



Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Caribbean Region

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Development and Implementation of a Sustainable Management Mechanism for POPs (Persistent Organic Pollutants) in the Caribbean (GEF Project ID: 5558)

The regional project is intended to build institutional and human resource capacity to deal with the impacts of POPs and unintentionally produced POPs (uPOPs) in eight (8) of the Caribbean countries who are Parties to the Stockholm Convention.

FUNDING AGENCY: Global Environment Facility (GEF)

GEF IMPLEMENTATION AGENCY: United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

GEF EXECUTING AGENCY: BCRC-Caribbean

THE PROBLEM

The group of chemicals classified as POPs are toxic, long-lasting and accumulative. Currently 26 POPs have been recognized in the Stockholm Convention as causing adverse effects on humans and the ecosystem. They can be placed in 3 categories: pesticides, industrial chemicals and by-products.

While many countries of the Caribbean are Parties to the Stockholm Convention in which they have pledged to reduce or eliminate the production, use, and/or release of POPs, very little action has been taken at the national level to implement or comply with the Convention.

PROJECT COMPONENTS

1. Creating the enabling mechanisms in the Caribbean for effective implementation of the Stockholm Convention
2. Reduction of uPOPs emission by improving poor waste management practices at landfills
3. Assessment of potential contaminated sites to determine level of soil and groundwater contamination by POPs and ODS and develop appropriate remediation strategies
4. Protect the environment and human health by safely managing and disposing of stockpiles of PCBs
5. Impact monitoring and evaluation

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- (i) Enabling mechanisms developed nationally and regionally for effective implementation of the Stockholm Convention;
- (ii) Reducing unintentionally produced POPs (UPOPs) emissions by improving poor waste management practices at landfills resulting in improved human health;
- (iii) Identifying and remediating contaminated sites; and
- (iv) Establishing Environmentally Sound Management (ESM) of PCBs in the countries. The countries which are to be beneficiaries of this project include:
 - Antigua and Barbuda
 - Barbados
 - Belize
 - The Federation of St Kitts and Nevis
 - Saint Lucia
 - St Vincent and the Grenadines
 - The Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
 - The Republic of Suriname.

BUDGET

Total Cost (GEF Funding and Co-financing): US\$30,534,239.00

TIMELINE

The project has an expected duration of five (5) years, commencing in December 2015.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

This project hopes to achieve a sound chemicals management system in the region. The regional approach will enable collaboration and sharing of resources between participating countries, while ensuring that the same technical services and training activities are imparted equitably and in similar measure to each participant country.