

Task team on the “high-level indicator on the global environmental burden attributable to chemicals and waste”

First Meeting – 19th September 2024

1. Welcome and introduction

2. Organizational aspects

Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome and introduction (5 minutes)
2. Organizational aspects (5 minutes)
 - Adoption of the agenda
 - Organization of work
3. Composition and mandate of the task team (10 minutes)
4. Key steps in developing the high-level indicator (45 minutes)
5. Proposed approach and timeline (10 minutes)
6. Next steps (5 minutes)
7. Any other business (5 minutes)
8. Closing remarks (5 minutes)

Logistics for the meeting

- The meeting will be conducted in English only.
- Documentation for the task team will be made available on the GFC website at:
<https://www.chemicalsframework.org/page/workstream-2-development-additional-indicators>

Logistics for the meeting

- All participants are now muted
- Use “Chat” to ask questions or share your views (select the option to “everyone” if you wish to send a chat to all)
- “Raise your hand” if you wish to take the floor
- The meeting will be recorded **for internal purposes only**
- Presentation slides will be made available after the meeting

3. Role and composition of the task team

Role of the Task Team

Workstream 1

- Assessment of existing indicators identified in document SAICM/IP.4/INF/39/Rev.1

Workstream 2

- **Development of additional indicators needed to complete the measurability structure**

Workstream 3

- Identification and assessment of thematic and sector-specific indicators

Role of the Task Team

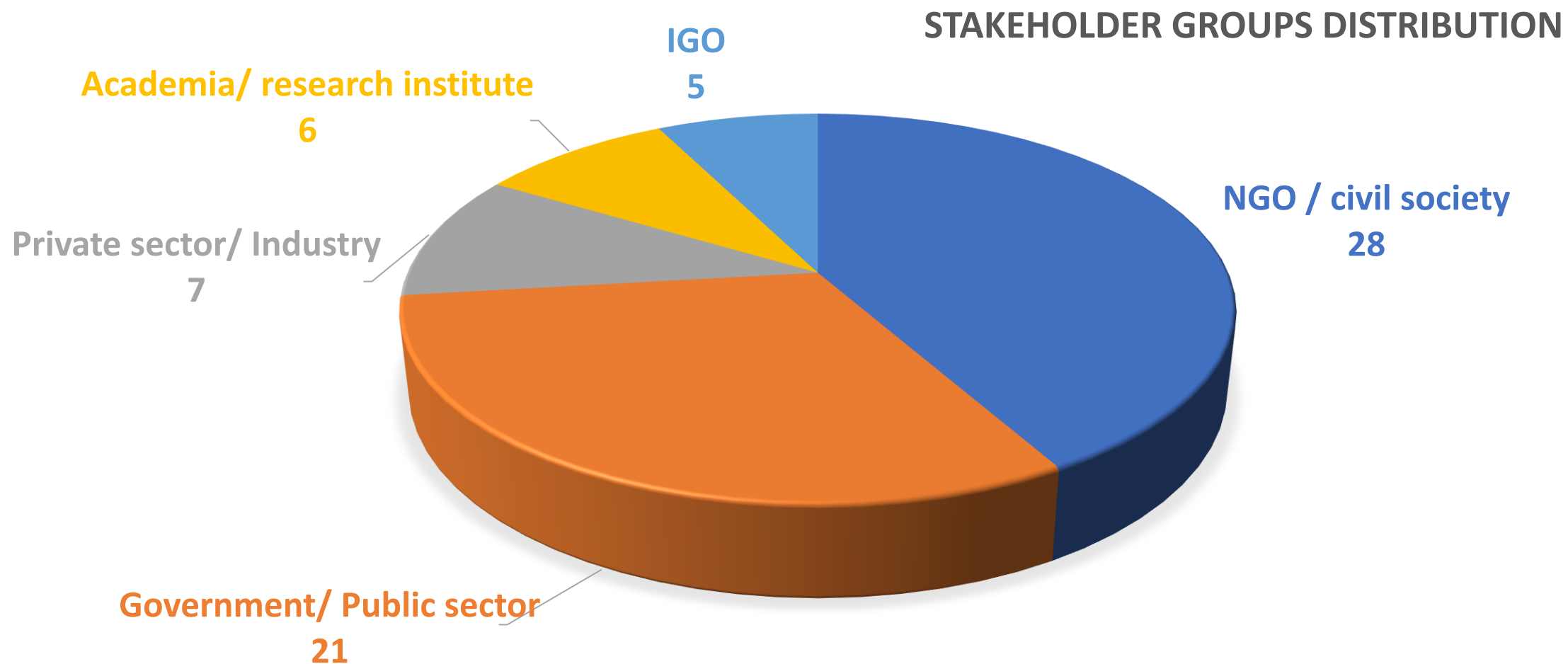
- Develop the high-level indicator on the “global environmental burden attributable to chemicals and waste”
- Consider the applicability of existing information, data sets, assessments and monitoring systems as well as, amongst others, Targets D6 and B7
- Report on progress to the OEAHGMI and present outcome to the OEWG (June 2025)
- UNEP invited to lead Task Team work with support of OECD and UNECE together with other interested stakeholders.

