

Objective 3. To offer a three-week POPs environmental sound management training to 30 thirty decision-makers, regulatory authorities and/or public sector managers from GRULAC and CLPL countries in the next two years .

Expected outcomes: Thirty decision-makers, regulatory authorities and/or public sector managers from GRULAC and CLPL countries has trained in: POPs stockpiles and wastes environmental sound management (PCBs and Obsolete Pesticides), prevention of soil pollution, pertinent to the remediation of sites contaminated by POPs and related to emergencies responses. To meet these activities, the centre must to receive the feedback on the GRULAC and CLPL countries about the managers for training.

Objective 4. To promote a two-week technical-operating POPs monitoring training to 20 twenty public sector technicians from GRULAC and in the next two years.

Expected outcomes: Twenty public sector technicians from GRULAC and CLPL trained in collecting and sampling of air, sediments, groundwater, aquatic organisms, solid wastes and soil matrixes. POPs monitoring in the existent sources of pollution in solid wastes, effluents and chimneys, mainly dioxins and furans. To meet these activities, the centre must to receive the feedback on the GRULAC and CLPL countries about the technicians for training. The indications can be obtained by the interested of these countries as well as the financial resources from GEF.

Objective 5. To promote a six day practical POPs laboratory capacity training to six laboratory technicians in the next two years .

Expected outcomes: The six GRULAC laboratories strengthened and enabled to monitor PCB and chlorinated organic pesticides in environmental samples and the technicians helped to upgrade their GRULAC laboratories to get the ISO accreditation. To meet these activities, the centre must to receive the feedback on the GRULAC countries about the labs for training. The indications can be obtained by the interested of these countries as well as the financial resources from GEF.

Objective 6. To develop a model-project to build up capacity to manage of POPs obsolete pesticide containers and to apply it in the GRULAC and CLPL countries, within a period of 36 months.

1. To create a commission with the stakeholders;
2. To evaluate the achievement of the objective in the state of Sao Paulo, by the implementation of the "Programme of managing obsoletes pesticide empty containers", the environmental management model that aims at collection, handling, transportation and disposal of the pesticide empty containers and obsolete pesticide empty containers;
3. To involve all the stakeholders and contribute to promote farmers` awareness in order to cooperate with this Programme;
4. To devise the model project;
5. To implement the model project;
6. To evaluate the results, in terms of its efficiency and efficacy and also to generate new indicators;
7. To disseminate the project to GRULAC and CLPL countries.

Expected Outcomes: Model project realized and disseminated to GRULAC.

Objective 7. To disseminate technical information on the CETESB website for countries from GRULAC and CLPL by December 2011 (Clearance House Mechanisms).

1. To translate the technical material produced at CETESB related to Stockholm Convention to be displayed in English and Spanish on the website;
2. To integrate the CETESB/ Stockholm Convention site at website the RELASC, RELAC and SPC networks;
3. To integrate CETESB/ Stockholm Convention site on the BIREME/OPAS/OMS Virtual Library.

Expected outcomes: Technical Information translated and disseminated by December 2011. To facilitate the access of information the materials must be translated and the centre needs the financial resources from GEF.

Objective 8. To hold an Regional Workshop to divulge SAICM- Strategic Approach for International Chemical Management and the synergies among the Stockholm, Basel and Rotterdam Conventions, within the next year.

Expected outcomes: To raise awareness in the region concerning SAICM and the synergies among the Stockholm, Basel and Rotterdam Conventions by December 2010.

Objective 9. To coordinate and participate in the GRULAC Regional Centres Network.

C E T E S B

ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY
OF SÃO PAULO STATE

REGIONAL CENTRE OF
STOCKHOLM CONVENTION
ON POPs FOR LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN REGION

W O R K P L A N
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Regional Centre of Stockholm Convention for Latin America and the Caribbean Region

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CETESB'S MISSION

CETESB - the Environmental Protection Agency of Sao Paulo State - was created in 1968. It is part of the State Environmental Secretariat and its activities are funded by the state government. Sao Paulo has a population of 40 million inhabitants and an area of 248,000 sq. km and it is a very important state economically in Brazil. It concentrates a large number of agricultural and industrial activities that use a variety of chemical products.

