Nanomaterials and worker protection

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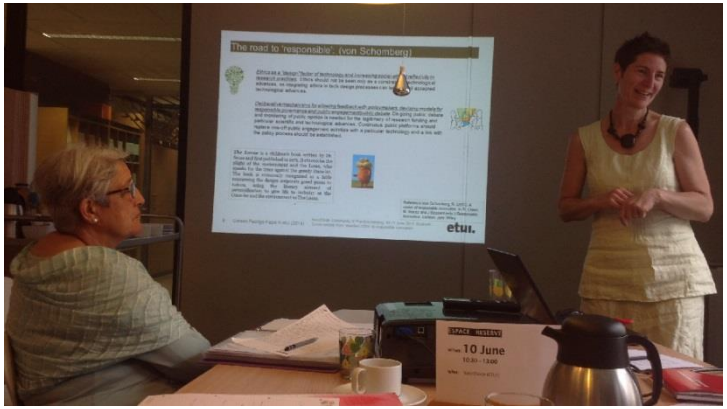
Dublin, 25-26 June 2015

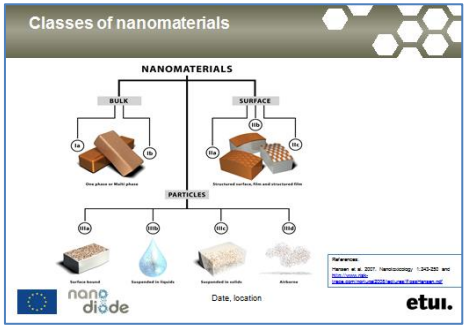
- Brief NanoDiode project details
- ETUI activities in NanoDiode
- Views from the tools
- Upcoming tools
- Future uses of tools

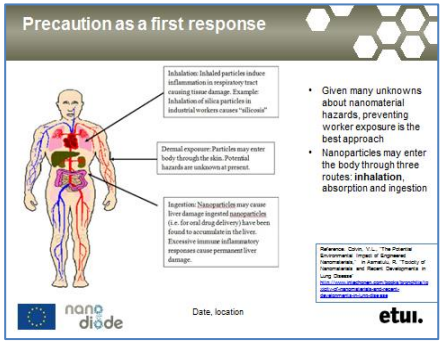
- EU funded project that runs from July 2013 to July 2016
- Partners from research (OSH, environmental, consumer), trade unions (ETUI), media (artists, journalists), and industry
- Project objective: Develop new strategies for outreach and dialogue along the nanotechnology value chain
- INSPIRE: Organise engagement and dialogue at the ‘upstream’ level of research policy
- CREATE: Enable processes of co-creation during research and innovation
- EDUCATE: Professionalise nanotechnology education and training
- ENGAGE: Establish a coherent programme for outreach and communication on nanotechnology

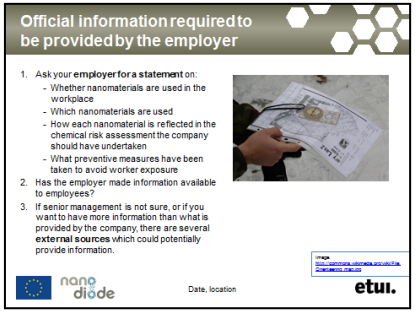
- Community of Practice created: experts from OSH, hazardous substances and worker protection, communications, education, training
- identified which tools to develop, distill key information, refine structure, refine content
- Pilot testing of tools (presentations) with people from BG, DK, FI, MT, SE and UK
- Presentations to be put on ETUI website
- Development of support tools (simplified RE and nanomaterial lifecycles
- Autumn evaluation of tools (presentations)

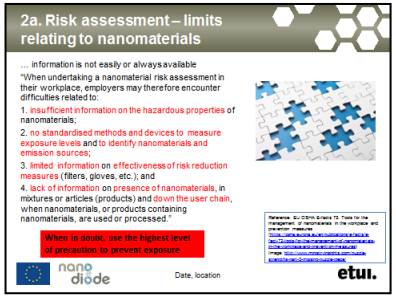


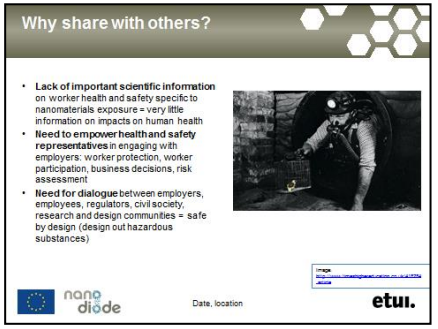
- 6 presentations on nanomaterials in the workplace from the worker's perspective
  - *Examples of uses of nanomaterials in the workplace*
  - *What is nano?*
  - *Are nanomaterials a worker health and safety risk?*
  - *How can I know if nanomaterials are used in my workplace?*
  - *Steps to prevent worker exposure to nanomaterials in the workplace*
  - *Sharing your knowledge and experience*
- Available in DK, EN, FI, SE











