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SDC



Swiss Agency for
the Environment,
Forests and
Landscape SAEFL

International POPs Elimination Project

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

Global Day of Action on POPs in Bulgaria

**The National Movement of Ecoglasnost
Member of Friends of the Earth International**



**Bulgaria
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.

This report is available in the following languages: English

Global Day of Action on POPs in Bulgaria

(20th March – 30th April 2005)

Executing the planned activities NM Ecoglasnost performed the following activities:

Preparation of the Workshop

Invitation of participants:

The program of the workshop was composed and the mass media journalists from central media were invited – 5 national TVs, 4 national radio stations, 6 daily national newspapers. The officials, responsible for protection of environment in municipalities from four hot areas were invited as well. Invitations were sent to eight politicians, Members of the Parliament Committee Environment and Water, who have demonstrated active positions on environmental problems.

The simple materials were published for the participants:
“Stockholm Convention – history, summary, main points”
“POPs - essence , sources”
“POPs – health effects”
“Stockholm Convention -Review of the situation in Bulgaria”

Materials from Arnika (IPEN) about POPs were disseminated during the workshop.

Workshop

The Workshop on the Stockholm Convention and POPs was held on 22nd April 2005. The list of participants is given below:

Name	Organization	Position
Ivan Pavlov	Bulgarian National Radio	Journalist
Svetlana Yankova	National TV – 7dni	Journalist
Silvia Karanikolova	TV program “Green zone”	Journalist
Nevena Diimitrova	NM Ecoglasnost	Campaigner
Vania Angelova	Branch Pleven -Ecoglasnost	Campaigner
Lubomir Dimtrov	HMTU	Campaigner
Simeon Kolencov	SU Kliment Ohridsky	Campaigner
Nikolai Chukanov	Bulgarian Parliament	Member of Parliament
Evdokia Maneva	Bulgarian Parliament	Member of Parliament
Teodora Litrova	Bulgarian Parliament	Member of Parliament
Prof Venko Beshkov	Bulgarian Academy of Science	Director
Margarita Blagoeva	Newspaper “Lechitel”	Journalist
Aleksandra Aleksandrova	Municipality Kremikovcy	Ecologist
Mariana Ivanova	Municipality Sofia region	Ecologist
Evgeni Sokolovsky	BIOCEOOS-NGO	member
Elina Racholova	Bluelink –NGO netwrk	Campaigner
Ivan Dombalov	Ministry of Environment and Water	
Zornica Giorova	Darik Radio	Journalist
Maria Ivanova	BTV	Journalist
Valentina Lukova	NM Ecoglasnost	Secretary general
Nevena Yordanova	NM Ecoglasnost	Campaigner
Vania Dimitrova	NM Ecoglasnost	Campaigner

Professor Ada Bainova	NM Ecoglasnost	Expert Human health
Petar Zelezarov	NM Ecoglasnost	Expert
Angel Malinov	NM Ecoglasnost	Expert Water problems
Professor Hachadur Chuldzian	NM Ecoglasnost	Expert Soil

The workshop had four modules, each with a presentation and the following discussion.

- The first part - panel history and main points of Stockholm Convention were presented. The speaker was Nevena Yordanova - NM Ecoglasnost.
- The second part - the participants were acquainted with the main groups of POPs and their chemical description. The speaker (Vania Dimitrova - NM Ecoglasnost) presented the main sources of POPs and she also described the contamination caused by POPs.
- The third part - Professor Ada Bainova - NM Ecoglasnost described the health and environmental effects of POPs. This information was verified with the data from scientific research.
- Finally the existing national legislation and strategies were briefly reviewed. This summary was presented by speaker from Ministry of Environment and Water.

The discussions after the presentations were directed mainly towards health effects of POPs, the situation in Bulgaria, control and future of the issue. The journalists were very interested in the problem. They all expressed their wish for more information on the situation in Bulgaria. The politicians made a public avowal that a big part of the information in the workshop had been new and very useful for them. The persons in charge (ecologists) from the local municipalities declared that in their regions where POPs are mainly evolved the population is not well informed by local media and responsible institutions.