

Criterion 1.1



Core Indicator 1: Extent of strengthened government capacity and coordination mechanism to support development and implementation of National Strategies for Chemicals and Waste Management as a result of funding from the Special Programme

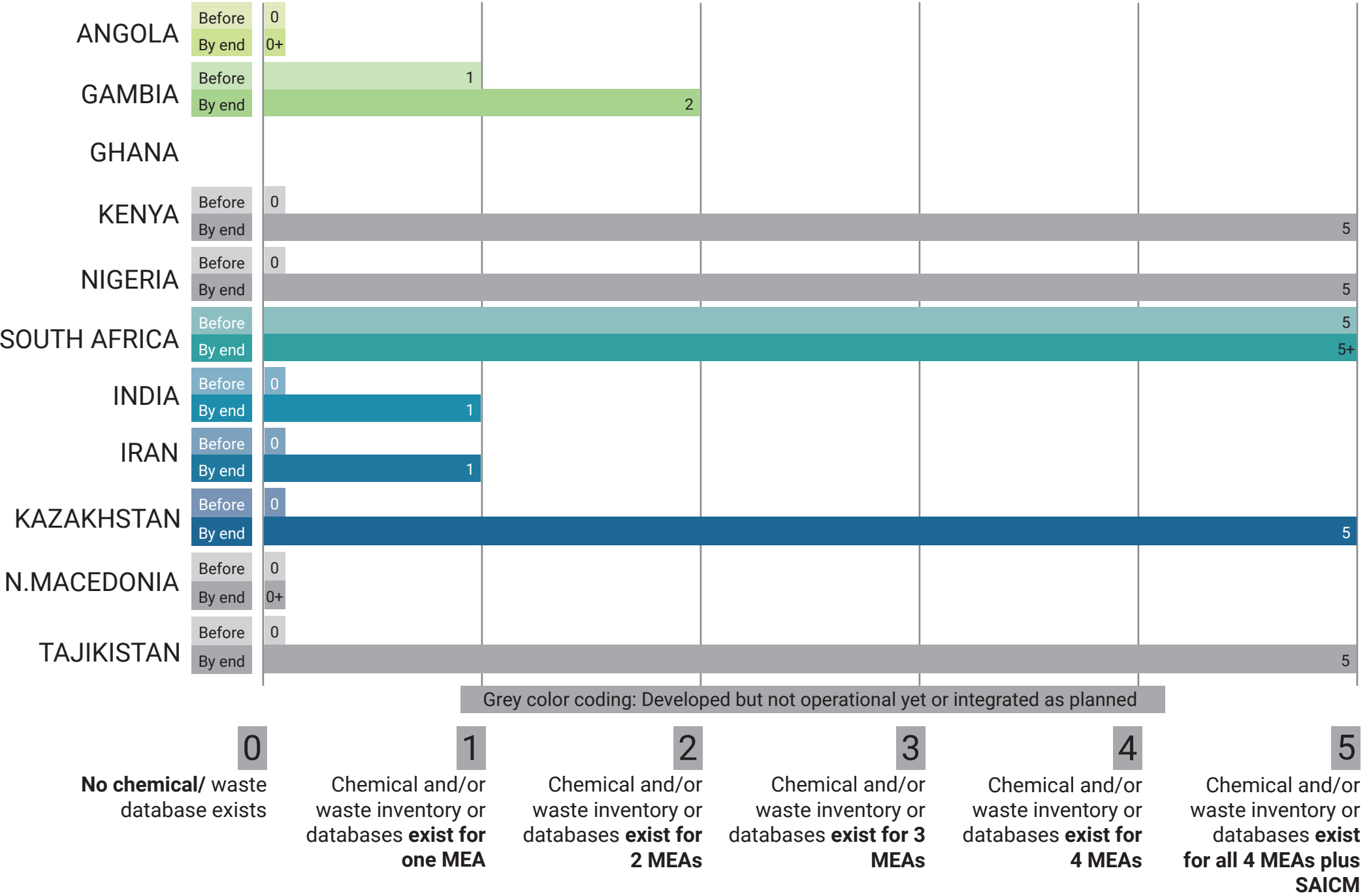
Second Independent Assessment of the Closed Projects under the Special Programme Report (December 2024)

RESULTS

Six countries demonstrated progress on this criterion: Angola gathered data on waste streams and piloted marine microplastics studies, though evidence was lacking. The Gambia advanced hazardous waste and asbestos tracking, while South Africa created a robust database linked to regulatory frameworks for emerging contaminants. India developed a POPs inventory under the Stockholm Convention, Iran conducted a chemical inventory at Lavan Oil Refinery, and Kazakhstan developed a National Profile for Chemicals Management, identifying regulatory gaps.

