

Opportunities for Integrating Sound Chemicals Management into Development Planning

An Information Paper

**Montreal Protocol / POPs Operations
Environment Department**



The World Bank

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

CAS	country assistance strategy
CDF	Comprehensive Development Framework
CEA	country environmental analysis
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHS	Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
IFCS	Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety
IOMC	Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MEA	multilateral environmental agreement
MFMP	Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol
NEAP	national environmental action plan
NGO	non-governmental organization
NIP	national implementation plan
NSDS	national sustainable development strategies
ODS	ozone-depleting substances
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
POPs	persistent organic pollutants
PRS	poverty reduction strategy
PRSC	poverty reduction strategy credit
PRSP	poverty reduction strategy paper
PTS	persistent toxic substances
SAICM	strategic approach to international chemicals management
SEA	strategic environmental assessment
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development

Executive Summary

The fundamental role of chemicals in society, and their processes and products is indisputable. Current trends in the chemicals industry and associated sectors confirm this is true throughout the world – and increasingly so in developing countries where the chemicals industry is rapidly growing in parallel to economic and social development. When improperly managed however, some chemicals can have dire and far-reaching consequences to human health and the environment. Managing and reducing the risks of chemicals in a sound manner is therefore an essential part of sustainable development.

Given that many sectors which form country priorities for development, such as agriculture, transportation, industry and trade, involve chemicals-related issues, one would expect that a sound and thorough approach to dealing with possible chemical risks is incorporated in plans and programs for the strengthening and growth of these sectors. Evidence shows, however, that this cross-sectoral issue is not being addressed in a comprehensive and consistent manner across and within countries. Environmental and health problems related to some chemicals are a part of life for many countries. These problems often fall disproportionately on the more vulnerable and poor populations of society – small farmers or child laborers, for example. How and where poor people live often exacerbates chemical exposure risks, underlining the complicated relationship between poverty and the environment.

In recognition that poverty is multi-dimensional, the development community has embarked on achieving ten separate goals, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The World Bank, as a multilateral development agency, has also adopted these goals in line with its strategic framework on country-led development. The seventh MDG shares the objective of environmental sustainability with the Bank's Environment Strategy, which has become the basis for promoting the integration of environmental themes, such as chemicals management, into its development assistance programs in order to improve the quality of life, growth and the global commons. The development community in general is focusing more on mainstreaming cross-cutting issues as it attempts to address the various dimensions of poverty and meet the MDGs.

On the international level, efforts to manage and reduce the risks posed by chemicals have steadily progressed in the last forty years with the adoption of more than a few important regional and global agreements, as well as a number of programs and activities. During the last decade, the international chemicals management community has turned its attention towards continued gaps in regulation, enforcement, capacity and awareness in terms of chemicals and their impacts, as well as the need for a more coherent, strategic and systematic approach to international chemicals management. Although stand-alone initiatives may show results in the near term where external financial assistance is available and objectives are specific, there is growing appreciation that their wider impacts may be relatively insignificant in the long term, in particular, where macroeconomic policies exist that counter positive impacts, where institutional and regulatory capacity is weak and where environmental priorities are perceived to be externally driven. In its work on a strategic approach to international chemicals management (SAICM) the international community has thus also recognized the need for better integration of sound chemicals management into country development planning in order to implement and enforce local, regional and global requirements.

The development community and the international chemicals management community both have compelling reasons for promoting the mainstreaming of sound chemicals management, although each comes with a different perspective and priorities. The convergence of the two perspectives can provide opportunities for coordination, synergies, efficiencies, and effective and sustainable results. The question that is preoccupying most, however, is how to go about integrating the sound

management of chemicals into national development planning. This relates to not only the rationale for doing so – in view of the many competing and pressing needs developing countries are faced with – but the actual mechanics of integrating a cross-cutting issue into national development planning. The purpose of this note is to offer some options for addressing this question, as well as to explain in general, the development planning process, in particular, from the World Bank’s perspective. It is not the intention to be prescriptive or to underestimate the complexity and multi-faceted nature of the actual development assistance planning process, mainstreaming (which takes place not only at the development planning stage but also at the operational stage) and the number of factors that can influence outcomes.

Context and Basis for Mainstreaming Chemicals Management

The note first examines the current basis and context for dealing with chemicals management by the World Bank in its development assistance work as well as in its capacity as an implementing agency for several global environmental agreements. A glimpse at how cross-cutting health and environmental issues are currently being handled by a development agency sheds some light on the various tools and points where mainstreaming of chemicals management can take place.

The World Bank assists its clients on several fronts: in strategic planning and priority setting at the country level, and in developing projects. At the project level, the Bank has safeguard and other policies which facilitate the integration of good environmental management into its operations, such as on pesticide use and environmental assessment. Mainstreaming also takes place through projects under the Global Environment Facility (GEF) by “blending” GEF activities and funding into regular Bank projects in order to secure both local and global benefits. Finally, through analytical and advisory activities – another important tool in mainstreaming cross-cutting issues – the Bank provides assistance for policy reform and improvement of institutional capacity.

In part due to its Environment Strategy, the Bank’s US\$11.2 billion portfolio of projects with primarily environmental objectives only captures a portion of Bank environmental lending. Much of its environmental lending is now implemented in a sectoral context as part of projects for rural and urban development or transportation for example, demonstrating an increase in mainstreaming. In terms of lending for chemicals-related issues the portfolio spans an even greater number of activities due to links to most of the sectors in which the Bank is active.

The Development Assistance Planning Process

At the country level, the basis for development activities is strategic documentation stemming from countries, as well as separately from donor agencies. Most of the World Bank’s clients prepare poverty reduction strategy papers (PRSPs) which assess their macroeconomic, structural and social policies and programs; identify priorities for policy action; and lay out targets and instruments required to promote growth and reduce poverty. PRSPs, which are required by the Bank and the International Monetary Fund for low-income countries, are medium-term plans that are intended to be comprehensive, results-oriented and to foster both domestic and external partnerships. They are consequently considered by most in the international development community as the main vehicle for prioritizing development assistance to low-income countries.

There is no blueprint for a PRSP and the process can unfold in various ways, depending on the country. However, the PRSP process generally begins with an assessment and diagnosis of a country’s policies, institutions and capacity, including of poverty and its key determinants. Diagnosis is based on “upstream work” by the country or development partners which includes sector analyses and strategies, such as impact assessments and evaluations from prior or ongoing

operations. Priorities are then identified in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, including civil society and donors and the poverty reduction strategy is subsequently laid out with attention to: macroeconomic policies, governance, sector policies, and, costing and budget for proposed programs, as well as a monitoring and evaluation approach (along with proposed indicators). The nature and level of stakeholder participation has a significant impact on proposed priority actions in a PRSP and thus on the degree of mainstreaming.

Development assistance agencies will have their own strategic documents that lay out specific areas, justification for assistance to a country and which are based on the country's PRSP or national development plan. The World Bank prepares 2-3-year country assistance strategies (CASs) for all its clients, including medium-income countries that do not have PRSPs. The CAS mirrors the PRSP in many ways including the participatory process, although the Bank's own strategic priorities and principles are interwoven in the strategy.

Rationale for Better Integration of Chemicals Management into the Development Agenda

The reasons touched upon above which support the integration of chemicals management into national planning have to do with the critical role of chemicals in a number of sectors, their relationship to issues of vulnerability, poverty and equity as well as regulatory, technical and institutional capacity, and the number of related national, regional and international initiatives which require resources, coordination and country buy-in. Questions of efficiency, specificity, appropriateness, as well as of sustainable outcomes also must be considered. The nature of various chemicals which require a range of measures, capacities and knowledge to manage, and the global trends in chemical production and use are additional drivers for pursuing a more comprehensive and integrated approach to managing chemicals.

Reviews of existing PRSPs and CASs, however, reveal that the integration of chemical issues (as well as environmental and health issues in general) could be improved in development planning. For example, although chemicals are sometimes mentioned in conjunction with either global environmental agreements or specific sectors, reference to linkages between the two, as well as to broader issues such as macroeconomic policy and governance is sparse; and even more so in terms of the links between chemicals management, environmental sustainability and poverty. Factors that may impede better integration of comprehensive chemicals management into national development planning can be attributed to:

- competing development priorities and the failure to identify important links;
- the difficulty in making the case for an issue often seen as a global environmental concern in front of efforts to reduce poverty levels with limited resources;
- limited country-specific, analytical and diagnostic work (linkages, costs-benefits, etc);
- the unavailability or unawareness of quantitative, sectoral data capturing the status and trends of environmental and health impacts (related to weak monitoring capacity);
- the nature of stakeholder participation in the PRSP process and the level of influence of environmental and health constituencies, as well as civil society in general; and
- the focus on shorter-term priorities in contrast to the long-term perspective needed for sound chemicals management and sustainable development.

Opportunities for Strengthening Chemicals Management in Development Planning

The acknowledgement of the important relationship of chemicals management with many development priorities during development planning thus appears to hinge on the need for relevant

analytical and diagnostic work (upstream work) to increase awareness, and secure country buy-in from relevant government ministries, in particular ministries of finance; on the mobilization of environment and health constituencies, including civil society; on institutional and technical capacity for coordination, decision-making and monitoring; and, overall, on stronger coordination and partnerships at various levels:

- 1) **Upstream work** might include analytical work at the country or sector level on causal links between chemicals and environment, health and poverty (and meeting the MDGs) as well as cross-sectoral linkages; analysis of macroeconomic policies and chemicals-related outcomes; economic, environmental and social cost-benefit analysis; needs assessment; gap analyses (governance, policy, regulatory); chemical management strategies or action plans on a national, sector or chemical level; development of indicators and monitoring systems; costing chemicals management components; studies on trade and chemicals; etc.
- 2) **Knowledge sharing** might include information workshops for targeted groups, such as parliamentarians, regional and local government, NGOs, or industry associations; coordination meetings between countries, donors, and aid agencies; work on knowledge/data sharing among government agencies, civil society and the public; etc.
- 3) **Capacity building** might include training civil society in participatory processes; training policy-makers in environment and health areas, in strategic planning, monitoring and evaluation, risk assessment and management; promoting inter-agency coordination; etc.

The international chemicals management community already has a number of tools and activities that fall in the above categories. However, making the most of opportunities for alignment of chemical management initiatives with the broader development perspective requires first, a platform – the PRSP or CAS, for example – where a cross-sectoral issue, such as chemicals management, meets the development and poverty agenda and where partners in development and global environmental and health protection can coordinate efforts to help shape an appropriate development track. Second, it requires points in the development planning process where the knowledge and tools of the international chemicals management community can fit, and be available to country development planners while they determine development priorities. Agents that are able to operate at the country level would be able to facilitate this, for example national and international agencies which are already involved in both development and global programs, and possess characteristics that could support integrating chemicals management, such as multi-sectoral, able to stimulate policy dialogue and mobilize funds.

Several “points of entry” in the general stages of developing a poverty reduction strategy can help focus the range of possible initiatives. For example, at the stage of diagnosing the nature of poverty and needs for economic growth, upstream work on assessing regulatory or enforcement gaps on chemicals and linking them to environmental, social and economic challenges in a country, would be useful for decision-makers in the context of governance and policy reforms. The participatory process in all PRSP stages is critical to country ownership and a possible point of entry would be at the priority setting stage with recommendations from key stakeholder or focus groups. Results from capacity building activities to promote inter-agency coordination, awareness of chemical issues and civil society participation could feed into the PRSP process at various stages as well as across its 3-5 year cycle. Finally as an example, goals, targets and indicators, and associated reporting under global agreements might serve a country in building on the monitoring and evaluation system that must be included in its PRSP.

There are also general measures that countries and the international chemicals management community can take respectively to facilitate efforts in mainstreaming. Exploring opportunities for synergies and efficiencies between chemicals-based agreements would be one, as it would permit better coordination for comprehensive approach to chemicals management at the country level. Alongside the alignment of objectives and existing activities and tools at the international level with the development planning process, and general measures to facilitate mainstreaming, several considerations such as country specificity, the role of ongoing activities in mainstreaming, global versus national benefits and cost sharing, the need to monitor and measure results and engaging the private sector should all be taken into account.

Integrating the sound management of chemicals into national development planning will be an iterative and longer-term process and dependent on inputs that make the issue relevant to country needs and in particular to poverty reduction. However, there are opportunities for leveraging the experience and resources from the global chemicals management community to strengthen sustainable development while assisting countries to meet their commitments for protecting the global commons. Existing information and experiences on mainstreaming environmental concerns in sector and national development may help the international chemicals community to decide on how to utilize its resources and experiences on global chemicals management to facilitate action on the national and local levels.

1. Introduction

The sound management of chemicals has become a necessity in modern society due to the global economy's increasing dependence on chemicals for a wide range of products, services and processes. Chemicals are integral to the development of most sectors of society. The benefits that chemicals bring to society are, unfortunately, countered by a number of palpable and potential threats to humans and ecosystems. Consequently, the safe management of the manufacture, trade, use and disposal of chemicals becomes an essential part of sustainable development.

