In brief

ECHA’s strategic plan 2019-2023

Our vision:
To be the centre of knowledge on the sustainable management of chemicals, serving a wide range of EU policies and global initiatives, for the benefit of citizens and the environment.

ECHA’s work will build on the information on all main chemicals used in the EU and registered at ECHA. Together with EU Member States and the European Commission, ECHA will ensure safer chemicals use in Europe by improving the basis of the data, disseminating and checking it and taking regulatory actions when needed.

These actions will push industry to handle and use chemicals safely along the supply chain, improve product quality and become sustainable – protecting EU citizens, workers and the environment.

To reach these goals, ECHA will build on its data, knowledge and competences to put into practice three strategic priorities.

©iStock.com/David Sucsy
**Priority 1**

**Identify substances of concern and manage risks**

» **Objective**
Accelerate data generation and the identification of substances of concern. Accelerate regulatory action on substances of concern.

» **ECHA has received information of all the main chemicals on the EU market**

However, many companies do not provide enough of the required information to ensure the safe use of chemicals. If important safety information is missing, ECHA will request companies to provide more data. The Agency will work with national authorities and the Commission to focus on chemicals that are of concern – those likely to pose risks to health or the environment. ECHA will work increasingly on groups of substances to reduce data gaps, speed up work to identify the risks posed by chemicals of concern and induce faster responses from industry.

**Priority 2**

**Safe and sustainable use of chemicals by industry**

» **Objective**
Effective communication along the supply chain becomes mainstream.

» **Companies must communicate information on how to handle chemicals safely along the supply chain to manufacturers, users, retailers and consumers.**

ECHA helps companies manage chemicals safely while striving for sustainability and innovation by, for example, providing tools, guidance, information and best examples.

The Agency’s database on chemicals, analysis and tools are publicly available and free of charge for the benefit of companies, researchers, industry associations and consumer organisations. ECHA will ensure industry increasingly uses the available tools and formats to fully communicate safety information on chemicals and chemicals in products along the supply chain.

This includes providing better information on a product’s service life, waste disposal, recycling and exposure assessments. ECHA will also increase its support to industry and EU countries to encourage replacing chemicals of concern with less hazardous substitutes.

**Priority 3**

**Manage chemicals sustainably by applying EU legislation**

» **Objective**
ECHA’s information, knowledge and competences support the implementation of EU legislation.

» **ECHA will work to enhance its knowledge and competences to support the application of EU legislation.** Working with the Commission and EU countries, we will identify legislation and policy areas to which ECHA can contribute.

ECHA will focus on areas where we can contribute significantly to ensuring a greater level of protection and where synergies exist regarding our current knowledge and competences. The Agency will build on its capabilities and digital tools to manage submitted data and its interpretation to improve the safe use of chemicals and evidence-based regulatory decisions. ECHA will create synergies with data sources from international programmes and countries outside the EU.

**ECHA – working for the safe use of chemicals**

By implementing the EU’s legislation on chemicals together with national authorities and the Commission, ECHA is:

» helping industry to comply with legal requirements;
» advancing the safe use of chemicals;
» addressing chemicals of concern; and
» providing information on chemicals.