AG Name: EMAg-Pest (Environmental Monitoring Advisory Group on Pesticides)

Organization
The group is normally structured into 4 working groups: Terrestrial vertebrates, terrestrial invertebrates including foliar and soil organisms, surface water and aquatic organisms and ground water. Each subgroup has two co-chairs. In 2013 the two groups dealing with water issue have re-organised their activity in order to deal separately with surface water monitoring, and ground water monitoring. The reorganization as presented above has led to the nomination of new co-chairs. The group dealing with groundwater issues has been reinforced and is the most active since 2014, while the other groups’ activities are taking place in collaboration with other organisations when experts are common to both organisations. As an example activities in the context of guidance on monitoring of pollinators are being performed in collaboration with the International Commission on Plant-Pollinator Relationships (ICP-PR).

Summary of Activities;
Short-term and long –term involvement in various forums/meetings are as below:

- The group has organized four sessions in consecutive SETAC meetings dedicated to monitoring of pesticides, with the aim to gather what the scientific community counts in experts and users of monitoring studies. Each of these sessions have allowed to increase the number of participants and contributed to build our network. The last session in Basel was more focused on the monitoring of the benefits of environmental risk mitigation measures in agro ecosystems where pesticides are used. Finally a session is being organized by the groundwater subgroup in Orlando this autumn.
- The AG is regularly invited to present its work in other scientific meetings in Europe, like the annual Informa meeting and the Fresenius meeting on ecotoxicology. Six presentations have been given so far.
- A link was created with the advisory group Modelink during the first year of the AG activity.
- A new link has been created in 2013 with the SETAC workshop on risk mitigation of pesticide effects on the environment (MAgPIE), with as the result the session proposed in Basel.
- The working group on groundwater has organized a workshop in Denmark in 2015, aiming at gathering existing monitoring strategies in European countries and identifying the most urgent needs in the environmental risk assessment area regarding the generation and interpretation of monitoring data on ground water. A training session on hydrogeology has being organized back to back with the annual meeting in Nantes, as a direct action derived from the workshop. The proceedings of this group are now ready for publication into the form of a book.

Business and Planning Meetings
The group plans to publish the recommendations on implementing and evaluating monitoring studies in the context of the regulatory evaluation of pesticides. The format of this publication will be a book. Contacts have been taken with the publication committee of SETAC for the edition of this book. It is also planned to expand the network to advise regulatory risk assessors and industries when implementing/evaluating monitoring studies.

Membership Communications
Communication involves several teleconferences a year and an annual meeting organized alongside the SETAC Europe meeting.

Issues/Problems
The main issue is to identify active experts who can dedicate time out of their full time job as well as helping them getting travel authorization.

Current Steering Committee
Anne Alix (UK, Industry, Chair)
Martin Strelke (Germany, Government, Co-chair)
Mark Clook (United Kingdom, Government)
Colin Brown (United Kingdom, Academia)
Jenny Kreuger (Sweden, Academia)
Anne Louise Gimsing (Denmark, Government)
Wiebke Tutting (Government, Germany)
Arnaud Boivin (Government, France)
Veronique Poulsen (L’Oreal, France)
Ettore Capri (Italy, Academia)

**No. active members: 54, allocated in four subgroups**
**Total membership: not checked**