

Global project on the updating of National Implementation Plans for POPs

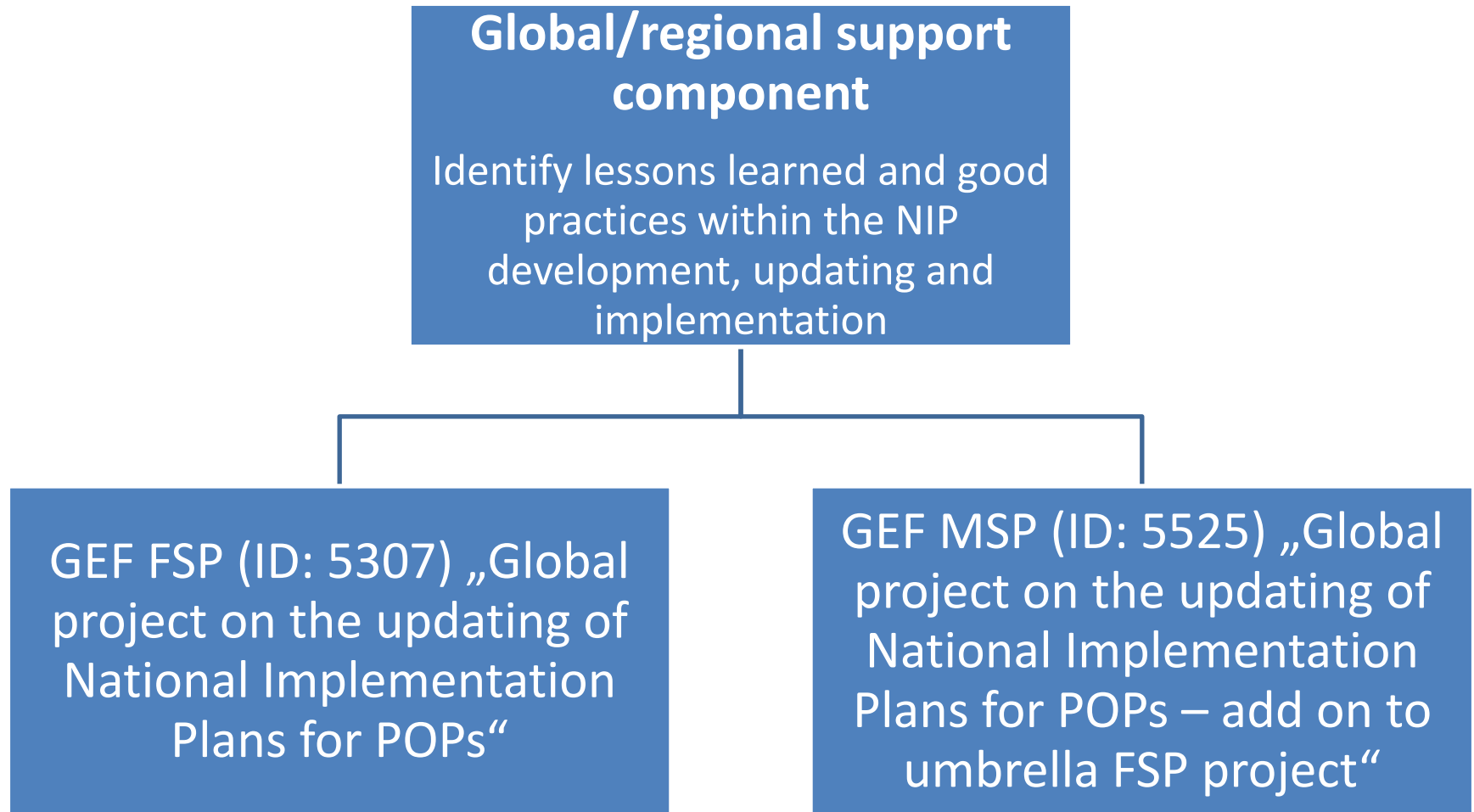
“From NIPs to Implementation: Lessons Learned Report (draft)”

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Background



Report Outline

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Chapter 8. Remaining challenges on NIP development, update and implementation

Objective and methodology

OBJECTIVE

Compile the lessons learned and good practices within the NIP development, update and implementation processes at national level

Methodology

Development
questionnaire
Survey

Information
collection

Compilation
and
evaluation of
information

Review of the
report and
consultations

Chapter 3

Lessons learned relating to sustainable capacity, political and stakeholder engagement

Good practices Convention in building and sustaining the capacity

Organizational level

- Establish **inter-ministerial coordination mechanism/permanent steering committee/technical team** for chemicals related issues
- Stability for SC NFP
- Streamlining, identifying and **prioritizing** the capacity building activities
- Access for capacity builders to the **latest information** available at regional and international level
- Develop, maintain and permanently update a **roster of experts** trained
- Provide **competitive salaries** and benefits as to prevent migration of capacity created

Knowledge building level

- Organizing **expert missions, training of trainers, thematic trainings and workshops**
- Ensuring **permanent knowledge update** as to keep up with the new developments under the Stockholm Convention (inventory/assessment & control new listed POPs)
- Use the **most up to date resource documents, guidance, guidelines, toolkits** etc. for knowledge transfer
- Developing, maintaining and updating a **national knowledge management system**

Advance the national work in support of the SC implementation

1

- Integrating the **SC objectives and requirements within the national policies**, programs, plans and highest priorities and mainstreaming it

2

- Developing and regularly updating the necessary **legal and regulatory framework**

3

- **Setting up/maintaining a coordination mechanism to follow up on the SC implementation (inventories; control, managem.)** monitoring and reporting

4

- Identifying **technical and financial needs** and relevant potential external donors

5

- **Provide targeted trainings for knowledge transfer (e.g. inventory, legal, BAT/BEP)**
- Raise **awareness** on the negative effects of POPs

6

- Enhancing **cooperation with the existent BCRCs-SCRCs, GEF Implementing Agencies and international consultants** for implementing the Stockholm Convention

Mainstreaming the POPs into chemicals and waste management

1

- Linking the **POPs issues with other major environment issues** to deal with at the national level, like climate change and/or sustainable development

2

- Incorporate **NIP action plan into the line ministries** and national agencies agenda

3

- Identification of **institutional focal points and preparation of work plans** and budgets

4

- Ensuring that the relevant **stakeholders are aware of their role**, the benefits of mainstreaming and the cost of inaction

5

- Having an **integrated chemicals & waste management policy and legislation** which include POPs management **(need overall inventory & implementation!)**

6

- Use of **chemical information exchange network** platforms

Promoting C&W management within national policies and synergies among the C&W MEAs

95% of the respondents

- SC work is **linked** to the work of other MEAs e.g. **Basel and Rotterdam Conventions**, Minamata Convention, Montreal Protocol **and SAICM**
- Synergistic implementing approach is mainly **driven by the limited human and financial resources**

90% of the respondents

- Able to promote POPs and chemicals safety issues within **national discussions of the SDGs and NSDS**, as well as within the wider development initiatives, like national development plans, growth and development strategies etc.

