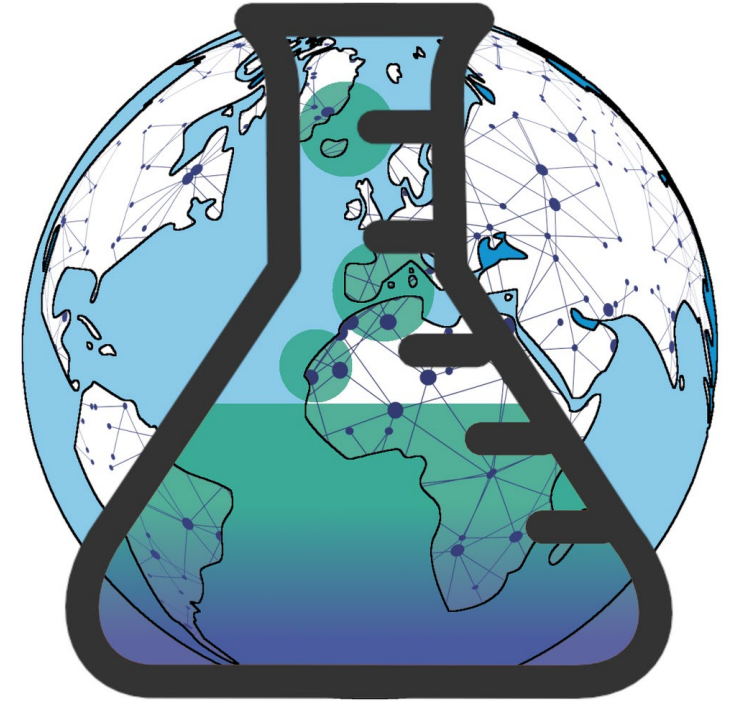


# Why is it important to know what hazardous chemicals are in products?

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**Olga Speranskaya**  
**Co-Director**  
**Health and Environment Justice Support (HEJSupport)**

Tomorrow without Toxics  
**International Civil Society Conference on Chemicals**  
23rd November 2021

**hej!support**  
health · environment · justice



# Knowing what chemicals are in products leads to:



stricter policies



better product and waste management and the chemicals in them throughout product life-cycle



Cleaner production processes



Safe products



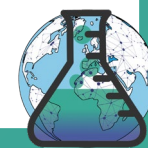
Safe and more effective circular economy



Better implementation of Agenda 2030

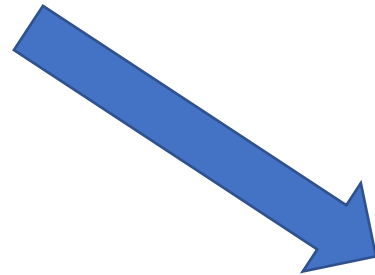


Healthier people and environment



# Transparency of information supports Agenda 2030

Access to information throughout the life-cycle



**Target 12.4 of SDG 12**  
By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment

**Target 12.8 of SDG 12**  
By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature.



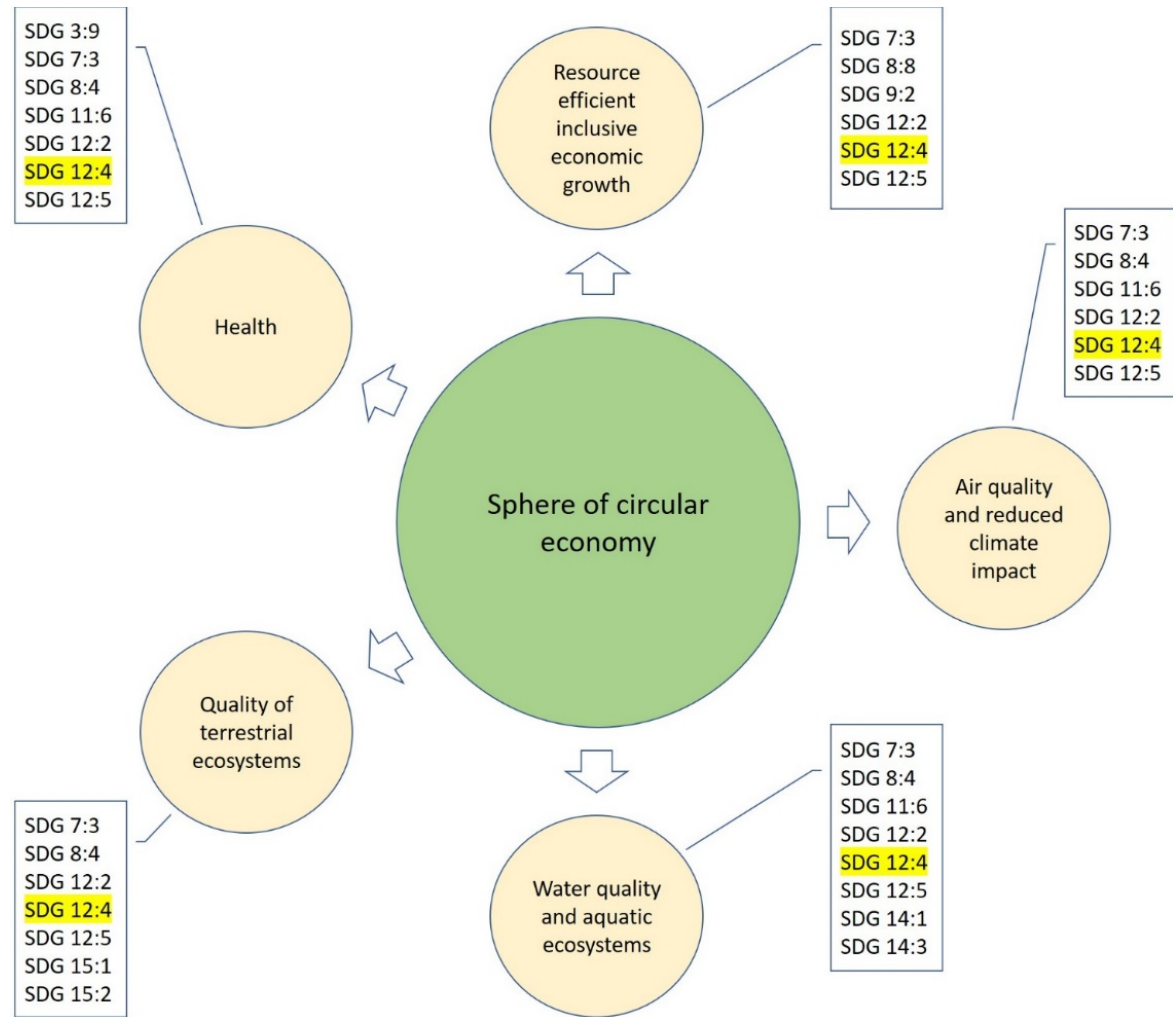
**Target 3.9 of SDG 3.**  
By 2030 substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water, and soil pollution and contamination



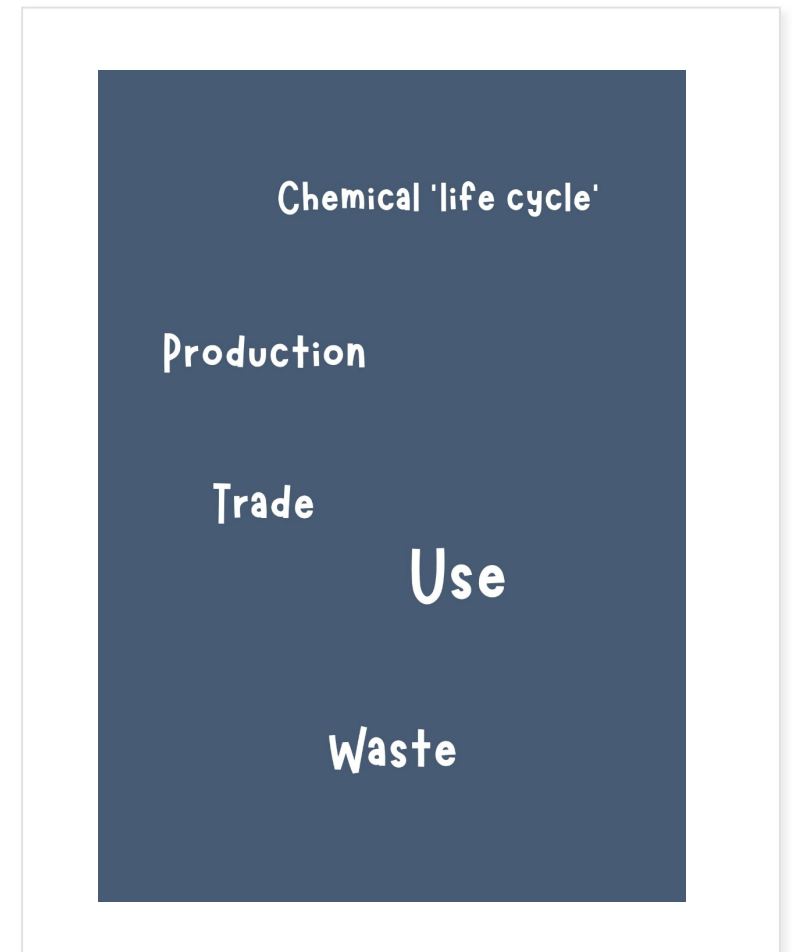
**Target 14.1 of SDG 14**  
By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution.



