



NEWSLETTER OF THE FINNISH NETWORK FOR TOXICOLOGICAL EXPERTISE (1/2026)

The activities of the Finnish Network for Toxicological Expertise (TOSVE) have been launched during spring 2026.

TOSVE is funded by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (STM), and it is coordinated by senior researcher, PhD Kati Huttunen (THL). Part of the network funding has been allocated to the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health (prof. Tiina Santonen & Senior Specialist Pasi Huuskonen). The first recruitment, Sanna Lensu (PhD, toxicology; Adjunct Professor in biological health effects of physical activity) started as a senior researcher in the beginning of April.

The opening of the TOSVE was held in conjunction with the Finnish Society of Toxicology's 2026 scientific symposium on May 4, 2026, in Helsinki. Around fifty participants attended, and we heard interesting presentations on networking and toxicological expertise across different sectors in Finland and in Estonia, as Angelina Ivask from the University of Tartu joined us as a guest speaker.

Contact information

The TOSVE website has now been launched as a subsection of the Finnish Society of Toxicology website:

<https://www.toksikologit.fi/toksikologian-osaamisverkosto/>

Our email address is: tosve@thl.fi

You can also find us at:

<https://thl.fi/tietoa-meista/toimintamme/avoimet-verkostot#toksikologian-osaamisverkosto>

We gladly welcome suggestions and ideas for future activities! We also welcome information, such as details about events that would be important to share and promote to the members of our network. Our aim is to facilitate collaboration across organizational and corporate boundaries at a time when various security threats loom over us. If you know people in your networks who would like to join the network, receive information about training opportunities, networking possibilities, and current news, you can share our mailing list link:

<https://link.webropol.com/s/tosve-yhteystiedot>

We will activate communication channels after the summer holidays – stay tuned!

Current topics

GRANT CALL:

TOSVE will open its first grant call during summer 2026. Small grants (approx. €500–2000) can be applied for to support the development of toxicology-related expertise. For example, you can apply for funding to participate in training or a scientific conference and receive support (against receipts) for costs not reimbursed from other sources. The requirement for receiving the support is that the knowledge gained is shared with members of the network.

Funding is not granted retrospectively and will not be awarded for undergraduate students (at BSc/MSc level). Senior-level experts are also welcome to apply this!

Now is a good time to start looking for suitable training opportunities and submit your application to tosve@thl.fi.

The first call closes on September 30th, 2026. The call announcement can be found at the end of this newsletter and [on our website](#).

INTERESTED IN INTERNATIONAL CHEMICAL HAZARD ASSESSMENT WORK?

Finland participates in the OECD Test Guidelines Programme, where new testing guidelines are developed for use in various regulatory frameworks (including EU REACH). The programme coordinator is supported by an expert group that has the opportunity to comment on the draft test guidelines and other documents, participate in OECD expert group work, and even actively contribute to the development of test methods. The Finnish expert group operates entirely on a voluntary basis. The coordinator distributes draft documents by email for comments and requests participation in expert work. There is no obligation to comment or to actively participate.

However, by participating, you will gain insight into new (eco)toxicological methods that are important from a regulatory perspective, learn who is developing them, and gain a channel for international networking. The coordinator can assist with networking.

Information package:

Guidelines for the testing of chemicals (<https://urly.fi/48Qd>)

Development areas:

Work plan of the test guidelines (<https://urly.fi/48Qe>)

More information and registration:

National coordinator Matti Leppänen (SYKE): matti.t.leppanen@syke.fi

JOIN THE PFAS NETWORK:

The PFAS network is an informal discussion group that meets via Teams and is coordinated by SYKE. It is open to everyone and covers topics related to PFAS compounds that are of interest to participants.

The aim is to provide information on restrictions, present research results, and exchange views and discuss PFAS-related issues in a low-threshold setting. The network meets twice a year.

You can join by contacting: Timo.Seppala@syke.fi

EUROTOX 2026

Eurotox (European Society of Toxicology) also supports education; see:

<https://www.eurotox.com/education-program/>

The next Eurotox conference will be held in Vienna, Austria, on September 13–16, 2026.

Follow updates here:

<https://www.eurotox.com/news-publications/>

NEMESIS -research project

The NEMESIS is a research project funded by EU and it aims to discover how exposure to metabolism disrupting chemicals affects human health. Research is coordinated by UEF, by prof. Jaana Rysä, and from the website you can find more information: <https://www.nemesis-project.eu/>

First stakeholder workshop will be held online on 14th of October 2026: [Stakeholder workshop 14 Oct 2026 - NEMESIS](#)

*TOSVE wishes happy Midsummer
and relaxing summertime for
each and everyone!*