47% of the respondents

- POPs waste and contaminated sites matters have been included in the **larger framework of waste and contaminated sites management**

90% of the respondents

- NIP update contents/activities were linked to **national sustainable consumption concepts and the SDGs**, as well as with the environmental health aspects

Challenges building & retaining a capable team

1

- Frequent **changing of SC NFP, teams members and trained personnel** and **lack of funding to re-train new personnel**

2

- Frequent **re-organization of the inter-ministerial coordination** due to government structure changes and understaffed public institutions

3

- **Reluctance** of the policy making team **to integrate the POPs actions** in their daily work

4

- **Lack of funding** to carry out technical activities, leading to **the breakdown of the technical team**

5

- **Less frequent communication** among team members and irregularity of the team meeting's organization

Challenges Engaging with stakeholders outside the government

1

- **Limited human and financial resources not sufficient to outreach to a large number of stakeholders**

2

- Low level of trust from the industry on the government actions on POPs and chemicals management in general

3

- **Limited or no information disclosure by the industry about their operations and therefore limited or no proactive roles of the civil society**

4

- **Limited or no industry financial resources** allocated for environment protection

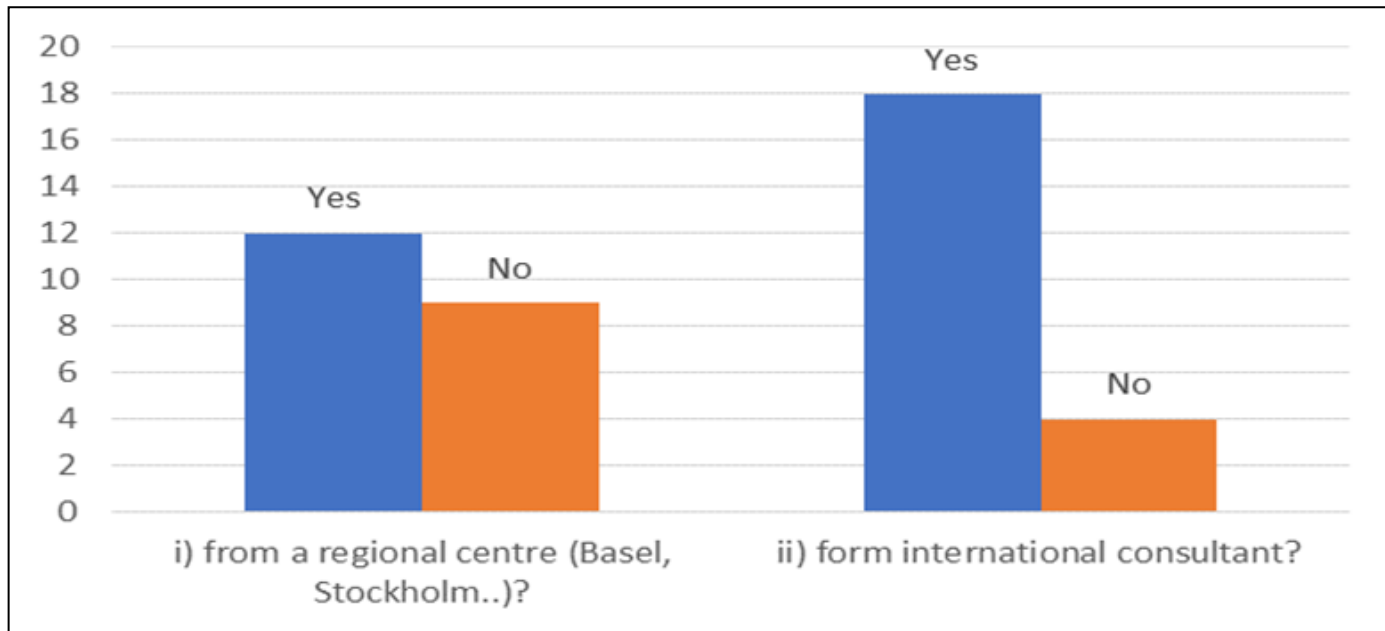
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- **Limited or no understanding of POPs** and chemicals impact on human health and the environment

Introduction of Chapter 4

**Lessons learned relating to the
technical elements/capacity**

Contribution of external technical support to carry out the NIP inventory and action plans development



The contribution of external technical support to carry out the NIP inventory and action plans development was important.

Personal comment: International experts for the different POPs is limited in particular if different POPs groups need to be addressed in one WS.

Capacitating centers and working regionally for NIP update with centers linked to international expertise could be a way forward. Case study BCRC Carribean

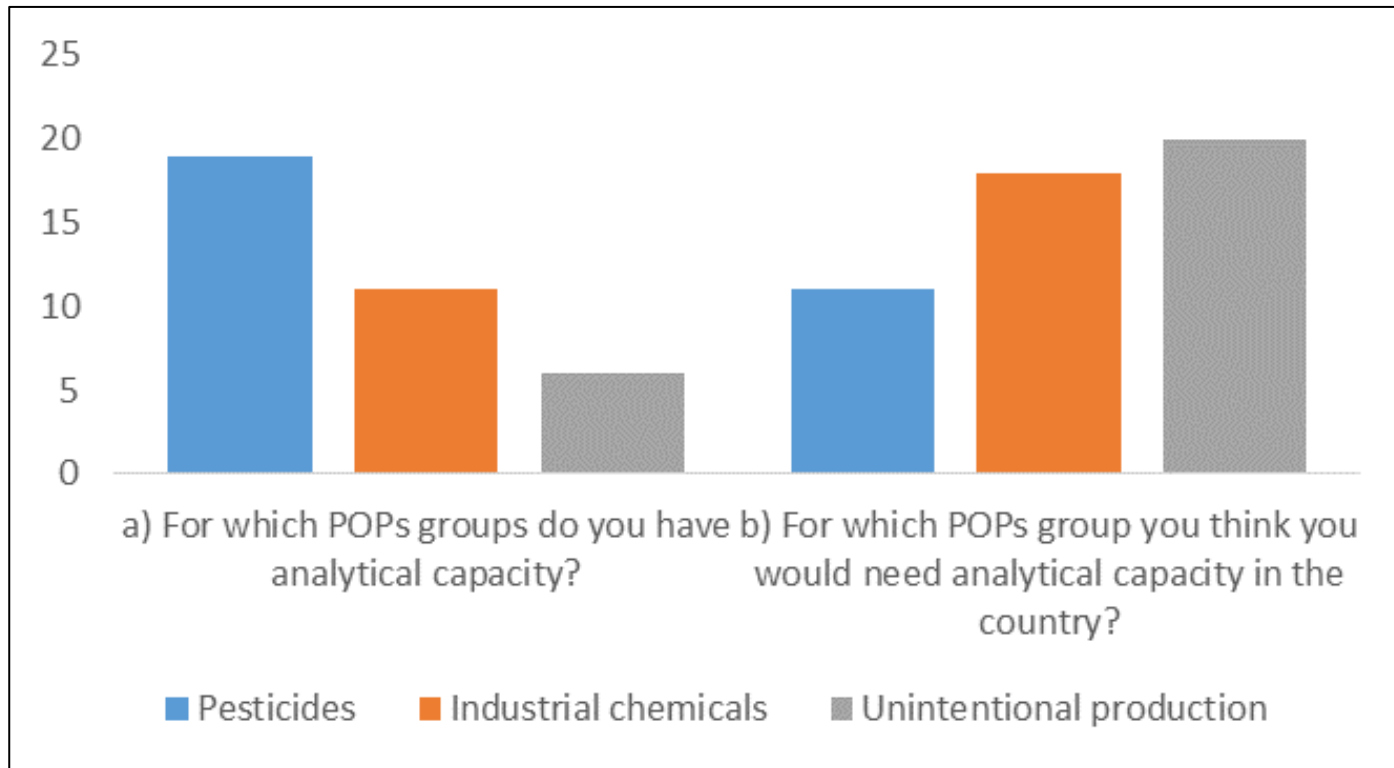
Engagement of the country with global or regional initiatives to support the Stockholm Convention

