

# DUST 2018

3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Atmospheric Dust

Villa Romanazzi Carducci - Bari, Italy | 29-31 May, 2018

## *DustSafe:*

global insights into the composition and hazard of household dusts through citizen-led science

N. America



Asia



Australia



EU - UK



# Why are indoor dusts a potential problem and why Citizen-Science approach?



- Fine particles - contaminants readily absorbed.
- Young children most at risk
  - higher absorption rates (e.g. Pb)
  - more hand - mouth activity.
- Growing need for more effective and inclusive public engagement processes to support environmental health knowledge

DustSafe

# THE PROJECT



# DustSafe 2017-2021

## Phase 1:

- Engage citizens to collect and submit vacuum dust.
- characterise metals/metalloids by XRF
- Information on the science related to dust and contaminants, and on what to do next where elevated contaminants are identified.



## Phase 2:

- Dust 360°  
Further characterisation - microbial components, mineralogy, magnetic signature, allergens, flame retardants, pesticides, fibres/micro-plastics ...



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# DustSafe 'phase 1' approach

- Advertise the program via media and existing email databases / Facebook.
- Citizens register online and complete household questionnaire [house age, home/household characteristics]
- Vacuum dust mailed/collected for XRF analysis [and XRD in Australia].
- Summary report returned by email.
- Maps and graphs of suburb level data to be generated on program web site.

# DustSafe



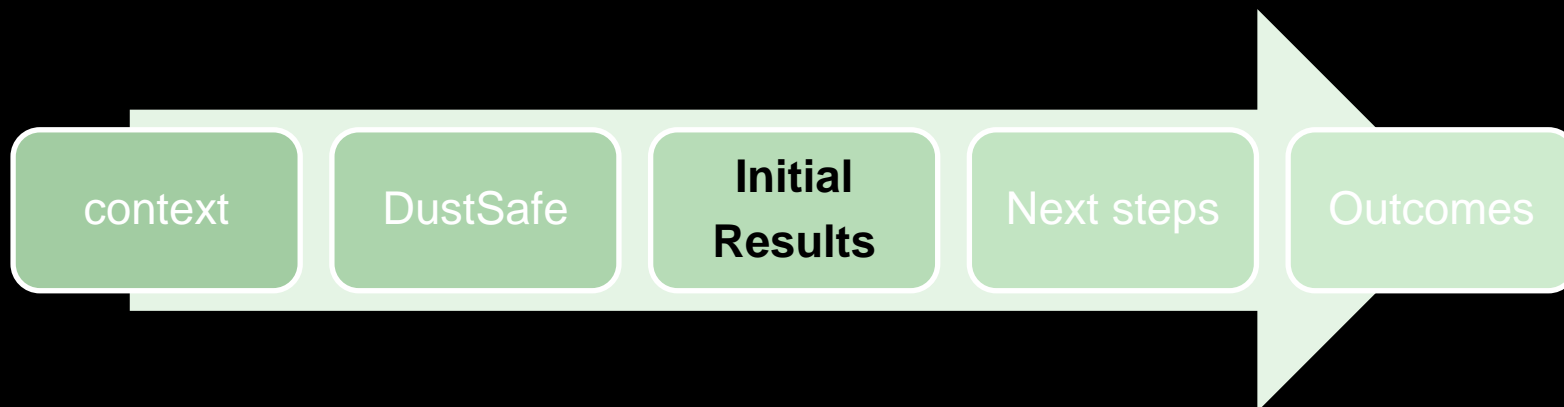
## 360 Dust Analysis.

A global research initiative to get baseline data on harmful chemicals in regular households.

