

Overview of GHS activities from organizations outside the UNITAR/ILO/OECD Partnership

As of 29.12.2020

The purpose of this document is to review GHS activities and initiatives, including but not limited to training, activities that support/enhance implementation (e.g. workshops), guidance, and capacity building undertaken by organizations and entities outside of the work done by UNITAR, ILO, and OECD. The list is not exhaustive (as there are/have been likely hundreds if not thousands of one-off workshops, e-learning courses, and consultancies providing GHS-related training, as well as those conducted/only available in other languages) but should provide an overview of key activities undertaken by principal organizations in recent years. Information has been structured in three sections: (A) government agencies/regulatory bodies, (B) private sector/industry, and (C) international organizations, academia, labour, NGOs, other. Activities related to regulation/legislation development and “implementation status” are not included (as these are covered elsewhere). Sources of information include: information directly supplied, SCEGHS documents, and organization and project websites; links to further information (e.g. websites) are provided when possible.

Observations from the findings:

- Majority of activities conducted by government agencies, international/regional based entities, research institutes and the private sector.
- All UN regions covered, but with variation (greater emphasis in Europe/North America and Asia, much less in Africa and a recent increase in activities in Latin America).
- GHS activities can be “stand-alone” (such as dedicated GHS projects or training) or included/embedded within broader activities on chemicals management (such as projects on bilateral or regional chemicals management or linked to international agreements and conventions).
- Significant focus on training or technical guidance on what the GHS is and/or how to use the GHS (e.g. apply its criteria and develop related labels and SDS) or on a national system that has incorporated the GHS, as well as awareness.
- Little or no training or guidance on how to [first] bring GHS in to national legislative/regulatory structures.
- Most activities focus on government and industry stakeholders.
- Lack of information on activities in the labour/union sector, NGOs/CSOs, and consumer groups.
- Increasing focus on the need for harmonized use of the GHS, including regulatory harmonization

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(A) Government agencies/regulatory bodies							
1.	ECHA			European Commission 2nd Conference on REACH, CLP and Biocides Enforcement	November 2018	The event welcomed 200 participants together with up to 200 people attending via web streaming. Among the registrants, there were representatives from Commission services, the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), National enforcement authorities, EU country competent authorities, third countries, and industry representatives including SMEs, trade unions and NGOs.	https://ec.europa.eu/growth/content/2nd-conference-reach-clp-and-biocides-enforcement_en
			Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of	Workshop on ECHA work related to CLP	February 2014	GHS/CLP activities also often included as part of more general activities (not necessarily stand-alone). ¹	https://echa.europa.eu/about-us/partners-and-networks/international-cooperation/support-to-eu-external-relations-

¹ The activities listed are selected examples. See also: <https://echa.europa.eu/capacity-building-in-third-countries>

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			Macedonia, Kosovo, Serbia and Turkey Croatia Croatia	Workshop on CLP Regulation for mixtures Croatian study visit to ECHA's Helpdesk and to the Finnish REACH and CLP Helpdesk	August 2014 December 2012		policies/activities-under-ipa/2012-2014 https://echa.europa.eu/about-us/partners-and-networks/international-cooperation/support-to-eu-external-relations-policies/activities-under-ipa/2012-2014
2.	Health Canada	Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety	Canada	E-learning courses (one introductory and one for workers) on Canada's national GHS system (WHMIS 2015)	on-going		https://www.ccohs.ca/products/courses/whmis_ghs_intro/ https://www.ccohs.ca/products/courses/whmis_workers/
3.	Health Canada and US OSHA		Canada and USA	Joint Health Canada and United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration Guidance	2019	This guidance is intended to communicate information related to both Canada and U.S. labelling requirements for hazardous products under the Canadian	https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/environmental-workplace-health/reports-publications/occupational-

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						<i>Hazardous Products Regulations (HPR)</i> and the U.S. Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) 2012. This guide is for Industries who sell or import hazardous chemicals.	health-safety/joint-guidance.html
4.	Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (METI) - Japan	JETRO (Japan External Trade Organization)	Japan Japan Japan Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia,	GHS Classification Guidance for Government (GHS related ministries and agencies) GHS Classification Guidance for Enterprises Japanese Industrial Standards (JIS) for GHS AOTS GHS Expert-Dispatch Program: 2-3 days, 1-2 times in each country (AOTS: The Association for Overseas Technical Cooperation and Sustainable	2013, 2015, 2020 2013, 2010, 2009 2016-2020	For Government and Industries. AOTS dispatches highly qualified Japanese experts to developing countries, with the support of Japanese private businesses and	https://www.aots.jp/en/w/hat-we-do/hrd/tt-edp/

