

# SAICM Knowledge Management Strategy

Draft version: December 2018

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## A. What

The Knowledge Management Strategy outlines an approach to create, identify, document, strengthen, and disseminate knowledge-intensive activities to 2020 and beyond. It recalls the project summary (B), identifies stakeholders (C), and suggests knowledge-based outputs, tools and processes (D). Annexes would be developed and added to this strategy throughout the implementation to detail each of the chosen knowledge-based outputs (D).

## B. Why

The Strategy contributes to a successful implementation of the SAICM GEF project on emerging policy issues (EPIs), establishing an evidence-based<sup>1</sup> mechanism to improve the management of chemicals. It responds to paragraph 65 of the Overall orientation and guidance for achieving the 2020 goal of sound management of chemicals<sup>2</sup>, which engages SAICM Secretariat to support countries while linking the chemicals agenda, SDGs and other public and private sector initiatives.

### 1. Project summary (components, outcomes and outputs)

“Accelerate and measure adoption of national activities to control Emerging Policy Issues to achieve the 2020 implementation of SAICM goal and support early planning for chemical management in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”

#### 1. Component: Promoting regulatory and voluntary action by government to phase out known toxic chemicals

a) Outcome: Countries restrict the use of lead in paint

Outputs:

1.1 Demonstration pilots with paint manufacturers in Small and Medium Enterprises

<sup>1</sup> Component 2 will provide tools and methods on the building, electronics and toy sectors. These include Usetox methodologies, the SPP guidance at a global level, and experience sharing from pilot implementation in countries.

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.saicm.org/Portals/12/Documents/OOG%20document%20English.pdf>

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1.2 Global Technical guidelines on BAT/BEP for manufacturers

1.3 Global guidance developed Policy advocacy and public awareness campaigns to generate support for lead phase-out

- Establish effective links between the chemicals agenda (through SAICM) with other policy, science and private sector initiatives will be fostered to facilitate the necessary policy and behavioral shift and contribute to the 2020 SAICM goal and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Facilitate further engagement and necessary policy and behavioral shift to achieve the 2020 SAICM Goal and the 2030 Agenda for SD.

## **2. Component: Lifecycle management of chemicals present in products**

a) Outcome: Companies in the building products, toys, and electronics sectors track and manage Chemicals of Concern (CoC) in their products

Outputs:

2.1 Platform to identify and quantify CoCs present in supply chains, based on existing and expanded Chemicals in Products (CiP) initiatives

2.2 Green Economy tools and guidance refer to CiP data to improve product design, purchasing, and use practices

- Provide access for key audiences to scientific and academic information on chemicals management and EPIs
- Foster a KM culture and provide a space (i.e. platform) of information for the sound management of chemicals where stakeholders participate in communities of practice for peer-to-peer learning exchanges.
- Provide connectivity with knowledge and information on chemicals management from other sectors and development agendas.
- Promote partnerships and support accelerating the pace of scientific research on SAICM Chemical Issues.

## **3. Component: Knowledge management and strategic planning**

a) Outcome: Cross-cutting SAICM implementation support to mainstream chemical management with science, policy and practice agendas of diverse sectors to 2020 and beyond

Outputs:

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3.1 Knowledge management platform and new mechanisms to communicate science and best practices in policy development

3.2 A list of measurable indicators to monitor project progress on Emerging Policy Issues beyond 2020 in line with the Sustainable Development Goals

3.3 Multi-stakeholder engagement from other sectors and agendas

- Gather and make available relevant and high-quality information products reaching a widespread public in an easy access format (the type of information will depend on the public )
- Establish a systematic approach to consolidate and disseminate available knowledge to ensure efficient use of resources
- Facilitate cross-country dialogue and cooperation with other platforms, serving other networks at a technical and scientific level and help to identify information gaps and needs to achieve the SAICM beyond 2020 goal.
- Establish an effective global network of EPI experts and mainstream the sound management of chemicals as a key cross-cutting approach to tackle chemical management issues.

