



**BENAKI  
PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL  
INSTITUTE**

**Εκτίμηση κινδύνου: Από την έκθεση σε μία χημική ουσία σε  
συνδυασμό χημικών ουσιών.**

**Risk assessment for human health from exposure to single towards to  
multiple chemicals.**

**Dr Kyriaki Machera,  
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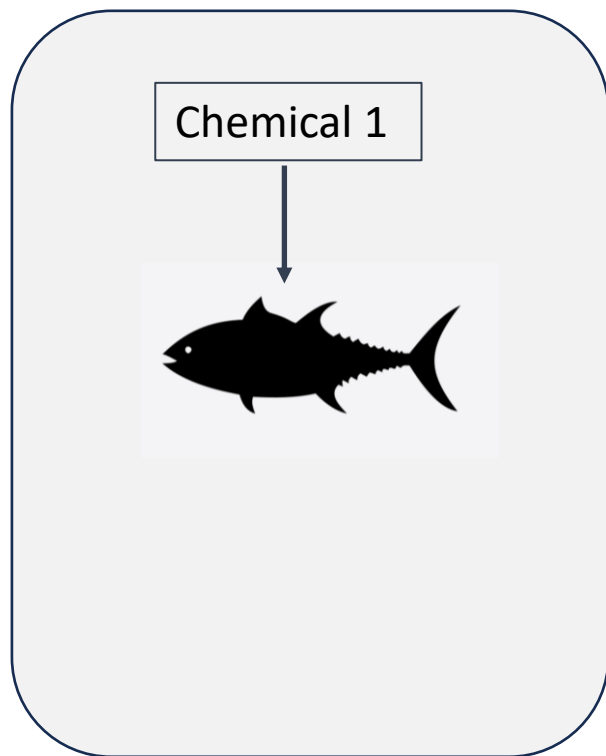
- **General & Historical information**
- **Developments for dietary R.A. from multiple chemicals**
- **Other approaches (PARC, OECD) & our activities**
- **The next steps**





