

# EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability

**EURION Final conference  
Jordane WODLI, DG Environment  
European Commission  
Brussels, 14 June 2024**

**#ChemicalsStrategy**

**#EUGreenDeal**



European  
Commission

# Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability

## Boosting innovation

- Strategic R&I plan for chemicals and materials (Oct 22)
- Commission recommendation on safe and sustainable by design criteria (Dec 22)
- Research funding
- Taxonomy delegated acts (Jun 23)

## Strengthening legislation for better protection

- Water Package (Oct 22)
- Eco-design regulation (Mar 22)
- Industrial Emissions (Apr 22)
- REACH restriction roadmap (Apr 22)
- CLP regulation (Dec 22; provisional agreement Dec 23)
- Maximum levels for food contaminants (Lead, Cadmium, Aug 22); PFAS (Dec 22)
- REACH
- Essential use (Apr 24)
- Cosmetics product regulation
- Toy safety regulation (Jul 23)

## Simplification & coherence

- Horizontal proposal on (re-)attribution of technical work on chemicals to EU Agencies (Dec 23)
- Horizontal proposal on improving access, sharing and re-use of chemical data (Dec 23)
- Proposal for a basic regulation of the European Chemicals Agency

## Knowledge and science

- Strategic research and innovation plan for chemicals – Oct 22
- European partnership for the assessment of risks from chemicals (PARC) – May 22
- Indicator framework (Apr 24)

## Global

- Proposal of new hazard classes to UN Global Harmonised System for Classification – Jan 23
- International Framework on Chemicals – Sep 23
- Funding for developing countries
- Export ban on chemicals banned in the EU

# CLP revision – Delegated Act Dec 22



## Adds **new hazard classes** in CLP

(OJ 31 March, entry into force 20 April)

- Endocrine disruption for human health in Category 1 and Category 2
- Endocrine disruption for the environment in Category 1 and Category 2
- PBT (persistent, bioaccumulative, toxic), vPvB (very persistent, very bioaccumulative)
- PMT (persistent, mobile, toxic), vPvM (very persistent, very mobile)

# CLP Regulation: legislative proposal

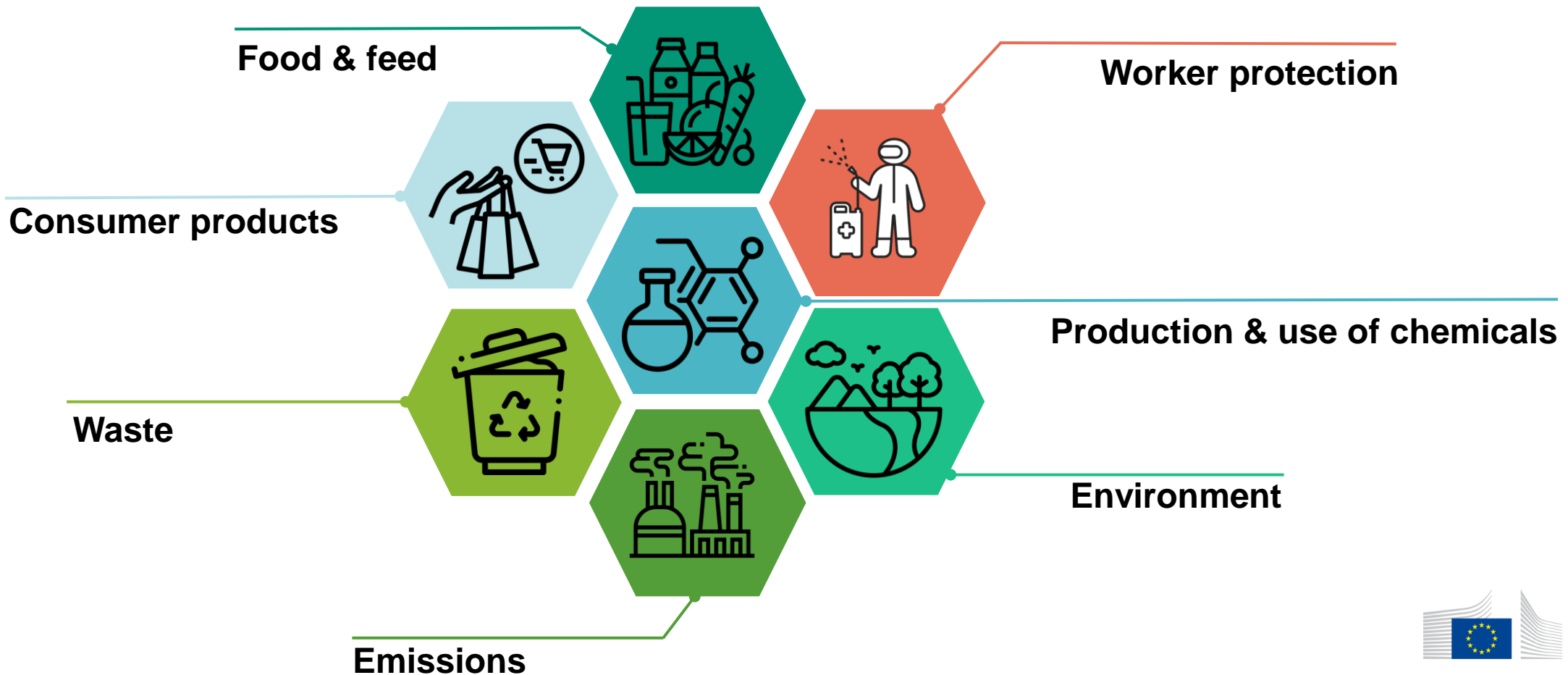
## Measures:

- Updated rules for classifying complex substances (« MOCS »)
  - specific derogation for plant extracts incl essential oils,
  - 5-year review of scientific evidence by the Commission
- Websites selling chemicals online must display hazardous properties of products
- Clearer labelling of hazardous chemicals including online
- Fold-out labels and digital labelling
- Commission gets right to develop classification proposals on hazardous substances (besides industry and Member States)
- Rules for refillable chemicals
- Better information for poison centres



# One substance one assessment EU legal framework on chemicals

> 100 pieces of legislative pieces dealing with chemicals



# One substance one assessment - *Today*

## TRANSPARENCY

- Different rules and practices

### Initiation

- Plethora of legislation
- By COM, MSs, Industry
- At different time

### Allocation

- Agency
- Expert group
- Scientific Committee
- Consultant

### Data

- Availability
- Formats
- Access
- Quality

### Methodologies

- Guidelines
- Guidance

# One substance, one assessment - *Tomorrow*

## TRANSPARENCY

- Stakeholders are timely informed and have access to underlying data

### Initiation

- Synchronised and coordinated

### Allocation

- Making best use of available resources and expertise
- Good governance and cooperation

### Data

- Easily findable, accessible, interoperable, secure, of high quality
- Shared and reused by default

### Methodologies

- Coherent
- To the extent possible harmonised

# One substance, one assessment package

## 1. Consolidating work in the EU agencies and improving cooperation

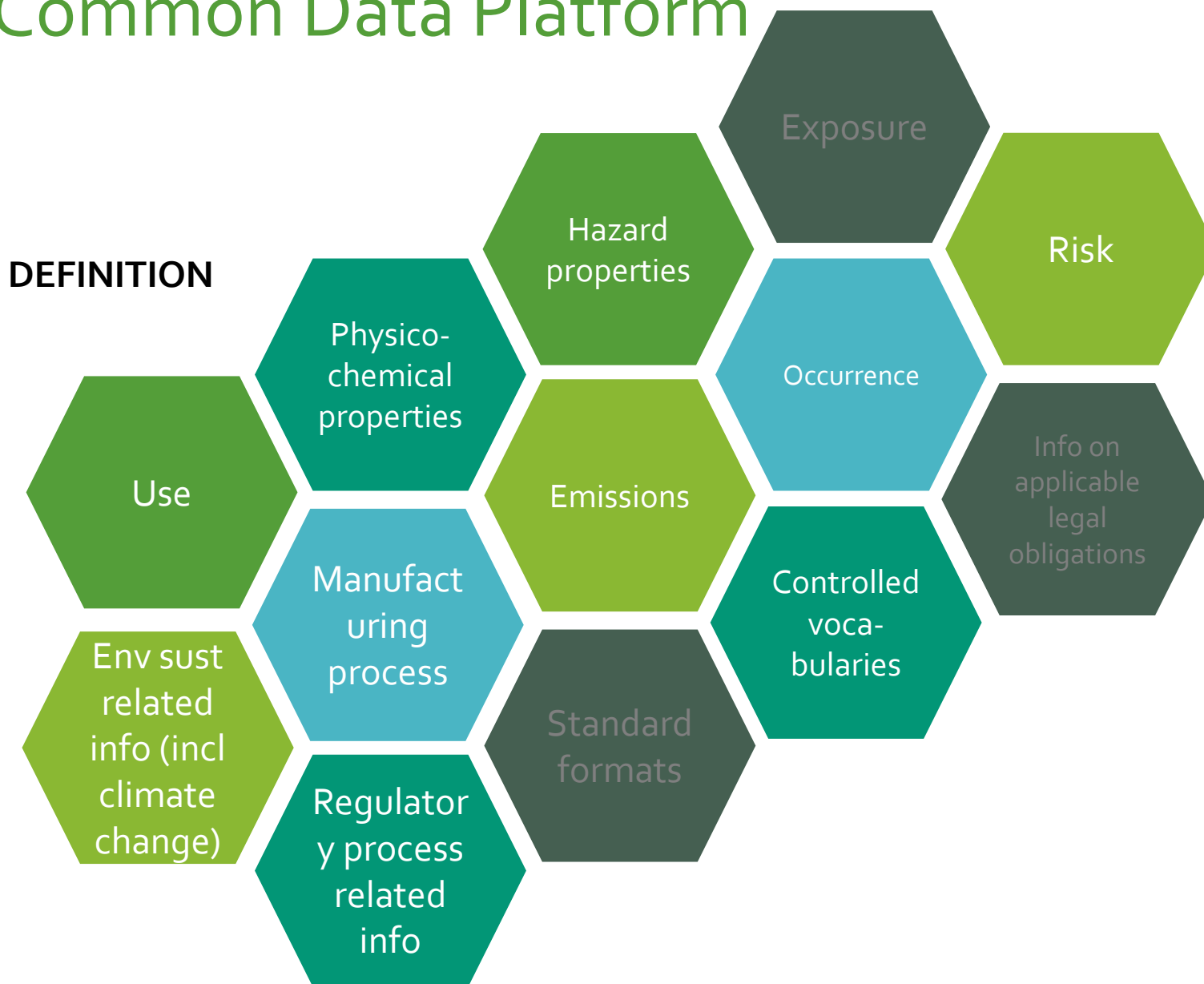
- Proposal for a regulation on the re-attribution of tasks and improving cooperation among agencies
- Proposal for a directive on the re-attribution of tasks amending RoHS directive

## 2. Removing barriers to reusing of data and establishing monitoring and outlook framework for chemicals

- Proposal for a regulation establishing a common data platform on chemicals and establishing a monitoring and outlook framework for chemicals



# Common Data Platform



- From implementation of EU chemicals legislation (Annex)
- Monitoring data from IPCHEM
- Human biomonitoring data
- Selected datasets from research or (inter)national implementation programmes

Not only 'input' data, but also output, such as assessment reports, agencies' opinions, reference values