#### 4. Monitoring and evaluation

Outputs:

4.1. Quarterly financial reports and annual progress reports monitoring status of project execution;

4.2. Midterm and Terminal Evaluations of project impacts shared with SAICM stakeholders.

- Monitor progress at national level of SAICM implementation over time on a specific set of indicators.
- Share and apply experience knowledge. Analyze SAICM implementation projects, developments, milestones, trends. Document lessons learnt on project implementation. This also includes efficient use of resources.
- Focus knowledge work and product sharing into related ongoing scientific research, tracking regulatory status on SAICM country implementation as well as SAICM project implementation, results best practices and lessons learned.
- Support the identification of regional and global trends, identify gaps, highlight needs, and promote South-South cooperation.

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## C. Key stakeholders

Four main groups of stakeholders were identified:

### 1. Government sector

Local and national governments (Ministries, Secretaries), national specialized agencies, regulators, reinforcement professionals (label inspectors) Inter-governmental organizations (OECD, EU, OEA, etc.), UN agencies and programmes, SAICM focal points.

### 2. Private sector

Small and medium enterprises, large enterprises, chemical/consumer industries, associations, technical consultants.

### 3. Civil society

Academia, research institutions, NGOs, consumer associations, interested members of the public.

### 4. SAICM and Executing project partners

SAICM Secretariat, UN Environment, WHO, FAO, UNITAR, IPEN.

## D. Knowledge-based outputs, tools and processes

The following knowledge-based outputs, tools and processes were identified as alternatives to support the implementation of this strategy.

1. Identification and creation of high-quality documents that link the chemicals agenda with SDGs, specifically targeting SDG 2,3,6,11,12<sup>3</sup> and considering gender priorities in chemicals management
2. Database of multimedia resources classified by type (tools and best practices<sup>4</sup>; scientific, technical, research; training materials, toolkits<sup>5</sup>; policy and legislation; communication/ awareness raising,

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<sup>3</sup> The UN Environment RM-Branch will support this link, and more broadly, the linkages related to SCP targets (beyond SDG 12).

<sup>4</sup> Tools and best practices will be used to illustrate how i.e., a policy was developed, research information was communicated, a project was implemented with relevant toolkits, etc.

<sup>5</sup> Training materials and toolkits apply to policy setting and policy enforcement through implementation projects with different actors

meeting documents, etc.), country, EPIs and purpose (tools and methods for decision support on chemicals management, etc.).

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3. Database of EPI experts (and networks of experts) classified by country and expertise.
4. Database on EPI monitoring and SAICM implementation progress at national, regional and global levels.
5. Data visualization tools (maps, charts)
6. Communities of practice (identification of active communities and/or development of new ones)
7. Survey tools to gather feedback on the knowledge strategy design and progress, aiming to identify gaps and opportunities to strengthen knowledge flows.
8. Collaborative calendar with user-input events (including SAICM meetings)
9. Processes for identifying, attending and presenting at relevant meetings and forums linking SDGs, chemicals and health
10. Processes to promote media cross-posting and media uptake among partners
11. Processes to engage and encourage partners to provide knowledge deliverables such as thematic papers, elements for side events, opportunities to present in science and policy related events (side events at SAICM OEWG3 and ICCM5)
12. Processes to promote EPIs by facilitating networking, knowledge exchange and partnership among stakeholders through the component deliverables
13. Processes to encourage project partners to give technical input to write stories on key EPIs, new reports, upcoming meetings, assessment of progress, and/or new decisions and recommendations related to chemicals management (in collaboration with IISD)
14. Innovative approaches to knowledge management such as big data, artificial intelligence, gamification, virtual reality

15. Processes evaluating, selecting and up-scaling best practices for countries, SAICM stakeholders and a wider audience working on sound management of chemicals
16. Communications strategy aligned to this knowledge strategy and following UN Environment communication guidelines
17. Processes to analyze access/download of resources and user interaction in SAICM platforms and in its partners' platforms to identify most accessed, and trends.

**Key tool: online platform**

The development of an online platform is envisaged to host the databases mentioned above and serve as a meeting point for stakeholders to create, access and share knowledge on EPIs. Existing platforms/networks will be integrated to build upon their content and features to avoid duplication of resources. The platform will follow a user-centered design through step-by-step developments. It aims to promote user-engagement, ownership, development of features on-demand, and the try-out of innovative features/technologies.

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