

Webinar Report

Global NIP Update: What is a National Implementation Plan? – Part 1

26 April 2023



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Introduction

This webinar marked the first in a series of training activities organized by the Green Growth Knowledge Partnership (GGKP) under Component 4 (Knowledge Management and Information Sharing) of the GEF project ID 10785 *Global Development, Review, and Update of National Implementation Plans (NIPs) under the Stockholm Convention (SC) on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)*.

Designed to enhance stakeholders' understanding of NIPs, the webinar introduced the fundamental concepts, highlighting their significance at the national level. As part of GGKP's knowledge-sharing efforts, the session walked participants through the structure of NIPs and its chapters, outlined the insights on the use of POPs data in decision-making, and the broader role of NIPs in supporting compliance with the Stockholm Convention.

CEST 12:00	1. Welcome and opening remarks	Ms. Melanie Ashton , Component 4 Coordinator, GGKP
12:05	2. Stockholm Convention obligations on NIPs and reporting	Mr. Suman Sharma , Programme Management Officer, BRS Secretariat
12:15	3. Snapshot of existing knowledge	Ms. Anastasiya Buchok , Senior Project Assistant, GGKP
12:20	4. Experience and lessons learned from previous NIP update	Ms. Ana Berejiani , Head of Chemicals Management Division, Waste and Chemicals Management Department, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia (MEPA)
12:30	5. The BASICS of the National Implementation Plan (NIP) • 5.1. Role of the NIP at the national level and different uses of POPs data compiled • 5.2 NIP structure and information to be reflected in its chapters (both qualitative and quantitative), including inventories to be conducted	Ms. Mihaela Claudia Paun , Programme Management Officer, UNEP, Chemicals and Health Branch, Components 1 and 2
13:05	6. Experience and lessons learned from previous NIP update	Mr. Cyrus Mageria , Ministry of Environment Climate Change and Forestry of Kenya
13:15	Q&A session	Moderator, Speakers
13:25	Closing remarks	

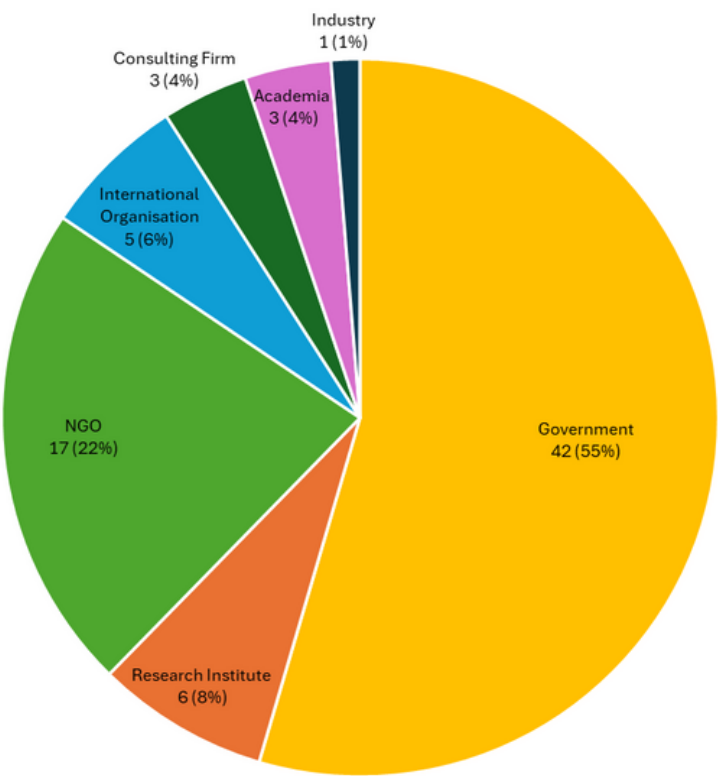
Registration and Attendance

Number of registrants: 90 / Total attendance: 77
(Approx. 58% female and 42% male)

