Inception Workshop: Increasing the global implementation of GHS through a pilot focusing on Africa

Introductory Session
### Introductory Session:
**Welcome, practical arrangement**

#### Agenda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 1 – Tuesday 04 October 2022</th>
<th>Day 2 – Wednesday 05 October 2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>08.45</strong> Welcome</td>
<td><strong>09.00</strong> Session 3: Sharing experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>09.00</strong> Introductory Session</td>
<td><strong>10.45</strong> Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10.30</strong> Session 1: Country presentations</td>
<td><strong>11.00</strong> Session 3: Sharing experience (Continued)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>12.30</strong> Lunch</td>
<td><strong>12.30</strong> Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>13.30</strong> Session 1: Country presentations (continued)</td>
<td><strong>13.30</strong> Session 4: Project plan and communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>15.30</strong> Break</td>
<td><strong>16.30</strong> Closing session and reflections of the meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>15.45</strong> Session 2: Break-out groups</td>
<td><strong>17.00</strong> End of inception workshop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>17.15</strong> Presentation of group work</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>18.00</strong> End of day 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introductory Session:
Opening remarks from SAICM

Nalini Sharma
SAICM Coordinator, SAICM Secretariat
Chemicals and Health Branch
Economy Division
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Introductory Session:
Opening remarks from the European Commission

Dr. Juergen Helbig
Team Leader International Chemicals Policy
European Commission
DG Environment
Unit B.2 – Safe and Sustainable Chemicals
Introductory Session:
Opening remarks from ICCA

Maria Ruiz-Cuevas
International Chemicals Management
Cefic (European Chemical Industry Council)
ICCA

Introductory Session:
Introduction of participants
Introductory Session:
Introduction to the project, objectives and expected outcomes of the workshop

The objectives of the workshop include:
• To allow the core project stakeholders and the members of the project steering committee to meet in person to support future communication and provide a common base for the project to build on.
• To update project execution partners on the project scope including concept, objectives, components and outputs and endorse any changes to project annexes (legal agreements, ToRs, budget, procurement plan, workplan, supervision plan);
• To ensure common understanding of the project delivery structure, the linkages, and the roles and responsibilities of each partner, including reporting requirements;
• To finalize detailed project work plans, budgets and quarterly forecasts for the project YEAR 1 based on the drafts developed in advance of the meeting;
• To agree on a communication plan and knowledge management approach for project partners and executing agency.

Introductory Session:
Project Organization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funders</th>
<th>Partners</th>
<th>Recipient Countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="European Commission" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="UNEP" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Ireland" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="ICCA" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="ECHA" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Nigeria" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="UNEP" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt=" Ghana" /></td>
<td><a href="image">Other recipient countries</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Agenda

Project Output

Project Outcome

Intermediate Stage

Impact

A) The effectiveness (or benefits) of the approach employed to support the implementation of the Global Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling on Chemicals is demonstrated from the pilot projects in the recipient countries, and results are documented and available for dissemination to key national and regional decision makers as appropriate

B) Stakeholders from relevant ministries, civil society, labour organizations, chemical industry, and private sector (particularly in supply chains) gain knowledge on GHS to support its implementation

Recipients countries have adopted a GHS implementation plan creating a sound basis to build adequate control structures for the sound management of chemicals and waste and demonstrate substantive progress in its implementation with a view of scaling up the adoption of GHS globally

Countries increasingly manage chemicals and waste in a sound manner

Chemicals and waste impacts on human health and the environment are minimized & Barriers to trade are reduced by harmonizing standards

Drivers

Assumptions

Demand by the public and civil society to prevent and reduce chemicals and waste risks to society

Increased information leads to political actions

Adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs

Countries are aware of costs of human health and productivity

Logical Framework

**Project Outcome:** Recipient countries have adopted a GHS implementation plan creating a sound basis to build adequate control structures for the sound management of chemicals and waste and demonstrate substantive progress in its implementation with a view of scaling up the adoption of GHS globally