Task team composition

	NGO / civil society	Government/ Public sector	Private sector/ Industry	Academia/ research institute	IGO
Workstream 1	38	38	7	7	7
Workstream 2	35	27	10	7	8
Workstream 3	46	29	10	8	7

Open to stakeholders willing to contribute to the work of the Task teams.

Task team composition



4. Key steps in developing the high-level indicator

UNEP Draft concept note

[Document GFC/OEAHGMI.2/5 "Draft concept note - Proposed approach in developing a high-level indicator on global environmental burden attributable to chemicals and waste"](#)

Step 1: Define objectives and scope

Overall aim of the HLIs : measure progress towards the vision of the Global Framework on Chemicals: *“a planet free of harm from chemicals and waste for a safe, healthy and sustainable future”*, in relation to the impacts of chemicals and waste on human health and on the environment

Other aspects that may be considered:

Ability to facilitate communication

Raise awareness

Show trends

....

Step 1: Define objectives and scope

“Environmental burden attributable to chemicals and waste”

Scope may cover different aspects:

- ☐ Levels of air, water and soil contaminants/pollutants and waste
- ☐ Impacts of chemicals and waste on the environment in terms of pollution of water, land and soil, depletion of natural resources, disruption of ecosystem services and food chains, loss of biodiversity, climate change ..
- ☐ Improvements of environmental state
- ☐ ...

Step 2. Review criteria to be met by the high-level indicator

Annex III of the Framework

- (a) Relevance and/or meaningfulness to the Framework
- (b) Availability of data to create a baseline and to assess progress**
- (c) Have a designated custodian**
- (d) Allow for regular updating** to help ensure sustainability of the measurement
- (e) Allow for easy access to data and enable stakeholder participation in data collection
- (f) Data comparability through standardized methodologies

Other aspects of relevance?

Document GFC/OEAHGMI.2/2 – On the criteria to select indicators of the Global Framework on Chemicals”

List of Criteria

- a) Relevance and/or meaningfulness to the Framework
- b) Availability of data to create a baseline and to assess progress
- c) Have a designated custodian
- d) Allow for regular updating to help ensure sustainability of the measurement
- e) Allow for easy access to data and enable stakeholder participation in data collection
- f) Data comparability through standardized methodologies

Reference: [Document GFC/OEAHGMI.2/2 “Thought starter – On the criteria to select indicators of the Global Framework on Chemicals”](#)

Document GFC/OEAHGMI.2/2 – On the criteria to select indicators of the Global Framework on Chemicals”

Selected Criteria

- a) Relevance and/or meaningfulness to the Framework
- b) Availability of data to create a baseline and to assess progress
- c) Must show progress – the indicator must have the capacity for evolution and show change in time.

