

Swiss Re



Emerging Risks and Casualty Insurance





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Charting Emerging Risks: SONAR

Systematic **O**bservations of **N**otions **A**ssociated with **R**isk

Group SONAR framework Process & deliverables

Identification

Assessment

Implementation

Monitoring & control

Group SONAR
Watchlist & landscape



Report about underlying
risk (qual & quant)



Recommendations for
risk mitigation and/or
product & service dev.

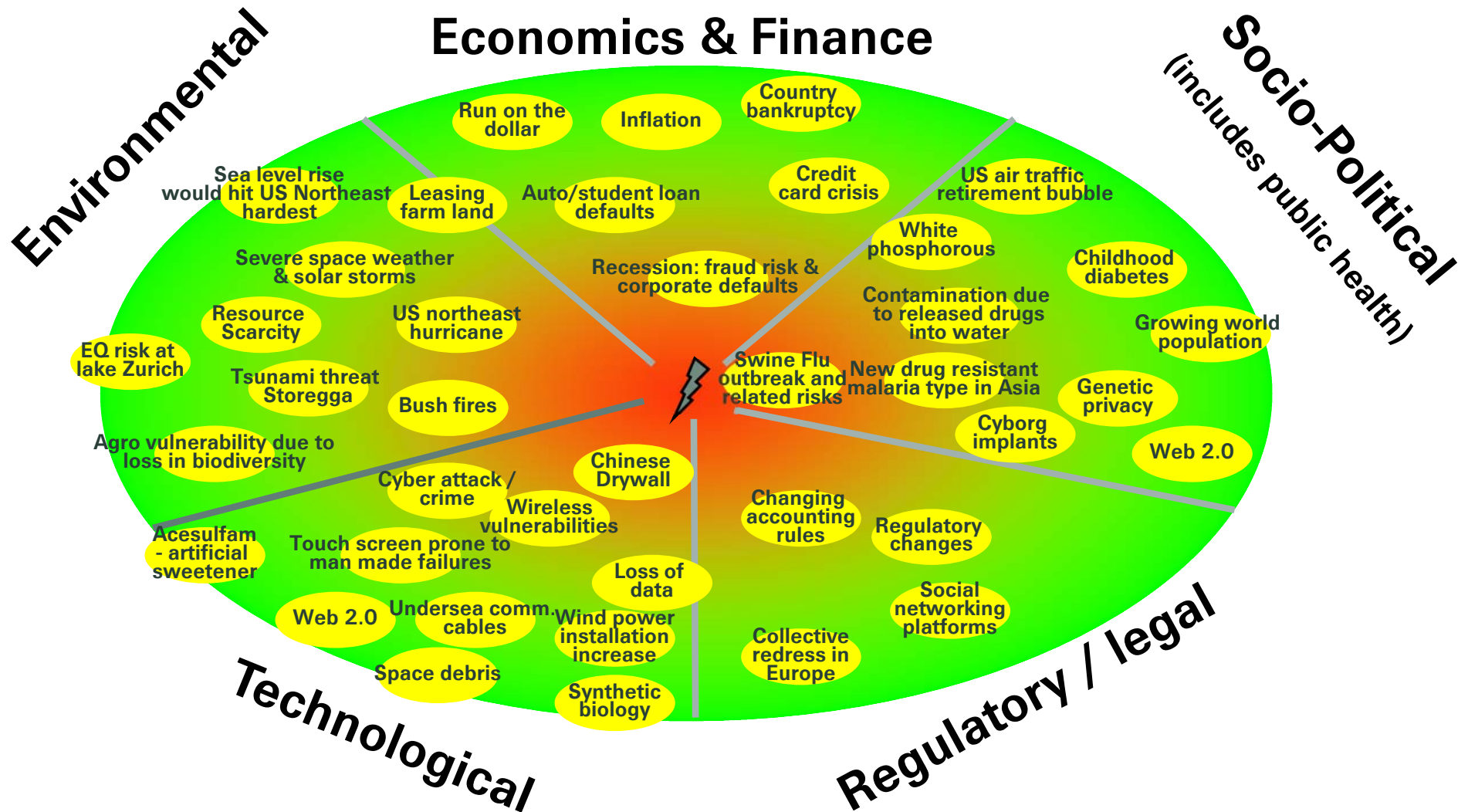


Monitoring & progress
reports, audit





Group SONAR process Identification: selected notions 2009



Group SONAR framework Implementation

Risk dialogue

Balance sheet
protection

Product & services
development

Raising awareness



Limiting downside risk



Enabling new business





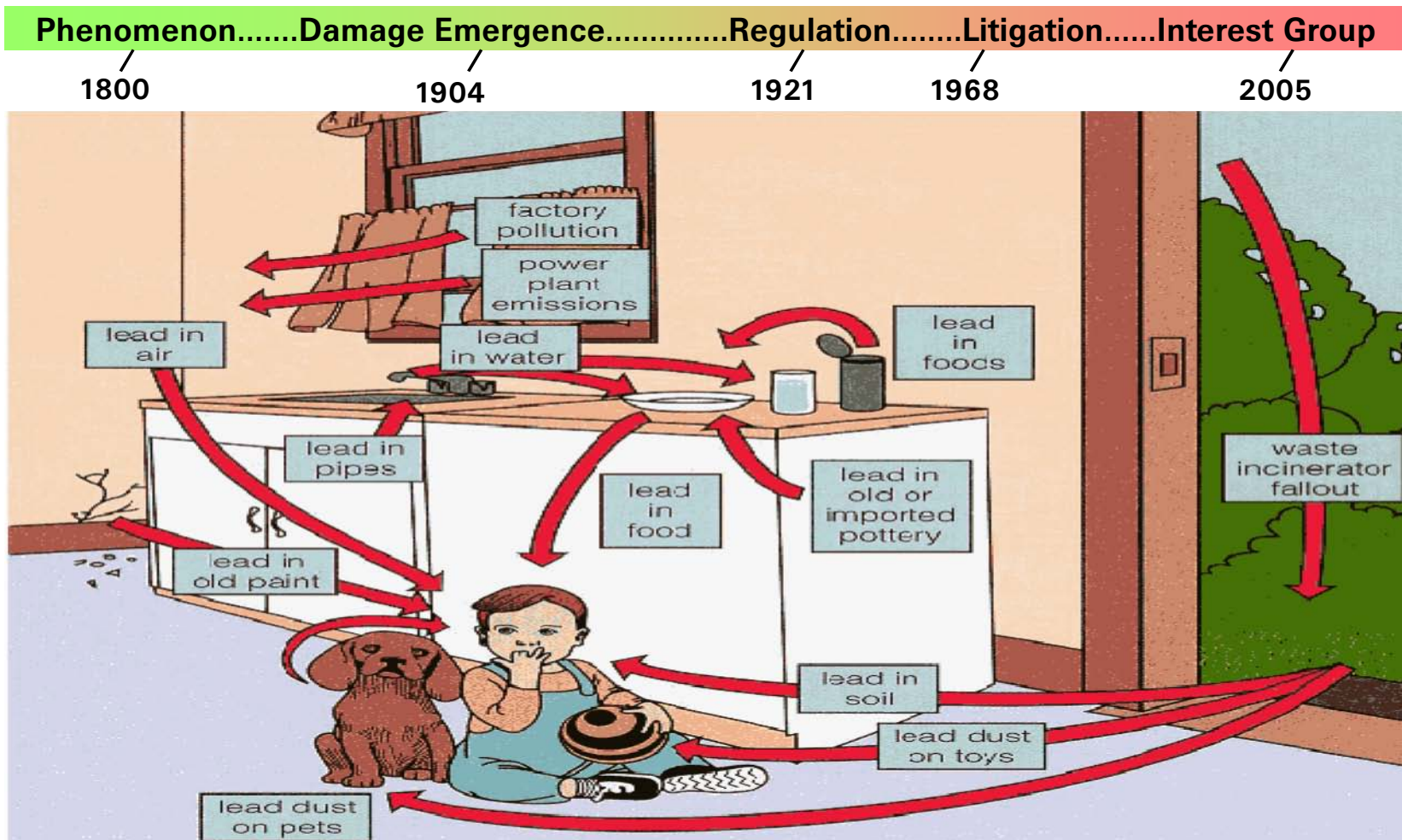
From Emerging Risks to Business Opportunities

