

Pollution and Health

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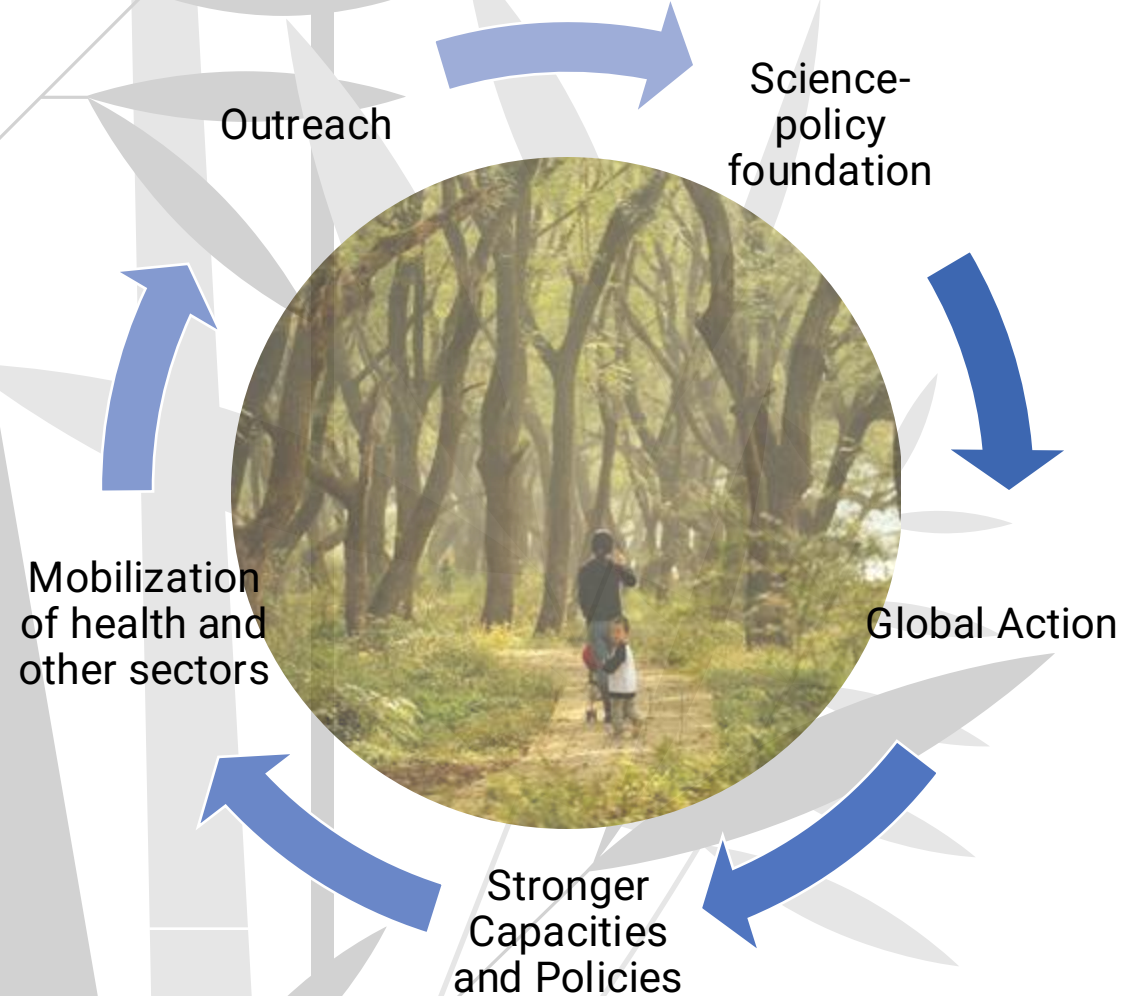
A. Background: Programme Direction

Programme Objective:

Strengthen global action to prevent chemicals and pollution risks to the environment and health

Programme Outcomes:

