

ECHT

Circular Economy Policy Making for Traceability of Chemicals along Value Chains

15th of October 2024 | Brussels



h_da hochschule
darmstadt

member of
eut+
EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY
OF TECHNOLOGY

HESSEN  With the friendly support
of the Representation of
the State of Hessen to the
European Union.



Agenda

Opening

Overview on regulatory landscape - Dr. Ioannis Dosis & Eva Becker (UBA)

IMPULSES I

Coffee Break

IMPULSES II

Insights from ECHT project - Dr. Jonas Rehn-Groenendijk (h_da)

Lunch / Networking

WORKSHOP PART I - World Café

Coffee Break

WORKSHOP PART II - Presentation and discussion

Future Outlook - Prof. Dr. Martin Führ (h_da)

Closing remarks - Dr. Ioannis Dosis (UBA) and Dr. Jonas Rehn-Groenendijk (h_da)

Reception with Drinks / Networking

End of event at 19:30

► Welcome

Johannes Bade

Head of Unit Science and Research, Arts and Culture

Representation of the State of Hessen to the European Union

▶ Opening

Dr. Ioannis Dosis (UBA)

& Dr. Jonas Rehn-Groenendijk (h_da)

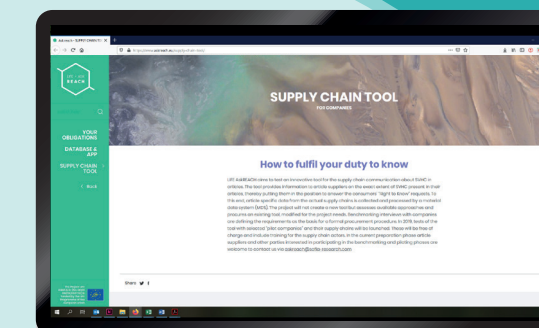
- ▶ Duration 2024-2026
- ▶ ca. 2 Mio € Budget

Interreg  Co-funded by the European Union
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s:ne



proactive alliance



ECHT

Enable Digital Product Passports with Chemicals Traceability for a Circular Economy

8 Project Partners



11 Associated Organisations



Other Organisations involved





ECHT aims to help the industry establish chemicals traceability for a circular economy by enabling the digital product passport.



ECHT aims to help the industry establish **chemicals traceability** for a circular economy by enabling the digital product passport.

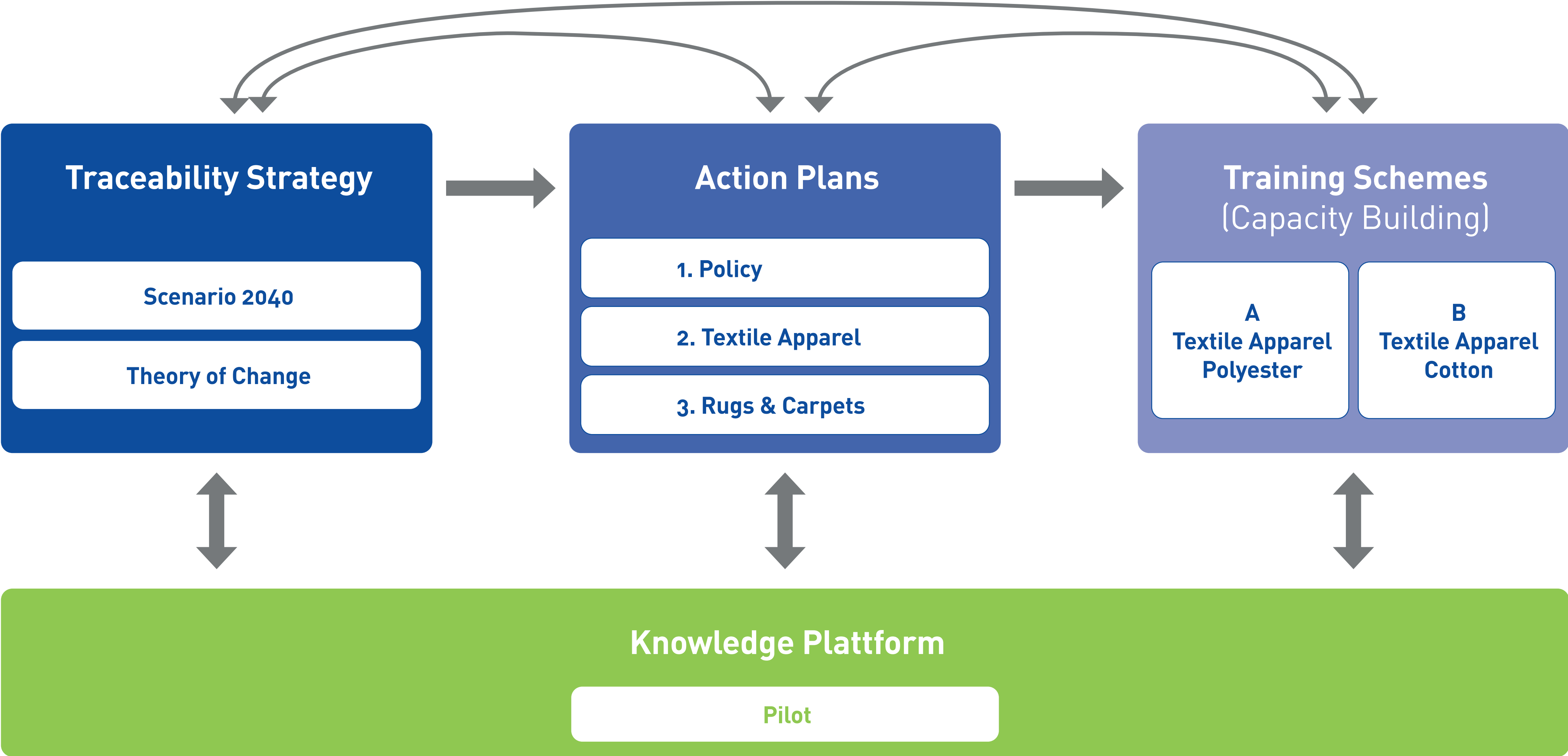


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ECHT - Project Structure



Impulses I

- ▶ Dr. Julian Schenten | Client Earth
- ▶ Dr. Dorota Napierska | Zero Waste Europe
- ▶ Sidsel Dyekjær | ChemSec

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ECHT

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Coffee...



Impulses II

- ▶ Adrian von Mühlennen | BASF
- ▶ Charles Graf | Sympany
- ▶ Clara Hedström Cortinovis | H&M

