

## DRAFT PROGRAM

**Capacity building workshop for national focal points of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and the Montevideo Programme V to facilitate implementation of Biodiversity and Chemicals and Waste MEAs**

August 29-31, 2023 - Bugesera Rwanda

<b>Day of Arrival – 28 August</b>	
<b>Objective: Participants' Introduction and Workshop Objective Alignment</b>	
18:30-21:00	<b>Welcome Buffet dinner hosted by UNEP at the Palast Rock Hotel, Restaurant Kwisanga</b>
<b>DAY 1 – August 29</b>	
<b>Moderator for Day 1</b>	
<b>Objective: Overview of the MEAs landscape, introduction to synergies work and Potential linkages of MEAs to the Montevideo Programme</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Key Points</b>
8:30-09:00	<b>Opening session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opening and welcoming remarks</li> <li>Brief introduction of the program</li> </ul>
09:00-10:30	<b>Session 1.1: Landscape of MEAs and introduction to the synergies across biodiversity and chemicals/waste clusters</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General overview of the MEAs landscape</li> <li>Introduction to the existing and on-going work on synergies across thematic clusters of MEAs with a focus on biodiversity and chemicals and waste clusters.</li> </ul>
10:30-11:00	<b>Coffee Served</b>
11:00-13:00	<b>Session 1.2: Introduction to the GBF and SAICM+ with a focus on synergies across biodiversity and chemicals/waste clusters</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction to GBF. Significance of GBF target 7 on pollution, along with other relevant GBF targets to the chemicals/waste cluster.</li> <li>Bridging Chemicals and waste and Biodiversity agendas: Possible entry points beyond MEAs.</li> <li>The effects of mercury and ASGM on biodiversity.</li> </ul>
13:00-14:00	<b>Lunch</b>
14:00-14:30	<b>Session 1.3: Setting the Scene: How the use of environmental rule of law can support effective implementation of MEAs.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction to the role of environmental rule of law in MEAs implementation.</li> <li>Example: Role of MEAs in implementing resolution <a href="#">A/RES/76/300</a> of the UN General Assembly.</li> </ul>
14:30-15:30	<b>Session 1.4: Introduction to Montevideo Programme and linkages to MEAs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Montevideo Programme V and areas of potential collaboration with MEAs.</li> <li>Legal responses relating to biodiversity and pollution crises.</li> <li>Introduction to the Break-out session</li> </ul>
15:30-16:00	<b>Break out Coffee Session</b>
16:00-17:30	<b>Session 1.5: Break-out session - Montevideo Programme and linkages to MEAs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identification of ways to enhance joint implementation of MEAs through the GBF.</li> <li>Collaborative strategies and potential entry points.</li> </ul>

17:30-18:00	<b>Wind up discussion from the Day 1</b>
<b>DAY 2 - August 30</b> <b>Moderator for Day 2</b> <b>Objective: Identification of practical tools and approaches for strengthening coherent implementation of MEAs</b>	
8:30-10:00	<b>Session 2.1: Introduction to Tools to assist Parties</b> Information exchange and sharing tools: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practical walk through InforMEA</li> <li>• Clearing House Mechanism -BRS (CHM)</li> </ul> National reporting tools: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DaRT</li> <li>• Basel and Stockholm Convention reporting tools</li> <li>• From Science to Action: using data to make mercury history</li> </ul>
10:00-11:00	<b>Session 2.2: Strengthening implementation through whole of government approaches</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental Conventions Index</li> <li>• Green Customs Initiative GCI</li> <li>• REMA experience in the whole of government approach</li> </ul>
11:00-11:30	<b>Coffee Session and introduction to the first break out session of the day (Haddy/Niko)</b>
11:30-13:00	<b>Session 2.3: Break-out Session I- Strengthening implementation through whole of government approaches</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify entry-points for cooperation at the national level</li> <li>• Best practices already in place</li> <li>• Challenges to be addressed</li> </ul>
13:00-14:00	<b>Lunch</b>
14:00-14:30	<b>Reports back from the breakout groups and introduction to the second break-out session after lunch</b>
14:30-16:00	<b>Session 2.4: Break-out session II: Tools for cooperation and collaboration in preparing national reports and action plans</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exchange views on existing tools</li> <li>• Identify possible new tools to facilitate cooperation</li> <li>• How can coherence across national action plans and reporting be enhanced to safeguard biodiversity from chemicals of global concern?</li> </ul>
<b>Coffee served during the breakup groups</b>	
16:00-17:30	<b>Session 2.5: Reports back from the breakout session 2.4;</b> <b>Session 2.6. Discussion on improving national planning processes.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key gaps and challenges in implementation of the MEAs and how these could be addressed with a focus on national reporting and strengthening legal frameworks.</li> <li>• Tools and approaches that support cooperation and coordination among the focal points</li> </ul>
18:30	<b>DINNER HOSTED BY REMA at UBUMWE GRAND (Kigali)</b>
<b>DAY 3 – August 31</b> <b>Moderator for Day 3</b> <b>Objective: Wrap up - outcomes of the workshop and the way forward</b>	
9:00-11:00	<b>Session 3.1: Wind up of Day 1 and 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary of the key elements of the discussions</li> <li>• Discussion on possible nexus areas, approaches, and tools to enhance whole of government approaches</li> <li>• Identification of specific training needs, potential partnerships, and mechanisms for sharing knowledge and best practices</li> </ul>

11:00-11:30	<b>Coffee break – country reflections</b>
11:30-12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sharing the country perspectives: based on discussion during the coffee break - tour de table on the country feedback and take aways (identification of common interests and areas for future exploration)</li> </ul>
12:30-13.30	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lunch</b> <b>(Organizing team finalizing the slides from the morning)</b></p>
13:30-14:30	<p><b>Session 3.2 Synthesis and way forward</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Synthesizing the results of the discussions and the way forward</li> <li>• Identify specific follow-up points and actionable steps for implementation.</li> <li>• What are the remaining unanswered questions and what could be the next steps and follow-up action points to address these?</li> <li>• Recommendations on the main findings providing a basis for further discussions and activities.</li> </ul>
14.30-15.00	<b>Closing</b>

- 15. 30 Optional tutorial for the interested participants to learn more about the Environmental Conventions Index (North Eastern University).**

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