

Targets and Indicators – Strategic Objective C

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Starting point

Strategic objective C. Issues of concern [that warrant [global] [and] [joint] action] are identified, prioritized and addressed.

Co-chairs' considerations (SAICM/OEWG.3/4): Intended to cover the need to effectively identify, select and address issues of concern that warrant global action. The intention is to cover topics similar in nature to those covered by the Strategic Approach, emerging policy issues and other issues of concern, as well as topics such as managing specific chemicals, the burden of disease and financing. There may be a need to develop and identify the criteria for issues of concern.

Targets according to "TWG.Document.6-Group homework exercise- Strategic Objectives and Targets":

Target C1: Programmes of work including timelines are established, adopted and implemented for identified issues of concern.

Target C2: Information on the properties and risk management of chemicals across the supply chain and the chemical contents of products is available to all to enable informed decisions.

Homework - Strategic Objective C

General Considerations

Strategic Objective C relates to the Issues of Concern and intends to ensure that issues are nominated, adopted and implemented in order to make progress in fields in need of common attention and action.

Strategic Objective C is in itself process-oriented as the focus is on work processes established under the Issues of Concern procedure. Hence, it is natural that targets under this Strategic Objective also have a process-oriented focus. However, it is also possible to include a target highlighting the overarching purpose of the objective, which is to address issues within chemicals and waste so that the use of sustainable solutions is maximized and significant negative impacts on human health and the environment are minimized or prevented.

There are also opportunities for synergy with targets/indicators under the Sustainable Development Goals and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

During the work with the Strategic Objective C targets, we have found that the development of guidance for the nomination dossiers including the establishment of action plans with specific measurable targets, timelines and reporting schemes is crucial. These dossiers should include impact-

oriented targets specific for the Issue of Concern. It is noted that the Issue of Concern text states that (SAICM/IP.3/12): "*The nomination procedure will be published on the Strategic Approach website*", and we stress the importance of developing this procedure as guidance for Issue of Concern nominations.

The group was given the task to propose indicators for the current Emerging Policy Issues (EPIs). It is our consideration that specific targets and indicators should not be established at this stage for each EPI. New IoCs will be adopted in the future, and with specific targets and indicators for the EPIs, there will be an unjustified differentiation between old IoCs (EPIs - if they are carried forward) and new IoCs. Instead, we propose a more general target on the implementation of the IoCs with reference to their workplans with timelines and milestones. In this way old and new IoCs will be treated identically.

The Strategic Objective C includes "prioritization" of Issues of Concern. The IoC text (SAICM/IP.3/12) also very briefly mentions prioritization of IoCs. However, the text does not explain the purpose of the prioritization and what it will be used for. We interpreted "prioritization" in a way that the nominated Issues of Concern are prioritized during the adoption process and that only prioritized Issues of Concern get adopted.

At IP3 there was also a discussion of including "issues of interest" along with issues of concern, in order to allow for the consideration of other types of issues (e.g., concerted effort to implement innovative approaches) among those identified for focused effort at the global level. As issues of interest are not currently included in the wording for Strategic Objective C, we did not include this terminology in the proposed targets and indicators, with the understanding that this may be further discussed at IP4.

Development of targets

Step 0 – Clarifying the linkage of targets with the respective strategic objective

Review targets together with the respective objective and identify gaps and concerns on reaching the objective. Reflect any observations as comments or placeholders in the output of your group.

- As it is not clear what issues of concern will be identified under the SAICM successor, it is not possible to derive specific targets dealing with single issues of concern. From our point of view, targets of objective C should deal with the process of identifying, adopting and addressing issues of concern and the overall impact of this work.
- Target C1 is a process-oriented target dealing with the process of addressing identified issues of concern.
- Target C2 is an outcome-oriented target dealing with the availability of data on chemicals across the supply chain. As it rather focusses on knowledge generation than on issues of concern, it fits better under objective B.
- At the moment, the following aspects of strategic objective C are not sufficiently addressed:
 - Identification of issues of concern
 - Adoption of issues of concern
 - There is no impact-oriented target for objective C at the moment
- For this reason, the targets under Strategic Objective C have been adapted and the following new targets have been identified to close the identified gaps:

- **Target C1new:** As an ongoing process, stakeholders nominate and the international conference adopts issues of concern and supporting workplans with specific measurable targets, timelines, and reporting schemes.
- **Target C2new:** As an ongoing process, stakeholders implement the workplans for issues of concern as adopted with timelines and milestones and report on the progress at ICCM meetings, such that the use of sustainable solutions is maximized and significant negative impacts on human health and the environment are prevented or minimized.

Evaluation of target C1new

Target C1new: As an ongoing process, stakeholders nominate and the international conference adopts issues of concern and supporting workplans with specific measurable targets, timelines, and reporting schemes.

Step 1 – Understanding the structure of the draft target

The breakdown of the draft target into its components can help to analyse how the target is structured. Not all components need to be present for a target to be 'SMART' but it can highlight where the focus of the draft target lies, and whether you agree.

