



Swiss Agency for
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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 on POPs in Moldova

Ecotox

**Moldova
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>

IPEN gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Global Environment Facility, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Swiss Agency for the Environment Forests and Landscape, the Canada POPs Fund, the Dutch Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment (VROM), Mitchell Kapor Foundation, Sigrid Rausing Trust, New York Community Trust and others.

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 summary and Russian full report

Global Day of Action

Ecotox (Moldova)

In the course of implementation of project "Beware of Persistent Organic Pollutants", "Ecotox" NGO (Moldova) conducted 4 seminars in schools and lyceums of Chisinau, and 2 seminars in the schools of Sorokskiy district of Moldova (one seminar in Strasheny and one seminar in aquaculture facility in Faleshty). Overall, these seminars were attended by about 200 schoolchildren (5th - 11th grades), about 20 teachers, 6 preventive health care experts (former sanitary and epidemiological facilities) and about 25 workers of the aquaculture facility. They discussed issues, associated with POPs impacts on flora, fauna and human health, cumulative accumulation of POPs in trophic chains in aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. The problem of "hidden stockpiles" of POPs maintained by rural residents is still relevant in Moldova, notwithstanding that both governmental authorities and environmental NGOs work rather actively to reduce these stockpiles. Unfortunately enough, many rural residents believe now that pesticides are vitally necessary for agriculture. Moreover, some aquaculture facilities apply pesticides against fish parasites. In this connection, participants of the seminar in the aquaculture facility discussed their information on pesticide levels in fish, potential consequences and methods of pesticide-free control of fish diseases and parasites. On request of village residents, water samples were taken in 12 wells and 10 samples of fish to estimate pesticide contamination levels (including levels of POPs-pesticides). For additional information, please contact Elena Zubkova, "Ecotox" NGO, Moldova, ecotox@yahoo.com