PROGRESS ON THE GLOBAL MONITORING PLAN AND THE EFFECTIVENESS EVALUATION UNDER ARTICLE 16 OF THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION

Ana-Maria Witt
Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

EFFECTIVENESS EVALUATION: PROCESS

2017 marked the first effectiveness evalution of the Stockholm Convention according to the adopted framework

Purpose of the effectiveness evaluation

- Assess whether the Convention has succeeded in achieving its objective of protecting human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants;
- Determine the effectiveness of the specific measures taken to implement the Convention;
- Identify ways to improve the effectiveness of the Convention.

Framework for effectiveness evaluation

Process for effectiveness evaluation **adopted by:**
- **SC-6/22**: Effectiveness evaluation;

Framework set out in document:
- UNEP/POPS/COP.6/27/Add.1/Rev.1;
- Set of process and outcome indicators to evaluate effectiveness of implementation of the various article.
- Review of the framework in the first evaluation cycle.

Effectiveness evaluation committee

Established in May 2015 (**SC-7/24**)

Consists of **14 experts**, as follows:

- Ten experts designated by parties;
- One from GMP GCG;
- One identified by compliance committee (when and if established);
- Two internationally recognized experts.

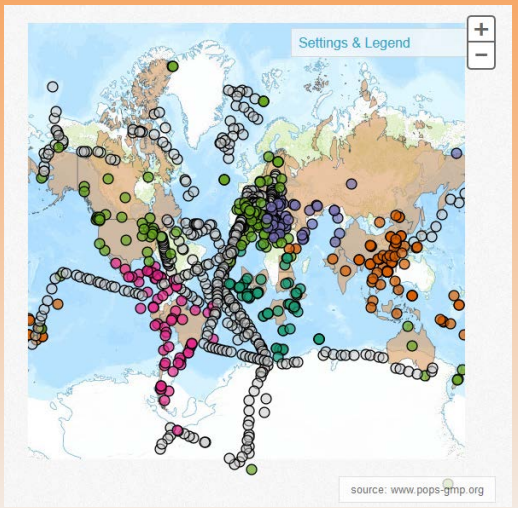
First stage: Information collection and compilation

Independent compilation of information gathered through existing arrangements under the Convention, including the reports from the global monitoring plan, the compilation of national reports, technical assistance reports by the Secretariat and reports from the entity entrusted with administering the financial mechanism, as well as reports generated in accordance with the compliance procedure under Article 17, once established.

Second stage: Information synthesis and evaluation

Secretariat prepares a preliminary report, including compilation of the various information and data available in the information obtained from the first stage. The effectiveness evaluation committee reviews and evaluates the information compiled by the Secretariat, draws conclusions as to the effectiveness of the Convention, and makes recommendations to the Conference of the Parties on any improvements that might be warranted.

EFFECTIVENESS EVALUATION: INFORMATION SOURCES



Three main streams of information according to Article 16:

- Information on environmental monitoring in core media provided through the **global monitoring plan**;
- Information from parties provided through **national reports** submitted pursuant to Article 15;
- Information on **non-compliance** provided through procedures to be established under Article 17.

Other relevant scientific, environmental, technical and economic **information available:**

- **COP decisions**
- **National Implementation Plans**
- **Government reports and peer reviewed scientific articles**
- **Outcomes of the review of the Financial Mechanism**
- **GEF database**
- **Needs assessment**
- **Outcomes of the review of regional centres**
- **Etc**

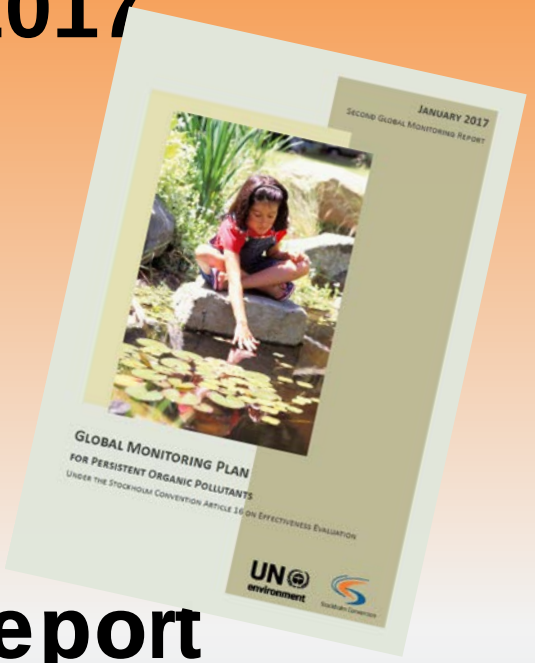
Outputs of expert processes under the Convention:

- The **global monitoring report** under the Global Monitoring Plan;
- The report of the **DDT expert group**;
- The report of the **Toolkit experts**;
- The report of the **PCB Elimination Network**.

