



# Welcome to the IOMC Webinar #7

## Regional consultations on GFC Implementation Programmes: Asia-Pacific region

Proposals for the First International Conference (IC-1)



Proposals for the First International Conference (IC-1)

# Regional consultations on GFC Implementation Programmes: Asia-Pacific region

## WEBINAR AGENDA (CEST)

- Welcome and introduction: onward to the first International Conference (IC-1)
- Overview of the Implementation Programmes (IPs) and cross-cutting work
- Strengthening Legal Frameworks and Institutional Capacities for Chemicals Management (“IP1”)
- Strengthening Economic and Industry Sector Engagement and Action for the Sound Management of Chemicals along Value Chains (“IP2”)
- Integrating Chemicals and Waste Issues in Sustainable Development Decision-making
- Reflections from the World of Work
- Summary of discussion and next steps
- Close of webinar

## Speakers

- Hilda Van der Veen, IOMC Chair (UNDP)
- Kay Williams, GFC Secretariat
- Bob Diderich, OECD
- Achim Halpaap, Senior Advisor, IOMC
- Oliver Wootton, UNITAR
- Halshka Graczyk, ILO
- Jorge Ocaña, UNITAR

# Questions and Answers



## FEEDBACK:

- Raise your hand to use the mic  
or
- Write on the chat
- **-Include Name and Organization-**
- You can also send in your questions  
and comments to [iomc@unitar.org](mailto:iomc@unitar.org)



"The IOMC vision is to shape a sustainable future through coordinated global action to achieve the sound lifecycle management of chemicals and waste for healthy lives and the environment."

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IOMC Webinar "Regional consultations on GFC Implementation Programmes: Proposals for IC-1"





# THE GLOBAL FRAMEWORK ON CHEMICALS

*For a planet free of harm from chemicals and waste*



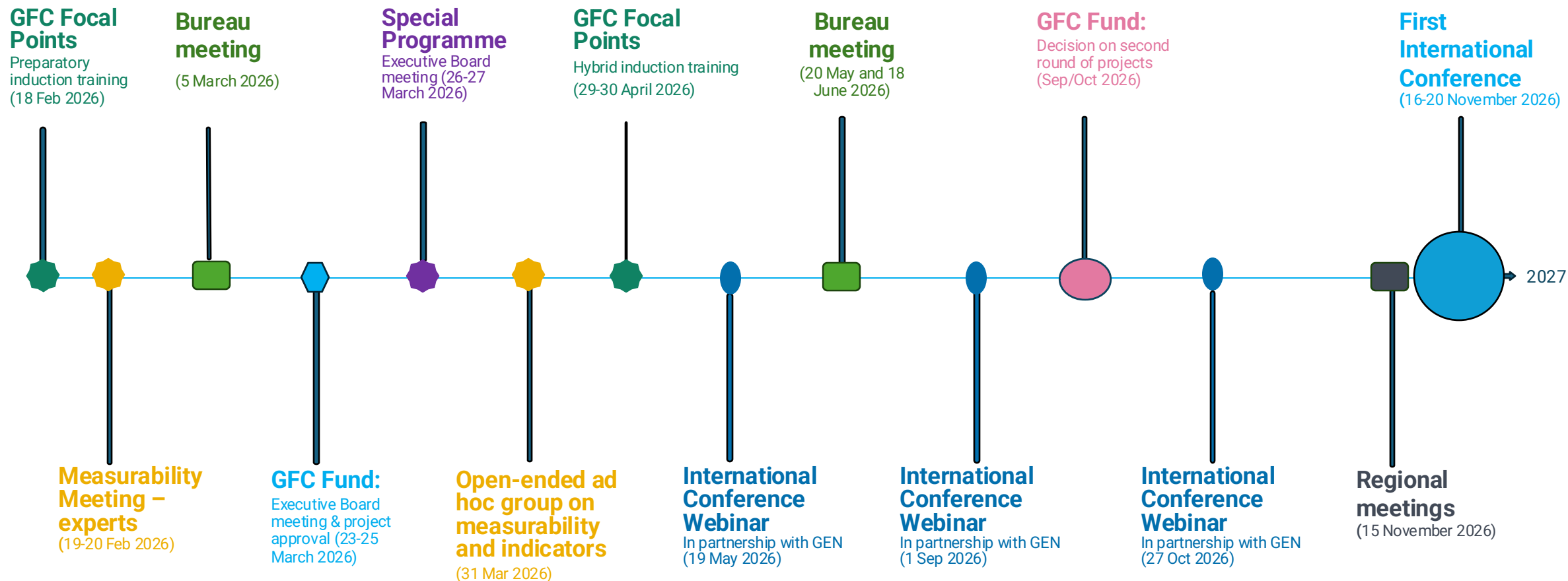
**KAY WILLIAMS**

Head of the Global Framework  
on Chemicals Secretariat

1 April 2026



# The Global Framework on Chemicals in 2026



# The Global Framework on Chemicals Fund

Investing for a planet free of harm from chemicals and waste

“...supporting countries to put the Framework into action since

The Fund established as part of the Global Framework on Chemicals at ICCM5.

September 2023

Four regional projects have been approved, supporting eleven countries across Latin America and Africa.

May 2025

Launched the first round of applications with a deadline of 31 January 2025.

October 2024

Launched the second round of applications with a concept note deadline of 15 December 2025.

