



Pakistan workshop – GHS

8 & 9 December 2025



GHS – roadmap

**How does
Pakistan want to
implement the
GHS?**

Sectors affected

“Traditional” sectors are: the workplace, agrochemicals, consumer products and transport.

- Governments may consider implementation sector by sector;
 - some sectors often have existing legislation, enforcement and approval systems running and may be ready to adopt a new system quickly, e.g workplace or pesticides.
 - starting with some sectors can act as an example and facilitate smoother implementation for other sectors.
 - at the same time, this might delay the overall implementation since each additional sector will require changes of legislation.
- *Should Pakistan pursue all sectors, or prioritise?*

Role of the Competent Authority (CA) and flexibilities in the GHS

Many important stakeholders working together to achieve sound chemicals management.

The **most important is the body** that is given the responsibility to **implement, maintain and enforce the regulations.**

Due to the broad impact that chemicals have on practically all areas of society, **important to establish who is the CA.** Citizens, workers, companies and organisations need to know who to turn to with their questions or concerns.

The GHS comes with certain “flexibilities” at the discretion of the CA – *how should Pakistan take these into account?*

National GHS coordinating committee

Form a national GHS coordinating committee (or create a GHS subcommittee within a larger relevant national management committee, if one exists), along with any necessary subcommittees (e.g. sectoral working groups for industrial workplaces, agriculture, transport and consumer products; stakeholder subcommittees; or cross-sectoral working groups).

Is this the National Directorate? Or what other committee can be used?

Legislation approach 1) Industrial code of conduct or 2) standard

“Legislation is the **backbone** of GHS implementation.”

- Standards or legislation?
- New or amend existing?
- Overarching law and/or lower-level regulations?

Enforcement

Enforcement helps to **ensure efficient implementation** and understand **what parts of the legislation are working**

Fundamental in securing **effective & fair implementation** of the rules.

Also gives legislator **feedback** to ensure that measures are working and **develop trust** among those using the GHS system (e.g. the private sector) that a sustainable, reliable system is in place.

Establish an organisation for **inspection** and **secure funding**

May choose to have a **separate function** that focuses on inspection

- **Independence** – avoids pressure to act/not act, and clear where to turn for complaints/issues

Transition periods

To establish a new and complex system is challenging for all

New responsibilities and work are established for both the private sector and the government

Sometimes it also means **phasing out/ transferring from an old system**, and establishing how long the old one is valid for

To handle the introduction of GHS everyone will need **time to adjust, change industrial processes and train** both staff and the public

While **transition times will inevitably delay the final and whole implementation of GHS**, it can serve to provide all stakeholders with an agreed timeframe within which to transition to the GHS and for all users to learn to process the information

GHS version, updates and acceptance of other versions

The GHS itself is regularly updated, by custom, every two years

While often revisions include small updates, some are more substantial

It is important to consider:

- what edition Pakistan will implement (region, neighbours, trading partners, global trends...)
- how to accept labels and SDSs that conform to other (older or newer) revisions, e.g. from imports
- how will Pakistan update its GHS version (or not)

