

EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability

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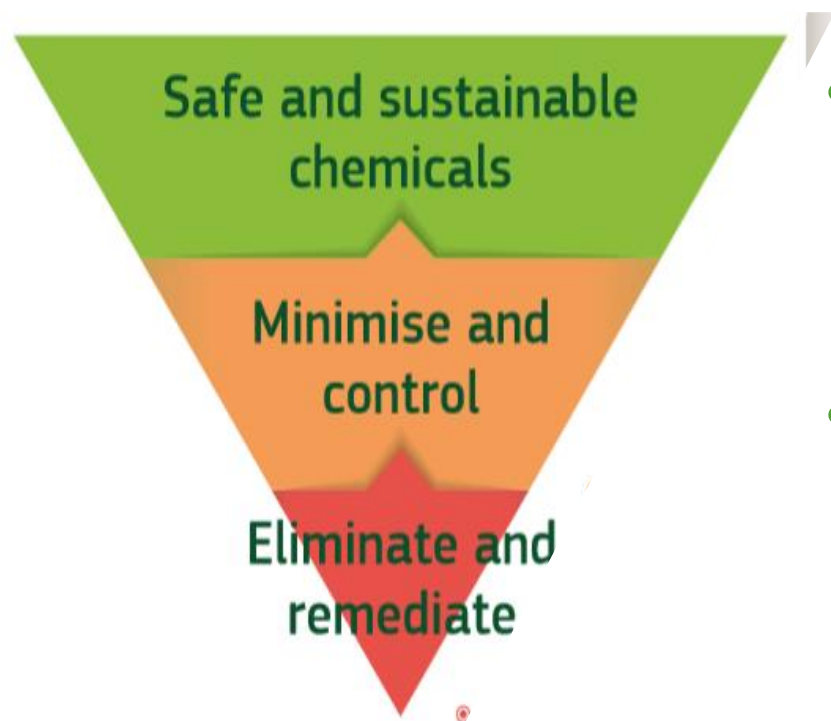
#ChemicalsStrategy
#EUGreenDeal



European
Commission

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2030 vision – towards a toxic-free environment



- Chemicals are produced/used in a way that **maximises their benefits to society** while **avoiding harm to planet & people**
- Production and use of *safe and sustainable chemicals* becomes the EU market norm and a global standard

Toxic-free environment: 5 building blocks

Innovation,
competitiveness,
recovery

Strengthen
legislation for
better protection

Simplification &
coherence

Knowledge and
science

Global



1. Boosting innovation

Promote the transition to safe and sustainable chemicals, materials and products



- Develop EU safe and **sustainable-by-design criteria** and a EU-wide support **network**
- **Provide funding** for the green and digital transition of the production/use of chemicals (Horizon Europe, recovery instruments, cohesion funds, Life)
- Strengthen EU's open **strategic autonomy** for critical chemicals

2. Strengthening legislation



- **All chemicals** on the market to be used safely and sustainably.
- Substitute and minimise as far as possible **substances of concern**
- Avoid the **most harmful chemicals** in consumer products esp. for vulnerable groups

Endocrine
disruptors

PFAS

Mixtures

Environmental
impact

New hazard classes

Concept of 'essential uses'



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REACH Revision highlights

Registration:

- More information on critical hazard properties (carcinogenicity, endocrine disruption etc.) to ensure hazard identification and risk assessment
- Registration of certain polymers of concern
- Request Chemical Safety Assessment for 1-10 tpa substances
- Introduce a Mixtures Assessment Factor
- Improve and digitalise supply chain communication

Authorisation:

- Extend definition of Substances of Very High Concern: include Persistent Mobile Toxic(PMT) and vPvM

Restriction:

- Generic restriction for most harmful substances in consumer products unless substance is essential for society

Combination effects of chemicals

Ensuring that risks from **simultaneous exposure to multiple chemicals** are effectively and systematically taken into account across policy areas:

- Introducing a **mixture assessment factor** for the chemical safety assessment of substances in REACH
- **Introduce or reinforce provisions** to take account of the combination effects in other relevant legislation:
 - Water
 - Food additives
 - Toys
 - Food contact material
 - Detergents
 - Cosmetics

3. Simplifying and consolidating

- Strengthen **compliance, enforcement and market surveillance** ('zero tolerance to non compliance')
- **'One substance, one assessment'** process to make safety assessment processes
 - simpler and more transparent
 - faster as well as more consistent and predictable