Information about chemicals in products is key for safe circular economy



# Global Chemicals Governance



# Who should know about what chemicals are in products?

Governments

Manufacturers

NGOs

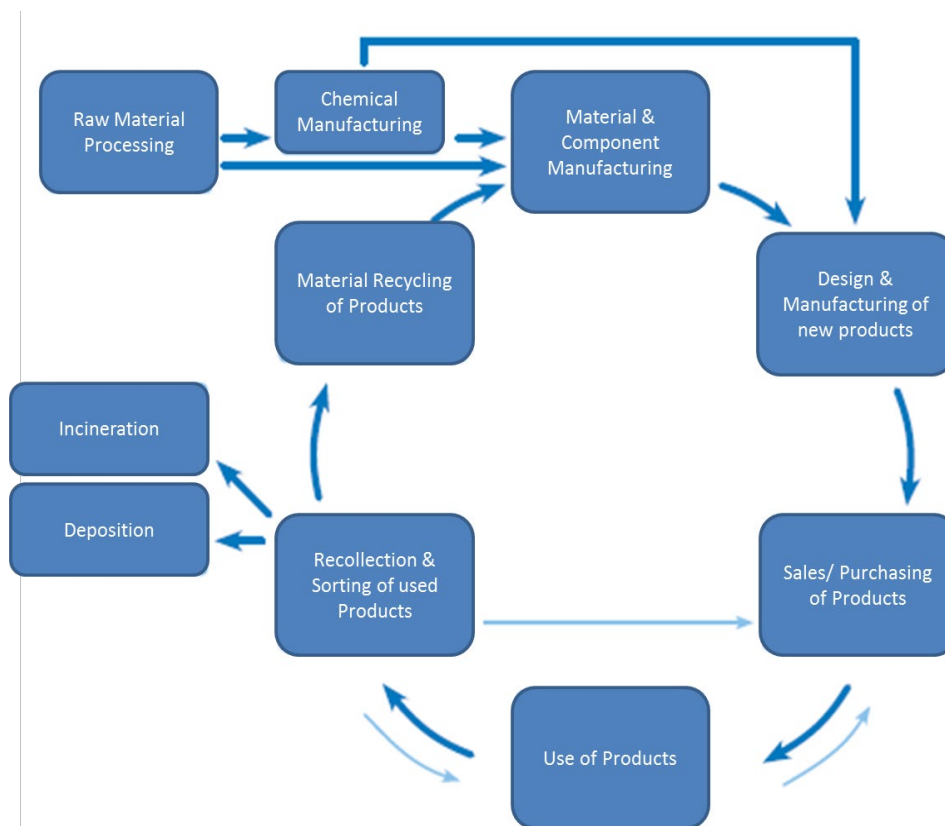
Suppliers

Workers

Retailers

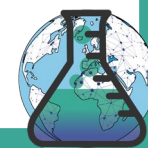
Consumers

Recyclers



*Stakeholders*

*inside and outside the supply chain should have the information they need to make a sound chemicals management decision*



# Key requirements for providing information on chemicals in products to consumers

Supplement to the [Guidelines for Providing Product Sustainability Information focusing on chemicals in products](#)

~~“Non-toxic”,  
“Ecologically safe”  
or “Pollutant free”~~



## RELEVANCE

Talk about major improvements, in areas that matter

- Significant aspects ('hotspots') covered
- Not masking poor product performance, no burden shifting
- Genuine benefit which goes beyond legal compliance



## CLARITY

Make the information useful for the consumer

- Exclusive and direct link between claim and product
- Explicit and easy to understand
- Limits of claim clearly stated



## RELIABILITY

Build your claims on a reliable basis

- Accurate and scientifically true
- Robust and consistent
- Substantiated data and assumptions



## TRANSPARENCY

Satisfy the consumer's appetite for information, and do not hide

- Developer of the claim and provider of evidence published
- Traceability and generation of claim (methods, sources, etc.) published
- Confidential information open to competent bodies




## ACCESSIBILITY

Let the information get to the consumer, not the other way around

- Clearly visible: claim easily found
- Readily accessible: claim close to the product, and at required time and location





## Consequences of not knowing what chemicals are in products

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- for business
- for environment
- for health





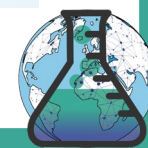
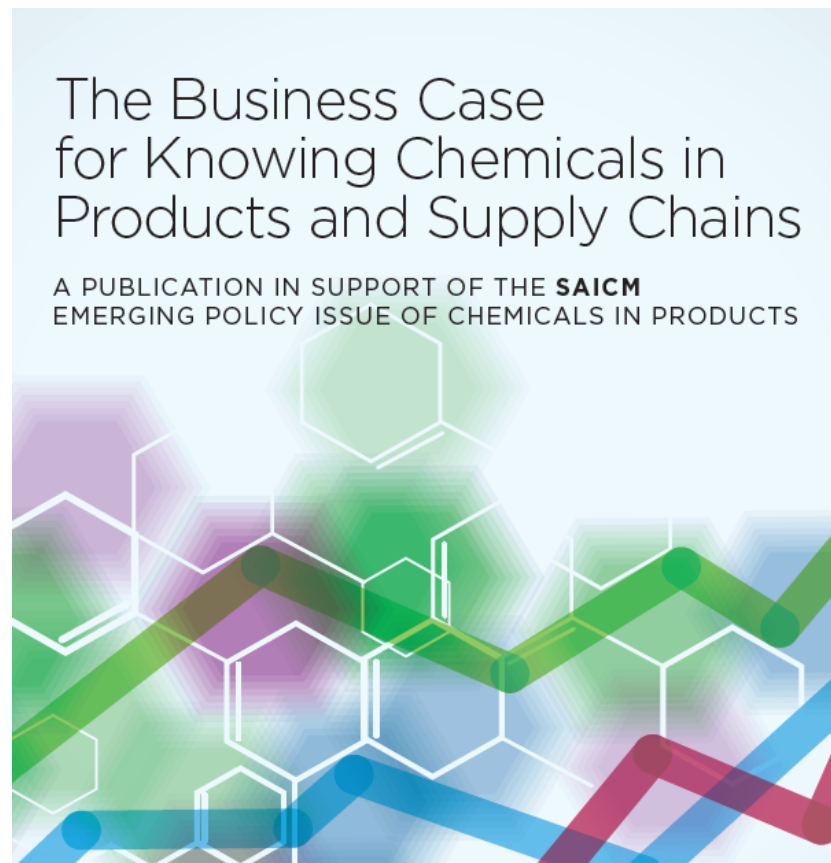
# Consequences of not knowing what chemicals are in products: business case

- Sony (2001): high cadmium levels in PlayStation game machine cables, shipment of 1.3 million units
  - Cost: \$150 million in lost sales and product reformulation
- Mattel (2007): lead in paint, more than 9 million toys recalled, including Barbie dolls
  - Costs: \$110 million: in recall costs including communications campaign
  - Stock price down 18%: between August and December 2007
- RC2 Corporation (2007): lead paint on its Thomas & Friends™ toy trains, 1.5 million units recalled
  - Costs: \$47.6 million: cost of product recall and related to lawsuits
  - Stock price down 50%: From 2007 to 2008 RC2's stock price declined 50%.
- Palm (2006): Treo 650 product fails EU RoHS compliance.
  - Cost: Palm withdraws the product from the European market: stock price down 14% in June 2006
- McDonald's (June 2010): Cadmium in paint on Happy Meal glasses: 13.4 million glasses recalled
  - Costs: exact costs not disclosed, but likely in the US\$ tens of millions