CETESB's mission is to improve and to assure environmental quality of Sao Paulo State in order to achieve social and economic sustainable development. To accomplish this task CETESB has 46 offices distributed in the state with around 2000 employees, most of them graduated, including engineers, biologists, chemists, etc.

As a result of its expertise acquired in the last forty years of activity in a variety of technical fields, CETESB is considered a reference centre for a number of environmental actions. CETESB remains one of the 16 Reference Centres for the United Nations - UN on environmental issues, one of the five reference institutions on issues like water supply and sanitation for the World Health Organization - WHO. It is also considered as the reference and advisory Centre of the United Nations Program for Development - UNDP on issues related to hazardous waste in Latin America and the Caribbean, one of the three Collaborating Centres of Pan American Health Organization / World Health Organization - PAHO / WHO, prepared to deal with emergencies in case of disasters. Furthermore, it is responsible for feeding information and reviewing training courses for Training Network on Sustainable Production and Consumption for Latin America and the Caribbean Region - SPC under UN's Marrakech Process and it is part of the National Communication of Greenhouse Gas- IPCC. It also coordinates the network on soil and groundwater contamination prevention, remediation, hazardous waste cleanup, and brown fields redevelopment for Latin America and the Caribbean, and disseminates concepts for the Clean Development Mechanism - CDM of the Kyoto Protocol and supports the actions of the PROCLIMA and coordinates the REPIDISCA - Pan American Network of Information in Environment.

CETESB has also agreements with the World Bank, United Nations Development Programme - UNDP, United Nations Environment Programme - UNEP, Pan American Health Organization- PAHO, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - EPA, Inter-American Development Bank - BID, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development - BIRD, Agency of Commerce of the United States - TDA, The German Federal Environment Agency - UBA, Environment Canada, Japan International Cooperation Agency - JICA, the Ministry of Science and Technology of the British Government and Ministry of Environment of Brazil.

In May of 2009, CETESB was ratified as one of eight Regional Centres to the Stockholm Convention (SC) on Persistent Organic Pollutants - POPs for Latin America and the Caribbean Region.

CETESB as the Regional Centre to Support the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean Region to meet their obligations under the Stockholm Convention on POPs

As a Regional Centre of the Stockholm Convention on POPs, CETESB has aimed and worked to increase the technical cooperation with and among countries by providing them with information, advice, and by stimulating research and training for the improvement of surveillance and quality control of POPs in the environment and to give support for development of legislation and standards.

Besides, the Paragraph 3 of Annex of the Decision SC-2/9 establishes that each centre, in accordance with its area of expertise, may be entrusted by the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention with the implementation of specific tasks related to priorities identified in a particular region or sub region being served by centre. The Paragraph 9 of the same. Decision settles: "Each centre will therefore have to establish objectives and a concrete work plan taking into consideration the availability of resources. An analysis of national implementation plans of the Parties in the region should serve as the primary basis of the work plan, which should be kept continuously under review."

Identifying Priorities

According to the Article 7 of the Convention, each Party should elaborate and transmit its National Implementation Plan - NIP to the Conference of the Parties within two years of the date on which this Convention enters into force for it. This document is important for the Regional Centres because it is a way to assess the needs of the countries.

So, all the information in NIPs was consolidated in UNEP/POPS/COP.4/13 "Report on the priorities identified by Parties in their implementation plans transmitted to the Conference of the Parties pursuant to Article 7 of the Convention" and CETESB has analysed it. Fourteen countries that correspond to 42 % of GRULAC have already sent their NIPs to the Secretariat (Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Saint Lucia and Uruguay). But Mozambique and Sao Tome and Principe from CLPL have sent their NIPs to the Secretariat.