Participants by country

Country	Attendees	Country	Attendees	Country	Attendees
Côte d'Ivoire	9	Kazakhstan	2	France	1
Georgia	7	Maldives	2	Gambia	1
Trinidad and Tobago	7	Montenegro	2	Republic of Korea	1
Armenia	5	Peru	2	Lithuania	1
Guinea	4	South Africa	2	Malawi	1
Kenya	4	Albania	1	Panama	1
North Macedonia	4	Cambodia	1	Senegal	1
Burundi	3	Cameroon	1	Switzerland	1
Madagascar	3	Canada	1	Togo	1
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2	Cook Islands	1	United Kingdom	1
China	2	Czech Republic	1	Uruguay	1

Participants by sector



Key Highlights

The webinar introduced key aspects of NIPs and their role in supporting Stockholm Convention compliance. In opening remarks, the Stockholm Convention Secretariat emphasized the Convention's mandate, particularly Article 7, which requires Parties to develop, implement and periodically update their NIPs. Each Party must submit its initial NIP to the Conference of the Parties (COP) within two years of the Convention's entry into force and continue updating it as needed. Effective implementation relies on global, regional and national cooperation, engaging key stakeholders such as women's groups and child health organizations while integrating NIPs into national sustainable development strategies to align with broader environmental and socio-economic goals.

The discussion also underscored Article 15 as a critical mechanism for transparency and accountability in managing POPs. Speakers emphasized that timely and standardized reporting to the COP is not only a compliance requirement, but also a tool for assessing national progress. Parties were reminded to submit statistical data or reasonable estimates on the production, import, and export of Annex A and Annex B chemicals, including details on trading partners. Strengthening global monitoring and data-driven decision-making was highlighted as essential for phasing out harmful POPs and advancing the Convention's objectives.

1. Stockholm Convention obligations on NIPs and reporting

A key focus of the discussion was the obligations of countries under the Stockholm Convention to develop, update, and report on their NIPs. Speakers emphasized the technical and financial resources available to support these processes.

Resources available for NIPs

- *Technical resources:* BRS guidance documents covering inventories, regulations, import/export controls, testing/screening, socio-economic aspects, etc.
- *Capacity-building tools:* eLearning courses, webinar recordings, technical guidelines
- *Data and reporting:* NIP transmission database and related COP decisions
- *Financial support:* Funding through the Convention's financial mechanism

Resources for reporting obligations

- *Technical resources:* Online reporting templates, access credentials and reporting database
- *Financial support:* Institutional strengthening projects (e.g. Special Programme) to facilitate compliance

Key Highlights

2. The role of NIPs at the National Level

One of the core discussions focused on the strategic role of NIPs in national policymaking. Participants explored how NIPs not only ensure compliance with the Stockholm Convention but also serve as practical tools for integrating chemical and waste management into broader national and sectoral plans.

Key functions of NIPs

- Mainstreaming POPs management into national and sectoral policies
- Facilitating access to financial resources by identifying priorities
- Guiding national budget allocations for Convention implementation
- Supporting reporting obligations with baseline data
- Integrating research and monitoring into national science programmes

How POPs data is used

- Meeting reporting obligations under the Stockholm Convention
- Providing an evidence base for policymaking and decision-making
- Mainstreaming environmental protection into national strategies
- Supporting funding proposals for external and internal donors
- Enhancing public and stakeholder awareness of POPs risks
- Strengthening monitoring, research and development initiatives

3. NIP structure: Key components

A structured NIP is crucial for effective POPs management. Experts walked participants through the essential chapters that every NIP should contain, ensuring both qualitative and quantitative data are well-documented.

NIP structure and key information

- *Introduction*: Overview of NIP objectives and methodology
- *Country baseline*: National profile, institutional/policy framework and POPs assessment
- *Strategy and action plan*: Policy statements, implementation strategies and detailed action plans to achieve Convention obligations.

