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The International POPs Elimination Project

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

Global Day of Action on POPs in Turkey Bumerang (Turkey) and Arnika (Czech Republic)



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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.

This report is available in the following languages: English language

Global Day of Action on POPs in Turkey

Timeline of Global Week of Action in Turkey

18.-19.04.2005	Preparation of leaflets and needed materials
20.04.2005	Awareness raising project - taking footage for documentary movie + visiting of the citizens in their houses (people from surrounding villages – closed to the Izaydas Incinerator)
21.04.2005	Awareness project - taking footage for documentary movie + visiting of the citizens in their houses (people from surrounding villages – closed to the Izaydas Incinerator)
22/23/24.04.2005	Awareness project - meeting with public, press and local NGOs.

Before the Global Week of Action some meetings with community residents and the General Management team of Izaydas took place. The general atmosphere of the meeting was tense because of the management's arguments and discussions took place between the participants. Some residents came up with their arguments about the eggs and milk market's bad situation that occurred after the Egg Report's press release. After these discussions for protection of the relations between the residents we decided to change the plans for Global Week of Action. The decision was to postpone some of the studies and enlarge the studies in the area for the health of the work.

Global Week of Action – Activity Report

18.-19.04.2005 - Leaflets, brochures, reports, press releases and banners were prepared for the on site study in Izmit. These information materials informed the residents about POPs (what they are, how they can harm people and environment and how they can be released into the environment.)

20.04.2005 - Awareness-raising project - taking footage for documentary movie and visiting of the citizens in their houses (people from surrounding villages – closed to the Izaydas Incinerator) This activity was postponed for two days.

22/23/24.04.2005 - Awareness project - meeting with public, press and local NGOs.

All the studies got started on 22nd April with great public interest. First of all, with the filming of the site entrance time was spent with residents and stakeholders. Some important information was received from the people who are still working for the firm. These arguments are not able to strengthen our arguments because that there was not enough proof. People that gave this important information did not want to give permission for us to take footage or even a photograph

Reports, leaflets, brochures, press releases were shared and discussed as a public awareness study. All the detailed information and data taking place in the reports was explained one by one and some important alternatives for incineration were also explained and some examples shown for better understanding of the case. Meetings were arranged with NGOs and information shared between the groups and talk about future action plans that can be done according to progress.

The work started with the Global Week of Action still continues but because of financial problems the footage can not be changed into a documentary movie for the short term. After the press conference the case got great public and media interest which is still alive and seems to survive for a long time period with sub-studies related to the case. Media are still excited about the documentary movie and keep waiting for a new study. Contacts that have been found in the Global Week of Action study period are still sharing information about the site and looking for the upcoming studies that can be done for the near future with the cooperation of Bumerang.