

**Francesca Tencalla** is a Director in ToxMinds BVBA since 2008. She is a trained biologist/ (eco)toxicologist and environmental specialist.

After a Ph.D. in aquatic toxicology, Francesca worked as study director/study monitor in Toxicological Research & Development at UCB Pharma in Belgium. She then moved to the Department of Toxicology of Monsanto Europe SA where she was responsible for the ecotoxicological evaluation and environmental risk assessment of the company's chemical, pharmaceutical and plant protection products in Europe. In this role, Francesca was involved in the design of study programs, the study monitoring of aquatic and terrestrial studies, the drafting of regulatory dossiers and the development of new guidance documents (e.g. non-target arthropod risk assessment under ESCORT II). She also represented the company in a number of Task Forces and was involved in the defence of products in front of National or EU Competent Authorities (e.g. France, Germany, Spain, Italy, Belgium). After a few years, she transferred to the Department of Scientific Affairs, first as Environmental Specialist then as group lead. The responsibilities included managing issues and concerns related to the human and environmental safety of biotechnology crops, presenting and explaining the technology to diverse audiences such as the general public, scientific experts, non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) and National or EU Authorities, as well as maintaining relationships and setting up scientific collaborations with the academic world in Europe and Africa. In her last role at Monsanto, Francesca was Strategy & Operation Lead for the Regulatory Affairs group (biotechnology crops and plant protection products) in Europe.

At ToxMinds, Francesca is involved in all aspects of the human health and environmental evaluation of substances from a wide range of sectors, according to the relevant legislations. This includes product support with National and EU Authorities.

Francesca has experience with the European chemical and downstream user product regulations, in particular the new EU chemicals regulation (EC) 1907/2006 ("REACH"), the plant protection products Directive (91/414/EC), the EU Directive 2001/18/EC for deliberate release of genetically modified organisms in the environment (repealing Directive 90/220/EEC), Regulation (EC) 1829/2003 concerning genetically modified food and feed (replacing Regulation (EC) 258/97), the Dangerous Substance (67/548/EEC) and Preparation (1999/45/EC) Directives as well as the new EU regulation (EC) 1272/2008 on the classification, labeling and packaging of chemical substances and mixtures ("CLP Regulation").

**Languages:** English, French, German and Italian