50% indicated that their country was engaged with global or regional initiatives to support the Stockholm Convention, while 50% have no initiatives in place.

Current situation:

- For the basic POPs only a minority of the countries do not have any capacity. .
- However, there are a range of Parties that do not have laboratory capacities to participate in GMP.
- For new industrial POPs most developing countries do not have any laboratory capacity.
- A major challenge is to capacitate national expert in the different POPs analysis and building a laboratory capacity in the country for using and further developing their expertise.

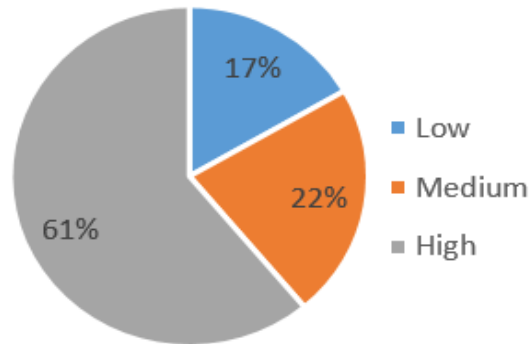
Using the technical expertise in monitoring and analysis related to POPs and chemicals in general



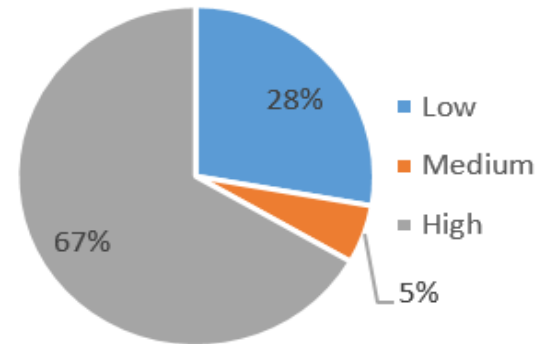
Availability of analytical capacity on POPs

Relevance of the different monitoring activities

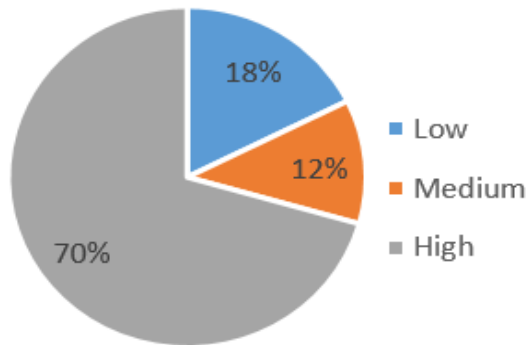
i) Monitoring of environment including biota