Reference: [Document GFC/OEAHGMI.2/2 “Thought starter – On the criteria to select indicators of the Global Framework on Chemicals”](#)

Step 3. Identify elements constituting the high-level indicator

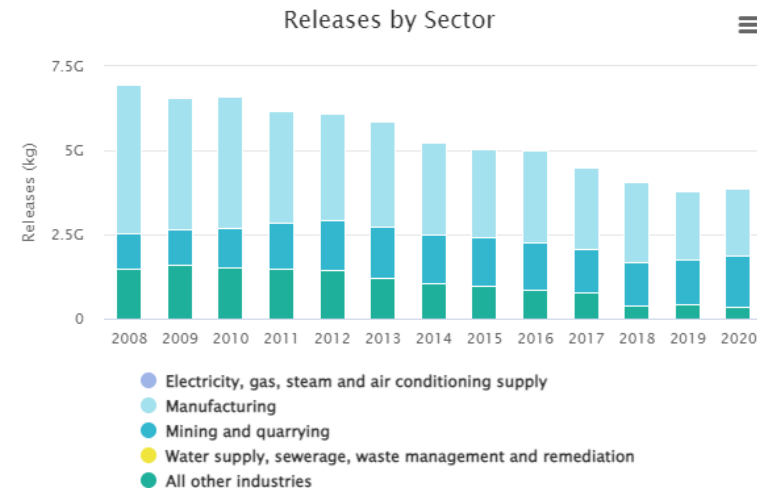
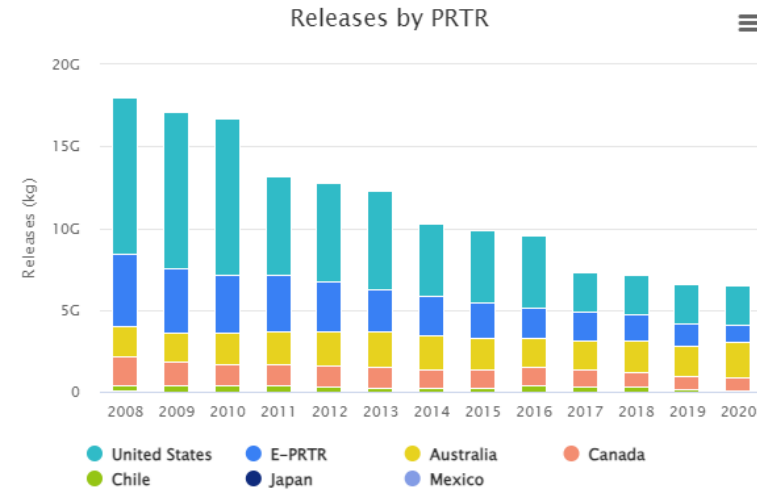
- Review existing sources of information and their applicability/relevance
e.g. the Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTR), or global monitoring plans under the chemicals and waste MEAs, indicators developed under the effectiveness evaluation of other mechanisms (e.g. MEAs)
- Consider cross-cutting aspects
- Consider Target B7 (*on monitoring and surveillance data and information on concentrations and potential exposure sources of chemicals in humans, other biota and environmental media*) and Target D6 (*on sustainable chemical and waste management strategies or major economic and industry sectors*)

OECD Global PRTR Dashboard

- Published in 2021 with aiming at Using PRTR information to evaluate progress towards the SDG 12
- Global analysis on PRTR data from 7 systems (Australia, Canada, Chile, E-PRTR, Japan, Mexico, United states) with 39 countries
- Dashboard for tracking pollutant releases
 - 14 pollutants
 - focused on on-site releases to air and water
 - focused on manufacturing sector
 - results in kg, ecotoxicity-weighted releases, human (cancer and non-cancer) toxicity-weighted releases
 - regularly updated

