EUROPEAN DATABASE AND COMPANY CAMPAIGN

Digital compliance workshop

Oona Freudenthal, Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology (LIST)

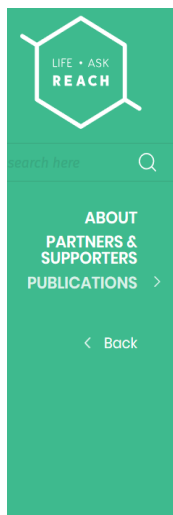Martin Baumann, Friends of the Earth Germany (BUND)

21/10/2021

Context

AskREACH baseline report – companies 1

Awareness and communication on SVHCs in articles: Surveys among consumers and article suppliers

To inform its impact monitoring, the LIFE AskREACH project has recently conducted surveys of more than 14,000 citizens and of some 180 article suppliers. Documenting the results of the empirical work, the report gives insights into consumers' current awareness related to substances in articles and into companies' current situation in terms of awareness, implementation and related challenges concerning Art. 33 of REACH.

July 2019

Read more >

https://www.askreach.eu/publications/

ABOUT
PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS
PUBLICATIONS >

< Back

Country	No
France	67
Germany	50
Sweden	15
Czech Republic	12
Serbia	9
Croatia	8
Poland	5
Austria	4
Greece	4
Spain	4
Latvia	3
Luxembourg	1
Portugal	1

Countries and amount of company survey responses per country

Sectors	Absolute
Textiles	44
Electronics	36
Household articles	31
Sporting goods and outdoor	23
Do it yourself	25
Furniture	20
Toys	16

Sector(s) of activity of the surveyed companies

Total: **183** companies participated

LUXEMBOURG INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY | LIST

LIFE • ASK REACH

© AskREACH   https://www.askreach.eu/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/LIFEAskREACH_Baseline-publication_2019-07-10.pdf
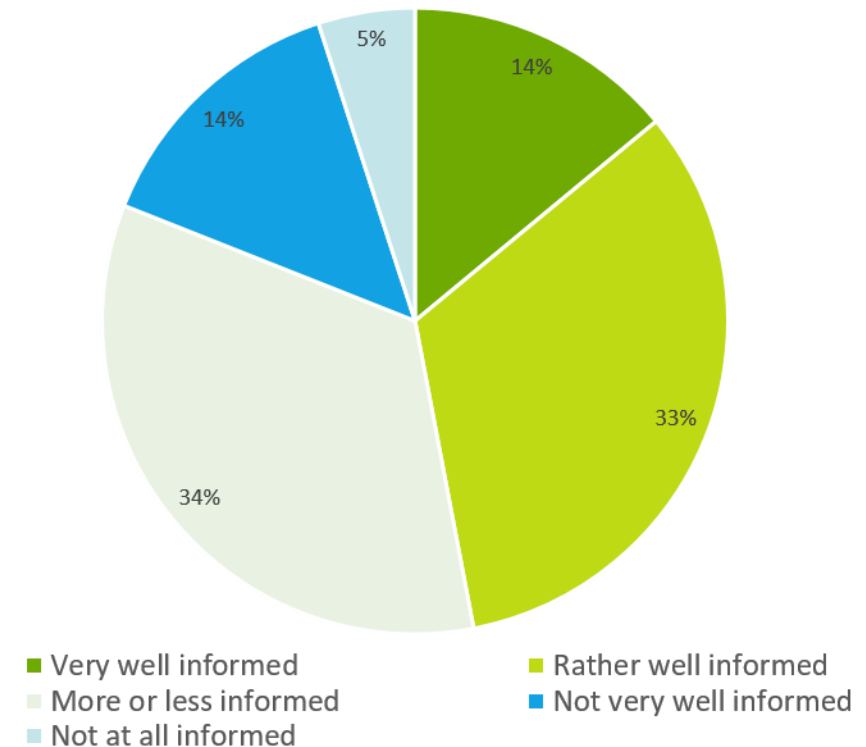
AskREACH baseline report – companies 2

- Of 183 participating companies, 42% had already received 'right to know' information requests from consumers.
- Of the companies that have received requests, nearly half did not usually have the information required to provide an immediate response.
- Only 47% of the participating companies felt well informed or quite well informed about the presence of SVHCs in their articles.
- 43% of the surveyed companies had no IT-solution in place to collect and manage information on SVHCs in their articles. Of the companies that do employ IT tools (57%), a quarter use MS Excel.

