

# A Gender Action Plan for the new Global Framework on Chemicals

Webinar, 23<sup>th</sup> of November 2023

# Agenda

- Context
- Presentations
- Q&A
- Brainstorming on a future GAP
- Closing

# Context – why gender and chemicals?

- **Biological aspects:** women's and men's bodies are affected differently by certain chemicals – exposure, risk, and impacts can be different between the sexes.
- **Social aspects:** chemical exposure is influenced by various social gender aspects and women and men are affected differently because of their gendered roles in society.
- **The potential of gender analysis:** the gender perspective allows us to understand the causes of unsustainable behaviour in dealing with chemicals and helps to find new solutions for a more effective and sustainable chemical management.



# Context – international chemicals policy

	Global Framework on Chemicals	Basel, Rotterdam und Stockholm Conventions (BRS)	Minamata Convention	Plastics	Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution
<b>Since:</b>	2023, Previous framework SAICM since 2006	Basel: 1989 Rotterdam: 1998 Stockholm: 2001	2013	Planned for 2024	Planned for 2024
<b>Legal status:</b>	Voluntary platform	Legally binding	Legally binding	Legally binding	Advisory body
<b>Topic:</b>	Life cycle of chemicals, capacity building, financing, Issues of concern, future approaches	Basel: hazardous waste and its disposal Rotterdam: hazardous chemicals; pesticides in international trade Stockholm: persistent organic pollutants (POPs)	Mercury	Lifecycle of plastics	Providing scientific expertise and advice to policy makers on chemicals, waste and pollution
<b>Gender Action Plan:</b>	Planned to be developed for ICCM6	Since 2013, latest update 2023	Since 2023		

