

**Summary Report on the Public
Consultation for the Fitness
Check of the EU Ambient Air
Quality Directives (2008/50/EC
and 2004/107/EC)**

1.0 Objectives of the Public Consultation

COWI, alongside Eunomia, and Milieu have been commissioned by DG Environment to support a fitness check of the EU Ambient Air Quality Directives (AAQD), 2008/50/EC and 2004/107/EC, also considering corresponding Implementing Decision 2011/850/EC and Commission Directive (EU) 2015/1480.

The public consultation is part of a wider consultation exercise that also includes targeted surveys, interviews and focus groups with selected stakeholders. This part of the consultation will provide crucial information with regards to the perceived performance of the two AAQDs.

This document provides a breakdown of the responses to the public consultation received through the EU Survey tool. A full analysis of the results of the OPC will be included in the final project report.

2.0 Approach to the Public Consultation

A questionnaire was developed using the EU Survey tool for the purposes of the public consultation. The questionnaire was made available in 23 official EU languages (excluding Irish), and uploaded to the EU Survey tool. The questionnaire was launched on 8th May 2018 and closed on 31st July 2018 (a total of 12 weeks).

3.0 Responses to the Public Consultation

The public consultation generated a total of 489 responses. Of these, 267 (55%) requested their contribution to remain anonymous. The remaining 222 (45%) respondents agreed to the publication of all information of their contribution.

Table 1-1 summarises the respondents by type. The majority (55%) of respondents had specific knowledge and interest in the AAQDs or Air Quality monitoring and assessment.

Table 1-1: Respondent Types

| Respondent Type | Number of Responses | Percentage |
|---|---------------------|------------|
| With only general interest in AAQD | 221 | 45.2% |
| With specific knowledge and interest in AAQD or Air Quality monitoring and assessment | 268 | 54.8% |

Table 1-2 presents in what capacity the participants were responding to the OPC. The majority (51%) of respondents completed the questionnaire as an individual in a personal capacity.

Table 1-2: Answering Capacity of Respondents

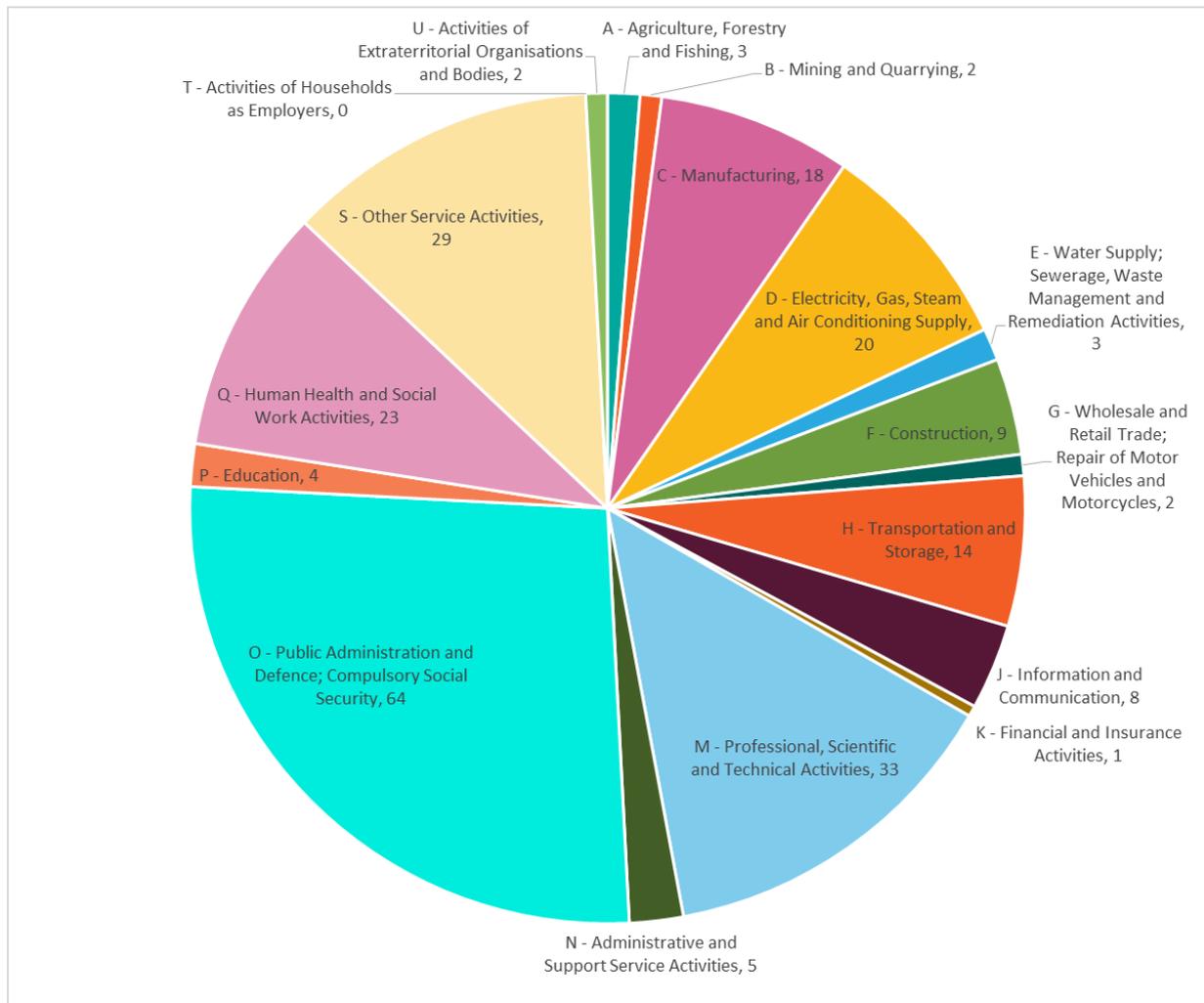
| Respondent's answering capacity | Number of Responses | Percentage |
|---|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Responding in a personal capacity | 248 | 50.7% |
| Responding in a professional capacity | 80 | 16.4% |
| Responding on behalf of an organisation or institution | 161 | 32.9% |