How informed do you (your company) feel about the presence of problematic chemical substances (such as SVHCs) in the articles you produce/sell?

- Very well informed 14%
- Rather well informed 33%
- More or less informed 34%
- Not very well informed 14%
- Not at all informed 5%

AskREACH baseline report – companies conclusions

- Supply chain communication – room for improvement

- Ability to answer consumer SVHC requests

- Forum enforcement pilot project (ECHA, 2019): **88%** of suppliers of articles containing SVHC above 0,1% failing to communicate sufficient information according to REACH Article 33(1) and **56%** of duty holders fail to communicate sufficiently according to REACH Article 33(2).*

> **The survey findings confirm concerns that a large proportion of companies are not well-prepared to respond to consumer's 'right to know' requests in compliance with REACH Art. 33(2).**

*https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13577/sia_pilot_project_report_en.pdf/f9fc153b-a322-43be-1ba1-44f4e5cb02c8

Random article SVHC tests

SVHC tests of sports articles

- **13 organisations** from **13 European countries**

- Each organisation purchased **3-8 random sports and leisure articles** on their market area (balls, skipping ropes, bottles, weighs, mats etc.) -> total of **82 samples**

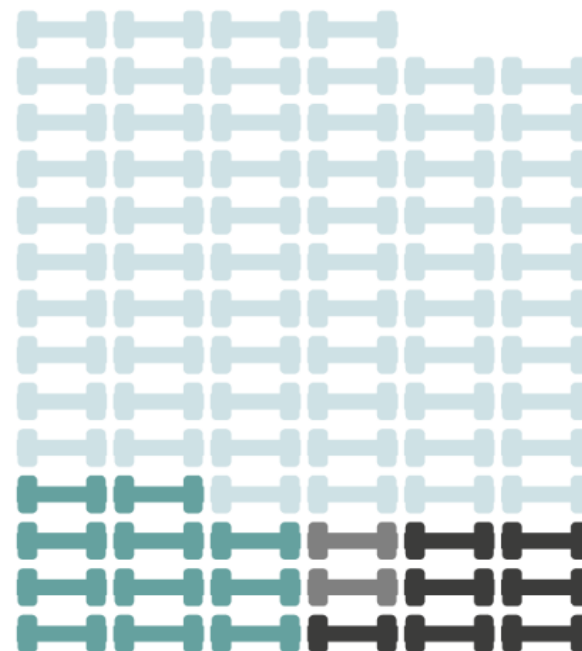- **SVHC requests were sent** via the Scan4Chem app

Tested substances:

Substance group	Individual substances
Phthalates	DEHP, BBP, DHNUP, DIHP, DMEP, DBP, DIBP, DPENP, DiPP, PiPP, DPP, DnHP, DCHP, DNOP, DIDP, DINP, DHxP, DIHxP [1]
Chlorinated paraffins	SCCPs (short-chain chlorinated paraffins) MCCPs (medium-chain chlorinated paraffins) (not SVHCs)
Alkylphenols	Octylphenol, nonylphenol, tris(nonylphenyl)phosphite
Flame retardants	Deca-BDE, HBCDD, TXP, TCEP[2]
Heavy metals	lead, cadmium
Others	ADCA (azodicarbonamide)

| Country	Number of samples
Czech Republic	8
Latvia	6
Germany	6
Poland	6
Austria	7
France	7
Luxembourg	6
Hungary	3
Greece	8
Serbia	6
Sweden	7
Croatia	7
Portugal	5
	82

Results

- For **56% of the articles**, we received **no answer** at all, even after one or more e-mail reminders.

- **24%** of the tested articles **contained SVHCs**

- **SVHCs > 0,1% (m/m) in 11%** of the samples.

- In 7 samples, the plasticisers DEHP, DIBP or DBP were found

- Should not be placed on the market after July 2020 at a concentration higher than 0.1% (m/m).

- The plasticiser DEHP was detected with a concentration of 24% in a skipping rope, and DIBP was found at concentrations up to 35 and 41% in two types of gymnastic balls.