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

Today

One substance, One assessment

TRANSPARENCY

- Stakeholders are timely informed and have access to underlying data

Initiation

- Synchronised and coordinated
- Assessments of groups of substances

Allocation

- Clear responsibilities
- 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

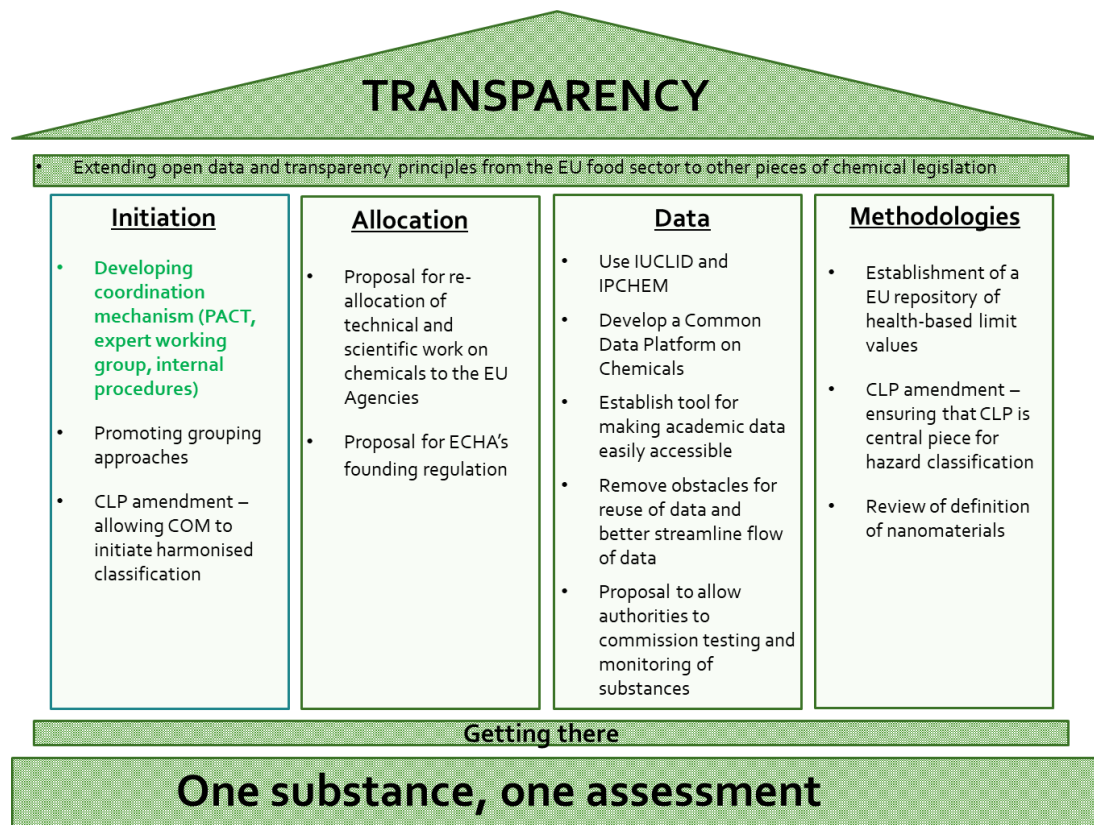
Methodologies

- Coherent
- To the extent possible harmonised
- Hazard assessment centralised under CLP Regulation

