A common European approach to the regulatory testing of nanomaterials

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Portuguese participation in NANoREG
Opportunities, Expectations and Difficulties

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Opportunities, Expectations and Difficulties

A common European approach to the regulatory testing of nanomaterials

Topics

- § Context
- § NANoREG
- § Opportunities
  - ■ PToNANO
- § Expectations
- § Difficulties
- § Conclusions

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Context

- … global quantity of nanomaterials marketed annually is around 11.5 million tonnes, with a market value of roughly 20 bn €. ….

- … products underpinned by nanotechnology are forecast to grow from a volume of 200 bn € in 2009 to 2 trn € by 2015. …

- … currently, the direct employment in nanotechnology is estimated at around 300000 to 400000 jobs in the EU. …

- … EU accounts for 27% of world wide public funding on nanomaterials ….

- … *half of the manufacturers and importers of nanomaterials in Europe replying to the survey considered the regulatory uncertainties the most important challenge in bringing nanomaterials on the market. …*

From "Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council and the European Economic and Social Committee on the Second Regulatory Review on Nanomaterials "{COM(2012) 572 final}

Opportunities, Expectations and Difficulties

A common European Approach to the Regulatory Testing of Nanomaterials

1st FP7 project
> aiming to deliver the answers to regulators and legislators on Environmental and Human Safety (EHS) by linking them to a scientific evaluation of data and test methods.

Unique approach
> it is the 1st time in Europe that stakeholders from regulatory background, industry, research, NGOs and public are involved in the same project.

Opportunities, Expectations and Difficulties

A common European approach to the regulatory testing of nanomaterials

§ To place Portugal in the European context, concerning nanosafety issues in the production and use of MNMs;

§ To raise the society's awareness about nanomaterials benefits and their safe and responsible use;

§ Opportunity to involve a larger community, increasing the added value of the Portuguese participation in NANoREG

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Opportunities, Expectations and Difficulties

A common European approach to the regulatory testing of nanomaterials

PT NANO

Four entities

One mission

To contribute to the sustainable development of Nanotechnology and Nanomaterials at a national level, through research, knowledge transfer, innovation and dissemination activities for the different stakeholders. To contribute to the responsible use of nanomaterials, supporting the implementation of legislation, which is expected to not only guarantee health, safety and environmental protection, but also act as promoter of innovation and competitiveness
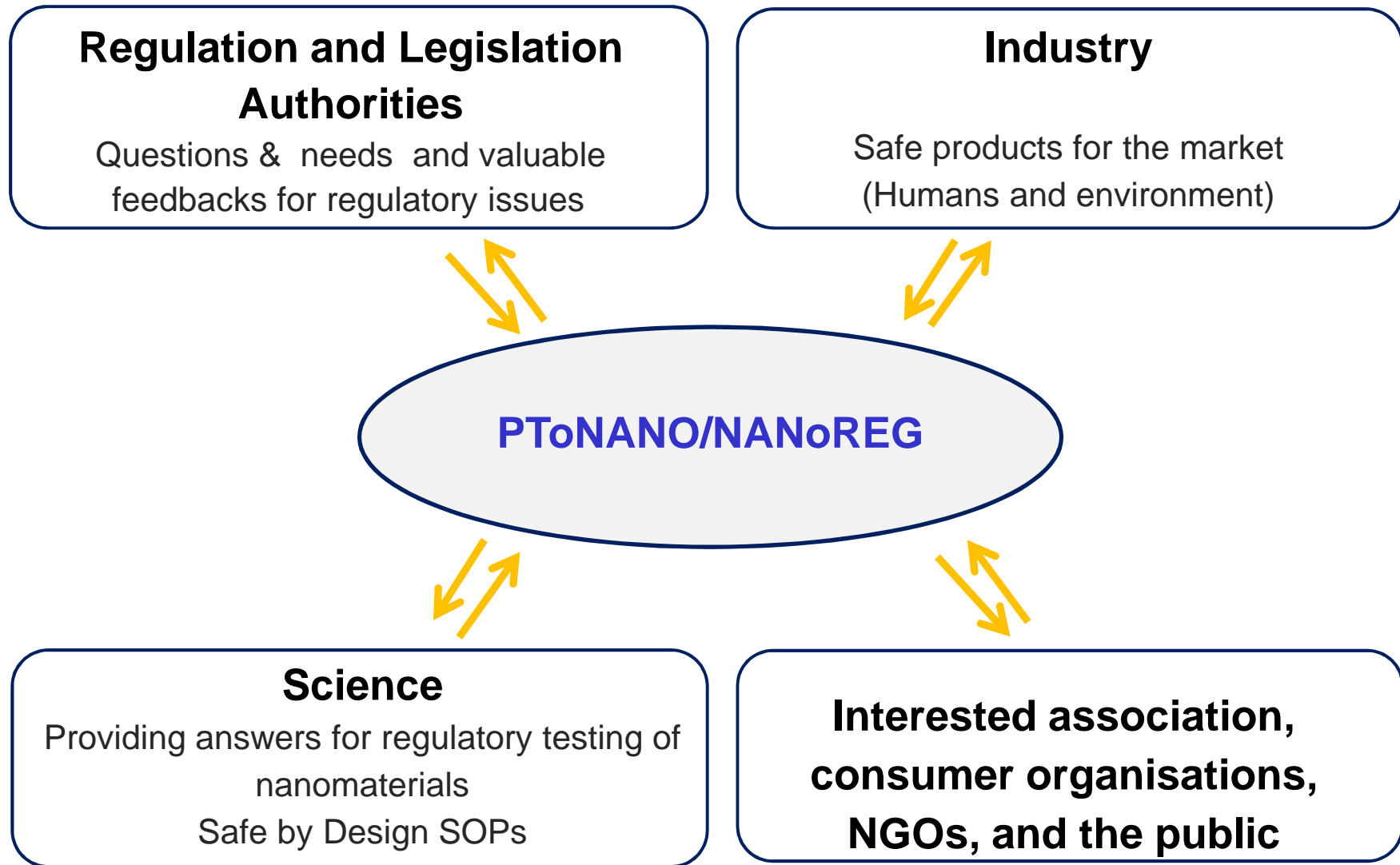
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PT NANO

