

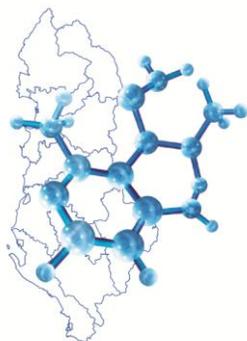


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United Nations Institute for Training and Research



# Project “Strengthening capacities for SAICM (Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management) implementation in Albania”

2011-2013



## Stakeholders Involvement in Chemicals Management in Albania

(Policy paper)

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## Stakeholders involvement in chemicals management in Albania

### 1. Introduction

Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) was mandated by UNEP and was urged by the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002 as well as the World Summit in New York, in September 2005. It started as an initiative of a preparatory multi-parties committee regrouped by the UNEP, IFC and IOMC. The term “Strategic Approach to Chemicals Management” (SAICM) appeared and was used in the International Conference of Chemicals Management in Dubai, 2006. SAICM is comprehensive, all-inclusive strategy of chemicals management issues on global level.

The main goal of SAICM is the sound management of chemicals throughout their life-cycle, so that that by 2020 chemicals will be used and produced in ways that will considerably minimize their effects on environment and human health. The involvement of all stakeholders which directly or indirectly deal with chemicals management is one of the benefits and strengths of SAICM as a comprehensive initiative on chemicals management. One of the main papers where SAICM activities are based on is the Global Plan of Action (GPA) where work areas, activities, progress indicators, implementation aspects and time frames are defined. The GPA is a guideline for chemicals related activities on global, regional, national and local level. This basic document of SAICM has served as a starting point for the preparation of this paper on involvement of stakeholders in chemicals management.

This paper is prepared in the frame of the SAICM-Quick Start Programme project “Strengthening capacities for the implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) in Albania”, 2011-2013. It was prepared with methodological support from United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).



## 2. Goals and methodology of the preparation of the policy paper for the involvement of stakeholders in chemicals management

The aim of this paper is to guide and support future national and international efforts for the enhancement of chemicals management in the country by facilitating potential contributors to identify partners with specific interests and areas of expertise. This paper is complementary to the Updated National Profile of Chemicals Management, in chapters 4 and 5 of which governmental agencies and institutions, other stakeholders and universities, NGOs, as well as industries have been discussed.

The methodology used in preparing this paper was based on UNITAR presentation at the Inception meeting of the project “Strengthening capacities for the implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) in Albania”, held in Tirana on 24-25 March 2011 and on the Global Plan of Actions of SAICM, from which activities deemed most urgent and feasible in the country’s context were selected.

The first draft of this paper was revised and completed by the participants during the review meeting held in 9-10 February 2012 in Tirana, thus including the contribution of stakeholders from different areas of chemical management: central government, local government, academia, civil society, industry. This paper is the continuation of multiple efforts for the involvement of all stakeholders dealing directly or indirectly with chemicals management in the activities of the afore-mentioned project.

## 3. Stakeholder’s involvement in chemicals management

An in-depth analysis of the functions and responsibilities of the stakeholders involved currently in chemicals management in Albania can be found in chapters 4 and 5 of the National Profile of Chemicals Management in Albania updated in 2012. In the other chapters of the profile can be found a description of their activities, as well as the capacity assessment.

In Table A a brief summary of the main national issues is given related to stakeholder’s involvement in chemicals management, as well as proposed measures which could be undertaken to improve the situation.



**Table A: Main national issues regarding stakeholder’s involvement and proposed measures for improvement of the situation.**

