

NCD Climate Assessment Moving Forward

NCD All Hands
March 9, 2022

Setting the Stage

- NCD Climate Assessment October 12 - 26, 2021
- NCD ideas and feedback at branch meetings January 25 - 26, 2022
- Lots of great ideas; we can't do everything right away
- Present what we heard from branch meetings and ask for additional suggestions

Resources

- FY23-25: requested additional FTE and funding
- NC Collaborative Research: requested additional FTE and funding
- Recruit more HH assessors
- GS 14/15s (non-managerial)
- Title 42 authority
- Recruit PMFs, Pathways, Peace Corp
- Fund certain training at corporate level
- **Other suggestions?**

IT Improvements

- Small IT fixes list
- Restore SPAGO BI
- On-going NCR enhancements
- CBI LAN firewall issues
- Innovate NC pilot program
- Reduce/eliminate manual processes
- Transition to full digitization of records
- **Other suggestions?**

Onboarding and Training

- Onboarding training e-handbook (all disciplines)
 - ✓ Mentor-mentee support; including coaching
- Core technical training for employees
 - ✓ Risk assessment - refer to recent trainings; more to come
 - ✓ Conduct more brown bags to share/highlight work
 - ✓ Leverage Agency/ORD training risk assessment
- Cross training
 - ✓ Across risk assessment disciplines
 - ✓ Across risk assessment and risk management
 - ✓ Across EPA offices (ORD immersion process)
 - ✓ External experts (other governments, industry, NGOs)
 - ✓ Allocate dedicated time for training
- Professional development
 - ✓ Support additional training and opportunities (details, special projects, skills outside of area expertise)
 - ✓ External speaking engagements, conferences (domestic and international)
- **Other suggestions?**

Support and Modernize the Science of Risk Assessments

- OCSPP and ORD Collaborative Research to Support New Chemicals (5 key research areas proposed)
- Leverage outside expertise (e.g., tech teams, OPPT Divisions or EPA Offices) to support new chemical reviews
 - ✓ ORD/IRIS support of senior level reviews of HHRA
- SOPs prioritization, update, and development
 - ✓ Continue work on HH SOPs and NCD wide SOPs
 - ✓ Ensure existing Agency guidance are followed and referenced
 - ✓ Create guidance/SOP for “insufficient v. sufficient information”
 - ✓ Develop guiding principles for use of NAMs testing requirements for new chemicals
- Update/revamp external guidance related to risk assessments
 - ✓ Develop checklists for useful information
 - ✓ Guidance to reduce rework of risk assessment
 - ✓ Update Points to Consider Document
 - ✓ Revamp Sustainable Futures 2.0 training program

Consistent Implementation and Communication of Risk Management

- Ensure program implementation aligned with TSCA amendments and recent policy changes
 - ✓ Define five determinations
 - ✓ Finalize 721 HazComm rule
 - ✓ Propose 720 New Chemicals Procedural Rule
 - ✓ Update Working Approach (via public process)
 - ✓ Support re-proposal TSCA fees rule
 - ✓ Measure compliance with CO/SNUR conditions
- Process improvements:
 - ✓ Develop casework strategy and stick with it
 - ✓ Track casework (without onerous process)
 - ✓ Delegate down to the right level with stakeholders
 - ✓ Help manage stakeholder expectations
 - ✓ Minimize micro-management
 - ✓ Define workflow and decision-making process

Transparency and Communications

- Share proposals/explain decisions as early in process as possible for meaningful engagement
- Hold regular meetings (monthly NCD All Hands) communicate updates/changes
- Increase communication in NCD (within and across disciplines/branches)
 - Including OPPT Division and OCSPP (OPP/OPS)
- Consistent messaging to internal/external stakeholders (e.g., develop script, talking points, website)
 - ✓ Set right level of expectations
- **Other suggestions?**



Other Ideas?

- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)
 - ✓ Refer to OCSPP DEI Action Plan (March 2022)
- 360 assessments for all managers
- Coach for trust training series
- **Other suggestions?**