# Pierre Quiblier



**Officer in Charge,  
GFC Secretariat  
Chemical and Health Branch,  
UN Environment Programme**

# Global Framework on Chemicals Management

A planet free of  
harm from  
chemicals and  
waste



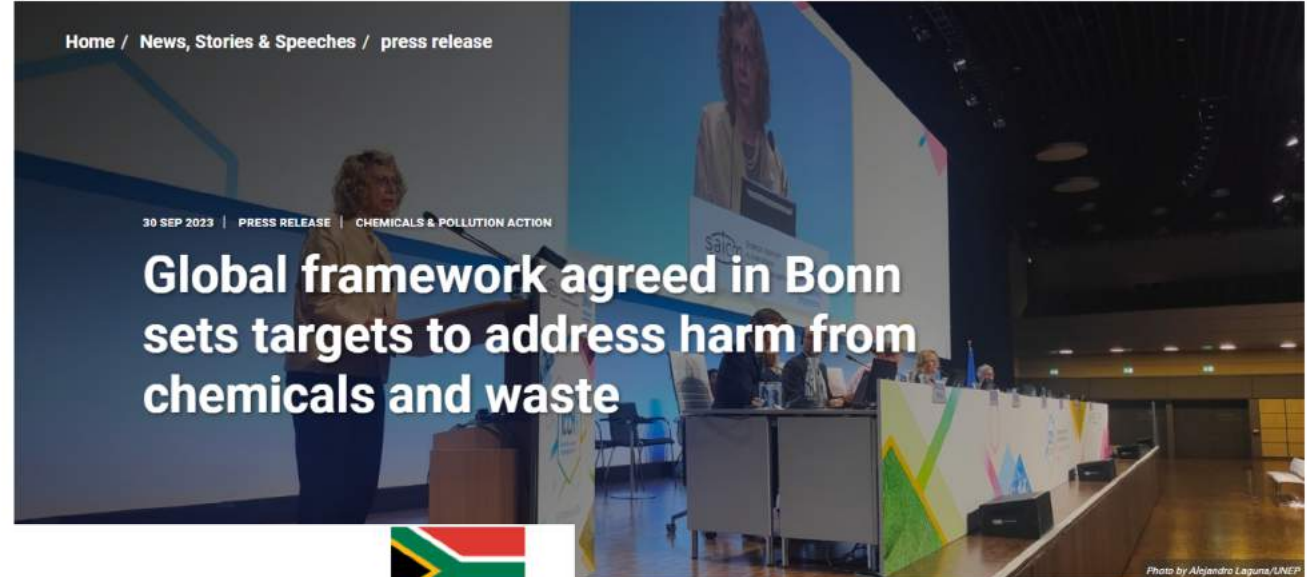


4 October 2023

SHARE THIS



# Historic Global Framework on Chemicals Adopted Following Years of Talks



Home / News, Stories & Speeches / press release

30 SEP 2023 | PRESS RELEASE | CHEMICALS & POLLUTION ACTION

## Global framework agreed in Bonn sets targets to address harm from chemicals and waste

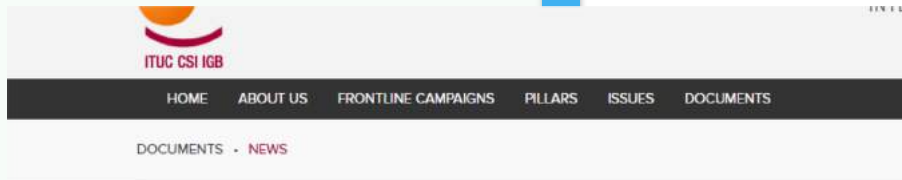
Photo by Alejandro Laguna/UNEP



Conference on Chemicals Management  
adoption of a comprehensive global  
for key sectors across the entire lifecycle of



# SOUTH AFRICA WELCOMES THE ADOPTION OF THE NEW GLOBAL FRAMEWORK ON CHEMICALS



## Global chemicals safety agreement: big wins for workers, big challenges for the ILO

HOME / NEWS / UN ADOPTS GLOBAL FRAMEWORK TO ADDRESS THE LIFECYCLE OF CHEMICALS



## UN adopts global framework to address the lifecycle of chemicals

2 October 2023 | Muriel Cozier

# Global Framework on Chemicals For a Planet Free of Harm From Chemicals and Waste

## The Bonn Declaration

## A Global Framework on Chemicals Fund

-  5 Strategic Objectives
-  28 Targets
-  Multisectoral and multistakeholder

We the ministers, heads of delegation, and stakeholder leaders, having gathered in Bonn, Germany, at the fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM5) to strengthen action to tackle the crisis of pollution from chemicals and waste

A UNEP-administered Global Framework on Chemicals Fund time-limited, that allow multilateral, bilateral and private sector sources was established





## **The Framework covers the life cycle of chemicals, including in products and waste.**

It promotes initiatives to enhance the sound management of chemicals and waste, takes due account of other chemicals and waste instruments that have been developed to date, and is flexible enough to take account of new instruments.



## 5 strategic objectives

- **Legal frameworks, institutional mechanisms and capacities** are in place
- Comprehensive and sufficient knowledge, **data and information** are generated, available and accessible
- **Issues of concern** are identified, prioritized and addressed.
- **Safer alternatives and innovative and sustainable solutions** in product value chains **are in place**
- **Enhanced implementation** occurs through increased and **effective resource mobilization, partnerships, cooperation, capacity-building**

# 28 Targets



**Target A5** – By 2030 governments work towards notifying or regulating or prohibiting the export of chemicals they have prohibited nationally, in line with their international obligations.



**Target A7** - By 2035, stakeholders have taken effective measures to phase out highly hazardous pesticides in agriculture where the risks have not been managed and where safer and affordable alternatives are available; and to promote transition to and make available those alternatives.



**Target D6** – By 2030, sustainable chemical and waste management strategies have been developed and implemented for major economic and industry sectors, which identify priority chemicals of concern and standards and measures, such as the chemical footprint approach, to reduce their impact and, where feasible, their input, along the value chain.



**Target E6** – By 2030, stakeholders identify and strengthen, as appropriate, synergies and linkages between chemicals and waste management and other key environmental, health, and labour policies, such as those related to climate change solutions, biodiversity conservation, human rights protection, universal health coverage or primary health care.



**Target D1** – By 2030, companies consistently invest in and achieve innovations towards advancing sustainable chemistry and resource efficiency throughout the life cycle of chemicals.



5 Strategic Objectives



28 Targets



Multisectoral and Multistakeholder

The Framework confirms an integrated approach to financing: mainstreaming, private sector financing, and dedicated external financing.

