

POPs of concern in NIP Update



01 | uPOPs

02 | PFOS, PFOA

03 | PCNs, PCP, PCBs, POP-
PBDEs

04 | HCBd, HBCD

04 | POPs pesticides

04 | SCCPs

Gender differentiated POPs exposure

Occupational

Women, men working in industries where these POPs are produced, used, or handled may be at a higher risk of exposure. For example, workers in manufacturing facilities, waste management, waste pickers, those working at the e-waste dismantling facilities and in agriculture may come into contact with POPs during their work processes.

Environmental Exposure

POPs can persist in the environment for long periods and contaminate air, water, and soil. Women, men and vulnerable groups living in or near industrial areas, contaminated sites, or regions with improper waste management may be exposed to these pollutants through inhalation, ingestion of contaminated food or water, or direct contact with contaminated surfaces.

Consumption of contaminated food

POPs can accumulate in the food chain, particularly in fatty animal products. Women, men and vulnerable groups who consume high amounts of contaminated fish, meat, dairy products, or other foods may experience greater exposure to POPs.

Gender-differentiated POPs exposure

Maternal transfer

Pregnant women can pass POPs to their developing fetuses through the placenta, and nursing mothers can transfer these pollutants to their infants through breast milk.

Traditional practices and cultural factors

Some cultural practices or traditional uses of products may contribute to higher exposure to specific POPs. For instance, the use of certain traditional remedies, cosmetics, or cultural practices like cooking and storing food in certain materials may result in increased exposure to specific POPs.



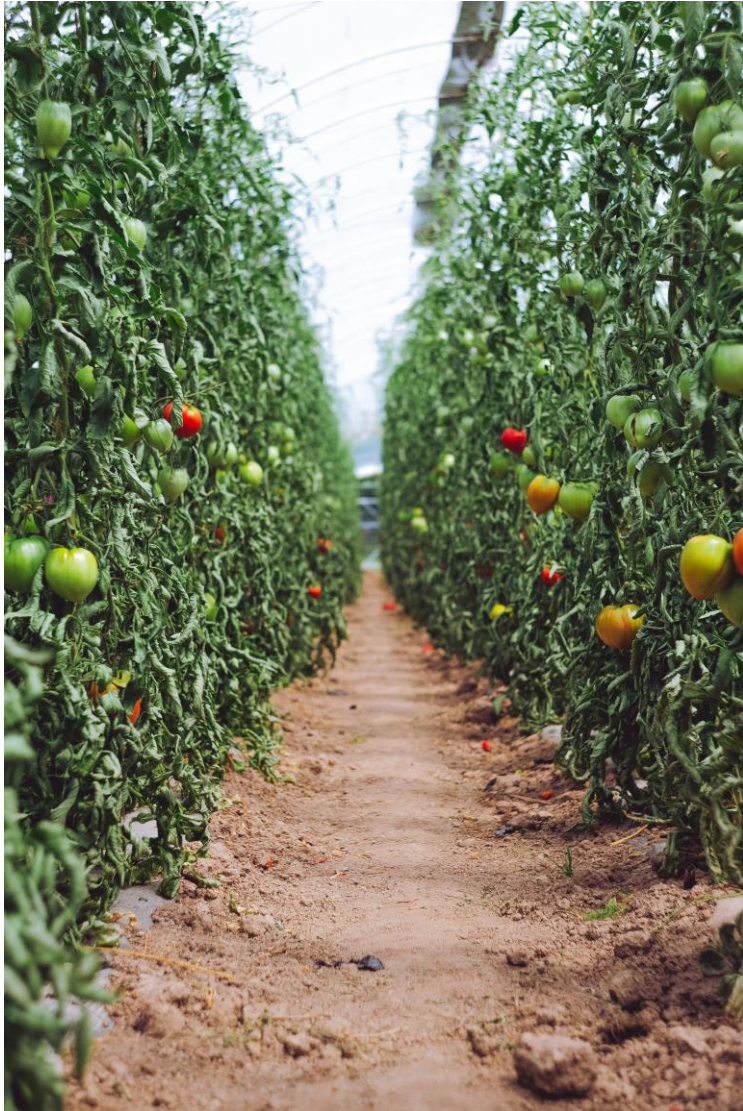
Gender-differentiated POPs exposure

POPS of concern	Area of application (general)	Exposure (general)
uPOPs PFOS PFOA SCCPs POPs pesticides PCNs HCBD PCP PCBs POP-PBDEs HBCD HCBD	Agriculture and farming (pests control, crop yield etc.) Public health (malaria and typhus control) Cleaning services (cleaning agents etc.) Consumer products (non-stick cookware, waterproofing products, plastic products, beauty products, food packaging etc.) Electrical equipment (lubricants, flame retardants coolants, transformers, electrical insulation etc.) Textiles (including carpets etc.) Rubber products, adhesives, coatings and others	Both women and men can be exposed to POPs through: • inhalation of contaminated air • ingestion of contaminated food and water • dermal contact with products containing these substances

