



Integrating **EMAS, CRM, ESG & IED**  
for Sustainable Growth

**November 7th, 2025, Warsaw**



## A Strategic Look at Chemicals Risk Management.

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LIFE Fit for REACH 2 Project

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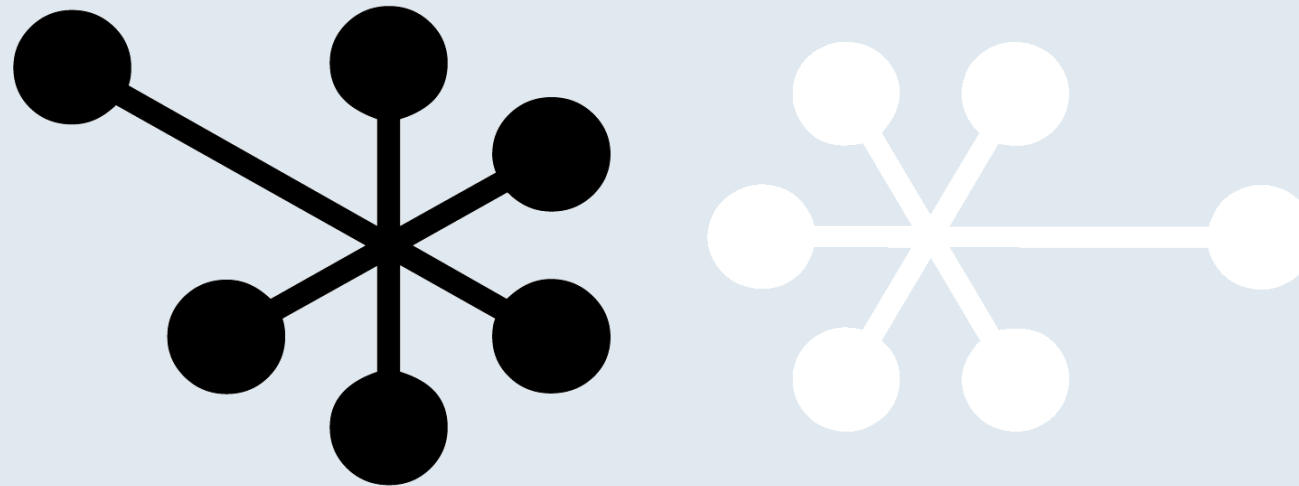
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## A Strategic Look at Chemicals Risk Management



The project “Chemicals Risk Management and Assessment of Alternatives: Tools and best practices to support circularity, create more sustainable products and avoid regrettable substitution” (LIFE FitForREACH2, No. 101113947 — LIFE22-ENV-EE-LIFE FitforREACH-2) is co-financed with the contribution of the LIFE Programme of the European Union.

# Overview

- What are chemical risks?
- Benefits of ambitious chemicals risk management
- Integration of chemicals risk management into EMAS



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# What is a chemical risk?

**Likelihood of damage  
to **human health** or  
the **environment** that results from  
**exposure** to one or several  
**hazardous** substances**



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# Hazards

- Physical chemical hazards,
  - Explosive
  - Flammable
- Human health hazards
  - Carcinogenic
  - Toxic
- Environmental hazards
  - Acute aquatic toxicity



