

# RECENT PROJECT REALIZATIONS OF *ecopa*

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REALIZATION  
OF PROJECTS:

THE representative  
of ALTERNATIVE  
METHODS in the EU

## HOW?

By action,  
and by developing  
political impact!

*ecopa* is not part  
of the Commission,  
therefore neutral,  
but part of the political  
EU-scene and an NGO

## REALIZATION OF PROJECTS:

**HOW?** we are financed,  
and financing our activities:

by Sponsors

(such as Doerenkamp-Zbinden Foundation,  
National Platform support, e.g. NCA,  
Companies P&G, Bayer etc.,  
Governmental institutions/ministeries,  
such as Min.f. German Research,  
Belgian Min.f.Agriculture)

And, above all, by private initiative and enthusiasm!

## Topics

- Annual workshops of ecopa:
  - The general concept
- Political Statements:
  - Declaration and Sign in-project in regard to the EU White Paper on Chemical Policy/REACH
- Actions and Projects:
  - Themes: REACH, 6th Framework Programme, CONAM, Predictomics, ReProTect, AcuTox/EDIT
  - *ecopa*-newsletter
- Future/2004 Activities:
  - eSi
  - statement regarding SCALE
  - statement re. 7th Framework Programme



## Annual Workshops of *ecopa*:

The general concept

- Discuss issues of alternative method development
- Problems in *in vivo*-testing
- 3-Rs (Refine, Replace, Reduce) aspects
- Address each year a different subject, such as REACH, White Paper on Chemical Policy, OECD guidelines, etc.
- Develop actions on that basis, and TAKE A POLITICAL STAND
- Enable also a scientific exchange forum: SCIENCE FAIR concept

## Political Statements:

Declaration and Sign in-project in regard to the EU White Paper on Chemical Policy

- Develop the statement 
- Prepare website sign in-procedure
- Collect addresses (for further actions) 
- Send declaration and address collection to DGs (RTD, ENV, ENT) for EU INTERNET-consultation process on REACH

## Political Statements:

- Request of *ecopa* to fund alternative method development in the 6th Framework Programme, as more testing required in the REACH-programme
- EU Commission responds with Stakeholder's Meeting (July 2002) and by accepting projects under that heading in the 6th Framework Programme (which definitely was not foreseen before)

