



**Stockholm Convention
on Persistent Organic
Pollutants**

**Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm
Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants
Eighth meeting**

Geneva, 24 April–5 May 2017

Item 5 (a) (ii) of the provisional agenda*

**Matters related to the implementation of the Convention:
measures to reduce or eliminate releases from intentional
production and use: DDT**

**Report by the United Nations Environment Programme on
progress in the implementation of the Global Alliance for the
Development and Deployment of Products, Methods and
Strategies as Alternatives to DDT for Disease Vector Control**

Note by the Secretariat

As referred to in the note by the Secretariat on the evaluation of the continued need for DDT for disease vector control and the promotion of alternatives to DDT (UNEP/POPS/COP.8/5), the annex to the present note sets out a report on progress in the implementation of the Global Alliance. The report has been submitted by the United Nations Environment Programme. The present note, including its annex, has not been formally edited.

* UNEP/POPS/COP.8/1.

Annex

Report by UN Environment regarding the activities of the Global Alliance for the Development and Deployment of Products, Methods and Strategies as Alternatives to DDT for Disease Vector Control

Document prepared by:

Science and Risk Unit, Chemicals and Health Branch
Economy Division, UN Environment
International Environment House 1
11-13 Chemin des Anémones
CH-1219 Châtelaine, Geneva
Switzerland

Date: March 2017

Email: science.chemicals@unep.org

Website: <http://web.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/what-we-do/science-and-risk/persistent-organic-pollutants-pops/phasing-out-ddt/global-alliance>

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Acronyms and abbreviations

BRS Secretariat	Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions
COP	Conference of the Parties
DDT	dichlorodiphenyl trichloroethane
GA	Global Alliance for Alternatives to DDT
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GMP	Global Monitoring Plan
IGO	Intergovernmental Organization
IRS	Indoor Residual Spraying
IVM	Integrated Vector Management
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NIP	National Implementation Plan
POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants
SC	Stockholm Convention
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
ToRs	Terms of Reference
UN Environment	United Nations Environment
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
WHO	World Health Organization
WHOPES	WHO Pesticides Scheme

Executive summary

The Global Alliance for Alternatives to dichlorodiphenyl trichloroethane (DDT) has continued to support the path toward alternatives to DDT. As malaria and leishmaniasis remain of concern in a large number of countries around the world, there is still a need to use DDT in some countries. In order to decrease the use of DDT and the related health risks, it is key to work together toward alternatives to DDT.

For the eighth Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention (COP-8), UN Environment's Chemicals and Waste Branch was invited to report progress on implementation of the Road Map. In order to do this, UN Environment developed a Report on Implementation of the Road Map with the objective to report progress to COP-8. The following key sources were used for the report:

- a) A Survey on Developing Alternatives to DDT (2017),
- b) The Report of the Second Meeting of the Effectiveness Evaluation Committee under the Stockholm Convention (2016)
- c) The DDT Expert Group report on the assessment of the production and use of DDT and its alternatives for disease vector control (2016)
- d) The National Implementation Plans (NIPs) (2006-present).

The report highlighted that significant work has been undertaken in relation to monitoring the global situation of need for DDT use, DDT production, trade and use, Global Environment Facility (GEF) projects and disposal of DDT. On the other hand, it was concluded that funding for the Road Map has been too limited and that limited comprehensive data to review progress (e.g. NIPs) is available. With regard to chemical alternatives, according to the WHO Pesticides Scheme (WHOPES) significant progress is being made by different industries. Furthermore, with regard to non-chemical alternatives, although progress has been made, there is a need to share knowledge and experiences. Finally, the report highlights that there are currently 20,000 tonnes of stockpiles globally, however, the amount is expected to be even higher. In addition, it is estimated that the largest stockpiles of DDT are located in former Soviet Union countries, Africa and China.

Another key activity by the Chemicals and Waste Branch has been the development of a baseline of a compilation of global stockpiles of DDT in a joint effort with the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm (BRS) Secretariat. In 2016 the AFRO II project was launched, which aims to diversify national capacity for innovative implementation of Integrated Vector Control Management (IVM). Other key GEF projects approved for implementations in 2015 are being undertaken in India, Armenia, Belize and Guatemala. Another notable GEF related activity has been the third Biennial Global Inter-laboratory Assessment on POPs.

