

# Inventory results for Germany

Task 1 - EU wide inventory of  
HCH and Lindane sites

14<sup>th</sup> International HCH and Pesticides Forum  
21. – 24. February 2023

Dr. Katja Amstätter



# HCH in EU project

Task 1 - EU wide inventory of HCH and Lindane sites

Inventory Results for Germany

Actions Required



# Task 1 – The EU Wide Inventory

---

## Objectives

**EU-wide inventory of production sites, processing sites, waste deposits, storage sites, landfills and treatment centers of HCH and Lindane**

- To know the magnitude of the Lindane and HCH problem in the EU member states
- To promote sustainable management of HCH and Lindane contaminated sites
- To achieve a higher priority on the political agenda in the various countries

# Task 1 – The EU Wide Inventory

---

## Inventory results - 299 sites in the 27 EU countries

- **54 Production sites** - Sites where Technical HCH and/or Lindane were produced
- **76 Processing sites** - Sites where Technical HCH and/or Lindane were processed/formulated into market ready pesticides
- **59 Waste deposits** - Sites where wastes have been dumped without any proper containment
- **29 Landfill sites** – Licensed landfill sites specifically intended for chemical waste disposal
- **16 Treatment centers** – Licensed sites where wastes have been treated and/or destroyed
- **34 Storage sites** - Sites with obsolete stocks of Persistent Organic Pollutants
- **31 Other sites** - These are sites that do not fall into one of the above categories
- In only 5 countries no sites could be identified

# Task 1 – The EU Wide Inventory

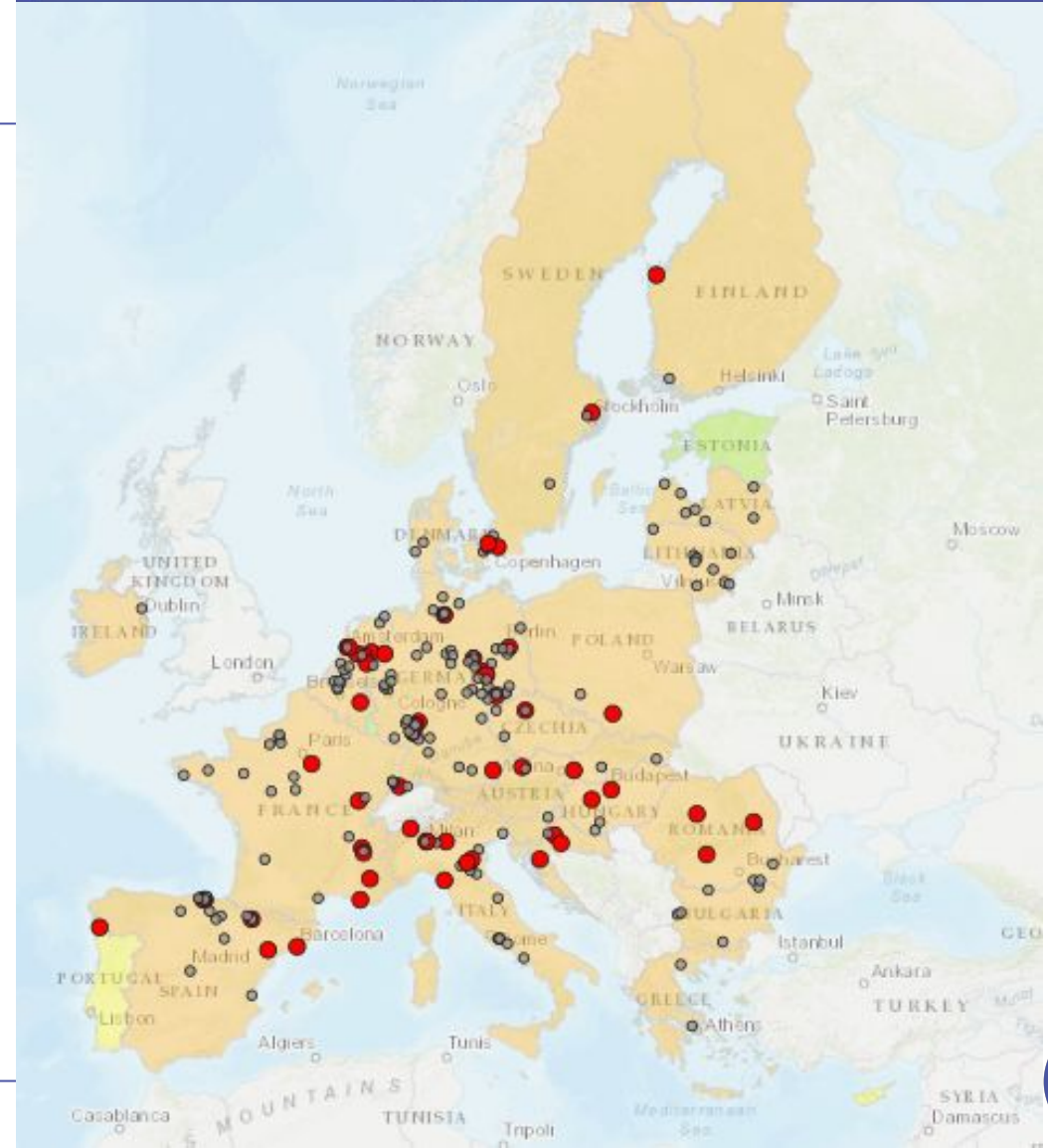
## Geographic Information Model (GIM)

