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**REACH**

# ASKREACH AND SCIP DATABASES

## SIMILARITIES, DIFFERENCES AND RESEARCHED SYNERGIES

Dr. Ioannis Dosis  
German Environment Agency

2017/11/28  
No. LIFE16 GIE/DE/000738



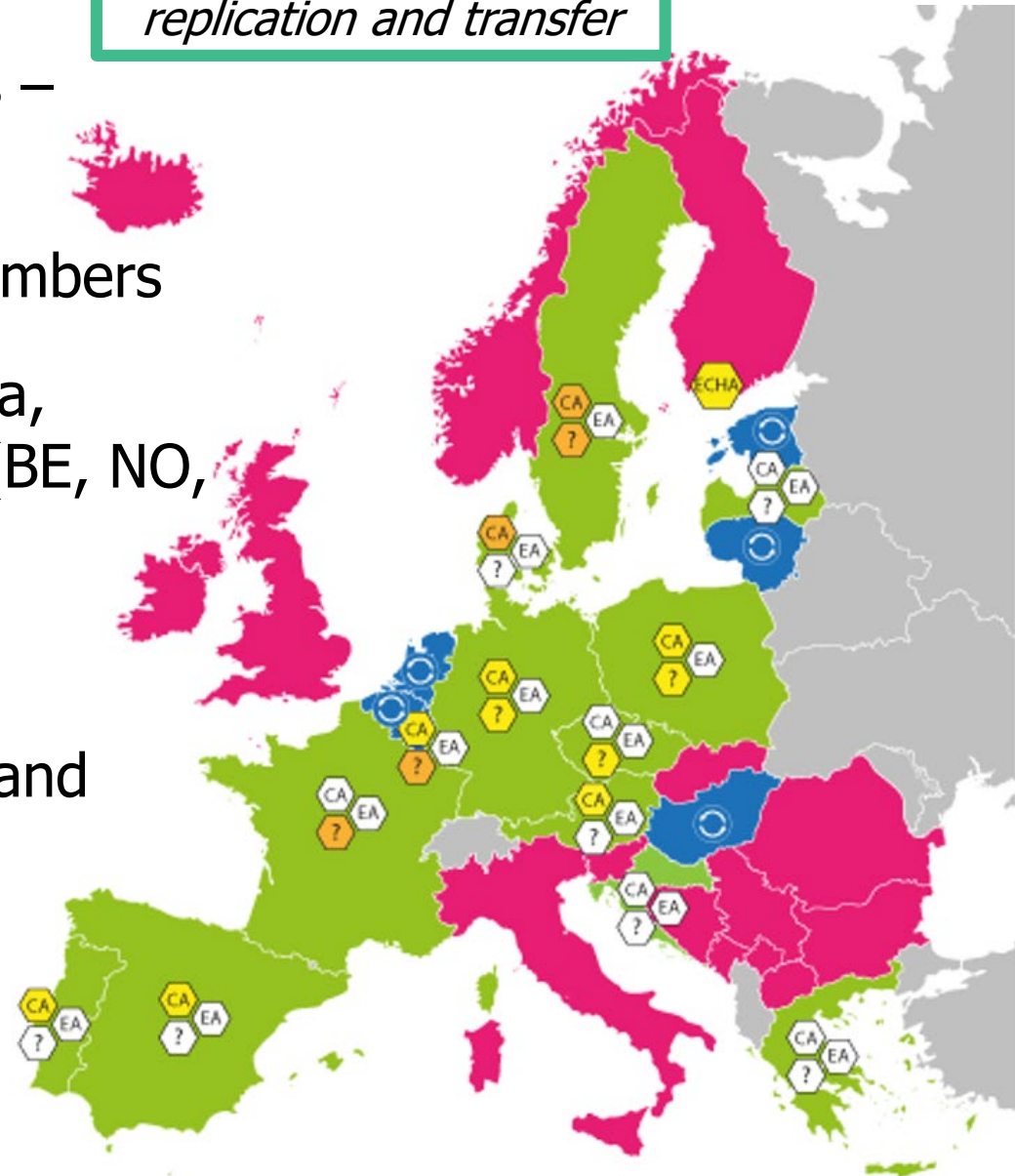


# Project data



*Our partner countries,  
replication and transfer*

- 20 Partners from 13 E.U. Member States – Agencies, NGOs, Institutions
- 650.000 Facebook followers, 4,7 mil. members
- App Transfer to Serbia, Lithuania, Estonia, Hungary, Bulgaria; more are interested (BE, NO, UK, ...)
- Duration: 09/2017 – 08/2022
- Funding: EU LIFE programme, partners and national environmental funds