6 / 11 projects developed a national chemical and waste database

Level of development of national chemical/waste database



Criterion 1.2



Core Indicator 1: Extent of strengthened government capacity and coordination mechanism to support development and implementation of National Strategies for Chemicals and Waste Management as a result of funding from the Special Programme

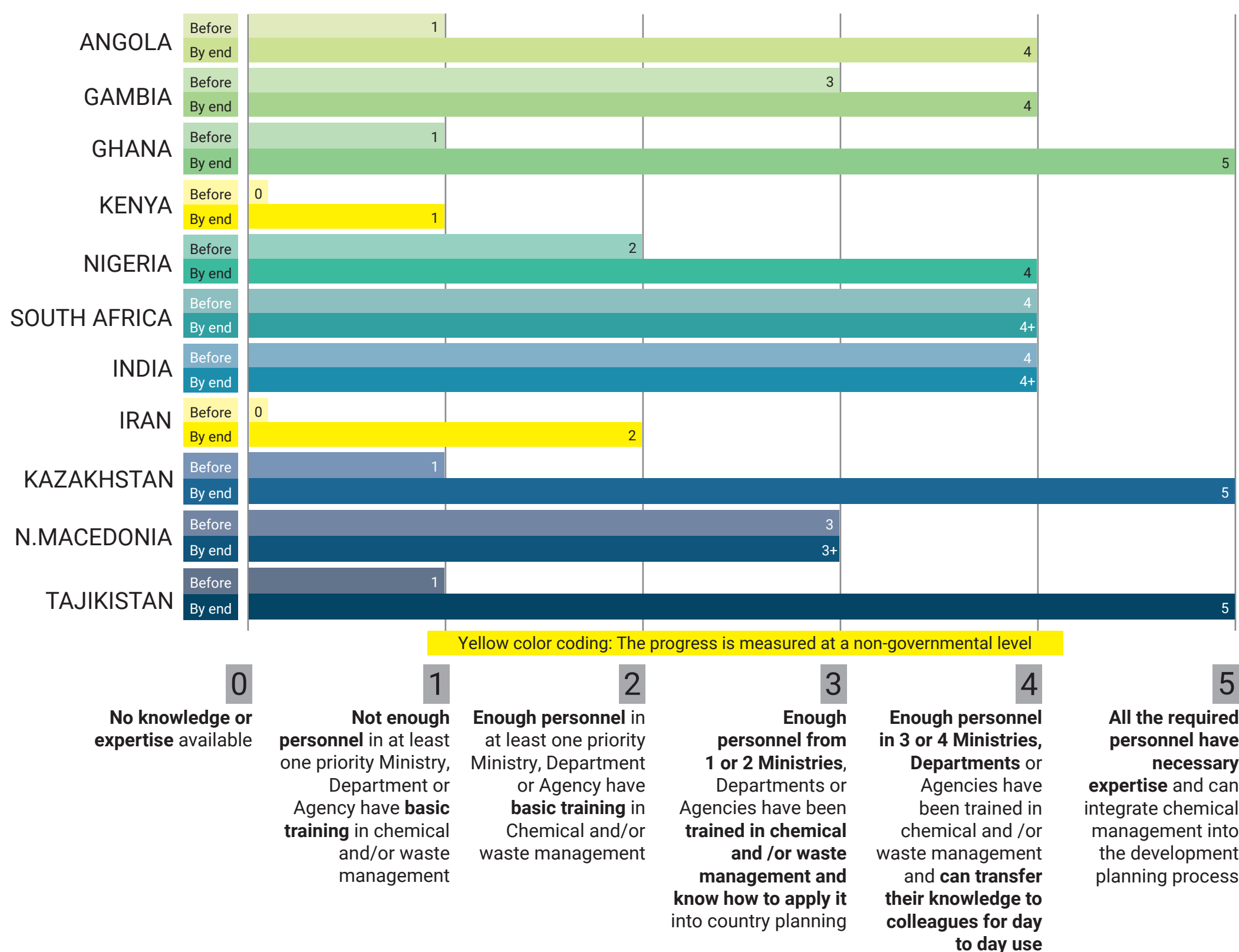
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RESULTS

Kenya, Nigeria, Tajikistan, and North Macedonia aimed to establish information portals for managing chemical and waste data to enhance coordination and MEA compliance. Kenya's portal awaits legislative approval, Nigeria's faces technical hurdles, Tajikistan's ceased functioning after project completion due to integration issues, and North Macedonia's stalled due to organizational shortcomings. All projects implemented capacity-building activities, achieving varying levels of progress. By project completion, several countries advanced to applying knowledge in planning processes (scores 3–4), while Ghana, Kazakhstan, and Tajikistan reached the highest level (rating 5), integrating chemicals management into development planning. Awareness-raising campaigns, outreach, and sensitization workshops extended knowledge beyond government entities to civil society, industry, and local communities, fostering a more inclusive approach to sustainable management practices.

