

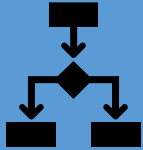
# UNEP developed tools to strengthen data integration to support Stockholm Convention National Implementation Plans updating and reporting

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Workshop on “From Science to Action” for the implementation of the BRS conventions and guidance on the environmentally sound management of industrial chemicals  
12–14 April 2023, Buenos Aires

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# Importance of an informed decision making and related process



An informed decision for Stockholm Convention implementation is a choice that decision makers select once they have all the information related to the decision topic. It involves analyzing potential outcomes, benefits and risks associated with each option, then deciding which choice is the best.



Successful implementation of Stockholm Convention relies on informed decision making – **in particular during National Implementation Plan development and update**



When making an important decision, it's useful to have **in-depth knowledge, research and tools** to help in making an informed choice



## Importance of making informed decisions:

- ✓ Improving confidence
- ✓ Creating more realistic expectations
- ✓ Learning more options
- ✓ Allowing for more control

## How to make an informed decision:

- ✓ 1. Determine the issue
- ✓ **2. Gather and compile data**
- ✓ 3. Research your options
- ✓ 4. Consider the outcomes
- ✓ 5. Make a decision

# Stockholm Convention Integrated Electronic Toolkit

## Challenge

Executive summary of the report on the effectiveness evaluation of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants: *“A key challenge in undertaking this evaluation was the limited data available from national reports and NIPs”; (...)* *“Quantitative information on the production of POPs reported by Parties is extremely limited, such that it is not possible to discuss trends”.*

## SC COP Mandate

Paragraph 8.e of decision SC-8/8 on implementation plans

Paragraph 3 of decision SC-8/17 on reporting pursuant to Article 15 of the Stockholm Convention

Paragraph 7.c of decision SC-9/9 on implementation plans

Paragraph 7.c of decision SC-9/16 on reporting pursuant to Article 15 of the Stockholm Convention

## Root causes

- Format of NIP and national reports
  - National coordination
- National resources

## Barriers

- Lack of structured template for NIP
- Lack of relationship between NIP and reporting
- Lack of national mechanism on NIP and reporting
- Lack of institutional coordination and data collection and management systems
- Lack of financial resources and technical capacities

# GEF Art. 7 and 15 Project – objective, outcomes and outputs

**Objective:** Facilitate the development, transmission, access and use of data contained in National Implementation Plans (NIP, Article 7) and National Reports (Article 15)

**Outcome:** Enhance compliance with the SC through improved accessibility and use of data contained in NIPs (Article 7) and National Reports (Article 15)

## Dates



**Start:** Nov 2017  
**End:** June 2023

## Budget

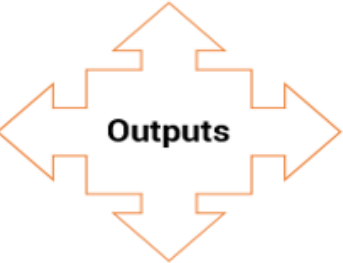


**Total GEF financing:**  
\$2,000,000  
**Total Co-financing:**  
\$7,232,340

## Project countries



**Output 1.1:** Gap analysis & consultations with the SC Parties



**Output 1.2:** Integrated articles 7 and 15 electronic toolkit designed

**Output 1.4:** Development of the Replication Strategy

**Output 1.3:** Demonstration of the integrated electronic toolkit



**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**



SDG Target: 12.4.1 - "Number of Parties to MEAs that meet their commitments and obligations in transmitting information as required by each agreement"

# Integrated Electronic Toolkit – structure, features and functionalities (1)

## NIP Submission Module

UNEP

user\_cambodia

NIPs SUBMISSION MODULE  
Home / Dashboard

Executive Summary

The executive summary would provide a concise overview of the major points in the NIP, two to four pages in length, suitable for circulation as a stand-alone document. It would typically cover a country's commitment to implement a NIP, implementation progress to date, the objectives of the Convention, (updated) national priorities and key issues, (updated) targets for implementation, and (updated) resource requirements.

