

**SAICM/UCT
Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHP) Community of Practice (CoP)
Discussion 1 2022 Guide**

Title	The role and importance of national and regional Highly Hazardous Pesticides strategies
Date	18th May 2022
Time	14h00 – 15h30 (GMT +2)
Facilitator	Ivy Saunyama, FAO
Presenters	Mark Davis, Independent consultant Fredrick Otieno, Centre for Environmental Justice and Development
WebEx registration link	https://unep.webex.com/unep/j.php?RGID=r6098af3d3086879690c89f8cf6d7257c
SAICM/UCT HHP CoP Sign-up link	Make sure you have signed up for the HHP CoP: https://saicmknowledge.org/community
What's App Group	Join the HHP CoP What's App Group to receive information: https://chat.whatsapp.com/JFBuA0TRuRZ0Naqm8JHpp0

Two steps are required to join this discussion:

1. Sign up to the CoP, if you have not done so previously, at: <https://saicmknowledge.org/community>
2. Should you require assistance or have questions, contact: uctcops@outlook.com
3. Register for the 18th of May WebEx discussion at:
<https://unep.webex.com/unep/j.php?RGID=r6098af3d3086879690c89f8cf6d7257c>
4. We encourage you also to join the HHP CoP WhatsApp group by clicking on this link:
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/JFBuA0TRuRZ0Naqm8JHpp0>
5. **Should you NOT be able to join the discussion but still wish to contribute please click the link below and fill out the form with your contributions:**

Discussion Format:

- This is not a Webinar, but rather a discussion among different stakeholder groups.
- The discussion presenter/s will briefly present a verbal introduction and introduce the questions listed in this discussion guide.
- Three questions will be posted during the 1 ½ hour discussion. The presenter/s will address questions and comments posted by members in the chat room and participants are encouraged to respond to each other as well.
- All are encouraged to join the discussion which will be held in English. Feel free to write in another language and members will assist where possible with translation.

PRESENTERS BIOSKETCH



Mark Davis is an independent consultant specializing in pesticide management and sustainable agriculture. He worked for 17 years with FAO successively leading the field programme on obsolete pesticides, the Pesticide Management Unit of FAO, FAO's Climate Change Strategy and the FAO Environmental and Social Risk Management Unit. Through his leadership while at FAO, the Africa Stockpiles Programme was established, the International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management was comprehensively revised in 2013, the Pesticide Registration Toolkit was developed and the establishment of the DPRM at UCT was supported. Previously Mark has worked with PAN-UK, as a government regulator on agriculture and environment and as a manager of an agricultural commune. Mark currently works with the University of Edinburgh Based Centre for Pesticide Suicide Prevention (CPSP) and is collaborating globally to address HHPs at regional at regional and national levels in collaboration with regional bodies, CEJAD, PAN-UK, FAO, UNEP and WHO.



Fredrick Otieno is a project officer at the Centre for Environmental Justice and Development (CEJAD), a public interest organization based in Kenya that is promoting sound chemicals and wastes' management. He joined CEJAD in 2018 and leads the implementation of projects on pesticides' risk reduction, working with communities and policy makers in Kenya. He has a background in environmental planning and management and is currently undertaking a master's programme in Chemicals Risks Management at the University of Cape Town. Previously, he worked with the Environmental Compliance Institute (ECI) as a programmes officer where he assisted in developing air quality management strategies in Rwanda, Kenya and Ethiopia; as well as harmonizing vehicle emissions and fuel standards in the EAC region. He is currently coordinating HHPs risk reduction activities at national and regional levels in the EAC and SADC/SAPReF regions in collaboration with CPSP, FAO, governments and EAC and SAPReF Secretariats.

DISCUSSION INTRODUCTION (14:00 GMT +2)

The need for action on highly hazardous pesticides (HHP) has received attention in various international forums, including the governing bodies of FAO and WHO, the stakeholders of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM),-which include FAO, UNEP and WHO- as well as through some of the activities undertaken under the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants. The FAO/WHO code of conduct on pesticides management (2014) calls for actions to address HHPs, particularly in articles 3.6, 6.1.1, 7.5 and 9.4.1. Furthermore, the FAO/WHO guidelines on HHP (2016) offers guidance to national and regional pesticide regulators on how to address HHPs. A strategy to address HHPs in the context of SAICM was also developed and adopted by SAICM.

While HHPs risk reduction requires a multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral approach, the primary responsibility of pesticide risk reduction lies with law makers, national and regional pesticide regulators. These institutions are the ones charged with making decisions on whether a HHP should be used in a country or region. At the national level, most countries, particularly low- and middle-income countries are faced with several challenges in managing risks posed by pesticides. These challenges are: in risks' assessments; post-registration surveillance and monitoring of pesticides use; pesticide policies and legislations; information sharing and awareness; competing interest of different stakeholders; limited resources; compliance and enforcement among others. These challenges also extend at the regional level due to the increased intra and extra trade among regional bodies. Many countries are harmonizing their pesticide legislations, policies and pesticide registration schemes in order to remain competitive in the international market, improve trade and protect their populations and the environment. The challenges of pesticides risks management thus call for good strategies at national and regional levels to reduce the risks posed by HHPs and protect health and the environment.

During this discussion, we will explore how national and regional strategies can play an important role in reducing the risks posed by HHPs. We will share case studies of countries that have taken/are taking action on HHPs and of regional bodies that are taking steps to address the risks posed by HHPs, as well as success factors for a strategy for addressing HHPs.

Resources:

1. FAO/WHO [code of conduct on pesticides management](#) (2014)
2. FAO/WHO [guidelines on highly hazardous pesticides](#) (2016)
3. International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM 4) resolution on [Highly hazardous pesticides](#)
4. [Strategy to address highly hazardous pesticides in the context of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management](#)
5. UNEP [Synthesis report on the health and environmental impacts of pesticides and fertilizers](#)
6. [Sri Lanka's bans of WHO toxicity Class I \(& some Class II\) pesticides](#)
7. [Addressing highly hazardous pesticides I Mozambique](#)
8. Media article
 - [The case of banning hazardous pesticides](#)

QUESTION 1 (14:15 GMT +2)

Participants are invited to comment on the importance of national and regional strategies in reducing the risks posed by pesticides.

Question 1: Which strategies do you think are valuable to address - the risks by HHPs in your country or region?

Polls

We encourage you to think about the poll questions before the discussion so that you can contribute with your responses

1. How has HHPs strategies contributed to reducing the risks posed by HHPs in your country or region? Give examples. (Yes/No and list country in your response)
2. How can we use strategies to influence policy and law makers and guide regulators and decision makers to act on HHPs?

QUESTION 2 (14:35 GMT+2)

An elaborate strategy is needed to address the risks posed by HHPs at national and regional levels. It is important to note that to effectively manage the risks posed by HHPs, strategies should be action-oriented and not mere statements of intent.

Question 2: What are some of the key elements a good strategy for reducing the risks posed by HHPs should have?

Polls

We encourage you to think about the poll questions before the discussion so that you can contribute with your responses

1. Does your country or region have a strategy on HHPs? (Yes/No and list country in your response)
2. Mention elements of a good HHPs strategy.

QUESTION 3 (15:00 GMT+2)

While a strategy is key to reducing the risks posed by HHPs, its implementation can be faced with many challenges which in turn can affect its success.

Question 3: What can influence the success of a HHPs' strategy?

Polls

We encourage you to think about the poll questions before the discussion so that you can contribute with your responses

1. What factors do you think can make a HHPs' strategy successful?
2. How can the successes be achieved?