Existing environment analytical work on development results, however, points out that cross-cutting issues, such as chemical risks, are not being addressed in a comprehensive manner at the country level, despite efforts of developing countries and the international donor community. Problems of stockpiles of obsolete pesticides, water contamination by heavy metals and air pollution continue to be very real for many developing countries. Although stand-alone environmental projects may be effective in the short-term where external financial assistance is available and objectives are specific, there is growing appreciation that their wider impacts may be relatively insignificant in the long-term, in particular, where macroeconomic policies exist that counter positive impacts, where institutional and regulatory capacity is weak and where environmental priorities are perceived to be externally driven. Evidence points to continued gaps in regulation, enforcement, capacity and awareness in terms of chemicals and their impacts as well as to opportunities lost for synergies between development initiatives and environmental and health protection initiatives that are fostered by multilateral environment agreements (MEAs) and other international conventions.

The International Chemicals Management Community Perspective

The international chemicals management community which is currently focusing on development of a Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) is particularly attune to existing gaps. The sound management of chemicals is quickly gaining support for better integration into national development planning because of its critical role in a number of sectors, its relationship to issues of vulnerability, poverty and equity as well as regulatory, technical and institutional capacity, and the number of related national, regional and international initiatives, agreements and conventions by which it is governed. The mainstreaming of chemical management into development planning is interesting in terms of efficiency gains, to ensure that resources are targeted and appropriate to the needs of a country, and that both concrete measures and policy can be combined to lead to sustainable results.

Although the international chemicals management community comes with a global perspective where emphasis has been on promoting the implementation of chemicals-based conventions and supporting enabling and investment activities, the development of harmonized approaches to chemicals risk assessment and management and ultimately meeting goals and targets set out by Chapter 19 of Agenda 21 and the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), the fact is that it is not possible to address chemicals management as solely a global issue. Meeting the 2020 WSSD target that chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment will depend on individual country capacity to undertake national action. It is therefore important to see if and how resources (knowledge, human, financial, legal, etc.) that have gone into managing chemicals as a global issue can be brought to bear in development assistance to address national concerns and issues.

The Development Perspective

The recognition that poverty alleviation hinges on an environment that is stable, healthy and sustainable, continues to grow in the international development community. The links between poverty and the environment are implicit in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs¹) and were recently emphasized in the Plan of Implementation at WSSD in 2002. Implicit in the MDGs is the realization that poverty is multi-dimensional. Vulnerability to environmental degradation, disempowerment, and, susceptibility to environmental disease, for example, are as much about poverty as meager incomes. An integral component of the World Bank's mission to fight poverty is thus to ensure that economic development proceeds in a manner which ensures long-term sustainability of natural resources and the environment as they are the foundation for growth and the quality of life.

In its work, the World Bank has seen that an important driver for developing country governments to take measures to protect their populations and environment has been by implementing global environmental agreements which aim first, to protect the global commons, but almost always result in direct local benefits. Owing to experience garnered from projects intended to facilitate the implementation of convention obligations, discussions within the Bank are increasingly focused on linking global environmental protection measures to country development objectives as a means to augmenting their long-term effectiveness and narrowing the perceived disconnect between global and local impacts. Questions of institutional and human capacity, country commitment, and relevance to poverty reduction may all be better addressed in the context of a national development framework. Environmental protection measures which have linkages to multiple sectors as well as to external financial assistance may in turn serve to strengthen specific development objectives. In fact, global environmental priorities such as the sound management of chemicals cannot be "delinked" from development and as such, merit direct attention by the development community.

In general, the management of risks posed by chemicals continues to be an important part of the World Bank's regular development work. Through safeguard policies, sound chemicals management is needed when the Bank lends for agriculture, energy, construction or transportation work, for example. The chemicals issue is present in many aspects of Bank client country assistance programs, not only in terms of development requirements, but also for mitigating chemical risks, such as conducting risk assessment, strengthening legislative frameworks, or improving the working conditions in certain sectors of society.

The vulnerability of poor people in particular to chemical risks is evident and has been emphasized in a number of studies. The Bank's 2002 study, *Toxics and Poverty*, made the link between the risk to chemical exposure through household air pollution, work in the informal sectors, and poor sanitation to the most vulnerable groups of society: women and children in developing countries. Poverty and environmental degradation is intertwined and the relationship often complex due to where poor people find their homes and the types of livelihoods in which they are engaged. Systemic problems in developing countries having to do with governance, macroeconomic policies and capacity are also often behind toxic chemicals risks faced by the more vulnerable population of society.

¹ The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) form the "road map" for implementing the United Nations Millennium Declaration that was adopted in September 2000. The eight MDGs commit the international community to development which promotes sustainable social and economic improvement in all countries.

The Bank's Environment Strategy, which acknowledges that the relationship between environmental degradation and poverty requires an understanding of cross-sectoral and long-term dynamics, specifically identifies hazardous chemicals as an important issue that needs attention. The strategy's call for mainstreaming environment into the development agenda assumes that a cross-sectoral issue such as chemical safety should be included in planning development assistance.

It is understood that the increased generation and use of chemicals is inevitable in countries that are growing. In fact, trends show that growth in the chemicals industry alone will be more rapid in the near future in developing countries, in particular in the production of high-volume chemicals. For example, in China, the growth rate in 1999-2004 was 13.4% as compared to 1.6% and 1.5% for the European Union and the United States respectively.²

Purpose and Organization of this Note

The motive for including chemical management in the larger picture of development activities is, in the end, sustainability – to allow countries to reach their economic potential, undoubtedly a major priority of many countries – natural and human resources must be protected in the long-run. The question is how, and at what point in the development process.

This note aims to demonstrate the possibilities for increasing the effectiveness and impact of international efforts to protect the environment and human health from the risks of a cross-cutting issue, chemicals, while strengthening poverty reduction and sustainable development efforts in developing countries, through the promotion of the integration of chemicals management into the early stages of planning development assistance. In order to explore these possibilities, we concentrate on the experiences and role of the World Bank³, in its role as a multilateral, development agency, and the existing mechanisms and policies for planning and prioritizing aid for clients of the World Bank.

Specifically, the note:

- Reviews the World Bank's basis and context for dealing with chemicals management;
- Provides a brief and general guide to the development assistance planning process at the country level;
- Makes the case for better integration of sound chemicals management into the development agenda; and,
- Identifies the opportunities, approaches and tools for bringing together objectives of the international chemicals management community and the development community in order to facilitate the mainstreaming of sound chemicals management.

The paper covers each of the above points in Sections 2 through 5 respectively.

² Cefic, ACC and Eurostat, http://www.cefic.org/factsandfigures/level02/growthindustry_index.html

³ *The World Bank* refers to two institutions: the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), which aims to reduce poverty in middle-income and creditworthy poorer countries by promoting sustainable development; and the International Development Association (IDA) which provides interest-free credits to the world's 81 poorest countries (known as IDA countries). Both have the mandate to lend to sovereign nations. *The World Bank Group* includes three additional institutions: International Finance Corporation, MIGA and ICSID.

2. Basis and Context for Sound Chemicals Management through the World Bank

As one of the United Nations' specialized agencies focusing on development, the World Bank centers its efforts on sustained poverty reduction, primarily through project and policy-based lending. The production, use and disposal of chemicals and chemical products may figure in the Bank's work due to chemicals' essential role in the economy and society. They are also addressed in parallel with safeguarding the environment and human health as a part of risk management. It is useful to see where the sound management of chemicals currently fits into development assistance approach of the Bank.

World Bank Projects and Operations

Although World Bank lending is naturally geared towards client country priorities as decided through country strategies, the Bank's overall strategic priorities and policies, which are manifested in its portfolio of projects and analytical work and are reaffirmed during independent evaluation, serve to guide Bank operations.

Safeguarding the environment from the potentially detrimental consequences of economic growth has been an objective of the World Bank since the 1970s. The World Bank's environmental policy had its origins with the need to ensure that projects in infrastructure, agriculture and industry did not cause undue harm to the environment and humans. The Bank's ten environment and social safeguard policies guide Bank staff and client countries in the preparation of projects. These safeguard policies include the Bank requirement of environmental impact assessment for projects that might have significant impacts on the environment as well as the pest management policy which discourages the use of harmful pesticides in projects and requires that, when used, they are safely managed, from production to disposal.

The environmental policy of the Bank slowly evolved in the late 1980s from a "do no harm" stance to a more pronounced approach as the concept of sustainable development took hold and gained momentum throughout the world. This involved identifying links between development and the environment and assisting client countries to develop strategies and build policies and institutions for managing natural resources. Self-standing environment projects were encouraged such as environmental institutional development and pollution management projects. Simultaneously, the Bank broadened the scope of its environmental protection activities by assisting developing countries to address their global environmental commitments as an implementing agency for two environmental financial mechanisms, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol (MFMP).

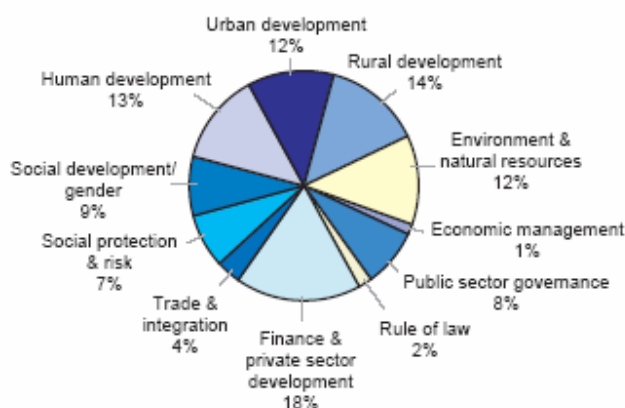
More recently, due to the Bank's new strategic framework explained in Section X and the resulting sector strategies, including the Environment Strategy, there has been a trend toward increased environmental lending as part of sector projects.

Projects and Activities related to Chemicals Management

The World Bank's current portfolio of activities with relevance to managing chemicals consists of regular lending and activities covered by trust funds. Global environmental projects are primarily funded through the GEF, MFMP and carbon finance, however, environmental and health related activities in the form of technical assistance, advisory services, and co-financing of projects, for example, are covered by several other trust funds as well, such as the CAD \$20 million Canadian trust fund for addressing capacity to deal with persistent organic pollutants (POPs).

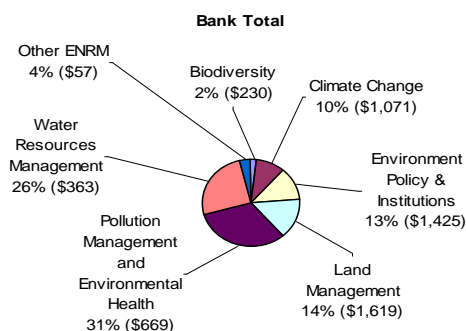
Because chemicals management falls under several sectors, such as rural and urban development or transportation, associated lending is not easily disaggregated from the Bank's portfolio. Lending for these sectors under the more general theme of environment and natural resource management (ENRM) content, however, is distinguishable and is indicative of the level of resources devoted to environmental and health protection, including from risks posed by chemicals. As of December 2004, the Bank's portfolio was made up of 413 projects with ENRM content worth US \$11.2 billion and representing 12% of the total portfolio by theme.

**Total World Bank Project Portfolio
by Thematic Distribution**



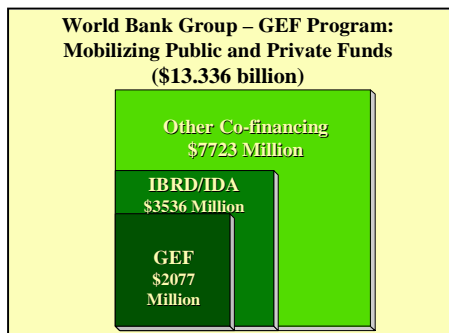
Bank assistance is allocated widely among several thematic areas, in accordance with developing country priorities. Although there is environmental and social mainstreaming in these areas in part due to safeguards and other World Bank policies, closer review of components of these individual projects would be required to determine the extent. The same holds true for chemicals-related issues which might be found, aside from the ENRM area, in the human development, rural development and urban development thematic areas, among others.

Further classification of the ENRM portfolio into sub-themes indicates the areas where chemical issues might be relevant. The chemicals agenda would receive particular attention as part of water resource management and pollution management/environmental health – the two largest themes in the ENRM portfolio in terms of investment levels, as well as climate, land management and environment policy and institutions.



Both GEF and MFMP project portfolios cover chemicals-related activities with the MFMP portfolio being the largest in the Bank in terms of the number of projects that deal directly with the management of chemicals that effect human health and the environment. After nearly 15 years of growth, the MFMP and GEF portfolio of projects has channeled nearly US \$2.57 billion in grant funding to developing countries for activities ranging from the development of performance-based national plans that aim to completely phase out consumption and production of ozone depleting substances (ODS) to most recently, projects for implementing the Stockholm Convention on POPs.

The significance of these global environmental activities goes beyond facilitating compliance with international obligations to protect the global commons. Notably, in the process of project implementation, additional benefits often ensue, including increased institutional and technical capacity of the public and private sector, the transfer of new technologies from developed countries, private-public sector cooperation and general awareness raising in developing countries of the need to promote a development track that does not hinder the prospects of future generations. Tangible benefits have also stemmed from GEF's counterpart funding requirement whereby GEF projects have leveraged significant amounts of additional funds – from Bank country clients, but also from external donors. The Bank and its clients have increasingly embarked on “blending” GEF activities into lending to maximize impacts and ensure the sustainability of interventions.



