



Opening keynote

Implementing EU chemicals policy changes – How ECHA's role is evolving

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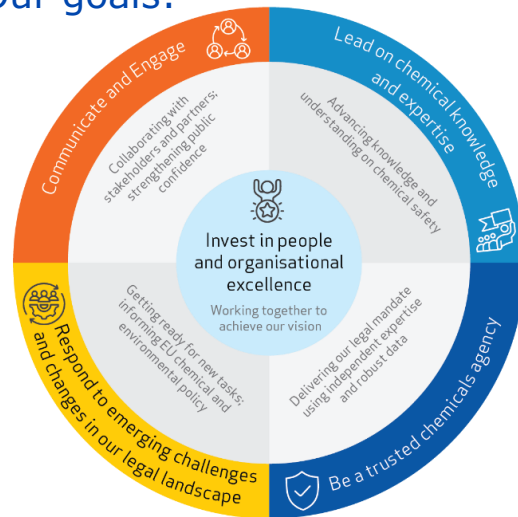


Chemical Safety through Science, Collaboration and Knowledge

Our mandate:

-  **Implementation of EU Chemicals legislation**
Deliver technical, scientific, and administrative work to support EU chemicals legislation and policy.
-  **Independent scientific opinions**
Provide transparent, independent, and high-quality scientific opinions to inform EU decision-making.
-  **Collaboration with partners**
Work closely with EU institutions, Member State authorities, and international partners.
-  **Access to reliable information**
Support companies – especially SMEs – with tools, advice, and guidance to meet their obligations.
-  **Public information and transparency**
Ensure reliable, objective information is accessible to the public and stakeholders.

Our goals:




Facts and figures:

-  **2007**
Established
-  **EUR ~150m**
2026 budget
-  **~650**
Statutory staff

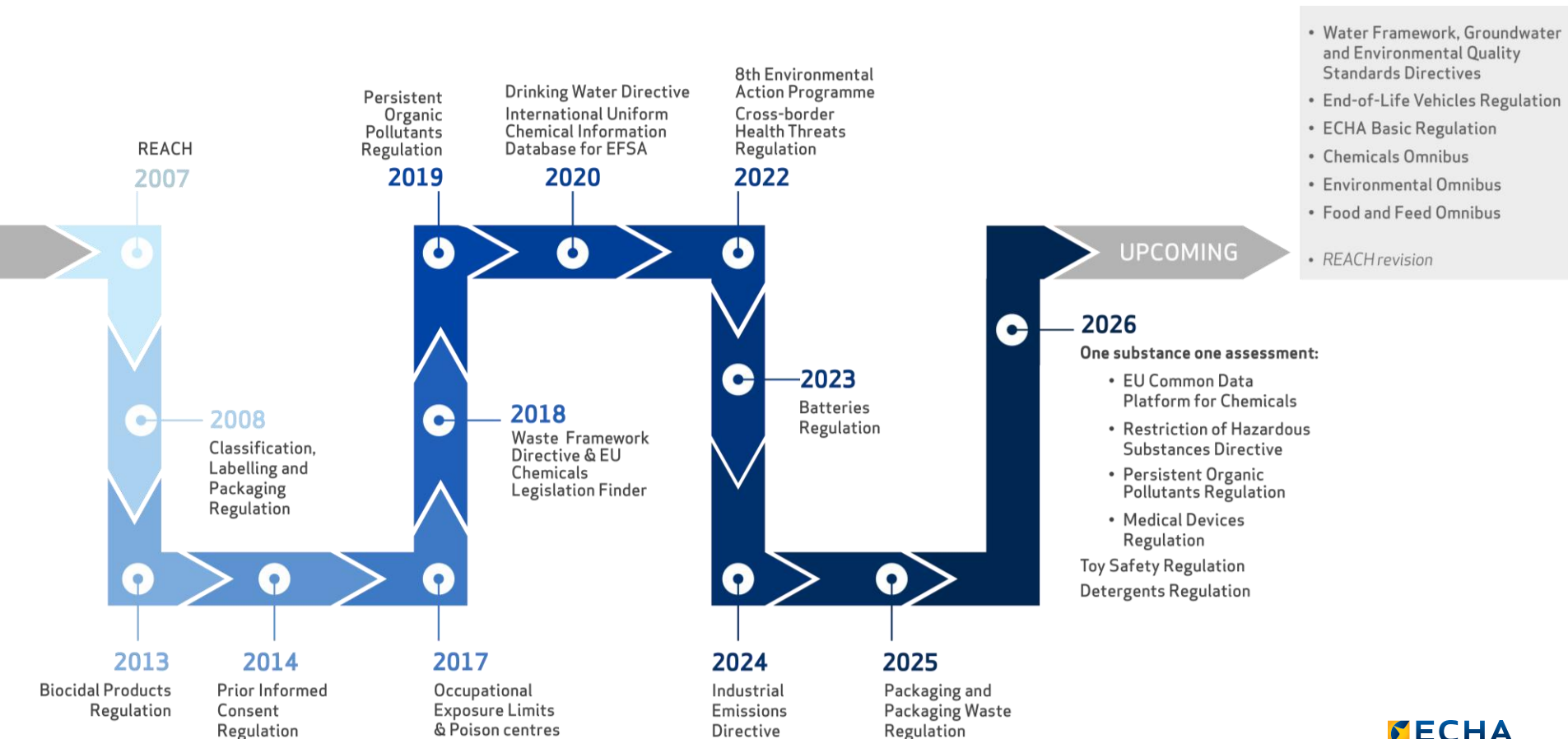
Working together:

-  DG GROW
European Commission
DGs ENV, SANTE, EMPL
-  EU Institutions,
Agencies,
Member States and
Stakeholders

Impact:

-  Health & environment
Innovation
Non-animal methods
Digital tools
Chemicals data hub

Our growing mandate



The EU policy context driving change



EU Chemicals policy is evolving

Shift toward **competitiveness, simplification, resilience but not at the cost of safety.**



Upcoming changes

- One Substance One Assessment (OSOA)
- ECHA Basic Regulation



ECHA remains focussed on

- Protecting health and the environment
- Providing independent, transparent and high-quality scientific opinions, decisions and outputs
- Being future ready – new tasks, digitalisation, data
- Simplifying and modernising how ECHA operates

'One Substance, One Assessment' - OSOA

- Entered into force 1 January 2026
- Key initiative under EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability
- Aim: make chemical safety assessments more efficient, effective, consistent and transparent
- At the core of this package is a new **common data platform on chemicals** bringing together chemical data collected under various EU laws
- **Stronger cooperation** between EU chemicals agencies, reducing duplication of work, and consolidating scientific and technical tasks
- Introducing a **monitoring and outlook framework** to detect emerging chemical risks earlier

Package consists of **three legislative acts**:

- Regulation establishing a common data platform on chemicals and a monitoring and outlook framework for chemicals
- Regulation re-attributing technical tasks and improving cooperation among EU agencies
- Directive on re-attribution of technical tasks to European Chemicals Agency (ECHA)

ECHA's tasks under one substance, one assessment package

- **ECHA gets new tasks from the Regulation on the common data platform and monitoring and outlook framework for chemicals**
- **the package also re-attributes other tasks in line with ECHA's competence e.g. on risk management, prioritisation and data management, contributing to a more effective and streamlined approach to addressing chemical risks:**
 - Preparing restriction proposals and assessing exemption requests under RoHS Directive
 - Setting limits for Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in waste
 - Updating benefit-risk assessment guidelines for medical devices
- **This OSOA package is a building block of 'One Health' implementation in EU**

ECHA Basic Regulation – modernising how ECHA operates



- **Adapting to ECHA's expanding mandate**
 - **New tasks** impact committees, in particular Risk Assessment and Socio-Economic Analysis Committees, and the secretariat
 - Tasks under **ad hoc agreements** with Commission have become structural (e.g. OELs, EUCLEF)
- Aligning ECHA's **governance framework** with common approach on decentralised agencies (2012)
- Making ECHA's **financing structure** less rigid and more sustainable in light of declining fee income

Delivering for the future



Protecting health and the environment

Deliver science based, data driven work aligned with an expanded legal mandate and EU policy goals



Collaborating and Engaging

Work closely with EU Agencies, Member States, industry and NGOs



Modernising Digital and Data systems and tools

Provide modern IT tools and systems → accessible data & efficient workflows

Integrate AI & analytics in our systems and assessments



Remaining focussed on our vision

Chemical safety through science, collaboration & knowledge



Thank you

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