

The United Republic of Tanzania

PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS FINAL REPORT

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The 2006-2009 pilot project in support of National SAICM implementation to “Strengthen Governance, Civil Society Participation and Partnerships within an Integrated National Chemicals and Waste Management Programme” in Tanzania has been supported by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) with the financial support of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.



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INTER-ORGANIZATION PROGRAMME FOR THE SOUND MANAGEMENT OF CHEMICALS

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SAICM PILOT PROJECT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The partnership projects were identified in the course of undertaking a national Capacity - Self Assessment. The Assessment was carried out as an initial step towards preparing a national SAICM implementation plan and aimed at setting a baseline and focus towards activities that address the national needs and priorities necessary to implement SAICM. The needs and priorities identified during the Capacity Self Assessment among them were the two partnership projects titled “*Awareness Raising for Chemical Safety and SAICM Implementation through Information Sharing and Training (Project 1)*” and “*Enhance Protection of Human Health and the Environment from Effects of Hazardous Industrial Chemicals in areas of Emergency Preparedness, Inspection and Training (Project 2)*” respectively.

The project’s goal for project 1 was to raise awareness on sound management of chemicals to key stakeholders and the general public through collection/generation of information relevant to Tanzania situation, processing/translating information into usable form, storage of the generated information in an easily accessed format and disseminate the generated information through different media. On the other hand, the goal for project 2 was to ensure that, human health and environment are protected from effects of hazardous industrial chemicals and pesticides through development of national guidelines on emergency preparedness, prevention and reporting; strengthening chemical and pesticides inspection system, promotion of application of BAT/BEP and minimize workplace chemical hazards.

The Partnership Projects were considered implemented successfully despite several challenges particularly on availability of resources and time limitations. Some of these achievements include; trained and sensitized end users on the applications and use of Best Available Technologies (BAT) and Best Environmental Practices (BEP) for the selected priority chemicals and pesticides; strengthened chemical inspection activities at ports of entry through trained chemical inspectors, police and customs officers on sound management of chemicals; and increased awareness and knowledge for sound management of chemicals through the developed and distributed chemical safety related materials (brochures, booklets, posters) to stakeholders and the general public.

Other achievements include; strengthened emergency preparedness, prevention and reporting for sound chemicals management compatible with international systems through the developed national guidelines; availability of trained trainers in sound management of chemicals; availability of information including chemicals and pesticides database and web based information that can assist users in improving their chemicals and waste management practices; strengthening of networking amongst stakeholders that will invariably promote multi-disciplinary approach in future initiatives to sustain SAICM activities;

It is realistic to state that Tanzania does have a very good chance of meeting the SAICM target of having sound chemicals management capacity by year 2020, especially if these successes are sustained and other priority areas identified in the Capacity Assessment and during the three years implementation of the SAICM Pilot Project will be implemented.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania acknowledges with thanks the initiatives of UNITAR in planning for and supporting countries in efforts towards sound management of chemicals through implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM).

The provision of funding from the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation for this phase and for the collaborative project as a whole is hereby acknowledged and appreciated.

Members of SAICM Pilot Project Steering Committee for the advise and guidance; expresses profound appreciation to the Government Chemist Laboratory Agency (GCLA) in the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare for coordinating this national project; members of Secretariat for the day-to-day administration and for being a link to UNITAR for all project matters; and various stakeholders from within and outside the Government for their cooperation during the implementation of the Partnership Projects and the SAICM Pilot Project as a whole within the period of three years.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	1
1.0 INTRODUCTION.....	3
2.0 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS.....	4
2.1 CAPACITY SELF ASSESSMENT	4
2.2 PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS	5
2.2.1 Project 1: Awareness Raising for Chemical Safety and SAICM Implementation through Information Sharing and Training.....	5
2.2.2 Project 2: Enhance Protection of Human Health and the Environment from Effects of Hazardous Industrial Chemicals in areas of Emergency Preparedness, Inspection and Training	6
2.2.3 Implementation and Coordinating Arrangements	7
2.2.4 Achievements	7
2.2.5 Challenges	8
3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS.....	9
3.1 RECOMMENDATIONS.....	9
3.2 CONCLUSION	10

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Chemicals play an important part in almost all human activities and are important to the development of our countries. However, when chemicals are not properly managed they can put human health, ecosystems, and economies at risk. The careless use or the misuse of chemicals can result in increased healthcare costs, low agriculture yield and reduced worker's productivity. There are many chemical poisoning incidents of varying scales, some reported and some unreported, happening all over the world particularly in African region and other developing countries.

