

**NARRATIVE REPORT**  
**Annual Accomplishment for CY 2014**

Project Title : **Integrated Persistent Organic Pollutants (IPOP)s Management Project**  
Project Start : June 30, 2011  
Project End : June 30, 2017  
Loan/Grant : GEF Grant -TF095839  
Location : Cabanatuan City, Legaspi City, Bacolod City, Iloilo City, Butuan City, and General Santos City

**I. Executive Summary**

The project development objective is to assist the Philippines in minimizing the risk of human and environmental exposure to POPs by strengthening its regulatory and monitoring framework, and improving capacity for, and providing demonstration of safe management of PCBs, reduction of releases of unintentionally produced POPs in contaminated sites.

The project is being implemented through five components, namely (1)- Strengthening Regulatory Framework and Capacity Building for POPs Monitoring for phasing out the use of and reducing exposure to and releases POPs; (2) Reduction of Releases of Unintentionally Produced Persistent Organic Pollutants( dioxin and furan emissions); (3) Management of Polychlorinated Biphenyls (*PCBs*); (4) Identification and Remediation of POPs Contaminated Sites; and (5) Project Management.

As of December 31, 2014, the project was able to accomplish the following:

**Component 1: Strengthening the Regulatory Framework and Capacity Building for POPs Monitoring**

1. Completed the draft “EO creating an Inter-Agency Task Force for POPs Management” and presented in a consultation meeting with stakeholders.
2. Facilitated the issuance of MC for the Guidelines on Laboratory Registration for Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB) Analysis. This MC necessitates laboratories to register so they will be recognized by the EMB research Development Division. This is a requirement to let the laboratories proceed with testing of the PCBs.
3. Drafted final Administrative Order (DAO) repealing the Chemical Control Order (CCO) for Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs). This DAO is an essential output of the project that would pave way to legitimize and institutionalize the Revised Technical Guidelines on the Environmentally Sound Management (ESM) of PCBs.
4. EMB has completed the draft updated National Implementation Plan (NIP) for the Stockholm Convention with technical inputs from the Project. The NIP includes the new POPs that have been identified by Stockholm Convention and were recently made eligible for GEF grant funding under the GEF Chemicals Program.

**Component 2: Reduction of Releases of Unintentionally Produced Persistent Organic Pollutants**

1. Completed the updating of dioxins and furans emissions inventory. A public consultation was conducted where the inventory of dioxins and furans was presented

to various stakeholders. After incorporating valid comments from the various stakeholders, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Inventory Report was finally submitted for final approval of the TWG.

2. On-going preparation of strategy for the adoption of Best Agricultural Technology/Best Environmental Practices (BAT/BEP) for agricultural and industrial sectors
3. Completed the UPOPs action plan for the closure of dumpsite of LGU Legazpi.

### **Component 3: Management of Polychlorinated Biphenyls**

1. The inventory on Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB) owners is ongoing. The registry set up by the consultant currently lists 562 PCB owners of which 389 have been visited for actual inventory, while table top review from old registry were done for 173 PCB owners.
2. Conducted training on monitoring of implementation of PCB management plans for 35 EMB regional staffers.

### **Component 4: Identification and Remediation of POPs Contaminated Sites**

1. Finalized the Comprehensive National Inventory of Contaminated Sites and Database report.
2. Preparation of the National strategy on the management of POPs contaminated sites.
3. Conducted environmental site assessment of 10 selected priority sites
4. Trained Staff of Government Agencies on inventory and hazard-ranking of contaminated sites and Site remediation
5. Prepared 10 Action Plans for the 10 selected priority sites and management options for the site owners

For fund utilization (Grant Fund), a total of US\$3.23M out of US\$8.640M has been disbursed or only 37.4% utilization. Low disbursement is due to the following reasons:

- a) Delays incurred in the implementation of the six (6) approved LGUs sub-grant projects amounting to US\$1.9M (20% of the total grant amount US\$8.6M) due to the slow completion of the LGUs UPOPs Action Plans for the reduction of unintended persistent organic pollutants from open burning through closure of open dumpsite from the Cities of Cabanatuan, Butuan, Bacolod, Iloilo City, General Santos City. This was further aggravated with the dropping of the three Cities (Bacolod, Iloilo and General Santos) for failure to submit the complete documentary requirements on the deadline despite four extensions and land ownership issue;
- b) Delays incurred in the engagement of the consultancy services due to failures of bidding caused by either failure in negotiations and none receipt of proposals, and the delayed concurrence of WB on the proposal to shift from Consultancy Firm to Single Source Selection (SSS) for package 7, and on the Technical Evaluation Report for package 9. This resulted in the non-implementation of the three major activities, namely: (i) development of health monitoring program on POPs exposure, development of guidelines (Package 7); (ii) demonstration of control measures for contaminated sites (Package 9); and (iii) the implementation of capacity building activities on the best available technology (BAT) and best environmental practices

(BET) for reduction of PCDF (*furans*) /PCDD (*dioxins*) from agricultural and industrial sources.

## II. Plans for CY 2015

1. To focus on the implementation of dumpsite closure activities in three LGUs namely: Legazpi, Butuan and Cabanatuan.
2. To urgently facilitate the issuance of the legal instrument for the updated Chemical Control Order (CCO) on PCBs. The project has supported the drafting of a revised CCO and the conduct of stakeholder consultations. Without a current legal instrument in place, PCB owners have no incentive to prepare PCB management plans.
3. To facilitate the submission of the target number of management plans to be approved by EMB regional offices during the project life which was reduced to 300 from 800. It will, however, focus on the largest PSB owners to ensure that a large percentage of the PCBs in the country are covered.
4. Assist EMB in the selection of 40 PCB owners from the registry who can participate in the validation as a demonstration of the process.
5. Finalization of TORs for the studies on perflourooctanesulfonate (PFOS) and polybrominateddiphenyl (PBDEs) and waste electrical and electronics equipment (WEEE).
6. Assist EMB in the preparation of the Philippine bidding documents for the procurement of consultancy service in the implementation of the remediation demonstration activity in the selected contaminate sites
7. Fast track the review and finalization of the proposed Project restructuring: i) modification/amendment of the Project Development Objective (PDO) to adequately reflects the scope of intended project outcomes, ii) amend the results indicators to better measure the planned outcomes and outputs based on agreements, and iii) communicate formally to the appropriate concerned authorities/oversight (NEDA and WB) the agreed changes in several project activities, including cancellation of activities that are no longer feasible, or reduce the number of demonstration activities to deliver fewer but very well implemented good practice.