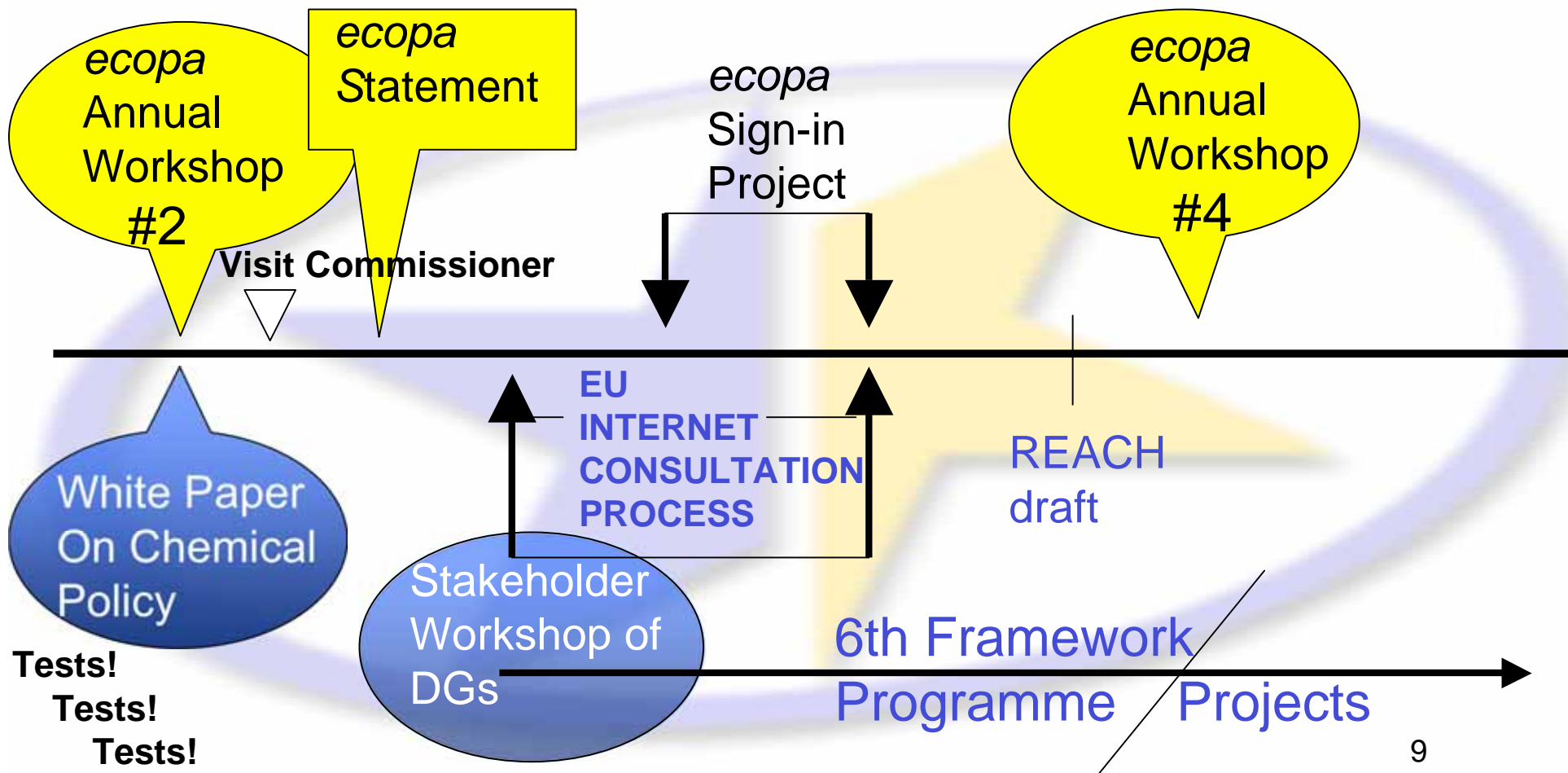
# REACH

## HOW?

did *ecopa* get involved?



# HOW it works together:



Stakeholder  
Workshop of  
DGs

**CONFERENCE ON THE STATE OF THE ART  
OF RESEARCH-REPLACEMENT, REDUCTION &  
REFINEMENT-ALTERNATIVES TO ANIMAL  
EXPERIMENTATION AND TESTING**

- ▶ **ORGANISED BY DG RESEARCH AND DG JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE (JRC)**
- ▶ **ON 9-10 JULY 2002 IN BRUSSELS; DISCUSSION WITH STAKEHOLDERS**

↓

Ecopa working groups were represented

↓

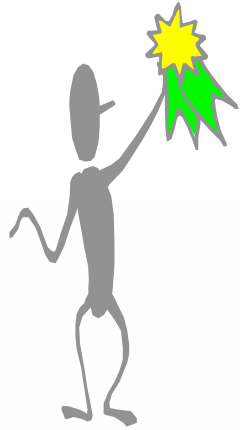
Promise for alternatives under part 8 of FP 6

↓

Rewriting of FP 6 text: critical participation

↓

**ALTERNATIVE METHODS ARE IN FP 6 !!**



## WHAT HAVE WE REALIZED THEREBY ?



*ecopa* workgroup 1 and 2 thereby reached their goal → alternatives through FP 6 research



introduction of 16 EoI (expression of interest) – research proposals from *ecopa* member countries listed on the website



several 3R-research projects with help of *ecopa* in FP 6



**SUCCESS!** 11

## The 6th Framework Programme projects with *ecopa*:

	Participants:	Subject:
• CONAM (SSA): V.Rogiers, B	NCPs 4 stakeholders	THE <i>ecopa</i> project
• Predictomics* (STREP): J.Castell, E	5 major industrial partners + SMEs	
• ReProTect* (IP): ECVAM, I	5 major industrial partners + SMEs	
• EDIT/AcuTox (IP): S. Clemedson, S	1 major industrial partner + SMEs	

