

EMB feedback on the EC ‘Chemical safety – better access to chemicals data for safety assessments’ initiative

The European Marine Board (EMB) welcomes the ‘Chemical safety – better access to chemicals data for safety assessments’ initiative. As outlined in the EMB’s Future Science Brief No. 6, Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable (FAIR) data is an important pre-requisite to a big data approach. Taking a big data approach to chemical data for safety assessments will allow connection of disjointed data collection and analysis in an interdisciplinary manner, and optimize the use of data in novel and innovative ways to enhance understanding and improve management. Recommendations on how to improve access to data, how to strengthen the use of all available data, and how to increase transparency can be found in the Future Science Brief including: developing community standards and data management plans; developing appropriate computing infrastructure and data interoperability; incentivization of data sharing; developing standardized algorithms and community maintained data sets; and developing specialized training and collaborations on artificial intelligence. You can find the full document here: <https://www.marineboard.eu/big-data-and-digitalization>. Connections with the Chemistry component of the EU initiative the European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet) are also recommended: <https://www.emodnet-chemistry.eu/>.