Global environment projects implemented through the Bank have been important in helping clients tie more closely global environmental priorities with their own by generating local benefits and thereby, securing beneficiary country buy-in. Another outcome of the Bank's engagement in MFMP and GEF projects as an implementing agency over the years, is a growing awareness within the Bank that global environmental concerns need, and should not be disconnected from specific concerns of the client-country. It has provided the Bank with added insight of the potential for integrating environmental and health objectives into broader development goals.

Knowledge Sharing and Analytic and Advisory Work

The Bank also lends for policy reform and improvement of institutional capacity through what it calls analytical and advisory activities. These may take the form of country research, economic and sector work, and capacity enhancement and provide the basis for defining strategic environmental priorities and informing policy dialogue and decisions on projects and programs. Economic and sector work contributes to informing client countries' policies and programs at the sector and national levels. Currently utilized analytical tools directly related to the environment are the Country Environmental Analysis (CEA), and other sectoral environmental assessments, including Energy-Environment Reviews.

The CEA builds on experiences garnered from the development of NEAPs by client countries as well as from the use of strategic environment assessments (SEAs) – environmental impact

assessments which go beyond projects and which are used by some development agencies and countries to analyze the social and environmental impacts and issues surrounding development policies and actions. The CEA is intended to inform the Bank's dialogue with client countries through guidance on integrating various data on environment, poverty and development links with the ultimate goal of mainstreaming.

World Bank Strategic Priorities

The aim of achieving environmental protection by its integration into development and poverty reduction measures is, in fact, the crux of the Bank's Environment Strategy.⁴ It is through the implementation of the environment strategy that the Bank is working with its clients to "mainstream" the environment into the bulk of development assistance. The strategy links environmental improvements to the Bank's mission of poverty reduction through three main avenues: improving the quality of life, improving the quality of growth and improving the quality of the regional and global commons. It recognizes that poverty is multi-dimensional and not only a matter of low income. The relationship between environmental degradation and poverty is likewise complex and requires an understanding of cross-sectoral and long-term dynamics.

The environment strategy understands that development must be sustainable to ensure that poverty reduction endures. A long-term vision is what the Bank had in mind when introducing, in early 2000, its new approach to development assistance, the Comprehensive Development Framework (CDF). The Environment Strategy, among several other Bank sector strategies, is an outgrowth of what the CDF clearly advocates: a holistic and long-term approach to development which acknowledges the interdependence of all elements of development – including economic, social and environmental – and which is country-owned, focused on results and builds on partnerships.

The CDF comprises principles for achieving rapid and lasting poverty reduction which have evolved from years of experience by the international development community. The *means* to reducing global poverty have been laid out by the international community in the MDGs and are consequently at the heart of the Bank's approach to reducing poverty. MDG-7 aims to ensure environmental sustainability and sets the target that the principles of sustainable development are integrated into country policies and programs. In line with the principles of the CDF and the pursuit of the MDGs, the World Bank is supplementing its traditional investment project approach by new instruments that promote long-term programmatic and policy-based lending.

The Bank now has several broad policies (and related tools) to which client countries must adhere and which are relevant for promoting sound chemicals management in projects. These policies ensure that impacts of projects and policy reforms do not harm the environment and human health through appropriate tools (see the box X) and range from policies in the safeguards family to policy stemming from newer Bank lending approaches.

⁴ The World Bank unveiled its Environment Strategy, entitled, "Making Sustainable Commitments: An Environment Strategy for the World Bank," in 2001. As part of the strategy, strategies for each geographic region were also prepared applying the Bank's corporate strategic framework and reflecting the specific needs and priorities of client countries.

World Bank Policies that can support Chemicals Management in the Development Agenda

Development Policy Lending (DPL): Operational Policy (OP) 8.60 on DPL is an arrangement for quick-disbursing assistance to countries to support sector and the economy-wide reform. As part of the DPL, the World Bank determines whether the reform of country policies can have significant impact on a country's environment, forests, and natural resources. For policies that are likely to have significant impacts, the Bank seeks to evaluate a borrower's systems and interventions needed to minimize any adverse effects and enhance positive effects. The DPL also emphasizes upstream analytical work to evaluate environmental and institutional reform needs of countries. Analytical tools supporting DPL include:

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a systematic and comprehensive process of evaluating environmental effects of a policy, plan or program and its alternatives. The Bank uses SEAs to assess sector level impacts of development policies.

Country Environmental Analysis (CEA) is a tool developed by the Bank to respond to the needs of countries to provide systematic environmental analysis linked to the Bank's country strategy and policy dialogue.

Environmental Assessment: OP 4.01 calls for conducting environmental assessment for sector adjustment loans. It is one of the ten safeguard policies that the Bank uses to assess environmental/social risks and benefits associated with Bank lending operations and helps to enhance the quality and sustainability of projects. It does so by ensuring that project development options under consideration are environmentally sound and sustainable.

Pest Management: OP 4.09 on integrated pest management (IPM) calls for reduced reliance on chemical pesticides and promotes integrated methods of biological and environmental control. The Bank undertakes sector or project-specific environmental assessments to support IPM. OP 4.09 mandates that pesticides used in Bank-supported projects must have negligible adverse human health impacts, must have minimal effect on non-target species and the environment and are manufactured, packaged, labeled, handled, stored and disposed of in accordance with acceptable standards.

Global Externalities: OP 10.04 mandates that global externalities be considered in economic analysis of an investment project when an international agreement or grant funding from the GEF are involved, or, otherwise in the environmental assessment.

This amalgamation of principles, policies and tools to addressing poverty and environment at institutional and international levels leaves the World Bank with the justification and strategic framework for ensuring that cross-cutting issues, such as the sound management of chemicals, are factored into development assistance.

3. The Development Assistance Planning Process

Although mainstreaming of a cross-cutting issue can take place at different stages of the project cycle in part due to policies of development assistance partners (such as World Bank environmental safeguard policies during project preparation), mainstreaming is, perhaps, best addressed at the stage of preparing strategies for poverty reduction and economic growth. This ensures that the issue is examined at the country level and in the context of its priorities as well as considerations for reforming policies, institutions and markets. In order to understand how, and the degree that an environmental and health concern, such as chemicals management, can be eventually addressed in development assistance, it is therefore useful to look at the development planning process, in particular, at instruments of national planning.

Poverty Reduction/Development Planning

The starting point for development assistance is first articulated in a poverty reduction strategy, or, what can be considered a business plan – a strategy document which assesses a country's macroeconomic, structural and social policies and programs, its priorities for policy action and corresponding targets and the instruments and resources required to promote broad-based growth. This business plan ultimately stems from the country and is often part and parcel of its national budgetary plan. It is used as a basis to prepare development assistance projects and activities.

In line with the principles of the Comprehensive Development Framework, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) require that low-income countries receiving debt relief or concessional lending⁵ prepare a Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP), or as a start, an “interim PRSP.” The PRSP is a country-owned plan, spanning a three to five-year period, for poverty reduction and intended to be comprehensive, results-oriented and foster domestic and external partnerships.

The PRSP approach, first launched in 1999, is increasingly being accepted by the international donor community as the point of departure for planning its assistance to low-income countries. In the case of higher-income developing countries, the country equivalent of a PRSP, such as a national development plan, is used as the basis by the World Bank, the IMF and other multilateral agencies and donors for planning development assistance. The PRSP is highlighted here as the modality for planning assistance because of its use by the majority of World Bank and IMF clients.

Elements of a Poverty Reduction Strategy

Although there is no blueprint for a poverty reduction strategy, the principles underlying the PRSP approach suggest that five basic elements are included. First, there is an assessment of poverty and its key determinants which diagnoses problems and identifies causes and effects of poverty and the linkages to driving forces. The diagnosis is based on analytical work done in advance, including data collection, review of outcomes and impacts of previous government interventions, sector and economic impact studies and environmental strategies, etc. The second element in a PRSP is the identification of targets to reduce poverty based on the assessment of needs and challenges.

The heart of the PRSP is the third element – the prioritization of public actions for poverty reduction and growth. Priorities are established for the duration of a PRSP with the understanding that the iterative PRSP process will allow priorities to be identified in subsequent PRSPs as needs

⁵ Debt relief, under the Heavy Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative and concessional lending for low income countries is provided through IDA of the World Bank and the Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility of the IMF.

evolve. Priority areas usually include four broad categories: 1) macroeconomic and structural policies to support sustainable growth, 2) improvements in governance, including public sector financial management; 3) appropriate sectoral policies and programs; and, 4) realistic costing and appropriate levels of funding for major programs.

In order to ensure that there is a way to track the outcomes of the strategy, the fourth element of a PRSP is to lay out the monitoring system, with a list of indicators, and a method to evaluate the impact of government programs and policies. PRSPs will contain a matrix, or matrixes, that show, by sector or policy area, the objectives and corresponding priority actions required, the indicators to monitor these and timing and budget information. Finally, PRSPs will include a description of the degree and nature of participation involved in their development, in line with the CDF approach of country-ownership which draws on a broad participatory process.

Elements of a Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper

- Assessment of poverty and its key determinants
- Targets for poverty reduction
- Prioritization of public actions for poverty reduction and growth:
- Establishment of a system for monitoring poverty trends and evaluating impact of government programs and policies
- Description of the participatory process

Poverty Reduction Strategy Development Process

The development assistance planning stage is critical for identifying country priorities and integrating areas of concern. It may be one of the most critical components of the project cycle because of its priority setting role, but more importantly, the *process* taken to arrive at the final strategy. The PRSP should aim to build on existing strategies and plans at the sector and national level in order to be consistent with other government processes. It should also reinforce existing institutions and processes by being based on approved policies and budgets of a government. Moreover, the preparation of a PRSP should follow appropriate domestic channels while aiming to achieve openness and transparency.⁶

In order to lay out a country's development plans in a PRSP, current country policies, institutions and capacity must be first assessed to determine the point of departure for action. An accurate assessment is not always evident in the absence of analytical underpinnings. For example, a country may have a distinct population suffering from high emissions of pollutants requiring immediate regulatory and market reforms and site remediation. However, without the analytical, or "diagnostic" work, the causal links between a certain industrial activity and the chronic illness of this population might not be fully understood. Moreover, the costs and benefits of taking or not taking action need to be clear to decision-makers who must balance different interests and priorities. Country-specific analysis, environmental and social impact studies, sector strategies, data and studies from previous interventions and projects, are all resources that will support a country in making decisions in its PRSP on priorities for growth and reducing poverty.

The process of developing the PRSP aims to incorporate the principles laid out by the CDF. An essential component of the PRSP process is thus that of country ownership through broad-based

⁶ "A Sourcebook for Poverty Reduction Strategies: Overview," Klugman, J. The World Bank, October 2002.

consultation in order to ensure that development proceeds in a holistic manner with a clear link to the MDGs. Not only should various government entities be engaged in the preparation of a PRSP such as ministries, parliament and subnational government, but other stakeholders representing civil society and NGOs, trade unions, the private sector, ethnic minorities and research institutes, for example. By involving these groups during the preparation of the strategy, it is anticipated that the final strategy is more representative of the country's situation, needs and priorities on the sector and national levels. Moreover, after initial consultations – whether they are in the form of individual meetings, workshops or steering groups – a process may be unleashed that will bring increasing transparency to the long-term development process.

Also of importance in the process of consultation is that of country-led partnerships. Bilateral donors, multilateral development banks and other partners will, at any given time, be involved in a number of activities with countries. Including partners in the dialogue on the strategy's development can provide the opportunity for coordination on synergies and future project activities and allow developing countries to better steer the process towards their needs and priorities.

Country Assistance Strategies

Alongside a country's poverty reduction strategy, external partners who provide the country with lending and non-lending services will also often prepare accompanying strategies, or business plans, to set out the agenda for actions to be taken. The World Bank Group⁷, for example, requires that a country assistance strategy (CAS) be developed for all client countries (regardless of their income levels) every 2-3 years after broad agreement is reached with countries on their poverty reduction strategies, such as the PRSP.

Unlike the PRSP, the CAS is prepared by the Bank and is the major tool in the policy process that determines World Bank support to its clients. It too, will identify a government's principal concerns while making the case for new World Bank activity. In the case of low-income countries, the CAS will be closely linked to the country's PRSP, however, in general, it will reflect the Bank's perspective and its comparative advantage for delivering lending and advisory services for sustainable poverty reduction and, thus, focus on areas in which the Bank will be involved.

Because of this focus, the World Bank will seek opportunities to promote its policies and principles in the context of a country's specified objectives and priorities. The CAS aims to support a country's growth strategy and poverty reduction goals (as laid out in the PRSP). However, it will also weave in its core principles embodied in the Comprehensive Development Framework, sector strategies, such as its Environment, Rural Development, Water Resources and Human Development Strategies, its safeguard policies and the goals of the MDGs. A country may identify, for example, the need for expansion of arable land for export commodities as a priority in its PRSP. The Bank, in turn, will make sure that in its CAS that any measures proposed to be covered through Bank lending should lead to sustainable use of resources with a view to protecting the health and well-being of farmers, and, compliance with its safeguard policy on pesticides, national regulations, and compliance with international chemicals conventions to which the country is party, such as the Stockholm Convention.

