

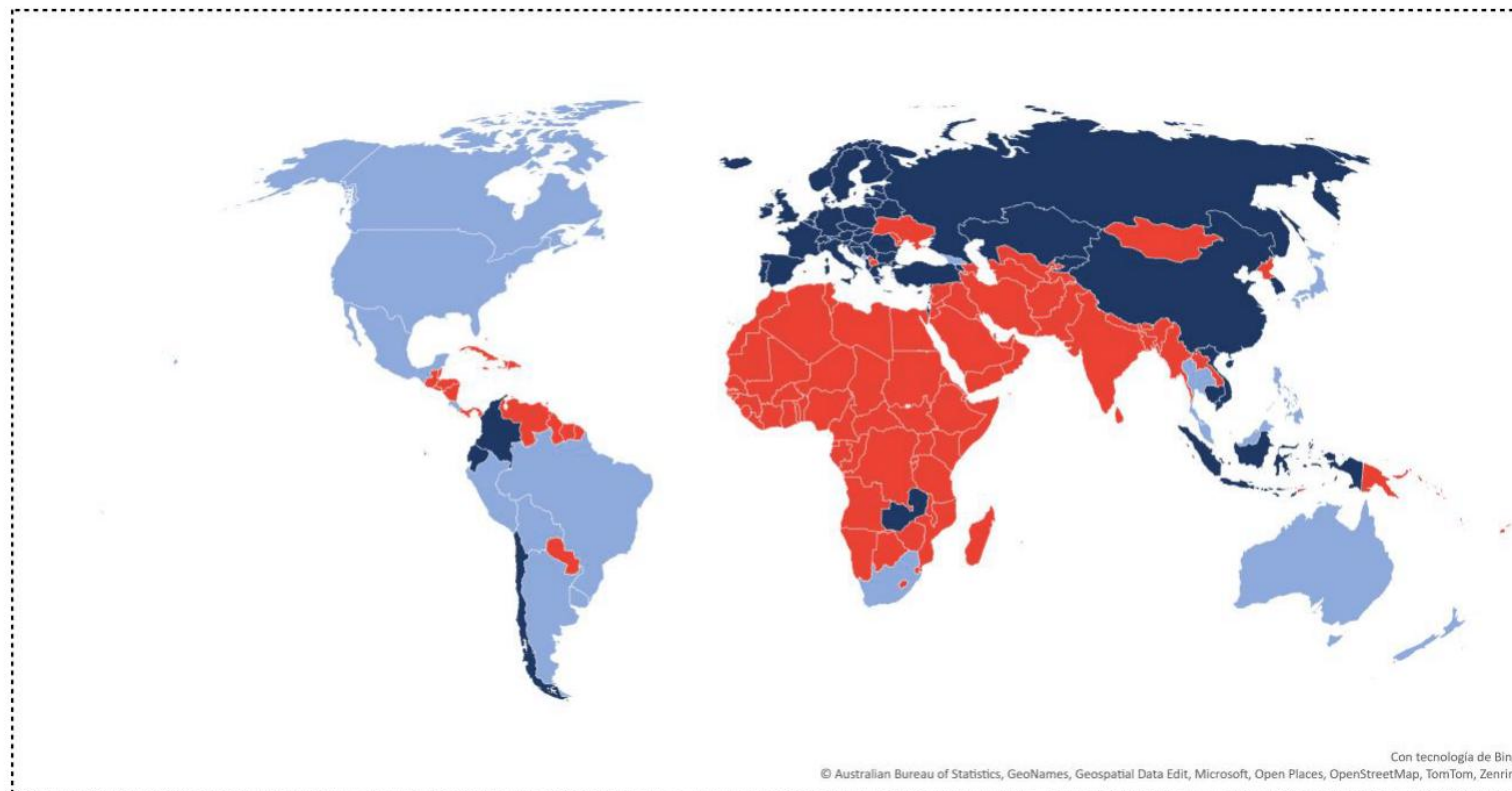


# UNITAR and the GHS

27 March 2025

# The GHS globally

The GHS is still **not operational in more than 120 countries**, mostly developing countries and countries with economies in transition.



## GHS IMPLEMENTATION KEY

0 - no legal  
implementation

1 - legal implementation in 1  
or 2 sectors

2 - legal implementation in  
all sectors

The boundaries shown on this map do not imply endorsement or acceptance by UNITAR

# The Global Framework on Chemicals

## GHS and the GFC

Bonn, Germany, 25 - 29 September 2023

*Global Framework on Chemicals* – For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste,

*Bonn Declaration* – for a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste,

An agreed target:

*B6 – By 2030, all Governments have implemented the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) in all relevant sectors as appropriate for their national circumstances.*

# Global Partnership - GHS

- Co-lead of the Global Partnership to Implement the GHS, with the ILO and OECD, and a range of coalition partners: Governments, regional organisations, private sector, trade unions, academics and NGOs;
- Activities for training and awareness raising, developing implementation strategies, and supporting the drafting and review of legislation



# Global Partnership - GHS

## ***Vision***

All countries have adopted the GHS in all relevant sectors.

