What is a Special Programme project?
Summary of the Special Programme
Summary of the Special Programme

Established under UNEA 1/5; Extended under UNEA 5/7

Decision-making body: Executive Board

Trust Fund: US$ 32,867,080

Application rounds: Funding 66 projects. Sixth round of applications ongoing.
Summary of the Special Programme

Projects totaling US$ 17,876,574 by region:

- Africa: 7.3 million
- Asia Pacific: 4.5 million
- Central & Eastern Europe: 3.8 million
- Latin America & the Caribbean: 2.2 million

In-kind country contributions:
- US$ 9m

Application rounds:
- x5

Country classification:
- 16 Economies in transition
- 25 Developing countries
- 17 Least developed countries
- 8 Small island development states

Donor contributions (US$):
- EU: 19.6m
- Stockholm: 3.5m
- US: 1.6m
- Denmark: 2.1m
- Germany: 2.5m
- Netherlands: 560k
- Switzerland: 325k
- Finland: 283k
- UK: 849k
- Belgium: 162k
- Canada: 197k
- Norway: 1.1m
Summary of the Special Programme

What is a Special Programme project?

- Country-driven project
- Improves chemicals management to mitigate negative impact
- Multi-sectoral involvement engages private sector stakeholders
- Enabling environment for the implementation of the BRS and Minamata Conventions and SAICM

- Strong gender mainstreaming
- Builds long-term institutional capacity
- Sustainable financing mechanism
- Implementation of policies, strategies and national programmes for the sound management of chemicals and waste
Institutional strengthening defined as:

“Enhancing the sustainable institutional capacity of Governments to develop, adopt, monitor and enforce policy, legislation and regulation, as well as gain access to financial and other resources, to ensure sound chemicals and waste management throughout their life cycle”
Submitting an Application for Funding

Eligibility for support from the Special Programme

• Eligible countries are developing countries, (taking into account the special needs of least developed countries and small island developing States), and countries with economies in transition, with priority given to those with least capacity.
• The Special Programme funds activities that fall outside the mandate of the Global Environment Facility;
• Applicants are eligible if they are Party to any one of the relevant conventions or have demonstrated that they are in the process of preparing for ratification of any one of the conventions;
• Applications must include identification of the associated domestic measures to be taken to ensure that the national institutional capacity supported by the Special Programme is sustainable in the long term;
• The Special Programme accepts applications directly from national Governments.
Guidance on the scope of the Special Programme available at: https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/chemicals-waste/what-we-do/special-programme
**Guidance on the scope of the Special Programme**

### Frequently Asked Questions

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<td>Who can apply for funding from the Special Programme?</td>
<td>Governments of countries on the ODA-DAC list</td>
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<td>Does the Special Programme accept regional projects?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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| What amount of support is available?                                    | • Up to 250,000 USD for standard projects  
• Up to 500,000 USD under exceptional circumstances  |
| Are there any budget limits or caps?                                   | Yes, there are recommended budget limits                                                         |
| Are cumulative allocations permitted?                                   | Yes                                                                                              |
| What is the maximum duration of a project?                             | 36 months                                                                                         |
| In what language should I submit my application?                        | English only                                                                                     |
Guidance on the scope of the Special Programme

Possible scope of projects

- Enhancing legal and institutional frameworks and enforcement
- National coordination for the exchange of information on chemicals and wastes
- Support to customs officers in combating illegal trafficking of chemicals
- Enhancing national capacities to strengthen international trade control measures
- Strengthening national reporting and information
- Promoting the sound management of chemicals and wastes management into national goals
- Strengthening of the science-policy-business interface and life-cycle of chemicals and wastes
Guidance on the scope of the Special Programme

CASE STUDY: Public Private Partnerships In Angola

• Through its Special Programme project, Angola plans to establish a pilot public private partnership and demonstrate the management of marine plastics within the framework of a circular economy.
• This will be achieved by conducting an assessment to identify potential areas of collaboration and partnerships in the areas of national chemicals and waste management and drafting a proposal on potential areas requiring actions, list of potential partners, and possible types of partnerships.
• Following this a pilot study on the management of marine plastics within the framework of circular economy will be designed and implemented.
Guidance on the scope of the Special Programme

CASE STUDY: Improved Data Collection for the Fulfillment of Obligations Towards the BRS Conventions in the Republic of Moldova

- Through its Special Programme project, the Republic of Moldova has, amongst other things, successfully developed a prototype of a Chemicals Registry System that will be used to track the flow of chemicals within the country.
- This specialized information resource of chemicals placed on the market of the Republic of Moldova and will ultimately facilitate the fulfilment of reporting obligations towards the relevant conventions.
- Following the successful implementation of its Special Programme project, the Republic of Moldova sought to build on the work it has done and has successfully secured funding for a second project from the Special Programme to facilitate the expansion of the Chemicals Registry System.
Guidance on the scope of the Special Programme

**CASE STUDY: COUNTRY DRIVEN ASSESSMENT AND UPDATE OF CURRENT LEGISLATION IN SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE**

- Through its Special Programme project, Sao Tome and Principe is planning to strengthen its chemicals and waste management by strengthening the capacities and governance structures to enhance national coordination of Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm, and Minamata Conventions and the SAICM implementation.

