



**STOCKHOLM
CONVENTION**

Protecting human health and the environment
from persistent organic pollutants

Course Syllabus

Learning objectives

Exposure to Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) can lead to serious health effects including certain cancers, birth defects, dysfunctional immune and reproductive systems, greater susceptibility to disease, and damage to the central and peripheral nervous systems.

Given their long-range transport, no one government acting alone can protect its citizens or its environment from POPs.

In response to this global problem, the Stockholm Convention was adopted in 2001 and entered into force in 2004. This course will introduce you to the history of the Stockholm Convention and how it requires its Parties to take measures to eliminate or reduce the release of POPs into the environment.

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

1. Describe the problem of POPs.
2. Outline the need for and origins of the Stockholm Convention.
3. Explain the Convention's requirements for Parties to take measures to eliminate or reduce the release of POPs into the environment.

Content and duration

This online course is comprised of 4 lessons, which provides links to relevant treaty text paragraphs and term concepts of the InforMEA Glossary section. The lessons are organized in interactive modules that combine the course theory with exercises and interactions that will facilitate the learning process.

This core content of the lessons is complemented with additional materials, such as videos, publications and external websites.

It will take you 2 hours approximately to complete the course, excluding additional materials. This is a self-paced course that allows you to manage your time as you wish. You can navigate the lessons at your convenience and retake them whenever you wish.

Completion 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 courses and assess if you are achieving your learning objectives.

Course Outline and content

Lesson 1: Introduction

Persistent organic pollutants (POPs); adverse impacts on human health and the environment; the need for an international response; and the origins, adoption, and overview of the Convention.

Lesson 2: Main provisions of the Stockholm Convention

- (1) Annexes A-C: Elimination; Restriction; and Unintentional Production
- (2) Stockpiles and Wastes
- (3) Listing additional POPs
- (4) Best Available Techniques & Best Environmental Practices

Lesson 3: Institutional framework and the synergies process

Explaining the functions of the Conference of the Parties; Secretariat; Regional and Sub-Regional Centres; and Subsidiary Bodies; and outlining the Synergies Process.