- *Science available to decision-makers to inform policy and action*
- *Industry in high-impact sectors engages and commits to reduce pollution*
- *Institutional capacities enhanced*
- *UN-wide engagement in pollution prevention*
- *Enhanced public demand for a pollution-free planet*



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A. Background: Thematic focus

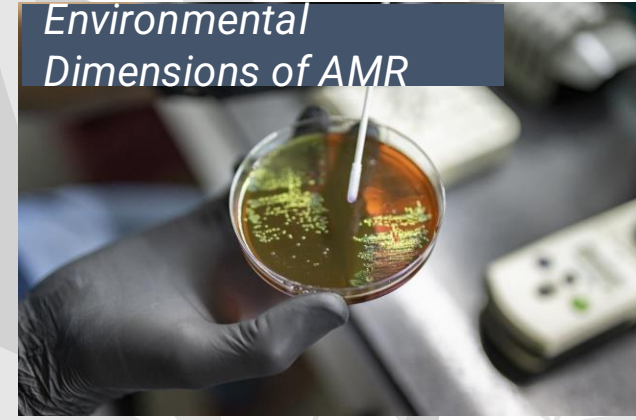


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Air pollution: Syed Mahamudur Rahman/AFD, Marine litter: Paulo de Oliveira/AFP, AMR: Sarah Pabst/WHO, Disasters pollution: Disasters and Conflict Sub-programme/UNEP, Chemicals: Mark Chocola/Hazardous Waste Haulers

A. Background: Envisaged Impact and Strategic Coherence

Envisaged impact of programme:

- “Significant progress is made in transitioning towards a pollution free planet”

Synergies with other Programmes:

- *Mainstreaming Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*
- *Decarbonisation*
- *Environmental Governance*
- *Science-Policy*
- *Finance and Economic Transformation*
- *Digital transformation*



**CLIMATE &
CLEAN AIR
COALITION**
TO REDUCE SHORT-LIVED
CLIMATE POLLUTANTS



Transport

UNEP promotes sustainable low-emission transport and works to reduce the sector's contribution to air pollution and climate change.

[READ MORE](#)

One Health Approach

Source: <https://www.unep.org/topics/chemicals-and-pollution-action/pollution-and-health/unep-one-health>

