



REPORT

Priority issues on chemicals and waste management for Latin America and the Caribbean and potential priority cooperation activities for 2021-2022

Report prepared by the Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Network on Chemicals and Waste
UN Environment Programme - Latin America and the Caribbean Office
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Introduction

This report summarizes the results of the regional survey on priority issues on chemicals and waste management for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), potential priority cooperation activities for 2021-2022, and recommendations by countries based on the experience of implementing the action plan 2019-2020. The survey was disseminated to all national focal points of the Intergovernmental Network on Chemicals and Waste for LAC (the Network). National focal points were encouraged to hold their own consultations with other stakeholders and different government agencies at the national level while responding to the survey.

The report intends to provide input to the development of the new Action Plan of the Network, on potential regional cooperation activities on chemicals and waste.

Background

The Intergovernmental Network on Chemicals and Waste for Latin America and the Caribbean was established in 2016 within the framework of the XX Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean and in accordance with Decision 8 on Chemicals and Waste. The biannual Action Plan 2019-2020 for regional cooperation in this field was developed soon after and adopted at the XXI Meeting of the Forum of Ministers (Buenos Aires, Argentina, October 2018). For this purpose, the Network identified and agreed on priority areas of cooperation and activities that support and strengthen the sound management of chemicals and waste in the region.

The last Intersessional Meeting of the Forum of Ministers, held on 5-6 November 2019 in Barbados, highlighted the importance to start the process of developing the new Action Plan as soon as possible, taking into consideration the lessons learned from the implementation of the 2019-2020 Action Plan and emerging priorities. In this context and as per agreed by the Steering Committee of the Network during its latest meetings (5 March 2020 and 18 June 2020), the Technical Subcommittee on Monitoring of the Action Plan started the development of the new Action Plan.

The Subcommittee prepared a **survey** (see Annex 1) to compile relevant information from the countries of the Latin America and the Caribbean region for the development of the new Action Plan. The information requested was intended to identify:

- Most important and prioritized topics on chemicals and waste management for each country and the region;
- Emerging priorities;
- Key cooperation activities that can be implemented by the Intergovernmental Network to support addressing these priority issues;
- Lessons learned and recommendations for the new Action Plan.

Participation to the survey

Responses from national focal points were received over the period of August-September 2020. **Sixteen (16) countries**, representing about 50% of the region, answered the survey. The breakdown by sub-region is shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Response rate to the survey on chemicals and waste management priorities in the LAC region.

Sub-region	Countries per sub-region	National focal points that responded*	Representation per sub-region (%)
Mesoamerica	8	4	50%
Caribbean	15	5	27%
Andean	5	4	80%
Southern Cone	5	3	60%
Total LAC	33	16	48%

Mesoamerica: Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico

Caribbean: Barbados, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago

Andean: Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela

Southern Cone: Argentina, Chile and Uruguay.

The survey and the analysis of results

The survey included four sections, namely a first section to identify priority topics on chemicals and waste management for the region, a second section to identify emerging priorities, a third section to identify potential cooperation areas, and a fourth section about lessons learned and recommendations for the new Action Plan, based on the experience to date in the design and implementation of the current Plan 2019-2020.

The first section provided a list of sub-topics that were identified by the working group as potential key priorities for the region. These sub-topics were pre-classified into the six (6) categories or main topics agreed in Decision 8 of the XX Forum of Ministers of Environment:

1. Governance and coordination mechanisms
2. Knowledge, information, and monitoring
3. Priority issues under the SAICM framework
4. Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions (BRS)
5. Mercury and Lead
6. Waste management

In order to obtain a manageable set of priorities for a biennial action plan, respondents were requested to select and rank only 5 priority sub-topics under each category. This allowed to produce a “Priority indicator” by summing the rankings by countries, and which was then compared with the number of countries that prioritized that specific sub-topic (“frequency”).

The second section of the survey requested respondents to rank a list of emerging priorities that have become more relevant for the countries of the region during the last two years, and therefore, should be considered in the new action plan, namely:

- Plastic waste and single-use plastic management.
- Management of marine litter and microplastics.
- COVID-19 / Health crises and the management of bio-infectious waste.
- COVID-19 / Health crises and the sound use of disinfecting chemicals.
- COVID-19 / Health crises, adaptation of waste management systems and handling of new waste streams, including in households (e.g hand sanitizers, hygiene kits, masks, and packaged foods, etc.)
- Electronic waste management.
- Education and innovation in environmentally sustainable chemistry, green chemistry.
- Strengthening the scientific-regulatory interface through platforms and greater collaboration between scientists and decision makers.
- Other (to be indicated)

The third section of the survey requested respondents to rank a list of potential regional cooperation activities to address the priority sub-topics, namely:

- Face-to-face trainings/workshops
- Webinars and online workshops.
- Online training modules
- Capacity building to decision makers.
- Assistance in the development of regulations and policies on chemicals and waste management.
- Development of guidance and tools
- Undertake regional assessments on specific issues of concern
- Develop regional strategies or action plans for issues of concern
- Promote the exchange of information on project calls and other financing opportunities
- Regional awareness campaigns
- Capacity development and regional technical cooperation
- South-South exchange programmes, i.e. physical exchange of human resources, exchange of lessons learnt, study tours, technology transfer, etc.

Finally, the opinion of the respondents was requested on issues related to the scope of the New Plan, based on the experience to date in the design and implementation of the current Plan.

- **Number of actions in the Plan:** The current Plan includes a total of 33 actions to be implemented in a two-year period. Although the final level of execution cannot be determined until the end of 2020, the progress indicators to date seem to evidence



that this is a significant number of actions for a period of two years. In this sense: less, similar, or more actions were suggested.

- **Duration of the Plan:** Currently the duration of the plan is of two years. The experience with the first plan shows that during the first year, significant time is invested in detailed planning of activities, the involvement of countries and partners, and the mobilization of resources to implement the actions. In this sense, the options suggested were: two years (same as the actual Plan), four years (reviewing the program of work every two years), or another duration.
- **Other matters** regarding mechanisms to promote the participation of governmental and non-governmental focal points, mechanisms to strengthen the mobilization of resources and the establishment and synergies to support the implementation of the Plan, and other recommendations.

Results

Results are shown per each topic previously identified by the working group of the Network. The summary under each topic presents:

- The total of the **priority ranking score** that the respondents (countries) gave to the selected subtopics.
- A chart comparing the **aggregated ranking versus frequency for each sub-topic** - analyzing frequency of selection of each sub-topic allows to identify any sub-topic that was frequently mentioned by respondents despite a lower or non-significant ranking.

Regarding the development of the Programme of Work 2021-2022, for each of the 6 topics (work areas), the two sub-topics with the highest total score were initially taken as priorities. This reflects extremely important subtopics. Then an analysis was made of the subtopics that, although did not have the highest total score, were frequently chosen by the respondents. This reflects subtopics that are key to many of the countries. In that case, that very frequently chosen sub-topic is added to the priority sub-topics with highest ranking.

Part A: Priority issues for the region



Topic 1: Governance and coordination mechanisms

Under this topic, the top **priority sub-topics** at regional level are:

- Strengthen capacities at national and local levels to apply and enforce legal frameworks
- Review and strengthen chemicals and waste regulatory and institutional frameworks

These were followed by **other sub-topics** such as:

- Strategies for mainstreaming chemicals and wastes in national sustainable development strategies and plans, as well as in national budgeting processes
- Strengthen linkages between science and policy to raise awareness of decision-makers on chemicals and waste key aspects
- Development of national registers of chemicals

Figure 2 compares the aggregated ranking versus the frequency for each sub-topic under this category, where a correlation can be generally observed. *Strengthen linkages between science and policy to raise awareness of decision-makers on chemicals and waste key aspects* was frequently selected by respondents as a priority issue, although it was given a low ranking in comparison to other priority issues.

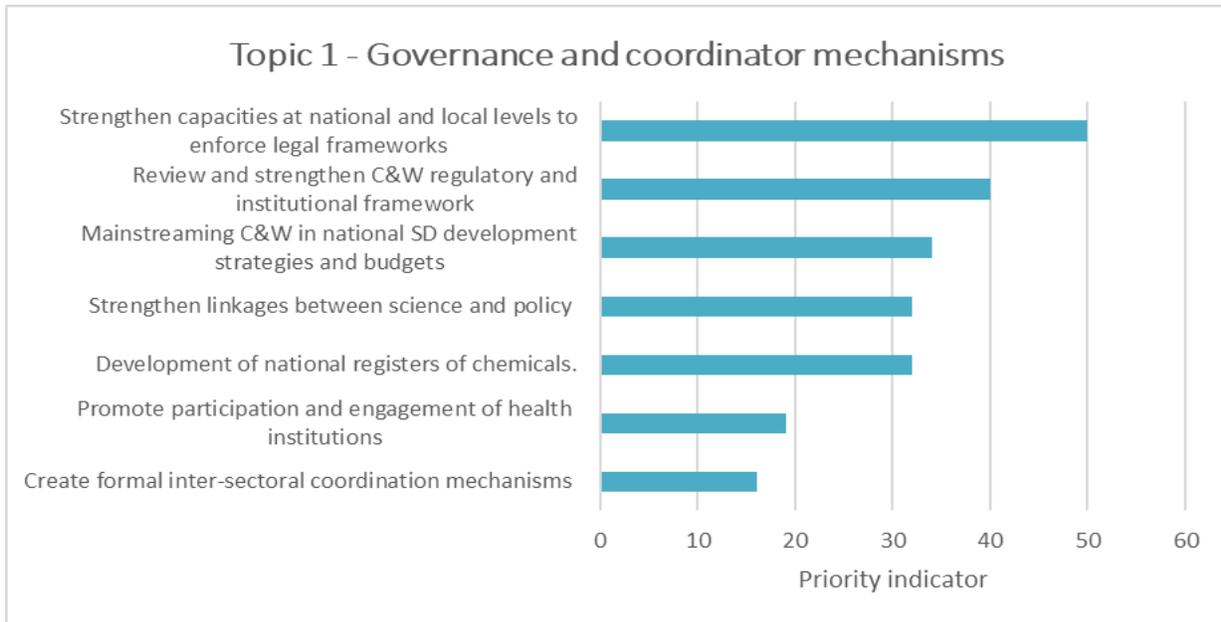


Figure 1. Priority sub-topics at regional level for category 1: Governance and coordination mechanisms.

