

*Nanotechnologies risk assessment:  
a perspective from developing  
countries*

*Musee, N  
Natural Resources and Environment, RSA*

*7<sup>th</sup> Congress of Toxicology in Developing Countries, Sun City,*

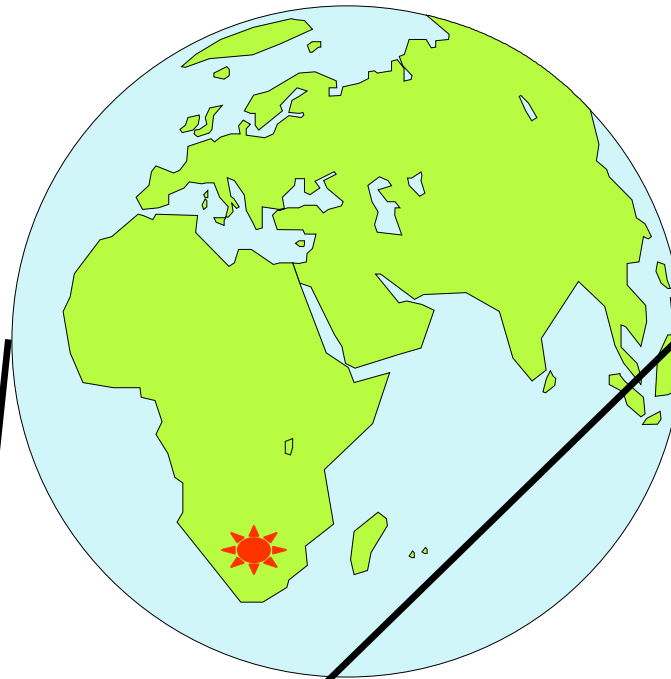
*South Africa, 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2009*

**CSIR**

our future through science

# 2010 Soccer World Cup:

## South Africa!



**Earth**  
**12756 km**

***1,77 x 10<sup>-8</sup> fold***

**Soccer Ball**  
**22,64 cm**

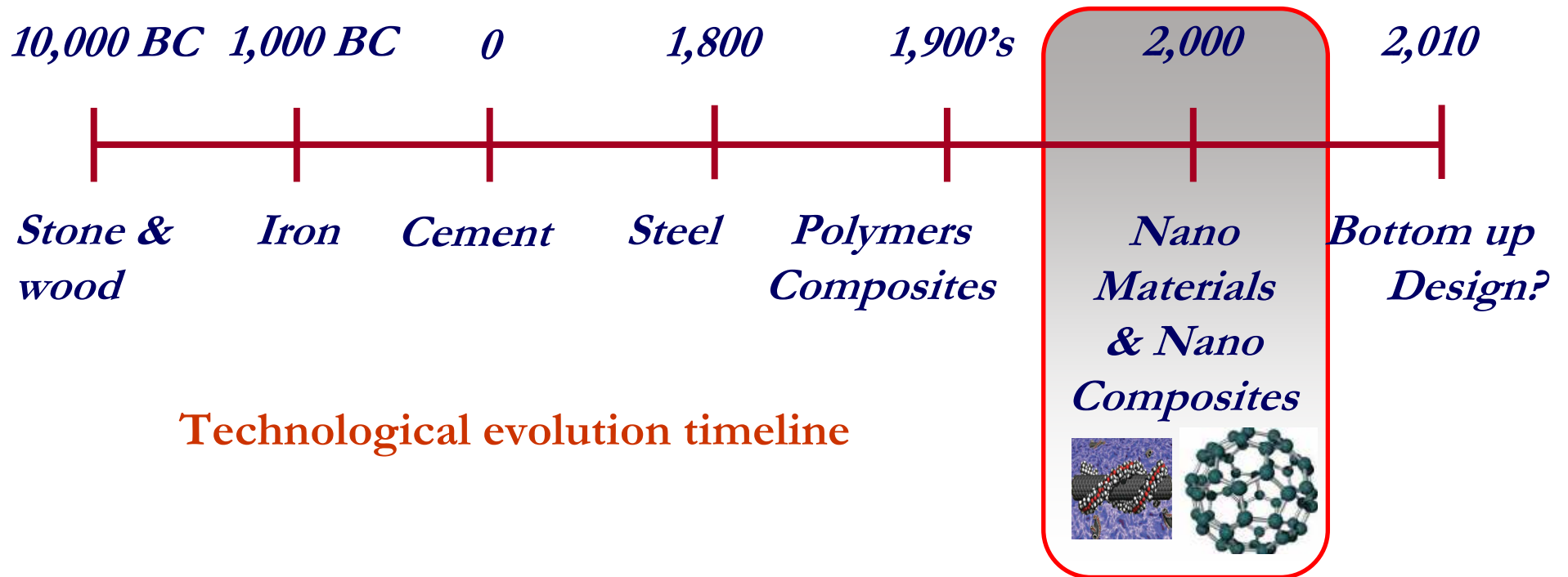
**Nanoparticle, 4 nm**

# *Problem Defining Questions*

- Why the need for nanotechnologies risk assessment now?
- What are the present global endeavours in this field concerning risk assessment of nanotechnologies?
- How are nanotechnologies likely to impact developing countries?  
Benefits and Challenges
- What is the present risk assessment status in the developing countries concerning Waste Management ?
- What are probable impact scenarios of introducing nanotechnology into developing countries with respect to risk assessment?
- What are the possible intervention mechanisms to promote environmental stewardship and equitable societal benefits in the developing countries?

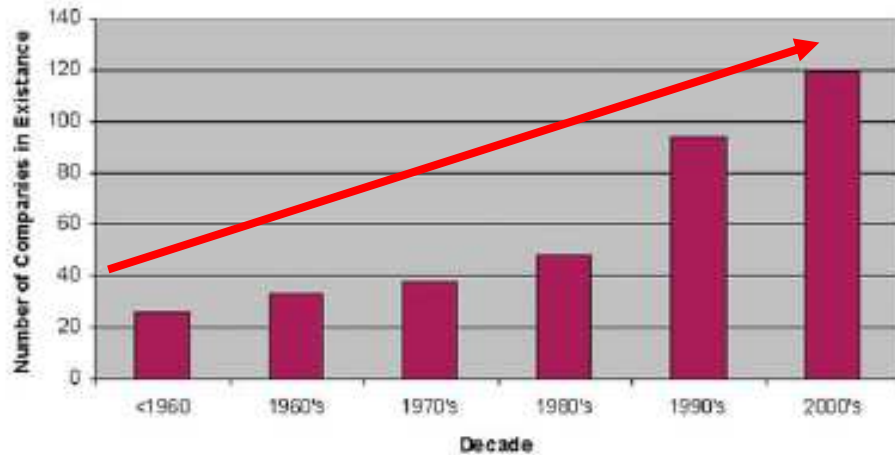
*Why Risk Assessment Now for Engineered  
Nanomaterials Materials (ENMs)?*

*Ecological systems have not evolved in the presence of ENMs: therefore adverse affects by such new materials is highly probable*