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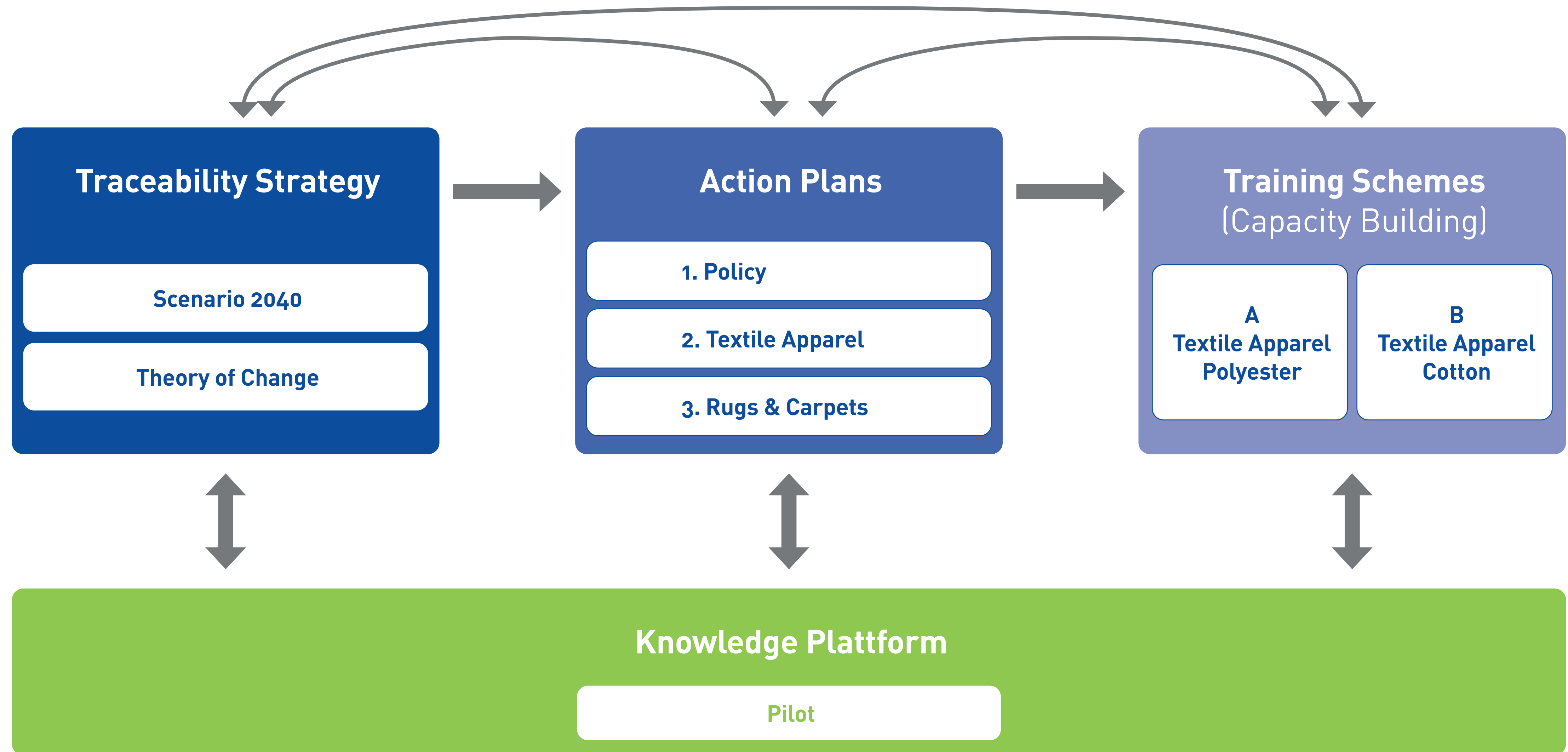
Transdisciplinary EU-Project

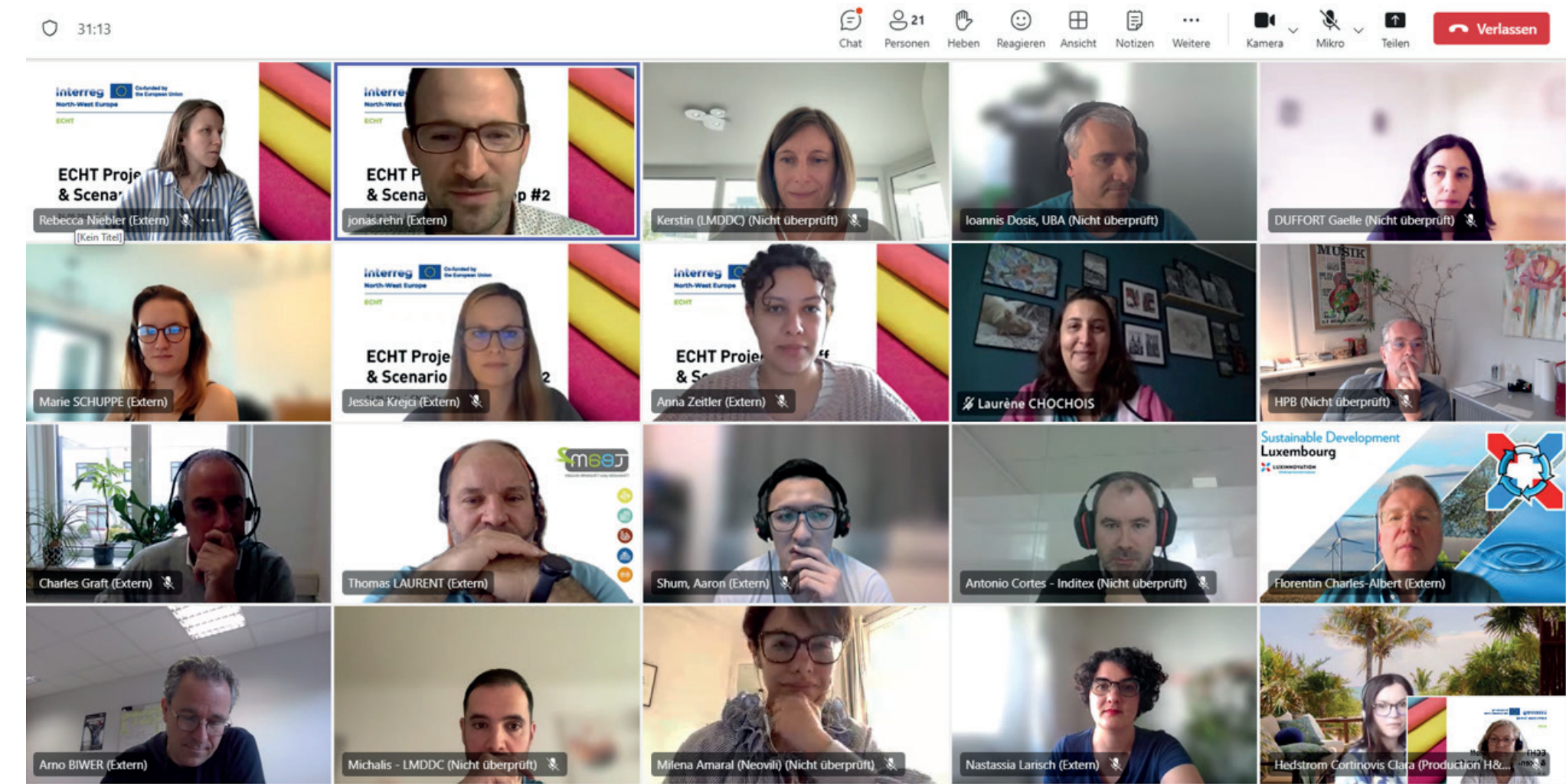
Enable Digital Product Passports with Chemicals Traceability for a Circular Economy - ECHT

Dr. Jonas Rehn-Groenendijk & Jessica Krejci

Policy Workshop | 15.10.2024 | Brussels

The Project





Process with Industry, NGOs, Public Authorities and Academia

Traceability of Chemicals in Global Textile Apparel Value Chains in 2040

Project Scope & Definitions (Based on Workshops in the ECHT Project)

Traceability of Chemicals in global textile apparel value chains in 2040

Which textile value chains are we talking about?	What is chemicals traceability?	Ability
„Textiles“ relevant for this project are cotton and polyester apparel (e.g. shirts, trousers).	„Traceability“ in this context means the ability to trace back which chemicals are present in which component of an article (or were also used in the process).	„Ability“ (to trace) in the context of this project refers to knowledge and capacity regarding how to set up structures, processes and implement technologies to trace chemicals. It does not comprise specific tools or technologies themselves.
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INFLUENCING FACTORS