The increasing demand and use of chemicals and pesticides worldwide and recognizing that the fact that the many chemical Conventions that are present today have not managed to protect the human as well as environment from chemical impacts, the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) held in Johannesburg in 2002 adopted a resolution that *by 2020, chemicals are used and produced in ways that minimize their harmful effects to human health and the environment*. The WSSD goal was further developed into the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) through a multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral Preparatory Committee from 2003 and adopted in February 2006 in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates. SAICM is a policy framework for international action on chemical hazards, which supports the achievement of the goal agreed at the 2002 Johannesburg WSSD.

Tanzania participated actively in the SAICM development process and its adoption in February 2006. Also Tanzania chaired the Working Group that developed the Global Plan of Action from the start to its adoption. In the initial implementation of SAICM, Tanzania was among the four Countries selected to implement the SAICM Pilot project titled *“Strengthening Governance, Civil Society participation and Partnerships within an Integrated National Chemicals and Waste Management Programme”*. The pilot project was implemented in collaboration with the United Nations Institute of Training and Research (UNITAR) and designed to run for three years.

The project aimed at strengthening the nation's capacity and establishing a baseline for implementation of SAICM. During the implementation of Pilot Project, a national Capacity Self Assessment was carried out as an initial step towards preparing a national SAICM implementation plan which aimed at setting a baseline and focus towards activities that address the national needs and priorities necessary to implement SAICM. The two Partnership Projects were identified and endorsed by stakeholders during the National Forum on Governance and Priorities Setting as a result of among priorities through undertaking a national Capacity - Self Assessment. The two agreed Partnership Projects were *“Awareness Raising for Chemical Safety and SAICM Implementation through Information Sharing and Training (Project 1)”* and *“Enhance Protection of Human Health and the Environment from Effects of Hazardous Industrial Chemicals in areas of Emergency Preparedness, Inspection and Training (Project 2)”* respectively.

The Partnership Projects were implemented from March 2008-September 2009. The total amount of Seventy Thousands United State Dollars (USD 70,000) received from UNITAR was planned to facilitate implementation of the projects.

2.0 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS

The partnership projects were identified in the course of undertaking a national Capacity - Self Assessment. The Assessment was carried out as an initial step towards preparing a national SAICM implementation plan and aimed at setting a baseline and focus towards activities that address the national needs and priorities necessary to implement SAICM. These needs and priorities identified included: Development of a National Policy on Chemicals Management, which shall provide for among other issues, mainstreaming of chemicals management into development plans (both National and sectoral), and coordination of chemicals management initiatives within and outside the Government and the stakeholders; Promote multi-stakeholder participation, coordination and; good planning and management practices for projects conducted in chemicals management.

2.1 CAPACITY SELF ASSESSMENT

The Capacity Self-Assessment conducted as part of SAICM pilot project implementation identified among others, the following priority areas that need to be addressed;

- Weak national capacity (human & infrastructure) to manage chemicals;
- Low awareness on safe handling/use and disposal of hazardous chemicals;
- Low awareness and knowledge on the adverse effects of hazardous chemicals and pesticides among worker of chemicals/pesticides related sectors;
- Inadequate chemicals emergency response system; and
- Weak enforcement of the existing legislation, regulations and Multilateral Environmental Agreement related to chemicals management.

Others priorities identified were:

- Developing/reviewing legislation and policies to clearly state participation and roles of public sector, private sector and /civil society, and to develop Regulations;
- Awareness raising to the general public on sound management of chemicals and waste;
- Strengthening of the sector coordination system which will ensure and facilitate effective participation of the private sector in chemicals and waste management efforts;
- Development of a national chemical safety information collection and dissemination system through establishment of a centralized national website for chemicals management to improve access and dissemination of information;
- Strengthening of chemicals management policies, legislation and strategies and their implementation to incorporate important chemical safety aspects such as vulnerable groups and gender.

The Two Partnership Projects were selected as priority areas from the Capacity Self Assessment findings and endorsed by the National Forum (NF).

The Forum agreed to implement the projects in a collaborative approach between Government on one part and NGOs and Civil Society on the other part, at least by 70% and 30%, respectively.

2.2 PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS

2.2.1 Project 1: Awareness Raising for Chemical Safety and SAICM Implementation through Information Sharing and Training

The activities to be undertaken under this project were divided into two categories, namely (i) information generation and storage (ii) awareness raising through training and information dissemination.

2.2.1.1 Information Generation and Storage

Activity 1:

Development of a functional national data base for hazardous industrial chemicals and pesticides to ensure easy access to information for sound chemicals management to chemicals dealers in Tanzania: - The data base was built to contain information that gives generic advice on management aspects of various classes of chemicals, including obligations under respective legislation.