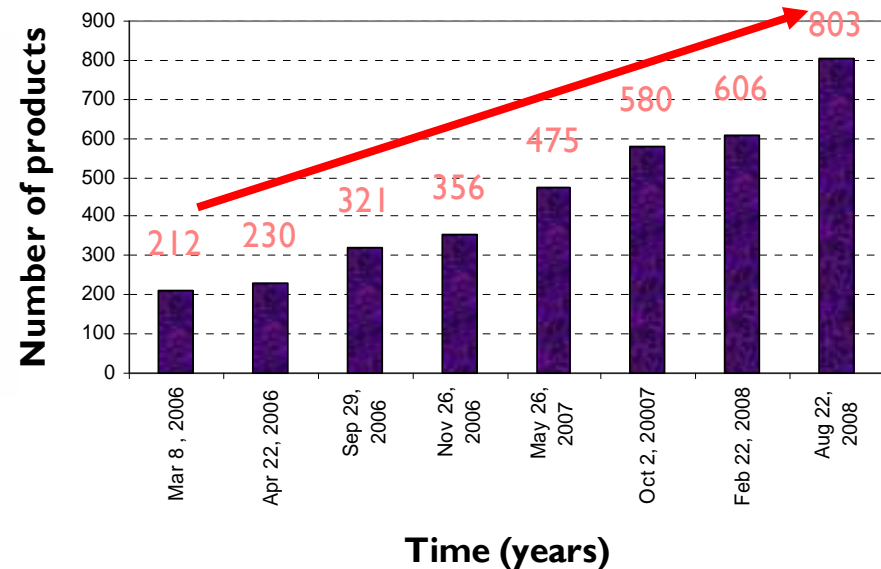
# Company and Nanoproducts Growth

A



Global growth of companies fabricating NMs  
(Pitkethly, 2003)

B

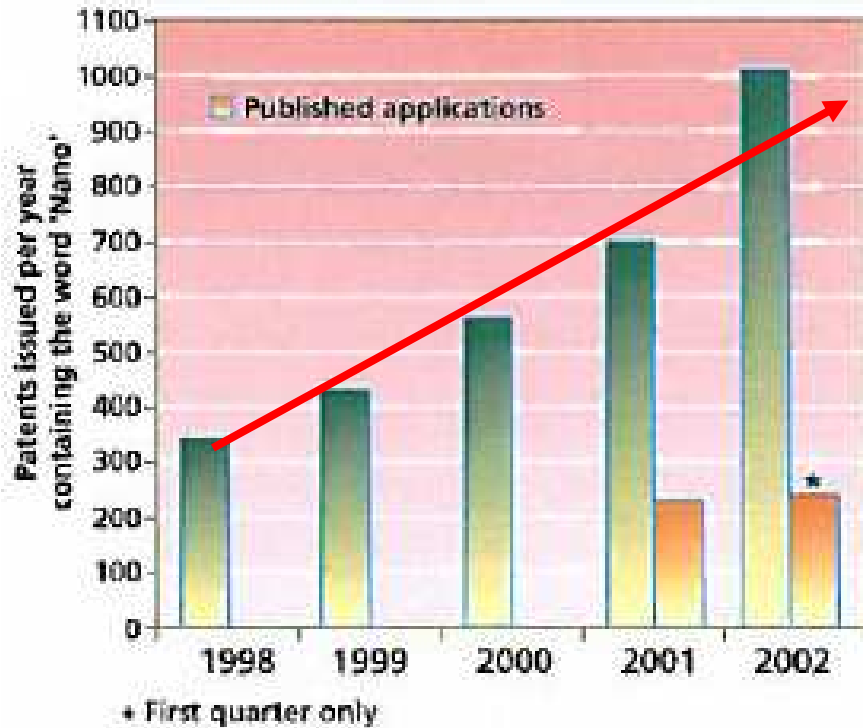


Consumer nanoproducts (Woodrow Wilson  
International Centre for Scholars, 2008)

*Comment: Trend for nanowastes generation is obvious*

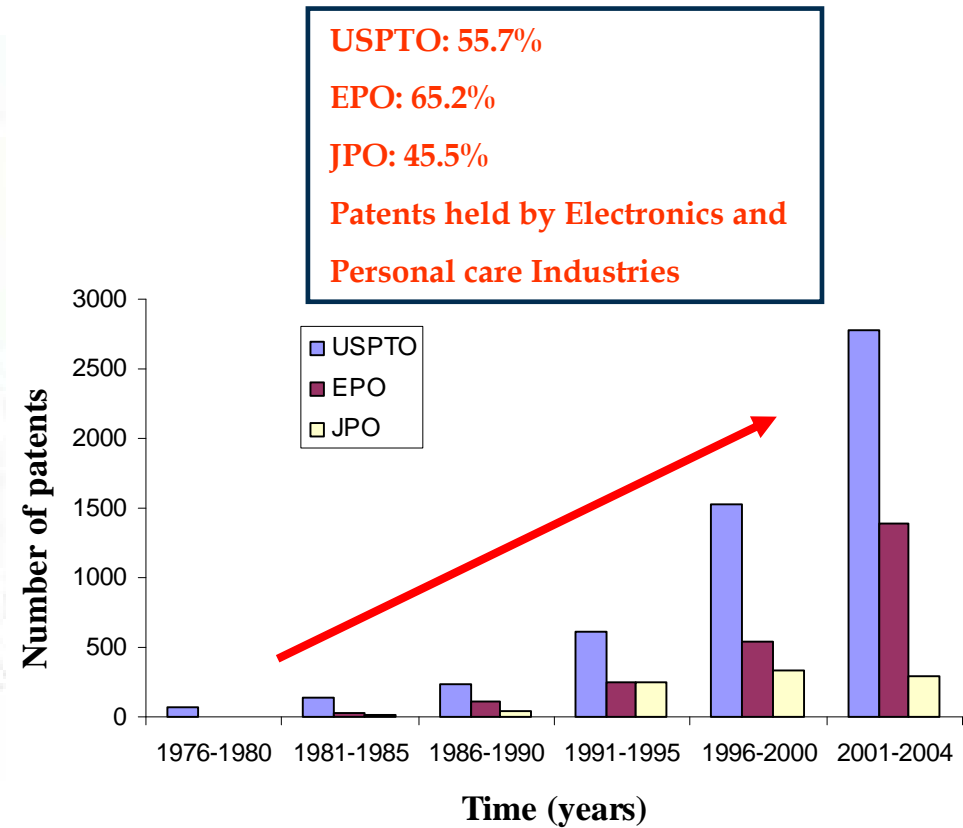
# Growth of Nano-related Patents

C



Paull et al., Investing in nanotechnology, Nat Biotechnol 2003;21(10), 1144-1147..

D

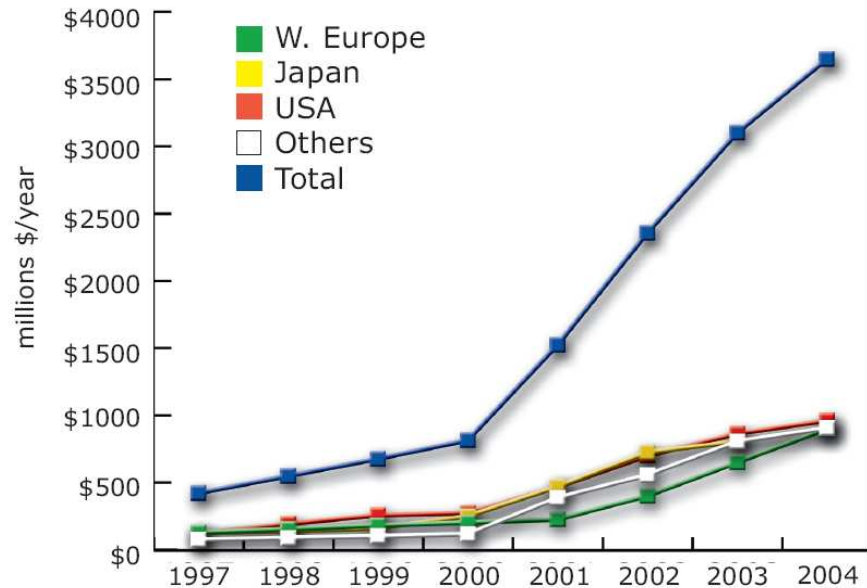


Nano-related IPs (Li et al., 2007; Huang et al., 2004)

