



Accessibility of information on chemical risks in new products

Environmental information on products: making public access work.

Tatiana Santos

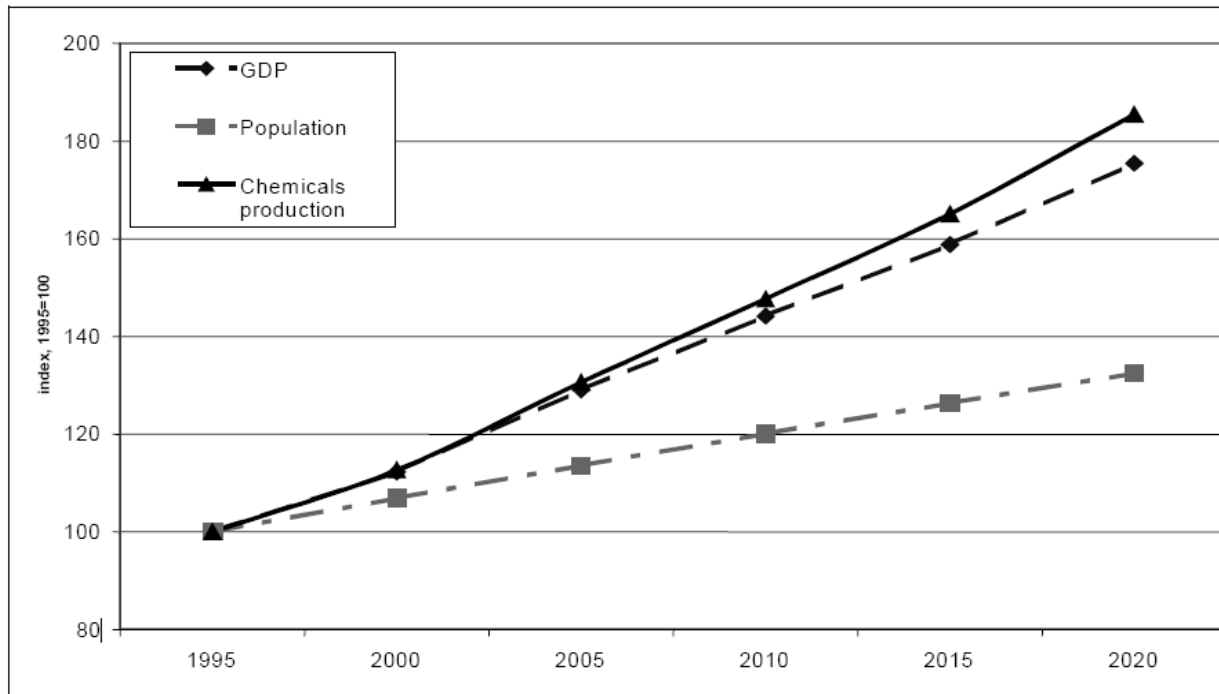
UNECE,

Geneva, 8 February 2013



What we know

Figure 9
Projected growth in chemicals production, world GDP and world population
(1995-2020)



Source: OECD Reference Scenario (See Annex 6).

- 63% increase world chemicals output for 2020.
- annual global chemical sales doubled over the period 2000 to 2009



What we know

+70 million substances in the world (*CAS Registry)

How many new substances?

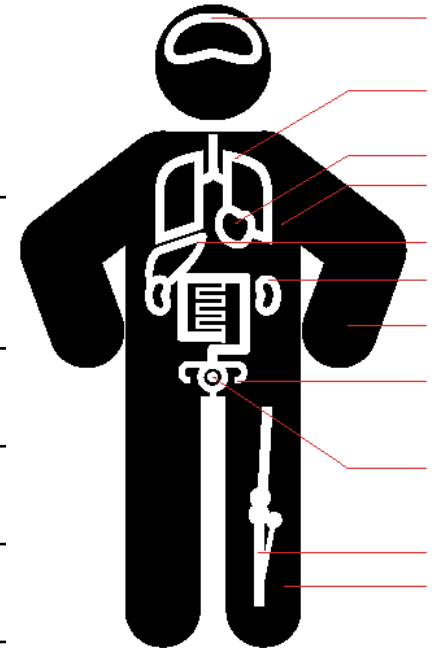
- **15,000 new substances are added each day to CAS**
- **100,000 substances on the European market**
 - 143,835 Pre-registered substances
 - 10,277 Registered substances by 20 Jan. 2013
 - 5,292 NONs (new substances 1967 - June 1, 2008)
 - 770 non phase-in (new substances; after 1/6/2008)
- **EPA Reviews 1,700 New Compounds Each Year**



What we know

Hazardous substances

No. substances	Effect
4,136	CLP- Annex VI
1,005-1,500	CMR cat 1-2 CLP
384	PBT/vPvB
1,500-2,271	EDCs-potential EDCs
1,364	neurotoxicants
11,091	sensitisers





