

## Tunisia POPs Country Situation Report 2018

Association d'Education Environnementale pour la Future Génération (AEEFG)



**AEEFG members training in POPs analysis**  
(Regional Capacity Building Training on POPs analysis for officials from the Arab States)

## **Background**

Countries have ratified the Stockholm Convention, developed National Implementation Plans (NIPs) and received financial support to advance these NIPs. In addition, countries are obliged to report about their efforts to implement the Convention to the Conference of the Parties as well as to relevant donors. To ensure a meaningful impact that reduces/eliminates POPs exposure, NGOs need to participate in and monitor these efforts.

There is a growing need for public awareness and political accountability around the implementation of the objectives of the Stockholm Convention. Since it entered into force, countries have been grappling with both the legacy issues of POPs no longer in use as well as the management of new POPs that have been identified in common consumer products such as electronics, textiles, insulation, and so on. The original National Implementation Plans of countries who have ratified the convention may have been amended to reflect changes to the Convention obligations (including the additional listing of new POPs to the Convention) and act as an evaluation tool for the effectiveness of measures taken by those countries who are parties to the Convention.

It is vitally important that the public is aware of the success or otherwise that parties have had in implementing these obligations to reduce or eliminate persistent organic pollutants. Equally, they have a right to know what barriers and challenges exist in the implementation of NIPs when the consequences for public health and the environment are serious. NGOs are essential actors that can effectively raise public and governmental awareness of the measures necessary to combat the scourge of POPs and these projects will highlight the effectiveness to date of NIPs and the actions necessary to make them more effective.

For this report AEEFG assessed the situation regarding NIPs in Tunisia and its state of implementation as well as examined the POPs situation throughout the country.

**Tunisia NIP history at a glance:**

- **Tunisia signed Stockholm Convention the 23th of May 2001 and ratified via presidential decree 13<sup>th</sup> of April 2004.**
- **The 2017 NIP is the first update since the 2007 NIP was presented to the Convention Secretariat.**
- **The Tunisian NIP was received by the Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention on 04/04/2018**

**Table 1. Status of the National Implementation Plan as of 2017**

List of POPs		Results of the inventories
Pesticides		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-68 600 kg of obsolete stocks of HCH, Lindane and DDT as follows: 58 600 kg HCH and Lindane and 10000 kg of DDT</li> <li>-soil contamination by pesticides still remaining and levels are over limits (hundred times over)</li> <li>-Endosulfan was imported since 2000 but from 2003 it was stopped.</li> <li>-Lindane and DDT are present in a very small quantity</li> <li>-the other pesticides don't exist</li> <li>-Endrine, Mirex, Toxaphene, Chlordecone, Pentachlorobenzene and Hexabromocyclododecane (HBCDD) don't exist in Tunisia and were never imported</li> </ul>
Chemical substances	PCB	<p><u><i>Inventories of PCBs according to NIP (June 2017)</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-PCBs inventories are undertaken and lead by ANGED (National Agency for management of Waste)</li> <li>-91 Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMP) for 140 storage units for contaminated equipment by PCBs held by 24 holders in 24 governorates.</li> <li>- inventories of PCBs as in NIP was in 2017 and recorded total weight of discarded equipment and in service is estimated to <b>2480 tons</b></li> <li>-1056 tones of PCB eliminated including 67 tons of contaminated soils was exported and treated between June 2016 to February 2017. (Indicator was achieved: The project seeks to eliminate 1,100 tons of PCB-contaminated oil, waste, and equipment belonging to sector ministries and public entities)</li> <li>-40% of equipments containing PCBs were treated</li> <li>-ANGED developed information system addressing life cycle of PCBs in Tunisia</li> <li>-National website created to update and exchange information on PCBs situation</li> <li>- Information system created as a National and international platform to exchange and communicate on PCBs situation</li> </ul> <p><u><i>Inventories of PCBs according to the National coordinator for management of PCBs activities Project GEF PCBIDAS (2013 to 2025):</i></u></p> <p><u><i>Publication of 23 of May 2017 and June 2017</i></u>  <a href="https://www.webmanagercenter.com/2017/05/23/407079/langed-cloture-la-premiere-phase-du-projet-de-gestion-ecologiquement-rationnelle-des-pcb-en-tunisie/">(https://www.webmanagercenter.com/2017/05/23/407079/langed-cloture-la-premiere-phase-du-projet-de-gestion-ecologiquement-rationnelle-des-pcb-en-tunisie/)</a>, <a href="https://livretsante.com/plus/gestion-eologiquement-rationnelle-securisee-pcb-tunisie/">https://livretsante.com/plus/gestion-eologiquement-rationnelle-securisee-pcb-tunisie/</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1100 Tons of discarded equipment and 1214 of equipment in service with a total of <b>2314 Tons</b> of PCB related materials</li> <li>- 1050 Tons exported to Belgium for elimination</li> <li>- Environmentally Sound Management decree is ongoing for PCBs</li> <li>- Ongoing national laboratories to be accredited for analyzing PCBs</li> <li>- Concerning equipment with low concentration of PCBs, Tunisia can build a rehabilitation center for restoration of equipment</li> <li>- Negotiations with World Bank for the second phase of the project to dispose of PCBs storage equipment</li> </ul>

