

Policy-relevant questions for the HTAP activities on mercury

1. What are the observed and modelled trends in air concentration and deposition of Hg and POPs in the UNECE region and other regions of the globe?
2. To what extent are these trends associated with emission changes in the regions or dependent on intercontinental transport and other environmental factors?
3. What are the relative contributions and their changes of anthropogenic, geogenic, and legacy emission sources to Hg and POP air concentration and deposition in various regions?
4. How may Hg and POP air concentration and deposition levels and the contribution of various sources change in future due to changes in emissions and climate change?
5. How the historical and projected changes in Hg and POP air concentration and deposition relate to changes in Hg and POPs levels in other environmental compartments, biota and humans?
6. How well can we represent the processes that affect the long-term changes of Hg and POP levels and fluxes in quantitative models?
7. What efforts are needed to develop a system of observations, emissions, and models to better understand and track these changes?