24 % of the samples contain SVHCs
9 articles contain SVHCs over 0,1 %
7 articles are not marketable
© GLOBAL2000

41 % DIBP in a gymnastic ball

35 % DIBP in another gymnastic ball

24 % DEHP in a skipping rope
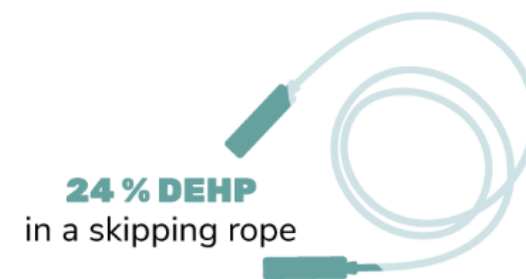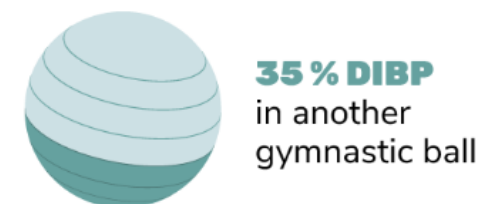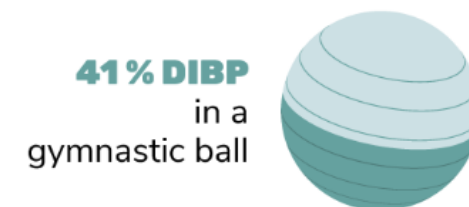
DIBP = Diisobutylphthalat
DEHP = Diethylhexylphthalat

Read more on
www.askreach.eu/publications

Our aim and solution

AskREACH - Aim

Raising **supplier** awareness on (communication) of SVHC in articles

Facilitate communication on SVHC in articles
- between **consumers** and **companies**
- Within the **supply chain**

Ensure **compliance**.
Reduce **human** and **environmental** exposure.
Promote **substitution** of SVHCs.

Dissemination methods, channels, stakeholders

Material
- Flyers
- Posters
- Guides
- Presentations
- Videos
- Social media posts
- Photos

Multipliers
- Industry associations
- Chambers of commerce/crafts
- National REACH Helpdesks
- Competent authorities
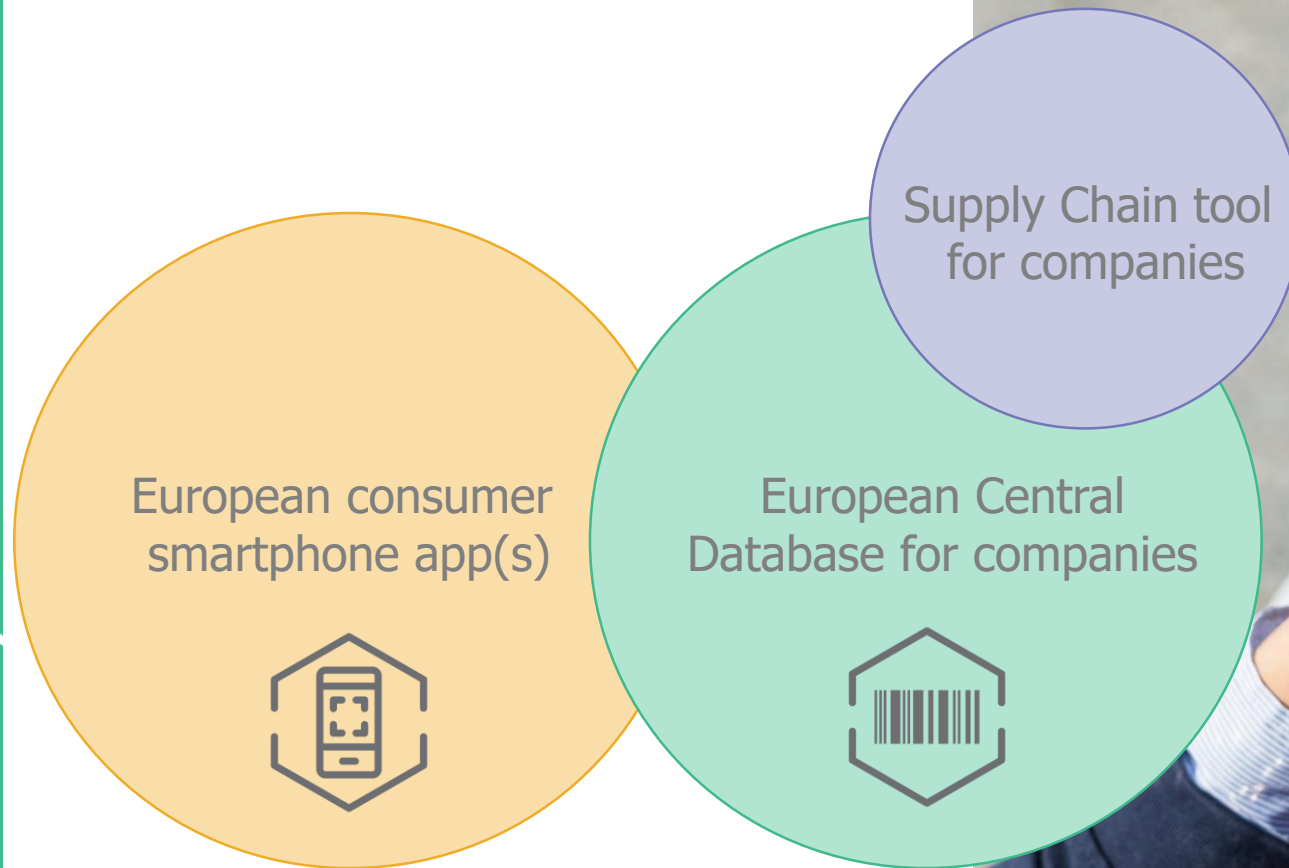- Consulting companies
- Ministries

