

**Global Workshop « From NIPs to Implementation »  
*Montevideo (Uruguay), 23-24 October 2018***

**SHARING THE EXPERIENCE FROM THE REPUBLIC OF  
BURUNDI IN « CONDUCTING AWARENESS ON POPs ISSUES  
WITH AWARENESS MATERIALS WRITTEN IN THE MOTHER  
TONGUE »**

*Presented by the National Expert in POPs in Republic of Burundi  
Mr Jerome Karimumuryango*

E-mail: [karimumuryango@gmail.com](mailto:karimumuryango@gmail.com)

Tel. Mobile: (257) 79 93 58 01

# The content of the presentation

1. The Country: the Republic of Burundi
2. Why did Burundi use « Awareness materials written in the mother tongue » when conducting awareness on POPs issues?
3. How did Burundi proceed?
4. Advantages and positive impacts of « Awareness on POPs issues in the mother tongue »
5. The next Challenge/Step
6. Conclusion

# 1. The country: the Republic of Burundi

- The Country (**Francophone**) is in Eastern Africa in the Great Lakes Region on the Lake Tanganyika
- The border countries of Burundi : DR of Congo, Rwanda and Tanzania
- Square : 27 834 km<sup>2</sup>
- Population: 12 Millions (400 inhabitants/km<sup>2</sup>)
- The Capital: Bujumbura
- Languages : **Kirundi** (*the mother tongue and national language*), French, Kiswahili, English

## 2. Why did Burundi undertake « Awareness on POPs with awareness materials in the mother tongue »?

- **Documentation on POPs issues** (from Stockholm Convention Secretariat or Agencies as UNEP, UNIDO, WHO, UNDP, etc.) **are in English or/and French**
- **In Burundi: the mother tongue (Kirundi) is spoken by 100% of the population** when French is spoken by 15-20% and English by 5%
- If Awareness on POPs is undertaken in French with the available documentation it will concern 20% of the population
- **To undertake Awareness on POPs for 100% of the population we needed awareness materials written in the mother tongue spoken by 100% of population**

### 3. How did Burundi proceed to get and use Awareness materials on POPs written in the mother tongue?

- **Remark:** Initial inventories of POPs in Burundi (2005) and endorsement of the initial Burundi NIP in 2006
- **1st step:** in 2013 from local documentation on POPs (initial POPs inventories reports and initial Burundi NIP) and international documentation available (in french and english) **national Experts in chemicals prepared the french version of 2 booklets:** i) « *Awareness on POPs issues in Burundi* »; and ii) « *Activities to undertake in Burundi against POPs and POPs impacts on human health and environment* »

### **3. How did Burundi get and use « Awareness materials on POPs written in the mother tongue? (continued)**

- **2<sup>nd</sup> step: National Experts in French and Kirundi translated (from French to Kirundi) the two boklets**
- **3rd step: A national workshop endorsed the content of the two booklets written in KIRUNDI**
- **4th step: the two booklets in Kirundi and the two booklets in French were printed in a printing house**
- **5th step: the Environment Minister proceeded to the official diffusion and publication of the booklets to stakeholders (from ministries, civil society, journalists, syndicates, universities, etc.)**
- **6th step: use of the booklets (by the stakeholders)**

#### **4. Advantages and positive impacts of « using awareness materials written in the mother tongue when undertaking awareness on POPs issues »**

- 1) the Ministry of Environment is conducting meetings and Workshops in KIRUNDI on « Awareness on POPs issues »: opening remarks, official opening speech, presentations and debates are all in KIRUNDI**
- 2) Stakeholders (ministries, local NGOs, Syndicates, journalists, etc.) are themselves organizing meetings and debates on POPs issues in KIRUNDI**
- 3) High degree of participation in debates when the meeting, workshop or conference (on POPs issues) is conducted in KIRUNDI**
- 4) Public and private Radios and TVs are developing programmes on POPs issues in KIRUNDI**
- 5) The population is more interested by POPs issues**

## 5. The next Challenge/Step

### 1) Remarks:

- i) in 2013 the national Experts prepared the french version of the two booklets from international documentation and local documentation particularly the initial POPs inventories reports (conducted in 2005) and the initial NIP (endorsed in 2006)
- ii) in 2015-2016 the POPs inventories were reviewed and updated
- iii) in 2017 the reviewed and updated Burundi NIP was endorsed

**2) Consequently:** the two booklets in French and the two booklets in Kirundi **have to be reviewed and updated** as the updated NIP and POPs inventories



## 6. Conclusion

**1) the main constraints to face when preparing « Awareness materials on POPs issues written in the mother tongue » :**

i) it requests **long time**

ii) it is « **a team work** »

iii) « **the consensus** » is the base of the success

**2) the conclusion:**

**TRY AND YOU WILL TELL ME YOUR EXPERIENCE**

***Murakoze! Thank you !***