



## PROGRESS IN STRATEGIC APPROACH IMPLEMENTATION (2020-2022)

The third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group (OEWG3) requested the secretariat to develop a simple Strategic Approach progress report for the period 2017–2019 that, using existing data, would provide an overview of the Strategic Approach activities, accomplishments, and challenges for consideration by the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its fifth session (ICCM5).

A fourth Progress in Strategic Approach Implementation 2017-2019, in its revised version, was presented at the seventeenth meeting (online) of the Bureau of the International Conference on Chemicals Management for its fifth session on 21 July 2021<sup>1</sup>.

The Strategic Approach secretariat invites all the stakeholder groups to respond to this survey. That will provide the secretariat time to analyze and review all submissions and include relevant information in the overall Strategic Approach simple progress report for the extended period between 2017-2022 (reflecting the postponement of ICCM5) to be provided to ICCM5. It would also address progress in the implementation of the SAICM overall orientation and guidance.

Your participation in this process is important to ensure that the SAICM report on progress can provide a complete and accurate picture of SAICM implementation and provide useful information to assist in setting future priorities for the global sound management of chemicals and waste.

You are kindly invited to provide **a single consolidated response** to this survey for your **country or organization** by **Friday, 30 June 2023**. The survey tool is aligned with the 20 indicators agreed to at the second session of ICCM (ICCM2) in May 2009 listed in Annex 1. In providing your answer you might wish to take into consideration these indicators for reporting by stakeholders on progress in the implementation of the Strategic Approach.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.saicm.org/Portals/12/Documents/meetings/Bureau/ICCM5B17/SAICM\\_ICCM5-Bureau\\_TC\\_9\\_7\\_Progress%20on%20Strategic%20Approach%202017-2019\\_revised.pdf](http://www.saicm.org/Portals/12/Documents/meetings/Bureau/ICCM5B17/SAICM_ICCM5-Bureau_TC_9_7_Progress%20on%20Strategic%20Approach%202017-2019_revised.pdf)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact information is requested to be provided so that in the case of any ambiguous answers or errors, the SAICM secretariat can make direct contact with the respondent.

1. Your title

*Mr.*

2. Your Given Name

*Lamin*

3. Your Family Name

*Jaiteh*

4. Name of Government/Organization

*National Environment Agency- THE GAMBIA*

5. Your position within your Government/Organization

*Registrar of Pesticides and Hazardous Chemicals*

6. Your telephone number, including country code and area code (e.g. 44 22 123-4567)

*Telephone extension, if applicable; +220 4399422/ +2203940633*

7. Email

[info@nea.gm](mailto:info@nea.gm) / [lamin.jaiteh@nea.gm](mailto:lamin.jaiteh@nea.gm) / [jaiplanck@gmail.com](mailto:jaiplanck@gmail.com)

8. Would you be willing to be contacted to answer a few questions on your experience with this survey?

Yes

## INFORMATION ON PROGRESS

Please specify activity(ies) that your Government/Organization took during the period of 2020-2022<sup>2</sup> in relation to:

1. Enhance the responsibility of stakeholders: promoting and reinforcing commitment and multisectoral engagement

*With regards to chemicals management in The Gambia, our parent chemicals law; the Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides Control & Management Act 1994 and the amendment bill 2023 established a multisectoral Board that makes chemicals and waste decisions with the National Environment Agency. Institutions comprising this Board include those from the public and private sector.*

2. Establish and strengthen national legislative and regulatory frameworks for chemicals and waste: improving capacity to address the basic elements of the sound management of chemicals and waste and encouraging regional cooperation

*The Government of the Gambia since 1994 has enacted several chemicals and waste legislation and regulation to enhance its enforcement towards chemicals and waste within and beyond its borders. Currently, two vital legislation are been approved by the cabinet; the Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides Control and Management Amendment Bill 2023, and the waste bill 2022.*

3. Mainstream the sound management of chemicals and waste in the sustainable development agenda: advancing risk reduction and enhancing the link between the sound management of chemicals and waste and health, labour, and social and economic development planning, processes, and budgets

*Our newly approved National Development Plan (2022 -2027) have inncoorperated provisions specific to hazardous waste management as a national priority. In addition, the National Environment Agency in collaboration with the UNDP is implementing a chemicals and waste project aimed at strengthening national efforts in sound management of chemicals and wastes. Other small scaled projects are currently being approved and implementations are in progress.*

4. Increase risk reduction and information sharing efforts on emerging policy issues: continuing to promote actions on issues not currently addressed in existing agreements, complementing initiatives taken by other bodies

*Chemicals and waste management activities and projects in the Gambia are geared towards the enforcement of strategies and policies formulated to minimize exposures and effects to humans and our fragile ecosystem. The implementation of those policies is done through capacity-building and information sharing approaches.*

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<sup>2</sup> In providing your answer you might wish to take into consideration indicators for reporting by stakeholders on progress in the implementation of the Strategic Approach, listed in [Annex I](#).

