NanoSafety Cluster

A Resource for Stakeholders

Visit our website
www.nanosafetycluster.eu

Consult the Compendium

The nexus of all European Commission-sponsored R&D projects dealing with the safety of nanotechnologies

Presentation

The EU NanoSafety Cluster maximises the synergies between European level projects addressing all aspects of nanosafety including toxicology, ecotoxicology, exposure assessment, mechanisms of interaction, risk assessment and standardisation.

The Cluster is formed on the initiative of the European Commission Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD), which sponsors these projects. Overall, Europe targets safe and sustainable nanomaterials and nanotechnology innovations. Cluster projects contribute to assuring environmental health and safety (EHS) of this Key Enabling Technology.

EU NanoSafety Cluster Objectives

The EU NanoSafety Cluster enables:

- Efficiency and non-duplication of work across European projects
- Coherence of nanosafety studies and harmonization of methods
- Formation of a consensus on nanosafety approaches and findings in Europe

It is helping to provide:

- A forum for discussion, problem-solving and planning R&D activities
- A single voice for discussions with external bodies
- Knowledge on the risks of nanoparticles and nanomaterials for human health and the environment, of use to regulatory, policy, industrial and civil society stakeholders

International Multi-Stakeholder Cooperation

The European Commission and the US National Nanotechnology Coordination Office (NNCO) are working closely together to engage researchers, regulators, and granting entities in an active discussion on nano EHS research needs. They are identifying research that can benefit from joint efforts.

A dialogue activity in the context of this cooperation: Communities of Research "COR" are formed by groups of people sharing a significant interest in the field of nanosafety and interacting regularly to advance that interest. They develop a shared repertoire of resources: experiences, tools, ways of addressing recurring questions and challenges. Members are in regular contact through the use of wikis, webcasts, conference calls, and/or through the annual US-EU meeting.

See materials from the 2016 COR 'scrimmage' exercises simulating environmental spills of nano-enabled pesticides, at https://nanoehs.enanomapper.net/

EU NanoSafety Cluster Working Groups

- **WG1 - Materials**

Identify new developments in nanotechnology of interest, standard materials for toxicological tests and relevant physical properties for toxicity testing

- **WG2 - Hazard**

Hazard assessment of nanomaterials, harmonised methods/requirements for kinetic investigation and for appropriate toxicological endpoints

- **WG3 - Exposure**

Sharing methods, techniques/results/data and best practice to extract, prepare and analyse samples, to characterise and quantify nanomaterial exposure properties

- **WG4 - Database**

Communication platform to discuss anything around databases and ontologies in the context of work performed in the NSC

- **WG5 - Risk**

Modelling issues in relation to Risk Assessment, long-term issues for materials in use, and implement regulatory strategies/road maps

- **WG6 - Modeling**

Computational characterization of NMs, algorithms and methods for nanosafety data mining and for model development and validation, guidance on interpretation and use

- **WG7 - Dissemination**

Aims to increase the impact of projects and WGs by making the research, methodologies, tools and outcomes more widely known

- **WG8 - Systems Biology**

Bring together NSC researchers to develop and promote best practices for systems biology approaches with the organization of training courses and workshops

Ongoing FP7 and H2020 Projects

Contact

Our website includes Cluster news, events and newsletter as well as the detailed Compendium of projects

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With the support of the European Union