



Swiss Agency for
Development
and Cooperation
SDC



Swiss Agency for
the Environment,
Forests and
Landscape SAEFL

The International POPs Elimination Project

*Fostering Active and Effective Civil Society Participation in
Preparation for Implementation of the Stockholm Convention*

Global Day of Action on POPs in Russia

Chapaevsk Medical Association

**Russian Federation
April 2005**

About the International POPs Elimination Project

On May 1, 2004, the International POPs Elimination Network (IPEN <http://www.ipen.org>) began a global NGO project called the International POPs Elimination Project (IPEP) in partnership with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). The Global Environment Facility (GEF) provided core funding for the project.

IPEP has three principal objectives:

- Encourage and enable NGOs in 40 developing and transitional countries to engage in activities that provide concrete and immediate contributions to country efforts in preparing for the implementation of the Stockholm Convention;
- Enhance the skills and knowledge of NGOs to help build their capacity as effective stakeholders in the Convention implementation process;
- Help establish regional and national NGO coordination and capacity in all regions of the world in support of longer term efforts to achieve chemical safety.

IPEP will support preparation of reports on country situation, hotspots, policy briefs, and regional activities. Three principal types of activities will be supported by IPEP: participation in the National Implementation Plan, training and awareness workshops, and public information and awareness campaigns.

For more information, please see <http://www.ipen.org>

IPEN gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Global Environment Facility, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Swiss Agency for the Environment Forests and Landscape, the Canada POPs Fund, the Dutch Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment (VROM), Mitchell Kapor Foundation, Sigrid Rausing Trust, New York Community Trust and others.

The views expressed in this report are those of the authors and not necessarily the views of the institutions providing management and/or financial support.

This report is available in the following languages: English

Global Day of Action on POPs in Russia

Chapaevsk Medical Association implemented a project to raise public awareness of health impacts of POPs (particularly dioxins). Due to the project activities, residents of Chapaevsk get information on individual actions to prevent adverse health impacts of dioxins and other chemicals. At meetings with deputy chiefs of the City Administration and education officials of Chapaevsk, members of the association called for attention to the problem of dioxin pollution. Information letters on the Earth Day and associated actions against POPs in Chapaevsk were mailed to the city teachers. Schoolchildren were informed on POPs-related situation in Chapaevsk at lessons of geography and ecology for senior pupils and lessons of natural history for younger schoolchildren. Students and school pupils completed 176 questionnaires on matters of the city environment and healthy lifestyles. At the enlarged session of the Eco-Club, participants discussed the plan of environmental publications in the city newspaper. The first information newsletter - "We Can Protect Our Health" - was designed as a newspaper insert and published (5100 copies). The newsletter contained contact phones that allowed to get readers' feedback. After completion of the project, these activities will continue. Questioning of students, school pupils and educators will continue - completed questionnaires will be processed and analysed, and then results of the analysis will be published in future newspapers inserts. For additional information, please contact: Oleg Sergeev, the Head of Chapaevsk Medical Association, endopsyh@mail.samtel.ru