



office for risk assessment

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## Related Risk Assessment Activities EU and internationally

2007-12-11

# Overview

Who is working on risk assessment methodology?

Details of some activities

What are common features and differences?

What is necessary to achieve converging development?

# Many actors and initiatives...

EMARS project

EuroSafe WG Risk Assessment

ISO/COPOLCO WG Product Safety

HARAP Group

EU Scientific Committees opinion on harmonisation (2003)

TGD revision (REACH Implementation Project)

FAO / WHO *Food Safety Risk Analysis* (2006)

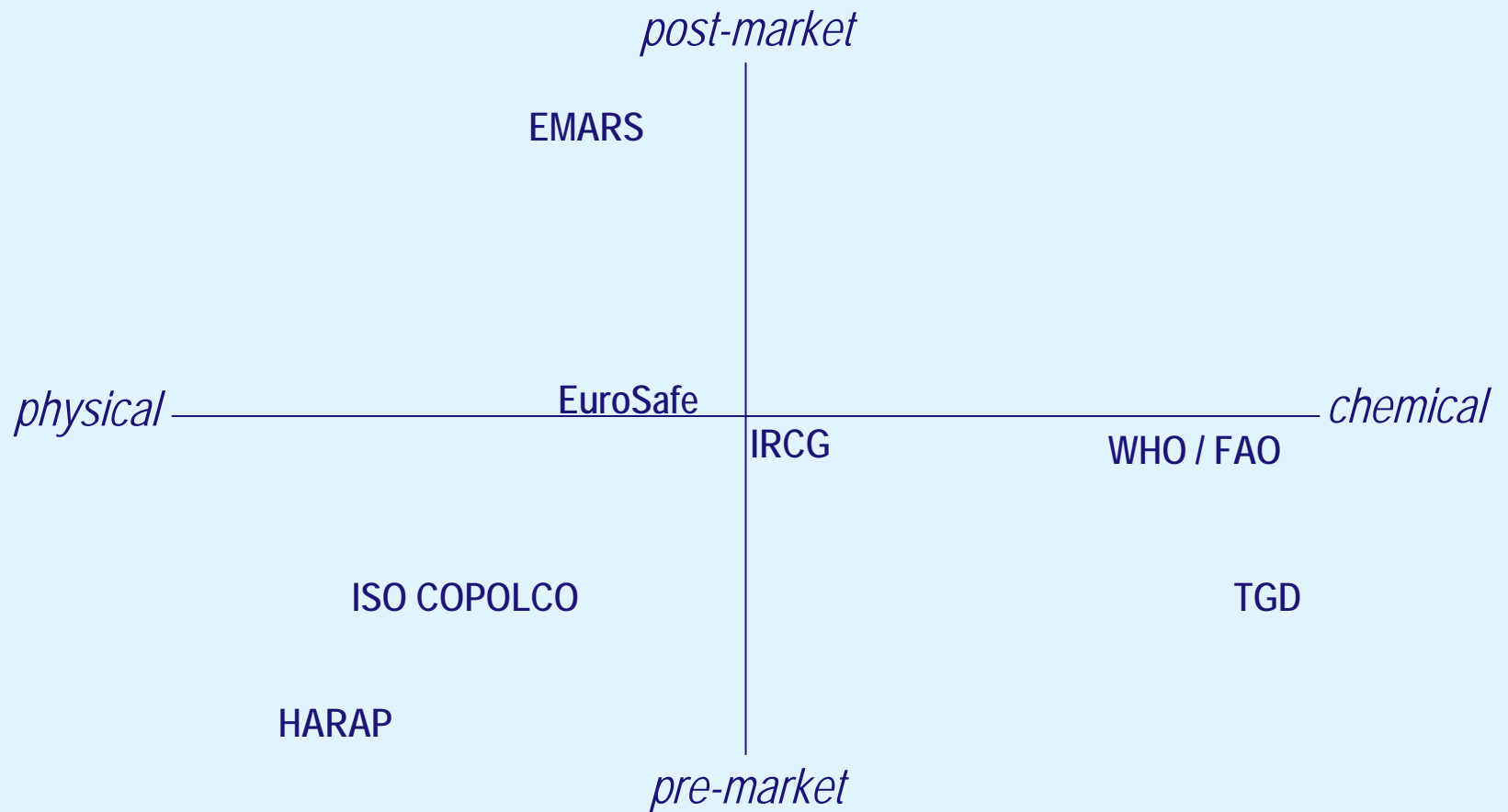
WHO *Guidance document uncertainty in exposure assessment* (2006)