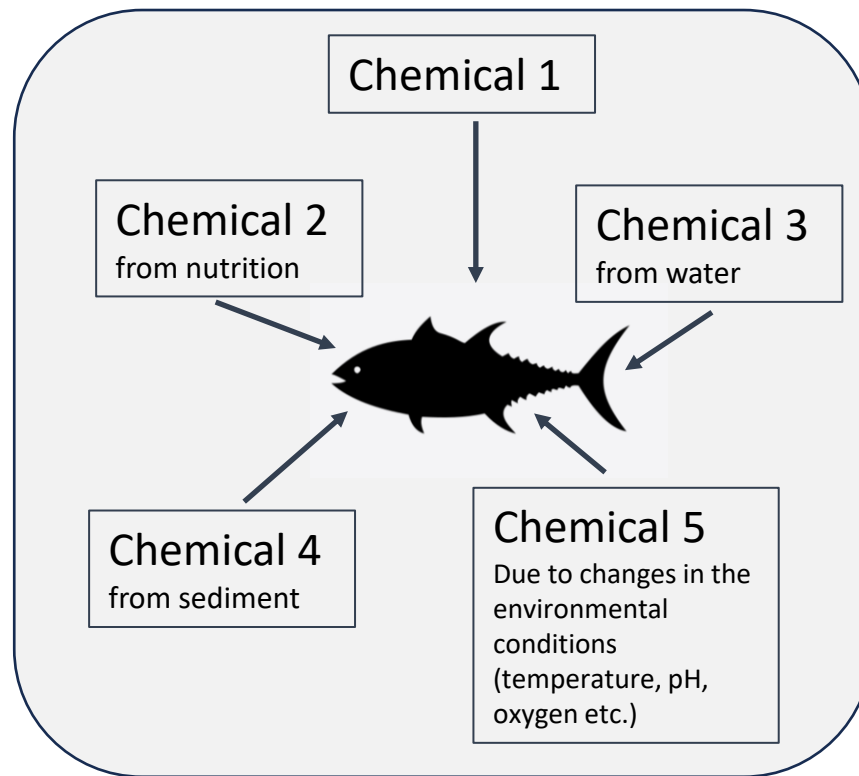
## Focus on chemical

> Reduce exposure



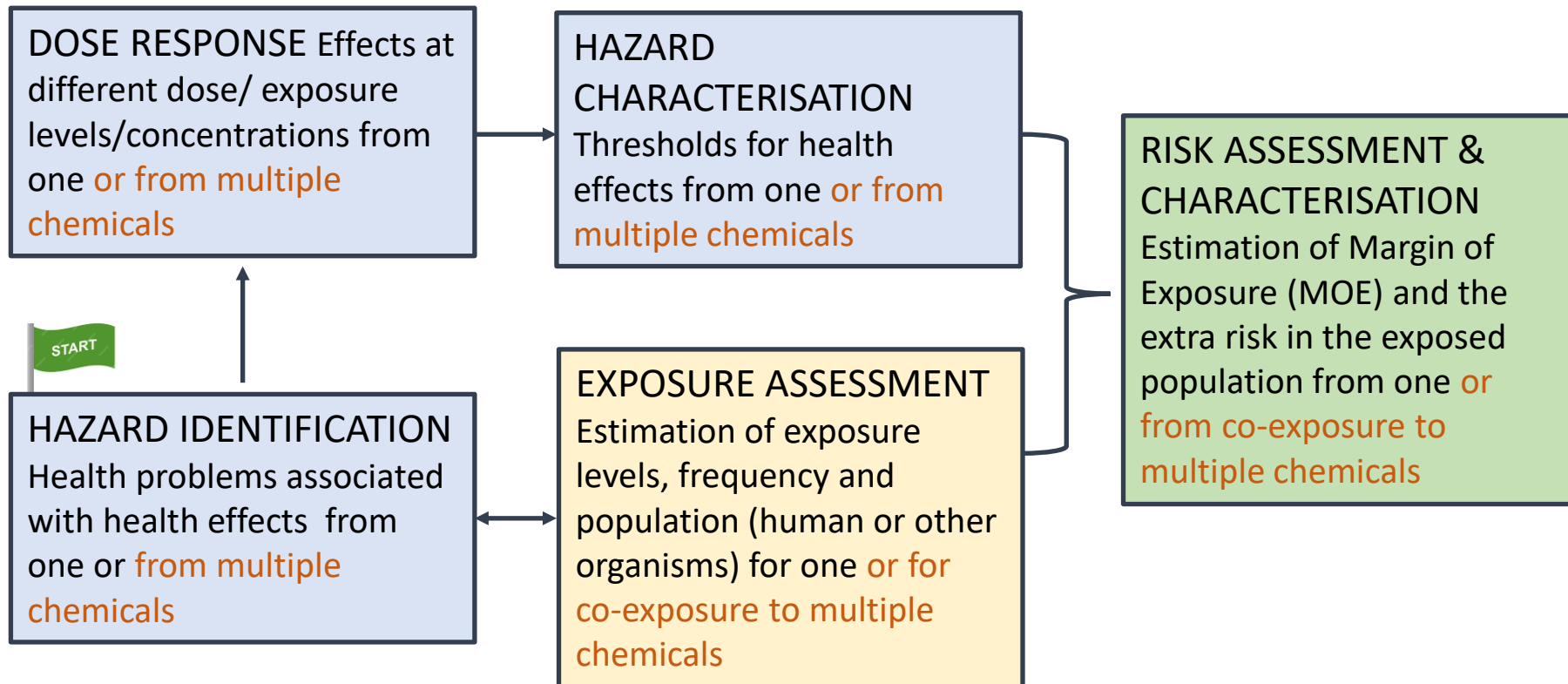
## Focus on the organism

> Improve the ecosystem health





### The five steps in Risk Assessment





**DANISH MINISTRY  
OF THE ENVIRONMENT**

Environmental  
Protection Agency

## **Survey and Health Assessment of the exposure of 2 year-olds to chemical substances in Consumer Products**

**Kathe Tønning, Eva Jacobsen og Eva Pedersen  
Danish Technological Institute**

**Marianne Strange og Pia Brunn Poulsen  
Force Technology**


**Lise Møller og Helle Buchardt B  
DHI group**

### **Box 1. Mixtures to which human populations are exposed**


*In 2009, The Danish authorities published the results of a study<sup>2</sup> in which the exposure of toddlers (2 year old children) to chemical mixtures in the form of multiple endocrine disruptors from several sources were examined. The study examined exposure through the food chain, through indoor air and dust, through clothes and shoes, through contact with toys, through the application of health care and hygiene products and through contact with articles such as changing mats and bath mats. On the basis of the predicted concentration of the various substances the study concluded that there was a need to reduce exposure to anti-androgen and oestrogen substances from food, indoor air and consumer products.*

**Survey of Chemical Substances in Consumer  
Products, No. 102 2009**





**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



**Council conclusions on  
combination effects of chemicals**

*2988th ENVIRONMENT Council meeting  
Brussels, 22 December 2009*

The Council adopted the following conclusions:  
"THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION:

Toxicity and Assessment of Chemical Mixtures




Scientific Committee on Health and Environmental Risks  
SCHER



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 31.5.2012  
COM(2012) 252 final

The Council in particular, invited the Commission, "... to assess how and whether relevant existing Community legislation adequately addresses risks from exposure to multiple chemicals from different sources and pathways, and on this basis to consider appropriate modifications, guidelines and assessment methods, and report back to the Council by early 2012 at the latest."

The purpose of the present Commission Communication is to respond formally to the invitation from the Council and in particular to inform the Council whether the current EU legislation which is built predominantly on the assessment of single substances and single sources, guarantees the high level of protection required by the Treaty. The challenge of dealing with chemical mixtures will also be taken-up in the context of preparing the future priorities for environmental policy.

**December 2009**

COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL  
Effects of chemicals  
mixtures

- plenary of 22 November 2011
- plenary of 30 November 2011
- plenary of 14 December 2011



### Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009: placing of PPPs on the market

*“...take into account known cumulative and synergistic effects of pesticides when the methods are available...”*





### Methodological development (2007-2014)

- *Methodology for cumulative assessment groups (PPR, 2013)*
- *Opinion on dissimilar mode of action (PPR, 2013)*
- *Guidance for probabilistic exposure assessment (PPR, 2012)*
- *Tiered methodology for cumulative risk assessment (PPR, 2009)*

### Data collections (2009-2018)

- DTU
- RIVM/ANSES/ICPS
- BfR/RIVM/BPI

### Retrospective CRA (2014-2021)

- *Software development*
  - ✓ RIVM: MCRA
  - ✓ EFSA: SAS®-based
- *Pilot project (2016-2019): Effects on the **thyroid** and the **nervous system***
- *2020: chronic **AChE inhibition***
- *2021: EFSA-SANTE Action Plan to speed up the development of methods for CRA*

### Guidance documents (2019 & 2021) & CAGs 2022.....

*MIXTOX (2019); MIXTOX2(2021);*

*2021-2023: more CAGs e.g., **craniofacial effects**, 2021,*

***Ongoing:** grouping for **kidney effects**; grouping for **liver effects**, grouping for effects on **fertility**, update of grouping for effects on **thyroid**...*







**MIXTOX2: Guidance on scientific criteria for grouping chemicals into assessment groups for Human Risk Assessment of combined exposure to multiple chemicals (EFSA 2021)**

