Chemicals in Products (CiP)

an emerging theme under SAICM

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Presentation Outline

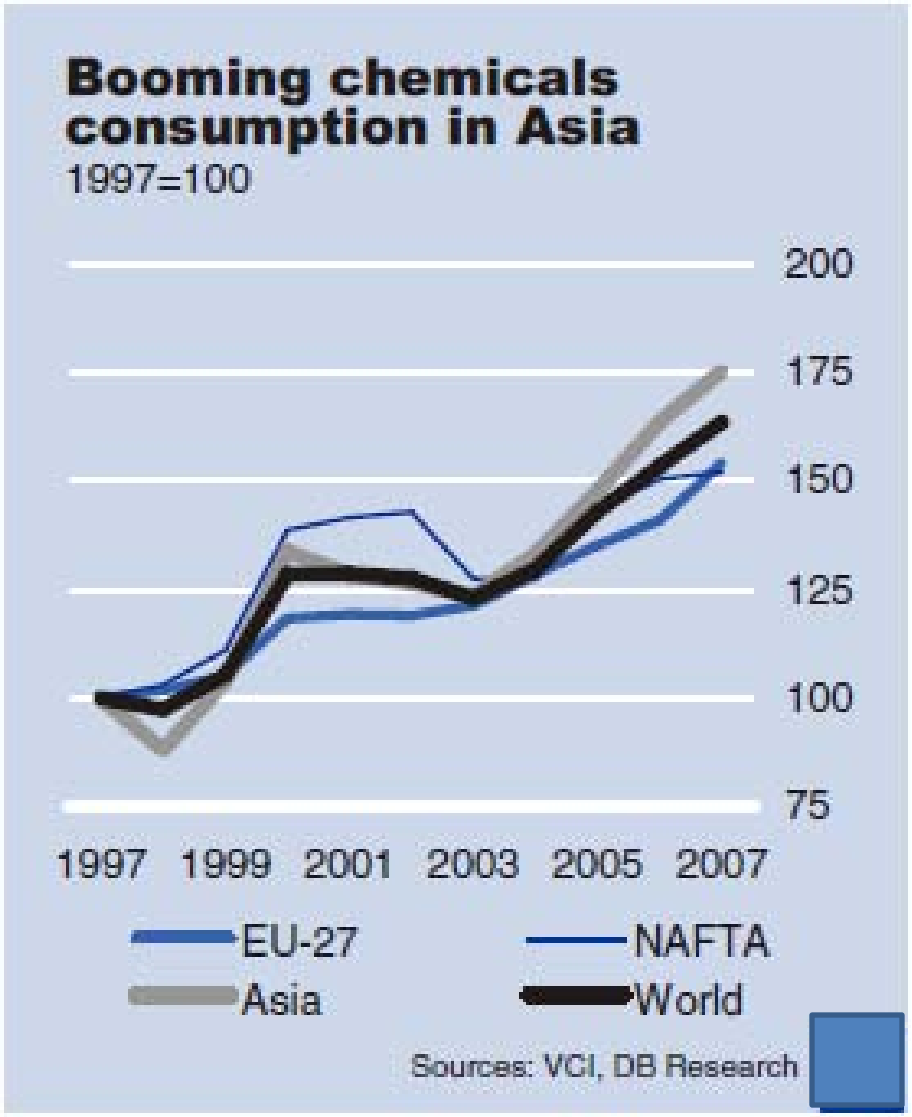
- Background on Chemicals use and Chemicals in Products (CiP)
- SAICM and the CiP project
  - Objectives
  - Plans
  - On-going work

Background

Chemicals – increasing use but significant knowledge-gaps

- **Tens of thousands** of chemical substances are currently found on the market
- Some of these chemicals have **known hazardous properties**
- Most substances used have **not been properly tested** for their impacts on humans and other species
- **Many new chemicals** are placed on the market every year
- **Information** on what chemicals are present in a particular product is **often lacking**

