GUIDELINES FOR NATIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES
MOVING FROM CHALLENGES TO OPPORTUNITIES

Overview of the Guidelines
Policy context

Mandates

- The UNEP Governing Council has requested UNEP in its Decision GC 26/3, part IV, 26 “to provide further assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their efforts to develop and strengthen the national implementation of an integrated waste management approach.”

- The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20 2012, in paragraph 218, has called for “the development and enforcement of comprehensive national and local waste management policies, strategies, laws and regulations.”
UNEP-UNITAR NWMS guidelines

The International Environmental Technology Centre

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Guidelines for the development, review and updating of national waste management strategies (NWMS)
Added value

The guidelines would:

- bring together experience and lessons learned of countries which have already strategies in place.

- help countries to develop NWMS that are comprehensive, realistic, and effective, but with flexibility to avoid a “one size fits all” approach.

- support the implementation of relevant activities under the global plan of action (GPA) of the Strategic Approach on International Chemicals Management (SAICM).
Relationship to other initiatives


- Complementing current work under the Basel Convention and relating to previous specific guidelines produced by the Basel Convention and others.

- Complementing the work of the Regional 3R Forum in Asia which facilitates high level policy dialogues on 3R and provides strategic/knowledge platform.
Development of the guidelines

- **Research** - Existing materials and guidelines
  - National waste mgt strategies/plans

- **Consultant** - Initial draft

- **Peer review process**
  - Reference group
  - Preliminary review conducted by two open calls for comments through IETC website and IETC’s network.
  - Review workshop with 30 experts from governments, IGOs, private sector, academia, and public interest groups from 18 countries.

- **Presentation at events:**
  - ISWA Congress, Sept 2012
  - CleanEnviro Summit, July 2012
  - UNEP-IETC side event held at the 8th meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention, Sept 2012
  - Global Partnership on Waste Management Biennium Conference, Nov 2012
  - Side event at the COP to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm convention, May 2013

- **Final version of the guidelines**: Guidelines for National Waste Management Strategies: Moving from Challenges to Opportunities
Guidelines for NWMS

- Provide a conceptual and methodological framework for national planning that countries may adapt to their particular circumstances.
- Establish a clear rationale for making waste management a national priority.
- The guidelines, while focused on strategy development, also encompasses implementation, review and updating of the strategy.
Guidelines for NWMS

Content

**Part I** – Introduction: context and overview

**Part II** – Challenges and opportunities in waste management

**Part III** – Considerations in developing a national waste management strategy

**Part IV** – A national waste management strategy: participative process

**Annexes**
Content of the guidelines

Part I:

- Presents the **background** on the guidance document and set up the scene for waste management
- Provides an **overview** of the content of the guidelines and reinforces the need for implementation of the strategy once developed
- Clarifies the **scope** of the guidelines – waste streams
- Presents the **waste management hierarchy** and other concepts as the cornerstones of waste management policy across the globe
- Outlines the **reasons for a national waste management strategy**
Content of the guidelines (cont)

Part II:

- Presents the contributions of sound waste management to sustainable development
- Details the benefits for each of the three pillars of sustainability: economic, environmental and social; and acknowledges the interactions among and between the pillars
- Outlines the governance challenges, recognizes the many interests from the different stakeholders and the need for policy and legislative infrastructure.
Part III:

- Deals with concepts and principles related to waste management that will be drawn when developing the strategy
- Highlights the importance of inclusivity for engaging the stakeholders
- It reviews the policy tools centrally important to waste management
- Takes account of major considerations influencing policy choices involved in the process of strategy development, implementation and monitoring.
Content of the guidelines (cont)

Part IV:

- Presents a possible process and defines the actions a country can take in order to develop a strategy, then to implement, review and update it.

- Ask a number of questions that countries may wish to consider as they developed their strategy.

- Raises considerations that the countries will need to take into account

- Identifies the steps that every country will have to go through
Content of the guidelines (cont)

CONSULTATION AND STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

DEVELOPMENT
- Preparatory tasks
- Stakeholder engagement
- Situation and gap analysis
- Priority setting
- Strategy formulation
- Sign-off and approval

IMPLEMENTATION
- Adoption and launch
- Public dissemination
- Resource allocation
- Legislative change
- Compliance
- Information and data collection
- Ongoing monitoring

REVIEW AND UPDATE
- Assessment of progress and success
- Replicating success and learning from mistakes
- Adjustment of the strategy
Content of the guidelines (cont)

Annexes:

- **Annex A:** International recommendations and mandates
- **Annex B:** International text relating to waste
- **Annex C:** Intergovernmental and International organizations
- **Annex D:** National and regional waste management strategies and related documents and web resources