Database including all sites confirmed for handling HCH or Lindane

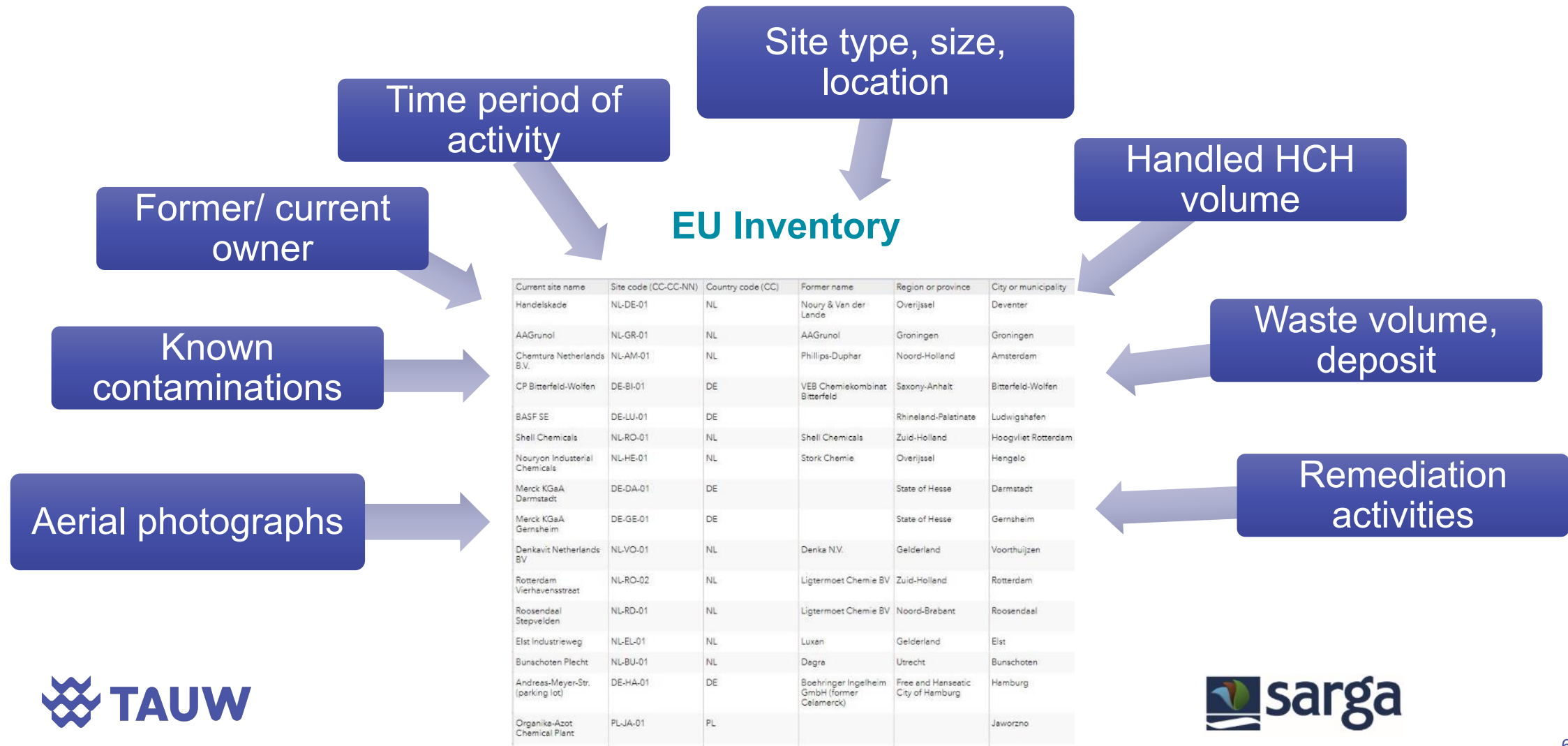
Included information:

- Site descriptions
- Reference documents connected to each site
- Country Reports with additional information

Delivered to EC for publication

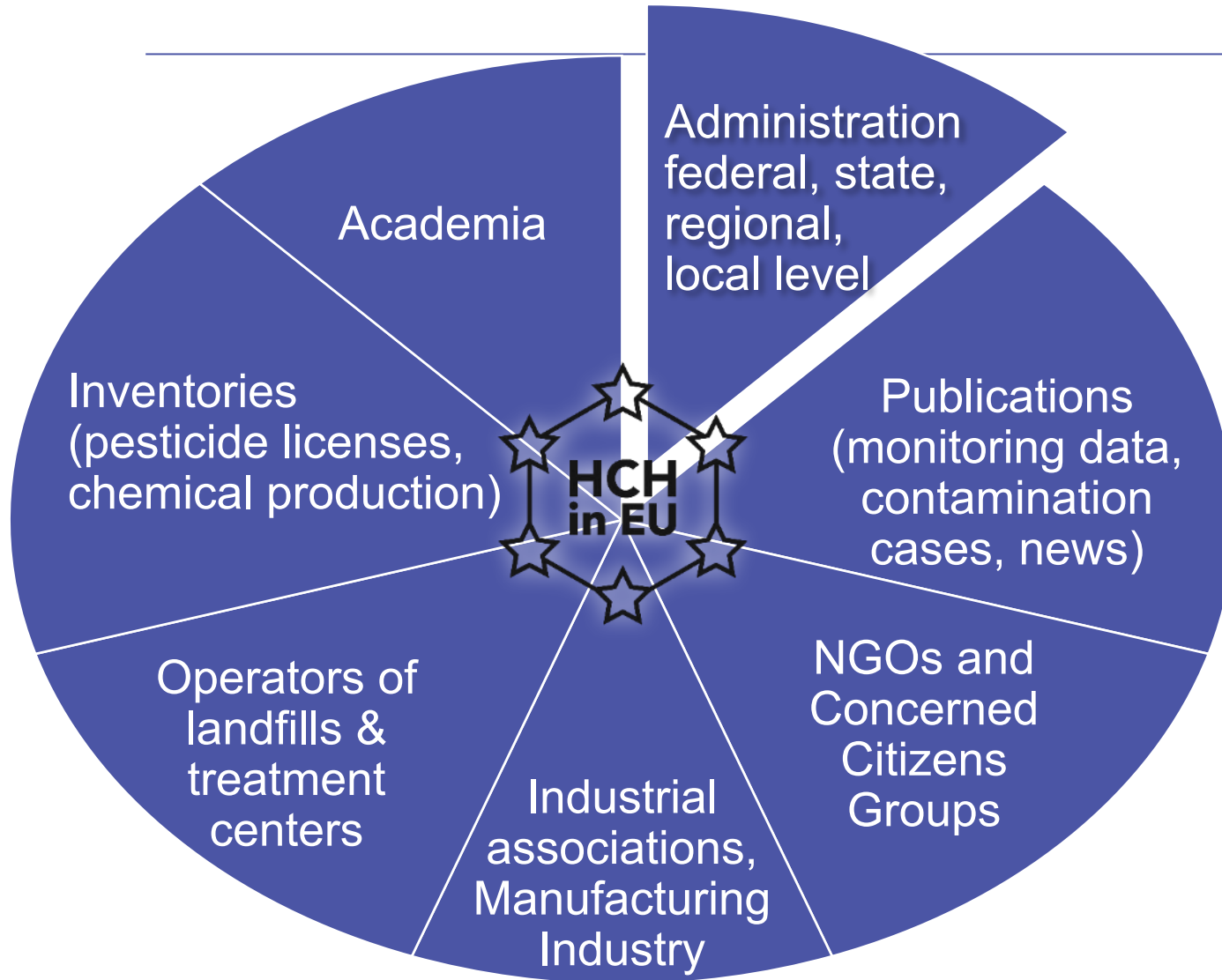


# Information for the Inventory





# Sources of Information for Germany



# Research Germany

---

## Challenges and uncertainties

- Federal system of Germany and differences in responsibilities at federal and state level.
- Lack of data (e.g. refusal to participate in the study, data use restrictions, liquidation of the company, print documents in local or regional archive, inaccurate and erroneous site data).
- Different history of chemical industry in the two parts of Germany FRG and GDR.
  - Renaming of the companies and repeated changes of ownership over the years (company splits, mergers, takeovers, liquidations or nationalization / privatization).
- Non-specific address details
  - Several existing production / processing sites, of which not all may be known; relocation of sites.
  - Spatial separation of production and administration.
  - Changes of street names (typical for the former GDR region after the Reunification).
- Missing distinction between formulator vs. supplier.



