

# Horizon Europe Partnership for Chemical Risk Assessment

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# Proposal: A European Partnership on Chemical Risk Assessment

**Challenges:** Risk assessment agencies and regulatory bodies and associated research community in the EU are confronted with

- ❖ gaps in knowledge of and information on hazards, occurrence and exposures to chemicals and mixtures
- ❖ scattered and non-accessible evidence
- ❖ screening, testing and assessment methods to be developed, validated and taken-up
- ❖ duplication of efforts and inefficient use of resources
- ❖ insufficient risk communication
- ❖ persistent science-regulatory gap

**Opportunity:** Horizon Europe - a partnership to boost research and innovation in support of chemical risk assessment

**Responding to policy priorities:** SDGs, 2019 Council Conclusions, Green Deal, Towards a Sustainable Chemicals Policy Strategy ...

**Requirement:** a joint research and innovation roadmap set by risk assessors & managers in consultation with academia, association, industry and other stakeholders

# Objectives of the Partnership

- The **scope** of the partnership is quite broad:

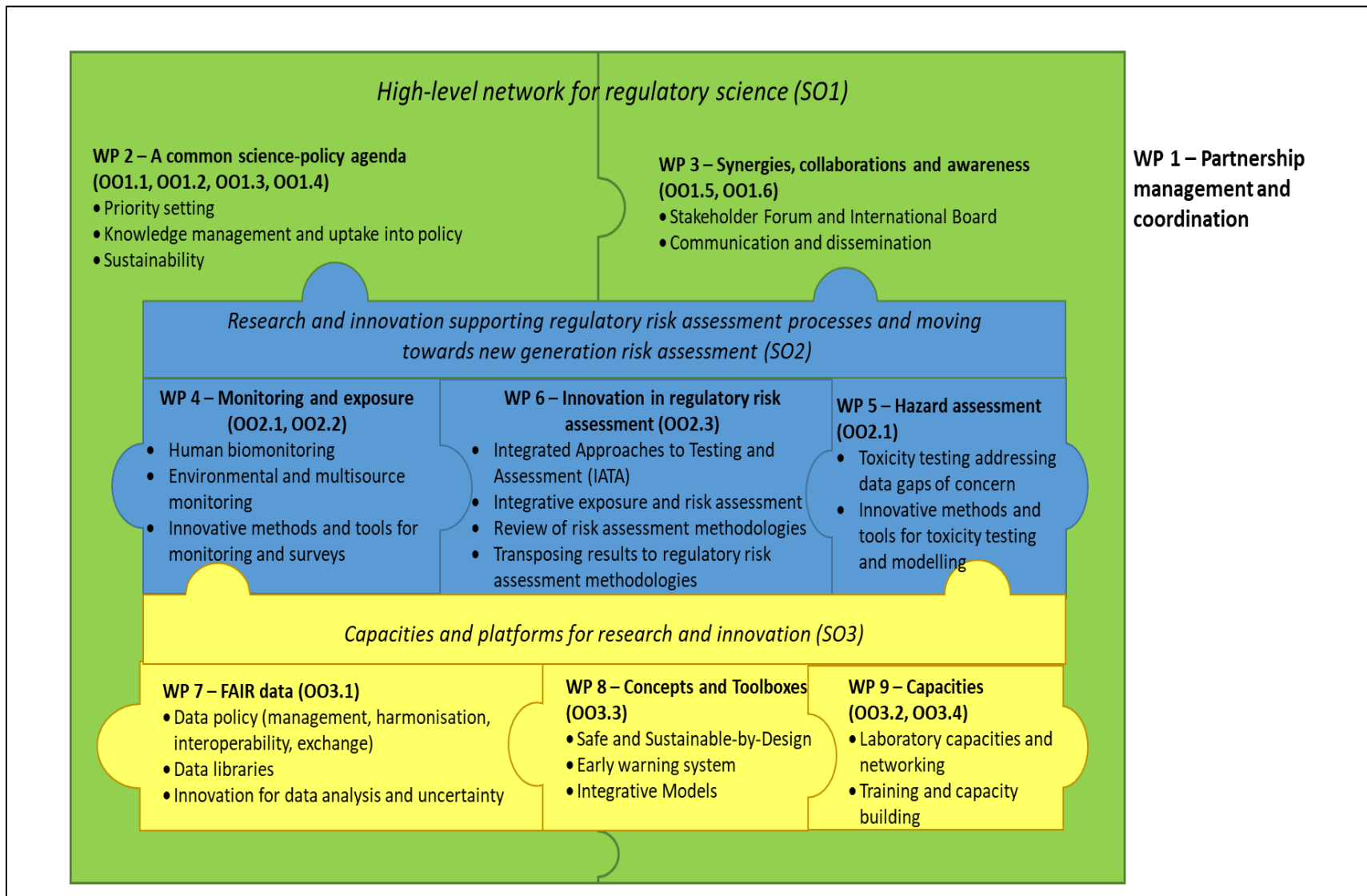
*Stimulate research and innovation in chemical risk assessment through a common roadmap set by risk assessors and risk managers in consultation with all stakeholders (academia, industry, associations and others) to enable risk assessors and risk managers to respond to current and future challenges*

- The **general objective** is to:

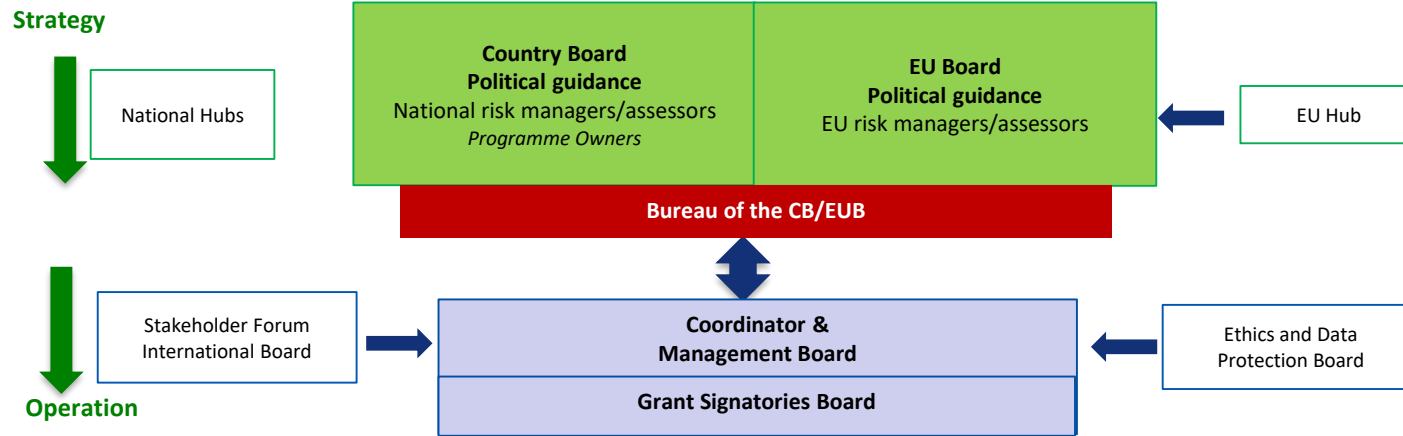
Consolidate and strengthen the EU's research and innovation capacity for chemical risk assessment to protect human health and the environment and contribute to a non-toxic environment and a circular economy.

- The **impacts** related to the **specific objectives** will be seen on 3 levels by:
  - the creation of an **EU-wide cross-disciplinary Network** for Chemical Risk Assessment to identify and agree on research and innovation needs and priorities and support research uptake into regulatory chemical risk assessment
  - the implementation of a **European Research and Innovation Programme** to carry out EU research and innovation activities responding to the priorities identified supporting the current regulatory risk assessment processes and responding to emerging challenges
  - the strengthening of existing **Capacities and building new EU-Wide, transdisciplinary Research and Innovation Platforms** to support chemical risk assessment

# Structure – Objectives oriented



# Partners and governance structure



**Country Board (CB):** representatives of **national authorities in charge of risk assessment and/or risk management and responsible for the national political and financial commitment to the partnership** (national programme owners; e.g. Ministries).

**EU Board (EUB):** composed of representatives of the Directorate Generals (DGs) of the European Commission and EU Agencies involved in chemicals regulation.

**Management Board (MB):** is in charge of the day-to-day management and is composed of the **work package leaders** and the partnership **coordinator**.

**Grant Signatories Board (GSB):** national programme owners or mandated programme managers, **Risk Assessors** (RA) engaged in research and innovation activities e.g. agencies in charge of risk assessment.

**National Hubs (NH):** network of decision makers, research funders, grant signatories, stakeholders and the research community at the national level.

# Working on it together!

Countries involved in the preparation of the Partnership for the Assessment of Chemical Risk (PARC)

■ Countries in the PARC Steering Group



**25 countries** in the steering group: AT, BE, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GR, HR, HU, IS, IT, LV, LU, NL, NO, PL, PT, SE, SI, SK

→ *Non participating countries are invited to express interest in the Partnership:*  
*e.g. BG, IE, LT, MT, RO*

And ECHA, EEA, EFSA, JRC,  
DG R&I, DG SANTE, DG ENV, DG GROW  
& others

**Concept paper published:**

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/files/european-partnership-chemicals-risk-assessment\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/files/european-partnership-chemicals-risk-assessment_en)

Provides an overview of the context, objectives and expected impacts and the planned implementation with the suggested structure, activities and governance

# Provisional calendar

## Commission

In 2020	Horizon Europe 1st Work Programme Preparation
June 2020	Request for country commitments and contributions in the partnerships
September 2020	Deadline for responses to the country commitment requests
End 2020	Opening of call
Spring 2021	Closure of call and evaluation
Autumn 2021	Grant Agreement preparation
Early 2022	Kick-off of new Partnership

# Next steps for the preparation of the Partnership

Construction of the **interim Partnership boards** and reflexion on the **governance structure**

- WP drafting core group (precursor to interim Partnership management board) (expressions of interest for leaderships)
- Country board members (e.g. Ministries) ; grant signatories (e.g. Risk assessment agencies); EU board; National hubs

Construction of the **Partnership content**: 3-year common R&I Strategies, 1<sup>st</sup> work programme

- **Consultation on priorities (22 June – 18 September):**  
[https://www.hbm4eu.eu/parc\\_survey/](https://www.hbm4eu.eu/parc_survey/)  
*All national, European and international bodies involved in chemical risk assessment and/or management are invited to contribute their priorities*
- Prioritisation process
- Interim Partnership management board to work on defining WP and task contents, 3-year common strategic agenda and 1st annual work plan
- Preparation of the proposal for submission April 2021



# Thank you for your attention

Please do not hesitate to contact us:

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