Issues	Present situation and shortcomings	Steps to be taken to improve the situation
1. Contribution of different stakeholders	The contribution of different stakeholders is not continuous and quite often is dictated by different events	Promotion of stakeholder involvement, particularly of industry and non-governmental organizations, consumer organizations through awareness raising, trainings
	Skills, experience and expertise from different parties are not collected properly, especially in the private sector	Promotion of activities for capacities building in the private sector  Financial and technical assistance for the education of stakeholders dealing with chemicals  Review of legislation, enforcement of implementation of industry obligations on registration and notification
2. Data exchange and dissemination of information to interested parties	Lack of data on chemicals management and chemical safety  Lack of data exchanging infrastructure, especially on the local level	Establishment of databases, promotion of information exchange mechanisms (website, social networks etc.)  Improvement of infrastructure
3. Harmonization of different stakeholders interests	Attention should be paid to matters relevant to the general public	Improved coordination between governmental institutions, non-governmental organizations, consumer groups and industry
5. Participation of NGOs	Limited expertise in NGOs, not very active representation of consumer groups interests	Awareness raising on chemicals related problematic, trainings with different interest groups

In table B the stakeholders that can be involved in different work areas are given, considering their present involvement and profile.

As described in the Updated National Profile, several stakeholders are involved currently directly or indirectly in chemicals management. Reference is made in this paper to a *Chemicals Office*, which



currently is nonexistent, with the effort to point out some of the areas where the establishment and functioning of such an office would be an efficient input. In the conditions of lack of a chemicals office, some of the responsibilities regarding chemicals, such as registration of different chemicals, lifecycle data generation and dissemination, implementation of integrated national programmes for the sound chemicals management are spread between different institutions.

Besides the Chemicals office, as potential actors have been mentioned also stakeholders which currently are not highly involved in chemicals management, as well as consumer organizations.

**Table B: Actors involved at present as well as potential stakeholders according to the work areas of the Global Plan of Action of SAICM**

Work areas	Agency/main actor	Agency/ other actors
1. Assessment of national chemicals management to identify gaps and prioritize actions	SAICM project	Ministries and agencies involved in chemicals management; NGOs <sup>1</sup> , universities, industry, international intergovernmental agencies
2. Human health protection	MoH (Ministry of Health)	IPH, Directorates of Public Health (DPHs) in districts, State Sanitary Inspectorate, local government, NGOs, WHO, media, consumer organizations
3. Children and chemical safety	MoH (Ministry of Health)	MoES, IPH – Promotion Department, UNICEF, NGOs, Media, IED (Institute for Educational Development), consumer organizations
4. Occupational health and safety	MoLSAEO,	Inspectorates (Sanitary and Work), MoLSAEO (for accidents), MoH, IPH, trade unions, ILO (International Labour Organization), private sector, industries
5. Implementation of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS)	MoEFWA (Chemicals Agency <sup>1</sup> )	MoH, MoAFCP, Customs, industrial organizations, chambers of commerce
6. Highly toxic pesticides risk management and reduction	MoEFWA	IFSV, MoH, National Licensing Center, Inspectors, WHO, importers, Customs, the State commission for the registration of PPP, farmer's

<sup>1</sup> With NGOs are understood primarily those oriented towards sound chemicals management and environment.



Work areas	Agency/main actor	Agency/ other actors
		associations
7. Pesticide programmes	MoEFWA	IFSV, Universities (AUT), IPH, DPHs of the districts, NGOs
8. Reduced health and environmental risks of pesticides	MoEFWA	MoH, MoEFWA, IFSV, universities (AUT), IPH, DPHs of the districts, NGOs
9. Cleaner production	MoEFWA	MoETE, UNIDO, ECAT, AEF, MoAFCP, industry
10. Remediation of contaminated sites	MoEFWA	MoETE, donors, AEF
11. Lead in gasoline	MoEFWA	Central Technical Inspectorate
12. Sound agricultural practices	MoAFCP	AUT, farmers associations
13. Persistent, bio-accumulative and toxic substances (PBTs); very persistent and very bio-accumulative substances; chemicals that are carcinogens or mutagens or that adversely affect, inter alia, the reproductive, endocrine, immune or nervous systems; persistent organic pollutants (POPs)	MoEFWA	MoH, IPH, universities, NGOs
14. Mercury and other chemicals of global concern; chemicals produced or used in high volumes; chemicals subject to wide dispersive uses; and other chemicals of concern at the national level	MoEFWA	MoH, MoETE, IPH
15. Risk assessment, management and communication	MoH, MoEFWA	AEF, IPH, IHR, Media , NGO
16. Waste management (and minimization)	MoEFWA	MoPWT, AEF, REAs, private sector
17. Formulation of prevention and response measures to mitigate environmental and health impacts of emergencies involving chemicals	MoH, MoEFWA	IPH-IHR (International Health Regulations) , AEF, Red Cross, MoI-NOCCE (National Operational Center of Civil Emergencies)



