



Swiss Agency for
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SDC



Swiss Agency for
the Environment,
Forests and
Landscape SAEFL

The International POPs Elimination Project

*Fostering Active and Effective Civil Society Participation in
Preparation for Implementation of the Stockholm Convention*

Global Day of Action on POPs in Russia

Infosfera

**Russian Federation
April 2005**

About the International POPs Elimination Project

On May 1, 2004, the International POPs Elimination Network (IPEN <http://www.ipen.org>) began a global NGO project called the International POPs Elimination Project (IPEP) in partnership with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). The Global Environment Facility (GEF) provided core funding for the project.

IPEP has three principal objectives:

- Encourage and enable NGOs in 40 developing and transitional countries to engage in activities that provide concrete and immediate contributions to country efforts in preparing for the implementation of the Stockholm Convention;
- Enhance the skills and knowledge of NGOs to help build their capacity as effective stakeholders in the Convention implementation process;
- Help establish regional and national NGO coordination and capacity in all regions of the world in support of longer term efforts to achieve chemical safety.

IPEP will support preparation of reports on country situation, hotspots, policy briefs, and regional activities. Three principal types of activities will be supported by IPEP: participation in the National Implementation Plan, training and awareness workshops, and public information and awareness campaigns.

For more information, please see <http://www.ipen.org>

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The views expressed in this report are those of the authors and not necessarily the views of the institutions providing management and/or financial support.

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Global Day of Action on POPs in Russia

In the course of a project, dedicated to the Global Day of Actions, members of "Infosfera" NGO, jointly with teachers and schoolchildren of Lipitsy village went out into the village territory and nearby areas, as well as Bolshaya Gorodnya and Selino villages. They found that the storage facility for obsolete pesticides and fertilisers in Lipitsa village had been cleaned under "Clean Earth" program. However, the storage facility for agrochemicals in Selino village still exists (bags with mineral fertilisers are stored there - overall about 120 tons). The bags are ruptured and chemicals lay in heaps, mixed with soil. Rainwater easily comes to the storage and wash toxic substances out. The storage is used by local boys who play in the facility and take fertilisers away. In the course of their raids, children found that the fertilisers are washed out by rainwater and meltwater to ground and the Oka river. Besides that, the raid participants identified a large number of illegal waste dumps. For additional information, please contact: Galina Sapozhnikova, "Infosfera" NGO, snakin@mail.ru; gpsapozhnikova@online.stack.net