*Inventories of PCBs according to World Bank report 30 November 2017:*

-World Bank RATINGS OF PROJECT PERFORMANCE IN Implementing Supervision Reports of the project:  
<http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/882061512743951963/pdf/Tunisia-PCB-ICR-FINALv2-12052017.pdf>

No.	Date ISR Archived	DO Rating	IP Rating	Actual Disbursements (US\$M)
10	16-May-2017	Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory	4.49

- additional of 200 tons of PCB-contaminated oil and equipment and more than 300 tons of contaminated soil is currently stored and awaiting elimination
- Delivery of laboratory equipment for analyzing PCB at three sites ANPE, STEG, ANGED
- Training courses on PCB management were organized at local, regional and national level for a total of 1063 participants
- PCBs emissions: from burned domestic waste and evaluated at 8,89 kg/year

**PBDE**

- 58 754 kg/year used in electric and electronic devices
- 24 726 kg/year in transportation sector

**HBCDD\_**

- 85 tons used in polystyrene
- Bromine varied from 43 ppm to 9000ppm in packaging
- Wastes of HBCDD aren't inventoried

**PFOS**

Estimation of 18,4 tons/year to 160,87 tons/year

**Intentional POPs:**  
 PCDD (Dioxins),  
 Furans (PCDF)

**PCDD/PCDF:**

Total estimation of 43,52 g TEQ/year in air, soil, water, compounds and waste residues

**Emissions of PeCB and HCB:**

- 1,583 Kg/year of HCB and very low quantities of PeCB

**Guidance which is currently missing in the NIP:**

**(a) Inventories;**

- Major gap of data from National Institution of Statistics to list importation of POPs according to the COMTRADE HS code.
- Inventories plan doesn't cover SCCPs as it was newly added
- PCNs (polychlorinated naphthalene) and PCP (pentachlorophenol) was addressed only for the decree but not for inventories.

**Table 2. PCB inventory Tunisia**

- Exhaustive inventories in National and private sector of equipment containing PCBs
- Data inventories of PCBs are inconsistent between the three sources cited in the table below:

Equipment	Discarded equipment (Tonnes)	Equipment in service (Tonnes)	Total (Tonnes)	Elimination (Tonnes)	Target achievement	Additional PCBs after February 2017 (Tonnes)
According to NIP	-----	-----	2480	989	90%	180 of discarded equipment and 200 of soil contamination
According to national coordinator for PCBs (May 2017)	1100	1214	2314	1050	95.45%	-----
According to national coordinator for PCBs (June 2017)	-----	-----	2051	1050	95.45%	-----
World Bank report (30 of November 2017)	-----	-----		1044 (equipment, oil and waste)	95%	200 of PCB-contaminated oil and equipment and more than 300 tons of contaminated

						soil
SEGOR/SUEZ PCB decontamination societies				1044,343	95.0%	

- missing exhaustive inventories for: PBDE-HBCDD- PFOS- in pure products materials, equipment and wastes and by activity sectors
- National PCB Inventory online tracking movement of PCB-contaminated equipment isn't updated