More information in

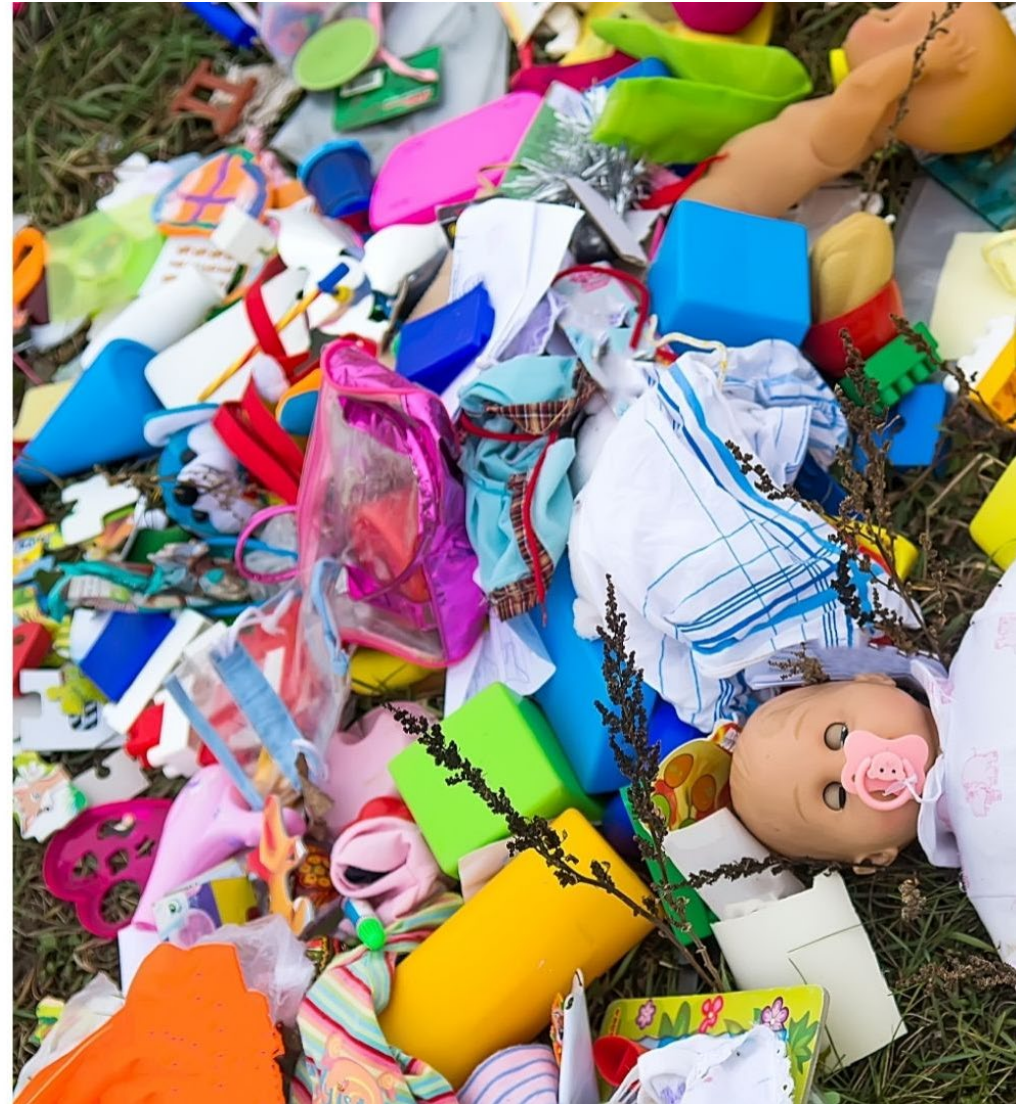
Business Case for CiP information exchange - due diligence and the cost of not knowing

[https://saicmknowledge.org/sites/default/files/meterial/upload/OEWG/OEWG2/k1403540\\_-oewg2- inf12.pdf](https://saicmknowledge.org/sites/default/files/meterial/upload/OEWG/OEWG2/k1403540_-oewg2- inf12.pdf)



# Health and environmental consequences of not knowing what chemicals are in products

- Negative environmental effects of products , especially when products are discarded, dumped in landfills, or disposed of by open burning or incineration;
- Toxic chemicals in products can be released into the environment, causing pollution and affecting health;
- Recirculation of toxic chemicals via recycled materials;
- Children across the world play with toys made with toxic plastics, lead and endocrine disrupting chemicals.



# Initiatives for providing safer products:

## voluntary

- The UNEP Chemicals in Products Programme – intergovernmental initiative  
(<https://saicmknowledge.org/sites/default/files/meterial/K1502319%20SAICM-ICCM4-10-e.pdf>)
- Design for Environment - governmental certification system  
<https://www.epa.gov/saferchoic...>
- BASTA industry certification system <http://www.bastaonline.se/sear...>
- GOTS – totally independent  
[GOTS the leading organic textile standard - GOTS \(global-standard.org\)](http://global-standard.org)

## binding

- EU SCIP database for Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC) in products and their constituent components  
<https://echa.europa.eu/sv/scip>
- Various national/regional regulations



# ECHA database on Substances of Concern in products (SCIP Database)

Companies supplying articles containing substances of very high concern (SVHCs) on the Candidate List (of the European REACH Regulation ) in a concentration above 0.1% weight by weight (w/w) on the EU market have to submit information on these articles to ECHA, as from 5 January 2021.

The information in the database is publicly available to waste operators and consumers.

## WHAT ARE THE **OBLIGATIONS**



If the **articles** you **produce, assemble, import or distribute** contain **SVHCs** on ECHA's Candidate List in a concentration **above 0.1% weight by weight** you need to **notify** them to the **SCIP database**.



# National requirements for the same sector and chemicals vary

## Restrictions on phthalates in toys in the EU

EU sets restrictions on phthalates in toys that are included in the list of carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic to reproduction (CMR) substances under the Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP) Regulation in [a concentration equal to or greater than 0.1 % by weight of the plasticised material in the article \(individually or in combination\)](#):

- BBP (benzyl butyl phthalate )
- **DBP (dibutyl phthalate )**
- DEHP (di-(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate )
- DIBP (diisobutyl phthalate )

For toys and childcare products that might be placed in the mouth, REACH also sets a restriction of 0.1% by weight (individually or in combination) for the following phthalates:

DINP (Diisononyl phthalate )  
 DIDP (Diisodecyl phthalate)  
 DNOP (Di-n-octyl phthalate)

**Restrictions on phthalates in toys in the EEU (Armenia, Belarus, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan) provides migratory limits for aquatic media and air:**

- **DBP (Dibutyl phthalate )**
- DMP (Dimethyl phthalate)
- Dioctyl phthalate
- Diethyl phthalate
- Dimethyl terephthalate

## Phthalates restrictions under Technical Regulation on Toy Safety in the Eurasian Economic Union

Name	Name	Level of migration	Level of migration
<b>Materials, products</b>	identifiable harmful substance	Aquatic environment (mg/Nm <sup>3</sup> ), no more than	air (mg/m <sup>3</sup> ), no more than
<b>Polyvinyl chlorides</b>	dibutyl phthalate **	Not allowed	Not allowed
	dimethyl phthalate	0,3	1,007
	dioctyl phthalate	2,0	0,02
	diethyl phthalate	3,0	0,1
<b>Polyethylene terephthalate</b>	dimethyl terephthalate	1,5	0,01
<b>Rubber-latex compositions</b>	dimethyl phthalate	0,3	0,007
	dibutyl phthalate **	Not allowed	Not allowed
	dioctyl phthalate	2,0	0,02
	diethyl phthalate	3,0	0,01



# Something went wrong

**Information for consumers is often limited to that on product labels which becomes an obstacle to sound decision-making:**

Labelling rules and schemes differ from region to region and from country to country

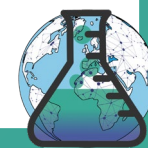
Labels do not contain information about toxic chemicals present in products

Some labels may contain false information

**Confidential business information**

**Non-harmonized rules of information exchange on chemicals in products:**

- costly systems for compliance checks at the borders;
- costly control systems imposed on the supply chains in other countries;
- trade between countries is complicated;
- risk for double standards and dumping of products of lesser quality in countries with less ambitious chemicals legislation or means to implement the legislation;
- consumer safety is at risk.



