

Ensuring safety of nanotechnologies: German-Iranian exchange at a research workshop on 9–10 June 2022

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How can nanotechnology be applied safely? This question brought together researchers from Germany and Iran on 9 and 10 June 2022. It was the first exchange of its kind. The German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) in Berlin organised the workshop entitled “NanoRiskSD: Engineered Nanomaterials – Novel Approaches for Risk Assessment and Safe-by-Design.”

The workshop enabled a discussion among experts from different institutions. It was initiated by BfR researcher PD Dr Andrea Haase and Dr Nasrollah Tabatabaei Shafie from the School of Advanced Technologies in Medicine at the Tehran University of Medical Sciences. The so-called mobility project was financed by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

In Iran, nanotechnology is considered a key technology and the research receives substantial funding. The experts from Germany were particularly interested in the topic of nanosafety at this workshop. “Nanotechnologies are developing extremely quickly. All researchers benefit from an exchange, especially with regard to the safety of applications,” said Andrea Haase. Among other things, the participants discussed nano-based medical products. What sounds abstract is already being used in some instances of everyday clinical practice, for example with nano-encapsulated active substances or implants based on nanotechnology. There is no substitute for direct contact, participants repeatedly said. “Sharing knowledge is good practice,” confirms Andrea Haase.

Further information on the subject from the BfR website:

FAQ on nanomaterials (18 Nov. 2021):

<https://www.bfr.bund.de/cm/343/fragen-und-antworten-zu-nanomaterialien.pdf>



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About the BfR

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