



United Nations
Environment Programme



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
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Federal Office for the Environment FOEN



Federal Ministry for the
Environment, Nature Conservation
and Nuclear Safety

From science to policy – Addressing issues with emerging evidence, fostering collaboration across sectors, advancing green and sustainable chemistry

Technical briefing, third meeting of the intersessional process
30 September 2019, Bangkok, Thailand

Outline

Session 1: Issues with emerging evidence of risk and strengthening the science-policy interface

Session 2: Linkages with other clusters and options to coordinate and cooperate

Session 3: Manuals on green and sustainable chemistry

Opening remarks by the co-hosts



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**Session 1 –
Issues with emerging evidence of risk and
strengthening the science-policy interface**

UNEA-4 on issues with emerging evidence

UNEA-4 (2019) Resolution 4/8 on Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste requested UNEP among others to:



- Prepare a **report on relevant issues where emerging evidence indicates a risk to human health and the environment** including an analysis of existing regulatory and policy frameworks and their ability to address these issues, in particular for lead and cadmium

Relevant issues where emerging evidence indicates a risk

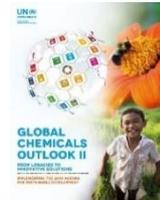
➤ ... identified by SAICM:

Lead in paint; CiP; HSLEEP;
Nanotechnology and manufactured
nanomaterials; EDCs; EPPPs; PFASs; HHPs



➤ ... identified by the GCO:

arsenic, bisphenol A, glyphosate, cadmium,
lead, microbeads, neonicotinoids,
organotins, PAHs, phthalates and triclosan



➤ ... identified by following trends in design, production, use and releases



Approach in preparing the report on issues



Assessment of progress made in addressing the EPIs and other issues of concern



Information on the 11 chemicals/groups of chemicals for which according to the GCO-II emerging evidence indicates a risk



Considerations relevant for the identification of chemicals and waste management priorities

Including analysis of regulatory and policy frameworks and their ability to address these issues

UNEA-4 on the science-policy interface

UNEA-4 (2019) Resolution 4/8 on Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste among others:



- Stressing the **urgent need** to strengthen the science-policy interface at all levels
- Calls upon Governments and other stakeholders to **consider in the intersessional process** ways of strengthening the science-policy interface
- Requests UNEP to **prepare an assessment of options for strengthening the science-policy interface**

Insights from the GCO-II



The Global Chemicals Outlook II (GCO-II) (2019):

- Identifies challenges in creating a coherent global knowledge base for decision-making
- Highlights prevailing barriers in ensuring effective two-way communication between academia and policy-makers
- Provides options for action to strengthen the science-policy interface and use of science in monitoring progress, priority settings, and policy making

Valuable lessons regarding the science-policy interface have also been learned during the development of the GCO-II

Preparing the assessment of options for the science-policy interface



Analysis of existing mechanisms, identification of options and assessment of options against criteria



Options for action identified in the GCO-II for strengthening the science-policy interface



Survey among those involved in the development of the GCO-II

Criteria

Criteria mentioned in the mandate:

- **Maximize cost-effectiveness**
- **Make best use of new technologies**
- **Track progress**
- **Improve implementation of relevant MEAs at national level**

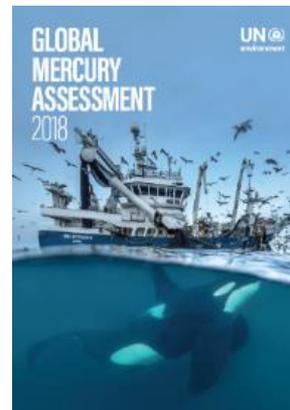
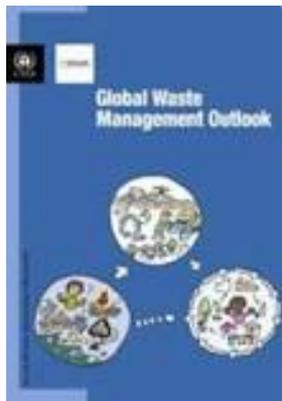
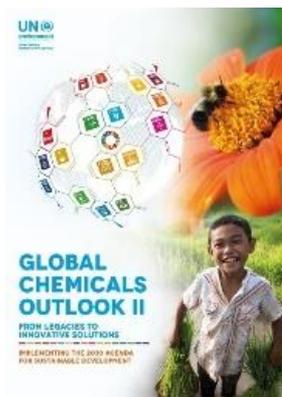
Other suggested criteria:

- **Policy-relevance and impact**
 - **Credibility, transparency and scientific rigor**
 - **Communication**
 - **Flexibility**
-

Examples of identified mechanisms



POPRC
CRC OEWG



Examples of identified mechanisms



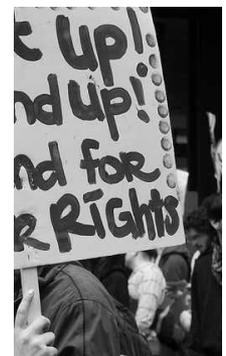
Session 2 – Linkages with other clusters and options to coordinate and cooperate