\* *ecopa* research partners included

## CONAM (SSA)

## CONSENSUS NETWORKING ON ALTERNATIVE METHODS WITHIN EUROPE

### Objectives:

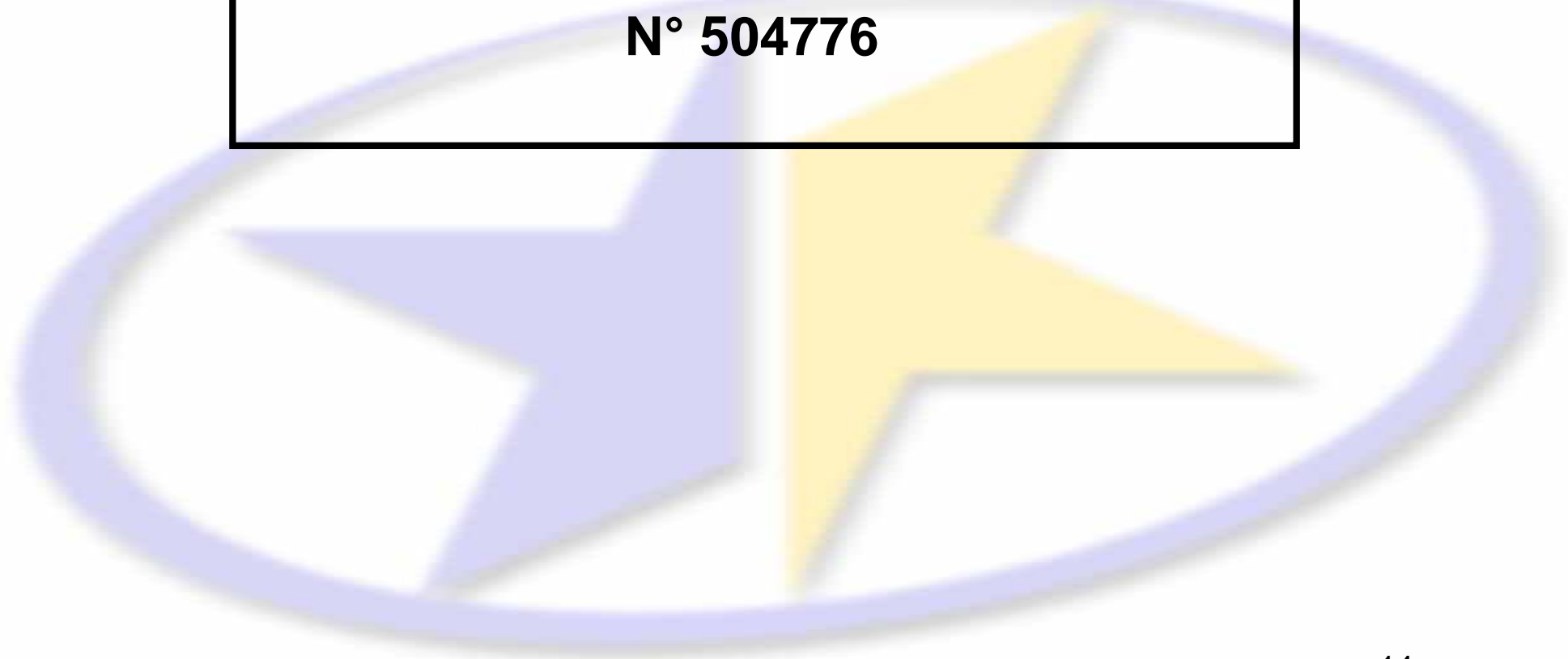
Building up a solid network on 3R-alternatives and exchanging information (scientific, societal, technological) on development & validation of 3R-alternatives

### Major Topics:

- Formation of new NCPs, in particular non-EU candidate countries
- Creation of newsletter on 3R-alternatives
- Website expansion
- Workshops, meetings
- Links with other FP6-projects on 3Rs
- Reporting on „-omics“-field
- Stimulation of international cooperation

# CONAM PROJECT

N° 504776



## CONAM (SSA)

### BUDGET:



Total budget: 150.000 Euro over 3 years

### WORKGROUPS!

- |     |     |  |
|-----|-----|--|
| WP0 |     | Management Board of ecopa  |
| WP1 | WG1 | Consensus networking on 3R-alternatives,<br>teamleader: V. Rogiers (B, Ac) |
| WP2 | WG2 | EU White Paper on Chemicals<br>teamleader: K. Gabrielson (S, An)           |
| WP3 | WG3 | Education / Training<br>teamleader: J. van der Valk (NL, An)               |
| WP4 | WG4 | Ethics<br>teamleader: T. de Cock Buning (NL, Ac)                           |

# HOW?

**does the future / do our activities 2004 look:**

- **eSi, ecopa Science initiative**  
to take place at Alicante/E in October 2004



- HOW should it work? 

