



Costs of Inaction

on the
Sound Management
of Chemicals

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Glossary

AfDB	African Development Bank
CIA	Central Intelligence Agency
COI	Costs of Inaction
COPD	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
DALYs	Disability-Adjusted Life Years
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations
GAP	Good Agricultural Practices
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
(GDP) PPP	Purchasing Power Parity adjusted Gross Domestic Product
HESA	Health and Environment Strategic Alliance
HPV	High Production Volume
ICCA	International Council of Chemicals Association
ICCM	International Conference on Chemicals Management
ILO	International Labour Organization
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
IQ	Intelligence Quota
KemI	Swedish Chemicals Agency
LIRA	Legal and Institutional Infrastructures and Measures for Recovering Costs of National Administration
NO _x	Nitrous Oxide
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
PM	Particulate Matter
POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants
PRI	Principles for Responsible Investment
REACH	Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals
SAICM	Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management
SMC	Sound Management of Chemicals
SO _x	Sulfur Oxide
TEEB	The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNEP FI	United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative
U.S. EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
VOC	Volatile Organic Compounds
VSL	Value of Statistical Life
WHO	World Health Organization
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development
WTP	Willingness to Pay

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Preface

I ncreasing production and use of chemicals, particularly in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, result not only in benefits but also in costs to human health, the environment and economic development. The report on the *Costs of Inaction on the Sound Management of Chemicals* shows that these costs – borne by all segments of society, including business, from the production, use, and disposal of harmful chemicals – are too high. To reduce these costs and more effectively achieve national development planning goals, improvements in chemicals management are required.

The Costs of Inaction report provides evidence that supports the Vision of the United Nations Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Global Sustainability (2012) to make explicit and transparent the economic, social and environmental costs of action and inaction on sustainable development.

The Panel argues that by embracing a new approach to the political economy of sustainable development, we will bring the sustainable development paradigm from the margins to the mainstream of the global economic debate. Thus, both the cost of action and the cost of inaction will become transparent. Only then will the political process be able to summon both the arguments and the political will necessary to act for a sustainable future.

-- United Nations Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Global Sustainability (2012)

Work on the Costs of Inaction report began in 2010, with funding from the Governments of Norway and Sweden, with the establishment and meeting of an international Steering Committee. The Costs of Inaction work builds on the UNDP-UNEP Partnership Initiative for the Integration of the Sound Management of Chemicals into Development Planning Processes, contributes to the WHO-UNEP Health and Environment Strategic Alliance, and provides support for UNEP Guidance on the Development of Legal and Institutional Infrastructures for Sound Management of Chemicals and Measures for Recovering Costs of National Administration (LIRA-Guidance).

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