



The sound management of chemicals and wastes in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals: links between the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



Publication: The sound management of chemicals and wastes in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals: links between the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
Published in April 2016

ISBN No:
Produced by UNEP Division for Environmental Law and Conventions

Director of Publication: UNEP/DELC

Author:

Acknowledgements:

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Citation

Role of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Nairobi, Kenya

This publication is available online at: www.unep.org/environmentalgovernance/

Design:
Printing: UNON/Publishing Services Section/Nairobi, ISO 14001:2004-Certified
Job No: D1 -

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The Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions at a glance

	Basel Convention	Rotterdam Convention	Stockholm Convention
Title	Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal	Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade	Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants
Legal status	Legally binding	Legally binding	Legally binding
Adoption	22 March 1989	10 September 1998	22 May 2001
Entry into force	5 May 1992	24 February 2004	17 May 2004
Number of parties	185 (at the time of printing)	157 (at the time of printing)	181 (at the time of printing)
Objectives	To protect human health and the environment against the adverse effects of hazardous wastes	To promote shared responsibility and cooperative efforts among parties in the international trade of certain hazardous chemicals in order to protect human health and the environment from potential harm, and to contribute to their environmentally sound use	To protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants
Scope	Hazardous wastes, based on their origin and/or composition and their characteristics, and other types of waste	Pesticides and industrial chemicals that have been banned or severely restricted for health or environmental reasons by parties.	26 persistent organic pollutants

	Basel Convention	Rotterdam Convention	Stockholm Convention
Key provisions	<p>Minimization of the generation of hazardous and other wastes</p> <p>Promotion of the environmentally sound management of hazardous and other wastes</p> <p>Conditions for, and control of, transboundary movements of hazardous and other wastes</p>	<p>Prior Informed Consent procedure, which provides for a national decision-making process on the import of hazardous chemicals included in Annex III to the Convention and attempts to ensure compliance with those decisions by exporting parties</p> <p>Exchange of information on a broad range of potentially hazardous chemicals</p>	<p>Elimination of the persistent organic pollutants listed in Annex A to the Convention</p> <p>Restriction of the persistent organic pollutants listed in Annex B to the Convention</p> <p>Minimization of the unintentionally produced persistent organic pollutants listed in Annex C to the Convention</p>

Executive summary

The focus of discussions on the Sustainable Development Goals has shifted to the development of appropriate indicators for measuring progress in the implementation of the Goals at the global, regional and national levels. While the role and relevance of multilateral environmental agreements in that regard have long been recognized, current efforts to develop the Sustainable Development Goal indicators seem to have been hindered by the appropriateness of the data and information emanating from the implementation of those agreements. The present paper outlines the

links between existing and proposed goals, targets and indicators of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, focusing on the key issues and opportunities to link the discussions and actions concerning the targets and indicators in an attempt to inform the deliberations in the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators of the United Nations Statistical Commission and at the multilateral environmental agreement level.

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