



# Work on groups – getting to safer use of chemicals faster

Safer Chemicals Conference 2021

Jonathan Küster

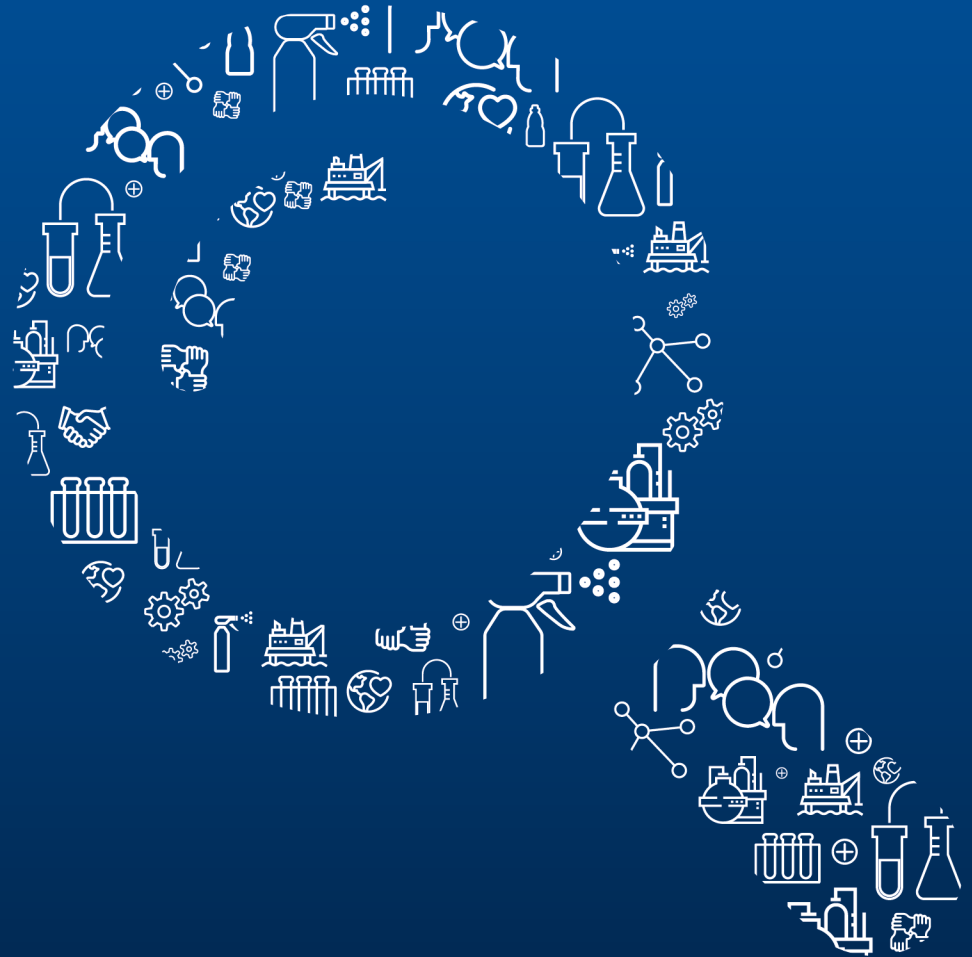
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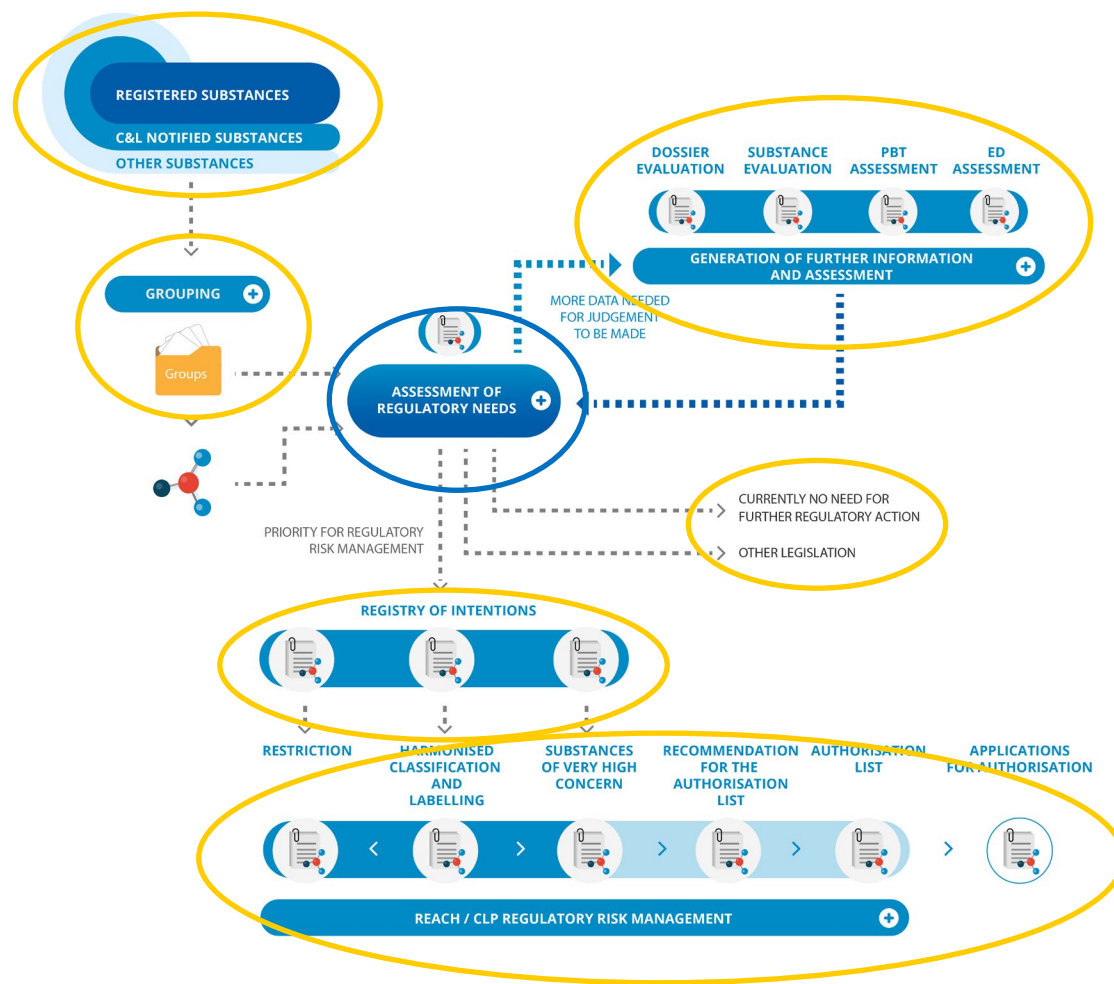
# Main focus

- Why we work on groups of substances
- How we work on groups of substances
- Where can you find more information?
- Things to remember

# Why we work on groups of substances

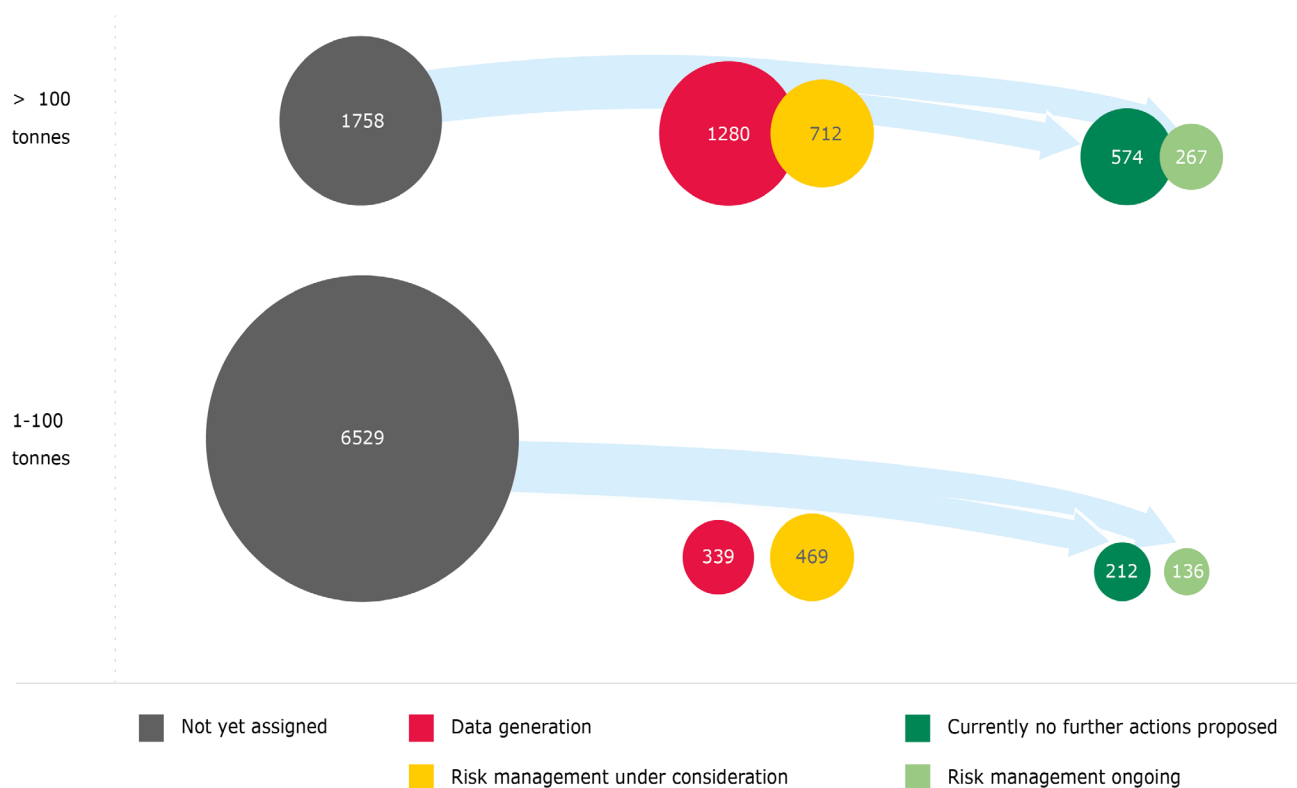


# Integrated Regulatory Strategy

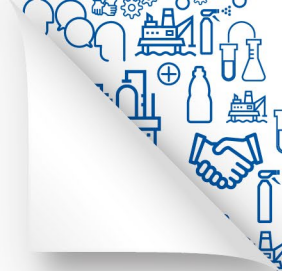


# Chemical universe mapping

Every **registered** substance mapped to **one** regulatory 'pool' based on planned, ongoing or concluded **regulatory actions**



(Data: Dec. 2020)



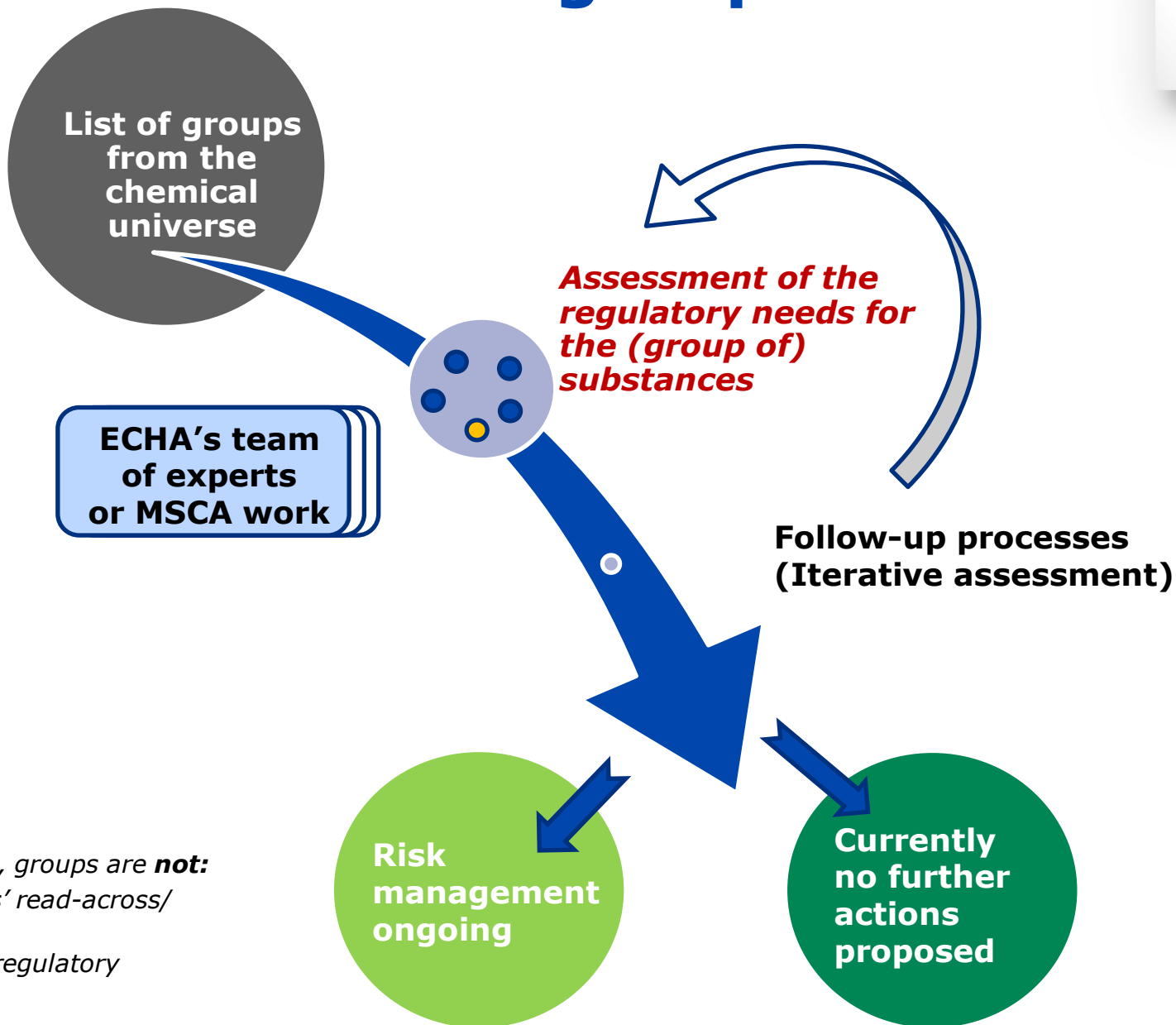
# Why we work on groups?

- For many substances of (potential) concern, relevant regulatory actions are already ongoing – on the substance itself or on related substances
  - Benefits:
    - Treats related substances consistently
    - Targets the right substances at the right time
    - Pools information which may allow faster action – despite data gaps
    - Increases predictability of authorities' actions
    - Supports informed substitutions, or avoids regrettable substitutions
- Preparatory work to support REACH & CLP processes

# How we work on groups of substances



# Work on groups



In this context, groups are **not**:

- registrants' read-across/ categories
- groups in regulatory processes





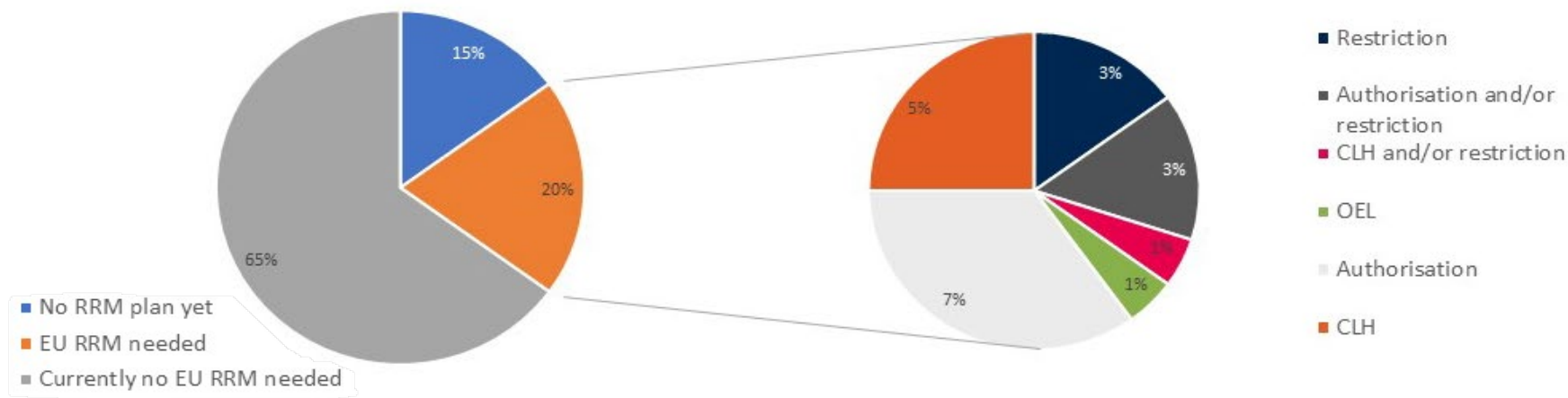
# Iterative assessment

- **First assessment at screening level**
  - Hazards
  - Uses/exposure
  - Group boundaries (and need for subgrouping)
  - Potential for substitution
  - Initial assessment of regulatory needs: immediate action and expected further regulatory actions for whole group, (sub)group or individual substances
- **Then, usually data generation or “currently no action” is proposed – in some cases, risk management is already possible**
  - Assessment of read-across/category approach is only done during official processes (e.g. compliance check)
- **Depth of assessment and knowledge on substances will increase in further iterations**