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			Lao PDR, and Myanmar	Partnership).		organizations, to assist those countries in human resource development. Such technical guidance mainly aims at contributing to the industrial development of those countries, with Japanese-affiliated companies and supporting the global expansion of Japanese small or medium-sized enterprises.	
5.	Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) - Malaysia	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)	Malaysia	Development of support tool for industry to do GHS-based classifications: CATCH (Classification Tool for Chemical Mixture).	2016-present		https://catch.ukm.my/
6.	Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) - Malaysia		Malaysia	Development/listing of recognized training centers on national GHS regulations	2013-present		https://www.dosh.gov.my/index.php/certification/list-of-competent-training-centre/2332-class-

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							regulations-2013-training-centre/file
7.	Swedish Chemicals Agency (KemI) (donor: Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA))	Swedish EPA Africa Institute Zambia Environmental	Global Albania, Serbia, Zambia Brazil, Indonesia, South Africa, Republic of Korea, Vietnam and Argentina. East Africa	International Training Programme Bilateral cooperation Bilateral cooperation Workshop on GHS implementation involving participants from Botswana, Kenya,	Since 2007 Since 2008 On-going October 2016	GHS activities also often included as part of more general activities (not necessarily stand-alone) Chemicals control, legislation (incl. GHS) Workshops in specific topic areas (e.g GHS implementation and enforcement)	https://www.kemi.se/en/international-cooperation/guidance-and-training-for-other-countries/international-capacity-development-program/international-training-programme-ntp https://www.kemi.se/en/international-cooperation/global-regional-and-bilateral-cooperation/regional-and-bilateral-cooperation

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	(donor: EU (EU-Twinning project))	Management Agency (ZEMA)	Tunisia	<p>Lesotho, Mauritius, Malawi, Nigeria, Swaziland, South Africa, Tanzania and Zambia, as well SADC.</p> <p>Provision of advice to Tunisia on implementing GHS in national legislation and assistance in drafting legislation on classification, labelling, packaging and safety data sheets in accordance with GHS and based on the corresponding EU legislation.</p>	2014		
8.	US OSHA and Health Canada			* see listing under "Health Canada and US OSHA" in entry #3 above			
(B) Private sector/industry							

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9.	<p>APEC Chemical Dialogue (CD)</p> <p>https://www.apec.org/Groups/Committee-on-Trade-and-Investment/Chemical-Dialogue</p>			<p>Establishment of APEC CD Virtual Working Group on GHS</p> <p>APEC CD GHS Implementation Convergence reports</p> <p>Yearly country progress reports on GHS implementation</p> <p>The Globally Harmonized System (GHS) of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals for the Workplace: A Capacity Building Workshop</p>	<p>From 2019</p> <p>Since 2012</p> <p>August 2016</p>	<p>Developed to coordinate the CD's GHS-related efforts (and developed a standardized reporting template).</p> <p>A new reporting mechanism on GHS implementation, focused on identifying strategies to improve GHS convergence</p> <p>GHS implementation Reports detailing the progress of GHS implementation in their respective Economies on an annual or biennial basis.</p> <p>A two-day capacity building workshop facilitated by experts, with roundtable discussions to identify implementation problems impacting domestic and international trade in each economy and its possible solutions (Lima, Peru on</p>	<p>https://great.osha.gov.tw/ENG/news-in.aspx?id=16</p> <p>https://great.osha.gov.tw/ENG/news.aspx</p>

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		Consumer Products Working Group		<p>Development of GHS Reference Exchange and Tool (G.R.E.A.T.) - a Standard Element Clearinghouse</p> <p>GHS implementation impact on Consumer Products Sector - case studies</p>	<p>Since 2017</p> <p>2012</p>	<p>August 18-19, 2016) in the margins of the third APEC Senior Officials Meetings.</p> <p>The goal of this GHS clearinghouse website is to collect and provide GHS information by collaboration with focal point(s) of member economies. The “G.R.E.A.T.” website covers the GHS labelling elements in local languages including (1) hazard class and category, (2) pictogram (Symbol), (3) signal word, (4) hazard statement, and (5) precautionary Statement.</p> <p>Case studies of different approaches taken by APEC Economies in implementing or considering implementing GHS for the consumer products sector. The aim of the</p>	<p>https://great.osha.gov.tw/ENG/index.aspx</p> <p>https://great.osha.gov.tw/ENG/news-in.aspx?id=7</p>