September 2025

Decision on second round of projects

September /October 2026

The Global Framework on Chemicals - first International Conference

November 2026



# First International Conference Global Framework on Chemicals



Tracking  
progress



Accelerating  
action



Investing for  
impact

16–20 November 2026 | Geneva, Switzerland



# The Global Framework on Chemicals - first International Conference



## Date

16 -20 November 2026\*



## Location

Geneva International Conference Center, Geneva, Switzerland



## Desired outcomes

- (i) Adopt indicators and track progress
- (ii) Identify and accelerate actions
- (iii) Increase investment



## Audienc

Governments, industry, companies, and non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations including high-level segment



# Desired outcomes | The first International Conference



## Desired outcomes

01

### Adopt indicators and track progress

We will adopt the indicators under measurability framework; take stock through existing IOMC indicators; collate information through stakeholder reporting and mining data; agree on high level indicators of health and environmental burden; and provide an analysis for each target.

02

### Identify and accelerate actions

We will identify where action is needed; agree on new and existing issues of concern; showcase front runner businesses; share best practices; integrate occupational health and safety; advance international standards; re-energize political commitments; build collaborations and promote youth initiatives.

03

### Increase Investment

We will agree on core Implementation programmes including their ToRs and workplans across textiles, electronics, building and construction, health care services, and labour sectors. We will invest in focal points and alliances, secure investors; increase pledges and commitments; and scale up finance.

# Framework Implementation Programmes

Programmes under development in partnership with Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals – how do we integrate them into the IC?



## Global implementation programmes



Legal frameworks and institutional capacities for chemicals management



Economic and industry sector engagement and action for the safe and sustainable chemicals management



## Sector programmes



Electronics



Textiles



Healthcare



Building and construction

# Data from 2026 GFC Baseline Survey

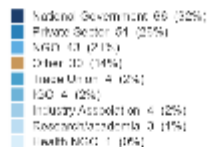
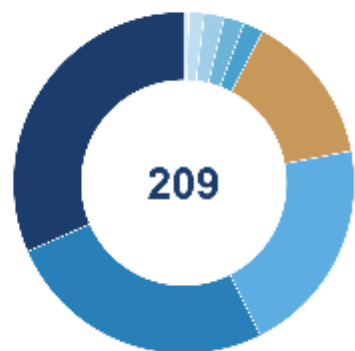
Two tracks define how indicator data is owned, processed, and validated

## SURVEY WINDOW

11 Mar → 24 Apr 2026

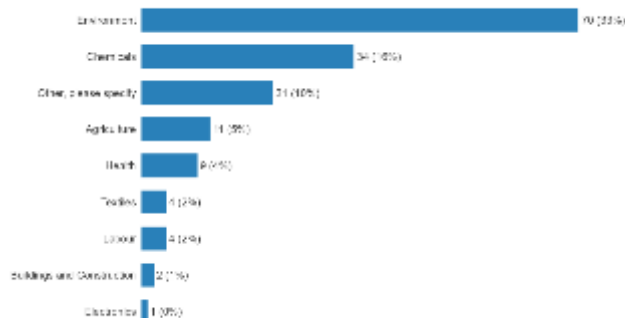
### Respondents by organization type

National governments and private sector together account for 97% of responses



### Respondents by primary sector / industry

Enhanced list of 20% reduced by overlaps and some unsorted orders



\* If responses are included that fall under multiple categories, they are listed in the first category.