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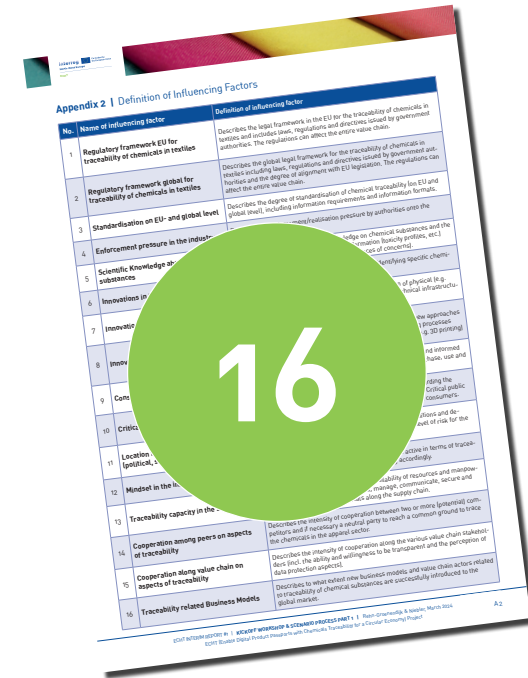
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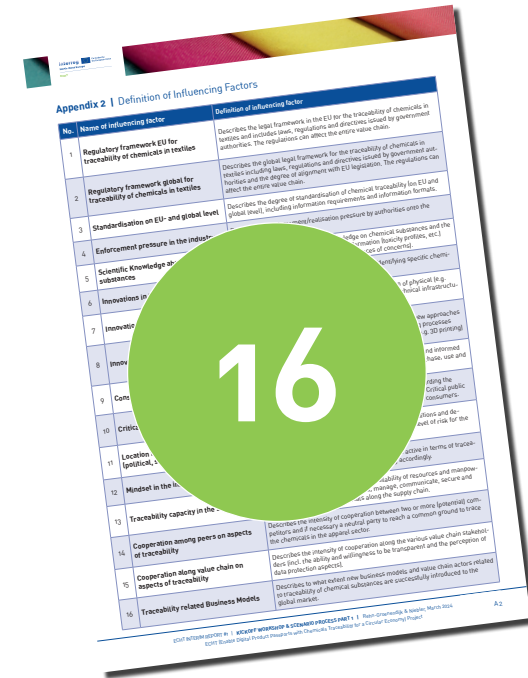
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Future Vision

Process with Industry, NGOs, Public Authorities and Academia



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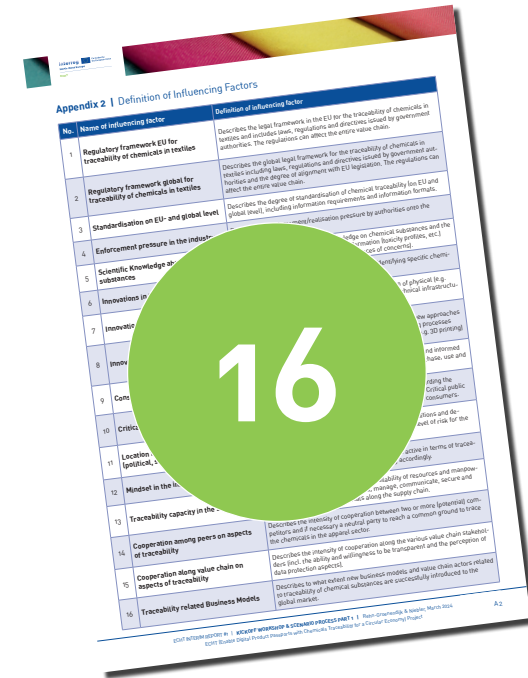


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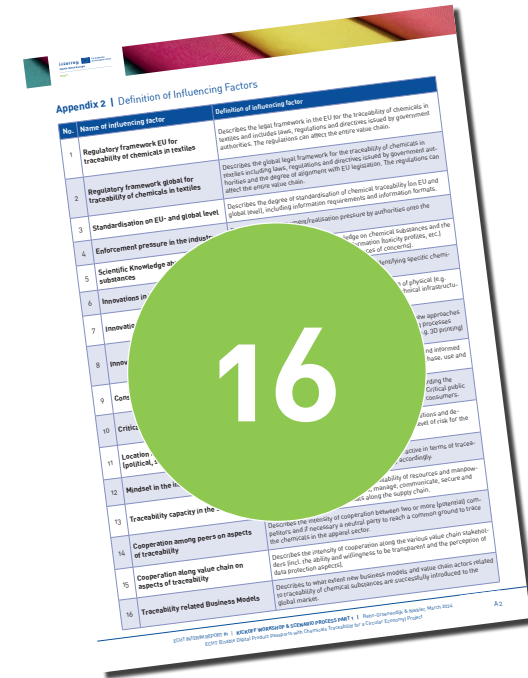
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Traceability of Chemicals in Global Textile Apparel Value Chains in 2040

HOW TO GET THERE...

Future Vision

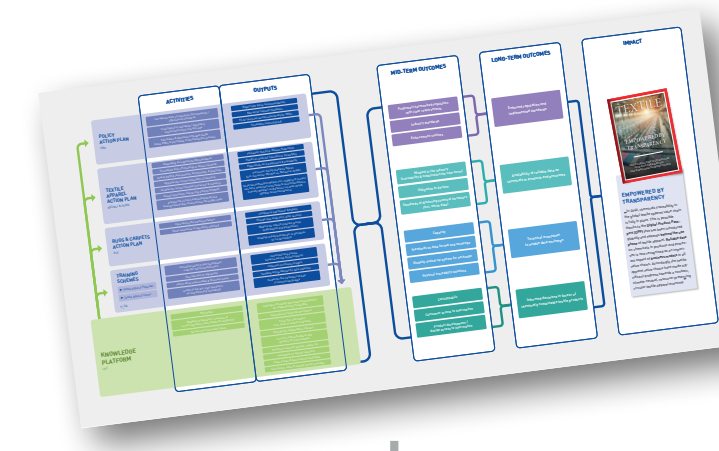
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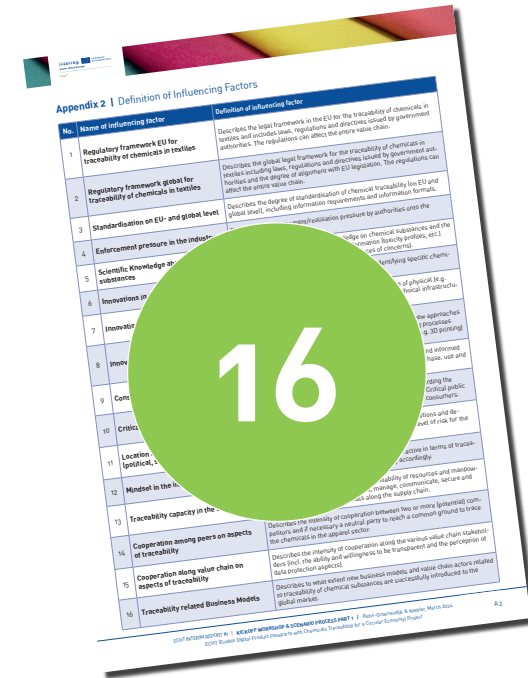
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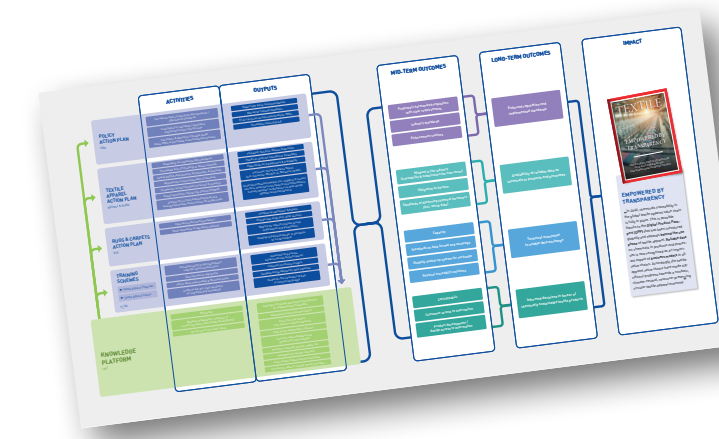
Process with Industry, NGOs, Public Authorities and Academia



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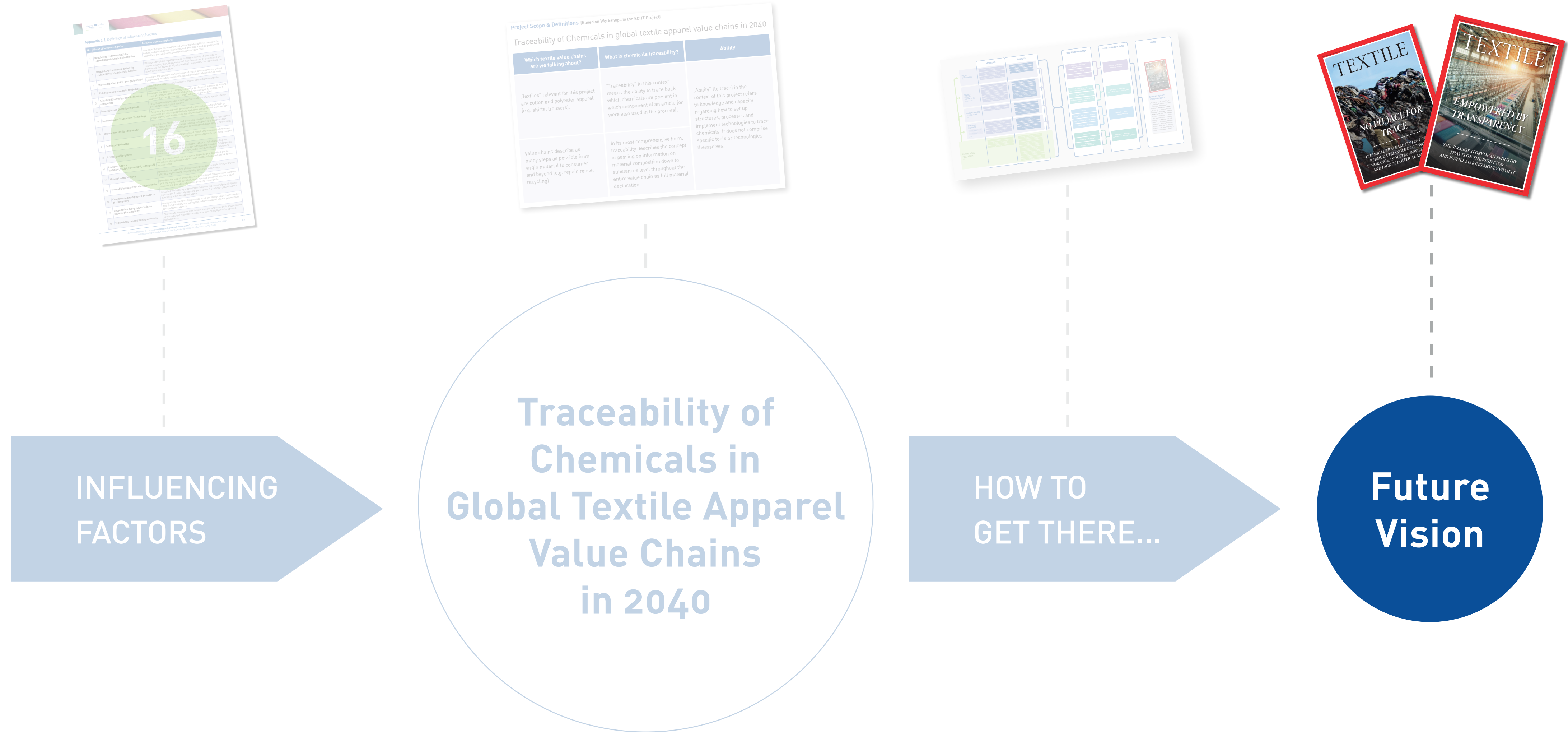
HOW TO GET THERE...

Future Vision

[▶ https://echt.nweurope.eu/outcomes](https://echt.nweurope.eu/outcomes)



Process with Industry, NGOs, Public Authorities and Academia



Scenario Story 1 - Empowered by Transparency



Scenario Story 1

Empowered by Transparency

The success story of an industry that is on the right way – and is still making money with it

BY ECHT PROJECT CONSORTIUM

IN 2040, CHEMICALS TRACEABILITY IN THE GLOBAL TEXTILE APPAREL VALUE CHAIN IS FULLY IN PLACE. This is possible thanks to the Digital Product Passport (DPP) that has been introduced globally and expands beyond the use phase of textile apparel. Reliable data on chemicals in products and processes is now recognised as an important aspect of business models in all value chains. Accordingly, the textile apparel value chains have made significant progress towards a non-toxic, climate-neutral, resource-preserving circular textile apparel economy.

SOMEONE HAS TO MAKE A START

The starting point for this transformation was an active, critical public: concerned citizens, supported by NGOs, were increasingly informed about the dangers of hazardous chemicals for humans and nature and questioned the safety of textile apparel products they currently bought and used. 2026 marked the turning point and led in subsequent years to a continuous shift in consumer behaviour that demanded more substantiated information and, as a result, significantly extended the use phase of their textile apparel products.

At the same time, EU regulations on traceability and transparency were tightened, which include specific obligations to report substances in

products and processes. Sanctions were imposed for non-compliance. Due to the globalisation of markets and, above all, the work in several projects and initiatives (e.g. UNEP, ZDHC), there has been a corresponding increase in harmonisation of other legal frameworks worldwide, which use EU regulations as a model.

In the EU in particular, strategies such as the “Green Deal” and its associated actions plans (regulations, directives, etc.) were largely enforced by national administrations, while public authorities cooperated effectively, creating significant pressure – and reassurance – on industry actors, who gradually changed their mindset and ensured greater transparency and a level playing field. A growing consumer awareness for more sustainable consumption, which enables corresponding business models, has clearly supported this. As a result, both the textile and chemical industries as well as related industry actors invested substantially in traceability capacities (both human resources and infrastructure).

STEPS ALONG THE WAY

Against the background of this development, new structures for acquisition and dissemination of scientific knowledge of chemical substances



(including toxicity profiles) were created with the support of the chemical industry, which led to a significantly higher knowledge output and uptake from academia and industry.

Actual traceability was enabled and realised due to several factors: The first cornerstone were global, industry-wide traceability standards driven by industry actors on issues such as data, information provision, formats and data protection. This has been supported by continuous innovation in traceability technology that eventually had specific requirements which could be applied to efficient development processes. In line with industry demand, an efficient global infrastructure for traceability was created through standardised processes and formats as well as innovations in new business models and services. In practice, this window of opportunity was utilised by first movers who had prepared their value chains accordingly (data readiness). Industry associations and cooperations such as ZDHC supported the distribution of these best practices and the establishment of industry-wide rules that recognized the overall benefits of cooperation both within value chains and among peers.