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		Committee on Trade and Investment (CTI)		GHS Implementation for Consumer Products Seminar on Globally Harmonised System (GHS) Implementation and Technical Assistance	2008 2006	<p>exercise is to aid APEC Economies in their consideration of GHS implementation for this sector, and to learn from each other's experiences.</p> <p>Development of guidance relevant to implementation of the GHS for the consumer products sector that can be referred as model guidance in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation.</p> <p>A three-day seminar on GHS implementation and technical assistance in Bangkok with participation from APEC economies with a view to sharing and documenting the best practices in situation analysis for GHS implementation.</p>	

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10.	Brazilian Chemical Industry Association (Abiquim)	In partnership with others chemical entities.	Brazil	<p>Training about GHS classification criteria, labelling and SDS.</p> <p>Publication of a Brazilian Technical Standard based on Purple Book to help companies in GHS implementation (ABNT NBR 14725).</p>	<p>Since 2014</p> <p>2010-2019</p>	Involved over 300 employees related to the chemical industry (product stewardship, regulatory affairs, safety and health, R&D, logistics).	https://contatoseguro.com.br/pt/abiquim/
11.	Chemical and Petrochemical Industry Chamber of Argentina	<p>National Institute of Industrial Technology (INTI)</p> <p>Ministry of Industry</p>	Argentina	<p>Training course: “Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of chemical products (GHS), substances and mixtures”</p> <p>Virtual training: “Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of chemical products (SGA / GHS)”.</p>	<p>2014, 2015</p> <p>Since 2017</p>	<p>Training for professionals and technicians of the Chamber of the Chemical and Petrochemical Industry</p> <p>Virtual course taught on the INTI educational platform for chemical chambers in Latin American countries</p>	www.ciqyp.org.ar

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12.	CropLife		Global	Facilitation of a range of workshops, trainings, and webex sessions.	On-going		https://croplife.org/crop-protection/regulatory/product-management/globally-harmonized-system-of-hazard-classification-and-labeling/
13.	Gulf Petrochemicals and Chemicals Association (GPCA)	Member companies of the Association	Gulf countries	Roundtable discussions regarding "Implementation of Global Harmonized System (GHS) for Classification and Labelling of Chemicals in the GCC" (Gulf Cooperation Council)	Saudi Arabia, Dec.2017 Kuwait, Nov. 2018 Oman, Oct. 2018 Bahrain, Aug. 2019 UEA, Feb. 2020 Qatar, <i>tbd</i>	Discussions involving regulators, ministries, local and international trade organizations, local industries. <i>n.b.</i> GHS not yet formally implemented by legislation in the region, but many companies voluntarily following GHS-based systems (e.g. CLP)	https://www.gpca.org.ae/
14.	ICCA	ACC, Cefic, JCIA, SCIC	ASEAN	ARCP (ASEAN Regulatory Cooperation Project) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> yearly workshops (involving industry and regulators) 	2015-2020	Also included engagement with ASEAN Consultative Committee for Standards and Quality (ACCSG)	https://scic.sg/asean/

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			Brazil, Argentina, Peru, Paraguay, Mexico, Chile, Colombia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual Working Group (VWG) on GHS alignment • ASEAN guidance document on GHS implementation alignment • comparison of GHS implementation in ASEAN countries • sharing of good practices and challenges faced • training to support GHS implementation <p>Latin American Global Regulatory Cooperation workshop (government and industry)</p>	2019		
15.	International Council of Mining and Metals (ICMM)			Hazard assessment of ores and	2014	The aim of this document is to provide an overview of:	http://www.icmm.com/en-gb/publications/materials-

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				concentrates for marine transport		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the GHS system and the various IMO regulations that link it to marine transport of ores and ore concentrates the specific hazards considered in each of the marine regulations the science-based hazard assessment strategy developed by the international mining and metals industry for applying the GHS to ores and ore concentrates. 	stewardship/hazard-assessment-of-ores-and-concentrates-for-marine-transport
16.	International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA)			Guidance on “The application of Globally Harmonized System (GHS) criteria to petroleum substances”	updated 2019	This guidance was developed by IPIECA to facilitate appropriate human health hazard classification and labelling of petroleum substances within the ‘unknown or variable composition, complex reaction products and biological (UVCB) material’ group.	https://www.ipieca.org/resources/good-practice/the-application-of-globally-harmonized-system-ghs-criteria-to-petroleum-substances/

