



**ROTTERDAM
CONVENTION**

Share Responsibility

Course Syllabus

Learning objectives

The dramatic growth in chemical production and trade during the past three decades has raised concerns about the potential risks posed by hazardous chemicals and pesticides. Countries lacking adequate infrastructure to monitor the import and use of these chemicals are particularly vulnerable. In response to these concerns, UNEP and FAO developed and promoted voluntary information exchange programmes in the mid-1980s. Building on these procedures, the Rotterdam Convention creates legally binding obligations for the implementation of the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) procedure, promoting shared responsibility and facilitating information exchange. This course will introduce you to the history and of the Rotterdam Convention and how the PIC procedure functions.

At the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Describe the need for and origins of the Rotterdam Convention.
2. Explain the Prior Informed Consent procedure and other requirements of the Convention.

Content and duration

This online course is comprised of 3 lessons, which provides links to relevant treaty text paragraphs and term concepts of the InforMEA Glossary section. The lessons are organized in interactive modules that combine the course theory with exercises and interactions that will facilitate the learning process.

This core content of the lessons is complemented with additional materials, such as videos, publications and external websites.

It will take you 2 hours approximately to complete the course, excluding additional materials. This is a self-paced course that allows you to manage your time as you wish. You can navigate the lessons at your convenience and retake them whenever you wish.

Completion certificate

Take the quiz at the end of the course to assess your learning progress.

You are required to answer at least 80% of the assessment questions correctly in order to obtain a course certificate.

Before obtaining the certificate you also need to submit the course survey (your feedback). This survey helps us to improve the course, develop new courses and assess if you are achieving your learning objectives.

Course Outline and content

Lesson 1: Introduction

Hazardous chemicals; adverse impacts on human health and the environment; the need for an international response; and the origins, adoption, and overview of the Convention.

Lesson 2: Main provisions of the Rotterdam Convention

- (1) Prior Informed Consent procedure;
- (2) The listing of chemicals in Annex III; and
- (3) The Export Notification procedure.

Lesson 3: Institutional framework and the synergies process

Explaining the functions of the Conference of the Parties; Secretariat; and Chemicals Review Committee; and outlining the Synergies Process.