AeroToX: Measurements for mitigating adverse health effects from airborne particulate pollutants

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The Need:

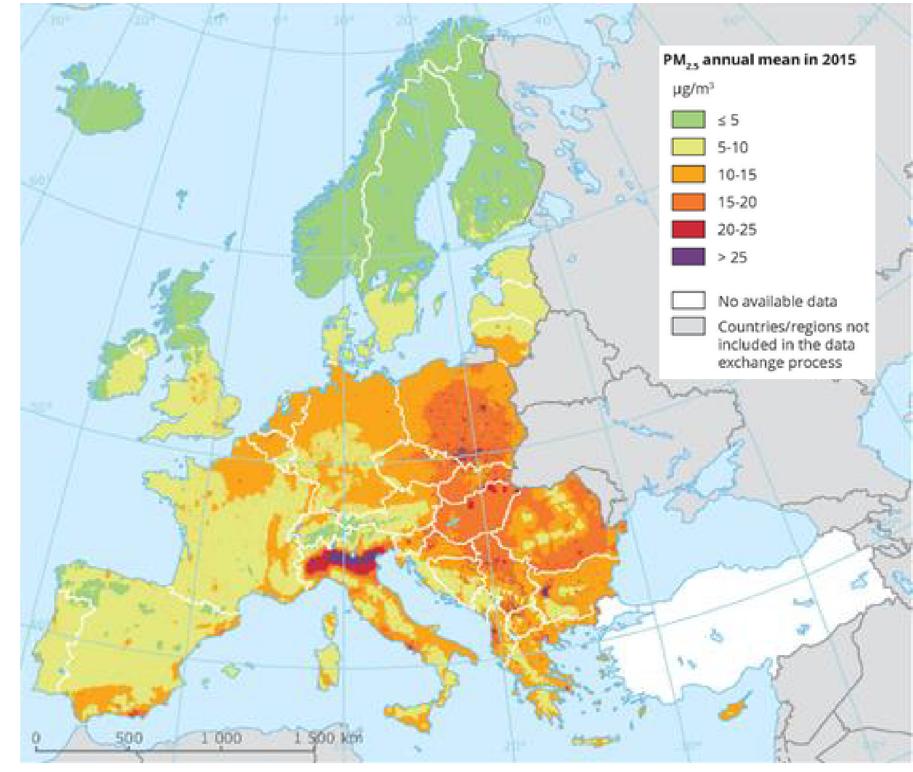
- In Western, Central and Eastern Europe long-term exposures to PM_{2.5} is related to
- 430,000 premature deaths;
- 7 million plus years of healthy life lost.
- Economic cost: \$1.6tn a year

The unmet question:

Which PM features (particle size, number) or components are the most important in terms of their toxicity?

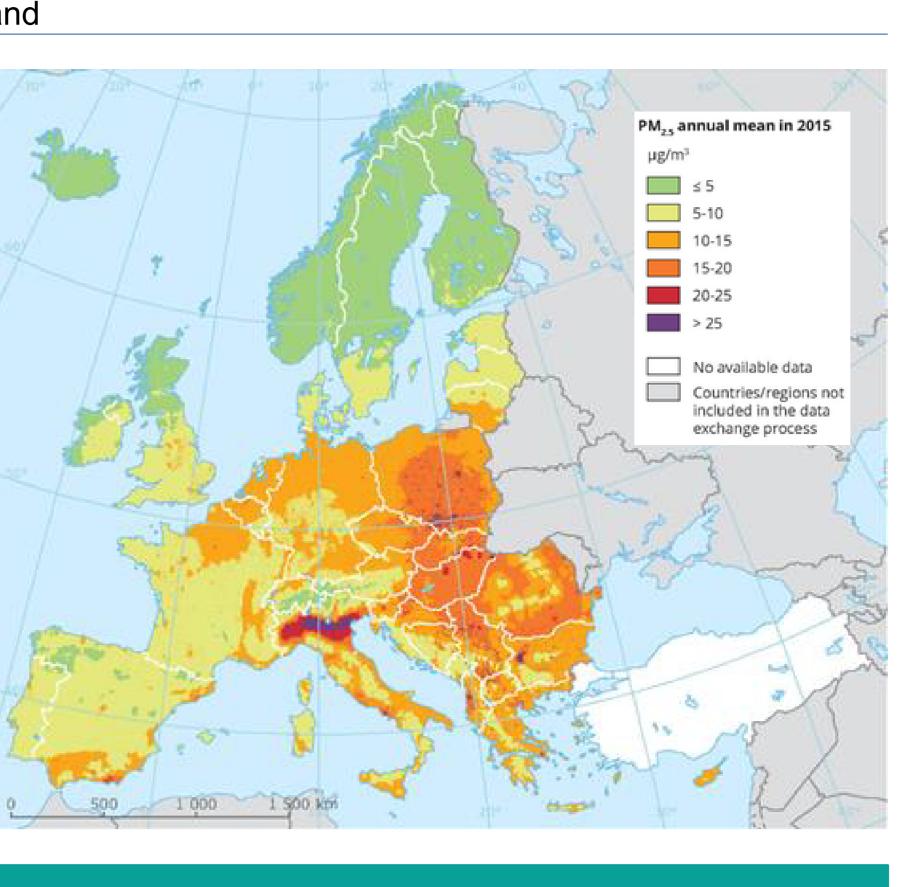
Scientific objectives to address this question:

- **WP1**: Production of compositionally-defined synthetic ambient aerosols.
- WP2a: Improved cell models to achieve in vitro-in vivo correlation for particle testing.
- WP2b: Improved aerosol delivery to cell models that mimic the natural inhalation.
- WP3: Development of quantitative, high-resolution imaging to investigate particle uptake and toxiclogically relevant endpoints.
- WP4: Provison of new reference material and methodolgies to the scientific community. Engagement with policy makers and clear engagement with European citizens.



