



SAF€RA brings Dynamism into European Research on Industrial Safety **SAF€RA workshop on thematic and management approaches of research programmes**

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The new ERA-NET entitled *Coordination of European Research on Industrial Safety towards Smart and Sustainable Growth (SAF€RA)* responds to the fact that industrial safety is an enabling and important success-factor in the pursuit of beneficial business activities. Industrial safety is a vital and important prerequisite for sustainable growth and competitiveness of the EU. Therefore, there is an urgent need to refocus the resources of national research programmes in EU Member States on industrial safety. The problems related to industrial safety are common to all and cannot be tackled adequately at the national level. SAF€RA will bring dynamism into European research on industrial safety by fostering collaboration of national research programmes, by encouraging lateral thinking and by promoting innovations related to implementation of industrial safety. SAF€RA started its topical work with the workshop on national approaches of research programmes on industrial safety, in Toulouse on July 5 and 6, 2012.

The 19 members of the SAF€RA consortium, European organizations which fund or manage research in industrial safety, started identifying the thematic research landscape and funding mechanisms within their national funding programmes. This work will allow them to develop joint strategies prior to the launch of joint calls for proposals in the field of industrial safety research.

Details on strategy and management structure

Upon a survey presented by the workshop hosts at [FonCSI](#) (Foundation for an Industrial Safety Culture) each organization provided information on their activity profiles and competencies. They further detailed their strategy and administrative procedures to implement national/regional research programmes.

Safety is a complex issue, which can be approached from a technological angle (investigating new solutions which can contain specific hazards), from a methodological angle (improving risk assessment techniques, to allow more effective risk management) or from a societal angle (attempting better to understand factors impacting stakeholder acceptability of hazardous activities and the various compromises needed for sustainable development). The current national programmes focus on nearly 90 major topics of industrial safety research. It is necessary to assess and structure these topics for the design of a joint strategy and future joint calls.

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All national and regional research programmes are addressing applied research in industrial safety but to a large extent also support the transfer of results into industrial application as well as basic research providing a basis for further research in industrial safety. Most of the programmes are opened for or even encourage international collaboration on a co-funding scheme and support research for doctoral theses.

Next steps in the project

A first tangible result of SAF€RA will be a report with the findings of the workshop presented to the members of the SAF€RA consortium and discussed with members of the European Technology Platform on Industrial Safety (ETPIS) and other stakeholders. In further steps a joint strategy for research will be developed, and systems and tools for joint transnational activities will be put in place. The implementation of lasting transnational activities is designed as the final step in the project.

Interested parties may indicate their interest and provide input or comments on research related to industrial safety to the coordinator of the SAF€RA project, [Dr. Carita Aschan](#) of [FIOH](#) or the task leader preparing the report, [Dr. Olivier Salvi](#) of [Ineris](#).

About SAF€RA:

SAF€RA is an ERA-NET project entitled 'Coordination of European Research on Industrial Safety towards Smart and Sustainable Growth' funded for three years by the European Commission in the 7th Framework Programme (Grant agreement no: 291812). Under the ERA-NET scheme it identifies areas of joint interest and expected synergies of collaborative research, and stimulates transnational research on industrial safety. Industrial safety is an enabling success factor in the pursuit of beneficial and sustainable business activities.

SAF€RA is a consortium of 19 leading European public agencies, ministries and research funding organizations funding or managing safety research programmes. It will bring dynamism into European research on industrial safety where it cannot be tackled at the national level. SAF€RA was initiated by the European Technology Platform on Industrial Safety (ETPIS) and uses this platform to make its results available to the stakeholders. SAF€RA will contribute to the SafeFuture Initiative of ETPIS.

<http://www.safera.industrialsafety-tp.org/>

Addresses and links

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SAF€RA: <http://www.safera.industrialsafety-tp.org/>

ERA-NET scheme: http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/coordination/about-era_en.html

European Technology Platform on Industrial Safety (ETPIS): <http://www.industrialsafety-tp.org/>

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