## GUIDANCE

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ADOPTED: 17 November 2021

doi: 10.2903/j.efsa.2021.7033

# **Guidance Document on Scientific criteria for grouping chemicals into assessment groups for human risk assessment of combined exposure to multiple chemicals**

EFSA Scientific Committee,  
Simon John More, Vasileios Bampidis, Diane Benford, Claude Bragard,  
Antonio Hernandez-Jerez, Susanne Hougaard Bennekou, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson,  
Konstantinos Panagiotis Koutsoumanis, Claude Lambré, Kyriaki Machera, Hanspeter Naegeli,  
Søren Saxmose Nielsen, Josef Rudolf Schlatter, Dieter Schrenk, Vittorio Silano,  
Dominique Turck, Maged Younes, Emilio Benfenati, Amélie Crépet, Jan Dirk Te Biesebeek,  
Emanuela Testai, Bruno Dujardin, Jean Lou CM Dorne and Christer Hogstrand



## **Cross cutting guidance to support all EFSA panels dealing with chemical RA**

### **Grouping Criteria**

#### **Hazard-driven criteria**

(from different levels of biological organisation & WoE)

#### **Prioritisation methods**

(risk based or exposure driven)

### **Uncertainty**

### **Recommendations**

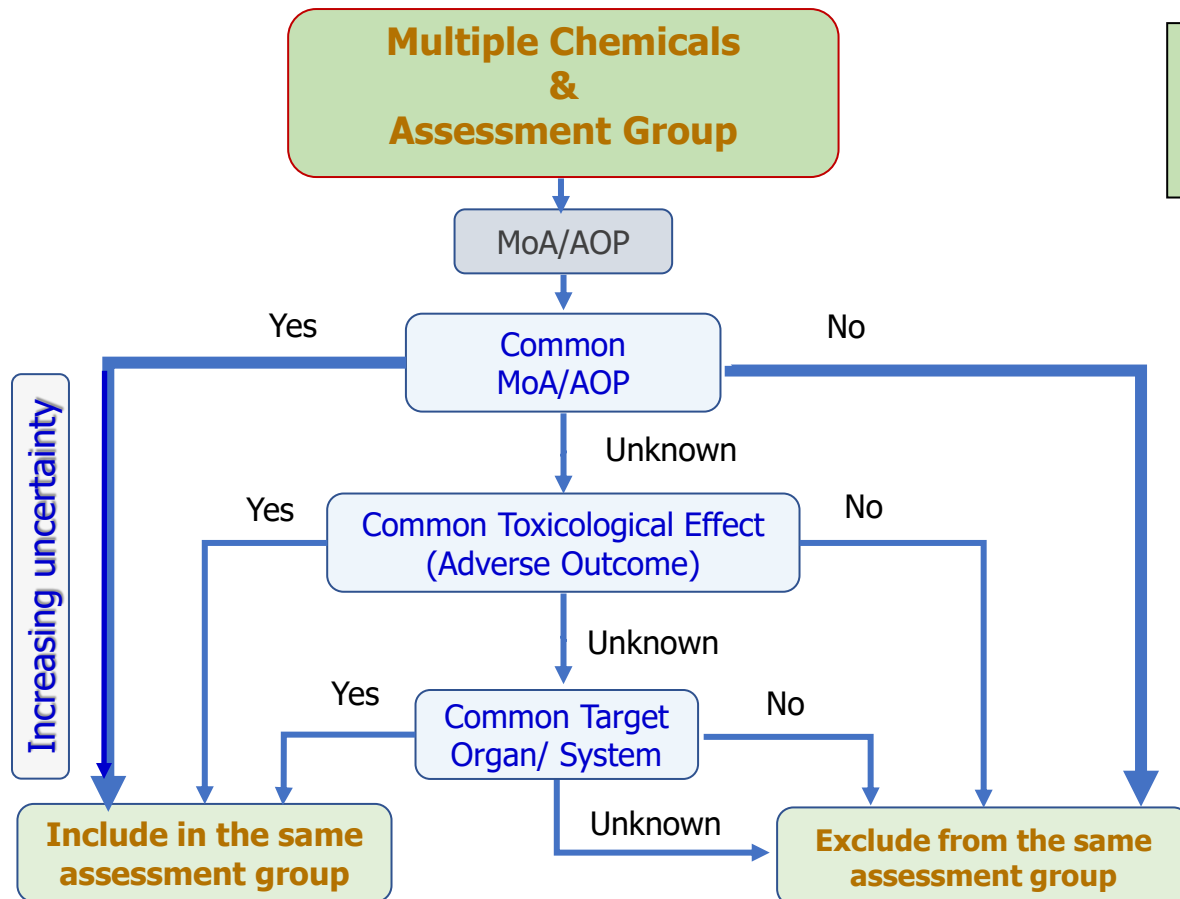
Public Consultation (May-July 2021)

International Workshop (18-20 October 2021)

Published 17-12-2021

10





**Multiple chemicals (co-exposure)  
Arrangement in Assessment  
Groups**

Higher tier:

- Gold standard Common Mode of action (MoA) or Adverse outcome Pathway (AOP) for grouping into assessment group

Next tiers:

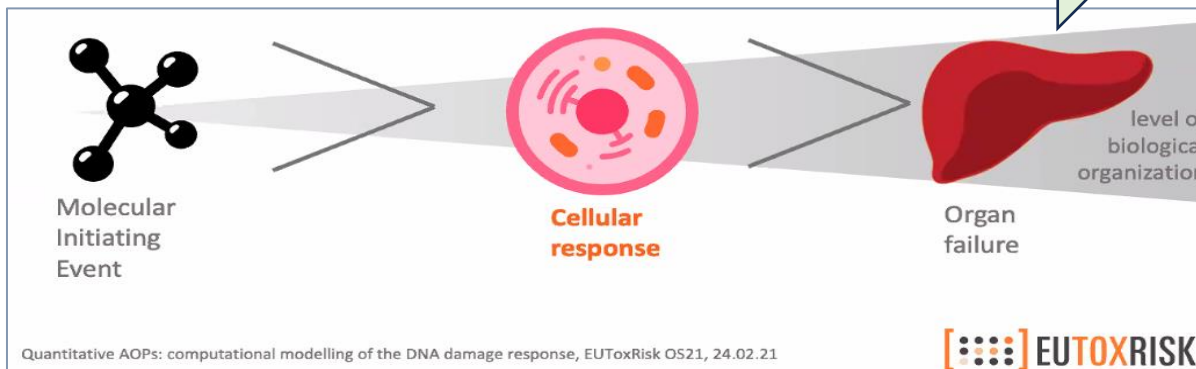
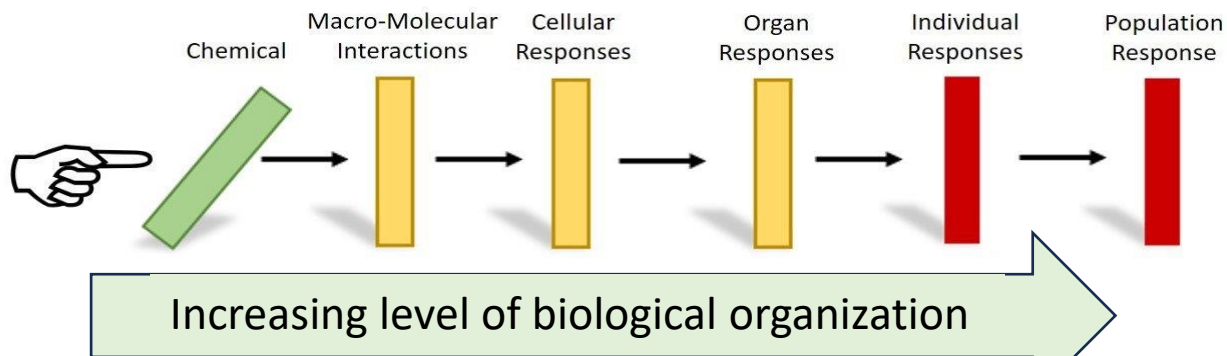
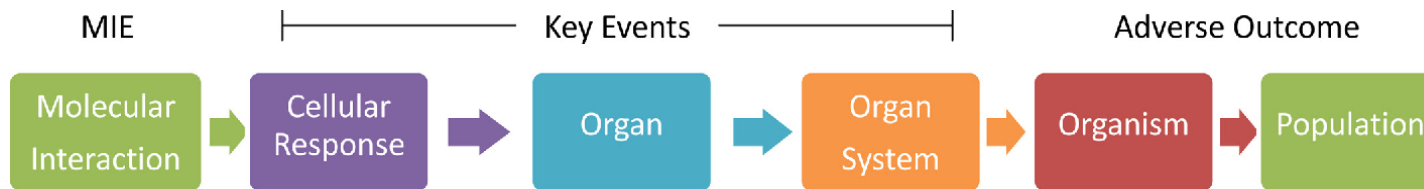
- common AO
- common target organ

If not hazard criteria for grouping, apply alternative approaches e.g., *in silico/structure/read across, etc*

Top-down hierarchical process for grouping chemicals into Assessment Groups using hazard-driven criteria

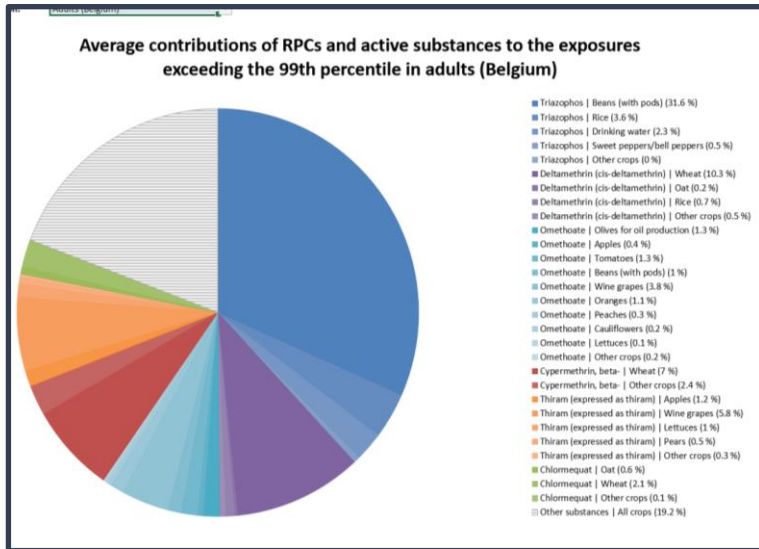


### Essential understanding of the Adverse outcome pathway (AOP)





## Food consumption & residues of active substances



EFSA 2019, doi: 10.2903/j.efsa.2019.5764

&

Hazard metrics for the individual compounds  
ADI, ARfD, HBGV, RfP, or PoD

## Risk estimation

### a. Margin of exposure total (MOET)(> 100)

$$\frac{1}{\text{MOET}} = \sum_i \frac{1}{\text{MOE}_i} = \frac{1}{\text{MOE}_1} + \frac{1}{\text{MOE}_2} + \frac{1}{\text{MOE}_3} \dots + \frac{1}{\text{MOE}_n}$$

where  $\text{MOE}_i$  is the margin of exposure for the  $i$ th chemical,

$$\text{MOE}_i = \frac{\text{RfP}_i}{E_i}$$

and RfP is the toxicological reference point (NOAEL in the present report) for chemical  $i$  and  $E_i$  its exposure.