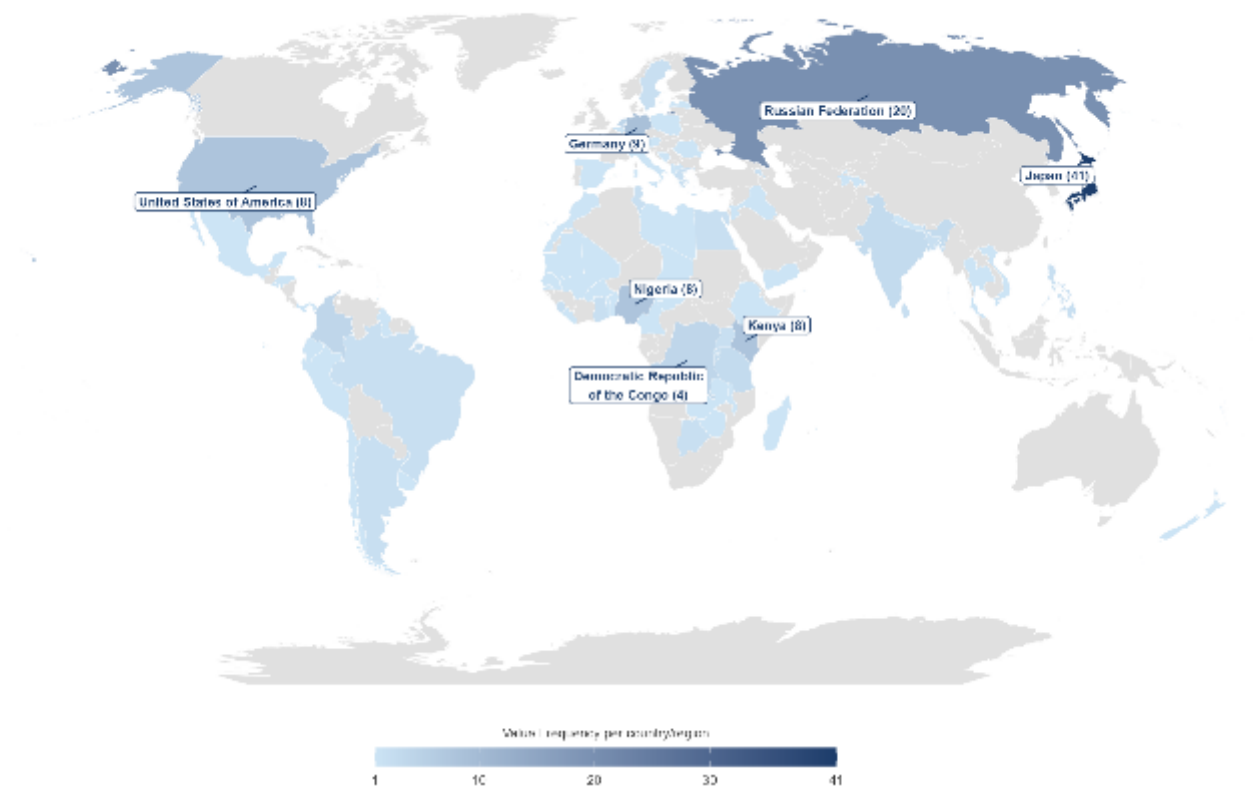
## INDICATORS COVERED

29 indicators

New data source and / or complement to existing ones

## Respondents by country \*

86 countries represented — strongest engagement in Japan and Russian



# The Global Framework on Chemicals - first International Conference

## Why this conference matters

Chemicals and waste pollution continues to pose growing risks to human health, ecosystems, and economic development worldwide.

Three years after the adoption of the Global Framework on Chemicals, the First International conference provides a critical moment to take stock of progress, identify gaps, and mobilize action and investment for a planet free of harm from chemicals and waste.

## Why you should engage in the conference

- ✓ Shape the global agenda on safe and sustainable management of chemicals and waste
- ✓ Demonstrate your leadership and showcase innovation in your area of expertise
- ✓ Build cross-sectoral and global partnerships
- ✓ Align action and investment for a planet free of harm from chemicals and waste
- ✓ Lay the foundations for future regulations

## How you can get involved

- ✓ Explore partnership opportunities
- ✓ Sign up for updates
- ✓ Spread the word

Contact us: [unep-gfc.secretariat@un.org](mailto:unep-gfc.secretariat@un.org)



*Thank You*

We are grateful for all our donors and partners supporting this important global agenda.



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**Thank you for your commitment in creating a planet free of harm from chemicals and waste.**

**Contact us at:** [unep-gfc.secretariat@un.org](mailto:unep-gfc.secretariat@un.org)

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## Regional Consultations on GFC Implementation Programmes

*5-7 May 2026*

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*4. Overview of the Implementation  
Programmes (IPs) and cross-cutting work*



# GFC text on implementation programmes (para. 24)

- **The International Conference may adopt programmes** to support the implementation of the Framework to achieve its “Strategic objectives and targets”
- Programmes should have their **own focus and engage relevant sectors and stakeholders**
- Programmes could **include actions that stakeholders intend to initiate** or contribute to meet the relevant targets
- **Programmes should have mandates, terms of reference, workplans** and/or other mechanisms
- Participation in Programmes **open to all relevant stakeholders and sectors**
- The International Conference may establish **ad hoc working groups** to provide guidance and mobilize engagement.

# Resolution V/8: Areas of work for Implementation Programmes to be considered

- Developing integrated **national chemicals and waste management systems and capacities** at the national and regional levels (“IP1”) \*
- Integrating sound chemicals and waste management in **economic and industrial sectors along value chains** (“IP2”) \*
- Integrating sound chemicals and waste management in **sustainable development decision-making processes**, as appropriate \*\*
- Addressing issues of concern, as appropriate.\*\*\*

\* The IOMC has initiated the **development of IPs on these topics**.

\*\* The IOMC has done preparatory work but **encourages other GFC stakeholders to take the lead**.

\*\*\* The IOMC proposes to **integrate this topic in other IPs**.



# Benefits and Value Added for GFC stakeholders to engage in IPs (for discussion)

1. Gain recognition for GFC implementation through **knowledge sharing** that highlights GFC stakeholder initiatives and action.
2. Provide opportunities to identify and share **implementation challenges and needs** through structured self-assessment and benchmarking.
3. Acquire insights into opportunities to **access capacity development support and financial resources**.
4. Engage in **peer exchanges** to strengthen analysis, knowledge sharing, and practical learning.
5. Help **shape aligned or harmonized approaches** on specific topics to optimize resource use and co-create enabling policies.

# Work Done to Date on IPs in a Nutshell

- Revised Draft TOR and Workplan for IP 1 based on OEWG input
- Draft TOR developed for IP 2 and workplan under development based on OEWG input
- Draft building blocks developed for IPs 1 and 2, and self assessment tools under development
- IP 2 comprises four Industry Sector Programme: Textiles, Electronics, Health Care Industry, and Building and Construction
- Seven thematic workstreams identified under IP 2 (also of relevance to IP1)
- Multi-stakeholder groups established for all four Industry Programmes and Thematic Workstreams
- Informal multi-stakeholder reflection group established to receive advice on the ToRs and guidance documents



# Common themes: Identified in IP 2 but also relevant to IP 1

- Occupational health and labour
- Transparency, traceability, and disclosure along value chains
- Priority chemicals of concern
- Chemical footprint approaches
- Green and sustainable chemistry innovation
- Reporting standards and frameworks
- Private sector financing and investment



# Global Project to Support IP Implementation

- Guiding principle: all global activities should be directly relevant for supporting stakeholder action and capacity development to implement the GFC.
- Two project “phases”:
  1. “Early implementation activities” before IC-1 (mainly in 2026)
  2. “Scaling up” after IC-1 (in 2027 and 2028).
- Focus of period prior to IC1 in 2026:
  - taking stock of, compiling, and sharing knowledge on relevant stakeholder initiatives and practice (“landscape analysis”). Valuable information to support capacity development
  - Development and pilot testing of guidance and self assessment tools



# Effective IP Governance: Further Considerations

- Feedback from OEWG: light structure, multi-stakeholder engagement, and oversight important.
- Proposal to establish one Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group (MSAG) for all IPs which reports to the International Conference working closely with the Bureau.
- Ensures that linkages and synergies across Programmes are discussed.
- To support technical input intersessionally, *Ad hoc working groups* could be established for IP 1 and for each Industry Sector Programme under IP 2.
- Existing multi-stakeholder groups on cross-cutting workstreams could become *Ad hoc working groups* (some topics could be grouped).

