

Global NIP Update, Regional Round Table

“National Implementation Plans: Research Needs and Opportunities in Africa”, June 10, 14:00 –16:30 CEST, GMT +2

Registration: <https://www.greenpolicyplatform.org/Zde>

Introduction

National Implementation Plans (NIPs) are essential tools for the Parties to meet their obligations under the Stockholm Convention and to manage Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in a strategic, informed, and forward-looking way. While NIP development includes technical components, its full potential can only be realized when it is closely connected to the broader national and regional research and technical landscape.

In practice, however, NIP processes are often disconnected from the wealth of scientific knowledge, research capacity, and technical expertise available across countries and regions—and in many cases, countries lack the necessary analytical infrastructure to identify and monitor POPs effectively.

This round table, organized by Green Growth Knowledge Partnership (GGKP) under the GEF-funded and UNEP-led GEF ID 10785 Global NIP Update project, will bring together Parties of Convention from Africa, leading POPs researchers, Stockholm Convention regional centres, and advanced laboratories with experience working across the continent. The event will offer a platform to share perspectives on national research needs, showcase regional and international technical capacities, and identify practical opportunities to foster collaboration across Africa and internationally. The aim is to strengthen the science-policy collaboration in NIP development and implementation—ensuring that existing technical and institutional knowledge effectively informs national planning processes and opportunities to broaden collaboration.

Format

This interactive roundtable will take place virtually via Zoom. The session will feature speakers who will share their work in POPs research and/or reflect on research needs across the region. Following the event, a full recording, presentation slides, and key takeaways will be made available on GGKP's knowledge platform. Selected highlights may also be featured as blog posts

and shared with the broader community via the GEF 10785 project website and the Green Forum platform, ensuring continued access to insights and practices discussed during the round table.

Objectives

- Promote stronger integration between NIP development and the research and technical community, including regional centres and laboratories.
- Showcase relevant POPs-related research and monitoring work carried out in Africa and its value for shaping informed policy responses.
- Identify country-specific research needs and technical gaps that hinder the development and implementation of effective NIPs.
- Encourage partnerships between national authorities, research institutions, SC regional centres, and laboratories to support sustained, evidence-based chemicals management.
- Facilitate regional dialogue and knowledge exchange to advance collaborative approaches for addressing shared POPs challenges.

Target audience

- Stockholm Convention Official Contact Points and National Focal Points particularly from project countries
- National officials and experts involved in the process of reviewing and updating the NIPs
- POPs researchers, academics, think tanks, laboratories etc.
- Practitioners working on POPs inventory and management
- Representatives of regional centers
- Members of NIP National Coordinating Mechanism/ Committees and Project Coordination Units/Thematic Task Groups

Date and time

June 10, 2025, 14:00 – 16:30 CEST (GMT +2)*

*Time of the round table can be extended depending on the Q&A and discussion.

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Speakers

- Dr. Kei Ohno, Senior Coordination Officer, BRS Secretariat and/or Agustin Harte, Environment Policy Specialist, BRS Secretariat; Switzerland
- Dr. Subramanian Sevgan, Principal Scientist and Head, Environment Health Theme, ICIPE – International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology ICIPE (to be confirmed), Kenya, <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Sevgan-Subramanian>
- Dr. Kateřina Šebková, Director, SCRC RECETOX, Czech Republic; <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Katerina-Sebkova-3>
- Dr. Gevao Bondi; Environment Protection Agency, Sierra Leone <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Bondi-Gevao>
- Dr. Saidi Motladiile; Principle Chemist, National Environmental Laboratory; Botswana <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Saidy-Motladiile>
- Professor Borhane Mahjoub; Institut National de Recherche et d'Analyse Physico-chimique, Tunisia <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8917-7336>
- Professor Gilbert Kuepouo; Copenhagen Adult Education Centre; IPEN Africa, Cameroon <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Gilbert-Kuepouo>
- Professor Jonathan O. Okonkwo, Tswane University South Africa; <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Okechukwu-Okonkwo>
- Professor Gan Zhang; Guangzhou Institute of Geochemistry (GIG) of Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China; <http://www.researchgate.net/profile/Gan-Zhang-6>
- Professor Guorui Liu; Zhejiang Normal University, RCEES, China; <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8462-6734>
- Dr. Ovokeroye Abafe; Brunel University, United Kingdom; (<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5672-6463>)
- Professor Jun Huang; Tsinghua University; China; <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9207-8953>

The event will be held in English. Simultaneous interpretation to French, Spanish and Russian shall be provided.

Contacts

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