1. Introduction

At its seventh meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention adopted Decision SC-7/2: DDT. The decision invited UN Environment to lead the implementation of the roadmap for the development of alternatives to DDT, in consultation with the World Health Organization, the DDT expert group and the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, and to report on progress in the implementation of the road map to the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention at its eight meeting. Moreover, the same decision also invited UN Environment to report on progress in the implementation of the Global Alliance for the Development and Deployment of Products, Methods and Strategies as Alternatives to DDT for Disease Vector Control to the Conference at its eight meeting.

The following gives an overview of the activities undertaken to date and explains the current status of the Global Alliance.

2. Structure of the Global Alliance

2.1. Membership

Members: The Global Alliance counts 93 members as of February 2017.

2.2. Steering Committee

Steering Committee members: The Steering Committee consists of 15 members, with two representatives per UN region and five other stakeholders including academia, civil society, bilateral, donor countries/foundations and the private sector. In addition, the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions Secretariat and the World Health Organization are members of the Steering Committee. UN Environment’s Chemicals and Waste Branch is responsible for managing the Global Alliance. The current composition of the Steering Committee can be found in table 1.

Table 1. Composition of the Steering Committee of the Global Alliance (February 2017)

Steering Committee of the Global Alliance				
Party-Nominated Members			Other Stakeholders	
Region	Country	Name	Category	Name
Africa (2)	Senegal	Fagamou Sy	Civil Society Organization (CSO) (1)	Paul Saoke, Physicians for Social Responsibility
	South Africa	Noluzuko Gwayi	Bilateral (1)	Vacant
Asia and Pacific (2)	India	Rajander Singh Sharma	Academia (1)	Vacant
	Yemen	Abdullah Naeem	Industry (1)	Egon Weinmüller, Croplife International
Eastern European Group (2)	Czech Republic	Ivan Holoubek	IGO (1)	Emmanuel Temu, World Health organization (WHO)
	Hungary	Zoltan Szabo	Multilateral	Gamini Manuweera, Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm (BRS) Conventions Secretariat
Group of Latin American and Caribbean Countries (GRULAC) (2)	Panama	Maria Ines Esquivel	Environmental Agreement (MEA) (1)	
	Vacant			
Western Europe and Other Groups (WEOG) (2)	Vacant			
	Vacant			
Secretariat of the Global Alliance	UN Environment		Jacqueline Alvarez	

Vacancies: There are currently five vacancies within the steering committee, one for the Group of Latin American and Caribbean countries (GRULAC), two for Western Europe and Other Groups (WEOG), one for bilateral and one for academia.

3. Financial issues

Financial issues:

The financial basis for the operation of the Global Alliance remains weak. No specific contributions to the work on DDT or the Global alliance have been received since May 2013. During 2015 and 2016, UN Environment allocated a total of USD 50,000 from Norway and Sweden contributions received by the organization. As of 17 January 2017, there are no remaining funds. The UN Environment Chemicals and Waste Branch and the BRS Secretariat have supported the Global Alliance and the roadmap implementation with substantial in-kind contributions.

Existing funds available for the work on DDT were used as follows:

- Contributions from Norway (USD 23,000) and Sweden (USD 27,000): consultants to support DDT Global Alliance, webinars, webpage update and awareness raising materials including video, brochures and case studies.
- Contributions from UN Environment, (Senior Programme Officer at P5 level – 5 % of the time): staff to coordinate the PEN, supervise outputs, and provide Global Alliance Steering Committee;
- Contribution from Germany to the BRS Secretariat to jointly (USD 23,000) undertake a global inventory on stockpiles and contaminated sites.

Further activities on Global Alliance rely mainly on in-kind contributions from UN Environment, BRS Secretariat, and key partners working on roadmap activities.

Furthermore, the GEF funds a number of projects in relation to DDT.

4. Meetings

Due to funding issues, an online meeting with the Steering Committee instead of a face-to-face meeting was held.

4.1. Online meeting with the Steering Committee of the Global Alliance and other stakeholders (9 November 2016)

An online meeting of the Steering Committee of the Global Alliance and other stakeholders was held on 9 November 2016 in order to take stock on work and prepare for COP-8.

