

Network of reference laboratories and related organisations for monitoring and bio-monitoring of emerging environmental pollutants

NORMAN

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www.norman-network.net

The views expressed are purely those of the writer and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of the European Commission



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- Creation of a network among:
 - national reference laboratories,
 - research centres,
 - competent authorities,
 - industry, standardisation bodies, NGOs, etc.



IN ORDER TO ENSURE:

- More rapid and wide-scope exchange of data and information on emerging substances
- Better data quality and comparability via validation and harmonisation of common measurement methods (chemical and biological)





NORMAN focus

- Systematic long-term information exchange on emerging substances
 - Network of Contact Points all over Europe+
 - Newsletter (critical reviews of publications)
 - Thematic workshops
- Collection /evaluation of data
 - Three web-based databases
 - Data collection from 'grey literature'
 - Launching of pan-European monitoring campaigns on specific substance(s)
- Validation and harmonisation of methods
 - Common European protocol for methods validation





Activities of NORMAN beyond 2008

- Publication of Scientific Watch Bulletin, i.e. preparation of 'science notes' highlighting relevant scientific findings for a given topic
- Organisation of Workshops and Expert Group meetings, with the publication of position papers;
- Data collection and EU-wide monitoring campaigns
- Regular updating and maintenance of the EMPODAT, EMPOMAP, EMPOMASS databases
- Initiation and (when necessary) organisation of interlaboratory studies for validation and harmonisation of measurement methods



Added value from NORMAN network

- NORMAN as a competent and independent forum will help:
 - Collection and assessment of information on emerging contaminants
 - Exchange / transfer of results from national and European research activities
 - Validation & harmonisation of practices (data quality & comparability)
 - Formulation of joint views on existing research needs