# Hazards

## Workplace Safety, Storage, Emergency Preparedness

- Human health hazards

- Carcinogenic
- Toxic



- Environmental hazards

- Acute aquatic toxicity

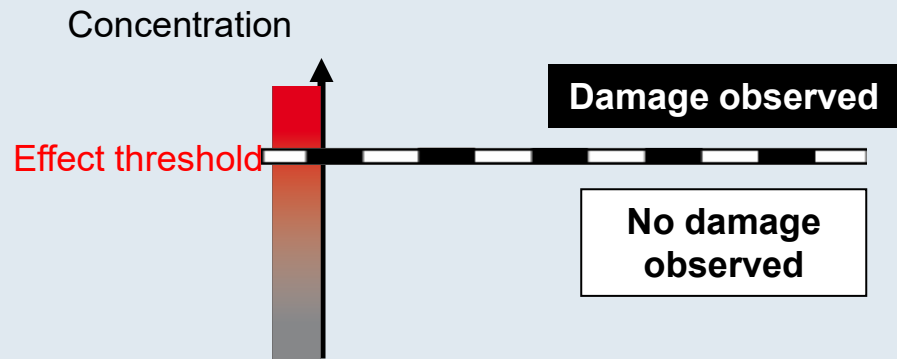


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# Hazard - Effect Threshold

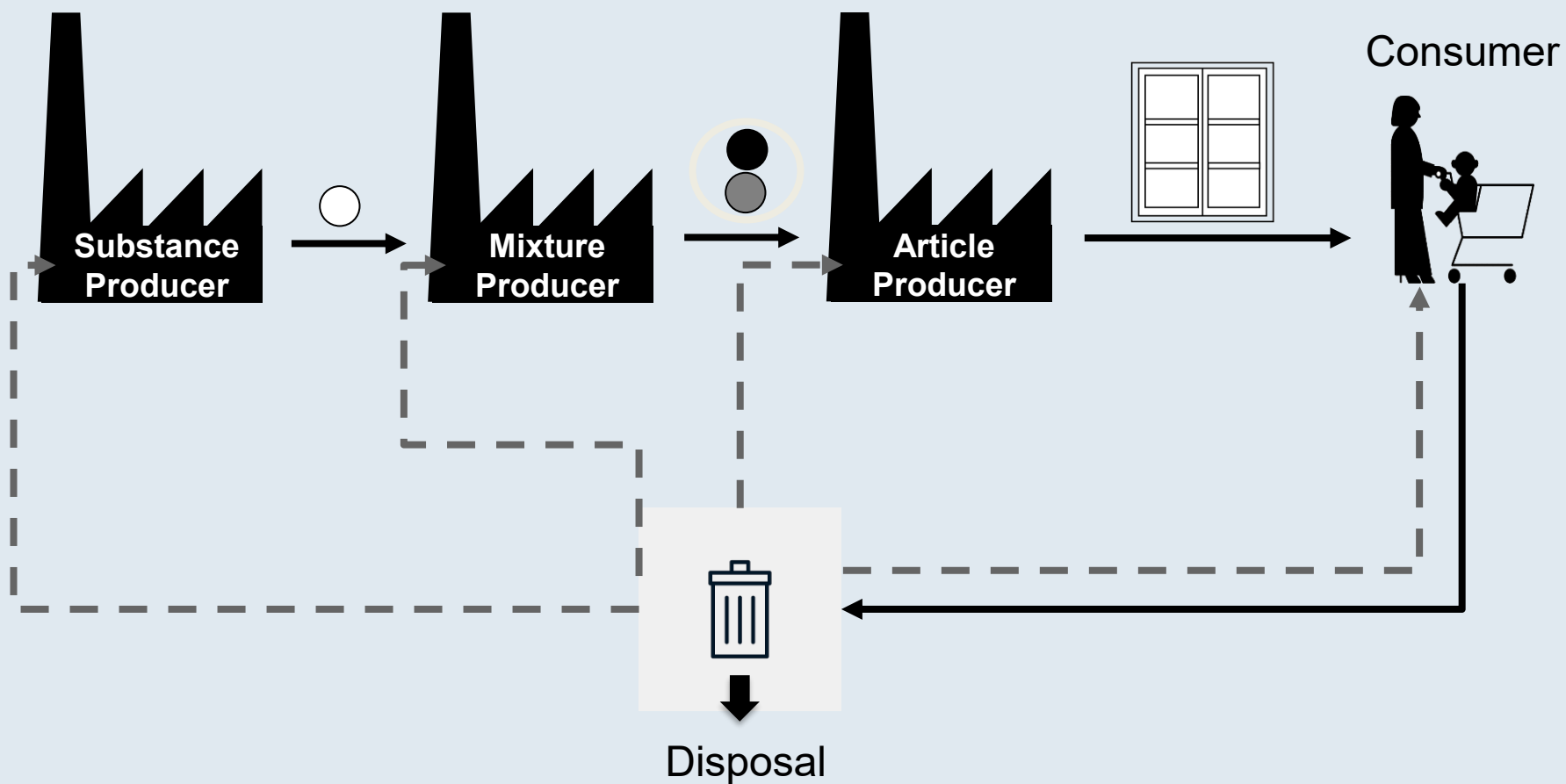


Source: Ökopol, Umweltbundesamt  
E-Learning REACH, not online anymore



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# The Life Cycle of a Chemical