# Foreseen regulatory needs

- Plan for the longer-term regulatory risk management measures – beyond next action
- Longer-term regulatory need may be revised (e.g. when data is generated)
  - Regulatory needs will be reconsidered also for substances for which there is “currently no EU regulatory risk management needed” when further information becomes available



# Where can you find more information?



## More information

- Annual [IRS Report](#)

- Progress in identifying and addressing substances of concern
- Chemical universe
- Statistics
- Case studies

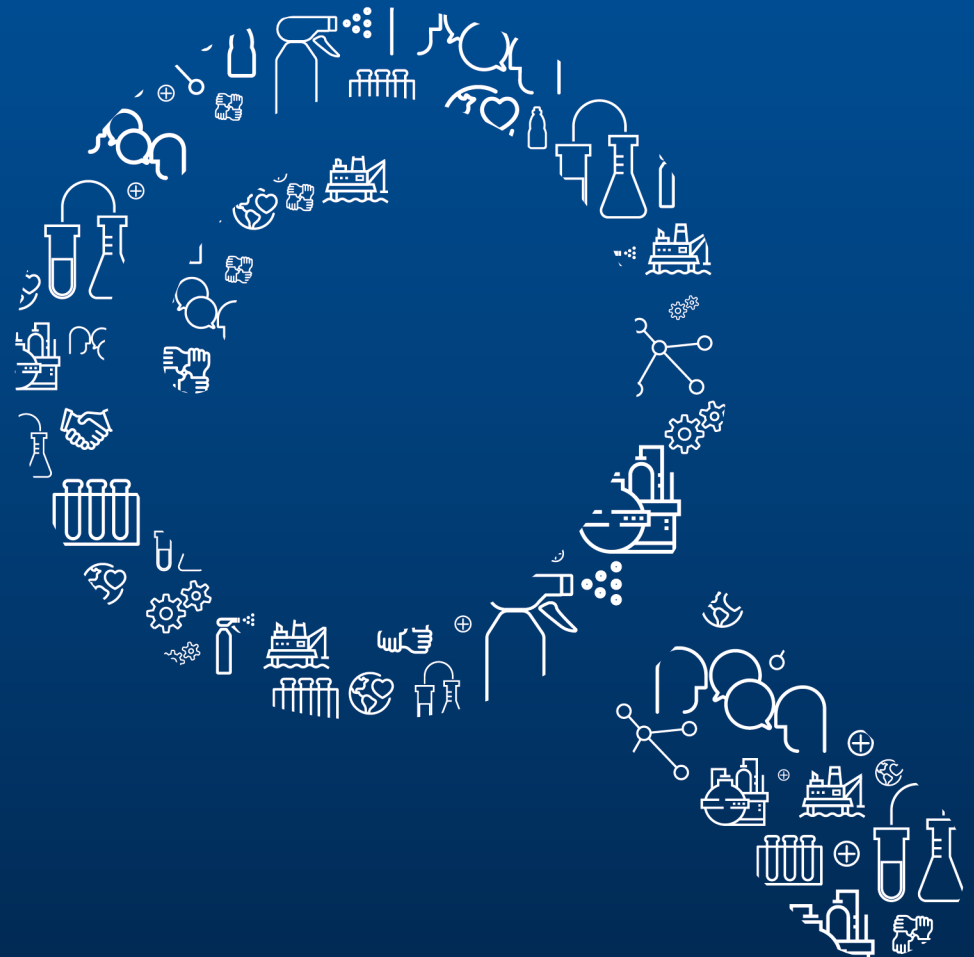
### Transparent progress in addressing substances of concern

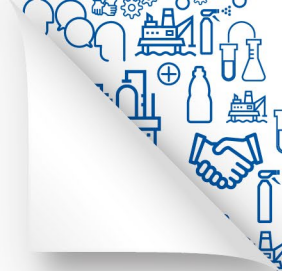
Integrated Regulatory Strategy  
Annual Report

April 2021

- Publication of assessments of regulatory needs
  - Report (pdf) on currently expected regulatory needs and proposed immediate actions for all substances in a group
  - Increased transparency and predictability of our work
  - Published from end of 2021

# Things to remember





# Things to remember

- Doing more, faster
  - Ten times more substances assessed in 2020 compared to previous years before ECHA started work on groups
- Consistent, holistic, predictable
  - Better integration of regulatory processes
  - Minimising regrettable substitution
- Update your registrations proactively (hazards, uses, volumes) and follow the publication of the assessments of regulatory needs on our website



# Thank you!

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