Responsible agency	Activity	Output	Outcome/impact
Stakeholders	nominate	Officially identified issues of concern and supporting workplans with specific measurable targets, timelines, and reporting schemes	
International Conference	adopts		

Annotations to this target:

- No outcome or impact is defined for this target as it is process-oriented.

Step 2 – identifying the purpose of the target

In identifying the purpose of the target, it is important first to consider the Strategic Objective within which it sits.

Strategic objective C: Issues of concern [that warrant [global] [and] [joint] action] are identified, prioritized and addressed.

Target C1new: As an ongoing process, stakeholders nominate and the international conference adopts issues of concern and supporting workplans with specific measurable targets, timelines, and reporting schemes.

The common intentions of both the Strategic Objective and draft target are highlighted. Even though the action "identify" is not present in the target, the verbs "nominate" and "adopt" reflect the process of identifying and prioritizing issues of concern.

In step 0, we identified the problem that we cannot propose specific targets for specific issues of concern in the SAICM successor, as issues of concern will be identified only in the future. For this reason, we added the specification to the target to nominate and adopt workplans with specific measurable targets, timelines, and reporting schemes together with issues of concern.

Interim target a: As an ongoing process, stakeholders nominate and the international conference adopts issues of concern and supporting workplans with specific measurable targets, timelines, and reporting schemes.

Step 3: Make it SMART

Specific:

- Who can nominate?
 - Every relevant stakeholder of the SAICM successor.
- Who adopts the issues of concern?
 - ICCM
- How does the international conference adopt?
 - This has not been defined yet.
- What can be an issue of concern?
 - Criteria for issues of concern will be defined in the SAICM successor.
- Who is fulfilling the action plans?
 - The relevant stakeholders.
- Who is the reporting aimed at?
 - At the international conference.

Interim target b: As an ongoing process, stakeholders nominate and the international conference adopts issues of concern and supporting workplans with specific responsibilities of relevant stakeholders, specific measurable targets, timelines, and reporting schemes.

Measurable:

- What is the ideal indicator?
 - Indicators for the first target should describe a successful process, not successful work on a specific issue of concern.
- What can realistically be measured?
 - As it is unclear how many issues of concern will be identified over the years, it seems more suitable to propose relative indicators (e.g. percentage of work plans that stick to their timeline).
- What indicators already exist?
- What is the baseline?
- Is this draft target measurable?

Achievable:

- Does the target accurately specify the amount or level of what is to be measured in order to meet the objective?
 - As this target is process-based, it is difficult to specify the amount or level of what is to be measured to meet the objective. This would instead be done in target C2new.
 - However, in general it will be possible to nominate and to adopt issues of concern in the future.
- Are there any challenges or constraints undermining achievability of the target (regional or sector related issues)?

Relevant

- Is the target relevant to the Strategic Objective?
 - Yes, it covers important aspects of the objective.
- Is the target relevant to other Strategic Objectives or targets?

- As issues of concern are closely linked to all other Strategic objectives, this target has strong links to the other objectives and their targets.

Timebound

- What is the date by which this must be achieved?
 - This is an ongoing process, so no year is defined. However, the issues of concern will have specific timelines.

Proposed target C1: As an ongoing process, stakeholders nominate and the international conference adopts issues of concern and supporting workplans with specific responsibilities of relevant stakeholders, specific measurable targets, timelines, and reporting schemes.

Step 4- Identify 2-5 indicators per target

The Mapping Exercise of existing global and regional data and indicators that could be relevant for the Beyond 2020 Framework should guide the identification of indicators.

- Number of adopted issues of concern with specific responsibilities of relevant stakeholders, as proportion of the total number of issues of concern
- Number of adopted issues of concern with workplans that include specific measurable targets, timelines, and reporting schemes, as proportion of the total number of issues of concern

Evaluation of target C2new

Target C2new: As an ongoing process, stakeholders implement workplans for issues of concern as adopted with timelines and milestones and report on the progress at ICCM meetings, such that the use of sustainable solutions is maximized and significant negative impacts on human health and the environment are prevented or minimized.

Step 1 – Understanding the structure of the draft target

The breakdown of the draft target into its components can help to analyse how the target is structured. Not all components need to be present for a target to be 'SMART' but it can highlight where the focus of the draft target lies, and whether you agree.

Responsible agency	Activity	Output	Outcome/impact
stakeholders	Implement workplans Report at ICCM	ICCM-reports	the use of sustainable solutions is maximized and significant negative impacts on human health and the environment are prevented or minimized

Annotations to this target:

- This is a process- and impact-oriented target as implementation and reporting represent activities, while maximizing sustainable solutions and preventing/minimizing significant negative impacts on human health and the environment represent outcome/impact.
- The impact is quite broad because Objective C tries to solve the same problems as the instrument/framework as a whole aims to solve.

Step 2 – identifying the purpose of the target

In identifying the purpose of the target, it is important first to consider the Strategic Objective within which it sits.