CAS formulation will also be influenced by analytical work that stems from within or outside the World Bank, similarly to the PRSP approach. The World Bank's new policy on Development Policy Lending places great importance on "upstream" analytical work to determine needed

⁷ The International Finance Corporation, which is part of the World Bank Group and promotes economic development through the private sector, works with the World Bank on the CAS to better exploit synergies in country activities.

reforms. For instance, to determine how to protect the environment, tools such as the SEA or the CEA, envisioned to do much of the analytical work in advance as well as survey the many environmental studies that may be available in one country, will be employed. This analytical work is done, of course, prior to the development of a CAS to allow the Bank and countries to work out priorities and strategies for assistance, in consultation with stakeholders. In addition, a major component of a CAS is the analytical matrix which shows cross-sectoral relationships and which stems from analytical work done prior to the CAS.

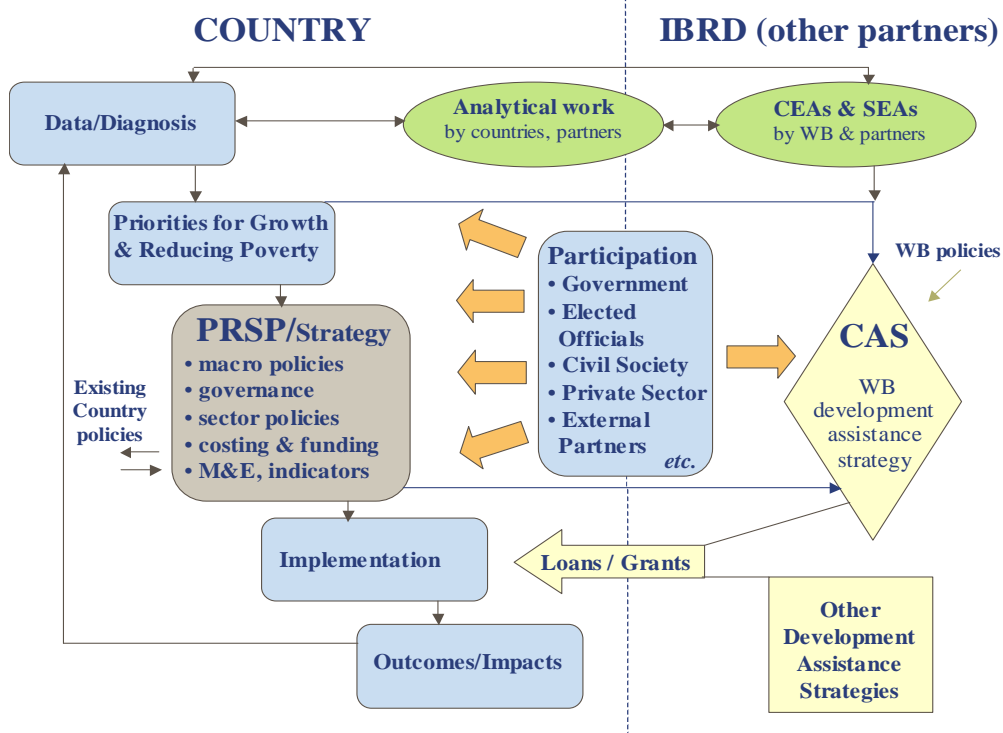
The CAS mirrors the consultative process of the PRSP in many ways. Although a World Bank paper, the CAS is prepared in consultation with country authorities, development partners, and other stakeholders. The degree of consultation can be a gauge of how relevant a development assistance strategy is to the needs of a country's population. It will also permit the Bank to decide with the country, on what issues the CAS should focus and what tools will be used to deliver results, in light of other activities and plans that are being developed with external partners or being covered by the country through other channels.

A CAS is intended to be short and selective and will not always include the same issues. It is done every 2-3 years and may choose to feature certain issues depending on the country's needs and priorities at that given time. It will not necessarily always have an environmental component for this reason. However, a strategic approach to CASs see the environment as an essential component of the planning process for any sector reform or new lending initiatives in infrastructure, energy, agriculture and other sectors.

Development Assistance Planning Process

The process of developing a poverty reduction strategy by a country, and alongside, a congruent CAS by the Bank is depicted in Figure X. Both PRSPs and CAS are largely influenced by the

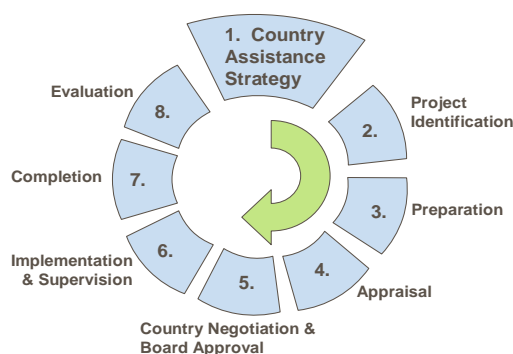
Figure X. The Development Assistance Planning Process



analytical and diagnostic work done prior to establishing priority actions and participation. Both the PRSP and CAS aim to be the vehicles for surveying all the existing analytical and strategic work done in the country from the government and development partners (such as sector or national environmental action plans), citing this work and its relevance to the PRSP or CAS, and calling attention to areas where more work is required or where work has been duplicated. This supports country ownership because there is a clear link between actual issues on the ground and what is and should be highlighted in the strategy. Broad-based consultations on priorities and policy issues with stakeholder groups is expected to influence strategies from the problem identification stage through priority setting to determining means for monitoring and evaluation.

Once the “business planning” process is complete, projects that support the strategies laid out in the PRSPs and the CAS are identified, prepared, appraised, negotiated with the country and implemented. Following implementation, projects are evaluated and new priorities arising from lessons learned feed back into the next business planning period and ensuing strategies.

Figure X. World Bank Project Cycle



Because the PRSP aims to be the main development planning tool for a low-income country and consequently has budgetary implications that go beyond the planned assistance captured by one aid agency (such as the CAS under the World Bank), its implementation can be bolstered by a poverty reduction support credit (PRSC). A PRSC is a programmatic development policy loan which helps an IDA-eligible country implement its poverty reduction strategy. A series of these loans will draw policy actions from and elaborate on reform measures set out in the PRSP.⁸

Resource allocation

Box X: Promoting Sustainable Agricultural Growth – Nepal’s PRSP and CAS

Nepal’s 2002 PRSP is based on four pillars, one of which includes, broad-based economic growth with a focus on the rural economy. Priority actions for economic growth include a focus on agriculture – to modernize, diversify and commercialize by expanding use of technology and increasing farmer access to modern agricultural inputs. Priority actions for governance

The World Bank’s 2004-2007 CAS for Nepal supports the country’s priorities in the agriculture sector by promoting the balanced use of agro-chemicals and integrated pest management through support to research, extension and farmer field schools.

⁸ “Poverty Reduction Support Credits: A Stocktaking.” Operations Policy and Country Services. June 2005. The World Bank.

4. The Rationale for Integrating Chemicals Management into Development Assistance

Chemicals management has long been part of the global agenda for a number of environmental and health reasons, some of which are briefly addressed below. At the country level, these reasons may seem less compelling when juxtaposed with immediate concerns of sustaining livelihoods and alleviating poverty. However, as a cross-cutting issue, chemicals are inherent to the development of a number of societal sectors and thus have significant economic import. The risks that some chemicals and their products pose can be as much, if not more a local problem than a global one, in particular for rapidly developing countries that may have weak institutional capacity. Justification for singling out the sound management of chemicals for mainstreaming in development planning, as well as experiences in doing so, are covered in this section.

Chemicals and Society: Current Trends and Characteristics

Chemicals are everywhere. They are found in a variety of uses and products, produced in nearly every country, and released into the environment both intentionally and unintentionally. An OECD review of the chemicals industry estimated that it accounted for 7% of the global income and 9% of international trade, and employed more than 10 million people worldwide. From 1970 to 1998, world chemicals output grew nearly nine-fold, from US\$171 billion to US\$1.5 trillion. Even more striking, chemical production in non-OECD continues to grow faster than in OECD countries. This trend is likely to continue and accelerate, with the OECD estimating that by 2020, non-OECD countries, which accounted for 17% of the world's production in 1970, will be producing 31% of a far larger world production of chemicals.⁹

Trends in the chemicals industry only present a partial picture of the pervasiveness of chemicals in modern society. They are produced or used in more obvious sectors including the agriculture, industry and energy sectors, however, chemicals are also fundamental to the telecommunications, transportation, information technology, infrastructure and construction, and health sectors. Growing evidence testifies that along with the essential role of chemicals in today's world, they often present unintended and unexpected consequences, both locally and globally.

Chemicals, released both intentionally and unintentionally, can be found in places far from where they may have been produced or used. They are present in the air we breathe, water and many foods we eat. Some of these chemicals belong to a group described as POPs, which are characterized by their toxicity, persistence, ability to travel great distances, and tendency to accumulate in the fatty tissue of animals and humans. Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), for example, have been used in electrical power generating systems, hydraulic fluids, caulking compounds, paints, and vast array of other products. Although production was banned in most countries more than twenty years ago, PCBs continue to be found nearly everywhere scientists choose to look, including in human breast milk in countries as far apart as Kazakhstan, Turkey and Vietnam. Similarly, brominated fire retardants (chemically similar to PCBs) have been found in locations as remote as western Greenland.

Scientists continue to compile and assess evidence on the possible health and environmental effects of many chemicals. Current literature points to suspected connections between some chemicals and a range of effects, both chronic and acute. These include cancer, cardiovascular disease, developmental problems, and effects on the human nervous, reproductive, or immune systems.

Chemicals Management – The International Context

⁹ OECD. 2001. "OECD Environmental Outlook for the Chemicals Industry." OECD Paris, France.

Increased awareness, concern and knowledge about the effects in the environment by some chemicals have consequently prompted a corresponding response by the international community. The response has taken two parallel tracks. The first track has been strengthening the global regulatory framework by developing conventions – the number and scope of which have grown dramatically in recent years. In 1970, for example, there were two conventions specifically addressing chemicals issues and that number jumped to nine after the 1970s, 22 after the 1980s, and stood at 49 in 2004.

The second track has been to develop an institutional commitment and framework that made clear that the sound management of chemicals was a global priority. This was started by the 1992 Rio Conference, which noted that chemical risks did not respect national boundaries and cited the need to strengthen both national and international capabilities to manage chemicals. Through Chapter 19 of Agenda 21, the conference suggested that ensuring the environmentally sound management of chemicals required the strengthening of six essential areas in particular: assessment of chemical risks; harmonization of classification and labeling; information exchange; risk reduction programmes; national capabilities and capacities for management of chemicals; and, prevention of illegal international traffic in toxic and dangerous products.

The international community subsequently created several coordinating bodies, such as the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety (IFCS), and the Inter-organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC), intended to raise awareness on chemicals issues and to facilitate cooperation and exchange of information among relevant intergovernmental organizations. The 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg continued this track by reinforcing Agenda 21's commitment to the sound management of chemicals, adopting as part of its Plan of Implementation, a commitment "aiming to achieve, by 2020, that chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment."

The realization that a more strategic approach was required to deal with the simultaneous growing chemicals agenda and the lag in worldwide capacity led UNEP's Governing Council to begin to discuss the need to address chemical risks and management in a comprehensive framework in 1995. Continued deliberation at various international fora over the following seven years resulted in a decision in 2002 at the Seventh Special Session of the UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Forum that recommended the development of a "strategic approach to international chemicals management," (SAICM). In particular, the council emphasized the importance of developing a strategic approach that promoted the incorporation of chemical safety issues into the development agenda, as well as the strengthening of countries' capacities for the sound management of chemicals.

Chemicals Management as a Development Issue

Developing countries are faced with certain challenges that will affect how well they can meet international obligations and enforce their own regulations and policies. Chemicals are a large concern for developing countries who house the majority of the world's poor people and which are more likely to have weaker regulatory frameworks and capacity to manage the risks posed by some chemicals. Global conventions cover many critical issues that can provide the regulatory benchmarks and guidance needed to manage certain chemical issues at the national level. However, their growing number is creating the potential for overlap and redundancies through numerous and disconnected requirements; blurring the possibilities for more comprehensive and sustainable approaches to chemicals management, for efficiencies in the use of human and financial resources

and for coordination at the country and international levels; and placing an exceptional burden on developing countries. Coupled with the rapidly growing chemicals industry, as well as the drive for economic growth which often takes precedence over long-term environmental and health concerns, developing countries are finding it difficult to keep up with international and national measures necessary to protect their populations and the environment of risks and emerging dangers.

The adverse effects of some chemicals are compounded in poor people. There is a greater likelihood that they are directly exposed to chemicals in both occupational and non-occupational settings. Water-related diseases caused by inadequate sanitation that often involve heavy metals as well as respiratory diseases caused by poor indoor air quality that involves particulate matter, are the traditional environmental health risks in poorer countries. There are also modern hazards seen in more industrialized countries that are caused by development that lacks sufficient environmental safeguards, such as urban air pollution (for example, nitrous oxide and sulfates) and mis-management of agro-industrial chemicals and waste.¹⁰

The informal sector, in which many poor people are occupied by scavenging in landfills, recycling, and artisanal gold mining, for example, may lead to exposure to chemicals such as dioxins and furans, lead and mercury. Pesticide drums and containers are often reused for water and food in poor communities, exposing populations to the effects of the chemicals. Obsolete pesticides, many of which are POPs, can have long-term toxic effects to the environment and human health when poorly stored or disposed of. Nutritional and health deficits that are common among poorer people may exacerbate exposure effects, including neurological effects which impact more vulnerable populations such as children. Moreover, poor people are often voiceless in their communities and are subsequently not able to take action nor are aware of exposure risks.