11 / 11 projects implemented capacity-building activities

Level of chemical/waste management expertise



Criterion 1.3



Core Indicator 1: Extent of strengthened government capacity and coordination mechanism to support development and implementation of National Strategies for Chemicals and Waste Management as a result of funding from the Special Programme

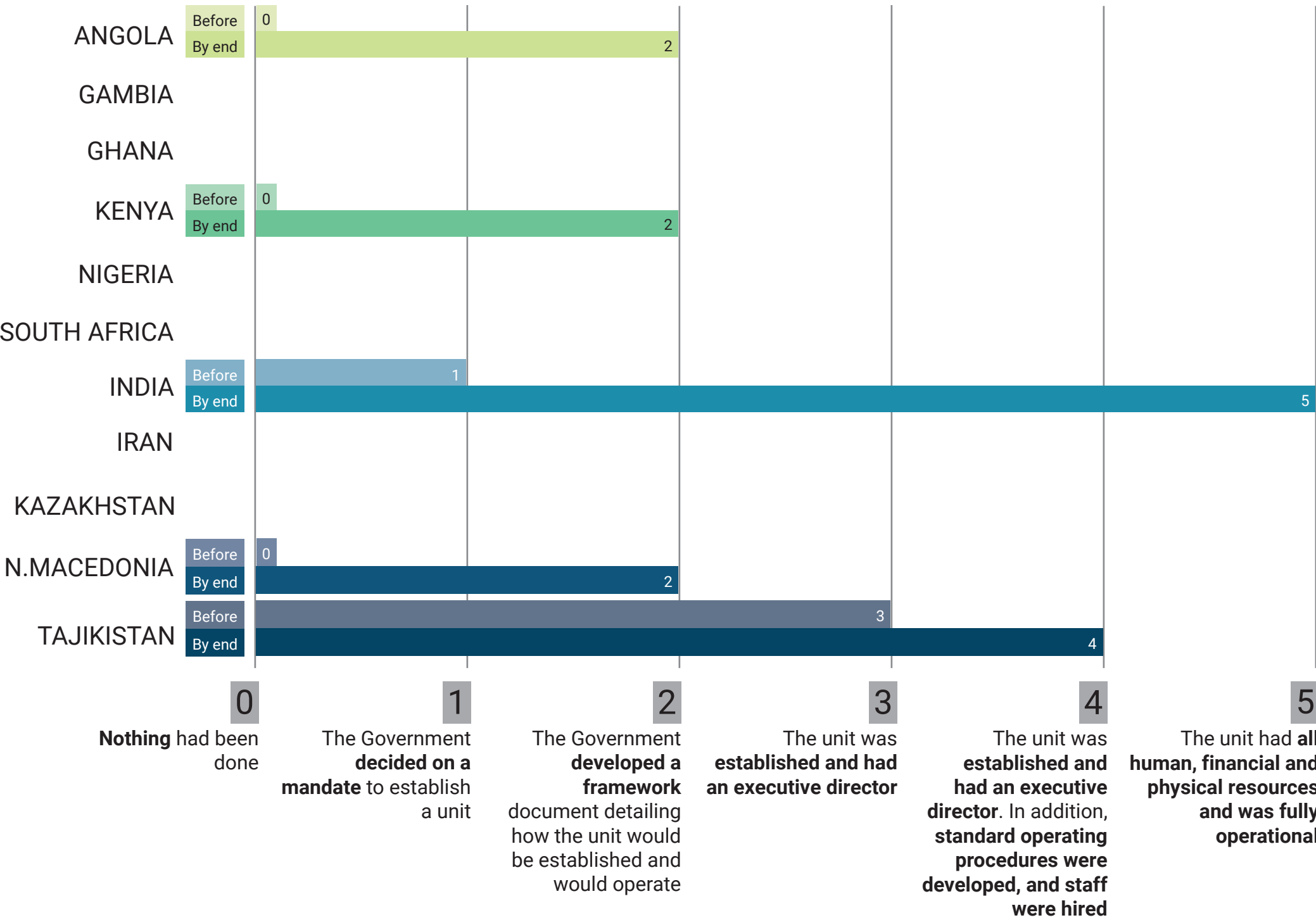
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RESULTS

Five of 11 projects addressed the objective of establishing a chemicals/waste unit, with varying progress. India achieved the highest score (5) by establishing a fully operational Directorate with staff, resources, and procedures in place. Tajikistan scored 4, having approved recommendations to improve institutional functioning. Angola, Kenya, and North Macedonia scored 2, meaning only framework documents or mandates were prepared. Delays in formal approvals, shifting government priorities, and institutional restructuring hindered progress. These challenges highlight the need for sustained efforts and high-level political commitment.

