



EEB

European
Environmental
Bureau

Using the REACH revision and transitions to make a positive change

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European Environmental Bureau

Dutch mini symposium. REACH revision 2022





Who are we?

The EEB is Europe's largest network of environmental citizens' organisations

Our 180 members from 38 countries have more than 30 million individual supporters.

We have almost 50 years of EU environmental policy expertise.



Climate



Nature



Circular Economy



Economic Transition



European Institutions and Governance



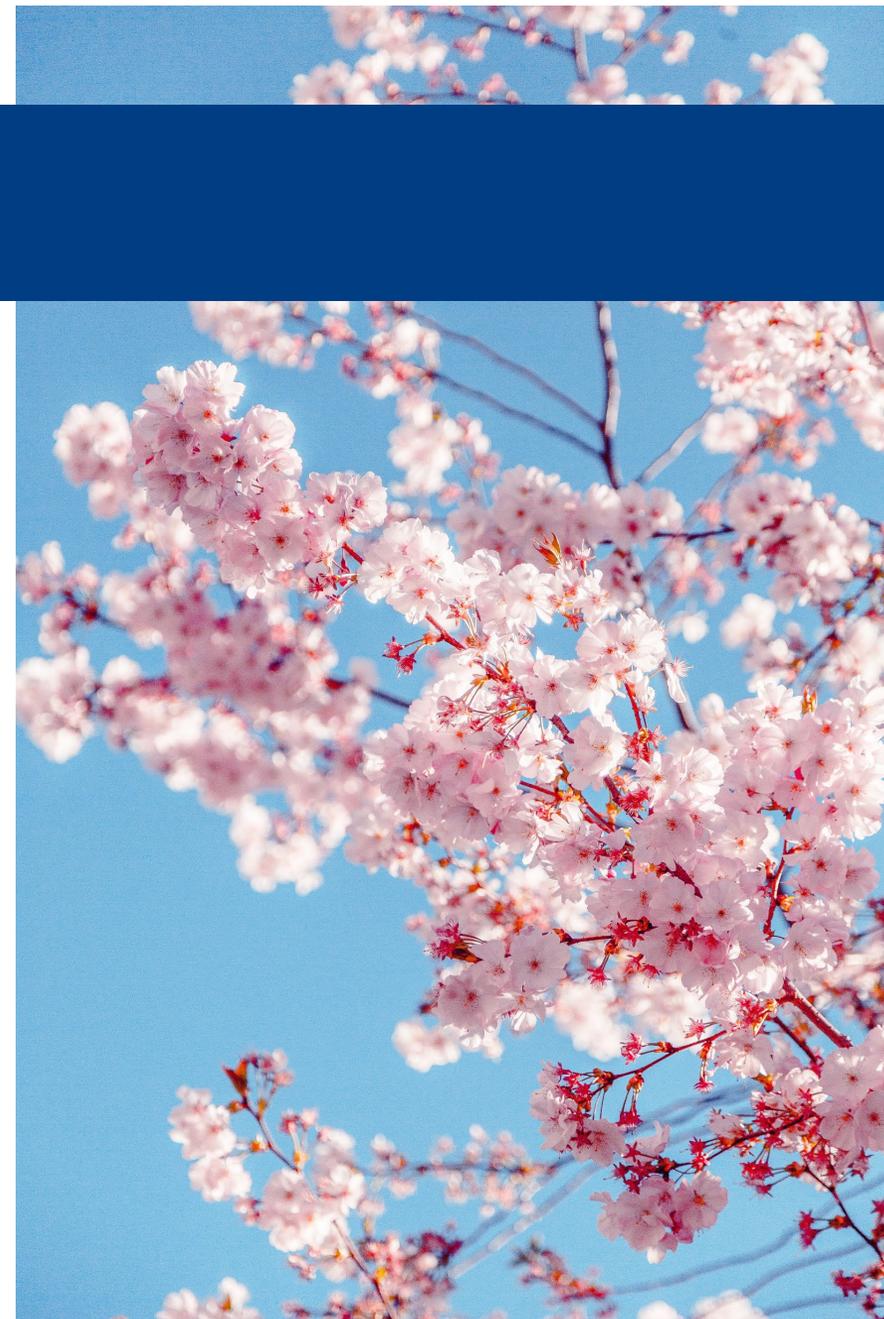
Global and Regional Policies



Health and Environment



Environmental Law and Justice





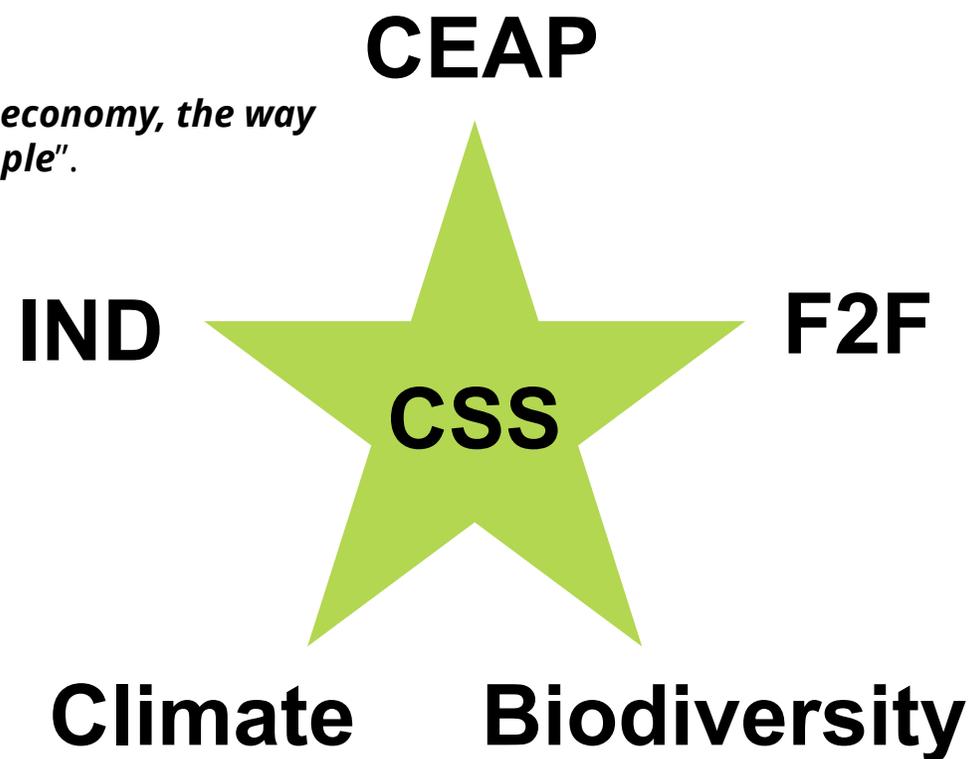
Europe's 'man on the moon' moment

The European Green Deal (EGD/ 2019) put the well-being of **people** and the **environment** on the political agenda.

