



BASEL, ROTTERDAM AND STOCKHOLM CONVENTIONS

PROJECT CONCEPT NOTE

CONVENTIONS :		PROJECT TITLE :	
<input type="checkbox"/> BC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RC <input type="checkbox"/> SC <input type="checkbox"/> SYN		Training and capacity-building activities on the implementation of the Rotterdam Convention	
FUNDING OPTIONS:		TYPE / LOCATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> Funding in full <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partial funding possible		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Global <input type="checkbox"/> Regional <input type="checkbox"/> National	
		TARGETED COUNTRIES:	
Project start date: 01/01/2016		Project completion date: 31/12/2017	
		Total duration: 24 months	
LEGAL BASIS AND MANDATE			
Decision RC 7/7 on Technical Assistance (TA).Activity 15 (RC): Training and capacity-building activities to enhance the implementation of the Rotterdam Convention at national and regional levels			
BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND PROJECT JUSTIFICATION			
<p>The Secretariat, in late 2013, collected information from developing-country parties and parties with economies in transition on their needs in terms of technical assistance and capacity-building. Most countries showed that they lacked the basic capabilities needed to assess exposure under national conditions. The Secretariat also continues to receive requests from countries to strengthen their capacities so that they can apply risk reduction strategies that would enable them to meet their obligations for chemicals under the convention.</p> <p>For a Party to implement obligations under Article 10, paragraph 2 of the convention, it must make decisions on whether to allow the import of Annex III chemicals. This is a risk assessment decision. If it decides to prevent the import of or allow importation subject to conditions, this constitutes a risk management action. The core competencies required by a Party to implement the convention are; the ability to assess national risks associated with the importation of the 47 Annex III chemicals; and to make risk management decisions.</p> <p>The overall goal of this project is to strengthen the decision-making capacity of countries in the lifecycle management of pesticides and industrial chemicals. This will contribute to them meeting their obligations under the Rotterdam Convention and to protecting human health and the environment from the adverse effects.</p> <p>This programme will contribute to the sound life cycle management of hazardous chemicals and contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It will contribute to achieving the objectives of SDGs Goals 3, 6, 12, 13, 14 and 15, as these relate more to safety of chemicals with respect to health and the environment, responsible consumption and production of chemicals, the well-being of life on land and under the water bodies, and impact on climate. Negative impacts to all the aforementioned areas will result if the life cycle of chemicals is not well managed.</p>			
PROPOSED ACTIVITIES			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. National and Sub-Regional training and capacity-building workshops to strengthen the capacity of Parties to meet their pesticide and industrial chemicals obligations under the convention. These workshops will also include modules on national coordination and collaboration; and information/data collection systems necessary for surveillance and monitoring of priority chemicals so that Parties can evaluate national exposures and thus be able to make import responses or notifications of final regulatory actions. 2. Training sessions on the PIC procedure, notifications of final regulatory actions, use of the e-learning tools and electronic interactive toolkits available. These sessions may be in the form of additional time for participants engaged in workshops or activities organized by partners such as the UNITAR, SAICM, IOMC, Basel, Stockholm or Minamata conventions. 3. Use of experts/consultants to advise on specific themes such as risk assessments and risk management; assessing exposures, systems for surveillance and monitoring of priority chemicals; strengthening/development of data collection and information exchange mechanisms through the establishment of appropriate surveillance systems. 			

4. Upon specific request, to Designated National Authorities (DNAs) that have identified specific challenges that prevent them from effectively implementing the convention and meeting their obligations.
5. Facilitation, in cooperation with FAO National and Regional Offices, UNEP Regional Offices and the Basel and Stockholm conventions Regional Centres and key partners (IOMC), to provide support towards the development and submission of project proposals to different sources of funding. Proposals could be on implementation of national actions plans or strengthening infrastructure for making notifications for final regulatory actions of non Annex III chemicals and import responses for new PIC chemicals. Proposals could also include the domestication of the convention requirements and obligations into the national regulatory framework and formalization of the National Multi-stakeholders Coordination mechanism which is an important element for decision-making.

RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED

Expected results:

1. Number of men and women trained in all the different aspects of chemicals management so as to strengthen the capacity of Parties to implement their obligations under the Rotterdam Convention; A train-the-trainer approach will be used so that the Secretariat can make follow-up and found out about the additional number of people trained in the countries.
2. An increase in the number of Import Responses and or notifications of Final Regulatory Actions (FRA) due to the increased knowledge on how to assess risks of the new chemicals and make notifications to the Secretariat with decisions whether to consent, restrict or ban their importation.
3. An increase in the number of activities carried out in cooperation with and through synergies with other IGO partners.
4. Number of consultants and experts engaged in assisting Parties with notifications of FRAs, risk assessments, monitoring and surveillance systems, information management and data collection systems, regulatory frameworks that strengthen the decision-making capacities of Parties and give them a legal and scientific basis for chemicals and wastes risk reduction systems.
5. Number of parties having developed/updated elements of National Action Plans (NAPs) or strategies for the enhanced implementation of industrial chemicals obligations under the convention.
6. An increase in the number of Parties able to assess risks at national level and also have data collection information management systems.
7. The number of Parties requesting specific interventions related to the implementation of the obligations under the Rotterdam Convention.
8. Number of collaborations and concept notes/project proposals drafted in conjunction with other IGO partners on matters related to the access of funds so as to strengthen the capacity of Parties to be able to meet their obligations as they implement the convention. (Subject to requests from parties.)

Indicator of success:

1. Training and capacity building activities carried out;
2. Increase in the number of Import Responses by the Parties;
3. Development of National Action Plans in conjunction with stakeholders;
4. Draft project proposals on Rotterdam Convention enabling activities;
5. Activities carried out in conjunction with partners.

Means of verification:

Verification means will include proceedings of the various training and capacity-building activities as well as the production of publications such as legal reviews, NAPs, concept notes and proposals for projects. Notifications of FRAs and of Import Responses are made to the Secretariat, so copies can be made available. Verification regarding the use of the different interactive electronic tools for FRAs, Import Responses and risk assessments will be evident as Parties make their notifications to the Secretariat and keep up to date with their obligations. Also through the refined electronic tools that will be made available on the convention website for all Parties.

PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY AND REPLICABILITY

Most of the activities are designed for the DNAs plus their stakeholders in the management of chemicals at the national level. The technical assistance programme has developed, and is still continuing to develop, training and information materials that could be used by recipient countries even after the activities have been completed, thus ensuring sustainability.

Development of the clearing house mechanism is expected to lead to frequent use of the website as Parties honour their obligations under the convention. Establishing personal contacts and sharing experiences among participants during the workshops on awareness-raising, on regional cooperation and on the clearing house mechanism supports better collaboration and coordination among national authorities with respect to implementation of the convention and other issues.

Encouraging designated national authorities to discuss and share experiences and challenges faced in the implementation of the convention, and how they were resolved is expected to increase sustainability by fostering cooperation and networking among peers and personal identification with the Rotterdam Convention, in particular as regards the problem of high turn-over of staff in DNAs in developing countries. The proposed activities will contribute to an intensified cooperation among decision-makers and key stakeholders, and will lead to more efficient administrative processes and contribute to the establishment of appropriate legal and administrative mechanisms for the implementation of the Rotterdam Convention and other related MEAs.

GENDER MAINSTREAMING

All activities under this project will take into consideration social issues and gender equality. Gender will be considered when specific activities are designed and during their implementation and evaluation. A basic gender analysis will be conducted for gender relevant activities as part of the design phase. For all of the training and capacity-building activities delivered at national and sub-regional levels, it is expected that there will be an equal representation of men and women participating.

OUTREACH AND INFORMATION SHARING

Information on the activities, outputs and outcomes of industrial chemicals activities under the Rotterdam Convention will be posted on the appropriate webpage of the convention website.

BUDGET [USD] FOR 2016-2017

STAFF PERSONNEL	152,000
CONTRACTUAL SERVICE	10,550
TRAVEL	642,000
EQUIPMENT, VEHICLES, FURNITURE	-
OTHER OPERATIONAL COSTS	10,000
GRANTS OUT	-
DIRECT PROJECT COST OPERATIONAL BUDGET	814,550
<i>Programme Support Costs (PSC) 13%</i>	<i>105,892</i>
TOTAL OPERATIONAL BUDGET	920,442