A. Background: Contribution to MTS and PoW

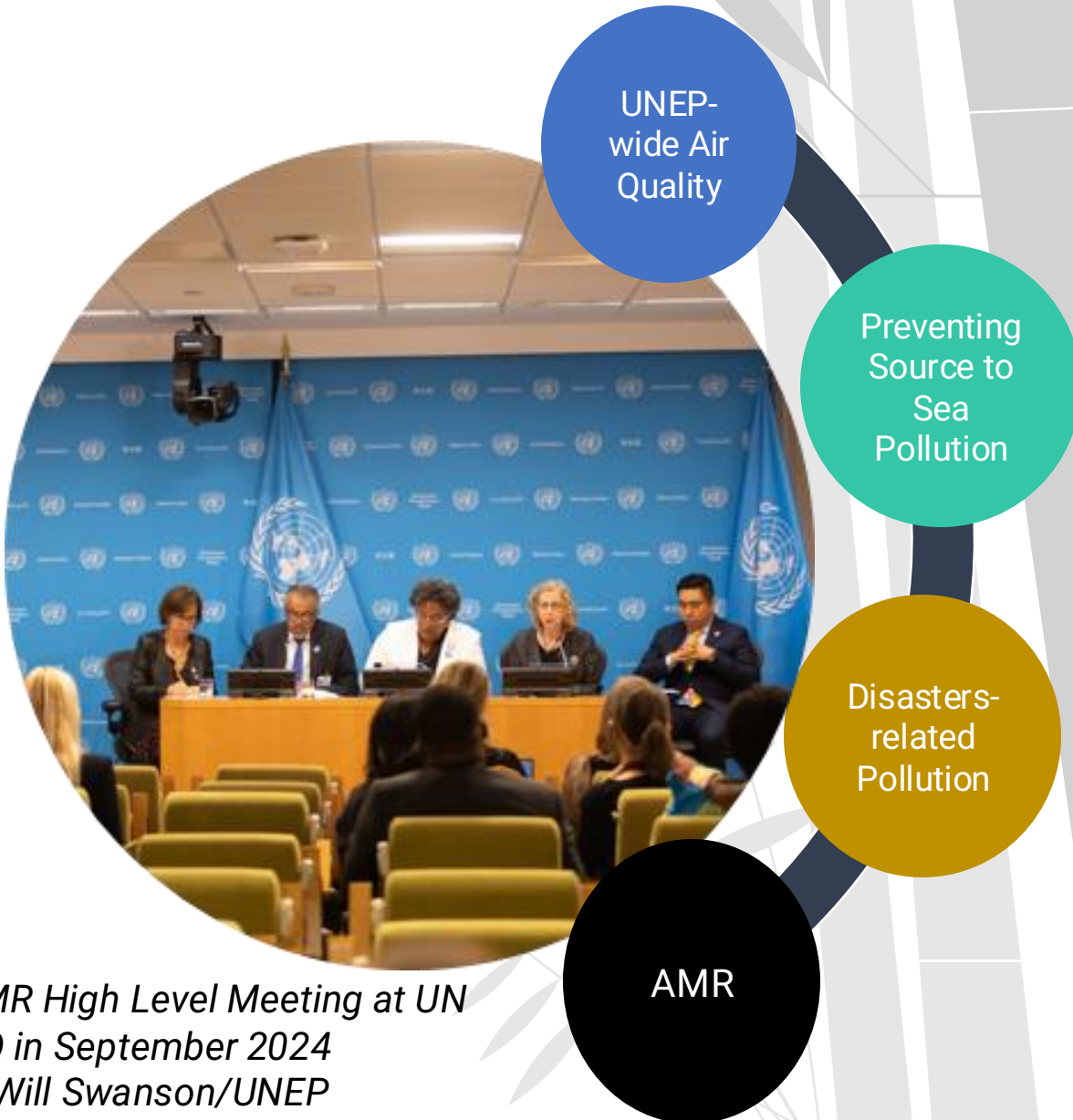
Contribution to MTS Outcomes (PoW 2025 Outcomes):

- 3A. Human Health and environmental outcomes are optimized through enhanced capacity and leadership in the sound management of chemicals and waste.
- 3C. Releases of pollutants to air, water, soil and the ocean are reduced.



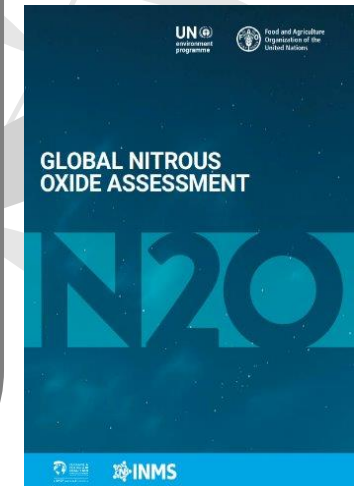
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B. Project Portfolio: Illustrative Examples