EFSA 2020, doi: 10.2903/j.efsa.2020.6087

### b. Hazard Index estimation (HI) (<1)

Refined Hazard Index approach based on endpoint-specific effect.

$$\text{HI} = \text{HQ}_1 + \text{HQ}_2 + \dots + \text{HQ}_v,$$

$$\text{HQ} = \text{exposure} / \text{HBGV} \text{ (e.g., ADI/ARfD)}$$

EFSA 2021, doi: 10.2903/j.efsa.2019.5764



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# Other BPI Activities in the assessment of risk from multiple chemicals

PARC



INSIGNIA-EU



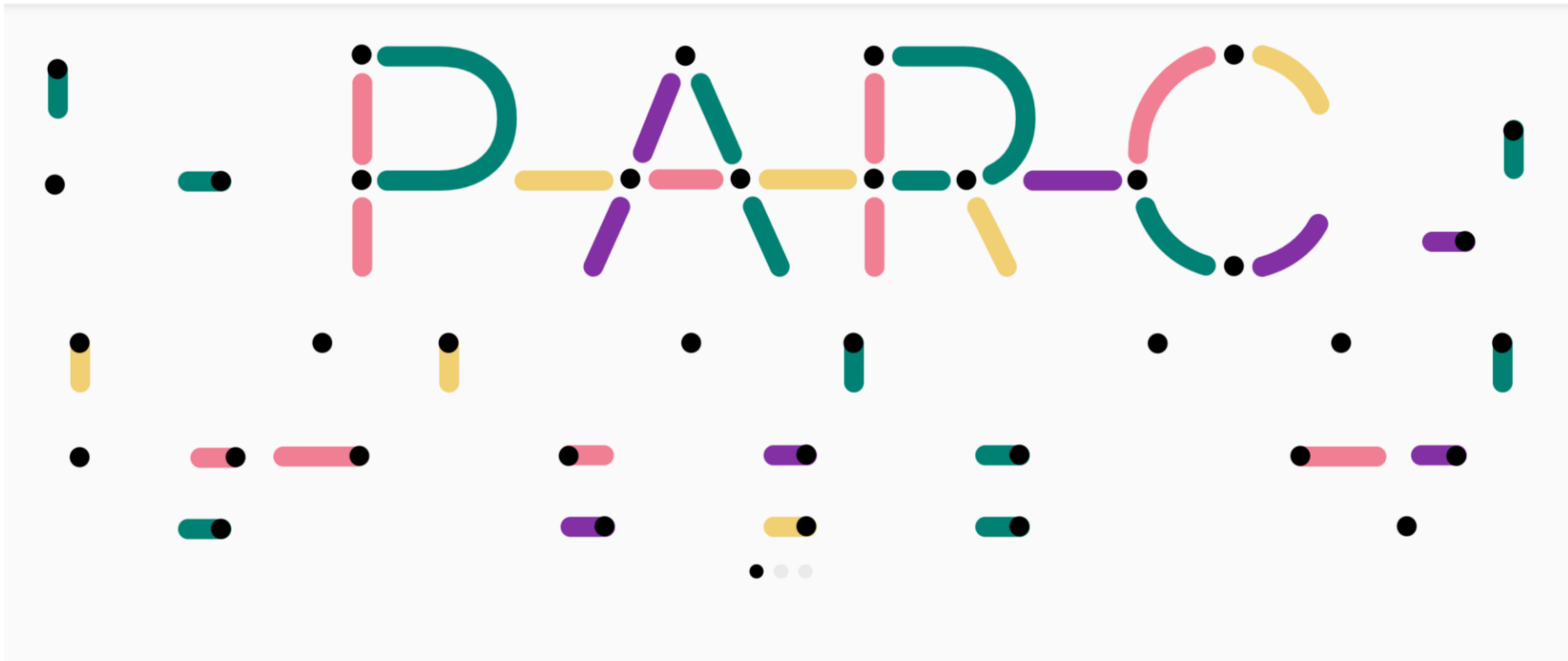
*A tiered strategy for risk assessment of mixtures of multiple chemicals*