Gender-differentiated POPs exposure

Who	Exposure type
Women	Female farmers; home applications of DDT; through ingestion of meat, milk, eggs, fresh produce
Women, children, developing embryos and fetuses, pregnant women, workers	Women consuming PCB-contaminated oils, through fish, food; workplace exposures; take-home exposures from workplaces; prenatal exposures from umbilical blood; postnatal exposures from breast milk
Women	Waste burning smoke; indirect exposure via environmental pollution in soils and sediments; ingestion of contaminated food, primarily dairy products, meat, fish and shellfish (WHO, 2016)
Women, children, developing embryos and fetuses, pregnant women, workers	Direct ingestion and inhalation of contaminated household dust and food; workplace exposures; take-home exposures from workplaces; prenatal exposures from umbilical cord blood; postnatal exposures from breast milk (Gore et al., 2014)
Women, children, developing embryos and fetuses, pregnant women, workers	Indoor, residential and agricultural pesticide exposures; prenatal exposures from umbilical cord blood
Male workers	Workplace exposures; contaminated foods
Men, women and children working on farms	Workplace exposures; take-home exposures from workplaces

How are men exposed to POPs. Agriculture



Pesticide spraying has traditionally been perceived as a job suited for men due to the association of invulnerable masculinity, which places men in charge of riskier activities such as this.

Men are more likely to receive training about the safe use of pesticides. This training leads to several outcomes:

1. Access to and wearing of protective gear during spraying
2. Handwashing and bathing after spraying pesticides
3. Changing clothes after spraying pesticides



How are women exposed to POPs. Agriculture



Pesticide application is not considered a women's job, however:

- Women are likely to control output of production, work in the fields;
- Women transporting pesticides are likely to carry them in baskets on their heads
- Women fetch water for pesticides mixing
- Women clean men's pesticides contaminated clothes and clean and reuse pesticides mixing buckets

Women could have limited access to pesticides training

Women equipped with knowledge of pesticides could influence their husbands adopt safer practices of pesticides application



How are women exposed to POPs.

Industrial waste



PCBs in Nigeria are banned, but they remain as waste (transformer oil)

- People may see the oil as a commodity (to sell)

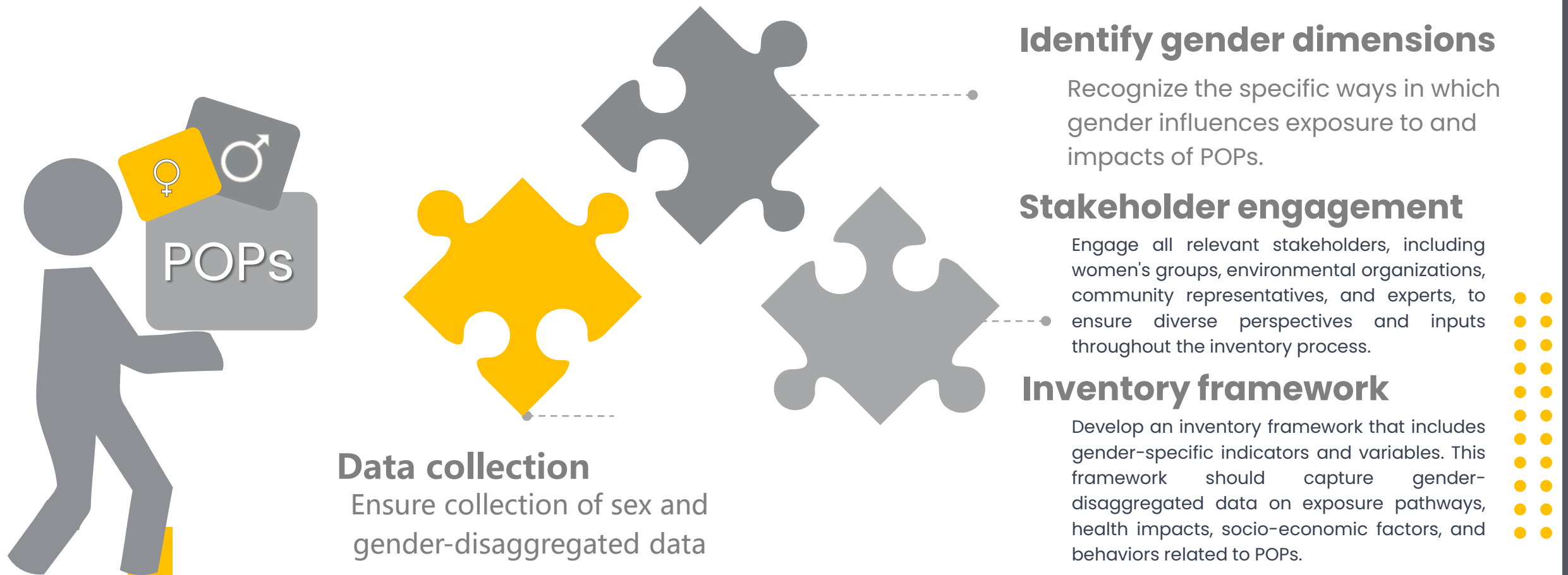
PCB oil is being sold as a frying oil for food. Female street food vendors use it prepare akara or beans pancakes and deep fry other food. They are exposed to inhalation of PCBs on daily basis with their children on their backs.

