

SETAC Europe Certification of Environmental Risk Assessors Code of Conduct

SETAC Europe Certification of Environmental Risk Assessors programme

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The Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) Europe is a not-for-profit professional organisation. The SETAC Europe Certification of Environmental Risk Assessors (CRA) programme aims to harmonize and further strengthen the use of up-to-date scientific methods and principles in the environmental risk assessment of chemicals and other stressors. It certifies qualified practitioners in the field of environmental risk assessment, who meet the knowledge and competence standards established by the CRA Registration Committee.

This SETAC Europe Certification of Environmental Risk Assessors (CRA) Code of Conduct applies to those individuals pursuing CRA certification (CRA candidates), and all individuals certified by the SETAC Europe CRA programme (CRA certificants).

SETAC Europe expects all persons seeking or holding a SETAC Europe CRA (herein referred to as CRA's) to conduct themselves responsibly, objectively, and lawfully and maintain high ethical and professional standards, which are initial and continuing qualifications for recognition by the SETAC Europe CRA programme, and to uphold the following principles:

Principle 1

CRA's responsibilities towards the SETAC Europe CRA programme

- 1) Provide accurate and truthful representation concerning all information related to aspects of the SETAC Europe CRA programme, including, but not limited to, the submission of information.
- 2) Refrain from any activity, which would tend to bring discredit upon or otherwise harm the SETAC Europe CRA programme or SETAC.

Principle 2

CRA's responsibilities concerning professional activities in environmental risk assessment

- 1) Perform all professional activities in environmental risk assessment with honesty and integrity, and refrain from any knowing misrepresentation of their professional qualifications, knowledge and competence.
- 2) Respect the rights, interests, and contributions of professional colleagues.
- 3) Be accurate and respectful in any communications, direct or indirect, with professional colleagues, employers, regulatory agencies, or other parties as related to their professional work, and contributions to the field of environmental risk assessment.
- 4) Hold in proper confidence all confidential information obtained or received in the course of their professional practice, and refrain from misuse of any such information.
- 5) Respect and apply the general scientific methodology, including the approach of hypothesis testing and refutability (Karl Popper, 1959).

Principle 3

CRA's responsibilities concerning conflicts of interest

- 1) Strive to be aware of and alert to any actual or potential conflicts of interest, abstain from professional judgments influenced by undisclosed conflict of interest, and strive to avoid or appropriately resolve any such conflict.

In addition, any act deemed prejudicial to the SETAC Europe CRA programme may result in denial of approval to take the examination by the Graduation Examination Panel or to undergo evaluation by the Certification Judgment Panel, up to and including revocation of Certification. Such acts may include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Provide false or misleading statements or information when applying for the CRA programme, when taking the examination, or when undergoing evaluation for certification or when applying to recertify.
- 2) Failure to act in line with the three principles listed above.
- 3) Making any false or misleading statements to the SETAC Europe CRA programme regarding an applicant or a current CRA.

The CRA programme is part of SETAC Europe and all individuals involved in the CRA programme adhere to the SETAC Code of Conduct.