Strengthening national governance

Insights from the GCO-II

Stakeholder workshop on strengthening governance for the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020

Frankfurt, Germany, 15 January 2020
Outline

1. Inter-ministerial coordination and focal points
2. Capacity development, action plans and review
3. Innovative financing, polluter pays principle and cost recovery
4. Multi-sectoral partnerships
Inter-ministerial coordination and focal points & Sectoral engagement in national coordination mechanisms

Figure 3.11 Engagement of sectors in coordination mechanisms, comparing results for 2009-2010 and 2011-2013 (adapted from SAICM Secretariat 2015a, p. 11)
Inter-ministerial coordination and focal points

Integrated national programmes, national profiles and institutional coordination

The development of country-driven and country owned chemical management processes is among the topics prominently featured in the Overarching Policy Strategy of SAICM.

Under governance, the OPS features as a specific objective promoting the development of “integrated programmes for the sound management of chemicals across all sectors”.
National profiles have fostered country driven processes to strengthen chemicals management.
Box 2.2 The integrated results and indicator framework under the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity

In 2010 Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, which comprises a shared Vision, a Mission, five Strategic Goals and 20 targets, collectively known as the Aichi Targets. The Aichi Targets provide a coherence, results and indicators framework, as well as a reference point for developing National Biodiversity Action Plans. They have been endorsed by all key international agreements in the area of biodiversity and by key actors. The Parties to the various MEAs in the biodiversity field have also agreed to work together in advancing an integrated indicators framework.
Integrated SAICM implementation plans

In a number of countries the process of developing a has led to the establishment of formalized interministerial coordinating committees, and fostered development of a programmatic and integrated approach to advance the sound management of chemicals.
Key messages for policymakers: a call for more ambitious action at all levels
To facilitate the success of the **global collaborative framework** on chemicals and waste, all relevant stakeholders could be challenged to make voluntary yet clear public commitments and pledges, specifying concrete plans and steps to be taken.

One option is that **countries and all relevant stakeholders** could develop, implement and share, internationally, results-based action plans and roadmaps to implement the 2030 Agenda from a chemicals and waste perspective.

**Action plans and roadmaps could be prepared in a collaborative manner** by countries, industry sectors (e.g. the chemicals industry, chemical intensive downstream sectors, retailers, the recycling industry), civil society organizations, academia and others.

They could also be prepared at **the thematic level** and involve several stakeholders (e.g. for an initiative to fill data gaps in order to understand the hazard potential of chemicals).
regional cooperation on chemicals and waste related issues is the developed a regional roadmap by the WHO South East Asia Regional Office (SEARO) to help Member States develop and implement national antimicrobial resistance (AMR) prevention and containment action plans.
Highlights

The 2030 Agenda provides a renewed opportunity to integrate chemicals and waste considerations into national development planning and sectoral policies and programmes.

A growing number of stakeholders are using the 2030 Agenda to document their chemicals and waste related actions, but further momentum is needed and questions arise how to measure results.

Strengthening chemicals and waste management programmes at all levels is critical to achieve SGD Targets 12.4 and 3.9, which focus on chemicals and waste.

A comprehensive global framework is needed, with ambitious priorities, coherent indicators, and incentives to foster commitment and engagement by all relevant actors.

Ten action areas with specific options for the implementation of actions to reach relevant SDGs and targets, up to and beyond 2020, have been identified by the GCO-II.

Country and stakeholder driven action plans and roadmaps to achieve the sound management of chemicals and waste could be the foundation for reviewing progress at the global level.
Mainstreaming occurs when governments, both recipients and donors, integrate sound management of chemicals and waste into their development plans and/or priorities.

The overarching objective of mainstreaming is to align regulations, economic instruments and other policy instruments, with a view to correcting market failures and ensuring that the costs of environmental degradation are covered according to the polluter pays principle.

Various activities have been implemented to support mainstreaming, including the UNEP and UNDP partnership initiative, which was found to have been successful in introducing the sound management of chemicals into development planning processes in some countries but less so in others (SAICM Secretariat 2015c).
Figure 3.20  Trends in private sector financial support comparing results for 2009-2010 and 2011-2013 (adapted from SAICM Secretariat 2015a, p. 13)

Western European and Others group
Central and Eastern Europe
Average
Africa
Asia-Pacific
Latin America and the Caribbean
World

Note: World = IOMC and global organizations; Average = average for all regions and world categories of respondents
Innovative financing – role of regulation

✓ A number of regulations have been updated.

✓ A recent comparative study of regulatory reforms in the EU and the United States (Botos, Graham and Illés 2018) describes the main drivers leading to updates in the regulation of industrial chemicals.

✓ In the EU, changes in the regulation of hazardous substances under REACH have focused on remedying the problems of lack of data on the safety of chemicals

✓ the need to speed up prioritization and risk assessment/management tasks; and the need to implement the polluter pays principle.
5.4 Potential measures to scale up the use of fiscal incentives

The use of market-based instruments has the potential to effectively complement regulatory approaches to advance the sound management of chemicals and waste. Further international research and knowledge sharing could help to reap the full potential of these instruments. Taking into account the preceding analysis, stakeholders may wish to consider the following measures to scale up the use of fiscal incentives to advance sound chemicals management and sustainable chemistry:

- Use charges to speed up the phasing out of substances of very high concern.
- Evaluate the use of market-based instruments for groups of chemicals, based on the precautionary principle applied to the identified hazards of the active ingredients in similar chemicals (e.g. taxes on flame retardants and phthalates).
- Use legal requirements for Extended Producer Responsibility, environmental liability and access to information in order to incentivize sound chemicals management, in line with the polluter pays principle.
- Establish a policy learning process through systematic monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of policy instruments for chemicals management in different sectors and contexts.

- Expand the use of differential taxation of hazardous chemicals, based on lessons learned from recent hazard- and risk-based taxation.
- Evaluate and address the effects of subsidies and other policies that can generate perverse incentives which increase use of hazardous chemicals in agriculture and other sectors.
Key findings

The global goal to minimize adverse impacts of chemicals and waste will not be achieved by 2020. Solutions exist, but more ambitious worldwide action by all stakeholders is urgently required.

6. Addressing legislation and capacity gaps in developing countries and emerging economies remains a priority. Also, resources have not matched needs. There are opportunities for new and innovative financing (e.g. through cost recovery and engagement of the financial sector).

2. Mobilize resources

Scale up adequate resources and innovative financing for effective legislation, implementation and enforcement, particularly in developing countries and economies in transition, by:

- scaling up efforts to integrate chemicals and waste management into national and sectoral budgets;
- facilitating adequate external technical assistance, financial support and technology transfer to address issues causing greatest harm, including through new and innovative financing (e.g. fiscal incentives, cost recovery instruments, green bonds, venture capital); and
- strengthening the integrated approach to financing through assessing its effectiveness and renewed commitment across all three components (mainstreaming, industry involvement, and dedicated external financing).
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Thank you for your attention

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