



# **Strategic Approach to Pharmaceuticals in the Environment**

## **State of play and next steps**

**Bettina Doeser**

**Head of Unit ENV.C.1 Clean Water**

**DG Environment, European Commission**



# Origin and Context

## *Origin*

- Priority Substances Directive (2008/105/EC as amended by 2013/39/EU)

## *Context*

- Circular Economy and 7<sup>th</sup> Environmental Action Programme
- Sustainable Development Goal n°6
- Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance
- Fitness Check of EU water legislation (2019) and evaluation of Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive



# State of play and next steps

- Roadmap published 28 April 2017

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/initiatives/ares-2017-2210630\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/initiatives/ares-2017-2210630_en)

- Public consultation and stakeholder consultation published 22 November 2017

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations/public-consultation-pharmaceuticals-environment\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations/public-consultation-pharmaceuticals-environment_en)

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/PharmaInEnvTargetedConsultation2017>

- Commission Communication on Strategic Approach to Pharmaceuticals in the Environment planned for end of 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2018

# Overall approach

## *Problem to address*

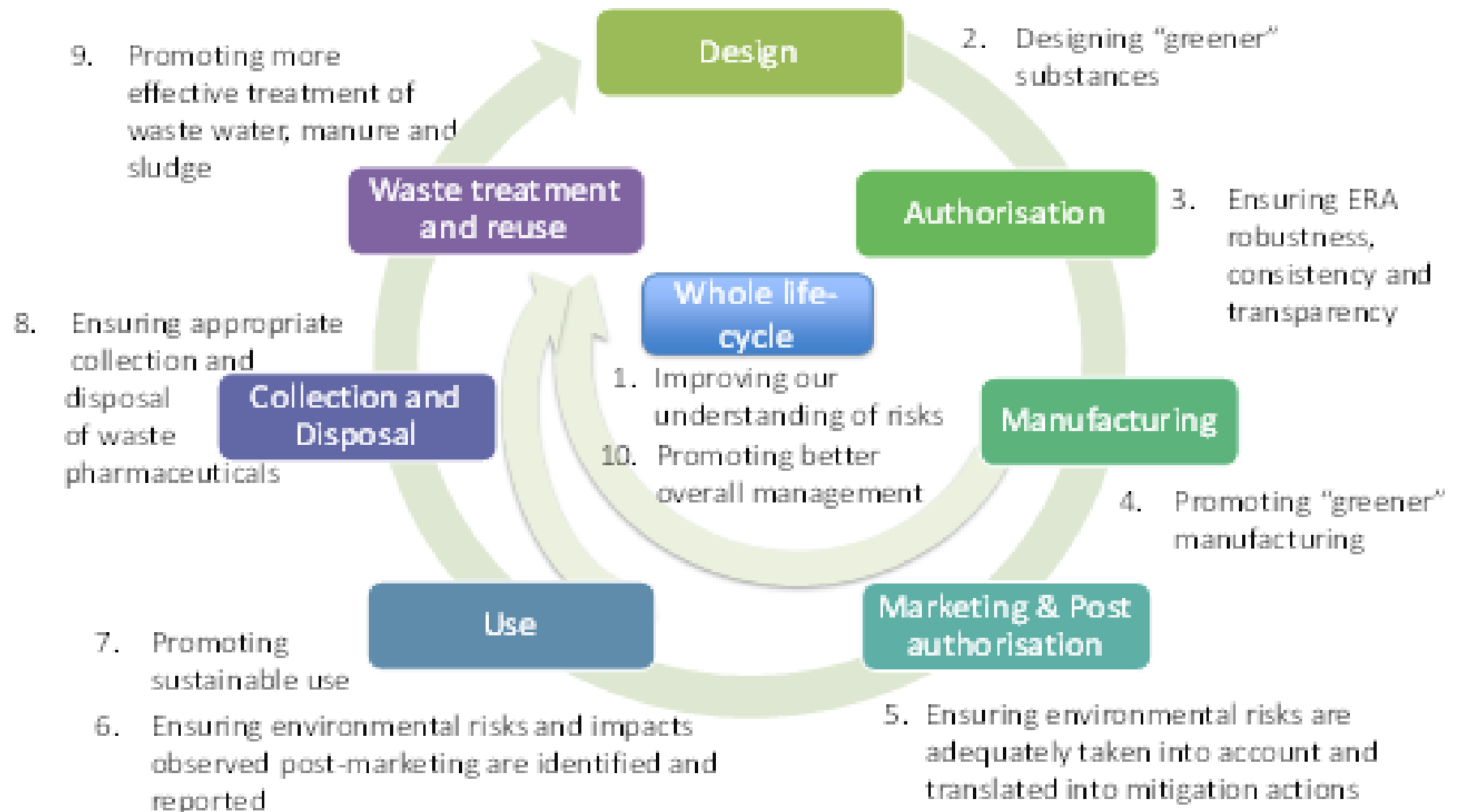
- The manufacture, use and disposal of active pharmaceutical ingredients leads in various ways to their release into the environment, and some may pose a risk

## *Subsidiarity check*

- Environmental pollution is transboundary

## *Key considerations*

- Source control rather than end-of-pipe solutions where possible
- Actions might be taken in several policy areas







## Types of action

- Options in background document = starting point for decisions on strategic approach
- Strategic approach to be followed by proposals for measures as appropriate
- Measures likely to include continued/increased support for relevant research
- Measures could include "soft" measures, e.g. guidance, awareness raising
- Any legislative measures would require full impact assessment



**Thank you for your attention**

**<http://water.europa.eu/policy>**