**Output A)** The effectiveness (or benefits) of the approach employed to support the implementation of the Global Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling on Chemicals is demonstrated from the pilot projects in the recipient countries, and results are documented and available for dissemination to key regional decision makers as appropriate

- A.1) Establish legal agreements with recipient countries describing the funding mechanisms and covering activities to be performed by government with help from partners
- A.2) Establish GHS implementation roadmap
- A.3) Support through law adoption process
- A.4) Development of a framework to further support the long-term implementation of GHS globally
- A.5) Exit Strategy

**Output B)** Stakeholders from relevant ministries, civil society, labour organizations, chemical industry, and private sector (particularly in supply chains) gain knowledge on GHS to support its implementation

- B.1) Development of GHS training package
- B.2) Establishment of a pool of local trainers to participate in "train the trainers" workshops
Activity A.1) Establish legal agreements with recipient countries describing the funding mechanisms and covering activities to be performed by government with help from partners

To ensure long term commitment to the project from each party, a legal agreement will be put in place between UNEP and the recipient country. The project legal agreement should describe the funding mechanisms and cover activities to be performed by government with help from partners, such as:

- Identify key stakeholders in the Governments, civil society, industry, academy, etc.,
- Form a national GHS coordinating committee based on an updated or already existing one e.g. chemicals and waste management, SP, National Profile, NIPs, etc,
- Establish the country baseline, assess existing capacity, and identify gaps related to GHS in countries,
- Develop an action plan and a roadmap for implementation of GHS,
- Prepare a draft legislation/regulation or review and amendment of existing laws and regulations to incorporate GHS,
- Monitoring and mid-term and final evaluations of the national project impact and results undertaken,
- Capture lessons learned, and provide commitment to follow-up on the GHS implementation,
- Contribute to regional and international fora to showcase the work and support global action.

Activity A.2) Establish GHS implementation roadmap

The establishment of implementation roadmaps is foreseen to follow a 3-step approach, which will be further refined and adapted to reflect the country’s current situation:

1. Develop country baselines
2. Perform country institutional, legal, infrastructure, and policy capacity and gaps assessment
3. Establish country GHS implementation plan
Activity A.3) Support through law adoption process

The GHS is a **non-legally binding instrument** and its **modular** approach gives governments discretion to choose, among other elements:

- the implementation instrument;
- the sectors in which it is implemented and, within a sector, the hazard classes and categories to be implemented;
- the version of the GHS they implement and the periodicity of updates.

For the purposes of this project, **implementation** is meant as the GHS being enacted **through a legal instrument**. The project aims at **supporting** countries through the **drafting of law** or through review and amendment of existing laws and regulations to incorporate GHS by providing technical assistance and providing feedback on the draft. The project will thereafter strive to support each country through the adoption process keeping in mind that legal systems vary between countries.

Activity A.4) Development of a framework to further support the long-term implementation of GHS globally

The goal of this activity is to prepare **best practices** and **guidelines** of management and implementation of GHS from the experience gathered with the 4 countries, that would be useful to share widely as input in international work for long term implementation of GHS globally. Guidelines could cover topics such as how to implement GHS at national level, what resources are required for implementing GHS, how to enforce effectively, how to use cost recovery mechanisms, ...

As such, the deliverables could build on and expand the National GHS Roadmap developed by UNITAR and case studies developed by ICCA.

An **outreach and dissemination strategy** should be defined to share the lessons learnt captured during this activity. In doing so, existing platforms such as the IOMC toolbox should be considered as a mean to multiply the knowledge gathered with a focus on the aspects relating to methodology and approach to capacity building in the area of GHS.
Activity A.5) Exit strategy

A strong focus of the project is to ensure long term commitment and sustainability also after project closure given that GHS implementation can be a long and challenging process needing several years until it is fully in place.

An exit strategy will be defined towards the end of the project while requiring countries to provide evidence of GHS implementation arrangements in place and to be continued after project completion.

A final validation workshop with all project partners and stakeholders is recommended in order to ensure the sustainability of results from the project’s interventions, knowledge transfer and uptake of approaches developed during the project.