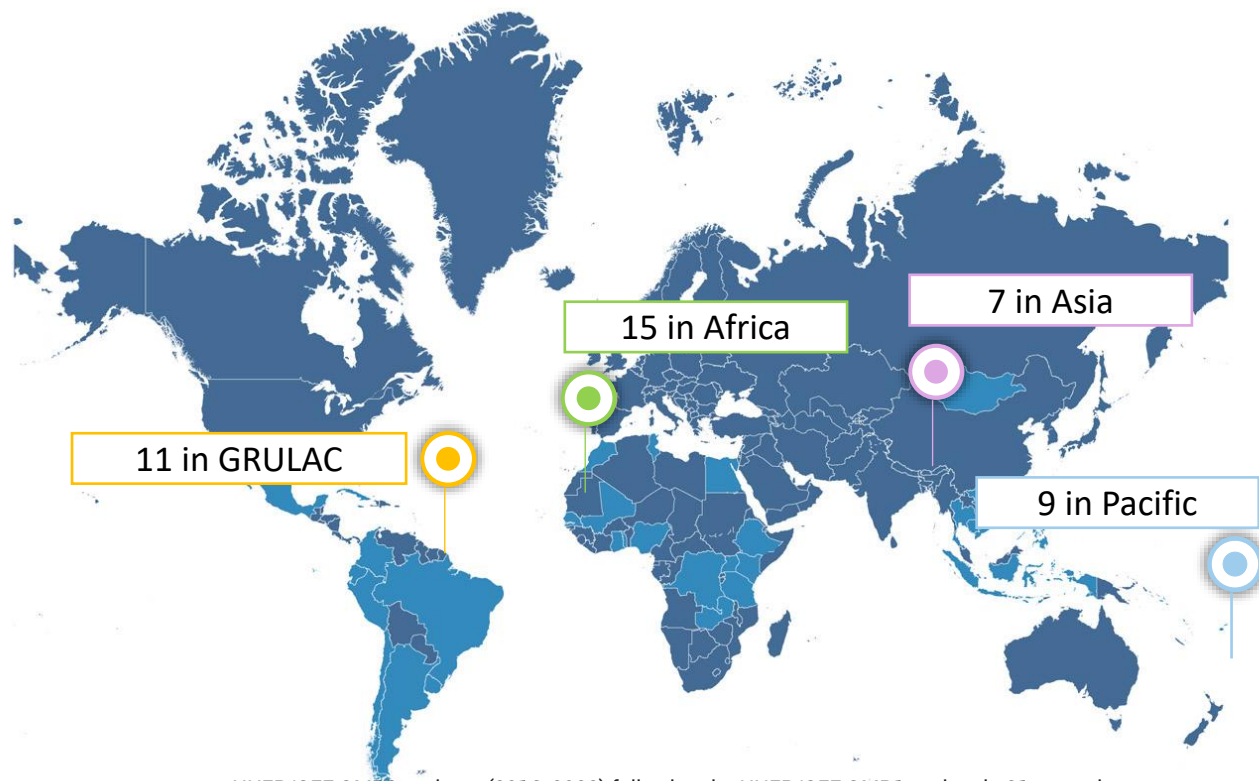


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E40J2DQs83M>



<https://www.oecd.org/en/topics/sub-issues/monitoring-and-preventing-industrial-pollution.html>
https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/using-prtr-information-to-evaluate-progress-towards-the-sustainable-development-goal-12_44352aa1-en.html

Global Background Monitoring of Persistent Organics Pollutants



UNEP/GEF GMP2 projects (2016-2022) following the UNEP/GEF GMP1 project in 31 countries



Data generation to support the effectiveness evaluation of the Stockholm Convention.



Capacity building in countries.

30 POPs analyzed in over **900** samples of air, water, human milk and matrices of national interest in 42 countries.

Over **50,000** data points generated.

Training in **26** national laboratories.

Over **20** years of human milk data covering 82 countries globally.

289 laboratories participated in the interlaboratory assessments.