These groups through their operation and data analysis have **contributed to QA/QC of the reported data** in their respective areas.

GMP OUTCOMES IN 2015-2017

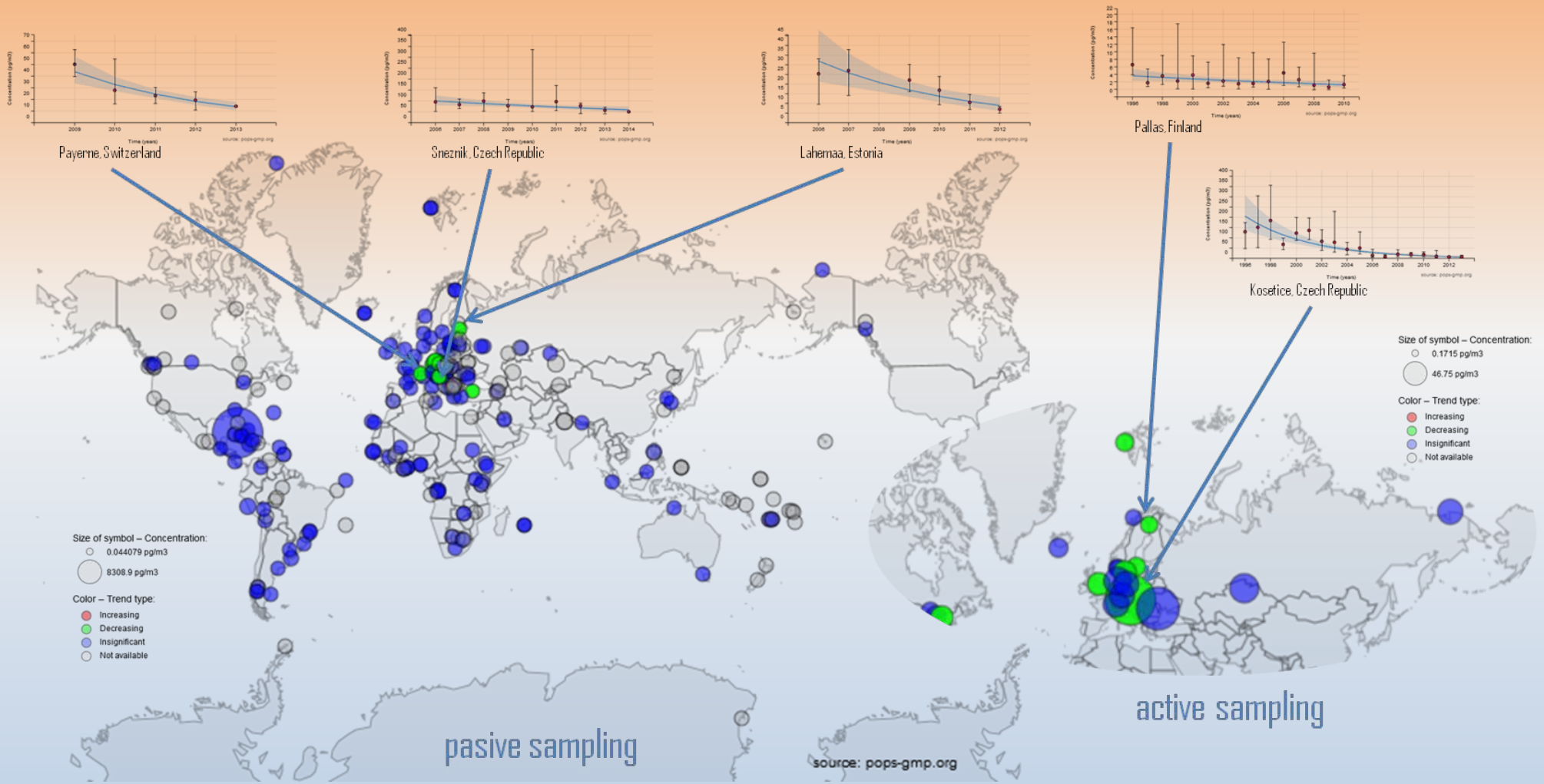
- Global monitoring report (COP.8/21/Add.1 and COP.8/INF/38)
- Five regional monitoring reports (COP7/INF/37 and 38 in 2015)
- Updated GMP guidance document (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/39)
- GMP data warehouse (available online at http://www.pops-gmp.org/)