# Solution?

**GLOBAL MINIMUM  
TRANSPARENCY  
STANDARD**

**EQUAL SAFETY FOR EVERYONE  
EVERYWHERE**

Show Me More ↓

**Global Minimum Transparency Standard (GMTS)  
for hazardous chemicals**

[Global Chemical Transparency](https://www.globalchemicaltransparency.org/)

<https://www.globalchemicaltransparency.org/>



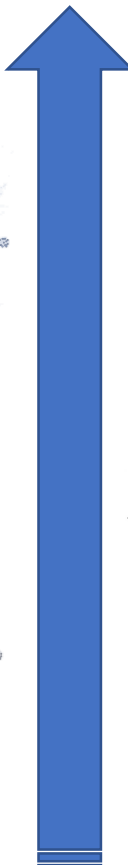


# Advantages of a globally harmonised standard

- Global information requirements will help countries to request information from suppliers.
- Globally harmonized standards ensure equality before the law and eliminates double standards.
- Globally harmonized standards facilitate safe recycling.
- Globally harmonized standards inspire innovation and safe product design
- Global harmonized standards is a tool for improving access to information.
- Global harmonized standards is a step towards progressive ban of hazardous chemicals in products



# Chemicals to be included in information exchange



Disclose	Disclose all intentionally added chemicals in a product (along with impurities that are chemicals of concern) and their hazards;
Disclose	Disclose chemicals based on their potential for significant adverse impacts on human health or the environment based on the Strategic Approach criteria;
Disclose	Disclose chemicals included into the existing or projected regulations in countries where a product is manufactured, sold, used or expected to be disposed of.
Disclose	Disclose chemicals included into the most progressive regulations available in developed countries;
Disclose	Disclose chemicals regulated by the global treaties



# Development and management

## **Ideally the global minimum standard should be binding from the beginning**

Following a UNEA or UNGA decision, it could be investigated if any of the existing conventions would allow for the inclusion of the standard, e.g. as a protocol. It could be the Basel or Stockholm conventions, or perhaps the Aarhus Convention?

Another option would be to create a global standard like the GHS, which is voluntary, but becomes binding once adopted into national legislation.



# Suggested way forward

Continue the work with voluntary disclosure of chemicals in materials and products via the UNEP Chemicals in Products Programme;

Consider two types of increased disclosure obligations for Substances of Global Concern – “soft” and “hard”:

- “Soft”: Mandatory disclosure of chemical identity and concentration.
- “Hard”: Restrictions or bans.

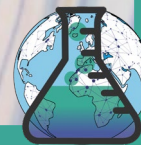
The latter work should be based on a **Globally Harmonized Minimum Transparency Standard (GMTS)**.

Read more at: <https://www.globalchemicaltransparency.org/>



# Conclusion

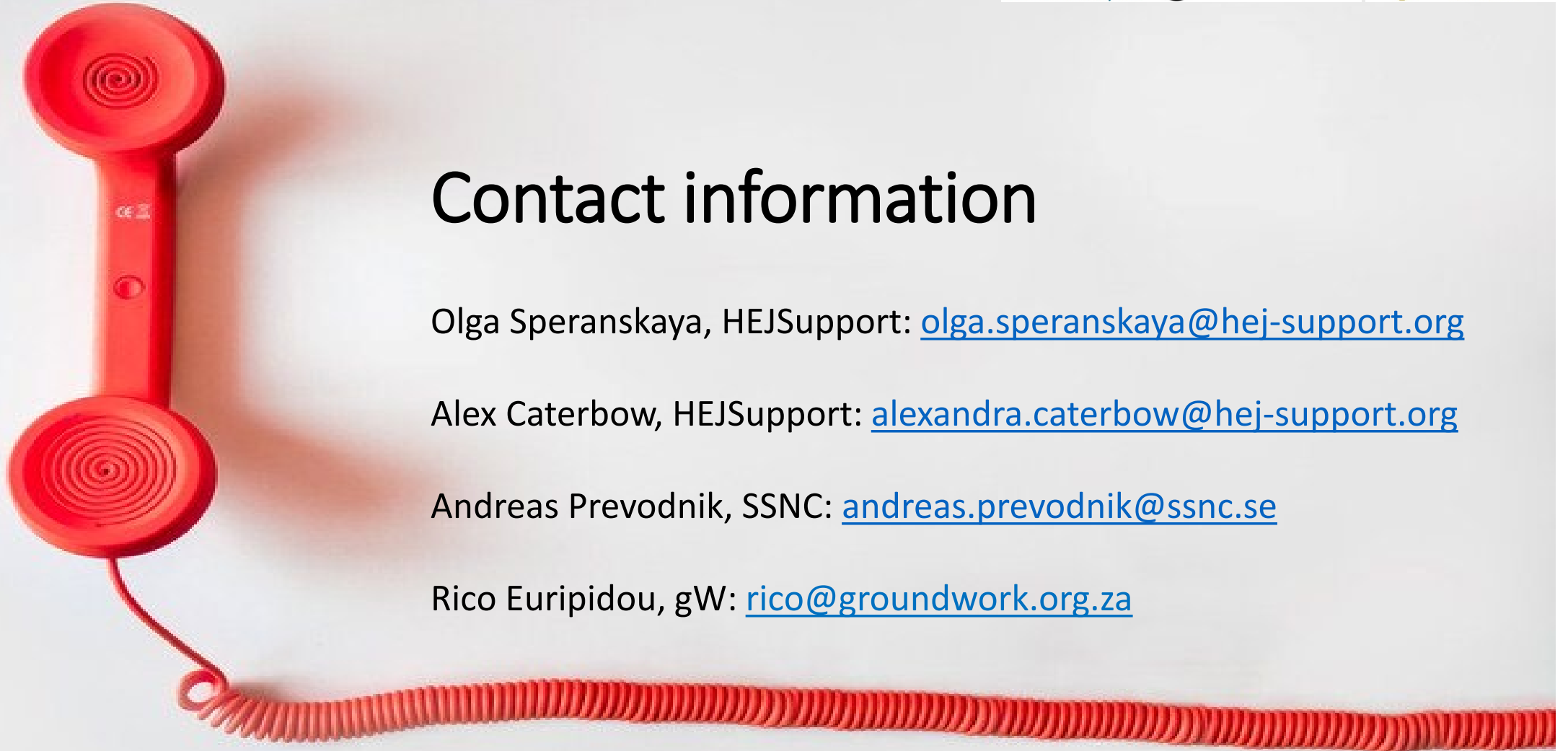
- There are up to 350,000 chemicals on the global market. Most of them have not been tested for their hazardous properties.
- Only limited number of chemicals is regulated in products.
- There are significant differences between the safety requirements for chemical substances in products, including toys between countries and regions.
- Chemical-by-chemical approach is applied in most existing regulations.
- Consumers, retailers, and recyclers are largely unaware about chemical content of products.
- Good initiatives are on the way. However, given the international nature of the product sector, including the supply chain stricter international requirements are needed to ensure that products are equally safe for everyone everywhere



# Options for discussion

- Standard based on chemical by chemical approach
- Standard based on chemical family approach
- One standard for all SVHC
- Options for disclosure:
  - Electronic labels;
  - Physical label
  - Reported to public database (similar to SCIP database) hosted by IOMC





# Contact information

Olga Speranskaya, HEJSupport: [olga.speranskaya@hej-support.org](mailto:olga.speranskaya@hej-support.org)

Alex Caterbow, HEJSupport: [alexandra.caterbow@hej-support.org](mailto:alexandra.caterbow@hej-support.org)

Andreas Prevodnik, SSNC: [andreas.prevodnik@ssnc.se](mailto:andreas.prevodnik@ssnc.se)

Rico Euripidou, gW: [rico@groundwork.org.za](mailto:rico@groundwork.org.za)



# Toxic Chemicals in Toys

Chemicals in products and the Right to Know

**Presented by Siddika Sultana**

Executive Director

Environmental and Social development Organization  
(ESDO)



# Table of Content

01 ESDO

02 SAICM



03 SAICM &  
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04 Chemicals of  
concern

05 Recommen-  
dation



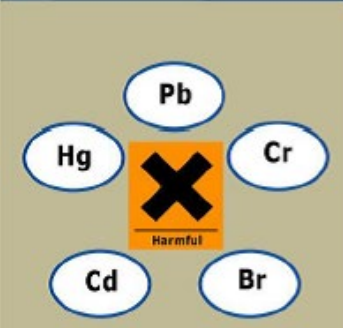






# Environment and Social Development Organization- ESDO

- is a non-profit and non-government organization based in **Bangladesh**
- working to spread the message about the need for **environmental conservation** to ensure the protection of biological diversity and ecological balance
- focused on generating knowledge amongst the wider community about how human activity can negatively impact on the environment of Bangladesh.
- ESDO strives to improve
  - the livelihoods,
  - the socio-economic status, and
  - simultaneously the environmental education of some of the most vulnerable communities in Bangladesh

