



unitar

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Overview of UNITAR's Nanotechnology and Manufactured Nanomaterials Programme and Progress to date

Nairobi, Kenya 18
September 2012

Overview of UNITAR's Chemicals and Waste Management (CWM) Programme

- CWM provides support to governments and stakeholders to strengthen their institutional, technical, and legal infrastructure and capacities for sound chemicals management
- Project activities take place within the framework of implementing international agreements such as the Basel, Stockholm, and Rotterdam Conventions, the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS), or the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)

Overview of UNITAR's Chemicals and Waste Management (CWM) Programme (cont.)

- Activities are aimed at protecting human health and the environment while ensuring sustainable development
- UNITAR's approach to capacity building supports a country-driven and integrated approach to chemicals management as endorsed by ICCM-1, held in Dubai in February 2006
- It is linked to the 2020 goal to achieve sound management of chemicals as adopted by the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in 2002

UNITAR SAICM Involvement

- CWM supports countries in a wide range of SAICM-related areas. These include:
 - National SAICM pilot projects/integrated national programmes - assisting countries to establish/strengthen a collaborative framework at the national level;
 - National chemical management profiles - country assessments;
 - Specialized training and capacity building - GHS, PRTR, Mercury, Nanotechnology

Mandated by ICCM-2, resolution II/4 E

Encourages "Governments and other stakeholders to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition to enhance their capacity to use and manage nanotechnologies and manufactured nanomaterials responsibly, to maximize potential benefits and minimize potential risks."

Round 1 – Regional Workshops

- Took place from late 2009 to mid 2010 for the Latin American and Caribbean, Africa, Asia-Pacific, Arab, and Central and Eastern European Region in order to raise awareness on nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials for governments and stakeholders
- Back-to-back with SAICM regional meetings
- Partner: OECD
- Donors: Governments of Switzerland, UK, USA, and Sweden

Swiss Proposal: Inclusion of Nano to the GPA

- As a follow-up to round 1, the Government of Switzerland drafted a proposal to include nano into SAICM's Global Plan of Action (GPA).
- The proposal, designed in accordance with the existing GPA, presented by Switzerland was submitted for stakeholder comments. The proposal recommends "the inclusion of a new work area on nanotechnologies and manufactured nanomaterials with corresponding activities, actors, and targets"

UNITAR Nano Activities

Round 2 – Regional Workshops

- Due to overwhelming interest from round 1, UNITAR embarked on a 2nd round of regional workshops for countries to prepare for ICCM-3
- Back-to-back with SAICM regional workshops
- Took place from early 2011 to mid 2011 for the Latin American and Caribbean, Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Central and Eastern European Regions
- Discuss the Swiss proposal to include nano into the GPA
- Donor: Government of Switzerland

UNITAR Nano Activities

Outcomes of Round 1 & 2:

- Increased understanding by the participants on the implications of nano in their daily work as general chemicals management specialists in their countries;
- Identification of anticipated country needs in order to address nano as part of a sustainable general programme for the sound management of chemicals at the national level;
- Preparation for ICCM-3 with regard to nano-related activities being included into the GPA
- Africa and Latin America and Caribbean regions made recommendations and resolutions to be presented to OEWG

Outcomes of OEWG on Nano

- Stakeholders, governments discussed the inclusion of nano into the GPA
- Consensus could not be reached due to some of the wording and language used within the document.
- As a result, document was posted on SAICM's website for further comment by stakeholders
- Draft resolution was discussed; further discussions are taking place at ICCM-3

UNITAR Nano Pilots - Background

- With the success of the regional workshops, UNITAR supported by the Government of Switzerland, initiated in late 2011 pilot projects to assist three developing countries to develop programmatic capacities to tackle nanotechnology issues at the national level
- The countries are: Nigeria, Thailand, Uruguay
- Aim of projects: increase awareness on nano-safety as a key tool for protecting human health and the environment; strengthen national capacities for management of chemicals in line with Chapter 19 of Agenda 21 and SAICM; integrate nano-related safety management into pre-existing programmes for the sound management of chemicals at the national level
- A guidance document was developed by UNITAR to assist the pilots at the country level