## ***Mission***

To provide technical support, guidance and mobilise resources to stakeholders as they develop plans and legislation to adopt the GHS and implement the system in an effective manner.

Committed to the achievement of the **GFC Target**





# UNITAR and the GHS

## National Activities:

- Last 10-15 years, supported multiple countries in developing national implementation strategies
- Direct support for drafting of legislation
- Capacity building

## Regional Activities:

- Work in multiple regions, such as ASEAN, to develop regional approaches and coordination
- Work with UNEP and the Gulf Cooperation Council to update the 2002 guidelines for the management of chemicals; GHS and chemical accidents

# UNITAR and the GHS

## Current work:

- Work with UNEP (in an EU and ICCA financed project) in the African region: Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire on the GHS, on e.g. legislation-focused workshops
- In the Caribbean region to develop a training programme and assessment of GHS readiness in 12 countries
- Armenia and El Salvador, Benin and Georgia, IOMC toolbox support for Cambodia
- Following up with other countries who have indicated their interest through government stakeholders
- New webinar ideas and requests for information sharing

# UNITAR and the GHS

**E-Learning course:** UNITAR has successfully run an online GHS course over the past 10+ years; technical understanding of the GHS

- English, French and Spanish available, run twice a year, each March/April and September/October (<https://www.unitar.org/event/event-pillars/planet>)





# UNITAR and the GHS

A great deal of resources available for stakeholders to be benefiting from:

- Lessons-learned
- Implementation experience and know-how
- Guidance and advice
- Access to data and information (including knowing where to find it)
- Webinars (including recordings and presentations)

Making use of information that already exists can be significantly helpful in designing development activities

# UNITAR and the GHS

Guidance in the IOMC toolbox:

<https://iomctoolbox.org/>



Inter-Organization Programme for the  
Sound Management of Chemicals

A cooperative agreement among FAO, ILO,  
UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO, UNITAR, WHO, WORLD  
BANK, OECD, and BRS Conventions





# UNITAR and the GHS

A great deal of resources available for stakeholders to be benefiting from:

New resources available-

- Key elements of an implementation roadmap (UNITAR)
- Lessons-learned (UNITAR)
- Legislation guidance (UNITAR)
- The GHS and trade (UNITAR)
- The GHS in the world of work (ILO)
- Introduction to the GHS (4 presentations and 4 leaflets)
- Introduction to the GHS (2 videos)
- Videos on GHS and agriculture, and GHS and transport

<https://unitar.org/sustainable-development-goals/planet/our-portfolio/globally-harmonized-system-classification-and-labelling-chemicals>

# UNITAR and the GHS

## TRAINING MATERIALS

These training materials have been produced with financial assistance from Sweden, through the Swedish Chemicals Agency.

These leaflets are part of a series of leaflets and presentations on the GHS with the following topics: 1) What is the GHS and available data on substance classification.

Please also have a look at the four presentations on the GHS for further details and explanations. We also recommend you have a look at the two short introductory films on the GHS.

[GHS\\_LEAFLET 1\\_ WHAT IS THE GHS.PDF](#)

[GHS\\_LEAFLET 2\\_HAZARD CLASSIFICATION.PDF](#)

[GHS\\_LEAFLET 3\\_HAZARD COMMUNICATION.PDF](#)

[GHS\\_LEAFLET 4\\_IMPLEMENTING THE GHS AND AVAILABLE DATA ON SUBSTANCE CLASSIFICATION.PDF](#)

These training materials have been produced with financial assistance from Sweden, through the Swedish Chemicals Agency.

These presentations are part of a series of leaflets and presentations on the GHS with the following topics: 1) What is the GHS and available data on substance classification. 2) Hazard classification. 3) Hazard communication. 4) Implementing GHS and available data on substance classification.

Please also have a look at the four leaflets on the GHS. We also recommend you have a look at the two short introductory films on the GHS.

[POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS.ZIP](#)

## FILM 1 PART I

This short video (part I and part II) introduces the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling (GHS) and provides information about the origins and development of the GHS, purpose and benefits, elements of the GHS, the building block approach, and considerations and guidance when implementing the GHS.



## FILM 1 PART II





**For more information, please  
contact UNITAR**

*Globally Harmonized System of Classification and  
Labelling of Chemicals | UNITAR*

<https://www.unitar.org/sustainable-development-goals/planet/>

**or visit the GHS website**

<https://unece.org/about-ghs>

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