

MAJOR GROUPS PERSPECTIVES ON CHEMICALS AND WASTE  
MANAGEMENT

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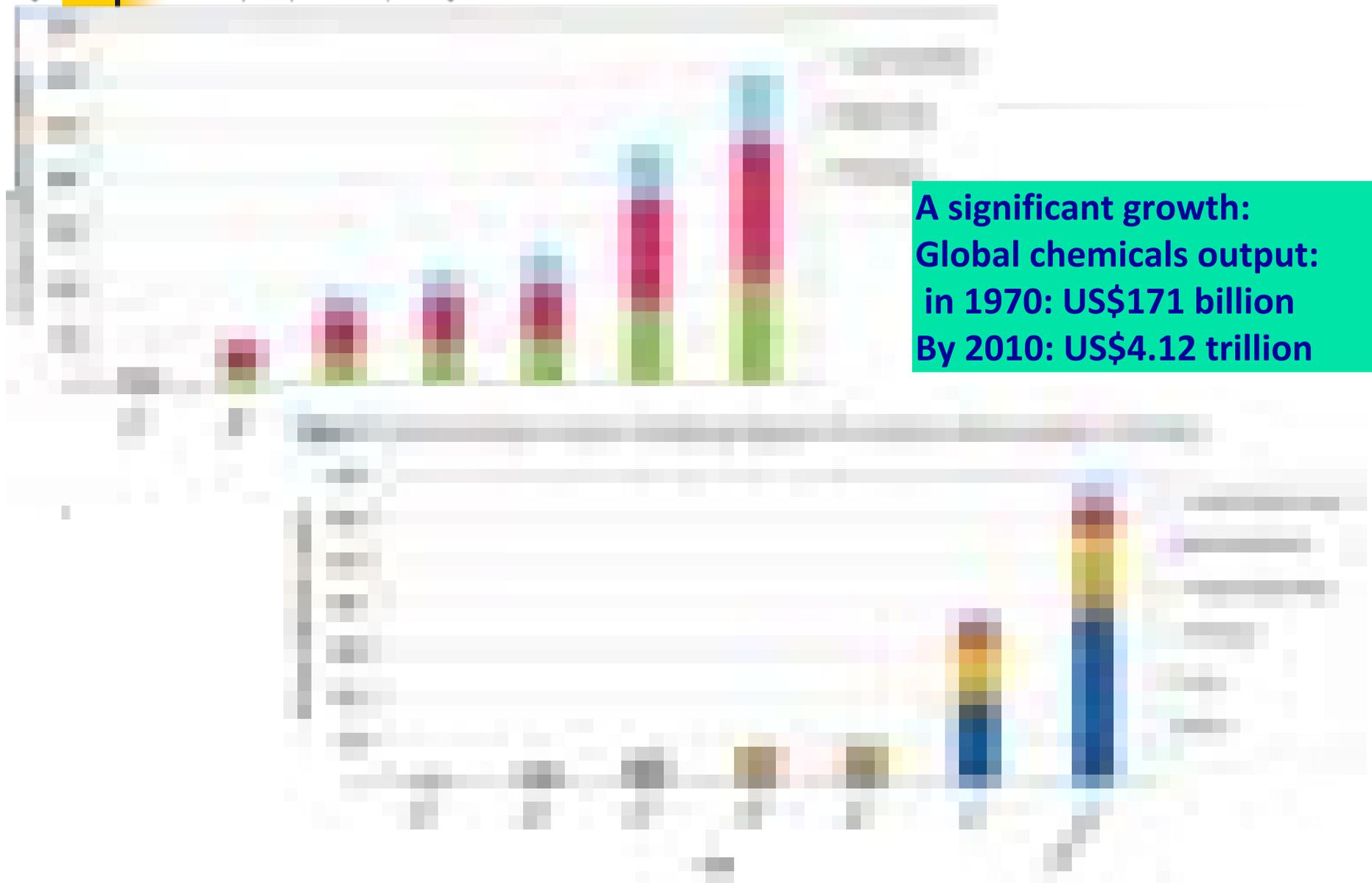
# Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste

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# The trends and changes

Figure 1. Chemical Industry Output: Developed Regions\*



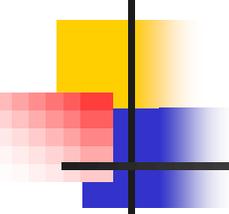
# Chemicals intensification of the economies

- An integral part of the daily life, chemicals are central to all economies
- Negative health effects: from acute poisoning to long term effects
- Environmental effects: from sensitive species to large scale life-sustaining ecosystems
  - Pesticide and fertilizer contamination of rivers and lakes,
  - Heavy metals (e.g., mercury and lead),
  - Pollution associated with cement and textile production,
  - Dioxin contamination from mining
  - POPs ( dioxins PCBs, DDTs) on wildlife, animals and human food sources

