

***International seminar: “Encourage and Support Enterprises to Minimise the Use of Harmful Substances”<sup>1</sup>***

***23-24(25) October 2018 in RIGA, Latvia***

**Organised within the frame of three EU-funded projects:  
INTERREG NonHazCity, LIFE Fit for REACH and LIFE AskREACH**

**Aim of the event**

The aim of the current seminar is to identify if and how authorities and other stakeholders could increase their efforts to support companies in improving their chemicals risk management, in particular in minimising their use of harmful substances. This main aim covers the sub-aims of:

- Identifying improvement options (in the implementation) of obligations and incentives related to substitution and (strict) emission control in the current EU legal framework relating (among others) to harmful substances, as well as possible new respective elements in legislation,
- The existence and success/failures of existing national economic instruments that, among others, aim at use minimisation of harmful substances by enterprises,
- Gaps and deficits of voluntary instruments, such as management systems, product labelling, procurement practices, waste handling or product stewardship in addressing the use of harmful substances,
- Options to increase the power of the existing legal, economic and managerial frameworks by interlinking them and connecting them to additional opportunities for companies to improve their competitiveness, compliance or economic performance.

The seminar is addressed to EU and national authorities and public institutions, civil society organisations, scientists and companies interested in discussing the topic and currently involved in any of the addressed areas.

**Draft Agenda**

**Tuesday, 23 October 2018 – Riga, Hotel Radisson Daugava**

<b>08:30</b>	<b><i>Registration of the participants</i></b>
<b>09:00</b>	<p><b>Welcoming address</b> <i>N.N. City of Riga (host)</i></p> <p><b>Introduction to the meeting</b> <i>Heidrun Fammler, Baltic Environmental Forum Germany, moderator of the event</i></p> <p><b>Key Notes: Stakeholders views – How can we motivate business to better implement chemicals risk management/substitution?</b> <i>Erwin Annys, European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC)</i> <i>Tonie Wickman, Centre for Chemical Substitution, Sweden</i> <i>Tatiana Santos, European Environmental Bureau (EEB)</i></p> <p><b>Plenary inter-action:</b> Reasons for insufficient chemicals risk management/substitution and instruments with potentials to positively impact it.</p>

<sup>1</sup> By harmful substances we mean classified hazardous substances and substances without a specific hazard classification, but where there is a concern about other health and environmental effects, like substances with suspected endocrine disrupting properties (ECD) or substances with vPvB (very persistent, very bioaccumulative) characteristics.

<b>10:30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
	<b>Leverage 1&amp;2: Legislation &amp; Enforcement vis-à-vis chemicals risk management/substitution</b>
<b>11:00</b>	<b>Introduction to the concept/background paper</b> <i>Antonia Reihlen, Ökopol Ltd. Germany / Helene Kanellopoulos, KEMI, Sweden</i>
<b>11:30</b>	<b>Working Groups “Push &amp; Pull” from legislation and enforcement</b> 1. How to strengthen “use limiting measures”? 2. Which legal incentives can be created to foster use reduction? 3. Which enforcement instruments are the most useful to promote substitution?
<b>12:30</b>	<b>Plenary</b> <i>Report from the groups</i>
<b>13:00</b>	<b>Lunch break</b>
	<b>Leverage 3: Market-related Tools: procurement, labels, taxes, branding</b>
<b>14:00</b>	<b>Introduction to the concept/background paper</b> <i>Jana Simanovska, Ecodesign Competence Centre, Latvia</i>
<b>14:20</b>	<b>Working Groups “Push &amp; Pull” from market-related tools</b> 1. How to make public procurement a real instrument for chemicals management? (creating demand) 2. Potentials and shortcomings from product labelling with regard to harmful substances – what do labels really tell and how to get through the jungle? 3. Which opportunities do member states lose if they do not implement tax and fees systems? 4. Transparency for consumers via IT tools (apps etc): What do branding or checking tools contribute?
<b>15:30</b>	<b>Plenary</b> <i>Report from the groups</i>
<b>16:00</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
	<b>Leverage 4: Potentials from Management Tools at companies</b>
<b>16:30</b>	<b>Introduction to the concept/background paper</b> <i>Audrone Alijosiute, Baltic Environmental Forum, Lithuania</i>
	<b>Working Groups - different management tools and their potentials</b> 1. Environmental Management systems – EMAS, ISO 14000x, internal procurement, and how to make chemicals issues explicit there? 2. Voluntary initiatives for chemicals management - how to increase level of ambition and make them measurable? 3. Supply Chain Management tools – IT tools as solutions of tomorrow: how to broaden the use and intensify it? 4. Chemical programmes - SAICM, Non-toxic Env Strategy, Non-Toxic Sweden etc. – how these can give more ambitious and targeted orientation?
<b>18:00</b>	<b>Plenary</b> <i>Report from the groups</i>
<b>19:30</b>	<b>Dinner Speech:</b> How can cities increase their demand for non-toxic products? Are current tools and efforts sufficient to act? Riga, Mayor? tbc