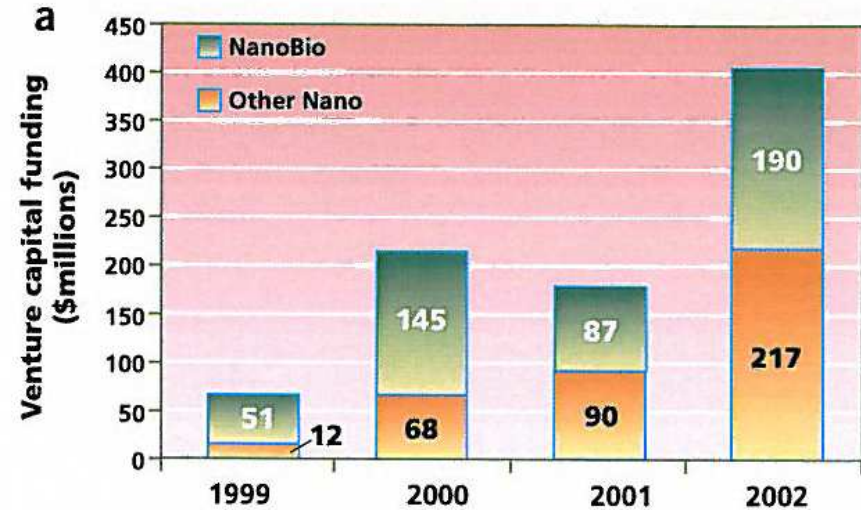
*Comment: Trend for nanowastes generation is obvious*

# Global Nano R&D and Venture Capital

**E**



**F**



- Currently less than 1% on SHE aspects
- Recommended level ca. 10%
- South Africa - no funding yet

Paull et al., Investing in nanotechnology, Nat Biotechnol 2003;21(10), 1144-1147..

Source: M.C. Roco. 2004. Nanoscale Science and Engineering: Unifying and Transforming Tools. AIChE Journal, Vol. 50, Issue 5, pp. 890-897.

*Comment: Trend for nanowastes generation is obvious*



# Rapidly growing risk concerns on the applications and safety of ENMs in media

## Nanotechnology Risk Concerns in South Africa

### The science of the tiny is big news

From medicine to transport, nanotechnology will revolutionise our lives

#### RAMMO POU

**N**ANOTECHNOLOGY is the control of matter at the nanoscale level. It is the science of the tiny - in being based on the technology of the future.

It's easy to see why when you consider the possibilities and places made from plastic, reinforced with ultra-light nanoparticles, that are used for water purification, and other devices that can recognise viruses or cells and deliver drugs locally.

"There are many problems that we previously didn't know how to solve," nanotechnology proves they're solvable," says Dr. Supriya Ray, chief researcher at the CSIR's National Centre for Nanostructured Materials.

There are about 100 nanometre particles already in the market that use nanotechnology, including sunscreens that have nanoparticles of titanium dioxide to make them transparent and sports equipment with tiny fragments of silver that act as a powerful antibacterial to eliminate odour.

But the revolutionary applications - those that let us act in ways we never could - are still to come.

If you think of nanoparticles as a million-eyed gnomes, you get a sensation. A nanoparticle is one-thirtieth of a metre smaller than 100 nanometres.

To get some sense of the scale, a sheet of paper is about 100,000 nanometres thick, so

human hair is about 80,000 nanometres wide, and a red blood cell is about 7,000 nanometres in diameter.

Scientists have found that materials behave differently when they are made up of nanoparticles.

This is because a mass of nanoparticles has a much larger surface area relative to its weight. It's like comparing a bowling ball to the same weight in peas. The bowling ball may have more of the peas in touch, but the surface area is much greater than that of the bowling ball.

The larger surface area can make materials more reactive.

#### Nanotechnology proves problems are solvable

Also, quantum effects which govern the behaviour of atoms and molecules - can begin to describe the behaviour of matter at the nanoscale, changing its optical, electrical and magnetic behaviour.

So far, so technical. What does this mean for us?

The CSIR recently hosted an international nanotechnology conference in Durban, where researchers discussed some two

dozen topics with the potential to change the lives of many South Africans.

The first is the development of nanoparticles, which are absorbed by the transistors and slowly release the drug if successful, instead of taking a handful of pills daily. The patients would have to take these nanoparticles just once a week.

The second project, in collaboration with the University of Cape Town, is the production of silicon nanoparticles, which when incorporated in an ink, could be used to print solar cells on paper.

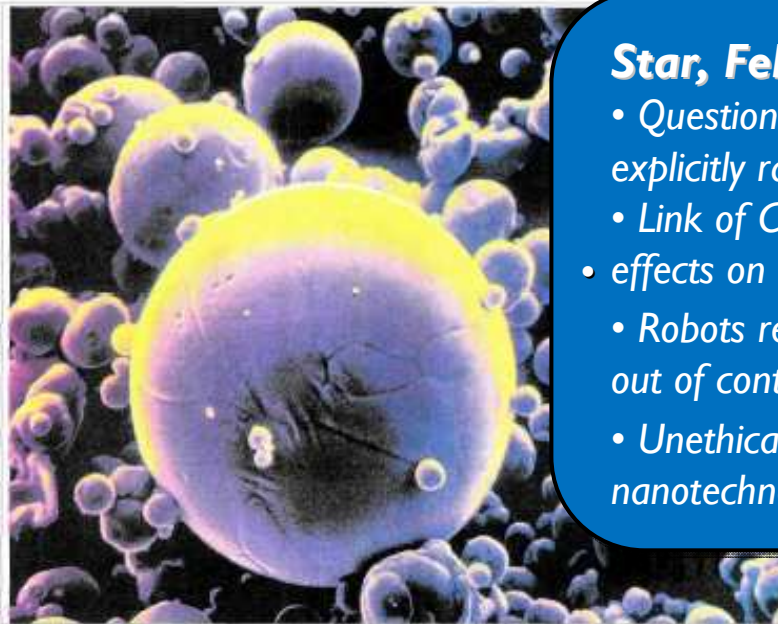
Next, solar cells are made from expensive silicon wafers. Silicon nanoparticles, which have a porous and thin structure, could be used to make low-cost solar cells.

You could take a "load" of this paper, compute and use it to recharge your mobile or cell phone during the day.

Silicon nanoparticles can also be used to print single computing elements onto paper.

Over the next few years, scientists could create a single sheet with a sensor, the electronics to change it into a thin screen and a power source. You might then see "newspaper" sent either wirelessly, or kept in your pocket, or even on a screen that you can see through.

But is nanotechnology safe? Scientists are worried about the potential health and environmental risks.



Titanium dioxide nanoparticles are used in sunscreen to make it transparent instead of white.

It is possible that nanoparticles will generate odd effects on the environment, and will even be toxic. There is concern, for example, that carbon nanotubes already used to reinforce plastic products could affect the lungs if they are able to be absorbed.

There are also fears that nanobots - programmed to reproduce like us - when they are small enough to enter and replicate themselves.

Some think nanotechnology is "tampering" with nature's building blocks, and therefore

### Star, February 16, 2009

- Questions on potential risks were explicitly raised by the media
- Link of CNTs and asbestos health effects on lungs were inferred
- Robots replacing humans and getting out of control
- Unethical aspects related to nanotechnology were raised

## Example 1

health monitoring system will begin.

"Beyond the scope of our current capabilities, perhaps in 40 years - that is, completely new forms of devices and processes will emerge."



# Nanotechnology Risk Concerns in South Africa...

## Example 2

NANOTUBES, one of the wonder materials of the new age of nanotechnology, may carry a health risk similar to that of asbestos, a wonder material of an earlier age that turned into a scourge after decades of use when its fibres were found to cause lung disease, researchers said this week.

