



Miljøministeriet

Green Chemicals Policy

- a Danish perspective

Helsinki Chemicals Forum

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PREVENTION – critical for protection of humans and the environment

Hundredvis spiste giftigt kød i flere år – nu går myndighederne ind i sagen

11. apr. 2021, 13:46

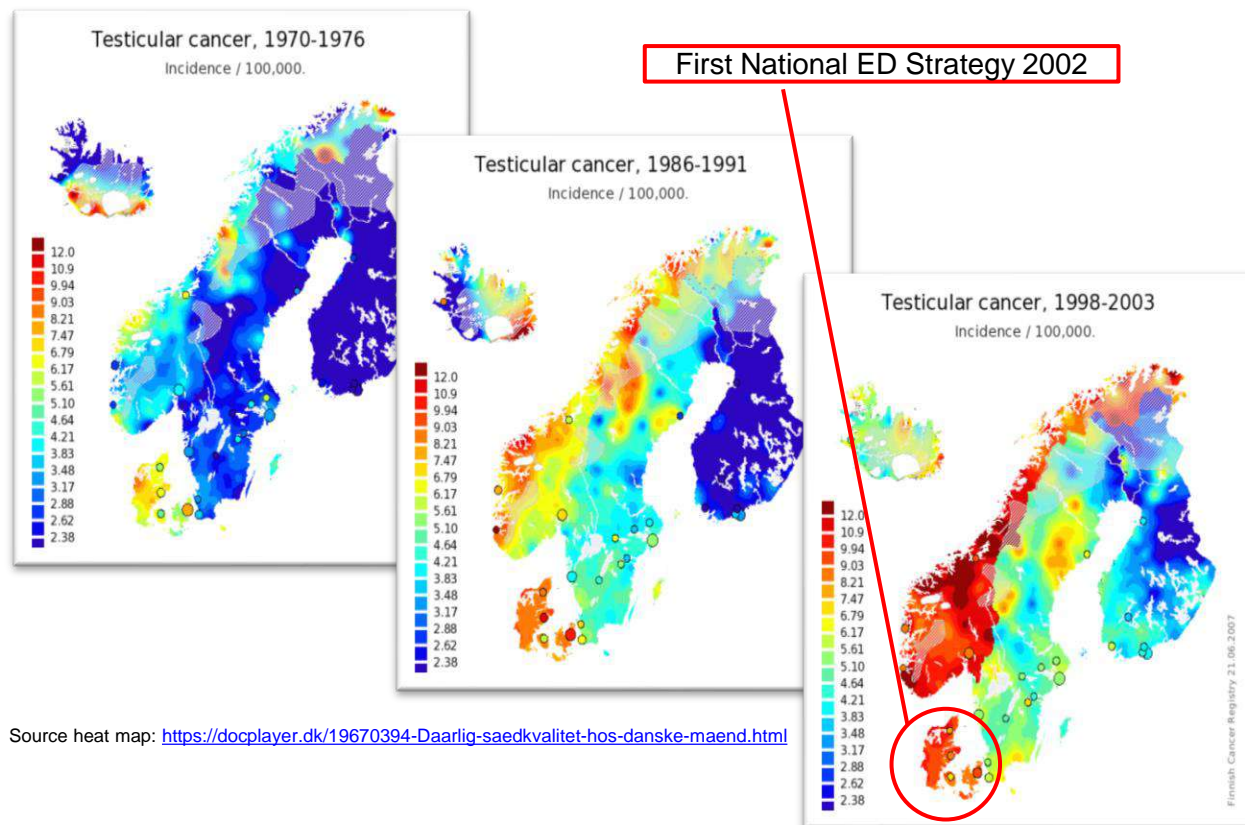


Foreningen har gennem de seneste 15 år haft køer græssende på en eng ned mod et vandløb, hvor også et afløb fra den lokale brandskole munder ud. Foto: TV 2 ØST



Her ses de fem kvier på marken ved den forurenede grøft, hvor et ophold på blot to en halv måneds i sommeren 2020 gjorde deres kød så giftigt, at det er farligt at spise. Privatfoto

Source: 1) <https://nyheder.tv2.dk/samfund/2021-04-11-hundredvis-spiste-giftigt-koed-i-flere-aar-nu-gaar-myndighederne-ind-i-sagen> 2) Picture from Sjællandske, section 1, 20th March 2021



Source: <https://www.chemistryworld.com/news/tyre-compound-driving-mystery-salmon-deaths-identified-after-years-of-chemical-detective-work/4012851.article>



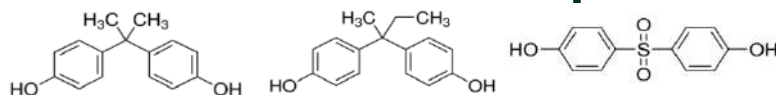
From strategy to policy - GETTING IT RIGHT – REACH and CLP

The Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability - a unique opportunity to get it right!

