

FAST FACTS

Duration:

36 Months

Completion Date:

September 2019

Total Funding:

€10 Million

Partners:

42 across 15+ countries

Objective:

Establish Safe by Design as a fundamental pillar in the development of nanomaterials or nano-enabled products

Outcomes:

- Nanomaterial grouping strategy
- Associated integrated testing strategy

Learn More:

NanoReg2.eu

New Framework for Safer Nanomaterials

One of the greatest challenges in the changing nanomaterial landscape is how to deal with a rapidly diversifying system of manufactured nanomaterials (MNM) with respect to environmental and health safety assessments. Technologies emerging today are increasingly complex, while existing data becomes out of date over time. Regulations must be flexible enough to evolve alongside technology and ensure the public and private sectors can work hand-in-hand in delivering safe, effective products to market.

NanoReg2 will help meet this challenge by establishing Safe by Design (SbD) as a fundamental pillar in the discovery, screening and commercialisation of novel nanomaterials and nano enabled products. Over the next two and a half years, NanoReg2 will establish a grouping strategy for nanomaterials, built on the principles of SbD, that facilitates a regulatory system that is effective for governments and cost-efficient for industry.

42 organizations in more than 15 countries from across the public and private sectors have come together in NanoReg2 to take on this task. With a project of this size, the feedback of the wider nanotechnology and nanosafety community is integral to success.

That is why we are sending you the first NanoReg2 newsletter, so you may follow our work. Each newsletter will focus on a key portion of the project and our work so far. This edition profiles Safe by Design – how we define it and the importance of the concept – as well as the case studies supporting it.

We invite you to read and send any feedback you have to ProjectOffice@NanoReg2.eu. In addition, please invite your colleagues to sign up for the newsletter at NanoReg2.eu/resources.

Thank you,
NanoReg2 Executive Board



Safe By Design: the Foundation of NanoReg2

The Safe by Design (SbD) concept aims at reducing potential health and environmental risks at an early phase of the innovation process. Such concept aims at creating an integrated research strategy. This enables the consideration of safety aspects for humans and the environment in the design process of a product/material, to eliminate or minimise the risk of adverse effects during its life cycle including construction, use, maintenance and deconstruction.

Within the Safe by Design concept the functionality of a nanomaterial and its toxicity/safety are therefore considered in an integrated way. Such an approach maximises resource use and expedites the development of products containing nanomaterials and new nanomaterials that are safer by design.

By working with industrial actors and governments, NanoReg2 will offer a robust SbD concept that can be integrated with existing processes and approaches.

Proving the Implementability of SbD for Industry

To prove the effectiveness of a SbD approach, NanoReg2 will work with nanomaterial developers, from large companies to SMEs, to create case studies that put SbD into practice. Companies will use NanoReg2 groupings and SbD tools as they develop a product in order to test, refine and improve the approach.

At least five case studies will be created over the life of the project that assess the implementability of SbD across each of the three Safe by Design pillars – Safe Production, Safe Products and Safe Use – and ensure our approach is viable at different stages in the value chain. This will show how SbD can operate at a practical level as well as provide further data to the NanoReg2 project that can enhance our work.

Once complete, public versions of the case studies will be compiled and made available to our stakeholders, especially those in industry and regulations. It will be essential to hear their feedback and answer any questions about how SbD was implemented in each case.

Follow Our Progress

We look forward to keeping you up to date on our activities throughout the life of this project. Hearing your feedback will be essential for our project to achieve our goals and produce outcomes that can be used by both the public and private sectors.

If you have any questions or comments at all, please contact us at ProjectOffice@NanoReg2.eu, or if you would like to sign up for our mailing list please visit our Website at NanoReg2.eu.