- **Next ecopa Annual Workshop:**  
to take place in Brussels/B, Nov. 2004

- HOW will it work? 

- Statements:
  - regarding SCALE
  - regarding development of 7th Framework Programme

## CONCLUSIONS:

### HOW

did ecopa realize projects?

and

**By scientific and political action!**

### HOW

did ecopa win impact as THE EU representative umbrella organisation for alternatives?

**By doing!**



**END OF PRESENTATION**

# BACKUPS / LINKS

## european consensus-platform for alternatives



15:28:50

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

[+++ EVENTS: minutes of the 4th ecopa wor](#)

[click here for direct access to the news section](#)






ecopa - european consensus-platform for alternatives

# european consensus-platform for alternatives

 news

-  [ecopa STATEMENT in regard to the EU CHEMICAL POLICY internet consultation process](#)
-  [ecopa membership platforms](#)  
A list of currently existing platforms.
-  [Danish platform to be founded](#)  
The Danish platform is to be founded.
-  [Contribution of ecopa to FP6](#)  
Under Priority 1 *Life Sciences, Genomics and Biotechnology for Health* of the 6th Framework Programme, ecopa has given its full cooperation to five projects.
-  [Italian platform IPAM founded](#)

["ecopa"] [news] [events] [archive] [courses] [databases] [forum] [links] [contact] [◀] [⬆] [▶]





ecopa - european consensus-platform for alternatives 

european consensus-platform for alternatives

**e c o p a STATEMENT in regard to the EU CHEMICAL POLICY**  
**- internet consultation process -**

Even though supporting an adequate re-organizing of the EU chemical regulation framework in general, e c o p a had raised early on concerns about the consequences of the new EU Chemical Policy laid down in the White Paper in terms of massive lab animal testing as a result of the proposed regulations. But only under massive pressure by e c o p a and others, the Commission admitted that there will not be sufficient alternative methods in place in time to limit lab animal testing induced by the new regulations, and that therefore, the EU has/had to take care of more research resources for further development of additional alternatives.

However, the now proposed draft version of the policy presented for internet consultation still lacks a responsible and balanced basic view. There are no signs for any further restriction in in vivo-testing, especially when considering the additional

[\["ecopa"\]](#) [\[news\]](#) [\[events\]](#) [\[archive\]](#) [\[courses\]](#) [\[databases\]](#) [\[forum\]](#) [\[links\]](#) [\[contact\]](#)   





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I / we support , as a citizen/citizens of Europe the following demands of **ecopa**, the European umbrella organisation of national platforms for alternatives to animal experiments, in regard to the European Chemicals Policy REACH program, and I / we want it to be heard in the EU internet-consultation.

If there shall be any meaningful and responsible discussion in the European Parliament starting October 2003 and beyond, ecopa demands:

- That the DGs involved immediately initiate a thorough analysis on potential animal experiments induced by the regulations, and on the realistic availability of alternative tests, under neutral guidance and chairmanship by an organisation such as **ecopa**,
- That by a further parallel and neutral analysis the balance between requirements on the one side, and the expected benefits on the other hand are demonstrated to the EP and the European citizens,





- That by a further parallel and neutral analysis the balance between requirements on the one side, and the expected benefits on the other hand are demonstrated to the EP and the European citizens,

- That a concise document is presented to the European public and scientific community in due time of both a.m. studies for further internet consultation!


ecopa is convinced that only by such procedure the European Parliament would be in a position to decide!

[READ THE FULL TEXT HERE](#)

**THANKS FOR THE SIGN-ONS!**

**We had more than 320 sign-ons in two weeks from many countries all over the world. Thank you all!**






**We are collecting signatures**  
to support us in the internet consultation process. Whoever signs on until July 7, will be part of our submission to the EU.