Although advances have been made in studying chemical impacts on human health and the environment, the limited amount of quantitative data that links chemicals with specific adverse effects, in particular chronic effects, is an issue with which all countries are concerned. Demonstrating the impact of chemicals on local populations and linking poverty to the use, release and exposure to toxics within developing countries is even more urgent in order for policymakers and the public to recognize the level and type of action needed to manage chemicals as well as the associated costs and benefits.

Chemicals management is a development issue because chemicals are not only necessary for the growth and development of many sectors but are closely linked to dimensions of poverty – vulnerability, disempowerment, environmental disease and natural resource degradation. Consequently, chemicals management is linked to achieving a number of the Millennium Development Goals. For example, eradicating extreme hunger (MDG 1) might come through agricultural intensification which would involve choices on the use of agrochemicals; while reducing chemical contaminants in water could be a way to improve maternal health (MDG 5).

¹⁰ “Environmental Health at a Glance,” World Bank Health-Nutrition-Population (HNP) Fact Sheet, June 2003.

Box X. The Sound Management of Chemicals is Directly Relevant to Achieving Millennium Development Goals 1 and 4-8

The Millennium Development Goals	
➤	MDG 1 – Eradicate poverty and extreme hunger
➤	MDG 2 – Achieve universal primary education
➤	MDG 3 – Promote gender equality
➤	MDG 4 – Reduce child mortality
➤	MDG 5 – Improve maternal health
➤	MDG 6 – Combat HIV/aids, malaria & other diseases
➤	MDG 7 – Ensure environmental sustainability
➤	MDG 8 – Build a global partnership for development

MDG 7- Target 9
Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs

Experiences and Considerations in Mainstreaming Chemicals Management

Due to their pivotal role in many sectors of development and their complex relationship with poor people, chemical management issues arise in a number of World Bank projects. This may be in several respects – in relation to remedial needs, risk management or to consumption needs for a development purpose.

Box X. Sectors receiving World Bank Assistance Relevant to Chemicals Management

Sector	Examples of Sector Relevant Chemicals/ Chemical Categories
Agriculture, Fishing and Forestry	Organophosphates, POPs and other agro-chemicals, PTSs, ODS
Energy and Mining	SO ₂ , NO _x , PCBs, Dioxin, HAPs, VOCs Heavy metals
Finance	All: Indirect relation to sector and macroeconomic policies
Health	Dioxin, DDT, Particulates (SO ₂ , NO _x), dioxin
Industry and Trade	Basic chemicals, including inorganics and organics: Solvents, metals, PVCs, ODS, POPs, dioxin, agro-chemicals, paints & varnishes, etc.
Information and Communication	Heavy metals, solvents
Law and Justice/Public Admin	All: Chemicals that should be or are regulated
Transportation	Lead, SO _x , NO _x , dioxin, hydrocarbons, PAH
Water and Sanitation	PAH, Heavy metals, PCPs, PCBs Dioxin, organic solvents, PCBs

Projects dealing with chemicals have included initiatives for the mitigation of chemical impacts such as management of waste or obsolete chemical stockpiles; regulation; strengthening competitiveness of industrial sectors; modernizing the transport and agricultural sectors; vector control; and phasing out the use of certain substances. Under GEF and MFMP projects, the focus has been on investment and capacity building activities to support convention-specific objectives. These projects demonstrate that countries are singling out chemicals-related issues in some of their development activities.

However, the influence of the CDF principles, the MDGs, Bank sector strategies and safeguard policies, and, global environmental projects on lending activities which take into account chemical issues, is more difficult to gauge. Quantifying the reasoning behind, the scope and nature of integration of chemicals management into the ongoing portfolio of development activities under

the World Bank is challenging because chemicals can be part of a number of sectors and themes and are not easily separated from broad programs and projects for detailed analysis. However, as instruments that reflect the strategic choices made by a country on program design and resource allocation, poverty reduction and country assistance strategies have been a useful source for obtaining a sense of the likelihood that a cross-cutting issue, such as chemicals management, can be integrated into development activities.

Most reviews of PRSPs and CASs have focused on the environment and sustainable development, with chemical issues covered in that context. In general, reviews have assessed whether environmental concerns are identified in PRSPs and CASs in the first place; how they are treated in respect to sector activities and policy issues and the degree of prioritization; and if linkages are made between the environment, sustainable development, and poverty. Chemicals have been predominantly raised in two ways in PRSPs and CASs – in conjunction with environmental and health aspects of sector priorities and in conjunction with global environmental protection and the country's international commitments.

Box X: Assisting Countries Manage Heavy Metals

Metals, including lead, mercury and arsenic, pose serious threats to human health, such as human developmental hazards, cancer and skin diseases. The high level of heavy metals being released into the global environment from human activity is particularly problematic for poor people as metals may be more hazardous to those with nutritional deficiencies. World Bank activities dealing with heavy metals involve the integration of remediation programs into development projects and support of policy reform to improve pollution regulation. Examples of recent initiatives to reduce health risks from exposure to harmful metals include:

Phase-out of Lead from Gasoline: World Bank-supported lead phase-out in gasoline in Sub-Saharan Africa has been successful in Mauritania, Ethiopia, Tanzania, and Mali. The program was initiated in follow-up to the Dakar Declaration in 2001 that called for a reduction of the level of lead in gasoline from 0.4g/l in 2002 to complete phase-out in 2005. The approach focused on changing the production process and improving the quality of gasoline delivered by refineries in the region. Several factors contributed to successful lead phase-out. Political support at the 2002 WSSD resulted in the creation of the Partnership for Cleaner Fuels and Vehicles under UNEP, which worked in close collaboration with the World Bank. The participation of oil companies such as Total, Shell, and ExxonMobil, as well as the US Environmental Protection Agency and other agencies also helped to raise the profile of leaded gasoline as a major urban air quality issue.

Remediation of Arsenic-Contaminated Ground Water: Arsenic is naturally present in high concentrations in South and East Asia and is a cross-sectoral issue affecting policies of water supply, health, irrigation, rural development and education. The association between arsenic and cancer is well established but about 60 million people live in arsenic-affected areas. World Bank support to address arsenic contamination in Bangladesh and India focuses on cost-effective technology options at the community level. The Bank supports programs that monitor the progress in arsenic remediation through databases to map arsenic-affected areas and remediation measures implemented.

Mitigation of Mercury Exposure from Artisanal Gold Mining: Artisanal mining is largely carried out by uneducated people who are not aware of the environmental and health hazards. The process that miners utilize to extract gold leads to the release of methyl mercury, a highly toxic and mobile organic compound and neurotoxin which accumulates in the food chain. For each gram of gold extracted, 2-5 grams of mercury is released into atmosphere. The small-scale mining sector in Tanzania is a major source of employment to more than 100,000 artisanal gold miners. The Bank's *Tanzania Mineral Sector Development Technical Assistance Project* supported environmentally-sound practice in informal mines and demonstrated the environmental and health benefits of simple, low-cost approaches such as mercury retorts, mechanical crushers, submersible pumps, and pit protection measures. Measures to regularize informal mining and enforcement of environmental and safety standards also helped to sensitize local communities to the hazards of mercury exposure. Similarly, the *Mining Sector Development and Environment Project* in Ghana sought to strengthen environmental management capacity of mining sector institutions and use of environmentally-sound technologies in small-scale mining.

Chemicals are also increasingly being cited in both PRSPs and CASs in the context of protecting the global commons, however, many stop at issue identification. A review of 25 recently

completed CASs distributed by regions, for example, showed that 60% of these refer directly to a global environmental issue, be it in terms of projects funded under the GEF or MLF, or of enabling or technical assistance activities funded through other trust funds. When global chemicals-related issues are mentioned, they too are in the context of existing partnerships with the Bank on GEF and MLF projects, namely issues on POPs, ODS and greenhouse gases.

More specific experiences and considerations in mainstreaming chemicals management, as a local and global environment issue (given the focus of available studies), can be examined by returning to the major elements of a poverty reduction strategy paper: diagnosis of the problem with relevant data; priority setting and targets, with the required priority actions, monitoring and results and participation. The CAS, prepared by the World Bank but which emulates the country's poverty reduction strategy, is already required to look at "mainstreaming" social and environmental concerns, in accordance with Bank sector strategies and is also included here for discussion on mainstreaming.

TO BE REVISED

Issue Identification

A number of World Bank reviews of both PRSPs and CASs have been undertaken to get a sense of the level of environment mainstreaming as well as the degree of incorporation of the MDGs. One parameter has been simply the mention of sustainable development, achieving the MDGs, or more general environmental and health issues such as the global environment somewhere in the strategy. Some issues identified through international conventions such as protecting the ozone layer can be perceived by developing countries to be donor driven and in fact, the existence of grants through multilateral financial mechanisms is in part, to assist countries to adopt the particular global environmental priority as their own. With external financing, however, country ownership may nonetheless be muted, possibly leading to a "disconnect" between objectives at an activity or project level with what is needed at the sector or national level to ensure sustainability and long-term gains. It is not surprising to find that at the stage of planning development assistance to alleviate poverty and promote growth, that global environmental issues are seen by countries as being important, but separate issues.

This relates to the issue of relevance – whether the global-local benefits are balanced sufficiently to merit attention from a country that is overwhelmed with immediate development concerns. However, the mention of global environmental issues in PRSPs and CASs is a start because it indicates that dialogue at the country level has commenced and is likely to grow. If it is on a country's radar screen, there will be the basis for action if a situation arises during implementation of sector programs.

In terms of World Bank, its own internal CAS procedures highlight environmentally sustainable development as a Bank objective that should be incorporated into the core component of the CAS document. A review of 25 recently completed CASs distributed by regions, showed that 60% of these refer directly to a global environmental issue be it in terms of projects funded under the GEF or MLF, or of enabling or technical assistance activities funded through other trust funds. When global chemicals-related issues are mentioned, they too are in the context of existing partnerships with the Bank on GEF and MLF projects, namely issues on POPs, ODS and greenhouse gases.

How these global environmental issues are discussed in the CAS is critical, because acknowledging the existence of a global issue does not necessarily mean that it is posed to be integrated in a

country's development and poverty reduction activities. Several CASs have environmental sustainability as a major pillar of the thematic framework for Bank assistance and clearly depict the role of global environmental programs in an overall environmental protection strategy.

The World Bank's Country Assistance Strategy for China

The 2003 CAS for China reflects and builds upon the country's emphasis on improving its environment. The CAS cites a joint China-Bank study in 2001 that recommended "mainstreaming environmental considerations in the planning processes of all major governmental agencies" and "developing diversified approaches and tools to deal with the country's wide-ranging needs."

Even beyond supporting China's efforts on domestic environmental problems, however, the CAS gives attention to China's role in protecting the global environmental commons, noting that China's environmental problems have global implications. Indeed, one of China's highest priorities is ensuring environmentally sustainable development and a component of the CAS definition of sustainable development is the protection of the global commons.

The Bank's support correspondingly includes activities on chemicals-related and other global environmental issues, such as phasing out ODS, reducing and eliminating POPs, promoting clean development under the Kyoto Protocol and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

There is also more reference to the relationship between activities of the Bank and that of the International Finance Corporation (IFC), which is the part of the World Bank Group that deals with the private sector.

Establishing Justification and Links for Priority Actions

Poverty reduction strategies will specify targets for the period of the strategy and the corresponding policies, programs and reforms which will lead to the achievement of these targets. This is done by drawing on data and analysis, and from views of stakeholders. Lack of quantitative and analytical data demonstrating the links to local concerns, and more specifically poverty, is a major reason **why it is not a simple matter to make the case for an issue sometimes considered to be a global environmental concern when working on meeting the basic needs of a country's population and stimulating growth to decrease poverty levels.**

The identification of a chemical issue as a general concern to the country, such as in the context of the country's commitments to global conventions, is an important sign of the country's level of awareness, however, a country's ability and willingness to address the issue in the context of development priorities would be seen in how the issue's relevance to country priorities is portrayed.

As an example, a PRSP may simply state that the sound management of chemicals is vital to the country, however, a PRSP that identifies causal links between regulatory gaps and the increased burden of environmental disease on the urban poor, would lead to activities more likely to bring in sound chemicals management as a critical component of interventions dealing with industry, urban development and transportation. Conversely, a PRSP that first focuses on a set of priority public actions such as macroeconomic policy or sector policies will not necessarily focus on health or environmental outcomes linked to these actions. However, a macroeconomic policy that leads to an increase in growth, might in turn lead to an increase in pollution. If these types of relationships can be identified and quantified at the stage of planning development assistance, countries can

better include measures to mitigate any harmful impacts from planned activities, and in doing so, perhaps save future damage control costs.