### **PBDE/HBCDD/ PFOS**

- Exhaustive inventory by sectors specifically for foams firefighting that can be reported but are not being reported to the NIPs system.
- Waste electronics and electrical equipment disassembly and recycling unit was created in 2016 in Tunisia: this information wasn't mentioned in the NIP as a source of waste.
- mention of earlier study on EE waste as done by GIZ/SweepNet: ANGED estimates that in the year 2010 about 50 000 tons of e-waste have been generated in Tunisia (including TVs, air conditioners, refrigerators, and washing machines)
- 11 private companies are active in Tunisia and propose e-waste related services: The private initiative collection proposes e-waste management services. The company operates in e-waste collection, transport, recycling and exportation. This information wasn't involved in the NIP

### **(b) Tunisia's NIPs priorities in addressing the new persistent organic pollutants problem, taking into account broader social and economic priorities;**

- Social and economic aspects of POPs problems aren't based on data and factual information; it is a superficial analyses
- 8 priorities were mentioned in the NIP and the first one refers to decrees on PCBs and E waste management. The priority for inventories for PBDE/HBCDD/PFOS is listed as the sixth priority whereas it should be the first one. Tunisia's experience with PCBS demonstrates that they can manage and eliminate POPs in terms of PCBs even without a decree. ANGED can duplicate the PCB management method for an inventory of PBDE/HBCDD/PFOS using trained workers (1063 workers) and institutions that already participated in PCB work with units of storage in all governorates. In addition, an initiative for collection of EE waste that already exists can be supported by government as it will have positive contribution in economy and at social level by creating jobs and at the meantime avoid anarchic disposal of EE waste

- NGOs are involved only in the section related to the National Strategy for Information, Awareness and Education of Workers, People in Contact and the Public on POPs whereas they can support different activities.

**Table 3. Evaluation of NIP according to SC articles**

Articles	Definition	Activities listed in the NIP
3-4	Implement control measures for each chemical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Inventory of existing structures in charge of POPs in the country for analysis and control and strengthening of their capacities</li> <li>-reinforce control trans-boundary movement (import/export) for customs by creating special code for POPs registered in Annex A and B in raw materials, products, equipment</li> <li>- strict control of the use of PCB oils in factories and industries across the country. (author note – PCB use should end by 2025 and be destroyed by 2028)</li> </ul>
5	Develop and implement action plans for unintentionally produced POPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- pursue the management program of unintentional products Dioxins, Furans, PeCB, PCB</li> <li>-schedule studies of unintentional chemicals and their impacts on health and environment</li> </ul>
6	Develop inventories of the chemicals' stockpiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-updating inventory of soil contamination for pesticides as DDT, Lindane and HCH</li> <li>-continue work on eliminating discarded equipment with PCBs</li> <li>-call for developing of inventories for PFOS, PBDE and HBCDD,</li> </ul>
7	Review and update the National Implementation Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-priorities in financing of review and update of NIPs</li> </ul>
15	Include the new chemicals in the reporting	Only SCCPs (see above) aren't included in the NIP
16	Include the new chemicals in the programme for the	-PCNs and PCP were addressed only for decrees



	effectiveness evaluation	
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**(c) NIP Programme for achieving sustainable development;**

**Table 4. NIP programmes and gaps**

Programme in NIP	GAPS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reinforcement of chemical safety</li> <li>- Minimisation of hazards impacts of POPs on health and environment</li> <li>- Involving institutions related to sustainable development program as Ministries of: Environment, Health, Agriculture, Trade, Industry, Energy.</li> <li>-Integrate management of POPs in National Development Planning as integrated approach</li> <li>-Strengthening Human resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-deeper diagnosis of national plans to manage chemicals and adapt as a model for POPs</li> <li>-types of synergies between institutions in chemical management</li> <li>- listing infrastructures that can facilitate the management of POPs (diagram)</li> <li>-lack of clear diagram to explain POPs</li> </ul>

**(d) NIPs institutional arrangements and available infrastructure.**

-weakness in listing infrastructure for management of chemicals at national level for POPs

**Table 5. Major POPs issues in Tunisia**

Major POPs problems in Tunisia and strategies to address them in the NIP (see table below) Major	Stockpiles	Emissions	Contaminated sites	Timeframe	Indicator