(\* = required)

First Name *	<input type="text" value="Bernward"/>	Surname *	<input type="text" value="Garthoff"/>
Street *	<input type="text" value="Alfred-Nobel-Strasse"/>	House name or number *	<input type="text" value="50"/>
Town/City *	<input type="text" value="Monheim"/>	Country *	<input type="text" value="Germany"/>





Street \*

Town/City \*

Postcode \*


Organisation represented (if any)

Number of members (approx.)

House name or number \*

Country \*  
  
Germany  
Ghana  
Gibraltar  
Greece  
Greenland  
Grenada  
Guadeloupe  
Guam  
Guatemala  
Guernsey, C.I.  
Guinea





Town/City *	Country *
<input type="text" value="Monheim"/>	<input type="text" value="Germany"/>
Postcode *	Email address *
<input type="text" value="40789"/>	<input type="text" value="bernward.garthoff@bayercropscience.com"/>
Organisation represented (if any)	Position in organisation
<input type="text" value="Bayer CropScience"/>	<input type="text" value="Chief Technology Officer"/>
Number of members (approx.)	
<input type="text" value="19,000"/>	





Your details will be held on our database. Please check if the following applies:

I would like to be contacted about our campaigns.



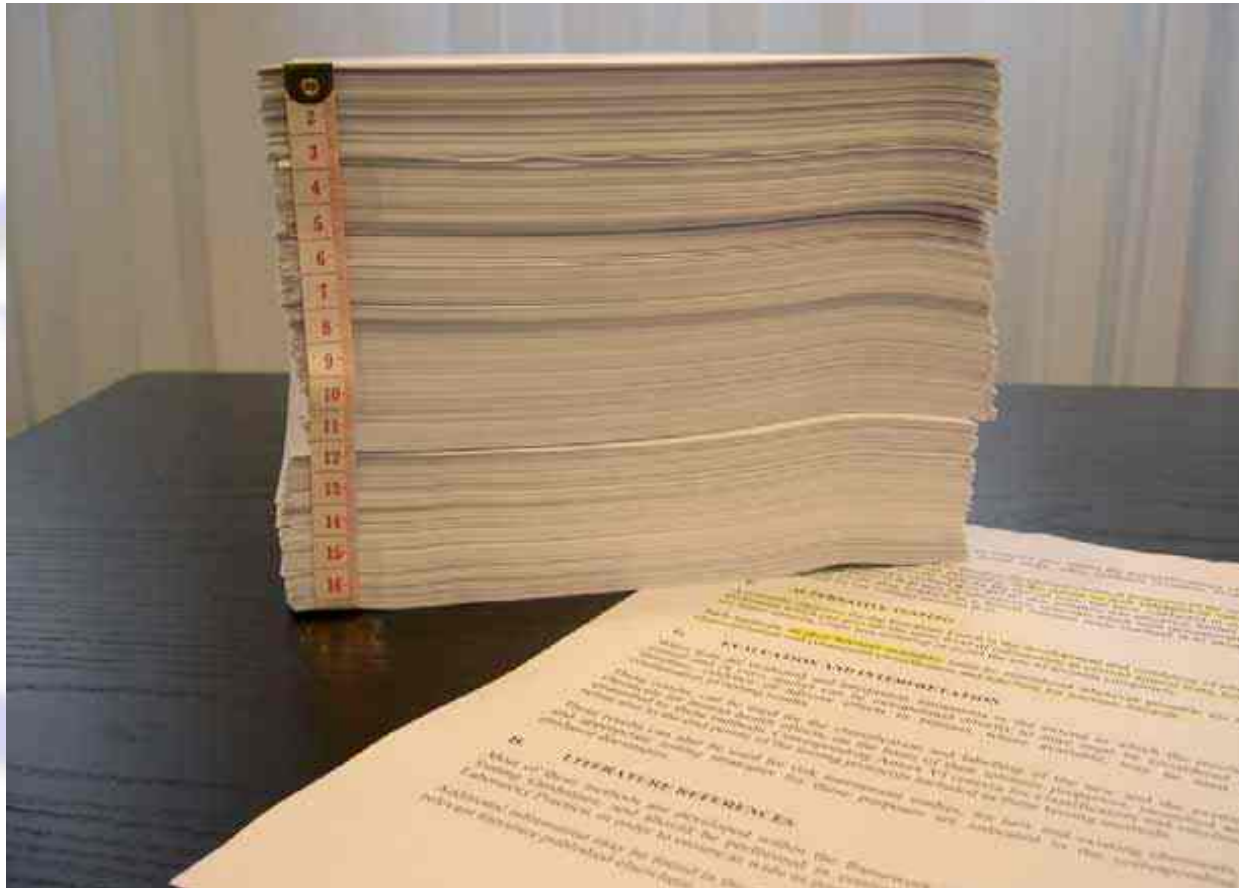


Back to slide 6!

# New EU Chemical Testing Policy so called REACH:

What is it about?

1200 pages...



# **New EU Chemical Testing Policy so called REACH:**

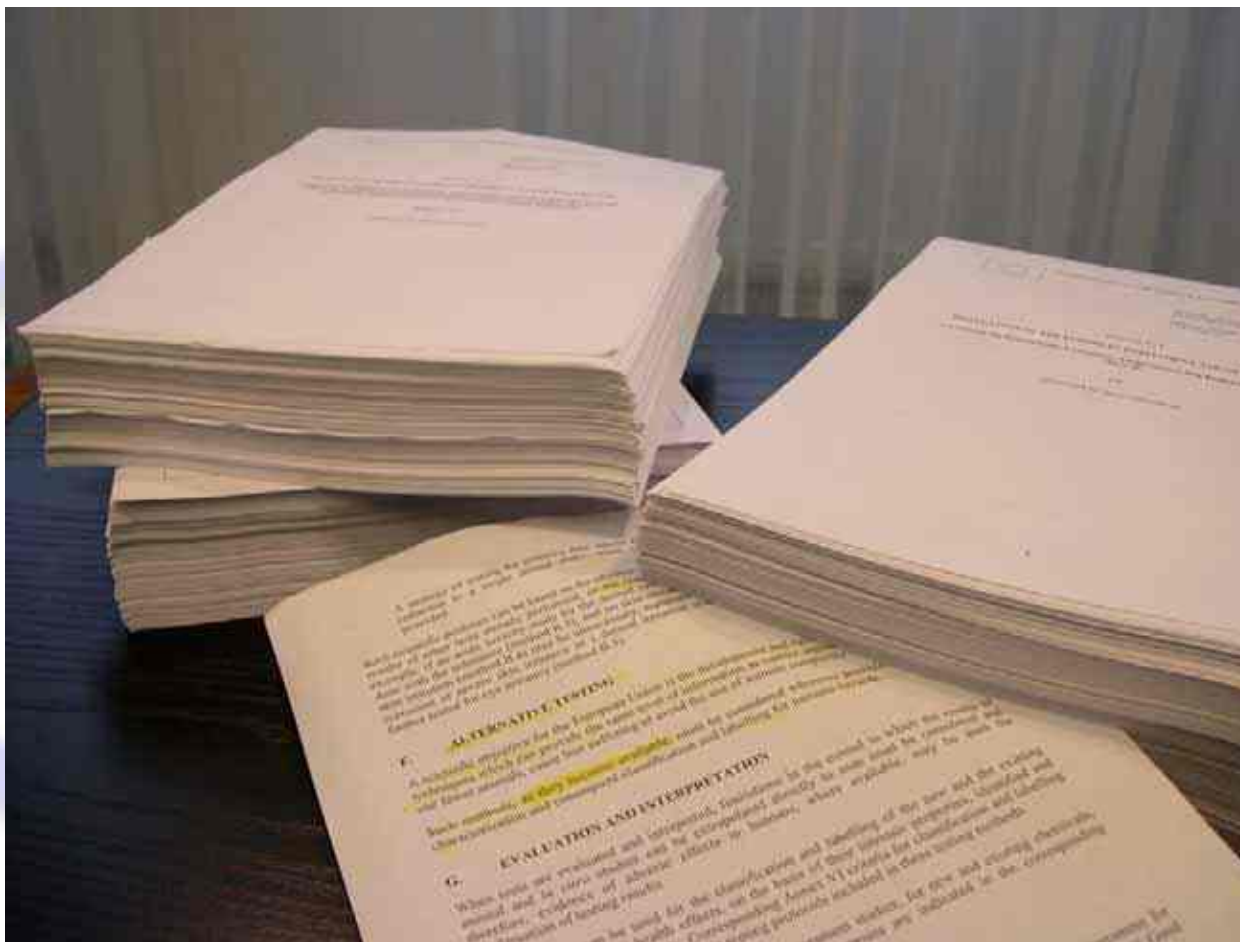
1/3 is about testing, most of it is animal testing!