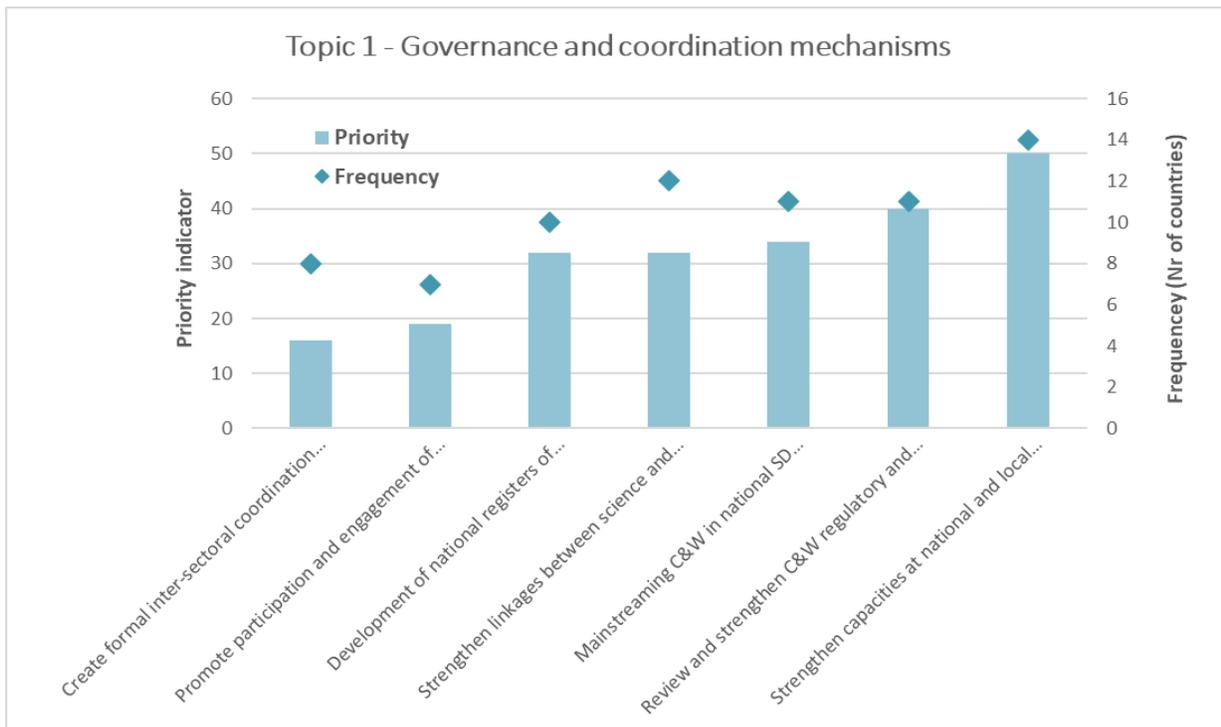


Figure 2. Frequency and aggregated ranking for each sub-topic of category 1: Governance and coordination mechanisms.



Topic 2: Knowledge, information, and monitoring

Under this topic, the top priority sub-topics at regional are:

- Strengthen capacities in the elaboration of Environmental Risk Assessments for chemicals and chemical products.
- Dissemination of methodologies for the definition of a list of priority chemicals to control and monitoring.

This was followed by other sub-topics such as:

- Keep up-to-date national registration or database systems on chemicals and waste, such as Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTR) and others
- Strengthen national capacities for sampling and testing of priority hazardous chemicals.

Figure 4 compares the aggregated ranking versus the frequency for each sub-topic under this category, where a correlation can be generally observed. *Strengthen national capacities for sampling and testing of priority hazardous chemicals* was frequently selected by respondents as a priority issue, although it was given a low ranking in comparison to other priority issues.

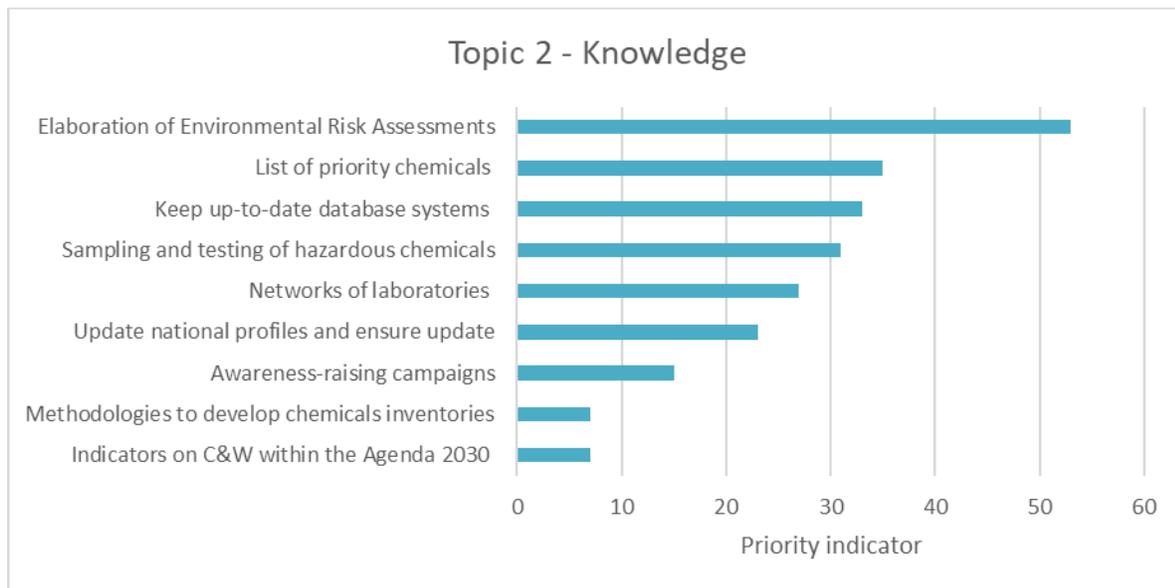


Figure 3. Priority sub-topics at regional level for category 2: Knowledge, information, and monitoring

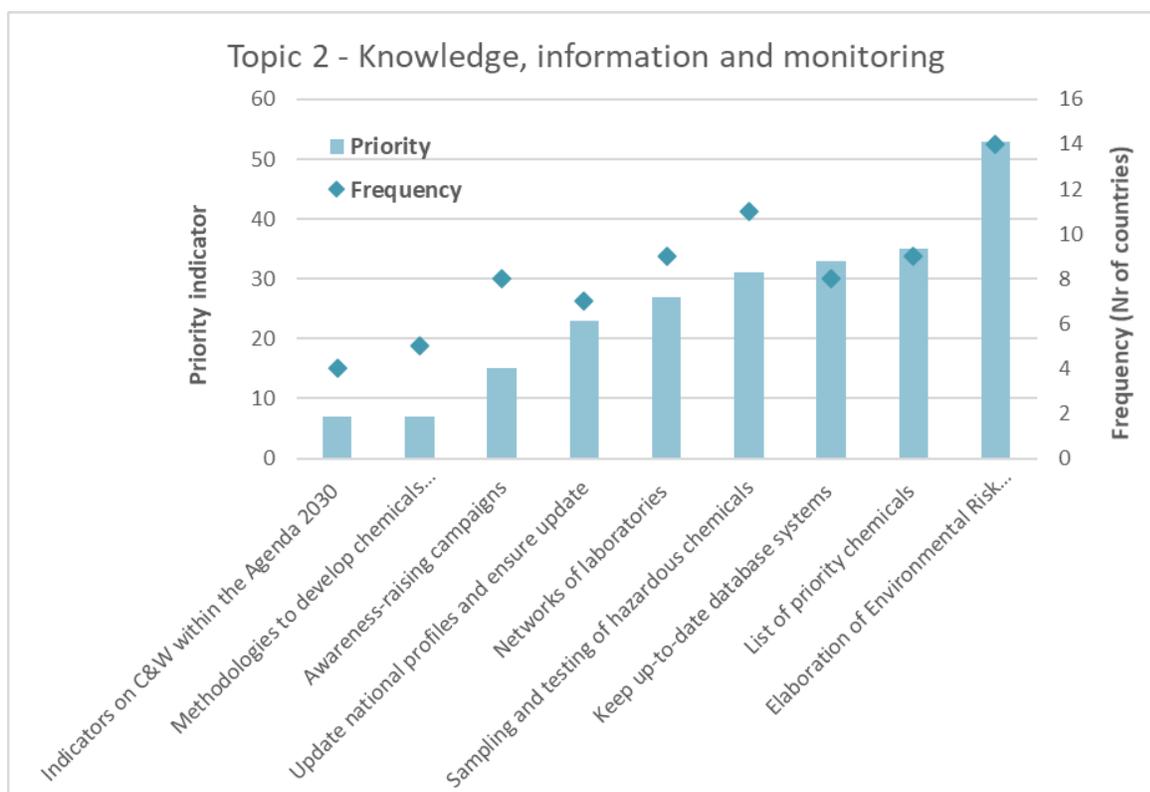


Figure 4. Frequency and aggregated ranking for each sub-topic of category 2: Knowledge, information, and monitoring



Topic3: Priority issues under the SAICM framework

Under this topic, the top priority sub-topics at regional level are:

- Promote implementation of the Globally Harmonized System (GHS), including building capacities in the public-private sector for its implementation.
- Promote industrial development based on sustainable chemistry to prevent and reduce the use and generation of hazardous substances to reduce chemical risks, and to find safer and sustainable alternatives.