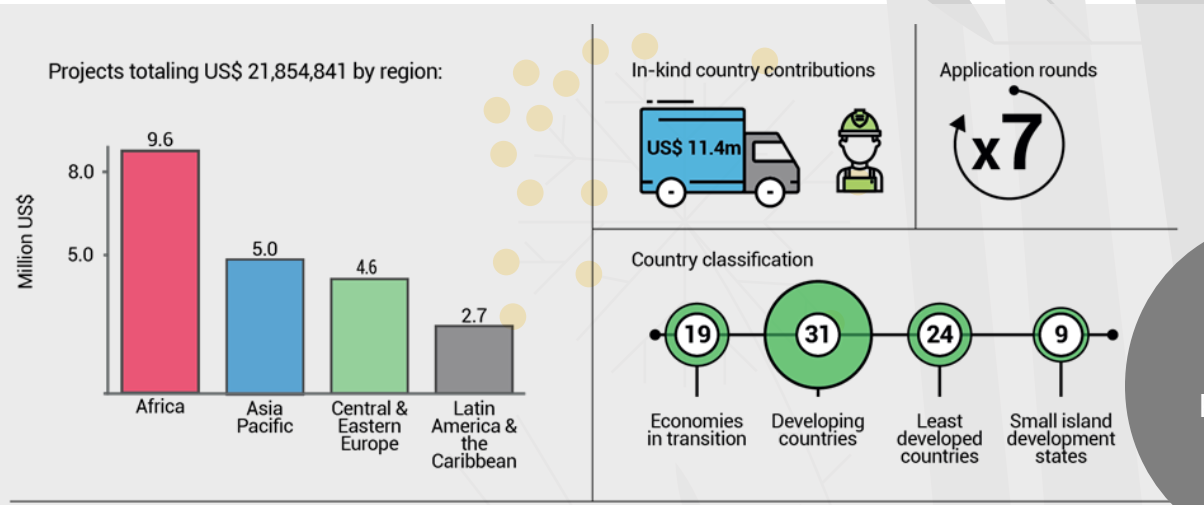


Sustainable nitrogen management:

- *Six meetings of UNEP Working Group on Nitrogen have been held*
- *Eleven countries assisted in developing voluntary national action plans*
- *New report on Global Nitrous Oxide Assessment by FAO and UNEP*



B. Project Portfolio: Illustrative Examples (continued)



Special Programme

Chemicals, Environment and Health

GFC

Science-Policy Panel

Chemicals and Waste GEF

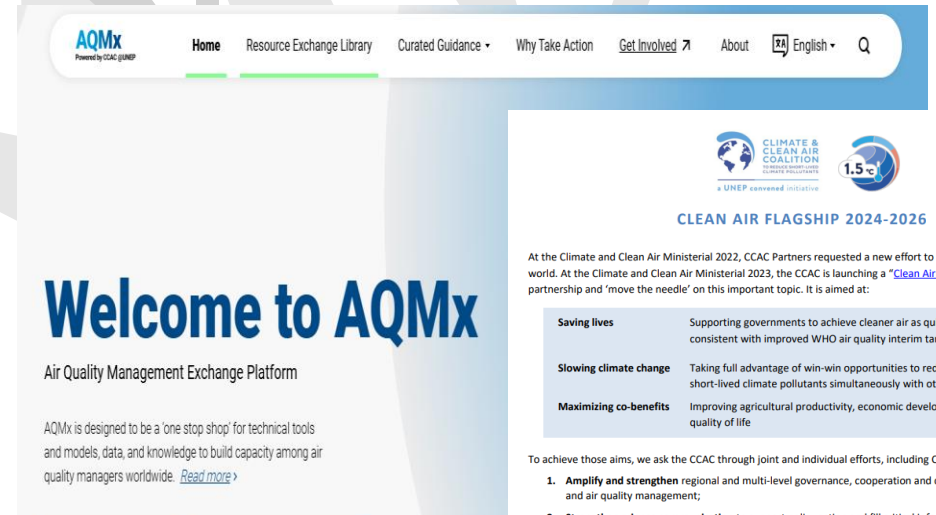


Plenary during the 3rd meeting of OEWG on SPP in June 2024 © Mike Muzurakis/ IISD/ENB

C. Results Achieved: Air Quality



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Robust science foundation

Global ambition and commitment

Strengthening a global movement for clean air

Promoting uptake of solutions through cooperation and accessible guidance: CCAC Clean Air Flagship. Global Air Quality Cooperation Network (AQMx)



Leveraging the Benefits of non-CO₂ Pollutants and Air Quality in NDC 3.0
Practical, Results-driven Guidance



UN INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON NCDs
10 YEARS SUPPORTING COUNTRIES