Tomorrow

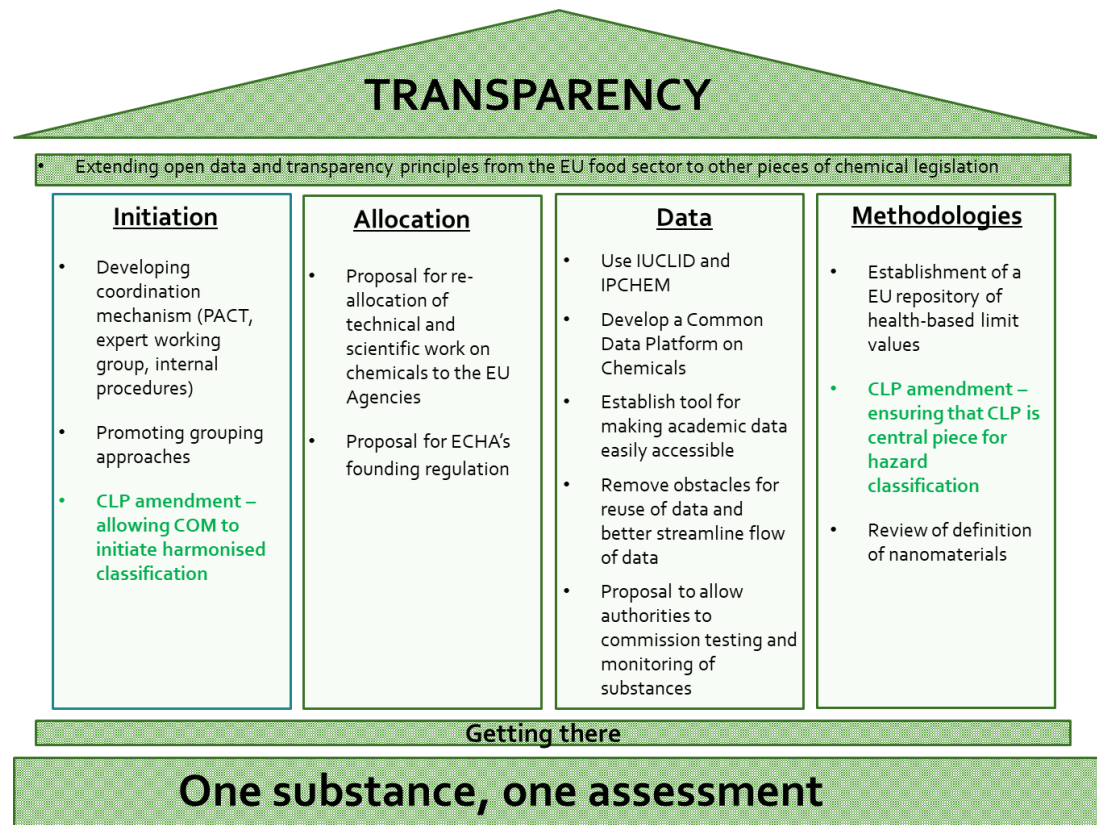
One substance, one assessment

Coordination mechanism



- As of 2021
- **Public Activities Coordination Tool (PACT)**
 - Overview of all planned and ongoing initiatives on safety assessment of chemicals
 - Existing PACT to be expanded to all relevant legislation
- **Coordination mechanism within the Commission**
 - Inter-service group on 'one substance, one assessment' to coordinate actions on chemicals across chemical legislation
- **Expert Working Group of Member States, Commission Services and Agencies**
 - To discuss initiatives on chemicals

Revision of CLP Regulation



By 2021

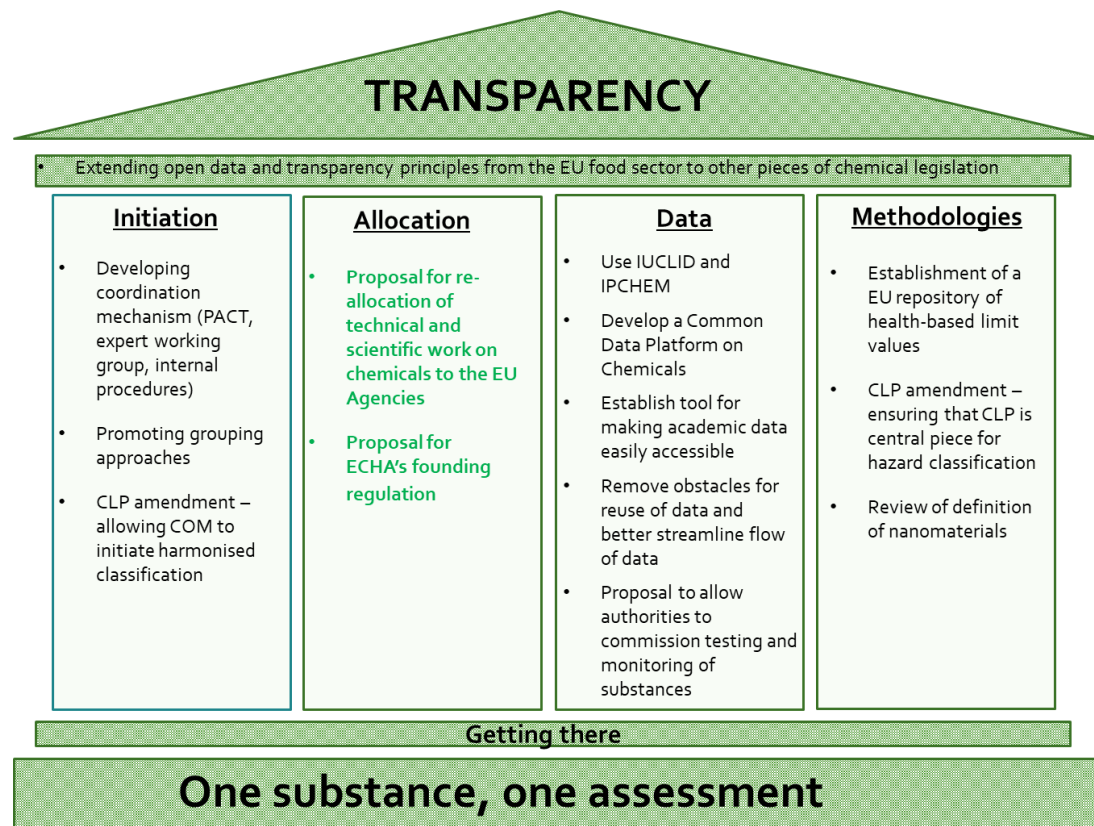
New hazard classes:

- Endocrine disruptors for human health and for the environment
- Persistent, Bioaccumulative and Toxic substances (PBTs) – this will be a move of existing criteria from Annex XIII of REACH to the CLP Regulation;
- Persistent, mobile and toxic (PMTs) and very persistent and very mobile (vPvMs)

Harmonised classification:

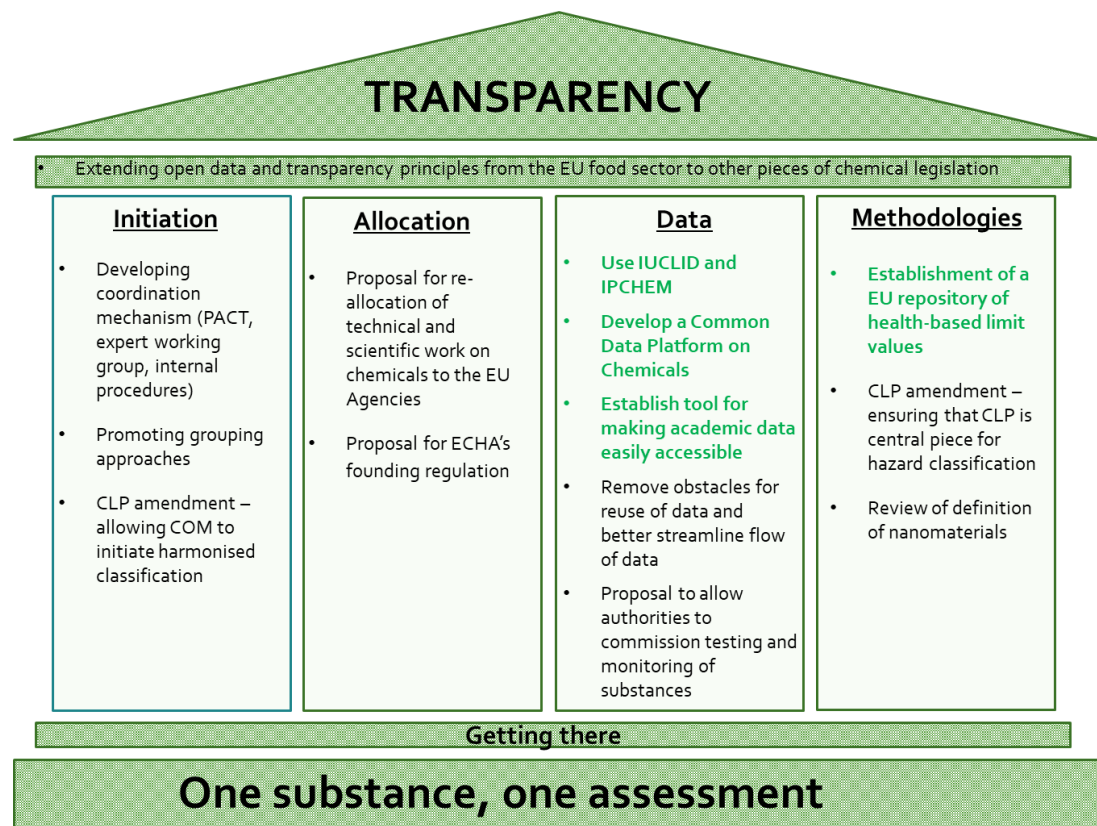
- A mandate for European Commission to request ECHA to initiate, develop and submit a proposal for CLH dossiers
- Harmonisation of human health and environment based safety values (e.g., PNEC, DNEL)