These were followed by other sub-topics such as:

- Develop instruments to enable the private sector to comply with regulations on chemicals and waste, particularly in the processes of registration and authorization of chemicals and management of hazardous waste.
- Create action mechanisms and build capacities to prevent and respond to chemical accidents (APELL, poison centers), including the capacity to give an integrated response at the regional level.
- Promote the development and use of new methodologies for the evaluation of hazards and risks of chemicals.



Figure 6 compares the aggregated ranking versus the frequency for each sub-topic under this category, where a correlation can be generally observed. *Create action mechanisms and build capacities to prevent and respond to chemical accidents (APELL, poison centers), including the capacity to give an integrated response at the regional level* was frequently selected by respondents as a priority issue, although it was given a low ranking in comparison to other priority issues.

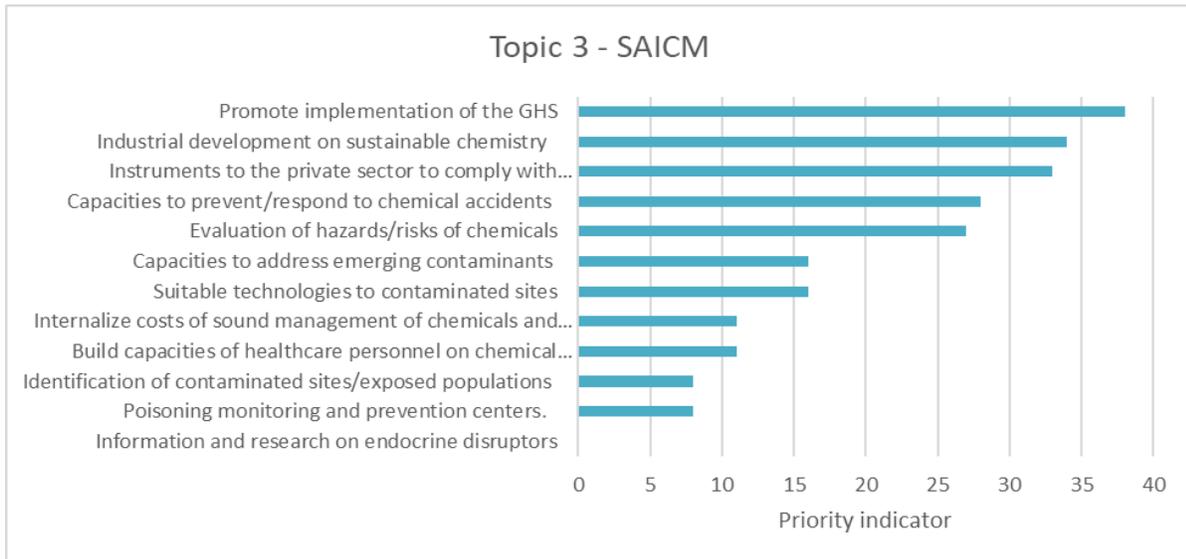


Figure 5 Priority sub-topics at regional level for category 3: Priority issues under the SAICM framework

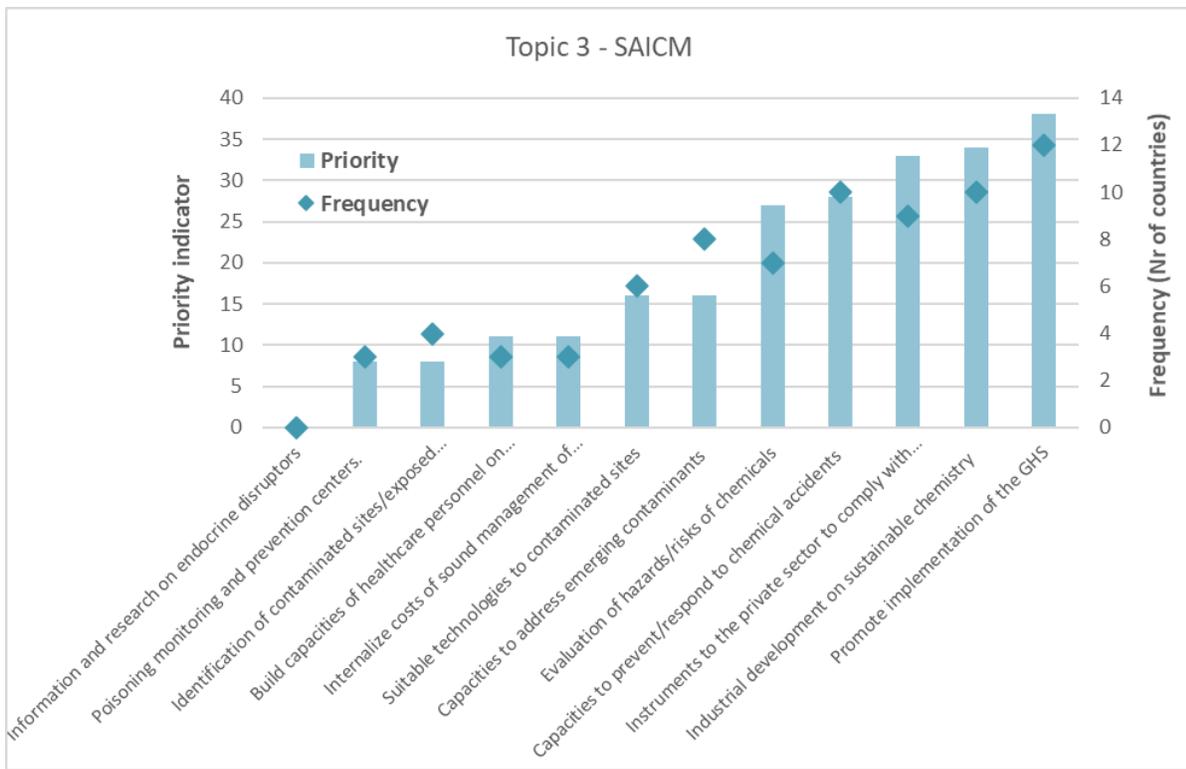


Figure 6. Frequency and aggregated ranking for each sub-topic of category: Priority issues under the SAICM framework.



Topic 4: Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions (BRS)

Under this topic, the top priority sub-topics at regional level are:

- Development of inventories of new POPs.
- Technical assistance to develop inventories of hazardous waste and other waste.

These were followed by other sub-topics such as:

- Sound management of POPs stocks.
- Implement Best Available Techniques (BATs) and Best Environmental Practices (BEPs) for activities with unintentional POPs emission.

Figure 8 compares the aggregated ranking versus the frequency for each sub-topic under this category, where a correlation can be generally observed. *Implement Best Available Techniques (BATs) and Best Environmental Practices (BEPs) for activities with unintentional POPs emissions* was frequently selected by respondents as a priority issue, although it was given a low ranking in comparison to other priority issues.

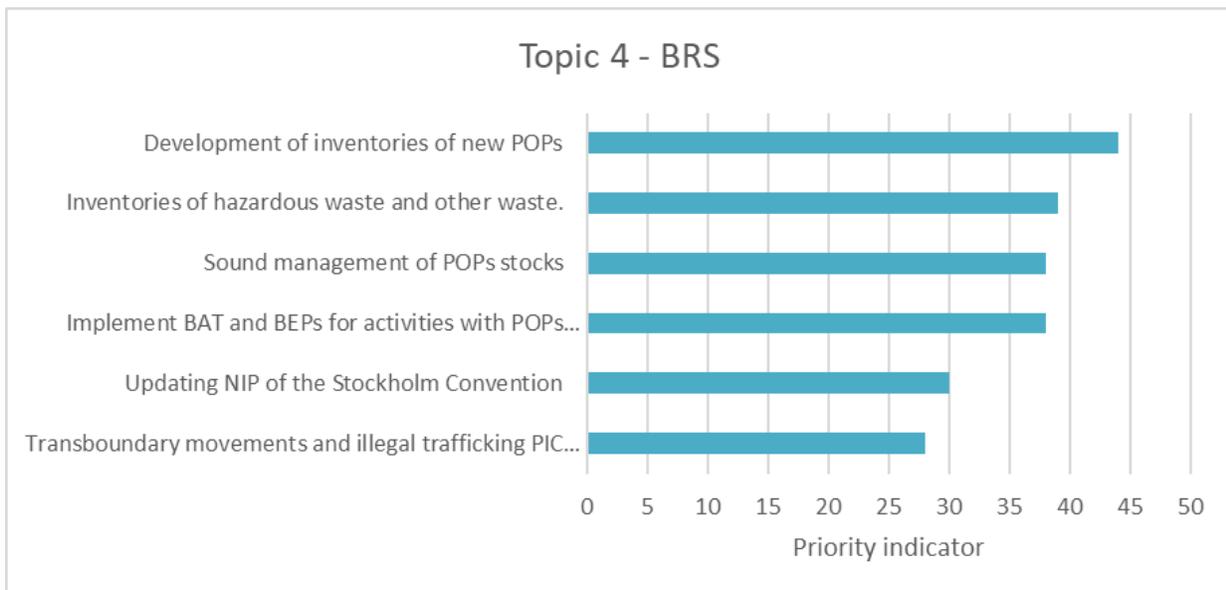


Figure 7 Priority sub-topics at regional level for category 4: Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions (BRS).