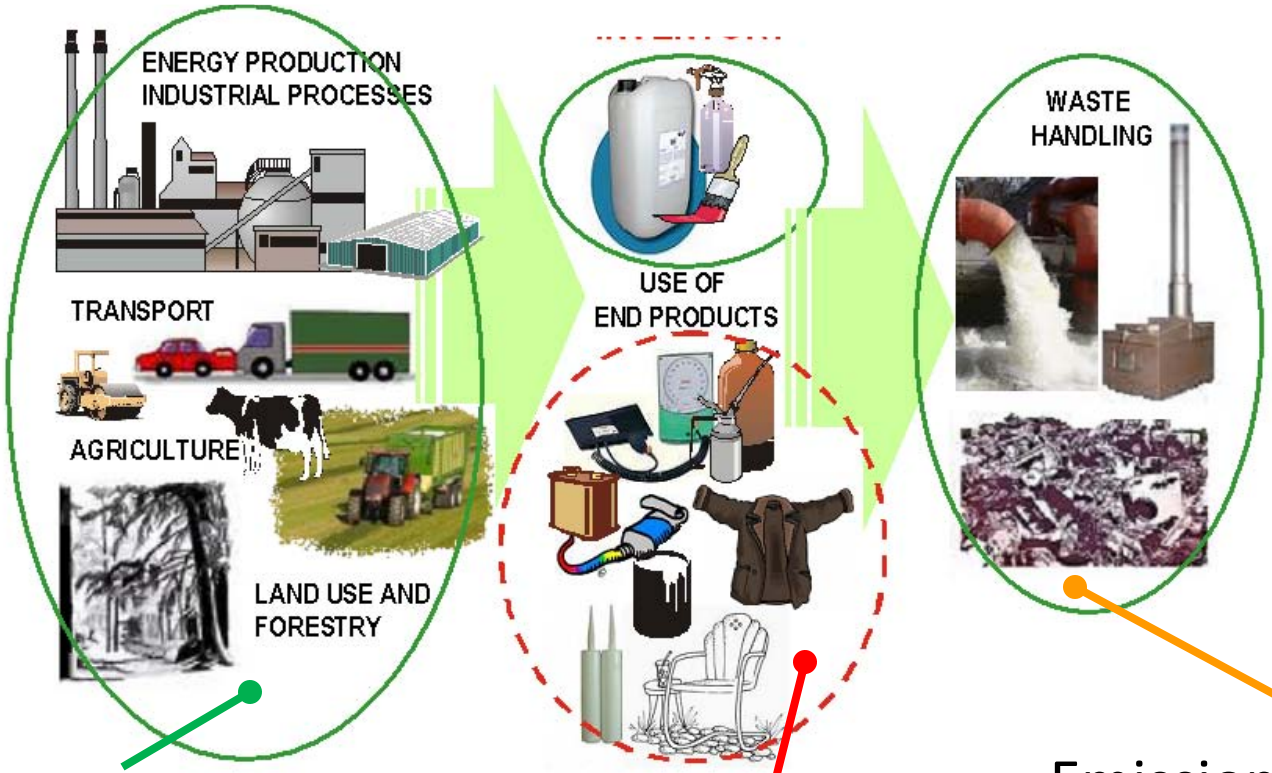
Chemicals consumption growing rapidly in Asia



- Annual increase of 6% until 2020 is expected

- Key sectors driving increasing chemicals consumption:
  - Construction
  - Automobiles
  - Electronics
  - Textiles

Emissions at different life-cycle stages



Emissions of chemicals from manufacturing are **relatively well monitored and regulated**, at least in developed countries

Emissions and exposures from the use of products are **less well known and regulated**

Emissions from waste management and recycling are **monitored to some extent**, but **large information gaps** exist

CiP is becoming more important

- The share of **emissions from products** (compared with manufacturing) is **increasing**
- The total **volume of consumer products**, and associated emissions, is growing
- This growth is especially strong in rapidly industrialising countries
- **Developing countries** have **seriously limited capacity** to monitor emissions from products, identify hazards and restrict chemicals use

SAICM and the CiP Project

SAICM and the link to CiP

- The Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development set as a goal that, by the year 2020, chemicals are produced and used in ways that minimize significant adverse impacts on the environment and human health.
- Towards that goal SAICM aims to "ensur[e] that information on chemicals throughout their life cycle, including, where appropriate, chemicals in products, is available, accessible, user-friendly, adequate and appropriate to the needs of all stakeholders"