<b>POPs problem</b>						
<b>Actions proposed</b>	<b>Pesticides</b>	<b>Elimination of 68 600 kg still remains of HCH, Lindane and DDT by updating the national program of 2012 Time frame:</b>	-----	<b>-Decontamination of sites -Treatment and rehabilitation of sites -Elaborate and implement monitoring plan for old sites contaminated by POPs pesticides</b>	<b>2018-2019 for pesticides stockpiles elimination  2018-2022 for sites decontamination for pesticides and PCBs</b>	<b>Zero stockpiles of pesticides and PCBs</b>
	<b>PCBs</b>	<b>-updating inventory of discarded equipment stockpiles -improve traceability of equipments containing PCBs</b>	-----		<b>2018-2019</b>	
	<b>Dioxins and furans</b>	<b>-Support national integrated and sustainable management of waste (PRONGIDD) -rehabilitation of illegal landfills -elaborating plan for sorting waste at source and valorisation</b>	<b>-management of production and emissions of unintentional POPs</b>	<b>Better management of production and emissions</b>	<b>2018-2022</b>	<b>Substantial reduction of emissions of unintentional POPs and their impacts on health and environment</b>
	<b>PBDE/HBCDD/PFOS</b>	<b>-Exhaustive inventory by sectors of products, data on PBDE import/export, estimation of PBDE/HBCDD storage in National institution /year considered as waste -listing of waste containing bromide and perfluoro sulfonated substances as</b>	-----		<b>2018-2019</b>	<b>- availability of quantities and qualities data -elaboration of funding request to conduct pilot activities</b>

		hazards chemicals				
	<b>PCNs</b>	<b>Decree</b>	-----	-----	<b>2 years</b>	<b>Updating legal and legislative existing texts to be adapted to SC requirements Better monitoring and support of means related to POPs</b> -----
	<b>PCP</b>	<b>Decree</b>	-----	-----	<b>2 years</b>	

**POPs issues identified in the NIP that require urgent and immediate attention:**

- pesticides stockpiles HCH, DDT and lindane require urgent elimination by 2019
- PCBs in discarded equipment by 2019
- Soil contamination by pesticides and PCBs
- To address the above urgent action a plan for funding requests is listed as an activity.
- For PCBs, discussion with World Bank is under review to fund further treatment and destruction of PCB stockpile materials.

**Table 6. Major challenges Tunisia has experienced in implementing its NIP.**

Items	Challenges
Resources	- funding request to International institutions needs performance and expertise on addressing POPs issue in term of identification of the effectiveness of activities with deep knowledge of how to formulate needs assessment
Technical expertise	-Entrance into force of the national commission on POPs -strengthening institutional capacities related to POPs activities -increase public awareness on danger of POPs -synergies between SC and MEAs addressing chemicals -Training of professional staff in management of POPs (monitoring, evaluation, control, use, import, inventories, storage and disposal) -strengthening policy and regulatory regime -setting standards for POPs -epidemiological study to reveal correlation between diseases and POPs -establish and strengthen information center -improve inter-institutional reporting model -financial support
Identification of POPs problem	-coordinating national approaches addressing chemicals -POPs monitoring schemes -mechanism to identify POPs -improve unified database on POPs by creating centralized computerized system -establish awareness program on contaminated sites - environment audit should include POPs -- financial support
Technology	-transfer of appropriate technology Tunisia needs for monitoring POPs -improved laboratory analysis of POPs -dissemination of available/feasible substitutions for POPs -improve research on effects of POPs and their alternatives - financial support
Political instability	-Tunisia is in transition to democracy state with upgrading and review of legislation and monitoring Ministries activities. Therefore, the parliament is mainly focusing on those issues. Environmental legislation not taken as a priority
Conflict	-----
Waste management	-safe disposal of fluids, components and equipments containing POPs -uncontrolled storage -lack of knowledge of proper storage -leaching of POPs and contamination of water supplies -funding request

**Level of NIP compliance with Convention in terms of what should be included in the NIP and actions or commitments to address those issues.**

Areas where Tunisia is potentially non-compliant:

- identifying gaps in resources, capacity PFOS, PBDE, HBCD, PCN, PCP
- identifying institutional and financial assistance needed to complete NIP development
- for PCBs, obsolete pesticides Tunisia meets the requirements of SC
- The NIP addresses the twelve persistent organic pollutants listed in Annexes A, B and C of the Convention
- assessment of the persistent organic pollutants problem, based on surveys, monitoring and inventories are specified principally for pesticides and PCBs. For other POPs, project sheets are elaborated.

