



**a toxics-free future**

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## **International SAICM Implementation Project (ISIP)**

In 2010, in an effort to demonstrate SAICM implementation via IPEN Participating Organizations, IPEN launched an International SAICM Implementation Project, also known as ISIP. ISIP aims to mobilize resources for initial enabling activities pertaining to national priorities, in keeping with the work areas set out in the strategic objectives of section IV of the SAICM Overarching Policy Strategy.

In particular, the ISIP supports the Governance objective of SAICM's Overarching Policy Strategy paragraph 26, which calls for enhanced "cooperation on the sound management of chemicals between Governments, the private sector and civil society at the national, regional and global levels."

In addition, ISIP builds on the 2008-2009 Global SAICM Outreach Campaign to raise awareness about SAICM and strengthen collaboration among the public interest, health and labor sectors.

### **ISIP Objectives**

ISIP's four objectives include:

- Promoting the need for sound chemicals management
- Advancing National SAICM Implementation
- Promoting global SAICM implementation by global civil society
- Building capacity among NGOs developing countries and countries with economies in transition

**Title of activity:** Mercury country situation report and awareness-raising on SAICM implementation in Ukraine

**NGO:** MAMA-86-Kharkov

**Country:** Ukraine

**Date:** February 2011

### **Elements of SAICM Covered:**

Include civil society representatives in Government committees formulating, carrying out and monitoring SAICM implementation plans, or useful inputs into the process where NGOs encounter barriers to their substantive direct participation, broad and meaningful participation of stakeholders, including women, at all levels in devising responses to chemicals management challenges and in regulatory and decision-making processes that relate to chemical safety (164, 206)

**Description of Stockholm Convention or SAICM implementation-related policy processes that you have participated in or contributed to:**

1. Since 1999 "MAMA-86," within the framework of the theme of "Chemical safety," has been engaged in solving the problem of persistent organic pollutants (POPs), including obsolete pesticides (OP). In 1999 our representatives participated in the preparation of the Stockholm Convention on POPs and the work of the Diplomatic Conference (2001), where the process of signing of the Stockholm Convention was started. This work was connected with monitoring of the situation in Ukraine, informing and lobbying of interests of the country and its inhabitants at the highest level. Therefore we took part in the process of lobbying for ratification of the Stockholm Convention on POPs in Ukraine. On 25<sup>th</sup> of September, 2007 Ukraine became a Party of the Stockholm Convention on POPs. Representatives of "MAMA-86" participated in the Conferences of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on POPs.

During 2003-2006 "MAMA-86" took an active part in creation of the National Implementation Plan under the Stockholm Convention on POPs in Ukraine (NIP), was a member of the National Interdepartmental Coordinating Committee (NICC) for implementation of the project on the Stockholm Convention on POPs; and worked on the project of GEF / UNEP "Providing the measures for development of the National Plan for implementation of the Stockholm Convention on POPs in Ukraine".

The draft of the National Implementation Plan (NIP) under the Stockholm Convention on POPs in Ukraine was prepared in 2006. Since the government has changed several times in our country, but the NIP has not been adopted. In November 2009, with the active participation of "MAMA-86," the NIP has been finalized and sent for approval to the relevant ministries. The document should have been adopted and submitted to the secretariat of the Convention by the end of 2009, but unfortunately so far this has not happened. We continue to lobby for the adoption of the National Implementation Plan under the Stockholm Convention on POPs in Ukraine.

2. Since 2003 "MAMA-86" has also been involved in the process of development and implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM).

Ukraine expressed its commitment to SAICM in the First session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM1) in Dubai (2006); has appointed the National Coordinator of SAICM in Ukraine (SAICM National Focal Point); has confirmed its intentions to implement this initiative and has joined to the relevant statement on behalf of the European Union during The Sixty-third session of the World Health Assembly in May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

### **Description of NGO positions, priorities and concerns with the process:**

The activity of "MAMA-86" is directed by the promotion of ideas and the implementation of the country of goals of SAICM.

