



## Technical Assistance Project for Implementation of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Regulation

The overall objective of the project is to protect human health and environment from adverse effects of persistent organic pollutants and their waste by prohibiting, phasing out and eliminating their release in line with EU Persistent Organic Pollutants Regulation.

**Purpose of the project** is to establish the necessary capacity for effective implementation of EU Persistent Organic Pollutants Regulation in Turkey at national and regional level taking into account social and economic impacts.

### What are the POPs ?

#### Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs):

- were produced and used as agricultural chemicals (mainly organochlorine pesticides),
- as industrial intentionally produced and used chemical and their mixtures (polychlorinated biphenyls, brominated flame retardants, polyfluorinated substances),
- they were/are produced unintentionally by combustion and many industrial processes.

#### The key harmful properties of these substances:

- Persistent** – chemicals or their mixtures are resistant to degradation in the environment or other chemicals, even though degrading faster in the environment, are persistent due to continuous release

DDT	Poliklorlu bifeniller	Diksiniler	Bromlu alkil gliketrikler

- Bioaccumulation** - concentrate in fatty tissue (lipophilic) and accumulate up the food chains, can also concentrate in soils and sediments. They are hydrophobic and lipophilic – low water soluble, high fat soluble and they can accumulate in fat tissue, mother's milk or any fatty food

- Toxic** - chemicals and their environmental mixtures show chronic toxicity properties including developmental, reproductive, carcinogenic, immunotoxic and neurotoxic activities in humans and wildlife

- Transboundary movement** - chemicals transported through erosion, flood plains, water, biota etc., chemicals are semi-volatile, evaporate over warmer regions and condense in colder atmospheres, can affect regions where never been produced or used.



<http://www.csb.gov.tr/projeler/pops/>

Project Activity Sets were focused on defining and strengthening the institutional and technical capacity for effective implementation of the POPs Regulation EC 850/2004 for the protection of human health and the environment. The main purpose of this Regulation is to enable the European Community to ratify the Stockholm Convention (SC) and the UNECE Aarhus POPs Protocol.

The EC POPs Regulation is the implementing legislation in the EU Member States of the Stockholm Convention. It is also the implementing legislation for the 1998 POPs Protocol of the 1979 United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution Convention (CLRTAP).

#### Project main activities:

**Activity Set 1:** Defining and strengthening the institutional and technical capacity for the implementation of the POPs Regulation

**Activity Set 2:** Conceiving the steps to be taken for effective implementation of the POPs Regulation

**Activity Set 3:** Determination of national and sectoral effects of the implementation of the POPs Regulation

#### Activity Set 1:

##### Explanatory seminar

The one-day Explanatory seminar was organized in Ankara on 25 September, 2013. The basic information about the POPs project, its scope as well as early findings including the overall project activities, work schedule and expected project outputs were presented and discussed with the project partners, representatives of the stakeholders, media and other organizations.



#### Dissemination Seminars

One day dissemination seminars were organized in each of the cities Ankara, Kocaeli, Istanbul, Bursa, Izmir and Adana to present the project outputs to the industrial sector, local authorities and NGOs.

#### Training of Trainers

Training of Trainers was the key concern in building and strengthening the capacity of beneficiary, POPs related ministerial staff for competent POPs issues accomplishment and increase the institutional and technical capacity to suitable implementation and maintenance the POPs Regulations.

The main objective was to ensure that training group members will deliver to representative of industry, competent authorities and NGO's the competence knowledge, steps and procedures required by the POPs Regulation EC No 850/2004, reporting under Stockholm Convention and POPs Protocol, application of BAT/BEP solutions to eliminate and reduce releases of POPs, tasks of National Implementation Plan for POPs, inventory procedures, etc.

This training programme also was developed and improved the members of training groups knowledge concern guidelines and guidance for effective implementation of the control provisions of the Stockholm Convention and its requirements.



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Eight Trainings were organized with the following topics:

ToT No.	Training Title
Training 1	Legal instruments for the implementation of the POPs Regulation and prioritization for national priorities and objectives
Training 2	National Implementation Plan preparation
Training 3	Standard Toolkit for POPs inventory procedures and preparation
Training 4	BAT and BEP Guidelines concern POPs
Training 5	POPs monitoring, remediation of contaminated sites, evaluation of the effectiveness of the Regulation
Training 6	Reporting under SC and POPs Protocol
Training 7	Sectoral Impact Assessment methodology
Training 8	Regulatory Impact Assessment and social, economic and environment impacts of the POPs Regulation

#### Organization of study visits to the EU Member States

**Study visit 1** – Czech Republic - **POPs monitoring activities** - participants visited the Czech Ministry of Environment, Research Centre for Toxic Compounds in Environment, which is a Regional Centre of the Stockholm Convention, Czech Hydrometeorological Institute, and private companies SITA CZ, a.s. (waste management and remediation) and GEOTEST, a.s. (remediation).

**Study visit 2** – United Kingdom - **Implementation of BAT/BEP requirements** – participants visited private companies Ricardo-AEA (expertise in the field of inventories), Agropharm pesticide plant company and foundry (application of BAT/BEP principles), POPs Centre of University Birmingham and met with the UK experts in the field of emission and POPs inventories.



#### Activity Set 2:

##### Updating the National Implementation Plan

As one of the most important outputs of TA project, the National Implementation Plan (NIP) for POPs management in Turkey was prepared. This NIP is focused on the implementation of the Stockholm Convention on POPs, POPs Protocol of the CLRTAP and harmonization of Turkish national legislation with adequate EU regulations and directives. This NIP was presented and broadly discussed with stakeholders together with the draft of the National Turkish POPs By Law during two workshops (09/04/2014 and 17/09/2014)

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#### Development of the National Turkish POPs By Law

Sufficient implementation of the SC on POPs, POPs Protocol of the CLRTAP and EU POPs Regulation require the relevant regulatory instrument that allows flexibility to expand the list of substances prohibited as need and circumstances require. For this requirement, the ongoing legal gaps and SWOT analysis of the Turkish legislation were used. These two legal analyses were used as a key background document for the development of the Turkish POPs By-law.

The summary of SWOT and GAP Analysis was included to NIP and the original documents will be a part of the NIP Annexes as supplementary documents.

#### Activity Set 3:

**Sectoral Impact Assessment (SIA)** - covers the economic aspects (costs and benefits) of introducing the POPs Regulation to Turkey, with special respect to selected industrial and service sectors, such as (a) the environmental sector, including waste management, (b) agriculture, fisheries and food processing sector, (c) metallurgy, (d) electric power generation, transmission and distribution, (e) chemical industry, (f) cement and lime industry and (g) the textile industry. SIA also attempts to respond to the question, what will be the impacts of introducing the POPs regulation on the Government and on the general population of Turkey. SIA is primarily a detailed data collection effort using the desk research and interview and site visits, and the information collected was used in the subsequent RIA component of the POPs Project.

**Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA)** - Turkey has a dynamic regulatory system aiming to protect environment and human health with a wide range of regulatory measures already put in place that address POPs. In addition to the ratified Stockholm Convention, the following key regulatory instruments are aimed at or will contribute to control of production, placement on the market and use of POPs as well as to reduction of POPs releases - By-laws on Control, Certification, Sale and Storage of Pesticides, a wide range of substance specific and horizontal legislation exists in Turkey that addresses industrial chemicals, and finally, a range of relevant regulations are focused on minimising unintentional POPs emissions from industrial activities.

The message of Turkish National Implementation Plan for POPs management is to:

Protect Turkish people, protect their children, protect their health, protect the environment on the national and global scale



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