# Gender in the GFC

- The GFC recognizes the risk that chemicals and waste pose to vulnerable groups such as children, women, and indigenous communities, emphasizing the need for protective measures tailored to these populations.
- **Target B5** focuses on developing educational programmes that are sensitive to gender-specific needs and roles in chemicals and waste management.
- The **programme of work for 2024-2026 for the secretariat** calls for the development of a Gender Action Plan in line with Resolution V/4.
- **Resolution Resolution V/4:** Mainstreaming a gender perspective and promoting gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls in chemicals and waste management



# SAICM's Previous Work on Gender



## WOMEN, CHEMICALS AND THE SDGs

- Incorporation of **gender consideration in global multilateral environmental agreements.**
- **Partnership between UNEP and the International Pollutants Elimination Network (IPEN).**
- **Two main publications** in partnership with IPEN as part of the SAICM GEF Project on global best practices on SAICM emerging policy issues.
- Multiple discussions on the **SAICM Communities of Practice** related to gender considerations in chemicals and waste management.



Supported by:



# Future Opportunities for Gender Mainstreaming in GFC

- **Developing a Gender Action Plan:** A plan that aligns with Resolution V/4 and integrates measurable goals for gender equality in chemical management.
- **Capacity Building:** Opportunities to develop and implement gender-responsive educational, training, and public awareness programs by 2030 (Target B5), enhancing women's knowledge and leadership in chemical safety and sustainability.
- **Collaboration and Reporting:** Enhance collaboration with multilateral environmental agreement secretariats and UN entities like UN-Women and OHCHR to foster gender equality within the Framework's implementation. Impulse stakeholders to detail gender mainstreaming efforts in their reporting to promote transparency and accountability.

Thank you



# Sascha Gabizon



**Executive Director**

**Women Engage for a Common Future**





# What can we learn from existing Gender Action Policies and Plans of Multilateral Environmental Processes?

Sascha Gabizon, WECF International

23 Nov 2023



# Lets learn from Gender Equality Policies and Plans

1. Global Environment Fund - GEF
2. Climate Convention, Paris Agreement - UNFCCC
3. Convention on Biodiversity - CBD
4. Green Climate Fund - GCF
5. Adaptation Fund
6. Basel Rotterdam Stockholm (BRS) Conventions



# Global Environment Fund - GEF



## The Policy

- A catalyst for gender-responsive approaches in environmental projects
  - Women are PARTNERS and beneficiaries
  - Gender inequalities are addressed
- Minimum requirements in project design

## Gender Responsiveness Targets

- 100% of Projects gender analysis / assessment

## GEF internal

- Leadership, Gender specialist, thematic experts

## Support and Engage

- Agencies, Member States, Civil Society on projects including through expert support