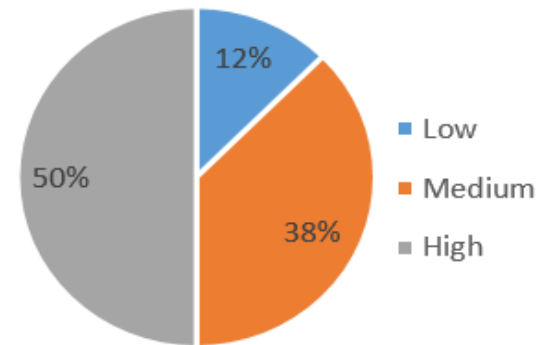
ii) Human bio-monitoring



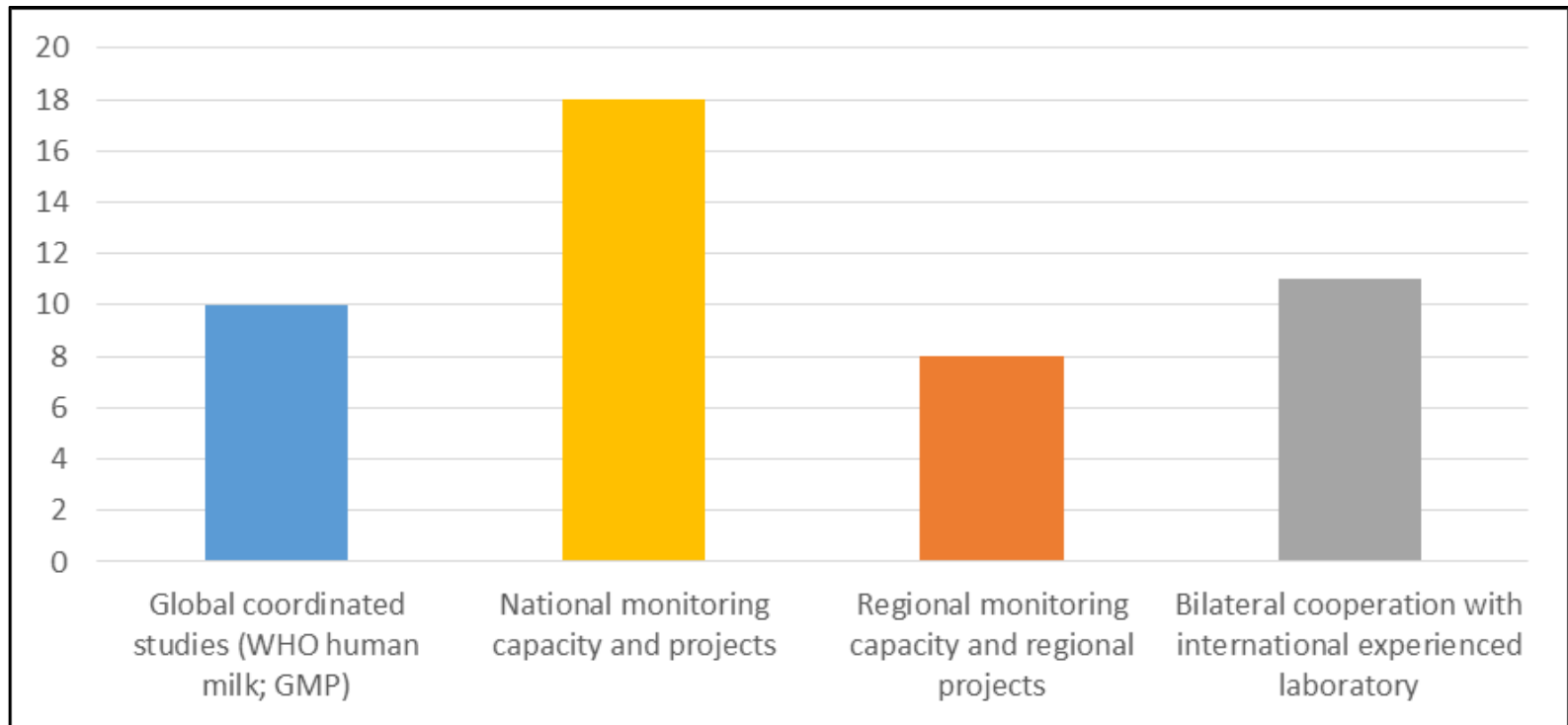
iii) Contaminated site monitoring



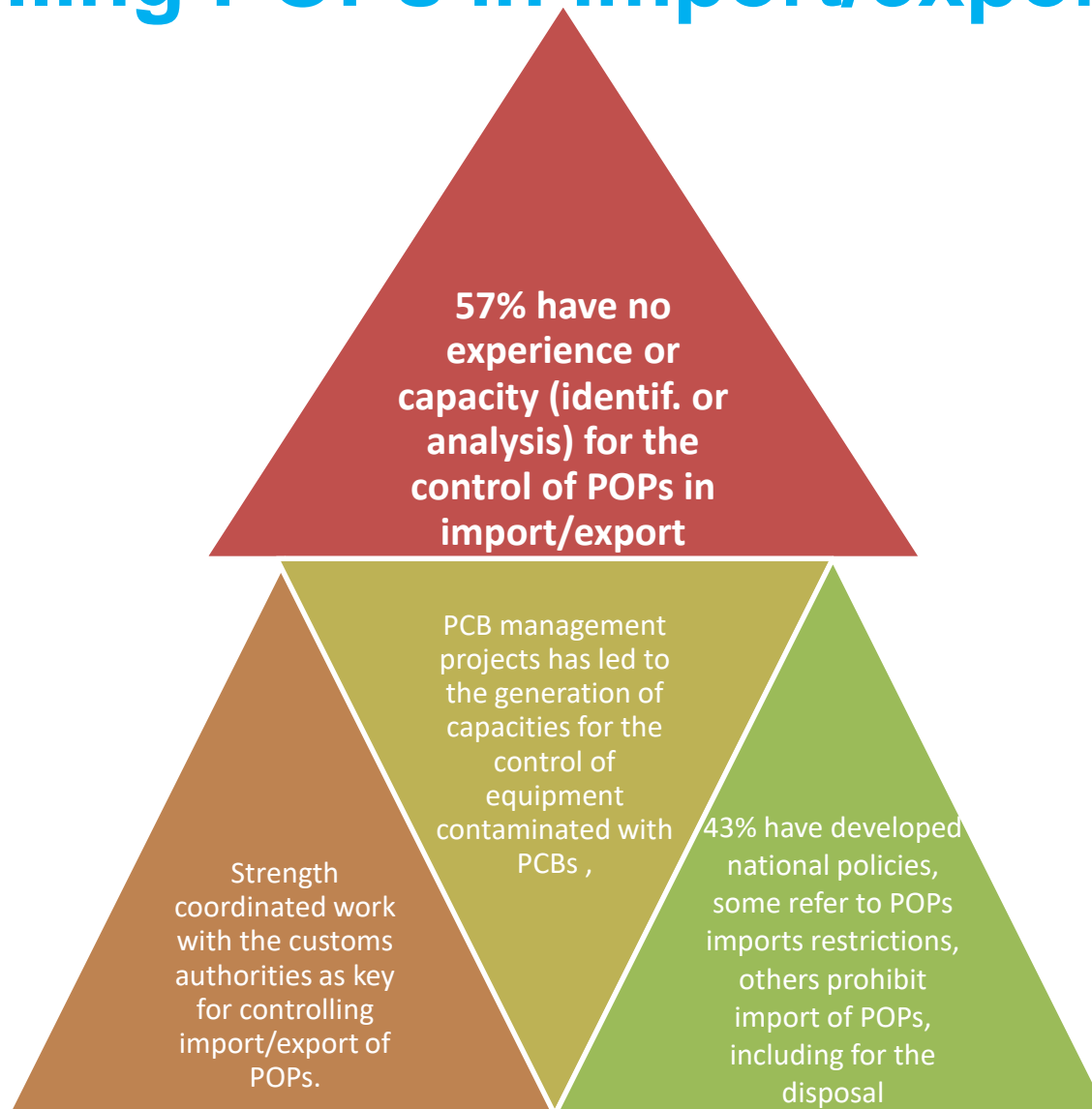
iv) Monitoring of articles, products and waste



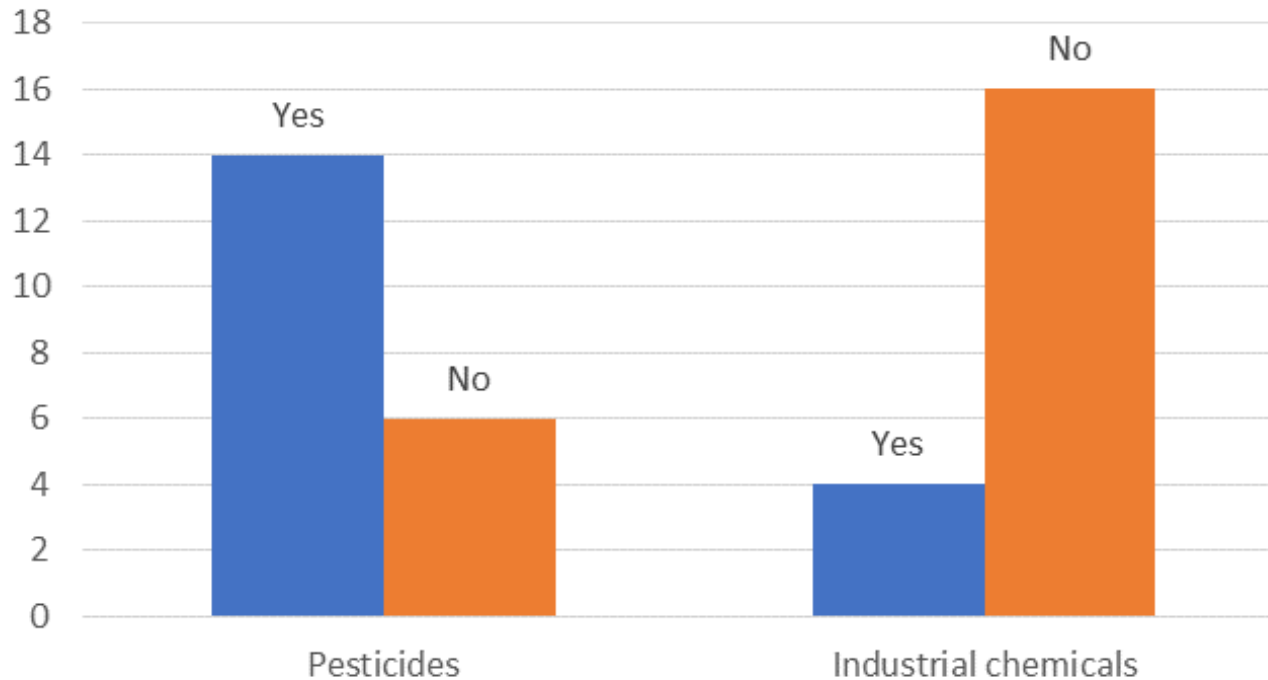
Most helpful monitoring approach



Controlling POPs in import/export



Controlling POPs in use throughout their life cycle



- Controlling the use of POPs and managing their life cycle, including end of life, is established for pesticides for which 63% of the countries declare they do so. 27% indicate that they cannot control.
- Control of empty pesticide containers are difficult in developing countries due to lacking destruction capacity for end of life management of pesticide containers .
- Very limited capacity to control industrial POPs including POPs in products