**Table 7. The national priorities for addressing the POPs problem (taking into account broader social and economic priorities)**

Compliance with SC	Impacts on health and environment	Socio-economic impacts	Alternatives to POPs	Pertinence of management of POPs
Priorities are elaborated according to articles 3,5,6,7,9,10 of SC	Evaluation of risks	Evaluation of risks	Only alternatives to pesticides	Pesticides and PCBs are the POPs that have been addressed

- programme for achieving sustainable development: integrating rational sound management of chemicals into national development planning mechanisms as an essential component of development to support sustainable development in Tunisia

- Institutional arrangements and available infrastructure are considered in the activities

**Table 8. Comparative outcomes regarding compliance with Stockholm Convention requirements.**

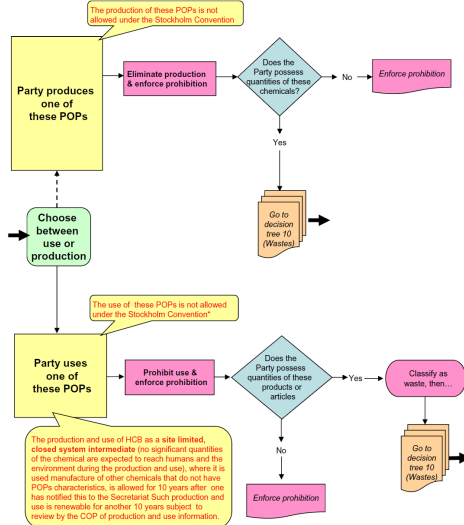
	Items	Compliance
Inventories	▪ Relevant country background.	++*
	▪ The manufacture, import, export, distribution, use, and management of POPs chemicals.	NOT ALL POPS
	▪ Institutional setting and infrastructure assessment for POPs management, regulation, and enforcement.	++
	▪ The health and environmental impacts of POPs.	++
	▪ Preliminary inventory of POPs pesticides or update of existing one.	++
	▪ Preliminary inventory of PCB-containing equipment, or update of existing one.	-
	▪ Preliminary inventory of industrial chemicals and POPs in articles, or update of existing one.	+
		-*
	-	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Preliminary inventory of releases of unintentionally produced POPs, or update of existing one.</li> <li>▪ Summary of relevant data on environmental contamination and exposure.</li> <li>▪ Review of legal and enforcement mechanisms.</li> <li>▪ Analysis of the socio-economic aspects of POPs use.</li> </ul> <p><b>FOR NEW POPS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Types of processes using new POPs, including concentrations of those substances used in such processes.</li> <li>▪ Types and quantities of articles containing new POPs.</li> <li>▪ Types of articles containing new POPs that are recycled, the extent of recycling, the types of articles produced from recycling, the options for the environmental management of recycling operations, and releases or potential releases resulting from recycling operations.</li> <li>▪ Types of alternatives identified at the international level used in products and processes at the national level.</li> <li>▪ Types and quantities of new POPs stockpiles.</li> <li>▪ Options used for the management of wastes containing new POPs, including products and articles that become waste.</li> </ul> <p>Location of contaminated sites potentially contaminated with new POPs</p>	<p>+*</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p>
Priorities in addressing POPs		Issue Prioritisation Matrix
Programme for achieving SD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Getting Started: Preparatory Tasks and Considerations</li> <li>- Defining Action Plan Purpose and Scope</li> <li>-Planning the Details: Activities, Timelines, Resources, and More</li> <li>-Implementing, and Evaluating the Action Plan</li> </ul>	<p>++</p> <p>++</p> <p>++</p> <p>-</p>
Institution and infrastructure		+

\*++ satisfactory; \*+ acceptable; \*- weak

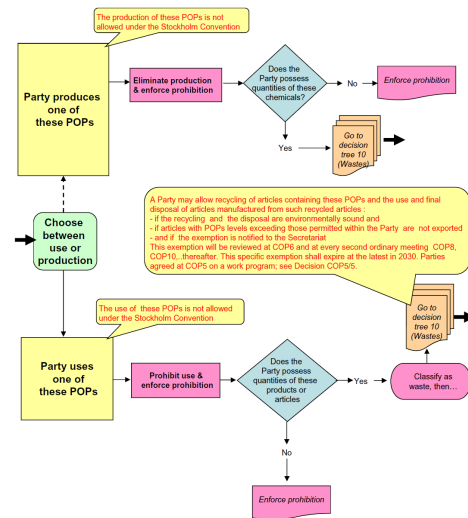
In terms of compliance, these flow diagrams assist with Guidance on Calculation of Action Plan Costs for Specific Persistent Organic Pollutants the Implementation of the Stockholm Convention and challenges faced by government in implementation.