This time, the warning comes long before anyone has fallen ill, and experts say the findings call for caution, not alarm, in handling nanotubes, which are tiny, superstrong carbon fibres.

Although nanotubes are already found in some products

### Nanotubes may carry asbestos-like health risk

like tennis racquets, researchers say the fibres appear to pose little risk to consumers.

Nanotubes, discovered in 1991, are essentially rolled-up sheets of carbon that can be used to produce materials that are far lighter and stronger than steel, for example.

But scientists have also long wondered whether the needle-shaped nanotubes might cause

the same types of disease as needle-shaped asbestos fibres.

An article published on Tuesday on the website of the journal Nature suggests that the answer may be yes. Researchers said that injecting nanotubes into the abdomens of mice induced lesions similar to those that appear on the outer lining of the lungs after inhalation of asbestos.

In the case of asbestos, the lesions eventually become mesothelioma, a deadly cancer. Consumers would probably not be able to inhale nanotubes embedded in a golf club cycle frame, for instance.

But there could be a concern that nanotubes in products could be released later, much as asbestos in concrete or mobile brake pads was inhaled by construction workers or mechanics.

The greatest risk would be people working in laboratories or at nanotube manufacturing

— © (2008) The New York Times

### Sunday Times, May 25, 2008

- CNTs link to health risks similar to asbestos suggested
- Current researchers' findings reported in *Journal of Nature* supports this view
- Not yet single case of disease has been reported associated with CNTs
- Cautionary approach was proposed
- Risk health effects postulated after the products lifespan
- Greatest risk for workers in research labs and manufacturing sector were raised

*Global Initiatives in Nanotechnology Risk  
Assessment*

# *Nanotechnology Risk Assessment: International Scene*

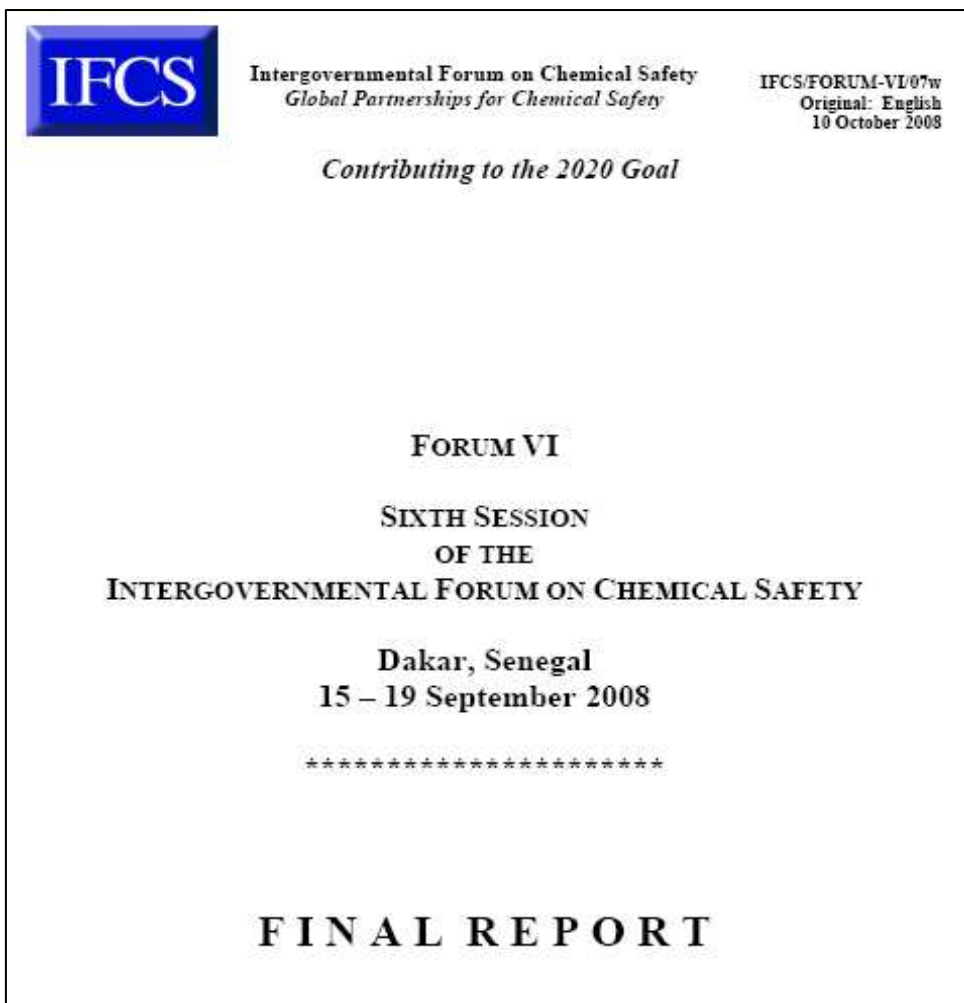
- **USA:** Incorporation of HSE aspects of nanotechnologies in the National Nanotechnology Initiative (NNI), established in 2000. Annual budget on risk assessment < 1% of the total (see Guzman et al., 2006).
- **UK:** DEFRA initiatives (on going), and the Royal Society /Royal Academy of Engineering report 'Nanoscience and nanotechnologies: opportunities and uncertainties (2004)
- **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD):** establishment of Working Party on Manufactured Nanomaterials (WPMN). Core objective: To ascertain the environmental and human health impacts of NMs
- **ISO TC 229:** Has a component on Health, safety and environmental aspects of nanotechnology
- **Other numerous initiatives in Canada, Japan, German, and the European Union**

# *Nanotechnology: Risk Assessment Perspective*

*Setting the scene in the context of  
developing countries*



# *Developing Countries Response: The African Initiative*



# *Developing Countries: Nanotechnology Benefits*

- Energy production and storage
- Provision of portable drinking water
- Improving agricultural production
- Storage of agricultural products
- Medical and health care applications
- Enhancement of the economy: exploitation of the nano-biotechnology

# *Developing Countries: Challenges of Nanotechnology*

- Technological Divide: very little or no ownership of IPs developing countries
- Minimal or none existence of R & D in developing countries on nanotechnology: limited human capacity and infrastructure
- Limited brainpower on HSE aspects of nanotechnology (lack of expertise)
- Lack of financial resources (absence of venture capital)
- Inability of states to address ethical issues of nanotechnology
- **Emerging and increasing challenges concerning risk assessment: potential nano-pollution**



# *Developing Countries: Waste Management Perspective*

Is there a smoking gun or rather where is the evidence to warrant any form of concern ?

Pictorial Profiling of Waste Management Paradigm in Developing Countries: How will this fair after nanowaste streams reach proportional quantities?

## *Current Reality...*



**And the nano-pollution? It is probable?**

## *Standing Guard Against Waste Injustice*



*"There is nothing moral about tempting a starving man with money."  
Screens News flash in: Environmental Justice & Nuclear Power Magazine*

# *Gigantic Quantities of Solid Waste*



**What would be the impact of nanomaterials in such environmental conditions**

*This is reality...*



## *Eke A Living... ?*



**How can potential adverse effects of NMs be averted?**

*Dumping site near a residential area in a  
certain developing country*



**Is the toxicological effects of ENMs well understood  
in such abiotic conditions?**



# *International Waste Trade*

**Global distancing of waste from source/generators**



**Global trotting of ships in search for hazardous & toxic wastes dumping states/sites. Possible destination... Cash poor states.**



*Modelling of Nanotechnology Impacts: Waste  
Management in Developing Countries*

# *Qualitative Modelling of Nanowastes*

**Risk a function of: hazard (toxicity), and exposure potency**

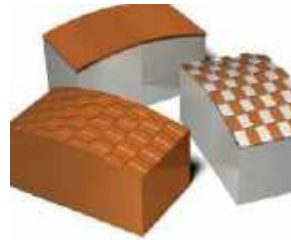
- **Expected hazard (toxicity):** Due to constituent NMs (end-points results of *Bacillus subtilis*, *Daphnia magna*, *Oncorhynchus mykiss*, *P. subsapiata*, *Micropterus salmoides*, etc)
- **Degree of exposure:** Normally function of bioaccumulation and biopersistence): Present study we employ loci of NMs in products/applications because exposure potency computed using bioaccumulation and persistence data is currently unfeasible.

