

Convention: RC		Strengthening of capacity for information exchange and coordination at national level
LEGAL BASIS/MANDATE:		
<p>The elements described in the Programme for the delivery of technical assistance for the implementation of the Rotterdam Convention (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.6/INF/19) and decision RC-6/11 on Technical assistance provide the basis for Technical Assistance activities that address the strengthening of national capacities for information exchange and coordination. The activity is in support of activity 15 of the approved programme of work and budget contains 2014/15). Article 14 of the Rotterdam Convention describes the provisions for information exchange under the Rotterdam Convention.</p>		
BACKGROUND		
<p>The Rotterdam Convention, jointly with other voluntary and binding instruments, provide countries with a lot of information on the sound management of chemicals. National infrastructures in many countries, especially developing countries, are often insufficient to adequately manage such information and make best use of it. Many countries have expressed in their national action plans the need for assistance in improving coordination and information exchange at the national level.</p>		
PROPOSED ACTIVITIES TO BE FUNDED:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop criteria for selection of a total of 6 countries per year from those countries that explicitly expressed interest; 2. Organize and convene two sub regional inception workshops facilitated by the Designated National Authorities and the Secretariat to bring together key stakeholders, and facilitate the development of (a) national strategy/strategies on information exchange; training of DNA and Key stakeholders on information exchange tools; 3. Organize virtual group discussion to exchange information in order to allow DNAs to submit IRs or notifications of final regulatory actions or severely hazardous pesticide formulations; 		
RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-regional inception workshops convened; Channels and strategies of information exchange between OCPs, DNAs and key stakeholders explored and strengthened; • Channels and strategies for information transmission to and through the Secretariat are strengthened; • Group discussions on Convention obligations and information exchange organized; • Results of the training and group discussion evaluated, submission of IRs or notifications received, recommendations and conclusions agreed; • Tools on the basis of proposed activities 2 and 3 above are improved and ready for implementation in further countries. 		
VOLUNTARY BUDGET [USD] FOR 2014-2015		
10	PROJECT PERSONNEL COMPONENT	
1100	<i>Professional staff</i>	13,119
1200	<i>Consultants</i>	5,000
1600	<i>Travel on Official Business</i>	5,000
30	TRAINING COMPONENT	
3300	<i>Meetings and Conferences</i>	30,000
40	EQUIPMENT AND PREMISES COMPONENT	
4100	<i>Expendable equipment</i>	7,000

VOLUNTARY BUDGET [USD] FOR 2014-2015	
DIRECT PROJECT COST OPERATIONAL BUDGET	60,119
Programme Support Costs (PSC) 13%	7,815
TOTAL OPERATIONAL BUDGET	67,934