

<p align="center">ENRTP STRATEGIC COOPERATION AGREEMENTS</p> <p align="center">ANNUAL STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW REPORT (SPOR)</p> <p align="center">IMPLEMENTATION OF SYNERGY ACTIVITIES APPROVED BY THE CONFERENCES OF THE PARTIES TO THE BASEL, ROTTERDAM AND STOCKHOLM CONVENTIONS IN 2011</p> <p align="center">PROGRESS PROJECT REPORT</p>
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Reporting Period	11/2012 – 02/2013
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DESCRIPTION

ENRTP Priority	Synergies	EC Directorate General	ENV
Programme of Work	Component 1	Support the work of and coordination among the scientific bodies under the conventions	S6 (BC 5, RC 4, SC 5)
	Component 2	Synergies capacity building projects	S3 (BC 36, RC 13, SC 17)
	Component 3	Update the general technical guidelines on the ESM of POPs waste to include new POPs	S7 (BC 14, RC 8, SC 19)
Project's Title	Implementation of synergy activities approved by the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions in 2011		
Location	Global		
Total duration	07/12 – 12/13		

Responsible Entity	Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions
UNEP/MEA Project Manager	Paul Whyllie (SSB, component 1), Jacqueline Alvarez (TAB, component 2), Dadan Wardhana (SSB, component 3)
EC Project Manager	Henrik Laursen

Date of EC Approval:	12/07/2012		
EC Allocation (EUR):	EUR 322, 913		
Date of Allocation/Transfer:	25/10/2012		
Amount Received in 2012 (USD)	42,075	Exchange Rate:	0.75
Total Expenditures (USD)	6,000	Total Expenditures (EUR)	4,500

SECTION 1: GENERAL VISIBILITY STRATEGY

Project plans: for each project component specific communication and visibility plans are being developed, if appropriate. These plans seek to reflect the primary specific objectives of MEA secretariats as a target group laid out in the communication strategy, to:

- build understanding of the need to integrate communication and visibility elements into project planning and implementation;
- increase appreciation of the scale of support from the EU and the importance of this partnership to UNEP and UNEP-administered MEAs.

Communication components: the project plans' communication components can include the following elements:

- Press releases on project milestones;
- Events on project topics (e.g. COPs side events, webinars etc.);
- EC & UNEP/MEA publications;
- Outreach through social media (Twitter, Facebook etc) on project milestones.

Each of the above media items should be branded, if possible, with information about the Strategic Cooperation Agreement (SCA).

Capacity4Dev (C4D): for communicating these project plans, the projects aim at using the Capacity4Dev (C4D) tool (<http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/>), where information about the projects achievements, impacts and media products, in particular, multimedia, especially photos, video & infographics, should be logged. The C4D public group would be promoted on the clearinghouse conventions websites.

Content from project managers would be sent to the UNEP Brussels office. These reports would provide an update on the implementation of funded activities and showcase good examples of communication to stimulate ideas by project managers, highlighting outstanding achievements.

SECTION 2: DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT COMPONENTS

Component 1: Support the work of and coordination among the scientific bodies under the conventions

SUMMARY PROJECT STATUS

- Progress on the activities has been made as expected. A joint session for the CRC and POPRC later in 2013 will be meaningful in stimulating collaboration between these scientific subsidiary bodies. A consultant is revising the guidance document on PFOS alternatives.
- Supporting funds have been received from Norway for the work on climate change. Linkages continue with the WCO.
- Funds have been pooled to create a single relevant project for this section of the project.

CHALLENGES, MANAGEMENT ACTIONS, RISK MITIGATION PLAN:

With the allocated budget for each of the initial activities (IMIS 6, 7 and 10) it was difficult to get a consultancy or third party service. Therefore, the three activities have been integrated into one project.

OUTCOME SUMMARY

The technical and scientific bodies of the three conventions receive increased technical and policy support, facilitating the exchange and sharing of relevant information between themselves and with other relevant intergovernmental processes, including the Strategic Approach.

OUTPUT PERFORMANCE

- A consultant was hired by the Secretariat to support POPRC experts and the working group in revising the guidance on alternatives to PFOS and its derivatives (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.6/13/Add.3/Rev.1). A first draft of the revised guidance document has been prepared and provided for consideration by working group established by POPRC.
- Four webinars aiming at supporting the effective participation of experts, authorities and other relevant stakeholders in the work of the scientific bodies of the three conventions were delivered in 2012.
- A needs assessment was conducted with parties to establish, among other things, requirements for participation in the work of the subsidiary bodies.
- The Secretariat has contacted WCO as part of its ongoing activities to obtain HS codes in a timely manner. This is an ongoing activity. New HS codes are expected for 2017.
- As part of its intersessional work in 2012, POPRC undertook a study on Climate Change and POPs and developed draft guidance. The draft guidance is available on the POPRC's website (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.8/INF/20/Rev.1).
- The Secretariat developed a concept note for the establishment of a database of roster of experts relevant to the scientific bodies of the three conventions and commissioned a consultant to develop the database to be available by May 2013.
- The alumni website has been created.
- An integrated project has been initiated by identifying all available scientific and technical documents under the three conventions and developing a set of criteria for classifying them.

