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Active moss biomonitoring of trace element distribution in Belgrade canyon streets

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Active biomonitoring of airborne trace elements was performed through the exposure of Sphagnum girgensohnii moss bags in 5 canyon streets in Belgrade. The selected canyon streets are situated in heavy traffic area, and there are large multi-level public garages in four of them (KN, M, DJ, OV), while the fifth street (KM) is a pedestrian zone. In the streets the moss bags were hung at heights of about 7, 14 and 21 m for 10 weeks during the summer of 2011. After the exposure period, the concentrations of Na, Mg, Al, K, Ca, V, Ni, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Cu, Zn, Sr, Cd, Ba and Pb in the moss were determined by ICP-OES. The most enriched elements in the exposed moss were Pb, Cu, V, Cr, Zn, and Ni in comparison to the initial moss elemental content. Some of the determined elements (Na, K, Mn) were depleted in exposed moss or stayed at the same level (Mg). In all canyon streets, the vertical distribution patterns of the moss elements concentration (Al, Ba, Ca, Cr, Cu, Ni, Pb, Sr, V, and Zn) showed statistically significant decrease from the first to the third heights of bags exposure. However, in two canyon streets (OV and KM), the highest elemental concentration was determined in the moss exposed at the second height. This discrepancy could be explained by different direction of the primary air vortex in these streets, where the exposure sites were either placed on the leeward side or in the main air flow in the second positioned height. Thus, residents in some canyon streets may be exposed to higher air pollution than pedestrians. The results confirmed that the use of S. girgensohnii moss bags is a simple, sensitive and inexpensive way to monitor the small-scale inner-city spatial distribution of ambient trace element content.

Keywords: biomonitoring of trace elements, Sphagnum girgensohnii moss bags, urban area, canyon streets

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	Sunday 17th June 2012
18.00 - 20.00	Registration
19.00 - 20.00	Reception
	Monday 18th June 2012
07.30 - 08.30	Registration
08.30 - 08.50	Opening Remarks
08.50 - 10.25	Oral Session 1: Urban Human Health
10.25 - 10.55	Refreshment Break
10.55 - 13.05	Oral Session 2: Vegetation and Urban Environment
13.05 - 14.00	Lunch
14.00 - 16.00	Oral Session 3: Urban Air Environment
<mark>16.00 - 18.00</mark>	Refreshment Break and Poster Session 1
19.00	Conference Dinner
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08.30 - 10.20	Oral Session 4: Urban Human Health
10.20 - 10.50	Refreshment Break
10.50 - 13.00	Oral Session 5: Urban Human Health
13.00 - 13.50	Lunch
13.50 - 16.30	Oral Session 6: Urban Air Environment
16.30 - 18.30	Refreshment Break and Poster Session 2
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08.30 - 10.20	Oral Session 7: Vegetation and Air Quality
10.20 - 10.50	Refreshment Break
10.50 - 12.50	Oral Session 8: Urban Environmental Management
12.50 - 14.00	Lunch
14.00 - 15.30	Oral Session 9: Urban Environment
15.30 - 16.00	Refreshment Break
16.00 - 16.40	Oral Session 9: Urban Environment continued
16.40	Closing Remarks