Allocation of responsibilities



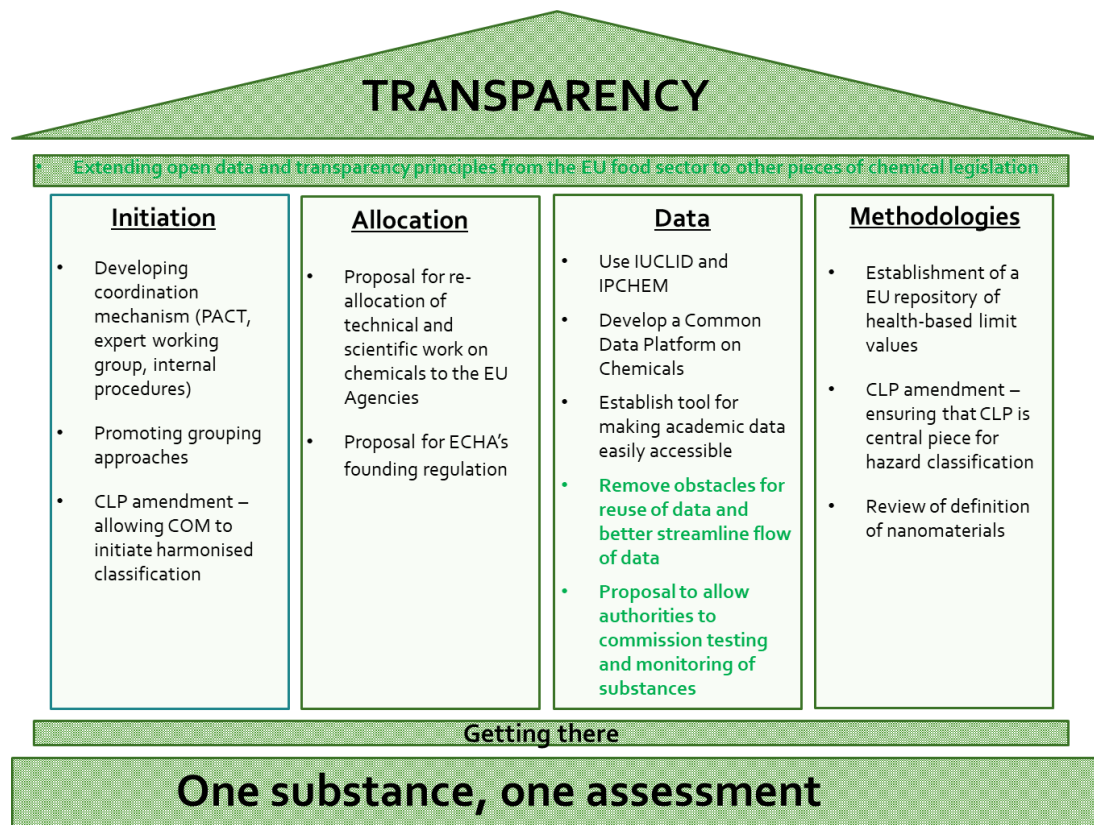
- Horizontal legislative proposal for **reallocation of EU technical and scientific work** on chemicals to the EU Agencies
 - **By 2022**
 - Omnibus regulation amending provisions on allocation of tasks and responsibilities
- Proposal for **ECHA's founding regulation**
 - **By 2023**
 - To strengthen ECHA's governance and ensure sustainability of its financing model

Work on data



- **Common open data platform on chemicals**
 - By 2023
 - A single access point to data and information on chemical in the EU
- **Making data available in appropriate formats**
 - Progressively
 - IUCLID for hazard and use data; IPCHEM for monitoring data
- **Centralised EU repository of human and environmental health-based limit values**
 - By 2022
 - To promote reuse of health-based limit values
- Tools for making **academic data** suitable and easily available for regulatory purposes
 - By 2023

Horizontal proposal on data



- Omnibus regulation amending provisions on **data handling and reporting** in the individual pieces of legislation:
 - Implement the vision to streamline all data on chemicals through the EU Agencies
 - Ensure re-use of data across Agencies, services, legislation and across legislative silos
 - Extend the open data and transparency principles from the EU food sector to other pieces of chemical legislation
 - Allow authorities to commission testing and monitoring of substances
- By 2023

4. A comprehensive knowledge base

- Establish a **EU research & innovation agenda** for chemicals, incl. to promote innovative testing and (Bio)-monitoring
- Improve **knowledge on chemical properties and uses**
 - by requiring more information (polymers, environmental footprint, low volumes, for specific hazard properties)
 - by tracking substances on concerns in products/materials



5. Setting the example globally

- Global strategic objectives and targets beyond 2020
- Promote the use of the **Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS)** and propose new hazard classes
- Sound management of chemicals in **international cooperation**
- Chemicals **banned in the EU not for export**



Thank you

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