THE GUIDE TO SUCCESS

The chemical industry was involved in every step of this process and was included in a feedback loop of information provision and product demand. The chemical industry actors that provided sufficient information about their chemical products, while ensuring high quality of data, had a market advantage as the textile industry depended on access to this information. A key to this system was the global introduction of the Digital Product Passport (DPP), which is both a physical (tracking technology) and a non-physical entity that expands beyond the use phase.

Finally, the global business ecosystem of chemical and textile companies has recognised traceability as a driving force for both financial success and environmental protection. Greater transparency enabled fairer markets and encouraged the trend towards more globally balanced location factors. While legislation initially was one of the primary drivers, the process has evolved naturally involving more and more stakeholders. This success story is not an end in itself, but continues to serve as a driver for all in the textile apparel value chains and as an inspiration for neighbouring sectors. Because in the end, the goal is a truly circular economy.

ECHT

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In the EU in particular, the “Green Deal” and its associated regulations, directives, etc. are implemented by national administrations. Authorities cooperated effectively under significant pressure – and industry actors who grad

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Against the background of this scenario, new structures for acquisition and dissemination of scientific knowledge of chemical substances

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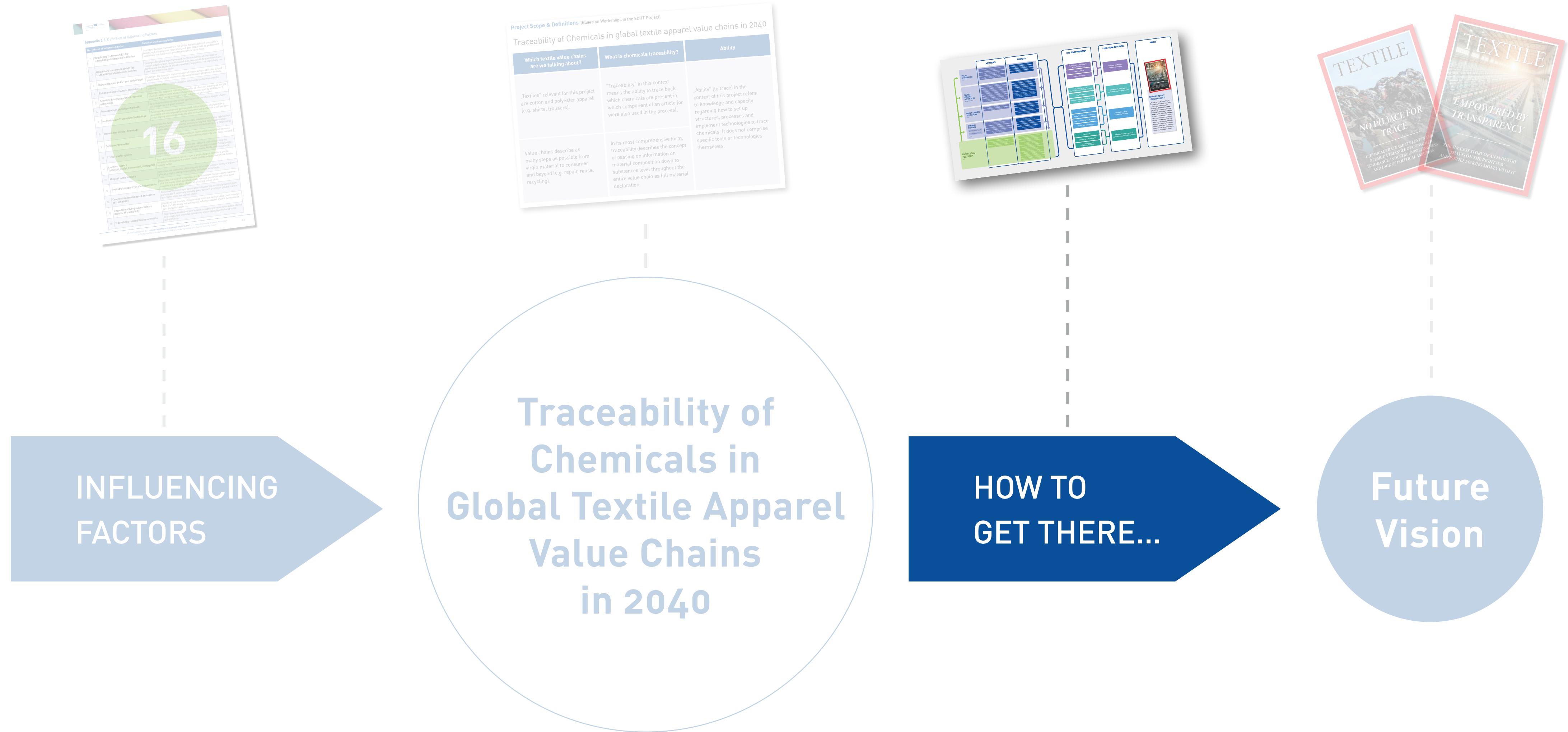
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Process with Industry, NGOs, Public Authorities and Academia