- Pension schemes: Underestimating life expectancy
 - Hedging longevity, protection of pension schemes against the risks associated with an aging population
- More frequent winter storms especially in Northern Europe
 - Development of transparent models to price storm risks and managing expected losses from future storm events
- Significant increase of coastal flood damage in Northern Europe
 - Development of models and offering risks transfer solutions e.g. insurance or ART solutions to absorb highly volatile losses

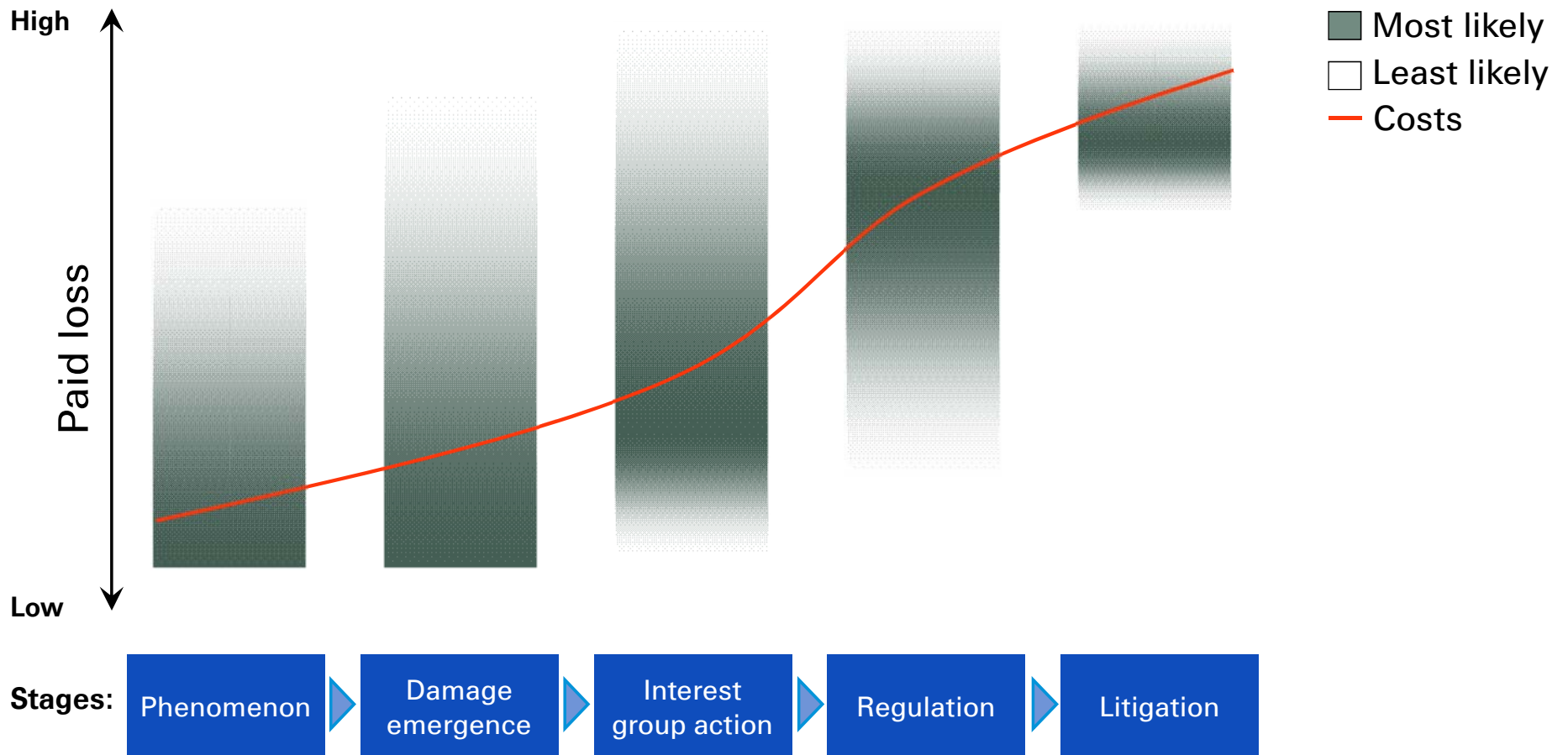


Emerging Risk Evolution

Lead – 210 year history

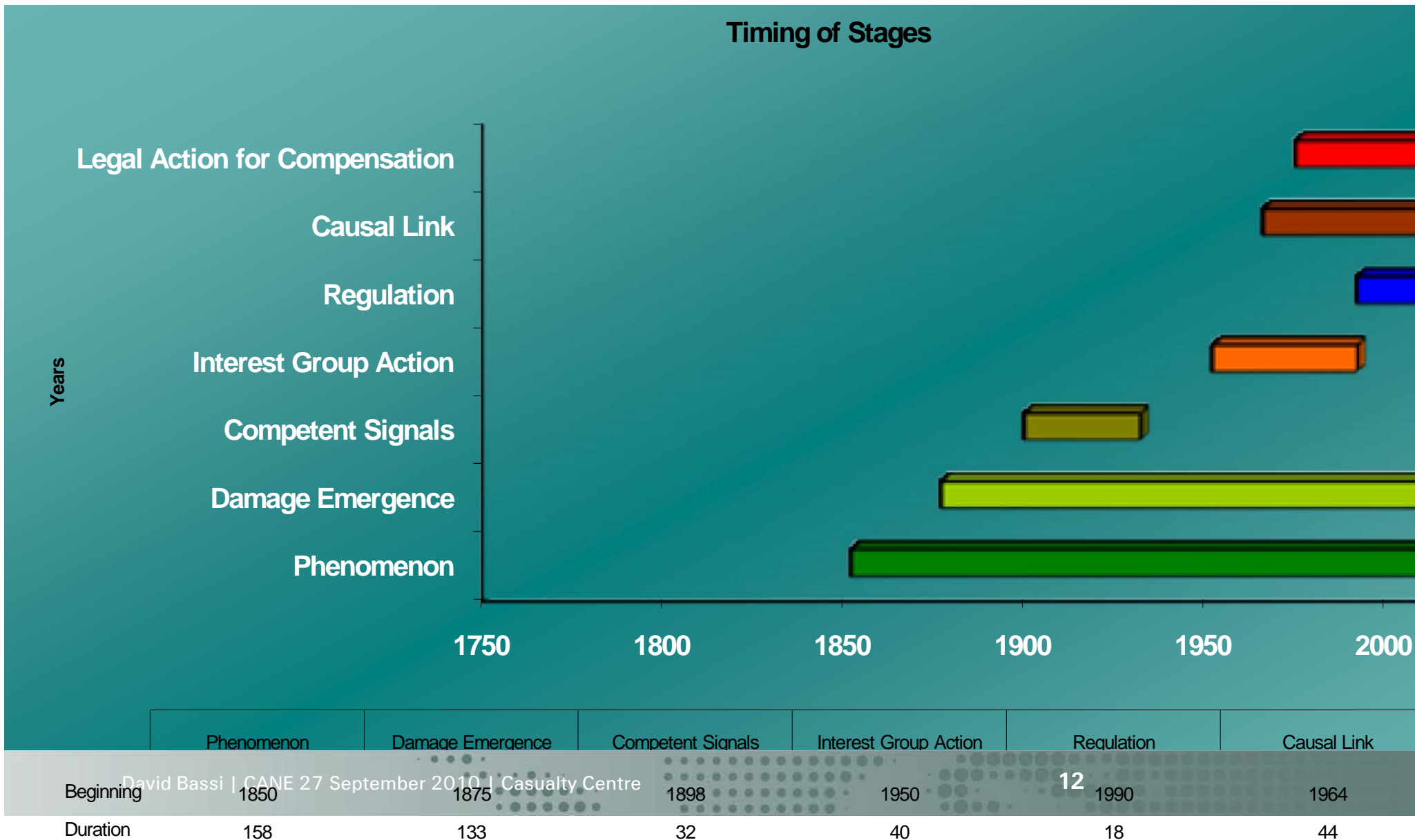


Emerging Risks pathway Hypothetical path

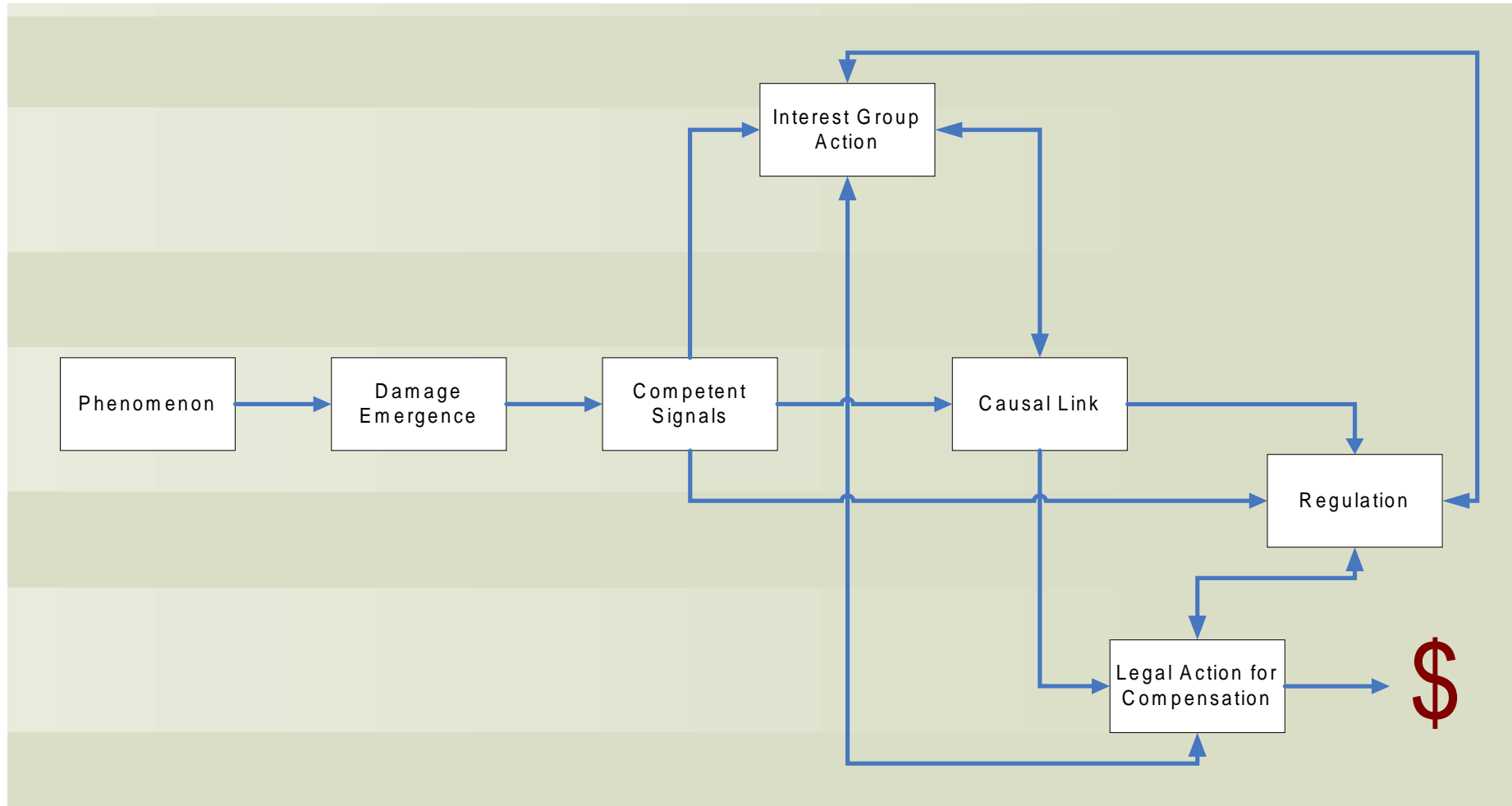


Emerging Risks pathway

Timing of stages: Asbestos



Emerging Risk stages





Ignoring the signals – the case of asbestos

1906	French factory report of 50 deaths in female asbestos textile workers and recommendation of controls.
1918	US insurers refuse cover to asbestos workers due to assumptions about injurious conditions in the industry.
1930	UK Merewether Report cites 66% of long-term workers in Rochdale factory with asbestosis.
1931	UK Asbestos Regulations specify dust control in manufacturing only & comp. for asbestosis, but poorly implemented. First worker's comp asbestos claims filed
1950s	First GL cases filed and first payments made.
1960s	First claims paid by Swiss Re, Dec 1966
	US Insurance loss as of 2004: USD 55 bn *
2006	Total estimated future losses: USD 275 bn **