The lack of supporting analytical tools which could provide a better understanding of the links between global environmental issues and sustainable development and poverty reduction at a national level is a major reason why these types of environmental issues are not well integrated into national development planning. For example, the fact that there is a substantial amount of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) – chemical compounds which are toxic and carcinogenic – being released into the environment from discarded waste oil from sources such as vehicles, electric generators and more significantly, the extraction of crude oil, may not figure in development assistance focusing on a country's transportation or energy sector. However, PAHs are at once a local and global issue and their safe management and disposal is extremely relevant for countries experiencing rapid growth.

Establishing relationships between the production, use and disposal of chemicals and other sectors can also lead to the demonstration of economic benefits and need not be driven solely by the need to lessen environmental and health impacts. Energy and input efficient industry is not only interesting in terms of diminished emissions, but in terms of cost savings to industry.

Box X: The Chemicals Agenda in Poverty Reduction Strategies

Poverty reduction strategies articulate country priorities in various sectors. The following countries have highlighted chemicals issues in their PRSPs.

Kyrgyz Republic: The 2002 PRSP has identified air and water pollution as major health concerns. Benzopyrene emissions from vehiculars is observed to be 25 to 35 times the standard, and the lead and chromium concentrations exceed the norms by 1.4 times and 12.7 times, respectively.

Mozambique: The 2001 PRSP emphasizes the required regulatory framework for environmental institutions, environmental standards on CFCs and marine pollution, territorial planning and zoning, and a strategy for waste management.

Sri Lanka: The 2002 PRSP notes that old cars and trucks and poor gasoline and diesel quality contribute to an alarming rise in urban air pollution, and the vehicular emissions of lead and particulates affect the poor disproportionately. Lead impacts are reported to be particularly high among children with iron or calcium deficiency.

Azerbaijan: The 2003 PRSP highlights the problem of air pollution in the Absheron peninsula. Since large numbers of manufacturing industries and 70% of the country's power plants are located in the region, the health of the population living in the peninsula is severely affected making it highly vulnerable to toxic pollutants from the emissions of power plants, industry, and transport.

A major component of a CAS is the analytical matrix which shows cross-sectoral relationships. Reviews show that more recent CASs have linked specific environmental issues to their drivers in matrixes and then identified the resulting impacts from and on sector policies and poverty. For example in the most recent CAS for Guinea (*check*) increased hazardous waste due to population growth in urban areas was resulting in illegal dumping of hazardous waste due to lax regulatory enforcement and subsequent exposure of children who have easy access to the dumps. According to reviews however, CASs seldom take the analyses a step further by demonstrating how global environmental programs may be used to complement country assistance across sectors and strengthen national environmental sustainability efforts.

Conversely, the link between a seemingly local issue is not made to its impact on global public goods, nor to the ability of a country to meet its international obligations on this public good. For

example, several CASs refer to the rapid growth of the chemicals industry or discuss the implications of mining but do not show how chemical emissions from these two sectors have both local and global impacts which increases the severity of the issue and would necessitate risk management at several levels. This finding is not necessarily commensurate to the level of resources that flow through the Bank for global environmental issues nor the growing number of environmental activities, but reflects the current situation in country dialogue on development assistance.

World Bank operations are based on a country-driven approach – from the identification of development priorities through project implementation and completion. Although formulated by the Bank, country assistance strategies also are driven by country-level concerns. In developing CASs, the Bank must balance its internal strategic objectives, such as those laid out in its sector strategies and the MDGs, with those articulated by its clients as well as its external partners in its role as an implementing agency for environmental financial mechanisms and a trustee of several environmental trust funds. Moreover, the Bank and its client must be realistic about country capacity to implement projects and activities identified for assistance. This is a challenge because there is no lack of important concerns for developing countries – most centering on poverty reduction rather than on global environmental and health issues.

Given the number of issues, the limited amount of resources available, levels of country-capacity and the “national execution” approach, the Bank is under strong pressure to be selective in the lending and non-lending assistance in which it engages. On occasion, environmental projects will be central to a CAS depending on the situation and needs of the client, however, this will certainly not be the case for many countries in a given period of time. This underlies the need to do a better job in mainstreaming the environment into priority areas as well as the need to build long-term country capacity. The increased emphasis by the Bank on analytical work, such as the CEA, is an attempt to promote mainstreaming.

Finally, another factor that may prevent more rapid integration of environmental issues which are pertinent at both the local and global levels is that of access to required data and analysis when preparing national strategies and development assistance plans. There is a number of studies, analyses, action plans and strategies on the state of the environment, conservation, national sustainable development, and specific environmental issues (from both scientific and policy perspectives) being promulgated by country agencies, donors and multilateral agencies and the sheer volume, varying perspectives and sometimes competing priorities can make it difficult for countries to identify, determine and agree upon what information can support their development plans.

Participation

A reason that chemicals, as a health and environmental issue, might not be present in key priority actions with direct links to chemicals management despite the evidence that there are strong links to local concerns, can also be due to the nature of participation in the PRS process. An absence of emphasis on a cross-cutting issue such as chemicals might be because constituencies that are concerned with the impacts of chemical emissions, such as academia and NGOs have not been brought into the PRS or CAS process. The requirement that the process and type of participation that takes place in preparing a poverty reduction strategy be described in the PRSP, is to ensure that the strategy is broad-based and represents the needs and views of the entire country. The World Bank sees this element of the PRSP as crucial and has developed tools to encourage stakeholders, especially poor people, to influence and share control over priority setting, policy making, resource allocations and access to public goods and services (see the *Useful Links* section).

Country stakeholders, including populations which may be directly affected by national development programs often hold the key to making development sustainable. Perspectives from diverse government agencies, the private sector, NGOs and the scientific community, may uncover important issues that were not considered or may identify synergies and opportunities for strengthening the poverty reduction strategy and/or the CAS. For example, failing to take advantage of the experience garnered in developing and implementing projects on ceasing the use of harmful chemicals, or of complying with obligations under an MEA, when making plans to reform the private sector, might be due to insufficient consultation with relevant stakeholders. The implications could go so far as to harm investments made by a country in development projects.

As the subject of priority action in many country strategies, it is important that the private sector be brought to the table early on in the PRSP and CAS consultation process to facilitate cooperative engagement with the government and help the government better fashion regulatory requirements as well as voluntary action or other approaches to ensuring sustainable growth. This is particularly crucial when dealing with the management of the production, use and disposal of chemicals as developing countries industrialize and expand their industry and chemical production capacity.

In order to ensure that a national plan is aligned with country realities and can be implemented, key ministries, agencies and decision-makers need to understand, input and commit to the strategy. This would include ministries that serve as focal points for chemicals-based MEAs and other international action on chemicals.

Finally, the PRSP and CAS process are iterative and will be repeated every 3 to 5 years which provides the opportunity to institutionalize the participatory process. Countries can choose to include, and often benefit from stakeholders in the implementation stage of the PRSP or CAS for monitoring. Having feedback mechanisms allows stakeholder concerns and inputs to be incorporated into the next round of policy making.

Monitoring and Results

One consistent finding in the reviews of PRSPs and CASs is that enhancing development-environment or poverty-environment links in proposed actions could be accomplished by using tools to quantify improvements or deterioration of human health and the environment in relation to sectoral interventions. It is often difficult to associate certain environmental and health impacts to specific activities. This is particularly the case for chemical-related impacts that often manifest themselves in the long-term and through a range of end-points. However, existing health and

environmental indicators can sometimes lead to valuable information on poverty-environment or sustainable development outcomes if analyzed in conjunction with economic and other indicators.

Nonetheless, reviews consistently point to the lack of good quality data and capacity of countries to monitor results. This is of concern for an issue such as chemicals, where often the lack of information is the reason for no action. Good indicators and data are critical to a global environmental issue such as chemicals because of the time dimension involved in contrast to the short timeframe of poverty reduction and country assistance strategies. The PRSP and CAS cycle is short but iterative whereas environmental and health impacts as well as remedial outcomes and the millennium development goals, will be long-term. It is important that a monitoring system is put into place with good indicators and realistic targets that will not compromise the longer-term perspective which is needed by a country to determine priorities in its subsequent PRSPs.

5. Opportunities for Strengthening Chemicals Management in National Development Plans

A better understanding of the process of national development and poverty reduction planning, along with development assistance planning, reveals opportunities for promoting the integration of a critical concern – the sound management of chemicals – into national action by developing countries. There are a multitude of international actors involved in the chemicals agenda at national and global levels with a corresponding fill of treaties, programs, projects and other initiatives. They seek to promote the sound management of chemicals through various functions such as strategy development, evaluation, global financing and delivery mechanisms (such as training and knowledge tools), as well as advocacy.

The challenge is first, to link up the the knowledge and experience of the international chemicals management community with the development community – country governments, aid agencies and other actors. The PRSP is the obvious place for doing so as the primary tool by low-income countries to plan and coordinate development and poverty reduction measures and assistance; but other platforms can be national planning documents used by countries that do not have PRSPs, as well as development assistance strategies of development partners. Second, entry points in the development planning process should be identified to generate and deliver various knowledge and tools and build capacity for informing policy and decision-makers about the necessities, costs and benefits, as well as relevant legal obligations, to manage chemicals in a sound manner.

Activities that can Facilitate the Mainstreaming of Chemicals

The preceding section highlighted some of the challenges in integrating global environmental issues, including chemicals management, into elements of the poverty reduction and country assistance strategies. The major necessities for better mainstreaming of chemicals issues into development planning and assistance are related to analytical and diagnostic work that demonstrates links and impacts of chemicals to sectoral and policy reform, as well as poverty; awareness about chemicals issues, country obligations to chemicals-based MEAs and the MDGs by development planners and how these are all related to each other and to dimensions of poverty; and to the need to widen stakeholder participation to include groups that are involved with or impacted by chemicals-related issues in strategic planning. These needs might be categorized as 1) “upstream” work; 2) knowledge sharing; and, 3) capacity building.

- 4) **Upstream work** might include analytical work at the country or sector level on causal links (development, use, disposal of chemicals with poverty), cross-sectoral linkages (sector policies and chemicals/environmental management), macroeconomic policies and chemicals-related impacts, etc., and on chemicals and reaching targets (MDGs, WSSD 2020 goal); needs assessment; gap analyses (governance, policy and regulatory); chemical management strategies on national, sectoral and substance levels; cost-benefit analyses; development of indicators and monitoring systems; studies on trade and chemicals; etc.
- 5) **Knowledge sharing** might include organization of information workshops for targeted groups, such as parliamentarians, regional and local government, NGOs, industry associations and groups (producers, distributors of chemicals) etc.; coordination meetings between countries, donors, and aid agencies; collaborative undertakings for knowledge and data sharing among government agencies, civil society and the public; etc.
- 6) **Capacity building** might include training of civil society in participatory processes; training policy-makers in the areas of environment, health and labor in strategic planning, monitoring and evaluation, risk management; promoting inter-agency coordination; etc.

Similar types of activities are being pursued separately at the international level. How this chemicals-based work can be reoriented towards a broader development perspective to take advantage of synergetic opportunities, promote results and avoid duplication, should be explored.

International Chemicals Community

We have seen that international action on chemicals has taken the form of a growing global framework of distinct environmental and labor-related conventions. We have also observed that most chemical issues addressed by these agreements are not purely of a global nature. A significant share of chemical impacts and risks fall on developing country populations, principally the poor and vulnerable, and their environment, and trends indicate that these could be more severe in the future without serious attention placed on the relationship between chemicals and development.

Chemicals-based conventions have generated, or are generating, not only legal requirements, but numerous activities directed at developing countries, comprising investment projects, technical and institutional capacity building, monitoring and reporting, and information exchange, as well as associated analytical work in order to facilitate the achievement of convention obligations. There are also a number of chemical management activities and initiatives which are undertaken in conjunction with or apart from MEAs through IOMC organizations, the IFCS (which includes public interest groups and industry), convention secretariats and governments from around the world. These include the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals; labor standards; guidance on chemical industries, food, agriculture, and risk assessment and management; clearinghouses on trade in chemicals and wastes; capacity building activities, national profiles on chemicals; and, inventories of chemical stockpiles, to name only a few.

The continued challenges worldwide, however, to manage existing and potential environmental and health risks posed by chemicals, despite the number of agreements and activities is why a more coordinated, multisectoral and strategic approach was initiated. It is hoped that a SAICM will provide momentum and guidance and help countries in priority setting and coordination of global action. There is still need for this to take place at the national level, and this where the PRSP and CAS process is needed – to be a common denominator where a cross-sectoral issue meets the development and poverty agenda.

From the many activities underway, the international chemicals community already offers means for promoting the integration of sound chemicals management into national development plans. Of specific interest, are treaty obligations and related activities; knowledge sharing and capacity building which focus on technical, institutional and regulatory capacity; and, analytical and diagnostic work that helps countries assess the extent of chemical problems, identify regulatory and policy gaps and develop strategies and action plans to manage specific chemicals.

In terms of the latter, several of the conventions require or encourage countries to develop national plans or strategies to deal with specific chemicals. National Implementation Plans (NIPs), for example, are required by the Stockholm Convention and enabling activities covered by GEF on NIPs have helped countries identify POPs in their countries, establish inventories and plan national policy responses and measures to manage POPs. Because POPs are found in a number of sectors, this exercise has helped raise awareness about POPs, and persistent toxic substances in general, across ministries. The SAICM process has brought about more interest in developing national approaches to managing chemicals and already some in the international community are exploring ways to help countries assess their national chemicals management framework and develop national strategies to regulate and manage chemicals-related issues. Some of the work required at

the country level to demonstrate the relevance of chemical management in regards to sectoral priorities and policies can therefore be drawn from initiatives taken at the global level.