# Consolidation and improving cooperation

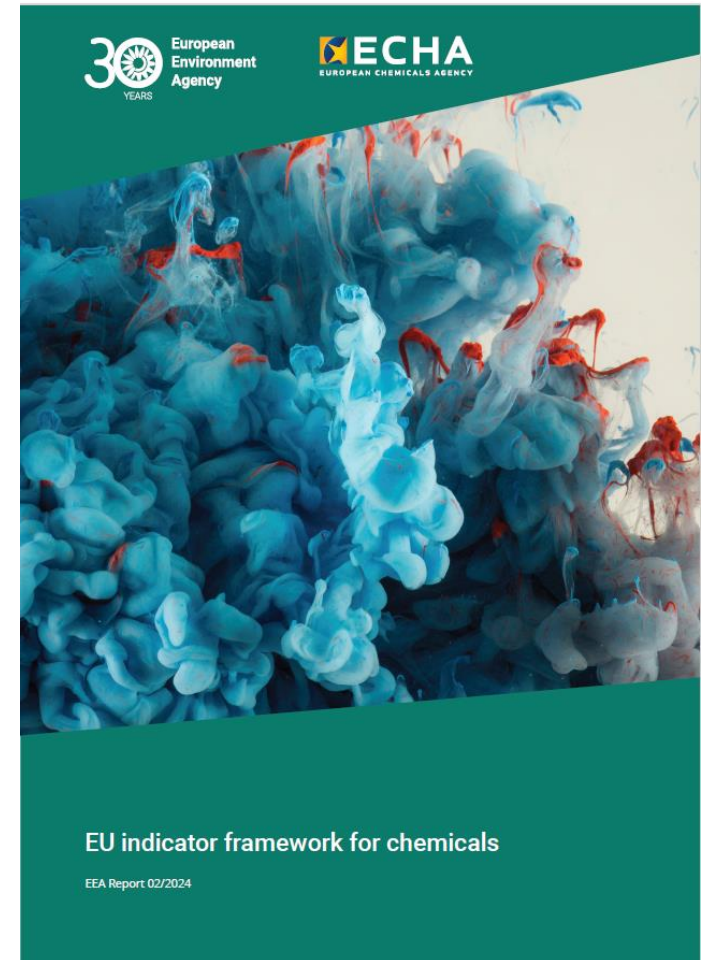
	Individual revisions	1S1A omnibus proposals
(re-)attribution of tasks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drinking water directive</li> <li>• Cross-border threats to health regulation</li> <li>• Batteries and waste batteries regulation</li> <li>• Industrial emissions directive + Industrial emission portal reg.</li> <li>• Water framework directive and ground water directive</li> <li>• Packaging and packaging waste</li> <li>• End-of-life vehicles directive</li> <li>• Safety of toys regulation</li> <li>• SEVESO III implementing decision</li> <li>• 1S1A proposal on data</li> <li>• Cosmetics regulation (<i>still to be proposed</i>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regulation on POPs</li> <li>• RoHS directive</li> <li>• Medical devices regulation</li> </ul>
cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EMA founding regulation</li> <li>• ECHA founding regulation (<i>still to be proposed</i>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EEA founding regulation</li> <li>• EFSA founding regulation</li> </ul>



# EU indicator framework for chemicals

## A fact base to support :

- **Following** the transition to production and use of safe and sustainable chemicals
- **Measuring** the effectiveness of chemicals legislation, past and current measures
- **Identifying** the need and potential impacts of future action



# Essential use concept

## Commission Communication adopted 22 April

The use of a most harmful chemical will only be allowed if:

- It is necessary for health, safety or it is critical for the functioning of society, and
- there are no other acceptable alternatives to that chemical

What is the purpose?

- The concept functions as a tool to assess when it is justified from a societal point of view to use a most harmful substance
- Achieve higher regulatory efficiency and predictability for authorities and industry with the faster phase-out of the most harmful substances in non-essential uses,
- While allowing more time for the phase-out in uses that are essential for society.

# GHS work on ED

- GHS informal working group on potential hazards issues (PHI-IWG)
- Active since 2023, with 3 main streams of work:
  - EDs;
  - Persistence and mobility;
  - Hazardous to the terrestrial environment
- On ED, adoption last year of a mandate to OECD on ED (ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2023/6) and adoption of the 2023-2024 workplan of the working group
- Work of OECD on-going with an ad-hoc group for GHS ED
- Aims: to review the science needed for classification and labelling of substances and mixtures that have endocrine disrupting properties

# Update of the EDCs State of the Science Report

- UNEA resolution 5/7 adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly on 2 March 2022.
- “Request UNEP, subject to the availability of resources, and in cooperation with the World Health Organization, to update the report entitled State of the Science of Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals 2012 [...]”
- Start of the project in 2024
- EDC Expert Group call for expression of interest open until 28 June 2024
- With collaboration of WHO (as requested in the resolution) but also OECD and GHS, to align the 2 processes and avoid duplication of works

# Thank you

## EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability

© European Union 2020



Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is authorised under the [CC BY 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) license. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders