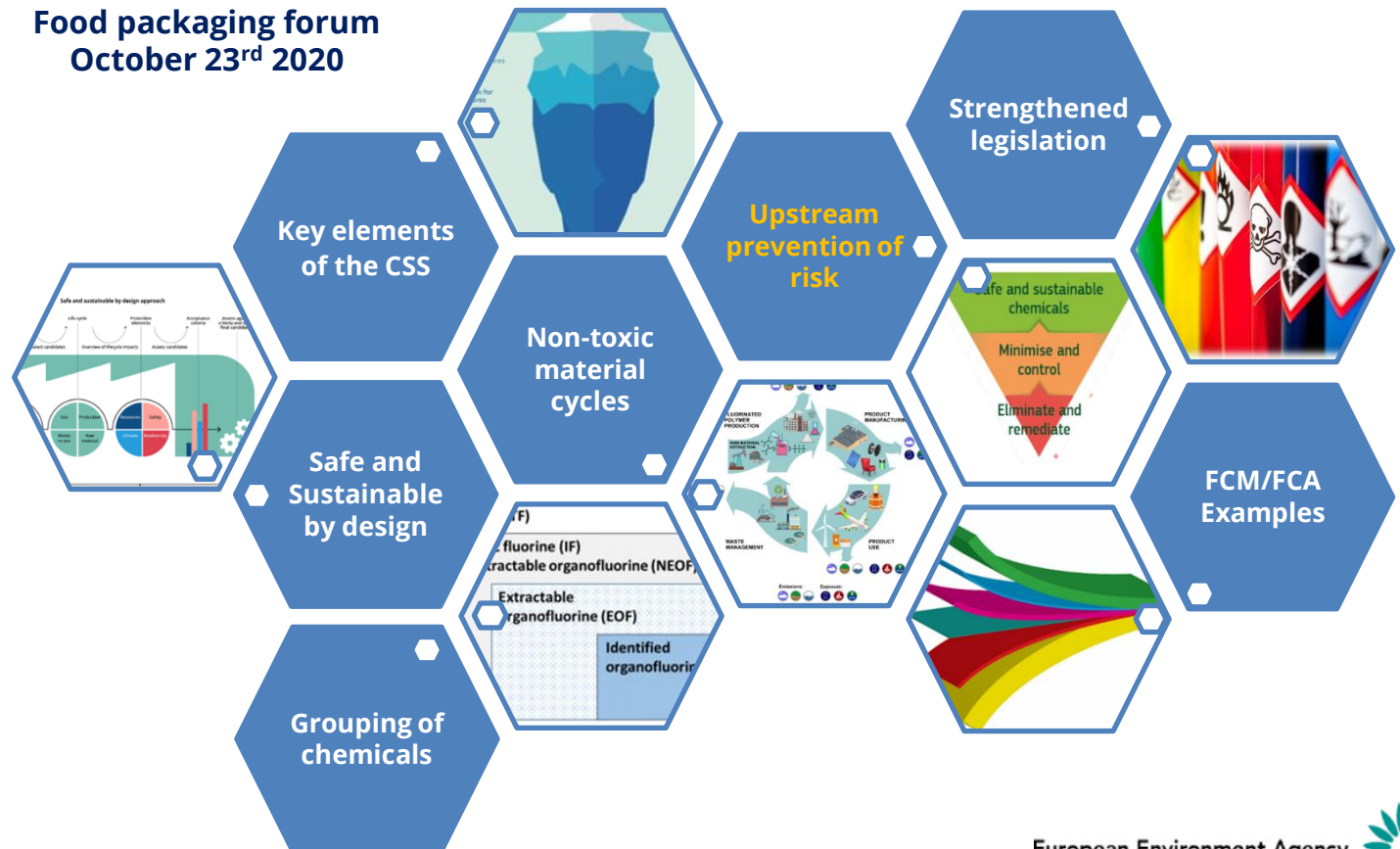


The EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability – implications for FCM

Xenia Trier, Ph.D.

*Expert on chemicals, environment and health
European Environment Agency*

Food packaging forum
October 23rd 2020



Context of the chemicals strategy

84%

Europeans are worried about the impact of chemicals present in everyday products on their health



90%

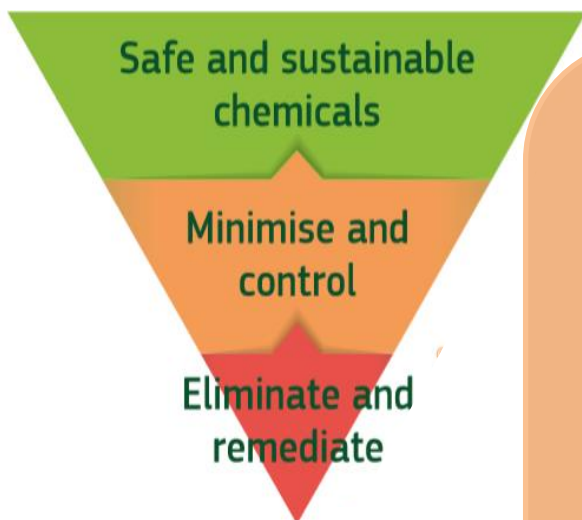
Europeans are worried about the impact of chemicals on the environment



The European Green Deal



Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability (CSS) 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

Credit: Elena Montani, DG ENV

Documents:

- **The CSS:** https://ec.europa.eu/environment/strategy/chemicals-strategy_en
- **Annex to CSS with actions and timelines**
- **Mixtures staff working document (SWD)**
- **PFAS staff working document (SWD)**





Avoiding
harm to
planet and
people

Strengthened legislation

- Ensure **most harmful chemicals not contained** in consumer products, extend across regulations incl. FCM
 - ***CMRs, endocrine disruptors, persistent and bio-accumulative substances, chemicals affecting immune, neurological and respiratory systems and toxic to specific organs***
- **New hazard classes (CLP)**
 - EDCs, PBTs/vPvBs and persistent and mobile substances
- Address **chemical mixtures** across legislation
 - Mixture Assessment Factor (MAF)
- **Boost protection of children, professional users, and workers**
- Apply the concept of **essential uses** in chemical legislation
- **Phase out non-essential uses of PFAS**



Simplifying and consolidating

- **'One substance, one assessment'**
 - Improve transparency: Overview of planned/ongoing initiatives, discussion with MS/EU Agencies, internal EC coordination
- Improve methodologies, data interoperability & accessibility incl. through a **common open data platform on chemicals**
- **Reform REACH authorization/restriction** processes (2022)
- **Strengthen compliance, enforcement and market surveillance**

Credit: Elena Montani, DG ENV



Innovation,
competiveness
and
recovery

Boosting innovation

- **Support industrial innovation:**
climate neutral & clean production – financial taxonomy
- Promote **innovative testing and risk assessment methods**
- **Non-toxic material cycles**
in products & waste decontamination solutions
- Promote **safe and sustainable-by-design** of
chemicals, materials, products: **criteria and support
network**

Credit: Elena Montani, DG ENV



Safe and Sustainable by Design

- of chemicals, materials, products and processes

Upstream prevention of risk

Research and Innovation

Non-toxic material cycles

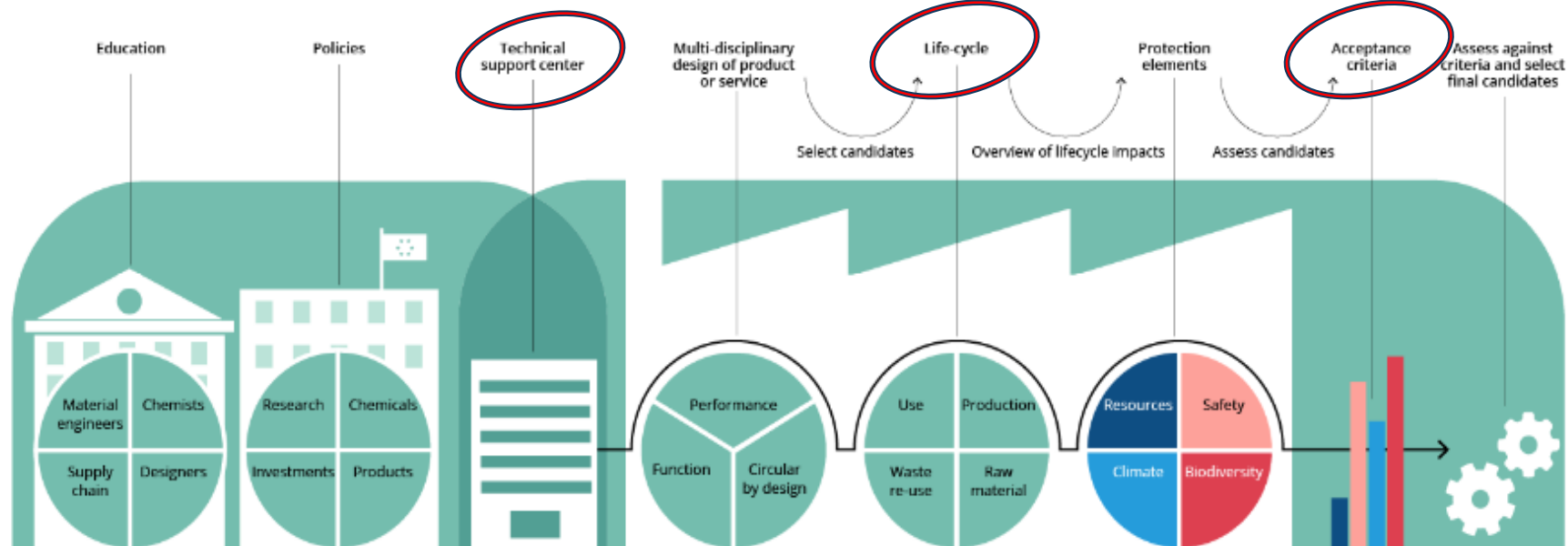
Support networks

Compliance

Global leadership

Enabling environment

Safe and sustainable by design approach



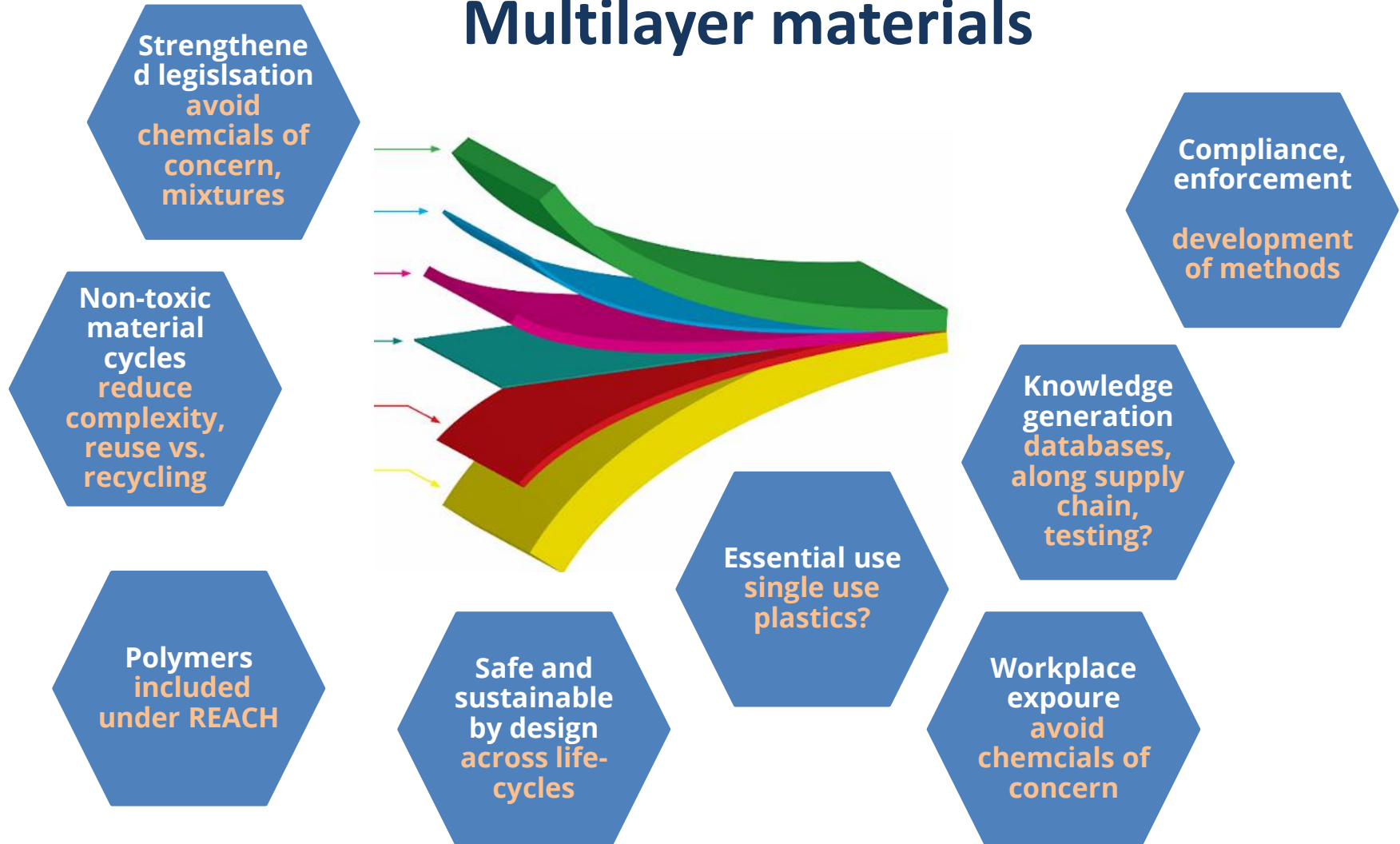


A comprehensive knowledge base

- **Improve knowledge on chemical properties and uses**
 - **Requiring more information** on
 - polymers
 - environmental footprint
 - low volume chemicals
 - specific hazard properties
 - **Tracking substances on concerns in products/materials**
- Establish long-term **EU R&I agenda for chemicals**
 - Modelling in support of SSBD
- Finance via the R&I programs on Human and Environmental (Bio)-monitoring

Credit: Elena Montani, DG ENV

Example: Multilayer materials



Example: PFAS in FCM

Strengthened legislation
avoid chemicals of concern, mixtures

Assessments of impacts across lifecycles

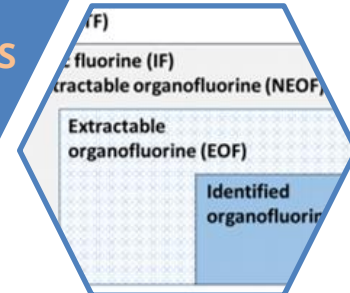
Non-toxic material cycles
reuse vs. recycling

Work place exposure
avoid chemicals of concern

Grouping of chemicals
Subgroups vs. total PFAS

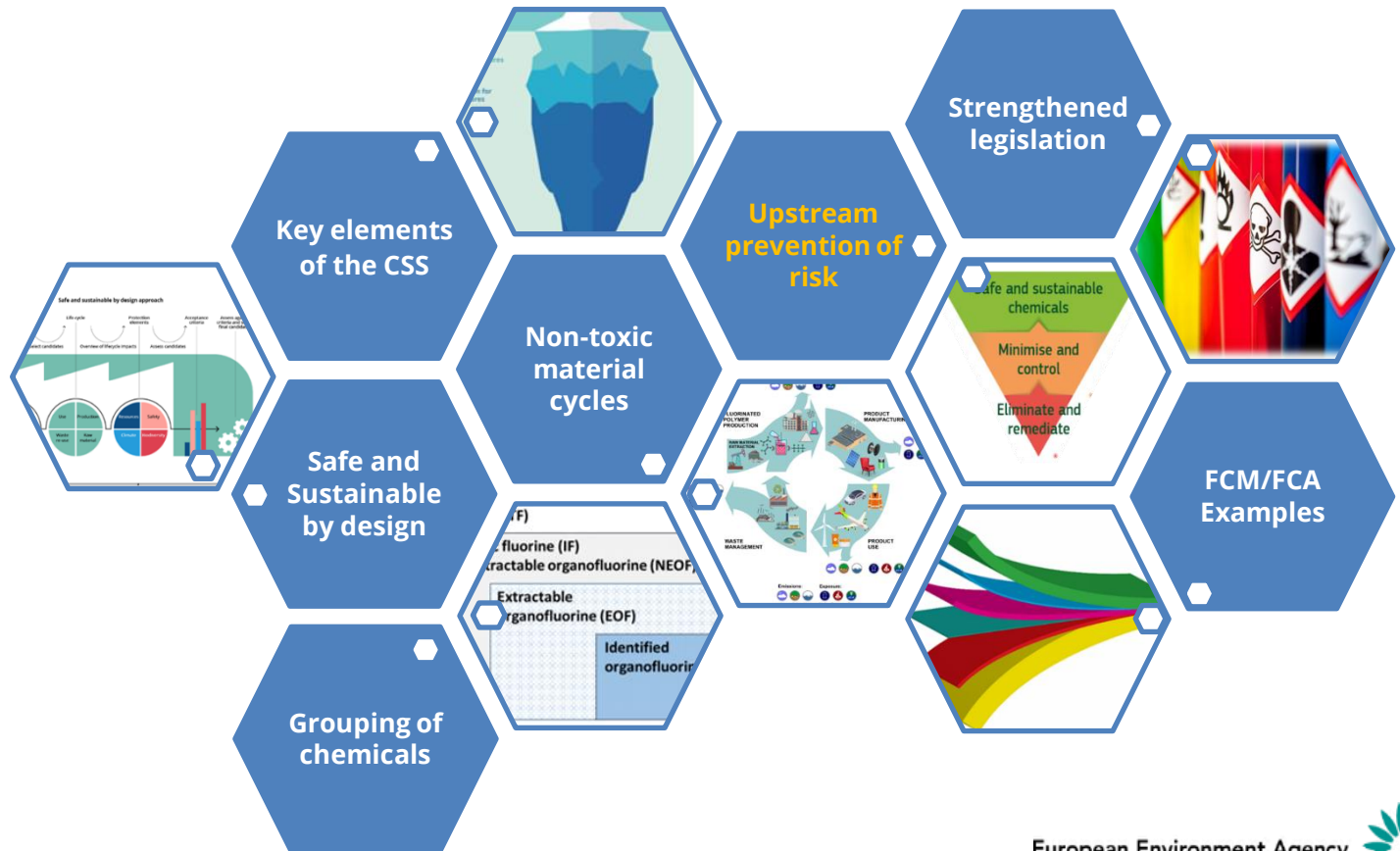
Restriction on PFAS non-essential uses, implement across legislations

Enforcement and compliance
test methods



The EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability

Ambitious!
A lot of work ahead
Need input from all stakeholders



Thanks for listening!

**Thanks to DG ENV for discussions
and for the ambitious CSS!**

**A particular thanks to
DG ENV colleagues
Urban Boije and Elena Montani**

**Thanks also to DG RTD colleagues
for discussions and for setting up
R&I in support of CSS**



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