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17.	Japan Chemical Industry Association (JCIA)		Japan	Detailed guidelines for preparing an SDS and label aligned to GHS	2012		
18.	Japan Soap and Detergent Association (JSDA)		Japan	Developed industry standard and introduced GHS pictogram for consumer products.	2011		
19.	Singapore Chemical Industry Council (SCIC)		Singapore	<p>Basic GHS awareness is embedded in the Management of Hazardous Substances module under the WSQ Specialist Diploma in Occupational Hygiene.</p> <p>Chemical user's and GHS classification trainings are conducted by SCIC.</p> <p>Provide GHS user training to members and also non-members. The course contains the basic elements (GHS hazard class and hazard communication) and also</p>	Since 2006		http://scic.sg/index.php/en/

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				<p>legal (mandatory requirement and timeline) of implementation.</p> <p>Other activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • half-day awareness sharing • 1-day GHS chemical users course • 2-3-days GHS Classification/Practitioners workshop • briefing session for regulators • GHS Conference 			
(C) International organizations, academia, labour, NGOs, other							
20.	Center of Chemical Information for Emergencies / Centro de Información Química para		Argentina / South America	Training courses to provide professionals and technicians with knowledge and skills necessary to classify a chemical, establish its identification label, and	On-going		http://www.ciquime.org/implementationsga.html

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	Emergencias (CIQUIME)			<p>develop the safety data sheet following the guidelines established in the GHS.</p> <p>Assistance to companies to implement the GHS.</p>			
21.	CIS Centre (CISC)		Russia / CIS countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan)	<p>CISC holds regular <i>training</i> on the practical aspects of Russian SDS compilation including hazard classification and labeling topic. This course takes 4 days and provides for industry representatives.</p> <p>CIS Center experts directly involved in the <i>GHS implementation</i> in Russian and CIS countries by the development of intergovernmental and national standards.</p> <p>CISC <i>raises awareness</i> of GHS elements (SDS,</p>	Since 2009		<p>https://www.ciscenter.org</p> <p>(Russian only)</p>

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				labeling) via publications in specialized journals and on our website. CISC serves as an expert platform to discuss and reach a common position within stakeholders (industry, government NGO) on issues of the SCEGHS and development of a national chemical management system. CISC holds an annual conference where the GHS is one of the permanent agenda topics.			
22.	European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) / European Trade Union Institute (ETUI)		EU	Some information campaigns and seminars related to "workers and chemicals" and CLP (with updates on CLP provided by ECHA). RISCTOX chemicals database (using CLP/GHS classifications) of hazardous substances	Since 2010 Since 2014	Workers can access data cards through the ETUI website on 100,000-odd chemicals. Each card specifies the chemicals	https://risctox.istas.net/en/index.asp

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				developed to provide clear, organized and concise information about health and environmental risks caused by chemicals contained in products generally used or handled by companies.		classification and labelling under the regulations, its main work uses (solvent, cleaner, paint stripper, etc.), how it affects health, and the occupational diseases it causes.	
23.	National Institute of Technology and Evaluation (NITE), Japan		Japan, SE Asia	<p>The website of NITE includes a range of GHS related information (and links to relevant organizations/agencies), such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GHS classification results • Guidance on Consumer Product Risk Assessment for GHS Labelling • GHS classification results, labelling and SDS from ASEAN countries and Japan are provided via the Asian Japan Chemical 	<p>since 2006</p> <p>2008</p> <p>2016</p>		https://www.nite.go.jp/ch/em/english/ghs/ghs_index.html

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				Safety Database (AJCSD) operated by NITE.			
24.	Responsible Packaging Management Association of Southern Africa (RPMASA)	UNITAR/ILO	South Africa, SADC countries	GHS training courses (introductory and advanced). Development of a series of GHS posters and other tools to aid awareness raising and training people on what the GHS encompasses, what it means to different sectors, and how it relates to the transport regulations.	Since 2011		https://rpmasa.org.za/training/
25.	Society for Chemical Hazard Communication (SCHC)		USA	GHS training courses	On-going	Course is designed to be a comprehensive summary of the hazard classification and communication requirements in the Globally Harmonized System (GHS).	https://www.schc.org/globally-harmonized-system-ghs-classification-labeling-of-chemicals

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26.	UNIDO (donor: Govt. of Switzerland (SECO))	Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism of Colombia (project partner) Colombia Productive (project partner)	Colombia	Global Quality and Standards Program (GQSP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • technical assistance for enterprises • training, technical support to the Government in regulation • developed a Guide for the preparation of Safety Data Sheets (SDS) based on GHS requirements. 	2019-2022		https://gqspcolombia.org/ https://gqspcolombia.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Onudi-Colombia_Digital_02.pdf