Women equipped with knowledge of PCBs could adopt safer practices, protect their health and build the agency



Gender sensitive POPs inventories (1)

Developing POPs inventories, countries should ensure not only gender balance while hiring experts and designating negotiators, but relevant gender competence within CMs; collect sex and gender-disaggregated data as part of their monitoring efforts; conduct gender-sensitive POPs inventories; and adopt sex and gender-differentiated POPs monitoring mechanisms.



Gender sensitive POPs inventories (2)

Developing POPs inventories, countries should ensure not only gender balance while hiring experts and designating negotiators, but relevant gender competence within CMs; collect sex and gender-disaggregated data as part of their monitoring efforts; conduct gender-sensitive POPs inventories; and adopt sex and gender-differentiated POPs monitoring mechanisms.



Incorporating gender in Action plans

Gender dimension of NIPs entails consideration of gender-related factors throughout the planning and implementation stages of strategies and addressing gender issues within the strategic content.

Objective: to ensure that the plans address the specific needs, priorities, and rights of women, men, children in relation to the implementation of national strategies in chemicals management.



	Gendered questions to be asked *
✓	In selecting entities and individuals to participate in the formulation and implementation of strategies (including at leadership level), has gender parity been considered?
✓	What areas should be covered, and are they gender inclusive?
✓	How is the participation of women ensured and is it equitably resourced?
✓	Is there baseline data and is it disaggregated by sex, gender and other vulnerable groups?

Awareness raising

Raise awareness among the general public about the many ways through which public health could be exposed to POPs and the resulting harmful effects. These effects should be further unpacked using gender lenses to ensure women, men, and vulnerable social groups do fully understand the scope in which they could be exposed and affected.

01

Awareness-raising campaigns

02

Gender-transformative interventions

03

Capacity building and training

04

Engaging men and boys

05

Collaboration and partnerships



Good practices. Nigeria

Activities	Action Plans	Priority Ranking	Outcomes/ Output	Performance Indicator	Responsible Institutions	Resource and needs	Cost Estimate (USD)	Funding Sources	Timeline
(1) Sensitisation and awareness raising among women to increase knowledge on POPs- exposure, its health and environmental effects	Advocacy for women farmers on minimising exposure to agricultural pesticides	4	Improved women farmers' support for minimising exposure to agricultural pesticides	Sensitised women farmers. Report of workshop / town-hall meeting.	FMENV, FMI, FME, FMA & RD, Federal Ministry of Women Affairs (FMWA) and NGO	Financial Support	300.000	Nigerian Govt., GEF, Bilateral & Multilateral Donors, and Multinationals	2016-2018
	Sensitisation of rural women on traditional practices that could lead to POPs exposure e.g. using of tyre scraps for cooking and land clearance; and open burning; fossil fuel and firewood.	4	Reduced POPs exposure among rural women	Rural women sensitised on risk of POPs exposure through traditional practices	FMEnv, FMI, FMA & RD, FMWA and NGO.	Financial Support	500.000	Nigerian Govt., Bilateral and Multilateral donors	2016-2019

Figure 7. Mainstreaming Gender Perspective. Source: Nigeria Federal Ministry of Environment, 2016, Activity 3.3.11.

Thank you!