Promise: to deliver a set of deeply transformative policies that would *"reconcile the economy, the way we produce, the way we consume, with our planet and to make it work for our people"*.

CSS central strategy of the EGD:

- ✓ Toxic-free hierarchy
- ✓ Safe and sustainable chemicals by design
- ✓ Non-toxic material cycles
- ✓ Protection against most harmful chemicals





Our system: chemicals angle

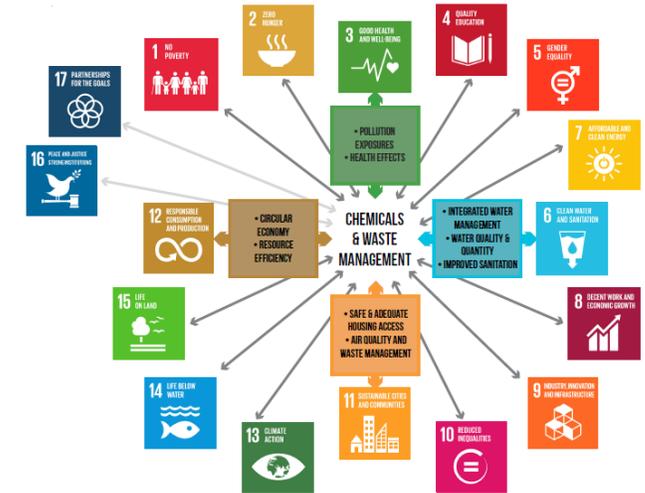
Chemical sector

The world's second largest industry, by far the largest industrial user of energy and one of the biggest emitters on the planet.

Officials allow chemicals with unknown safety threats on the market

The polluters don't pay

Those responsible for the pollution are not eligible for the damage they cause.



Chemicals and waste relevant to all SDGs

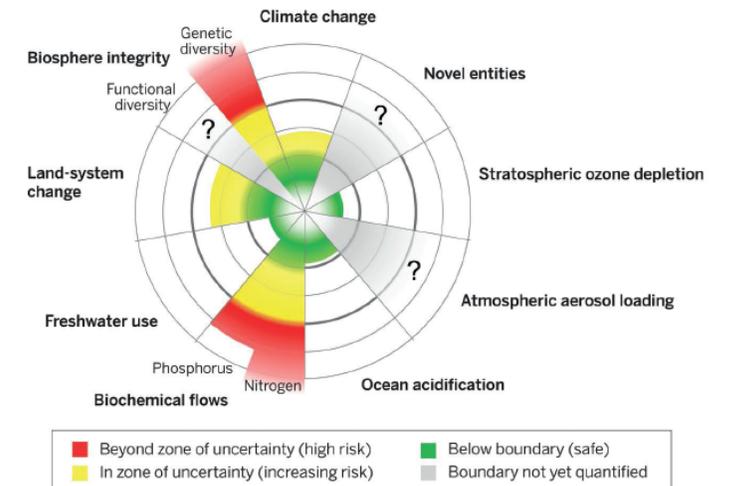


Chemicals pollution: Inescapable today!