Activity B.1) Development of GHS training package

UNITAR has previously developed a GHS e-Learning course. Enforcement officers and workers who need to develop extensive understanding of the technical elements of the GHS would be invited to undertake the course.

While the current UNITAR course is certainly useful, general feedback is that it tends to be too technical for general users of the system and for this reason, not easily accessible.

This activity therefore aims at developing a training package “intermediate” level. This activity will start with a training need assessment in order to evaluate the level of technical details required. The assessment will cover both the regulators’ needs and the industry’s needs.

The training package will seek to cover practical issues relating to implementation, such as:

- Engagement with national industry, including SMEs
- IT systems
- Market awareness
- Enforcement
- Prioritization of chemicals
- Risk management issues
- Cost recovery mechanisms
- Case studies and experience from other countries (both government and industry sides)
Activity B.2) Establishment of a pool of local trainers to participate in ‘train the trainers’ workshops

This activity aims at building knowledge and capacity around GHS in the target countries. The proposed approach revolves around training a pool of trainers who would be instrumental in further building capacity in the target countries by delivering training themselves.

Depending on the countries’ needs and current situation, the approach could focus on establishing one (or more) regional pool of trainers or in establishing a local pool of trainers in each country.

A preliminary step of this activity will be to identify relevant target local trainers as the “train-the-trainer” approach requires a target audience with advanced practical experience.

Introductory Session:
Organization (as included in the project proposal)

Advisory Board
Provide strategic direction and oversight of the project management and results.

Project Management
SAICM Secretariat
Responsible for project delivery, partner engagement, and project management

Supervisor
Chief of Chemicals and Health Branch, Economy Division

Steering Committee
EUI, ECHA, UNITAR, UNEP, ICA
Provide steer and oversee the project implementation as a whole to ensure consistency between actions taken in the countries, working closely with the national GHS committee

National GHS Committee
Responsible for national implementation, partner engagement, and project management at national level

Main beneficiaries: National governments
Wider stakeholders: Private sector, NGOs, indigenous and local communities
Introductory Session:
THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP TO IMPLEMENT THE GHS

The Global Partnership to Implement the GHS | UNITAR

OUTPUTS RELATED TO PARTNERSHIP WORKSTREAMS

- The GHS in the world of work: Mapping synergies between ILO Instruments and the GHS (ILO)
- Key elements of a national GHS roadmap
- Overview of GHS activities from organisations outside of the ILO/DECC/UNITAR partnership
- Study on lessons learned
- Legislative guidance, 2021 Edition
- Developing a National GHS Implementation Strategy, 2022 Edition
- Study on trade agreements and the GHS
- Case Studies to Support GHS Implementation - ICCA, 2019
- Synthesis of GHS Cost-Benefit Papers - ICCA, 2019

Oliver Wootton
Specialist
Chemicals & Waste
UN Institute for Training & Research - UNITAR
Introductory Session:
Q&A

Session 1: Country presentations
Session 1: Country presentations

Instructions

The recipient countries will give a presentation covering:

• National chemicals landscape: chemical regulatory framework, industry overview, existing national committee, ...
• GHS Implementation status, previous GHS related activities, and how the implementation process will be organized
• Responsibility of the governmental institutions: How are the responsibilities divided between the governmental institutions in the corresponding country in terms of implementation including responsibility for compliance, enforcement etc?
• Involvement or contribution from other stakeholders, industry, private sector, civil society groups, and IGOs
• Challenges pertaining to the implementation of GHS
• Level of ambition in implementing GHS
Session 2: Break-out groups

Instructions

• One group will meet in CR-7, one group will stay in CR-9.
• Designate a facilitator and a rapporteur

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group 1</th>
<th>Group 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What is preventing the uptake and implementation of chemicals management at national level? How can the project tackle those issues?</td>
<td>Legislation – overarching legislation, lower-level regulations, sectors, stakeholders’ committees, engagement, regional agreements / alignment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• 1h30 discussion, report back and present a summary (10 min per group) followed by open discussion

No online participation, but possibility to attend presentation (~17:15)
Session 3: Sharing experience