The CiP Project in brief

- Runs initially 2009-2012
- Currently funded mainly by the Swedish Government and to a smaller extent by MOEJ
- Implemented by UNEP Chemicals in Geneva
- Supported by a Steering Group representing all regions and main stakeholder groups

The CiP Project will:

(a) **Collect and review information on existing information systems** pertaining to chemicals in products including but not limited to regulations, standards and industry practices;

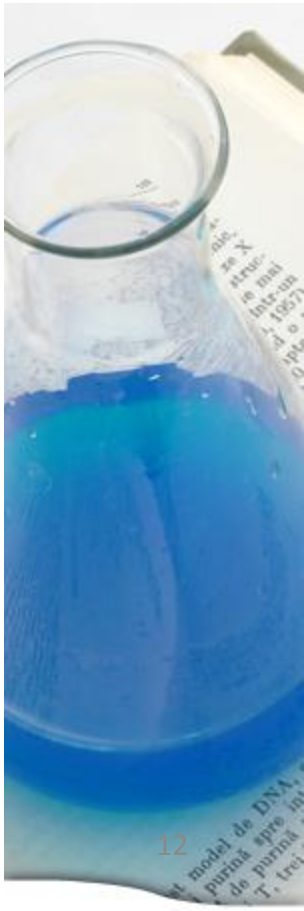
(b) **Assess that information in relation to the needs** of all relevant stakeholders and identify gaps;

(c) **Develop recommendations for actions** to promote implementation of SAICM with regard to such information.

What do we mean by Information Systems?

A wide definition, including:

- Product labels
- Databases, either publicly available or of limited access (i.e. when information is confidential or proprietary)
- Safety data sheets (SDS)
- Regulatory systems requiring information disclosure
- Etc.



Some examples of Information Systems

- Interstate Mercury Education and Reduction Clearinghouse (IMERC) (USA, government, multi-state system)
- China RoHS (China, government)
- California Proposition 65 (USA, government, single state system)
- BASTA (Sweden, non-profit, University/Industry Trade Group)
- GoodGuide (USA, for-profit company)
- Healthy Toys (USA, non-profit)
- ST Mark for Toys (Japan, industry association)
- JAMP (Japan, industry association)

Please note that these systems are just examples intended to illustrate the meaning of the term “Information System”. Many other systems exist – including a great number of voluntary private sector initiatives.

Project timeline

Project initiation and scoping phase (July, 2009 – Nov, 2009):
survey among SAICM Focal Points; scoping meeting to define focus and priorities for the following work;

Study phase (Nov, 2009 – late 2010):
analyzing existing information systems against stakeholders needs as well as formulating initial draft conclusions and proposals;

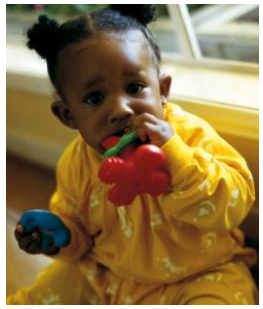
International Workshop (end 2010):
to review and assess the outcome of the studies; consider draft conclusions and recommendations; and recommend scope, priorities and possible systems and actions;

Formulation phase (late 2010 – mid 2011):
developing an initial report with draft recommendations for the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG);

Refinement phase (mid 2011 – mid 2012):
further refine the proposals and develop the final report and recommendations for consideration by ICCM3.

Selected product categories

Products and sectors
- Children's products and toys - Construction materials - Clothing and apparel - Computers, mobile phones and other electronic goods - Cosmetics and personal care products - Food containers and food packaging



Who are the key actors in information management?

- Who should **generate** the information?
- Who should **collect** and **compile** the information?
- Who should **interpret** and **disseminate** the information?
- Who should **act** on the information?

Where are the information bottlenecks?

Where are the largest gaps?

Where could improved availability of information have the largest benefits?

- What products or sectors?
- What life-cycle stages?
- What actors/stakeholders?

Where are the **good practices** we can learn from?

Thank you for your attention

- For more information on the CiP project please feel free to contact me

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