Toxic pollution has reached every corner of the globe and crossed the “planetary boundary”, impacting our health, climate, biodiversity and circular economy.

Even our **babies** are born ‘pre-polluted’.

Chemicals affect our bodies through the contaminated food we eat, the water we drink, the products we use



***Six out of nine** planetary boundaries are closely related to chemical pollution.*



EEB's 'Need for Speed' report

It takes few weeks to allow chemicals to enter the market while it can take many years to phase them out.

It takes a maximum of **three weeks** to allow chemicals on EU market

The BUT BOMB:

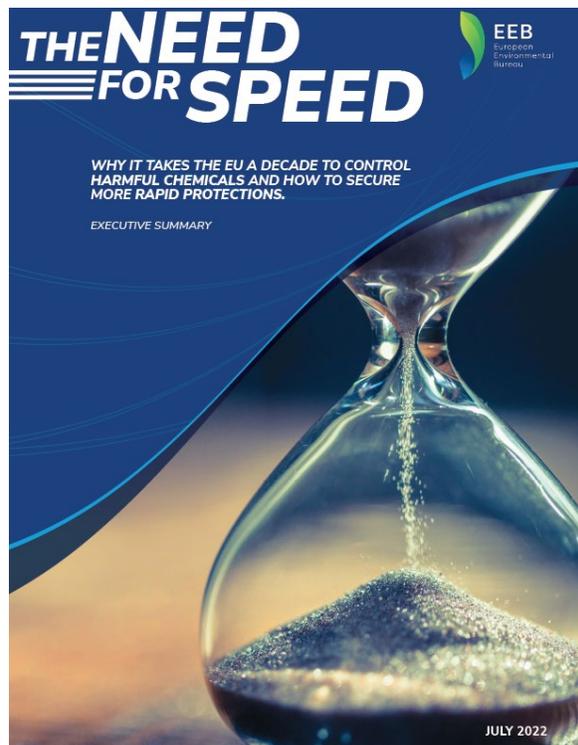
- to check the quality of that data: **five** years
- to evaluate a substance: **seven** years
- ARNs: **one year** and eight months
- Restriction (REACH): **five** years and seven months
- Authorisation (REACH): **nine** years and three months
- CLH (CLP): **Five** years and nine months

Phase out:

- Restriction: **19 years** and 3 months
- Authorisation: **22 years** and 11 months

To harmonise C&L:

- **19 years** and 5 months





REACH revision: investment for industry



- ✓ **Future-proof**
- ✓ **Health protection:** toxic-free products
- ✓ **Predictability,** harmonization & simplification for companies
- ✓ **Level-playing field:** companies from outside the EU should not be allowed to import chemicals banned in the EU through products
- ✓ **Clean circular economy:** better info in supply chains
- ✓ **Biodiversity:** Environmental protection
- ✓ **Climate:** SSbD chemicals



The REACH reform: Why hesitate?

- ✓ **Policy reform** now means effective changes later: these changes will not happen over-night and will not create obligations on companies in the short term.
- ✓ **Toxic-free vision** will give a firm direction to new ideas and investments geared towards the detoxification and the decarbonization of the chemicals industry.
 - ✓ The **REACH reform** means planning for long-term investments which will make Europe far more resilient to future crises. It's future-proof innovation that would place the EU industry in a **global leader position**.

Change happens in times of crisis. The industry should get on board and make the EGD and it's CSS work for us and the generations to come.



The EU chemicals industry

EU sold production of chemicals is on the rise

- Between 2011 and 2021, the total sold production of chemicals in the EU increased by €232 billion in terms of value.
- Due to “the very positive business development in the first half of 2022”, BASF now expect sales to grow to as much as €89 billion this year (compared to the previous forecast of up to €77 billion).



OCTOBER 4, 2022

Don't believe everything you hear – European chemical industry is doing fine



NGO priorities– REACH reform

PROTECT people and the environment

SPEED UP regulation

ALLEVIATE the burden placed on authorities

CLEAN the circular economy

ACCELERATE substitution and SSbD

IMPROVE transparency, accountability, and access to justice

MAKE polluters pay

ALLOCATE more resources to authorities





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Thanks for listening!

Keep in touch

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