1. Intentionally produced POPs:  
 aldrin, alpha HCH, beta HCH, chlordane, chlordecone, dieldrin, endrin, heptachlor, hexabromobiphenyl, HCB, mirex, pentachlorobenzene, toxaphene



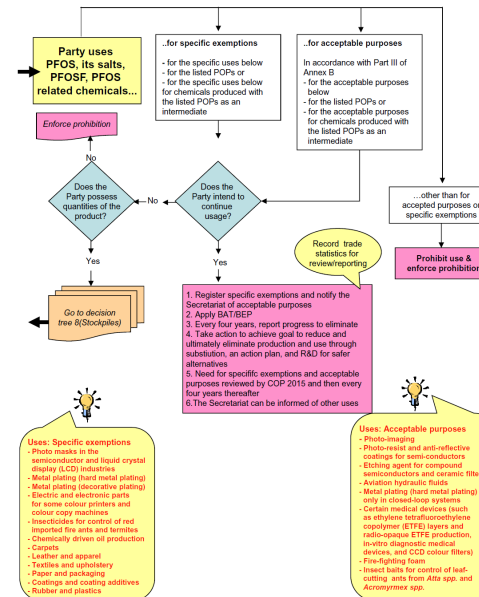
Step of waste for lindane, HCH, DDT

2. Intentionally produced POPs:  
 tetraBDE and pentaBDE (commercial PentaBDE), hexaBDE and heptaBDE (commercial OctaBDE)



Step of uses of BDE products

5.2 Intentionally produced POPs:  
 PFOS, its salts, PFOSE, PFOS related chemicals - use



Step of uses of these PFAS chemicals

**Legal framework for POPs management in Tunisia laws, including regulations and standards for POPs in have been developed to support the NIP and the Stockholm Convention objectives.**

- Decree related to the commitment of Tunisia to SC with different chapters:
  - o devoted to the reduction and elimination of discharges resulting from intentional production and use
  - o devoted to the reduction and elimination of discharges resulting from unintentional production and use and listing the products
- Threshold for dioxins and furans in air: 0,1 ng TEQ/Nm<sup>3</sup>

**Table 9. Decrees listed in the NIP related to POPs**

<b>Decrees</b>	<b>Information</b>	<b>Date</b>
Presidential decree on SC	Ratification of SC	13 <sup>th</sup> April 2004
Threshold for dioxins and furans in air	Decree n°. 2519 of threshold for dioxins and furans in air: 0,1ng TEQ/Nm <sup>3</sup>	28th of September 2010
Decree related to PCB, PCT, PCN and PBB	Accelerate elaboration	2018-2019
Decree related to EEE waste	Accelerate elaboration	2018-2019
Decree related to SC	Elaboration of decree project on SC implementation	2018-2019

**POPs activities where the government has engaged with the public, NGOs and CSOs to keep them informed of POPs problems and their actions to remedy them.**

- **DAS (waste from health sector project):** project involved under SC implementation and financial funding stopped in May 2017. It has concerned BAT/BEP implementation for medical waste incineration in order to limit dioxins and furans emissions and PCBs. In Tunisia 16000 tons of sanitary waste per year are produced which are mostly treated by incineration. It appears that NGOs weren't involved in this project.
- AEEFG participated in the national committee on POPs on 4<sup>th</sup> of October 2016 for reviewing and updating NIP of SC. The meeting concerned the presentation of results of the second part of the study on NIP

**National coordination bodies for effective implementation of the Stockholm convention that include or are open to stakeholders such as NGOs and CSOs**

In Tunisia, the Stockholm Convention discussions are led by a national committee under the name of COPIL. AEEFG is member of this COPIL. Different stakeholders represent COPIL from different Ministries and Agencies related to POPs. Research and NGOs are part of this COPIL. COPIL is open to all inputs and comments from different members.