Work areas	Agency/main actor	Agency/ other actors
18. Research, monitoring and data	MoEFWA	IFSV, AEF, IPH, MoH, other institutes, universities, customs
19. Data production and availability of data about risks	Chemicals office <sup>i</sup>	Industry, AEF, REAs, MoH
20. Promotion of industry participation and responsibility	Commerce Chamber	METE, AIDA (Albanian Investment Development Agency)
21. Information management and dissemination	Chemicals office <sup>i</sup>	General Customs Directorate, INSTAT, Line ministries
22. Life cycle	Chemicals office <sup>i</sup>	MoH, MoEFWA, MoETE, MoAFCP, Customs, MoPWT, Chambers of Commerce, Consumers Protection Associations
23. Pollutant release and transfer register (PRTRs) ,_establishment of national registers	MoEFWA	AEF, Environmental Inspectorate, REAs, Industry
24. Education and training (public awareness)	IPH- Promotion Department	MoEFWA, MoES, NGOs, media, Faculty of Medicine –Department of Public Health
25. Stakeholder participation	Inter-sectorial Committee	Line ministries, NGOs, universities, industry, etc.
26. Implementation of integrated national programmes for the sound management of chemicals at the national level in a flexible way	Chemicals office <sup>i</sup>	Line ministries, UNDP, WHO, UNIDO, OSCE
27. International agreements	MoEFWA	MoFA, line ministries
28. Social and economic considerations	Ministry of Finance	Line ministries, private sector (industry)
29. Legal, policy and institutional aspects	MoEFWA	Chemicals office <sup>i</sup> , projects of approximation of EU legislation
30. Liability and compensation	Environmental Inspectorate	AEF, MoF, MoEFWA, MoH, MoAFCP, MoLSAEO



Work areas	Agency/main actor	Agency/ other actors
31. Inventory and monitoring of progress (Development of objective indicators for chemicals effects on human health and environment)	MoH	MoEFWA, IPH, AEF
32. Protected areas	MoEFWA	AEF, REAs, local government
33. Prevention of illegal traffic in toxic and dangerous goods	Customs	Customs Inspectorates
34. Trade and environment	METE	MoEFWA, MoAFCP, MoH, Inspectorates, customs
35. Civil society and public interest non-governmental organization (NGO) participation	MoEFWA, Chemicals office	Inter-sectorial Committee of Chemicals Management, NGOs, consumer organizations
36. Capacity-building to support national actions	MoEFWA	MoH, AEF, IPH, universities, NGOs, consumer groups, other institutes



## 4. Abbreviations

AEF	Agency of Environment and Forestry
AIDA	Albanian Investment Development Agency
AUT	Agriculture University of Tirana
DPHs	Directorates of Public Health
ECAT	Environmental Center for Administration and Technology
GHS	Globally Harmonized System of Classification, Labeling and Packaging of Chemicals
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IFSV	Institute of Food Safety and Veterinary
IHR	International Health Regulations
INSTAT	Institute of Statistics
IOMC	Inter Organization Program for the Sound Management of Chemicals
IPH	Institute of Public Health
METE	Ministry of Economy, Trade and Energy
MoAFCP	Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection
MoFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MoEFWA	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration
MoES	Ministry of Education and Sciences
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoLSAEO	Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs and Equal Chances
MoPWT	Ministry of Public Works and Transport
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organization
NOCCE	National Operational Center of Civil Emergencies
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
PPP	Plant Protection Products
REAs	Regional Environmental Agencies
SAICM	Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Programme



UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
WHO	World Health Organization

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<sup>i</sup> Or the name of the respective institution that will be established for chemicals management based on law 9108, dated 17.07.2003 “On the chemical substances and preparations”