Human exposure – Indication of pollution load

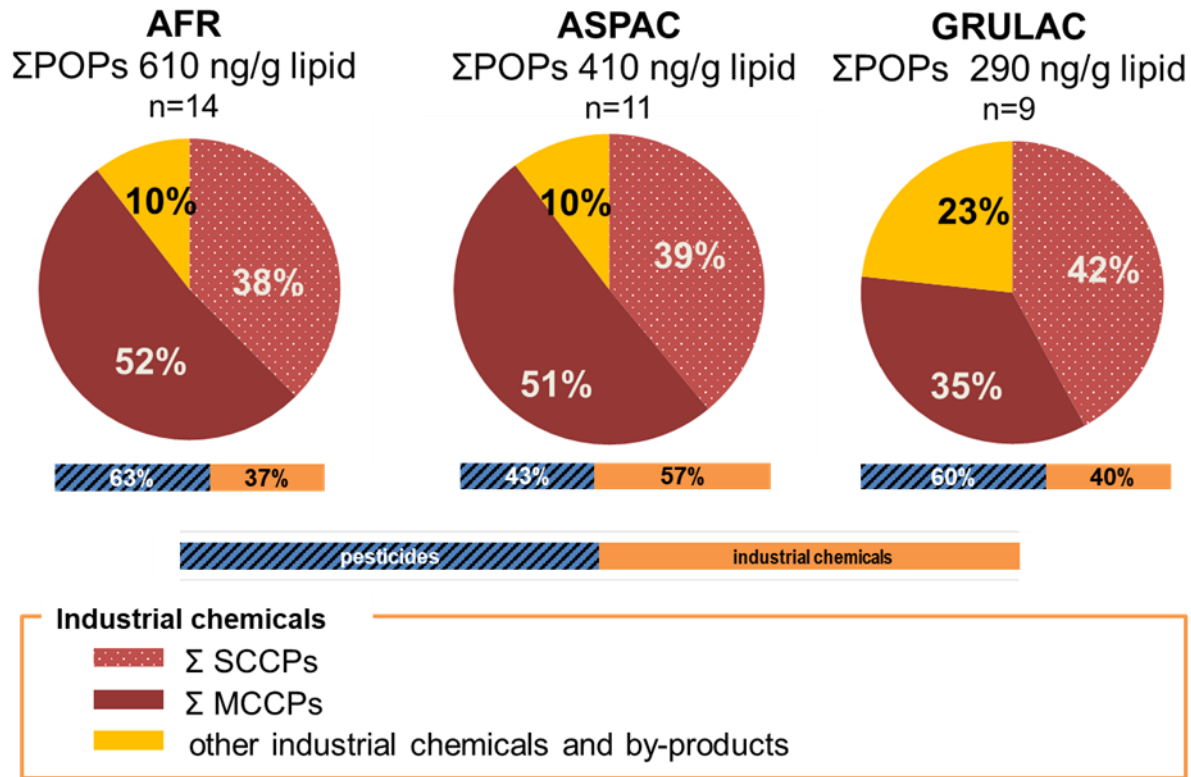


Figure 1: POPs in human milk

*Source: Rainer Malisch, CVUA Freiburg, WHO/UNEP Human Milk Survey 2016-2019 under the UNEP/GEF GMP2 project

- Despite of decreasing trend observed in all regions, DDT contributed the most on POPs in human milk in all regions.
- Legacy POPs are still around us. Elevated levels of legacy POPs (endosulfan, dieldrin etc.) were detected in many countries.
- **SCCPs** and **MCCPs** dominated the share of POPs grouped as industrial chemicals and by-products in most areas.
- PFASs found at high levels in human milk in Kiribati and in water in Vanuatu.

Step 3. Identify constituting elements

- Assess whether there are gaps in the information needed, considering also the work conducted under Workstreams 1 and 3
- If so, identify sources of data

Step 4. Determine the possible form and methodology

Aspects to consider:

- Form of the HLI
- How to showcase results
- Aggregating method or weights of each variable/indicator
- Frequency of updates/reporting
- Any required standardization of data
- Responsible entity(ies)
- Baseline
- Specific features to support operationalization
- Future updates/revisions

Step 5. Conduct testing and validation of the proposed high-level indicator

In order to check robustness, relevance / usefulness and inform any adjustments needed

- Define the approach to conduct testing and validation
- Conduct the testing/validation
- As needed refine/adjust the indicator and/or its methodology

