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- The OSIRIS Project: Goal, Partners, Structure
- OSIRIS Meetings
- OSIRIS Workshops

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OSIRIS in the World Wide Web

http://www.osiris-reach.eu

- Objectives
- Partners
- Project Structure
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- Events and Activities
- OSIRIS Training
- Useful Links
- Open Positions at OSIRIS Partner-Institutes
OSIRIS Goal

The new European law on chemicals and their safe use REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals) entered into force on 1 June 2007. While it is based on the precautionary principle, it includes also the aim to reduce animal testing where possible.

The goal of OSIRIS is to develop integrated testing strategies (ITS) fit for REACH that enable to significantly increase the use of non-testing information for regulatory decision making, and thus to minimise the need for animal testing.

To this end, operational procedures are developed, tested and disseminated that guide a transparent and scientifically sound evaluation of chemical substances in a risk-driven, context-specific and substance-tailed manner.

OSIRIS Partners

OSIRIS has 31 Partners from 14 European countries.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Participant Name</th>
<th>Short name</th>
<th>Country</th>
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<tr>
<td>Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research</td>
<td>UFZ</td>
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<td>Universitat Rovira i Virgili</td>
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<td>IRFMN</td>
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<td>IVZ RS</td>
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<td>Environmental Microbial Genomics Group - UMR CNRS 5005</td>
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24 Research institutes / universities
5 Small and medium-sized enterprises
2 Manufacturers of chemicals and chemical products
The 5 interlinked OSIRIS Research Pillars

**Pillar 1: Chemical Domain**
Develops methods and guidance for transparent and scientifically sound use of chemistry-driven information in ITS.

**Pillar 2: Biological Domain**
Provides efficient strategies and guidance for exploitation of all types of biological information on toxic effects of chemicals in ITS, focusing on reduced animal use and informed extrapolation across human and environmental toxicology, species, endpoints and time scales.

**Pillar 3: Exposure**
Develops criteria for exposure informed testing as foreseen in the REACH regulation, and refines relevant exposure assessment methods accordingly.

**Pillar 4: Integration Strategies and Tools**
Develops weight-of-evidence approaches for ITS based on a computerised decision theory framework ready for web access, optimising the use of existing data and non-test information, and minimising the need for new testing in risk assessment procedures.

**Pillar 5: Case Studies**
Evaluates the feasibility and effectiveness of the new ITS methodologies and provides guidance for their use in concrete form, covering major human and environmental endpoints.

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**OSIRIS Co-ordinator:**
Prof. Dr. Gerrit Schüürmann

**OSIRIS Project manager:**
Dr. Andrea Richarz

Contact OSIRIS office:  osiris@ufz.de
OSIRIS Management Structure

- **Project Co-ordinator**: responsible for general scientific and administrative management, intermediary to the European Commission

- **Project Management Office** (at the UFZ)

- **Management Board**: supports the Co-ordinator

- **Advisory Board**: platform for targeted communication and interaction with external experts, stakeholders and end-users

- **General Assembly** of all Partners

- **Steering Committees**: managing the activities of the 5 research Pillars, each headed by a Pillar Co-ordinator

- **Workpackage Leaders**: responsible for managing activities at the workpackage level

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**OSIRIS Management Board**

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<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Deputy</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Co-ordinator</td>
<td>Gerrit Schüürmann, UFZ</td>
<td>Andrea Richarz, UFZ</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pillar 1 Co-ordinator</td>
<td>Mark Cronin, LJMU</td>
<td>Helmut Segner, UB</td>
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<td>Pillar 2 Co-ordinator</td>
<td>Theo Vermeire, RIVM</td>
<td>Stefan Trapp, DTU</td>
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<td>Pillar 4 Co-ordinator</td>
<td>Martin Scheringer, ETHZ</td>
<td>Joanna Jaworska, P&amp;G</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cross-cutting Co-ordinator of Modelling Work</td>
<td>Francesc Giralt, URV</td>
<td>Ovanes Mekenyan, LMC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cross-cutting Co-ordinator of Experimental Work</td>
<td>Helmut Segner, UB</td>
<td>Ronny Blust, UA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross-cutting Co-ordinator of Training Activities (WP 6)</td>
<td>Andrew Worth, JRC</td>
<td>Emilio Benfenati, IRFMN</td>
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1st OSIRIS Stakeholder Workshop

DIA organised the First Stakeholder Workshop on **28-29 November 2007 in Stuttgart, Germany** to enable early communication with and input from outside experts.

The main objective was to receive feedback from the participants on the overall scientific approach and the further shaping of the project work. To this end, representatives of Pillar 4, coordinated by Han van de Sandt, **presented the project status**, highlighting major issues of discussion such as the selection of priority endpoints, respective selection criteria (animal use, costs, time, scope for alternative approaches and non-test methods).

The discussion with the stakeholders was organised in the form of a **Group Delphi** (group discussions and justification of results in the plenum). 24 scientific experts from industry, academia, and regulatory agencies attended the workshop; 21 experts took part in the Group Delphi itself. The advantage of Delphi is to find the common ground among the experts, and the reasons and arguments that cause differences in assessments.

The **stakeholders provided suggestions for setting priorities** with respect to endpoints and software for **in silico** work, and **expressed preferences and needs** to guide further work on the integrated testing strategies as addressed in Pillar 4.

