

# Alternatives Assessment's Past, Present and Future

Thursday, July 11th, 2019  
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM PDT  
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM ET

## TOPICS IN ALTERNATIVES ASSESSMENT

Free Webinar Series Hosted by the Association  
for the Advancement of Alternatives Assessment



# WELCOME!

- Official Launch of A4's Quarterly Webinar Series
- Today's webinar: *Alternatives Assessment's Past, Present and Future*
  - The origins of alternatives assessment and its recent history as well as successes
  - Overview on advances in the field's methods and practice as well as ongoing gaps
  - Introduction to A4 – developing professional excellence, enhancing capacity, and sharing best practices



**Today's facilitator**

Dr. Margaret Whittaker

**TOXSERVICES**  
TOXICOLOGY RISK ASSESSMENT CONSULTING

Co-Chair, A4 Program Committee



# A4: A Critical Resource “4” You!

- A4 is a resource to learn, network, and share best practices
- The [Ellen MacArthur Foundation](#) estimates that 80% of a product's environmental impacts--toxicity, waste, and pollution--are determined at the design stage!
  - Alternatives Assessment is a proven approach to avoid harm throughout the life cycle



# Today's Speakers



**Joel Tickner**



**A4 Executive Director**



**Amelia Nestler**



**A4 Member**



**Molly Jacobs**



**A4 Program Committee**



**Pamela Spencer**



**A4 President**



# Webinar Logistics

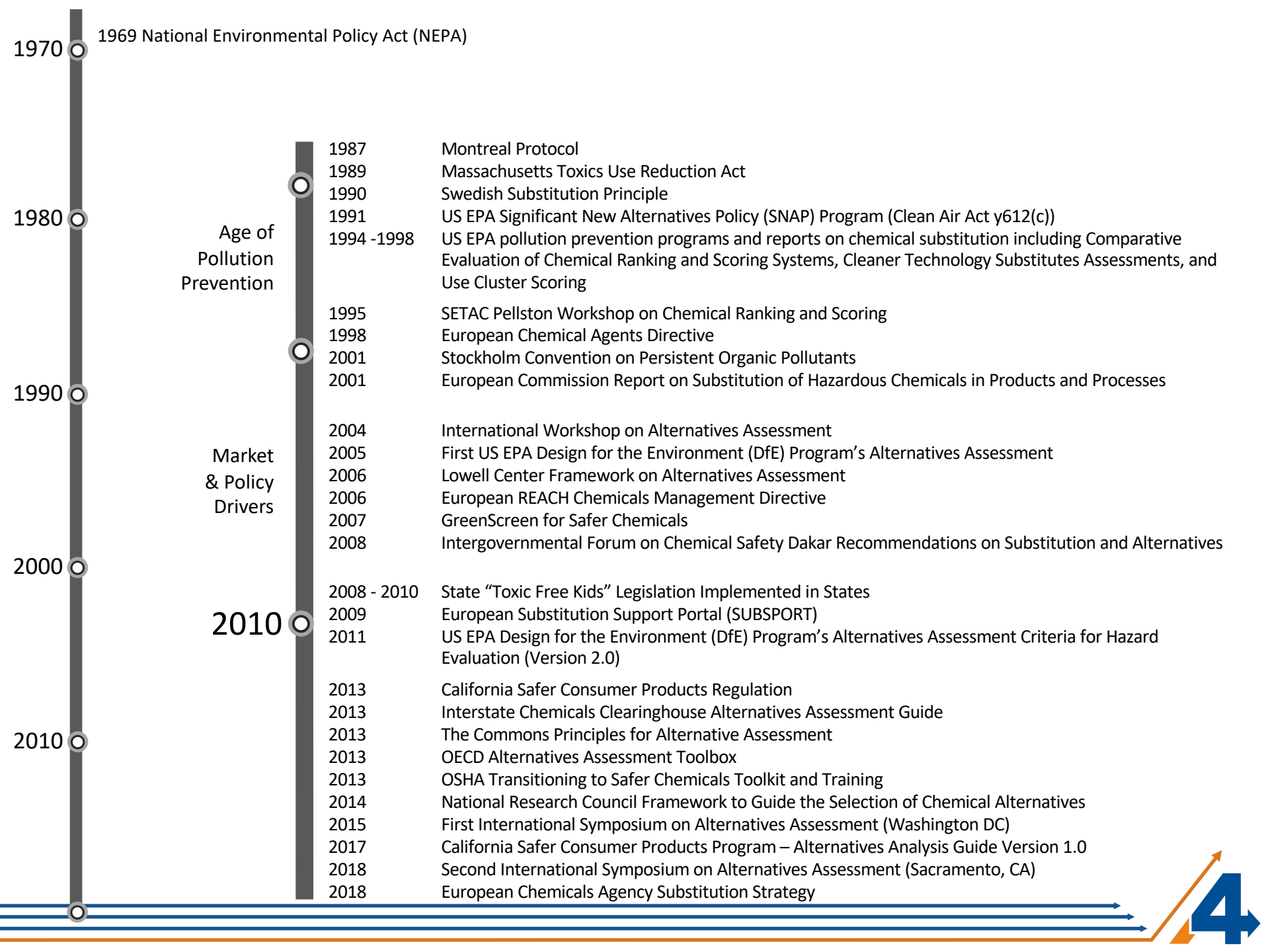
- Due to the number of participants on the webinar, all lines will be muted
- If you wish to ask a question, please type your question in the Q&A box located in the drop down control panel at the top of the screen
- Questions will be answered at the end of the presentations
- Webinar is being recorded and will be posted along with the slide deck on the A4 website:  
[www.saferalternatives.org](http://www.saferalternatives.org)
- At the end of the webinar, we will launch a short survey to get your input on future webinar topics and additional feedback

