



NordicWelfAir - Understanding the link between Air pollution and Distribution of related Health Impacts and Welfare in the Nordic countries

Jørgen Brandt (1) and the NordicWelfAir Team

(1) Aarhus University, Department of Environmental Science, Roskilde, Denmark (jbr@envs.au.dk), (2) Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute, Sweden, (3) Umeå University, Department of Public Health and Clinical Medicine, Sweden, (4) Landspítali University Hospital, Iceland, (5) National Institute for Health and Welfare, Finland, (6) Finnish Meteorological Institute, Finland, (7) Finnish Environment Institute, Finland, (8) Vista Analysis, Norway, (9) NILU - STIFTELSEN NORSK INSTITUTT FOR LUFTFORSKNING, Norway, (10) Danish Cancer Society Research Center, Denmark, (11) Aarhus University, CIRRAU, Denmark, (12) University of Iceland, Iceland, (13) Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Norway, (14) NIVA, Norsk Institutt for Vannforskning, Norway, (15) Aarhus University, Department of Public Health, Denmark, (16) IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute Ltd., Sweden

Air pollution has serious impacts on human health, wellbeing and welfare. The main challenge is to understand how to regulate air pollution in an optimal way both on global and local scales. Linking the detailed information of the spatio-temporal distribution of air pollution levels and the chemical composition of the atmospheric particles with register data for mortality and morbidity, we have a unique opportunity in the Nordic countries to gain new understanding of the various health impacts from different kinds of air pollution from different kind of sources. This will provide the basic understanding needed for policy making of strategies to optimally reduce the air pollution challenge and to assess the related impacts on the distribution of health impacts and related societal costs and welfare.

The large interdisciplinary NordicWelfAir project (<http://nordicwelfair.au.dk>), funded by NordForsk, will take advantage of the unique Nordic data. The results from the project will be used in both a Nordic as well as global perspective to improve the health and welfare by finding the optimal solutions to societal and public health challenges from air pollution through high-quality research. The results from the research in this project have the potential to act as new international standards in our understanding of health impacts from air pollution for different population groups due to the possibility to integrate the unique data and knowledge of air pollution, register, health, socio-economics, and welfare research in the Nordic countries in a highly interdisciplinary project. The study will provide a Nordic contribution to international research on the topics of environmental equality and justice within the area of air quality related risks, amenities and wellbeing.

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