



Environment Center
Charles University
in Prague

Verhi

Valuation of Environment-Related Health Impacts

17-18 September

Charles University Environment Center
Prague, Czech Republic

DRAFT AGENDA – version 26/08/09

Location of the meeting:

Charles University Prague – Karolinum, 1st floor
Ovocný trh 3, Prague 1, Czech Republic

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[www.oecd.org/dataoecd/61/10/42847281.pdf]

The Conference on ‘**Valuation of Environment-Related Health Impacts**’ is to be held in **Prague, Czech Republic**, on **17-18 September 2009**. A principal aim of the Conference is to present new empirical results on the valuation of environmentally related health effects for children. The lack of research in this area has been a barrier to the provision of sound policy advice. Indeed, the values currently used for the monetisation of environment-related health impacts focus on adult populations, and use scenarios that often do not match well with environmental scenarios. As such, there is concern that the continued use of such estimates from unrelated contexts may result in misguided benefit-cost analyses, and in a possible misallocation of resources, especially when environmental policies with significant implications for children are under consideration.

Specifically, the results from the three-year **VERHI-children project** (www.oecd.org/env/social/envhealth/verhi) will be presented by leading researchers in the field, including **Anna Alberini** (University of Maryland), **Graham Loomes** (University of East Anglia) and **Milan Ščasný** (Charles University). Funded under the Sixth Framework Program by the European Commission’s DG Research, two different original survey instruments were applied in three countries (United Kingdom, Italy and the Czech Republic). Using several methods – ”chained approach” , conjoint choice experiments and contingent valuation – a Value of Statistical Life of adults and children in several different environmental contexts is derived.

In addition to this work, the results of a recent **meta-analysis of Value of Statistical Life estimates** in the environmental, health and transport fields will be presented by **Ståle Navrud** (Norwegian University of Life Sciences). This analysis shows that people value risk changes that affect themselves or their household higher than public risk changes. People also consider it less valuable to reduce risks they can control, compared to involuntary risk. There is some indication that health risks are valued lower than environmental and traffic risks. The analysis shows that the higher the risk change assessed, the lower is the VSL. Increased income leads to higher VSL, which supports the current practice of using income to scale VSL estimates when doing “benefits transfer” between countries.

And finally, a comprehensive review of recent empirical studies on environment-health morbidity risks valuation will be presented by **Alistair Hunt** (University of Bath), providing a more general background to environmental health valuation.

Leading academics will serve as discussants, providing comments on the papers presented, suggestions for improvements to the analysis, and potential future research avenues to pursue. They will also be invited to provide insights from their own work.

DAY 1 –Thursday 17 September, 2009

9:00 - Welcome Coffee

Brief Introductory remarks by the OECD Secretariat, European Commission (DG ENV), and Charles University

SESSION 1 - 'THE VSL DERIVED FROM THE USE OF A CHAINED APPROACH IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE CZECH REPUBLIC' PRESENTED BY GRAHAM LOOMES (UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA)

Discussant – Michael Jones-Lee (University of Newcastle)

Plenary Discussion

SESSION 2 – 'DOES VSL FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS VARY FOR DIFFERENT CAUSES, PROGRAMMES AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS' PRESENTED BY ANNA ALBERINI (UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND)

Discussant – Mark Dickie (University of Central Florida)

Plenary Discussion

Lunch

SESSION 3 – 'VSL AND MRS FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS DERIVED FROM ALTERNATIVE METHODS' PRESENTED BY MILAN ŠČASNÝ (CHARLES UNIVERSITY)

Discussant – Per-Olov Johansson (Stockholm School of Economics)

Plenary Discussion

SESSION 4 – 'SUMMARY RESULTS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE VERHI PROJECT' BY NICK JOHNSTONE (OECD SECRETARIAT)

Plenary Discussion

DAY 2 – Friday 18 September 2009

**SESSION 5 – ‘VALUING LIVES SAVED FROM ENVIRONMENTAL, TRANSPORT AND HEALTH POLICIES’
BY NILS AXEL BRAATHEN (OECD), STÅLE NAVRUD (NORWEGIAN UNIVERSITY OF
LIFE SCIENCES) AND HENRIK LINDHJEM (ECON POYRY)**

Discussant – Alan Krupnick (Resources for the Future)

Plenary Discussion

**SESSION 6 – ‘REVIEW OF RECENT EMPIRICAL STUDIES ON HEALTH RISKS VALUATION’ BY ALISTAIR
HUNT (UNIVERSITY OF BATH)**

Discussant – Sandy Hoffmann (Resources for the Future) (Tbc.)

Plenary Discussion

LUNCH

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION ON FUTURE RESEARCH NEEDS FOR POLICYMAKING

CLOSE OF WORKSHOP