# NIP Dialogue Series – Voices from the Countries

*As a part of Output 4.3 under Component 4 executed by Green Growth Knowledge Partnership (GGKP) within the framework of GEF 10785 project titled "Global Development, Review and Update of National Implementation Plans (NIPs) under the Stockholm Convention (SC) on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)"*

## Background

National Implementation Plans (NIPs) under the Stockholm Convention (SC) play a critical role in managing Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and meeting obligations under the Convention. Countries working on updating their NIPs face various challenges and opportunities, and capturing their experiences can provide valuable lessons and good practices for countries undertaking similar efforts.

Country-to-country learning does not always occur naturally, as countries often lack tailored platforms to share experiences, or may hesitate to do so in larger, less-focused settings. Additionally, in some cases, countries rely on external consultants to develop or update their NIP, and when the consultant's assignments conclude, valuable knowledge and insights from the process may be lost. To address these challenges, we propose a series of structured, recorded interviews with countries, regional centers and technical experts to actively capture, document, and disseminate these experiences, practical insights, lessons learned and good practices, ensuring they remain accessible and beneficial for the broader community.

## Objectives

This initiative aims to foster knowledge-sharing, inspire collaboration, and create a repository of practical insights to support NIP development and updates globally. It will enhance capacity-building efforts by making these resources available to stakeholders involved in POPs management worldwide.

## Target Participants

This initiative is designed for countries that are Parties to the Stockholm Convention, specifically those that:
- Have previously submitted a National Implementation Plan.
- Are currently in the process of updating their NIP.

- Technical experts and consultants involved in POPs management and NIP development at the country level.
- Representatives of regional centers supporting development, review and update of NIPs in the region.
- Technical experts from international organisations and/or representatives of academia work in POPs management or other projects related to chemicals and waste management and implementation of BRS Conventions.

Countries and regional executing agencies may nominate their representatives and/or allow consultants working on their behalf to participate in the interviews. Permission from the respective country may be required for consultants to share country related information on their behalf.

**Process**

Pre-defined thematic areas: A set of questions and thematic areas related to NIP update will be provided to guide the interviews. Disregarding the topic, structure of the interview will aim to capture challenges, lessons learned, good practices, and experiences from the country, region, expert and others.

Flexibility for interviewees: Interviewees can suggest additional thematic areas or tailor the questions to their specific context, provided these are relevant to NIPs or POPs management.

Consent and permissions: Countries and participants will provide prior consent for recording, synthesis, and dissemination of the interviews. By granting permission, participants agree to the interview contents being shared via the GGKP platforms and with project beneficiaries to ensure broad dissemination and knowledge-sharing. Confirmation of participation via email, from the country or through the executive agency of the project, will be considered as final consent.

Interview and review: With the consent of the interviewee GGKP will schedule the time convenient for interviewee. At the request of the country, interpretation into another UN language can be provided. The interviews will take place through virtual meetings. At the conclusion of each interview, the content will be reviewed for clarity and completeness, and before dissemination participants will be provided with the final materials for review.

**Outputs**

Each interview will result in:
1. Video recordings: A 15–20-minute video highlighting the country's experiences and insights

2. Written transcripts: A full written transcript of the interview for accessibility and reference.
3. Blog Posts: A summary blog post will capture the key lessons learned and good practices shared by the interviewee.
4. Short Film: At the end of the series, a short film will be produced, compiling these country experiences along with insights from technical experts. This film will serve as a comprehensive resource on lessons learned, good practices, and the practical realities of NIP development, review and update.

**All materials above** will be published on ["Global NIP Update" project website](#) and [community of practice on Green Forum](#).


**Disclaimer**

The NIP Dialogue Series is conducted solely for the purpose of facilitating country-to-country learning and knowledge exchange within the framework of the Global NIP Update Project. The interviews are intended to capture experiences, good practices, and lessons learned from participating countries and do not represent official guidance or policy recommendations.

The insights shared during these dialogues reflect the experiences of individual participants and will be used exclusively for project-related knowledge sharing and capacity-building purposes. The interviews are not legally binding and should not be interpreted as an official position of the project, GEF, UNEP, GGKP and its partners, or any participating country.