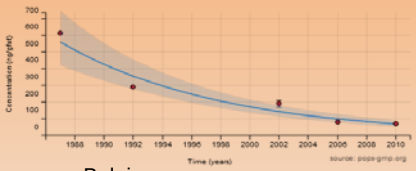
Main findings of the global report

- National and international regulation of POPs has achieved **significant decreases of some POPs in recent decades by controlling primary sources**.
- Secondary sources dominate the **persistent low levels of legacy POPs** (PCBs, DDTs, aHCH, PCDD/Fs).
- **Newly listed POPs** (PBDE, PFOS, HBCD) do **seem to be slowing or reversing increases** in most samples.
- **The coverage and abundance of good quality monitoring data on POPs has increased** very significantly since 2009, in particular in Africa, GRULAC, and Asia and the Pacific.
- **Long Range Transport Modeling has shown to be central in the interpretation** and improvement of available data.

CHANGES OVER TIME IN AIR CONCENTRATIONS OF INDICATOR PCB (SUM 6 PCB)

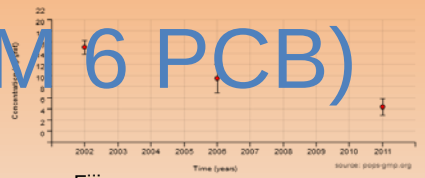


CHANGES OVER TIME IN CONCENTRATIONS OF INDICATOR PCB IN HUMAN MILK (SUM 6 PCB)

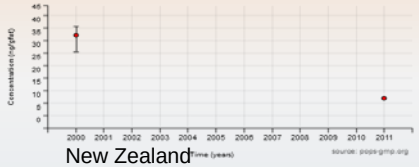


Belgium

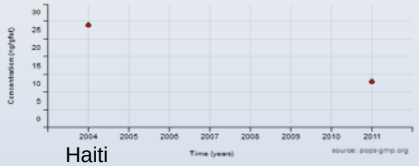
Russian Fed.