# Regional consultations on GFC Implementation Programmes

5-7 May 2026

## *3. Strengthening Legal Frameworks and Institutional Capacities for Chemicals Management (“IP1”)*



# Proposed Programme 1: Strengthening Legal Frameworks and Institutional Capacities for Chemicals Management

- Draft Terms of Reference (TOR) and workplan to be proposed for adoption at first International Conference (IC-1, Nov. 2026)
- Supporting webinars (Nov. 2025, March 2025) and global workshop (June 2025) for stakeholder consultation

## Other supporting materials/tools

- draft resource document *“Building Blocks of a National Chemicals Management System: A Framework for Developing Legislation and National Systems for the Sound Management of Chemicals”*
  - pilot testing in Latin America (complete) and Asia (exp. Oct. 2026)
- draft resource document on *“Innovative legislative elements/solutions to promote effective management of chemicals”*
- development of a chemical legislation country self-assessment and benchmarking tool (*planned*)
- provide technical support to interested countries in developing project proposals



# Actions falling under the Programme

- Development, adoption, or revision of legislation or standards, e.g. to implement classification and labelling in accordance with the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS).
- Establishment or enhancement of legal and institutional mechanisms to generate information, assess and manage the risks of chemicals throughout their life cycle.
- Establishment or reinforcement of institutional capacity to manage chemicals, including national coordinating mechanisms or designated authorities.
- Development or refinement of legal or policy frameworks to advance chemical safety, sustainable innovation and risk reduction along value chains.
- Establishment or enhancement of sustainable financing mechanisms to support national legislation and institutional capacities, including cost-recovery approaches where appropriate.

# Workplan

Activity / Deliverable	Milestone	Indicator of Progress	Lead / Partners	Timeline
Building Blocks of a National Chemicals Management System: A Framework for Developing Legislation and National Systems for the Sound Management of Chemicals	Publication of document	Number of downloads	IOMC	2026
Update and maintenance of the IOMC Toolbox for Decision-Making in Chemicals Management	Update of existing modules, inclusion of new modules (as outlined in the roadmap for the sound management of chemicals)	Number of new or updated modules; number of visitors to the IOMC Toolbox	IOMC	2027-2029
Self-assessment by countries on chemical legislation	Online self-assessment tool developed and piloted	Availability of tool	IOMC/GFC Secretariat	2026
	Completion of self-assessment by countries	Number of countries completing the self-assessment	Countries	2027-2029
National Chemical Legislation Action Plans	Adoption of national action plans for addressing the national priorities identified in the self-assessments	Number of countries adopting an action plan	Countries	2027-2029
Capacity building	Workshops addressing recurrent gaps identified in National Action Plans	Number of workshops; number of attendees	IOMC/Countries & other stakeholders	2027-2029
	Targeted national workshops addressing national needs	Number of workshops; number of attendees	IOMC/countries & other stakeholders	2027-2029
Lessons learned	National case studies on how national gaps were addressed	Number of case studies published in the IOMC Toolbox	Countries	2027-2029

# The building blocks framework

A non-binding, flexible strategic blueprint to help countries design enforceable national chemicals management systems aligned with the GFC.

## Crucial Context:

This is not a rigid, one-size-fits-all legal template. It is a modular toolkit designed specifically for countries operating with constrained resources, fragmented mandates, and varying starting points.



## Prevention & Early Risk Reduction

Prioritize action at the source to prevent irreversible harm.



## Flexibility & Adaptability

Adapt modules to national legal traditions and economic realities.



## Non-Linear Progression

Address urgent risks first; do not wait for sequential completion.



## Proportionality & Cost-Effectiveness

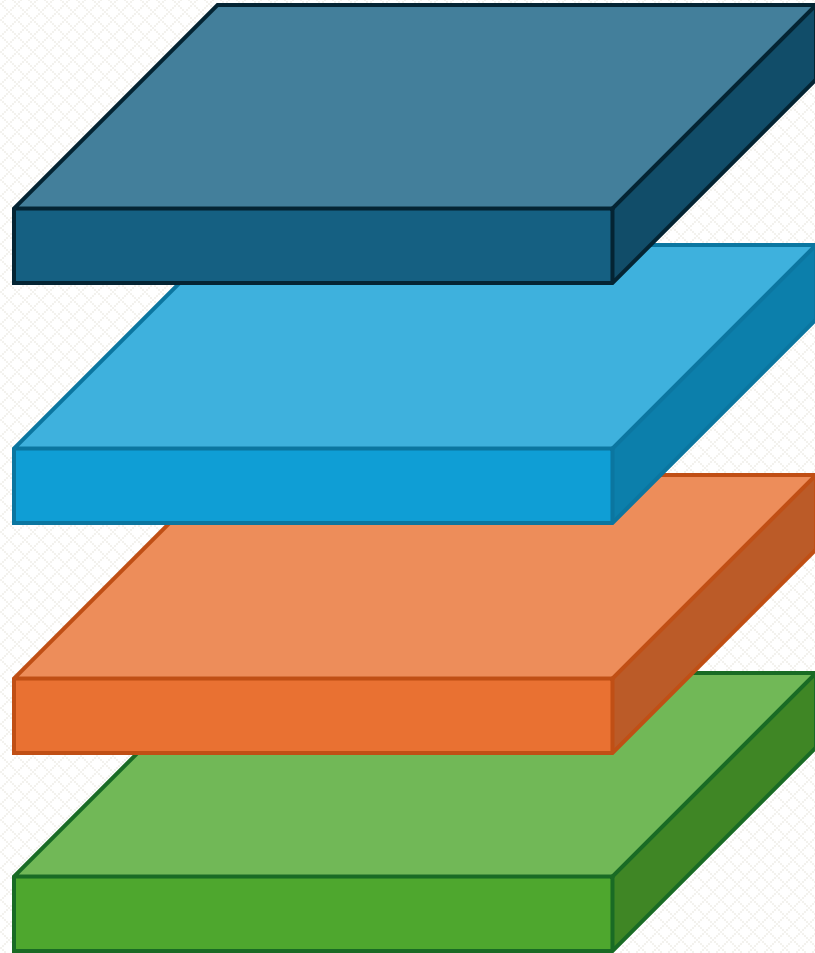
Align regulatory ambition with actual risk and available capacity.