# New EU Chemical Testing Policy so called REACH:

1 page

1 paragraph on alternatives



# One sentence - Quote from the Draft

## REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL CONCERNING REACH

### Volume IV

#### Part B

#### B VII Toxicokinetics

#### F ALTERNATIVE TESTING

„A scientific objective for the European Union is the development and validation of alternative techniques, which...  
...such methods, as they become available, must be considered...“



## **One sentence - Quote from the Q + A**

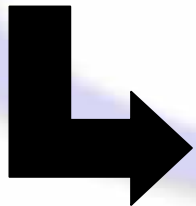
### **Will REACH result in more animal testing?**

„...animal testing may be necessary if existing information and validated alternative methods are not sufficient.“

Source: „Q and A in the new Chemicals policy REACH“  
Memo/03/213 of 29/10/2003 from the EU-Website

### **What does that mean?**

- „We don't know“ (because no number resp. yes or no is given)
- „We don't care“ (because no way forward given either)



**The Public has to get that info on the basis of independent analysis before the E P s decision**





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## Alternative Methods:



## Why a scientific initiative is needed!

- Alternative research basis was small, and is becoming even smaller
- Literature search indicates that pipeline of new approaches is drying out
- Current validation studies at ECVAM, OECD, in industries, etc. address the same old basis as before: no news



## Alternative Methods:



## Why a scientific initiative is needed!

- Young scientists do not feel attracted to the area of research and development of alternative methods to animal experiments:
  - because a group of close to retirement-seniors hold and block the appropriate positions currently
  - there are no major scientific journals in this area (refereed and Science Citation Index-“heavy weights“)
  - in general, this area of research is regarded „as mediocre science“

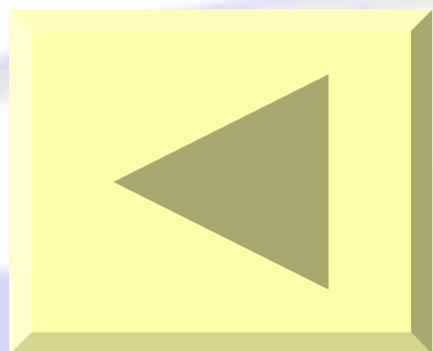


## With the goals



- to draw the best science
- initiate / induce „thinking about and for alternatives“
- improve recognition of science in that area
- get the „alternative method research“ out of the corner of mediocre science
- organize the funding and PR around it
- hold science fora to foster exchange with other basic research scientists and e.g. scientists of NCPs and ECVAM





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## THEME OF Annual Workshop November 2004:





*What* is it about?

*Why* targeting it as a theme  
for our annual workshop?





## SCALE - Time line





## First Draft of Action Plan

- in-official distribution at 3rd Consultative Forum
- involvement of scientists and industry due to formal reasons
- no reference to scientific reports of Technical Working Groups
- only selective inclusion of project proposals
- no research proposals on cause - effect relationships
- extensive integrated monitoring system on environment and health





**EU Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Policy March 16; EU Parliament March 31**

- extended use of Precautionary Principle
- action plan to include a list of environmental contaminants
- REACH proposal to provide adequate protection of children from exposure to harmful chemicals
- protecting water resources / limit industrial and urban emissions and agricultural emissions / change policies
- priority biomonitoring for certain pesticides, brominated flame retardants, phthalates
- accelerate pilot project “integrated monitoring of dioxins and PCBs in the Baltic region” / develop new policies