Get Started →

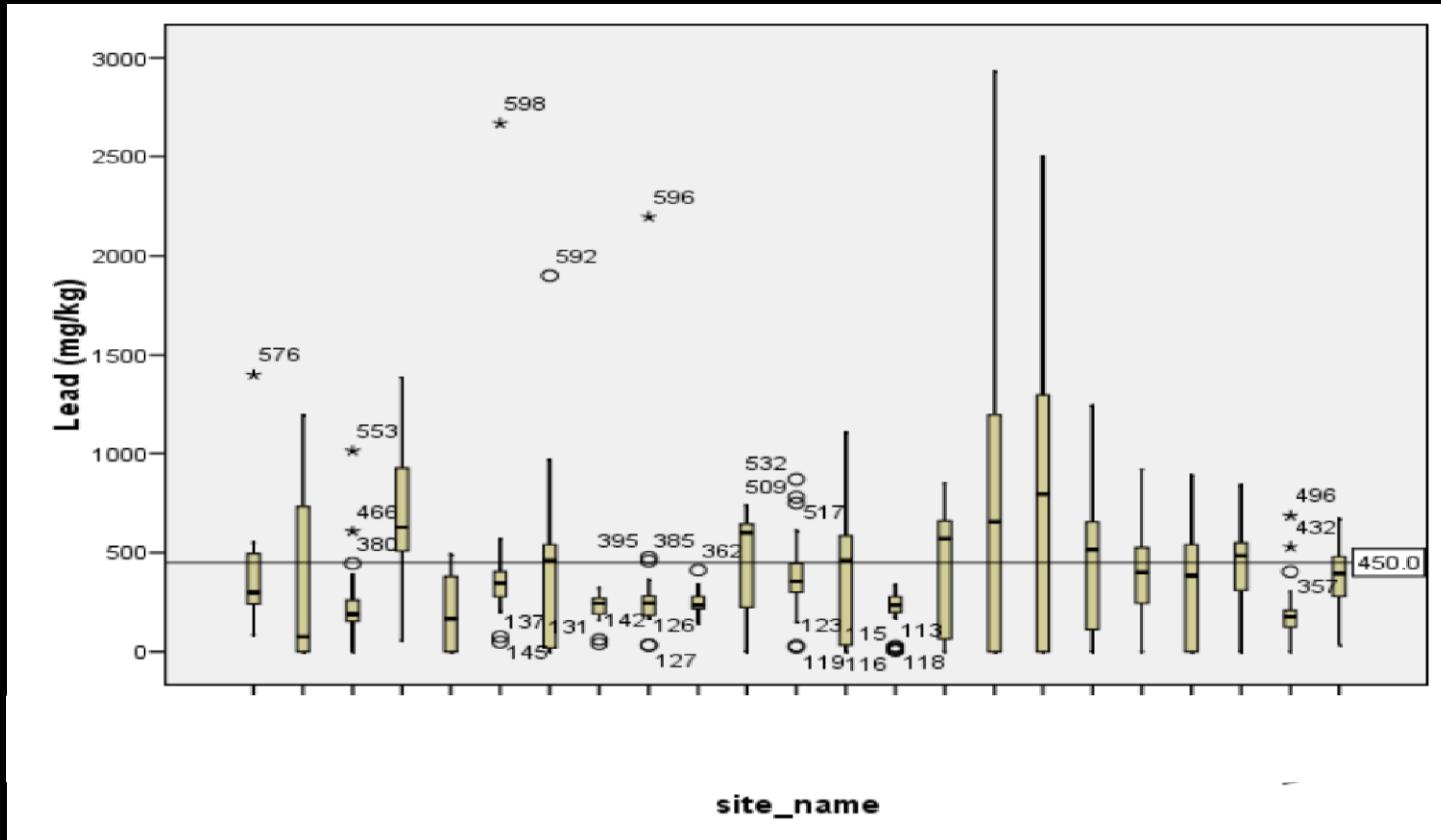
<http://www.360dustanalysis.com>

# DustSafe **RESULTS**





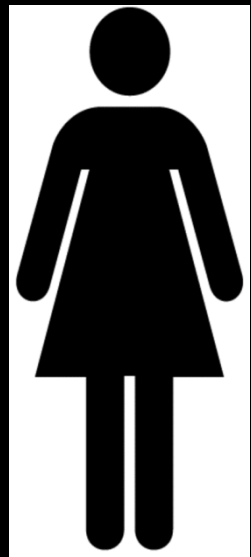
# DustSafe UK pilot [Newcastle Biomonitoring Study]



Raised Pb levels in our urban soils – backtracking particles into homes; deposition on crops  
Raising environmental health knowledge

# DustSafe UK pilot

## [Newcastle Biomonitoring Study]



### Factors?

Gender?

