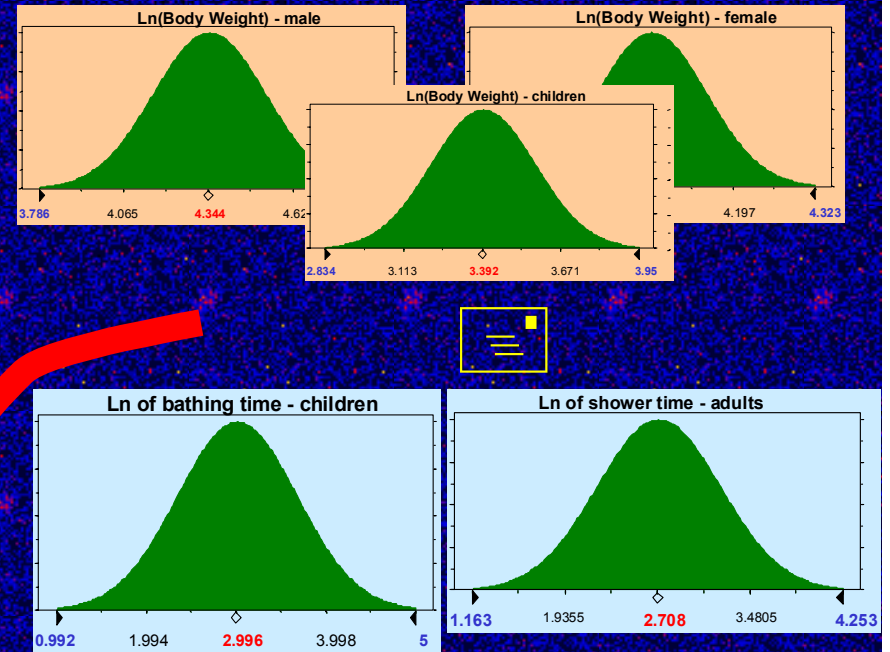
1. EHIA Applications

- the assessment of human health impact of hazardous chemical plants in Łódź Voivodship
KBN Project PBZ10-15
- EHIA as a part of EIA concerning predicted human health impacts of planned location of new highway junctions

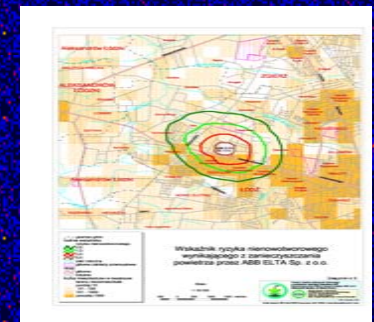
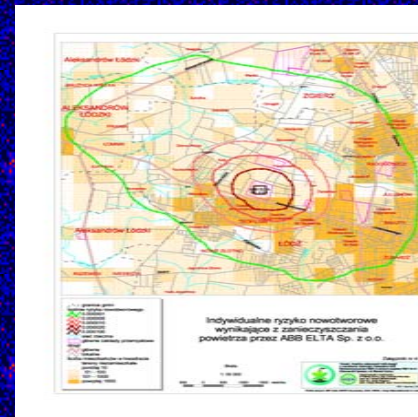
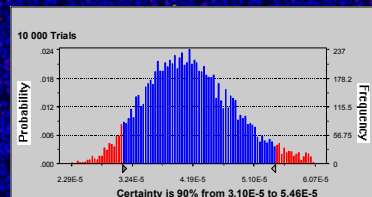
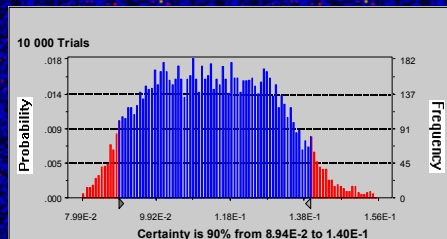
Noxious agents in environment



Human population



HEALTH RISK



G.I.S.

Country experience - the case of Poland ctnd.

2. EU 5th Framework Project INCORE

Integrated Concept for Groundwater Remediation, 5FP

Project No.: EVK1-CT-1999-00017

J.Gzyl, M.Biesiada et al. HRA to assess health impacts
of future use of groundwater in Stuttgart, Linz and
Milan

3. Polish National Commission of EIAs - incorporating health issues into EIAs as a priority action

Country experience - the case of Poland ctnd.

4. Training in EHIA

2000 National Guidelines on HRA [for Sanitary Inspection]

2000-2001 EHIA Training for Sanitary Inspection

2004 PHARE Twinning Light Project
PL01/IB/OT05-TL " Strengthening Environmental
Health Impact Assessment" c/o Peter van den Hazel