# HCH in EU project

Task 1 - EU wide inventory of HCH and Lindane sites

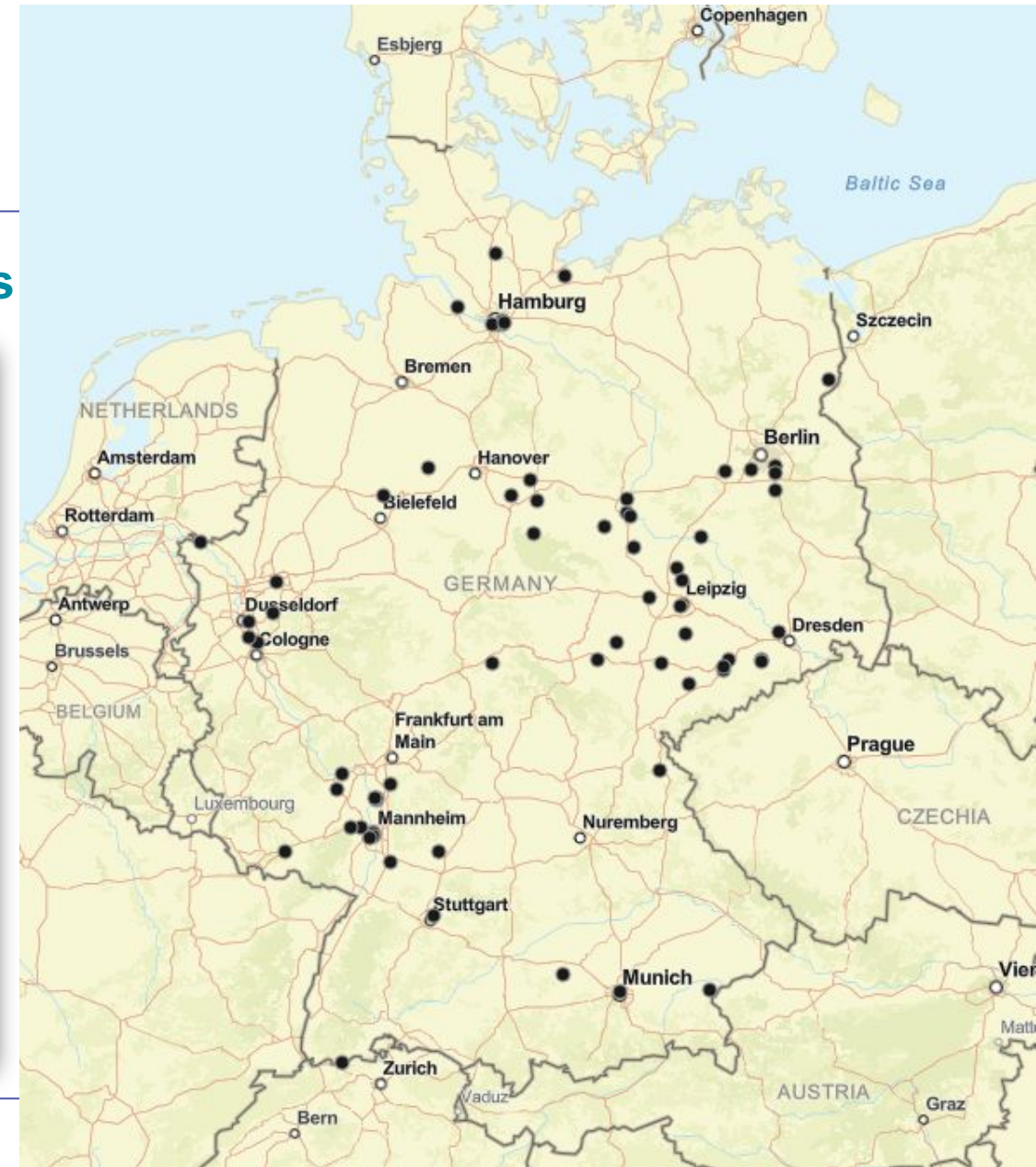
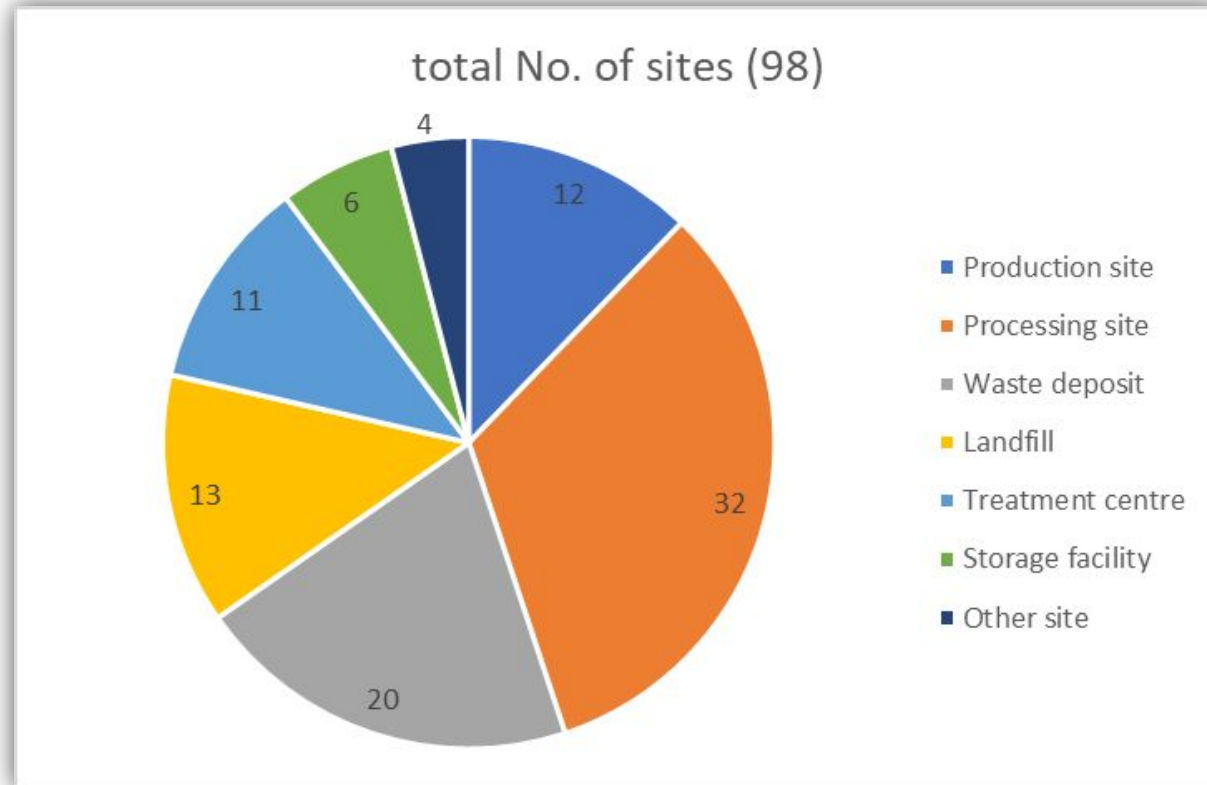
Inventory Results for Germany