International Risk Governance Council (IRGC) *White Paper* (2006)

International Programme on Chemical Safety (IPCS) *Risk Assessment Terminology* (2004)

Occupational Risk Model (*Bow-tie method*)

# Categorised in various ways



## ...what is relation with RAG?

Risk assessment is key issue in many settings

Different approaches possible

Complex process

Some guidelines very detailed compared to RAG

# EuroSafe

(formerly ECOSA)

Network of safety organisations and professionals in Europe

Public health approach in injury prevention

Linking policy and practice in safety promotion

Enhancing European injury data exchange

[www.eurosafe.eu.com](http://www.eurosafe.eu.com)

# EuroSafe WG Risk Assessment

Started after Conference *Best Practice Risk Assessment in Product Safety*,  
Edinburgh, April 2005

WG includes US experts and producers

Focus on:

Factors to take into account

Information sources needed

Expertise / discipline needed

Tools that are available



The screenshot shows the EuroSafe website interface. At the top, the logo "EuroSafe" is displayed in white on a dark blue background, with the text "European Association for Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion" below it. A navigation bar contains links for "About us", "Programmes", "Task Forces", and "Current activities". The main content area is split into two columns. The left column has a menu with "Introduction", "Consumer safety" (highlighted in yellow), "PROSAFE project", "WG on Risk Assessment" (with a sub-menu), "Terms of reference", "Objectives", "Current activities", "Co-ordinating office", "Core members", "Corresponding members", and "Archives". The right column is titled "Current activities" and includes "Last meeting: 28-29 June 2007", a "New!" announcement for a "Summary of discussions minutes", "Meeting documents" with a link to "Comments on flowchart content (Meeting 2007)", and "Website developments" which states that the meeting will contain "main definitions and a framework".

# Current EuroSafe WG results

Flowchart of the risk assessment process

'Checklist' of questions for each step:

- Objective of the assessment

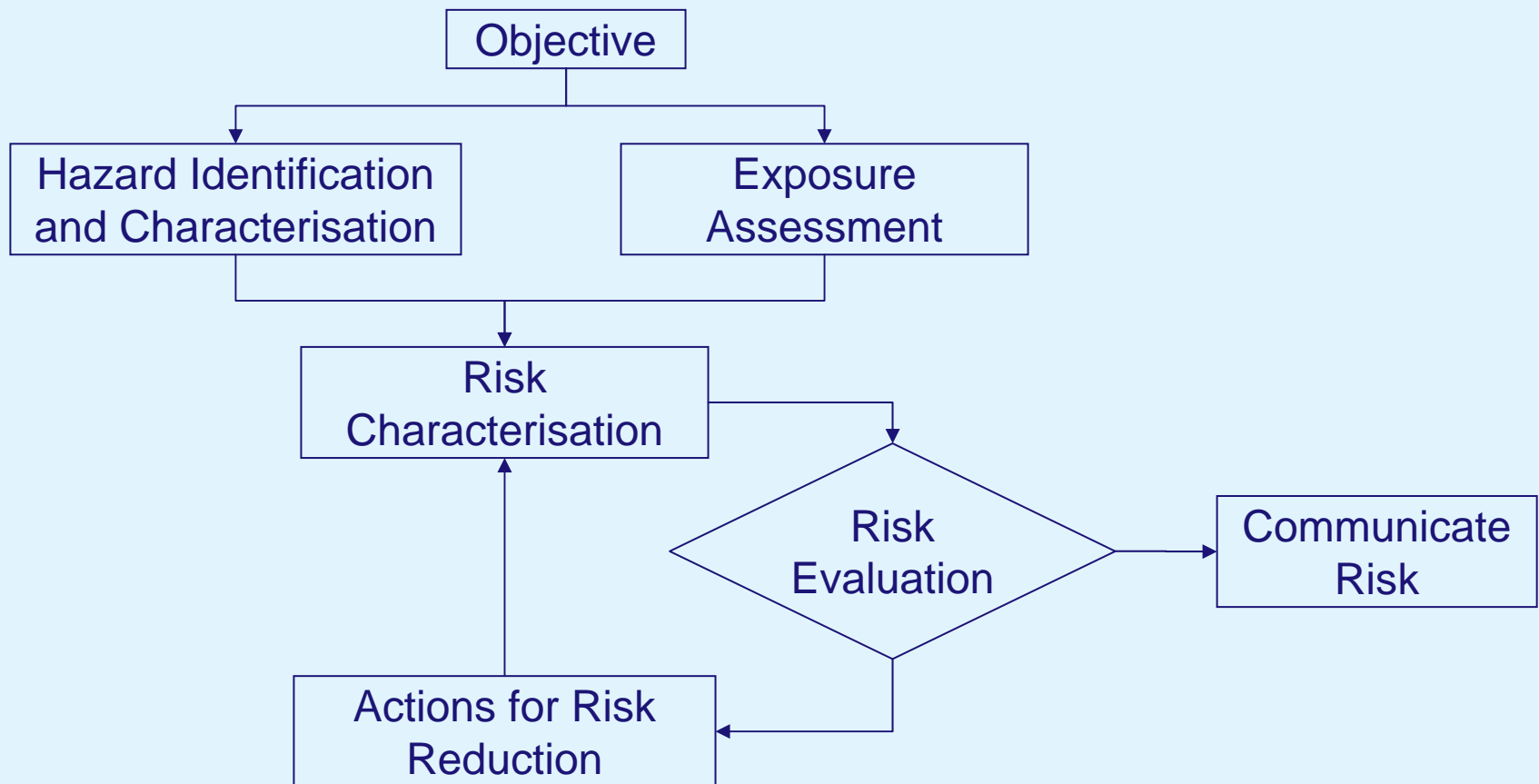
- Hazard identification and characterisation