* according to AM Best ** according to Millimans

Source

David Gee and Morris Greenberg, "Asbestos: from 'Magic' to Malevolent Mineral".

Conclusion

Asbestos exclusions were introduced in the US in 1918 – but somehow they got “lost” in the following years.

Data on harmful health effects of asbestos were reported as early as 1898, but the insurance industry did not integrate this knowledge into its risk management.



Quantification of Emerging Risks

Quantification of Emerging Risks Thinking in scenarios



Scenarios can be seen as thought experiments about possible future states of the world.

Scenarios are not forecasts, in that they need not predict the future development, but rather should illuminate possible but perhaps extreme situations.

Scenario analysis is a core element of all successful risk management frameworks.

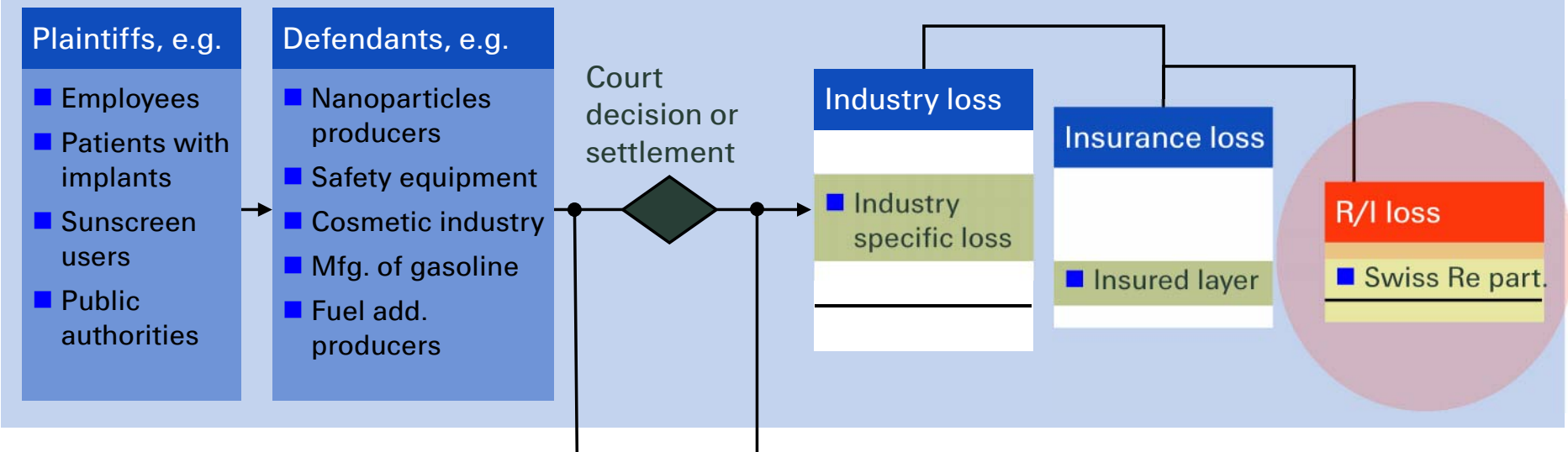
Scenario thinking serves decision makers in two ways:

- Protective: anticipating and understanding risk
- Entrepreneurial: discovering strategic options

Quantification of potential impacts

Elements to consider e.g. Nanotech scenarios

Impact overview:



Loss obstacles / hurdles:

Legal hurdles:
e.g.

- Causation
- Standing
- Justifiable matter

Liability attribution methodology: e.g.

- Market share
- Others

Insurance and R/I loss barriers:
e.g.