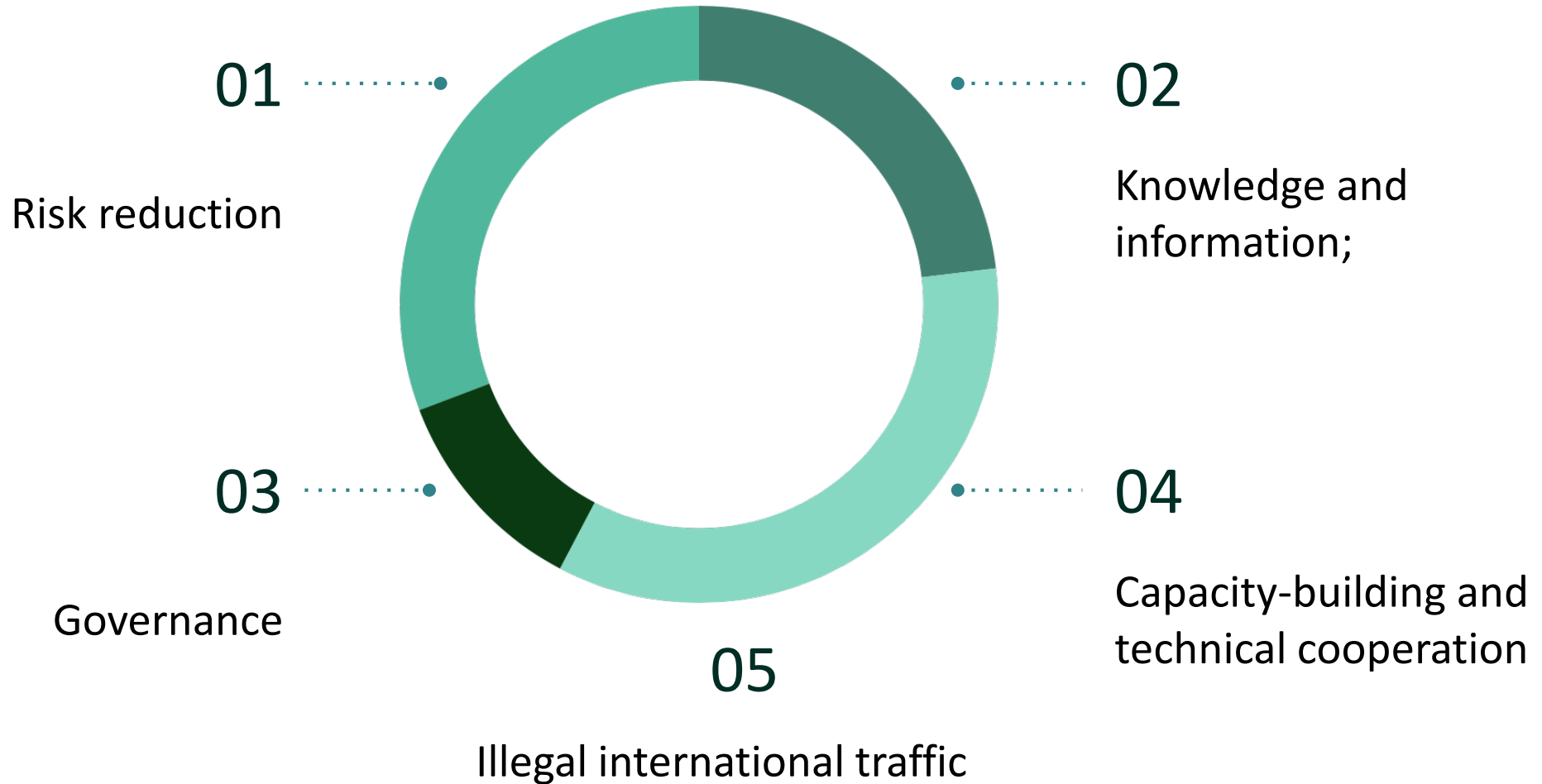
Study Report  
On  
**"TOXIC TOYS"**  
Heavy Metal Content & Public Perception in Bangladesh



Environment and Social  
Development Organization



# Main Objectives of SAICM



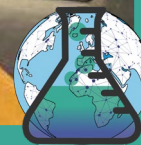
# ESDO & SAICM

- ESDO Successfully Intervened in 5th Asia-Pacific regional meeting on the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)
- Recently the 5th Asia-Pacific regional meeting on the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) is being held in Bangkok, Thailand from 23-25 January, 2018. ESDO took part in the meeting and successfully intervened on ES



LEAD IN SOLVENT-BASED  
PAINTS FOR HOME USE  
IN BANGLADESH

October 2021





# Chemicals of Concern

- ESDO conducted a study on toxic levels in toys. During this study, toys were collected from different stores of Dhaka city markets and sent for analysis to Nepal Bureau of Standard and Metrology (NBSM), Nepal. The selection was based on the country of origin, composition and color.
- Levels of toxic metals in **97%** toys tested were significantly above the EU and US recommended ceiling of lead, cadmium, bromine and chromium.
- The **plastic toys are the most contaminated** as “Toxic Toys” category and the **lead is the highest concentrated metal** in different category of toy.
- Many international brands like Barbie, and Lego toys also exposed by lead, cadmium and chromium. Local clay and wooden color toys found high concentration of lead and chromium.



# Chemicals of Concern

- The highest level of lead concentration was found as 8305.8 Parts Per Million (ppm) following cadmium 490.5 ppm, chromium 2502.2 ppm and bromine 3923 ppm. All these concentrations are of several times higher than the EU suggested limit.
- **75%** of the samples were contaminated with bromine following 62.5% with lead, 27.5% with chromium, 20% with cadmium and 0% with mercury.



# Chemicals of Concern

- **64% of the parents** don't have any idea whether the toys they buy are safe or not
- **88% of parents don't have any knowledge about the toxic metals in toys**
- 58% said that their children tend to seek oral motor or sensory input by putting toys in their mouth.
- Only **20% have noticed health problems of their child due to using or chewing of toys.**

Please Keep Their Toys & Paints Safe



Any Amount of Lead is Dangerous To Child Health

ESDO BAN LEAD PAINT IPEN free toxics free future

# Chemicals of Concern

- As per the study there is very low level of awareness of and understanding about toxics in toys among businesses and consumers in Bangladesh. Unfortunately, **no regulations nor policies on toy safety are currently in place in Bangladesh.**





# Chemicals of Concern

- Another study ESDO conducted with IPEN concluded that **lead content** in paint is higher than the recommended level and urged for a regulation in restricting lead content in paints
- ESDO committed to continue work for minimizing the toxic chemical use with a view to save the human health and environment.



# Recommendation

- **Manufacturers** should follow consumer protection regulations limiting the amount of toxic metals allowed in children's toys. Along with, cautionary message i.e. labeling should be used on the packet of toys.
- **Government** should formulate a strict policy to ban on the import, manufacture, sell of toy that contains excess heavy metals. Also governments should force manufacturers to provide all hazardous





International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week 2021

24<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> October'2021



# Recommendation

- **Consumers** should be aware of the toxic metals of toys and should read the labeling of the toys carefully before purchase.
- **Media** should create mass awareness about harmful effects of toxic metals in toys.
- **Third party testing** is required to support a certification of compliance to the rules for children's products that are manufactured after the effective dates listed with each rule.



Lets save Our  
Future  
together





**EEB**

European  
Environmental  
Bureau

# Chemicals in products and the right to know

**Elise Vitali, Policy Officer on Chemicals**

*23 November 2021*





# Who are we?

The EEB is **Europe's largest network of environmental citizens' organisations** – and the only one to work on such a broad range of issues.

We have over 40 years of EU environmental policy expertise.

Our 170 members from 35 countries have more than 30 million individual supporters.

## Our vision

A better future where people and nature thrive together.

## Our mission

We advocate for progressive policies to create a better environment in the European Union and beyond.





# The EU policy context

The European Green Deal, Circular Economy Action Plan, Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability, legislations on chemicals and on waste support these objectives:

- **Transparency:** the “Right to know” and access to information about hazardous substances
- The EU’s “**leadership**” for international advocacy
- **Reduction of exposure** to hazardous chemicals, **substitution**
- **Resource efficiency:** reduction, reuse, appropriate sorting, recycling





# Key developments

- **SCIP database is live** since September 2021
- The **Products passport's ambition**
- **AskREACH project**, that aims to make our “right to know” a reality with the Scan4Chem app





# Our demands at EU level

## A stepwise approach towards traceability

2020 Substances of very high concern

2025 Substances of concern

2030 Full material declarations

→ a broad definition of “substance of concern”

Additionally:

- **traceability and disclosure** of information
- enhanced **responsibility of producers** for the sustainability performance of their products along the lifecycle