5 / 11 projects developed a chemical or waste management unit or department

Existence and level of development of chemical/waste management unit or department



Criterion 1.4



Core Indicator 1: Extent of strengthened government capacity and coordination mechanism to support development and implementation of National Strategies for Chemicals and Waste Management as a result of funding from the Special Programme

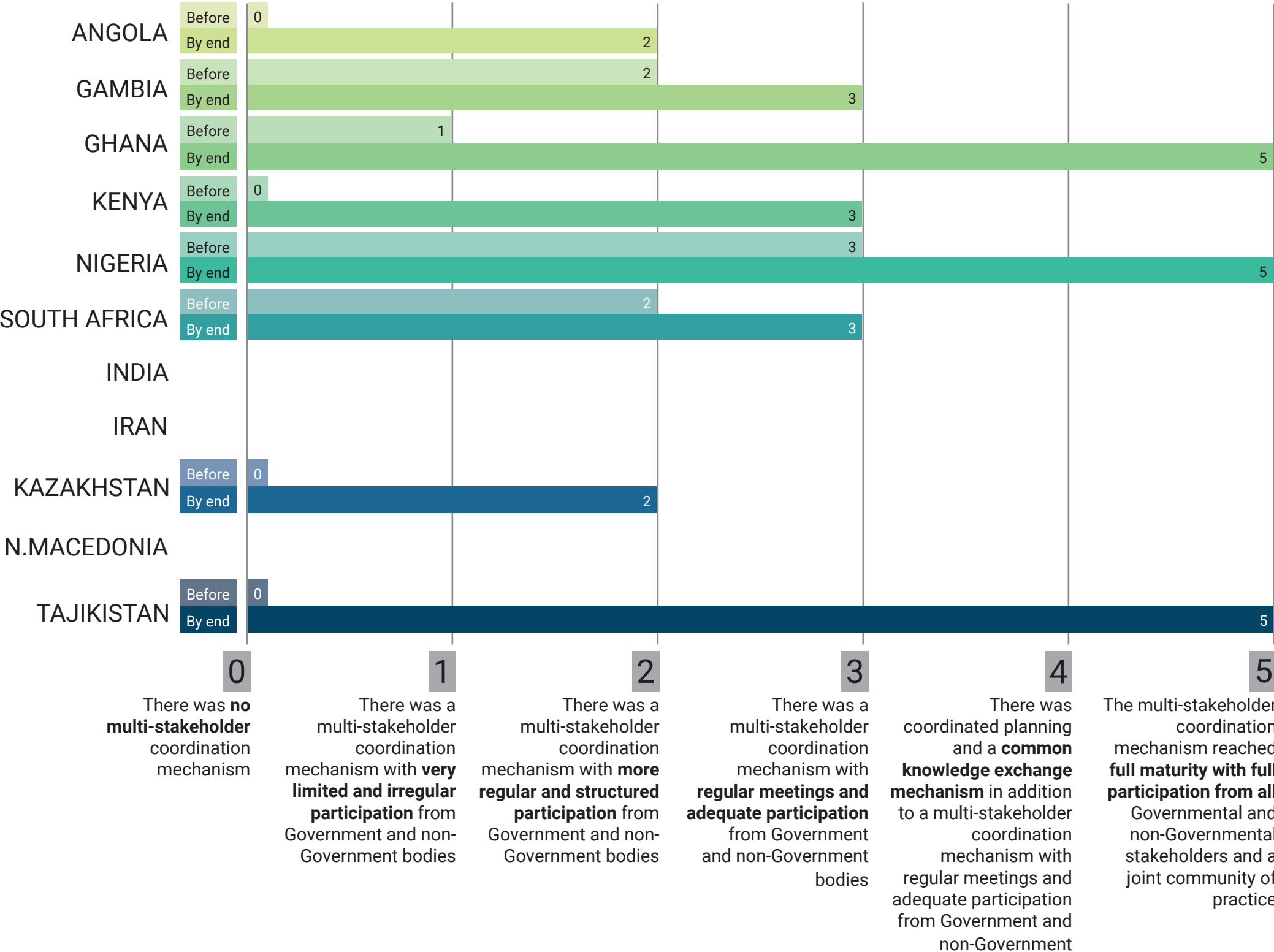
Second Independent Assessment of the Closed Projects under the Special Programme Report (December 2024)

RESULTS

A total of eight countries made efforts to develop multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms for chemical and waste management, achieving varying levels of progress. Ghana, Nigeria, and Tajikistan achieved the most advanced outcomes. Tajikistan stands out with a fully formalized structure through a decree by the Committee on Environmental Protection. Ghana, despite lacking formalization, established a highly functional Technical Working Group (TWG), fostering collaboration among ministries, experts, and NGOs, supported by a Harmonized Reporting System to improve inter-agency communication and transparency. Five countries—Angola, Gambia, Kenya, South Africa, and Kazakhstan—reached intermediate stages, establishing structured mechanisms but lacking institutionalization and full operational maturity. In Kazakhstan, for example, a working group under the Project Board facilitated technical input, but delays in enforcing regulatory frameworks impeded progress. Administrative changes and government reshuffles often delayed formalization, as seen in Kenya’s delayed approval of the National Chemicals Policy, which proposed the establishment of a formal coordination structure.