Challenges for controlling POPs in use throughout their life cycle

- Lack of capacity for detection and analysis of chemicals, and therefore, controlling POPs, regarding equipment, and training opportunities
- Limited bilateral and/or multilateral cooperation
- Legal framework and effectiveness of its implementation need to be reinforced
- Lack of research at a national level about new POPs
- Lack of incentives for personnel working in the field (e.g. importers, manufacturers)
- Lack of trained personal
- Lack of laws and regulations regarding registration of industrial chemicals
- Lack of a registration system for industrial chemicals
- Incentives for importers and manufacturers to shift to alternatives and properly POP manage
- Proper handling, storage and disposal of chemical substances
- Research at the national level about the new POPs need to be improved.

Using the technical capacity/financial mechanisms to destroy POPs

- ❑ **77%, lack the technical capacity to destroy POPs in the country.**
- ❑ **23% declare POPs have been destroyed within the country**

Financing of the management of the POPs at the end of their life cycle.

- GEF funded project
- FAO for pesticides
- Different international projects;
- For specific cases for the national government.
- No funding mechanism for end of life management

Practical funding mechanisms for end-of-life management:

- Multilateral and bilateral funded projects;
- Co-financing by different stakeholders, including the private sector;
- Through UNDP or GEF;
- Industry engagement;
- Awareness regarding the end of life costs when purchasing;
- Giving polluters, producers, and consumers responsibility.

4.4 Developing/using the technical capacity to assess and manage POP contaminated sites

- **The text of the SC makes it clear that one of the objectives of the Stockholm Convention is to address POPs contaminated sites.**
- Article 6 of the Stockholm Convention provides an opportunity for Parties to develop strategies to address POPs contaminated sites
 1. In order to ensure that stockpiles consisting of or containing chemicals listed either in Annex A or Annex B and wastes, including products and articles upon becoming wastes, consisting of, containing or contaminated with a chemical listed in Annex A, B or C, are managed in a manner protective of human health and the environment, each Party shall
 - **(e) Endeavour to develop appropriate strategies for identifying sites contaminated by chemicals listed in Annex A, B or C; if remediation of those sites is undertaken it shall be performed in an environmentally sound manner.**

Developing/using the technical capacity to assess and manage POP contaminated sites

55% of the respondents

- have claimed no capacity built on contaminated site assessment and management

55% of the respondents

- dealt with POPs contaminated sites within SC. This indicates that no larger holistic approach on contaminated sites is in place in the majority of developing countries

36% of the respondents

- mentioned that they address the issue of POPs contaminated sites within general contaminated site inventory & management.

14% of the respondents

- Had documented best practice case studies on POPs contaminated sites documented (PCBs and pesticides).

Challenges to assess and manage POP contaminated sites

- Limited or no capacity to assess and secure contaminated sites.
- No database or system in place in most developing countries on POPs contaminated sites or general contaminated sites.
- No analytical capacity in developing countries for assessment of (new) POPs contaminated sites
- Often weak regulatory frames or lack of regulatory frame for defining contaminated sites (e.g. POPs soil limits or ground water limits).

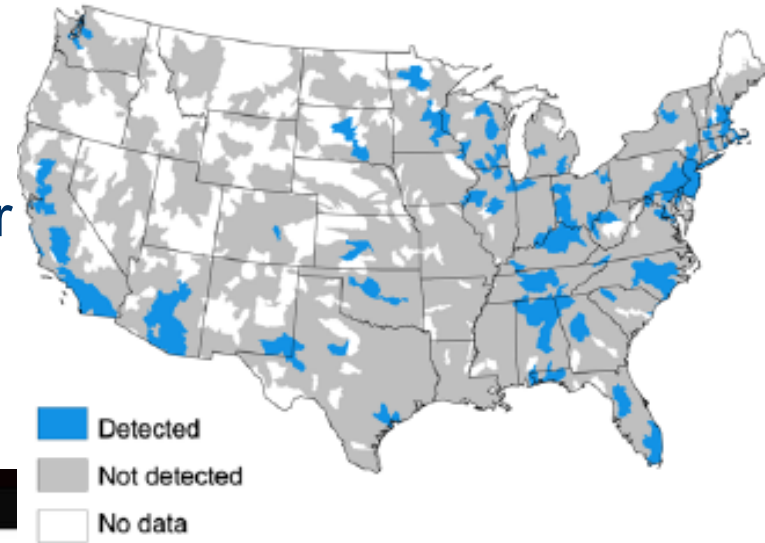
(e) Endeavour to develop appropriate strategies for identifying sites contaminated by chemicals listed in Annex A, B or C; if remediation of those sites is undertaken it shall be performed in an environmentally sound manner.

Inventory contaminated drinking water US

- Based on more than 36,000 water samples collected nationwide by the U.S. EPA (2013–2015), **the drinking water supplies for 6 million U.S. residents exceed US EPA's lifetime health advisory (70 ng/L) for Σ PFOS + PFOA.**

Important to assess ground and drinking water for PFOS/PFOA contamination .

Hydrological units with detectable PFASs



The Washington Post

Energy and Environment

Researchers find unsafe levels of industrial chemicals in drinking water of 6 million Americans

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Letter

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Detection of Poly- and Perfluoroalkyl Substances (PFASs) in U.S. Drinking Water Linked to Industrial Sites, Military Fire Training Areas, and Wastewater Treatment Plants

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Hu et al. Environ. Sci. Technol. Lett., DOI:10.1021/acs.estlett.6b00260; August 9, 2016

Introduction of Chapter 5

Lessons learned relating to

- funding of NIP development, implementation**
- and “compliance” with the Stockholm Convention**

Financing the NIP development and implementation – International funding

- Several Parties stressed that the implementation of the NIP action plans is addressed through several different financial sources, and that in addition to GEF funding also bilateral funding such as EU financed projects and international institutions, technical partners and private donations were used for projects and implementation.
- Some countries stressed that individual activities such as PCB management has been funded **but highlighted that there was no funding of the vast majority of the action plans of the NIP.**
- A few countries (10%) mentioned that projects were financed through the SAICM Quick Start Programme and could be linked to NIP implementation and wider chemical management.

