# Views on Chemicals Management and Sustainable Development in the Future

Chemicals Issues of Importance for Sustainable Development UNEP Learning Center, CSD19

Joe DiGangi, IPEN May 2011

## Moving toward the future

Fully implementing what we already have

Back to the future in agriculture

Thoughts about a sustainable industry



## Implementing Rio Principles

Rio Principle 10
Civil society participation in decision-making
Access to information

Rio Principle 13
Liability and compensation

Rio Principle 15
Precautionary principle

Rio Principle 16 Polluter Pays



## **Implementing Polluter Pays**

**Donor governments cannot satisfy funding needs** 



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Industry role in financing chemical safety

Global turnover of the industry = USD \$3 trillion Nominal levy 0.1% = USD \$3 billion



### Implementing the Stockholm Convention

Article 6: Stockpiles and wastes Recycling exemption

Article 10: Public information, awareness and education NGO-executed projects

**Article 13: Financial resources Needs assessment** 



## Implementing Basel and Rotterdam

**Basel Ban Amendment** 

**Rotterdam and chrysotile asbestos** 





## Back to the future in agriculture



### Back to the future in agriculture

World Bank Study; Andhra Pradesh, India

- >Ecological agriculture practices; no pesticides
- >10 crops including cotton, rice, and maize
- >In 4 years: >300,000 farmers; 1.36 million acres; 5% of cropped area in state
- >Reduced costs by 2/3

"...significant net increase in farmers' incomes in addition to significant health and ecological benefits...without significantly reducing the productivity and yields."

### Back to the future in agriculture

International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science, and Technology for Development

- >agroecology to realize right to food
- >re-orient spending: extension service, rural infrastruc
- >decentralized participatory research
- >improve sustainable agriculture access to markets: procurement, credit, farmers' markets



#### Sustainable production characteristics

**University of Massachusetts – Lowell** 

- >non-polluting
- >conserving of energy and natural resources
- >economically viable
- >safe and healthful for workers, communities, and consumers
- >socially and creatively rewarding for all working people



### Towards a sustainable industry

- >innovative chemicals
- >eliminate use or generation of hazardous substances
- >entire lifecycle considered: design, production, use, and end of life
- >eliminate pollution
- >zero waste
- >minimize energy use and material consumption
- >provide safe and healthy workplaces and communities economically viable

### **Summary**

Policy into practice needed for existing agreements Ecological agriculture as key for future actions High expectations about transformation in industry

Thank you



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