Key elements for the Danish Government:

- **No chemicals of concern in consumer products!**

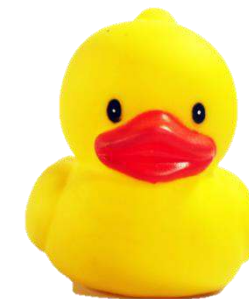
Group restrictions



- The concept of "essential use" needed to limit the use of the most problematic substances to essential application



From strategy to policy - GETTING IT RIGHT – REACH and CLP



Key elements for the Danish Government:

- **Children, other vulnerable groups and workers require better protection!**
Improve regulation of toys – extend to all children articles
- **Make ‘no data – no market’ a reality!** 
- **Improved data requirements!**
To eliminate knowledge gaps and make requirements unambiguous
- **Identification, communication and handling of concern chemicals!**
Expand chemicals of concern: EDs, PBTs, PMTs and immunotoxic and neurotoxic substances

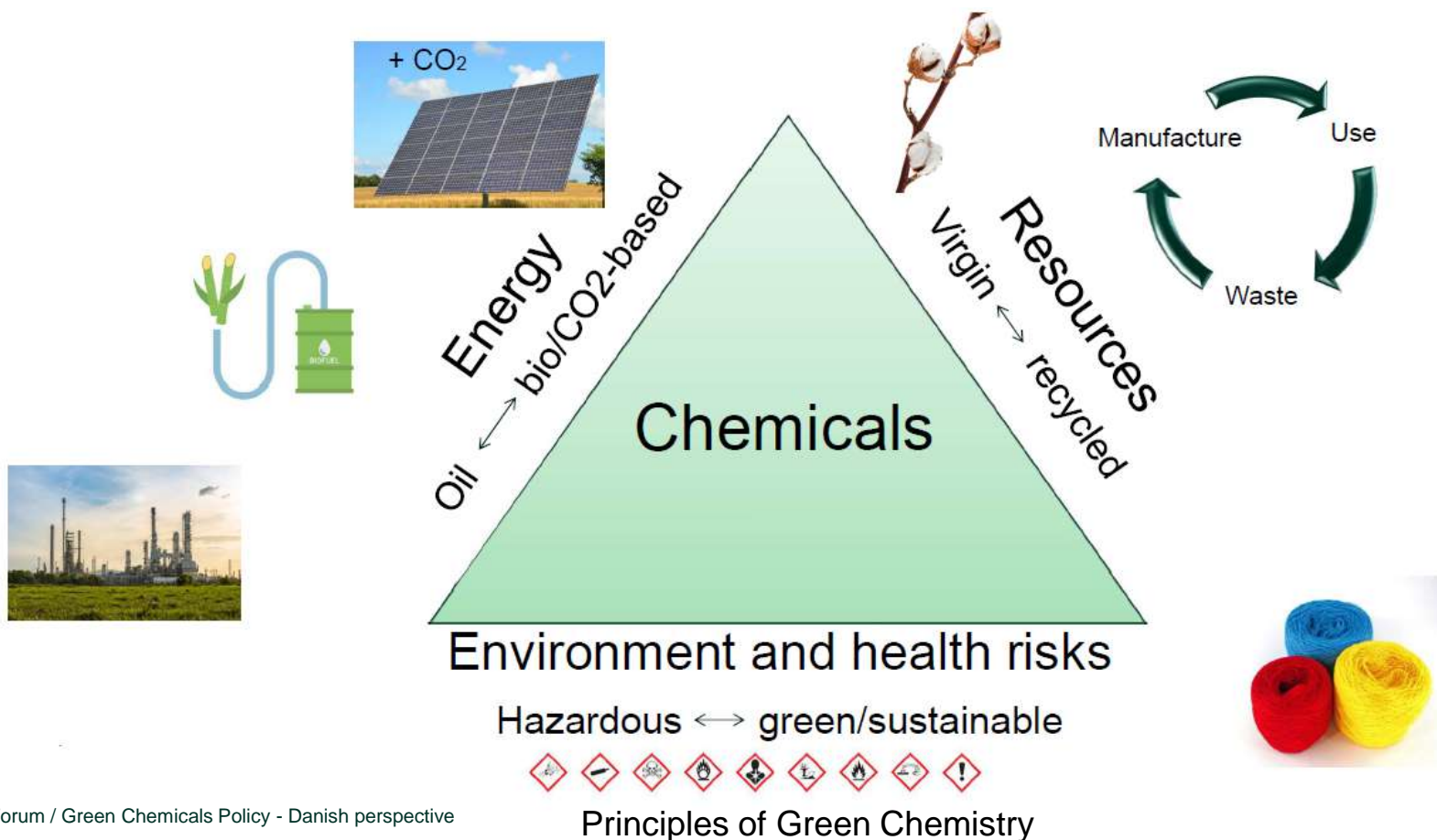
Communicate chemical content in products
- **Products on the EU market shall be safe, no matter their origin**