Key aspects in the database include:

1. Inventory of hazardous chemicals and pesticides available;
2. Category of hazardous chemicals and pesticides;
3. Associated risks to health and the environment and safety precautions;
4. Disposal considerations; and
5. Obligations under various Policies and legislation in management and control of chemicals

Activity 2:

Search and document BAT/BEP of waste management practices for priority chemicals. A Research Institution (Chemical and Process Engineering of the University of Dar Es Salaam) led the identification of industries, searching and documenting the BAT /BEP.

Activity 3:

Development and implementation of 500 materials/packages (such as brochures, booklets, posters) containing; information, on sound management of chemicals and SAICM implementation in Tanzania to ensure effective education, communication and capacity building covering key stakeholders in chemicals management. The information focused on:

1. The usefulness and disadvantages of chemicals;
2. Chemicals management initiatives in Tanzania;
3. Global initiatives in chemicals management and SAICM implementation in Tanzania;
4. The link between SAICM implementation and Millennium Development Goals; and
5. Information centres and various sources for sound chemicals management.

2.2.1.2 Awareness Raising Activities

Activity 4:

Dissemination of chemical-safety-related information to key chemicals and pesticides stakeholders including regulators (chemical inspectors, customs, police, health

officers), users, Importers, distributors, transporters and NGOs. The focus was to raise awareness and appreciation of the potential hazards that chemicals pose so that management and regulation efforts can be more focused and effective at all levels.

The target areas were the Lake, Northern, and Eastern zones of Tanzania, which have relatively abundant inflow and use of chemicals, and the Southern highlands zone and Zanzibar in which there is significant growth of industries and which have received little training in chemicals management. The dissemination of information was through the media (documentaries through TV and Radio) and single training/Seminars.

Training of trainer's sessions was conducted involving 57 technical personnel in chemicals management who will serve as trainers at their respective workplaces. The training was to inform, educate and empower the participants in the area of sound chemicals management for the purpose of preventing/minimizing exposures.

2.2.2 Project 2: Enhance Protection of Human Health and the Environment from Effects of Hazardous Industrial Chemicals in areas of Emergency Preparedness, Inspection and Training

The activities agreed to be undertaken under this Project are:

Activity 1:

Development and establishment of an integrated national chemical accident prevention and management system, whereby 300 copies of national guidelines on emergency preparedness, prevention and reporting compatible with international systems to be prepared. These guidelines are to be used by chemical stakeholders in order to prevent accidents and for emergency preparedness and response to accidents and natural disasters involving chemicals.

Key issues in the chemicals management guidelines included,

1. Analysis of the scope of chemicals and chemical waste management related legislation and international instruments;
2. Harmonization of chemicals management activities carried out by various institutions;
3. Reporting mechanisms and procedures for preparedness and responses on chemicals incidences;
4. Procedures for preparation and implementation of contingency plans at Institutional level;
5. Specifications of facilities for transportation of hazardous chemicals; and
6. Existing transportation mechanisms and facilities

Activity 2:

Strengthen national chemicals and pesticides inspection systems through training and equipping with inspection gears such as recorders, data logs and cameras to 50 inspectors, 30 customs officers and 30 police officers located at 15 main entry points to Tanzania.

Activity 3:

Training and Promoting applications of available BAT/BEP including the use of alternatives that pose less risks to human health and the environment to 100 key chemicals stakeholders from selected industries (textiles, paints, foam), mining and agriculture in order to prevent and minimize hazardous waste generation.

Activity 4:

Minimize of workplace hazards posed by chemicals through:

1. Conducting physical inspection by chemical inspectors to identify and address the gaps on chemicals handling; and
2. Preparing training materials to address the gaps and conduct training of workers of 50 major selected sites (Mining, Agricultural plantations and Chemicals industries).

2.2.3 Implementation and Coordinating Arrangements

Two lead institutions one from the Government and another representing NGOs coordinated the implementation of each project. The **Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives** and **Chemical Risk Experts Foundation of Tanzania** coordinated the day-to-day activities of project 1. The **Government Chemist Laboratory Agency** and **Agenda for Environment and Responsible Development** coordinated the day-to-day activities of project 2. A project committee of 5 people, from among institutions that indicated willingness to participate, was established to assist the coordinators of each project on the implementation, whereby the chairperson was selected among the members and also a member of SAICM National Secretariat. Different tasks were assigned to different partners for execution and the coordinators reported on the progress to the SAICM Secretariat.

2.2.4 Achievements

The implementation of the two partnership projects has complimented efforts on awareness raising, and enhanced capacity building on sound chemicals management. The projects have also facilitated planning and implementation of other developmental projects in this field and SAICM framework, namely; mainstreaming of chemicals management activities into future national development plans for example during review of the National Strategy for Growth and Poverty Alleviation.

