Call for test method submission

The PEPPER platform is looking for methods to be presented for selection to its Relevance Committee.

PEPPER focuses on test methods participating to the characterisation of endocrine disrupters. Methods allowing the identification of an endocrine mode of action (MoA), an endocrine-related adverse outcome (AO), or linking a MoA to an AO are in the scope of PEPPER.

In silico methods or long term *in vivo* ones will not be considered for this exercise.

The criteria for a potential selection of a test method are:

- Developed in Europe
- Be mature enough, which includes having an established protocol (ideally a Standard Operating Procedure), and available historical data
- Responding to an identified need (with regard to regulatory identification of EDs)
- Its potential integration into a testing strategy/integrated approach to testing and assessment should have been considered[1]
- Having a positive impact on 3Rs
- Likely to be accepted by international institutions (such as the OECD)
- Being applicable easily in many labs (i.e. not requiring a very specific/expensive type of equipment)
- The method developer need to be willing to engage into a pre-validation exercise (including human resources to dedicate to the project)[2]
- No legal obstacle to a broad use of the method should exist

Describing the method following a template such as the OECD Guidance Document 211[3], or the ToxTemp (described in Krebs et al 2019, ALTEX 36(4), 2019) would facilitate its assessment.

Exclusion criteria are:

- Method covering pathways or endpoints which are already covered by standardised methods such as OECD or US EPA Test Guidelines
- Methods which are already ongoing validation elsewhere

Please send your method description (or your questions) to elise.grignard@ed-pepper.eu

[1] However, a testing strategy or IATA does not need to be submitted
[2] PEPPER will provide financial support, but the developer need to be aware that a pre-validation requires time to test substances, answer questions from PEPPER/participating labs, draft/modify the SOP, gather historical data …
[3] https://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/iccvam/suppdocs/feddocs/oecd/oecd-gd211-2014-508.pdf