## SCALE – Important Dates

<b>18 - 19 Dec. 2003</b>	<b>Consultative Forum to Base Line Reports of TWGs</b> ✓
<b>19 Jan. 2004 (planned)</b>	<b>All Base Line Reports condensed in one document - published on the Homepage of DG Environment / serves as basis for Action Plan - conveyance to</b> ✓
<b>30 Jan. 2004</b>	<b>Consultative Forum for annotation</b>
<b>19 - 20 Jan. 2004</b>	<b>TWG Meeting for finalisation of Base Line Report on Biomonitoring, Heavy Metals, EDCs, Dioxins &amp; PCBs – derivation "Recommendations for Action"</b> ✓
<b>24 Feb. 2004</b>	<b>TWG Meeting for finalisation of Base Line Report on Research Needs – derivation "Recommendations for Action"</b> ✓
<b>29 Feb. 2004</b>	<b>Reports of TWGs for 2<sup>nd</sup> step "Recommendations for Action" on all topics are available</b> ✓





## SCALE – Important Dates

<b>3 - 4 March 2004</b>	Consultative Forum <b>on "Recommendations for Action"</b> ✓
<b>19 March 2004</b>	Stakeholder Meeting <b>on "Recommendations for Action"</b> ✓
<b>30/31 March 2004</b>	Consultation EU Parliament ✓
<b>March - May 2004</b>	Interservice Consultation
<b>Beginning of June 2004</b>	Adoption of SCALE Action Plan 2004-2010 by European Commission
23 - 28 June 2004	<p>4th Ministerial Environment &amp; Health Conference, Budapest                      "The future for our children"  <b>Action Plan will be EU's contribution</b></p> 
2004 - 2010	Implementation of Action Plan and consecutive measures

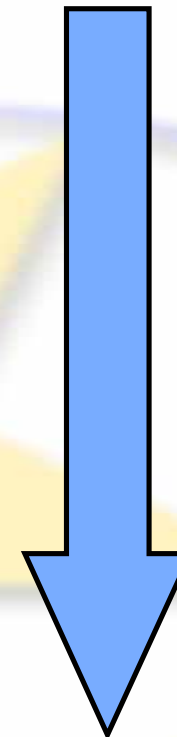




## SCALE Challenges 2004 - 2010

June 2004  
Start of first cycle (SCALE)

- **Bio-monitoring**  
Strategy and advocacy
- **Consecutive measures and regulations**  
Assessment, strategy and advocacy
- **Upcoming issues**  
Mixtures, Low Dose, delayed effects
- **(New) Alliances**  
Project implementation  
(credibility, focus)
- **Regional / national impact**  
Assessment, strategy development  
and implementation



2010

Concrete objectives and strategies to be defined as the  
Action Plan is finalized





## OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF THE POLICY

- **THE AIM:** to make the link between health effects, exposure to environmental contamination, and emissions
- **IN ORDER TO** take better-targeted preventive action on the environmental drivers in the future
- **SPENDING TO SAVE**  
Spending now on information avoids wasting money on bad policy

### TARGETS:

Testing for

- endocrine disrupting
- neuro-developmental, and
- respiratory (asthma, allergy) disorders





## What could result

(if appropriate action is not taken):

- Another major testing approach on top of REACH, resp. HV chemicals programs
- Imbalance between „precautionary principle / childhood care“ and testing in lab animals for safety / risk / hazard-concerns
- lacking resources resp. lack of will to promote alternative method development in due time

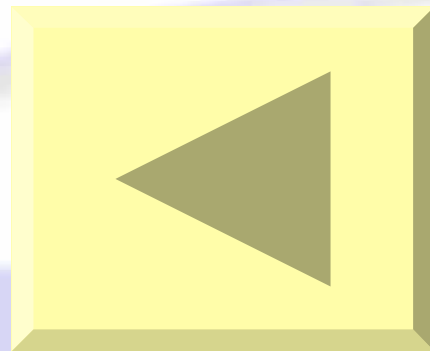




## What should *ecopa* do:

1. Put the annual workshop under the heading (there is still time to interfere and balance the environmental group 's impact)
2. Organize another „sign in“–campaign on the ecopa website, under an appropriate statement of ecopa





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