8 / 11 projects worked on the development of multi-stakeholder coordination mechanism for chemical/waste management

Level of development of multi-stakeholder coordination mechanism for chemical/waste management



Criterion 2.1



Core Indicator 2: Degree of integration of chemical and waste management into national and sector planning - formally proposed, adopted, or being implemented including required reporting to the relevant Conventions and voluntary reporting to SAICM/GFC

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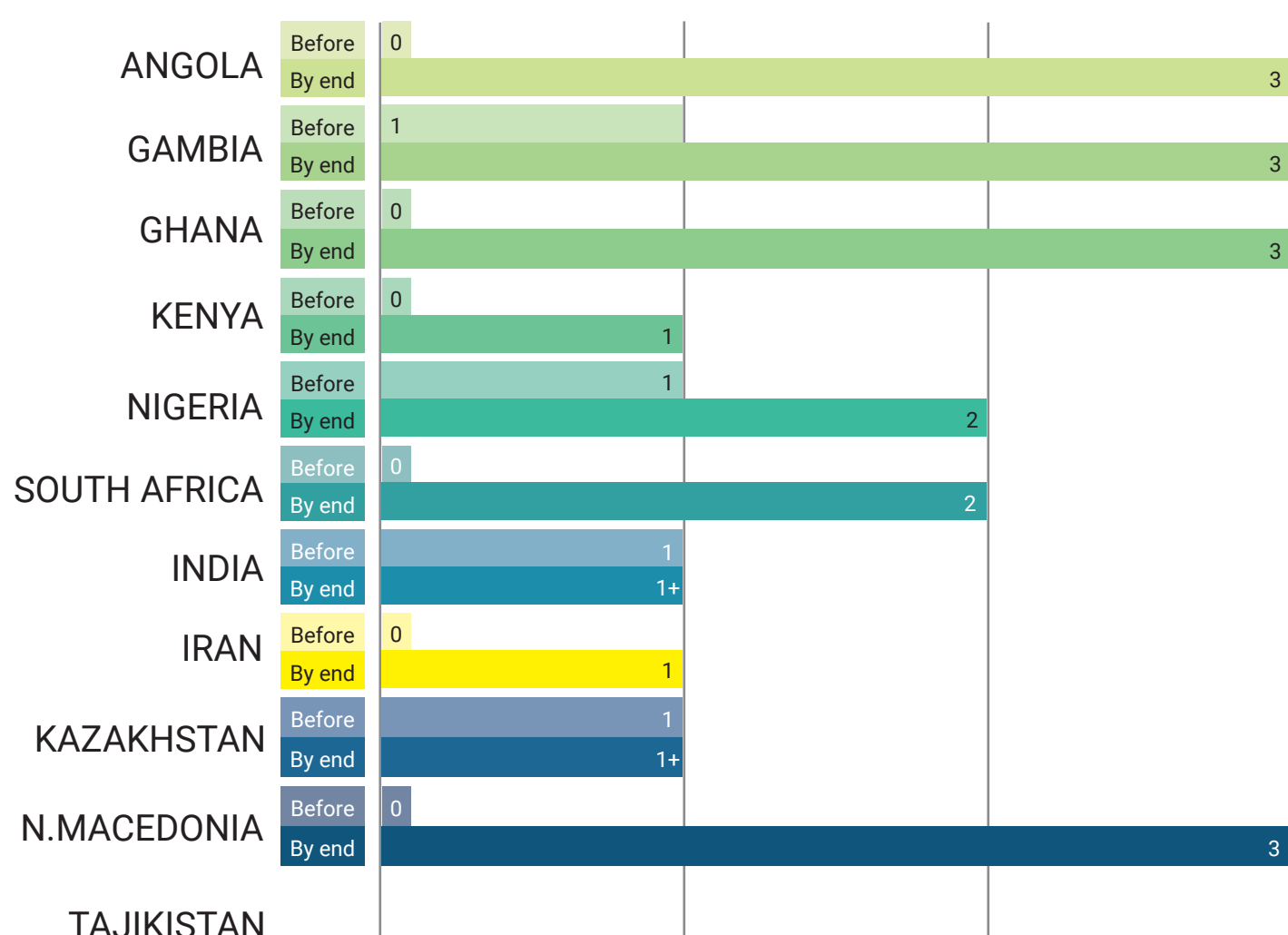
RESULTS

Four countries—Angola, Gambia, Ghana, and North Macedonia—adopted and began implementing plans developed through the projects. Angola enacted Presidential Decree No. 289/22, establishing a working group to implement the National Plastics Ban Plan. Gambia adopted a National Solid Waste Management Strategy with hazardous waste provisions. Ghana adopted and is implementing a 10-year strategic plan for sound chemicals and waste management, while North Macedonia advanced its National Implementation Plan (NIP) under SAICM.