- The project will strengthen the implementation and compliance of the chemicals and waste management legislation including the extended producer responsibility (EPR) law.

- This will be carried out by conducting a comprehensive assessment of the national EPR legislation and policies concerning chemicals and waste management related activities including the compliance levels.

- The roles of government ministries and agencies in supporting the enforcement of the national legislation for the sound management of chemicals and wastes, and the domestication of the BRS and Minamata Conventions will be assessed.
Guidance on the scope of the Special Programme

Gender mainstreaming

Human rights and indigenous peoples
Guidance on the scope of the Special Programme

The terms of reference stipulate that the Special Programme should avoid duplication and proliferation of funding mechanisms and associated administration and should fund activities that fall outside the mandate of the GEF.
Secretariat Support
Special Programme e-learning Platform

Sixth round of applications
Deadline 12 August 2022

Available at: https://bit.ly/3yLOSyF
Special Programme Clinics

Sixth round of applications
Deadline 12 August 2022

Draft application required ahead of appointment

Available at: https://bit.ly/37YKm58
Submitting your application
Submitting an Application for Funding

Sixth round of applications
Deadline 12 August 2022

Countries are invited to submit their applications. More information available at: https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/chemicals-waste/what-we-do/special-programme

E-mail: unepchemicalsspecialprogramme@un.org
Submitting an Application for Funding

What do I need to submit?

- Duly signed project application form
- Project budget form
- An endorsement letter from the Special Programme official focal point
- A beneficiary contribution letter
- Supporting letters from project partners
- Other supporting documents (e.g., terms of reference for consultants)
Timeline for review and appraisal of application

- **Launch**: 04/2022
- **Application Deadline**: 08/2022
- **Screening & Appraisal**: 11/2022 - 01/2023
- **Approval**: 02/2023
- **Notification**: 02/2023
- **Implementation Arrangements**: 11/2023
Special thanks to our donors
Presentations from the Secretariats of the Instruments, and regional offices
Presentations

BRS Secretariat: Mr Giovanna Chiode Moire

Minamata Secretariat: Ms. Marianne Bailey/Ms Irene Rizzo

SAICM: Mr Jose de Mesa
Q&A Session
Thank you
Timeline for review and appraisal of application

Criteria to support appraisal and approval of projects

• Proposal of measures within the objectives of the Special Programme
• Sustainability of the project outcome(s)
• Contribution of resources equal to the value of at least 25% of the total allocation requested in the application
• Performance targets to measure progress achieved by the Special Programme
• Identification of mainstreaming of the sound management of chemicals and waste in various sectors
• Participation and commitment of relevant actors and sectors including agriculture, environment, health, labor, industry and other sectors in the implementation of the measures proposed
• Project intervention on more than one instrument
• Identification of the conventions to which the applicant country is a party and/or of actual participation in SAICM.
Timeline for review and appraisal of application

Criteria to support appraisal and approval of projects

- Determination of cumulative allocations to a country, based on the contributions received and the needs expressed in the applications submitted;

- Account should be taken of reports on earlier projects involving countries applying for a second time and whether the project implementation was considered satisfactory considering the approved timeframe and budget allocations;

- It may be sought to avoid duplication of projects in the same country, however consideration may be given towards replicating a successful project(s) for other countries;

- Whether the project promotes enhanced coordination and cooperation at the national level to implement the Instruments;

- Whether the project builds upon previous initiatives and institutional mechanisms already established;

- Whether the project proposes regional activities, provided that these are in line with the objective of the SP;

- Gender considerations/mainstreaming.
Timeline for review and appraisal of application

Additional Criteria for applications requesting more than US$ 250,000:

• All relevant sectors are involved in project implementation, for example environment, health, agriculture, customs and labour. The roles and responsibilities of the relevant sectors in project implementation should be clearly defined and letters of support from the relevant ministries should be included as part of the application package;

• Institutional stakeholders including, but not limited to, the private sector and civil societies are involved. Roles and responsibilities of the relevant stakeholders in project implementation should be clearly defined. Letters of support from these stakeholders should be included as part of the application package;

• Projects are based on circular or green economy initiatives. The project should demonstrate how the outcomes and outputs of the project encourage sustainable consumption and efficient use of resources, as well as how the project aims to achieve sustainable development
Additional Criteria for applications requesting more than US$ 250,000:

- Links with investment and development banks for investment opportunity are highlighted at the national, regional and global levels, as appropriate. Information should be provided showing the ways in which these investment opportunities can foster long-term sustainability of the Special Programme project;

- Mainstreaming and overall integration at the national level should be demonstrated, as should the ways in which the efforts can be scaled up at the regional level in a synergistic manner. The project should list activities that can be scaled up from national to regional level, and areas of cooperation at the regional level that are or could be synergistic;

- Builds on existing projects from other programmes and obligations under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Minamata Convention and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management. The project should demonstrate how it builds upon the outcomes of previous or ongoing projects as appropriate, and how these outcomes will enhance the objectives of the Special Programme project.