

Summary of situation evaluation for Malaysian POPs

Question	Answer	Comments/Possible Solution
Which Ministry/Department(s) is/are involved in managing toxic chemicals?	Multiple, but feedback mechanisms remains rather challenging.	Requires stronger coordination and synergy.
Which Ministry/Department(s) is/are involved in managing the selected hot spot?	Involves several national and local agencies, as well as communities, but the synergy among them remains weak.	Require stronger coordination and synergy, as well as public participation and public accountability.
What chemical-specific legislation/ regulations are in place in the country?	No specific legislation to regulate all POPs in entirety. A number of general laws and regulations to address some aspects of POPs, especially, pesticides, PCBs, and solid waste.	Law and policy development.
Is enforcement of regulations (if they exist) undertaken as necessary?	Constrained by spreading of enforcement and monitoring functions over various acts/regulations and among several agencies.	Harmonization and integration.
What relevant industry (ies) use toxic chemical?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agriculture; ▪ Industry (energy); ▪ Public health; ▪ Waste management. 	Awareness, guidelines, coded of practice and standards, and BAT/BEP.
Are there research institutes that are undertaking relevant research/ investigations?	Numerous, although the use of research results in the policy formulation needs to be intensified.	Measures for encouraging the flow of research results into the policy making process.
What level of understanding exists in government and industry about the hazards the chemical poses?	Relatively high.	
What level of awareness exists among workers and the public concerning toxic chemicals?	Extremely low. Training and awareness campaigns did not produce any significant changes to date.	
What related technical infrastructure exists (e.g. information on quantities produced/generated, imported, in use)?	Relatively high. But inter-agency flow of information is somehow restricted by lack of uniform exchange platforms.	Appropriate /common knowledge management system, and guidelines on data sharing.
Existing programs for monitoring releases and environmental and human health impacts.	Many programs.	
Are there any 'bottlenecks' in the management of toxic chemicals nationally and/or locally?	Yes, wide-spread legal provisions/acts, and jurisdictions.	Good environmental governance.
Are there cases of accidents, poisonings, contamination, etc. involving toxic chemicals, and routinely reported to the relevant authorities?	Not mentioned in NIP.	