Financing the NIP development and implementation – Country contribution

- All Parties stressed in-kind contributions for projects/Implementation.
- One Party defined potential sources for implementing action plans in NIP and **integrate the financial issue into national programs and strategies** with seeking for financial support from international and national sources.
- Some countries mentioned that the financing is mainly by projects.
- Several parties stressed that they are still seeking funds for NIP action plans implementation.

Financing the NIP development and implementation – Share of national budget for chemical/waste management

- The understanding of cost for chemical and waste management is the basis of developing an appropriate financing and taxing of chemical and waste management. Sustainable financing is a major obstacle for improve solid waste management (World Bank 2014).
- New industrial POPs impact large waste volumes such as e-waste and related plastic, polymers in the transport sector, polymers in construction, textiles, carpets or wood (Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention 2015a,b,c; 2017a,b).
- Therefore the financing of POPs impacted waste **becomes more linked** to (municipal) waste management and the **need of overall financing of waste (resource!) management**. Therefore, in this survey information on national budgets for chemical and waste management has been asked.

Financing the NIP development and implementation – Share of national budget for chemical/waste management

- **The largest share of the countries (81%) mentioned that they could not quantify costs of waste management and POPs management.**
- Also UNIDO mentioned that from their experience there is normally no information.
- One Party stated that there are no budget allocations for chemicals management and that the EPA supports the implementation of sound management of chemicals through its internally generated funds.
- Waste management is the function of the metropolitan, municipal and district assemblies. Similar reasons like the distribution of tasks between national and provincial government were given by other Parties.
- **Some Parties informed that they have now requested for funding of chemicals management in the current national budget.**

Financing the NIP development and implementation – Share of national budget for chemical/waste management

- Four (4) countries could quantify or tried to quantify to some extent waste management expenditures.
- One country stated that waste management in the governmental budget is not differentiated but is less than 0.5%.
- Another Party estimated that the budget for chemicals and waste is less than 0.001% of governmental budget.
- Another Party informed that they could not estimate the share of waste management and POPs management cost but only had data for the health sector where 0.5% of the health budget is spent for waste management and that a fraction will be used for minimizing emissions of unintentional POPs.

Financing the NIP development and implementation – Share of national budget for chemical/waste management

Only one Party informed on details of waste volume and cost/budgets for waste management and POPs management:

- The total amount of waste was ca 90,760,000 t/year of which 0.5% (ca 450,000 t) was classified as hazardous waste, without inclusion of non-hazardous industrial and health care wastes and sludge.
- The Party spent about \$250,000,000 for management and disposing off the solid waste/year (0.2% of State budget) and highlighted that this only could cover 2/3. the waste management budget is about \$ 100,000,000 short from covering the total volume of waste produced.
- For POPs this Party allocated \$ 15,500,000 in addition to \$ 8,100,000 received as funds from GEF for ESM of approx. 1,000 tonnes of obsolete pesticides including POPs pesticides and 1,000 tonnes of PCBs contaminated transformer oils (0.02% of that one year State Budget). **54**

Financing NIP development implementation

– Calculating incremental cost

The largest share of Parties (71%) were not able to determine the incremental cost. Also UNIDO informed on their experience that countries cannot determine the incremental cost and that the lack of information is the major reason. The following challenges were mentioned by countries in respect to the incremental costs estimation:

- **No national experts able to determine the incremental costs;**
- **No opportunities for training** in determination of incremental costs;
- Lack of basic data and weak/no national system for controlling and monitoring of POPs in products at ports and production sites and their fate in dumpsites;
- **Lack of examples for estimating incremental costs;**
- **No precise costing of the implementation of the Convention;**
- No serious budgeting undertaken at the national level;
- A country mentioned that **frequent listing of POP** in the Convention and related implementation, **leads to frequent costs increase and change.**

Co-financing NIP update & implementation projects – what helped to secure funding

- **UNIDO** stressed that the fact that **SC is an obligation** which the Parties have signed and ratified and that **this is a major driver to get support.**
- **Strengthening the legal framework.**
- **Defining the budget within the national plans** such as national plan for waste management and remediation of contaminated sites. NIP in NB
- **Linking the actions** necessary to be implemented **under the Stockholm Convention with other existing budgeted relevant actions.**
- **Aligning the NIP activities with government objectives.** For example, awareness actions on pesticides used and choice of pesticides.
- Linking the Stockholm Convention implementation activities to a project or activity which is triggered by national or county regulation.
- **Collaboration** of Environmental Ministry **with other Ministries** so work on common aims. E.g. the Agriculture Ministry and related institutions put co-financing for the POPs pesticide management project since they could clearly see benefits from the POPs management activities.

Co-financing NIP update & implementation projects – what helped to secure funding

- **Mainstreaming of sound management of chemicals and waste into activities of relevant stakeholder institutions** and encouraging of . Institutions are encouraged to budget for chemicals and waste activities.
- **Involving private sector and industry** and companies for co-financing..
- **Creating/financing an institution dedicated to chemicals management** (Chemicals Office), which will also serve for implementation of SC.
- The availability of the GEF approved project funds that could attract other funding for **common aims with the co-funding institution.**
- **Effective lobbying at the level of financial decision makers.**
- **Sensitization of high profile personnel of government** and national stakeholder institutions on the Stockholm Convention implementation.
- The development of **national strategic and regulatory documents that set the actions to be addressed under the Stockholm Convention.**
- Strengthening laboratory capacities and research and **provide data which gives arguments for action.**

Co-financing NIP update & implementation projects – challenges to secure funding

Range of challenges to receive funding/support were mentioned by Parties:

- General absence of sufficient money in the environment sector.
- Limited national financial resources compared to the diversity of international agreements ratified/accepted (chemicals/waste, climate change, biodiversity, etc.) with related implementation requirements.
- Tight budgets focused on priorities in other areas.
- Limited lobbying at the level of financial decision makers.
- Lack of staff; still only a few officers dedicated to chemicals & waste.
- Limited visibility of Chemical & Waste agenda as to reach all government levels and to access to national funding, since it is a cross-cutting issue.
- Other more pressing needs in developing countries and therefore not much support is given to the SC. As a compromise dealing with the issues chemicals and waste management more holistically.
- Existence of war and instable security conditions not allowing activities

Co-financing NIP update & implementation – linking to climate change, biodiversity, SDGs

Elaborating the links between POPs and SDGs, climate change or biodiversity is useful.