Actions Required



# Inventory Results for Germany

98 individual sites, considering clusters: 69 sites



# Inventory Results for Germany

## Celamerck GmbH & Co. KG (until 1987), Hamburg-Moorfleet, Hamburg area,

- Production site (red) between 1951 – 1984
- Waste deposits (yellow) spread over Hamburg  
Inventory: 5 proven + 2 suspected + 5 in other German states, proven
- Indications for network of processing companies in the vicinity
- Waste material was recycled to trichlorobenzene and –phenol, this led to dioxin formation. Elevated dioxin emissions caused closure of the site in 1984.
- Early remediation attempts failed (1994)
- Today: Underground concrete containment in place; pump&treat of groundwater plume

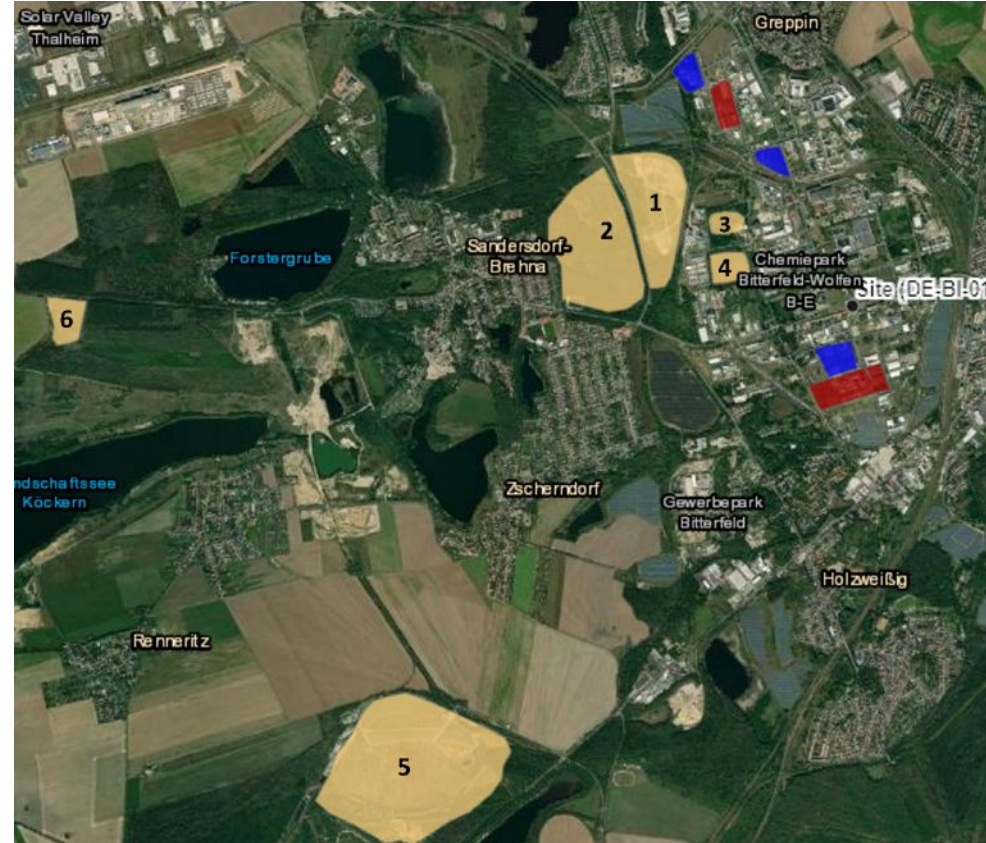




# Inventory Results for Germany

## Bitterfeld-Wolfen, Saxony-Anhalt

- Cluster site: Multiple waste dump sites, processing and production sites.
- Production between 1951 – 1982
- Between 1967 and 1982, a total amount of 72,954 tonnes of HCH and 5,407 tonnes of lindane were produced.
- Large area affected by runoff water: Floodplain of the Mulde River  
In the course of Task 2 of the project a GIS-Project / CSM with available data was setup.
- Today: Remediation ongoing