- Exposure assessment

- Risk characterisation

- Risk evaluation and decision making

# EuroSafe Process flowchart



# EMARS project

Enhancing Market Surveillance through Best Practice

Project running 2006 – 2008

Participation by 15 member states

Financial contribution from DG Sanco

6 Work packages – **WP4: Risk assessment**

[www.emars.eu](http://www.emars.eu)



## Some EMARS WP4 test cases

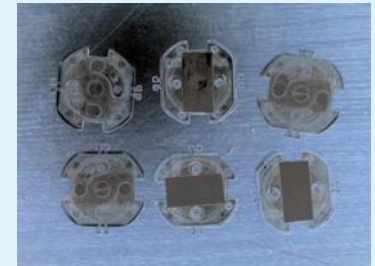
Folding chair



Hammer



Socket protectors



Candles



Luggage straps



## EMARS WP4 work and deliverables

WP4 worked in close co-operation with WG IRAG

Main deliverables:

- Ideas on putting IRAG ideas into practice

- Reference assessments for specific cases

- Chapter in book *Best Practice in Market Surveillance*

- Workshops (next one **12th December**)

# ISO COPOLCO WG product safety

2004: WG relaunched

COPOLCO = Consumer Policy Committee

WG investigates how ISO and IEC address safety issues

2006: Proposed to produce guidance document

*Consumer product safety – a practical guide for suppliers*

Aim: designing safety into products

2007: Consultation among ISO and IEC members

Next step: committee or WG formed?

Guide intended to address risk assessment; EuroSafe results as starting point?

# IPCS International Programme on Chemical Safety

## IPCS Risk Assessment Terminology

Part 1: Key Generic Terms used in Chemical Risk Assessment

Part 2: Glossary of Key Exposure Assessment Terminology

Produced within Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals

(UNEP, ILO, FAO, WHO, UNIDO, UNITAR and OECD)

*Risk assessment* process includes four steps: **hazard identification**, **hazard characterization** (related term: Dose–response assessment), **exposure assessment**, and **risk characterization**

# HARAP

Hazard and Risk Assessment Process Group

Informal industry-based focus group formed following EuroSafe conference

Objective: develop pragmatic approach to pre-market Risk Assessment of consumer products