The agenda was as follows:

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda
2. Implementation of the Road Map
3. Outcomes of the DDT Expert Group Meeting (Road Map discussion, WHO presentations, Outcomes)
4. Stockpiles of DDT
5. Looking toward COP 8 (Questionnaire, webinar series, awareness raising materials)
6. Projects
7. Opportunity to share information and comments
8. Membership of the Global Alliance
9. Work plan of the Global Alliance
10. Closure of the meeting

The notes of the online meeting can be found at:

<http://web.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/what-we-do/science-and-risk/persistent-organic-pollutants-pops/phasing-out-ddt>

4.2. Second online meeting of the Steering Committee of the Global Alliance and other stakeholders (2 March 2017)

A second online meeting was held on 2 March 2017 in order to provide the Steering Committee members with an update on the Global Alliance and preparations for COP-8.

The following agenda items were discussed:

1. Toward COP-8, 24 April to 5 May 2017, Geneva
 - a. Taking stock on work
 - b. Preparatory meetings for COP-8

Highlights: It was suggested that efforts should be made to during the preparatory meeting in Dakar, Senegal, discuss the idea to organize small working groups during COP-8.

- c. Documents - Information and working documents by UN Environment, BRS Secretariat, WHO, Report on Implementation of the Road Map

Highlights: With regard to the Report on Implementation of the Road Map, it was suggested to establish concrete and realistic outputs to be achieved by COP-9 in 2019.

- d. COP activities – Technology fair and side event
2. Status and work of Global Alliance - Financial issues, workplan, Terms of Reference, Steering Committee vacancies

Highlights: With regard to the workplan, it was suggested by the secretariat to base a new workplan on the Road Map. The secretariat proposed to draft and circulate for comments new Terms of Reference in the weeks following the meeting and revise membership of the Steering Committee.

3. Work on global stockpiles of DDT by UN Environment and BRS Secretariat
4. Awareness Raising activities under development - Sustainable Development goals and DDT, webinars, case studies (Sri Lanka), website
5. An opportunity for Steering Committee members to share information and discuss
6. Closure of the online meeting

Further details and information on outcomes will be provided in the webpage:
<http://web.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/node/815>

5. Progress on implementation of the Road Map for the Development of Alternatives to DDT

The Road Map for Alternatives to DDT: In implementing decision SC-6/1 on DDT of the COP to the Stockholm Convention, UNEP Chemicals Branch prepared a Road Map for the development of alternatives to DDT, in consultation with the World Health Organization, the DDT expert group and the Secretariat.

The Road Map defines a plan of global, regional and national activities to strengthen the development and implementation of locally safe, effective, affordable and environmentally sound alternatives to DDT in vector control. It identifies the key actors responsible for implementing the road map and explains their respective role. It also includes a status report, elaborating on recent developments in the production, trade, use and consumption of DDT, global policies and strategies for vector control, as well as the status of vector control tools.

If the Road Map is successfully implemented, it is expected that the COP will ultimately conclude that countries no longer need to rely on DDT for disease vector control because locally safe, effective, affordable and environmentally sound alternatives are available for a sustainable transition away from DDT.

The document of the Road Map is set out in UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/6.

Report on Implementation of the Road Map by UN Environment (March 2017): In order to review progress on implementation of the Road Map for the Development of Alternatives to DDT, UN Environment's Chemicals and Waste Branch prepared a report with the objective to review progress on implementation of the Road Map.

Some highlights of the report are the following:

Monitoring the global situation:

- To date there is a continued need for the use of DDT for Indoor residual Spraying (IRS), especially in Africa where locally safe, effective and affordable alternatives are still lacking.
- India, Namibia and Ethiopia are registered to produce DDT, and 17 countries registered to use DDT.

- From the DDT register, India, South Africa and Mozambique reported use of DDT, seven countries did not report use and the other seven did not submit a report.

Work on DDT – progress and gaps

- Significant work has been undertaken in relation to monitoring the global situation of need for DDT use, DDT production, trade and use, GEF projects and disposal of DDT. On the other hand, it was concluded that funding for the Road Map has been too limited.

Chemical alternatives:

- Several chemical alternatives to DDT are being evaluated by the WHO pesticides scheme.

Non-chemical alternatives:

- Some universities, NGOs and Regional Centers are involved in work on non-chemical alternatives e.g. improving housing and IVM. However, the report concludes that there is a need to share knowledge and experiences.

Stockpiles:

- Several GEF projects are being implemented in relation to alternatives to DDT and collecting stocks and final disposal of DDT.
- The amount of global stockpiles is estimated at approximately 20,000 tonnes. However, this amount is expected to be much higher. The largest stockpiles are located in former Soviet Union countries, Africa and China.

Key issues for reviewing progress:

- A key issue that complicates implementation of the Road Map is a lack of comprehensive data available in order to review progress.
- A lack of indicators and weak deadlines complicate taking stock on work.

