



Food and Agriculture Organization
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Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs): What are they & what does FAO do?

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Der Strategische Ansatz (SAICM) und das internationale Chemikalien- und Abfallmanagement
nach 2020: Hochgefährliche Pestizide (HHP)



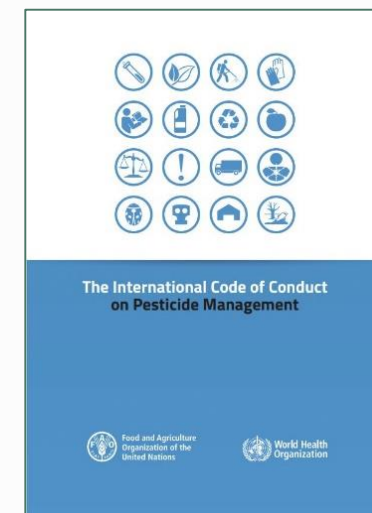
Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs)

2006: FAO Council endorsed FAO participation in the *Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)* and “suggested that the activities of FAO could include pesticide risk reduction, including the progressive banning of HHPs”

Definition

FAO/WHO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management:

“HHPs are pesticides that are acknowledged to present particularly high levels of acute or chronic hazards to health or environment (...), or cause severe or irreversible harm to health or the environment under conditions of use in a country”





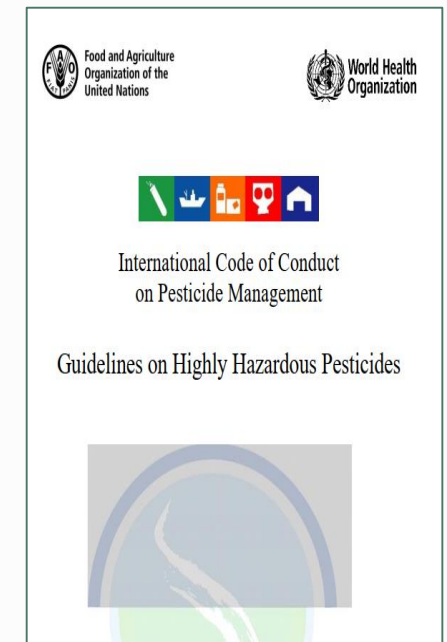
Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs)

A limited number of pesticides appear to be responsible for a disproportionate share of adverse health impacts, resulting in a focus on addressing Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs) in pesticide risk reduction measures.

So which are they?

→ Examination against 8 criteria

FAO/WHO 2016 guidelines outline a national process led by individual countries: identification – assessment – mitigation – planning - prevention

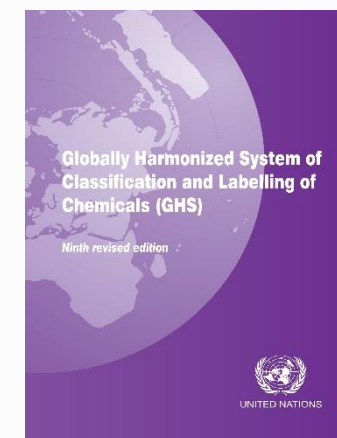
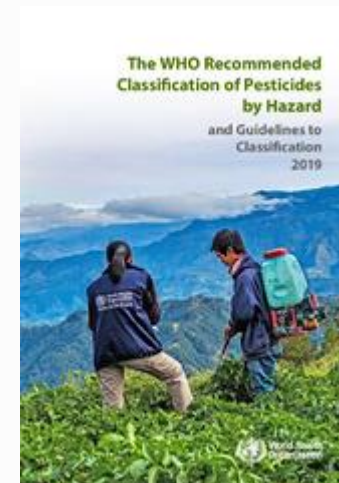




8 criteria (HHPs)

FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Management (2008) recommended 8 criteria

- Criterion 1: Pesticide formulations that meet the criteria of classes Ia or Ib of the WHO Recommended Classification of Pesticides by Hazard; or
- Criterion 2: Pesticide active ingredients and their formulations that meet the criteria of carcinogenicity Categories 1A and 1B of the Globally Harmonized System on Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS); or
- Criterion 3: Pesticide active ingredients and their formulations that meet the criteria of mutagenicity Categories 1A and 1B of the Globally Harmonized System on Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS); or
- Criterion 4: Pesticide active ingredients and their formulations that meet the criteria of reproductive toxicity Categories 1A and 1B of the Globally Harmonized System on Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS); or





8 criteria (HHPs) (cont.)

FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Management (2008) recommended 8 criteria

- Criterion 5: Pesticide active ingredients listed by the Stockholm Convention in its Annexes A and B, and those meeting all the criteria in paragraph 1 of Annex D of the Convention; or
- Criterion 6: Pesticide active ingredients and formulations listed by the Rotterdam Convention in its Annex III; or
- Criterion 7: Pesticides listed under the Montreal Protocol; or

Criterion 8: Pesticide active ingredients and formulations that have shown a high incidence of severe or irreversible adverse effects on human health or the environment.

→→ depends on the actual situation in individual countries

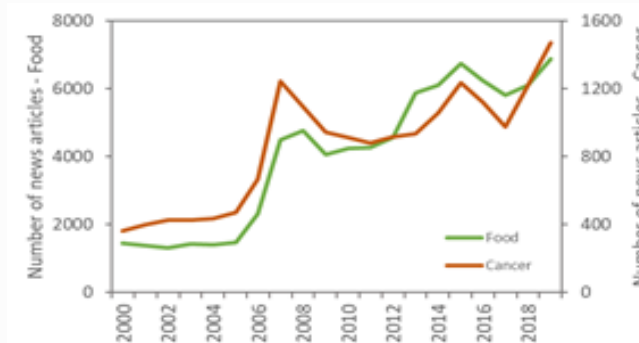
Health impacts of HHPs

Occupational and public health risks

- poisonings caused by HHPs
- suicides with HHPs
- acute and chronic diseases
- residues in food and impacts on consumer health

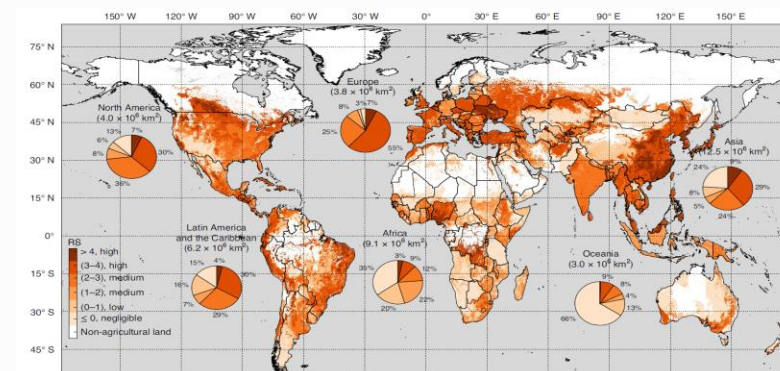
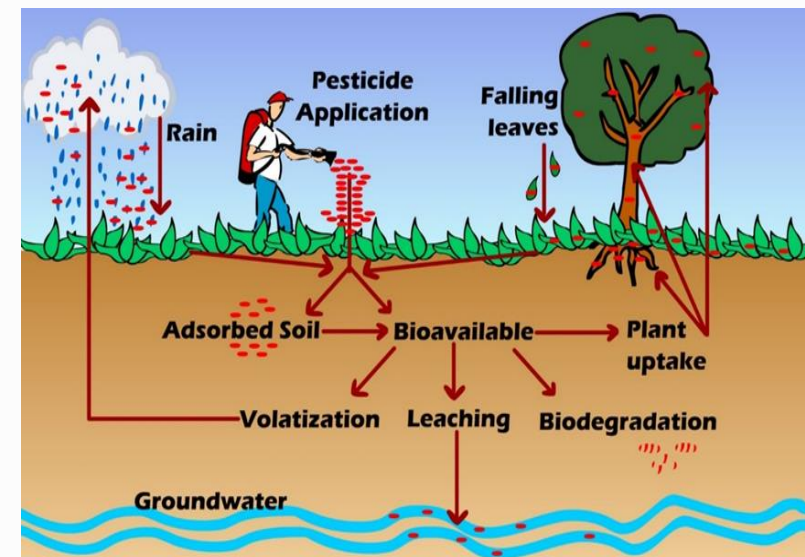