What we don't know

Chemicals – the dearth of data

- **Toxicity**

75% few (or no) toxicity data

25% limited toxicity information

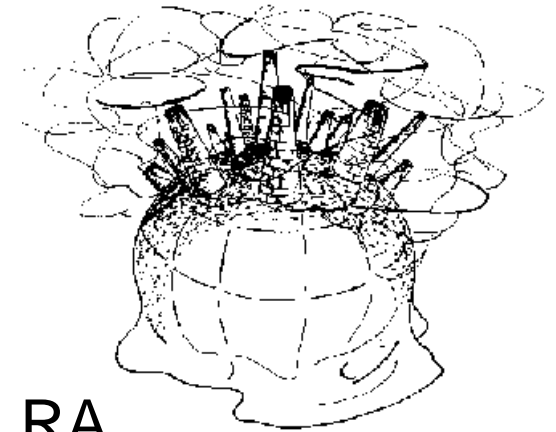
2,500 HPVC only 14 % minimal OECD RA

- **Exposure**

There is very little data on exposure levels for ecosystems and people, particularly sensitive groups

- **Health and environmental costs**

Little data – but the costs of ill health, environmental damage, fires/explosives, etc., are large—and can be reduced by getting market prices & the regulatory framework right





Why we need to know

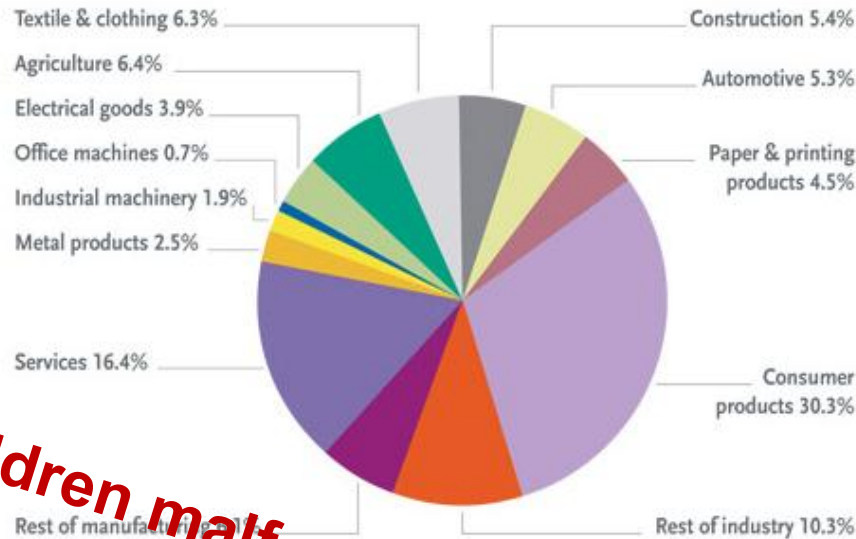
Public concern about chemicals

Breastfeeding and concentrations of HCB and *p,p'*-DDE at the age of 1 year



Flame retardants in breast milk

% of chemical domestic consumption



EDCs

Nanomaterials

Cocktail effects



Pesticides and children malformations

PCE contamination of mains water

BPA in babybottles

Sources: Cefic and Eurostat (input-output) analysis
* EU 15



Why we need to know

EUROBAROMETER 360 “Consumer understanding of labels and the safe use of chemicals”

- The respondents are generally more inclined to characterise chemical products as ‘dangerous’ or ‘harmful to the environment’, rather than ‘useful’ or ‘innovative’.
- Beyond reading the instructions, there is generally little understanding about the safety measures that need to be taken when using chemical products.
- Most respondents feel only moderately informed or not well informed, about the risks associated with chemical products.



Why we need to know

- **Finnish Safety and Chemicals Agency just released information on hazardous substances in consumer products**
 - Twenty cosmetics products, mainly teeth whitening and hair dyes, were recalled from the market in 2012 due to their chemical content.
 - A further 58 items were found not to meet the legal requirements for the labelling of hazardous chemicals.
- **The Fight to Know? SVHC and the citizens “right to know”**



Why we need to know

Fig 2: Overall Answer rate



Fig 4: Answer rate form request (BE)