2.1. Theory of Change



THEORY OF CHANGE: TRACEABILITY OF CHEMICALS IN TEXTILE VALUE CHAINS IN 2040

THEORY OF CHANGE: TRACEABILITY OF CHEMICALS IN TEXTILE VALUE CHAINS IN 2040

IMPACT



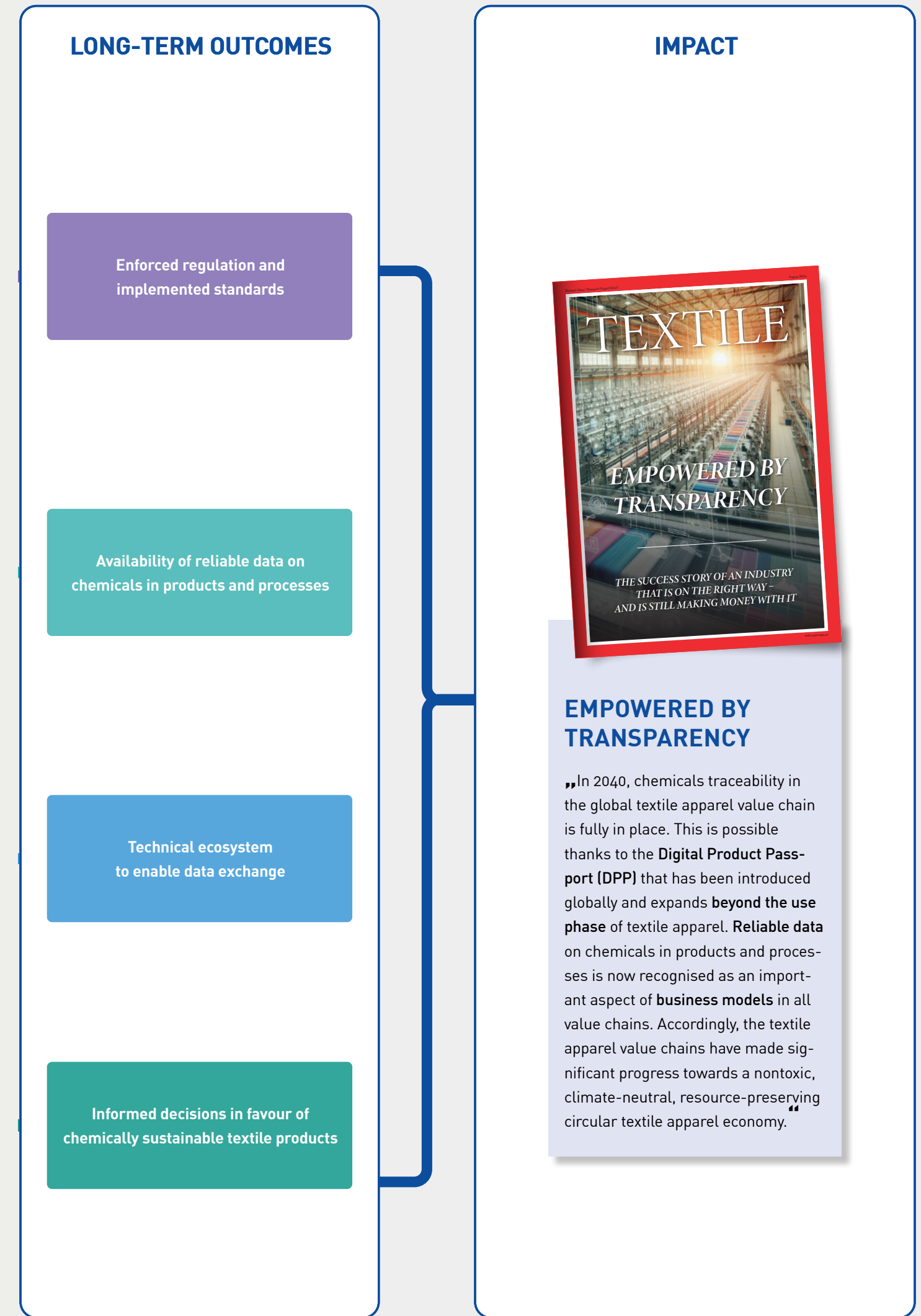
EMPOWERED BY TRANSPARENCY

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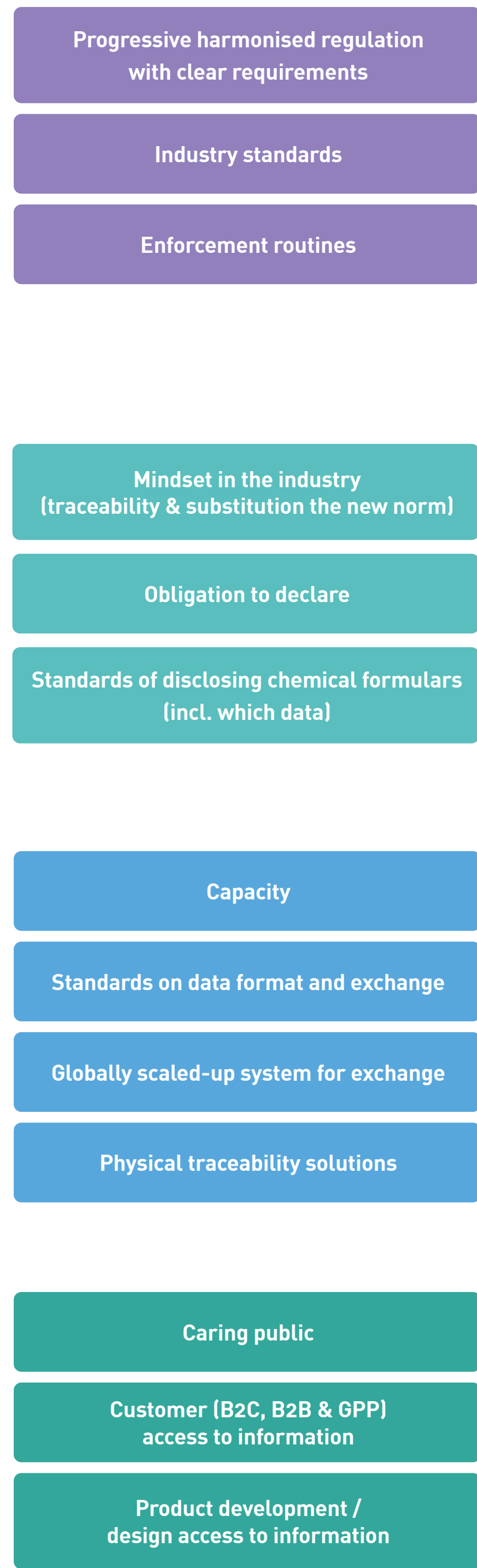
THEORY OF CHANGE: TRACEABILITY