Mandate

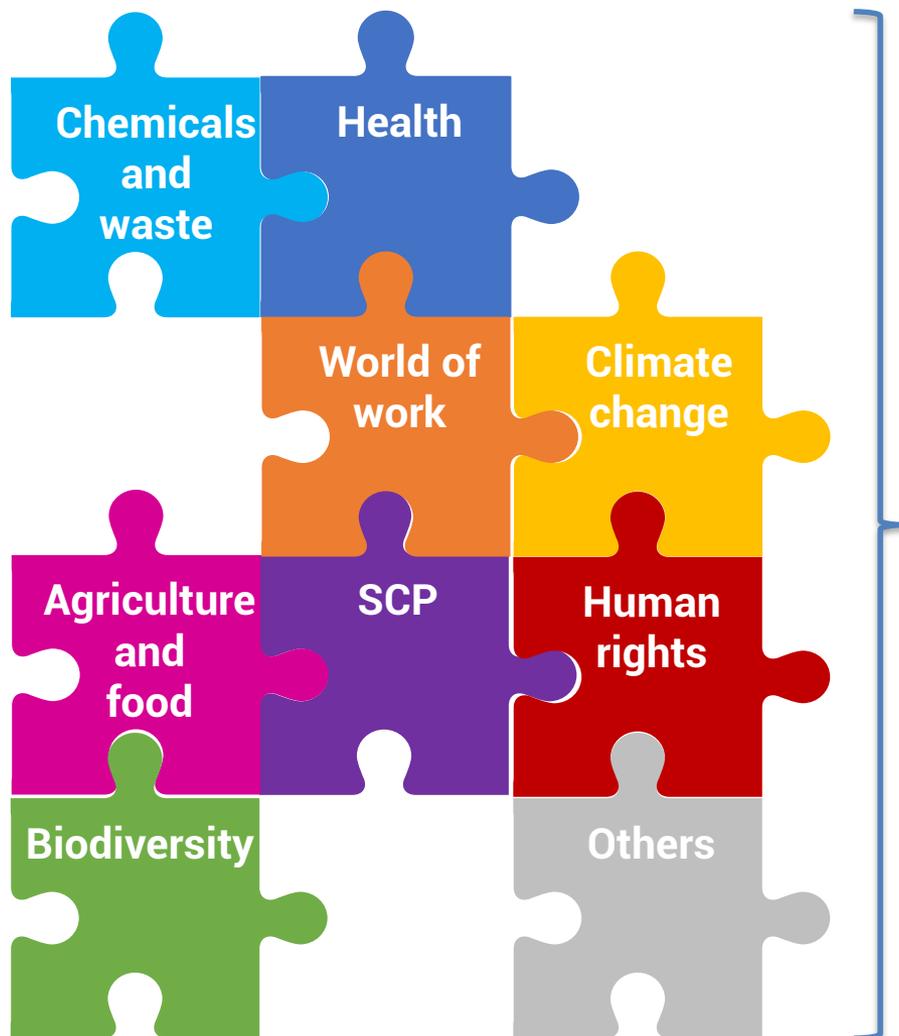
At OEWG-3, stakeholders invited UNEP to:



- provide an assessment on **linkages with other clusters** related to chemicals and waste management and **options to coordinate and cooperate** on areas of common interest.



Identification of clusters



For each cluster:

- Mapping of agreements, platforms and initiatives
- Linkages with CW
- Areas of common interest
- Options to coordinate and cooperate

Examples of linkages and options

Health

- Plastics and microplastics
- Implementation of IHR (2005)

World of work

- Occupational H&S
- Linking chemical databases
- Decent and safe work

Human rights

- Right to access to information
- Cooperation with OHCHR

Biodiversity

- Artisanal mining
- Link beyond 2020 processes

Agriculture/food

- Effects of HHPs
- Cooperation on Code of Conduct

Climate change

- Releases from extreme weather events
- Joint monitoring
- ESM of renewable energy technologies

SCP

- Consumer choices and awareness;
- Linkages with One Planet Network

Linkages and options

For each cluster, the assessment features:

- Initial mapping of agreements, platforms and initiatives
- Linkages with chemicals and waste
- Examples of areas of common interest
- Options to coordinate and cooperate (how and on what)



Session 3 – Manuals on green and sustainable chemistry

UNEA-4 on green and sustainable chemistry

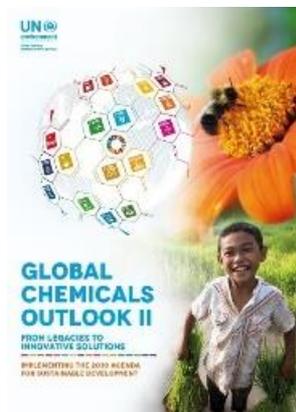
UNEA-4 (2019) Resolution 4/8 on Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste among others:



- Welcomes the analysis of best practices in sustainable chemistry and recognizes the **value of developing a better understanding of sustainable chemistry** opportunities
- Requests UNEP to synthesize the analysis of best practices in sustainable chemistry into **manuals on green and sustainable chemistry**

Insights from the GCO-II and the analysis of submitted cases

- Submitted cases show stakeholders perception of sustainable chemistry as **holistic concept**, addressing the entire life cycle and contributing to the SDGs
- GCO-II lists among the implementation of actions to **integrate green and sustainable chemistry in education, research, and innovation** policies and programmes



Preparation of the manuals

Target audiences

- Policymakers
- Private sector
- Academia
- Civil society

Scope and format

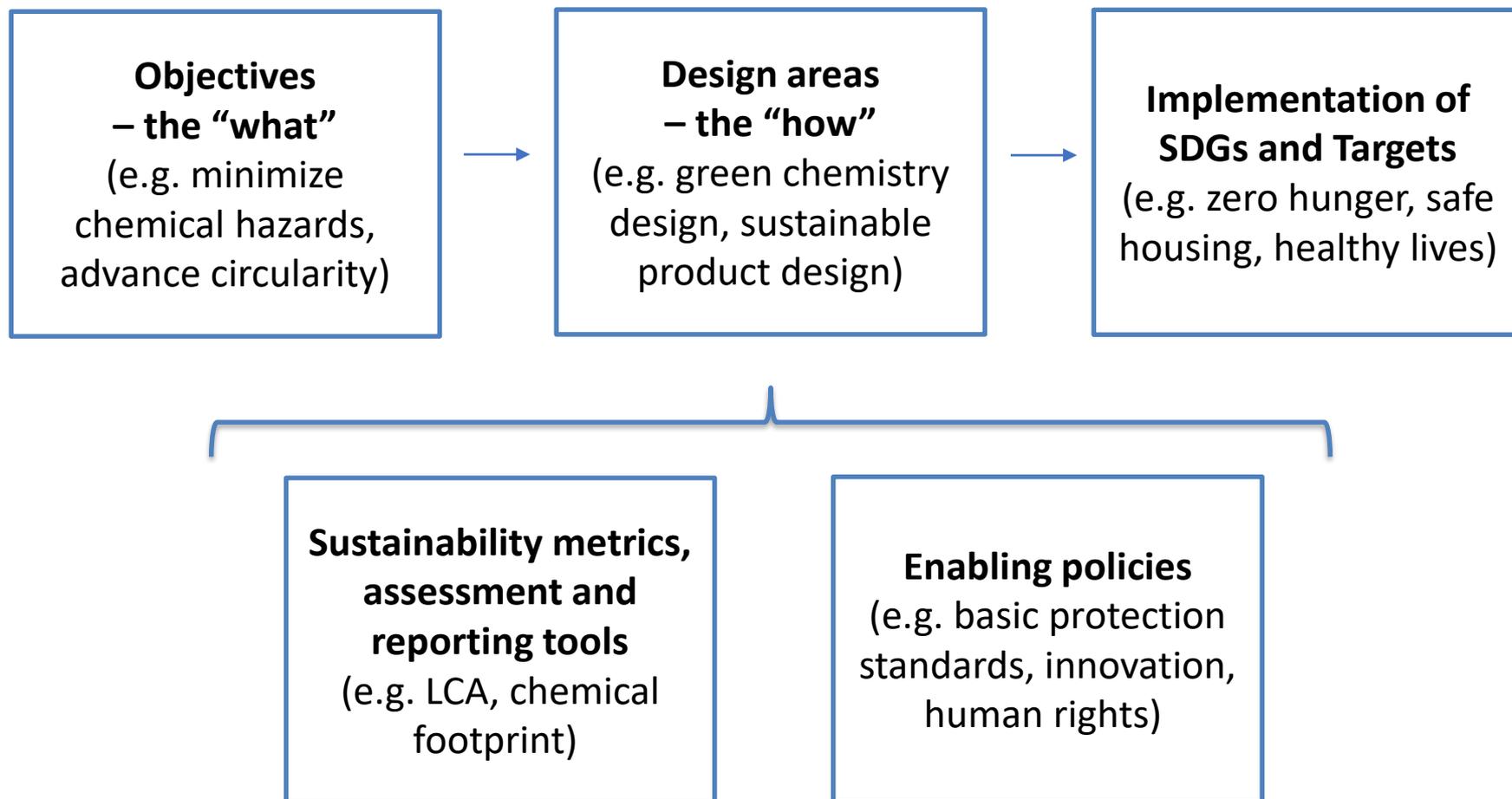
- Framework manual + specific manuals on featured concepts

Stakeholder consultations

- IOMC and MEAs Secretariats
- Other stakeholders and experts

→ Overall point of reference and orientation for stakeholders ('checklist'), using simple language and examples

Draft conceptual framework





Thank you for your attention

Contact:
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Strategic workshop on strengthening science-policy in the field of chemicals and waste
5-6 September 2019, Domaine de Penthes, Geneva, Switzerland