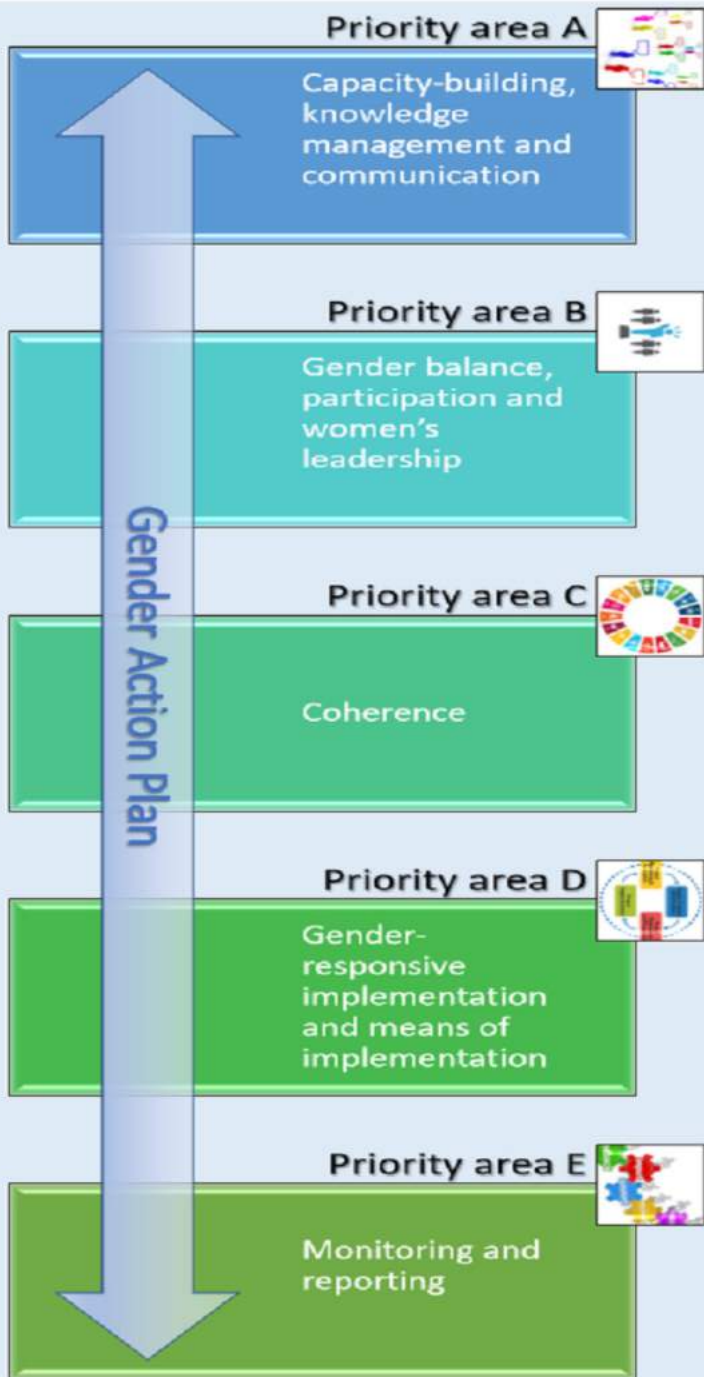
# Implementing Sustainable Low & Non-Chemical Development in Small Islands Developing States (ISLANDS)



Programmatic Document  
[Gender Equality Action Plan](#)

Women's Leadership in SIDS Chemicals and Waste Management Webinar (30-11-2022) available [here](#)

ISLANDS Gender Equality Community join [here!](#)



## Gender Action Plan UNFCCC

five priority areas:

- A. Capacity-building, knowledge management and communication
- B. Gender balance, participation and women's leadership,
- C. Coherence,
- D. Gender Responsive Implementation and Means
- E. Monitoring and Reporting

5 year duration 2020 - 2025

# Convention on Biological Diversity - CBD

## Global Biodiversity Framework: TARGET 23

Ensure gender equality in the implementation of the framework through a gender-responsive approach where all women and girls have equal opportunity and capacity to contribute to the three objectives of the Convention, including by recognizing their equal rights and access to land and natural resources and their full, equitable, meaningful and informed participation and leadership at all levels of action, engagement, policy and decision-making related to biodiversity