Strategies
- Stakeholder mapping
- Coordination of dissemination activities: Social media strategy

Channels
- Websites
- Newsletters
- Press articles
- Industry journals
- Radio
- Webinars
- Television
- Podcasts
- Events/fairs
- Schools
- Social media
- Conferences/trainings

AskREACH IT solutions

AskREACH - Solutions

Supply Chain tool for companies

European consumer smartphone app(s)

European Central Database for companies

LUXEMBOURG INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY | LIST

LIFE • ASK REACH

Life

AskREACH supplier frontend - 1
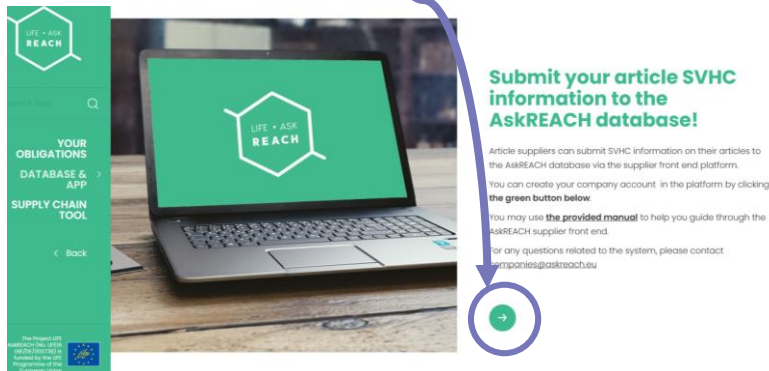
1
Register at www.askreach.eu /app-database

2
Add your company information

3
Upload your articles

- **Name**
- **Address**
- **Generic e-mail address** for consumer SVHC requests
- Your **barcodes**

- **Single** articles
- **Bulk** with excel file
- **Barcode range** declaration for SVHC-free articles

AskREACH supplier frontend - 2

- **Submitting article information**

- Article name (required)

- Barcode (optional)

- Other IDs (optional)

- Brand (optional)

- Description (optional)

- Images (optional)

- SVHC information (required)

- Instructions for safe use (optional)

Selected language for article information

Article entry language

English

Article information

Name

Barcode   ✅ GTIN (EAN,UPC)

Other Ids

Select...   +

AskREACH supplier frontend - 3

- Resources available at www.askreach.eu/app-database under "**Resources**"

- Full user manual

- Quick guide

- Bulk upload excel template

- Further resources available on request

- Sample letter to collect SVHC information from your suppliers

- Good practices on answering a consumer request

- Simplified IT concept

- Etc.

  Contact **companies@askreach.eu**

Retailers – dedicated support

Tools to collect SVHC information from suppliers

Article portfolio assessment regarding SVHCs

Retailer action Collect SVHC information and prepare for requests

Shop assistant **training**

Consumer **support** and **info stands**

Covid-19: Need to take some retailer activities online?

