

Study for “Identification, assessment and prioritisation of EU measures to reduce releases of unintentionally produced/released Persistent Organic Pollutants”

Fact sheet

I. Background and objectives for the project

The background for this project is formed by the "POP Protocol to the regional UNECE Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution" (Arhus Protocol) and the "Stockholm Convention" which aim to reduce and eliminate the production, use and releases of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) in all participating parties.

In order to ensure coherent and effective implementation of the Community's obligations under the Protocol and the Convention a common legal framework has been established at EU level by the Regulation 850/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council.

Following the obligations of the Stockholm Convention and the Protocol, Member States and the Commission are drawing up plans for implementation of appropriate measures. These contain actions to minimise releases of unintentionally produced/released POPs, namely Dioxins/Furans, PCB, HCB and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAH).

Against this background the major objectives of the study are to identify, assess and prioritise possible measures to be taken at EU level to reduce the releases of unintentionally produced/released POPs.

The investigation will be based on:

- existing and planned legislation, strategies and measures on EU und Member States level
- National Implementation Plans under development by the Member States
- other relevant sources of information and knowledge.

The study shall form a decision basis for the European Commission for further steps and policy development related to release reduction of the substances concerned.

II. Tasks

The following four main tasks will be covered within the project

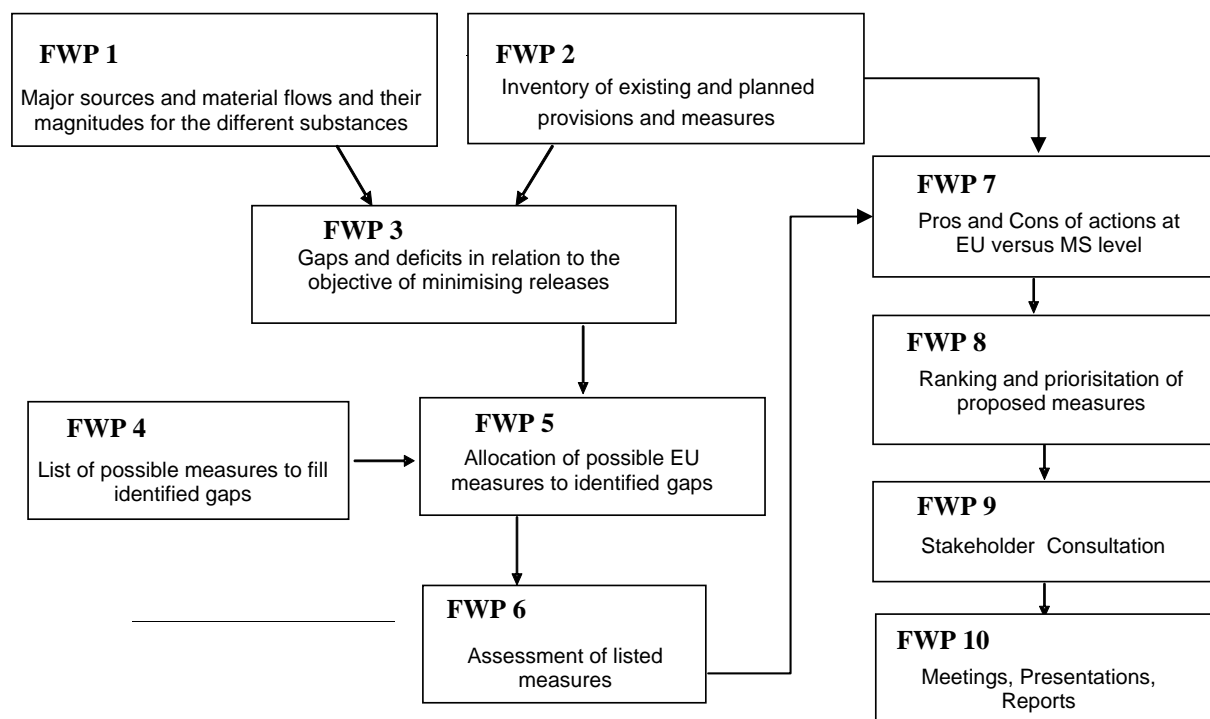
- Identification and quantification of main sources for PCDD/PCDF, PCB, HCB, PAH (material flows) and inventory of existing and planned measures for release reduction
- Identification of gaps in relation to the objective of minimising releases
- Compilation of possible measures to fill the identified gaps
- Assessment of feasibility, impacts, costs and benefits of listed measures including pros and cons of action at EU vs. national level.

III. Project Team and Project Concept

To fulfill the tasks and to achieve the objectives, BiPRO has established an interdisciplinary project team:

Project leader:	Further Team members:
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The project team has developed the following structure to describe the process for generation of the final results:



IV. Time table

Due to external constraints the time schedule of the project is fairly tight. The following milestones and deliverables are foreseen in the project concept:

Project start:	December 2005
Inception Report:	December 2005
Intermediate Report:	March 2006
Draft Final Report:	April/May 2006
Final Report:	June 2006