RESOURCES AND BUDGET

After approval of the full-fledged project documents by the European Commission in March 2012 and July 2012 respectively for the supports to the three conventions and to synergy activities, funds were transferred from UNEP SCA Trust Fund to the voluntary trust funds of the conventions only in July 2012 for conventions activities and in October 2012 for synergies. To some extent, this had an impact on the start of implementation of funded activities and partially explains the low disbursement rates as shown from the financial annex.

To make use of the opportunity at the back-to-back meetings of the POPRC and CRC in October 2013, a one-day joint meeting for POPRC and CRC will be organized in 2013, which results in a delay in spending the funds provided for 2012.

The study on Climate Change and POPs was supported by the Government of Norway and therefore the funding allocated for this activity was not spent. The remaining funds may be used to support the implementation of other related activities.

Budget committed to IMIS 6 – E 2,650 (2012), IMIS 7 – E 9,000 (2013) and IMIS 10 – E 4,200 (2013) have been merged.

WORK PLAN FOR THE NEXT REPORTING PERIOD:

- A one-day joint meeting for POPRC and CRC will be organized in conjunction with the back-to-back meetings of the two Committees in October 2013. Expected expenditure USD 18,040
- A joint workshop to support the effective participation in the work of POPRC and CRC is planned to be organized in December 2013 in the Middle East or Francophone Africa. The workshop will be supported by regional centers and POPRC and CRC experts from the region. Expected expenditure USD 42,710
- The draft revised guidance document will be finalised based on comments provided by parties and observers. The final draft will be presented for consideration by POPRC at its ninth meeting in October 2013. Expected expenditures: USD 4,000
- The draft guidance on how to assess the possible impact of climate change on the work of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee will be further revised and considered by the Committee in October 2013.
- Establish a database of roster of experts relevant to the scientific bodies of the three conventions in 2013. Expected expenditure USD 7,200.
- Three more webinars are scheduled in 2013.
- Develop and establish a coordinated presentation of documents from the subsidiary bodies on the website of the three conventions. Expected expenditures EURO 15,000

VISIBILITY:

See: General Visibility Strategy contained in Section 1 above

The guidance materials developed and information collected under the project are disseminated to parties and stakeholders through publication on the Convention website. They are shared with interested scientific and technical experts through the work of POPRC. They are also widely publicised during workshops on technical assistance and through webinars.

FINAL REMARKS:

The experts of the POPRC and CRC subsidiary bodies have expressed keen interest in being involved in the joint workshops planned for 2013. It is critical that acceptance be given for pooling of funds from separate related activities to gain efficiency in implementation.

ANNEXES:

Not applicable.

Component 2: Synergies capacity building projects

SUMMARY PROJECT STATUS

The funds provided for this project component aim at enhancing the coordinated implementation of the three Conventions at national level. Planned activities included identification of challenges and gaps, development of legal and administrative bases and supportive policy. National coordination among competent authorities of the three Conventions and key stakeholders is an essential element to reach the objectives. It is important to highlight that this component was expected to start 2013, therefore only enabling activities have been carried out with no particular allocation of funds so far.

- *Involvement of all stakeholders from the governmental institutions, NGOs and the private sector*

The initial planning of the implementing strategy and initial thought starters on terms of references for key activities have been discussed and are being developed, including activities and tasks to be undertaken in close cooperation with the Secretariat of Rotterdam Convention in Rome.

- *Concrete steps towards coordinated actions to enhance implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions*

Three countries from different regions are to be chosen to carry out the activities under this project. In this regard, criteria to select the countries which will benefit more and serve as good examples to follow are under development. Among others, interest in establishing and implementing strategies for coordinated implementation of the three conventions at national level will be considered as most importance.

CHALLENGES, MANAGEMENT ACTIONS, RISK MITIGATION PLAN:

The effective involvement of national authorities responsible for the implementation of the three conventions as well as their full participation is critical in the implementation of this component. Coordination at national level, commitment and interest of those that will be implementing at their own countries, is a working premise that will be carefully looked at. The lack of national capacities and financial resources might slow the process and jeopardize the sustainability after the project.

OUTCOME SUMMARY

The indicators of this component will be assessed as indicated in the project document once the planned activities are finished.

OUTPUT PERFORMANCE

The outputs and results of the main activities will be presented after implementation.

RESOURCES AND BUDGET

There was a considerable delay in transfer of funds (October 2012 instead of January 2012). This has caused no delays in initiating implementation of the activities, since the allocation of funds will start as planned in 2013.

Program of work number 3, on synergies capacity building projects for the development of national institutional frameworks for the implementation of the conventions, received co-funding from Germany and Norway.

WORK PLAN FOR THE NEXT REPORTING PERIOD:

Activities are being undertaken as planned in the project document. Key milestones, main outputs, and the forecast of expected expenditures remain as in the project document as well as the expected delivery dates.

VISIBILITY:

See: General Visibility Strategy contained in Section 1 above.

FINAL REMARKS:

Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions need to enhance their coordination by using appropriate methods and strategies according to their national realities and situations. National institutions need to cooperate and work together to correctly implement the three conventions in a sustainable not overlapping manner.