## Integrated Governance

Unify health, environment, labor, and trade under shared objectives.

# The macro-architecture: four functional Building Blocks



- **Governance and enabling conditions**

Establish durable institutional and systemic foundations.

- **Information and transparency**

Enable reliable and internationally accepted information and studies for regulatory use.

- **Risk management and control**

Reduce and control risks to health and environment

- **Prevention and market transformation**

Avoid risks and drive systemic change

# The modular matrix: 17 interlocking capacities

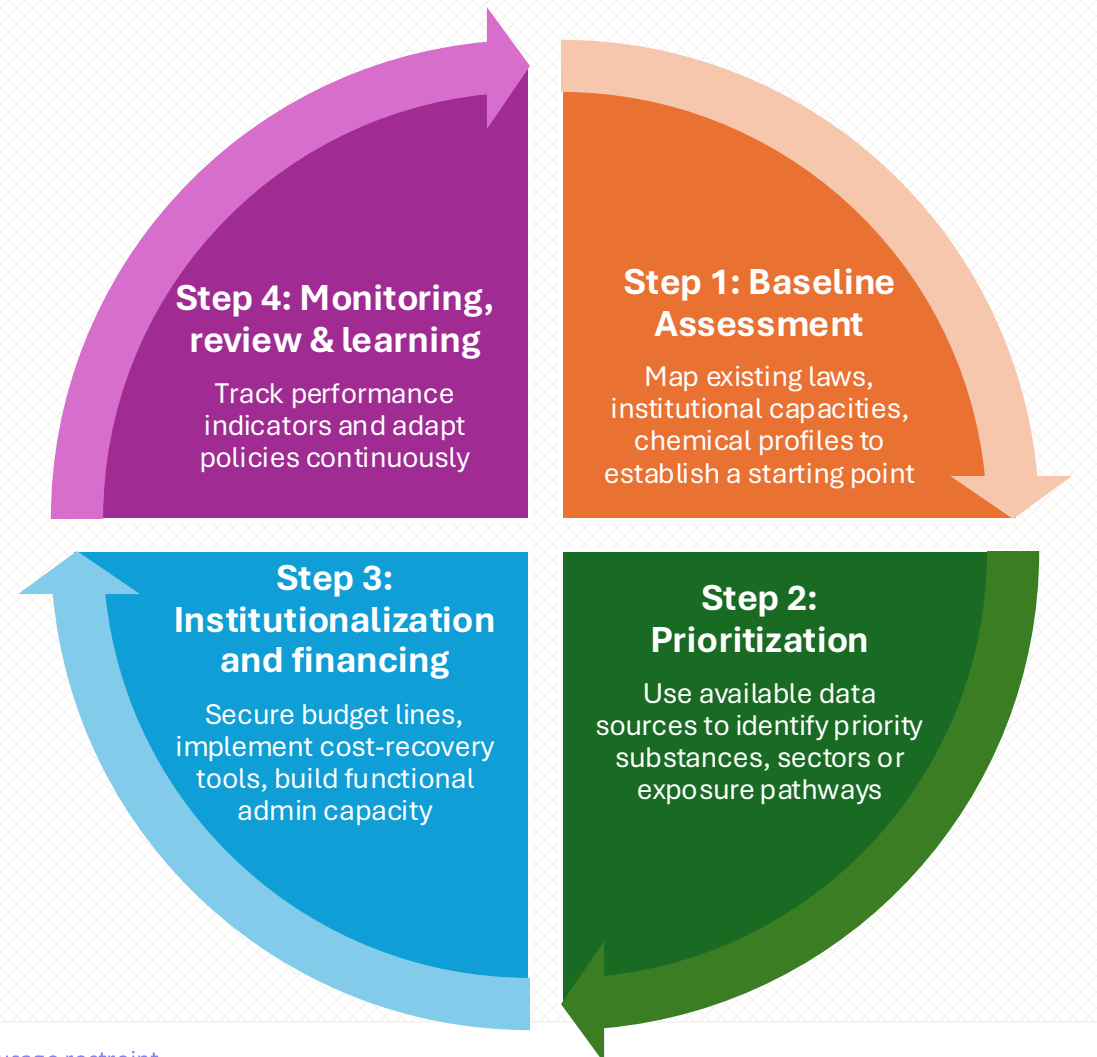
Building Block 1 – Governance & Enabling Conditions	Building Block 2 – Information & Transparency	Building Block 3 – Risk management & Control	Building Block 4 – Legacy management & Market Transformation
1.1 Framework legislation/policy and institutional setup	2.1 Hazard classification and labelling: The GHS	3.1 Occupational Safety and Health requirements, Chemical accident prevention and preparedness and Industrial emissions control and permitting	4.1 Environmental and legacy management
1.2 Sustainable financing and economic viability	2.2 : Harmonised data quality and mutual acceptance of data (GLP, MAD)	3.2 Regulation of chemical products and industrial and consumer substances	4.1 Product and supply-chain measures (Product standards, circular economy)
1.3 International integration	2.3 : Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers	3.3 Public health management of chemicals	4.3 Green and sustainable chemistry innovation
1.4 Enforcement and compliance assurance	2.4 : Transparency, disclosure and information systems		
1.5 Customs and trade controls			
1.6 Governance and stakeholder coordination			
1.7 Monitoring, evaluation, and learning			

