

“Mainstreaming Gender in National Implementation Plans under the Stockholm Convention” – Regional Workshop for Europe, Asia, and Africa

August 27, 2025| 11:00 –13:00 CEST, GMT+2

Register here: bit.ly/GenderForNIPS

Introduction

Effective management of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) under the Stockholm Convention requires a gender-responsive approach that recognises how women, men and vulnerable groups experience chemical risks differently. Biological differences such as women’s higher body-fat composition and life-stage susceptibilities of pregnancy and lactation intersect with social and occupational roles to shape exposure pathways and health outcomes. In many developing countries, women perform over 40 percent of agricultural labour yet often handle pesticide POPs without adequate training or protective equipment, and shoulder primary responsibility for household waste management—including sorting and open-burning activities that release dioxins, furans and other unintentional persistent organic pollutants (uPOPs). Cultural norms and institutional silos further exacerbate these risks by limiting women’s access to hazard information, decision-making forums and protective technologies, while the absence of sex-disaggregated POPs monitoring data impedes targeted interventions.

While efforts are underway through the [Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm \(BRS\) Secretariat Gender Action Plan \(BRS-GAP\)](#) and guidance produced by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on [Incorporating Gender Dimensions into National Strategy Setting in Chemicals Management](#), many Parties would benefit from further support in translating this guidance into gender-responsive National Implementation Plans (NIPs) that effectively address the differentiated impacts of chemical exposures.

This workshop, organized by the Green Growth Knowledge Partnership (GGKP) under the GEF-funded and UNEP-led Global NIP Update project (GEF ID 10785), aims to support Parties in better reflecting gender considerations in chemicals management. This session is intended to refresh understanding of how differentiated exposure pathways—shaped by gender roles, occupations, and

social context and to provide a space for discussion on practical actions that Parties could consider when updating their NIPs. In addition to national practitioners and gender experts, the workshop welcomes NGOs and community representatives to share stories from the ground, highlighting how various groups are differently affected by chemical exposure and what efforts could be relevant on the ground. While primarily targeting participants from Europe, Asia, and Africa, the session is open to interested stakeholders from other regions.

Format

This virtual workshop will be held in an interactive format, fostering the exchange of diverse perspectives and collaborative problem-solving practice.

The session will begin with a practical introduction by Mr. Fouad Bergigui, who will present UNEP's Gender Guidance and the project's Gender Checklist for NIPs, highlighting pragmatic entry points for integrating gender considerations into National Implementation Plans. This will be followed by speakers from national governments and civil society who will share their experiences and insights from national and regional perspectives. They will discuss their work with various groups and communities and offer their vision for advancing gender mainstreaming in the management of POPs and chemicals more broadly.

Participants will then engage in an interactive discussion where they will be invited to:

1. Share their field cases and current approaches related to gender mainstreaming in the context of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and National Implementation Plans (NIPs) or beyond.
2. Suggest ideas for strengthening gender integration in future NIP updates
3. Raise any technical or operational questions they may have.

The workshop will be conducted in English, with simultaneous interpretation into Russian and French provided.

Objectives

- To deliver actionable insights from the “Incorporating Gender Dimensions into National Strategy Setting in Chemicals Management” guidance, and their relevance to National Implementation Plans.
- To guide Parties on how to integrate gender considerations in the course of NIP development, review and update.
- To foster a better understanding of the dynamics of gender in chemical management on the ground by enabling dialogue among Parties, experts, civil society and community groups.

Target Audience

- Stockholm Convention Official Contact Points (OCPs), National Focal Points (NFPs) and National Assistants, particularly from the project countries
- National officials and experts involved in the review, update, and drafting of National Implementation Plans (NIPs) and national practitioners and technical experts supporting NIP development and implementation
- Officials from relevant ministries, such as Health, Labor, Agriculture, and Women’s Affairs, where cross-sector coordination is essential
- Members of NIP National Coordinating Mechanisms/Committees, Project Coordination Units, and Thematic Task Groups
- Project units and teams working on other chemical and hazardous waste projects
- National and international experts working at the intersection of gender and chemicals management
- Representatives of Stockholm and Basel Convention Regional Centres, civil society organizations (CSOs), community-based groups, and youth organizations engaged in chemicals and gender issues

This event will be conducted in the convenient time zone of the following countries: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Burundi, Cameroon, Cote d’Ivoire, Gambia, Guinea, Malawi, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Senegal, Togo, Tunisia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Pretoria, Czech Republic, Cambodia, Kazakhstan, Lao PDR, Maldives, Armenia, Georgia, Seychelles, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar,

Uganda, China. Participation is open to all countries.

Date and Time

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Speakers

- Ms. Susan Wingfield – Programme Officer, Gender Focal Point, BRS Secretariat
 - Mr. Fouad Bergigui – Gender Expert, International Consultant
 - Representatives from project countries, NGOs, CSOs and youth
- (To be confirmed, open for nominations)

Contacts

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