- **57%** of the responding countries have **not developed or considered** the links of POPs to SDGs or climate change. Also the experience of UNIDO is that the topics are not well linked in NIP development/implementation.
- A few Parties (**14%**) **mentioned that they have linked the NIP to SDGs.**
- **One Party** highlighted that POPs management, climate change and biodiversity **are an integral part of the Party's SDGs**, for that they are studying the possibility of developing multilateral projects in this context
- **Another Party formulated objectives and activities on POPs based on the available national strategies, plans and programs on climate change, bio-diversity and SDGs** with integration of financial issues.
- One Party gave an example for POPs and climate change. Here the implementation of the energy efficiency strategy and action plans is contributing in achieving climate change goals and reduction of UPOPs.⁶⁰

Co-financing NIP update & implementation – linking to climate change, biodiversity, SDGs

- **Some countries have stressed that the links to SDGs, climate change and biodiversity are relevant and should/will be better explored in future. However, the detailed links are not yet known by Parties.**
- **One of the Parties mentioned that people are now linking waste management to climate change but that this also needs further clarification and elaboration.**
- **Another Party benefited from an EU-UNDP Project “Low Emission Capacity Building Programme” to develop a project on biogas recovery from dumpsite. The implementation of this project may have as well an indirect impact on POPs emission reduction.**
- **A Party lamented that here has not been much support for the relationship with climate change.**
- **One Party highlighted that the overall chemical pollution will likely hinder the country’s potential to achieve the SDGs.**

Approach of harmonizing country priorities on POPs with donor's priorities for funding

- The **majority** of countries (62%) **have harmonised the country priorities with the priorities of the donor in particular GEF**. Countries refer to priorities and target areas of possible donors and harmonize with the national targets. This has been considered in the NIPs of these Parties. Here POPs national priorities have considered GEF funding strategies for chemicals and in particular projects have been designed in a way that could address the priorities of the government and linking to donors priorities. The priorities are integrated in the action plan in updated NIP.
- One Party mentioned that for chemicals & wastes they have harmonized with the waste management relevant for EU financial mechanisms.
- **24% of responding Parties have not harmonized priorities in their NIP with donor priorities.** 14% of responding Parties have not answered the question. **Major reason that priorities were not harmonized was that the priorities of donors have not been evaluated. One country mentioned that this is particularly true for the new listed POPs.**
- Countries mentioned that this will be done in future.

Experience to use socio-economic assessment or cost benefit analyses as arguments

- **The majority of the Parties (71%) had no/limited experience in using socio-economic or cost-benefit analysis in the POPs area.**
- Also UNIDO mentioned that the experiences in most countries on these assessment tools are very limited.
- Parties mentioned that **there is a need for training on such tools and how to use them for convincing decision makers.** One Party mentioned that these are **useful tools but that data collection is not easy**, due to lack and the availability of information required for these assessments.
- **One Party informed that this type of assessment and analyses was used for other type of projects, however not related to POPs.**
- One Party highlighted that the results of socio-economic assessment have been added into the report submitted to the government when they propose programs and projects for getting financial allocation.

Reasons for successful implementation

The following reasons for successful implementation/funding were:

- Support by top management of the Ministry or Ministries;
- Good inter-ministerial coordination (also highlighted by UNIDO);
- Involvement of all relevant players;
- Thorough development of projects.

Ensuring sustainability of NIP implementation projects

- By developing and **strengthening of policies** (also highlighted by UNIDO);
- **Adoption of a regulatory framework on POPs management and control;**
- **Regulations and implementation of BAT/BEP** in industrial sectors;
- Through **introduction of POPs action plan activities into national strategies and budgets;**
- **By widening the tasks and activities of the inter-ministerial coordination group of the Stockholm Convention to continue to work on the wider issues of chemicals management and waste management;**
- By developing an institutional arrangement to address chemicals and waste issues more efficiently;
- By capitalisation of the **projects results in mainstreaming of activities into environment, sustainability and climate activities;**

Ensuring sustainability of NIP implementation projects

- By developing a **project coordination office** within the Environmental Ministry or responsible institution for developing and formulating new project proposals **considering national and regional options**;
- Through **capacity building for national institutions** and experts
- Through **knowledge transfer** and know-how to **all possible stakeholders** and engaged parties under the guidance of the national focal point and competent authority to ensure sustainability;
- **Selection of key staff from waste management and the chemicals management to further capacitate them in the related POPs field**;
- **Stepwise capacity building** for countries developing their first NIP and **utilizing the built capacity for governmental work on chemical & waste management** and for implementation activities and for future NIP update work and reporting work (e.g. Article 15 reporting) ensuring continuity and further capacity enhancement, project development and timely and strategic NIP update;

Ensuring sustainability of NIP implementation projects

- **Better control of import and export of products and waste including POPs and hazardous chemicals; (challenges POPs in products!)**
- Through **requirement of contributions of the project beneficiaries to the implementation of the project**. E.g. in the promotion of BAT / BEP to reduce the emissions of POPs related to open burning of waste, beneficiary municipalities must provide an appropriate frame for the project. Industries benefitting from BAT/BEP project should contribute with cash and in-kind contributions;
- **By compiling concrete project results and the lessons learned and the experience gained from the project team and wide disseminate;**
- **By developing sustainable follow-up projects building on successfully implemented projects;**
- **By integrating substitution of hazardous chemicals in the action plan and linking to the related activity in the action plan for SCP (and to SDG12);**

Ensuring sustainability of NIP implementation projects

- **By getting an overall view of POPs issues in the country in order to determine priorities** according to each period. Then, projects will be proposed to ensure sustainability. In addition, during implementing a project, future needed activities should be determined and planned and projects should build on each other where feasible (GPS Burundi);
- **Harmonization of national targets with the Convention and GEF's targets; closely cooperate with international organizations** (budgets defined and included in national plans);
- **By ensuring transparency and effective coordination.**
- A few Parties mentioned that they have just developed the NIP and POPs work and success of implementation cannot yet be evaluated.

5.2 “Compliance” with the Convention in respect to NIP implementation

- **Therefore there is no agreed frame and monitoring for compliance.**
- **Parties have internal procedures to monitor and evaluate the implementation** of the NIP and related activities.
- **This internal assessment is meant with “compliance”** since it is currently a relevant part **in addition to NIP submission and Article 15 reporting.**
- As in most of the developing countries and countries with economies in transition the resources allocated for such evaluation and monitoring activities are limited, these are often carried out once a few years when the NIP document is updated.

“Measuring” the NIP implementation

Following approaches were used to measure “compliance” by Parties:

- **Reporting annually to the Government on the statute of NIP implementation** based on approved governmental decision.
- Reporting annually on the implementation of the National strategy for chemicals management and measures in strategy. This complies with the respective Party’s aimed NIP measures and lead to a harmonization.
- **Reporting regime in the NIPs to get information on implementation of NIPs from ministries, local authorities and other stakeholders.** In addition, other means for getting information such as provincial reports on environmental status, report from industries were used.
- Appointing specific organisation/s responsible for implementation to report following a specific period of time.
- **Comparing planned activities in the NIP and implemented activities.**
- Follow-up the activities conducted and evaluation of these and completed activities.