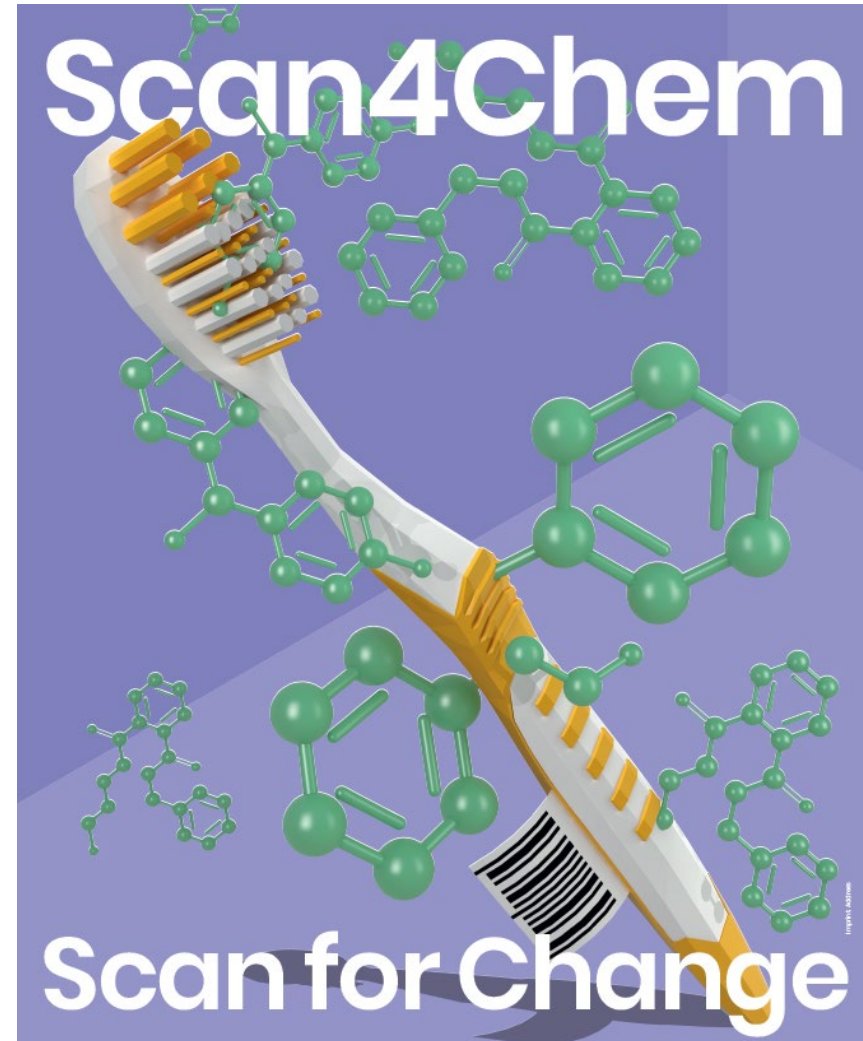
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# Motivation



- Environment and human health protection
- Substitution of SVHCs in articles
- REACH Compliance, Raise article supplier awareness
- Improve supply chain communication
- Raise consumer awareness
- Increase market demand for "SVHC-free" articles



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# Main activities



European smartphone application (Scan4Chem) for consumers to launch Art.33 requests



European database (AskREACH) with information on SVHCs in articles



Optimisation and promotion of a best practice supply chain communication tool (iPoint systems)

