



Horizon 2020 Framework Programme

H2020-MG-2020-TwoStages

954377 – nPETS



**nPETS**

# **NANOPARTICLE EMISSIONS FROM THE TRANSPORT SECTOR: HEALTH AND POLICY IMPACTS**

**Project Start Date:** 2021-06-01

**Duration:** 36 Months

**Deliverable Name:** D 9.1 - NEC - Requirement No. 1

**Dissemination Level:** Public

**Due Date:** 2021-08-31

## **Authors**

**Document Manager:** Haibo Chen

**Contributor(s):** Suat Sevencan

**Editorial Reviewer(s):** Ellen Bergseth



## History of Changes

Version	Date	Changes	Page
0.1		First internal draft	-
0.2	2021-07-10	Summary of activities	7
0.3	2021-08-20	Ethical implications	7
0.4	2021-08-20	Ready for review	
1.0	2021-08-27	Ready to submit	
1.1	2022-01-20	Revised as per request EU funding and disclaimer added. – ready to submit	3



This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 954377

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## Introduction

This deliverable summarizes the activities that will be undertaken in the UK and their ethical implications. It will also refer to the relevant legislation in the UK and their corresponding counterpart in the EU.

## Summary of Activities

The UK partner (i.e. University of Leeds) is mainly involved in WP 7 “Impact assessment of new policies and recommendations” in they will need to carry out questionnaire surveys with transport professionals as well as the general public to the impact of new mitigation and prevention policies and low-emission practices on public health and quality of life of citizens and acceptance of the resultant negative economic impacts, as described in Tasks 7.1 and 7.5. It is envisaged that they will apply to the University’s Research Ethics Committee for an ethical review of the personal data which may be collected in the surveys. A copy of the ethical review form is attached in Appendix A of this document.

Personal data collected in the surveys will be anonymised and properly pre-processed (e.g. aggregation) before being shared for joint comparative analysis.

The handling of the personal data (e.g. collection, processing and analysis) is bound by both the EU GDPR and the UK Data Protection Act 2018 (<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/12/contents/enacted>), should the data be collected from both the EU countries and the UK.

Moreover, the UK partner will ensure that the survey participants are informed of data subjects’ rights identified by both GDPR and The Information Commissioner’s Office (<https://ico.org.uk/>).

No personal data is envisaged to be collected and used in other tasks in WP7.

## Ethical Implications

The partner concerned will ensure adherence to the ethical standards for research outlined in the Horizon 2020 Ethics Self-Assessment Guidance, adherence to Ethics by Design (EbD). EbD concerns the methods, algorithms and tools needed to endow the involved agents with the capability to reason about the ethical aspects of their decisions, and the methods, tools and formalisms to guarantee that an agent’s behaviour remains within given moral bound (Dignum et al., 2018).

When conducting surveys and corresponding research involving humans in participation, it is important not only to consider the ethical implications of the research participation itself, but also the wider consequences of the research from multiple perspectives and in the context of the ecosystem in which the research occurs. nPETS has identified a number of potential personal and social consequences which may result from the aforementioned research activities, as listed as follows:

- Does the proposed research further personal data abuse, intransparency of data sharing, or facilitate privacy violations?
- Will the proposed research promote job losses, closures of social facilities, reduction of accessible and/or shared infrastructure?
- Could the proposed research or parts of it, potentially harm society at large, or certain social groups in particular?
- Could the proposed research be used to further discriminatory treatment of persons of different genders, minorities, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups?
- Does the proposed research target and could it negatively affect people of lower socio-economic status disproportionately?



- Does the proposed research contribute to a healthier, more inclusive, reflective and educated society?
- Is the research material inaccessible to certain groups of people (for example regarding readability)?
- Is the research worded in an exclusive way (for example male-as-default, binary gender choice only)?
- Are there materials in research design that could potentially harm vulnerable participants (e.g. visual design that could induce epileptic seizures)?
- Is participant recruitment carried out in an irresponsible manner, for example, could people of lower socio-economic status potentially be over or underrepresented due to the compensation scheme?
- Is the proposed research conducted in an accessible, safe, inclusive, diverse and transparent manner?

Dignum, V., Baldoni, M., Baroglio, C., Caon, M., Chatila, R., Dennis, L., & Micalizio, R. (2018, December). Ethics by Design: necessity or curse? In Proceedings of the 2018 AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society (pp. 60-66). ACM.

## National legislation in the UK regarding personal data

The Data Protection Act 2018 (<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/12/contents/enacted>) is the legislation that deals with the personal data protection in the UK. It is the implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) of the EU.

Everyone responsible for using personal data has to follow strict rules called 'data protection principles'. They must make sure the information is:

- used fairly, lawfully, and transparently,
- used for specified, explicit purposes,
- used in a way that is adequate, relevant, and limited to only what is necessary,
- accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date,
- kept for no longer than is necessary,
- handled in a way that ensures appropriate security, including protection against unlawful or unauthorised processing, access, loss, destruction, or damage.

There is stronger legal protection for more sensitive information, such as:

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| • race                   | • genetics                                   |
| • ethnic background      | • biometrics (where used for identification) |
| • political opinions     | • health                                     |
| • religious beliefs      | • sex life or orientation                    |
| • trade union membership |  |

(<https://www.gov.uk/data-protection>)

The NHS Health Research Authority advises that these same principles and legislation apply to the conduct of NHS research (<https://www.hra.nhs.uk/planning-and-improving-research/policies-standards-legislation/data-protection-and-information-governance/>)