2018/05/13
No. LIFE16 GIE/DE/000738
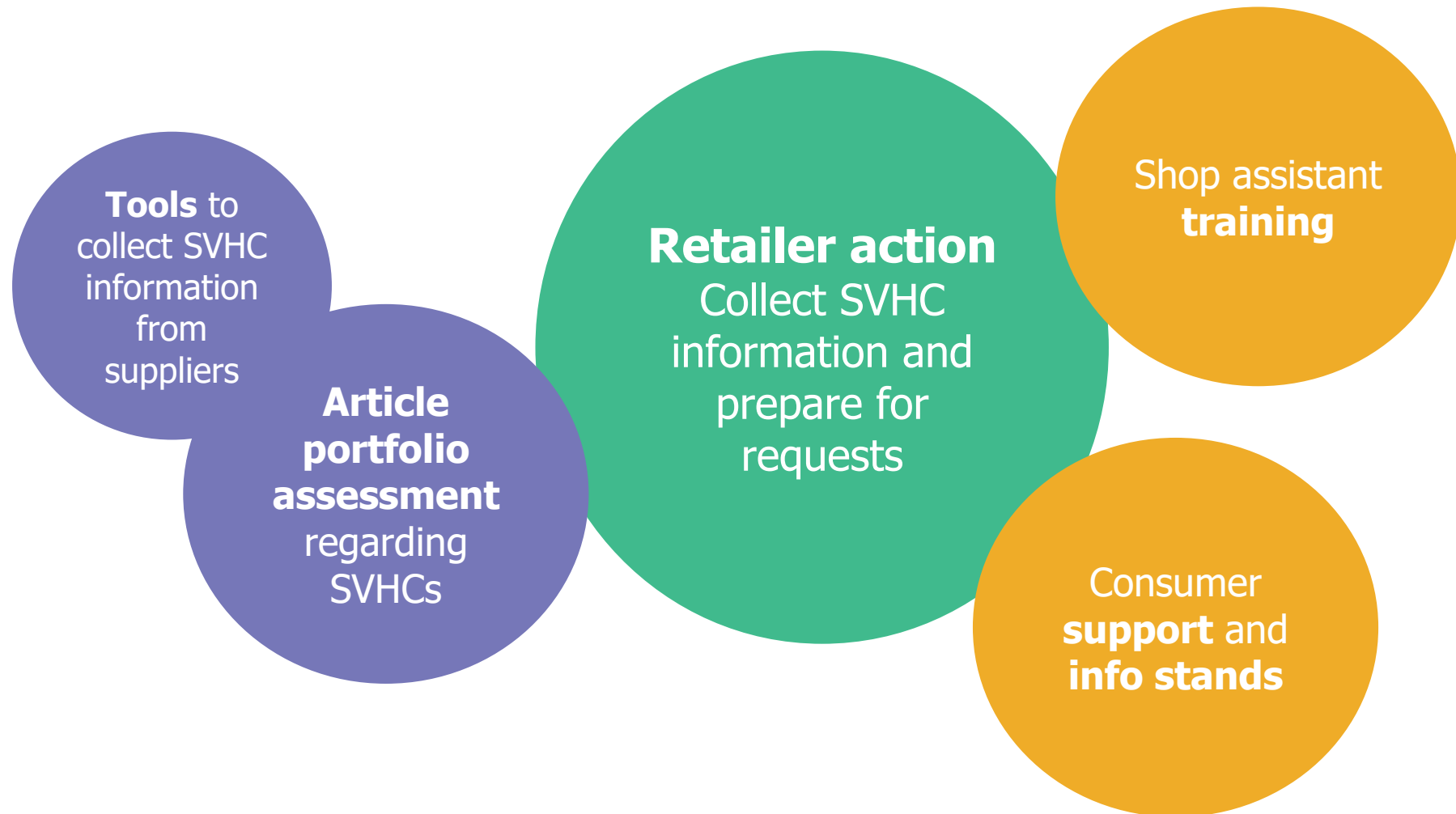
How can your company get involved?

- Make sure to "**whitelist**" **the askreach.eu domain** to receive consumer requests

- You can answer consumer requests either via the AskREACH supplier frontend or directly replying to the request e-mail.

- **Request SVHC information from your suppliers** now

- **Register** to the AskREACH supplier frontend (www.askreach.eu/app-database)

- Participate in the specific **retailer activities** of the project (article SVHC assessment, shop assistant training, etc.)

AskREACH welcomes all articles with or without SVHCs!

© AskREACH

Contact us!

We are here to help you!

Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology
Environmental Research and Innovation
Department (ERIN) - Environmental Policies
REACH&CLP Helpdesk Luxembourg
41, rue du Brill
L-4422 Belvaux
Luxembourg

Tel: +352 275 888 5063
Email: oona.freudenthal@list.lu
companies@askreach.eu
Web: www.list.lu
www.reach.lu
www.askreach.lu

© AskREACH