



Task Force on Safety: draft conclusions for HLG

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Purpose

High Level Group of EU Member States and Horizon 2020 Associated Countries on Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies and Advanced Materials set up short-term experts Task Forces to discuss bottle-necks to bridge gap from research to market.

Four Task Forces:

- Characterisation (incl. standardisation)
- Pilots
- Modelling (transfer to industry)
- Safety

Limited duration!



Recommendations (1)

- Research in **FP6, FP7 and H2020** have generated a large body of knowledge which is essential for the further development of regulatory tools in advanced material safety. European research is leading the international arena for safety. Further development of regulatory tools via international cooperation is recommended (NB: refer to specific collaboration like CoRs, OECD, ISO in body of report).
- Scientific research in short, medium and long term should **be better connected with regulatory needs**. It is essential that scientific research provides information that safety regulation can keep pace with innovation.



Recommendations (2)

- **Safe-by-design approaches and tools for advanced material development create new opportunities for a competitive edge in innovation and market expansion.** This should include all aspects of the problem, not only hazard, but also e.g. exposure consideration and mitigation. They should therefore be included in all calls for innovative research (NB: provide examples in body of report)
- **Nanosafety centres** can add to the capacity of the industry to develop and implement safe-by-design processes and products, as well as to the routine assessment and reduction of risks, supporting the implementation but also the science-based development of regulation. Networking between the centres and as appropriate with the already established exchange mechanisms supporting regulation (competent authorities network, agencies and scientific committees, helpdesk etc.) is required for the effective translation of their acquired scientific excellence and experience.



Recommendations (3)

- Better communication and collaboration between material science and risk research is recommended, with the expectation that this will benefit both sides and pave the way for faster return of investment.
- Intelligent testing strategies should be carried out with an interdisciplinary approach, and ensure that all aspects of experimental and computational research are equally involved in the designing, performing the experiments and analysing the results. Better integration between experimentation and modelling is recommended.



Recommendations (4)

- **Some aspects of novel research need to be identified and supported.** Examples include: development of state of the art instrumentation for nanoscale analysis, omics tools, in-silico informatics approaches (NB: provide justification above, include Chemo-Nano-Bio-informatics roadmap)
- A mechanism for **longer-term support** for research should be established through cooperation between the EC and member states to ensure continuation of research beyond the lifetime of individual projects (NB; describe how the cycle of short (3-4 year) project finishing with no continuity or potential for the discoveries to be followed up wastes resources). Investments in expertise should not be lost, therefore incentives and practices should be created to ensure successful project teams to pursue their work further



Recommendations (5)

- Collaborative projects and networks co-funded across member states create excellent synergies in research and speed up advances in innovation and Europe-wide market uptake adoption and implementation (ERA-NET). Such opportunities should not be lost in future funding frameworks.
- **Standardisation** enables harmonised approaches for implementation of legislation and therefore the efficient bridging between the research to standardisation has to be ensured.



Thank you