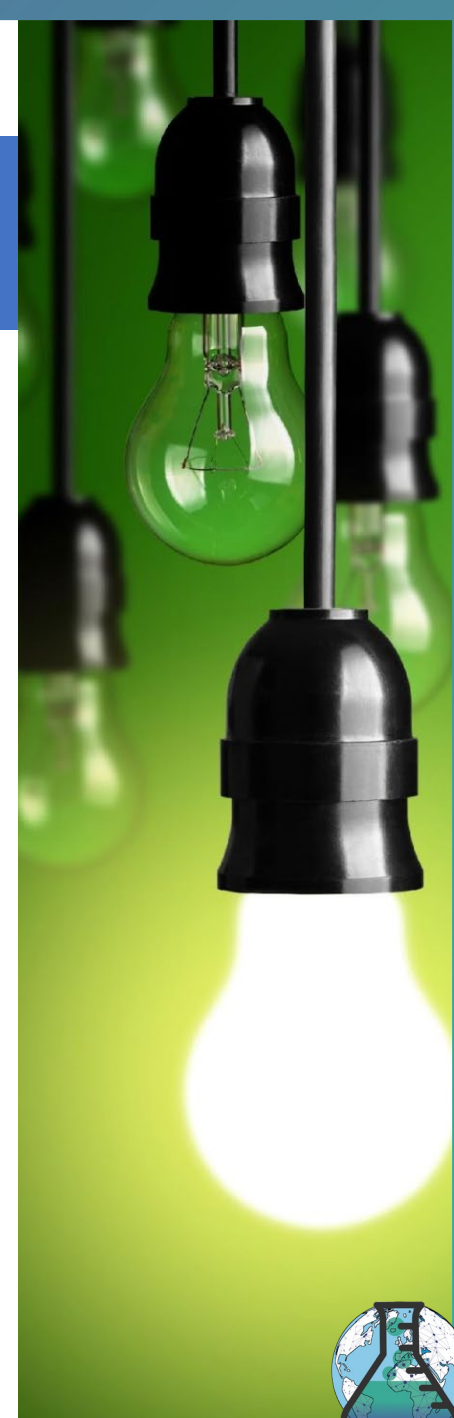


# How to get there?

1. **An obligation** to communicate information on chemicals in products
2. **A system** to collect and handle information
3. **Information available** throughout the life cycle of a product

What we gain from it:

**Right to know; better traceability, risk assessment and management; safe and sustainable products**





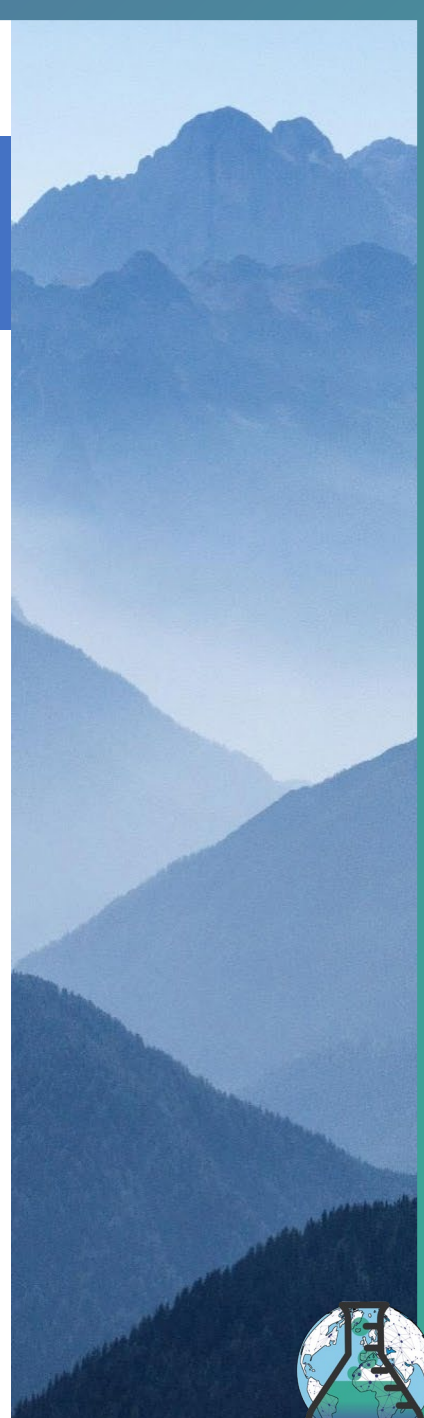
# EEB's calls

**On decision makers** to make transparency is happen, deliver green products and improve safety in the circular economy

**On companies** to support transparency, and take responsibility for chemicals in their products

*For further information:*

- [globalchemicaltransparency.org](http://globalchemicaltransparency.org)
- [\*Briefing: NGOs demand full disclosure of information on chemicals in products, 2017\*](#)






**EEB** European  
Environmental  
Bureau

**eeb.org**

**Thanks for listening!**

**Keep in touch**

 [elise.vitali@eeb.org](mailto:elise.vitali@eeb.org)

 [@Green\\_Europe](https://twitter.com/Green_Europe)

 [@EuropeanEnvironmentalBureau](https://www.facebook.com/EuropeanEnvironmentalBureau)

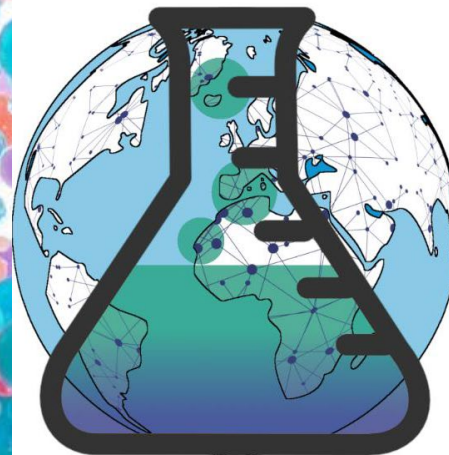


*The EEB gratefully acknowledges the financial support from the LIFE Programme of the European Union. This communication reflects the organizers' views and does not commit the donor.*



Lessons learned from the  
Minamata Convention about  
Chemicals in Products for  
SAICM Beyond 2020

Yuyun Ismawati Drwiega  
[yuyun@nexus3foundation.org](mailto:yuyun@nexus3foundation.org)



22nd-26th November 2021

**International Civil Society Conference  
on Chemicals Management**

**Tomorrow  
without Toxics**



# Brief bio

Bachelor degree in Engineering,  
Environmental Engineering  
Department, ITB, 1990

MSc in Environmental Change and  
Management, University of Oxford,  
2011

Goldman Environmental Prize 2009

Ashoka Fellow 2002

LEAD Fellow 2001



BALIFOKUS



Nexus for Health,  
Environment, and  
Development



- BaliFokus established in 14 June 2000
- 2019 rebranding as Nexus for Health, Environment, and Development (Nexus3)
- Working to safeguard the vulnerable population from the impact of development to their health and environment, in collaboration with all stakeholders towards a just, toxic-free and sustainable future



Aliansi  
Zero Waste  
Indonesia



for a toxics-free future



#break  
free  
from  
plastic



NGO  
SHIPBREAKING  
PLATFORM

Koalisi  
**IBUKOT**  
A



# Outline

- About Minamata Convention on mercury
- Mercury in products
- Impacts caused by mercury in consumer products
- Similarities vs differences approach
- Closing



# Multi-lateral Environmental Agreements on Chemicals and Wastes

- Since 1987, a number of multilateral treaties have established rights and obligations as well as goals and targets for different aspects of the sound management of chemicals and wastes.
- They serve to identify and address chemicals and wastes of the highest concern at the global level.
- Legally binding actions to control the use of specific chemicals:
  - the Minamata Convention on Mercury,
  - the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants
  - the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.
- The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal aims to protect human health and the environment from the adverse effects of hazardous wastes and other wastes
- The Rotterdam Convention address the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides

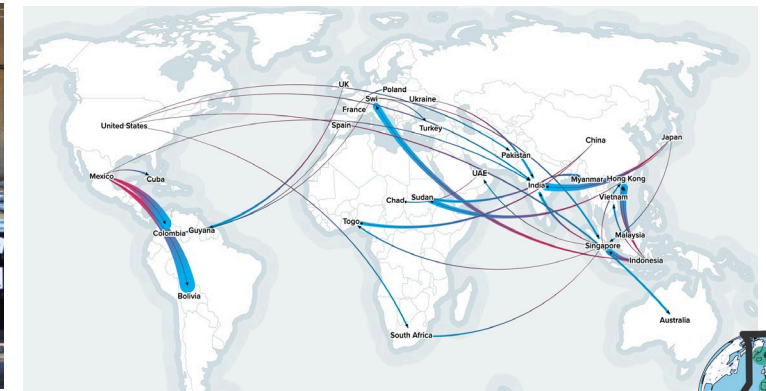




# Minamata Convention on Mercury



- Long-range transfer, bio-accumulate, bio-magnify
- Adopted by 128 countries in 10 Oct 2013 in Kumamoto
- Entered into force 16 Aug 2017
- As of 30 Oct 2021: ratified by 135 countries