Missing one block does not break the system. Adding blocks progressively strengthens overall national protection

# Operationalizing the Framework

System building is a continuous cycle. Progress relies on leveraging existing international tools (such as the IOMC toolbox) and requires immediate, targeted action –not massive initial funding- to begin.

The framework includes an assessment of the strong linkages between its building blocks, the targets of the GFC, and the tools available through the IOMC Toolbox, as well as relevant guidance developed by IOMC participating organizations.



**Regional consultations on GFC Implementation Programmes:  
Proposals for the First International Conference (IC-1)**

**IOMC Webinar Series, Asia Pacific  
5 May 2026**

**Strengthening Economic and Industry Sector Engagement and Action for the Sound Management of Chemicals along Value Chains (“IP2”)**



# Industry Engagement and Action Along Value Chains (IP-2) Relevant GFC Targets

- D 6 - Sustainable Chemicals and Waste Strategies in Economic and Industry sectors
- Other industry relevant targets and topics, e.g.
  - B1 – Data generation on chemicals
  - B3 – Information in supply chains (chemicals in products)
  - D1 – Safer alternatives and sustainable chemistry
  - D3 – Private Sector Financing
  - .....

*Opportunity to share knowledge, foster implementing action, strengthen coordination, and undertake joint work through GFC stakeholder collaboration*



## Milestones

- Supportive feedback received at the OEWG in 2025 (dedicated Multi-stakeholder Day)
- Dedicated meeting of the Informal Reflection Group on IP2, 12 May 2026
- Draft Terms of Reference (TOR) and draft Workplan, June 2026
- Decision document for International Conference (IC-1, Nov. 2026)

# Proposed Components of the Implementation Programme

## 1 . Industry Sector Programmes

- Electronics
- Health Care
- Textiles
- Building and Construction

## 2. Cross-cutting Topics and Workstreams

- Occupational health and safety (D7)
- Transparency, traceability, and disclosure along value chains (B1)
- Priority chemicals of concern (D6)
- Measuring chemical footprints and impacts (D6)
- Green and sustainable chemistry innovation (D1, D4)
- Reporting standards and frameworks (D3)
- Private sector financing and investment (D3)

# Proposed Key Features of the Implementation Programme (IP 2)

- Development of **Framework TOR** for the Implementation Programme that features an overall vision/objectives, specific Industry Sector Programmes, cross-cutting workstreams, and indicative activities for sector programmes, governance, etc.
- Each Industry Sector Programme develops a workplan compatible with the Framework TOR which may be adjusted periodically
- Global IP Workplan features selected collaborative activities (landscape analysis, guidance development, possible alignment/harmonization work, etc.)
- Ad hoc working groups would support intersessional stakeholder engagement and work for thematic workstreams and industry sector programmes

# Early implementing activities (starting prior to IC 1)

## ➤ Global activities

- Thematic workstreams
  - Series of landscape analysis document
  - Development of Chemicals Footprint Guidance
  - Etc.
- Development and pilot testing of an industry self assessment and benchmarking tool

## ➤ Industry sector activities

- Mapping of stakeholder activities (knowledge sharing)
- Pilot testing of tools/guidance
- Awareness-raising to engage new industry stakeholders in GFC implementation
- Etc.

# Thematic Workstreams: Series of Landscape Analyses

- Identify and share knowledge on relevant GFC stakeholder approaches and practices
- Feature an analysis of commonalities, differences, and possible gaps
- May identify opportunities for further action (e.g. guidance, alignment, harmonization, or standard development)
- Provide options / guidance for capacity development and decision-making

# ***Support of Target D 6 Implementation***

## **Building blocks, self- assessment and benchmarking to support industry strategy development (D6)**

### **Purpose**

- Supports industry in self-learning and assessing level of GFC implementation
- Flexible approach that can accommodate different starting points
- Simple traffic light system (“green, yellow, red” or “starting, adaptive, advanced”)
- May support identifying priorities for action
- Could support monitoring of Target D 6 Implementation (simple benchmarking)

### **Ongoing and planned activities**

- Development of assessment and benchmarking tool
- Possible electronic version linked to ESG reporting (UNIFI proposal)
- Pilot testing by industry stakeholders, June-September 2026

# Building blocks to support GFC implementation and strategy development by industry (D6)

## 1. Corporate governance and enabling conditions

- I. GFC implementation
- II. Corporate chemicals policy and governance
- III. Sustainability reporting and performance assessment
- IV. Other corporate measures

## 2. Information, Transparency and Traceability

- i. Identifying hazardous chemicals in supply chains, production, and products
- ii. Fostering transparency, traceability, and disclosure along value chains

## 3. Risk Management and Operational Control

- i. Occupational safety and health
- ii. Emergency prevention, preparedness and response