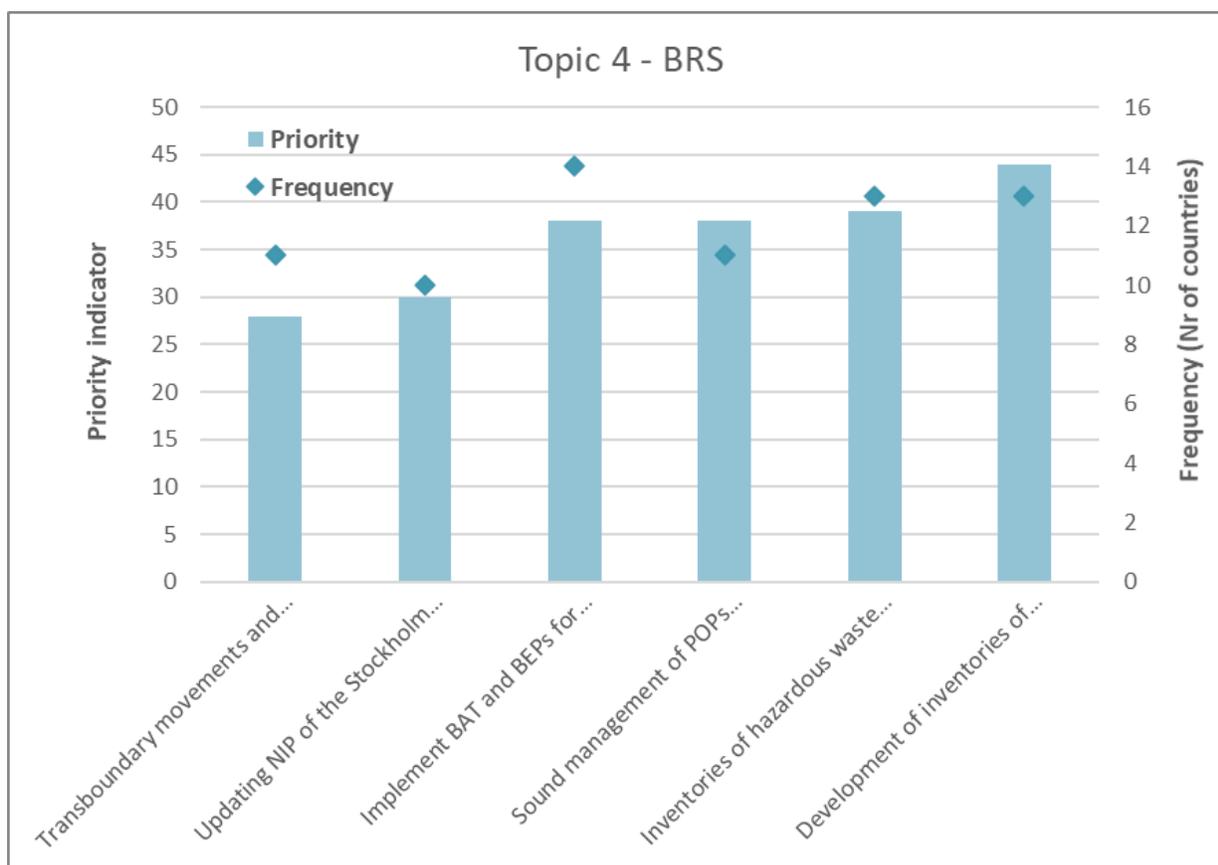


Figure 8. Frequency and aggregated ranking for each sub-topic of category : Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions (BRS).



Topic 5: Mercury and lead

Under this topic, the top priority sub-topics at regional level are:

- Develop inventories of mercury-added products, as well as identifying/implementing mechanisms for their effective identification (standardization/harmonization of associated tariff codes, labeling, among others).
- Management of mercury waste (collection, storage, treatment, disposal).

These were followed by other sub-topics such as:

- Establish/strengthen mechanisms to control mercury legal and illegal trade.
- Establish strategies for phasing out mercury use in products and processes (e.g. dental amalgam, chloralkali, etc.).



Figure 10 compares the aggregated ranking versus the frequency for each sub-topic under this category, where a correlation is generally observed. *Establish strategies for phasing out mercury use in products and processes (e.g. dental amalgam, chloralkali, etc.) and the remediation of mercury-contaminated sites* were frequently selected by respondents as priority issues, although they were given a low ranking in comparison to other priority issues.

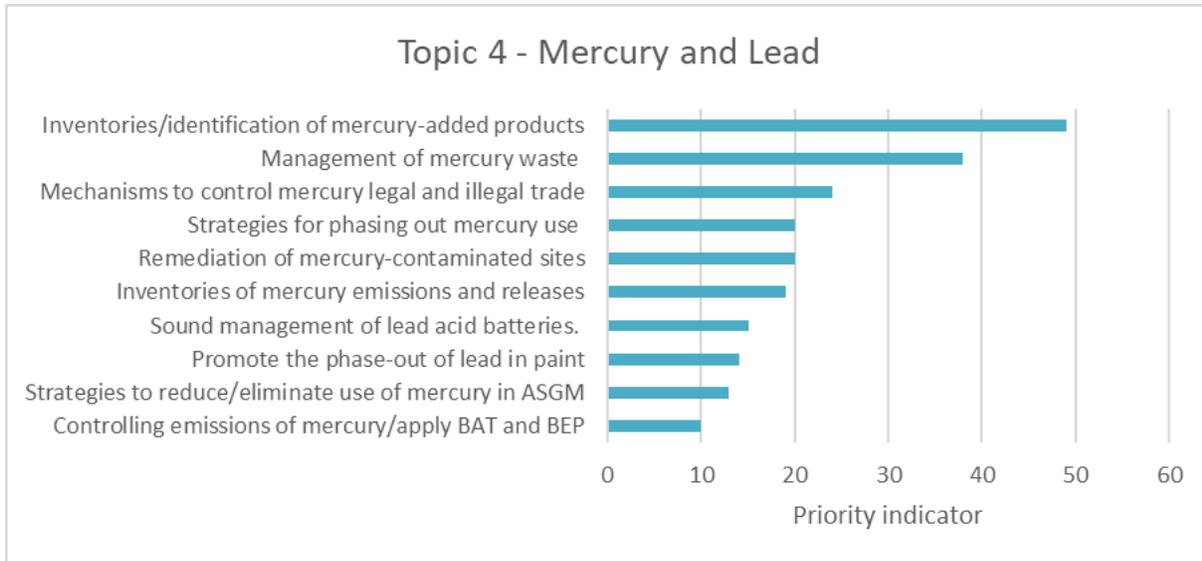


Figure 9. Priority sub-topics at regional level for category 3: Priority issues under the SAICM framework

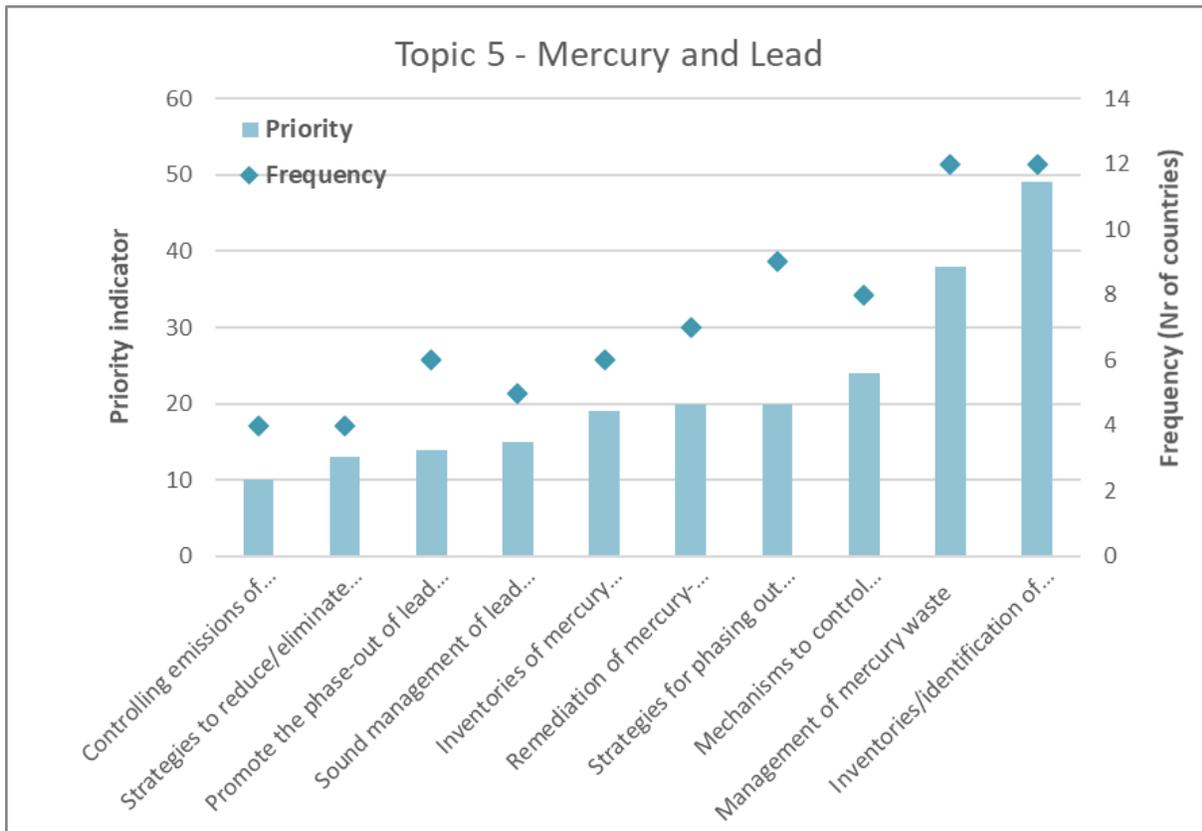


Figure 10. Frequency and aggregated ranking for each sub-topic of category: Priority issues under SAICM framework.



