

BENEFITS OF CHEMICALS CONTROL





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PREFACE

This information document developed by UN Environment presents the case for the adoption and implementation of chemicals control legislation, as proposed in the publication, *Guidance on Developing Legal and Institutional Infrastructures and Measures for Recovering Costs of National Administration* (LIRA-Guidance).

It is primarily intended to support decision makers in their efforts to establish legal frameworks for preventive chemicals control, and government officials actively working to develop, adapt and implement chemicals control and the related institutional capacity. It aims to inform and advise those seeking to understand the multiple benefits and cost-efficiencies of proactive chemicals management.

The key questions addressed by this document are:

What is chemicals control legislation, and what are the benefits?

This document is part of a series of documents that complements the approaches for chemicals control suggested in the LIRA Guidance. The focus is on industrial and consumer chemicals; it does not take into consideration the specific regulatory needs of pesticides, pharmaceuticals or cosmetic products, which are normally regulated under separate legislation.

The series is composed of this information document and three guidance documents:

- National Authority for Chemicals Control: Guidance on Structure and Funding
- Risk Reduction Tools for Chemicals Control
- Enforcement of Chemicals Control Legislation

The development of these documents benefited from input from an expert group consisting of representatives from government, intergovernmental organizations, industry, academia and civil society.

To facilitate access to references and other relevant documents when addressing chemicals safety, both hyperlinks and footnotes have been included. For those using a hard copy, the main references and their Internet addresses are listed in the "Further reading" section.

This document has been produced with financial assistance from Sweden through the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, (Sida), which was arranged by the Swedish Chemicals Agency (Keml). The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the official opinion of Sida or Keml.

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1. INTRODUCTION

With increasing production and use, it is increasingly important for countries to consider the various benefits that the establishment and implementation of legal frameworks for chemicals control can bring to society and industry.

This document identifies benefits in the areas of:

- (1) cost efficiency
- (2) resource efficiency
- (3) trade and industry operations
- (4) human health
- (5) environmental protection
- (6) compliance with international obligations and commitments
- (7) sustainable national development

Chemicals control has environmental, social and economic benefits. However, the establishment and implementation of legal frameworks for industrial and consumer chemicals is an aspect of sound chemicals management still lacking in many countries, especially in developing countries. In parallel to establishing the legal requirements, the related institutional capacity needs to be established or improved. The UNEP LIRA Guidance offers suggestions on ways to establish both chemicals control legislation and institutional capacity.

According to the <u>Overall Orientation and Guidance</u> (OOG) document prepared within the <u>Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management</u> (<u>SAICM</u>),² legal frameworks and related institutional capacity are basic elements that need to be in place to achieve sound chemicals management in a country. The importance of these elements is also recognized in the Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm and Minamata Conventions.

An ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure

(Benjamin Franklin)

预览已结束,完整报告链接和二维码如下:

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