Strategic objective C: Issues of concern [that warrant [global] [and] [joint] action] are identified, prioritized and addressed.

Target C2new: As an ongoing process, stakeholders implement workplans for issues of concern as adopted with timelines and milestones and report on the progress at ICCM meetings, such that the use of sustainable solutions is maximized and significant negative impacts on human health and the environment are prevented or minimized.

The common intentions of both the Strategic Objective and draft target are highlighted. "Addressing issues of concern" as demanded by the Strategic Objective, is translated into "implementation of workplans". Reporting makes the progress transparent.

Impact-oriented targets for Strategic Objective C cannot be more specific as a large variety of issues of concern might be addressed in the future. For this reason, every issue of concern itself should define specific impact-oriented targets.

As this target is rather long, it was shortened. Details can be included in the indicators.

Interim target a: As an ongoing process, stakeholders implement workplans for adopted issues of concern and report on progress achieving specific measurable targets, such that the use of sustainable solutions is maximized and significant negative impacts on human health and the environment are prevented or minimized.

Step 3: Make it SMART

Specific:

- Who is responsible for the implementation?
 - All relevant stakeholders as specified in the workplans of the specific issue of concern during the nomination of each target.
- How is the progress of implementation measured?
 - The progress is measured by the timelines and milestones and the achievement of the defined, measurable targets specific for the issue of concern.

Interim target b: As an ongoing process, stakeholders implement workplans for adopted issues of concern and report on progress achieving specific measurable targets, such that the use of sustainable solutions is maximized and significant negative impacts on human health and the environment are prevented or minimized.

Measurable:

- What is the ideal indicator?
 - The ideal indicator would measure the decrease in significant negative impacts on human health and the environment.
- What can realistically be measured?
 - The progress of implementation of the workplans can be measured.
 - Furthermore, there might be several existing indicators dealing with chemicals in the environment and human health effects. However, the proposed impact of this target is so broad that there won't be enough indicators to get a full picture.
- What indicators already exist?
 - ⊖ There are opportunities for synergy with existing SDG indicators:
 - Indicator 3.9.1 Mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution
 - Indicator 3.9.2 Mortality rate attributed to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation and lack of hygiene (exposure to unsafe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH) services)
 - Indicator 3.9.3 Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning
 - There may also be opportunities to explore linkages with possible indicators developed under the proposed target "Reduce by 2030, pollution from excess nutrients, biocides, plastic waste and other sources by at least [50%]" in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.
- What is the baseline?
 - The baseline would be very specific for each issue of concern and would have to be defined during the nomination process.
- Is this draft target measurable?

Achievable:

- Does the target accurately specify the amount or level of what is to be measured in order to meet the objective?
 - No, but this is not possible for such a broad target.
- Are there any challenges or constraints undermining achievability of the target (regional or sector related issues)?

Relevant

- Is the target relevant to the Strategic Objective?
 - Yes, as it covers the implementation phase of issues of concern and reflects the overall impact.
- Is the target relevant to other Strategic Objectives or targets?
 - Yes, the impact is relevant for the whole SAICM successor as the intended impact is the same.

Timebound

- What is the date by which this must be achieved?
 - The implementation of workplans will be an ongoing process as new Issues of Concern might be identified over the years.

Proposed target C2: As an ongoing process, stakeholders implement workplans for adopted issues of concern and report on progress achieving specific measurable targets, such that the use of sustainable solutions is maximized and significant negative impacts on human health and the environment are prevented or minimized.

Step 4- Identify 2-5 indicators per target

The Mapping Exercise of existing global and regional data and indicators that could be relevant for the Beyond 2020 Framework should guide the identification of indicators.

- Number of adopted issues of concern with progress reported to ICCM on specific measurable targets, as proportion of the total number of issues of concern
- Number of adopted issues of concern with processes in place to manage issues of concern
- Number of issues of concern for which targets in programmes of work were achieved, as proportion of issues of concern

Summary

Our final proposals for targets and indicators within Strategic Objective C are as follows:

Target C1: As an ongoing process, stakeholders nominate and the international conference adopts issues of concern and supporting workplans with specific responsibilities of relevant stakeholders, specific measurable targets, timelines, and reporting schemes.

Indicators:

- Number of adopted issues of concern with specific responsibilities of relevant stakeholders, as proportion of the total number of issues of concern
- Number of adopted issues of concern with workplans that include specific measurable targets, timelines, and reporting schemes, as proportion of the total number of issues of concern

Target C2: As an ongoing process, stakeholders implement workplans for adopted issues of concern and report on progress achieving specific measurable targets, such that the use of sustainable solutions is maximized and significant negative impacts on human health and the environment are prevented or minimized.

Indicators:

- Number of adopted issues of concern with progress reported to ICCM on specific measurable targets, as proportion of the total number of issues of concern
- Number of adopted issues of concern with processes in place to manage issues of concern
- Number of issues of concern for which targets in programmes of work were achieved, as proportion of issues of concern