# ORIGIN OF THE FIELD

Joel Tickner, University of Massachusetts Lowell

TOPICS IN  
ALTERNATIVES ASSESSMENT





# Some historical foundations...

- “NEPA's purpose is not to generate paperwork--even excellent paperwork—but to foster excellent action (National Environmental Policy Act, CEQ Regulations S. 1500)”
- Section 1502.13 on EIA – “It should present the environmental impacts of the proposal and the alternatives in comparative form, thus sharply defining the issues and providing a clear basis for choice among options to the decision-maker and the public.”
  - Requires consideration of all reasonable alternatives including no action

# Applying alternatives assessment to chemicals – pollution prevention in the 1990s

- Montreal Protocol
- Toxics Use Reduction Act/pollution prevention planning
- Substitution policies in Europe
- Chemical hazard ranking and screening tools



# Welcome to P2OASys

Get Started

## Welcome to the P2OASys Tool!

Information about P2OASys can be found on the TURI webpage [here](https://p2oasys.turi.org/).

Create New Assessment

Load From P2OASys  
Database

Name	P2OASys Format	SDS Format	Remove
Sample Chemical	<a href="#">Enter Data</a>	<a href="#">Enter Data</a>	<a href="#">Remove</a>

Assessment Score  
Summary

Compare Entered Data

Upload A Chemical/Product to the P2OASys Database

Upload A Mixture to the P2OASys Database

Export Data to CSV

Import Data from CSV

Hazard Score Matrix

## What is P2OASys?

P2OASys allows companies to assess the potential environmental, worker, and public health impacts of alternative technologies aimed at systematic thinking about the potential hazards posed by current and alternative processes identified during the TUR planning process.

Systematically examine the potential environmental and worker impacts of options, examining the total impacts of process changes.

Compare options with current processes based on quantitative and qualitative factors.

Embedded formulae in P2OASys provide a numerical hazard score for the company's current process and identified options, which can be used by companies to make decisions on adoption of alternatives. Companies input both quantitative and qualitative data on the chemical toxicity, ecological effects, physical properties, and changes in work organization likely as a result of the proposed option.

Any question or comments can be directed at Jason Marshall by phone or by email.

Jason Marshall:  
Tel: (978) 934-3133  
Email: [Jason@turi.org](mailto:Jason@turi.org)

<https://p2oasys.turi.org/>

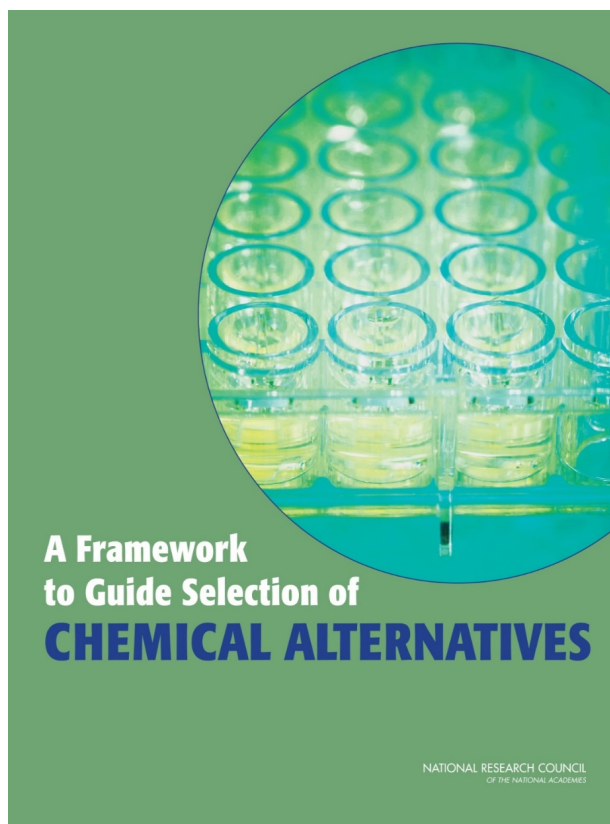
This web site is maintained by the [Toxics Use Reduction Institute](https://p2oasys.turi.org/) at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell.

The Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Institute  
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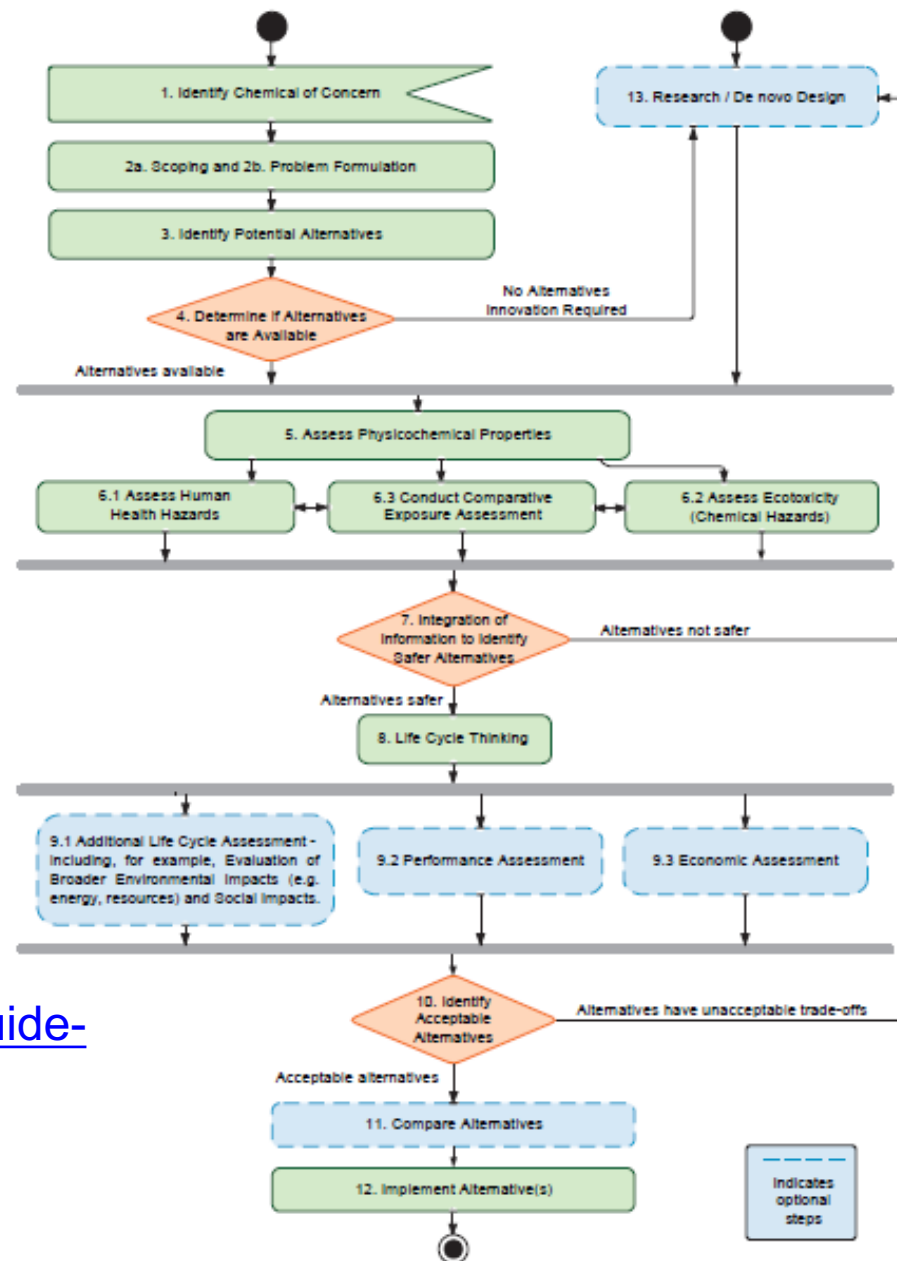


# 2000s

- Increased attention to chemicals in products
- REACH, state chemicals policies in the U.S. (CA), EPA Design for Environment Program, Stockholm convention, market push from major retailers, brands, and purchasers
- Acknowledgement that chemical deselection without consideration of alternatives can lead to regrettable substitutions
- (re)Growth of programs, initiatives and tools focused on evaluating and supporting adoption of safer alternatives



<http://dels.nas.edu/Report/Framework-Guide-Selection/18872?bname=bcst>



# Building Some Common Understandings

- Focus on function – “functional substitution”
- Focus is on evaluating options to substitute a chemical of “concern”
- Often there are trade-offs that have to be resolved – need to consider more than simply hazard
- Both assessment and adoption are critical
- Improving assessment needs to be married with capacity building and support
- Transparency and flexibility are key

# Needs moving forward

- Filling gaps in methods
- Undertaking and learning from case examples - practice
- Establishing best practices and alignment/consistency
- Securing funding for research, training, and support
- Ensuring alternatives assessment is flexible and iterative and adaptable to decision-contexts and different users
- Don't forget: Goal is to drive positive actions towards safer, more sustainable chemicals, materials and products



# ENHANCING METHODS AND PRACTICE

Molly Jacobs, University of Massachusetts Lowell  
Amelia Nestler, Northwest Green Chemistry

TOPICS IN  
ALTERNATIVES ASSESSMENT



## Decision Analysis

# Advancing Alternatives Assessment for Safer Chemical Substitution: A Research and Practice Agenda

Joel Tickner,\*†‡ Molly Jacobs,†‡ Tim Malloy,§ Topher Buck,|| Alex Stone,# Ann Blake,†† and Sally Edwards‡

†University of Massachusetts Lowell, Department of Public Health, Lowell, Massachusetts, USA

‡Lowell Center for Sustainable Production, University of Massachusetts Lowell, Lowell, Massachusetts, USA