Format B I U [Rich Text Editor Icons]

Back to previous section Save Next Section

- ✓ Aims at assisting Parties in **organizing data and information in a template** for their initial or updated NIPs submissions.
- ✓ The template takes into account the identified **standard elements of the NIPs** and provides a **modular approach** to the development of updates of the NIP.
- ✓ The template provides **sufficient flexibility to address certain dynamic elements** that are likely to change with the listing of new POPs by future COPs.

# Integrated Electronic Toolkit – structure, features and functionalities (2)

## POPs Inventory Module

The image displays two screenshots of the POPs Inventory Module interface. The left screenshot shows the 'Part A - Summary of inventory Guidance Documents' section, which includes a list of 12 items: 1. General guidance on POPs inventories, 2. Inventory of POPs pesticides, 3. Inventory of Pentachlorophenol, its salts and, 4. Inventory of Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), 5. Inventory of Polybromodiphenyl ethers (POP), 6. Inventory of Hexabromocyclododecane (HBC), 7. Inventory of Hexachlorobutadiene (HCBD), 8. Inventory of Polychlorinated naphthalenes (f), 9. Inventory of Short chain chlorinated paraffin, 10. Inventory of DDT, 11. Inventory of Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, and 12. Annex C Persistent Organic Pollutants. The right screenshot shows the 'Part B - Inventory Report Format' section, which includes a 'Download the word document' button and a list of 7 items: 1. Summary of the inventory findings, 2. Objectives and scope, 3. Data methodology used and how data were gathered, 4. Final results of the inventory in each sector considered a priority for the country, 5. Results of the gap-analysis and limitations identified for completion of the inventory, 6. Further actions to be taken to complete the inventory (e.g. stakeholder involvement, data collection strategies) and recommendations, and 7. Other information (e.g. stakeholder list). Both screenshots show the UNEP logo and a user profile 'user\_cambodia' in the top right corner.

- ✓ Presents the POPs inventory guidance documents in an electronic and user-friendly manner and aims at assisting Parties in managing data collected on POPs inventories.
- ✓ Encompass entry-data forms for the different types of data expected for the different POPs listed to the annexes of the Stockholm Convention.
- ✓ Will be further developed as to support the digitization of the POPs inventories.

# Integrated Electronic Toolkit – structure, features and functionalities (3)

## Guidance Module

The screenshot displays the user interface of the UNEP Integrated Electronic Toolkit. At the top, there is a blue header with the UNEP logo on the left and a user profile icon labeled 'user\_cambodia' on the right. Below the header is a navigation sidebar on the left containing several menu items: 'NIP Submission Module', 'POPs Inventories Module', 'Querries Module', 'Guidance Module' (which is expanded to show sub-items: 'Guidance on NIP developing and review', 'Guidance on NIP Implementation', and 'Guidance on Reporting under Convention'), and 'Toolkit Administration'. The main content area is titled 'Guidance Module' and shows a breadcrumb trail 'Home / Dashboard'. The primary content is a table with two rows, each representing a chapter or section of the guidance. The first row is 'Chapter 1 Introduction and Overview' and the second row is '1.1 Guidance for developing a National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention'. Below these, there is a third row with '1.2. Guidance for the review and updating of national implementation plans'. At the bottom of the page, there is a blue footer with the text 'Designed by UNEP'.

- ✓ Contains **contextualized links to relevant guidance documents** and other toolkits (e.g. dioxin and furans toolkit) available that support the submissions of NIPs (e.g. inventory guidance documents) and of National Reports (e.g. manuals).

# Integrated Electronic Toolkit – structure, features and functionalities (4)

## Queries Module

The screenshot displays the UNEP Queries Module interface. On the left, a navigation menu includes: NIP Submission Module, POPs Inventories Module, Queries Module, Guidance Module, and Toolkit Administration. The main content area is titled 'Predefined Queries' and contains a form to 'SELECT THE PREDEFINED QUERY'. The form has three sections: 'Choose the level:' with a dropdown set to 'Global'; 'Choose the Query:' with a dropdown set to 'NIP transmission status'; and 'Choose the Options:' with a dropdown set to 'By country'. Below the form is a 'GET THE REPORT:' button and a bar chart showing 'Amount (kg/year)' on a logarithmic scale from 0.10 to 10,000,000.00 for the years 2001 to 2018. The chart is grouped by region: Africa (Air), Asia and Pacific (Air), Central and Eastern Europe (Air), Latin America and the Caribbean (Air), and Western Europe (Air). On the right, a 'Free Search' section is visible, featuring a search box with the placeholder text 'ex: NIP transmission status, GEF Implementing Agency', a 'WHERE' dropdown set to 'Global', and a red 'SEARCH' button. Below the search box is a table with the following data:

| COUNTRY  | NIP Submission Date | NIP Section   | Details |
|----------|---------------------|---|---------|
| Albania  | 2003                | 1.1 Initial Implementation Plan   | -       |
| Cambodia | 2002                | 1.2 Updated National Implementation Plan  | -       |
| Turkey   | 2001                | 1.3 Financial assistance from the Global Environment Facility to review and update the national implementation plan | -       |

\*mock-up, this module is under finalization

- ✓ Aims at providing stakeholders with the possibility to **query the data and information submitted** in the NIPs submission module.



# Integrated Electronic Toolkit – benefits in using it

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- Allows **online transmission of NIP** update document
  - Provides a **predefined structure and relevant templates** for information and data inputs
  - Allows **downloading the Word version format including predefined structure and templates** for national circulation and completion with relevant stakeholders
  - Provides a **clear overview of the information and data to be collected** during the NIP update process
  - **Harmonizes** the information and data to be collected under NIP update with the SC reporting obligations
  - Ensures **100% coverage of all SC reporting obligations**, through the information and data collected during the NIP update process
  - Ensures a **space as data management system**, by storing information and data collected
  - Allows Parties to **retrieve information and data from the database**
  - Provides **user-friendly summary of POPs inventory guidance** documents
  - Provides a **predefined format for POPs inventories reports**
  - Provides a **compilation of all guidance documents** needed within the process of NIP update and reporting
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# Innovation, Sustainability and Potential for scaling-up

## Innovation

- BRS reporting obligations linked to other knowledge management and data sharing mechanisms
- Electronic template for the quantitative and qualitative information included in NIPs in a harmonized manner with the reporting under Article 15 of the Convention



## Sustainability

- Integrated Electronic Toolkit administered by BRS Secretariat
- Available to be used post project
- Training on its use provided



## Scaling-up

- Through COP decision
- UNEP/GEF projects on NIP update – under Global Component



# UNEP/GEF NIP update projects – Global component

## NIP Umbrella Global Component (finalized)

From NIPs to Implementation: Lessons Learned Report"

Global Workshop entitled "From NIPs to Implementation" (Montevideo, Uruguay, 23-24 October 2018)<sup>1</sup>

Development of experts databases by region, language, and field of expertise  
<http://informea.pops.int/NIPsRoster/index.html>

POPs quantitative data gathered and included into MapX <https://www.mapx.org/stockholm-pops/>

Organizing 3 training workshops in collaboration with BRS Convention Secretariat (Indonesia<sup>2</sup>, Panama<sup>3</sup>, Fiji<sup>4</sup>)

## NIP POT Global Component (on-going)

Capacity building and technical assistance provided to countries to develop NIPs while building sustainable foundations for its future implementation

Knowledge management services provided

NIP documents reviewed before submission and (if needed) technical assistance provided

## New NIPs update project Global Component (just initiated)

Component 1: Political support and stakeholder involvement for NIP development, endorsement and future implementation

Component 2: Development of NIP review and update system and related tools; capacity built to use them

Component 3: NIP development, review and update (Art. 7) in coordination with national reporting (Art. 15)

Component 4: Knowledge management and information sharing

**Build capacities of Parties to SC** towards a sustainable mechanism for NIP update and implementation, including for national reporting