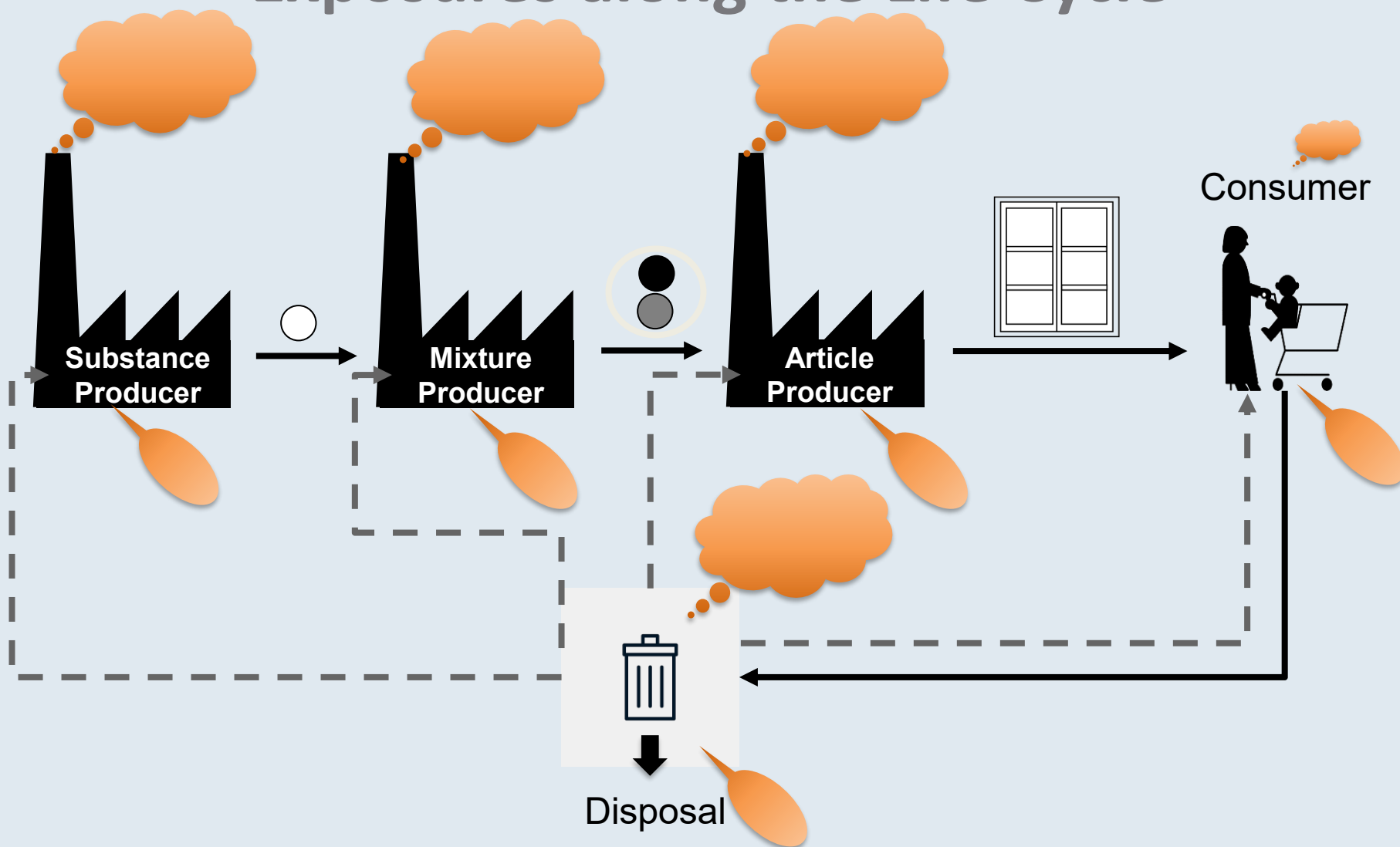


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# Exposures along the Life Cycle



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# Aim and approach of chemicals risk management

- **Prevent risks** from the use of chemicals
- **Core activities** of chemicals risk management
  - **Identify risks** from the use of a chemical along its lifecycle
  - **Identify options** to minimize the risks and
  - **Implement** the most appropriate measure
  - **Check** if measures are (sufficiently) effective



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# Why chemicals should be integrated into corporate management approaches

- **Ensures sustainable operation of the enterprise**
  - Compliance
  - Competitiveness and cost control
  - Impact reduction
  - Safer material cycles



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# Compliance

- **Know what you use for what**
  - Authorisation to use chemicals
  - Restrictions in products chemicals are integrated into
  - Communication requirements, including future DPP
  - Reporting/notification
  - Foresee future legal developments and ensure supplies – market of own product



# Competitiveness and cost control

- **Be at the forefront for safe products**
  - Product safety as a marketing opportunity
  - Know priorities in product development
  - Reduce costs in chemicals handling
  - Avoid (future) scandals and/or even litigation cases



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# Impact reduction, safer materials

- **Minimize chemical risks to human health, the environment and the circular economy**
  - Substitution / elimination
  - Emission control
  - (exposure controls)



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# Entry point: significant environmental aspect...

- Why are chemicals not yet routinely a part of environmental management systems?
- They are not considered as “significant”
  - Not routinely assessed? Not considered in the past, too complex to touch?
  - (Perceived) lack of capacities and competences
  - Lack of ideas on how to approach? One chemical is seldom “the” problem?
  - Feeling that there are no alternatives / improvement potentials?
  - “Competition for significance” is lost to other (known/traditioned) aspects?
  - Lack of knowledge about the lifecycle?





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**Thank you for your attention!**



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