Dublin, Ireland
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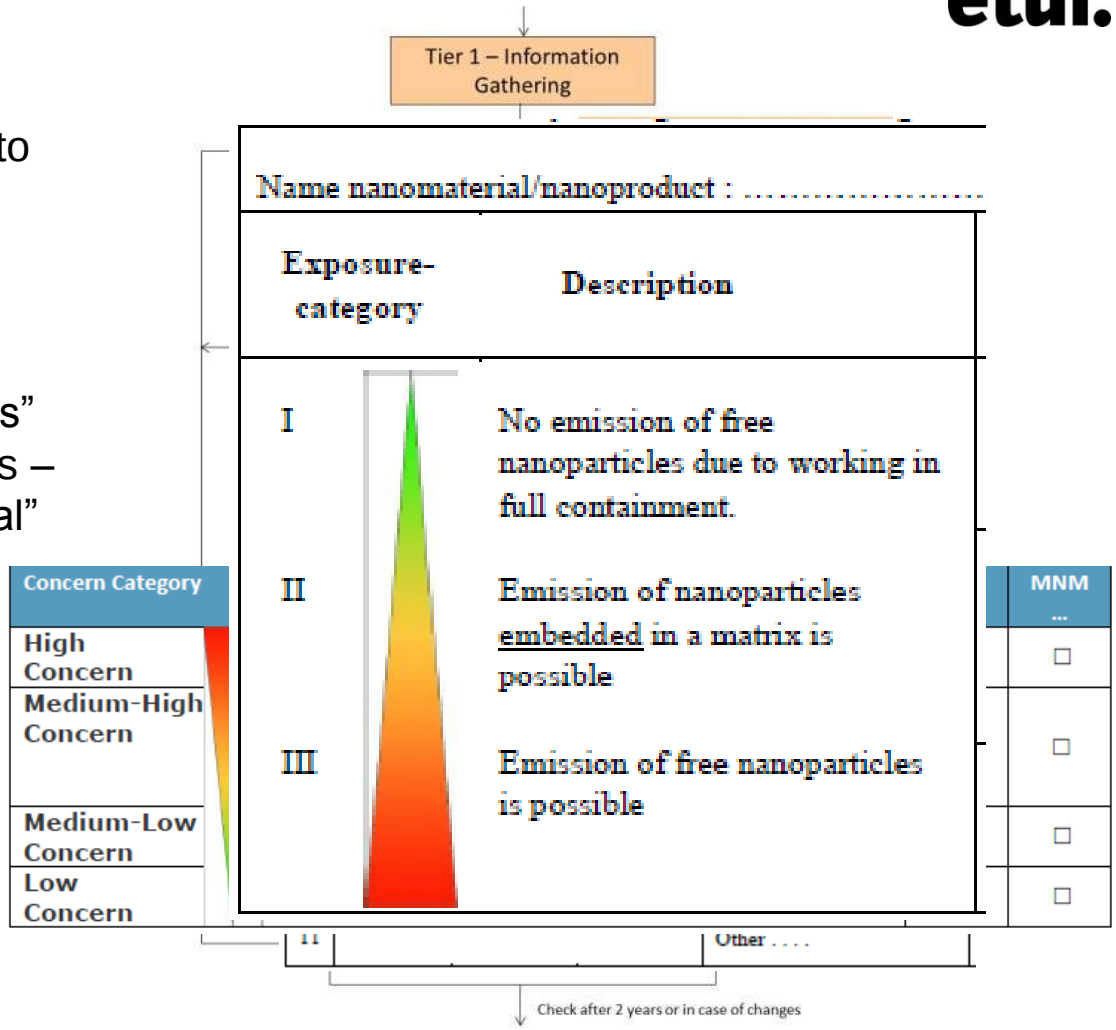
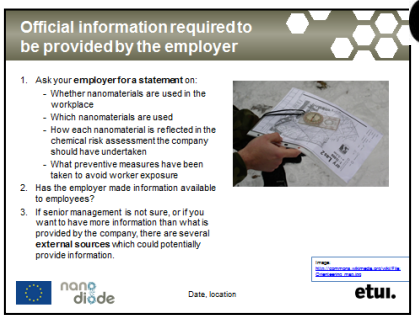
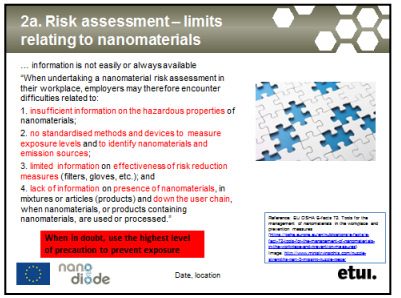
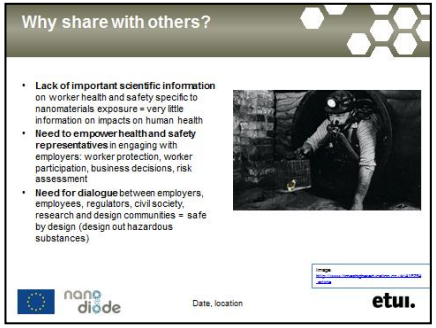
- 2 sets of infographics
- Simplified risk evaluation step-process with more detailed tables to help gather worker activity and exposure information specific to nanomaterials
- Lifecycles of 2-3 nanomaterials showing worker exposure “hotspots” and exposure prevention measures – turn the “theoretical” into the “actual”
  - Carbon nanotubes
  - Quantum dots?
  - Titanium dioxide / Iron oxide?



- Lack of public information on nano in products results in lack of prioritising nano in trade unions
- Good to repeat that worker representatives are not required to become scientific experts on nano to ensure companies provide high worker H&S protection AND to encourage dialogue between employers and employees
- Usefulness of creating two simplified tools to support presentations prepared already
    - Step-by-step guide on risk evaluation from worker's perspective – what information needed from worker, from employer?
    - Lifecycle images of key nanomaterials to turn theoretical into practical / "real" – CNTs, QDs, one other (Ti02?)
- Presenting of "best" information country-by-country (complaint that lots of information is available only in English)







- How can the tools be further disseminated and used more systematically by trade unions and worker representatives?
- Trade union training activities
- Links to ETUFs, national and European sectoral trade unions?
- Links to other official institutions: ECHA, EU-OSHA, national OSH institutes?
- Interest in sharing knowledge and experience across other substances work: EDCs, occupational diseases?
- New nano@etui.org address to collect experiences – safety representatives, trade unions

THANK YOU!

http://www.etui.org/
http://www.etui.org/Topics/Health-Safety

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