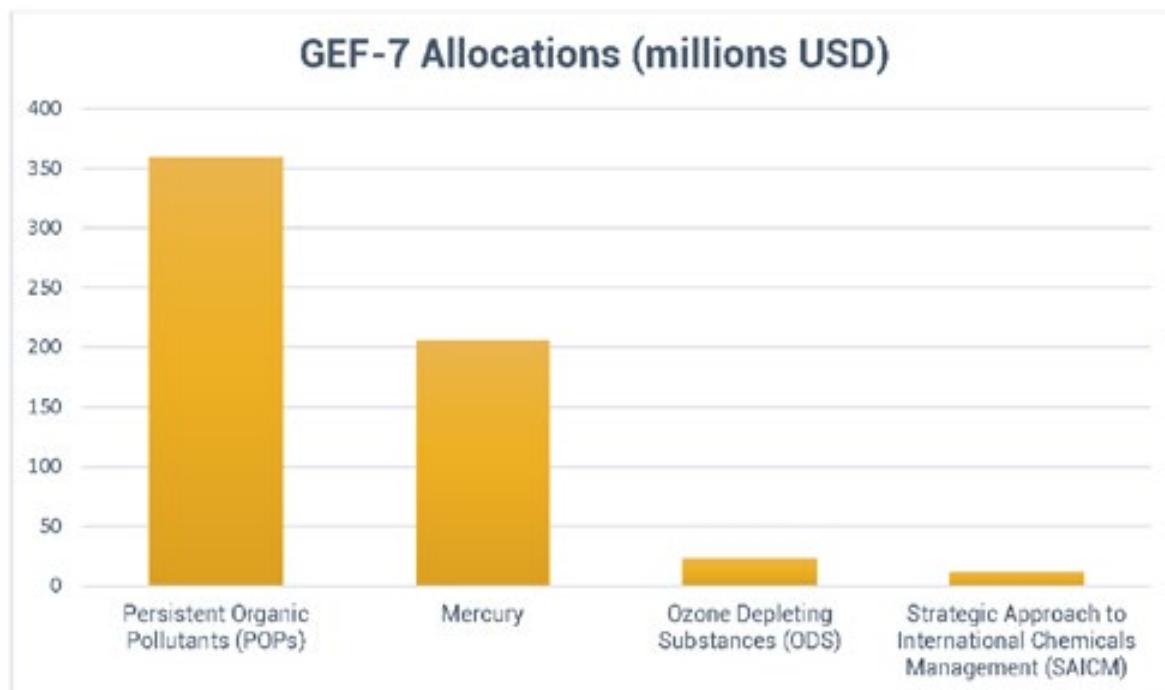
# Key elements of the convention

- Reducing the global supply and trade of mercury
- Phasing out mercury added products
- Phasing out mercury from manufacturing processes
- Reducing mercury use in small scale gold mining
- Controlling mercury emissions and releases from industry
- Safely storing mercury
- Managing mercury waste
- Addressing mercury contaminated sites



# Enabling system: Financial support

Portfolio distribution by resources to GEF-7 focal areas



**\$206**  
million

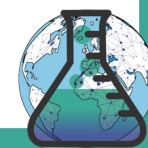
GEF mercury investment, for 2018-2022, allotted to phase out, reduce and eliminate mercury

**\$112**  
million

approved by GEF for mercury projects so far

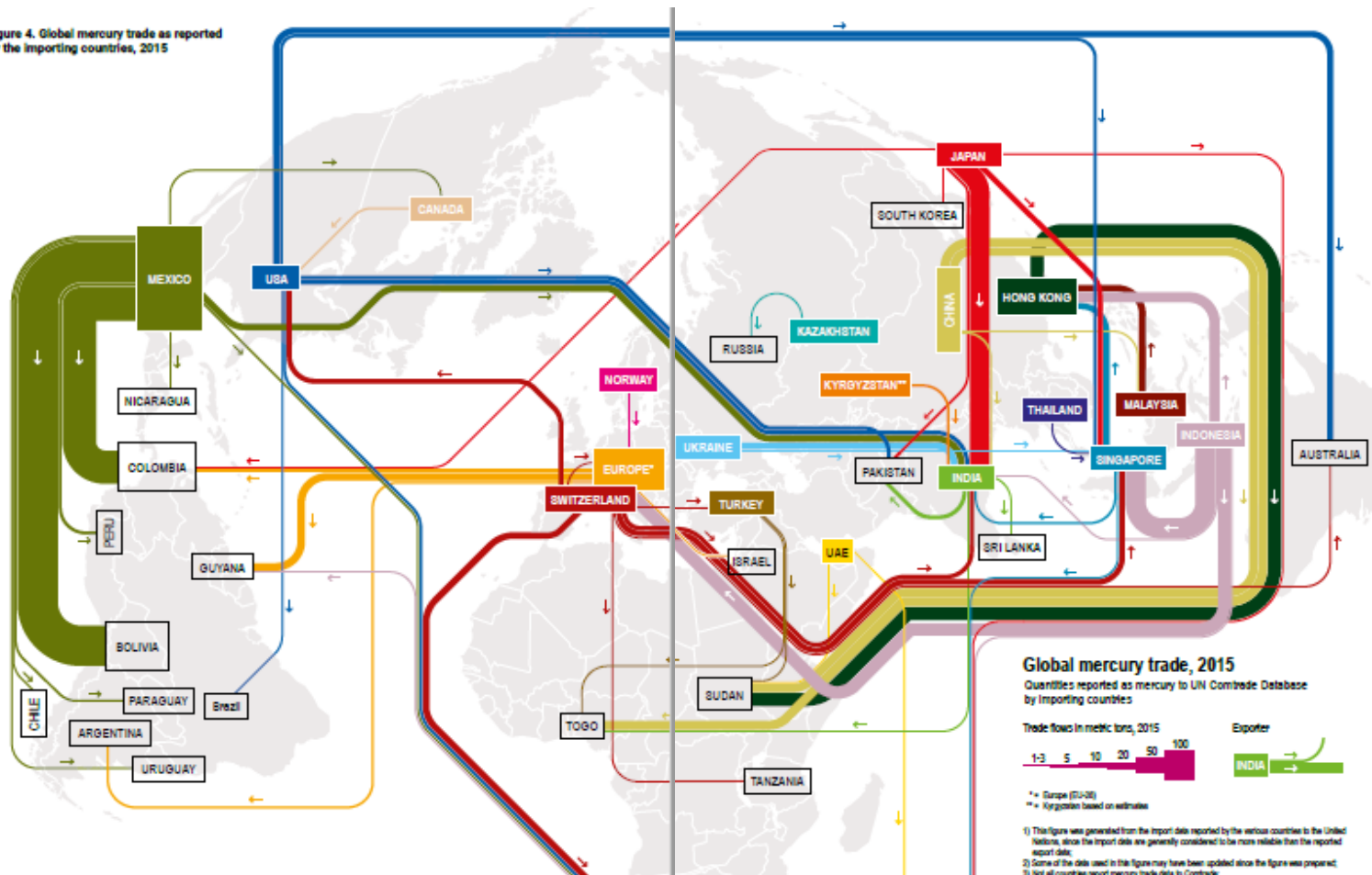
**\$5.6**  
million

contributed to the Specific International Programme so far



# Article 3 - Mercury supply sources and trade

Figure 4. Global mercury trade as reported by the importing countries, 2015

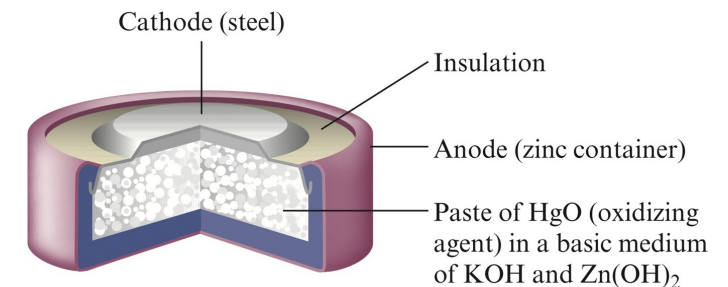


- Restricts the primary mining of mercury. All primary mining to end after 15 years after entry in force for a party. No new mines.
- Mercury from primary mining only for use in products and processes—not ASGM
- Requires inventory of national stocks
- Chlor-alkali mercury reserves post closure or conversion must be retired.
- Does not require import or export bans.
- Does not prohibit trade in most mercury as a commodity.
- Does not prevent trade in mercury for ‘allowable uses’.
- ASGM remains an allowable use.



# Article 4 - Mercury added products

- Established phase out date of 2020 for production, export and import of a wide range of mercury added products.
- Limits the mercury content of some products such as CFLs and batteries.
- Lists a 'phase-down' procedure for the use of mercury in dental amalgam. This does not oblige parties to stop using dental amalgam but provides a list of reduction measures and alternative practices.
- Exemptions: for research, cultural use,



# Annex A of Hg Convention

## Mercury-added products

The following products are excluded from this Annex:

- (a) Products essential for civil protection and military uses;
- (b) Products for research, calibration of instrumentation, for use as reference standard;
- (c) Where no feasible mercury-free alternative for replacement is available, switches and relays, cold cathode fluorescent lamps and external electrode fluorescent lamps (CCFL and EEFL) for electronic displays, and measuring devices;
- (d) Products used in traditional or religious practices; and
- (e) Vaccines containing thiomersal as preservatives.



