

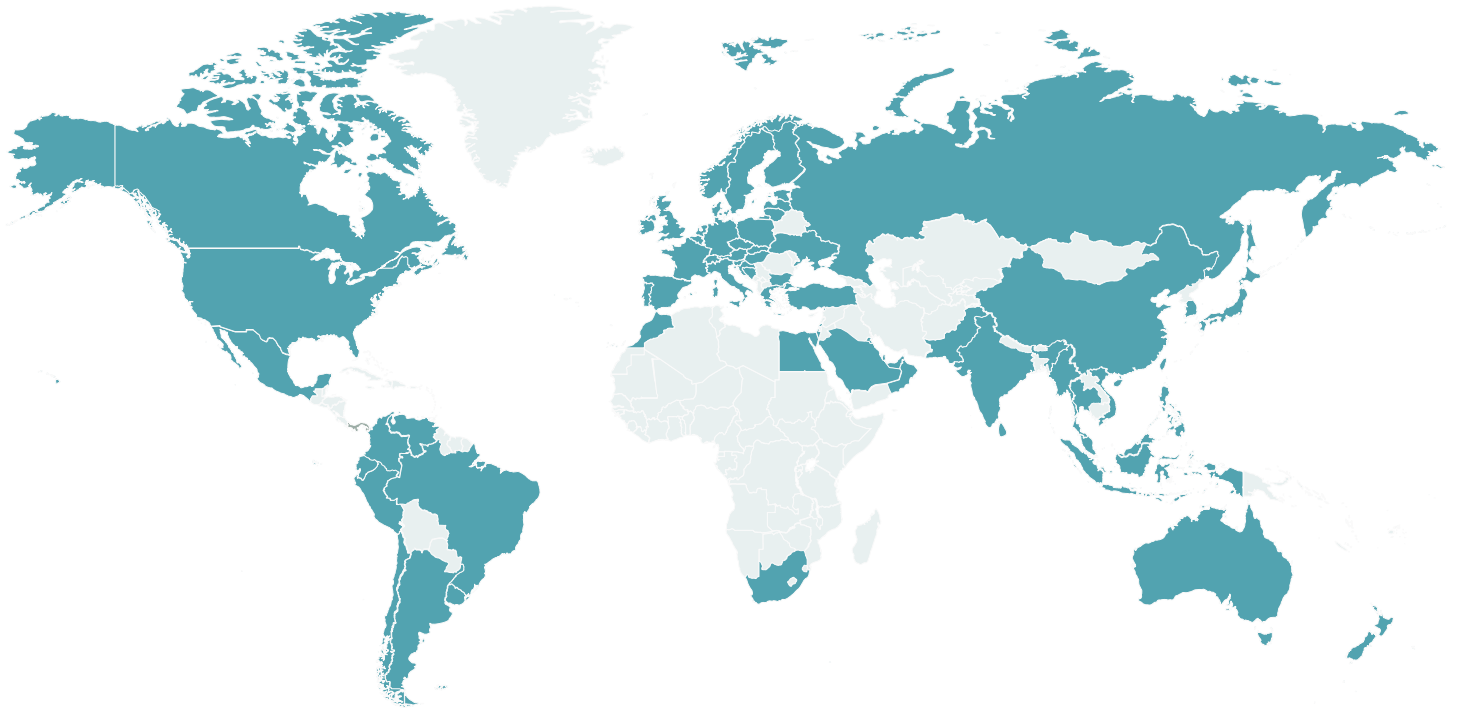


# Building Safe Chemicals Management Across the Globe

Responsible Care is the global chemical industry's initiative to drive safe chemicals management and achieve excellence in environmental, health, safety and sustainability. Since its launch in Canada in 1984, Responsible Care has grown to **nearly 70 economies worldwide**.

Through Responsible Care, chemical manufacturers and national chemical associations commit to improving performance, engaging with stakeholders, promoting transparency and working with commercial partners to extend the Responsible Care ethic throughout the value chain.

Each national chemical association establishes and manages its own national Responsible Care program, based on **eight common fundamental features** developed by the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA).



## Responsible Care<sup>®</sup> Fundamental Features

- Develop and adopt a set of Guiding Principles.
- Register and protect a title and logo consistent with Responsible Care.
- Implement management practices to help enhance performance.
- Develop a set of performance indicators against which improvements can be measured.
- Communicate with interested parties inside and outside the membership.
- Share exemplary practices through information networks.
- Encourage association member companies to commit to and participate in Responsible Care.
- Introduce and apply procedures to verify implementation by member companies.



## Capacity Building

Responsible Care supports collaboration amongst the chemical industry, government entities and other stakeholders to help facilitate excellent practices in sound chemicals management and enhanced environmental, health, safety and security performance in regions around the globe. Through the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA), we support expansion of Responsible Care to new geographies and strengthening existing programs through national association trainings and workshops. Global capacity building efforts aim to increase knowledge about managing and mitigating potential risks associated with chemical manufacturing, use, recycling and waste management.

**€200K** allocated

**17** association members

**19** capacity building trainings & workshops

In 2023, Responsible Care allocated nearly €200,000 to 17 association members for 19 capacity building trainings and workshops taking place throughout the year. This included workshops on Globally Harmonized System (GHS) implementation and industry performance reporting and collection, mutual priorities of industry, the United Nations, and key stakeholders.

In 2024, ICCA will continue to support implementation of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) and enhancement of transparent reporting of industry performance, including support for national association capacity building workshops and regional program support for Malaysia & Africa.

## Transparently Reporting Industry Performance

Responsible Care® practitioners understand that to improve, we must understand how we are currently performing. Reporting on Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) is a fundamental feature of Responsible Care. National associations collect and report data on industry performance to demonstrate the initiative's effectiveness, including workplace safety, energy and water consumption, CO2 emissions and process safety incidents.

In line with our ethos of continual improvement, a key focus for the global Responsible Care program is enhancing the transparent reporting of our performance data with stakeholders. To do so, we are working with our national associations to build a simplified and impactful reporting process to encourage reporting from Responsible Care companies and domestic associations.

## Supporting Continual Improvement

To support global implementation of Responsible Care, ICCA developed the Responsible Care Self-Assessment tool, which provides organizations practical guidance to help enhance safety and sustainability performance. The tool links Responsible Care's core programmatic elements to leading international standards and goals, like the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and ISO14001. The tool is accessible via a web-based platform and offers a single, practical resource for chemical companies. From strengthening chemicals management to enhancing product stewardship and building an organizational culture of safety and sustainability, the tool can help organizations of any size, at any point in their Responsible Care journey. In 2024, a key program goal is to grow access to the tool in regions across the globe.