Experience from an African Country in implementing GHS and in practice
Experience from an Asian Country in implementing GHS and in practice
Experience from Gulf Countries in implementing GHS
Contribution of CropLife for the implementation of GHS

Session 3: Sharing experience
Experience from an African Country in implementing GHS and in practice

Presentation

Elize Lourens
South Africa
Specialist: Occupational Health & Hygiene
Occupational Health and Safety
Branch: Inspection and Enforcement Services
Department of Employment and Labour
Session 3: Sharing experience
Experience from an Asian Country in implementing GHS and in practice
Presentation

Ir. Ts. Hazlina Yon
Malaysia
Director
Chemical Management Division
Department of Occupational Safety and Health
Ministry of Human Resources

Session 3: Sharing experience
Experience from Gulf Countries in implementing GHS
Presentation

Abdullah Abou-Haidar
Saudi Arabia
Sr. Specialist, Regulatory Affairs
Regulatory Affairs Department - MEA
SABIC
Session 3: Sharing experience
Contribution of CropLife for the implementation of GHS
Presentation

Bama Yao Octave
Côte d'Ivoire
Regional Director, WCA
CropLife Africa Middle East

Session 3: Sharing experience
Experience from Gulf Countries in implementing GHS

• How can industry contribute in each recipient country?

• What are the challenges specific to SMEs in your country and how can we get them on-board?
Session 4: Project plan and communication

Support to the establishment of roadmaps for GHS implementation

Marco Camboni
Project Manager
RPA Europe srl
Session 4: Project plan and communication

Proposed project organization

Advisory Board
EC: Cristina de Avila; ECHA: Mercedes Vinas; ICCA: Martin Kayser; UNEP: UNITAR: Jorge Otsina; SAICM: Nalini Sharma

GHS partnership (ILO, OECD); Gender Organization
Champion governments/NGO

Project Steering Committee
EC: Juergen Helbig; ECHA: Jenny Holmqvist; ICCA: Maria Ruiz-Guevara; UNEP: UNITAR: Oliver Wootten; SAICM: Olivier Baldan

GHS Implementation
Roadmaps Consultant

Industry Consultant

National GHS Coordinating Committee
Ivory Coast

National GHS Coordinating Committee
Kenya

National GHS Coordinating Committee
Ghana

National GHS Coordinating Committee
Nigeria

• Include local NGO, industry representative, labour organizations, SMEs, ...

Session 4: Project plan and communication

ToR – Advisory Board

The Advisory Board and its members can achieve their objectives through a variety of means, including:

Strategic advice
• Advise on strategy and provide recommendations and guidance for the implementation of GHS in the recipient countries with a view to support global, regional, and national implementation.
• Share ideas and assist in the development of the project.
• Raise awareness and drive global aspiration to support the global implementation of GHS through their respective constituencies.

Knowledge management and technical support
• Advise on the knowledge management and technical support activities undertaken by the project.
• Advise on technical thematic issues and/or tools and their role within the project.
• Advise the project steering committee or comment on key publications and outputs of the project.
• Share lessons learned.
• Advise on possible “peer review” options for specific project activities or outputs.
• Advise on, participate in, and ensure that relevant outreach activities throughout the project are undertaken.

Technical coordination
• Keep members informed of other ongoing initiatives of relevance to the project and suggest ways of building synergies with such initiatives.

Monitoring and evaluation
• Advise on proposed improvements in monitoring and reporting arrangements by recipient countries to the project steering committee.
• Advise on specific monitoring and evaluation exercises.
• All of the above is meant to improve the quality of the project activities and contribute to the delivery of the project expected outcome.
Session 4: Project plan and communication
ToR – Project Steering Committee

The Project Steering Committee will provide overall steer and strategic direction to the project so that the project rationale remains valid and that a coherent approach is applied among recipient countries. The Project Steering Committee will seek to establish and maintain equal gender participation and representation. Specifically, the Steering Committee will:

- Approve the project work plan and budget and review progress;
- Provide support to the National GHS Committees;
- Provide support to the procured contractor to ensure that the assessment is fit for purpose and provides a clear roadmap for the national implementation;
- Support the implementation of specific actions as identified in the assessment such as training, institutional support, legal advice, and outreach;
- Provide advice to the Project Manager to ensure the project achieves desired results (outputs and outcomes);
- Provide guidance to the Project Manager with relation to stakeholder management;
- Provide guidance to the Project Manager on needed changes or revisions; and
- Authorize any substantive changes to the project design.