Out of the 161 responses submitted on behalf of an organisation/institution, 80 respondents were aware that their organisations were listed in the EU transparency register, while 40 of the respondents' organisations were aware their organisations were not listed in the transparency register. 41 respondents were unaware whether their organisations were listed or not.

Regarding the type of organisations or institutions responding to the questionnaire, over a quarter of the respondents (64 responses) were from the Public Administration and Defence sector, followed by 33 respondents (14%) representing the Professions, Scientific and Technical Activities sector. In addition, there were 23 respondents (10%) from the Human Health and Social Work Activities sector, 20 respondents (8%) from the Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply sector, 18 (7%) respondents from the Manufacturing sector, and 14 (6%) respondents from the Transportation and Storage sector, which reflects the high interest of these sectors in relation to air quality issues. Finally, there were 29 responses (12%) representing Other Service Activities, which includes activities of professional membership organisations, trade unions, lobbyists and support groups, environmental and ecological groups etc., with specific interests in issues related to air quality.

The complete distribution of respondents from different sectors is presented in Figure 1-1.

Figure 1-1: Type of Organisation or Institutions: Stakeholder Questionnaire



There is a broad distribution of countries where the individuals, organisations or institutions who responded to the questionnaire are located. 470 responses were received from respondents in 27 of the 28 EU Member States, with 102 responses (21%) from Belgium, 81 responses (17%) from Germany, and 71 responses (15%) from Italy. No responses were received from Luxembourg.

The large share of respondents from Belgium can be explained by the fact that many of the respondents “on behalf of organisations” represent, at EU-level, industry/civil society entities with headquarters in Brussels, Belgium. Out of the 81 responses from Germany, 42 were on behalf of an organisation/institution (13 responses from the Public Administration and Defence sector, 6 responses from the Construction sector, and 5 responses from the Transportation and Storage sector, 4 responses each from the Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities sector, and the Human Health and Social Work Activities sector, and the remaining 10 responses from various other sectors). As far as the 71 responses from Italy are concerned, 21 were on behalf of an organisation/institution (8 responses from the Public Administration and Defence sector, 3 responses each from both the Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities sector, and the Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply sector, with the remaining 7 responses from various other sectors).

12 responses from non-EU countries were also received: these include Norway (7 responses), Switzerland (2 responses), Serbia (2 responses) and Montenegro (1 response).

The number of responses relating to each country is shown in Figure 1-2.

Figure 1-2: Geographic Distribution of Respondents