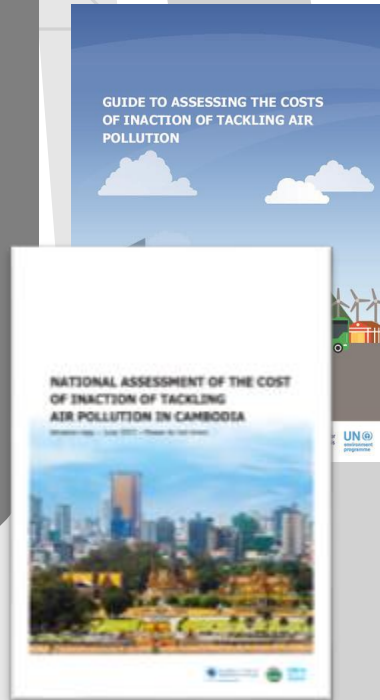
Bringing air pollution into the global health and climate agenda

C. Results Achieved: Air Quality (continued)

Example of national level support

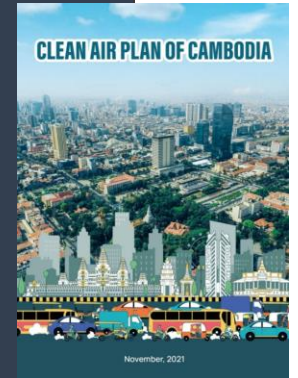
Result in Science and Evidence:

- **Overall:** Quantified cost of inaction on air pollution
- **Agriculture:** Remote sensing-based approach to monitor CH₄ emissions from paddy rice
- **Textile:** Assessing emissions from boilers in garment factories
- **Agriculture:** Tier 2 GHG inventory (CCAC Trust Fund)



Result in Policy and Regulatory Work:

- **Overall:** Developed clean air plan adopted in 2022 (CCAC Trust Fund)
- **Transport:** Implementing improved vehicle emission standards (CCAC Trust Fund)
- **Agriculture:** Resource package on sustainable agriculture practices to address open burning of residues
- **Waste:** Finance in sub-national entities (CCAC Trust Fund)
- **Stationary engines sub-sector:** Addressing emissions (CCAC Trust Fund)



C. Results Achieved: Air Quality (continued)

Example of national level support

Result in Partnerships and Networks:

- *Textiles: Facilitate identification and development of clean air interventions with climate co-benefits for potential access to climate finance, such as Japan's Joint Crediting Mechanism*
- *Active participation in regional networks for sharing experience and upscaling results*



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CLIMATE POLLUTANTS



Asia Pacific Regional Forum
on Health and Environment

C. Results Achieved: Chemical and Waste

Moving towards a planet free of harm from chemicals and waste: mobilizing sectors to transform the business practices: the example of lead

Science-policy
foundation

Global Action

Stronger Capacities
and Policies

Mobilization of
health and other
sectors

Outreach



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C. Results Achieved: Chemical and Waste (continued)

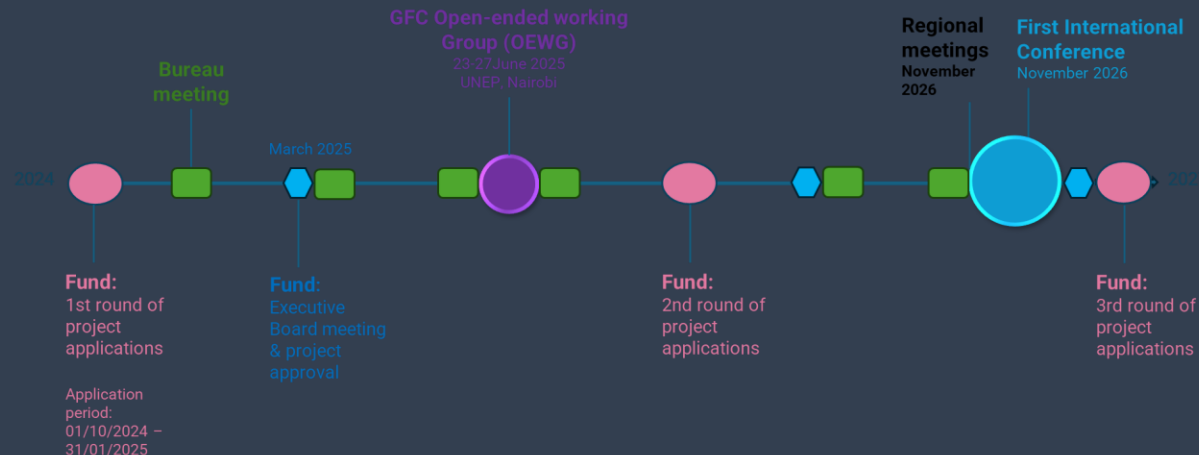
Towards a planet free of harm from chemicals and waste: from better science-policy to finance and action