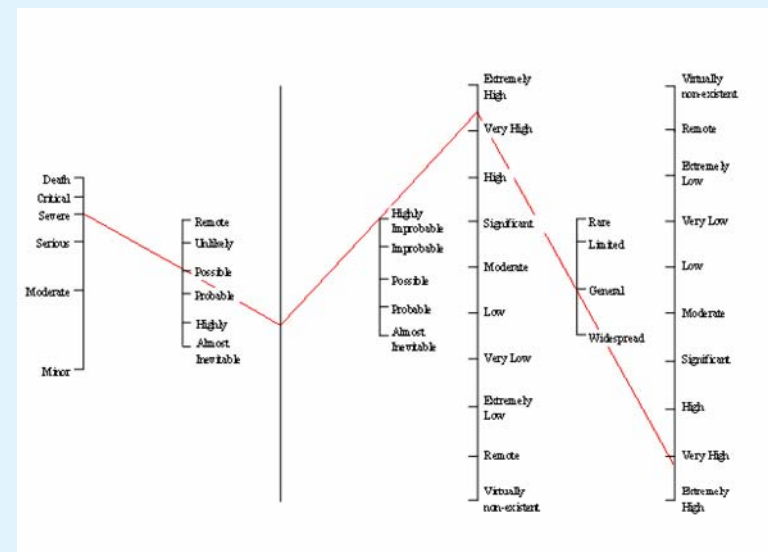
Basic ideas:

Starting from Nomograph method

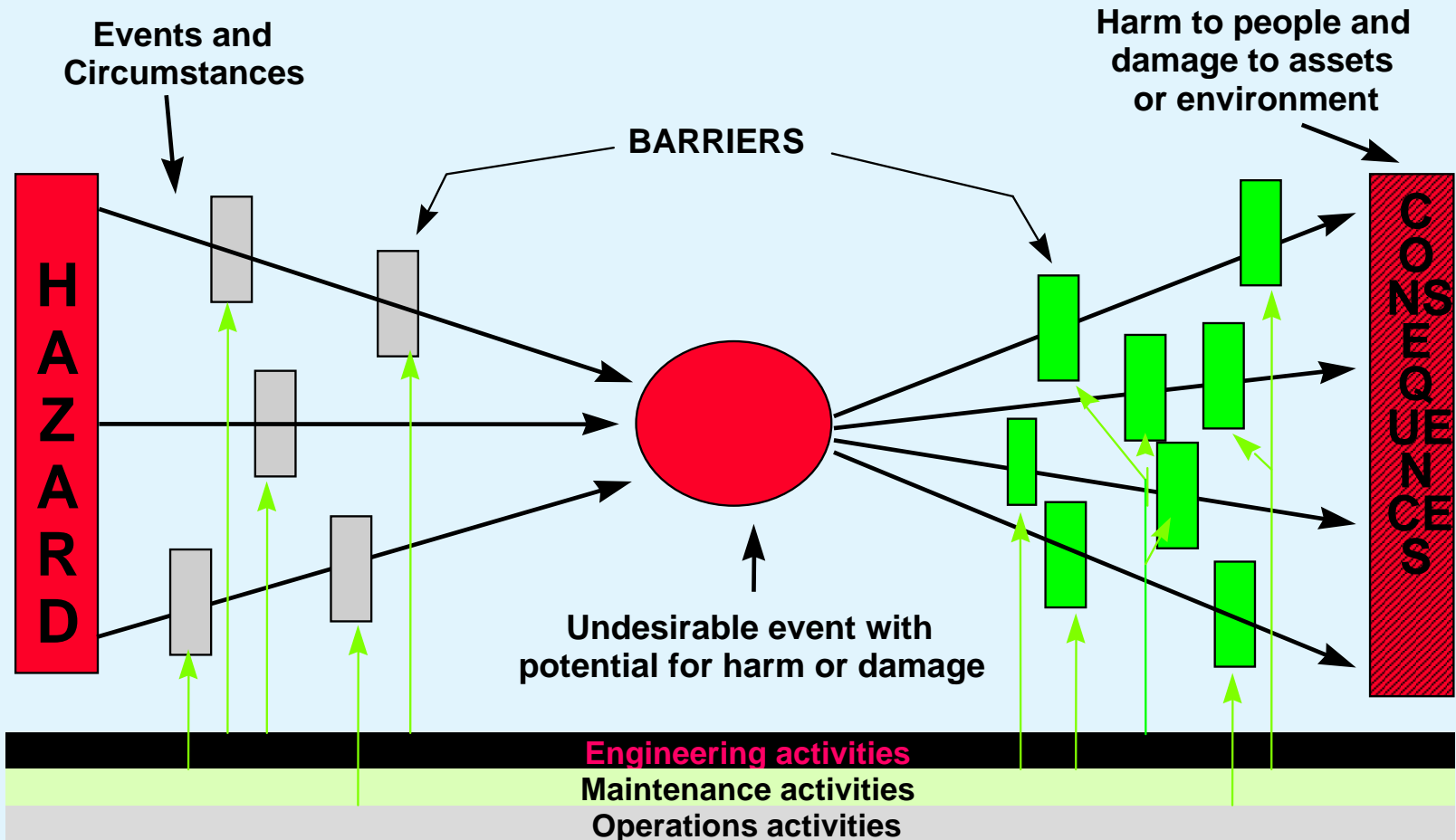
Taking into account more hazards and scenarios per product