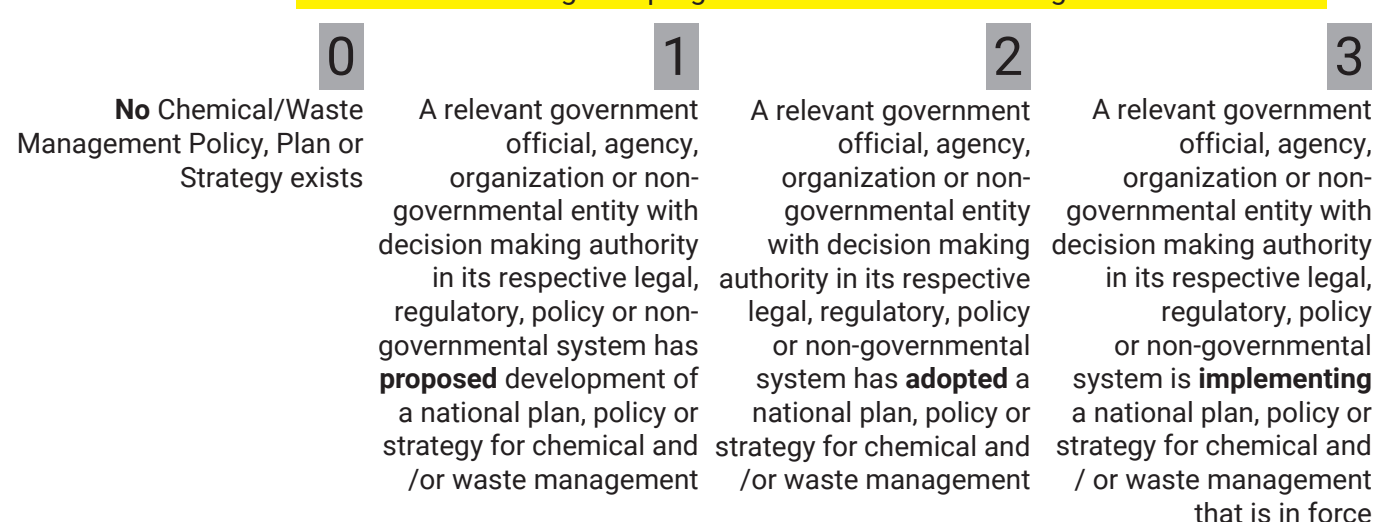
Two countries, Nigeria and South Africa, reached intermediate stages, where policies were adopted. Nigeria's NIP for cost recovery achieved technical adoption, while South Africa adopted its NIP for managing emerging contaminants but required regulations for implementation. The remaining four countries—Kenya, India, Iran, and Kazakhstan—developed policies but lacked formal approval. Kenya's National Chemical Policy progressed to the ministerial level but was delayed due to a cabinet reshuffle. Iran made recommendations for improved oil industry management, Kazakhstan prepared a Road Map awaiting endorsement, and India developed prioritized actions for reducing POPs and hazardous wastes.

10 / 11 projects
developed
chemical or waste
management
policies, plans or
strategies

Level of development and implementation of chemical/waste management policy, plan or strategy



Yellow color coding: The progress is measured at a non-governmental level



Criterion 2.2



Core Indicator 2: Degree of integration of chemical and waste management into national and sector planning - formally proposed, adopted, or being implemented including required reporting to the relevant Conventions and voluntary reporting to SAICM/GFC