In summary the two projects have: increased Capacity, awareness and knowledge stakeholders and the general public for sound management of chemicals whereby;

1. A chemical and pesticides database with the key aspects to be used by stakeholders in chemicals management has been developed;
2. BAT/BEP of waste management practices of certain priority chemicals (Sodium Cyanide, DDT, Mercury and Profenophos), has been searched and documented;
3. 500 Materials/packages (such as brochures, booklets, posters) containing; information, on sound management of chemicals and SAICM implementation in Tanzania, have been developed;
4. Chemical safety related information (brochures and booklets) has been developed and disseminated to chemical stakeholders;
5. The first version of the national guidelines on emergency preparedness, prevention and reporting compatible with international systems have been developed and submitted to stakeholders for comments and recommendations;

6. 57 out of targeted 80 (71%) technical personnel in chemicals management have been trained and empowered with knowledge in the areas of sound chemicals management to serve as trainers at their respective workplaces for the purpose of preventing/minimizing exposures;
7. 57 out of targeted 100 (57%) selected key stakeholders trained on the use and application of BATs/BEPs techniques for certain selected priority chemicals;
8. 72 out of targeted 110 (66%) chemical inspectors, customs and police officers trained to strengthen chemical inspection at ports of entry; and
9. Inspection to 54 out of targeted 50 (108%) major industries and other related workplace, which uses highly hazardous chemicals, were conducted; and 39 out of them (72%) were trained to serve as work place trainers.

2.2.5 Challenges

During the implementation of the Partnership Projects several challenges were encountered. The two main challenges were;

1. **Funding:** in the agreed implementation procedures, the project funding was to be covered by both the Government of Tanzania, NGOs, Private Sector in one part and UNITAR the other part.

However, only the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare through the GCLA contributed direct financing in the project activities. On the other hand, few stakeholder and institutions particularly those, which formed the project secretariat, provided in-kind support in terms of technical of expertise towards implementation of the projects.

2. Time frame and deadlines in the implementation of this project. Meeting deadlines and time frames as agreed in the MOA was one of the big challenges. The problems was contributed by late conducting of activities and submission of final reports; bureaucracy in getting chemical related information from some of the government institutions, NGOs and private sectors; and inadequate infrastructure to enable smooth activities implementation contributed by limited resources, country geographical size and low awareness on the existing chemicals management related legislation.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

3.1 RECOMMENDATIONS

During the implementation of the two Partnership Projects, stakeholders pointed out various recommendations for sound chemicals management and in order to meet the SAICM 2020 goal. As a result of these recommendations, Tanzania in collaboration with UNITAR and other partners is still committed to work further on the following priority areas for sound chemicals management and SAICM implementation.

- ❑ Implementing of other activities/projects in various priority areas as discussed and agreed during the National Review Workshop;
- ❑ Continued awareness-raising and capacity building on sound chemicals and waste management at all levels;
- ❑ Strengthening or review some of the existing legislation and policies related to chemicals and waste management;
- ❑ Strengthening implementation and domestication of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements related to chemicals and waste management;
- ❑ Strengthening national, sub-regional and regional cooperation and collaboration on waste and health issues.
- ❑ Improving cooperation and collaboration between national authorities in the chemicals and waste management.
- ❑ Strengthening information generation and networking e.g. poisoning centers and reporting system.
- ❑ Formulation and enforcement of policy for chemicals and pesticides management.
- ❑ Implementation of inter-ministerial coordination and Mainstreaming of chemicals into national development planning.

3.2 CONCLUSION

The implementation of Partnership Projects in Tanzania had achieved its objectives in that; it has progressively strengthened national chemicals management capacity in different aspects including among others; awareness and knowledge on chemical safety; chemical inspection at ports of entry; analysis of gaps and priority setting for chemicals management; strengthened national information exchange and data generation; and knowledge on safe chemical handling by workers. Above all the implementation of the projects, has strengthened collaboration between government and other stakeholders outside the Government.

Apart from the highlighted achievements, Tanzania like most developing countries is still facing some challenges, which might hinder the national progress towards SAICM 2020 goal. Mobilization and limitation of human and financial resources is still one of the most critical challenges for national and regional initiatives towards chemicals management and SAICM implementation.

We deeply acknowledge the full support of the United Nations Institute of Training and Research (UNITAR), and the Swiss Government for the financial support to enable implementation of the Partnership Projects and other SAICM initial enabling activities. We would like to take this opportunity to call upon for further support in this field of chemicals management from donor communities and other development partners.

The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania is committed towards establishing and continuously strengthening the entire recommended infrastructure for sustainable sound chemicals management and SAICM implementation to meet the SAICM goal. It is in our trust that, with our joint efforts between Governments, International and Bilateral Organizations, Non-Governmental Organizations, Civil Societies and Public Interest Groups at national, sub-regional, regional and international level, we will be able to implement these commitments which in turn will lead us towards achieving of the SAICM 2020 goal.