High Level Segment Panel The SAICM Model of Action

Tadesse Amera Director, PAN-Ethiopia

What are the key success factors and enabling conditions for effective partnerships? Demonstrate with examples partnerships that effectively deliver (at local, national or global level) towards the 2020 goal.

Thank you Madam Chair, I would mention here the IPEN ISIP initiative which provided PAN-Ethiopia a very small grant of US\$ 2,750 for an assessment of the e-waste situation in Ethiopia. PAN-Ethiopia managed to collect information and convey the message to relevant stakeholders in Ethiopia. As it was noted by the Ethiopian EPA (now MEF), PAN-Ethiopia was funded by the Ethiopian government (through EPA) US\$200,000 which enabled PAN-Ethiopia to deliver e-waste inventory results. This became a baseline for the Ethiopian government; UNIDO, US-EPA, UN SteP, and UN-University to come together; develop a US\$ 2 million project which has been financed by GEF and being implemented for the last three years. This first GEF financed e-waste management project became a good lesson which is being implemented by UNIDO and others afterwards. Based on this project, the Ethiopian MEF prepared an E-waste management regulation and it is under review by the council of Ministers.

How can SAICM extend the stewardship of chemicals to a full lifecycle approach, better engaging downstream entities?

Stewardship

I believe in a stewardship approach to sustainable development. This means taking account of not only the present moment but future generations and other species.

The concept of stewardship emerged as a responsibility for wise use and management of natural resources. When it is used in the natural resource management context, it takes the concept of "sustainability" which indicates the balanced account of the present society, future generation and other species. In its broader approach, this comprises anthropocentric and eco-centric concepts which became the foundation for the biggest application of the word in forest stewardship council, marine stewardship council and many more natural resource use/management fields to exemplify institutionalized ways of promoting responsible behavior among users. In a more anthropocentric way of its definition, the World Health Organization indicated stewardship as the responsibility of the government for careful and responsible management of the wellbeing of the population.

When it comes to pesticide related business approach, the use of the word stewardship has got a connotation of taking care of "products" with little or no mention of human health and environmental protection. The Pesticide Stewardship Council and Crop Life defined pesticide stewardship as "the responsible and ethical management of a plant protection or biotechnology product throughout its life-cycle to support sustainable agriculture". This entirely focuses on pesticides as "product" and leaving out the responsibility from users' point of view. Pesticides, however, pose risks and hazards to human health and the environment. This, therefore, requires an inclusion of "users' stewardship" as an ethical approach to complement the only business approach of "product stewardship".

What are some examples from other areas that could inspire new, creative partnerships that could advance the implementation of SAICM?

The IPM-FFS work we are having with the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and PAN-UK in the Southern Ethiopian Rift valley with 2000 small holder cotton famers made the farmers to become experts of their own field and produce healthy crop.

The farmers now are experts in the preparation of food spray from local resources which attract beneficial insects into the cotton field and control pests. These farmers are now organized and on the way of getting organic certification to sell their cotton to national and international fashion brands. This action protects the environment and human health as well as increased yield by double. The book released PAN-International also reflects good results of the agroecology approach in different parts of the world.

(For more information on the cotton IPM project, see:

http://www.pan-uk.org/projects/pan-uk-project-innovative-food-spray-technology-produces-higher-yields-in-pilot-of-non-pesticide-co

For a link to the PAN agroecology book, see:

http://www.panap.net/sites/default/files/Phasing-Out-HHPs-with-Agroecology.pdf)

Which concrete actions within IPEN strategy will help making best use of the flexibility of SAICM a good platform for SD?

Globalizing Local Priorities: Linking local constituencies to the global process

Localizing Global Policies: Leveraging global policies and resources for on-the-ground change

IPEN's NGO network identifies important national issues where international policy can help protect people and the environment from toxic chemical exposure. It organizes activities that elevate and prioritize those issues within international policy arenas, and it mobilizes expert and financial resources to turn international policies into meaningful change on-the-ground.

PAN-Ethiopia's Cotton-IPM project is one example of IPEN's grassroots approach of localizing global priorities and the negotiation on HHPs and PAN's newly released agroecology book as an example of globalizing local priorities.

A 1-minute take-away message:

The flexibility of SAICM gave opportunities for a multi-sectoral collaboration in sound chemicals management. The take-away message that I would like to make is that the voluntary actions that we take here are not just to save some unknown people at one corner of the world; it is for our children who are crawling or working for industries and the grand children that we dream to have in the future, it is for our loved ones and for ourselves who are exposed to one or more hazardous chemicals in one way or another.