A common European approach to the regulatory testing of nanomaterials

PT NANO

Four entities

A common approach

✓ Identify the key needs and gaps in knowledge about MNMs safety and potential impacts on human health and the environment within the production and/or use of nanomaterials in Portugal;

✓ Identify and involve the various national stakeholders in nanotechnology;

✓ Establish a close collaboration among authorities, industry and science with regard to the knowledge required for appropriate risk management;

✓ Establish networks among stakeholders to explore synergies and to promote an easier and more effective dissemination and communication, at a national level ;

✓ Provide answers and solutions from existing data, complemented with new knowledge;

✓ Provide a toolbox of relevant instruments for risk assessment, characterization, toxicity testing and exposure measurements of MNMs;

✓ Provide contributions for the safe use of MNMs during their entire life cycle.

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Opportunities, Expectations and Difficulties

PT NANO

A common European approach to the regulatory testing of nanomaterials

NANoREG

Regulation and Legislation Authorities

Questions & needs and valuable feedbacks for regulatory issues

Industry

Safe products for the market
(Humans and environment)

PToNANO/NANoREG

Science

Providing answers for regulatory testing of nanomaterials
Safe by Design SOPs

Interested association, consumer organisations, NGOs, and the public

Opportunities, Expectations and Difficulties

PT-NANO

NANoREG

A common European approach to the regulatory testing of nanomaterials

- To establish national priorities in legislation/regulation of MNMs;

- To build a national network in Nanotechnology integrating all stakeholders;

- To generate data and collect information to build and transfer the knowledge to the national key players in the nanotechnology domain
- To inform, ….. to disseminate and transfer knowledge;
- To promote communication in a structured way by launching surveys, worskshops and webinars about relevant topics aiming to reach all the interested stakeholders
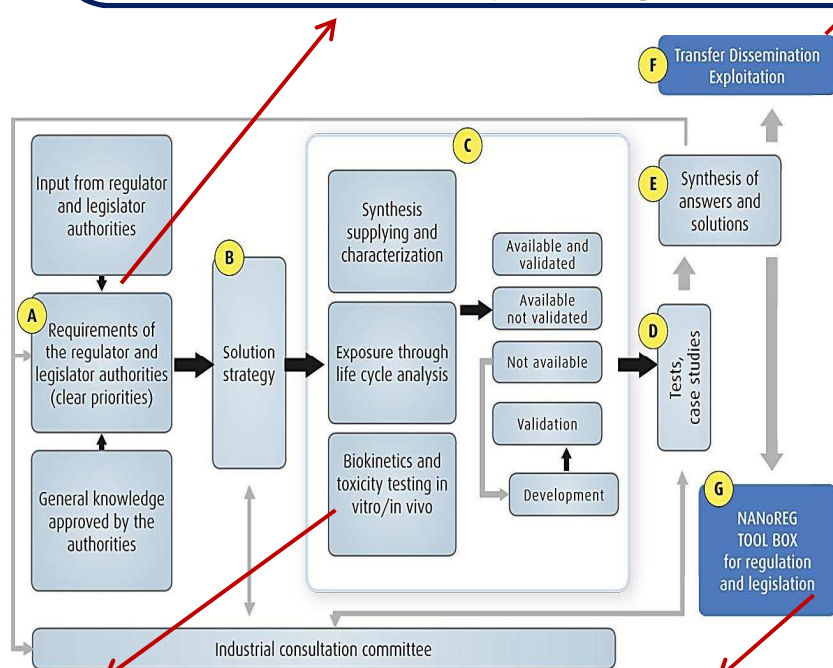
- To provide answers and solutions from existing data complemented with new knowledge;
- To establish a close collaboration among national authorities and industry towards an appropriate risk management;
- To provide a toolbox of relevant instruments for risk assessment, characterization, toxicity testing and exposure measurements of MNMs;
- To contribute to a safe use of nanomaterials all along its life cycle.

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Opportunities, Expectations and Difficulties

§ Lack of aggregated information about the state-of-the-art of nanotechnology and nanomaterials in Portugal, namely data about research projects;

§ Lack of awareness about the economic and social potential of nanomaterials as well as the uncertainties about its safety use;

§ Still an emerging industrial sector in Portugal.

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Conclusions

§ Difficult times demand innovative solutions;

§ PToNANO created the required synergy to face such a relevant and challeging issue;

§ Communication strategy is key, in promoting the right approach to establish a close collaboration among national authorities and industry towards an appropriate risk management of nanomaterials

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Opportunities, Expectations and Difficulties

THANK YOU

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