# Inventory Results for Germany

## Fettchemie Chemnitz, Chemnitz, Saxony

- Production site (red), detergent and chloro organic chemicals; between 1967 – 1977 production of 31,000 tonnes of HCH
- Many other organic contaminants as co-contaminants
- Today: Site is remediated and developed to an industrial estate
- Related HCH production site in Mohsdorf, remediated 2012 – 2016





# Inventory Results for Germany



## Desowag, Duesseldorf, North Rhine-Westfalia

- Multiple mergers and takeovers resulting in multiple site address information – no clear indication on production site location
- Plant protection product directories list products from 1954 – 1980
- Large volume producer of wood preservative paint Xyladecor and similar products
- 1991 – 1996 court case against Desowag took place, because for selling wood preservatives containing toxic substances (DDT, PCP and lindane)

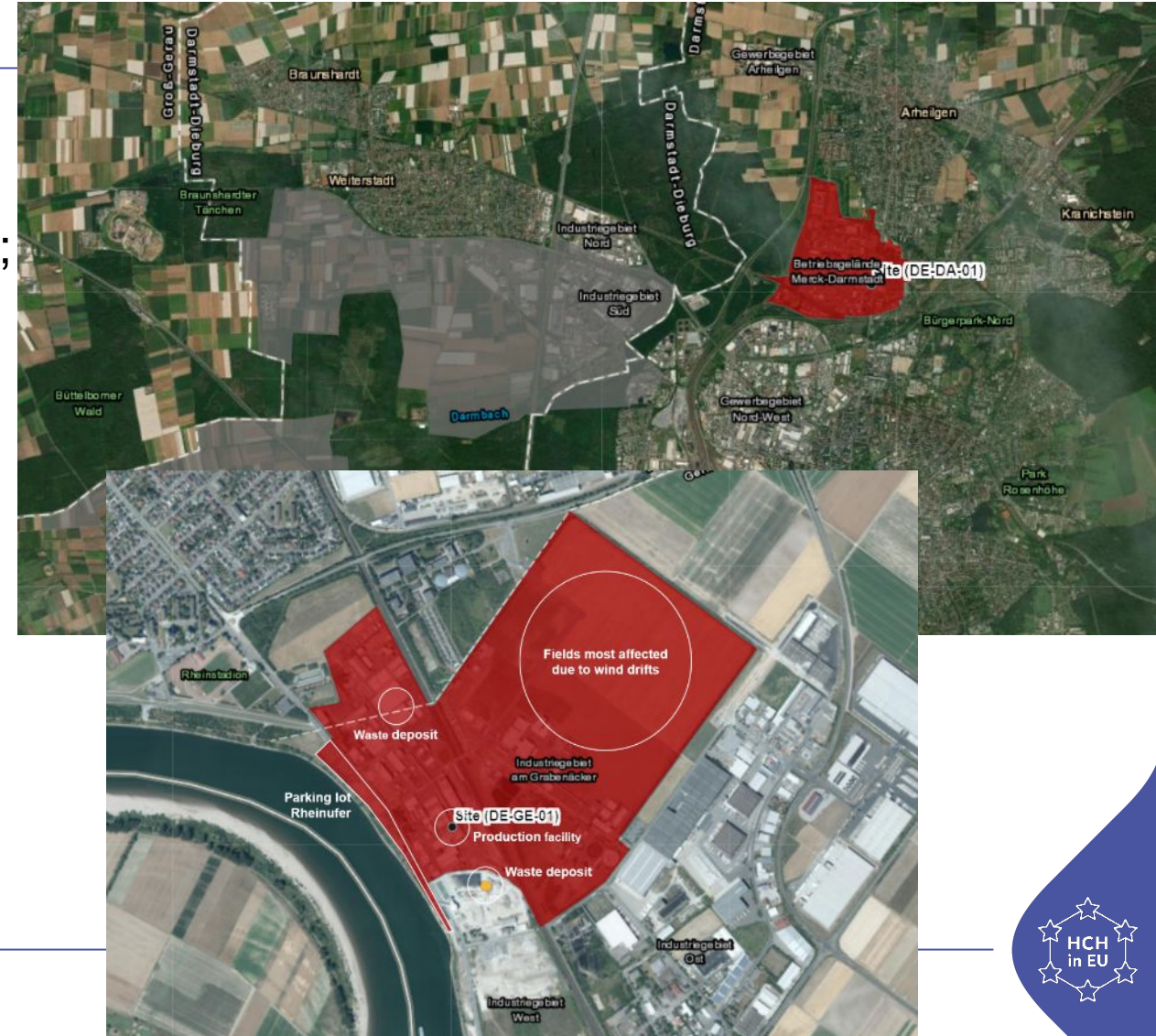




# Inventory Results for Germany

## Merck KGaA Darmstadt, Hesse

- Production site (red) between 1946 – 1954; relocated to Gernsheim 1954 - 1972
- „Rieselfelder“ (grey) as treatment method for sewage water 1946 – 1952; soil removed in 1990s (wastewater treatment plant built in 1954)
- Waste material was stored on site for potential re-use
- Today: Hydraulic securing in place, soil contamination is removed stepwise



# Gaps in German Inventory

---

## HCH and Lindane have been extremely popular and therefore widespread

- **Large array of applications – Refer to Report on “Use of Lindane”**
  - Seed, plant and forest protection
  - Paints for wood protection (a.o. Xyladecor or Hylotox 59)
  - Hygiene products against lice and/or scabies
  - Treatment products for ectoparasites in veterinary and domestic animals
  - Explosives and detonators, light ammunition and pyrotechnics
- **Additional potential sites expected, where these products were handled in larger volumes for storage, product transfer, mixing and application.**
- Cooperatives dealing products for agricultural needs (FRG) have no, or not easy accessible historic data on pesticide volumes at their numerous storage sites available.