**Table 1: Chemical Production:  
Predicted Annual Growth Rates, 2012-2020**

	Percent change, 2012-2020	
<b>North America</b>	<b>25%</b>	
United States		25%
Canada		27%
Mexico		28%
<b>Latin America</b>	<b>33%</b>	
Brazil		35%
Other		31%
<b>Western Europe</b>	<b>24%</b>	
<b>Emerging Europe</b>	<b>35%</b>	
Russia		34%
Other		36%
<b>Africa &amp; Middle East</b>	<b>40%</b>	
<b>Asia-Pacific</b>	<b>46%</b>	
Japan		22%
China		66%
India		59%
Australia		23%
Korea		35%
Singapore		35%
Taiwan		39%
Other		44%

Source: Percentages calculated based on projections in Thomas Kevin Swift et al., "Mid-Year 2011 Situation & Outlook." American Chemistry Council, June 2011.



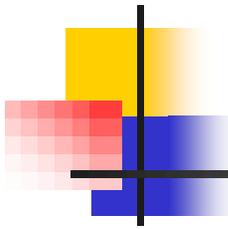
# Benefits from Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste: examples...

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*Benefits from the removal of lead from gasoline on a global scale: from USD \$1-\$6 trillion per year with a best estimate of USD \$2.45 trillion per year, or 4% of global Gross Domestic Product (GDP).*

**45%:** increase in revenue per unit from recycling desktop computers achieved using best practice recycling technologies in Ghana.

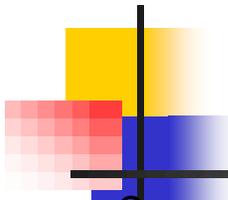
**US\$100 billion:** estimated value of the global green chemistry market in 2020



# MGS Recommendations on Sound Chemical and Waste Management:

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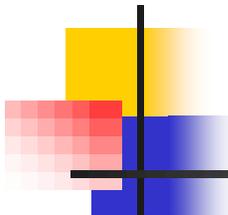
- **Sound chemicals and waste management** has to be on the top of the international policy agenda. The international regulation of chemicals and waste shall have a strategic approach.
- **Recognize the economic, environmental and health burdens** caused by hazardous chemical waste, particularly in developing countries
- Government, industries and civil society urgently need to **act to reduce the growing risks** to human health and the environment.
- Governments need to fully support a **comprehensive multi-stakeholder and preventive strategy** for sound and safe management of chemicals that paves the way for a *thriving green economy*.



# MGS Recommendations on Sound Chemical and Waste Management:

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- Commit to **mainstreaming sound and safe chemicals and waste management** into national, public health, labour, social and economic development programmes.
- Develop and adopt a **global plan of action** to shift towards the sustainable way of managing chemicals and waste to promote greening of the chemical industries, especially in most polluting countries.
- Major **chemical producers and governments** need to cooperate and take lead in launching safe technologies and preventive measures at the level of production and disposal of chemicals (*full cycle*).
- **Civil society organizations** need to become active in setting chemical production safety standards/requirements for the pollutants, and engage in community environmental monitoring campaigns to influence the decision-makers and raise awareness among public.
- **International organizations** need to support the governments and CSOs in promoting safer chemicals and enhancing their safe disposal.



# MGS Recommendations on Sound Chemical and Waste Management:

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- Raise awareness through workshops/trainings on specialized on sound chemicals and waste management with involvement of society and science.
- Find economic mechanisms for providing stimulus in greening the chemicals and waste sector, finance R&D and run pilot projects.
- Governments should **subsidize recycling businesses** with introduction of **“green ratings”**. Pair laws regulating chemicals with **programs for clean technology**
- Design policies that **prevent rather than control** or remediate risks. Promote safer **alternatives**
- Demonstrate how **joint actions on health and environment** within the broader development context can promote economic and social benefits
- Aligned public information on chemical releases and transfers with requirement for **product labeling, public information and education**



# Recommendations on Sound Local and Waste Management:

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regional/national targets on **Diversion Rates** (of waste  
recycled)

**Organic alternatives for agricultural use:** ban toxic  
pesticides, and disseminate them at lower costs to farmers, and support  
organic producers.

Identifying best practices and alternative technologies – for  
substituting plastic with organic materials

and attention should be paid to **asbestos containing**  
materials. Replicate information and best practices throughout the  
country to raise awareness and restrict from asbestos being widely  
used, promoting its alternatives.

**Capacities of developing countries and their CSOs**  
Technical and financial assistance, as well as **guidance** on  
toxic wastes management.