

# Municipality needs for reducing substances of concern in construction

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**Interreg**  
Baltic Sea Region



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# Why is public procurement important for municipalities for reducing hazardous substances?

## Why not rely on regulative mechanisms?

- Phase out where possible
- As much as possible
- As soon as possible
- We can't wait...



# Regulation process (schematic)

Scientific concern

Scientific studies

Regulation proposal

Evaluation of scientific data

Availability of substitutes

Public consultations

Developed proposal

...

Decision

10-20+ years



# (Non-construction) example:

City of Stockholm 2015:

Guide for chemicals-smart preschools

## 11. Undvik metallkonserver

Metallkonserver kan innehålla det hormonstörande ämnet bisfenol A som riskerar överföras till maten. Välj om möjligt färsk mat eller andra förpackningstyper och konserveringsformer som:

- Kartongförpackningar t.ex. för krossade tomater
- Frysta varor t.ex. för majs och ärtor
- Torrvaror som kan blötläggas t.ex. kikärtor och bönor



Kemikaliecentrum avråder från PC och PVC i kontakt med mat. PVC kan läcka mjukgörare och gränsvärdet för hur mycket hormonstörande bisfenol A som tillåts läcka ut är omdiskuterat i forskarvärlden.

Commission 2024:



News article | 19 December 2024

Commission adopts ban of  
Bisphenol A in food contact  
materials

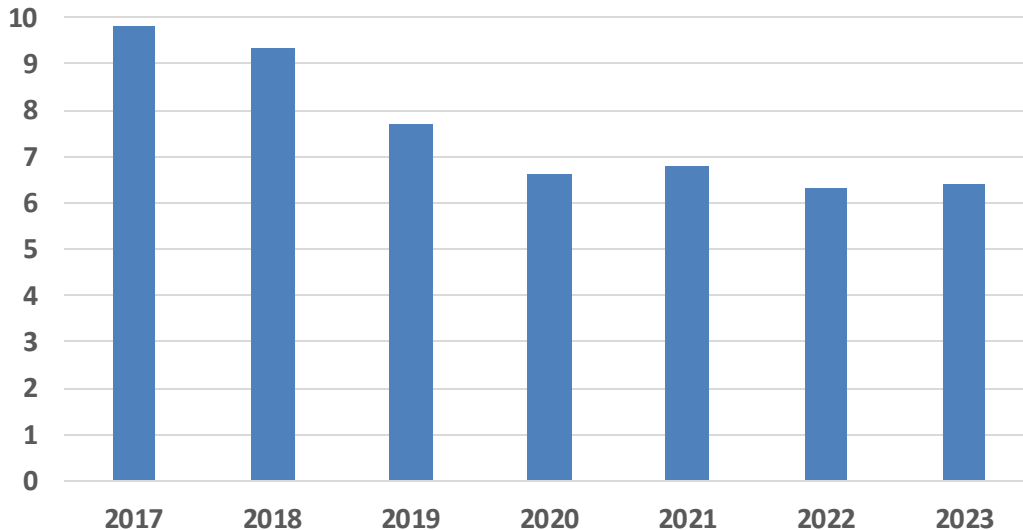
”Avoid metal cans and PC plastic in food contact materials because Bisphenol A”

# Information to avoid unpleasant surprises

- Owner of building responsible for a long time
- We need information about chemical content "for future reference"



