



Background document 1

State of the implementation of the Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability

1 February 2023

Main achievements since adoption of the strategy

Innovating for safe and sustainable EU chemicals

The strategy promotes the transition to safe and sustainable by design chemicals and materials, which is a societal emergency as well as an economic opportunity. The Commission proposal for **update of the Industrial Emission Directive** was adopted in April 2022. It proposes provisions that will inter alia promote the use of safer chemicals and the elimination of substances of very high concern by the industry by requiring on-site assessments and by requiring analysis of the possible substitution of hazardous substances by safer alternatives.

In addition, the Commission adopted a **Commission Recommendation establishing a European framework for 'safe and sustainable by design' chemicals and materials**. The recommendation was adopted on 8 December 2022 and aims to drive industry's innovation efforts into 'safe and sustainable by design' chemicals and materials with research and innovation activities. The recommendation launches a testing period and a voluntary reporting mechanism. Based on the feedback, the Commission will launch a revision of the framework. The testing period counts on the engagement of industry, academia, research and technology community and support from Member States. The Commission invites these players to use the recommendations in their R&I activities to lead the way for safer and more sustainable substances thus increasing their share on the EU market and globally.

To move towards toxic-free material cycles and clean recycling, the Commission has made proposals to ensure that substances of concern in products are minimised and tracked. This is being achieved in particular through the **Regulation on Ecodesign for Sustainable Products** proposed in March 2022. It will allow for setting requirements on the presence of substances that inhibit circularity and on information requirements on the presence of substances of concern in products.

The move towards toxic-free material cycles and clean recycling is further stimulated through initiatives on sustainable products (e.g. **EU strategy for sustainable and circular textiles** adopted also in March 2022) and **sustainable finance** (e.g. development of

substantial contribution criteria for environmental objectives under the Taxonomy Regulation). Regulatory actions are going hand-in-hand with **increased investments in research and innovative technologies** to address inter alia the presence of legacy substances in waste streams.

Strengthening EU legislation for better protection of human health and the environment

The Strategy aims to ensure that consumers, vulnerable groups and the natural environment are more consistently protected from the most harmful substances, including endocrine disruptors, persistent chemicals and unintentional mixtures of substances. To this end, the Commission is revising REACH and sectoral product legislation on food contact materials, cosmetics and toys to ensure that the most harmful substances are phased out in consumer products and for professional uses, unless their use is proven essential for society. While the approach to risk management is in place, the Commission published a **restriction roadmap** in April 2022 to prioritise those substances for restrictions under REACH for all uses and through grouping, instead of regulating them one by one.

In April 2022, the Commission also adopted a proposal for the revision of the **European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register** aiming at providing better and more information on releases of substances to the environment. The revision proposes inter alia to broaden the requirements as regards installations covered by the obligations for reporting and to deepen the requirements as regards the substances to be reported on.

Stricter maximum levels for lead and cadmium in certain foodstuffs were adopted in August 2021 and for **poly- and perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in certain foodstuffs** in December 2022. The Commission has also asked the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) to prepare a restriction dossier on PFAS under REACH. ECHA performed the assessments and concluded in February 2022 that an EU-wide restriction is justified as the risks posed by PFAS are currently not adequately controlled. The Agency published an Annex XV restriction report proposing **an EU wide restriction on all PFAS in firefighting foams** as the most appropriate means to prevent further ground water and soil contamination and health risks for people and the environment. The Annex XV restriction report is now subject to assessment by the relevant ECHA committees. The opinions are to be delivered in 2023 which will enable the Commission to decide on a possible restriction.

The **EU strategic framework on health and safety at work 2021-2027** was adopted in June 2021. The Commission committed to propose protective limit values on asbestos, lead and diisocyanates in 2022 and cobalt in 2024 under the Asbestos Directive, the Chemical Agents Directive and the Carcinogens and Mutagens Directives. The Commission further identified reprotoxic substances to be addressed as priority under the Carcinogens and Mutagens Directive to expand the protection of workers. In March 2022, the adopted revision of the Carcinogens and Mutagens Directive broadens its scope to cover also reprotoxic substances and renamed the directive to **the Carcinogens, Mutagens and Reprotoxic Substances Directive**. The revision will further improve workers' protection by setting exposure limits

for acrylonitrile and nickel compounds, lowering limits for benzene and receiving better training on how to handle hazardous medicinal products. In September 2022, the Commission proposed an **update of the Asbestos Directive** proposing stricter limit values for asbestos to better protect workers.

In October 2022, the Commission proposed a **revision of Water Framework Directive, Environmental Quality Standard Directive and Ground Water Directive**. The revision proposes to update lists of water pollutants to be more strictly controlled in surface waters and groundwater. 25 substances with well-documented problematic effects in nature and human health will be added to the lists. These include the PFAS group, a range of pesticides, bisphenol A and some pharmaceuticals. The new rules will also recognize the cumulative or combined effects of mixtures, broadening the current focus which is on individual substances solely. In addition, standards for 16 pollutants already covered by the rules, including heavy metals and industrial chemicals, will be updated and four pollutants that are no longer an EU-wide threat will be removed.

In December 2022, the Commission adopted a delegated act introducing **new criteria in the CLP regulation** for endocrine disruptors as well as for chemicals that do not break down in the environment and can accumulate in living organisms (PBTs, vPvBs), or risk entering and spreading across the water cycle, including drinking water (PMTs, vPvMs). The new hazard classes will provide easier access to information to all users of such chemicals and will facilitate further risk management measures on these substances under other EU downstream legislation to better protect people and the environment. At the same time, the Commission adopted a legislative proposal for a **revision of the CLP regulation** to clarify rules on labelling and for chemicals sold online. This will facilitate business and the free movement of substances and mixtures at EU level.

Simplifying and consolidating the legal framework

The Strategy aims to ensure simplification of the legal framework on chemicals, as well as the consolidation and full implementation of the EU rules on chemicals. A key initiative in this regard is the development and implementation of the **‘one substance, one assessment’ approach** that aims to improve effectiveness, efficiency and coherence of the safety assessment of chemicals across chemicals legislation. To achieve this, the Commission has already established a coordination mechanism, which includes a new expert group with Member States and EU agencies to discuss and harmonise safety assessments across legislation.

Three legal proposals implementing the ‘one substance, one assessment’ approach will be required; a horizontal legislative proposal for the (re-)attribution of tasks on chemicals to EU Agencies; a legislative proposal on transparency and reuse of data and also allowing EU and national authorities to commission testing; and a legislative proposal for ECHA’s founding regulation.

In addition, an implementation plan for the development of a **Common Data Platform on Chemicals** that will facilitate access and sharing of chemical related data and information held by EU Agencies and the Commission was developed. Finally, a **new recommendation of the definition of nanomaterial** was adopted in June 2022.

Knowledge base and science on chemicals

Improving the scientific understanding of the impacts of chemicals on health and the environment is key to drive regulatory decisions. At the same time, achieving the objectives of the Chemicals Strategy and other Green Deal objectives require new technologies and innovative solutions to avoid the impact of the production and use of chemicals on health and the environment. In October 2022, the Commission adopted a **strategic research and innovation agenda** for chemicals. The agenda identifies priorities for research and innovation as regards chemicals and provides guidance for the allocation of resources in research and innovation to drive this comprehensive transition.

Financial instruments supporting research and innovation were adapted to include the support of the objectives of the Strategy. Horizon Europe provided financing for a number of relevant research and innovation projects. One of the most important ones is the establishment of the **European Partnership for the Assessment of Risks for Chemicals (PARC)**, which started on 1 May 2022. It brings together 200 partners from 28 countries as well as EU agencies and it seeks to develop next-generation chemical risk assessment, incorporating both human health and the environment in a “one health” approach.

Global sound management of chemicals

The Strategy aims to promote safety and sustainability standards outside the EU. The EU has submitted in April 2021 a **proposal for the listing of chlorpyrifos in the Stockholm Convention** on Persistent Organic Pollutants. Subject to the evaluation and recommendation of the review committee, this could lead to a global ban of the substance.

In March 2022, the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly reached consensus to **launch negotiations of an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution**, including in the marine environment. It also agreed to **establish a science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals** and waste and to prevent pollution. Finally, in December 2022, the Commission proposed **new hazard classes to be included in the UN global harmonised system for classification and labelling** and the dedicated sub-group agreed to initiate its work. An agreement on the criteria at the UN level would promote the EU standards globally and would promote an equal level playing field for companies.

Legal revisions and updates (links)

Adopted or proposed by the Commission

[Commission Regulation \(EU\) 2021/1317 as regards maximum levels of lead in certain foodstuffs \(9 August 2021\)](#)

[Commission Regulation \(EU\) 2021/1323 as regards maximum levels of cadmium in certain foodstuffs \(10 August 2021\)](#)

[Proposal for sustainable corporate governance directive \(23 February 2022\)](#)

[Directive \(EU\) 2022/431 amending the carcinogens and mutagens directive 2004/37/EC \(9 March 2022\)](#)

[Proposal for a regulation establishing a framework for setting ecodesign requirements for sustainable products \(30 March 2022\)](#)

[Proposal for a revision of the Industrial Emissions Directive \(5 April 2022\)](#)

[Proposal for revision of the European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register \(5 April 2022\)](#)

[New Commission Recommendation on the definition of nanomaterials \(10 June 2022\)](#)

[Proposal for update of the Directive on protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to asbestos at work \(28 September 2022\)](#)

[Proposal for revision of Water Framework Directive, Environmental Quality Standard Directive and Ground Water Directive \(26 October 2022\)](#)

[Commission Regulation \(EU\) 2022/2388 as regards maximum levels of perfluoroalkyl substances in certain foodstuffs \(7 December 2022\)](#)

[Commission Recommendation \(EU\) 2022/2510 establishing a European framework for 'safe and sustainable by design' chemicals and materials \(8 December 2022\)](#)

[Proposal for revision of EU legislation on hazard classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals \(19 December 2022\)](#)

In preparation

[Revision of the Toy Safety Directive](#)

[Revision of the Regulation on the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals \(REACH\)](#)

[Horizontal proposal for reallocation of EU technical and scientific work on chemicals to the EU agencies, including work of the SCCS and SCHEER](#)

[Legislative proposal on better access to chemicals data for safety assessments](#)

[Legislative proposal for ECHA's basic act](#)

[Revision of the Cosmetic Product Regulation](#)

[Safety of children's products \(excluding toys\) – requirements to be met by European Standards](#)

[Update of the Directive protecting workers from risks related to exposure to chemical agents](#)

[Revision of the Food additives Commission Regulation \(Comitology\)](#)

[Revision of EU rules on food contact materials](#)

ANNEX – STATE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL ACTIONS OF THE STRATEGY

N	Action	Indicative timing	Status	Deliverable
1	Set up a high level roundtable with the purpose of promoting efficiency and effectiveness of chemicals legislation, boosting development and uptake of innovative safe and sustainable chemicals, and monitoring the impact of the Strategy's actions.	As of 2021	Roundtable set up, members selected, 1 st meeting on 5 May 2021, 2 nd on 25 November 2021, 3 rd on 18 May 2022, 4 th on 1 February 2023	Around 2 meetings per year, joint reports from the Roundtable on specific topics;
2.1 Innovating for safe and sustainable EU chemicals				
2	Develop EU safe and sustainable-by-design criteria for chemicals	2022	Commission Recommendation (EU) 2022/2510 establishing a European assessment framework for 'safe and sustainable by design' chemicals and materials adopted on 8 December 2022. Next steps are a 2-years testing phase of the framework to refine the framework and review the criteria.	Commission Recommendation (EU) 2022/2510
3	Establish an EU-wide safe and sustainable-by-design support network	2023	Support network for safe and sustainable-by-design was established as a coordination and support action under the Horizon Europe. The name of the project is ' IRISS - International ecosystem for accelerating the transition to safe-and-sustainable-by-design materials, products and process ' and it is a three year project that has started on 1 June 2022. The project is networking with PARC project as well as other projects on safe-and-sustainable-by-design chemicals funded under Horizon Europe.	Coordination and support action (CSA)
4	Financial support for the development, commercialisation, deployment and uptake of safe and sustainable-by-design substances, materials and products	As of 2021	Under the current WP 2021/2022 in Cluster 4, three Research and Innovation Actions are dedicated to enhance functionalities and applications of (1) polymeric materials, (2) metallic coatings and (3) hybrid and organic coatings. In the WP 2023/2024 there are four topics in Cluster 4 with a specific focus on supporting the safe-and-sustainable-by-design framework: (1) tools and methods, (2) integrated	Research & Innovation actions (RIA)

			impact assessment, (3) models and (4) development of safe-and-sustainable-by-design materials. In addition the safe-and-sustainable-by-design framework is referred to in topics in other clusters in the WP2023/2024 as a guidance document as well as in topics under the circular bio-based Europe joint undertaking.	
5	Mapping safe and sustainable-by-design skills mismatches and competence gaps, and make recommendations	As of 2022	Internal discussions among relevant EU services are ongoing	Mapping and recommendations
6	Establish Key Performance Indicators to measure the industrial transition towards the production of safe and sustainable chemicals	2022	Commission has launched a study to map available indicators and propose new indicators. Stakeholders were interviewed and the 1 st workshop took place on 12 May 2022. The study has been finalised in December 2022 and will be published soon. The results of the study (set of indicators) will feed into the development of an indicator framework on chemicals (see action 77)	Set of indicators
7	Make amendments to the EU legislation on industrial emissions to promote the use of safer chemicals by EU industry	2022	Part of ongoing revision of the Industrial Emissions Directive. Commission proposal adopted on 5 April 2022.	Legal proposal for revision of the Industrial Emissions Directive
8	Introduce legal requirements on the presence of substances of concern in products, including PFAS, through the initiative on sustainable products	2022	Part of the Sustainable Products initiative (Proposal for a regulation establishing a framework for setting eco-design requirements for sustainable products). Commission proposal released on 30 March 2022.	Legal proposal for a regulation on eco-design requirements for sustainable products
9	Ensure that authorisations and derogations from restrictions for recycled materials under REACH are exceptional and justified	As of 2020	Ongoing as part of current REACH implementation (e.g. Lead in PVC)	No specific deliverable

10	Support investments in sustainable innovations that can decontaminate waste streams, increase safe recycling and reduce the export of waste, in particular plastics and textiles	As of 2021	Has been covered by/will be continued to be covered by: InvestEU, Recovery and Resilience Facility, Cohesion fund, European regional development fund, European social fund Plus, LIFE, Horizon Europe (Cluster 4)	R&I development
11	Develop methodologies for chemical risk assessment that take into account the whole life cycle of substances, materials and products	As of 2021	Ongoing work by the Commission Joint Research Centre in the framework of developing criteria for safe and sustainable by design criteria and of the revision of REACH information requirements.	Methodologies.
12	Initiatives and funding to promote the development of green and smart technologies, advanced materials, and innovative business models for the low-carbon and low environmental impact industrial production and use of chemicals	As of 2021	Has been covered by/will be continued to be covered by: InvestEU, Recovery and Resilience Facility, Cohesion fund, European regional development fund, European social fund Plus, LIFE, Horizon Europe (Cluster 4)	R&I development
13	Support up- and reskilling of the workforce for the digital and green transition	As of 2020	Part of the support provided through the relevant instruments under the EU skills agenda. Report on GreenComp, the European sustainability competence framework was published on 12 January 2022. The Commission published a proposal for a Council Recommendation on learning for environmental sustainability on 14 January 2022. The recommendation was adopted by the Council on 16 June 2022. The Commission published a taxonomy of skills for the green transition in European Skills, Competences, Qualifications and Occupations in March 2022. Work is ongoing on a proposal for a Council recommendation on improving the provision of digital skills in education and training (link). Work is ongoing on a European Digital Skills Certificate (link).	Financial, instrumental and methodological support
14	Access to risk finance, in particular for SMEs and start-ups	As of 2021	Has been covered by/will be continued to be covered by: Cohesion fund, European regional development fund, European social fund Plus, Horizon Europe	Financial support

15	Development and deployment of infrastructure allowing to switch to the use, transport and storage of electricity from renewable / carbon-neutral energy sources for the production of chemicals	As of 2021	Has been covered by/will be continued to be covered by: InvestEU, Recovery and Resilience Facility, Cohesion fund, European regional development fund, European social fund Plus, LIFE, Horizon Europe. InvestEU: Guarantee agreements with the main implementing partners (EIB and EIF) signed EIC: The EIC Accelerator call under Horizon Europe was launched and evaluated. It included a dedicated Green Deal call.	R&I development
16	Increase the current deployment rate of available technologies for manufacturing purposes such as internet of things, big data, artificial intelligence, automation, smart sensors and robotics	As of 2021	Has been covered by/will be continued to be covered by: InvestEU, Recovery and Resilience Facility, Cohesion fund, European regional development fund, Digital Europe programme	R&I development
17	Identify key value chains and dependencies where chemicals are important building blocks, propose measures to reduce these dependencies, and engage with stakeholders to increase the EU's strategic foresight on chemicals	2022	Commission procured a study focusing on developing an appropriate method to increase the EU's strategic foresight on chemicals, gathering evidence and engaging with stakeholders. The study has started at the beginning of 2022. Two workshops were organised – on 11 and 17 May 2022 – to discuss foresight for 7 value chains for 3 scenarios. The study is being finalised.	Under discussion
18	Promote interregional collaboration along sustainable chemicals value chains, through smart specialisation, to accelerate the development of joint investment projects	As of 2021	The Thematic S3 Platform on Industrial Modernisation already supports an interregional partnership on chemicals and one on cosmetics. The second multiannual work programme (2023-2024) of the Interregional Innovation Investment Instrument established for the 2021-2027 period will be published in Q1 of 2023 and the related calls from Q2 of 2023, with the support of a group of experts.	Financial support

19	Promote the EU's resilience of supply and sustainability of chemicals used in essential applications for society through EU funding and investment mechanisms	As of 2021	The Commission continues to support industrial alliances as platforms to establish strategic roadmaps and efficient coordination of R&D&I investment plans and will continue to support Member States' efforts via Important Projects of Common European Interest (IPCEIs)	Financial support
2.2 Stronger EU legal framework to address pressing environmental and health concerns				
20	Roadmap to prioritise carcinogenic, mutagenic and reprotoxic substances (CMRs), endocrine disruptors, persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic (PBT and very persistent and very bioaccumulative (vPvB) substances, immunotoxicants, neurotoxicants, substances toxic to specific organs and respiratory sensitisers for (group) restrictions under REACH	2021	Under REACH implementation. Discussions held in RIME in April 2021, in CARACAL June 2021 and November 2021. Roadmap was published on 25 April 2022.	Staff Working Document (SWD (2022) 128)
21	Proposals to extend the generic approach to risk management to ensure that consumer products do not contain chemicals that cause cancers, gene mutations, affect the reproductive or the endocrine system, or are persistent and bioaccumulative and toxic; assess the modalities and timing to extend the same approach to further chemicals including those affecting the immune, neurological or respiratory systems and chemicals toxic to a specific organ	2022 2023 2022	Part of ongoing revision of REACH (extending the scope of Article 68(2) to additional hazard classes). Impact assessment is being finalised. Legal text is being drafted. Proposal to be adopted at the latest by Q4 2023. Part of the ongoing revision of the Food Contact Materials Regulation. Inception impact assessment feedback period 18 December 2020 till 29 January 2021. The legislative proposal postponed to the next Commission. Part of the ongoing revision of the Cosmetic Products Regulation. Inception impact assessment feedback period 4 October till 1 November 2021. Public consultation finalised (29 March till 21 June 2022). Workshop with stakeholders held on 28 June 2022. Work on impact assessment is ongoing.	Legal proposal (REACH revision - codecision) Legal proposal (revision Food Contact Materials regulation) Legal proposal (revision Cosmetic Products Regulation)

		2022	Part of the ongoing revision of the Toy Safety Directive. Inception impact assessment feedback period 5 October till 2 November 2021. Public consultation finalised (2 March till 25 May 2022). Impact assessment finalised. Legal; text being drafted. Proposal to be adopted in Q1 2023.	Legal proposal (revision Toy Safety Directive)
22	Proposal to amend REACH Article 68(2) to include professional users	2022	Part of ongoing revision of REACH (extending the scope of Article 68(2) to additional hazard classes). Impact assessment is being finalised. Legal text is being drafted. Proposal to be adopted at the latest by Q4 2023.	Legal proposal (REACH revision - codecision)
23	Introduce mandatory legal requirements under the General Product Safety Directive and restrictions in REACH to enhance the safety of children from hazardous chemicals in childcare articles and other products for children (other than toys)	2022	Implemented via REACH (comitology). It is it is part of the adopted restriction roadmap. Mandate to support the Commission in the preparation of a 68.2 restriction of CMR substances in childcare articles was submitted to ECHA in December 2022. Available study by COM on chemicals with CMR properties in childcare articles to build on	Legal proposal (REACH comitology)
		2022	The draft Commission Decision was published on “Have your say” portal for consultation between 5 August and 2 September. The decision in preparation; adoption foreseen in Q1 2023.	Commission Decision on the safety requirements to be met by European standards for certain children's and related products that are not toys pursuant to Directive 2001/95/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on general product safety

24	In the process of the upcoming Strategic Framework for Health and Safety at work, identify most harmful substances for which the Commission will propose to set occupational limits following the established consultation process in the area of health and safety at work	2021	The EU OSH strategic framework 2021-2027 was adopted on 28 June 2021	Commission Communication on Strategic Framework (COM(2021) 323)
25	In consultation with social partners, strengthen protection of workers, notably by proposing lowering existing occupational limit values for asbestos (Asbestos Directive) and lead (Chemical Agents Directive) as well as establishing a binding limit value for di-isocyanates (Chemical Agents Directive)	2022	<p>On Asbestos Directive, RAC delivered its scientific opinion in July 2021. The WPC/ACSH issued an Opinion on asbestos in November 2021. The two phase consultation of the Social Partners has been completed. The IA was finalised. The COM proposal was adopted in September 2022.</p> <p>Regarding CMRD/CAD, RAC delivered its scientific opinions on lead and its compounds and di-isocyanates in June 2020. The ACSH adopted their Opinions in November 2021. The two phase consultation of the Social Partners has been completed. The IA has been completed. The legal text is in preparation. The adoption of the proposal is envisaged for Q1 2023. The proposal envisages revision of CAD and also of CMRD (link).</p>	<p>Legal proposal (update of the Asbestos Directive)</p> <p>Legal proposal (update of the Chemical Agents Directive and Carcinogens, Mutagens and Reprotoxic Directive)</p>
26	Define criteria for essential uses, taking into account the definition of the Montreal Protocol	2022	Supporting contract launched (September 2021) to: map relevant legislation (incl. and beyond REACH); support development of criteria and of a horizontal concept and guidance on essential uses; define and assess policy options for implementing the concept, in particular for REACH. Stakeholder workshop was held in March 2022. Targeted stakeholder consultations finalised spring 2022. The report is expected to be finalised in Q1 2023. The outcome will feed into the development of the horizontal concept for essential use and into the ongoing revision of REACH. Envisaged adoption of a SWD Q2 2023.	A Commission Staff Working Document on the horizontal essential use concept relevant for several pieces of legislation

27	Proposal to amend the CLP Regulation to introduce new hazard classes on endocrine disruptors, PBTs/vPvBs and persistent and mobile substances, and apply them across all legislation	2022	The delegated act under the CLP regulation adopted on 19 December 2022.	Legal proposals (CLP delegated act)
28	Update information requirements to allow the identification of endocrine disruptors in relevant legislation, particularly under REACH, legislation on cosmetic products, food contact materials, plant protection products and biocidal products	2022 2021 2022 2023 2022	Part of revision of REACH (Comitology). Impact assessment is being finalised. Legal text is being drafted. Proposal to be adopted at the latest by Q4 2023. Delegated Regulation amending Annex II and III to the Biocidal Products Regulation has been adopted Amendment of Communications 2013/C 95/01 and 2013/C 95/02 accompanying the Regulation on data requirements for active substances and Plant Protection Products. Draft revised Communications submitted for comments by MSs and stakeholders until 14 September 2022. The adoption of the Communications envisaged in Q1 2023. Part of the revision of the Food Contact Materials Regulation. Inception impact assessment feedback period 18 December 2020 till 29 January 2021. The legislative proposal postponed to the next Commission. Part of the revision of the Cosmetic Products Regulation. Inception impact assessment feedback period 4 October till 1 November 2021. Public consultation finalised (29 March till 21 June 2022). Workshop with stakeholders held on 28 June 2022. Work on impact assessment is ongoing.	Legal proposal (REACH revision - comitology) Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/525) Commission Communications Legal proposal (revision Food Contact Materials regulation) Legal proposal (revision Cosmetic Products regulation)
29	Accelerate the development and uptake of methods to generate information on endocrine disruptors through screening and testing of substances	As of 2021	Commission (Joint Research Centre) is conducting a validation study of 18 thyroid mechanistic methods, supporting the EURION project on screening and testing methods for EDs, and bringing methods forward for standardisation/validation and regulatory acceptance at OECD level through the EDTA AG/WNT. Work is related to the revision of information requirements under REACH and CLP Revision to include ED	

			hazard criteria.	
30	Assess how to best introduce (a) mixture assessment factor(s) in Annex I of REACH	2022	Part of revision of REACH (Comitology). Impact assessment is being finalised. Legal text is being drafted. Proposal to be adopted at the latest by Q4 2023.	Legal proposal (REACH revision - comitology)
31	Introduce or reinforce provisions to take account of the combination effects of chemicals in water, food contact materials, food additives, toys, detergents, cosmetics	2022	Proposal for revision of Environmental Quality Standards Directive, Ground Water Directive and Water Framework Directive adopted on 26 October 2022.	Legal proposal (revision of the Water Framework Directive, the EQSD and GWD)
		2022	Part of revision of the Food Contact Materials regulation. Inception impact assessment feedback period 18 December 2020 till 29 January 2021. The legislative proposal postponed to the next Commission.	Legal proposal (revision FCM regulation)
		2022	Part of revision of the Food additives Commission Regulation (Comitology)	Legal proposal (revision food additives regulation - comitology)
		2022	Part of revision of the Toy Safety Directive. Inception impact assessment feedback period 5 October till 2 November 2021. Public consultation finalised (2 March till 25 May 2022). Impact assessment finalised. Legal; text being drafted. Proposal to be adopted in Q1 2023.	Legal proposal (revision Toy Safety directive)
		2022	Part of the revision of the Cosmetic Products Regulation. Inception impact assessment feedback period 4 October till 1 November 2021. Public consultation finalised (29 March till 21 June 2022). Workshop with stakeholders held on 28 June 2022. Work on impact assessment is ongoing.	Legal proposal (revision of the Cosmetic Products Regulations)

32	Improve the assessments of the mixtures used in the manufacture of tobacco and related products by using where possible existing EU agencies	2023	Part of the ongoing revision of the Tobacco Products Directive. Evaluation of the legislative framework for tobacco control is ongoing (Q1 2022 – Q2 2023).	Legal proposal (revision of the Tobacco Products Directive and related legislative acts)
33	Proposal to amend REACH Article 57 to add endocrine disruptors, persistent, mobile and toxic (PMT) and very persistent and very mobile (vPvM) substances to the list of substances of very high concern	2022	Part of the revision of REACH (codecision). Impact assessment is being finalised. Legal text is being drafted. Proposal to be adopted at the latest by Q4 2023.	Legal proposal (REACH revision - codecision)
34	Ensure that the information made available to authorities on substances allows comprehensive environmental risk assessments by strengthening requirements across legislation	2022	Part of the revision of REACH (comitology). Linked to the amendment of low tonnage information requirements in REACH. Impact assessment is being finalised. Legal text is being drafted. Proposal to be adopted at the latest by Q4 2023.	Under discussion
35	Address the impact on the environment of the production and use of pharmaceuticals in the upcoming pharmaceuticals strategy for Europe	2020	The Pharmaceutical Strategy adopted in 2020 contains a chapter on “High quality, safe and environmentally sustainable medicines”, including several actions. Implementation is ongoing in cooperation with all involved actors.	Pharmaceuticals Strategy (COM (2020) 761) (containing environmental aspects)
36	Support research and development for decontamination solutions in terrestrial and aquatic environments	As of 2020	Has been covered by/will be continued to be covered by: InvestEU, Recovery and Resilience Facility, Cohesion fund, European regional development fund, European social fund Plus, LIFE, Horizon Europe (Cluster 6)	R&I development
37	Reinforce the regulation of chemical contaminants in food to ensure a high level of human health protection	2022	Stricter maximum levels were set for lead (Regulation (EU) 2021/1317) and cadmium (Regulation (EU) 2021/1323) in certain foodstuffs in August 2021 and new maximum levels were set for poly- and perfluoroalkyl substances (Regulation (EU) 2022/2388) in certain foodstuffs in December 2022. A draft Regulation lowering existing maximum levels and establishing new maximum levels for arsenic in food was positively voted on by Member States on 19 October 2022.	Legal proposals on Maximum Levels for lead, cadmium and PFAS in foodstuffs

			There is now running a scrutiny period of 3 month.	
38	Proposal to restrict PFAS under REACH for all non-essential uses including in consumer products	2022-24	Five national authorities (NL, DE, SE, DK, NO) have jointly prepared a proposal for restricting under REACH all PFAS in all uses, except the essential ones, which was submitted to ECHA in January 2023. The Commission has asked ECHA to prepare a restriction dossier on the use of PFAS in fire-fighting foams (responsible for many cases of environmental contamination). ECHA has prepared a proposal (Annex XV) which was subject to 6 month public consultation (23 March – 23 September 2022). The Annex XV restriction report is now subject to assessment by the relevant ECHA committees. The opinions are to be delivered in 2023 and the Commission will decide based on that on possible restriction.	REACH restriction
39	Review of the annexes of the Environmental Quality Standards Directive and of the Groundwater Directive to add PFAS where possible as a group	2022	Proposal for revision of Environmental Quality Standards Directive, Ground Water Directive and Water Framework Directive adopted on 26 October 2022.	Legal proposal (revision of the Water Framework Directive, the EQSD and GWD)
40	Address the presence of PFAS in food by introducing limits in the legislation on food contaminants	2022	Maximum levels were set for poly- and perfluoroalkyl substances (Regulation (EU) 2022/2388) in certain foodstuffs in December 2022	Food Contaminants Commission Regulation (Comitology)
41	Proposal to revise the legislation on industrial emissions and the European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register to address emissions and reporting of PFAS from industrial plants	2022	Proposals for revision of Industrial Emissions Directive and of European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register were adopted by the Commission on 5 April 2022.	Legal proposals (revision of Industrial Emissions Directive and Regulation on European Pollutant Release and Transfer

				Register)
42	Proposal to address the emissions of PFAS from the waste stage including through the revision of the legislation on sewage sludge	2023	Part of the revision of the Sewage Sludge Directive. The evaluation of the sewage sludge directive is on-going.	Legal proposal (revision of the Sewage Sludge Directive)
43	Proposals under the Stockholm Convention and the Basel Convention to address PFAS concerns at a global scale	2023-2024	The COP 10 of the Stockholm Convention held in June 2022 decided to list PFHxS, its salts and PFHxS-related compounds in Annex A of the convention. POP RC at its 18 th meeting held in September 2022 adopted a risk profile for long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds. POP RC will now continue with the risk management evaluation.	Decisions from the COP and amendment of EU legislation, when relevant (i.e. POPs Regulation).
44	EU-wide approach and financial support for innovative solutions to remediate contamination with PFAS	As of 2020	H2020 Green Deal call. Projects have started their activities in Q3 2021.	Research & Innovation action (RIA)
45	Provide research and innovation funding for safe innovations to substitute PFAS under Horizon Europe	As of 2020	Under the current WP 2022 in Cluster 4 (Horizon Europe) Research and Innovation Action is dedicated to enhance functionalities and applications of hybrid and organic coatings.	R&I development
2.3 Simplifying and consolidating the legal framework				

46	Establishment of a 'One substance, one assessment' process to coordinate the hazard/risk assessment on chemicals across chemical legislation, through the use of a single Public Authorities Coordination Tool, an expert group and a Commission coordination mechanism	As of 2021	<p>Expert group of Member States and EU agencies was set up. The 1st meeting took place in September 2021, 2nd meeting on 2,3 June 2022. Stakeholder information session took place on 1 June 2022. The 3rd meeting of the expert group is planned for March 2023.</p> <p>Dedicated interservice group established in 2020. Work is ongoing through the meetings of the group and sub-groups and intersessional work.</p> <p>(P)ACT has already been progressively extended for some legislation managed by ECHA. Planning of the extension of (P)ACT for other legislation is ongoing.</p>	Extended PACT for other legislation; Expert group of MSs, Commission Services and Agencies; Dedicated interservice group
47	Horizontal proposal for reallocation of EU technical and scientific work on chemicals to the EU agencies, including work of the SCCS and SCHEER	2022	Preparation of the legislative proposal is ongoing. Feedback period for call for evidence was 15 March till 12 April 2022. Targeted stakeholder consultations is finalised. Mapping of tasks for reattribution is finalised. Analysis of the impacts and resource and capacity needs are ongoing. Preparation of a legal proposal is ongoing. Adoption by the Commission is planned for Q2 2023.	<p>Legal proposal on (re-)attribution of tasks</p> <p>Staff Working Document on (re-)attribution of tasks</p>
48	Proposal for a founding regulation for the European Chemicals Agency	2023	Call for evidence finalised (12 September - 10 October 2022). Discussions started on structure of ECHA's committees and on financing of ECHA. Expected adoption Q2 2023.	Legal proposal (new Regulation)
49	Proposal to revise the REACH authorisation and restriction processes	2022	Part of REACH revision – codecision. Impact assessment is being finalised. Legal text is being drafted. Proposal to be adopted at the latest by Q4 2023.	Legal proposal (REACH revision - codecision)

50	Data will be made available in appropriate formats and tools – i.e. IUCLID and IPCHEM - to ensure interoperability.	As of 2022	Mapping of the relevant data sets to be made available in appropriate formats is ongoing. Making progressively data available in appropriate formats will be part of the legislative proposal on data. The call for evidence for the proposal is finalised (19 July – 16 August 2022). Supporting study is being finalised. The legal draft is being prepared. Adoption of the proposal planned for Q2 2023.	Legal proposal on data
51	Proposal to amend CLP Regulation to give the Commission the mandate to initiate harmonised classification	2022	As part of the CLP revision. The proposal for the revision of the CLP regulation adopted on 19 December 2022.	Legal proposals (CLP revision)
52	Review of the definition of nanomaterial	2022	New recommendation (C(2022)3689) adopted on 10 June 2022	new Commission Recommendation (C(2022)3689) on the definition of nanomaterial, replacing 2011/696/EU
53	Establishment of an open platform on chemicals	2023	Feasibility study for the common data platform on chemicals was finalised at the end of 2021. Commission in cooperation with the EU Agencies is finalising a detailed implementation plan. The establishment and operation of the platform is envisaged to be included in the legislative proposal on data. The call for evidence for the proposal is finalised (19 July – 16 August 2022). Supporting study is being finalised. The legal draft is being prepared. Adoption of the proposal planned for Q2 2023.	Common data platform providing access to data and information on chemicals held at EU level
54	Establishment of a EU repository of human and environmental health-based limit values	2022	Study to support Commission in designing EU repository of health based limit values and in collating information for the first version of the repository is ongoing (21 April 2022 – February 2023). The establishment and operation of the repository is envisaged to be included in the legislative proposals on data. The call for evidence for the proposal is finalised (19 July – 16 August 2022). The legal draft is being prepared. Adoption of the proposal planned for Q2 2023.	EU repository of human and environmental health-based limit values

55	Establish tools and practices to ensure that relevant academic data is easily and readily accessible for safety assessments and is suitable for regulatory purposes	As of 2022	Work plan co-drafted by ENV and JRC. Work is ongoing and is supported by a working group with ECHA and EFSA and interested DGs. The workshop was organised in October 2022. An activity was also broad under the auspices of OECD. The establishment of the tools and practices will be considered in the legislative proposal on data. The call for evidence for the proposal is finalised (19 July – 16 August 2022). The legal draft is being prepared. Adoption of the proposal planned for Q2 2023.	A guidance setting minimum requirement for consideration of academic data in regulatory assessments and a search guide to help assessors to fulfil requirements to consider all available data
56	Proposals to allow EU and national authorities to commission testing and monitoring of substances as part of the regulatory framework	2023	The proposals will be part of the legislative proposal on data. The call for evidence for the proposal is finalised (19 July – 16 August 2022). Supporting study including the targeted stakeholder consultations is being finalised. The legal draft is being prepared. Adoption of the proposal planned for Q2 2023.	Legal proposal on data
57	Horizontal proposal to remove legislative obstacles for re-use of data, to streamline the data flow across legislation and to extend the open data and transparency principles from the EU food safety sector to other pieces of chemical legislation	2023	The action will be part of the legislative proposal on data. The call for evidence for the proposal is finalised (19 July – 16 August 2022). Supporting study including the mapping of data flows and legislative obstacles and the targeted stakeholder consultations is being finalised. The legal draft is being prepared. Adoption of the proposal planned for Q2 2023.	Legal proposal on data
58	Implementation of the Market Surveillance Regulation and measures to reinforce the EU Customs Union (will strengthen enforcement both within the single market and at the EU's external borders)	2021-2025	Proposals for customs related implementing acts under the Market Surveillance and Product Compliance Regulation to enhance cooperation and exchange of (risk) information between customs and market surveillance authorities, including through the development of an IT interface between national customs systems and Market Surveillance Information and Communication System (by 2025).	Legal proposals (implementing acts under the Market Surveillance and Product Compliance regulations)

59	Strengthen the enforcement of REACH at the EU's borders, as well as to promote cooperation with online market platforms	As of 2021	Follow-up to the study to support the integration of REACH aspects into Customs legislation/procedures	
60	ECHA's Forum will extend its cooperation with existing enforcement networks and authorities to avoid duplication of actions and increase effectiveness	As of 2022	To be discussed with ECHA Forum and other enforcement networks; Potentially be included in the revision of the tasks of the Forum defined in Art 77.4 of REACH. Impact assessment is being finalised. Legal text is being drafted. Proposal to be adopted at the latest by Q4 2023.	Potentially Legal proposal (REACH revision - codecision)
61	The zero pollution action plan will initiate further specific actions to control chemical pollution	As of 2021	Zero Pollution Action Plan published in 2021	Commission Communication
62	Actions to empower consumers and consumer organisations will be pursued by implementing consumer protection rules	2023	The Representative Actions Directive must be transposed by 25 December 2022 and has to apply as from 25 June 2023.	
63	Amend REACH to ensure compliance checks on all registrations of substances under REACH and to allow for the revocation of registration numbers	2022	Part of REACH revision (co-decision). Impact assessment is being finalised. Legal text is being drafted. Proposal to be adopted at the latest by Q4 2023.	Legal proposal (REACH revision - codecision)
64	Proposal to amend REACH to introduce a European Audit Capacity	2022	Part of REACH revision (co-decision). Specific study supporting the development of options for a European Audit Capacity to ensure compliance and effective national control and enforcement of REACH and on standards for national official control and enforcement systems for REACH, CLP, POPs and PIC regulations finalised. Impact assessment is being finalised. Legal text is being drafted. Proposal to be adopted at the latest by Q4 2023.	Legal proposal (REACH revision - codecision)

65	Target known areas of high risk of non-compliance, in particular online sales, imported articles, classification and labelling and restrictions		Ongoing analysis of the experience gathered by Member States and reflection on list of subjects of concern	Potential implementing Act under REACH
66	Proposal to extend OLAF's scope of action to investigations on the circulation of illicit chemical products in the EU	2022	Currently under assessment as part of the ongoing revision of REACH. Impact assessment is being finalised. Legal text is being drafted. Proposal to be adopted at the latest by Q4 2023.	Legal proposal (REACH revision - codecision)
67	Support Member States to prioritise integrated enforcement through multi-legislation checks		Under discussion by EU services and in relevant networks	
68	Ensure a harmonised EU-wide response and coordinated exchange of information on enforcement of chemical legislation, by strengthening the use of relevant Commission IT platforms		Under discussion by EU services and with relevant networks	
69	Explore the use of digital tools to support market surveillance and customs authorities as well as to improve the compliance of products containing chemicals sold online to European consumers	As of 2022	Under discussion within the development of a Digital Product Passport (Sustainable Products Initiatives)	
70	Encourage the Member States to use the Recovery and Resilience Facility to invest in the reinforcement of market surveillance infrastructures and digitalisation	As of 2021	COM has screened and made recommendations to all national Recovery and Resilience Plans, in order to better align to the objectives of the Chemicals Strategy	Financial support and actions to be identified

71	Proposals for implementing acts under the Market Surveillance Regulation to set uniform conditions and frequency of checks for certain products	2022-23	Part of the ongoing implementation of the Market Surveillance Regulation	Implementing acts Market Surveillance Regulation
2.4. A comprehensive knowledge base on chemicals				
72	Proposals to revise requirements for registration in REACH to ensure: the identification of substances with critical hazard properties, including effects on the nervous and immune systems, the move towards grouping approaches, the registration of a sub-set of polymers, information on the overall environmental footprint of chemicals, the obligation of chemical safety reports for substances between 1-10 tonnes	2022	Part of REACH revision (codecision and comitology). Impact assessment is being finalised. Legal text is being drafted. Proposal to be adopted at the latest by Q4 2023.	Legal proposal (REACH revision - codecision and comitology)
73	Develop a strategic research and innovation agenda for chemicals	2022	Strategic research and innovation agenda for safe and sustainable chemicals and materials published on 26 October 2022.	Strategic R&I agenda (and indications of related financial support)
74	Foster multidisciplinary research and digital innovations for advanced tools, methods and models, and data analysis capacities to also move away from animal testing	As of 2021	Has been covered by/will be continued to be covered by: LIFE, Horizon Europe, Digital Europe programme. Horizon Europe: PARC project started in May 2022. ASPIS cluster of 3 projects (RISK-HUNT3R, PRECISIONTOX and ONTOX) on alternative methods started in Autumn 2021. Final results from EURION cluster (8 projects, H2020) will be available by Q2 2024. A policy brief will be published during 2023. Results from EU-TOXRISK (H2020 project) available. Forthcoming topics in Horizon Europe WP2023/2024 for SSbD tools and methods and Health impacts of endocrine-disrupting	R&I development, foster uptake of new tools and methods

			chemicals.	
75	Fund EU-wide human and environmental (bio)monitoring	As of 2020	HBM4EU ended in 2022. PARC started in May 2022 and will continue supporting HBM activities and bring innovation to environmental monitoring schemes. Cluster of projects (5 projects) on the health impacts of micro and nanoplastics on human health (monitoring of micro and nanoplastics in the environment (food, water, air) and risk assessment (health impacts measured e.g. on the gastrointestinal track, respiratory barriers, immunological system) started in 2021 and produced its 1st policy brief. Indoor air quality and health cluster of projects (7 projects) kicked off in Q3 2022.	Development and maintenance of a EU wide HBM platform with harmonised SOPs and certified laboratories.
76	Establish an EU Chemical Early Warning and Action System	2023	Contract on a pilot early warning system for chemical risks to the environment is finalised and the report is published . Follow up actions currently under discussion in the framework of the one substance, one assessment and possibly as part of the legislative proposal on data. Supporting projects for this topic will start under PARC.	Under discussion
77	Development of an indicator framework on chemicals	2024	Ongoing technical work led by ECHA and EEA to map all relevant indicators, propose new ones and define the framework concept to assess progress on CSS objectives. Framework concept and initial list of CSS indicators delivered and agreed by the interservice group. Several CSS indicators are foreseen to feed into the Zero Pollution indicator framework.	Set of indicators
2.5 Provide a model inspiring chemicals management globally				
78	Step up its international advocacy to meet the 2030 Agenda's goals and targets for the sound management of chemicals, in particular by having a leading role and promoting the implementation of existing international instruments as well as EU standards globally	As of 2020	Preparation of new proposal for listing a chemical under the Stockholm Convention. Drafting of notifications of regulatory action on chemicals under the PIC Regulation.	Council Decision on the nomination of chlorpyrifos under the Stockholm Convention adopted . Submission of notifications of regulatory action on chemicals under the Rotterdam Convention.

79	Strive for the adoption of global strategic objectives and targets for the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 to reflect life cycle approaches for chemicals, in line with the post-2020 global biodiversity targets	2022	Contribution to definition of EU position on targets post 2020. Universal consensus reached at the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA5) to launch negotiations of an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment. The negotiations are starting.	EU contribution to definition of targets adopted at ICCM5
80	Initiatives with international organisations and industry to promote the use of the UN GHS internationally	As of 2020	Ongoing project with UNEP and CEFIC on GHS implementation in selected African countries.	Project with UNEP and CEFIC on GHS implementation in selected African countries successfully implemented.
81	Proposal at the UN GHS level to introduce, adapt or clarify criteria/hazard classes in line with the CLP Regulation	2022-24	The proposal to include new hazard classes in the UN global harmonised system for classification and labelling was submitted in December 2022. The dedicated sub-group agreed to initiate its work.	New hazard classes in GHS
82	Promote the development of common standards and innovative risk assessment tools internationally, notably with the OECD, and promote their use under international frameworks, inter alia to shift further away from animal testing		Ongoing efforts of the EU services and OECD member countries under the auspices of OECD chemical and biotechnology committee to streamline OECD initiatives in the support of the Strategy.	New (or updated) OECD test guidelines and guidance documents. Legal proposal (update of REACH Annexes)

83	Support, in particular through funding, to build the capacity of third countries to assess and manage chemicals	2020-2022	<p>EU is supporting the Special Programme on the management of chemicals and waste, coordinated by UNEP. Starting with the new term as from 2022, both DG ENV and DG INTPA will be represented in the Special Programme's Executive Board.</p> <p>Continuous support to Western Balkans and Turkey through fifth project under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA). This project is targeted at assisting potential candidates and candidate countries to the EU in preparing for the obligations of EU membership, in this context specifically regarding chemical safety regulations. Sixth project to start in 2022.</p> <p>Support to capacity building through ongoing project with UNEP and CEFIC on GHS implementation in selected African countries.</p> <p>Ongoing project with IOMC organisations on the IOMC toolbox and new project under discussion . The IOMC toolbox is built to help in particular developing countries to improve chemicals management. The new project will focus on capacity building, i.e. how to use the toolbox to improve chemicals management.</p>	Financial support, Capacity building - preparedness for accession
84	Ensure that hazardous chemicals banned in the European Union are not produced for export including by amending relevant legislation if and as needed.	2023	The Commission is currently preparing to launch the legislative initiative and is considering a number of options for implementing this objective. An impact assessment will be launched in 2023 and the legal proposal is expected for Q4 2023. Consultations will be conducted in the framework of a supporting study.	Legal proposal (TBD)
85	Promote due diligence in the sustainable production and use of chemicals in the future initiative on sustainable corporate governance	2021	Part of the proposal for a Sustainable Corporate Governance directive. The proposal was adopted by the Commission on 23 February 2022.	Legal proposal (Sustainable Corporate Governance directive)