Some chemicals-based MEAs, such as the Montreal Protocol, along with its financial mechanisms, have extensive, but separate structures in place – aside the legal requirements for controlling and phasing out the use of specific chemicals substances, there are country focal points, reporting requirements, capacity building activities, investment projects and project management units. The global environment regime consequently brings to table experience, knowledge, financial resources and a network of individuals at the country level who are involved in MEA implementation. Focal points, which tend to be dispersed in ministries of environment and other traditionally weaker government agencies, and are at times, apart from government priorities and plans due to external funding and direction, which have them focus on clearly defined issues. However, they would be an obvious source of knowledge in the national development planning process on the country's international commitments and how those translate at the country and sector level. More attention is needed on how to pool these important resources and align their focus to accommodate a holistic approach to chemicals management at the national level.

Bringing in chemicals-based agreements to which a country is party during the consultative process of the CAS may uncover simple improvements to a proposed action or demonstrate the need to work on coordination between agencies and donors. It also provides the country with exposure to the experiences of other countries in implementing projects, meeting specific obligations and developing policy responses under international agreements. In turn, the issue-centered focus of activities falling under various MEAs and other environmental partnerships, is given the opportunity to be considered and addressed in a broader context.

In terms of capacity building and knowledge sharing, the international chemicals community is represented by a wide array of stakeholders stemming from the public and the private sector. Capacity needs in developing countries are many, but strengthening the capacity of countries to assess their regulatory and policy needs and look at approaches for dealing with trade, economic, environmental and health aspects of chemicals, provides an important start. Strengthening public policy can assist the mainstreaming of global environmental issues in two ways – it can first help country-stakeholders take control of the process and second, at the international level it can help developing countries steer the agenda towards their needs, i.e. more emphasis on identifying global-local links and more emphasis on developing long-term institutional capacity for sustained results. In order to accomplish this, substantial coordination is required between global partners, MEAs and agencies traditionally responsible for providing assistance in the public policy arena.

Development Assistance and World Bank Engagement

As an international development and financial institution and an implementing agency for GEF and the MLF, the World Bank is uniquely placed to support the integration of chemicals agenda into national development planning and provide the institutional and development framework to support the gaps. World Bank policies, strategies, and lending instruments can facilitate the integration of chemical agenda in the developing planning of countries.

The World Bank offers three key advantages in terms of integrating a global environmental issue, such as chemicals management, into an overall sustainable development and poverty reduction program. For one, the Bank's involvement in most sectors of society provides an opening for designing projects that cut across sectors. An issue such as dioxins and furans can involve the health (medical waste), water, industry and transportation sectors and a cross-sectoral approach permits addressing their production and release in a more comprehensive manner and mandates

better integration into sectoral activities. Two, the Bank is particularly well-placed to initiate and stimulate policy dialogue. Due to its convening power, it has access to the more influential government ministries and agencies of its clients on the one hand, and on the other, is in close contact with other stakeholders such as bilateral donors and development partners, NGOs and multilateral organizations. Three, due to its relationship with these stakeholders and the fact that it is a financial institution, the World Bank can mobilize financing to support or complement its lending and non-lending activities.

The World Bank is increasingly shifting its lending towards a results-based, programmatic approach.¹¹ Programmatic lending is centered on medium-term institutional reform, places more emphasis on country ownership and has the CAS as one of its key features. It also looks toward providing, in parallel to the lending program, more advisory services, capacity building and integrated Bank and donor support of one government program. This makes the strengthening of links between the environment, poverty and development more tangible as the focus turns to improving institutions and environmental policy for sustained progress. The short-term results of many convention-based activities have the potential to be transformed into lasting results if there is complementary work done on strengthening institutions and policies. One of the major lessons learned in implementing the Montreal Protocol is that ODS phaseout is sustained when investment projects are implemented in parallel to sector and national policy reform and development.

In addition, the World Bank's directive on development policy lending (see Box X) calls for the increased use of analytical economic and sector work (upstream work) to better determine the basis and need for lending activities. More recently, the Bank introduced the CEA as a means to implement recommendations from its Environment Strategy, namely the need for systematic, country-level diagnostic environmental analysis. This work can feed into both the PRSP and CAS process. The CEA also replicates the process of the PRSP and CAS, in that it surveys and analyzes all existing environmental work and data for a country and determines priorities with the country, its stakeholders and other donor agencies.

There is also added opportunity to bring in for example, existing analytical work on the links between chemicals and the environment and health, developed under the auspices of MEAs (such as the extensive work done by UNEP-Chemicals on dioxins and furans and PTS). Moreover, in cooperation with the international actors operating on the chemicals management agenda and in conjunction with lessons learned from implementing programs from previous CASs and PRSPs, analytical work that is specific to the particular issues of a country or region can be used to reshape the development agenda in a new PRSP or CAS.

Finally, the World Bank is continuing to align its efforts with the MDGs – it is focusing more on MDGs in its CASs, integrating the MDGs in sectorwide¹² and programmatic instruments, reorienting its financial assistance towards MDGs and using the MDGs as a means for monitoring and evaluation and developing indicators. The MDGs can therefore be an important tool to promote the mainstreaming of chemical management initiatives that have relevance towards meeting specific targets of the MDGs in various countries.

Entry Points for Enabling the Mainstreaming of Chemicals

¹¹ Programmatic approaches involve coordinated donor support to implement a comprehensive program, including PRSPs, are country-led, and rely on a single budget and domestic process.

¹² Sectorwide approaches involve financing of a specific sectors through various financing modalities.

The activities that can enable better mainstreaming of chemicals will be required at different points in the four general stages of the preparation of a poverty reduction strategy. Table X below, provides some examples of where “enabling” activities for the integration of chemicals issues might fit in the process.

It must be noted again that only countries classified as IDA countries are required to develop PRSPs by the World Bank and IMF. In the case of non-IDA developing countries, the CAS, or other strategies mandated by development partners, would become the point of departure for focusing efforts on mainstreaming. Although, prepared by the World Bank, the CAS would have similar entry points, in particular to chemicals-related upstream work at the beginning of the CAS cycle and on stakeholder involvement throughout the process.

Box.

Poverty Reduction Strategy Development Process Approximate “Entry Points” for the Integration of Chemicals Management Tools and Activities		
General Development Phases of the PRSP	Features	Examples of Chemicals Management Tool/ Activity
Data is reviewed and discussed -Poverty data -Analytical work -Impact assessments -Sector strategies - Results of previous and ongoing interventions	May stem from countries or development partners in the form of studies, CEAs, SEAs, State of the Environment Reports, sector strategies, economic and sector work, poverty assessments, poverty and social impact analysis, and other analytical and advisory services – all considered upstream work.	⇒ Cost-benefit analysis of policy /regulatory measures on various sectors ⇒ Impact studies of chemicals on specific sectors, populations, environment; ⇒ Quantitative data that links production, use and disposal of chemicals to health and environmental effects; ⇒ Studies on cross-sectoral linkages of managing certain chemicals, linkages of chemical risks to poverty, global-local issues; ⇒ Economic impact studies on labor and health costs due to health effects from chemicals; ⇒ National strategies to manage chemicals/ implement conventions; national profiles, NIPs, NSDPs, etc.
Diagnosis carried out Understanding the nature of poverty: - Causes - Dimensions - Linkages	-Negotiations between country stakeholders and partners on PRSP participatory process -Use of diagnostic tools (such as development policy reviews) -Stocktaking previous/ongoing projects/public interventions	⇒ Capacity building activities to inform stakeholder groups of PRSP process, chemical mgmt issues, past/planned country priorities; ⇒ Raising awareness in regards to data results, studies; ⇒ Identifying needs/gaps in governance, policies/regulations in regards to chemicals; ⇒ Linking upstream work to assess/ improve ongoing development initiatives.
Targets and Priority Areas for growth and poverty reduction are determined	-Stakeholder participation in identifying/ negotiating priorities; -Results of diagnostic work incorporated into existing national priorities and strategies to identify immediate priorities for the PRSP duration (3-5 years)	⇒ Capacity building activities to promote direct participation of relevant stakeholders (affected populations, private sector, elected officials); ⇒ Raising awareness among key ministries; ⇒ Showing linkages of chemical issues (including MEA obligations) to macro/sector policies and poverty reduction priorities with cost-benefit analysis. ⇒ Defining goals and targets related to chemicals management (through participation of key stakeholders).
Monitoring and evaluation system is proposed	-Indicators are selected or developed to measure progress	⇒ Indicators for chemicals management-related monitoring & results;

PARTICIPATION

	towards targets. -Planning of feedback mechanism, evaluation system (<i>ongoing into implementation</i>)	⇒ Capacity building for monitoring of chemicals-related indicators (government as well as civil society) and evaluation of results.
Interim or Full PRSP -Priority areas for public action -Macro / structural policies -Improvements in Governance -Appropriate sector policies and programs -Full costing of proposed actions/major programs	Includes: 1) Assessment of poverty and determinants 2) Targets for key outcomes 3) Public actions for growth/ poverty reduction prioritized (timelines) 4) System for monitoring & evaluating impacts that is to be established 5) Level of stakeholder involvement in the process above is described.	⇒ Grant assistance requirements for specific interventions defined (TA, monitoring, projects, etc.) – reflected by partners in respective assistance strategies, MEA/GEF programs and projects; ⇒ Donor coordination; ⇒ Costing of major chemicals management components.

Recommendations for how both countries and the international chemicals management community can promote the integration of chemicals management considerations, where appropriate, during the process of developing poverty reduction strategies or other national development strategies are highlighted in the box below. These are partially based on general good practices that the World Bank has compiled through review of early PRSPs and assume that there is a platform where the development community and the international chemicals management community can collaborate. This is where development agencies can play a facilitative role. The World Bank, for example, with its various functions (fiduciary, resource mobilization, country dialogue and analysis, program management and evaluation) and dual role as an implementing agency for global environmental and health initiatives, could help to facilitate this convergence.

International Chemicals Management Community	Country Governments
Create country buy-in on the importance and need of mainstreaming specific chemical management issues:	
<p>During the priority setting phase of the PRSP process, demonstrate how it is a good investment for the country and make it relevant to country concerns through country-specific studies and analyses on chemical impacts on health, labor, environment, etc. (upstream work). Countries could be assisted to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • quantify improvements / deterioration of human health and the environment in relation to chemical production and use in various sectors • identify cross-sectoral as well as macro-level linkages (governance, private/public sector reforms...) • identify driving forces behind environmental and health problems that are caused by chemical exposure • identify institutional and technical capacity needs and gaps in governance related to the above points <p>Linkages should be demonstrated between sound chemicals management and key development goals of poverty alleviation, sustainable growth, and reaching MDG targets, keeping in mind the need for data and targets and measurable indicators, as well as the financial implications.</p>	<p>The inclusion of all relevant stakeholders should be promoted in the PRSP process (relevant ministries and agencies, elected officials, local government, civil society, private sector, etc.) by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • building country-wide awareness on the PRSP or national development planning process and associated timelines • involving relevant line ministries, and in particular, clarifying the links between the budget process and chemicals management to the Ministry of Finance. • providing assistance/capacity building to stakeholders to facilitate participation; stimulate national dialogue and policy debate
Agree on parameters for assistance in integrating chemicals into development planning and assistance such that:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assistance for chemicals-related analytical and diagnostic work is timed to arrive in advance of the priority setting / consultation steps in PRSPs, other national planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitoring of specific results indicators are directly linked to the tracking of expenditures • there are priorities made for action among chemical

strategies, as well as in strategies of other development institutions (such as CASs). • donor/partner procedures for assistance are unified as much as possible and simplified to reduce the administrative burden to countries and improve efficiency	issues which are clear and consistent with international obligations and specific national development priorities • policy support in chemicals management is provided in a transparent manner to permit open discussion between other parts of government, stakeholders and external partners
Further explore opportunities for synergies and efficiencies between chemicals-based MEAs as well as:	
between partners (providers of bilateral and multilateral assistance) at the international level while taking advantage of the comparative advantage of specialized agencies / partners and tapping into the private sector	between focal points at the country level with an emphasis on strengthening public policy to help countries mainstream global environmental assistance into their sustainable development agendas
Ensure that national strategies on chemicals management are aligned with national development priorities of countries, their specific circumstances and their development planning/budget cycle (at the early stage of development planning).	
Provide assistance to develop/identify indicators, build capacity in establishing M&E systems and clarify priorities and steps for addressing specific chemical issues	Track overall progress at the national level, such as with a tailor-made road-map, adopt monitoring indicators which can be linked to expenditures, and measure results.

Other Considerations

Country Specificity

The nature of chemical risks and challenges will be quite different from country to country, and in some cases, region to region. For example, countries that are rapidly industrializing may be dealing more with issues of industrial pollution or waste management which have direct global implications whereas countries that are primarily rural-based economies, may be facing problems of particulate emissions in households or contamination of water from digging wells.