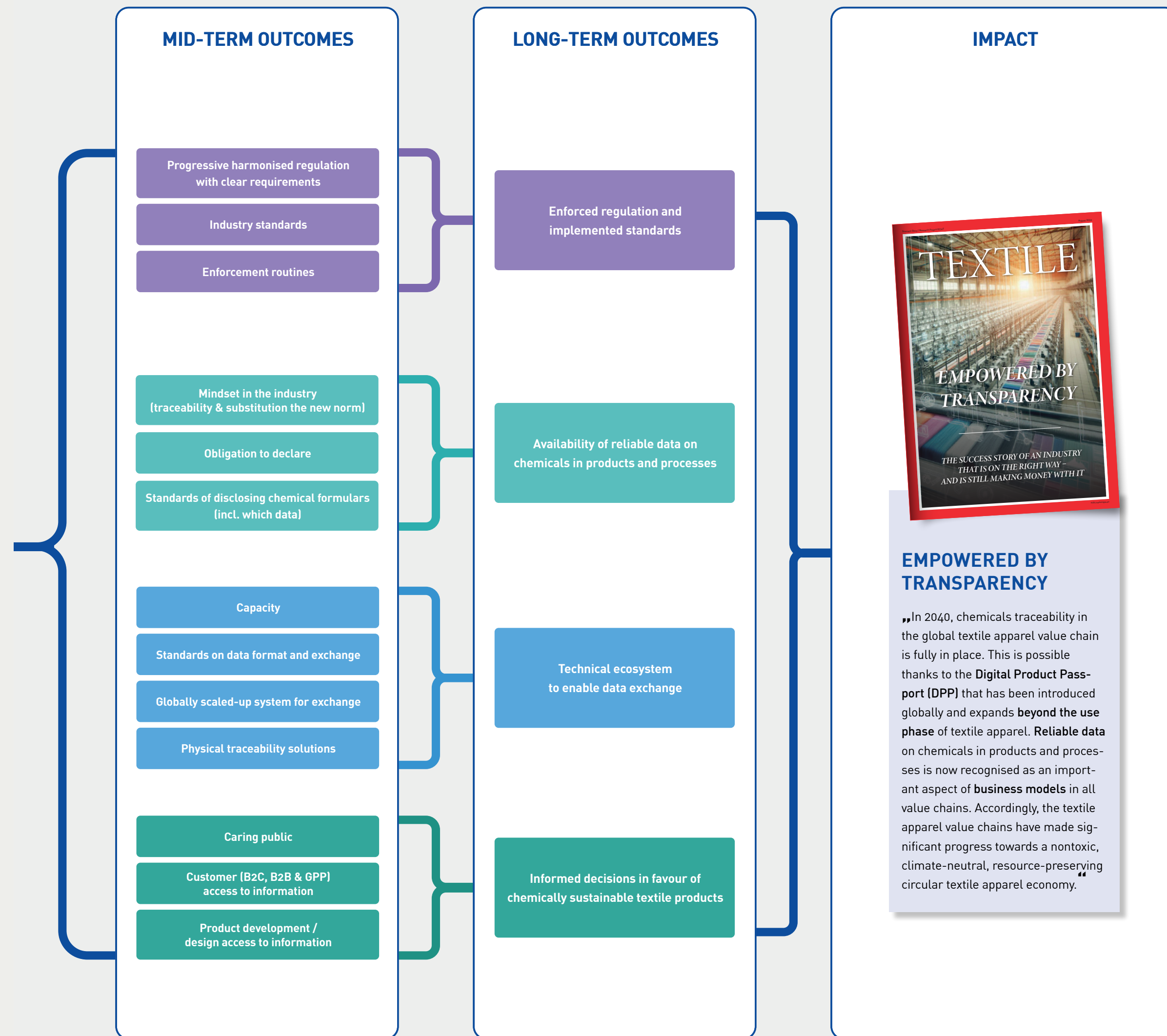
IMPACTS IN TEXTILE VALUE CHAINS IN 2040



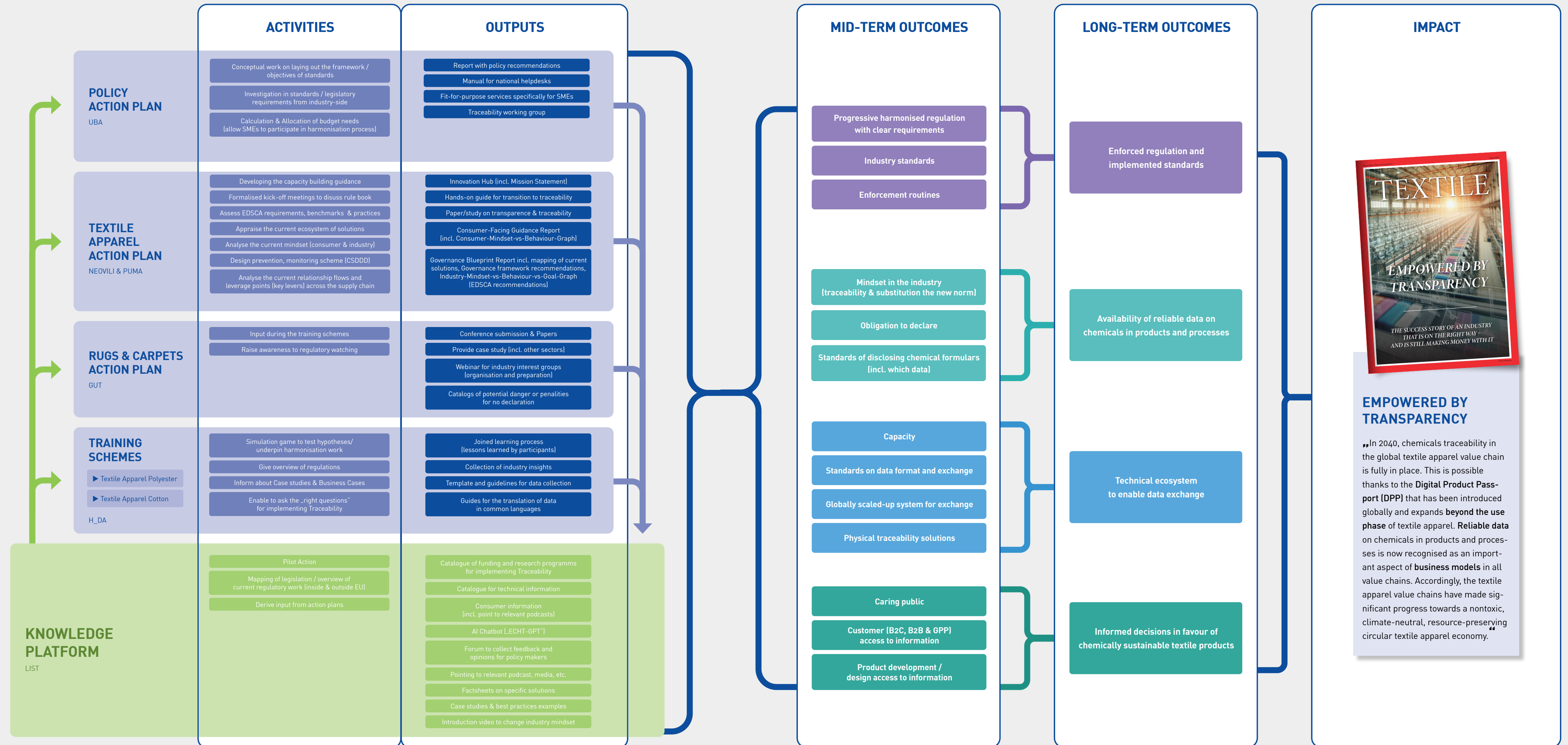
THEORY



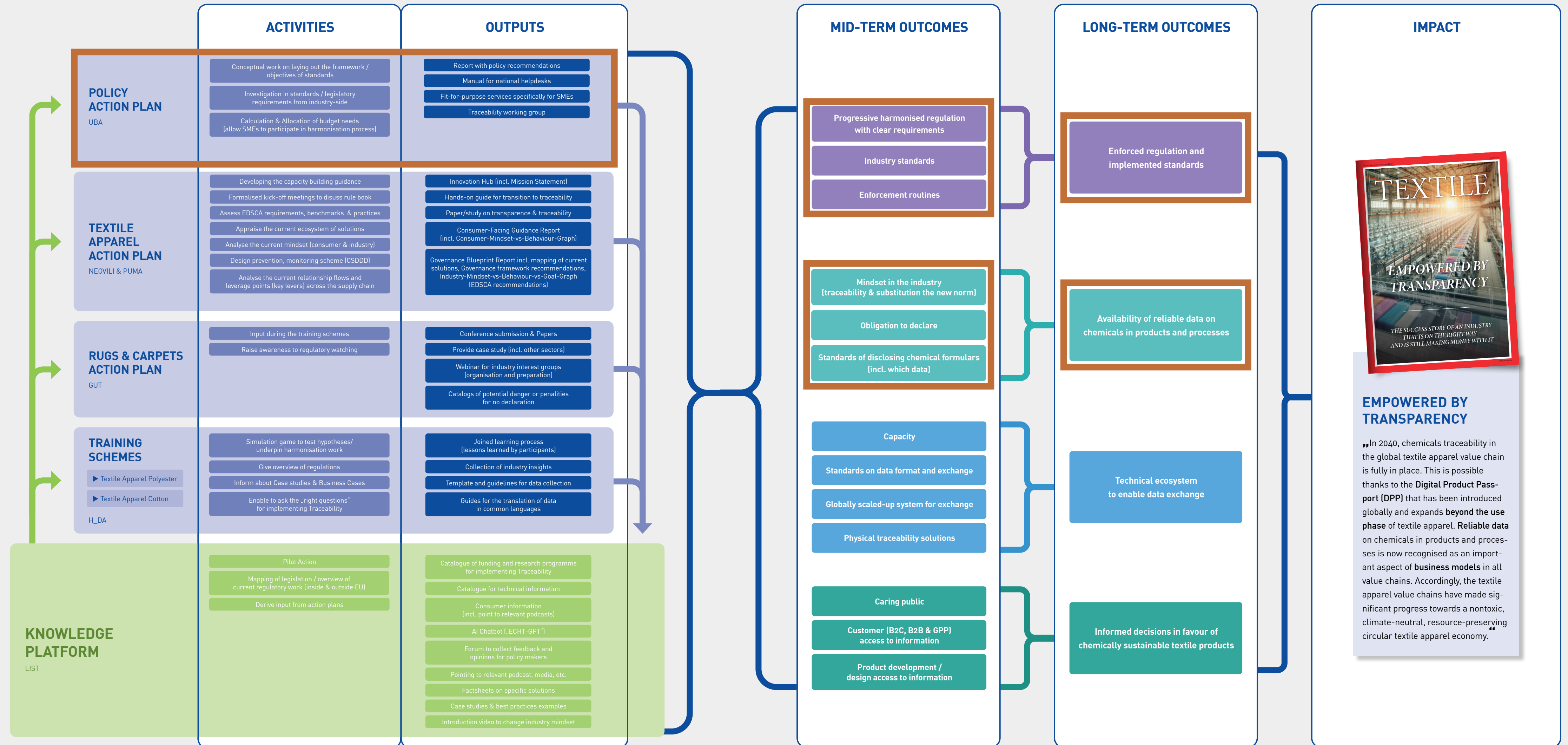
FEASIBILITY OF CHEMICALS IN TEXTILE VALUE CHAINS IN 2040



THEORY OF CHANGE: TRACEABILITY OF CHEMICALS IN TEXTILE VALUE CHAINS IN 2040



THEORY OF CHANGE: TRACEABILITY OF CHEMICALS IN TEXTILE VALUE CHAINS IN 2040



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Circular Economy Policy Making for Traceability of Chemicals along Value Chains

15th of October 2024, Brussels



LUNCH...