# Other BPI activities in the assessment of risks from exposure to multiple chemicals & BPI

## The European Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals

PARC



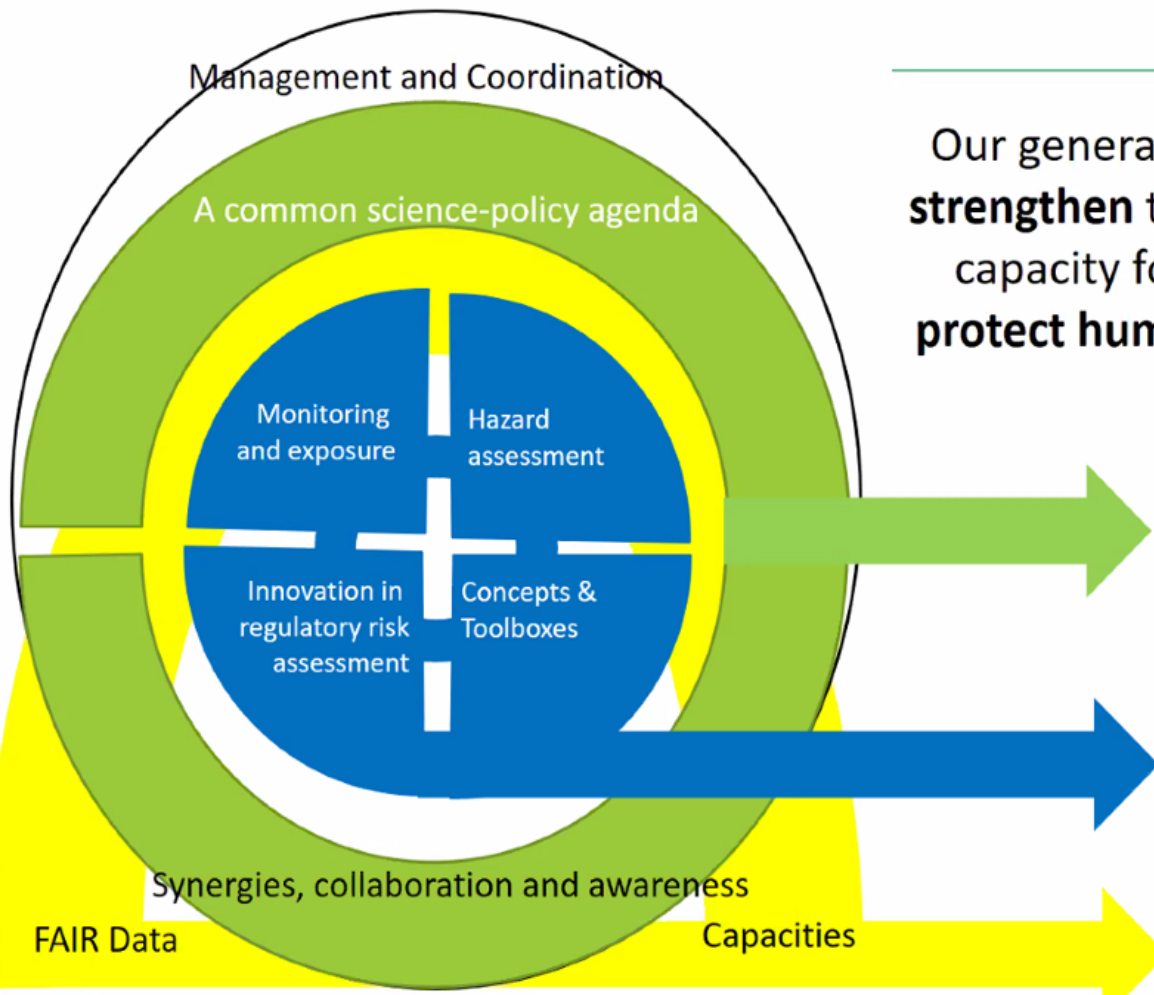
<https://www.eu-parc.eu/>

# The European Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals

<https://www.eu-parc.eu/>

## PARC Objectives

Our general objective is to **consolidate and strengthen** the EU's Research and Innovation capacity for chemical Risk Assessment to **protect human health and the environment**



1

High level network for regulatory science interface

2

Research & Innovation towards Next Generation Risk Assessment

3

Capacities and Platforms



# The European Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals

## WP 6: Innovation in regulatory risk assessment

**Project: P6.2.3.a\_Y1:** New risk assessment and exposome methodologies to reduce exposure and risk of real-life mixtures

**Project objective: Development of the strategy for mixture risk assessment using HBM data on prioritized chemicals from different European populations.**

### Five case studies prioritized chemicals and effects

- Pesticides with acute effect on nervous system (AChE inhibition)
- Pesticides with effects on the motor division of the nervous system
- PFAS and immune toxicity
- Heavy metals and nephrotoxicity
- Chemicals with possible effect on Developmental Neurotoxicity (IQ loss)

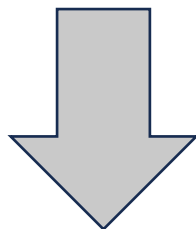
# WP 6: Innovation in regulatory risk assessment

## Case studies: Pesticides and nervous system

Estimation of risk from external exposure (dietary route) for all pesticide residues

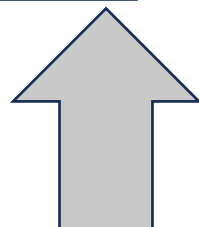
- + Reliable monitoring data
- only dietary exposure
- only pesticide a.s. considered

EFSA Dietary exposure

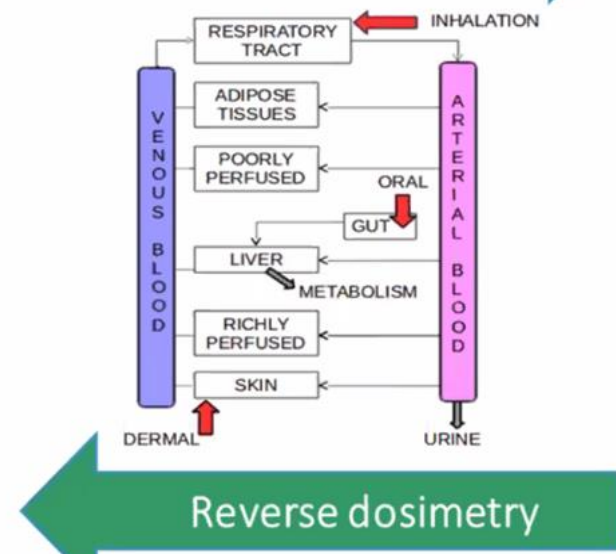
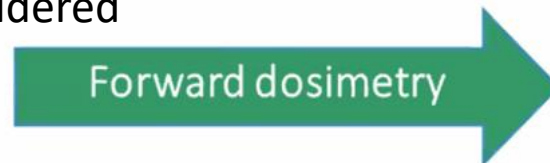


**Total Margins of Exposure (MOET)**

PARC HBM all routes & sources



Biomarkers of pesticide exposure for all routes & sources (HBM studies)



- + all routes and sources of exposure
- limited data cohorts with many limitations
- targeted analysis

# Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals (PARC) WP 6 - Innovation in regulatory risk assessment

ADDITIONAL DELIVERABLE P-A-R-C HORIZON-HLTH-2021-EHWLTH-03 CONTRACT N. 101057014  
Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals

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Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals

ADDITIONAL DELIVERABLE P-A-R-C HORIZON-HLTH-2021-EHWLTH-03 CONTRACT N. 101057014  
Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals

Additional Deliverable AD6.5  
Inventory of existing EBD, HIA, exposure and exposure-effect data for chemicals prioritized in PARC  
WP 6 – T6.2

PARC  
Partnership for Assessment of Risks from Chemicals

Co-funded by the European Union  
This partnership has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement

Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals

Additional Deliverable AD6.5  
Development of the strategy for mixture risk assessment using HBM data and its application to prioritised mixtures  
WP 6 – T6.2

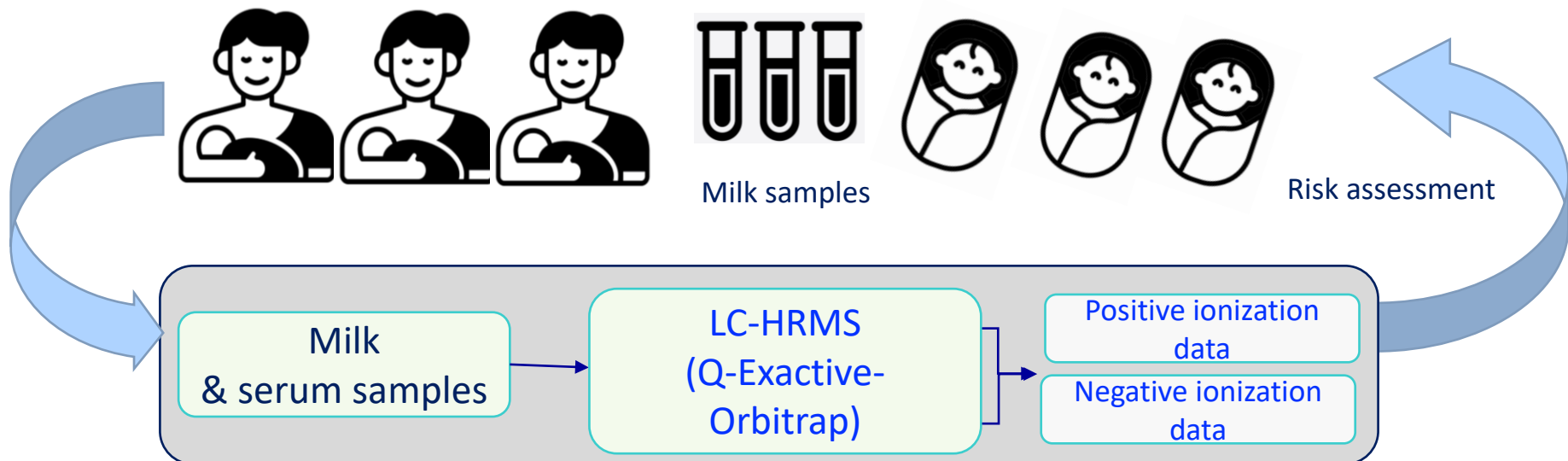
PARC  
Partnership for Assessment of Risks from Chemicals

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<https://www.eu-parc.eu/news/risk-assessment/parc-supports-regulatory-risk-assessment-four-new-reports-are-now-published>

# Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals (PARC)

## WP4: Multiple chemicals in the maternal milk and serum



- Milk and serum samples from Greek population (+ other countries)
- Untargeted chemical analysis
- Targeted chemical analysis (LC-MS/MS, GC-MS/MS)
- Statistical analysis and evaluation of the results
- Reverse dosimetry for external exposure estimation (maternal)
- Risk assessment (maternal and newborn)
- Risk communication

Drawings retrieved from: <https://thenounproject.com/>

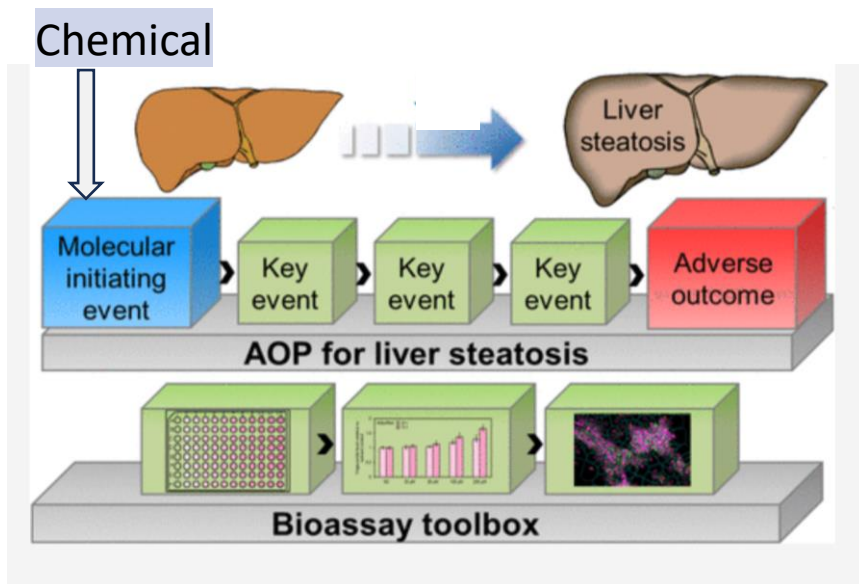
# Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals (PARC)

## WP4, WP5 & WP6

- **WP 4** : Human Biomonitoring studies in mixtures of chemicals
- **WP5** : AOP development & effect markers.
- **WP5**: BPA alternatives and associated mixtures (data gaps, effect biomarkers and NAM development) [*use of vertebrate (e.g., zebrafish), invertebrates (e.g., daphnia magna, C. elegance, insects) and in vitro models by applying classical, molecular and OMICs technics*]
- **WP 6**: Workflow for Human Relevance Assessment of AOPs, Associated Biomarkers of effect and New Approach Methodologies



## The EuroMix project



*Adverse outcome pathway- driven (AOP) analysis of liver steatosis in vitro, identification of KE/biomarkers of effect and bioassays for measurement (NAMs), Luckert et al, 2018 (The Euromix, FP7 project). <https://www.euromixproject.eu/>*

## The INSIGNIA-EU project

“Preparatory action for monitoring of environmental pollution using honey bees”



Honeybee colonies for the detection of pesticides, microplastics, heavy metals, and air pollutants.