ANNEXES:

Not applicable.

Component 3: Update the general technical guidelines on the ESM of POPs waste to include new POPs

SUMMARY PROJECT STATUS

Pursuant to decisions OEWG-I/4 and BC-10/9, and based on the nominations of experts received by 15 January 2012, the small intersessional working group on POPs was established on 25 January 2012 and chaired by Canada. The list of nominated experts is available on the Basel Convention website. In May 2012, Canada expressed its willingness to continue taking the lead in the work of the small intersessional working group, and in the updating of the general technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants; and the development of technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride. At its eighth meeting, the draft programme of work for the review and updating of the technical guidelines on persistent organic pollutants was considered by the Open-ended Working Group, which decided, in decision OEWG-8/5, that it should form the basis for further work. Progress on the work undertaken was as set out in documents UNEP.CHW.11/7 and UNEP/CHW.11/INF/33 to be presented to COP11 in April/May 2013.

Other leads in the development of POPs technical guidelines were China, Japan, FAO and UNEP Chemicals. Good progress was achieved in the implementation of the project. Canada, China, Japan and FAO undertook to cover the costs of the development of the technical guidelines under their responsibility and as such no funding was required for these tasks. UNEP Chemicals work was funded from funds received from Norway.

CHALLENGES, MANAGEMENT ACTIONS, RISK MITIGATION PLAN:

None identified. Good progress was achieved in the implementation of the project. Canada, as overall lead country, and the Secretariat are continuously monitoring the progress of the activities under this project component.

OUTCOME SUMMARY

The small intersessional working group (SIWG) on POPs was established on 25 January 2012; the programme of work for the SIWG was deliberated and agreed by the OEWG in September 2012; the proposals for the updating of the general technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants was developed and the development of technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride has been accomplished by Canada.

Other works in progress include:

- China, which would take the lead in the drafting of the technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with polybrominated diphenyl ethers.
- Japan, which would take the lead in the updating of the technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls, polychlorinated terphenyls or polybrominated biphenyls to include hexabromobiphenyl.
- UNEP Chemicals has agreed to take the lead in the updating of the technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with unintentionally produced persistent organic pollutants (polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins and polychlorinated dibenzofurans, hexachlorobenzene, or polychlorinated biphenyls) to include pentachlorobenzene. This development was welcomed by the small intersessional working group.
- The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is to lead the work on updating the technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with pesticides.

OUTPUT PERFORMANCE

The small intersessional working group (SIWG) on POPs was established on 25 January 2012; the programme of work for the SIWG was deliberated and agreed by the OEWG in September 2012; the proposals for the updating of the general technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants was developed. Lead countries or agencies were in place for the development or updating of specific technical guidelines on POPs (polybrominated diphenyl ethers; polychlorinated biphenyls, polychlorinated terphenyls or polybrominated biphenyls to include hexabromobiphenyl; unintentionally produced persistent organic pollutants; and pesticides). Progress on the work undertaken was as set out in documents UNEP.CHW.11/7 and UNEP/CHW.11/INF/33 to be presented to COP11 in April/May 2013 (see <http://synergies.pops.int/2013COPsExCOPs/Documents/tabid/2915/language/en-US/Default.aspx>)

RESOURCES AND BUDGET

Due to the negotiation process between the European Commission, UNEP, and the BRS Secretariat on conventions-specific requirements relating to the financial governance structure of the Strategic Cooperation Agreements (SCA), which took place in the first two quarters in 2013, funds were transferred from UNEP to the voluntary trust funds of the conventions only in July 2012 for conventions activities and in October 2012 for synergies. This resulted in delays in the start of implementation of funded activities. No funds were utilised from the ENRTP budgets as the work were undertaken by lead countries themselves.

Program of work number 7, on supporting parties' implementation of the life-cycle approach to chemical management, received co-funding from Norway.

WORK PLAN FOR THE NEXT REPORTING PERIOD:

- Continuation of the programme of work on the updating of the technical guidelines on POPs as agreed by the OEWG8. The COP is expected to extend the mandate of the small intersessional working group established by paragraph 9 of decision OEWG-I/4 to provide that the group shall monitor and assist in the review and updating, as appropriate, of technical guidelines regarding persistent organic pollutants.
- Training sessions through webinars and other capacity building activities would continue as appropriate.
- Funds will be used for the development of new POPs technical guidelines, for example on HBCD (hexabromocyclododecane), if mandated by COP11.

VISIBILITY:

See: General Visibility Plan contained in Section 1.

FINAL REMARKS:

When this funding request was made, it was not envisaged that lead countries were available to lead the required tasks and that they would support all costs associated with this activity. For that reason, no funds were needed and utilised in 2012.

ANNEXES:

Not applicable.

MEA Project Managers: Paul Whyllie (SSB, component 1), Jacqueline Alvarez (TAB, component 2), Dadan Wardhana (SSB, component 3)

Signature (Executive Secretary): _____

Signature (Resource Mobilization Focal Point): _____

Date of Submission: 14/03/2013

Date of Re-submission: 05/04/2013