Results in Science Policy Panel on chemicals, waste and pollution prevention:

- Three OEWG sessions held to date
- The third session was adjourned and will resume in 2025, to be held back-to-back with an Intergovernmental Meeting
- For further information and updates: <https://www.unep.org/oewg-spp-chemicals-waste-pollution>



GFC: Road to First Conference



Global Framework on Chemicals Fund launched first call for applications



C. Results Achieved: Antimicrobial Resistance

Tackling Environmental Dimensions of Antimicrobial Resistance

Science-policy
foundation

Global Action

Stronger Capacities
and Policies

Mobilization of health
and other sectors

Outreach



Type of environmental AMR pollution sources and areas for prevention and treatment action (UNEP, 2022)



Saudi Arabia's Minister of Health addressed the 4th Global High-Level Ministerial Conference on AMR in Jeddah, in which the Jeddah Commitments were adopted

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Capacity Building

- Update of tracking AMR country self-assessment survey
- Publishing quadripartite One Health legislative assessment tool on AMR

AMR Multi-Partner Trust Fund

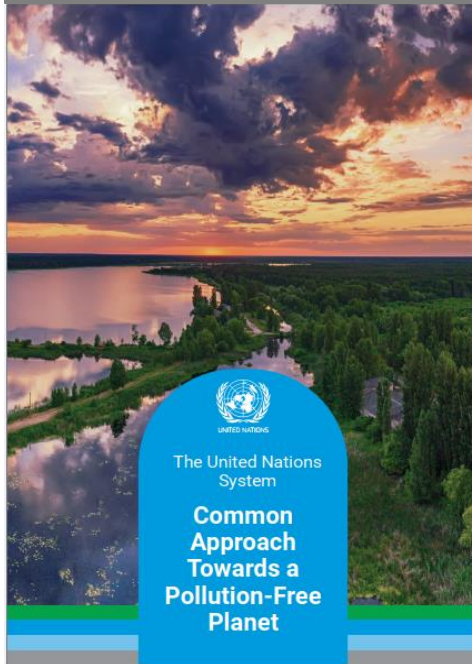
- Update of the AMR MPTF Operational Manual
- Open call for proposals
- Join visibility events



Continuing to raise awareness

C. Results Achieved: Cross-cutting Issues

Common Approach Towards a Pollution-Free Planet document



Adoption of Jakarta Declaration on Cooperation on Health and Environment:

- *At the fifth Ministerial Meeting of Asia Pacific Regional Forum on Health and Environment, September 2024*

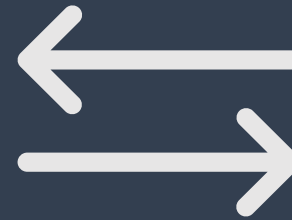


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D. Lessons Learned

Lessons Learned:

- *Strong scientific evidence exists on pollution and health connection, and economic and social repercussions, but not sufficiently acted up.*
- *Implementation still lagging: no dedicated funding or insufficient funding for many pollution issues*
- *Insufficient attention from key sectors, including finance, to pollution problems*



