

IPEN Intervention on GEF / SGP Experience- given by Raghda Malass, Syria Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development

Thank you Mr President

I would like to note how even small amounts of money can contribute to SAICM implementation.

My society managed to have a project about POPs' harmful effects on human beings & the environment, financed by the GEF Small Grants Programme.

I will briefly describe how much we managed to do with this small grant

- We translated POPs module to Arabic language and put it on the society web site & on GEF web site for all who have Arabic native language
- Did 10 minute film about POPs pesticides
- Three workshops, training the trainees
- Brochures about POPs risk
- Stands
- Street Posters
- Supporting two masters thesis

Since we had limited financial support we used a diversity of funding sources.

As I am speaking on the behalf of NGOs, we look for more technical & financial support from SAICM to the NGOs as we are the bridge between the normal people & the government, to raise more awareness about sound chemical use & management.

Public interest NGOs are an important resource for effective SAICM implementation and an extremely efficient investment.

Thank you.