- UW structure (i.e. NP covers)
- One victim one event clause
- Pollution exclusion/limitation
- Other exclusions
- Limitation of defence costs



Quantification of potential impacts High-level versus portfolio approach

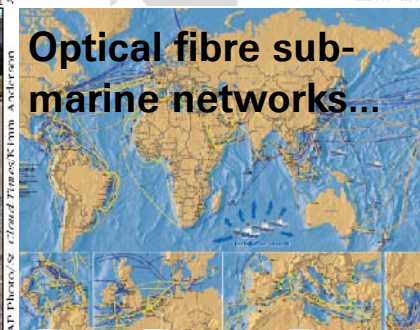
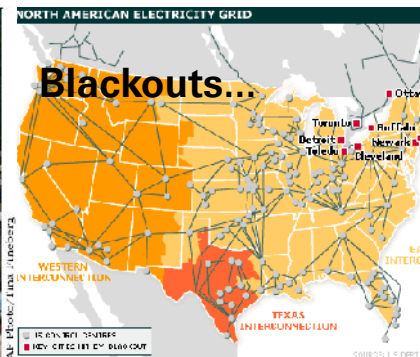
- Break-down of potential market economic loss on re-/insurance by using insurance market penetration and individual share
- Quantification of impact based on current portfolio by taking into consideration for example potentially affected insurance products, limits, policy triggers, coverage conditions, duration of exposure (accumulation of years/policies), geographical dimension, intensity (numbers of industries/victims) including impact of reinsurance (structure, products and limits)



Emerging Risks: P&C Examples

US infrastructure

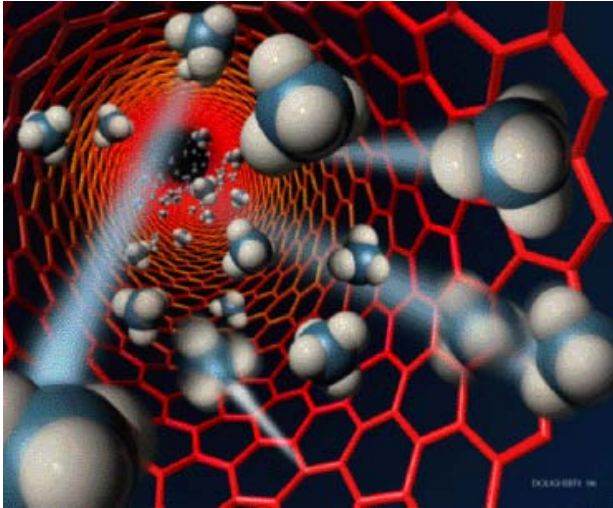
2009 Grades	
Aviation	D
Bridges	C
Dams	D
Drinking Water	D-
Energy	D+
Hazardous Waste	D
Inland Waterways	D-
Levees	D-
Public Parks and Recreation	C-
Rail	C-
Roads	D-
Schools	D
Solid Waste	C+
Transit	D
Wastewater	D-
America's Infrastructure GPA: D	
Estimated 5 Year Investment Need: \$2.2 Trillion	



Cause of damage or disruption:

- Man-made (terrorist, vandalism, operational error, Poor Maintenance)
- Natural processes / catastrophes (flood, cyclones, oxidation etc.)

Carbon nanotubes (CNTs)



Source: Carbon nanotubes –
CRO Emerging Risk Initiative
risk briefing

- One of the most prominent nanomaterials
- Potential asbestos-like effects of CNTs with needle like shape
- Carbon nanotubes are used in electronics, optics and other fields of materials science as well as various uses in construction

- Potential critical points during life cycle
 - Production and shipping of CNTs
 - Unexpected releases due to incidents
 - Use (e.g. textiles and pharmaceuticals)
 - Disposal or recycling
- Risk monitoring is important

Further emerging risk examples @ Swiss Re



**Pervasive
computing**



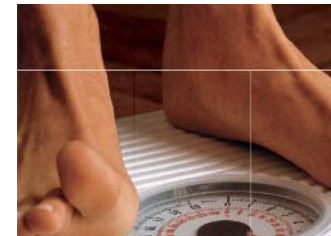
**Occupational
diseases**



**Composite
materials**



Food



Obesity



**Endocrine
disruptors**

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Thank you



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