



NEWSLETTER December 2021

HAZBREF Report published: Strengthening chemicals management in Best Available Techniques Reference Documents

The HAZBREF project is now finalised, and all reports are published and available at the project website!

The latest report that has already been available earlier is now published in the series of the Finnish Environment Institute in a more reader

friendly format. The publication includes recommendations on how to strengthen chemicals management in BAT Reference documents (BREFs) and its BAT conclusions and makes suggestions how relevant information on chemicals can be more systematically addressed during BREF reviews.

“The current BREFs have been successful in reducing the emissions of many traditional hazardous substances, such as heavy metals and dioxins. Now we should move on to other hazardous substances, those chemicals, which are not yet adequately addressed in the BREFs,” says **Kaj Forsius**, Project Manager of the HAZBREF from the Finnish Environment Institute SYKE.

The objective of the Industrial Emissions Directive is to achieve a high level of environmental protection. This target can only be achieved when the BREFs address all relevant chemicals and substances potentially released from industrial processes, both the ones that have already been identified as hazardous and are regulated, as well as the less known and non-regulated ones.

“When the use and risks of chemicals are better addressed in BREF Documents, the operators can manage industrial chemicals better and the authorities can target relevant chemicals in permitting and supervising,” says **Michael Suhr**, the lead author of the report from the German Environment Agency UBA. “This will clearly contribute to the reduction of the use of hazardous substances in industrial installations and thereby diminish the emissions to the environment.”

“The proposals made in the HAZBREF project can further strengthen the future BAT conclusions and support the IED in achieving the European Green Deal’s zero pollution ambition for a non-toxic environment,” says Michael Suhr.

The key proposals of HAZBREF are:

- further systemic cooperation and exchange of information between the European IPPC Bureau that coordinates the BREF work and the chemical experts from REACH, WFD and the POP convention community

- reinforce the BREF Technical Working Group (TWG) with knowledge on chemicals in order to identify the hazardous chemicals relevant for a given industrial sector and to strengthen the measures to control them
- include a specific chapter on chemicals in all BREFs and BAT conclusions.

Link to the report: [Strengthening chemicals management in Best Available Techniques Reference Documents, Reports of the Finnish Environment Institute 48/2021](#)

Contacts:

- Project Manager Kaj Forsius, Finnish Environment Institute, tel. +358 46 850 9212 (also +358 295 251 119), e-mail: Kaj.Forsius@syke.fi
- BREF Coordinator Michael Suhr, National Focal point for the IED, German Environment Agency UBA, tel. +49 (0) 340 2103 2490, e-mail: Michael.Suhr@uba.de



**HAZBREF TEAM THANKS ALL STAKEHOLDERS
FOR GOOD COOPERATION AND
WISHES EVERYBODY HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

Photo: Riku Lumiaro

More information on the HAZBREF webpage:

www.syke.fi/projects/hazbref

For downloading the HAZBREF reports, tools and guidance visit:

<http://www.syke.fi/projects/hazbref/publications>