<https://www.insignia-bee.eu/>



**Project** “Using Adverse Outcome Pathways (AOP) to address combined exposures to chemicals with relevant effect-biomarkers” <https://aopwiki.org/>

## **Drafting new HBM methodologies for the following adverse outcomes:**

- Carcinogenicity
- Genotoxicity and Oxidative stress
- Endocrine Disruption (mainly estrogenicity),
- Neurotoxicity
- Developmental Neurotoxicity,
- Reproductive toxicity.





EFSA

PARC

OECD

EuroMix

...

- Construction of the AOP/AON
- Identification and characterization of KE
- Interrelation of KE to biomarkers of effect
- Development and evaluation of NAMs
- Regulatory acceptance of NAMs

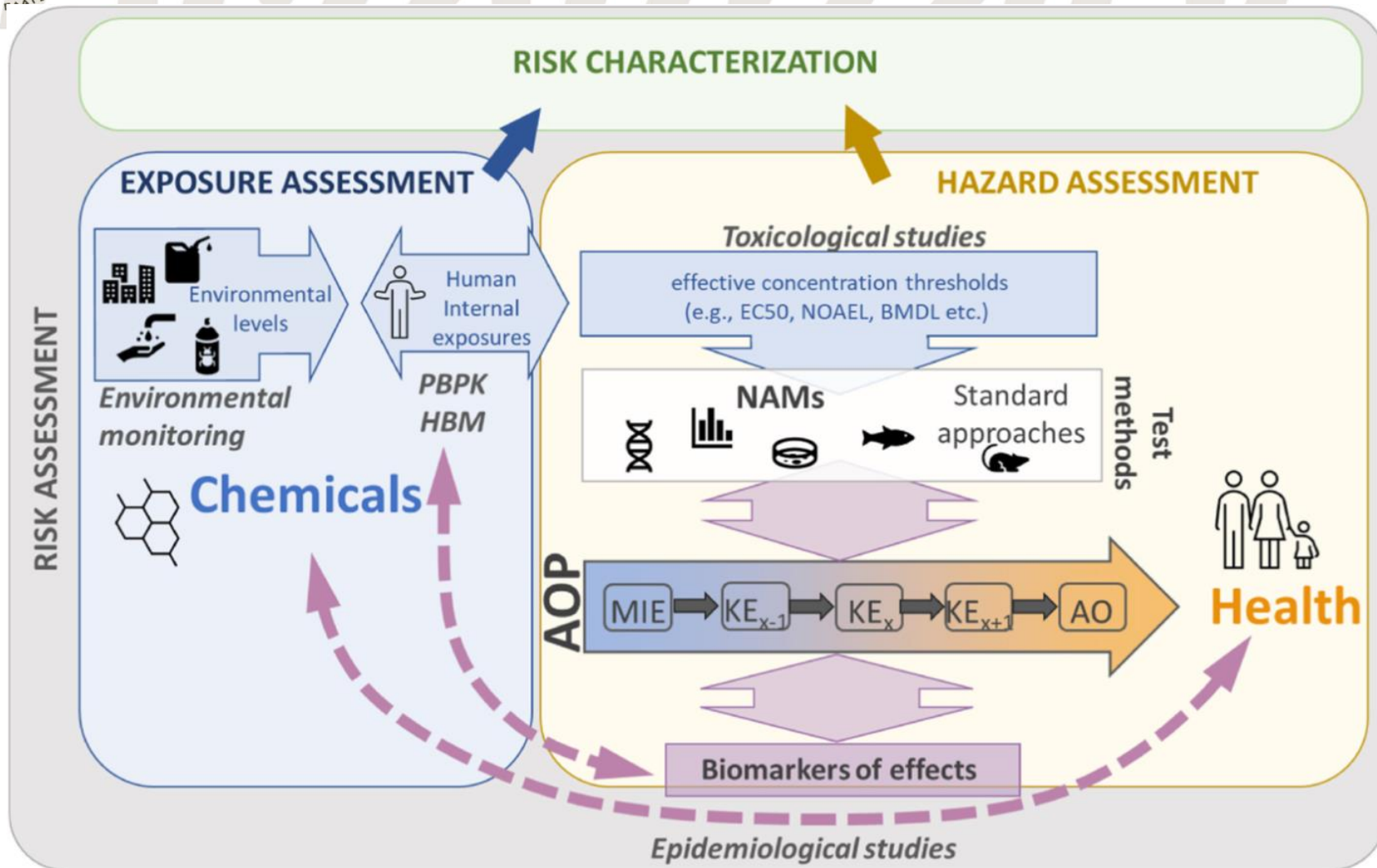
- Enhanced
  - human relevance
  - accuracy and specificity in grouping of chemicals
  - readiness & high throughput methods
- Reduced
  - uncertainty
  - vertebrate testing







# Graphical presentation integrating the different parts for the next generation risk assessment (NGRA)



Bajard , et al, Application of AOPs to assist regulatory assessment of chemical risks – Case studies, needs and recommendations Environmental Research, 2023





**Laboratory of Pesticide's Toxicology**

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**Thank you**

