



BASEL, ROTTERDAM AND STOCKHOLM CONVENTIONS

PROJECT CONCEPT NOTE

CONVENTIONS :		PROJECT TITLE :	
<input type="checkbox"/> BC <input type="checkbox"/> RC <input type="checkbox"/> SC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SYN		Strengthening parties' capacities in the sound management of hazardous chemicals and related wastes under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions	
FUNDING OPTIONS:		TYPE / LOCATION	TARGETED COUNTRIES:
<input type="checkbox"/> Funding in full <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partial funding possible		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Global <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National	Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions
Project start date: 01/03/2016		Project completion date: 31/12/2017	
Total duration: 22 months			
LEGAL BASIS AND MANDATE			
<p>Article 10 and Article 16 paragraphs 1(g) and 1(i) of the Basel Convention; Article 16 and Article 19 paragraphs 2(b) and 2(c) of the Rotterdam Convention; and Article 12 and Article 20 paragraphs (2) (b) and 2 (c) of the Stockholm Convention;</p> <p>Decisions BC-12/9, RC-7/7 and SC-7/16 on Technical Assistance</p> <p>Programme of Work Activity 17 (S2/S3): Training and capacity building activities to enhance the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm conventions at the regional and national levels</p> <p>Programme of Work Activity 22: Scientific support to Parties of the Stockholm Convention</p> <p>Decision SC-7/13-Listing of pentachlorophenol and its salts and esters;</p> <p>Decision RC-7/5: Intersessional work on the process of listing chemicals in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention</p> <p>Decisions BC-12/22 , RC-7/12, SC-7/30 on From science to action</p>			
BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND PROJECT JUSTIFICATION			
<p>The proposed activity seeks to enable parties apply the life-cycle approach in relation to hazardous chemicals and associated wastes in a cost- effective and efficient way. The activity will address substances that are covered in Basel Convention as wastes and chemicals newly listed or recommended for listing under the Rotterdam or Stockholm conventions. Socio-economic impacts of reducing or phasing out use and/or production of specific hazardous chemicals will be investigated to better understand and prepare for changes in the national policy and regulatory frameworks based on the developments within the BRS Conventions. Environmentally sound management of end-of-life products and formulations containing such substances and/or by-product needs to be ensured.</p> <p>One of the examples of such chemicals is chrysotile asbestos, addressed by the Basel Convention and recommended for listing in Annex II to the Rotterdam Convention. While parties are still under discussion on whether chrysotile asbestos is to be listed or not, assistance, including in identifying cost-effective alternatives, revising the policy and legislation and facilitating technology transfer and safer should be provided to those parties that are still using chrysotile asbestos to help them move away from use of this chemical. The activity will seek to contribute to the Decision RC-7/5 by identifying the reasons for and against listing of chrysotile asbestos for which the Conference of the Parties was yet unable to reach consensus.</p> <p>Other examples include hexabromocyclododecane (HBCDD) listed at its sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention (COP-6) with specific exemptions, pentachlorophenol (PCP) and its salts and esters listed at COP-7 with specific exemptions, and decabromodiphenyl ether (commercial mixture, c-decaBDE) which was recommended for listing by the POPs Review Committee at its eleventh meeting. Assistance is now required for developing countries in identifying sectors in which these chemicals are used and introducing sustainable solutions using locally appropriate, cost-effective and safe chemical and non-chemical alternatives towards eliminating reliance on HBCDD, PCP and c-decaBDE.</p>			

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

- 1. Preparing studies on key elements of socio-economic impacts of reducing and/or phasing out the use/production of specific hazardous chemicals.** Studies will be undertaken in two countries in Asia-Pacific and Central and Eastern Europe to identify key elements of the socio-economic impacts of phasing out or reducing the use/production of specific hazardous chemicals and safely managing associated wastes. Among possible chemicals the following can be considered: chrysotile asbestos, HBCDD, PCP and c-decaBDE. The studies will be based on a cost-benefit analysis and seek to compare the current situation to the scenario which considers the reduction or elimination of the use or production of selected chemicals. Vulnerable groups will be identified to examine if any of the groups have experienced adverse impacts from exposure to these chemicals. The studies will also seek to identify alternatives to selected chemicals and their applicability in the local context as well as needs for technology transfer. The studies will look into ensuring that wastes, containing hazardous chemicals will be managed in an environmentally sound manner. The studies will be based, to the extent possible, on information gathered for the above-mentioned chemicals by the POPs Review Committee and Chemicals Review Committee.
- 2. Organizing a global round table on sound management of hazardous chemicals and associated wastes under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions.** The round table will serve to present the outcomes of studies on key elements of socio-economic impacts in relation to selected hazardous chemicals management, life-cycle approach and alternatives to these hazardous chemicals. It will seek to promote synergized approach for the implementation of the conventions at the national and regional level. The round table will be organized either in Asia-Pacific and Eastern Europe and Central Asia regions and will target countries having difficulties in managing the newly listed chemicals or chemicals recommended for listing under the Rotterdam and/or Stockholm Conventions and having expressed interest in the in-depth discussion on environmentally management of these hazardous chemicals and their wastes. The round table will bring together government officials dealing with hazardous chemicals and wastes including Basel Convention's Competent Authorities and Rotterdam Convention's Designated National Authorities and Stockholm Convention's National Focal Points.
- 3. Implementing a pilot project to develop a roadmap for the sound management of newly listed/recommended for listing hazardous chemicals and related wastes under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions and implement at least one element of the roadmap.** A country to take part in the pilot project will be identified following the global round table. A pilot project will aim at developing a roadmap for the sound management of newly listed/recommended for listing hazardous chemicals and related wastes under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, with a focus on chemicals which are priority for the participating country. The roadmap will be designed based on multi-stakeholder consultations within and outside of government. The roadmap will be based on the holistic approach for the sound management of already listed chemicals or chemicals recommended for listing under the Rotterdam and/or Stockholm Conventions taken into the consideration a life-cycle approach. Once developed, at least one element of the roadmap will be implemented, whether it is related to the review and/or update of the national regulatory framework, identification of safer and cost-effective alternatives or facilitation of technology transfer.

RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED

Expected results:

1. Key elements of socio-economic impacts with regard to selected hazardous chemicals are identified and the case studies are available for two countries in Asia-Pacific and Central and Eastern Europe;
2. Vulnerable groups are identified with regard to their exposure and impacts from selected hazardous chemicals;
3. Alternatives to selected hazardous chemicals and their applicability in the local context as well as needs for technology transfer are documented;
4. Better understanding of best practices with respect to the management of selected hazardous chemicals and availability of cost-effective alternatives;
5. Better understanding of the reasons for and against listing of certain chemicals in which the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention was unable to reach consensus;
6. Communication and dissemination of the results of the studies and the pilot project to other countries and regions.

Indicator of success:

1. Draft studies on socio-economic impacts of selected hazardous chemicals from Asia-Pacific and Central and Eastern Europe regions are prepared;
2. Positive feedback from the participants attending the round table;
3. Parties have collected information on socio-economic impacts of continued use and production of specific hazardous chemicals;

4. Progress and final report of the pilot project is available;
5. Roadmap for the sound management of newly listed/recommended for listing hazardous chemicals and related wastes under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions is prepared through the multi-stakeholder consultations;
6. One element of the roadmap is implemented.

Means of verification:

1. Results of the study are posted on the website;
2. Round table reports are available;
3. COP pre-session documents and INF documents are made available on the meeting documents website.

PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY AND REPLICABILITY

Lessons learned from the previous training and capacity building activities under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions will be taken into consideration. The activity will use information gathered for the above-mentioned chemicals by the POPs Review Committee and Chemicals Review Committee. This activity will build on and take advantage of similar or related activities being undertaken by the Secretariat as well as other partners. Partners will also be able to both replicate the activities and use the outcomes of the round table. Outcomes of the studies and the pilot project will be widely disseminated to other countries and regions, so that they can be replicated in other regions and with regard to other chemicals. Based on the experience from the implementation of this activity, similar activities will be implemented targeting other chemicals / additional countries.

The proposed activity will be complementary to the concept note on Guidance for parties to introduce safer chemical and nonchemical alternatives to pentachlorophenol, which will aim to develop guidance on an assessment of current uses of PCP and establishing adequate systems and institutional capacity to implement sound management practices to conform to the provisions of specific exemptions on PCP; compile scientific and technical information for parties to facilitate the identification of locally appropriate, cost-effective and safer alternatives to PCP; organize two regional workshops and implement national projects to implement alternatives to PCPs.

The proposed activity will be supportive of the implementation of the COPs 2015 decisions on From science to action, in particular, in supporting parties to facilitate the exchange of scientific and technical information among parties and other stakeholders and promote the understanding of the scientific and technical aspects of the conventions. The activity will build the capacities of the developing countries parties in applying the life-cycle approach for the sound management of hazardous chemicals and wastes and better understanding the socio-economic impacts of continued or discontinued use and production of these chemicals.

The activity will address all three dimensions of the Sustainable Development: environmental, economic and social. It will thus support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goal 3 on ensuring healthy lives (specifically Target 3.9: by 2030 substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination), and SDG 12 on ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns (specifically Target 12.4: by 2020 achieve environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their lifecycle and minimizing their adverse impacts on human health and the environment). It will also be supportive of Goal 1 on ending poverty in all its forms everywhere and Goal 8 to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

GENDER MAINSTREAMING

The proposed activity is gender-relevant.

In preparing case studies, a particular attention will be given to different socio-economic and health impacts of selected chemicals on men and women, boys and girls. Participation of both men and women will be encouraged at the workshops. At the round table, a session will be dedicated to gender equality for the sound management of hazardous chemicals and wastes. Gender equality will also be considered for the development of the roadmap for the sound management of newly listed/recommended for listing hazardous chemicals and related wastes under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions.

OUTREACH AND INFORMATION SHARING

Outreach activities will be integrated in the proposed activity. Information about the training and its results will be posted on the BRS website. The clearing house mechanism of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions will be also used to disseminate the best practices and case studies. Live webinars will allow open access to the training sessions. Webinar recordings are available for download after the live webinar sessions.

BUDGET [USD] FOR 2016-2017	
STAFF PERSONNEL	123,160
CONTRACTUAL SERVICE	1,820
TRAVEL	212,000
EQUIPMENT, VEHICLES, FURNITURE	3,000
OTHER OPERATIONAL COSTS	2,000
GRANTS OUT	241,000
DIRECT PROJECT COST OPERATIONAL BUDGET	582,980
<i>Programme Support Costs (PSC) 13%</i>	<i>75,787</i>
TOTAL OPERATIONAL BUDGET	658,767