



POPS LEGACY ELIMINATION AND POPS RELEASE REDUCTION PROJECT

Context

The Republic of Turkey has a rapidly modernizing industrial economy, which faces pressing concerns for its sound management of chemicals and persistent organic pollutants (POPs). The Government of Turkey has expressed its dedication towards addressing the management of hazardous waste, chemicals and contaminated sites. This has resulted in the ratification of key environmental commitments, such as the Stockholm Convention for the regulation of POPs in the chemicals sector. In order to comply with the regulations under the Stockholm Convention, an updated National Implementation Plan (NIP) has been developed regarding the current status of POPs management and addressing the newly annexed POPs of 2010.

Recent studies have indicated that there might be a presence of POPs pesticides in some rivers, inland/coastal water bodies and soil. Particularly in regions of high industrial activity, there might be PCB pollution not only in the environment but also in human receptors. This indicates that even though PCB was never produced in Turkey, it can be found in common appliances and cross contaminated equipment.

Additionally, over recent years the emissions of the unintended release of POPs (U-POPs) has also increasingly intensified.

Main Approach

The project aims to eliminate current POPs legacies, to ensure Turkey's long-term capacity to manage POPs as well as to integrate POPs activities in national sound chemical management in line with international practice and standards.

This strategy is being jointly implemented by UNDP and UNIDO consisting of five project components.

Among these components, UNIDO addresses the two main issues of environmentally sound management of future PCB stockpiles as well as the reduction of U-POPs. This entails the removal of local health threats and exposure associated with the large POPs pesticide stockpiles as well as U-POPs emissions.

The Reduction of U-POPs release will be achieved by:

- Determining the source for U-POPs emission factors at the company level;
- Providing training and technical assistance;
- Developing a national U-POPs release reduction plan in line with the Stockholm Convention;
- Carrying out a pilot demonstration of clean technology at industrial sources.



The environmentally sound management of future PCB stockpiles will be achieved by:

- Building capacity to allow smooth implementation of national PCB regulations;
- Developing and adopting a national PCB equipment phase out and retirement plan;
- Detecting PCB in electrical- and cross contaminated equipment via a systematic approach;
- Carrying out a pilot demonstration of decontamination technology for in service PCB



Development goal and impact

The project aims to support Turkey's efforts to realize its national obligation under the Stockholm Convention and to meet international climate change targets. This involves the destruction of PCBs by 2028 via a national PCB phase out plan and through the strengthening of PCB management, including the specific targeting of cross contamination, which has previously not been addressed.

The project seeks to minimize the release of U-POPs from industrial activities through assessing and implementing best available technology.

Beneficiaries:

- Public policy on sound chemical management in line with international commitments;
- Local population in industrial areas through the reduction of exposure and health threats;
- Companies profit via the adoption of cleaner production modernization programs.

At a glance

Project title	POPs Legacy Elimination and POPs Release Reduction Project
Duration	4 years (2015-2019)
Location	Turkey
Budget	USD 3,700,000 (UNIDO Project Component)
Donors	Global Environmental Facility
Partners	Ministry of Environment and Urbanization, UNDP, UNIDO