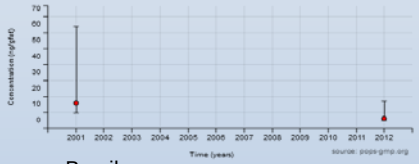
Fiji



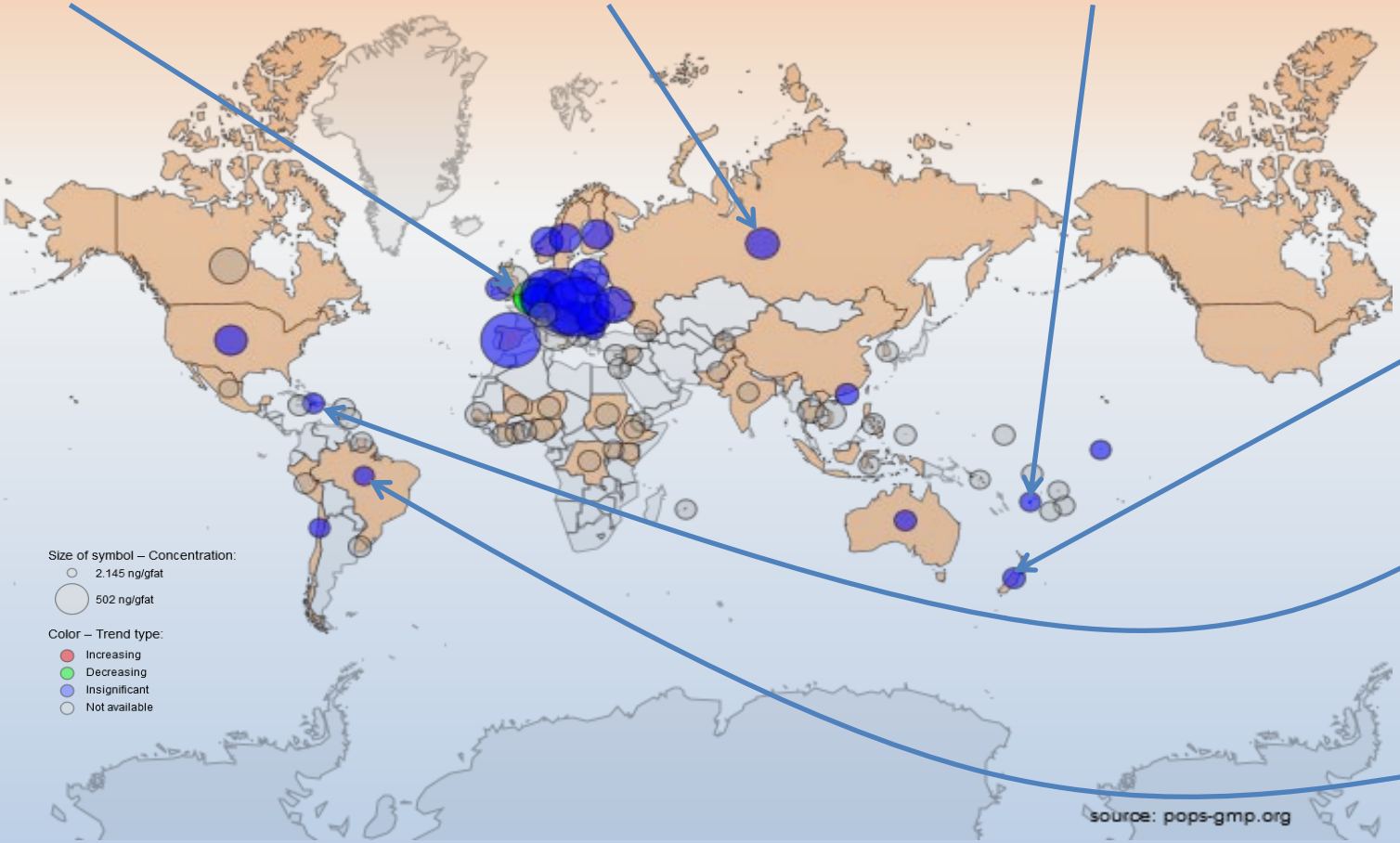
New Zealand



Haiti



Brazil



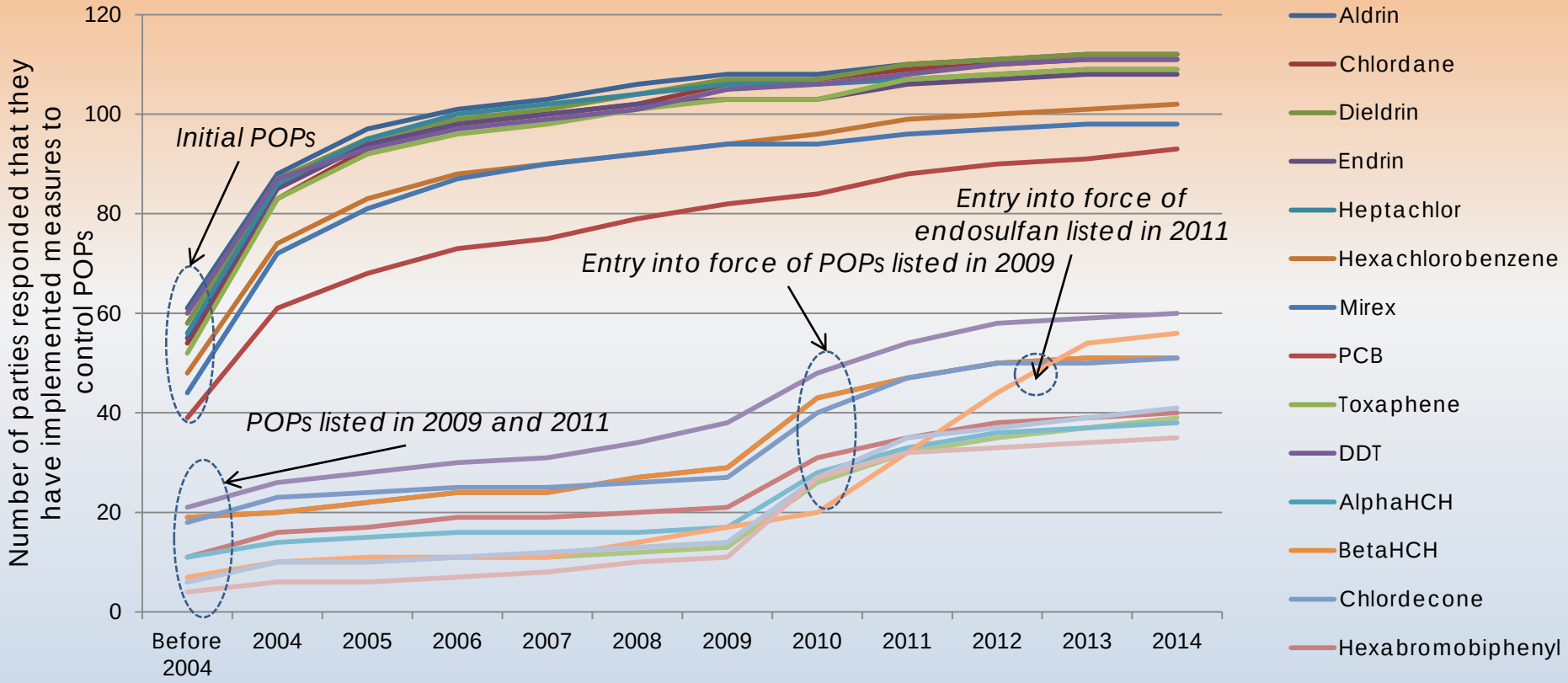
EFFECTIVENESS EVALUATION: OUTCOMES IN 2017