Wednesday, 24 October 2018

<b>Interlinks &amp; Synergies from the four leverages</b>	
<b>09:00</b>	<b>Wrap-up of the previous day – the key issues for further “chewing”</b> <i>Antonia Reihlen, Oekopol Ltd, Germany</i>
<b>9:30</b>	<b>World Café Group session: “Non-Toxic Café”</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Table1: Main lessons learned from Day 1: which are the biggest potentials inside the tools to improve chemicals management?</li> <li>• Table2: How can we interlink tools, where are useful synergies?</li> <li>• Table3: Our main recommendations towards public authorities, business and civil society groups?</li> </ul> <p><i>(potentially 3 x 3 Groups a 10 persons; 9 table hosts wrap-up discussion of previous group for the follower group; change after ca. 25 minutes plus 5’ for change)</i></p>
<b>11:00</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>Conclusions &amp; Recommendations</b>	
<b>11:30</b>	<b>Presentations by the hosts of the Café tables</b> <i>Facilitation team</i>
<b>12:00</b>	<b>Reflection by ECHA: take-home message on “How to foster Chemicals Risk management &amp; substitution at enterprises”</b> N.N. ECHA, tbc <b>Reflection by European Commission: take-home message for the “Non-Toxic Environment Strategy”.</b> N.N. European Commission, tbc
<b>13:00</b>	<b>Conclusions: Recommendations and “food for thinking” from the event</b> <i>Heidrun Fammler, BEF and Antonia Reihlen, Oekopol/Martyn Futter, SLU Sweden</i>
<b>13:30</b>	<b>Lunch &amp; Farewell of the external seminar participants</b>

## **Organisation**

### **Event duration:**

1,5 days of workshop (23. October 9:00 until 24 October ca. 14:00);  
Followed by three 1-day project group meetings until 25 October, 15:30 (for project partners only).

### **Event location & information on logistics:**

**Hotel Radisson Blu Daugava**, Riga, 24 Kugu Street, LV-1048 Riga, Latvia

Accommodation is available at the hotel with the special booking code. Follow these steps:

- 1) click on the link - <https://www.radissonblu.com/booking-entrance?language=en&siteCode=LATRIGA&arrival=22/10/2018&departure=26/10/2018&pacode=LVCITY>
- 2) select the stay dates and number of persons/ rooms on the left side
- 3) select the rate and click on BOOK NOW button
- 4) select the room type and press CONTINUE
- 5) fill in the guest information required and press Confirm Reservation

OR

Using **the hotel's home page** [www.radissonblu.com/hotel-riga](http://www.radissonblu.com/hotel-riga)

- 1) select the required stay dates and number of persons/ rooms
- 2) insert **Promotional Code LVCITY** in window “**more search options**”.

Also speakers and refunded seminar guests are asked kindly to reserve their room and pre-pay it, we will reimburse your costs after the event.

Limited funds are available for travel and accommodation of speakers/invitees upon request.

**The Riga Airport** is approx. 15 minutes by taxi or 25 minutes by public transport, bus nr.22 – rides every 20 minutes (e-ticket for 1.15EUR can be bought at the special NARVESEN kiosks or at the driver on a bus for 2.00EUR).

Host of the event: Riga City Council, Department of Environment and Housing.

Project managers of the three projects: Tonie Wickman, City of Stockholm (NonHazCity), Eva Becker, German Environment Agency (AskREACH), Heidrun Fammler, Baltic Environmental Forum (BEF) (Fit for REACH)

Lead of event preparation team and moderator: Heidrun Fammler, BEF

Logistics & Support: BEF Latvia, BEF Germany

### **Online registration**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf0IHckYXBLbEe-YSCcYHOVHXc2wnEvY4DOTYtoAEm80pkXKQ/viewform>

The **registration deadline is September 30, 2018.**

*For questions regarding logistics, please contact [liga.karkle@bef.lv](mailto:liga.karkle@bef.lv)*

*For expressions of interest in participation and, especially, a key note or break-out group contribution, please contact [heidrun.fammler@bef-de.org](mailto:heidrun.fammler@bef-de.org)*



LIFE / FIT FOR REACH



EUROPEAN  
REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
FUND



The projects "LIFE Fit for REACH" (LIFE14ENV/LV000174) and "LIFE AskREACH" (LIFE16 GIE/DE/000738) are co-financed by the LIFE Programme of the European Union