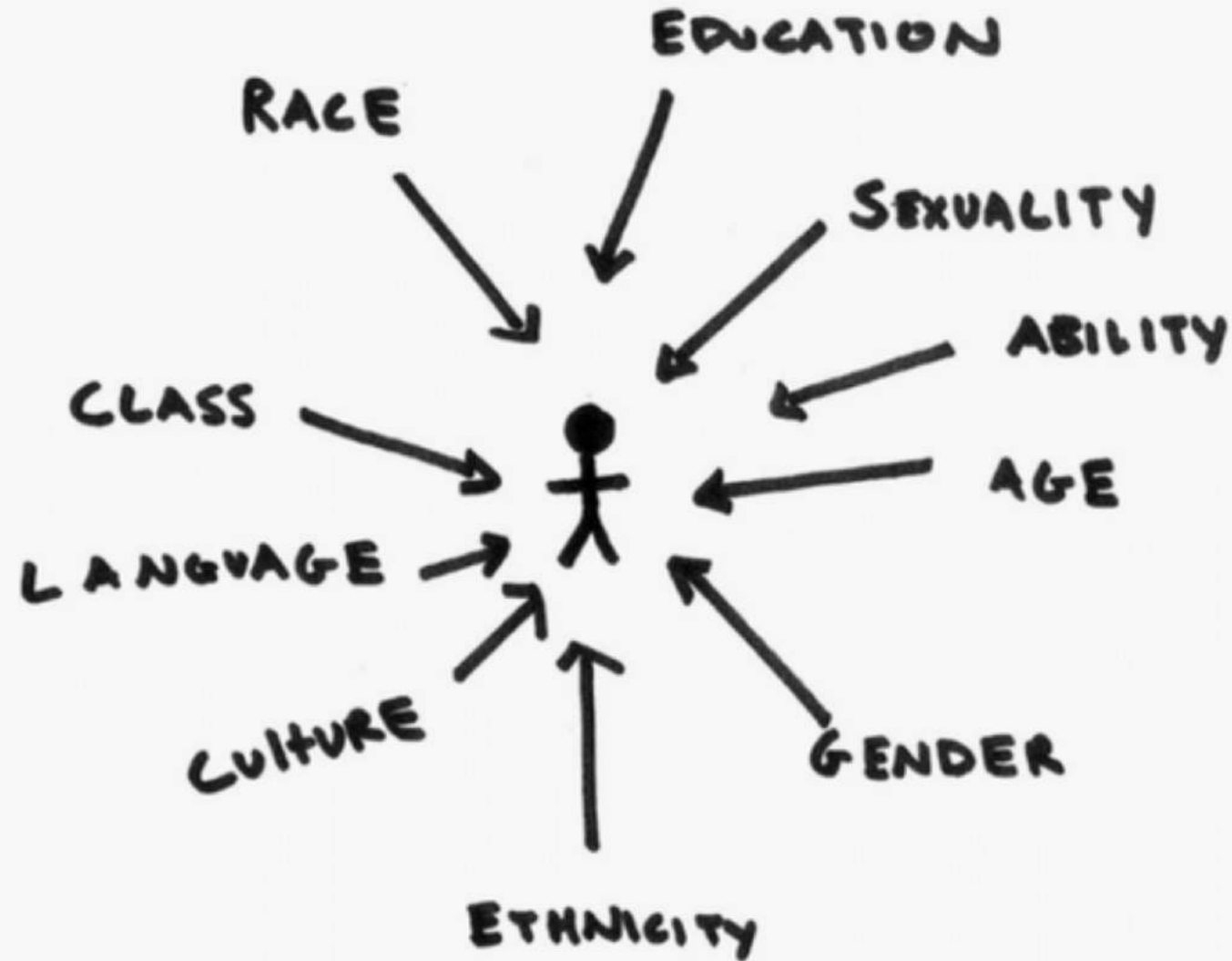
# Convention on Biological Diversity - CBD

## Gender Action Plan (2022)

- Ensuring meaningful and effective engagement and empowerment of women and girls from indigenous peoples and local communities
- Recognizing the structural barriers and power imbalances that hamper inclusiveness and the implementation of the gender plan of action..
- ..the gender plan of action will take an intersectional approach, prioritizing the needs and interests of all women and girls, with particular attention to those facing all forms of discrimination



# An intersectional approach





# CBD GAP goals

- All people in particular all women and girls, have equal opportunity and capacity to contribute to the three objectives of the Convention
- Biodiversity policy, planning and programming decisions address equally the perspectives, interests, needs and human rights of all people, in particular of all women and girls
- Enabling conditions are created to ensure gender responsive implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