# *Exposure Potency: Loci of ENMs in Products*



**Bulk-based NMs**  
(one or multiphase)

*EP: Very low to low*



**Structured surface, film or  
Structured film**

*EP: Very low to medium*



**Surface bound**

*EP: Low to high*



**NMs suspended  
in liquids**

*EP: Highly likely*



**NMs suspended in solids**

*EP: Medium to very high*



**Airborne/free ENPs**

*EP: Highly likely*

*Nanomaterials classification framework (Hansen et al. 2007)*

# Qualitative Quantification of ENMs Toxicity

NMs type	Examples	Hazard (toxicity) <sup>1</sup>
Carbon based	Fullerenes	High
	Singled-walled carbon nanotubes (SWCNT)	High
	Multi-walled carbon nanotubes (MWCNT)	High
Metal oxides	Zinc oxide (ZnO)	Medium
	Titanium oxide (TiO <sub>2</sub> )	Low
	Aluminium oxide (Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	Medium
	Yttrium iron oxide (Y <sub>3</sub> Fe <sub>5</sub> O <sub>12</sub> )	Low
	Silicon dioxide (SiO <sub>2</sub> )	Low
	Iron oxide (Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	Medium
Metals	Silver (Ag)	Medium
	Gold (Au)	High
	Silica (Si)	Low
Quantum dots	Cadmium-selenide (CdSe)	High
	Cadmium telluride (CdTe)	High
Others	Silicon nanowires	Low
	Nanoclay particles	Low
	Dendrimers	Medium

<sup>1</sup> Classification based on Globally Harmonized System (GHS, 2003; Silk, 2003) aquatic toxicity can be expressed in five classes namely; extremely toxic (<0.1 mg/l); very toxic (0.1-1 mg/l); toxic (1-10 mg/l); harmful (10-100 mg/l); and none toxic (>100 mg/l) which were reduced into the three classes (**high**, **medium** and **low**).

# *Nanowastes Classification*

---

Nanowaste Class	Description	Comments
Class I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NT: non-toxic</li><li>• Loci: All loci (low to high exposures)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• May act as Trojan horse/accumulate to high concentrations</li></ul>
Class II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NT: Harmful to toxic</li><li>• Loci: Bulk or films (low exposure level)</li><li>• NMs firmly held in products</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Necessitates to establish chronic effects</li><li>• Optimal WM approaches should be investigated</li></ul>
Class III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NT: Toxic to very toxic</li><li>• Loci: surface or bulk</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Likely to be hazardous, appropriate protocols to be applied</li></ul>
Class IV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NT: Toxic to very toxic</li><li>• Loci: suspended solids</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Highly hazardous nanowastes</li><li>• Efficient and effective technologies yet to be developed</li><li>• To be disposed off to specialized/designated sites</li></ul>
Class V	NT: very toxic to extremely toxic Loci: free or liquid suspended	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Extremely hazardous waste streams</li><li>• Efficient and effective technologies yet to be developed</li><li>• Needs to be handled by specialists</li><li>• Can cause diverse pollution to diverse ecological systems</li></ul>

---

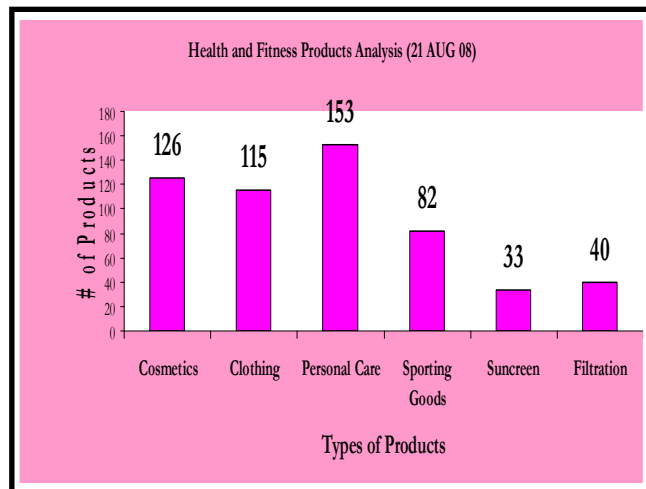
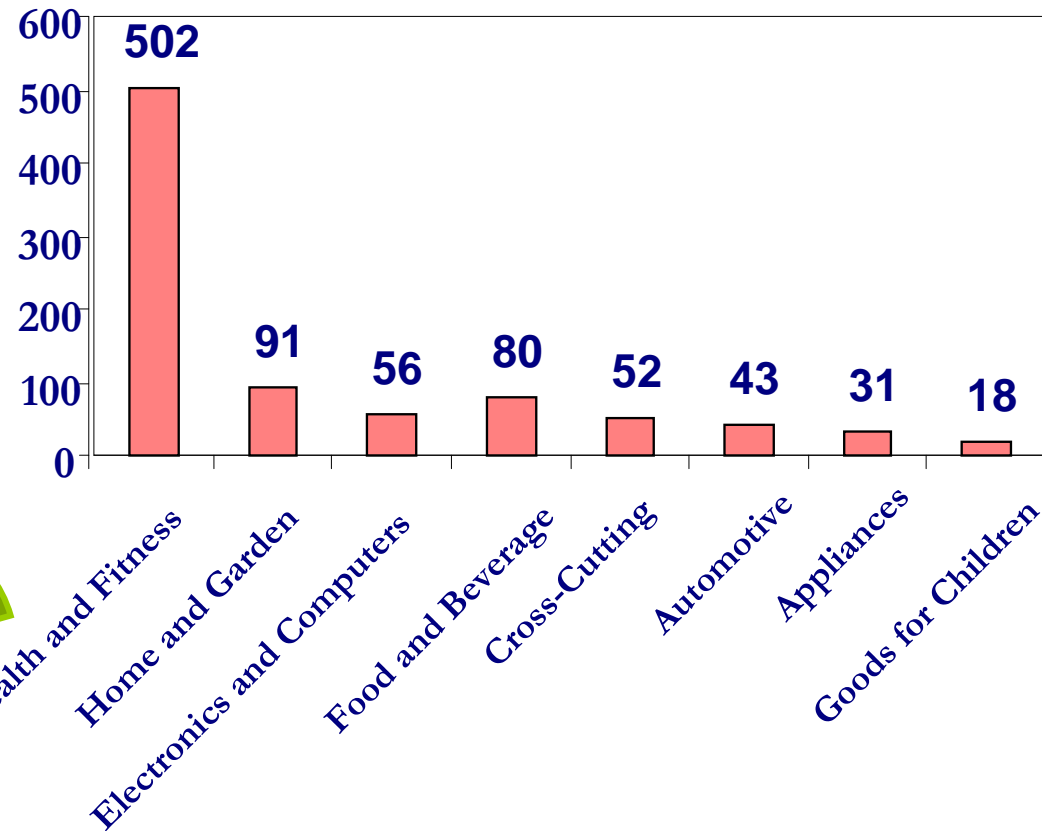
# Qualitative Profiling of Nanowastes Risks

