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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
Preparations for Implementation of the Stockholm Convention*

Global Day of Action

Land and Human to Advocate Progress (LHAP)

**Jordan
April 2006**

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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Global Day of Action

More than two hundred university students of the North part of Jordan were gathered to review the youth national strategy which includes environmental issues. The event was organized by Kharja Sport Club in cooperation with LHAP, Higher Council for Youth and University representatives. One main session was devoted to the environment in which Mr. Ziyad Alawneh (LHAP) outlined the national environmental priority issues and in the second where Dr. Ziyad Abu Ghadourah introduced POPs, what do they mean, what chemicals are covered, efforts of Jordan in this direction; what are the health issues associated with the use of POP's; and legislation that governs the POP's chemicals (Stockholm Convention).

The event was attended also by community representatives, MP's, officials and key stakeholders from the North part of Jordan, in which more than 20% of the population lives. The North Part of Jordan accommodates 3 semi-governmental universities and 3 private ones. The area is well known for containing highly educated people and the foundation of community is a cultural characteristic to pursue higher education.

The session was followed by many questions. The community was able to link POP's with chemicals they used to handle.

The Global Day Action is one activity in which the issue of POP's is put under focus in a designated activity for this purpose. Therefore, what has been done is a public hearing addressing youth, mainly university students, who come from diverse specialties and who are considered youth leaders. The repercussion of this activity was achieved when many other have contacted us after the presentations to make similar activities in their schools and universities. For more information please contact, Ziyad Alawneh, ziyad@index.com.jo