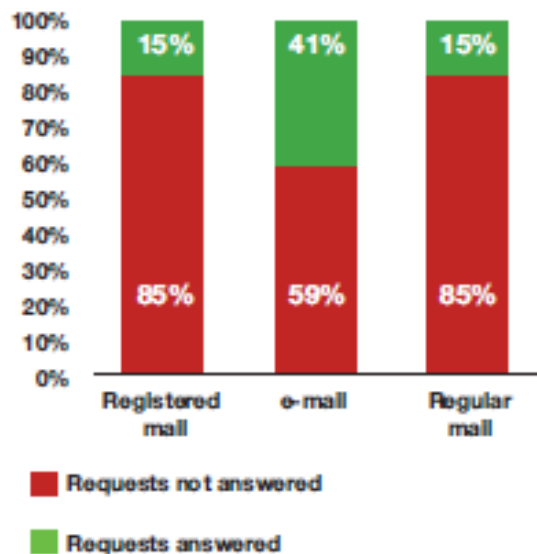
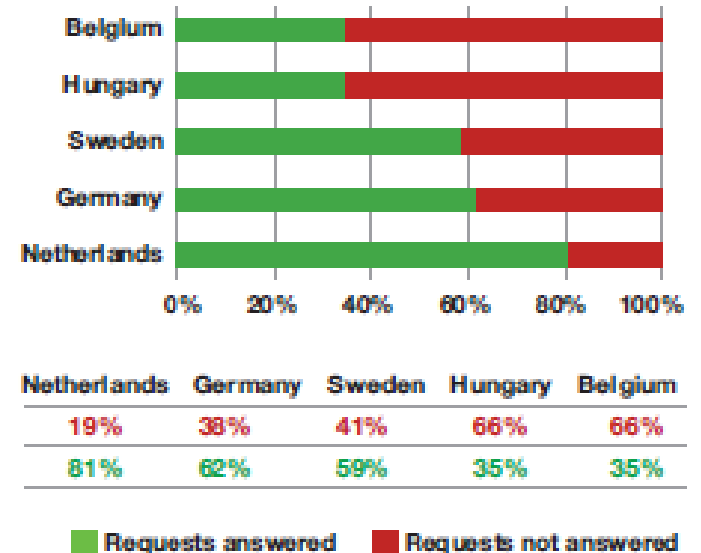


Fig 5: Answer rate form request (EU)





How we need to know

- ✓ **Transparency -> consumer can make informed choices**
 - Publicly accessible database including substitutes
 - Mandatory labelling of all hazardous substances
 - Certification system for recycling
 - International consumer awareness campaign
 - Guidelines on safe use and protective measures
- ✓ **Information must be clear, concise, up to date**
- ✓ **Globally harmonized legislation**
- ✓ **Double standards are not acceptable**
- ✓ **“No data - no market”**

Welcome to CleanGredients®

... an online database of cleaning product ingredient chemicals, providing verified information about the environmental and human health attributes of listed ingredients. CleanGredients is a project of GreenBlue®, a nonprofit that equips business with the science and resources to make products more sustainable. CleanGredients:

- ✧ helps formulators to identify better ingredients
- ✧ helps suppliers to showcase better ingredients

[read more](#)

News and Announcements

The U.S. EPA is accepting comments on its draft "Alternatives for Nonylphenol Ethoxylates" assessment, which you can download [here](#). Please send any comments to [David DiFiore](#) at DfE. *The comment period closes November 30.*

Got a question about CleanGredients? You can find answers to many common questions on the CleanGredients [FAQ page](#).

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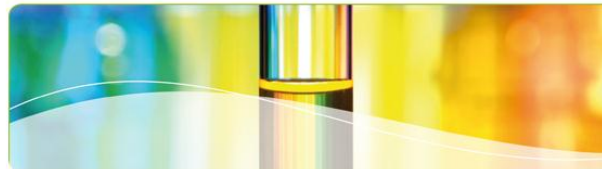
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MOVING TOWARDS SAFER ALTERNATIVES



Support for Substitution

Substitution of hazardous chemicals is a fundamental measure to reduce risks to environment, workers, consumers and public health.

Legislation encourages you to substitute, this site will show you how.

[Read more](#)

Latest News

Webinar: Chemical-Intensive Products Sustainability-Driven Innovation

Events & Training |

6.02.2013

ChemRisk, ATMI, SingingDog and B2Bwebinars.net provide an interactive web conference to address urgent issues: Recognizing and addressing the urgent chemical challenges and developing the innovation practices to get ahead of the curve and stay there.

[Read more](#)



Substitution Steps

Substitution may be fast easy or a more complex process. Generally it includes the following steps:

1. Define the problem
2. Set substitution criteria
3. Search for alternatives
4. Assess and compare alternatives
5. Experiment on pilot
6. Implement and improve

[Read more](#)

Welcome to SUBSPORT the Substitution Support Portal!

Here you can find information to support your efforts in substituting hazardous substances. Enjoy exploring the portal and please do not hesitate to [contact](#) the project team for any comments or questions.

SUBSPORT is an ongoing project. Therefore we recommend to revisit the portal from time to time if you could not yet find the information you expected. To keep yourself informed about the progress of the portal and other related news you can subscribe to the [SUBSPORT newsletter](#).

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Conclusions

- Little information on chemicals in products at all stages of the life-cycle
- Lack of transparency: consumer cannot make informed choices
- Vulnerable populations exposed carry an unacceptable burden of disease
- Group approach and/or QSARs needed for new substances' hazard identification & characterisation
- ✓ Good information will make consumers a driving force for creating markets for cleaner products.



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The European Environmental
NGOs thank you for your
attention

For questions or comments, please contact:

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