Topic 6: Waste Management

Under this topic, the top priority sub-topics at regional level are:

- Develop systems to measure and characterize waste generation, including hazardous waste, and keep updated national waste inventories
- Implement good practices and best technologies for integrated management of hazardous waste (e.g. e-waste, mercury surplus and waste, used oils, used lead acid batteries, biomedical waste, and obsolete highly hazardous pesticides)

These were followed by other sub-topics such as:

- Promotion of extended producer responsibility schemes.
- Control and prevent the use of dumps and open burning of waste, and work on the closure and remediation of such sites.

Figure 12 compares the aggregated ranking versus the frequency for each sub-topic under this category, where a correlation is generally observed. *Develop systems to measure and characterize waste generation, including hazardous waste, and keep updated national waste inventories* was the sub-topic most frequently selected by countries as a priority issue.

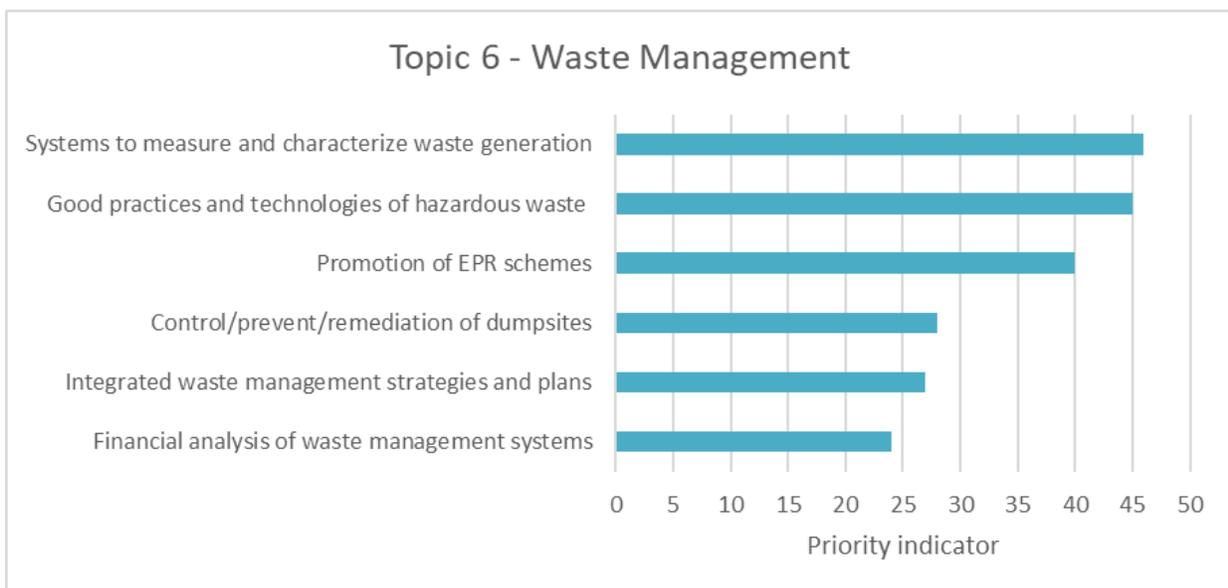


Figure 11. Priority sub-topics at regional level for category 6: Waste Management

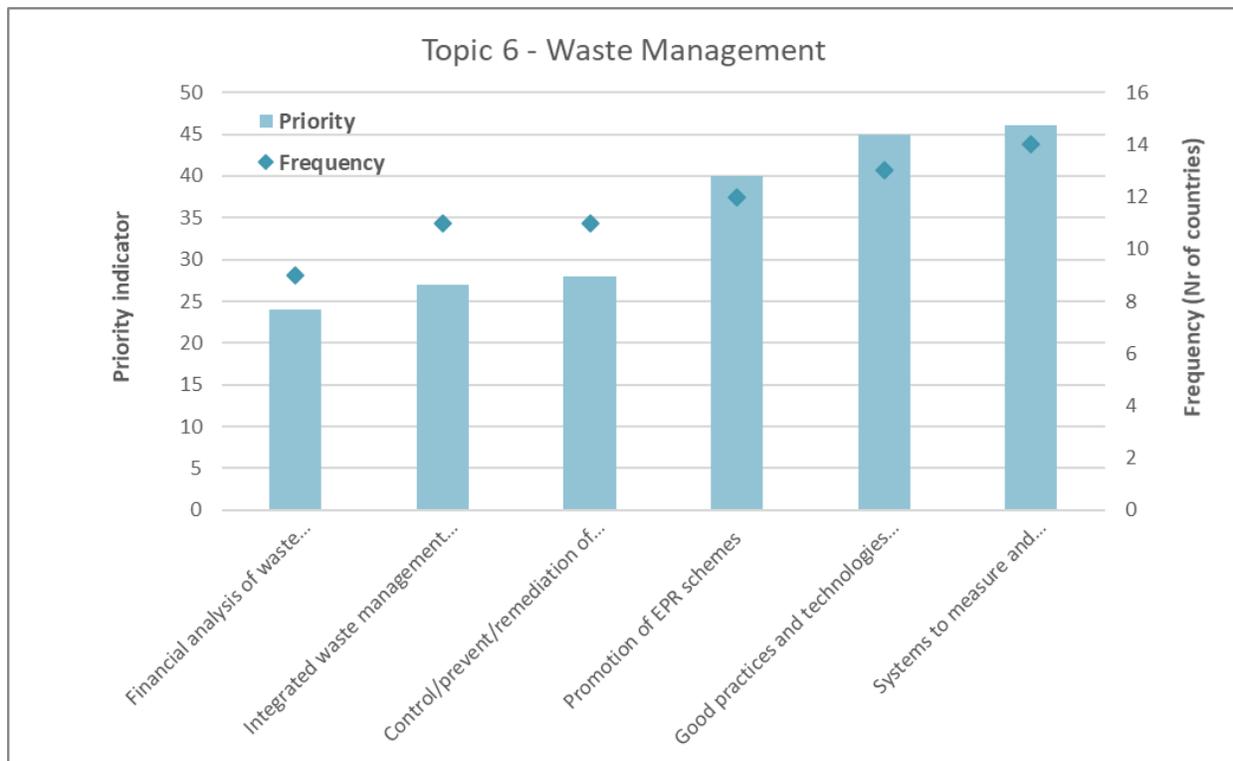


Figure 12. Frequency and aggregated ranking for each sub-topic of category 6: Waste Management

Part B: Emerging Priorities

As previously mentioned, the survey also requested information on emerging priorities for the countries of the region. Those issues that obtained a higher priority ranking at regional level are the following:

- COVID-19/Health crises, adaptation of waste management systems and handling of new waste streams, including in households (e.g hand sanitizers, hygiene kits, masks, and packaged foods, etc.)
- COVID-19/Management of bio-infectious waste
- Management of marine litter and microplastics.
- Plastic waste and single-use plastic management

Figure 14 compares the aggregated ranking versus the frequency for each sub-topic under this category, where a correlation is generally observed. *Management of marine litter and microplastics* was frequently selected by respondents as a priority issue, although it was given a lower ranking in comparison with COVID-19 related issues. *Management of electronic waste* was also frequently identified as a priority by countries.