Some countries will therefore be in great need of immediate assistance because of the types of chemical-issues they are dealing with in the shorter-term. Some countries may have a policy setting that is more conducive to receiving various forms of assistance on chemicals management, whereas others may require broader development assistance in governance and policy reform before some forms of assistance for chemical issues can be effective. The advantage of orienting assistance for chemicals management towards development planning is that it must be country-specific and tailored toward needs. This can also permit efficiencies in assistance delivered through conventions and their financial mechanisms.

Similarly, the approach taken to broach the issue of sound chemicals management needs to be congruent with the political climate of a country. A Government focused on private-sector growth, may be more responsive to a chemicals management approach which can lead to savings and competitiveness for its industry, such as through energy efficiency programs that simultaneously address issues such as mercury in the chlor-alkali business and carbon emissions and reducing need for new energy sources, or, which builds on strengthening existing relationships with industry by using, for example, voluntary or innovative approaches to chemicals management.

In any case, some type of country-based assessment or work which provides evidence that there are links between the management and mismanagement of chemicals, and costs and benefits to the environment, society and the economy would assist a country and donors in priority setting.

Ongoing Programming

The PRSP and the CAS are part of a project cycle whereby short- and medium-term country priorities for development and poverty reduction are introduced, effectively initiating the cycle. At any given point in time, however, there will be projects and programs under implementation by developing countries in partnership with the Bank and other agencies and donors. These ongoing projects can be useful as a reference point, or baseline, for studying what is needed in the country in terms of chemicals management. For example, a project focusing on reforming a country's energy sector, might be leading to a problem of PCBs due to the renovation of its power generation grid. An analysis would be useful to determine what effects if any, there have been on human health and the environment, what policy or regulatory measures are needed to recover and manage PCBs (and perhaps POPs in general) and how this is linked to meeting international obligations. The analysis could be used during the next PRSP and/or CAS process to lay out priority actions.

The World Bank also works with several countries on a sectorwide basis, and at the programmatic level which involves other partners. The Roll Back Malaria program that is being undertaken in partnership with WHO, UNICEF and UNDP, whereby a major agent for vector control is DDT – one of 12 POPs controlled under the Stockholm Convention – is one example of a programmatic approach with linkages to chemical issues. A CAS for a country participating in the program would make a reference but would not show it as a priority since the issue is being addressed. Nonetheless, there could be “entry points” for bringing in the management of POPs from the international perspective, and the enabling activities under GEF, for example, might be the tool to show the need and possible ways forward.

Global-National Benefits and Resources

An inevitable concern that arises when looking at the alignment of global chemicals management objectives with development assistance is whether cooperation will lead to global benefits or national benefits. From the development perspective, the concern is set against a backdrop of limited development assistance for immediate and pressing developing needs, whereas from the perspective of global chemicals management regime, the concern is that limited funds for delivering global benefits might be diverted towards national benefits. However, the nature and impacts of certain chemicals and the trends in their production and use, blur the global and local distinction. The process of developing poverty reduction and country assistance strategies provides the opportunity to dialogue with countries, stakeholders and partners in one setting to look at where global assistance can fit into the development process to leverage action and resources, or simply add on to existing planning activities, which eventually leads to both global and national benefits. Linked to this are the budgetary requirements needed for priority actions by the country which are determined in the PRSP. Planning national and external financing within limits of an overall national expenditure plan, promotes financial coherence, donor coordination and country buy-in.

Country Commitment

The diverse group of interests representing the international chemicals management community can take advantage of the strategic coherence that PRSPs offer in attempt to effect better management of chemicals through a range of activities for example, strengthening regulatory frameworks or building knowledge and technical capacity in risk management and monitoring. Country commitment remains the deciding factor when it comes to the success of these measures. During the PRSP process, initial commitment achieved through broad-based participation, engagement of the ministry of finance along with health and environment, might give way to a project aiming to tackle a specific chemicals-related issue. However, in order to broaden and maintain the commitment needed to deal with a long-term, cross-cutting issue, policy and governance changes are often needed. Commitment for this type of change is only achieved

through ongoing dialogue, consistent messages from partners, demand by civil society, institutional capacity development and the linking of policy statements to national investment plans.

Targets and Measuring Results

Data and corresponding analysis are not only the foundation for diagnosing the development challenges in a country and setting priorities, but are also necessary for developing indicators to be able to monitor and evaluate short and long-term outcomes. Monitoring and evaluation capacity can be built with the support of international efforts to manage toxic chemicals. The 2020 goal in WSSD's Plan of Implementation (along with the six goals set out in Chapter 19 of Agenda 21) is a target that can be used in a development plan that is looking to adopt sound chemicals management, alongside relevant MDGs. SAICM will undoubtedly lead to more concrete targets to facilitate planning on a national level. Indicators of progress which are fundamental to a monitoring and evaluation approach in PRSPs, CASs and other national strategic plans, can likewise be drawn from the international chemicals management regime. Units to measure carbon emissions and ozone depletion have been widely adopted by countries. Other conventions would be likely to provide useful indicators and the ratification of key, chemicals-based conventions, itself could be an indicator that a country incorporates in its strategic planning.

The Private Sector

The private sector has a critical role to play in the sound management of chemicals, both at the global and national levels. During the development planning process, public-private cooperation can be promoted through surveys, consultations and workshops with, for example, farmers and manufacturers associations, professional bodies. Introduction of a proposed policies to a broad constituency at the planning stage will permit feedback, and promote cooperation and agreement on fundamental components.

Partnerships in Mainstreaming Chemicals Management into Development Assistance

The Comprehensive Development Framework which lays out the basis for the World Bank's work on poverty reduction emphasizes the role of partners in achieving common goals. Given the different advantages that the numerous partners involved with the chemicals agenda bring to the table, as well as the dearth of country needs, it is only necessary that the foundation for promoting sound chemicals management are partnerships.

On the side of development assistance planning, there have been initiatives for enhanced cooperation among partners. For example, there are pilot activities for developing joint CASs between the Bank and key bilateral development agencies, or the IMF. There are a number of ongoing activities by multilateral agencies and bilateral donors – often in the same country and on similar issues, such as sustainable development, state of the environment, capacity building for environmental management, etc. There are cases of countries which have no less than five analytical reports on the environmental issues for example, whether they are SEAs, NEAPs, CEAs, country-environmental profiles, or country environmental analyses. Recognizing the potential and occurrence of overlap, the World Bank and key partners launched the Country Analytic Work initiative which allows partners to exchange information on current activities and remain current on challenges and success of client countries.

In terms of the international community's aim to improve the management of chemicals and reduce related risks to the environment and health, coordination is a major challenge. Poverty reduction and development planning can provide one junction for enhanced coordination at the country level,

but without enhanced cooperation at the international level, developing countries could feel the strain. It is hoped that the SAICM process will eventually facilitate a process that eases coordination between MEAs and other chemicals-related conventions, diminishes overlap and redundancies in activities, harmonizes reporting where feasible, and focuses on results and progressing forward towards the 2020 goal. Until then, developing country stakeholders will have to look towards existing channels in the global environmental and chemicals community for assistance in strengthening chemicals as an issue in their national development planning.

6. Conclusion

A rapidly growing consensus in the international community as well as the World Bank is that integrating, or mainstreaming, environmental and health issues, such as those surrounding the production, use and disposal of chemicals and their products, into the early stages of development assistance will be the most effective route towards achieving environmentally and socially sound development.

Chemicals form a cross-cutting theme that can have economic, societal, environmental and health implications, however, their relevance and links to certain interventions, policies and outcomes is not always on the radar screen of countries and their development partners during strategic planning, or, are perceived as secondary to immediate development and poverty alleviation needs. The process of developing poverty reduction strategies and other development plans, provides countries with opportunities for incorporating sustainable development into national priority actions by drawing from various sources of analytical and diagnostic work, engaging stakeholders with broad perspectives in consultations and tapping into capacity building and knowledge sharing exercises offered by diverse partner and donor agencies. The international chemicals community, including counterparts at the country level representing convention focal points in environment and health ministries, NGOs and other civil society groups can foster mainstreaming of chemicals management through some of their existing capacity building, analytical and project work by redirecting the focus a bit to more sustainable outcomes through holistic and coordinated approaches which lead to broad-based country buy-in. Several “points of entry” in the general stages of developing a poverty reduction strategy can help focus the range of possible initiatives.

Still, in order to better link the development community with initiatives by the chemicals management community there is a need for facilitators – which can be at the country level, or at the international level through development agencies involved in both development and global programs. A corporate mandate for assisting countries to meet global environmental treaty obligations, the sector strategies, the Comprehensive Development Framework and the Millennium Development Goals all provide the World Bank with the underpinning and justification for pursuing this goal. Coupled with international efforts to strategically tackle the multitude of issues surrounding the production and use of chemicals in a manner that is not detrimental to the global environment and human health and to enjoin agencies responsible for channeling development assistance in this pursuit, the World Bank has an important role to play. Equipped with positive experiences garnered in implementing global environmental projects and activities as well as with the strategic tools for planning and strengthening the effectiveness of development assistance, the Bank is positioned to step into this role. Most importantly, however, are the experiences and large potential that developing countries have to determine the course of development and the degree of mainstreaming of sound chemicals management.

The integration into development assistance of an issue which is currently largely driven at a global level cannot be expected to occur at once. The process will be iterative and dependent on the inputs that make the issue relevant to country needs, and in particular to poverty reduction. However, with this solid and promising basis, the opportunities to leverage the experience and resources from existing global chemical management activities to strengthen sustainable development while assisting countries to meet their commitments for protecting the global commons are within reach.

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Useful Links

Policy Reports Referred to in this Paper

World Bank Environment Strategy, “Making Sustainable Commitments”

<http://lnweb18.worldbank.org/ESSD/envext.nsf/41ByDocName/EnvironmentStrategyEnvironmentStrategyDocument>

World Bank Rural Development Strategy, “Reaching the Rural Poor”

<http://lnweb18.worldbank.org/ESSD/ardext.nsf/11ByDocName/Strategy>

World Bank Health, Nutrition, Population Sector Strategy

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/EXTHEALTHNUTRITIONANDPOPULATION/0..contentMDK:20133818~menuPK:282527~pagePK:148956~piPK:216618~theSitePK:282511,00.html>

World Bank Urban and Local Strategy, “Cities in Transition”

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/EXTURBANDEVELOPMENT/0..contentMDK:20158153~menuPK:1358771~pagePK:148956~piPK:216618~theSitePK:337178,00.html>

The World Bank and Sustainable Development (link to 2005 Little Green Data Book which provides environmental data on a country by country basis)

www.worldbank.org/sustainabledevelopment

Toxics and Poverty: The Impact of Toxic Substances on the Poor in Developing Countries

<http://lnweb18.worldbank.org/essd/envext.nsf/50ByDocName/Publications>

The Global Pursuit of the Sound Management of Chemicals

www.worldbank.org/pops

The Country Analytic Work (CAW) website aims to facilitate coordination and cooperation among countries and donors in order to improve development impact and cost-effectiveness for both capacity building and knowledge sharing.

www.countryanalyticwork.net

OECD Chemical Outlook Paper

www.oecd.org/ehs

Information on the Process of Developing Poverty Reduction Strategies

PRSP Sourcebook: The Sourcebook is a guide to assist countries in the development and strengthening of poverty reduction strategies and has been prepared mainly by World Bank and IMF staff and reflects their experience working in various sectors and regions. It has received feedback from government officials in several African countries and from staff of related UN organizations.

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/EXTPOVERTY/EXTPRS/0..contentMDK:20175742~pagePK:210058~piPK:210062~theSitePK:384201,00.html>

Participation and Civic Engagement: World Bank site which promotes methods and approaches that encourage stakeholders, especially poor people, to influence and share control over priority setting, policy making, resource allocations and access to public goods and services.

<http://www.worldbank.org/participation/>

Summary of good practices in Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers
http://www1.worldbank.org/prem/poverty/strategies/orderform_en.htm

Sources to More Information on Poverty and Poverty Reduction Strategies

A World Bank website on key issues in poverty, including further information on PRSPs. A status report of PRSPs, as well as Interim PRSPs and progress reports that have been completed by country is available through this site

<http://www.worldbank.org/poverty>

Country Assistance Strategies for World Bank Client Countries

Completed CASs are available on the World Bank's website through its Documents & Reports page, <http://www-wds.worldbank.org/> or directly at: http://www-wds.worldbank.org/servlet/WDS_IBank_Servlet?type=advSrch&psz=20&pcont=results&dt=540613

World Bank Chemicals-Related Sites

POPs: World Bank's site on POPs and other Bank chemicals-related activities:

<http://worldbank.org/pops>

Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer: World Bank's site in its role as an Implementing Agency under the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol: <http://www.worldbank.org/mp>

World Bank's pollution management site that includes links to publications: "Pollution Management and Abatement Handbook: Toward Cleaner Production," and a 2005 guidance note on waste management: <http://worldbank.org/pollutionmanagement>

Environmental health and the World Bank:

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/ENVIRONMENT/0..contentMDK:20270900~menuPK:543995~pagePK:148956~piPK:216618~theSitePK:244381.00.html>

Oil, Gas, Mining and Chemicals – World Bank website: <http://worldbank.org/chemicals>