

LEGISLATION FOR CHEMICALS PLACED ON THE MARKET

e-Learning course

Learn about the importance of legislation in managing chemicals placed on the market and how legislation can support the provision of information on the chemical properties of chemicals and products along the supply chain, thus preventing negative impacts on human health and the environment.



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Background and overview

This course is based on the Swedish Chemical Agency's - KemI - publication on "Legislation for chemicals placed on the market", one of a series of documents developed to complement the UNEP Guidance on the Development of Legal and Institutional Infrastructures and Measures for Recovering Costs of National Administration (LIRA Guidance) by giving more detailed guidance in different areas.

This aim of this course is to provide guidance to participants in their efforts to set up efficient legal frameworks to support the sound management of chemicals. It focuses on legislation for preventive chemicals control and is directed towards the placing of chemicals on the market, with the inclusion of examples of possible legal texts.

Target group

This course is targeted at national chemicals officials but is intended to be of interest to a broad range of sectors and stakeholders involved in chemicals management at the national level (e.g. agriculture, environment, health, labour, trade and industry, transport).

It may be of particular relevance to national officials in a position to mandate development of legislation and officials with the task of drafting national legislation.

General learning objectives

After taking the course, participants will be able to:

- Describe the basis for chemicals legislation focusing on placing chemicals on the market
- Explain the possible design and content of the legislation
- Explain the difference between primary and secondary legislation
- Compare and explain the consequences of different ways to divide responsibilities between the public and private sectors
- Describe how international agreements can support the introduction of provisions and contribute to national legislation



Course structure

Module 1 - Why legislation is important?

Learning objectives

- Understand the importance of legislation in relation to human and environmental well-being and to economic aspects such as trade
- Describe the main components of chemical management/control legislation
- Recognise the benefits of proper legislation for chemicals management and who should work together to develop it

Content

1. Value of legislation: protecting human health and the environment while recognizing the benefits chemicals can provide
2. Need to minimize and manage risks from legislation
3. Chemicals legislation can contribute to a level playing field for companies, and to facilitate trade between countries

Module 2 - Chemicals legislation and related pieces of legislation

Learning objectives

- Understand how chemicals management concerns many areas of human activity, sectors and societies
- Explain how other sectors, e.g., worker protection law, could benefit from proper chemicals-related legislation and vice versa
- Identify the main international conventions and agreements related to chemicals management and at what stage of the chemical life cycle they are most relevant to national legislation
- Explain how proper chemicals legislation can improve regulation along the value chain

Content

1. The many areas of sound chemicals management
2. Product-oriented risk management: focusing on the chemicals placed on the market
3. The rationale for coherent legislation for chemicals placed on the market

Module 3 - Placing obligations in primary and secondary legislation

Learning objectives

- Understand what is primary and secondary legislation, their importance and benefits
- Understand how a framework of primary regulations can assign responsibilities to government and industry
- How secondary legislation can be complementary and provide details on tasks and responsibilities of stakeholders
- Describe how responsibilities are distributed through primary and secondary legislation

Content

1. Benefits of placing some responsibilities in a primary law and other responsibilities in secondary legislation



Module 4 – Main content of a chemicals law (content of legislation for chemicals placed on the market)

Learning objectives

- Describe how to develop legislation related to chemicals on the market and what contents are to be considered
- Understand the importance of stakeholder engagement during the preparation of legislation

Content

1. Aim and scope of legislation on chemicals placed on the market
2. Responsibilities and tasks of government authorities
3. Delegation
4. Boundaries between legislation
5. Definitions
6. Responsibilities and obligations of companies and others handling chemicals
7. Limitations on trade and use
8. Registers
9. Reporting
10. Confidentiality
11. Sanctions
12. Entry into force and application, transitional periods

Methodology, resources and certification

The course, about 45 minutes to complete, is self-paced and adapted to the schedule of full-time working professionals. Participants are provided with the opportunity to learn through various experiences: absorb (read); interact (activity); and reflect (relate to one's own reality). This includes videos, interactive lessons, reading materials and quizzes.

Despite being self-standing, the 4 modules of the course must be completed in order.

Each module concludes with a quiz which will assess the knowledge learners will acquire. If learners pass the quiz with a 100% mark, a certificate of completion will be issued to them.

Participants will be requested to provide feedback on the course by filling in a feedback form after completing all the modules, accessible anytime.



Technical requirements

The course can be completed on any computer (Windows and Mac) or mobile device. Any internet browser is compatible as long as it has been updated to its latest version.





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