

MALTA INITIATIVE

The Malta Initiative is a voluntary network without an official mandate.

The Malta Initiative aims to:

- » Steer attention towards priorities for the validation of test methods and development of OECD Test Guidelines
- » Support international exchange and cooperation
- » Bring together different stakeholders in a constructive dialogue
- » Strengthen trust in enforceable legislation and safe innovation

The Malta Initiative encourages everybody, to contribute to OECD TG development. Any country and organisation interested in supporting the Malta Initiative is welcome.

Learn more:

www.malta-initiative.org

Malta Initiative Position Paper
is supported by



Status November 2023

MALTA INITIATIVE

Support safe & sustainable innovation

Help overcome trade barriers

Make legislation enforceable

www.malta-initiative.org

The benefits of testing according to OECD Test Guidelines (TGs):

OECD TGs allow reliable and reproducible characterisation and prediction of possible effects to human health and the environment.

Data generated according to OECD TGs are internationally comparable for research and development as well as regulation.

Testing with OECD TG is one of the two pillars of the OECD Mutual Acceptance of Data.

Industry and government save costs as testing according to OECD TGs prevents multiple testing and many unnecessary animal tests.

International acceptance of test results reduces trade barriers and supports the competitiveness of industry.

OECD TGs facilitate safer and more sustainable innovation. Innovation is a key driver in overcoming the challenges that humanity encounters.

Appropriate up-to-date Test Guidelines are crucial for safety assessments for both innovators and regulators. Therefore, continuous political support and public funding is needed to keep Test Guidelines up-to-date.

The Malta Initiative advocates at the EU Commission for:

Continuous funding that addresses specifically the steps of validation and harmonisation/standardisation of test methods

A coordinated approach that considers synergies, multiplier effects and the exchange needed for successful Test Guideline development

An exchange **platform** for Test Guideline development

Legislation has to keep pace with innovative research developments for citizens to place trust in innovation.

Appropriate, clear and enforceable legislation is a key factor for long-term investments and innovation.

OECD Test Guidelines support innovation, reduce global trade barriers and make legislation enforceable.

OECD TGs fit for the future

- » ensure that goals addressed in the **European Green Deal** and in the **Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability** can be delivered
- » build the **trust in safe innovation**
- » support the **competitiveness of industry**