Changes Made:

- *Stronger efforts to make the case for pollution action, including through cost of inaction studies*
- *Stronger engagement with finance*
- *Stronger engagement with key industry actors to promote leadership on assessing and reducing pollution footprint*

E. Way Forward

A: Continue efforts to implement UNEA resolutions

B: Further implement GFC: disbursing GFC-Funds, setting up implementation programmes, developing indicators

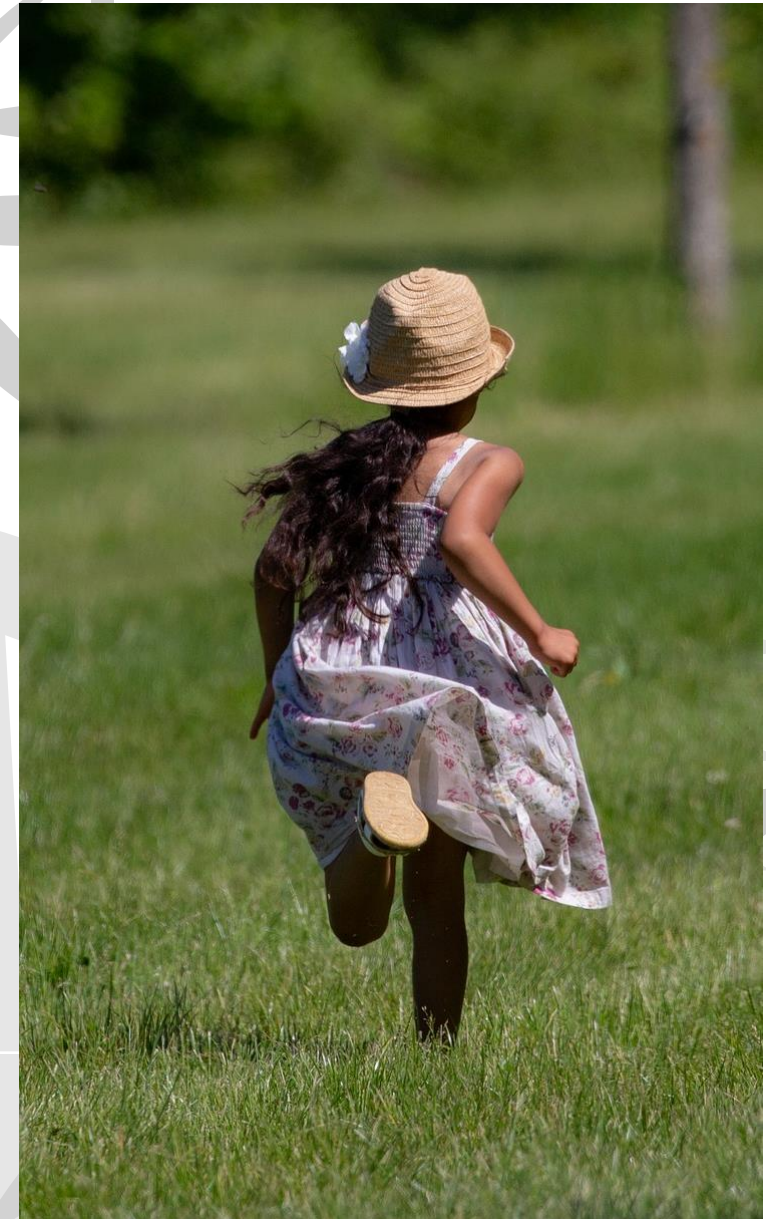
C: Hold the next OEWG and intergovernmental meeting towards the establishment of the Science-policy panel

D: Continue the work on sustainable nutrients management: further advance and learn from the nitrogen lessons

E: Further sensitise on need for resourcing implementation efforts

F: Further harness the potential of digital tools: making data available and enable the tracking of policy progress

G: Further inform and upscale action through cooperation, informed by latest guidance



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Thank you

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