**Current POPs management projects**



The program 'Switch-Med (SCP/RAC)' is a Mediterranean program where Tunisia is member and it is a program that deals with government. Semia Gharbi promoted the work of Tunisia on POPs and they were interested to develop a pilot project on substitution of PFOS in foam for firefighting and HBCDD. I facilitated the relationship between Ministry of Environment and Switch-Med. A meeting was organised in April 2018 with participants from different institutions in relation to the use of POPs.

**Recommendations, from a public interest, NGO perspective, on what specific actions need to be undertaken as a priority to address the most important POPs issues in your country.**

- 1. Raising public/industries awareness on new POPs**
- 2. Inventories for new POPs**
- 3. Legal framework for new POPs**

**Since there is a lack of awareness on POPs (specifically for the new ones), priority must be given to raising industry awareness and public interest. In the interim, raising industry awareness is an opportunity to seek provision of data for inventories of new POPs used or disposed by them. Regarding the legal framework, there are project decrees on the ground for PCBs and EEE waste. In parallel, a wide range of listing POPs can be involved in such decrees.**

**Recommendations as to how the Tunisian NIP could be improved.**

- More clarity in the NIP (it is currently a big report with a lot of non-useful information)
- Time-frames to achieve the NIP should be shortened
- More frequent meeting of the national committee should occur
- Lack of schemes to clarify different issues regarding POPs
- Lot of duplication of information and confusing information
- Inclusive processes for each kind of POPs relating challenges to get data for inventories
- Weak action plan in terms of timeframe feasibilities
- The action plan isn't very specific for POPs activities it is such general and applicable for any chemicals
- The NIP doesn't highlight success stories activities in POPs already done in Tunisia and the experiences learned from project on PCBs, dioxins, furans and stockpiles pesticides. They were a big number of trainers trained at the national level that can support the work on new POPs

- Lack of information on substitutions for POPs in products and processes.

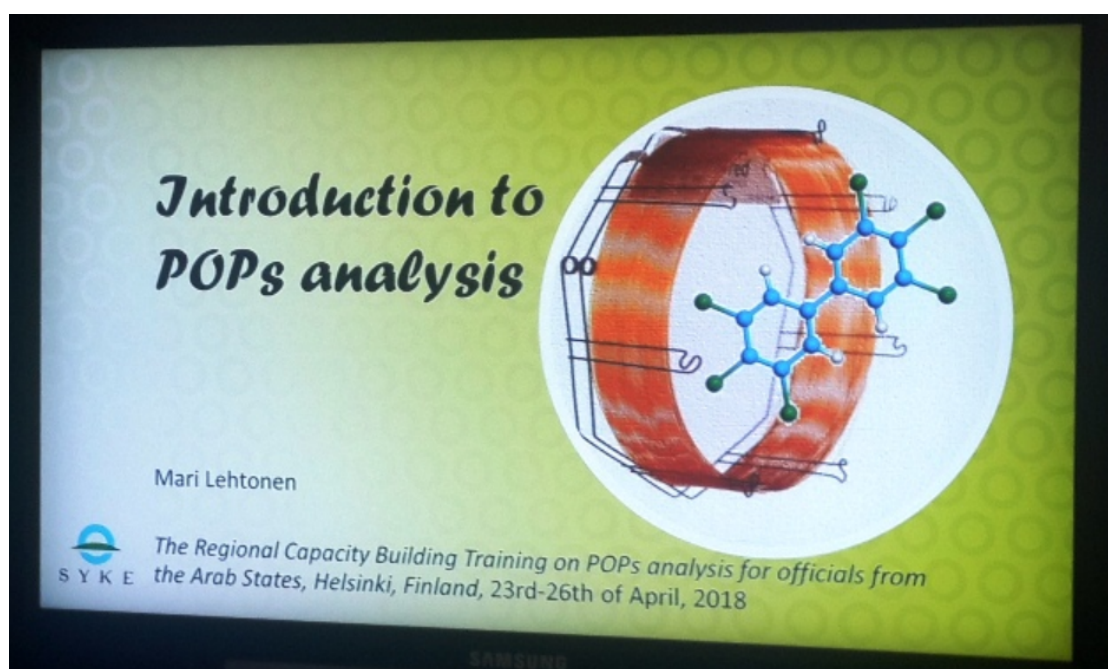
## **Activities conducted for this project.**