Step 6. Develop a draft “factsheet”

Objective: Present the proposed indicator, its rationale, along with a series of information to be provided in a standardized manner in a “factsheet”

GFC/OEAHGMI.2/3 “Thought starter – Proposed Factsheet template for indicators of the Global Framework on Chemicals”

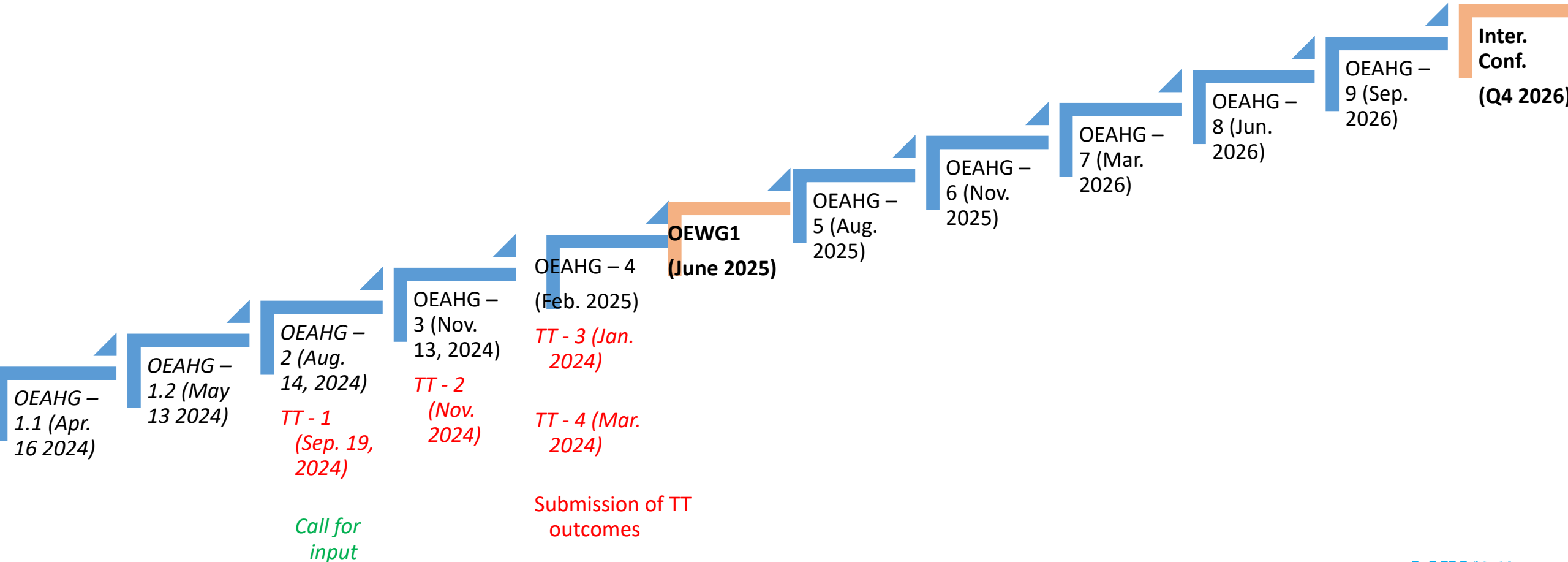
Factsheet divided in five sections:

- **SPECIFICATIONS:** technical description of the indicator
- **ASSESSMENT:** evaluation of the indicator
- **DATA SPECIFICATIONS:** data sources, data availability, data disaggregation/aggregation, reporting mechanism
- **METHODOLOGY** used for calculating the indicator
- **REFERENCES**

Reference: [Document GFC/OEAHGMI.2/3 “Thought starter – Proposed Factsheet template for indicators of the Global Framework on Chemicals”](#)

5. Proposed approach and timeline

Proposed timeline



6. Next steps

Next steps

- **Date for second meeting of the Task Team**
- **Call for written input from Task Team members**

7. Any other business

8. Closing remarks

Thank you for your participation!

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