

## What sort of information is included in the database?

The following information is stored in distinct fields:

- Project Title; Start date; End date;
- Project Status (Current; planned; or completed);
- Country or organisation;
- Funding information (where available, on approximate total funding; approximate annual funding; and funding source);
- Project Summary; Project URL; Related web links;
- Investigator information: name, research affiliation, contact details;
- Categorisation by material name, relevance to the safety, research themes, test methods;
- Overall outcomes and outputs.

## How can I contribute to the database?

If you wish to contribute to the database, please contact the OECD Secretariat ([nanosafety@oecd.org](mailto:nanosafety@oecd.org)). The Secretariat will contact respective representatives to the OECD to register you as a Data Provider for your country or organisation.

Data Providers enter and revise information through a password protected online web portal. The respective representatives to the OECD and the OECD Secretariat will facilitate individual access to the database.

## How will countries coordinate activities?

Individual delegations to the OECD are responsible for coordinating the work of their Data Providers and Designated Contact Points. Data Providers can access a list of Designated Contact Points through the data entry function within the database.

Individual delegations may also use the “comments” field in the database for communication between Data Providers and Designated Contact Points.

The Guidance Manual includes an annex that describes modus operandi adopted by certain delegations. While the modus operandi will vary between delegations, these are provided as examples that may be adopted or varied.

## How will the integrity of the database be maintained?

Ensuring data quality is critical to the integrity of the database.

The process for data entry and checking is completely within the control of individual delegations.

- Data Providers are responsible for ensuring the quality of the data entered.
- Designated Contact Points are responsible for checking the accuracy and internal consistency of data reporting.

Following are some examples of processes built into data entry and checking that will assist in maintaining the integrity of the database:

- To minimise duplicate entries, the designated project coordinator will act as Data Provider for research projects that involve multiple researchers, e.g. trans-national projects;
- To ensure accuracy projects entered into the database as planned or underway must be updated regularly and on completion;
- Detailed guidance is provided to users through the Guidance Manual and information contained within the interface;
- Data entry occurs in a secure environment and the Data Provider has control over when the entry is made public (i.e. published). Entries can be “saved as draft” or “saved and published”; and
- “Checking” rights are only awarded to Designated Contact Points. Designated Contact Points can only edit/check entries from their own country.

Feed back on this database should be sent to the OECD Secretariat at [nanosafety@oecd.org](mailto:nanosafety@oecd.org).

### **ABOUT OECD**

OECD is an intergovernmental organisation with 30 member countries. More information is available at: [www.oecd.org](http://www.oecd.org)

# OECD Database on Research into the Safety of Manufactured Nanomaterials

- a global resource which details research projects that address environmental, human health and safety issues
- helps identify research gaps and assists researchers in future collaborative efforts
- stores research information to assist various projects within the OECD’s Working Party on Manufactured Nanomaterials



[www.oecd.org/env/nanosafety/database](http://www.oecd.org/env/nanosafety/database)

## OECD Database on Research into the Safety of Manufactured Nanomaterials

is an inventory of safety research information on manufactured nanomaterials.

Manufactured nanomaterials are those intentionally produced to have specific properties or specific composition, a size range typically between 1 nm and 100 nm and material which is confined in one, two, or three dimensions at the nanoscale (nano-object) or having an internal or surface structure at the nanoscale (nanostructured).

The database contains information relevant to research on the human health and environmental safety of manufactured nanomaterials for projects that are planned, underway or completed. The information is updated electronically by countries and organizations, managed by the OECD's Working Party on Manufactured Nanomaterials ([www.oecd.org/env/nanosafety](http://www.oecd.org/env/nanosafety)).

### How can I access and search the database?

Users can access the database through an internet interface at: <http://webnet.oecd.org/NanoMaterials>. The website is compatible with MS Internet Explorer (6/7) and Mozilla Firefox (1.5/ 2.0).

The database is searchable either through:

- **Simple search** that enables interrogation of the database using keywords and Boolean operators: AND (space, &), OR (|) , NOT(-), Wild cards(\*);
- **Advanced search** that allows users to search by different criteria such as keyword text, project information, country and category.

Users of the database are bound by the terms and conditions for OECD Website Usage and Privacy Policy.

User guidance is available as "pop-up" information or for download at: [www.oecd.org/env/nanosafety/database](http://www.oecd.org/env/nanosafety/database)

### How has the database been established?

This database builds on the database of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars: *Nanotechnology Health and Environmental Implications: An Inventory of Current Research* ([www.nanotechproject.org/inventories/ehs](http://www.nanotechproject.org/inventories/ehs)). The database was pre-populated with research projects transferred from the inventory. Countries and organisations have been electronically updating the information.

The screenshot displays the website interface for the OECD Database on Research into the Safety of Manufactured Nanomaterials. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Top page' and 'Simple Search' buttons. The main header includes the OECD logo and the title of the database. Below the header, there is a search bar with a 'Search this database' button and links for 'Search ICON', 'Search NIOSH', 'Advanced Search', and 'List all projects'. The 'Advanced Search' section is expanded, showing various search criteria: 'Keywords include:', 'Principal Investigator name contains:', 'From the country:' (with a list of countries including Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, American Samoa, Andorra, and Angola), 'From the organisation:' (with a list of organizations including Academy of Corporate Governance, African Capacity Building Foundation (ACB), African Development Bank (ADB), African Seed Trade Association (AFSTA), African Union, and African, Caribbean, and Pacific Group of S), 'Project active in year:' (with dropdown menus for start and end years), 'With a funding source including:', 'Categorisation:' (with radio buttons for 'All' and 'Any Research Theme', 'Material Name', and 'Test Method'), and 'Relevance to the Safety of Manufactured Nanomaterials:' (with a dropdown menu). The 'Advanced Search Criteria' section is also expanded, showing a list of search criteria with checkboxes and dropdown menus for selection. The criteria include: 1. Characterisation and measurement of r, 2. Exposure assessment for humans and i, 3. Interaction of nanomaterials with biolog, 4. Human Health, 5. Ecotoxicology, and 6. Control measures at workplace. The 'Material Name' section includes: Nano Carbon, Polymers specifically synthesized to explo, Dendrimers [WPMN], Components of Quantum Dots, Inorganic Nanomaterials (in Alphabetical), and Inorganic Nanomaterials (in Alphabetical). The 'Test Method' section includes: SECTION 1 - PHYSICAL-CHEMICAL PROPI, SECTION 2 - EFFECTS ON BIOTIC SYSTEM, SECTION 3 - DEGRADATION AND ACCUM, SECTION 4 - HEALTH EFFECTS, Other test methods (indicated below), and Not relevant (the project does not address). The 'Project status:' dropdown menu is set to 'Both', and the 'Project Ref.:' field is empty.