- Promote information access: increasing the accessibility of relevant information and making it understandable for all levels of society

*The National Environment Agency has since established its website ([www.nea.gm](http://www.nea.gm)), this platform is meant to provide information on all activities relating to the environment and most particular issues related to chemicals and wastes.*

- Assess progress toward the 2020 goal of minimizing the adverse effects of chemicals on human health and the environment: identifying achievements, understanding the gaps in implementation, and prioritizing actions moving forward

*A mechanism to monitor exposure and effects of chemicals and wastes to human health and environment is currently not place in the country. Although through a GEF/ FAO & Gambia Government project; GCP/GAM/033/LDF with a GEF Project ID: 5782, the National Environment Agency Chemicals and Pesticides Program has been supported with instruments (laboratory) to help enhance our institutional capacity to monitor chemicals in environmental matrixes.*

**Responses to the questionnaire and/or additional supporting information (reports, publications, etc.) should be provided to [saicm.chemicals@un.org](mailto:saicm.chemicals@un.org) (cc: [juan.caicedo@un.org](mailto:juan.caicedo@un.org) and [can.zhou@un.org](mailto:can.zhou@un.org))**

## Annex I. 20 indicators for reporting by stakeholders on progress in the implementation of the Strategic Approach<sup>3</sup>

	Indicator	Notes on data to be collected
Risk Reduction		
1	Number of countries (and organizations) having mechanisms in place for determining the chemicals used in their countries and for setting priorities for risk reduction	Data collection should take into account efforts to establish national inventories and improve customs information systems.
2	Number of countries with national legislation addressing key categories of chemicals	A selection of key categories of chemicals will be included.

<sup>3</sup> SAICM/ICCM.2/3 -Proposal on modalities for reporting by stakeholders on progress in implementation

3	Number of countries (and organizations) implementing agreed chemicals management tools	Data collection should take into account implementation of recognized tools prepared by participating organizations of the International Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals, e.g., the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations' Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides, guidance for establishing pollutant release and transfer registries and product stewardship programmes in industry. Tools would include those for pollution prevention.
4	Number of countries (and organizations) engaged in activities that result in comparable monitoring data on selected environmental pollutants and human health priority substances	Data collection should take into account environmental and biomonitoring efforts, including collaborative efforts, monitoring of human poisonings and chemical accidents. Data will take account of work being developed.
5	Number of countries (and organizations) with adequate hazardous waste management arrangements	Data collection should take into account inventories of waste, permit systems and policies and legislation for the environmentally sound management of waste.
<b>Knowledge and Information</b>		
6	Number of countries (and organizations) actively working to improve the provision of information according to internationally harmonized standards	Data collection should take account of implementation of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS), labelling according to national guidelines and the availability of harmonized hazard information. Regional initiatives should be reported on by regional organizations.
7	Number of countries (and organizations) that have specific strategies in place for communicating information on the risks associated with chemicals to vulnerable groups	Data collection should include consultative processes and training directed at vulnerable groups such as women, children and the elderly.
8	Number of countries (and organizations) with research programmes addressing safer alternatives and cleaner production technology	Collected data should include the amount of research being funded.
9	Number of countries (and organizations) with websites where national partners can gain access to information about the sound management of chemicals	Collected data should include websites providing risk management information and details of relevant legislation.
<b>Governance</b>		
10	Number of countries (and organizations) that have committed themselves to implementation of the Strategic Approach through national policies and/or programmes	Data collected should include the commitments of governing bodies of intergovernmental organizations
11	Number of countries (and organizations) with a national coordinating mechanism in place for chemicals management	Collected data should include participation of specified stakeholders.

12	Number of countries (and organizations) with national policies and legislation in place to implement key international chemicals priorities	Collected data should include ratification of multilateral environment agreements, implementation of specified international agreements and other specified international instruments.
<b>Capacity-building and technical cooperation</b>		
13	Number of countries (and organizations) with implementation plans for the Strategic Approach	Collected data should include plans made as part of broader initiatives and not only dedicated plans.
14	Number of countries (and organizations) providing resources (financial and in-kind) to assist capacity-building and technical cooperation with other countries.	Collected data should include assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition.
15	Number of countries (and organizations) that have identified and prioritized their national capacity-building needs for the sound management of chemicals.	Data collection should focus on plans that are publicly available.
16	Number of countries (and organizations) engaged in regional cooperation on issues relating to chemicals management.	Collected data should include regional cooperation on risk reduction, knowledge and information, governance, capacity-building and illegal international traffic.
17	Number of countries where chemicals management is included in official development assistance programming	Collected data should reflect perspectives of both developed and developing countries (donors and recipients).
18	Number of countries with capacity-building projects supported by the Strategic Approach's Quick Start Programme Trust Fund	Collected data should include information on the three strategic priorities of the Strategic Approach's Quick Start Programme.
19	Number of countries making applications for capacity-building assistance to other sources of funding	Collected data should include information on the three strategic priorities of the Strategic Approach's Quick Start Programme.
<b>Illegal international traffic</b>		
20	Number of countries having legislation to prevent traffic in toxic, hazardous and severely restricted chemicals	Collected data should include legislation that implements relevant provisions of multilateral environmental and other agreements.