

Models and approaches for tailored governance in selected policy-areas in Austria, with a special focus on Chemicals Policy

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Why should stakeholders be part of political decision making?

Key element of „Good Governance“ in liberal democracies ensuring:

- Transparency
- Participation
- Accessibility of information and
- Inclusiveness
- Prerequisite of acceptance of decisions by civil society



Selection of appropriate formats for Participation – it depends...

- level of technicality/complexity, broadness
- number of groups of civil society potentially concerned
- attention and coverage of the topic in media/public debate
- potential for political tension
- relevance for public health/ economy – possible consequences...
- need to dynamically develop and adapt a national position



Showcase: Endocrine Disruptors

- **Political Goal: Funnelling Discussion while establishing national position**
- Actively followed since 1995
- Highly sensitive (vulnerable groups, related to cancer)
- Several factors contributing (industrial chemicals, life style, nutrition..)
- Spectacular findings in wildlife, emerging evidence
- Increasing media coverage
- Approaching „regulatory maturity“



Showcase: Endocrine Disruptors II

- „Dialogue on Risk“ Environment Agency
- Focus in 3 – year program
- Kick off event, documentation
- National stakeholder platform
- Work an common position paper on classification
- Part of national position for EU – negotiations
- Termination after decision taken

Format enabled constant exchange of views, update, focused work



GESETZGEBUNG

KONSULTATIONEN

INFORMATIONEN ÜBER CHEMIKALIEN

HILFE

ECHA > Gesetzgebung > REACH > Endocrine disruptor assessment

REACH

- [REACH verstehen](#)
- [Identifizierung des Stoffs](#)
- [Registrierung](#)
- [Bewertung](#)
- [Zulassung](#)
- [Beschränkung](#)
- [Kommunikation in der Lieferkette](#)
- [Stoffe der Kandidatenliste in Erzeugnis](#)
- [Rechtsvorschriften](#)
- [Tierversuche im Rahmen von REACH](#)

Endocrine disruptor assessment

Some substances known as endocrine disruptors can alter the function(s) of the hormonal system and may cause adverse health effects in humans and wildlife. Under REACH, endocrine disruptors may be identified as substances of very high concern (SVHCs), where there is scientific evidence of probable serious effects to human health or the environment.

Under the Biocidal Products Regulation, criteria have been developed for the identification of endocrine disruptors for human health and non-target organisms. All biocidal active substances have to undergo a formal ED assessment. You can follow the status of biocides assessments at the Biocidal Active Substances page.

The Endocrine Disruptor Expert Group supports Member States in their ED assessments. Substances undergoing an ED assessment under the REACH or Biocidal Products regulations that have been brought for discussion to ECHA's ED Expert Group are included in the ED assessment list.

The endocrine disruptor concern

Endocrine disruptors interfere with hormone action, and in doing so can produce adverse effects on human and wildlife health. The endocrine system is a complex network of glands, hormones and receptors. It provides the key communication and control link between the nervous system and bodily functions such as reproduction, immunity, metabolism and behaviour.

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Schließen X

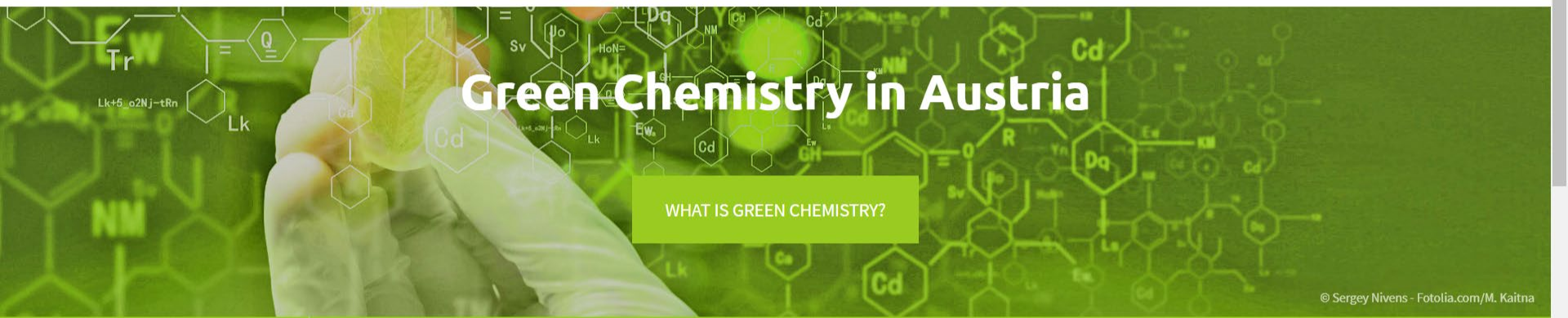
Showcase: “Green Chemistry”

- **Political Goal: Strengthen national Know How informing the AT – Position to integrate GrCh – Aspects into „Chemicals Policy“ universe**
- AT - Presidency Program of the EU Council 2018
- Main target audience: Science, Innovative Industry, Start ups, Funding/enabling institutions
- „Plenary“ – open for all
- „Operating platform“: Working groups, work packages (Chemicals as a service, „biobased“, Movie, Education (from elementary school to PhD))

Showcase: “Green Chemistry” II

- Gr Ch Network established
- Website
- Movie
- Master Course /PhD College – 3 Universities
- Part of National Research and Innovation program
- Austrian Input for REACH – relaunch

Format delivered robust results – critical level for Input capacity evident



Green Chemistry in Austria

WHAT IS GREEN CHEMISTRY?

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Documentary "Green Chemistry in Austria"

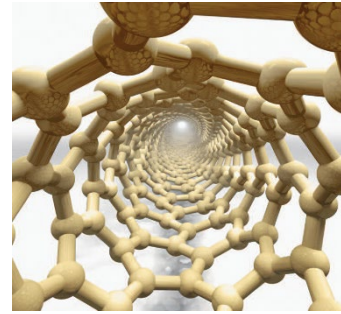
What is "Green Chemistry"? Why is it so important? What activities are there in Austria

Conference Summary "A Green Chemical Deal"

We look back at the **international conference "A Green Chemical Deal"** that took place in

GCCM course and master's degree in green chemistry

The aim of the Green Chemistry Change Manager (GCCM) course is to train employees in



Showcase - Nano - Governance

Political Goal: Demystify; display applications (benefits); display risks and „unknown knowns“....; ensure transparency; room for dialogue and criticism; targeted EHS research;

- Full fledged tool box: National Action Plan (Council of Ministers); Stakeholder platform (further developed into Ministerial Commission, Website); Nano trust: Scientifically accompanying and informing national policy (Website, Seminars, Dossiers...); EHS-focused research program (8 national plus EU – Calls);

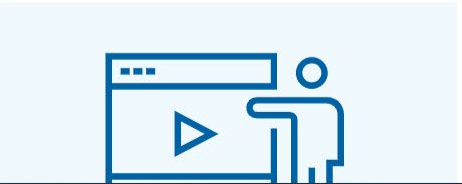
Format established „Nano community“; informed civil society/media; „No smoking gun“. Role model for “Circular Economy Strategy”.



nanoinformation

Österreichisches Portal für Nanotechnologie

Fachlich fundierte Informationen für Interessierte



Showcases

- „Multiple Chemical Sensitivity“ – is it real?
- „Human Biomonitoring“ – a platform for strengthening Austria’s presence in EU – wide programs; Reporting to parliament
- Austrian platform on EU Chemical Policy – working sessions/AT Positioning
- International Chemicals Policy – 6 instruments (!); national co - ordination
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Thank you for your attention!

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