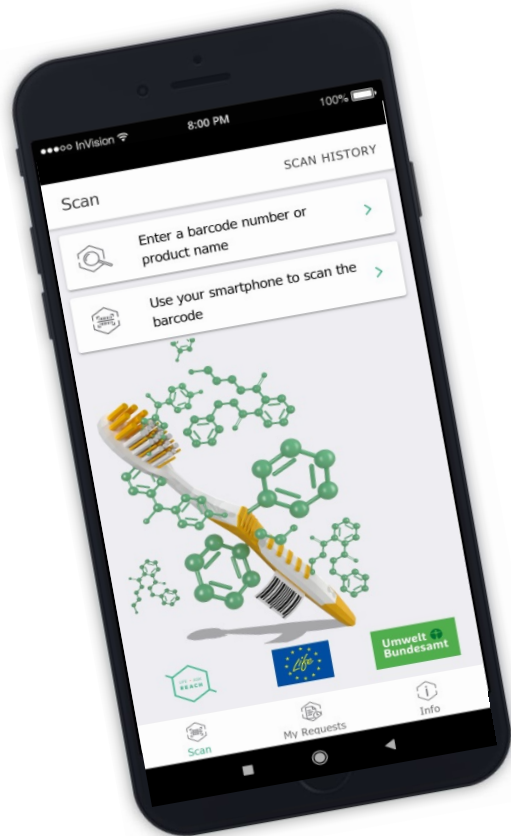


Consumer campaign, Company campaign

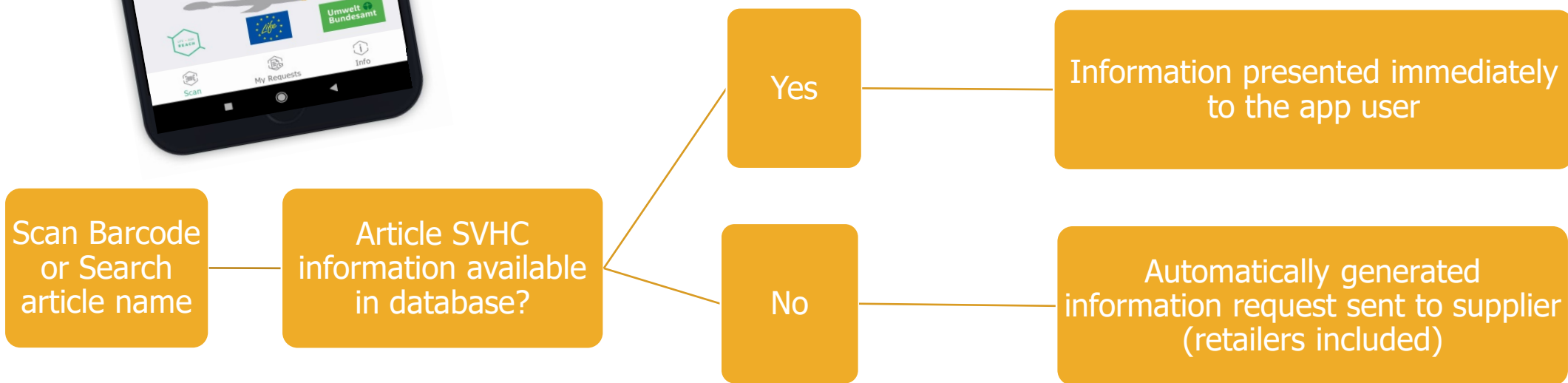
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# Scan4Chem App



- Facilitates communication between consumers and article suppliers over SVHCs in articles
- Simplified customer service
- Scan4Chem availability in 15 countries for Android and iOS