The path forward:

- At the end of the report activities and outcomes with regard to implementation of the Road Map by COP-9 are suggested, e.g. national road maps, a new work plan for the Global Alliance in accordance with the Road Map, lessons learnt and best practices, overview of global stockpiles, awareness raising, funding.

The report will be available here in due discourse:

<http://web.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/what-we-do/science-and-risk/persistent-organic-pollutants-pops/toward-alternatives-ddt>

6. Other DDT and Global Alliance related activities

6.1. Global information on stockpiles of DDT

In its leadership role within the Global Alliance, UN Environment Chemicals jointly with the BRS Secretariat developed the baseline of a compilation of global stockpiles of DDT. The global stockpiles compilation was mainly based on the National Implementation Plans (NIPs) for the Stockholm Convention which were developed and transmitted by the Parties in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention and in some subsequent updates of the NIPs, when available. Other sources were the report of the effectiveness evaluation on DDT pursuant to the Article 16 of the Stockholm convention (UNEP/POPS/DDT-EG.6/INF/2) and the National Reports.

6.2. Work on DDT by the BRS Secretariat

Toolkit for the sound management of DDT for disease vector control: The BRS Secretariat developed a toolkit for the sound management of DDT for disease vector control with the aim of providing user-friendly access to

information and resources pertaining to the life-cycle management of DDT in the context of the chemicals and wastes conventions.

More information can be found in: UNEP/POPS/COP.8/5

Report on global inventories and contaminated sites: The following report is in progress, “DDT Global inventory report on DDT legacy stocks and landfills” by the BRS Secretariat in collaboration with UN Environment.

6.3. Collaboration with Biovision

Biovision¹ is a Swiss foundation for ecological development which aims to sustainably improve life for people in Africa while conserving the environment as the basis for all life. Among others, they seek to combat malaria and work on finding friendly alternatives to DDT. UN Environment and Biovision have been closely working together on some topics listed below.

Road Map for Alternatives to DDT: Biovision has been interested in supporting the Road Map for alternatives to DDT and has proposed to provide small scale funding for concrete activities to implement the Roadmap.

Projects by Biovision: Biovision has offered to share information on some of their projects (Kenia, Ethiopia) and information on stockpiles in Uganda.

6.4. GEF Projects

The UN Environment/GEF partnership supports an international effort to promote alternatives to DDT. Two key projects are further described below.

6.4.a. AFRO II² (GEF Project ID 4668)

UN Environment is the executing agency of the AFRO II project, launched in November 2016. The objective of the project is to strengthen national capabilities for implementation and scaling up of evidence-based, innovative, diversified and environmentally sound disease vector control interventions (with special emphasis on malaria) with multi-stakeholder participation within context of IVM.

The following countries take part in the project: Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe (Tier 1) Ethiopia, Gambia, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Senegal, Tanzania and Uganda (Tier 2).

More information can be found at:

<https://www.thegef.org/project/demonstration-effectiveness-diversified-environmentally-sound-and-sustainable-interventions>

6.4.b. Development and promotion of Non-POPs Alternatives to DDT (India) (GEF Project ID 4612)

The project aims to introduce bio- and botanical pesticides and other locally appropriate cost-effective and sustainable alternatives to DDT as first step for reduction and eventual elimination of dependency on DDT, ensuring food safety, enhancing livelihood and protecting human health and the environment in India

More information can be found at:

<https://www.thegef.org/project/development-and-promotion-non-pops-alternatives-ddt>

6.4.c Elimination of Obsolete Pesticide Stockpiles and Addressing POPs Contaminated Sites within a Sound Chemicals Management Framework (Armenia) (GEF Project ID 4737)

The objective of the project is to protect health and environment through elimination of obsolete pesticide stockpiles and addressing contaminated sites within a sound chemicals management strategy in Armenia.

¹ More information can be found at the website of Biovision at: <http://www.biovision.ch/en/home/>

² “Demonstration of effectiveness of diversified, environmentally sound and sustainable interventions, and strengthening national capacity for innovative implementation of integrated vector management (IVM) for disease prevention and control in the WHO AFRO Region”, GEF Project ID 4668.