UNITAR Nano Pilot Activities

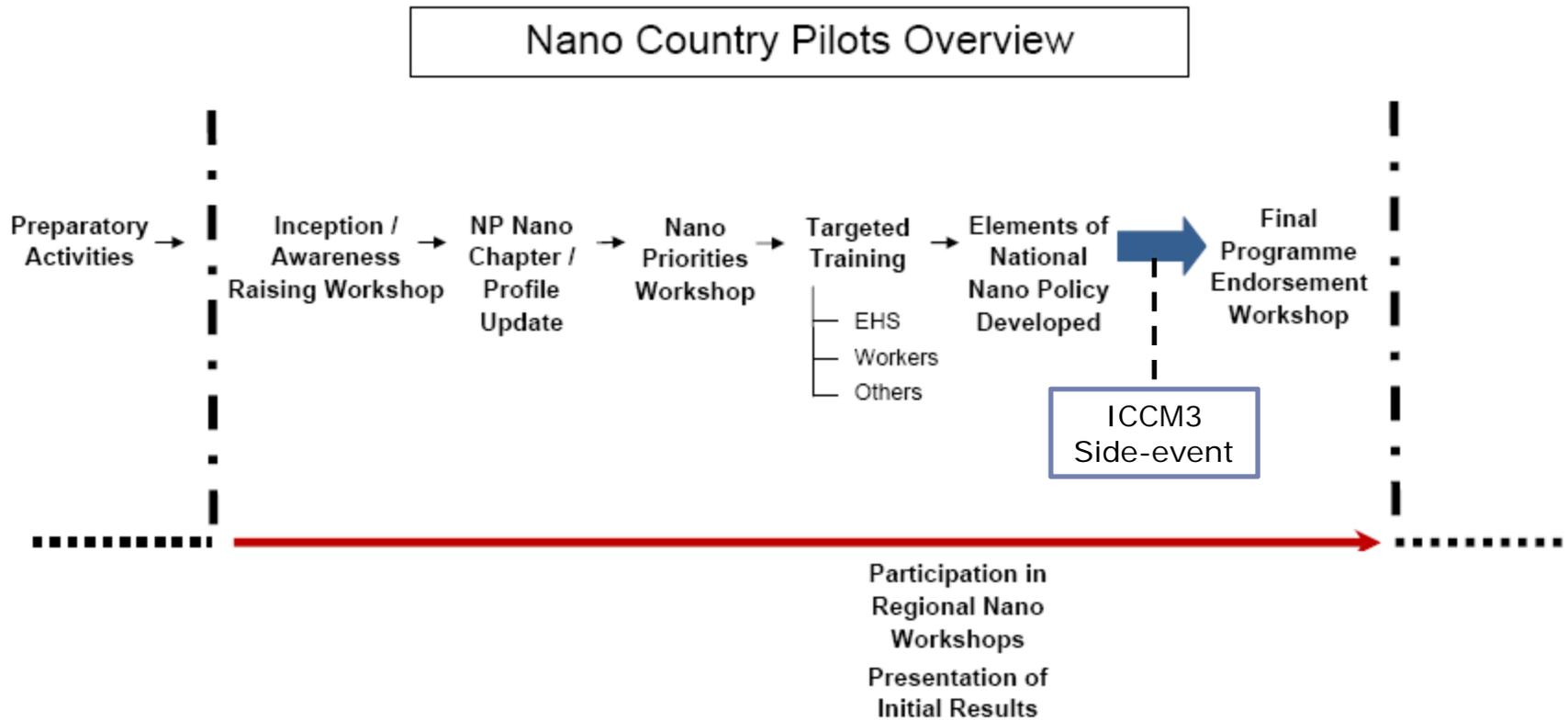
- Awareness raising with the participation of all stakeholders
- Development of a national “nano assessment”
- Identification of national nano safety priorities
- Developing elements of a national nano safety policy with stakeholders
- Training on nano safety

Presentation of National Project Involvement at ICCM-3

- Initial results are being considered here at ICCM-3
- The aim of this side-event is for the pilots to showcase their projects' progress to-date with each country's participation
- All 3 countries have now held their inception workshops and will be providing further information



Project Overview Diagram



knowledge, international, participatory approach, research, diversity, innovation, knowledge sharing, new technologies, transfer, expertise, new technologies, learning by doing, networks, ship, skills building, etc.

Thank you!

www.unitar.org/cwm/nano

nano@unitar.org