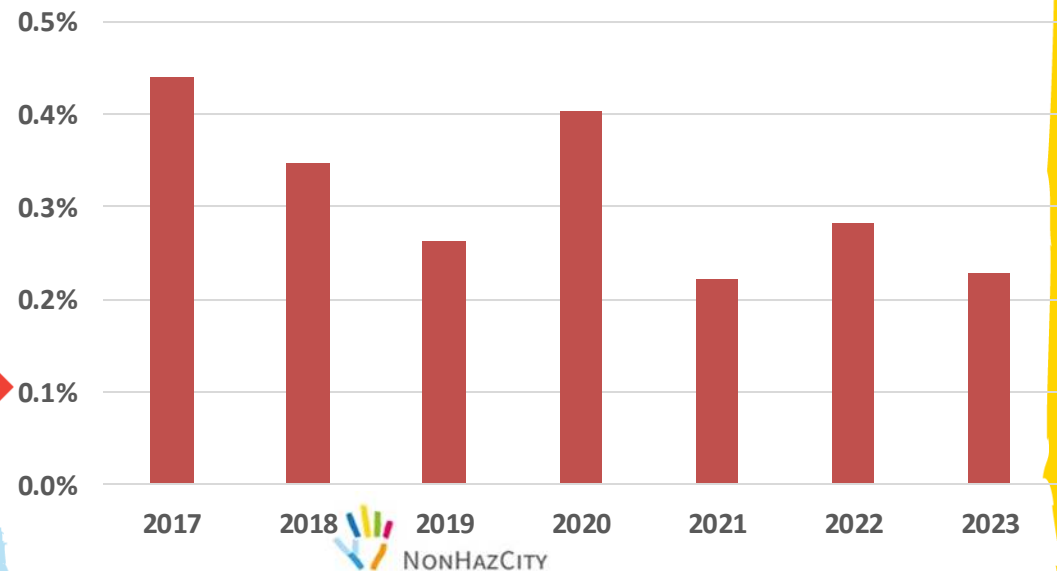
# Local results



Percentage of all products used in Stockholm that have received the assessment *Avoid*

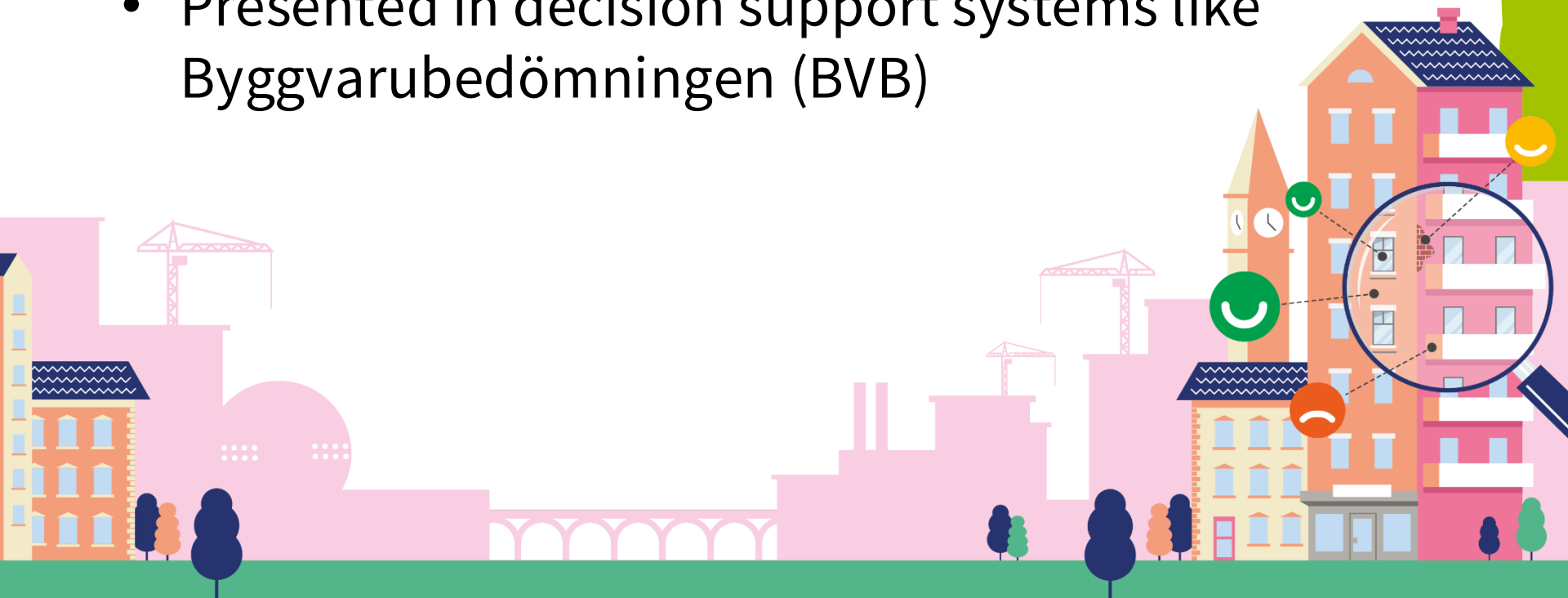


Percentage of all products used in Stockholm that have received the assessment *Avoid* because of carcinogenicity (H350)



# Resources and processes needed for CCC procurement at municipal level

- Business standard procedures
- Understandable information available for buyers
- Presented in decision support systems like Byggvarubedömningen (BVB)



# Importance of EU policy

- Make information available
- Knowing that regulation is coming paves the way for voluntary measures
- There needs to be a ban on the most hazardous chemicals (e.g. PFAS)
- The accepted levels for other substances need to be lower





# Thank you!

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