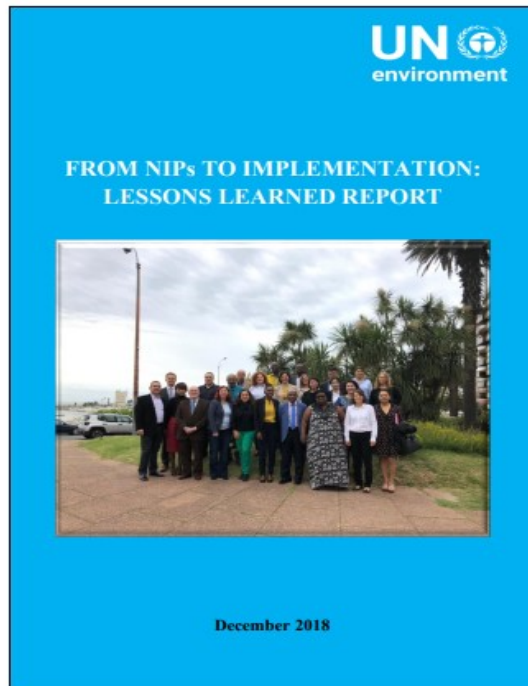


1. <https://www.unenvironment.org/events/workshop/global-workshop-nips-implementation>
2. <http://chm.pops.int/Implementation/TechnicalAssistance/Workshops/GlobalworkshopondevelopingNIPsunderSC/tabid/4780/Default.aspx>
3. <http://chm.pops.int/Implementation/TechnicalAssistance/Workshops/NIPWorkshopPanamaApr2016/tabid/5060/Default.aspx>
4. <https://www.unenvironment.org/explore-topics/chemicals-waste/what-we-do/persistent-organic-pollutants/global-monitoring-plan-10>



# Lessons learned and remaining challenges from NIP development, update and implementation processes

## FROM NIPs TO IMPLEMENTATION: LESSONS LEARNED REPORT



- ✓ Compiles the valuable information provided via a questionnaire by a majority of the countries who have participated in UNEP NIP projects, as well as by other invited countries with relevant expertise in developing, updating or revising NIPs, and by other GEF implementing agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).
- ✓ The aim of this report is to help the global community shape future activities to implement the Stockholm Convention most effectively.

# Remaining challenges within the NIP development, update and implementation processes – identified by the report

## Developing science-based policies

- Generating data and information
- Coordinating between policymakers and research institutions regarding the most relevant research topics to pursue
- Including chemicals and waste research topics in the national research programmes

## Influencing the policymakers

- Generating national evidence-based information regarding the environmental and health hazards associated with POPs
- Implementing a policy once approved
- Understanding the issues associated with POPs by policy and decision makers
- Cooperating and coordinating among relevant stakeholders

## Identifying and quantifying the impact and communicating it to policymakers

- Understanding the quantification results (scientific literacy of policy and decision-makers)

## Using the technical expertise in monitoring and analysing POPs and other chemicals

- Limited laboratory capacity for most industrial POPs (e.g. PFOS/PFOA, PBDEs, HBCD)
- Capacitating national experts in the analysis of various POPs
- Ensuring quality assurance and quality control for the monitoring procedure and analytical results

# New NIPs update project Global Component (just initiated)

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## COMPONENT 1: POLITICAL SUPPORT AND STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT FOR NIP DEVELOPMENT, ENDORSEMENT AND FUTURE IMPLEMENTATION

Focuses on **building and sustaining strong national political support and stakeholder engagement** for NIP development, update and future implementation, to address the challenges at the national level leading to less informed decision-making and policies, such as:

- ✓ lack of **coordination between the line ministries and the national research programmes** on policy-related priorities and needs;
  - ✓ lack of **connection between scientific or technical experts and policy- or decision-makers**;
  - ✓ lack of or insufficient **capacity to understand and assess the national implications of scientific and technical information** to support policymaking regarding the Conventions; and
  - ✓ lack of **cooperation and networking** with the regional and global POPs research community.
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## COMPONENT 2: DEVELOPMENT OF NIP REVIEW/UPDATE SYSTEM AND RELATED TOOLS; CAPACITY BUILT TO USE THEM

Based on previous NIP development and update experiences, this component aims at **ensuring proper and accurate data collection, management, analysis, application and implementation to strengthen the validity and sustainability of information collected** in the NIP and NIP update projects.

# Thank you



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