Increasing public health
concerns of pesticides



Environmental impacts of HHPs

- contaminating soil, water, sediments
- endangering wildlife, pollinators and natural enemies
- degrading biodiversity and jeopardizing ecosystem services





Impact on sustainable agriculture

- Impacts on sustainable pest management and food safety
- Impacts on functioning agroecosystems
- Impacts on food safety and nutrition
- Barriers for international trade of agricultural produce due to HHP residues

→ **negative impact on transformation to a new agrifood system and implementation of SDGs**



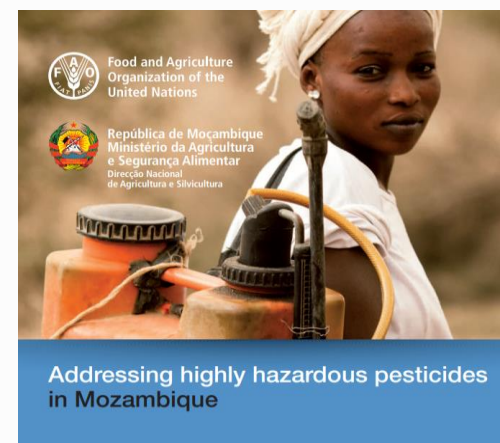
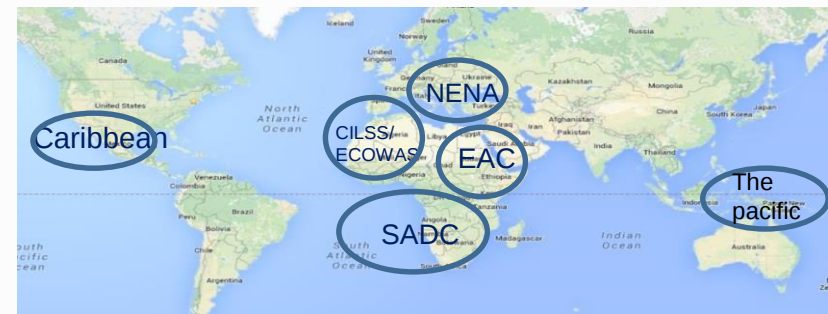


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FAO's work on HHPs at regional & national level

Holistic approach to support countries in e.g. **Africa, Caribbean, Near East and Pacific** to:

- Raise awareness
- Develop regional strategies on HHPs in SADC and EAC
- Develop national plans on HHPs in SADC, EAC and Caribbean
- Building capacity on risk assessment and registration (Toolkit)
- Identify alternatives to HHPs supported by Rotterdam Convention
- Promote Integrated pest management (IPM) and agroecology through Farmer Field Schools





2015 International Conference of Chemicals Management (ICCM4) of SAICM

- Welcomed the proposed strategy on HHPs by FAO, WHO and UNEP
- Called for concerted actions to address HHPs and developing modalities for international coordination

Based on ICCM4 resolution, FAO/WHO/UNEP drafted a proposed Action Plan on HHPs for presentation at **SAICM/ICCM5** (autumn **2023**).

- Developed in consultation with countries through regional offices and major stakeholders
- To be further improved based on new comments and suggestions received.
- Intended as voluntary initiative, providing a technical framework for FAO/WHO/UNEP to respond to countries' requests, particularly from LMICs, and support them in their work on HHPs.

Future approach and modality of addressing HHPs will be decided based on any resolution or recommendations of the ICCM5



Key stakeholders involved in HHP work

- Intergovernmental Organizations (FAO, WHO, UNEP etc.)
- National and regional regulatory authorities of governments
- Civil society
- Private sectors
- Academics and scientists
- Farmers' & workers' organizations and unions
- Agricultural extension services and public health advisory services
- Health services and poison control centres



FAO will continue providing technical support to countries through a holistic approach focusing on

- Capacity building
- Optimization of viable technology and good practices
- Minimization of HHPs risks
- Respecting national processes and country sovereignty



MORE FOOD LESS RISK

Thank you