§University of California, Los Angeles, School of Law, Los Angeles, CA, USA

||Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association, Interlaken, NY, USA

#Washington Department of Ecology, Lacey, Washington, USA

††Environmental and Public Health Consulting, Alameda, California, USA

## ABSTRACT

Alternatives assessment has emerged as a science policy field in manufacturing processes and consumer products. The research and practice assessment has revealed notable methodological challenges. This paper presents a practice comprising industry experts, academics, and scientists to prioritize a research and practice agenda for the next 5 years of alternatives assessment. With input from over 40 experts, the authors provide guidance in 5 critical areas: hazard assessment, comparative assessment, decision making, and professional practice. Fifteen research and practice priorities define a minimum hazard data set to the development of more

90%

Search

International Symposium on Alternatives Assessment

Building the Field

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (CALEPA) | SACRAMENTO, CA | NOVEMBER 1-2, 2018

Organized by The Lowell Center for Sustainable Production at

University of Massachusetts Lowell

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## 2<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium on Alternatives Assessment:

### Building the Field

California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA)

Sacramento, California | November 1-2, 2018

# Methods: Advances in Hazard and Exposure Assessment for AA

## HAZARD

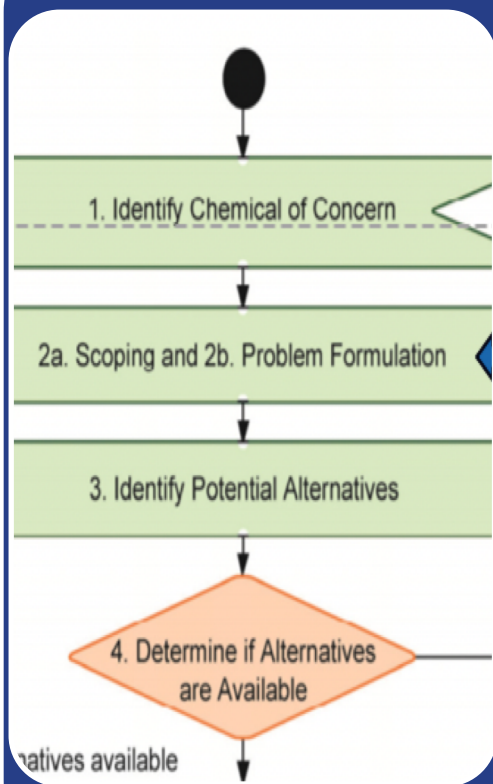
- New examples of using predictive toxicology to inform data gaps
  - Use of endocrine activity & skin sensitizing *in vitro* assays (Smith 2018\*; Kim 2018\*)
  - Guidance by Health and Environmental Sciences Institute\*
- Greater focus on ecotoxicology endpoints beyond just aquatic toxicity (data permitting)
  - Evolution in guidance documents on this topic

## EXPOSURE

- Assessing “intrinsic exposure” – before exposure controls (US NRC 2014)
  - Conditions of use, physicochemical properties, routes of exposure (Whittaker 2018\*)
- Development of qualitative exposure methods (Greggs et al. IEAM 2017)
  - Use of comparative rating systems
  - Quantitative evaluations may still be needed