## 4. Assessment, footprinting and target setting

- i. Identifying and assessing priority chemicals of concern
- ii. Assessing the chemical footprint and impact of priority chemicals along value chains

## 5. Prevention, Innovation and Market Transformation

- i. Reduction or phase out targets for priority chemicals of concern
- ii. Implementing sustainable procurement and supply chain management
- iii. Fostering sustainable business models, product design and sustainable chemistry
- iv. Advancing the sustainability of production processes

# Example of Checklist Questions

## Identifying hazardous chemicals in supply chains, production, and products

### *Checklist questions*

- ✓ Does a list of suppliers exist who provide chemicals or products containing chemicals?
- ✓ Are chemicals purchased, used and produced on site known and listed in an inventory?
- ✓ Are all chemicals classified and labelled in accordance with the GHS?
- ✓ Are chemicals regulated by international agreements, standards or initiatives purchased, used, or produced? Relevant examples include:
  - Stockholm Convention
  - Rotterdam Convention
  - Basel Convention
  - Montreal Protocol
  - Minamata Convention
  - Chemical Weapons Convention
  - GFC Target A 7 on highly hazardous pesticides
  - PFOAs/PFCs addressed as a SAICM Emerging Policy Issue
  - Other chemicals included under SAICM Emerging Policy Issues

# Organizational Considerations: Role of Convenors/Co-Convenors

- Engage with GFC stakeholders and maintain stakeholder list
- Organize virtual meetings
- Ensure that work plan development is consistent with overall IP approach
- Role initially performed by an IOMC organization

# Convenors for Thematic Workstreams

Thematic Work	Industry Sector Programmes
<p>Occupational health and safety / labour (D7): Convenor <u>ILO</u> (<a href="mailto:graczyk@ilo.org">graczyk@ilo.org</a>)</p> <p>Transparency, traceability, and disclosure along value chains (B1): Convenor <u>UNITAR</u> (<a href="mailto:oliver.wootton@unitar.org">oliver.wootton@unitar.org</a>)</p> <p>Priority chemicals of concern (D6): Convenor <u>UNEP &amp; BRS</u> (<a href="mailto:stephanie.laruelle@un.org">stephanie.laruelle@un.org</a>; <a href="mailto:mario.yarto@fao.org">mario.yarto@fao.org</a>)</p> <p>Chemical footprint approaches (D6): Convenor <u>UNEP</u> (<a href="mailto:llorenc.milaicanals@un.org">llorenc.milaicanals@un.org</a>)</p> <p>Green and sustainable chemistry innovation (D1, D4): Convenor <u>UNEP</u> (<a href="mailto:mihaela.paun2@un.org">mihaela.paun2@un.org</a>)</p> <p>Reporting standards and frameworks (D3): Convenor <u>UNITAR</u> (<a href="mailto:oliver.wootton@unitar.org">oliver.wootton@unitar.org</a>)</p> <p>Private sector financing and investment (D3): Convenor <u>UNEP FI</u> (<a href="mailto:peggy.lefort@un.org">peggy.lefort@un.org</a>)</p>	<p>Electronics: Convenor <u>UNEP</u> (<a href="mailto:minseo.ju@un.org">minseo.ju@un.org</a>)</p> <p>Health Care: Co-convenors <u>WHO &amp; HCWH</u> (<a href="mailto:bhatv@who.int">bhatv@who.int</a>; <a href="mailto:sqwilburn@gmail.com">sqwilburn@gmail.com</a>)</p> <p>Textiles: Convenor <u>UNEP</u> (<a href="mailto:bettina.heller@un.org">bettina.heller@un.org</a>)</p> <p>Construction: Convenor <u>UNEP</u> (<a href="mailto:tapiwa.nxele@un.org">tapiwa.nxele@un.org</a>)</p>



**Thank you for your attention!**

**contact: [IOMC@unitar.org](mailto:IOMC@unitar.org)**

# **Regional consultations on GFC Implementation Programmes**

Webinar series May 2026

*5. Integrating Chemicals and Waste  
Issues in Sustainable Development  
Decision-making*



# Integrating Chemicals and Waste Issues in Sustainable Development Decision-making

- Important linkages between implementation of SDGs and sound chemicals and waste management.
- Target E6 – By 2030, stakeholders identify and strengthen, as appropriate, synergies and linkage between chemicals and waste management and other key environmental, health and labour policies, such as those related to climate change solutions, biodiversity conservation, human rights protection, universal health coverage or primary health care.
- IOMC considers work on these topics valuable but is not in position to lead the development of a full implementation programme.
- IOMC engaged in preparatory work for consideration of other stakeholders
- Development of three Primers to inform decision-makers about:
  1. Integrating chemicals and waste management in climate change decision-making
  2. Integrating chemicals and waste management in biodiversity decision-making
  3. Integrating chemicals and waste management in education
- Discussion paper to be presented at first International Conference (IC-1, Nov. 2026)



# Integrating the Sound Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Waste in Climate Change Decision-making

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# Integrating Chemicals and Waste Issues in Sustainable Development Decision-making

- Reaching out to stakeholders with draft Primers
- Exploring opportunities to develop possible “light” Implementation Programmes
- Webinar on “Integrating Chemicals and Waste Issues in Sustainable Development Decision-making” (2027)
- Co-creation of a “community of practice” on integrating chemicals and waste issues in sustainable development decision-making (2027)



# Questions for Discussion

- Are the current topics appropriate/ the most relevant?



