

UN Environment's programme on chemicals and waste aims at supporting the transition towards the sound management of chemicals and waste.



The presentation includes a vision for 2030. It discusses the theory of change that is expected to deliver on the targeted results and sustainable development goals. It then presents an overview of the Project Portfolio for the 2014-2017 period. This is followed by an overview of outcome-level results achieved during 2016. Next, challenges and opportunities are discussed. At the end of this presentation some case studies at country level will be shared.



The **Vision** of our work on chemicals and waste is that, by 2030, the world has completed a successful transition to the sound management of chemicals and waste, for people, planet and prosperity, contributing to sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental.

To achieve this vision, a **Theory of Change** has been developed, showing the **chain of results** from 2016 up to 2030. The diagram clearly shows that the subprogramme addresses at least nine **Sustainable Development Goals**, having impact on issues like hunger, health, gender, water, cities, sustainable consumption and production, oceans, peace and partnerships.

The **2030** goals are targeted by achieving **three Expected Accomplishments (i.e. results)**: one on creating an Enabling Policy Environment, one on science and tools for chemicals, and a similar one for waste. Some nine types of **Outputs** deliver on these three Expected Accomplishments, ranging from scientific assessments, to advisory services, capacity building, partnerships, and awareness raising. The Outputs and Expected Accomplishments also deliver impact on at least two **UN Environment Assembly Resolutions**: 1 slash 5, and 1 slash 2, which call for further action on sound management of chemicals and waste.



Here you see an overview of the **2014-2017 Portfolio of Projects**. The projects are organized by Expected Accomplishment.

Under the first one you will note our work on the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management for which we provide the Secretariat. Similarly, UN Environment hosts the Interim Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, and the Secretariat of the Special Programme that supports national institutional strengthening. This accomplishment also includes action on phasing out Ozone Depleting Substances, and addressing Endocrine Disrupters.

The second accomplishment, which is on Chemicals knowledge and tools, has a variety of projects, ranging from the Global Chemicals Outlook 2, and our work on phasing out lead and cadmium, to multistakeholder partnerships like the Global Mercury Partnership, the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management, and partnerships with small and medium-sized enterprises.

The **last accomplishment** addresses **Waste** management issues. It includes the **global and regional Waste Outlooks**, the **Global Partnership on Waste Management**, and the development of **techniques and solutions** for preventing and managing waste in a more **holistic and sound manner**.



Here, a quick overview of progress towards 2016 indicator targets is presented.

At the end of 2016, UN Environment's work on chemicals and waste **has achieved expectations** set out for the biennium **in a few areas only**, while in other areas the indicator targets have been **met partially**.

Several targets set for 2016 indicate, that an exponential increase in results was expected to occur, when the targets were set four years ago. For instance, all three indicators for Expected Accomplishment B targeted exponential increases in results. The reality seems to be different, however. Results appear to be achieved in a more linear fashion. This is demonstrated clearly for results achieved towards meeting the Indicator A and C targets which show gradual increases.

In the next few slides, we will present a more detailed analysis of progress for each of the expected accomplishments, individually, and provide examples of key results achieved for each of these expected accomplishments.



This slide provides insight into the **results trends of Expected Accomplishment A**, over the **past five years**. Graphs depict **results** obtained since 2011, shown in **red dots**, and **targets** set for each year since 2014, covering the two Programme of Work bienniums, shown as **blue dots**.

Indicator A-one in the **upper right corner** shows the number of **countries reporting the adoption of relevant policies**. This includes, for instance, countries that have ratified the Minamata Convention, or countries that have put in place controls over lead-inpaint.

In the **lower left corner**, **Indicator A-two** shows the number of countries that reported the **use of economic and market-based incentives**, certification schemes, and sound business policies and practices. This includes countries that have established market based third-party certification schemes for lead free paints or electronic waste.

Indicator A-three in the **lower right corner** shows the number of **countries reporting the use of industry reporting schemes** that promote up-take of sound management of chemicals and waste. An example is the number of countries reporting industries that have used the UN Environment toolkit on dioxins and furans for industrial emission control.

In general, the three results trends show a gradual increase over time. The results of

Indicator A-one on the adoption of policies shows a close trend with the targets that were set over the years. The same is true for Indicator A-three in the lower right corner. However, progress on Indicator A-two, in the lower left corner, is lagging behind the targets set for the period 2014-2016. It appears that UN Environment and governments would need to upscale further their work on country-level reporting, on the use of economic and market-based incentives and sound business policies, to ensure we get closer to the annual targets each year.



A big part of UN Environment's policy work on chemicals focuses on **mercury**. Levels of mercury in open-ocean fish are increasing, at the same rate as the rise that occurs in mercury that has made its way to the ocean. Recent data show that mercury contamination has actually reached levels that would make certain fish unsafe for consumption and **causing health concerns**.

To address this challenge the **Minamata Convention on Mercury** was adopted in 2013, counting on **128 signatories**. The **Interim Secretariat** of the convention is hosted by UN Environment in Geneva. In March 2016, the Seventh Session of the **Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee** for the Minamata Convention was held in Jordan.

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