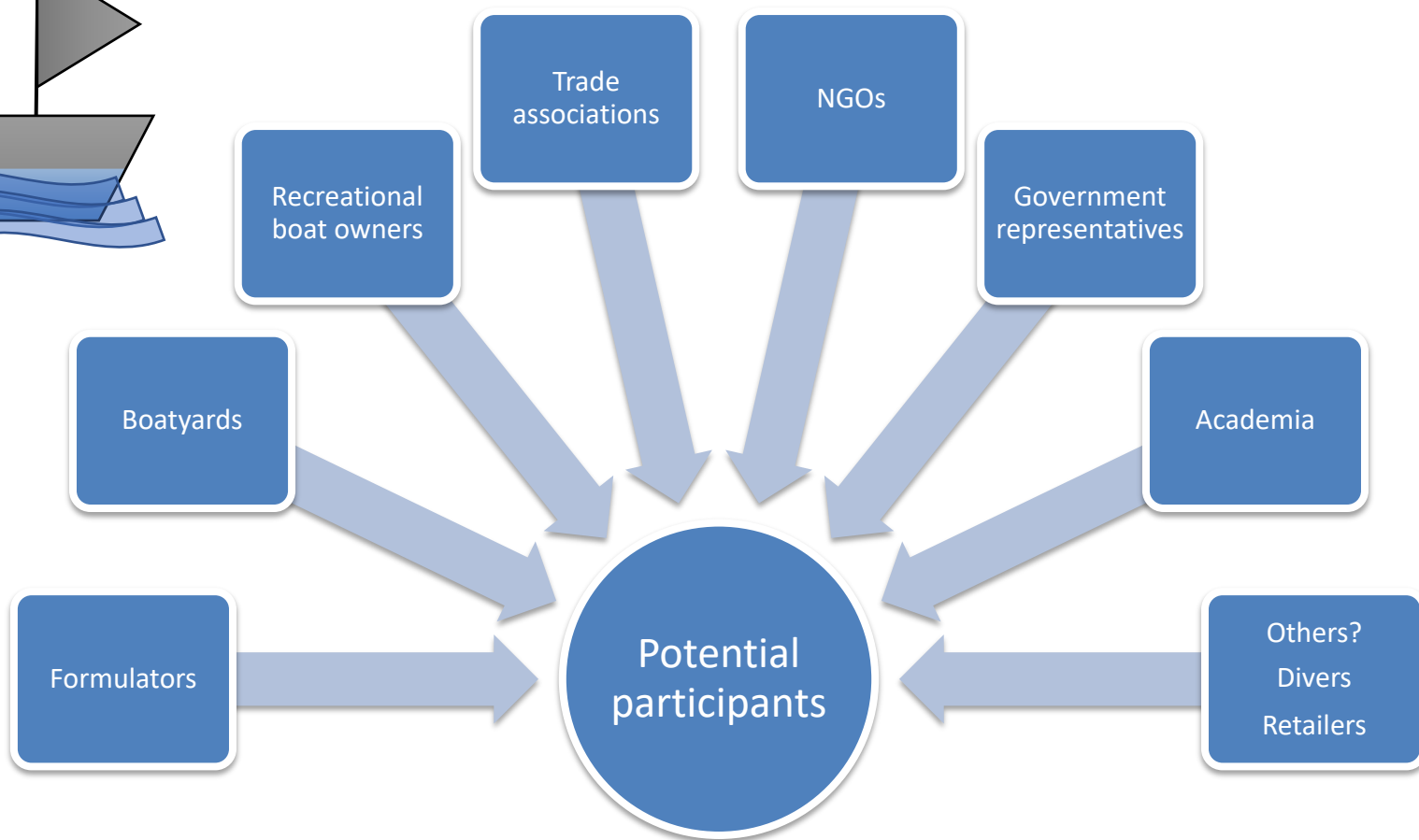
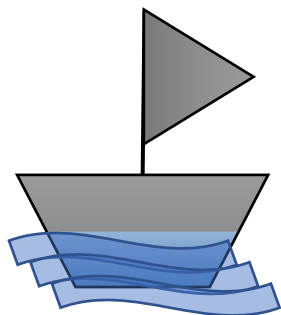
\*talks featured at the 2018 Symposium – [www.saferalternatives.org](http://www.saferalternatives.org)

# Advances in Practice: Scope and Stakeholder Engagement



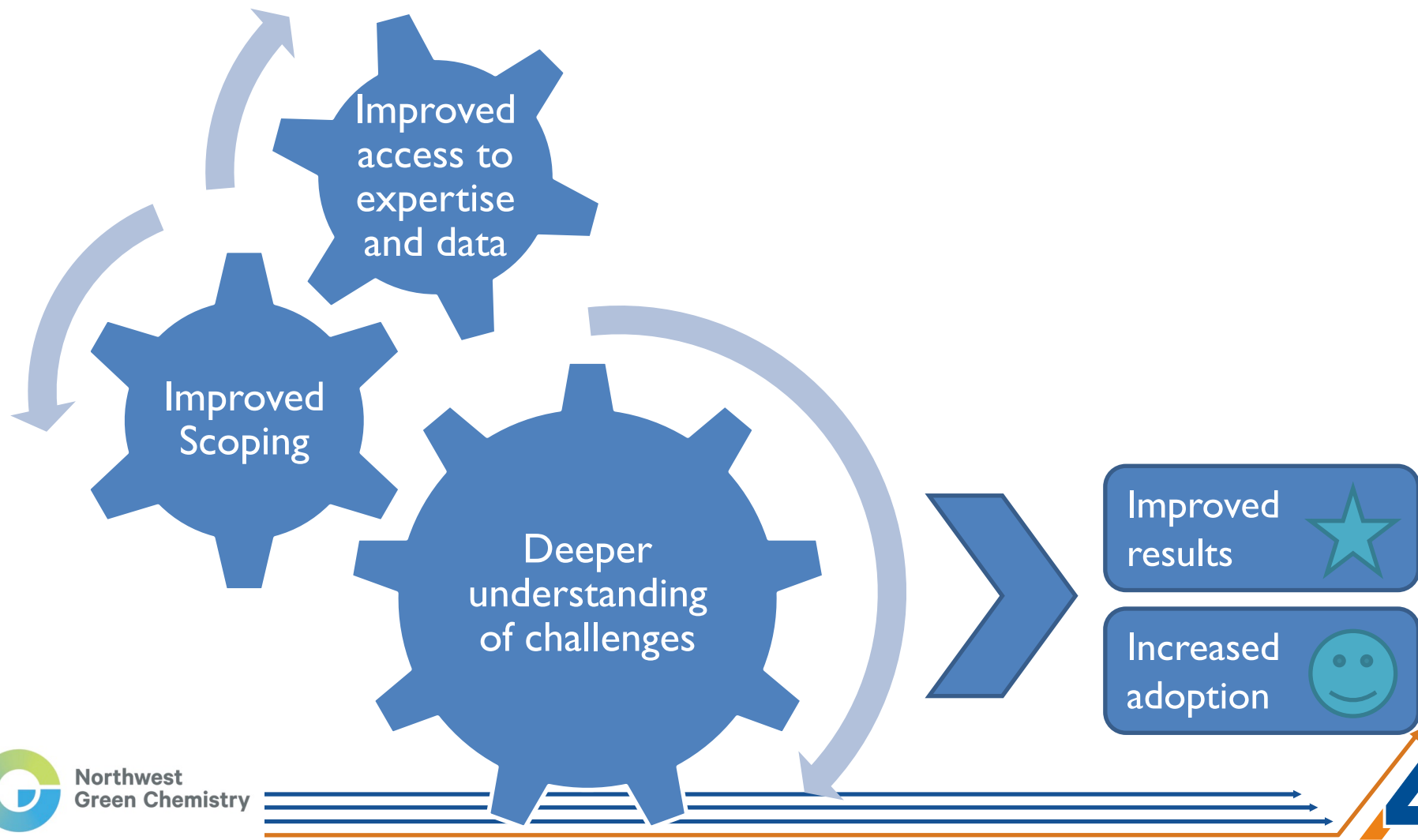
- Can help identify where **streamlined vs. increased depth** and rigor is needed
- Important for the **inclusion of lifecycle considerations** – which stages and impact categories are most significant?
- Engaging Stakeholders/constituencies – help to **broaden/narrow scope**