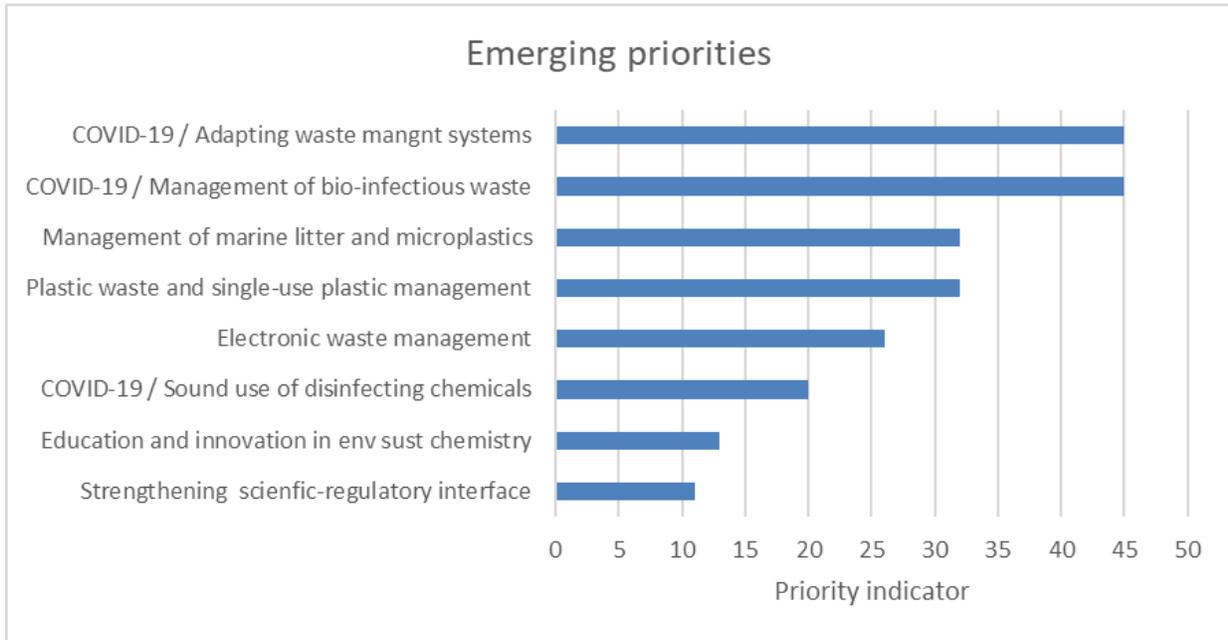


Figure 13. Aggregated ranking for each emerging priority

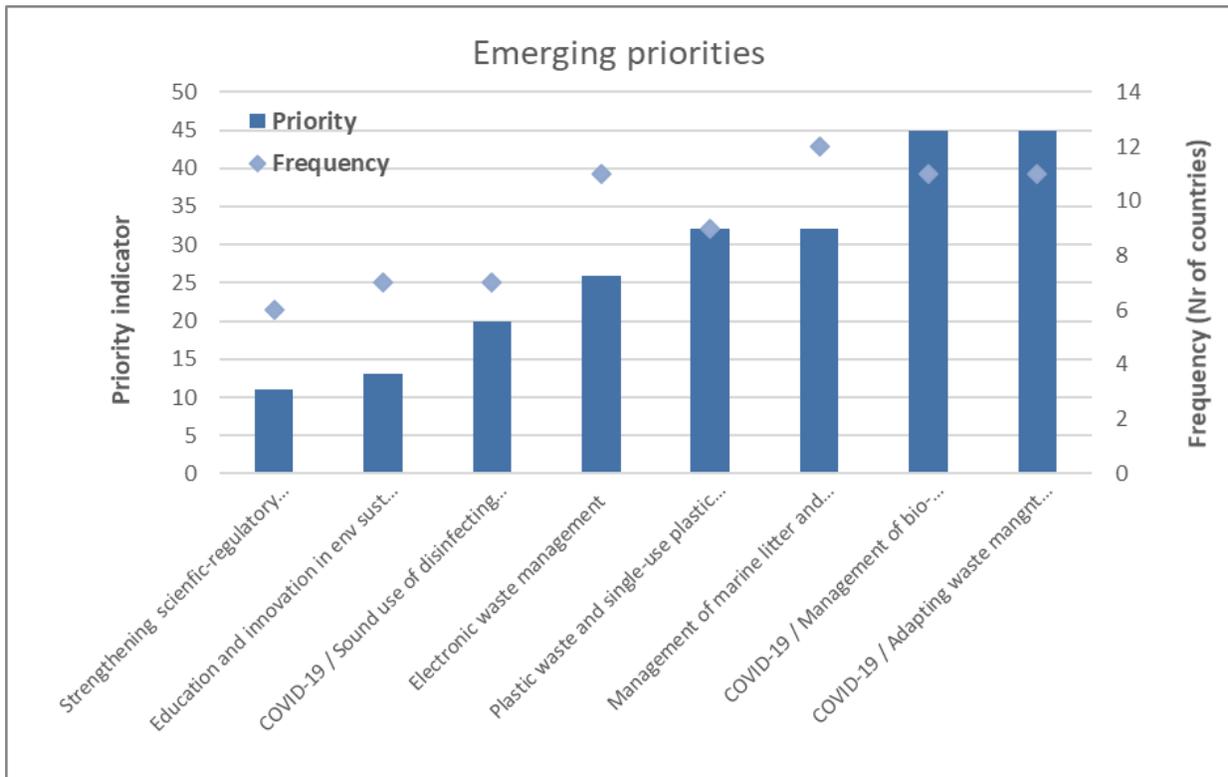


Figure 14. Frequency and aggregated ranking for each emerging priority.

Part C: Results on potential regional cooperation areas

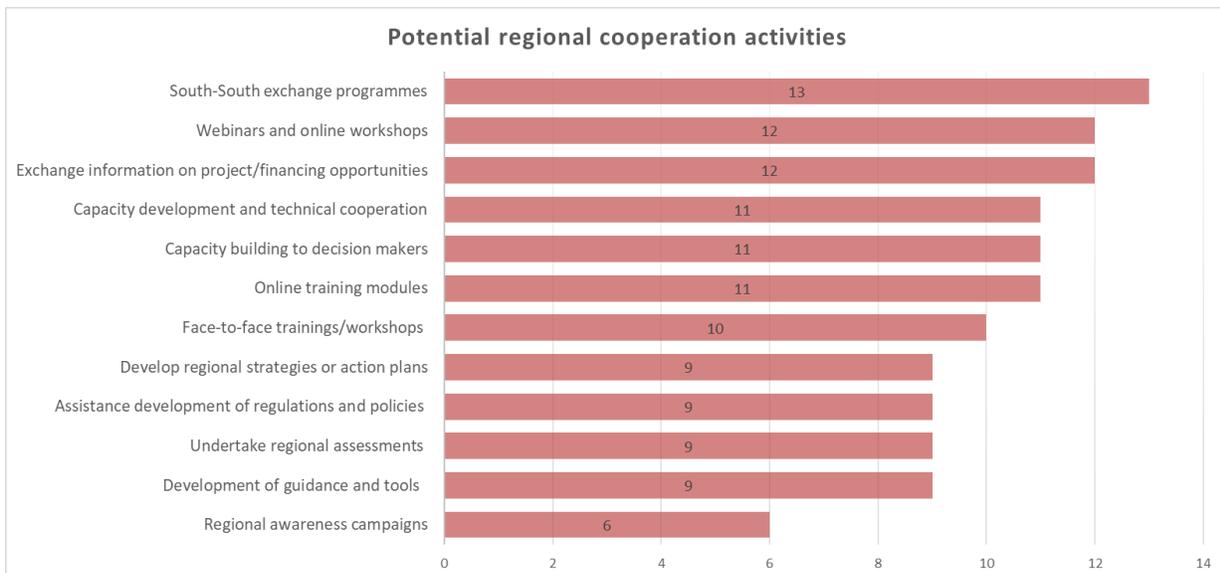
Results from this section of the survey provide an insight of what are the cooperation areas that national focal points see as more effective and convenient to address chemicals and waste management in the region.

The cooperation area that has been allocated the highest priority is:

- i. **South-South exchange programmes**, i.e. physical exchange of human resources, exchange of lessons learnt, study tours, technology transfer, etc.

This is followed by other sub-topics such as:

- ii. **Webinars and online workshops**
- iii. Promote the **exchange of information on project calls and other financing opportunities**.
- iv. **Capacity development and technical cooperation**
- v. Capacity building to **decision-makers**
- vi. **On-line** training modules
- vii. **Face-to-face** trainings/workshops
- viii. **Assistance in the development of regulations and policies** on chemicals and waste management.



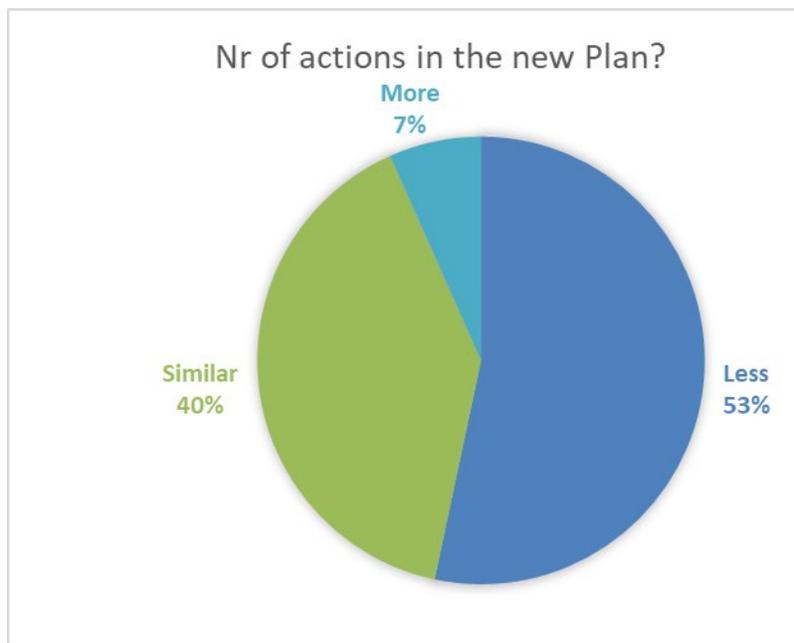
Part D: Lessons learned and recommendations for the new Action Plan

Results from section D of the survey provide an insight of issues related to the scope and design of the new Action Plan, based on the experience to date in the design and application of the Action Plan 2019-2020. In this regard, national focal points see as more effective and convenient to address the new Action Plan with the following aspects:

- A reduced number of actions
- An extended duration of the timeframe of the Action Plan (4 years with a review of the Work Programme every 2 years)

How do you consider the number of actions should be in the new Action Plan?