More information can be found at:

<https://www.thegef.org/project/elimination-obsolete-pesticide-stockpiles-and-addressing-pops-contaminated-sites-within>

6.4.d. Environmentally Sound Management and Disposal of Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) - Containing Equipment and Disposal of DDT Wastes, and Upgrade of Technical Expertise (Guatemala) (GEF Project ID 5816)

One of the objectives of this project is to dispose all the 15 tons of DDT stockpiles that still remain in Guatemala. This project was approved for implementation in 2015.

More information can be found at:

<https://www.thegef.org/project/environmentally-sound-management-and-disposal-polychlorinated-biphenyl-pcb-containing>

6.4.e. Belize Chemicals and Waste Management Programme (Belize) (GEF Project ID 5094)

The objective of this project is to strengthen national institutional, technical, and legal infrastructure and capacity for POPs phase out and sound chemicals management. As part of this project Belize shipped 24 tons of DDT to France for final destruction in 2017).

More information can be found at:

<https://www.thegef.org/project/belize-chemicals-and-waste-management-programme>

6.4.f. Global Monitoring Plan

Within the Global Monitoring Plan projects and aiming at providing information to the Stockholm Convention Parties, UN Environment has engaged 43 countries within 4 UN regions to undertake sampling every 3 months during two years (2017-2019), monitoring air and one pool of human breast milk. DDT is one of the POPs being analysed.

Third Biennial Global Inter-laboratory Assessment on POPs: UN Environment Chemicals Branch coordinated the third Biennial Global Inter-laboratory Assessment on POPs, which was carried out in 2016 with funds from the GEF. The purpose was to assess the performance of POPs laboratories, including those analysing DDT and its metabolites, in standard solutions and naturally contaminated test samples.

Final result workshop for the third round biennial inter-laboratory assessment: The workshop is scheduled to be held on 6 and 7 April in Beijing, China. Agenda and related documents can be found at:

<http://web.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/events/final-result-workshop-third-round-biennial-interlaboratory-assessment>

More information about the Global Monitoring Plan is available at:

<http://web.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/what-we-do/science-and-risk/persistent-organic-pollutants-pops/pops-monitoring>.

6.5. Sixth meeting of the DDT Expert Group on DDT (7 to 9 November 2016, Geneva, Switzerland)

On 7-9 November 2016, the BRS Secretariat organized the sixth meeting of the DDT expert group, in which in which UN Environment Chemicals and Waste Branch was present as an observer and presented and discussed the Road Map as well as information on global DDT stockpiles.

More information about the meeting and the report of the DDT Expert Group can be found at:

<http://chm.pops.int/Implementation/DDT/DDTMeetings/DDTEG62016/tabid/5348/Default.aspx>

6.6. DDT and the UN Sustainable Development Goals

On 25 September 2015, countries adopted a set of goals to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all as part of a new sustainable development agenda. Each goal has specific targets to be achieved over the next 15 years.

Please find some key SDGs with regard to DDT explained below.

1. No poverty: Poor communities are more vulnerable to DDT exposure due to their occupation, living conditions and limited access to clean water, food and medical care.

3. Good health and well-being: DDT is highly toxic to humans. Reduction of DDT use and DDT stockpiles can improve the quality of life.

6. Clean water and sanitation: When released into the environment, DDT can increase the risk of contaminated ground and drinking water, and pose a threat to human health.

9. Industry, innovation and infrastructure: Introducing non-chemical alternatives to DDT is part of sustainable industrialization.

14. Life Below Water: DDT is toxic to a wide range of marine animals. DDT acclimates in fatty tissue, and bio-concentrate higher up in the food chain and have been detected in most marine species, including those in deep ocean trenches, indicating potential damage to the health and functions of the aquatic ecosystems.

6.7. Awareness Raising

Awareness raising materials are under preparation in collaboration with the BRS Secretariat and UNITAR and will be ready before COP-8. Some of the materials include:

- Webinar series to be held in the first week of April 2017
- Online case studies on success stories regarding the phase out of DDT, e.g. the case of Sri Lanka successfully phasing out malaria without DDT
- Infographic for the Global Alliance
- Informing at least 10 government stakeholder from at least 5 countries about experiences and lessons learned in the use of non-chemical vector control options
- Training at least 10 government stakeholders from at least 5 countries in the basic principles of integrated vector management

6.8. Work on DDT by WHO

Information from the World Health Organization (WHO) on the continued need for DDT for disease vector control can be found in an information document for COP-8, to be published online within due discourse here:

<http://www.brsmeas.org/Decisionmaking/COPsandExCOPs/2015COPs/MeetingDocuments/tabid/4243/language/en-US/Default.aspx>