



Instruments to support the substitution of biocides by alternative measures

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Carried out by:

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Background

On the 28th of June 2002, the German Biocides Law came into effect. It regulates the implementation of the Biocide Directive 98/8/EG in the German Chemicals Legislation (ChemG). The latter prescribes under Section §22, Paragraph 1a), Point 5 that the Licensing Authorities for biocides shall make information available to the general public on "physical, chemical and other measures as alternatives to biocidal products or to minimize the use of biocidal products".

In the framework of the present project, suggestions for additional flanking measures toward the promotion of alternatives to minimize the use of biocides are to be worked out.

On the one hand it will be analysed, why the alternatives to biocidal products sometimes don't sustain on the market or why they are not sufficiently investigated yet. On the other hand it will be examined with the help of case studies, which instruments are most suitable to promote the application of alternatives.

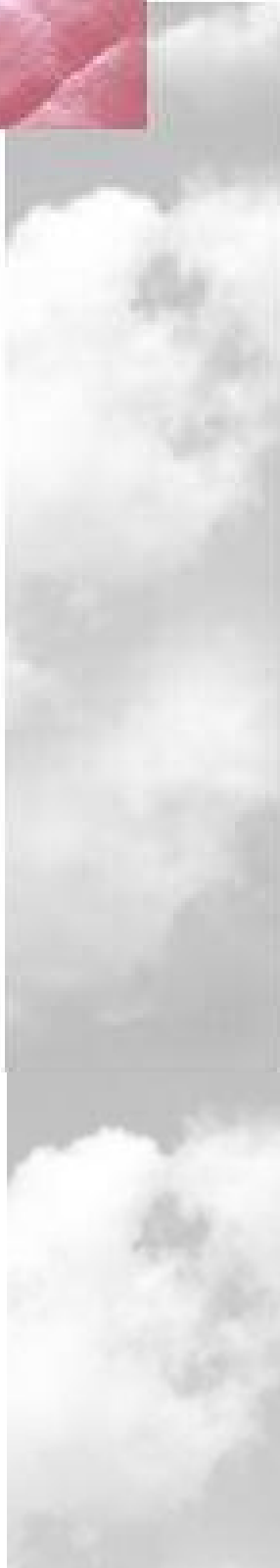
The importance of the information system (the feasibility of its built-up has been analysed in the first part of the overall project), will be of special consideration.

Objective and expected results

The project consists of three phases:

- 1) Characterisation of different application areas of biocidal products concerning the motivation and the "fears" of the respective user groups to apply alternatives, concerning the technical circumstances for the application of biocides and concerning the regulatory scope, which might influence the application of biocides. This characterisation will be worked out with the help of few indicators, which however are relevant for all biocidal products requiring authorisation in Germany according to the biocides directive.
- 2) Evaluation of the characterisation of application areas concerning similarities in:
 - The possibilities and limits of substitution of biocides,
 - The motivation, the concerns and the status of information of the different players,
 - Further criteria relevant for the question.

With the help of the characterisation the case studies for further processing will be selected. For these case studies, the circumstances of a possible



substitution will be researched and documented. Different possibilities to support the application of alternatives in the respective areas will be worked out.

3) Different measures for the support of alternatives, as the creation of economic incentives, classification and labelling, measures of policy law or education and information campaigns will be discussed with different players in the framework of workshops. The players will be representatives of the chosen case study and will be from different working backgrounds, e.g.: from authorities, from NGOs, from industry – applicants and producers of biocides and of their alternatives.

Die following results are expected:

- Overview on the present situation concerning the opportunities and the motivation of biocides' users to apply alternative processes.
- Overview on "typical" players' constellations and "typical" circumstances for a substitution
- Documentation of 2 case studies for the detailed illustration of possibilities for the support of alternatives.
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