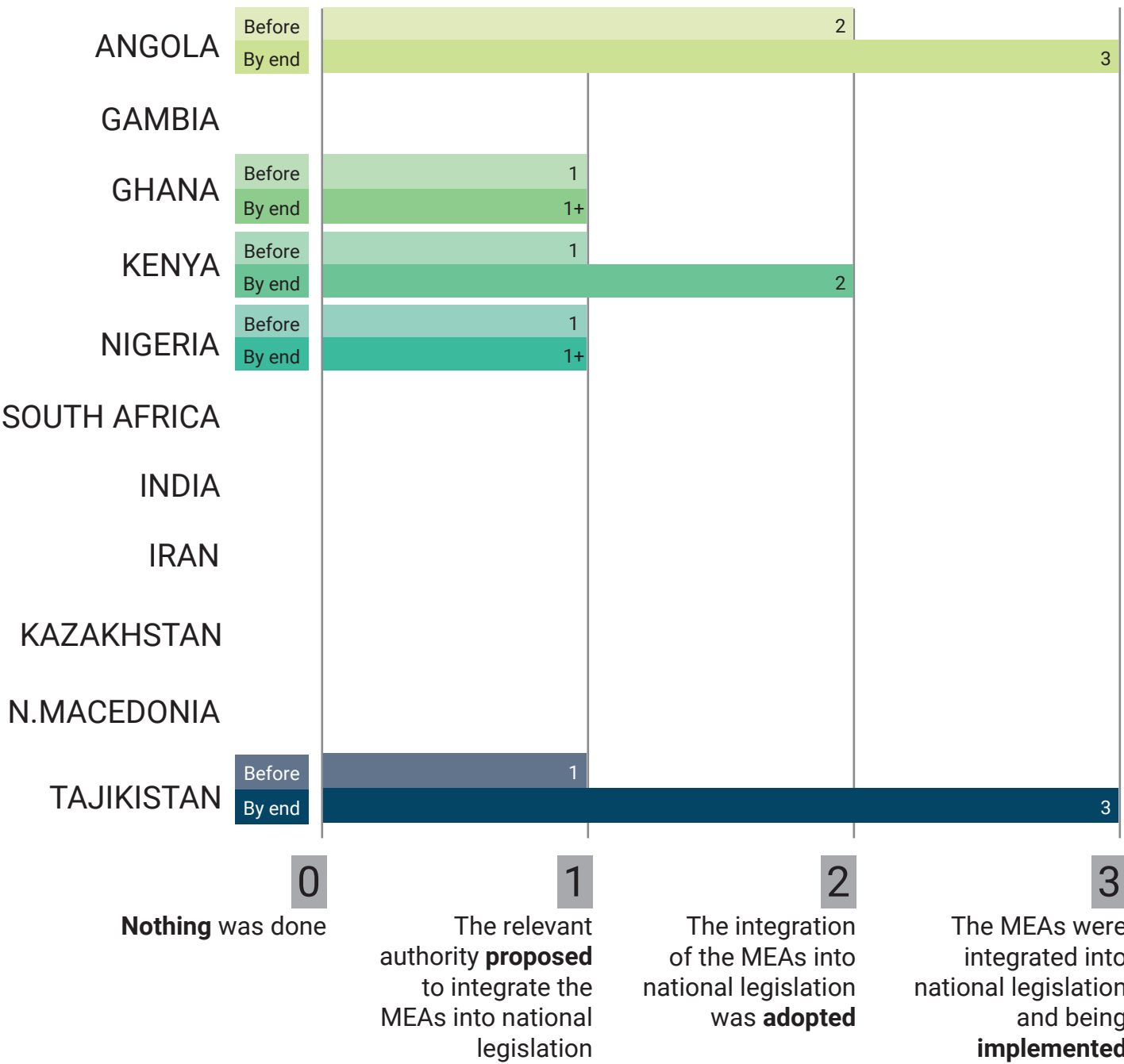
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RESULTS

Five out of 11 countries worked on integrating MEAs into national legislation, with Angola, Kenya, and Tajikistan making notable advancements. Angola integrated the Basel and Stockholm Conventions into its National Development Plan (2023–2027), including new licensing requirements for chemicals management. Kenya facilitated preparatory steps for Minamata Convention ratification, culminating in its approval a year after project completion in 2023. In Tajikistan, the project strengthened legal instruments for Basel and Stockholm Conventions, leading to the ratification of the Rotterdam Convention in October 2024. Ghana and Nigeria advanced to intermediate stages by drafting key legislative documents - Ghana’s Industrial and Consumer Chemicals Bill and Nigeria’s Chemicals and Waste Management Bill. However, formal adoption remains pending due to legislative bottlenecks and government reshuffles.

5 / 11 projects integrated the MEAs into national legislation

Level of development of legal framework/primary legislation



Criterion 2.3



Core Indicator 2: Degree of integration of chemical and waste management into national and sector planning - formally proposed, adopted, or being implemented including required reporting to the relevant Conventions and voluntary reporting to SAICM/GFC

