INTRODUCTION
In the HIA21 project, the adoption of a participatory and transparent approach was the methodological framework to assess the impacts of two different treatment options, as well as the overall waste cycle management in the Tuscan and Abruzzi regions. Arezzo, the waste cycle is centered on the existing incinerator of San Zeno, where currently a decision of almost doubling the plant capacity has been taken. The area also suffers from pressures by several industrial activities. In Lanciano the waste cycle management has to be re-thought providing an alternative to the landfill, actually the biggest area to dispose the waste in the region, which at the moment has been completely filled. The area around the Cerratina dumping site exerts pressures in the surroundings due to the raising flow of waste dumped more than the volume admitted.

THE PARTICIPATORY APPROACH IN THE ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS
A workshop with the relevant stakeholders was held to mainstream a decisional process aimed at defining the study domain, the health indicators, the pollutant tracers and the analytical procedure for the data analysis in the study context, thus providing a general protocol for the epidemiological study on the population residing near the two treatment plants. Furthermore, to enrich the impacts and the process evaluation, the interim results of the assessment will be shared and reviewed by the focus groups activated within the local community.

DEFINING THE HEALTH PROTOCOL IN THE AREA
The planning of the health study involved the relevant parties and the experts to discuss on:
1. Epidemiological approach: finalization of the study design
2. Environmental and health data background: holders and providers;
3. Building the inventory of personal, environmental and health data: needs, constraints and quality evaluation;
4. Definition of the community participation: opportunities within the project and the policy context.

Some drawbacks were obstacles to follow the provisional plan and timelines.
At first, the scoped area was settled larger than foreseen to include other polluting sources causing local health concern in the area. In turn, the mapping of the pollutants fallout was needed for each of the sources included.
Second, the building of the databases for the environmental, health and demographic profile of the area required a major effort than planned. In particular, harmonizing the environmental archives of data sets, completing the demographic profile for the cohort under study and formalizing the access to personal health data were actions not included in the approved plan.

MID-TERM PROJECT CONCLUSIONS
The consultative methods carried out within the HIA21 project includes a stakeholder consultation in the planning of the health study design and the assistance by a focus group in the assessment of the wider impacts of the waste treatment plant. This approach facilitated the building of trust among relevant parties and the processing of the evaluation methods. A network of collaborations was also built to collect new data and share the project results with the community and the municipality administration.

The next phase of quantification of the health effects could support the programming of a sustainable waste cycle management in the local context and also a deeper analysis of impacts from different waste management scenarios.

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