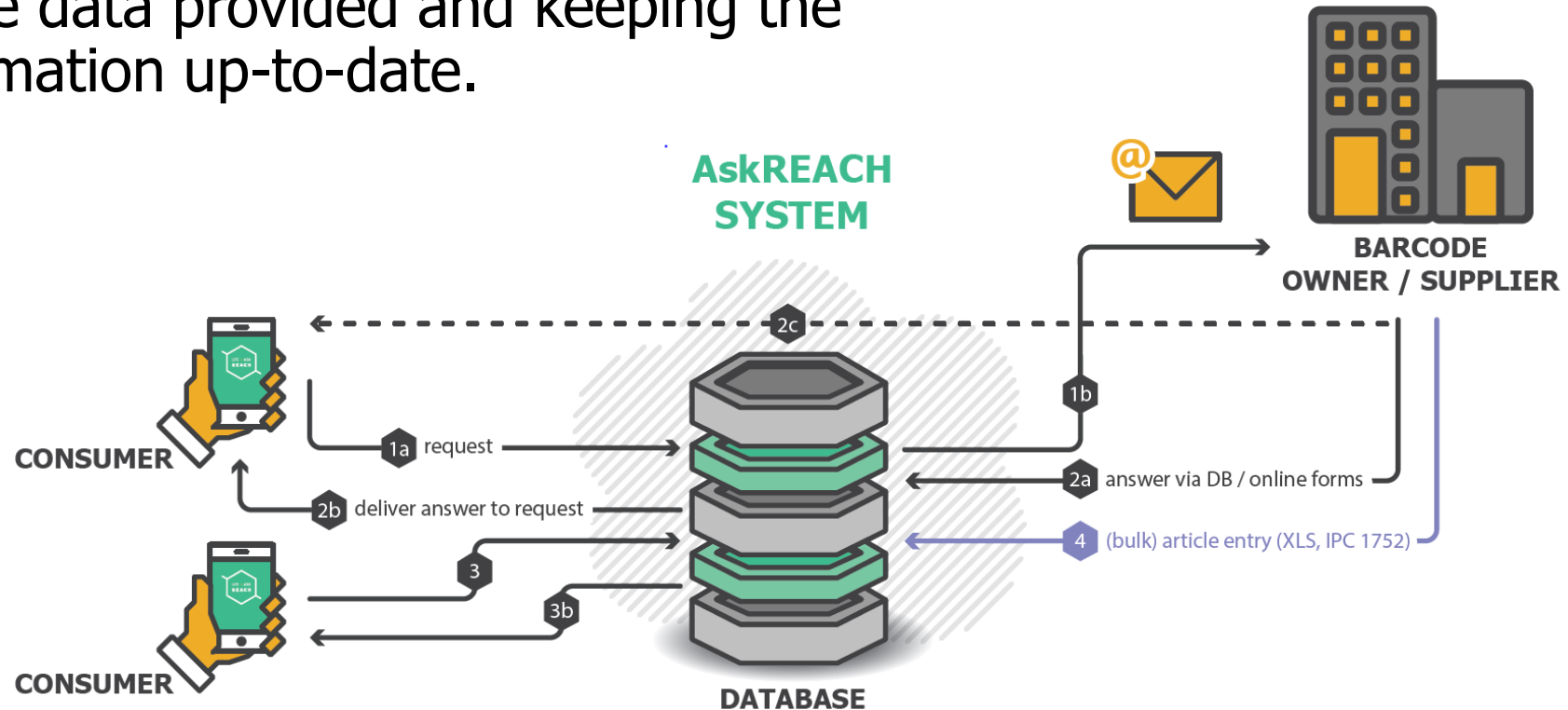
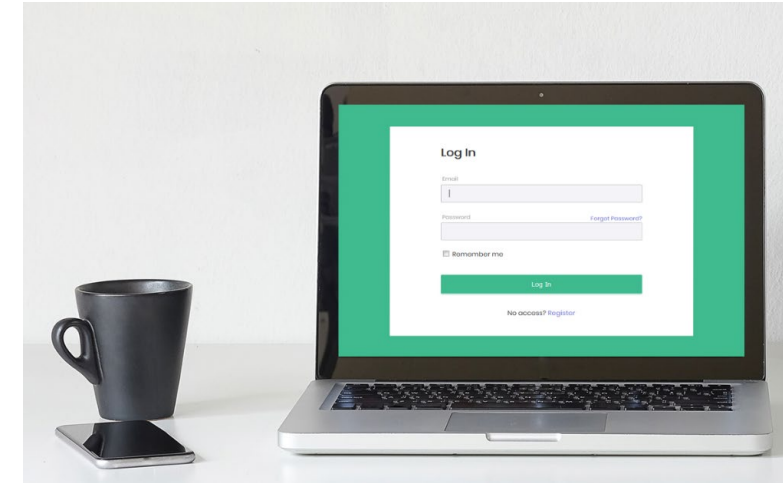


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# Database

- Article suppliers can save and organise their article information in the database. This information will then be displayed to any user that scans these articles.
- Article suppliers are responsible for the validity of the data provided and keeping the information up-to-date.



# Supplier Frontend

- Registration → at the minimum provide generic e-mail address for proper delivery of SVHC requests
- Barcode claiming → Barcode owners can provide the barcode ranges they own (interlinking Barcodes – Articles – Brand/Company)
- Upload of article information on the database
  - Manual entries
  - Bulk Upload (Excel Template)
  - **Barcode range declaration** (for extensive article portfolios with SVHCs<0.1%)
  - **IUCLID format** (under development): parallel to the **SCIP** notification system (**ECHA database**)
- Management of SVHC requests possible



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# ECHA supports AskREACH

- **ECHA support letter** (at project submission - August 2016)

“We aim to **work closely** with the project team and **play an active role** in the development and promotion of the project”,  
“We are ready to develop our **potential role** in the project’s “After LIFE”.