Application	NMs	Hazard	Exposure potency	Risk at disposal
Sports equipment	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Low	Low	Low
	Ag	Medium	Low	Low
	SWCNT	High	Low	Low
	MWCNT	High	Low	Low
Personal care products	Ag	Medium	High	Medium
	Fullerenes	High	High	High
	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Medium	High	Medium
	TiO <sub>2</sub>	Low	High	Low
Food/beverages	TiO <sub>2</sub>	Low	Medium	Low
	ZnO	Medium	Medium	Medium
	Fullerenes	High	Medium	High
	Dendrimers	Medium	Medium	Medium
Sunscreen lotions	ZnO	Medium	High	Medium
	TiO <sub>2</sub>	Low	High	Low
	Fullerenes	High	High	High
	Ag	Medium	High	Medium

## *Quantitative Approach: Computer Model*

- Exploit computational power to predict or make estimates – based on best available input data
- Make predictions or estimates of quantities (parameters) characterised by:
  - High costs of measurement
  - Limited technologies for actual environmental measurements
  - Provides an effective initial screening mechanism to elucidate whether actual environmental monitoring is justifiable
  - Provides basis for developing a protocol on best representative data for measurements
  - Explore and create different environmental scenarios that would assist in designing and developing mitigating responses

# Cosmetics Products: a case study products

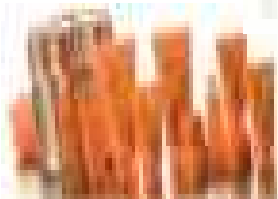


Source: Woodrow Wilson International Centre for Scholars, 2009

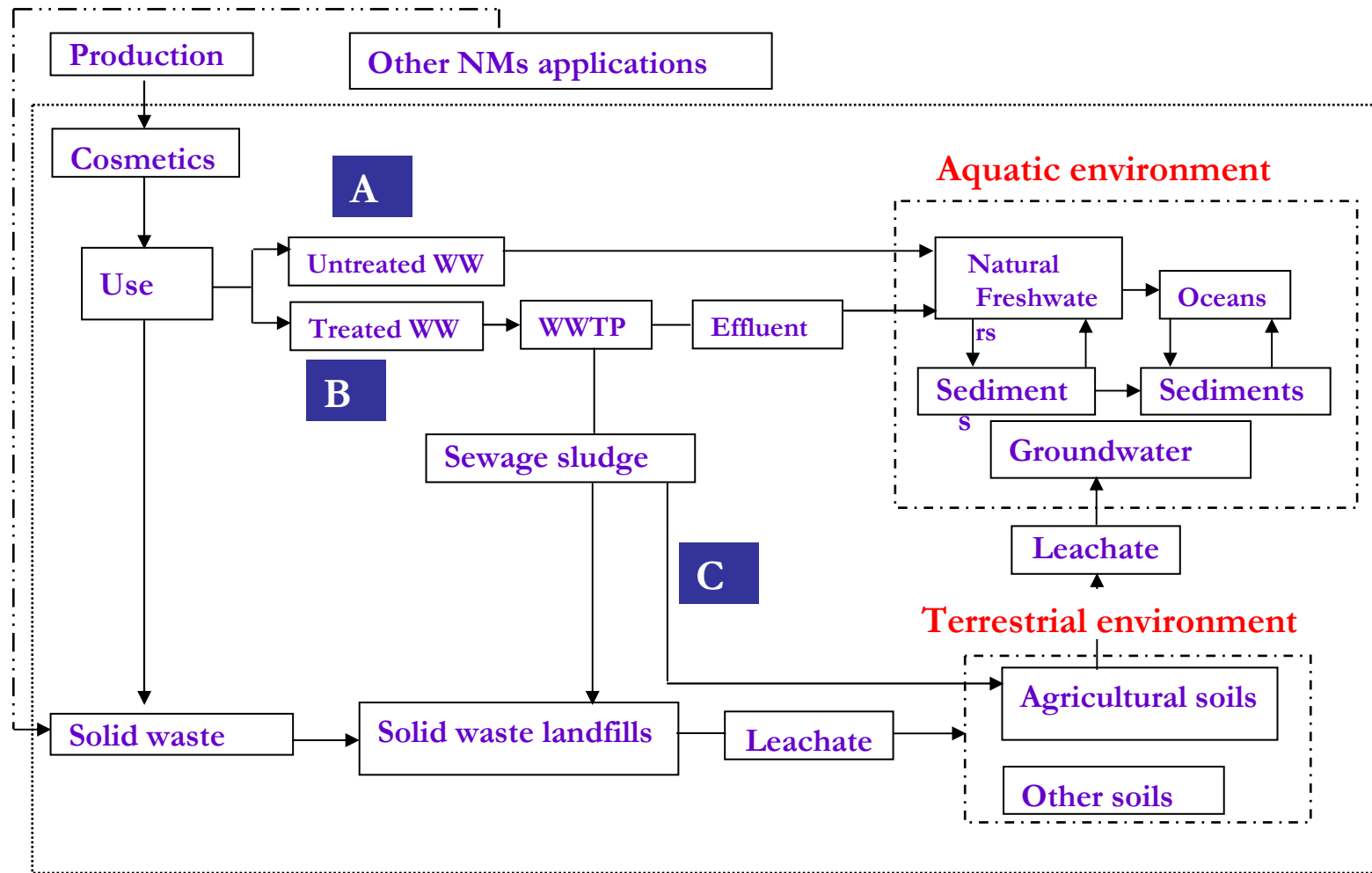


# *Just Few Cosmetic Products... containing ENMs*

LEOREX



# Probable Environmental NMs flows in SA Scenario



- .....> System boundary
- .....> NMs flow in cosmetics
- .....> Environmental compartments

WWTP: wastewater treatment plant

WW: wastewater

# *Quantitative Risk Assessment of NMs in Environment*

- Computation of the Predicted Environmental Concentrations (PEC)
- Determination of Predicted No Effect Concentration (PNEC)
- Risk profile of a given NM pollutant

$$RQ = \frac{PEC_{NMi}}{PNEC_{NMi}}$$

**RQ: Risk Quotient**

## *Cosmetics in SA: Model assumptions*

- Use of surrogate data exploited. Switzerland (SW) published data used
- Economic, social, GDP figures used in computation equations to map SW values into SA scenario
- Companies operating in the cosmetic industry are multi-international – likely to market the same form of products in SA as in other parts of the world (concentration of NMs in products constant)

# Map of JHB: Case Study



## *Case Study: City of Johannesburg*

Quantities of NM in JHB computed based on the expression:

$$JHB_{NM} = SW_{NM} \cdot cf_1 \cdot cf_2 \cdot cf_3 \cdot \frac{GDP_{JHB}}{GDP_{SA}}$$

*cf*: correction factor

$$cf_1 = \frac{POP_{SA}}{POP_{SW}} \quad : \text{Population ratio of SA to SW}$$

$$cf_2 = \frac{GDP / capita(SA)}{GDP / capita(SW)} \quad : \text{GDP ratio of SA to SW (0.391) -2007}$$

$$cf_3 = \text{Market – penetration} \quad : 3 \text{ scenarios (0.1, 0.25, 0.40)}$$

# *Quantitative Computer Model Results*

## *Computed NMs Quantities in JHB (total nAg)*

Values in tonnes per annum

Scenarios	GP <sup>[1]</sup>	Factor <sup>[2]</sup>	SW	SA	JHB
Minimum	300	0.007	2.100	0.256	<b>0.038</b>
Probable	500	0.007	3.500	0.427	<b>0.085</b>
Maximum	1230 <sup>[3]</sup>	0.007	8.600	1.050	<b>0.263</b>

**(Computed nAg quantities in cosmetics: 0.009, 0.021, and 0.063 t/a)**

<sup>[1]</sup> Global production of nAg in 2007

<sup>[2]</sup> Ration of Switzerland population to major nanotechnology-based countries

<sup>[3]</sup> Values by Muller (2007) and Blasser (2006) Thesis based on scenarios in Switzerland and EU, respectively