Software tool development

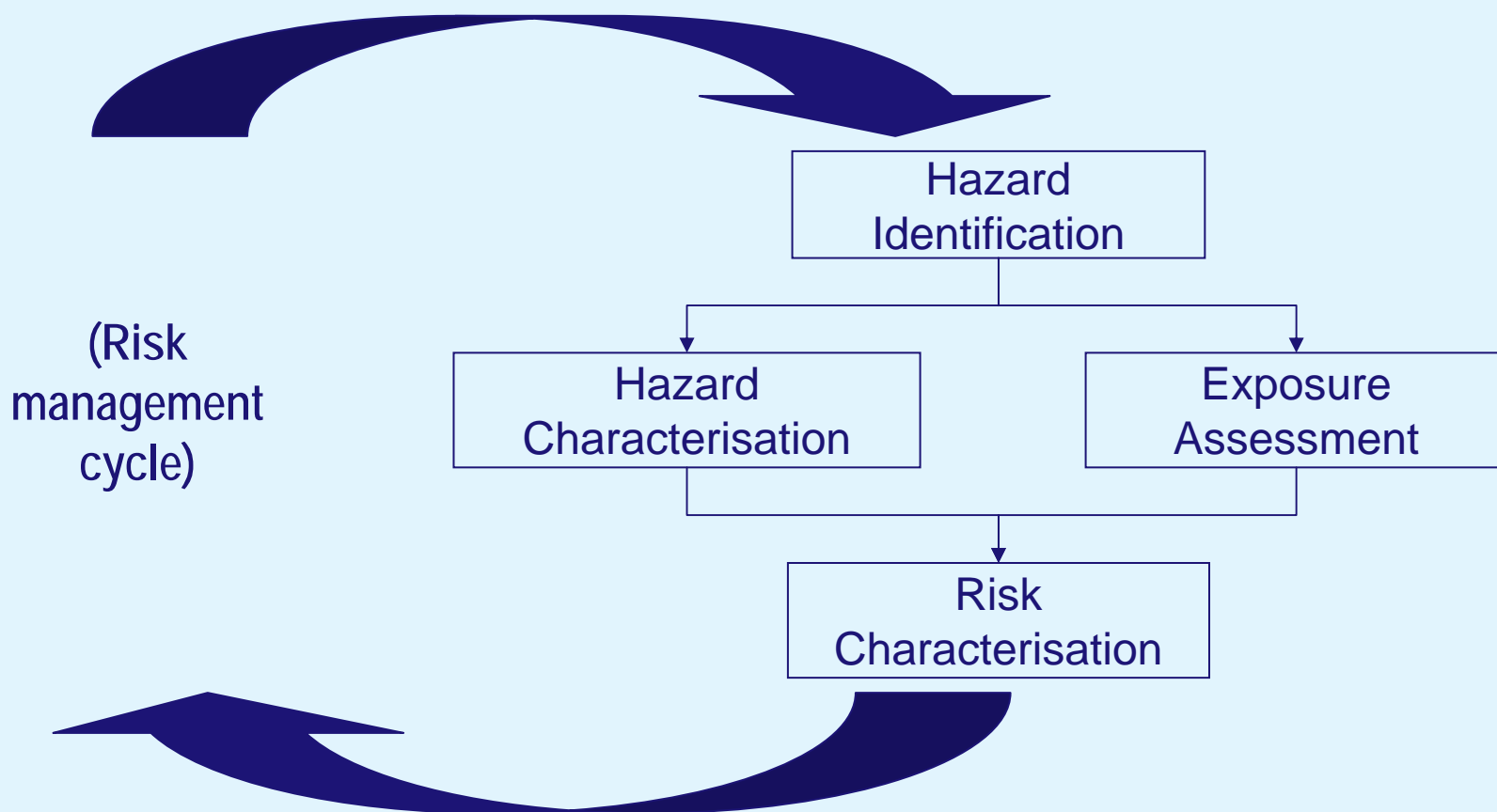
Uses expert assessment



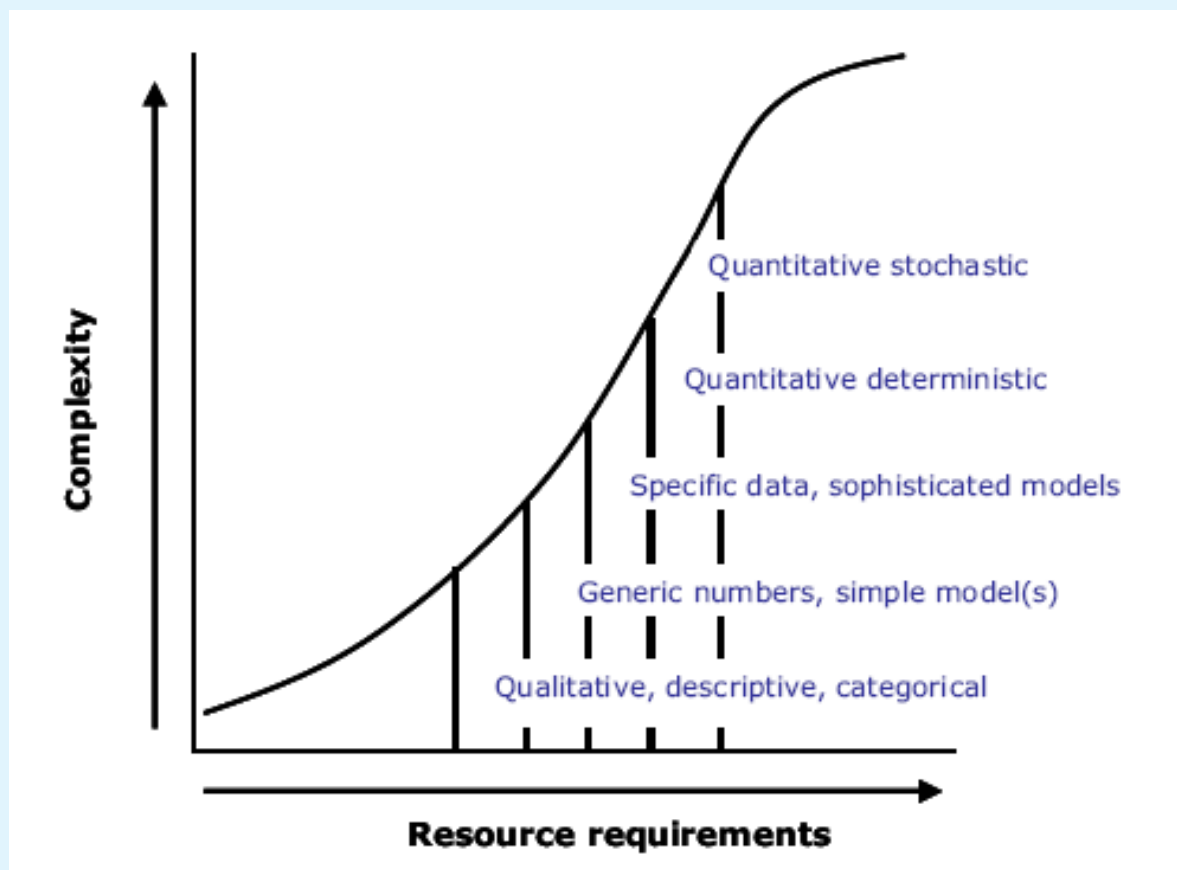
# Bow-tie concept



## FAO / WHO



## FAO / WHO



# Common features

Risk assessment as process to help take decisions

Exposure assessment as important step

Exposure is determined by many factors

Scenarios help finding the relevant factors

Scarcity of quantitative data on exposure

# Differences

Type of decision:

- design decision or post-market action on specific product

- market surveillance policy or

Terminology to describe process

Specific exposure parameters e.g.:

- for chemicals: parameters determining systemic dose

- for physical hazards: parameters determining chain of events to injury

# What is necessary for converging development?

Consensus about general idea of risk

Strong focus on structured analysis of scenarios

Quantitative data for exposure models

Harmonisation of methodology

Harmonisation of terminology