Session 4: Project plan and communication
ToR – Consultants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consulting company for development of implementation roadmaps</th>
<th>Industry consultant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The evaluation of the consulting company will cover the perspective of the national legal frameworks, including enforcement of chemicals regulations, and the readiness of the national competent authorities in terms of infrastructure, capacity, and expertise.</td>
<td>The consultant will serve as the key focal point in coordinating industry participation and engagement for the project. The consultant will work with all project stakeholders.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The assessment should address the following points for the four countries individually:</td>
<td>Objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(i) Develop a country baseline and thoroughly assess the state of the existing legal framework of each country.</td>
<td>• Establishment of 4 industry local teams (one for each country)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ii) Perform a gap assessment and clarify each government’s readiness in terms of institutional capacity to implement and enforce the GHS.</td>
<td>• Draft and support implementation of a “Project Plan for Industry”, highlighting the current use of GHS by local and international companies, including existing challenges and enabling conditions for a successful implementation of GHS by industry, and key milestones in each selected country. This will be done in parallel with and by using the output of the national GHS implementation roadmaps to be developed by the consulting company where possible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iii) Provide a detailed implementation plan for each country outlining the steps needed to enable each individual state to implement the GHS. The assessment should also identify existing limitations in competencies and governmental infrastructure required.</td>
<td>• Support the work of UNITAR related to training by</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>These three elements will constitute the GHS implementation roadmap for each country.</td>
<td>• Gathering all relevant training material developed by industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Given the wider objective to develop a framework that can be utilized in supporting the implementation of GHS in other countries, it is expected that the study will document the methodology clearly and with sufficient level of detail.)</td>
<td>• Supporting the development of training material relevant for industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In addition, the contractor is expected to arrange one workshop per country to present and discuss the final compiled report.</td>
<td>• Supporting the development and tracking KPIs to monitor industry progress towards achieving training targets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The contractor is expected to conduct in-depth interviews remotely or in-person if feasible to underpin the assessment of current national working procedures and resources. The interviews are also a way to enable a verification of findings.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is critical that the work is performed in close collaboration with the recipient countries’ representatives to ensure buy-in and ownership. In addition, the contractor is expected to work closely with the project partners.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Session 4: Project plan and communication

ToR – National GHS coordinating committee

- At the country level, National GHS Committees will be created with equal gender participation and representation.
- Successful implementation of the GHS can be facilitated by effective coordination of relevant sectors and stakeholders and the activities in which they are involved. This can reduce duplication of efforts and serve to improve consistency and coordination in overall chemical hazard management in a country.
- Because of the number of institutions/organizations and people potentially involved in GHS implementation, establishing a coordinating infrastructure is necessary to frame the development of a GHS implementation strategy.
- This infrastructure serves to ensure that communication is ongoing between the actor groups (government, business and industry, and civil society), across the four sectors (industrial workplace, agriculture, transport and consumer products including consideration of cross-sectoral issues); and between stakeholders and the national coordinating committee.
- The exact composition of the committee will depend on each country’s particular circumstances (environment, foreign affairs, health, standards, finance, trade and customs among others)
- The committee should meet early in the implementation strategy development process and among its first orders of business draft and reach agreement, as appropriate, on tools that can guide their work. Subsequently, the committee should meet regularly to monitor the implementation of the agreed plan and to make any adjustments that may be required.

Communication channels

Channels: Email, WhatsApp

Regular calls (Frequency?)
- National GHS coordinating Committee
- Project Steering Committee (PSC)
- Bilateral call (1 Country and PSC)
- Common meeting (All countries and PSC)
- Advisory Board
- Workshop

Storing files
Closing session and reflections of the meeting
Thank you