# The Inventory for Germany

## Country Specific Report Germany

Find the comprehensive collection of our results in our Country Specific Report for Germany here:

<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/d92c0044-ab22-11ec-83e1-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

...and all the other project reports



# HCH in EU project

Task 1 - EU wide inventory of HCH and Lindane sites

Inventory Results for Germany

**Actions Required**





# Conclusions for German Inventory

---

## Number of potential sites is much higher

- A lot more information was gathered
- Not all gathered data suitable to be published as confirmed site
- Strong evidence for further **11 sites**  
(often second independent source missing to confirm exact location)
- Further **23 sites** where handling of HCH/Lindane could be confirmed  
(e.g., address unknown, data use restrictions)
- Another **81 sites** not clear, whether these sites were relevant for this inventory  
(e.g., no distinction between formulator and supplier)
- **For most identified sites (about 63 %) still existing questions and uncertainties**

# Actions Required

---

## Germany

### □ Further research on sites to clarify existing questions and uncertainties

- Although awareness is present at authorities and owners, lack of standard analytics for HCH at sites with pesticide handling
- Federal system hampers exhaustive overview and aligned strategy in sustainable management of contaminated sites – central database would be significant improvement

## Europe

### □ Project results are a necessary basis for follow-up steps in the EU countries

- Technical solutions for handling HCH/ Lindane contaminations are available
- Connecting affected regions for knowledge transfer and long-term funding are elementary tools to progress in sustainable management of sites





## Dr. Katja Amstätter

Senior Consultant  
CDM Smith Consult GmbH



+49 160-90610814



[katja.amstaetter@cdmsmith.com](mailto:katja.amstaetter@cdmsmith.com)  
[hchineu@tauw.com](mailto:hchineu@tauw.com)



[www.cdmsmith.com](http://www.cdmsmith.com)

<https://www.tauw.com/projecten/resolving-hch-lindane-in-the-eu.html>