GENDER PLAN OF ACTION: OBJECTIVES, ACTIONS, DELIVERABLES, TIMELINES AND ACTORS					
A. Objectives	B. Indicative actions	C. Possible deliverables	D. Proposed timelines	E. Responsible actors	Row number
<b>Expected outcome 1:</b> All people in particular all women and girls, have equal opportunity and capacity to contribute to the three objectives of the Convention					<b>1</b>
1.1 Increase all women and girls' rights to ownership and control over land and access to natural resources and to water, to support the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity	Compile baseline data and research on the relationship between conservation interventions, sustainable use and all women and girls' rights to ownership and control over land and access to natural resources and to water, and prepare guidance for national-level action	Baseline data, research and guidance on all women and girls' rights to ownership and control over land and access to natural resources and to water in the context of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use made available to Parties for SBI-4	<i>Timeframe:</i> 2024	<i>Leading:</i> Secretariat, relevant organizations <i>Contributing:</i> Parties	<b>2</b>
	Take measures to update national legislation so that all women and girls have equitable access to ownership and control over biological resources, as well as land and waters	Created or updated legislation that provides equal rights of access, ownership and control of land and waters for women and men	<i>Timeframe:</i> 2030	<i>Leading:</i> Parties, relevant organizations	<b>3</b>
	Support women's organizations and networks to have equal opportunities to lead or participate in decision-making on policies relating to the three objectives of the Convention, including related to land and waters, land tenure and property reforms through inter alia, consultation of women, in accordance with national law, and the provision of financial support	Consultations that included effective engagement of women and girls' organizations/networks; Financial and other relevant support provided to women and girls' organizations/networks to strengthen their capacity	<i>Timeframe:</i> 2030	<i>Leading:</i> Parties, relevant organizations	<b>4</b>
1.2 Ensure equal access for all women and girls to resources, services and technologies to support their engagement in the governance, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity (including financial services, credit, education, training	Conduct participatory assessments with baselines to identify gender gaps and effective measures to enable equal access to resources, services and technologies relevant for the governance, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity	Assessments undertaken and compilation shared through side events and on webpages of the Convention	<i>Timeframe:</i> 2026	<i>Leading:</i> Parties, relevant organizations <i>Contributing:</i> Secretariat	<b>5</b>
	Take targeted measures to facilitate equal access of women to financial services and credit, and of all women and girls to education, training,	Initiatives/programmes established or enhanced to facilitate equal access of	<i>Timeframe:</i> 2030	<i>Leading:</i> Parties, relevant organizations	<b>6</b>

# Green Climate Fund - GCF



Mandatory Gender Equality Criteria for funded projects:

- Implementing Accredited Entities must undertake a mandatory gender assessment and develop a project-level gender action plan (including budget).
- Secretariat responsible for gender audits of projects



# (Climate) Adaptation Fund



- Alignment of Fund projects with national gender and climate change policies and international women's rights obligations
- Gender equality outcomes in the effectiveness evaluation
- Adequate resources for implementation of the Gender Action Plan;
- Only approve project proposals with articulated gender considerations
- Gender Score Card
- Guidance sheets
- Gender Advisory Group



# BRS Conventions



The screenshot shows the BRS Conventions website interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'Basel Convention', 'Rotterdam Convention', 'Stockholm Convention', and 'Synergies'. The main header features the BRS Conventions logo and the text 'BASEL / ROTTERDAM / STOCKHOLM CONVENTIONS'. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for 'HOME', 'DECISION-MAKING', 'MEDIA HUB', 'IMPLEMENTATION', 'SECRETARIAT', 'PARTNERS', and '2023 COPS'. A search bar is located on the right side of the menu. The breadcrumb trail reads: 'You are here: BRS Conventions > Implementation > Gender > Country case studies > Kenya and Tunisia'. The page content is divided into two main sections: 'Gender' and 'Case Studies'. The 'Gender' section includes links for 'Overview', 'BRS Gender Action Plan', 'Country case studies', 'Decisions', 'Disaggregated data', 'Gender Heroes', 'Gender Pioneers', 'Gender training', 'International Gender Champions', and 'Case Studies'. The 'Case Studies' section includes links for 'Overview', 'Indonesia', 'Nigeria', 'Bolivia and Kyrgyzstan', and 'Kenya and Tunisia'. The main content area features a heading 'Highlights from case studies in Kenya and Tunisia' and a sub-heading 'The case study "Gender, Chemicals and Waste" was carried out in Kenya and Tunisia between January and June 2022 on behalf of the BRS Conventions Secretariat.' The text describes the study's objectives and findings, mentioning the involvement of WECF International, CEJAD, and AEEFG, and the support of NEXUS-3 foundation. The WECF logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the page.