- **New Statement of support** (March 2019)

Databases serve the same purposes. Because they have different approaches, they complete each other. AskREACH is further supported and promoted by ECHA. ECHA and AskREACH are in contact to discuss further synergies.

- **“SCIP – AskREACH databases: Separate ways, similar goals”**

Released document explaining to companies the differences between the two databases and highlights the need for both to exist (will be available with the presentation)

Maria Krautzberger,  
President of the German Federal Environment Agency

**Subject: ECHA's support for the EU LIFE project proposal enabling REACH consumer information rights on chemicals in articles by IT tools**

Dear Ms Krautzberger,

I am writing to express ECHA's support for the aims of your LIFE project proposal on consumer information on chemicals in articles. I would like to congratulate you for taking the initiative to develop modern tools to help EU consumers to make safer choices. It is particularly encouraging to see that you have gathered a range of Member States and stakeholders as active partners and that you are going to learn from the variety of national tools developed so far. Your project should help in a very direct way to promote the goal of REACH – the safe use of chemicals. With that in mind, we are keen to work with you in making the tools as useful as possible and to help you to promote their use.

As you well know, your project addresses two aspects of the EU's chemicals safety regime that clearly require to be significantly strengthened – consumer awareness and the right to know which substances of very high concern are in products they buy as well as reporting on substances of very high concern in articles. We identified these two challenges in our recent report on the operation of REACH and CLP to the European Commission. We would be keen also to see whether – in the longer term and building on the successful roll out of your project – we can generate more information about substances in articles.



From ECHA's perspective, the timing of your project is therefore most helpful. We are also currently planning ways to increase our outreach to consumers by building a new microsite specifically for them, and increasing our activities on social media. The awareness of dangerous substances in articles they buy is an important area of REACH that needs further promotion to both consumers and suppliers of articles. The app in particular would bring a tangible benefit for European consumers and we are keen to see that it works for them. Consequently, on the outreach to consumers and related communications activities, we are committed to cooperating closely with the project team and to playing an active role in helping you to develop and promote the project.

Eva Becker and Heidrun Fammle  
AskREACH project team

In terms of the potential hosting and maintenance of the IT platform and related database, we are ready to explore our potential role in the 'After LIFE' of the project with you. In this regard, although I recognise that the project is now still at its very early stage and the fine detail of the scope and technical roll out is for the future, I believe that if we are to play a role in the future, we need to be abreast of your technical choices and plans and, potentially, to advise you on that.

For the time being, I can certainly reassure you that I would not like to see a successful service for the consumers disappearing after the EU funding is exhausted.

**Statement of support for the**

Thank you for taking this initiative and for inviting us to be part of this exciting project.

Yours sincerely,

Dear Ms Becker and Ms Fammle

With this letter we wish to express our support for increasing consumers' awareness: supporting their substitution with the app in our communications channels.

  
Geert Dancet  
Executive Director

The regular contact with the AskREACH team has been useful in view of our own project to develop a database of articles containing Candidate List substances under the Waste Framework Directive and both teams have proactively informed each other about the progress of their projects.

In our opinion, AskREACH and ECHA's upcoming database under the Waste Framework Directive are two projects with a potential to complement each other in the future - in particular, as they share the same goals. However, they do approach matters from partially different angles: ECHA's database will 'only' collect and disseminate information on articles/products which contain Candidate List substances, while the AskREACH app can also be used to promote products that do not contain such substances.

We are keen to continue the dialogue with the AskREACH project team and look forward to discuss further synergies.

With kind regards,

[Signed]

Jack de Bruijn  
Director of Prioritisation and Integration

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# Databases – similarities and differences

	AskREACH	SCIP
<b>Focus</b>	SVHC substitution Art. 33 implementation/compliance	SVHC substitution, prevention of hazardous waste generation, support circular economy
<b>Content</b>	All products (with/without SVHCs)	Only products with SVHCs (>0.1%)
<b>Target groups</b>	Consumers and suppliers (incl. retailers)	Waste handlers, recyclers, consumers and suppliers
<b>Data submission</b>	Voluntary Bulk upload Barcode range declaration IUCLID format submission soon Additional article information possible	Mandatory Bulk as well as system-to-system upload (IUCLID)
<b>Dissemination of information</b>	Scan4Chem smartphone app Automatic response to SVHC information requests	A platform within the ECHA website (using existing ECHA IT infrastructure)
<b>Identifiers</b>	Barcode (GTIN, Proprietary), Article Name, Brand	ECHA UID (voluntary). Identifiers already in use possible (EAN, UPC, Catalogue Nr., etc.)
<b>Data responsibility</b>	Information is publicly available. Responsibility for data correctness and updating lies with the supplier	Information is publicly available. Responsibility for data correctness and updating lies with the supplier