Overall, the stakeholder workshop was very successful, providing both valuable input and positive feedback on the OSIRIS plans for developing ITS.

SETAC Europe Special Science Symposium (SESSS)

Integrated Testing Strategies for REACH: from Science to practical implementation

OSIRIS will actively participate in the SETAC Europe Special Science Symposium on REACH that will take place on **23-24 October 2008 in Brussels** as first of a new series of conferences organised by SETAC.

The symposium will serve as major international platform for presenting the ITS methodology as a means to provide REACH-relevant hazard and risk information about chemical substances, and to support respective regulatory decision making.

The OSIRIS Co-ordinator is member of the Steering Committee and there will be several **presentations from OSIRIS Partners** at the symposium.

Accordingly, OSIRIS will have opportunity to present major achievements of the project to an international audience of stakeholders covering industry, governmental authorities and academia, and to get feedback on the ITS methodology developed by that time.
OSIRIS First Annual Meeting in Milan

The OSIRIS First Annual Meeting was held on **11–13 March 2008** at the Istituto di Ricerche Farmacologiche Mario Negri (IRFMN) in **Milan, Italy**.

On the first day, the five Research Pillars and Workpackage 6 summarised the **first year results** as well as ongoing activities and presented highlights from the different workpackages.

The second and third day focused on the preparation of the **annual report** and the next 18-month planning.

Furthermore, the **feedback** received so far from **Stakeholders** – at the First OSIRIS Stakeholder Workshop and from the Advisory Board – was reported.

On the third day, all Pillars including Workpackage 6 presented their planned objectives, deliverables and milestones for the **next 18 months** in the plenum. Pillar and workpackage interactions were discussed.

During all three meeting days, Pillars and workpackages had the opportunity for **discussion** in several Pillar break-out meetings.

2nd OSIRIS Stakeholder Workshop

The Second OSIRIS Stakeholder Workshop will be held on **Monday, 17 November 2008** in **Brussels, Belgium**, organised by DIALOGIK.

It is scheduled to start on 9:30 and to end on 17:00 to make arrival and departure on the same day possible.

More detailed information on the programme and venue will follow.
OSIRIS Training Course for PhD Students and Young Researchers

The first training course for PhD students and young researchers took place on 10 March 2008 at the IRFMN in Milan, Italy. 37 students, young researchers and guests from 10 countries participated in this training course organised by IRFMN.

The aim was to give the theoretical basis for Intelligent Testing Strategies (ITS) components envisaged for REACH, based on the respective work performed in OSIRIS. 9 speakers (from OSIRIS Partners involved in WP 6) gave lectures on the following 5 main topics:

- Introduction on risk assessment
- Ecotoxicological hazard / risk assessment
- In silico hazard assessment
- Exposure assessment
- Decision making in risk assessment.

A webspace dedicated to the training course has been created in the OSIRIS intranet, with the aim of giving the training course participants a place for discussion.

Forthcoming OSIRIS Meetings

The next Annual meetings are scheduled as follows:

- 16-18 March 2009, RIVM, Bilthoven, The Netherlands
- March 2010, LJMU, Liverpool, UK

- The final meeting will take place at the UFZ, Leipzig, Germany in September 2011.
Conference Calendar: OSIRIS-related Events

5th SETAC World Congress
Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry
3-7 August 2008, Sydney, Australia
http://www.setac2008.com

2nd EuCheMS Chemistry Congress
European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences
16-20 September 2008, Torino, Italy
http://www.euchems-torino2008.it/site/home.asp

3rd Joint Meeting of the SETAC-GLB and GDCh
Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC GLB), German Chemical Society (GDCh)
23-26 September 2008, Frankfurt/Main, Germany
http://www.setac-glb.org

ESTIV08 - 15th International Congress on In Vitro Toxicology
Organised by European Society of Toxicology In Vitro (ESTIV), Scandinavian Society for Cell Toxicology (SSCT) and Expertrådet
25-28 September 2008, Stockholm, Sweden
http://www.estiv2008.org

EUROTOX 2008 - 44th Congress of the European Societies of Toxicology
From Toxins to Omics: Health, Safety and Well-being
5-8 October 2008, Rhodes, Greece
http://www.eurotox2008.org

SETAC Europe Special Science Symposium
Integrated Testing Strategies for REACH: from Science to practical implementation
23-24 October 2008, Brussels, Belgium
http://reach.setac.eu

EPAA Annual Conference 2008
European Partnership for Alternative Approaches to Animal Testing
Annual conference 2008: « 3 Rs Research »
3 November 2008, Brussels, Belgium
http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/epaa/index_en.htm

SETAC North America 29th Annual Meeting
Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry
16-20 November 2008, Tampa, Florida, USA
http://tampa.setac.org

EMEC9 - 9th European Meeting on Environmental Chemistry
Association of Chemistry and the Environment
3-6 December 2008, Girona, Catalonia, Spain

SETAC Europe 19th Annual Meeting
31 May-4 June 2009, Göteborg, Sweden
http://www.setacemeeting.org

ICCE 2009 - 12th EuCheMS International Conference on Chemistry and the Environment
European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences
14-17 June 2009, Stockholm, Sweden

EUROTOX 2009 - 46th Congress of the European Societies of Toxicology
From Toxins to Omics: Health, Safety and Well-being
5-8 October 2008, Rhodes, Greece
http://www.eurotox2009.org/home.asp

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