Workshop PART I

World Café

Table 1: Defining Essential Information for Effective Chemicals Traceability

Moderation: Dr. Julian Schenten (ClientEarth)

Table 2: Legislative Harmonization and Policy Gaps at the EU Level

Moderation: Dr. Arno Biver (Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology - LIST)

Table 3: Support Mechanisms and Value Chain Engagement

Moderation: Milena Amaral (Neovili)

Table 4: Global Cooperation and International Standards

Moderation: Dr. Ioannis Dosis (UBA)

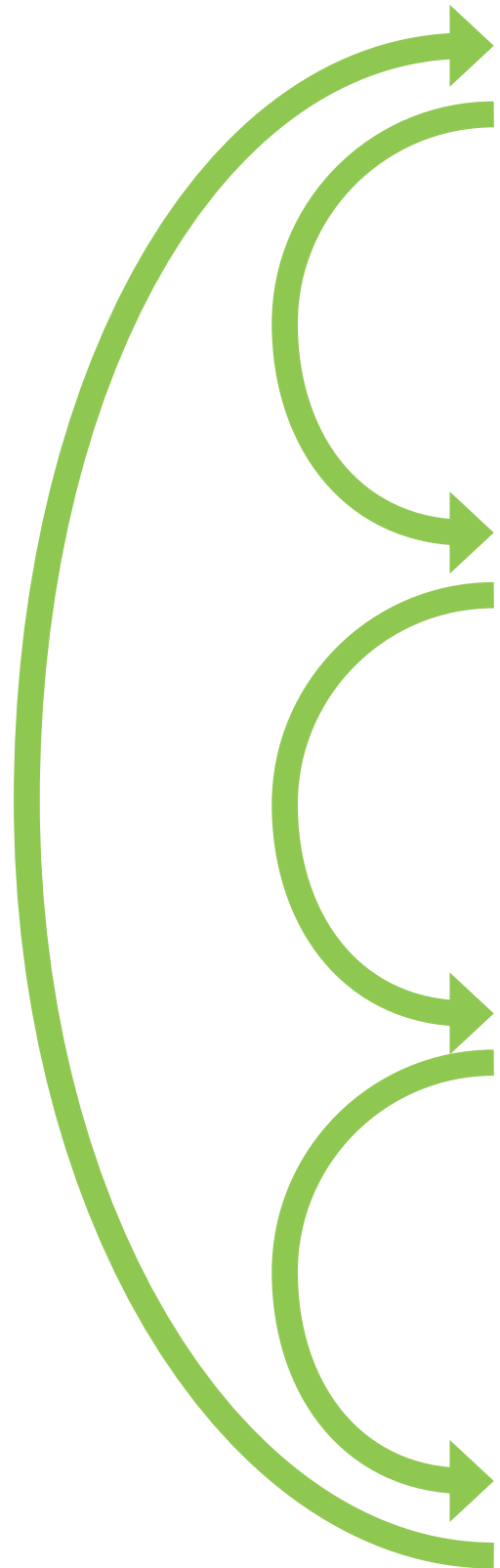


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**25min
per Table**

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ECHT

Circular Economy Policy Making for Traceability of Chemicals along Value Chains

15th of October 2024, Brussels



Coffee...



Workshop PART II

Reflexion & Discussion

▶ Future Outlook

Prof. Dr. Martin Führ

Darmstadt University of Applied Sciences (h_da)

▶ Closing Remarks

Dr. Ioannis Dosis (UBA)

& Dr. Jonas Rehn-Groenendijk (h_da)

ECHT

Enable Digital Product Passports with Chemicals Traceability for a Circular Economy

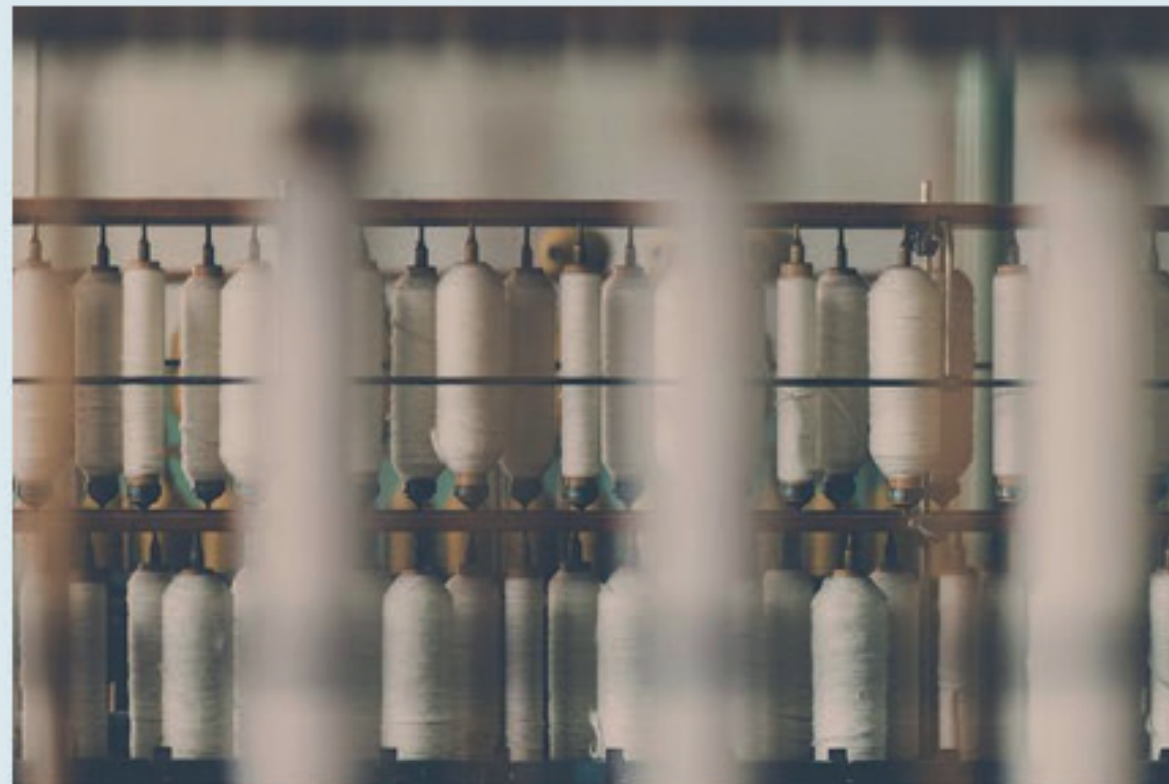
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Scenario stories

The scenario stories are a short story that describes the vision created during the scenario process aimed at understanding and identifying the specific impacts of influencing factors.


Access to the scenario stories



Scenario stories

▶ <https://echt.nweurope.eu/outcomes>

all project
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available
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Umweltdienstleistungen

Thank you for your participation!

-  <https://echt.nweurope.eu/>
-  ioannis.dosis@uba.de (Policy Action Plan)
-  jonas.rehn@h-da.de (Project)
-  laurene.chochois@list.lu (Communication)