Annex 1 - Proposed thematic areas and questions:

## 1. Developing and updating POPs inventories for NIP

1.1. How did your country approach the development of a comprehensive inventory of POPs?

1.2. Which POPs were identified as priority concerns during your NIP update process, and why?

1.3. What tools, methodologies, or best practices were most effective in identifying and quantifying POPs and their sources?

1.4. How did you ensure stakeholder involvement, transparency, and accuracy in data collection for the inventory? Were any key stakeholders missing? If so, why?

1.5. What were the most significant data gaps encountered in the inventory process, and how did you address them?

1.6. What mechanisms are in place to store, manage, and update POPs inventory data for long-term use?

1.7. Which guidance documents, tools, or resources were most useful throughout the inventory development process?

1.8. What key lessons were learned from developing the POPs inventory, and how will they inform future NIP updates and national strategies?

1.9. What were the biggest challenges in compiling the inventory, and what strategies helped overcome them?

## 2. Integrating NIP Priorities into National Policies and Legislation

2.1. Has updating your NIP influenced national policies or legislation related to chemicals and waste management? If so, how?

2.2. Can you share specific examples of how NIP priorities have been integrated into broader environmental, industrial, or public health policies?

2.3. Were there existing regulatory frameworks that facilitated or created obstacles in addressing the POPs identified through your NIP update?

2.4. How has inter-agency collaboration (e.g., ministries, regulatory bodies, enforcement agencies) supported or hindered the implementation of NIP priorities?

2.5. Has the private sector played a role in implementing NIP priorities? Can you share examples of government-private sector collaboration in POPs management?

2.6. What monitoring and evaluation mechanisms or indicators are used to assess the integration and impact of NIP priorities within national policies and legislation?

## 3. Strategies for POPs Management in NIP Implementation

3.1. Which POPs were prioritized for management in your country's NIP, and why?

3.2. What key strategies were developed to address these POPs? Which approaches proved most effective in eliminating, reducing, or safely disposing of these chemicals?

3.3. Were certain strategies less effective? If so, what were the main challenges, and how could they be improved?

3.4. What partnerships (e.g., with international organizations, private sector, NGOs, civil society) contributed to the successful implementation of these strategies?

3.5. What financial or technical challenges did your country face in implementing POPs management strategies, and what solutions or support mechanisms were helpful?

3.6. Can you share an example of a particularly impactful POPs management project and its outcomes? What factors contributed to its success?

## 4. Stakeholder Engagement and Data Collection for POPs Management

4.1. How did you identify key stakeholders for the NIP update process? What criteria or methods were used?

4.2. What approaches were used to engage stakeholders (e.g., interviews, surveys, workshops, personal visits)? Which methods were most effective in securing their participation?

4.3. How did stakeholders respond to engagement efforts? Were they generally supportive, indifferent, or resistant?

4.4. If stakeholders were hesitant or unresponsive, what strategies did you use to address these challenges and encourage their involvement?

4.5. How did you ensure meaningful and continuous engagement with stakeholders during the NIP development and implementation process?

4.6. What strategies were used to coordinate data collection efforts among multiple stakeholders to ensure completeness and reliability?

4.7. Were there any capacity-building or training initiatives that helped stakeholders contribute effectively to POPs-related data collection? Can you provide examples?

4.8. What key lessons have you learned about maintaining long-term stakeholder collaboration for NIP review, development, and updates?

## 5. Gender and social inclusion in POPs management

5.1. How has your country integrated gender and social inclusion considerations into the NIP process? Are there specific policies or frameworks guiding this integration?

5.2. Which groups (e.g., women, Indigenous communities, informal workers, low-income populations) are most vulnerable to POPs exposure, and how has your NIP addressed their concerns?

5.3. What were the most effective strategies for engaging women, youth, and marginalized groups in POPs-related decision-making and policy development?

5.4. Can you provide an example of an initiative that successfully improved gender responsiveness or social inclusion in POPs management?

5.5. What role can international organizations, donors, or regional agencies play in strengthening gender and social inclusion within NIP implementation?