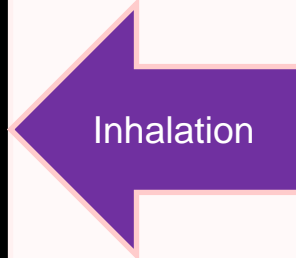
Age?

Behaviours?

Age?

Osteoporosis?

### Pathways



### Pb sources

Diet

Allotment

Soil

Home

Dust

Work & Hobbies

### Samples Collected

- Garden Soil
- Garden vegetables
- Tap water
- House dust
- Atmospheric deposition

- Exposure questionnaire
- Food frequency questionnaire

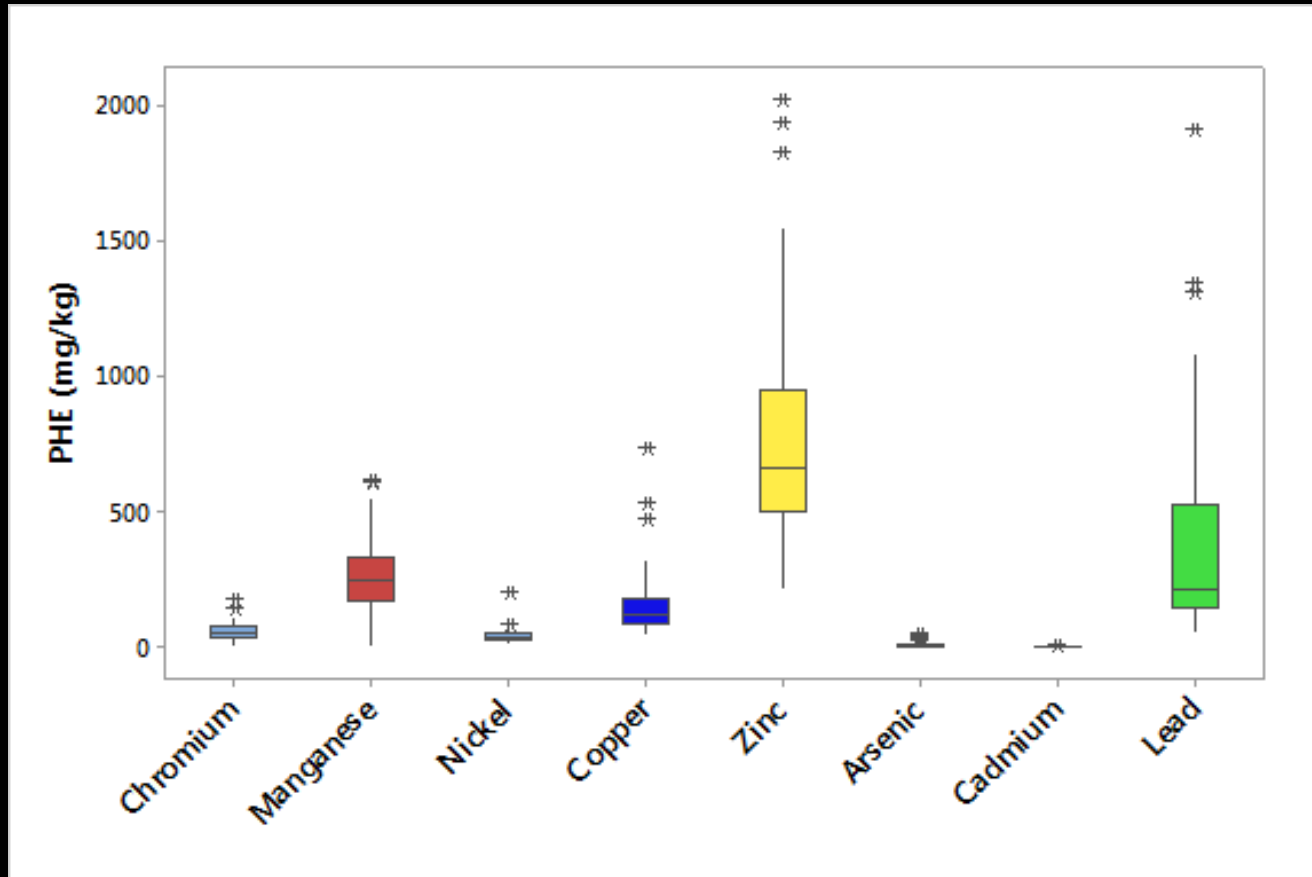
Internal exposure/ body burden

• Blood

• Saliva

# DustSafe UK

## [Newcastle Biomonitoring Study]



Q: What is the typical conc. of potentially harmful elements (PHE) in indoor vacuum dust?

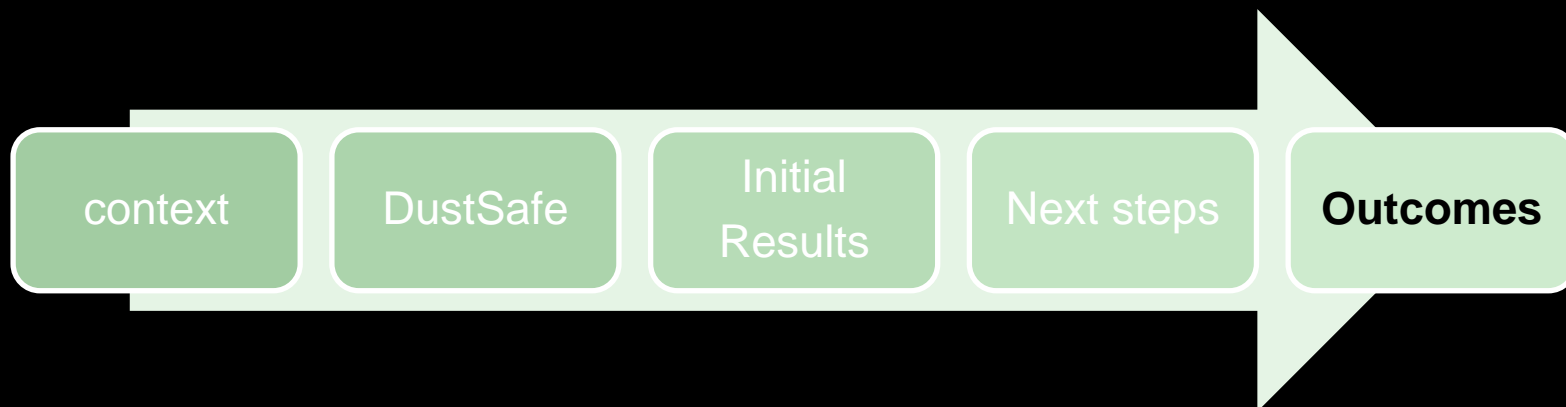
# 'Global' indoor vacuum dust

Element	Median (mg/kg) by XRF		
	Australia (n=95)	Newcastle (UK) (n = 51)	Canada (Rasmussen et al. 2013) (n = >1000)
Arsenic	13	5.66	7.7
Cadmium	<LOD	<LOD	3.8
Chromium	66	54.2	1.01
Copper	173	119	217
Manganese	189	243	<i>no data</i>
Nickel	31	34.8	73.3
Lead	405	212	119
Zinc	931	664	749

<LOD – below the limit of detection

Q: What is the typical conc. of PHE in indoor vacuum dust?

# DustSafe **OUTCOMES?**



# Outcomes

- Contribute to international resource and databank.
- Assist in characterising hazards from dust and risks in the home environment.
- Metadata explored using GIS for investigation of spatial trends.
- Develop Environmental Health knowledge

# THANK YOU

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Gabriel Filippelli (Indiana University-Purdue University, USA)  
Mark P. Taylor & Paul Harvey (Macquarie University, Australia)  
Ming-Hung Wong (The Education University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong)

And the wider team

N. America



Asia



Australia



EU - UK

