



# Pioneering Perspectives: Twente as a Hub for Transitioning to Animal- Free Innovation

Erica van Oort, TPI

# ***Transition Program towards animal-free Innovations (TPI) -our national policy***

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security  
and Nature

Board of Animal Agro-chains and Animal  
Welfare

**Erica van Oort**  
**Bas de Waard**



THE TECHMED EVENT: 5 November  
2024 University of Twente

**tpi.**

# DISCLOSURE SLIDE

There are no financial interests, concerning information presented in this presentation



# National policy on 3Rs & TPI



## Three pillars

1

### Animal welfare and the 3Rs

- Animal welfare as long as is needed
- Replace, Reduce, Refine, (3Rs)
- Licensing system (CCD), Advice (NCad)
- Actions on e.g. systematic reviews & preregistration of animal studies



2

### Transition towards animal-free innovations (TPI)

- Policy: TPI partner programme & office
- Focus on: Development, validation, acceptance & implementation of NAMs
- Networking, partnering, dialogue and communication
- International transition



3

### Phasing out of animal tests

- Phasing out: difficult!
- Within the context of European laws and regulations
- Without hampering scientific progress and safety
- **Phase-out mainly a European approach!**



# TPI-partner programme (pillar 2)



TPI partner programme (10 partners) + programme office (ministry LNVN)



# TPI in 6 objectives LVVN (TPI)



More national development & application of NAMs (e.g. Growth Fund CPBT, M€124,5, NWA call, MKMD funding program)



Catalyse EU transition to animal-free innovation (e.g. EU strategy like proposal for the European Research Area agenda)



More dissemination, dialogue & network (e.g. international conference, local TPI networks, Young TPI)



More stimulation of NAM research infrastructure (e.g. VitalTissue)



More promotion on Open Science in support of NAMs & 3Rs (e.g. Systematic reviews, preclinicaltrialregister)



More exploration on ways to phase-out specific animal tests (needs EU approach, active contribution to EC roadmap phasing out animal studies for chemicals)



## National Growth Fund



- Investment of M€ 124,5, Centre for Animal-free Biomedical Translation
- The CPBT is a national centre for valorizing and disseminating animal-free innovations and expertise.
- It aims to improve and accelerate the transition of new biomedical innovations to patients and users, at lower costs, and without the use of animals.



## Through international collaboration

- Initiated ERA proposal (LVVN & OCW) with EC, other member states and stakeholder(s)







# ERA Objectives

## 'Accelerating New Approach Methodologies (NAMs) to advance biomedical research and testing of medicinal products and medical devices'

**Focus:** promote development, validation and use of Non-animal New Approach Methods (NAMs) in biomedical research and testing of pharmaceuticals

**Aim:** coordinate and streamline Member States' actions regarding NAMs:

- Identify opportunities & priorities for development & validation
- Share good practices & drive synergy
- Leverage expertise, infrastructure in EU

**All actors involved:** European Commission, relevant ministries, regulatory agencies, EMA, research funders, academia, research institutes & infrastructures, pharma and MedTech industry, CROs, journal editors, citizens & patients



**WG1: Development of NAMs and common EU infrastructures**



**WG2: Validation, acceptance and implementation of NAMs**



**WG3: Education and training**



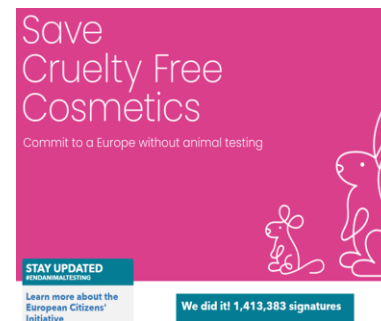
**WG4: Openness & awareness**

# More exploration on ways to phase-out specific animal tests (pillar 3)



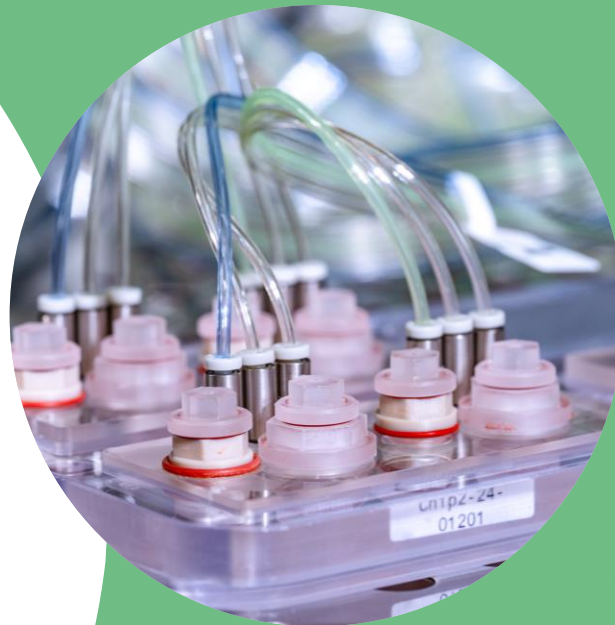
## Through consultation with experts & stakeholders

- What is possible within EU directive?
- Considering diversity in scientific domains and consideration for scientific progress and safety
- Active participation of LVVN in EC roadmap to phase out animal-testing in chemical safety assessments-organizing a MS workshop?!



# Thank You!

# Questions?



Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries,  
Food Security and Nature



Europese  
Commissie



EU-LIFE

© European Union 2024

Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is authorised under the [CC BY 4.0](#) license. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders.

All images © European Union, unless otherwise stated. Image sources: © AKrasov # 473038224, © 325647166 # graphixmania, © Feodora # 363819383, © Aurielaki # 96011475, 2024. © alexdndz #482420955, © naulicreative #217241567, © lyaksun #468303837, 2022. © ivector # 235536634 # 249868181 # 251163013 # 266009682, # 273480523 # 362422833 # 241215668 # 244690530 # 245719946 # 251163053 # 252508849, © shooarts # 121467308, © Eucalyp # 359818614, 2020. Source: Stock.Adobe.com. Icons © Flaticon – all rights reserved.



τρι.