Interactive comment on “Overview of the European project FUMAPEX” by A. Baklanov

Anonymous Referee #2

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This paper provides a general overview of the European project FUMAPEX. The main objective of this project is to improve the methods for meteorological forecasts for urban areas. The focus is on using improved numerical weather prediction models, adapted to urban conditions. The review is very well structured and comprehensive. However, it is difficult to get the right impression on the achievements of the project without having access to the numerous references to other papers and reports. Unfortunately, many of the papers are not yet published and most of the reports are internal project reports and are not easily accessible. After some more laborious searching it is probably possible to identify these reports in the internet database of the FUMAPEX Project, but this is not an easy task. What one could expect from an overview paper is, at least some examples on the main scientific results of the project, which can illustrate the improvements and maybe also the outstanding problems. Few graphs with some
results would really make the difference.

A more general comment: The Project is strongly focusing on the prediction of episodes with high pollutant concentrations in urban areas. This is an important issue, but one should not forget that long-term predictions are equally, or maybe even more important when dealing with population exposure. Majority of exposure studies is related to long-term exposure and Urban Air Quality models should be able to handle such situations. Testing the models on few episodic conditions might not be enough. It’s also important to ensure that they can also be used for long-term predictions.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 5, 11679, 2005.