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The Project LIFE AskREACH (No. LIFE16 GIE/DE/000738) is funded by the LIFE Programme of the European Union

# Project Timelines

## AskREACH present timeline

## SCIP timeline (roughly)

- October: phased **App-Launch**, Consumer campaign
- **Supply chain tool** usable

Fall 2019

- Technical IT-documentation (Software Requirement Specifications)
- IT Architecture: IUCLID format
- SCIP IT user group established (AskREACH invited)

- Campaigns put on hold due to CoVid-19 pandemic
- **App-transfer and campaign replication** in other EU Member States

Early 2020

- Development of a prototype version of the database (Basic functions)

- **New Scan4Chem app version released**: more user friendly with updated features and simplified procedures
- **AskREACH database new features**: Upgrade of bulk upload, barcode range declaration

Summer 2020

- 5 July 2020 – Transposition of the Directive from EU Member States
- SCIP Beta version available and tested

- Campaigns intensifying. Adaptation of campaigns to the new circumstances (social media, online campaigning)
- Scan4Chem app available in 15 countries
- **IUCLID format availability**

October 2020

- SCIP V.1 release
- Phase 1 – Prototype version with basic features. Possibility to receive notifications from the industry and process them in the database

- Campaigns ongoing, Project-Monitoring
- **App-transfer und campaign replication** in other EU Member States

January 2021

- Industry provides all SVHC article information
- Phase 2 – Establishment of information dissemination to waste handlers, recyclers and consumers

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# Cooperation potential

## Explored synergies

- **Common database suggestion** → rejected (too complicated, legally not possible)
- **2 harmonised databases with common, synchronised Frontend for data submission (resource efficiency)** → rejected (information requirements, identifiers, necessary to clarify to companies that submission of articles with SVHCs < 0.1% is not mandatory)
- **Smartphone-App: valuable add-on for disseminating information to consumers**
- **Released document explaining to companies the differences and similarities between the two databases** (will be available with the presentation)

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# Cooperation potential

- **Different timelines**
- **ECHA is legally mandated to develop and maintain a WFD database**
- **Harmonisation between MSs is required for the data submission to SCIP**
- **Different information requirements between consumers and waste handlers: "Article definition"**
  - AskREACH: End-product that has the barcode on (may differ in each packaging of the same item)
  - SCIP: Item and packaging are considered separate articles
- **Different identifiers.** GTIN usage is voluntary for SCIP

**Obstacles**

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# Cooperation potential

## Future collaboration

- **Regular meetings and information exchange between the projects to explore synergies**
- **AskREACH access to SCIP data is accepted to the extent that the legal framework permits**
  - Access of AskREACH to SCIP information through a mapped data procedure that will access only the final article SVHC information
  - Articles not present in SCIP don't necessarily correspond to articles with SVHC <0.1%!!!
- **ECHA role to AskREACH „After-LIFE“ plan is under discussion and heavily depends on mandate from EC**

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# Advantages for companies

- Delivery of SVHC requests to the **proper e-mail address**.
- Customers receive the requested information automatically and immediately, **suppliers do not have to answer inquiries individually!**
- SVHC article information can be **uploaded in bulk** in one step and **updated easily** when necessary. **Barcode Range Declaration** for articles with SVHCs < 0.1%.
- **Marketing opportunity** through transparency/being proactive.
- Possibility to provide **additional information** about articles and their **safe use**.
- **Access to statistics** over article scans and consumer requests.



Source: Remy Gros/Fotolia

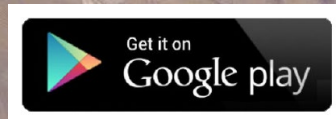
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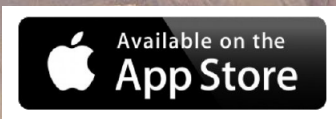


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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION!**



<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=de.uba.scan4chem>



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Projekt Webseite: [www.askreach.eu](http://www.askreach.eu)