### **Raising awareness:**

- contact with some industries on use of POPs in their products (polystyrene)
- meeting with officials and doctors from National Civil Protection on foam firefighting issues (PFOS PFOA)
- meeting official from National Agency for Sanitary Control and Environmental Protection to promote POPs activities
- Sharing information on POPs through the AEEFG face book site
- Participating in Regional capacity building training on POPs analysis for officials from the Arab states in Helsinki, Finland April 2018 (see images below)
- Promoting POPs as an issue to raise for education

### **Providing expertise in the national committee meeting**

- Facilitating collaboration between government institutions as Ministry of Environment, National Civil Protection, National Agency for Sanitary Control and Environmental Protection and Switch-Med agency regarding possible pilot activity on prevention of new POPs.
- Emails exchanges, phone calls and skype calls from January 2018 to July 2018 on possible project on POPs





<http://www.bcrcegypt.com/Category/Index/6?itemId=1127&disId=39&type=1>

#### **Possible pilot project on ‘Prevention of New POPs:**

- “PFOS-PFAS Free Fire-Fighting”. Possibility to conduct a Pilot project with the Ports, Airports and Civil Protection (Fire-fighting Departments). This proposed activity plans to provide technical assistance (T.A.) and co-financing along the life cycle of PFOS-PFAS to Tunisia (Establishing/supporting a National Team, Training-Awareness, T.A.-studies, legal framework, prevention, sampling-analysis-inventory, monitoring, disposal).
- Possible Pilot Activity (Quick Start Project - QSP) “HBCD Free EPS/XPS”. There is possibility to conduct a Pilot project with EPS/XPS producers/ importers on HBCD substitution. The activity plans to provide technical assistance (T.A.) and co-financing along the life cycle of HBCD.
- Possible Pilot Activity (Quick Start Project - QSP) “SCCP Free Lubricants”. We understand there is possibility to conduct a Pilot project with lubricants companies. The activity plans to provide technical assistance (T.A.) and co-financing along the life cycle of SCCP (Establishing/supporting a National Team, Training-Awareness, T.A.-studies, legal framework, prevention, sampling-analysis-inventory, monitoring, disposal)
- 
- Letter of support from AEEFG to Ministry of Environment for running a “QSP” project:



A qui de droit.

Objet : Lettre de soutien au projet.

Monsieur,

Après avoir pris connaissance du contenu du "Projet de renforcement institutionnel et des capacités du secteur industriel pour la gestion écologiquement rationnelle des déchets dangereux et des produits chimiques ainsi que l'amélioration de la conformité et de la mise en œuvre des accords environnementaux multilatéraux incluant les conventions de Bâle, Rotterdam et Stockholm" proposé par la Direction Générale de l'Environnement et de la Qualité de la Vie au sein du Ministère des Affaires Locales et de l'Environnement dans le cadre du programme spéciale / PNUE projet" et compte tenu de la similitude de points de vues concernant l'importance de la gestion écologiquement rationnelle des produits chimiques et déchets dangereux et l'opportunité de disposer au niveau national d'un programme de prévention permettant la réduction des impacts sanitaires et environnementaux dus à leur mauvaise gestion, j'ai l'honneur de confirmer tout l'intérêt de notre ONG : Association de l'Education Environnementale pour les Futures Générations (AEEFG) pour ce projet avec l'expression de son appui total pour sa mise en œuvre et à l'intention de collaborer et contribuer aux efforts à déployer pour sa réussite.

La Présidente : Semia Gharbi

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**Tunisian Stockholm Convention Focal Point: Provide the name and contact details of your National Stockholm Convention Focal Point.**

- **Mr Youssef Zidi : "Youssef ZIDI" <youssef.zidi@mineat.gov.tn>**

**Resources on NIPs and Stockholm Convention public engagement:**

<http://pops-tunisie.tn>; [www.anged.nat.tn/](http://www.anged.nat.tn/) ; <http://www.ancsep.rns.tn/>