# Engage a diverse group of interested parties





# Increased engagement drives improved results and adoption



# Tips for engaging diverse participants

Active



Recursive



Open



Recruit champions



Variety of opportunities for access

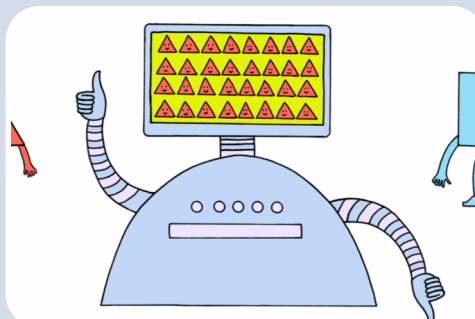


# Decision Making Methods and Tools To Help Navigate Tradeoffs



Importance of **transparency throughout the assessment** –  
“decisions are everywhere”

(Heine 2018\*, Malloy et al. 2017, Zhou 2018\*).



Decision tools (e.g., MCDA) should be **used to support, NOT replace** deliberation

(Malloy et al. 2017, Environ Health Perspect\*; Beaudrie et al. 2018\*)

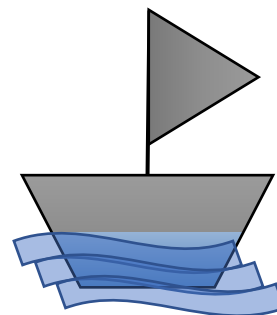
	Product A	Product B	Product C	P
	✓	✓	✓	
	✓	✓	✓	
	✓	✓	✓	
		✓	✓	
			✓	

Importance of **decision aides** to display the advantages and disadvantages of various alternatives given organizational priorities

(Argiles 2018\*, Heine 2018\*)

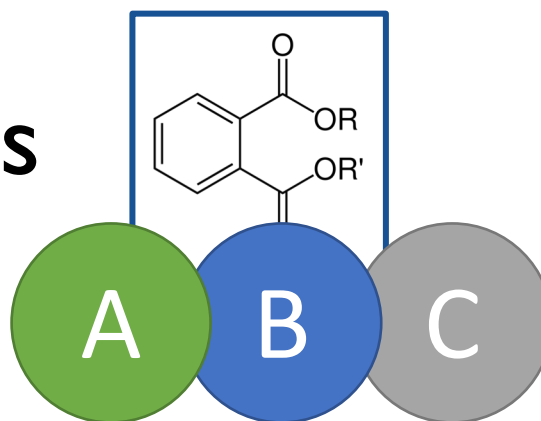
# Take action: Supporting informed decisions with AA