4. Lessons from NIP updates: Kenya's experience

The webinar also featured insights from Kenya's NIP update, showcasing best practices and lessons learned. Participants discussed the challenges faced and how UNEP's technical guidance played a key role in the update process.

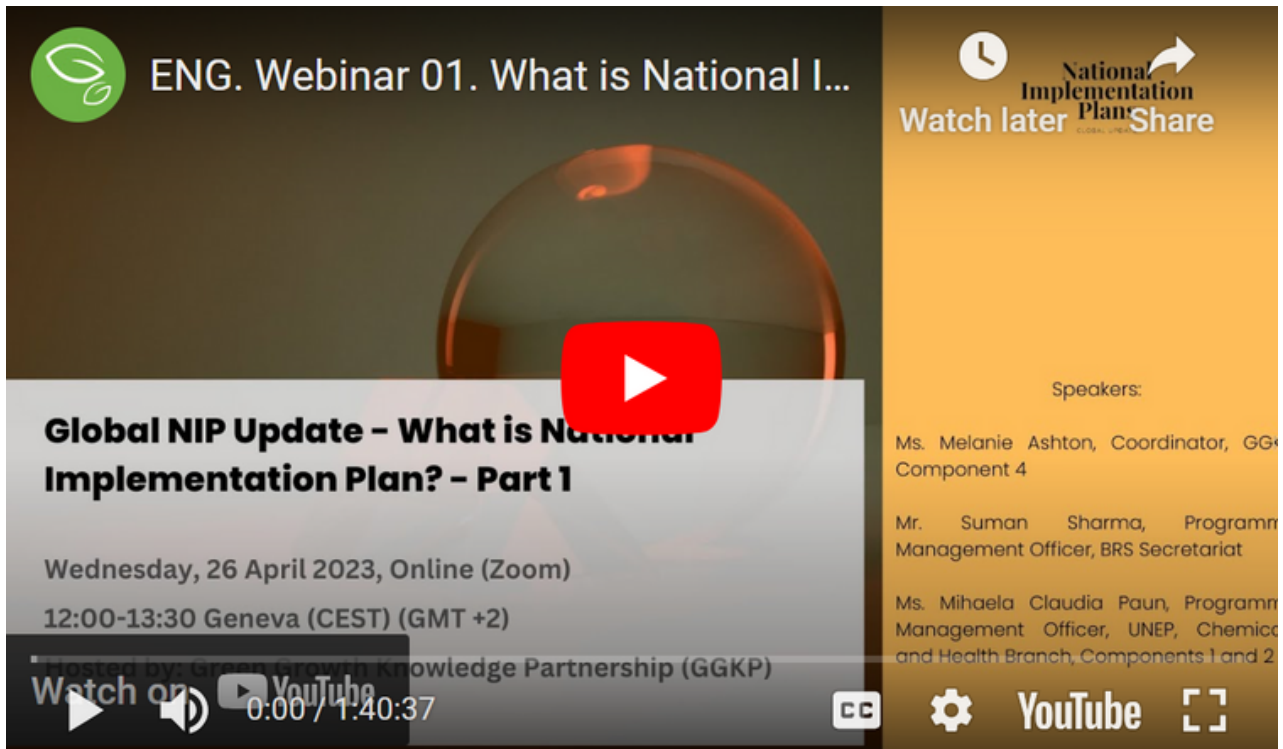
Key takeaways from Kenya's NIP update

- UNEP guidance and tools were essential in streamlining the process.
- The UNEP Dioxin Toolkit simplified emissions calculations for dioxins, furans, PCBs, PECB, etc.
- Regular updates are crucial to maintaining relevance, especially when new POPs are added.

Resources

- **Concept note, presentation materials and video recording in English, Spanish and French of the webinar are available on the Global NIP Update platform:**

<https://www.greenpolicyplatform.org/webinar/global-nip-update-what-national-implementation-plan-part-1>



Spanish 

French 

If you have any questions or comments, please contact the GGKP team.

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