



Rotterdam Convention



Stockholm Convention

SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS FOR THE SOUND MANAGEMENT OF CHEMICALS

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IPM of CSD-19, 1 March 2011



SOUND MANAGEMENT OF CHEMICALS (SMC) AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: A CLEAR RELATIONSHIP

- People in extreme poverty are often most vulnerable to the adverse effects resulting from poor chemicals management
- Promoting SMC have beneficial economic and development outcomes:
 - Increased capacity to manage chemicals in a sound manner
 - Reduced health risks through reduced exposure to hazardous chemicals
 - Reduced levels of other environmental pollutants
 - Increased competitiveness of national industries
 - Enhanced export potential



CSD-18 MAIN MESSAGES

- Significant progress has been made at all levels, but much remains to be done to achieve WSSD 2020 goal to ensure that chemicals are managed in a sound manner
- International community particularly needs to address the ongoing shift of production and use of chemicals to developing countries
- Need to engage all key stakeholders



SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS FOR SMC

- Managing chemical problems ‘after the fact’ generally more costly than implementing SMC from the beginning
- Need to explore sustainable solutions for SMC
- Four main strategies have been identified:
 - Strengthening the governance framework
 - Mainstreaming SMC into development agendas
 - Promoting sustainable chemical production and use
 - Developing public-private partnerships (PPPs) and the use of economic instruments



STRENGTHENING THE GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

- Challenge: To promote an integrated and coherent policy framework at all levels
- Recommendations:
 - Promote a better unified and coherent international framework, following the example of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions
 - Strengthen existing institutions at the international level and promote collaboration through coherent and efficient partnerships
 - Better link between environment and health as well as finance/development planning sectors
 - Strengthen national coordination infrastructures and mainstream chemical safety into national development plans.



MAINSTREAMING SMC INTO DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

- Challenge: To foster political buy-in and to ensure predictable funding
- Recommendations: Ensure that SMC is integrated into the international development agenda and national development plans:
 - Promote cost-benefit studies assessing both the direct costs and benefits of SMC and the wider social costs and benefits,
 - Develop UNDG approved performance indicators for ESM that can be used in UNDAFs,
 - Adopt a UNDG thematic policy on SMC,
 - Seek support for SMC projects within the development of UNDAFs and ODA,
 - Consider chemical and waste management together as part of a life cycle approach.



PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE CHEMICAL PRODUCTION AND USE

- Challenge: To promote sustainable chemical production and use in consumer products
- Recommendations:
 - Promote green chemistry: i.e. use of eco-design, safe substances, and energy efficient process,
 - Promote instruments of corporate social and environmental responsibilities: environmental auditing and reporting
 - Promote responsible advertising, marketing and consumers information tools incl. labelling and certification
 - Promote transfer of knowledge within industry to identify safer substitutes and alternatives



DEVELOPING PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS (PPPS) AND ECONOMIC INSTRUMENTS

- Challenge: To strengthen the capacity of national industry and SMEs
- Recommendations: To promote PPPs at the national and regional level to move towards a green economy:
 - Develop a private sector engagement strategy,
 - Develop a global chemicals PPP strategy:
 - Identify and develop PPP-supporting capacity building activities ,
 - Determine chemical issues that PPPs may be a suitable response for,
 - Develop PPP-supporting capacity building activities through multilateral donors.
 - Internalise the costs of chemical management into national programmes through the use of economic instruments



CONCLUSIONS

- Promoting SMC have beneficial development outcomes and is an important pathway to implement green economic policies
- Mainstreaming of chemicals and wastes in the development agenda is closely linked with the future of the chemicals and wastes cluster
- It is important that chemicals and wastes MEAs, IGOs, governments, civil society, and the private sector continue to promote the cross-cutting nature of the chemicals and wastes management agenda