## Selection Guide



	Product A	Product B	Product C	P
	✓	✓	✓	
	✓	✓	✓	
	✓	✓	✓	
		✓	✓	
			✓	
			✓	

## Categories

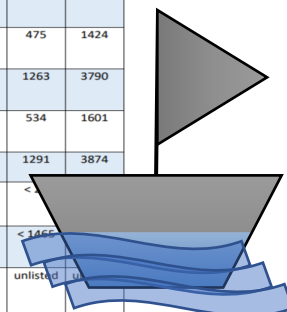


## Winners and Losers



# Selection Guide: Transparency

Product Information			Hazard										Cost			Performance		Exposure										
Product Identity			General	Human Hazard		Biocide				Environment		Regulatory		Initial/DIY		Cumulative	Assumes manufacturer longevity	Longevity	Gallons to cover 100 ft <sup>2</sup>		Grams Biocide to cover 100 ft <sup>2</sup>		Fate		Grams VOCs to cover 100 ft <sup>2</sup>			
Company	Product	Mechanism	Disclosure	Chronic human (CMRDE)	Neuro/Resp	Biocide	Amount	Persistence	Bioaccumulation	PBT/aq combos	Puget Sound COCs	Boatyard COCs (Zn)	VOC content (g/L)	Per gallon	Per 100 ft <sup>2</sup>	35' boat over 5 years	Overall Recommendation	Manufacturer longevity (years)	# of applications over 5 years	Initial (gallons)	5 year (gallons)	Biocide	Initial (grams)	5 years (grams)	Leach (Y/N)	Abate (Y/N)	Initial (grams)	5 years (grams)
Coval	Marine and Hull Coat	Foul release, ceramic	Full	0%	0%	none	0%	-	-	0%	0%	0%	< 100	\$512.33	\$166.51	\$6,019.44	Data Gap / further testing needed	5	1	0.3	0.3	N	0	0	N	N	< 123	< 123
CeRam-Kote	54 SST	Foul release, ceramic	SDS	26% - 53%	0%	none	0%	-	-	0%	0%	0%	< 197	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$5,871.25	Data Gap / further testing needed	5	1	1.0	1.0	N	0	0	N	N	< 746	< 746
ePaint	EP-2000	Photoactive and Biocidal, ZnPy	Full	5% - 10%	5% - 5%	ZnPy	4.8%	H	vL	35% - 45%	29% - 38%	29% - 37%	< 100	\$210.91	\$301.30	\$25,921.28	Likely to meet expectations	3	2	1.4	2.9	Y	6.9	13.7	Y	Y	< 541	< 1083
Sherwin Williams	Sea Voyage	Biocidal, ZnPy and Econea	Full	9% - 9%	37% - 37%	ZnPy / Econea	6.4% / 7.35%	H / H	vL / vL	27% - 27%	32% - 32%	23% - 23%	< 340	\$225.00	\$289.29	\$25,835.49	Likely to meet expectations / further testing needed	3	2	1.3	2.6	Y	17.7	35.3	Y	Y	< 1654	< 3308
Interlux	Micron CF	Biocidal, ZnPy and Econea	SDS Plus	1% - 16%	9% - 18%	ZnPy / Econea	4.12% / 3.9%	H / H	vL / vL	21% - 47%	19% - 47%	9% - 21%	330	\$267.95	\$103.46	\$24,508.67	Likely to NOT meet expectations	3	2	0.4	0.8	Y	3.1	6.3	Y	Y	487	974
ePaint	SN-1	Photoactive and Biocidal, Seanine	Full	11% - 34%	11% - 11%	Seanine	2.9%	L	vL	20% - 50%	17% - 41%	16% - 40%	< 400	\$200.00	\$222.22	\$11,094.98	Meets expectations	2	3	1.1	3.3	Y	3.2	9.7	Y	Y	< 1681	< 5042
ePaint	ZO	Photoactive and Biocidal, ZnPy	Full	6% - 20%	16% - 16%	ZnPy	4.8%	H	vL	35% - 50%	32% - 51%	29% - 41%	< 400	\$285.00	\$275.81	\$28,368.89	Borderline	2	3	1.0	2.9	Y	4.7	14.0	Y	Y	< 1469	< 4406
Pettit	Hydro-coat ECO	Biocidal, ZnPy and Econea	Full	<0.5%	11% - 11%	ZnPy / Econea	4.8% / 6%	H / H	vL / vL	9% - 14%	5% - 6%	5% - 6%	< 150	\$268.99	\$125.11	\$26,754.93	Borderline	2	3	0.5	1.4	Y	5.1	15.2	Y	Y	< 267	< 801
Pettit	Ultima ECO	Biocidal, ZnPy and Econea	Full	14% - 27%	45% - 49%	ZnPy / Econea	4.8% / 6%	H / H	vL / vL	13% - 23%	13% - 28%	6% - 8%	320	\$249.99	\$149.99	\$27,021.39	Likely to NOT meet expectations	2	3	0.6	1.8	Y	6.5	19.4	Y	Y	727	2180
Interlux	Pacifica Plus	Biocidal, ZnPy and Econea	SDS Plus	10% - 26%	8% - 8%	ZnPy / Econea	4.12% / 3.9%	H / H	vL / vL	11% - 41%	10% - 32%	9% - 21%	330	\$223.59	\$84.69	\$26,322.03	Borderline	2	3	0.4	1.1	Y	3.0	9.1	Y	Y	475	1424
SeaHawk	Mission Bay	Biocidal, ZnPy	SDS	11% - 31%	14% - 24%	ZnPy	3.8%	H	vL	35% - 53%	39% - 68%	29% - 42%	298	\$233.12	\$261.93	\$28,220.27	Likely to meet expectations	2	3	1.1	3.4	Y	4.3	12.8	Y	Y	1263	3790
SeaHawk	Mission Bay CSF	Biocidal, ZnPy	SDS	<0.5% - 3%	4% - 4%	ZnPy	4.02%	H	vL	35% - 52%	29% - 43%	29% - 42%	150	\$270.21	\$253.32	\$28,128.06	Does NOT meet expectations	2	3	0.9	2.8	Y	3.8	11.3	Y	Y	534	1601
SeaHawk	Smart Solution	Biocidal, Econea	SDS	10% - 30%	18% - 28%	Econea	2.9%	H	vL	<0.5% - 2%	10% - 26%	0%	328	\$224.18	\$233.52	\$27,915.95	Borderline	2	3	1.0	3.1	Y	3.0	9.0	Y	Y	1291	3874
ePaint	ECO-MINDER	Photoactive and Biocidal, ZnPy	Full	<0.5%	5% - 5%	ZnPy	4.8%	H	vL	20% - 50%	17% - 41%	17% - 41%	< 10	\$145.45	\$77.92	\$30,095.87	Meets expectations	1	5	0.5	2.7	Y	2.6	12.8	Y	Y	< 1465	< 4406
ePaint	EP-21	Photoactive foul release	Full	15% - 17%	15% - 15%	none	0%	-	-	20% - 60%	19% - 27%	4% - 12%	< 399	\$168.00	\$162.58	\$31,607.05	Likely to meet expectations	1	5	1.0	4.9	N	0	0	N	N	< 1465	< 4406
Aurora Marine	V5721	Foul release, polymer/wax	SDS	0%	0%	none	0%	0	0	0%	10% - 25%	0%	unlisted	\$373.88	\$186.94	\$15,341.88	Likely to NOT meet expectations / further testing needed	1	5	0.5	2.5	N	0	0	N	Y	unlisted	unlisted
Coatings for outdrives/running gear Coverage area calculations assume use of 1 kit per application																												
			10% -	0%	none	0%	-	-	-	0%	0%	0%		\$529.99	-	-	Likely to	1	5	0.26	1.59	N	0	0	N	N	unlisted	unlisted





