



nanoMONITOR

The REACH Centre, Lancaster Environment Centre, Lancaster University, Lancaster LA1 4YQ, UK

Press Release

A successful kick off meeting of newly launched LIFE project NanoMONITOR

Lancaster, 03/06/2016

The newly started European Commission LIFE project NanoMONITOR addresses the challenges of supporting the risk assessment of nanomaterials under REACH by development of a real-time information and monitoring system. At the project's kickoff meeting held on the 19th January 2016 in Valencia (Spain) participants discussed how this goal could be achieved.



Despite the growing number of engineered nanomaterials (ENMs) already available on the market and in contrast to their benefits the use, production, and disposal of ENMs raises concerns about their environmental impact.

Within this context, the overall aim of LIFE NanoMONITOR is to improve the use of environmental monitoring data to support the implementation of REACH regulation and promote the protection of human health and the environment when dealing with ENMs. Within the EU REACH Regulation, a chemical safety assessment report, including risk characterisation ratio (RCR), must be provided for any registered ENMs. In order to address these objectives, the project partners have developed a rigorous methodology encompassing the following aims:

- ✓ Develop a novel software application to support the acquisition, management and processing of data on the concentration of ENMs.
- ✓ Develop an on-line environmental monitoring database (EMD) to support the sharing of information.
- ✓ Design and develop a proven monitoring station prototype for continuous monitoring of particles below 100 nm in air (PM_{0.1}).
- ✓ Design and develop standardized sampling and data analysis procedures to ensure the quality, comparability and reliability of the monitoring data used for risk assessment.
- ✓ Support the calculation of the predicted environmental concentration (PEC) of ENMs in the context of REACH.

Throughout the project's kick off meeting, participants discussed the status of the research area, project goals, and expectations of the different stakeholders with respect to the project outcome.

Carlos Fito, Head of Safety Division of Instituto Tecnológico del Embalaje, Transporte y Logística - ITENE and Coordinator of the project, explains the expected impact from NanoMONITOR:

“The challenge is to conduct frontline research to solve a number of important but still open research questions while at the same time designing a real-time information and monitoring system to support the risk assessment of nanomaterials while promoting the protection of human health and the environment thus contributing to the support the monitoring of REACH compliance and its impact on risk mitigation and prevention”

The next partners' meeting takes place 14-15 June 2016 in Athens, Greece and will discuss progress so far, next steps and will also present the project to the external monitoring team.

For more information about NanoMONITOR go to: www.lifenanomonitor.eu

Project Facts:

Project reference	LIFE14 ENV/ES/00662
Duration	01 Jan 2016 to 31 Dec 2018
Total budget	approx 1,100,000.00 €
Project locations	Valencia (Spain), Athens (Greece), Lancaster (UK)

Project Partners:

ITENE (Packaging, Transport & Logistics Research Centre), Spain

AXON Enviro-Group Ltd., Greece

The Mediterranean Center for Environmental Studies (CEAM), Spain

The REACH Centre, UK

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