**Thank you for your attention!**



## 6. Reflections from the World of Work: the Global Framework on Chemicals

**Halshka GRACZYK**

Technical specialist on Occupational Safety and Health (OSH)

International Labour Organization (ILO), Geneva

## Chemicals: a world of work crisis

- ▶ Most chemicals enter the economy, and eventually everyday life, through the **workplace**. This is where chemicals are produced, formulated, handled and used at scale, and where exposures, releases and emissions first occur.
- ▶ This designates workplaces as the practical starting point for sound chemicals management, and **occupational safety and health (OSH)** as a foundational pillar for global chemicals policies (*Key takeaway from OEWG*)
- ▶ **WHY OSH?** One worker **dies every 30 seconds** due to occupational chemical exposure. Many lives are lost due to **fatal diseases, cancers and poisonings**, or from fatal injuries following fires or explosions. **Disability and debilitating chronic diseases**, must also be considered.
- ▶ Costs to workplaces, economies and societies result (4% of global GDP is lost annually as a result of occupational injuries and diseases).
- ▶ **When workers and workplaces are protected, everyone is protected.**

**Doesn't end at OSH: Just transition, circular economy, green jobs, engagement with industry and employer partners, supply chains, safe by design, informal economy issues, and wider employment and social dimensions linked to chemicals and waste management.**



# Delivering the GFC: the criticality of labour

- **GFC target D7** sets that, by 2030, stakeholders implement measures and strive to ensure **effective OSH practices** as well as **environmental protection measures** in all relevant sectors and throughout the supply chain (**In addition to D7: A1, A2, B4, B5, B6, E1, E2, E6**)
- Labour is both **uniquely vulnerable to risks** from inadequate chemicals management and **a central actor** in prevention, early detection of hazards, and implementation of control measures.
- The world of work also plays a critical role in **generating exposure data, identifying emerging risks, informing surveillance systems**, and ensuring that hazard communication, training, and preventive **measures are applied in practice**.
- **This role of the labour sector cuts across IP1 and IP2**

**Labour is not peripheral but indispensable to the credibility and effectiveness of GFC implementation programmes.**



## IP1: Strengthening Legal Frameworks

- ▶ Legally-binding International Labour Standards: **ILO OSH Conventions already support target D7, and an additional 24 of the 28 GFC targets**, demonstrating the strong interlinkages between OSH normative standards and the GFC.
- ▶ In addition to International Labour Standards, the ILO support countries in the development, review and update of their **LABOUR LEGISLATION**, which includes provisions on OSH and chemical safety.
- ▶ Labour legislation regulating the use of chemicals at work typically incorporate provisions related to risk assessment; mandate the implementation of control measures, along with mechanisms for monitoring and review to ensure the continued effectiveness of these measures; worker health surveillance; disposal of chemicals to the environment; the development of emergency preparedness plans, among many others.
- ▶ Labour legislation is, in many countries, **a critical foundation for chemicals management** (e.g., historically through Factories' Acts)

<b>GFC Target / ILO Convention</b>	<b>C170 (Chemicals)</b>	<b>C174 (Major industrial accidents)</b>	<b>C155 (OSH)</b>	<b>C187 (Promotional OSH framework)</b>	<b>C139 (Occupational cancer)</b>	<b>C148 (Working environment)</b>	<b>C162 (Asbestos)</b>	<b>C184 (Agriculture)</b>
<b>A1 - National legal frameworks</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>A2 - Develop guidelines, IOMC toolbox</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>A3 - Companies implement measures to prevent adverse impacts</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>A4 - Illegal trade and traffic</b>	x	x					x	x
<b>A5 - Governments notify/regulate/prohibit export of banned chemicals</b>	x	x					x	x
<b>A6 - Access to poison centres and training</b>	x	x						x
<b>A7 - Measures to phase out hazardous pesticides</b>	x	x						x
<b>B1 - Generate chemical property data</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>B2 - Share information along value chain</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>B3 - Generate data on chemicals production</b>	x	x						
<b>B4 - Apply guidelines and tools for risk/hazard management</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>B5 - Public awareness and training</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>B6 - Governments implement GHS classification</b>	x	x					x	x
<b>B7- Generate monitoring and surveillance data on chemicals in humans</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>C1 - Establishment of processes and programmes for issues of concern</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>D1 - Companies invest in innovation advancing sustainable chemistry</b>	x	x					x	
<b>D2 - Governments implement safer production policies</b>	x	x	x		x		x	x
<b>D3 - Private sector applies international standards</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>D4 - Promote safer alternatives in R&amp;D</b>	x	x	x		x		x	x
<b>D5 - Governments implement sustainable agriculture policies</b>	x		x	x	x			x
<b>D6 - Sustainable chemical and waste management strategies implemented in key economic and industry sectors</b>	x	x						x
<b>D7 - Stakeholders implement OSH and environmental protection measures</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>E1 - Governments mainstream management of chemicals through plans</b>	x	x	x	x			x	x

## IP2: Strengthening Economic and Industry Sector Engagement

- ▶ **Sectoral specific activities and engagement in a wide variety of sectors:**
  - ▶ Construction
  - ▶ Agriculture
  - ▶ Textiles, Clothing, Leather and Footwear
  - ▶ Mining
  - ▶ Waste management, recycling, e-waste
  - ▶ Manufacturing
  - ▶ Among many others
- ▶ Labour is **a cross-cutting issue that transcends global economic sectors** and therefore should be integrated throughout IP2 as a foundational pillar

A group of four male workers are crouching in a coal mine. They are wearing hard hats and work clothes. The worker on the far left is wearing a yellow hard hat and a light blue t-shirt. The other three workers are wearing blue hard hats and blue long-sleeved shirts. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is filled with dark coal. A white vehicle is partially visible on the right side of the image.

**THANK YOU**  
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