



The Quick Start Programme: 13 years of advancing sound chemicals management

Established in 2006 by the first International Conference on Chemicals Management
– the Quick Start Programme (QSP) concluded in December 2019.

It is an opportunity to look back at QSP's vast impact through successful projects and activities across the globe.



QSP SINCE 2006

\$47.9 million mobilized by the Trust Fund

comprising **\$38.1 million** in cash contributions

from **24 DONORS**

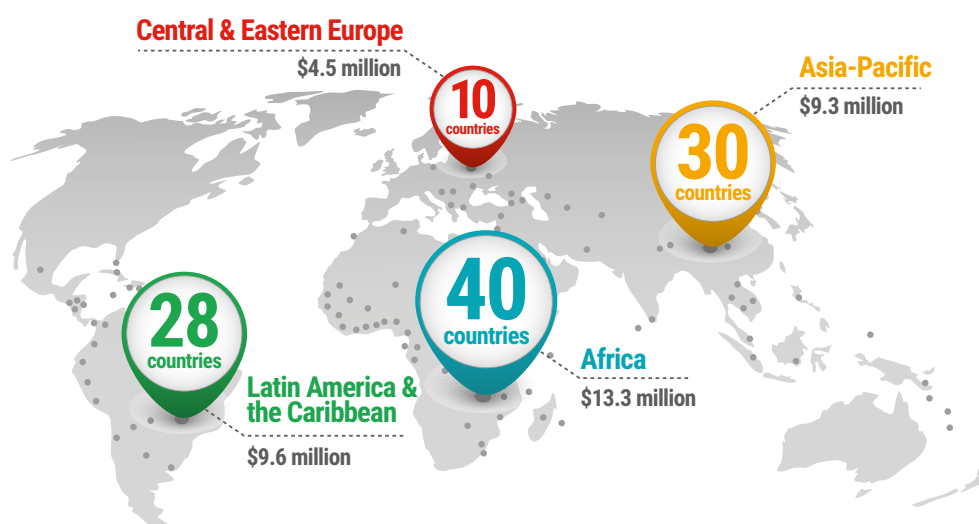
and **\$9.8 million** additional contributions leveraged by project implementers

In addition in non-Trust Fund contributions from **\$92.7 million 19 CONTRIBUTORS**

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| 108 different countries | 54 least developed countries (LDCs) and/or small island developing states (SIDS) | 21 projects with civil society partners |
| 163 projects with government partners | 14 application rounds | 184 approved projects |

QSP TRUST FUND PROJECTS BY REGION

184 Projects in 108 Countries



QSP at a glance

Capacity building and implementation

QSP was created to support initial capacity building and implementation activities in developing countries, least developed countries, small island developing states and countries with economies in transition.

Funding

Administered by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), QSP included a multi-donor trust fund and multilateral, bilateral and other forms of cooperation. The funds were used to facilitate vital chemicals management projects around the world.

Governments, regional economic integration organizations, intergovernmental organizations, CSOs, and the private sector contributed to QSP.

Chemicals management

QSP was instrumental in helping developing countries create national chemicals profiles. This was a critical first step for many nations—understanding the chemicals in their jurisdiction.

The profiles helped identify and address priorities for a chemicals management strategy consistent with the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM).

Enabling collaboration

Multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder by nature, QSP supported deeper collaboration and participation among a range of stakeholders. Cooperative action was necessary for countries to implement measures that integrated chemical and waste issues into broader development of national agendas – encouraging participation and commitment to implement and sustain the Strategic Approach.

Impact

184 projects funded across the globe.

The following projects give you a glimpse of the work accomplished by the QSP Trust Fund.

The fight to know - Informing consumer choice in Serbia

The Government of Serbia and UNDP launched 'The fight to know' campaign to Serbia to exercise the consumer right to information about substances of high concern in products.

The campaign resulted in the removal of products containing non-allowed concentrations of phthalates (**>0.1%**) from the market. Further production and distribution of these products was banned.

SMART chemicals management – Strengthening Sri Lanka's national capacity

QSP funded a project to strengthen national capacity for SMART (Sustainable management, Monetary benefits, Additional health and safety, Resource efficiency and Technology transfer and innovation) chemicals management in Sri Lanka's rubber, tourism, and textile industries with UNIDO as an executing agency.

Capacity building efforts were carried out for national experts, academics, students and **600** industry employees. Several publications were produced including a handbook on policies and regulations, a trainer manual, and sector guidelines for chemicals management. The project worked with national institutions and policy makers on the SMART chemicals management policy. An online course was also launched and **12** in house training programmes were piloted in companies.

Food security – Training farmers in Lesotho on herbicide use

Farmers in Lesotho often work without protective clothing and proper equipment. This places them at great risk of pesticide poisoning and increases herbicide residue in the soil.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security through a QSP project held training sessions for **202** key personnel on herbicide and pesticide usage. Participants included district staff, farmers, traders, environment officers and machinery officers. Accessible information materials were also produced.

Promoting sound chemical management in El Salvador, Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic

QSP funded a project by Sustainlabour to support El Salvador, Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic to strengthen trade union capacities by improving on their achievements in the sound management of chemicals throughout the chemicals' life-cycle.

Through this project and others, Sustainlabour has informed **65,000** people about chemical risk prevention by campaign materials, trained **1,254** men and women workers from different sectors, and distributed **4,800** training guides. After the project, challenges and progress throughout the project were assessed to establish important lessons for the future.

About United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

UNEP is the leading global voice on the environment. It provides leadership and encourages partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations. UNEP works with governments, the private sector, civil society and with other UN entities and international organizations around the world.

About SAICM

The Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) is a global, multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder policy framework working to promote the sound management of chemicals across the lifecycle. The United Nations Environment Programme hosts the SAICM secretariat.

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