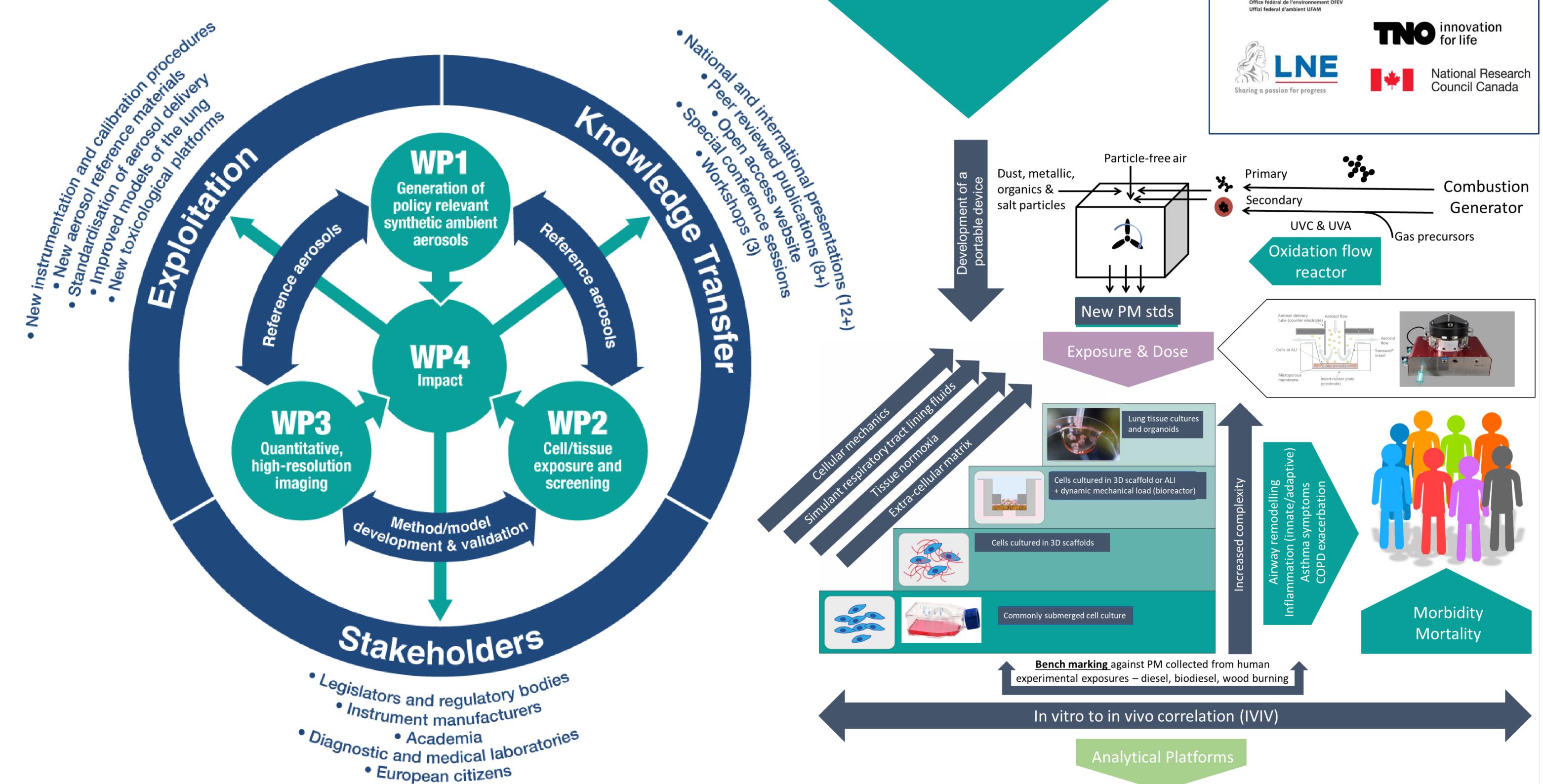
Why the lack of progress?

- PM reference standards that have little relevance to the current European airshed.
- Reductive toxicity strategies using compositionally complex real-world samples.
- Little standardisation of toxicological methods.
- Significant shortcomings in current cells and tissue models that fail to replicate in vivo reality.
- An inadequate focus on in vitro to in vivo correlation.









Impact:

- 1. Improved evidence-based AQ legislation
- 2. Better health and productivity for European citizens
- 3. Reduced economic costs
- 4. Technology innovation and dissemination of best-practice