The priorities identified in the NIPs sent by those fourteen countries from GRULAC to the Secretariat are listed below:

- 25% of GRULAC countries need enforcement capacity for the implementation of the Convention: legislation, polices and institutional strengthening;
- 63% of GRULAC countries have no technology available for the environmentally sound disposal of POPs contaminated wastes, mainly obsolete pesticide stockpiles and PCBs capacitors and transformers. This issue requires an immediate solution;
- 25% of GRULAC countries need to build up capacity to manage contaminated sites;
- 75% of GRULAC countries need to build up capacity to disseminate public information and to develop people's awareness of the harms caused by POPs;
- 38% of GRULAC countries need to strengthen laboratory capacity to monitor and analyse POPs;
- 75% of GRULAC countries need to build up capacity to reduce dioxins and furans (PCDD/PCDF) emissions, to make an inventory of them and to promote BAT/BEP;
- 75% of GRULAC countries need to build up capacity to make an inventory of PCBs, how to reduce and manage them;

Although Brazil has not sent its NIP yet, a Provisional National Plan (first phase of NIP development) has already been devised. This plan presents several problems and challenges concerning POPs in Brazil, and they can be summed up as:

- Consolidation of the legal instruments to implement the regulatory framework;
- Identification and characterisation of contaminated sites;
- Development of inventories on the production, use, trade, stockpiles and wastes of products listed in the Annexes of the Convention;
- Identification of unintentional sources of POPs and determination of emission;
- Development of infra structure and logistics for labs to give support for the implementation of actions established in the Convention.

The Regional Work Plan and its Strategy

Taking into consideration the GRULAC priorities, CETESB's expertise and its availability of resources, the main goals are:

- To set up monitoring capacity for POPs and heavy metals in the region in the following matrixes: air, soil, solid wastes, sediments, groundwater and biological samples (aquatic organisms, milk and human blood);
- To promote capacity building to countries: adoption of measures of necessary for safe and efficient POPs environmentally sound management and adoption of measures to avoid unintentional releases of POPs and the reduction of wastes, by applying BATs and BEPs;
- To support decision-makers in developing, strengthening and enforcing the national legislation on POPs management and in improving its effectiveness: legal, regulatory frameworks and management guidance for POPs wastes, management of contaminated, or potentially contaminated, sites and to the environmentally sound clean-up of such sites and emergencies responses;
- To produce model-projects to be replied in states, regions and countries, served by our Centre, and to be disseminated into the GRULAC and CLPL countries;
- To support countries to integrate the stakeholders to overcome barriers to effective working and to apply the knowledge in public and private management programmes;
- To raise awareness of the hazards associated with obsolete pesticides stockpiles and equipment containing PCBs and on the importance of the environmentally sound management of them by means of preparing materials;
- To create indicators that express efficiency and efficacy evaluation, in order to strengthen the countries national projects implementation under the subjects the of SC.

Activities of the Centre's Work Plan

There are nine objectives as which are summed up as :

Objective 1. To operate a dioxin and furans laboratory for analysis of environmental samples - air, ashes, soil and sediments - within one year to implement the source-based analytical data of unintentionally produced POPs:

1. To prepare standard operating procedure for sampling and analysis;
2. To acquire certificated reference material (CRM);
3. To establish quality assurance and quality control methods;
4. To contract proficiency test;
5. Training for the analysts;
6. To prepare the lab for accreditation;
7. To offer 20 analysis of PCCD/PCDF to the prioritized and selected countries.

Expected outcomes: To meet the activity 7 the centre has to obtain feedback on the GRULAC needs that it can be obtained by the interested countries as well as the financial resources from GEF.

Objective 2. To enhance the technical capacity in the country for analysis of POPs in human blood and milk.

1. To train professionals for PCBs and organochlorine pesticides analyses in human blood and milk;
2. To prepare standard operating procedure for sampling and analysis;
3. To acquire certificated reference material (CRM);
4. To establish quality assurance and quality control methods;
5. To contract proficiency tests;
6. To validate the methods;
7. To offer 400 analysis of PCBs and organochlorine to the prioritized and selected countries.

Expected outcomes: Technicians enabled to work on human blood and milk samples to analyze the presence of PCBs and chlorinated organic pesticides. This activity have been concluded. To offer analyses 400 to Brazilian states and the GRULAC countries, the Centre has must to receive the analysis of their priority needs.