- 53% of respondents consider the number of actions should be less.
- 40% of respondents consider a similar number of actions.
- 7% of respondents consider a there should be more actions.

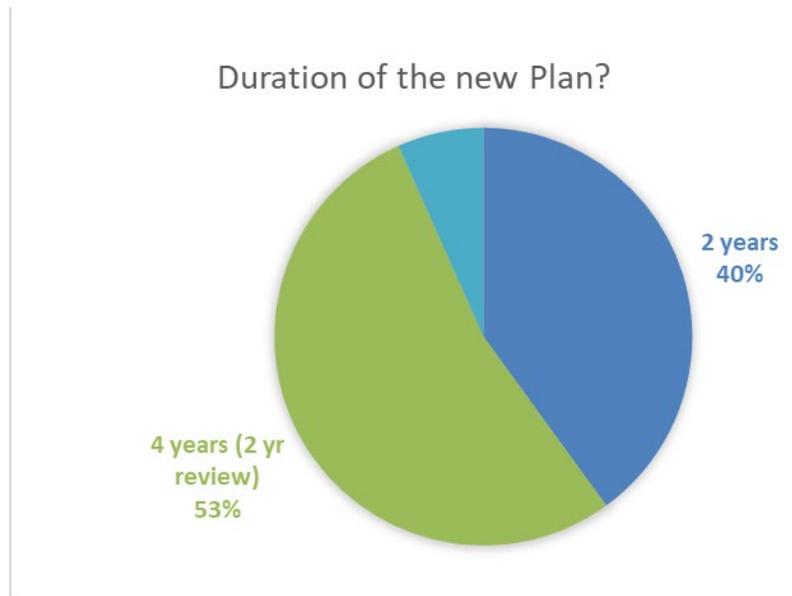


What do you think should be the duration of the new Action Plan?

- 53 % of respondents consider four years (reviewing the program of work every two years)



- 40% of respondents consider two years (same as the actual Plan)
7% of respondents consider another duration (> 4yr)



Mechanisms to promote the participation of governmental and non-governmental focal points

The responses provided by focal points have been directly included below, just classifying them in general categories:

Meetings and communications

- Meetings/communication with focal points more often. Focal points/reference contacts can be indicated for different matters.
- It is suggested to disseminate at the beginning of the year and among all the focal points, an annual schedule with agreed dates (they can be tentative), regarding the planned meetings within the framework of the Network. Thus, the schedules of the Network's members will be organized according to the commitments and activities to be carried out during the year, and the future challenges.
- Strengthen formal and informal mechanisms of communication to promote the exchange of information, collaboration and cooperation between governmental and non-governmental focal points, and disseminate it to the general public.
- To use different media and social networks that allow governmental and non-governmental focal points to exchange relevant information on development policies, projects and programs.
- Send invitations and awareness material on a regular basis to all focal points.
- Capacity development and informative meetings every six months to show the progress of the Network and action plans, as well as the activities within the Network, in order to promote a greater interest among focal points and continuously report to



- new representatives in case of staff turnover.
- Platform to measure the fulfilment of actions in the medium term, that can be disseminated as lessons learned or exchange of experiences.
- It is recommended to generate more frequent communication among members of the Network, in addition to sending periodic alerts and notification regarding commitments and challenges.
- Increase regional cooperation and facilitate the exchange of information and good practices on the sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle.

Involvement of other public and private sector stakeholders.

- Involve higher levels of government representatives to influence decision-making.
- Involve public and private banks to encourage the generation of “green bonus” also for hazardous substances and waste projects.
- It would be useful to establish a regional network of focal points/competent authorities of chemicals-related MEAs as well as NGOs and IGOs that cover chemicals-related issues and the private sector. A network with this composition will allow focused and targeted discussions/action at the national and regional levels on sound chemicals management.
- Effective engagement of the general public is critical to the sound management of chemicals and wastes. There is need for a sustained approach to the engagement of the general public, through targeted and continuous education and awareness campaigns to allow for ‘buy-in’ and behavior change.

Other suggestions/comments

- Until this moment the Network has been working in a positive way, emphasizing on important issues to people working in the field of international agreements as well as chemicals and hazardous waste.

Mechanisms to strengthen the mobilization of resources and the establishment of partnerships and synergies to support the implementation of the Plan.

Development of proposals or projects at national and regional level

- Support of the Secretariat to develop regional and sub regional projects proposals.
- Preparation of proposals at the national and regional level to raise financial resources to implement the Work Plan for the network would be essential.
- Include in the national budget priority actions to support the States in their efforts to implement the Plan.

Information and communication

- It is suggested to maintain the members of the Network permanently informed about the annual schedule of activities and challenges, directing clear messages regarding the benefits of the implementation of the Plan, access to resources, and agreed deadlines.

Specific alliances among members of the Network

- Considering the responses from countries, it is suggested the establishment of alliances among countries taking into account the similarities on priorities identified.
- Establishment of specific plans/actions among members of the Network.

Involvement of different public and private partners and sources of funding

- Involve regional private groups that have presence in several countries of the region that allows the incorporation of projects with private funds executed through public institutions, promoting the circular economy, and extended produced responsibility (EPR).
 - A strategy for private sector engagement will be important in the mobilization of resources and the establishment of partnerships. Additionally, it will be important to seek to mobilize financial resources from regional development banks and organizations.
 - Public private partnerships
 - Projects/programmes should be targeted at more than one international funding source, including the GEF, AF, GCF, private foundations etc.
 - Increase efforts to achieve the allocation of external resources for the biannual plan and not depend only of the resources and possibilities of countries that are part of the Network.
 - To submit specific projects of the action plan to the global trust funds to contribute to the implementation of the multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)
 - Explore the involvement of other donors, such as the World Bank, the Latin America Development Bank, the Central American Bank for Economic Integration, or the Caribbean Development Bank.
- Involve the industry sector in the initiatives and work of the Network, as part of its programs of corporate social responsibility.

Other comments

- We appreciate the work and effort made by the Network, to keep all members informed, as well as the development of activities of interest to all.
- Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the identification of priorities that will define the biannual plan.

Annex

Regional survey on priority issues on chemicals and waste management for Latin America and the Caribbean and potential priority cooperation activities for 2021-2022

COUNTRY SURVEY

The Intergovernmental Network on Chemicals and Waste for Latin America and the Caribbean was established within the framework of the XX Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean and in accordance with Decision 8 on Chemicals and Waste. The biannual Action Plan 2019-2020 for regional cooperation in this field was developed soon after. For this purpose, the Network identified and agreed on priority areas of cooperation and activities that support and strengthen the sound management of chemicals and waste in the region.

The last Intersessional Meeting of the Forum of Ministers, held on 5-6 November 2019 in Barbados, highlighted the importance to start the process of developing the Action Plan 2021-2022 as soon as possible, taking into consideration the lessons learned from the implementation of the 2019-2020 Action Plan and emerging priorities

In this context and according to the discussions at the last meeting of the Steering Committee (5 March 2020 and 18 June 2020), the development of the Action Plan 2021-2022 was started, based on the work of the Technical Subcommittee on Monitoring of the Action Plan.

The Subcommittee prepared this survey to compile relevant information in the countries of the Latin America and the Caribbean region for the development of the Action Plan 2021-2022. The information requested is intended to identify:

- Most important and prioritized topics on chemicals and waste management for your country and your region;
- Emerging priorities;
- Key cooperation activities that can be implemented by the Intergovernmental Network to support addressing these priority issues;
- Lessons learned and recommendations for the new Action Plan

Kindly send the completed survey by August 24th, 2020, to the attention of Mr. Jordi Pon (jordi.pon@un.org), with a copy to maria.zaffirotacchetti@un.org. Do not hesitate to contact us for any further clarification or information.

Thanks in advance for your contribution.