“Measuring” the NIP implementation

Following approaches were used to measure compliance by Parties:

- **Through assessment of the proposed indicators in the action plans;**
- **Evaluating through fixed SMART* indicators for the national goals.**
- **Assessment of the banning and reduction of the use of POPs and POPs containing products.**
- Using monitoring activities to measure the compliance of the NIP implementation.
- **Through evaluation of e.g. number of legislations in place and capacity building activities and awareness creation carried out.**
- **Assessing the number of industries using alternatives to POPs, reduced amounts of imported goods containing POPs;**
- **Monitoring the volumes of disposed POPs.**

*Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound

“Measuring” the NIP implementation

Follow-up measures

A range of follow-up measures and strategies were mentioned by Parties:

- **Collecting relevant data and updating inventories** and developing inventories for new listed POPs and finally by updating the NIP;
- **Updating of the NIP and integration of new listed POPs;**
- **Organizing follow-up meetings and assessments by the Steering Committee and meetings and reporting from the Technical Teams.**
- **Assigning responsibility for the follow up by the National Focal Point** of the SC with the support of the convention permanent committee;
- Stakeholder consultations and reporting and **reasonable follow-up with relevant authorities and other stakeholders.** Follow-up is carried out in coordination with the lead implementer of activities in the action plan.
- Through the respective committees developed within the National Commission ESM of chemical Products.

Mechanisms in place to measure implementation/compliance

The following mechanisms and approaches were mentioned:

- **Regulations in particular for initial POPs (pesticides and PCBs) are set and enforced. A list of prohibited chemicals including most of POPs are being used and applied at ports. Similar actions currently established with regard to new POPs.**
- **To ensure its implementation, the updated NIP document will be approved through a decision of council of ministers.**
- **By assessment of the implementation matrix of the NIP.**
- **By the reporting requirements of Article 15. Comment: However only a share of responding countries (29%) have done their 3rd reporting.**
- **By the required update of the NIP.**
- **Some countries mentioned the role of the coordination committee. For some Parties specific for POPs, for some through committees addressing more the ESM of Chemicals and Products.**

Mechanisms in place to measure implementation/compliance

Some Parties have admitted that mechanisms are not functioning and need to be improved:

- **One Party stated that while there is a committee implementing the SC, this committee didn't function correctly.** The respective Party noted that they are make effort to improve the functionality.
- **One Party highlight that the main challenge for implementation are new listed industrial POPs, (PFOS, PBDEs, HBCD, SCCPs...) since POPs in products are hard to identified.** In all cases, documents with shipments are very poor indicators of the actual contents. The HS CODE usually refers to mixture of a group of chemicals (Kuruku et al. 2010). This makes compliance difficult in respect to control the use and to manage stockpiles. To solve this problem, detailed record of all chemical contents are needed by labelling to control (illegal) import and transportation and control the (mis-)use of POPs and POP containing articles and goods.
- A Party informed: **NIP is not implemented due to lack of staff& funding.**

Challenges for implementation

- Lack of regulatory framework and enforcement;
- Lack of a unified approach to control and manage chemicals in the country and setting independent integrated system and guidelines along with a transparent laws and actions to enforce laws and regulations;
- Lack of coordination;
- Lack of robust data/inventories;
- Lack of linking/coordination with priorities (e.g. climate change, biodiversity, SDGs);
- Lack of integrated chemical management system (for all chemicals including POPs);
- War and instable security conditions.
- Lack of financing;
- One Party mentioned the perception that if financing POPs from the current budget would be taken away from other current relevant issues;

Introduction of Chapter 6

**Lessons learned relating to
further NIP update process**

Factors determining the need to review and update national implementation

100% of the respondents

- changes in obligations arising from amendments to Convention/annexes, including POPs listing

66% of the respondents

- decisions of the COP that may affect how Parties implement Convention obligations, including adoption of guidance or guidelines

57% of the respondents

- Inventories of POPs, after improvement or updating, indicating a change in the scope of the problem to be addressed.

52% of the respondents

- Changes in the availability of technical or financial assistance.

Factors determining the need to review and update national implementation

48% of the respondents

- Reporting under Article 15 of the Convention indicating that the Party's implementation plan is not adequate

38% of the respondents

- A change in national priorities

33% of the respondents

- A significant change in national circumstances.

29% of the respondents

- Changes in access to infrastructure external to the Party (e.g. availability of disposal facility)

Factors determining the need to review and update national implementation

Other comments from Parties were:

- In case of countries which at Stockholm Convention ratification made a declaration that each Convention amendment needs to be ratified/accepted as to come into force, the NIP update process is much delayed due to the delays in passing the ratification/acceptance of the amendments through the national procedural steps (within Parliament).
- In some cases, suggested/available alternatives shortly become POPs themselves and need now and/or in future to be addressed.

Use of existing coordination mechanism for NIP review and update

- **All countries having replied are planning or using the existing coordinating mechanisms**, such as national coordinating committees for issues related to the Convention and making the necessary adjustments to address the factors triggering the review and updating of their national implementation plans.
- **There was no Party suggesting an alternative approach to a coordination mechanism.**
- **Some Parties informed that the coordination committee has a more holistic approach addressing chemicals and wastes.**
- **Some countries distinguished that they have a coordination committee and a technical team and that they will maintain both.**

Use of existing coordination mechanism for NIP review and update

- **One Party informed that they are using the already existing National Waste Management Advisory group as National Coordination Committee.**
- Another Party stressed that no formal coordination mechanism has been established but that it is a working group of all relevant institutions.
- **Another Party mentioned that in particular a continuing coordination group for pesticide exist and that they build on them for POP pesticide.**
- Some countries mentioned that the **established coordination group will be further used for chemical management initiatives or related issues.**
- Also UNIDO and IPEN confirmed from their experience that coordination committees are normally in place for the update of the NIP.

Approaches considered for future NIP update progress

A range of suggestions and commitments were made on approaches for future NIP updates. These included:

- Using similar approach bearing in mind **effective coordination and good assignment of responsibilities** among all members of working group.
- Conducting **more consultations at the sub-national level in reviewing progress and updating NIP** will take place.
- Applying a **more participatory approach**.
- Involving of **all the key stakeholders** through the Permanent Steering Committee and a Permanent Technical Team.
- Engaging industries and relevant departments.
- **Empowering the team** attending relevant convention related meetings, international workshops and training and facilitating the flow of information and spontaneous preparations for actions even before inclusion of a new chemical to the convention lists.

Approaches considered for future NIP update progress

A range of suggestions and commitments were made on approaches for future NIP updates. These included:

- **Maintaining the task teams and coordinating committee to ensure institutional memory** and enhancing inventory activities.
- **Assisting in the process, in particular in addressing newly listed POPs that are widely used for industrial purposes and are contained in products and articles.**
- **Mainstreaming chemicals management** and related project activities.
- Enforce the role of the national steering committee and enhance their technical capacity.
- **Strengthening the knowledge management mechanism**, to improve the transmission of information under Articles 7 and 15 along with other mechanisms suggested in a UN project.

Approaches considered for future NIP update progress

A range of suggestions and commitments were made on approaches for future NIP updates. These included:

- **Set institutional arrangement to address chemicals and waste issues more efficiently.**
- **National Environmental Plan for Sustainable Development to include and foster more actions associated with chemicals and waste.**
- Using as basis the guidance under the Convention and the national status on POPs for determining future NIP update.
- **Follow-up** diligently and effectively all external and internal **triggers for review and update of the NIP.**

Thank you



Questions? Comments? Proposals?

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