# Categories Approach: Clear guidance

A

Less hazardous, public assessments. Viable performance.

Advance substitution with these chemicals

C

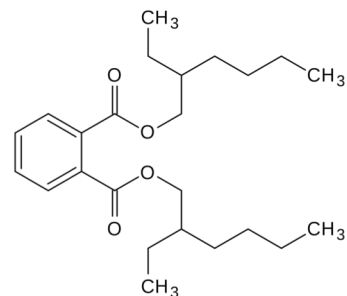
Not on a red list. Viable performance.

Prioritize for assessment. Fill in data gaps.

B

On a positive list, but no public assessment. Viable performance.

Prioritize for public assessments.



# Research Gaps: Needs to address going forward

## Hazard assessment

- Methods for mixtures and chemical to material comparisons
- Predictive toxicology data to support specific data gaps

## Exposure/Life cycle considerations

- Methodological development to integrate with hazard assessment results

## Implementation Research

- Evaluation of effectiveness, decision tradeoffs, need for training, etc.

# Practice Gaps/Needs Going Forward

**Standards of practice/best practices**

**Guidance for technical feasibility assessments & socio-economic assessments**

**Capacity Building**

**Deepen connections with green chemistry**

# The Role of A4

Pam Spencer, Angus Chemical Co.

TOPICS IN  
ALTERNATIVES ASSESSMENT



# Time is Right

Increasing policy & market demands to substitute chemicals of concern

- Regulatory requirements to evaluate safer alternatives
- Industry sustainability initiatives
- Consumers demanding safer, more environmentally friendly products
- World challenges (e.g., climate change)



# No Suitable Fit to Build the Science of Alternatives Assessment!

## Professional Societies Address Components of AA

- Society of Toxicology
  - chemical hazard ID and risk characterization
- Society for Risk Analysis
  - risk assessment
- Society of Environmental Toxicology & Chemistry
  - environmental hazard ID and risk characterization
- ACS
  - product innovation/green chemistry



# Formalize/Build the Science

Current landscape is driving the need to ...

1. Put meat on the bones of existing AA frameworks
2. Create robust, consistent approaches and tools
3. Accelerate pace of methods development
4. Promote high standards of quality
5. Identify gaps/needs that need to be addressed to move the science of AA forward



# Community of Practice

- Over last decade loosely connected community of practice
- Formalize community
- Convene multi-disciplinary expertise
- Provide a forum to share best practices
- Develop professional excellence
- Enhance capacity



# Accelerate Adoption

- Supports transition to substitute with safer alternatives
- Applied to product and process design (i.e. design for safety)



# Develop & Promote Training

- Biennial Alternatives Assessment Symposium
- Webinars
- Workshops
- Training aides



# Association for the Advancement of Alternatives Assessment (A4)

- New professional association solely dedicated to advancing the science, practice, and policy of alternatives assessment and informed substitution.
- an interdisciplinary community of researchers and practitioners from government agencies, academia, industry, and non-profits working collaboratively to accelerate the transition to the use of safer chemicals, materials, processes, and products
- broad range of scientific disciplines involved in alternatives assessment and informed substitution – toxicology, exposure science, engineering, chemistry, lifecycle assessment, law and policy, and economics, among others
- drafted bylaws, developing program initiatives, promoting membership, and providing a forum for dialog on alternatives assessment

<https://www.saferalternatives.org/about>



ASSOCIATION FOR  
THE ADVANCEMENT  
OF ALTERNATIVES  
ASSESSMENT

**JOIN THE A4!**

A new professional association  
solely dedicated to advancing the  
science, practice, and policy of  
alternatives assessment and informed substitution

*Working collaboratively to accelerate the the use of safer  
chemicals, materials, processes, and products.*

[www.saferalternatives.org](http://www.saferalternatives.org)

# QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

# Next Webinar – October 2019

*Different tools for different questions - What can alternatives assessment learn from risk assessment and life cycle assessment? Differences, overlaps and synergies*

- *Registration – later in August*
- *Future Webinar topics – We want your input.*
  - *Please complete survey at the close of the webinar*

THANK YOU