# *nAg Distribution in Nanoproducts*

Values in tons/annum (t/a)

Nano-based products	Switzerland			South Africa			Johannesburg		
	MIN-E <sub>SW</sub>	PRO E <sub>SW</sub>	MAX E <sub>SW</sub>	MIN-E <sub>SA</sub>	PRO-E <sub>SA</sub>	MAX-E <sub>SA</sub>	MIN-E <sub>JHG</sub>	PRO-E <sub>JHB</sub>	MAX-E <sub>JHB</sub>
Plastics	0.244	0.407	1.001	0.025	0.128	0.594	0.004	0.026	0.148
Metal products	0.056	0.093	0.228	0.006	0.029	0.135	0.001	0.006	0.034
Cosmetics <sup>+</sup>	0.506	0.843	2.070	0.052	0.264	1.228	<b>0.008</b>	<b>0.053</b>	<b>0.307</b>
Sprays <sup>#</sup>	0.360	0.600	1.473	0.037	0.188	0.874	0.006	0.038	0.218
Textiles	0.222	0.371	0.911	0.023	0.116	0.540	0.003	0.023	0.135
Paint/Sealings	0.712	1.187	2.917	0.073	0.372	1.730	0.011	0.074	0.432

**+ In addition with supplements**

**# In addition to cleaning agents**

## *Computed NMs Quantities in JHB (total nTiO<sub>2</sub>)*

Values in tons/annum (t/a)

Scenarios	GP	Factor	SW	SA	JHB
Minimum	3000	0.007	21.00	2.153	<b>0.323</b>
Probable	5000	0.007	35.00	10.969	<b>2.193</b>
Maximum	--	--	400+	236.931	<b>59.233</b>

*<sup>+</sup>Schmid, K., and Riedieker, M. Use of Nanoparticles in Swiss Industry: A Targeted Survey, Environ. Sci. Technol. 2008: 42(7); 2253 - 2260*

# *nTiO<sub>2</sub> Distribution in Nanoproducts*

Values in tons/annum (t/a)

Nano-based products	Switzerland			South Africa			Johannesburg		
	MIN-E <sub>SW</sub>	PRO E <sub>SW</sub>	MAX E <sub>SW</sub>	MIN-E <sub>SA</sub>	PRO-E <sub>SA</sub>	MAX-E <sub>SA</sub>	MIN-E <sub>JHG</sub>	PRO-E <sub>JHB</sub>	MAX-E <sub>JHB</sub>
Plastics	0.43	0.71	8.13	0.04	0.22	4.82	0.007	0.05	1.20
Metal Products	12.33	20.54	234.80	1.264	6.44	139.10	0.19	1.29	34.77
Cosmetics+	0.46	0.76	8.71	0.05	0.24	5.158	<b>0.007</b>	<b>0.048</b>	<b>1.289</b>
Sprays#	2.57	4.28	48.95	0.26	1.34	28.99	0.04	0.27	7.25
Textiles	0.08	0.13	1.52	0.008	0.04	0.90	0.001	0.008	0.225
Paint/Sealings	5.140	8.567	97.906	0.527	2.684	57.993	0.079	0.537	14.498

+ In addition with supplements

# In addition to cleaning agents

## *Total NMs into Aquatic Environment*

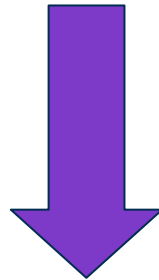
$$NM_{Water, inputi} = NM_{WW, Totali} \cdot (1 - f_{STPi}) + NM_{WW, Totali} (f_{STPi} - f_{STPi} \cdot f_{Removali})$$

Untreated wastewater

Treated wastewater (effluent)

A

B



$$NM_{Water, inputi} = NM_{WW, Totali} \cdot (1 - f_{STPi} \cdot f_{Removali})$$

# *NMs in JHB Aquatic Environment (Higher Eff)*

Variable	MIN-E <sub>JHB</sub>	PRO E <sub>JHB</sub>	MAX E <sub>JHB</sub>	
<b>Ag</b>	Ag <sub>total</sub> : total silver released into WW (kg/a)	<b>7.77</b>	<b>52.79</b>	<b>306.58</b>
	: fraction of WW treated in WWTPs	0.80	0.70	0.60
	: fraction of Ag removed in WWTPs	0.79	0.70	0.55
	Ag <sub>S<sub>TP</sub></sub> : silver entering into WWTPs in (kg/a)	6.22	36.95	183.95
	Ag <sub>S<sub>TP,removed</sub></sub> : silver removed in WWTP (Ag in sludge) (kg/a)	4.91	25.87	101.17
	Ag <sub>S<sub>TP,removed</sub></sub> : silver released effluents from WWTPs (kg/a)	3.93	11.09	82.78
	Ag <sub>untreated</sub> : silver in untreated WW (kg/a)	1.55	15.84	122.63
Ag <sub>water</sub> : silver that enters into aquatic environment (kg/a)	<b>2.86</b>	<b>26.92</b>	<b>205.41</b>	
<b>TiO<sub>2</sub></b>	TiO <sub>2, total</sub> : total TiO <sub>2</sub> released into WW (kg/a)	<b>7.03</b>	<b>47.73</b>	<b>1 289.38</b>
	: fraction of WW treated in WWTPs	0.80	0.70	0.60
	: fraction of TiO <sub>2</sub> removed in WWTPs	0.80	0.65	0.60
	TiO <sub>2, S<sub>TP</sub></sub> : TiO <sub>2</sub> entering into WWTPs in (kg/a)	5.62	33.41	773.63
	TiO <sub>2, S<sub>TP,removed</sub></sub> : TiO <sub>2</sub> removed in WWTP (Ag in sludge) (kg/a)	4.50	21.72	464.18
	TiO <sub>2, S<sub>TP,removed</sub></sub> : TiO <sub>2</sub> released effluents from WWTPs (kg/a)	1.12	11.69	309.45
	TiO <sub>2, untreated</sub> : TiO <sub>2</sub> in untreated WW (kg/a)	1.41	14.32	515.75
TiO <sub>2, water</sub> : TiO <sub>2</sub> entering into the aquatic environment (kg/a)	<b>2.53</b>	<b>26.01</b>	<b>825.21</b>	

## *JHB WWTP (High Efficient Plants)*



WWTP efficiency 20-30% less values reported by Westehoff et al., 2008



# *JHB WWTP (High Efficient Plants)... cont...*



## *Calculation of $C_{STPs}$ , $PECs$ & $PNECs$*

$$C_{WW} = C_{STP} = \frac{NM_{i,WW,STP} \times 10^{12}}{WW_{percapita} \bullet f_{STP} \bullet POP}$$

$$PEC_i = \frac{NM_{i,Water} \bullet 10^{12}}{POP \bullet WW_{percapita} \bullet D_k} = C_{STP} \bullet \frac{NM_{i,Water}}{NM_{i,WW,STP}} \bullet \frac{f_{STP}}{D_k}$$

PNECs derived from the literature: 40 & 1 ug/l for nAg and nTiO<sub>2</sub>, respectively



