

Helsinki, 29 January 2016

## **Improving the Analysis of Alternatives and practical ways of promoting innovation and substitution in the EU – project description**

### **1. Objective of the project**

The project aims at helping identifying the mechanisms to promote the identification of suitable alternatives to substances for authorities and industry that could be suitable candidates for a restriction or subject to other regulatory risk management, e.g. authorisations. This could be used to help EU Member States during the preparation of restriction proposals or even provide inspiration for new proposals. The approach would also consider the identification of suitable candidates by industry when developing their analysis of alternatives under Authorisation.

More specifically, the objective of the project is to have high quality expert advice on:

- i) improvement to the current working practices in the EU for the identification of alternatives and their assessment in the context of regulatory chemical risk management (e.g. restriction and applications for authorisation processes), and
- ii) on how EU MS could support or promote substitution

### **2. Project description and technical approach**

ECHA subcontracted this project to the Center for the Study of Public Policy (CSPP) in the USA and will be led by Mr. Joel Tickner.

The main objective is to analyse existing tools and technical assistance infrastructure and to propose recommendations that enhance analysis of alternatives processes and adoption of safer substitutes for chemicals of concern in EU Member States.

The project will provide:

- an initial characterization of the existing competencies in alternatives identification and assessment at the Member State and industrial level in the EU;
- initial recommendations for future research, policy, mechanisms and practice on how Member States can support the identification, evaluation, and adoption of innovative solutions to substitute chemicals of concern;
- elements to build a community of practice and interest around alternatives assessment for chemical substitution in Europe.

Helsinki, 29 January 2016

### **3. Timeline and deliverables**

The project started in November 2015. Surveys to EU Member States will be sent in February 2016. The final report will include recommendations for any additional research and will be presented in Helsinki in summer 2016.