

# Introductory Course to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

## *Course Syllabus*



**InforMEA**  
UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION PORTAL ON  
MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS

## Learning objectives

Persistent organic pollutants (“POPs”) are organic chemical substances that remain intact for exceptionally long periods of time, become widely distributed throughout the environment, accumulate in the fatty tissue of living organisms, and are toxic to both humans and wildlife.

This course introduces you to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, which seeks to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants.

At the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Describe what persistent organic pollutants are and their properties
2. Identify the core components and mechanisms established by the Stockholm Convention
3. Outline the synergies process undertaken by the Stockholm, Rotterdam and Basel Conventions

## Content and duration

The e-learning course is comprised of 3 lessons, which provide links to the relevant treaty text paragraphs and term concepts of the InforMEA Glossary section. The lessons are organised in books, which can be downloaded in pdf from the left-hand navigation menu.

The core content of these lessons is complemented with additional materials, such as videos, publication and/or external websites

It will take you 1 hour approximately to complete the course, excluding additional materials. You can manage your time as you wish; take a few units and retake the course whenever it is more convenient for you.

## Assessment and certificate

Take the quiz at the end of the course to assess your learning progress.

You are required to answer at least 80% of the assessment questions correctly in order to obtain a course certificate.

Before obtaining the certificate you also need to submit the course survey (your feedback). This survey helps us to improve the course, develop new course and assess if you are achieving your learning objectives.

Unit	Content	Learning objectives
Unit 1 - Introduction	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)</li> <li>2. Overview</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Define persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and list their properties</li> <li>2. Describe the origins and main objective of the Stockholm Convention</li> <li>3. Recall how the Convention lists and classifies POPs</li> </ol>
Unit 2 - Main Provisions of the Stockholm Convention	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Annex A - Elimination</li> <li>2. Annex B - Restriction</li> <li>3. Annex C - Unintentional Production</li> <li>4. Stockpiles and Wastes</li> <li>5. Additional POPs</li> <li>6. Best available techniques and best environmental practices (BAT and BEP)</li> <li>7. Other provisions</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify the core components and mechanisms established by the Stockholm Convention</li> </ol>
Unit 3 – Institutional Arrangements and the Synergies Process	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conference of the Parties</li> <li>2. Secretariat</li> <li>3. Regional and Coordinating Centres for Capacity Building and Technology Transfer</li> <li>4. Subsidiary body - POPs Review Committee</li> <li>5. Non-compliance</li> <li>6. Financial and Technical Assistance</li> <li>7. Synergies among the hazardous chemicals and wastes multilateral environmental</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Describe the institutional framework and main functions of the Stockholm Convention bodies</li> <li>2. Explain the synergies process among the hazardous chemicals and wastes multilateral environmental agreements</li> </ol>



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This course has been developed under the InforMEA UNEP initiative based on the UNEP Training Manual on International Environmental Law in co-authorship with the Stockholm Convention Secretariat.

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