

**THIRTEENTH CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY
OF ENVIRONMENTAL EPIDEMIOLOGY (ISEE)**

Garmisch Partenkirchen, Germany
September 2 - 5, 2001

The 2001 Annual Conference of ISEE was hosted by the Institute of Epidemiology, GSF - National Research Center for Environment and Health, Neuherberg, Germany.

The purpose of the meeting was to attract participants from America, Asia, Africa, Australia and Europe, to discuss the various environmental problems in their countries as well as global aspects of environmental health. The conference considered especially the health impact of environmental influences during drastic political and economic changes.

To highlight this focus, the 2001 conference was organized together with the Central and Eastern European (CEE) Chapter of ISEE.

The major topics of the conference were as follows:

- Environment and health in Central and Eastern Europe.
- Genetic predisposition in environmental epidemiology.
- Health effects of fine and ultrafine particles.
- Indoor air quality.
- Exposure assessment in environmental epidemiology.
- Health impact assessment
- Good epidemiology practice.
- Environmental equity.

- Global climate change and health.
- Nonionizing and ionizing radiation.
- Poverty and health.
- Environmental factors, cognitive functions and health.
- Planning and decision making.
- International collaborative studies.

The Conference in Garmisch-Partenkirchen offered an opportunity to discuss the latest research methods and results and the social context of environmental health investigations. Its intention was to stimulate a fruitful discussion between environmental and genetic research in the field of epidemiology because both disciplines contribute to a better understanding of environmental and health problems. Joint sessions were offered with the Tenth Conference of the International Genetic Epidemiology Society (IGES) (September 2-4, 2001). The program included scientific symposia, invited presentation, poster sessions and small group discussion. Also there were joint ISEE/IGES sessions within the theme "Gene - Environment - Interactions".

The Conference Week (September 2-8, 2001) on genetic influences on human health also included scientific programs of GHU/ISEM (Gesellschaft für Hygiene und Umweltmedizin /

International Society of Environmental Medicine) and of DAE (Deutsche Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Epidemiologie). Furthermore, an US-German workshop on “Gene-Environment Research at the Interface of Toxicology and Epidemiology” was organized by NIEHS (National Institute of Environmental Health), ESF (European Science Foundation) and GSF on september 4-5, 2001. Three works were presented by

Institute of Public Health, Iasi, Romania in “Health impact assessment” session. Our participation in the conference preceedings was possible by kindly financial support of organizers and WHO Bonn Office. The abstract of ISEE 2001 Conference were already published in Epidemiology, Vol. 12, No.4, 2001.

Gabriela Mancas - chemist PhD