- **Effectiveness Evaluation report** (COP.8/22/Add.1 and COP.8/INF/40)
- Report of the effectiveness evaluation framework (COP7/INF/41)
- Substance specific factsheets (available online at http://chm.pops.int)

Overall outcomes

- The Convention provides an **effective and dynamic framework to regulate POPs throughout their lifecycle**, addressing the production, use, import, export, releases, and disposal of these chemicals worldwide.
- **Inadequate implementation is the key issue** that has been identified.
- A **key challenge was the limited data** available from national reports and NIPs.
- **Mechanisms and processes** required by the Convention to support Parties in meeting their obligations **have all been put in place, with the exception of procedures and mechanisms on compliance**.
- **Global monitoring of POPs, as well as data sharing and modelling should be sustained in the long term** to confirm decreasing concentrations of legacy POPs and to identify trends in the concentrations of the newly listed POPs.

PARTIES THAT HAVE IMPLEMENTED MEASURES TO CONTROL POPS



GMP IN THE CONTEXT OF EE

The **analysis and interpretation of monitoring data has shown to be central in assessing the effectiveness of the Convention**.

The GMP can

- identify and attribute observed changes in POPs concentrations
- help in approaching global inventories of POPs and
- help in documenting new substances of concern.

The input provided through the GMP is the outcome of a **stable long term process of international cooperation** between:

- A number of long term POP monitoring programs including AMAP, IADN, Great Lakes, LRTAP/EMEP, OSPAR, HELCOM, East Asia Network, MONET, GAPS, WHO/UNEP and national monitoring programmes such as Australia, China, Japan and Spain.
- 5 Regional Organization Groups composed by 6 members of each region (Africa, Asia and the Pacific, CEE, GRULAC, WEOG) and a Global Coordination Group including 3 members of each ROG.

CHALLENGES FOR THE GMP IN THE THIRD PHASE 2017-2023

- Sustain, consolidate and develop existing cooperation and monitoring.
- Develop strategies to deal with growing lists of substances of concern, including alternatives.
- Harness new sampling and analytical tools, and in data analysis and modeling to make best use of past and ongoing monitoring efforts to improve process understanding.
- Strive to facilitate and enhance QA/QC and data access.

Thank you

The worldwide implementation of the Global Monitoring Plan is made possible thanks to the generous contributions to the Stockholm Convention Voluntary Trust Fund from the Governments of Japan, Norway, Sweden, and through the European Commission's Thematic Programme for Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, including Energy (ENRTP). Further, the contribution of the projects to support POPs monitoring activities in regions, funded through the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM), is greatly acknowledged. Monitoring activities, and data collection and analysis are implemented in the five UN regions in cooperation with strategic partners and through involvement of Regional Organization Groups and Global Coordination Group.

MORE INFORMATION AT:

chm.pops.int