

WORKING GROUP 4 – AWARENESS RAISING, EDUCATION & TRAINING

Question 1:

Q1-A) Values Added

- 1) Better and more efficient use of resources
- 2) Identification of areas that are covered, where the common threads exist and where there are weaknesses and gaps among the chemicals and waste management instruments
- 3) Optimization of the donor funds and engagement mechanisms for presenting a coordinated approach to make the programs more attractive.

Q1-B) Elements of the Strategy

- 1) Identification of the common elements across all instruments
- 2) Provides a mechanism to identify, focus and prioritize on specific chemicals and wastes,
- 3) Broaden opportunities for partnership development

Q1-C) Who are the Implementing Bodies for these actions

- 1) Where it exists, the National Committee (which is to function as a multi-stakeholder body for coordination and dialogue)
- 2) If not (1) and where they exist, the CWM Instrument FPs (Focal points) which are tasked with the mandate to engage their ministries and agencies in the process,
- 3) Where neither (1) nor (2) exist, then at the level of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs who then begins the process (starting with creation of FPs and encouraging the formation of a National committee multi-stakeholder body for CWM)

Q1-D) Who are the target groups

Recognizing that there will be differentiated levels of information and awareness raising and capacity building – the initial levels of groups for this are:

- The affected institutional agencies, ministries and political directorates
- Particular ministries such as Finance and Planning
- NGOs who are active and related to the issues, and
- Industry.

These groups would then develop together a strategy and specific programs for end user awareness raising.

QUESTION 2 - OPPORTUNITIES

Our WG combined both the questions in this section. We identified that the Opportunities associated with the use principally of tertiary training (Universities) were as follows:

- post graduate programs which are integrated in terms of the related multiple disciplines
- continuing education programs (Extension services) which are done for mature and professional students which focus on, for example, specific related topics in chemicals waste management
- project related research related to the issues of integrated implementation both theoretical and applied in this subject area.
- Training of trainer programs – to cascade out into the region.

Finally, we believe that we can use universities specifically to bring integration into the requirements of the international agreement by strongly including chemical and waste management issues associated to the various CWM instruments directly into the curriculum where chemistry and waste management topics are being taught.

Question 3 - FORMAL TRAINING AND SKILLS BUILDING

We first identified, according to Question 1 – Part C – who would be responsible for or given the mandate to develop the formal training and skill building practices.

The two overriding approaches for this aspect of building capacity – which is considered targeted professional development - was to

- a) rely – at least in the long term - on bringing interdisciplinary experts together from the region and nearby nations to do this development recognizing that the learning needs to be done with as regional a perspective as possible.
- b) – realize – that the content and depth of subjects dealt with in the modules or longer aspects of blended PD – will be variable and diverse

Bringing together this capacity in as modular fashion with the view that this is a long term and continuing effort is important.

The Target Groups for the PD program are:

- Focal points
- Government/technical sectors (Law, environment, inspectorates, customs, police, health)
- Related NGOs
- Industry
- Legal fraternity
- Academia

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