In 2008 "MAMA-86" acceded to The SAICM NGO Global Outreach Campaign and initiated the support of the NGO / CSO Global Common Statement on SAICM by 10 Ukrainian NGOs and CSOs:

1. National environmental NGO "MAMA-86"
2. West-Ukrainian Charitable Foundation of environmental and tourist information (WETI), Lviv
3. Crimean Republican Association "Ecology and Peace", Crimea
4. Cherkassy regional organization «Zeleny svit», Cherkassy
5. Kharkiv municipal public organization «EcoPravoKharkiv», Kharkiv
6. Independent Agency of environmental information "Ecoinform", Kharkiv
7. Bureau of the environmental investigations (BEI), Lviv
8. Department of Chemistry of the M. P. Dragomanov National Pedagogic University, Kyiv
9. Division of chemical and radiation biology of the Institute of Biology of Southern Seas of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Sevastopol
10. Institute of Gas of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Kyiv

Within the framework of the partner project "Asbestos – increasing awareness in Eastern Europe to strengthen the Rotterdam Convention" in October, 2008, "MAMA-86," jointly with the M. P. Dragomanov National Pedagogic University, prepared and conducted the one-day workshop "Chemical Safety Issues in Ukraine in the Context of Synergism of Three International

Conventions: Rotterdam, Stockholm and Basel.” The workshop program consisted of two parts: Part I — Asbestos: Raising Awareness to Boost Support for the Rotterdam Convention; and Part II — The Role of Education, Enlightenment, and Informing in Dealing with Chemical Safety Issues in Ukraine in the Context of Synergism of Three International Conventions (Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm).

In 2009 “ -86,” within the framework of the project “Sound management of chemicals in Ukraine in the framework of the Strategic Approach to International Chemical Management (SAICM),” prepared and presented the “Review of activities in the area of chemical safety implemented by NGOs and responsible governmental authorities in Ukraine in the period of 2006 – 2008”.

### **Project Outcomes:**

#### **Description of the activity conducted or type of participation that was organized:**

Understanding the importance of national SAICM over several years, “ -86” conducted a national awareness campaign on SAICM and a lobbying campaign for its preparation and adoption.

During the project realization from January – February, 2011, “ -86” prepared and conducted four regional and one final national round tables of public experts’ discussion of the draft of the National Environmental Action Plan of Ukraine for the period 2011-2015 (the NEAP).

This work was carried out in collaboration with a working group of environmental NGOs of Environmental European integration of Ukraine “Envint”, the Public Expert Council within the Ukrainian part of the Committee on cooperation between Ukraine and the EU, the Public Council and the Aarhus Centre within the Ministry of Environment of Ukraine, and it was funded by the European Program of the International Renaissance Foundation.

“ -86” lobbied for the inclusion, in the part of the NEAP regarding wastes and hazardous chemical substances, of development and acceptance of the national program of the Strategic Approach to International Chemical Management (SAICM) (considering NEAP Goal 2: “Improvement of environmental situation and raising of level of chemical safety”).

According to the Law of Ukraine from December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010 2818-VI «On Basics (Strategy) of State Environmental Policy of Ukraine till 2020,” the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine is requested to approve the NEAP by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011.

In the framework of this project, and in cooperation with the M. P. Dragomanov National Pedagogic University (Kyiv), G.S. Skovoroda Kharkiv National Pedagogic University (Kharkiv), and M. Kotsyubinsky State Pedagogic University (Vinnitsa), on February 25- 26, 2011 “MAMA-86” prepared and carried out an international scientific conference “Chemical education in the context of chemical safety: the problem and prospects” in order to join the efforts of teachers, representatives of academic and university science, experts, representatives of ministries and departments, and NGOs specialized in solving the problems of chemical education related to the modern aspects of chemical safety.

Within the work of above-mentioned conference, the seminar “Problems and prospects for the national implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management” was carried out. During the seminar, future tasks for the national implementation of SAICM and national contributions to international actions (for example, reduction and liquidation of sources of mercury and its contamination with the purpose of diminishing its negative impact on human health and the environment, as relevant to the future convention on mercury), were discussed.

#### **Impact on target groups:**

The following target groups were involved in the work on the project: teachers, representatives of academic and university science, experts, representatives of ministries and departments, and representatives of NGOs and the media dealing with issues related to modern aspects of chemical safety.