RESPONDENT INFORMATION:

Country	
Institution/Organization	
Contact person and job title	
Email	

PART A. Priority topics on chemicals and waste management

For this section of the survey, please select **only 5 priority sub-topics** under each main title (check the first column). Those sub-topics should be those that are considered the most important or pressing in your country to be addressed in the period 2021-2022. Once you have checked your national 5 priority sub-topics, use the second column to rank them from 1 to 5, with 1 being the highest priority. The text box at the end of each topic area can be used, if desired, to include any comment, remark, or specification about the priorities the country selects

1. Governance and coordination mechanisms

Sub-topics	Check if a priority (5)	Ranking (only your 5 priorities)
1. Review and strengthen chemicals and waste regulatory and institutional framework.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Strengthen capacities at national and local levels to apply and enforce the legal framework on chemicals and waste.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Development of national registers of chemicals.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Strategies for mainstreaming chemicals and wastes in national sustainable development strategies and plans, as well as in national budgeting processes.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Strengthen linkages between science and policy to raise awareness of decision-makers on chemicals and waste key aspects.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 6. Promote participation and engagement of health institutions within strategic planning and activities on chemicals and waste management. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Create formal inter-sectoral coordination mechanisms for chemicals and waste management issues and coordinated implementation of the MEAs. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Other <i>Add here any other topic of your interest</i> | <hr/> | |
| 9. Other <i>Add here any other topic of your interest</i> | <hr/> | |

You can add here any additional comment, specification, or remark about the priority sub-topics you selected above:

2. Knowledge, information, and monitoring

Sub-topics	Check if a priority (5)	Ranking (only your 5 priorities)
1. Update national profiles on chemicals management and ensure their systematic update.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Keep up-to-date national registration or database systems on chemicals and waste, such as Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTR) and others.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Dissemination of appropriate methodologies to develop chemicals inventories.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Promote the development of awareness-raising campaigns on the environmentally sound management of chemicals tailored to specific audiences or stakeholders.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



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| 5. Establish specific progress indicators on chemicals and waste management within the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development (which includes the 17 SDG). | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Dissemination of methodologies for the definition of a list of priority chemicals to monitor and monitoring parameters for all environmental, biological, and human matrices. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Strengthen capacities in the elaboration of Environmental Risk Assessments for chemicals and chemical products. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Strengthen national capacities for sampling and testing all POPs, mercury, and other priority hazardous chemicals, in all environmental, biological, and human matrices. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Create and strengthen networks of local and regional laboratories to promote collaboration and knowledge exchange among laboratories in the region. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

10. Other *Add here any other topic of your interest*

11. Other *Add here any other topic of your interest*

You can add here any additional comment, specification, or remark about the priority sub-topics you selected above:

3. **Priority issues under the SAICM framework**



Sub-topics	Check if a priority (5)	Ranking (only your 5 priorities)
1. Create action mechanisms and build capacities to prevent and respond to chemical accidents (APELL, poison centers), including the capacity to give an integrated response at the regional level.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Create and strengthen poisoning monitoring and prevention centers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Building capacities of healthcare personnel on poisoning and diseases related to chemical exposure.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Promote implementation of the Globally Harmonized System for Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS), including building capacities in the public-private sector for its implementation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Promote industrial development based on sustainable chemistry to prevent and reduce the use and generation of hazardous substances to reduce chemical risks, and to find safer and sustainable alternatives.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Develop instruments to enable the private sector to comply with regulations on chemicals and waste, particularly in the processes of registration and authorization of chemicals and management of hazardous waste.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Promote the development and use of new methodologies for the evaluation of hazards and risks of chemicals.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



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| 8. Develop instruments for industry to internalize the costs of sound management of chemicals and waste. | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Work on the identification of contaminated sites and exposed populations to identify the best management and remediation options. | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Increase the capacity and availability of suitable technologies to remediate, recover or rehabilitate contaminated sites. | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. Strengthen capacities and scientific knowledge to address emerging contaminants such as emerging pharmaceuticals, nanomaterials, among others. | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. Strengthen information and research on endocrine disruptors. | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13. Other <i>Add here any other topic of your interest</i> | | | |
| 14. Other <i>Add here any other topic of your interest</i> | | | |

You can add here any additional comment, specification, or remark about the priority sub-topics you selected above:

4. Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions (BRS)



Sub-topics	Check if a priority (5)	Ranking (only your 5 priorities)
1. Sound management of POPs stocks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Implement Best Available Techniques (BATs) and Best Environmental Practices (BEPs) for activities with unintentional POPs emission.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Development of inventories of new POPs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Strengthen capacities for better control mechanisms of transboundary movements of hazardous chemicals and wastes and preventing their illegal trafficking, following the PIC (prior and informed consent) procedure.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Technical assistance to develop inventories of hazardous waste and other waste.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Updating National Implementation Plans (NIP) of the Stockholm Convention, as well as the implementation of synergies with other international conventions on chemicals.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Other <i>Add here any other topic of your interest</i>	<hr/>	<hr/>
8. Other <i>Add here any other topic of your interest</i>	<hr/>	<hr/>



You can add here any additional comment, specification, or remark about the priority sub-topics you selected above:

5. Mercury and Lead

Sub-topics	Check if a priority (5)	Ranking (only your 5 priorities)
1. Develop inventories of mercury emissions and releases.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Develop inventories of mercury-added products, as well as identifying/implementing mechanisms for their effective identification (standardization/harmonization of associated tariff codes, labeling, among others).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Develop strategies and plans to reduce and, when feasible, eliminate the use of mercury in ASGM.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Remediation of mercury-contaminated sites.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Establish/strengthen mechanisms to control mercury legal and illegal trade.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Management of mercury waste (collection, storage, treatment, disposal).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Establish strategies for phasing out mercury use in products and processes (e.g. dental amalgam, chlor-alkali, etc.).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



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| 8. Controlling unintentional emissions of mercury (e.g. in non-ferrous metal or cement production) and apply Best Available Techniques (BAT) and Best Environmental Practices (BEP). | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Promote the phase-out of lead in paint. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Sound management of lead acid batteries. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. Other <i>Add here any other topic of your interest</i> | _____ | |
| 12. Other <i>Add here any other topic of your interest</i> | _____ | |

<p>You can add here any additional comment, specification, or remark about the priority sub-topics you selected above:</p>

6. Waste management

Sub-topics	Check if a priority (5)	Ranking (only your 5 priorities)
1. Establish national and municipal integrated waste management strategies and plans.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Develop systems to measure and characterize waste generation, including hazardous waste, and keep updated national waste inventories.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Develop and strengthen methodologies for financial analysis of waste management systems.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



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| 4. Promotion of extended producer responsibility schemes. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Implement good practices and best technologies for integrated management of hazardous waste (e.g. e-waste, mercury surplus and waste, used oils, used lead acid batteries, biomedical waste, and obsolete highly hazardous pesticides). | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Control and prevent the use of dumps and open burning of waste, and work on the closure and remediation of such sites. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. <i>Other Add here any other topic of your interest.</i> | | |
| 8. <i>Other Add here any other topic of your interest.</i> | | |

You can add here any additional comment, specification, or remark about the priority sub-topics you selected above:

PART B. Emerging priorities

For this second part of the survey, please select **only 5** emerging priorities that you consider, for different reasons, have become more relevant for the countries of the region in the last two years, and therefore, should be considered in the action plan. **Please add any other topic of your interest and that is not listed.**

Emerging priorities	Check if a priority (5)	Ranking (only your 5 priorities)
1. Plastic waste and single-use plastic management.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



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| 2. Management of marine litter and microplastics. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. COVID-19 / Health crises and the management of bio-infectious waste. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. COVID-19/Health crises and the sound use of disinfecting chemicals. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. COVID-19/Health crises, adaptation of waste management systems and handling of new waste streams, including in households (e.g hand sanitizers, hygiene kits, masks, and packaged foods, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Electronic waste management. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Education and innovation in environmentally sustainable chemistry, green chemistry. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Strengthening the scientific-regulatory interface through platforms and greater collaboration between scientists and decision makers. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. <i>Add here any other topic of your interest.</i> | | <hr/> |
| 11. <i>Add here any other topic of your interest.</i> | | <hr/> |

PART C. Potential areas of regional cooperation

Taking into account that the intergovernmental network is a regional initiative which main goal is to support regional cooperation on chemicals and waste management, the following list identifies key cooperation activities that it could undertake to address the priority topics you identified in Part A of the survey. **For this section C of the survey, please check the 10 most relevant cooperation activities for your country.**

Typology of cooperation activities	Priority activities <i>(check up to 10)</i>
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- | | |
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| 1. Face-to-face trainings/workshops | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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- 2. Webinars and online workshops.
- 3. Online training modules.
- 4. Capacity building to decision makers.
- 5. Assistance in the development of regulations and policies on chemicals and waste management.
- 6. Development of guidance and tools
- 7. Undertake regional assessments on specific issues of concern
- 8. Develop regional strategies or action plans for issues of concern.
- 9. Promote the exchange of information on project calls and other financing opportunities.
- 10. Regional awareness campaigns.
- 11. Capacity development and regional technical cooperation.
- 12. South-South exchange programmes, i.e. physical exchange of human resources, exchange of lessons learnt, study tours, technology transfer, etc.
- 13. *Other Add here any other topic of your interest* _____
- 14. *Other Add here any other topic of your interest.* _____

PART D. Lessons learned and recommendations for the new Action Plan

Your opinion is requested on some issues related to the scope and design of the new Plan, based on the experience to date in the design and application of the current Plan 2019-2020.



1. **Number of actions in the Plan:** The current Plan includes a total of 33 actions to be implemented in a two-year period. Although the final level of execution cannot be determined until the end of 2020, the progress indicators to date seem to evidence that this is a significant number of actions for a period of two years. In this sense:

How do you consider the number of actions should be in the new Action Plan?

Less	
Similar	
More	
No opinion	

2. **Duration of the Plan:** Currently the duration of the plan is two years. The experience with the first plan shows that during the first year, significant time is invested in detailed planning of activities, the involvement of countries and partners, and the mobilization of resources to implement the actions. On the other hand, this questionnaire will provide information to know whether the priority areas of work and regional cooperation need of countries have varied significantly in this period of two years. In this sense:

What do you think should be the duration of the new Plan?

Two years (same as the actual Plan)	
Four years (reviewing the program of work every two years)	
Another duration (please indicate)	
No opinion	

3. **Other matters:** Finally, please indicate if you have any opinion, suggestion, etc., regarding the following questions about the new Plan, its implementation, or any other recommendation for the work of the Network:

Mechanisms to promote the participation of governmental and non-governmental focal points:	
Mechanisms to strengthen the mobilization of resources and the establishment of partnerships and synergies to support the implementation of the	

REPORT



Plan:	
Other comments, recommendations:	