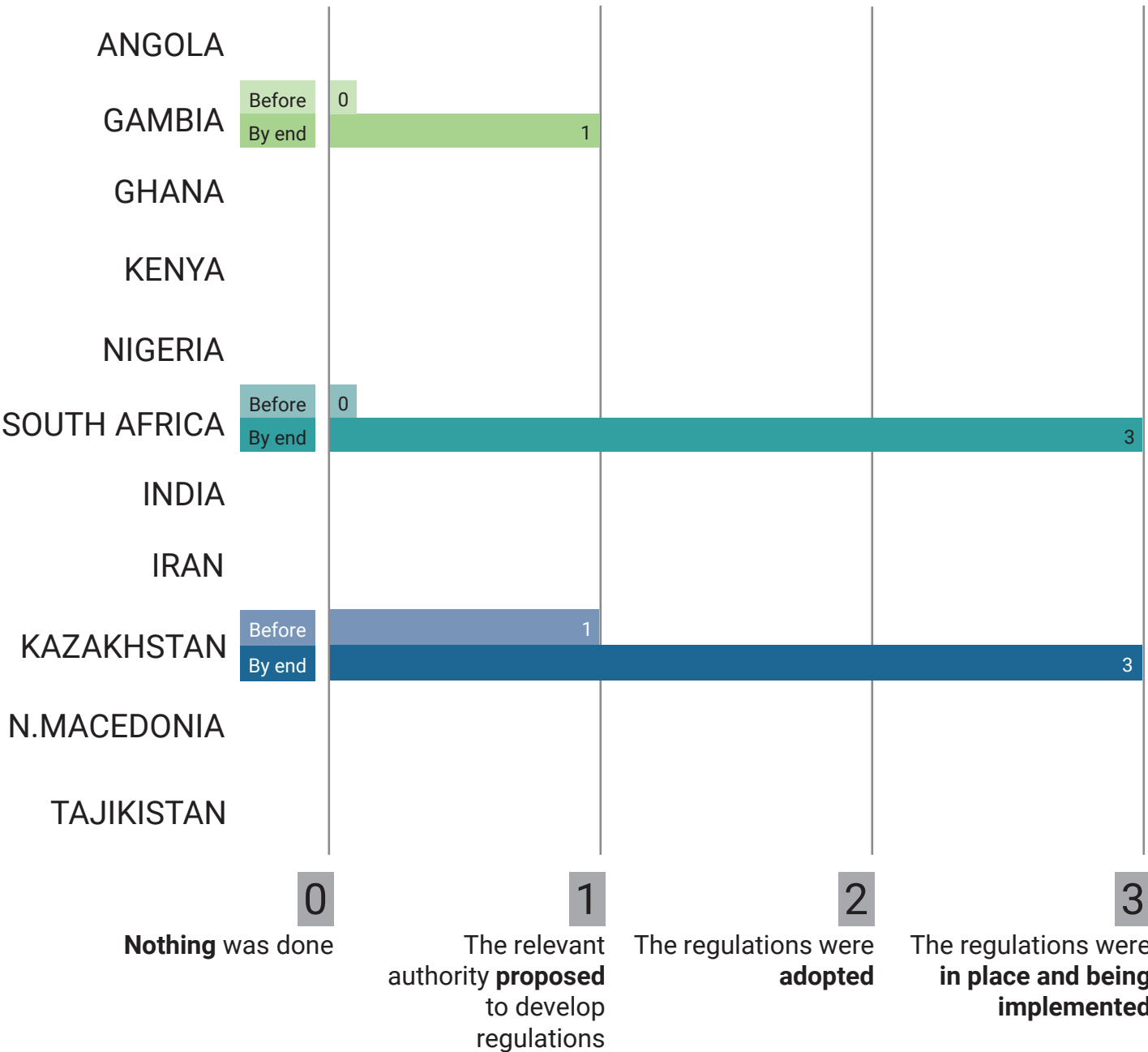
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RESULTS

Three countries - Gambia, Kazakhstan, and South Africa - worked on developing regulatory frameworks to strengthen chemicals and waste management, achieving varying progress. In Gambia, the project introduced a draft National Asbestos Management Regulation under the Hazardous Chemicals Act, alongside enforcement guidelines, pending formal enactment since 2023. Kazakhstan developed regulations for managing persistent organic pollutants (POPs), including approved Rules for Handling POPs and Wastes (2022), though other regulations, such as hazardous waste record-keeping, remain unapproved. South Africa revised and implemented regulations to phase out lead in paint, limiting concentrations to 90 ppm and designating lead as hazardous. The project enhanced enforcement by training officials to use handheld XRF analyzers for lead detection, improving compliance monitoring.

3 / 11 projects developed regulatory frameworks or secondary legislation to strengthen chemicals and waste management

Level of development of regulatory framework/secondary legislation



Criterion 2.4



Core Indicator 2: Degree of integration of chemical and waste management into national and sector planning - formally proposed, adopted, or being implemented including required reporting to the relevant Conventions and voluntary reporting to SAICM/GFC.

Second Independent Assessment of the Closed Projects under the Special Programme Report (December 2024)

RESULTS

Three countries - Ghana, Kenya, and Nigeria - made progress in submitting reports to MEAs. Ghana submitted all outstanding reports for the Basel, Stockholm, and Minamata Conventions, aided by a harmonized reporting system that improved data collection, transparency, and inter-agency collaboration. Kenya submitted reports for the Basel (2020), Stockholm (2018, 2022), Minamata (2020), and Rotterdam Conventions (2019, 2020). Nigeria submitted its first comprehensive national report to the Minamata Convention (2021) and met Basel reporting requirements for 2020. These achievements reflect strengthened capacity, stakeholder engagement, and alignment of national practices with international standards.

3 / 11 projects worked on the submission of reports to MEAs

Submission of reports to MEAs to which the country is a party