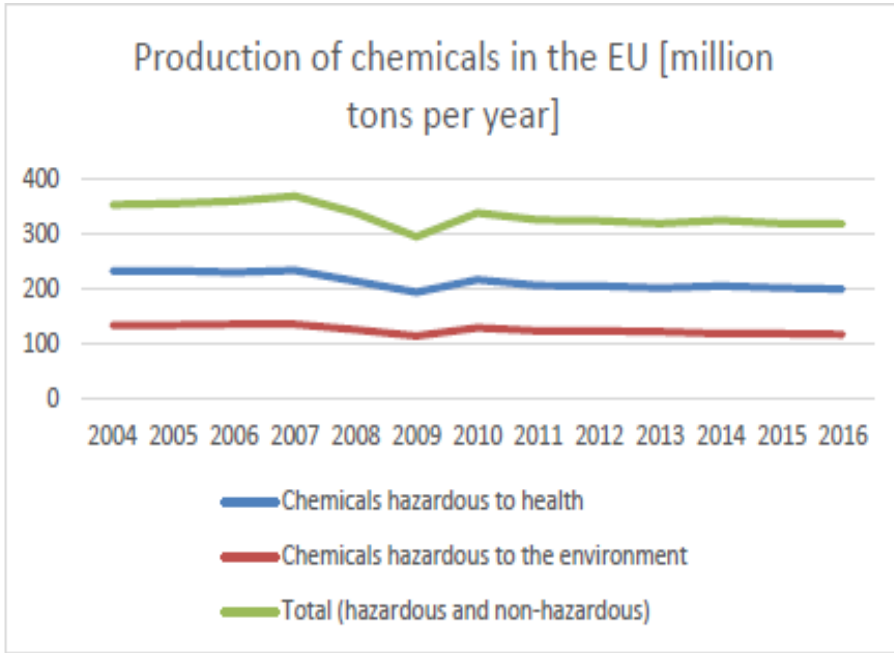
From strategy to policy - GETTING IT RIGHT – sustainability concept

Need sustainability concept for chemicals

Sound management of chemicals a prerequisite for climate neutrality, circular economy and a high level of biodiversity.



Why do we need GETTING IT RIGHT – EU and globally?



EU chemicals production 2004-2016:

- **No move** towards **non-hazardous chemicals**

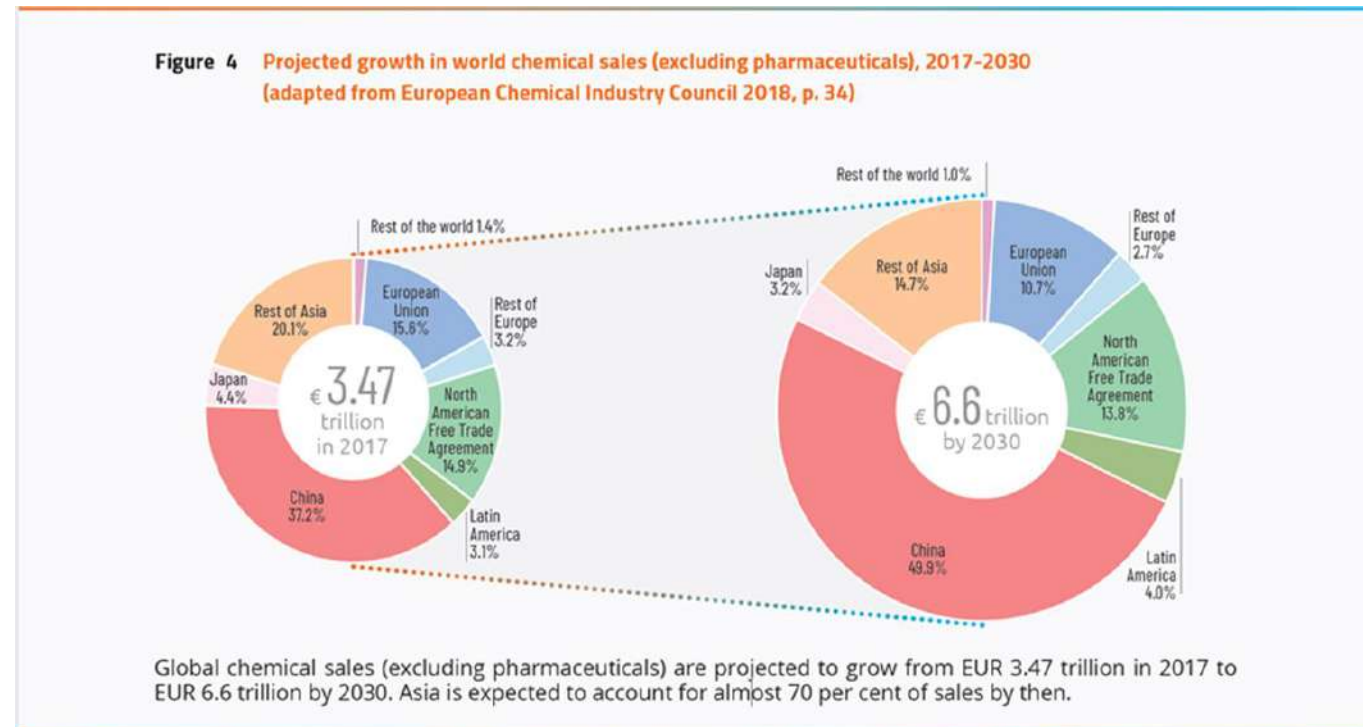
Sources: Commission staff working document to non-REACH fitness check, 2019 and Global Chemicals Outlook II, 2019

2000-2017: Global chemicals production capacity doubled

EU 2017 to 2030:

- Global market share: 15.6% to 10.7%

Asia: 70% of sales in 2030



There is a need for GLOBAL FIRST MOVERS

Chemicals and products are traded globally

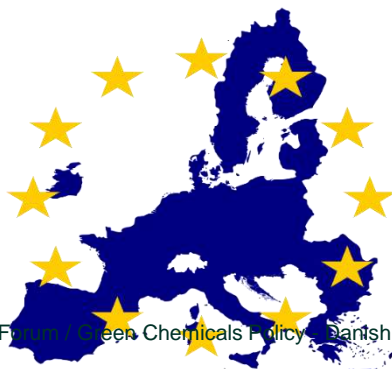


Urgent need for ambitious sound management of chemicals in EU and globally

EU chemicals policy enhance protection – and help drive change globally e.g. by

- New hazard classes under first CLP then GHS
- Broad PFAS restriction - only exempting essential uses - support current SAICM / OECD / national activities
- Sustainability concept for chemicals will support circular economy & SDG implementation

EU chemicals policy is both a possibility and a challenge – and the rest of us!



EU fingerprint: high standards



Import / export



Take home message for future green chemicals policy

- **Prevention for protection by:**
 - **Applying generic risk management as far as possible**
 - **Expand concept of substances of concern & add new hazard classes**
 - **Get the data right that match hazard criteria & identify concern chemicals**
 - **Define sustainability for chemicals – and show what you do**
 - **Set high standards for chemicals and products and profit on demands for safe and sustainable chemicals**
 - **No data – no market & equal standards no matter products origin**
 - **Strive for ambitious global sound management of chemicals**





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Thank you for your attention

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