The result of cross-sectoral synergies of target groups was the elaboration of recommendations for the improvement of the situation of chemical safety in Ukraine. Recommendations elaborated during the project would help to fill gaps in regulatory regimes of chemical safety, which has been caused by inadequate management of toxic chemicals.

### **Impact on target policies:**

The target policy is the policy of chemical safety. The project showed a successful example of implementation of the policy of chemical safety.

During the long-termed discussions and actions we achieved inclusion of the paragraph on the development and adoption of SAICM into the National Environmental Action Plan of Ukraine for 2011 - 2015.

### **Outreach to stakeholders:**

The main stakeholders of the project were teachers, lecturers and professors of the education system that practically implement the modern conceptions on chemical safety and innovations in this field into the system of education (school and university) in Ukraine.

### **Deliverables, outputs and/or products:**

1. A collection of theses of lectures/reports of the conference was published. It consisted of two parts: 1 - The implementation of tasks of SAICM (25 reports); 2 – The role and place of chemical education in formation of chemical safety goals for 2020— the future without chemical toxicants (65 lectures).
2. The list of recommendations related to the improvement of the national policy of Ukraine in the sphere of safe management of chemical substances was prepared, discussed during the conference and supported by the participants of the conference. These recommendations will help to fill the gaps in the regimes of chemical safety in Ukraine caused by inadequate management of toxic chemicals. The recommendations of the conference are posted on the website of “MAMA-86” <http://mama-86.org.ua/>
3. As a result of the recommendations of the conference, letters of requests to the relevant central executive authorities were prepared.

### **Description of communication efforts:**

The subjects of chemicals in products (CiP), SAICM and chemical safety are very relevant in Ukrainian society. For this project, on the request of media, “MAMA-86” repeatedly came forward with publications on these topics.

1. In December 2010 several comments on the articles in the media devoted to safety of Christmas tree decorations were given, such as:

1.1. <http://fakty.ua/124384-yolochnye-ukrasheniya-mogut-soderzhat-svinec-myshyak-rtut-i-drugie-opasnye-himicheskie-vecshestva>, All-Ukrainian daily newspaper “Fakty”, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

1.2. <http://mycityua.com/articles/country/2010/12/06/060000.html>, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

1.3. The article on danger of detergents was published in February, 2011

<http://fakty.ua/128542-kandidat-himicheskikh-nauk-olga-cyguleva-opasnye-dlya-zdorovya-himikaty-vhodyacshie-v-stiralnyj-poroshok-sohranyayutsya-v-chistom-bele-do-chetyreh-sutok>, All-Ukrainian daily newspaper “Fakty”, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011.

For extension of the informational campaign to raise public awareness about toxic chemicals in products, we are planning to continue collaboration with the All-Ukrainian daily newspaper “Fakty”.

2. Announcements and results of activities on the project (announcement about the conference, the conference program, and the final recommendations of the conference) were posted at the website of “MAMA-86” <http://mama-86.org.ua/>

3. Video reports on the events of the project are posted on the site of the Public Environmental NGOs of the Zaporozhye region.

3.1. Round table of Eastern region of Ukraine on public discussion of the National Environmental Action Plan of Ukraine for 2011 - 2015:

[http://npo.vo.uz/news/komentari\\_propoziciji\\_ta\\_zauvazhennja\\_do\\_proektu\\_rozporjadzhennja\\_k\\_abinetu\\_ministriv\\_ukrajini\\_video/2011-02-06-778](http://npo.vo.uz/news/komentari_propoziciji_ta_zauvazhennja_do_proektu_rozporjadzhennja_k_abinetu_ministriv_ukrajini_video/2011-02-06-778)

3.2. International Scientific Conference “Chemical Education in the context of chemical safety: problems and prospects”:

[http://npo.vo.uz/index/video\\_zviti\\_konferenciji\\_khimichna\\_osvita/0-82](http://npo.vo.uz/index/video_zviti_konferenciji_khimichna_osvita/0-82)

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**NGO Recommendations to achieve desired NGO participation:**

Professional level and experience allow NGOs, particularly representatives of “MAMA-86,” to participate in the process of creating a system of chemical safety in Ukraine.