# Quantitative RQs Results (Higher Eff)

Parameters	MIN-E <sub>JHB</sub>		PRO-E <sub>SW</sub>		MAX-E <sub>SW</sub>	
<b>nAg</b> <i>Concentration in STP (µg/l)</i>	4.8E-03	7.68E-03	36.28E-03	90.58E-03	23.268E-03	1038.48E-03
<i>Dilution factor: 10 (PEC, µg/l)</i>	0.2E-03	0.3E-03	1.8E-03	4.6E-03	15.6E-03	69.6E-03
<i>Dilution factor: 3 (PEC, µg/l)</i>	0.6E-03	0.9 E-03	6.2E-03	15.4 E-03	52E-03	231.9E-03
<i>Dilution factor: 1 (PEC, µg/l)</i>	1.8E-03	2.8E-03	18.5E-03	46.2E-03	155.9E-03	695.7E-03
<i>RQ (D=10) (no units)</i>	4.44E-06	7.01E-06	4.62E-05	1.15E-04	3.90E-04	1.74E-03
<i>RQ (D=3) (no units)</i>	1.48E-05	2.34E-05	1.54E-04	3.85E-04	1.30E-03	5.80E-03
<i>RQ (no dilution) (no units)</i>	4.44E-05	7.01E-05	4.62E-04	1.15E-03	3.90E-03	1.74E-02
<b>nTiO<sub>2</sub></b> <i>Concentration in STP (µg/l)</i>	4.4E-03	6.9E-03	32.7E-03	81.8E-03	977.2E-03	4 361.9E-03
<i>Dilution factor: 10 (PEC, µg/l)</i>	0.2E-03	0.3E-03	1.8E-03	4.5E-03	62.5E-03	279.2E-03
<i>Dilution factor: 3 (PEC, µg/l)</i>	0.5E-03	0.8E-03	5.9E-03	14.9E-03	208.5E-03	930.5E-03
<i>Dilution factor: 1 (PEC, µg/l)</i>	1.6E-03	2.5E-03	17.8E-03	44.6E-03	625.4E-03	2 791.6E-03
<i>RQ (D=10) (no units)</i>	1.57E-04	2.48E-04	1.78E-03	4.46E-03	6.25E-02	2.79E-01
<i>RQ (D=3) (no units)</i>	5.24E-04	8.26E-04	5.95E-03	1.49E-02	2.08E-01	9.31E-01
<i>RQ (no dilution) (no units)</i>	1.57E-03	2.48E-03	1.78E-02	4.46E-02	6.25E-01	2.79E+00

Under each scenario, first column results based on calculated WW per capita, and second column based on values provided by experts in WWT in SA

## *JHB WWTP (Low Efficient Plants)*



**WWTP efficiency 25 – 40% values by experts in WW in SA**



# *JHB WWTP (Low Efficient Plants)... cont...*





# *JHB WWTP (Low Efficient Plants)... cont...*



# *NMs in JHB Aquatic Environment (Lower Eff)*

Variable	MIN-E <sub>JHG</sub>	PROE <sub>JHB</sub>	MAX-E <sub>JHB</sub>	
<b>nAg</b>	Ag <sub>total</sub> : total silver released into WW (kg/a)	<b>7.77</b>	<b>52.79</b>	<b>306.58</b>
	: fraction of WW treated in WWTPs	0.80	0.70	0.60
	: fraction of Ag removed in WWTPs	0.45	0.35	0.25
	Ag <sub>STP</sub> : silver entering into WWTPs in (kg/a)	6.22	37.0	183.95
	Ag <sub>STP,removed</sub> : silver removed in WWTP (Ag in sludge) (kg/a)	2.80	12.90	46.00
	Ag <sub>STP,removed</sub> : silver released effluents from WWTPs (kg/a)	3.40	24.00	138.10
	Ag <sub>untreated</sub> : silver in untreated WW (kg/a)	1.60	15.80	122.80
	Ag <sub>water</sub> : silver that enters into aquatic environment (kg/a)	<b>5.00</b>	<b>39.90</b>	<b>260.90</b>
<b>nTiO<sub>2</sub></b>	TiO <sub>2total</sub> : total TiO <sub>2</sub> released into WW (kg/a)	<b>7.03</b>	<b>47.73</b>	<b>1 289.38</b>
	: fraction of WW treated in WWTPs	0.80	0.70	0.60
	: fraction of TiO <sub>2</sub> removed in WWTPs	0.45	0.35	0.25
	TiO <sub>2STP</sub> : TiO <sub>2</sub> entering into WWTPs in (kg/a)	5.60	33.40	773.60
	TiO <sub>2STP,removed</sub> : TiO <sub>2</sub> removed in WWTP (Ag in sludge) (kg/a)	2.50	11.70	193.40
	TiO <sub>2STP,removed</sub> : TiO <sub>2</sub> released effluents from WWTPs (kg/a)	3.10	21.70	580.20
	TiO <sub>2,untreated</sub> : TiO <sub>2</sub> in untreated WW (kg/a)	1.40	14.30	515.80
	TiO <sub>2water</sub> : TiO <sub>2</sub> entering into the aquatic environment (kg/a)	<b>4.50</b>	<b>36.00</b>	<b>1 096.0</b>

# Quantitative RQs Results (Lower Eff)

Parameters	MIN-E <sub>JHG</sub>		PRO-E <sub>JHB</sub>		MAX-E <sub>JHB</sub>	
<i>Concentration in STP (µg/l)</i>	4.8E-03	7.68E-03	36.28E-03	90.58E-03	23.268E-03	1038.48E-03
<i>Dilution factor: 10 (PEC, µg/l)</i>	0.3E-03	0.5E-03	2.7E-03	6.8E-03	19.8E-03	88.3E-03
<i>Dilution factor: 3 (PEC, µg/l)</i>	1.0E-03	1.6E-03	9.1E-03	22.8E-03	65.9E-03	294.2E-03
<b>nAg</b> <i>Dilution factor: 1 (PEC, µg/l)</i>	3.1E-03	4.9E-03	27.3E-03	68.3E-03	197.7E-03	882.6E-03
<i>RQ (D=10) (no units)</i>	7.72E-06	1.22E-05	6.83E-05	1.71E-04	4.94E-04	2.21E-03
<i>RQ (D=3) (no units)</i>	2.57E-05	4.06E-05	2.28E-04	5.69E-04	1.65E-03	7.35E-03
<i>RQ (no dilution) (no units)</i>	7.72E-05	1.22E-04	6.83E-04	1.71E-03	4.94E-03	2.21E-02
<i>Concentration in STP (µg/l)</i>	4.4E-03	6.9E-03	32.7E-03	81.8E-03	977.2E-03	4 361.9E-03
<i>Dilution factor: 10 (PEC, µg/l)</i>	0.3E-03	0.4E-03	2.5E-03	6.2E-03	83.1E-03	370.8E-03
<i>Dilution factor: 3 (PEC, µg/l)</i>	0.9E-03	1.5E-03	8.2E-03	20.6E-03	276.9E-03	1 235.9E-03
<b>nTiO<sub>2</sub></b> <i>Dilution factor: 1 (PEC, µg/l)</i>	2.8E-03	4.4E-03	24.7E-03	61.8E-03	830.6E-03	3 707.6E-03
<i>RQ (D=10) (no units)</i>	2.79E-04	4.41E-04	2.47E-03	6.18E-03	8.31E-02	3.71E-01
<i>RQ (D=3) (no units)</i>	9.31E-04	1.47E-03	8.24E-03	2.06E-02	2.77E-01	1.24E-00
<i>RQ (no dilution) (no units)</i>	2.79E-03	4.41E-03	2.47E-02	6.18E-02	8.31E-01	3.71E+00

Under each scenario, first column results based on calculated WW per capita, and second column based on values provided by experts in WWT in SA

*Intervention mechanisms to address short  
comings in the developing countries*



## *Possible Intervention Mechanisms...*

- *DCs with strong nanotechnology research and commercialization initiatives should develop parallel risk assessment research portfolios*
- *Adopt effective monitoring of scientific and legislative evolution governing risk assessment of nanotechnology – to inform policy formulation*
- *Push for the international community to develop clear protocols and standards to address nanowaste streams*
- *DCs to develop mechanisms of nanoproducts risk assessment before their introduction into the markets*
- *Development of “centres of excellence” to address risk assessment of nanotechnology including post-consumer/production waste streams*