Basel Convention Rotterdam Convention Stockholm Convention Synergies

BASEL / ROTTERDAM / STOCKHOLM CONVENTIONS

HOME | DECISION-MAKING | MEDIA HUB | IMPLEMENTATION | SECRETARIAT | PARTNERS | 2023 COPS Search

You are here: BRS Conventions > Implementation > Gender > Country case studies > Kenya and Tunisia | Login

## Gender

- Overview
- BRS Gender Action Plan
- Country case studies
- Decisions
- Disaggregated data
- Gender Heroes
- Gender Pioneers
- Gender training
- International Gender Champions

## Case Studies

- Overview
- Indonesia
- Nigeria
- Bolivia and Kyrgyzstan
- Kenya and Tunisia**

### Highlights from case studies in Kenya and Tunisia

**The case study "Gender, Chemicals and Waste" was carried out in Kenya and Tunisia between January and June 2022 on behalf of the BRS Conventions Secretariat.**

The case study sought to answer three key questions:

- How is women and men's health impacted differently by hazardous chemicals and waste?
- How do women and men's occupations and roles at home and at work influence their exposure to hazardous chemicals and waste?
- What best practices with women and men's leadership exist to substitute and eliminate hazardous chemicals and waste?

The study was carried out by the independent organisations Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF) International, Centre Environmental Justice and Development (CEJAD), Kenya and L'Association de l'Éducation Environnementale pour les Futures Générations (AEEFG), Tunisia with the support of experts from NEXUS-3 foundation.

During the field visits in Kenya and Tunisia, leading scientists were visited and interviewed, as well as local and national authorities responsible for chemicals and waste, and UN representatives working in the country. Interview questions were prepared based on the desk research carried out in advance of the scoping visit by WECF and experts. Multi-stakeholder dialogue meetings were organized in Nairobi and Tunis with key experts and stakeholders from national and local governmental institutions, agencies, science and representatives of women and environmental organisations. Participants shared the latest research and developments in the area of chemicals, waste and the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm (BRS) and Minamata Conventions.



# BRS Conventions

Scoping studies and documentaries on gender dimensions of chemicals and waste



Full documentary



**Excellent work!**

But why have we not yet achieved gender equality ?

**The Challenges**



**Thank you!**

**wecf.org**  
**wecf@wecf.org**



# María Eugenia González Anaya



**First Secretary for Environment  
the Permanent Mission of Mexico  
to the UN office in Geneva**





# A Gender Action Plan for the new Global Framework on Chemicals

**Mainstreaming a Gender Perspective and Promoting Gender Equality and Empowerment of All Women and Girls in Chemicals and Waste Management**



# Resolution on Gender- ICCM5



---

## 01. Small Group

NGO's  
IIOs  
UNIONS  
ACADEMIA  
MEMBER STATES

---

## 02. Presentation

Presentation of the resolution to other groups prior to the conference- GRULAC, AG, EU

---

## 03. Negotiation

CG on Resolutions  
Group of friends of the chair  
CoW + Informal groups

---

## 04. Results

Ministerial Declaration  
Global Framework on Chemicals  
Resolution

---

## 05. Implementation

Next steps

# Gender perspective: Ministerial Declaration; Global Framework on Chemicals and Resolution

## Ministerial Declaration

*“The impacts of chemical pollution disproportionately affect people living in poverty, informal workers, indigenous peoples and other groups in vulnerable situations. Chemicals often have impacts on human health, particularly on women and children. Gender equality can support the sound management of chemicals and waste.*”

## Global Framework on Chemicals

- ✓ Principles
- ✓ Target B5
- ✓ Target B7
- ✓ Annex B

## Resolution

- ✓ Action Plan
- ✓ Interim actions: Partnerships, promotion of tools, gender disaggregated data, collection methods and research
- ✓ Foster collaboration
- ✓ Information on progress made



# Thank you

---

Thanks to your commitment with the gender & chemicals agenda

We look forward to working together.

**Maria Eugenia (Maru) Gonzalez**  
Permanent Mission of Mexico  
[megonzalez@sre.gob.mx](mailto:megonzalez@sre.gob.mx)

# Questions & Answers

# How should a future Gender Action Plan for the GFC look like?

Interactive brainstorming on mural board

Please use the link in chat 

# Thank you for your participation!

More information, webinars, blog articles:  
**[www. gender-chemicals.org](http://www.gender-chemicals.org)**

MSP Institute eV  
Anklamer Str. 38, 10115 Berlin – Germany  
[info@msp-institute.org](mailto:info@msp-institute.org)