# Loophole: no regulation for mercury use as satellite thrusters

2000 satellites in 2019, 4500 satellites in 2025

Mercury is cheap compare to Xenon and Krypton

**\$60/kg vs \$1700/kg vs \$400/kg**

Deposited in the north and south within 6-7 years

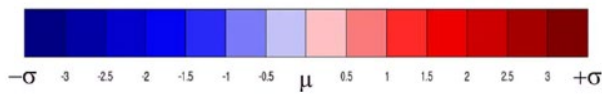
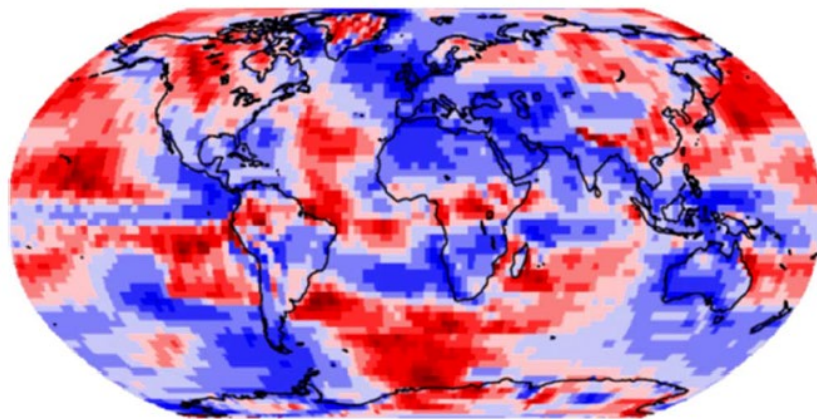
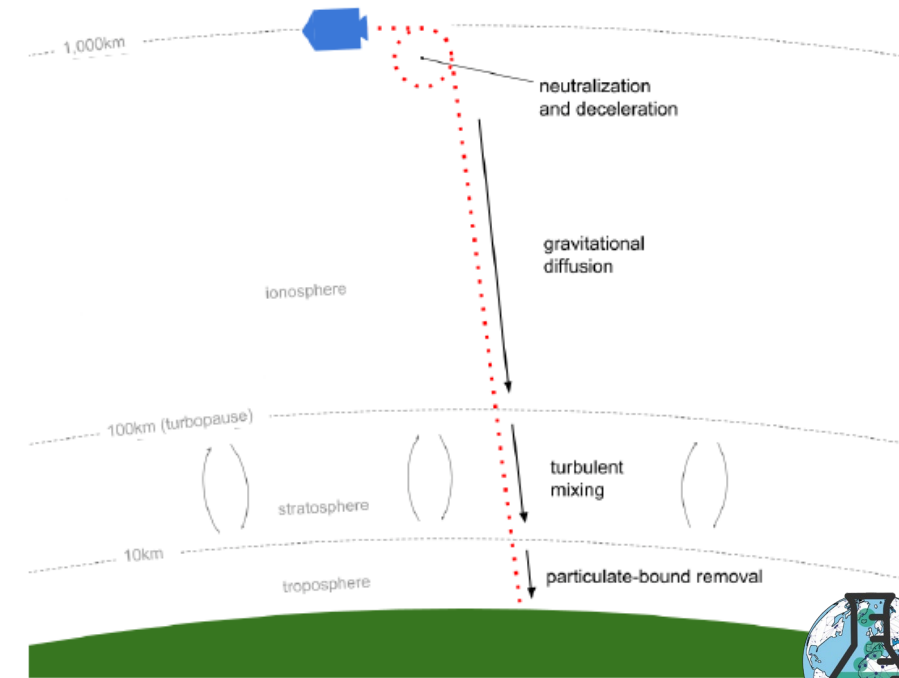
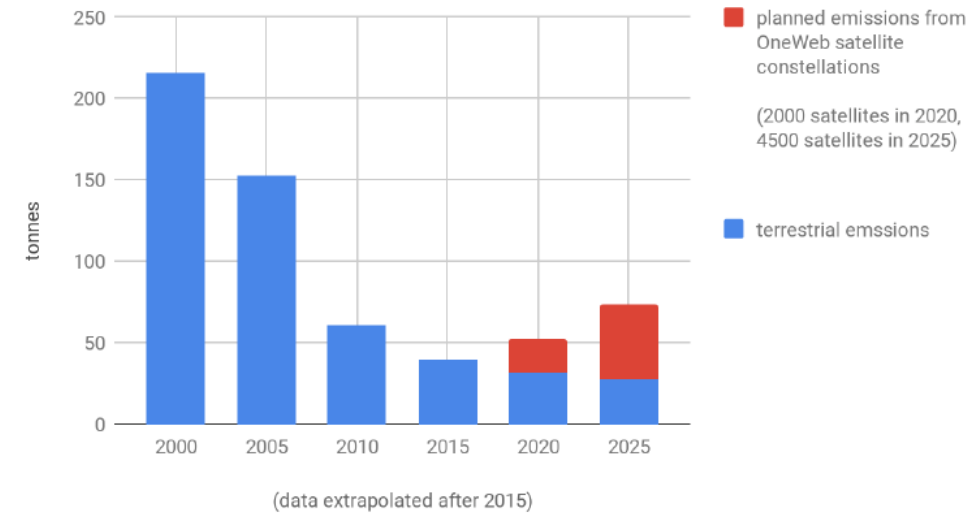


Figure 3. Geographical distribution of annual mercury deposition from satellite emissions ( $20 \text{ Mg yr}^{-1}$ ) shown as the probability density function obtained from the ensemble of simulations. Deposition is illustrated in terms of the average ( $\mu = 0.03 \mu\text{g m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ ) and standard deviation ( $\sigma = 0.02 \mu\text{g m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ ) of the ensemble.

annual anthropogenic mercury emissions from N. America



# Impact of mercury in products

## To human health

- Acute vs chronic
- Latency period
- Adverse effects in vulnerable groups: babies, children, indigenous peoples, diffable
- IQ lost

## To the environment

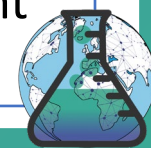
- Remains in the environment >500 years
- Food chains
- From production process
- From disposal of products with Hg





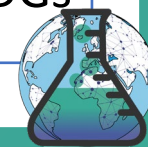
# Differences of Hg Convention and SAICM approach to CoC in products

Aspects	Minamata Convention	SAICM Beyond 2020
Characteristics of CoCs	Bio-accumulate, bio-magnify, long range transfer	Some of CoCs not bio-accumulate, not bio-magnify, not travel far
Legal status	Legally binding	Non-legally binding
Victims	United, compensations, litigations	United, varied depending on the CoCs and CiPs
Import/export of chemicals	Export ban, precursor (cinnabar) mining prohibited	Double standard, no export ban
Product development	No new products containing Hg	New products with CoCs are raising
National Action Plans	Guidance available, implemented, reported	No National Action Plans
Enabling system	GEF, donor countries	GEF, donor countries
Monitoring parameters	Global standard, fix indicators	Different standards for different CiPs, indicators varies



# Similarities of Hg Convention and SAICM approach to CoCs in products

Aspects	Minamata Convention	SAICM Beyond 2020
Characteristics of CoCs	Adverse effects, EDCs	Adverse effects, EDCs
Import/export of chemicals	Regulated	Regulated
Production, use, sale	Sunset date 2020	Sunset date available
Sector/industry	Health, electronics, pesticides	Health, electronics, pesticides
Safer alternatives	Available, enforced	Available
Harmful chemicals known since	1950s	1950s
Monitoring	Environmental matrices, biomarkers	Environmental matrices, biomarkers
National laws/regulations	Available	Available
Enabling system	GEF, donor countries	GEF, donor countries
Interlinkages with other MEAs	Basel Convention, Rotterdam Convention, SDGs	Rotterdam Convention, ICCMs, SDGs



# Lessons learned from Minamata

- (1) Take actions on symptoms
- (2) Identify the source of pollution
- (3) Investigate impact on health
- (4) Polluters should be responsible and pay compensation
- (5) Raise public awareness
- (6) Clean up mercury contaminated sites as soon as possible
- (7) Monitor the environment and biomarkers and make it public





# Thank you for listening

[yuyun@nexus3foundation.org](mailto:yuyun@nexus3foundation.org)



## Honouring Minamata

