

TACKLING CONTAMINANTS IN THE ARCTIC

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IMPACT OF EFFORTS & ACTIONS TO REDUCE OLD CHEMICALS

AMAP monitoring work has documented levels, trends and impacts of contaminants in the Arctic:

- **Providing a sound, scientific basis for policy actions** at national, regional and global levels – including actions under ACAP.
- **Contributing significantly to the work to establish international agreements** such as the LRTAP Convention POPs Protocol and Stockholm Convention on POPs as well as the Minamata Convention on Mercury.
- Tracking the **good progress made in reducing levels of many environmental pollutants** that reach the Arctic by long-range transport.
- **Reducing associated threats to Arctic ecosystems and humans**, especially indigenous people's exposed to contaminants through their marine diets.

CASE STUDY

ACAP Project: Use of SCWO for environmentally sound destruction of obsolete pesticides

- Super critical water oxidation technology was approved in the Russian Federation in 2015.
- Test facility in Krasnoyarsk will demonstrate safe destruction of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs).
- If successful, this technology is scalable and replicable.
- Supports the Russian National implementation of the Stockholm Convention and Basel Convention by identifying environmentally sound management of hazardous waste technology.



ACTIONS NEEDED TO ADDRESS NEW CHEMICALS

AMAP's work has also documented that the issue of Arctic pollution is not solved:

- Thousands of new chemicals enter use every year; some have now been found in the Arctic as a result of long-range transport, some also have local sources.
- Some may not meet criteria for inclusion under existing international agreements.
- Actions are needed to address local sources. Eg: Improving community water treatment and waste management solutions and raising awareness of local source contaminants such as pharmaceuticals and personal care product.
- New approaches to chemicals management may be necessary to address chemicals that fall outside existing arrangements but show long-range transport.



CASE STUDY

- ACAP Expert Group on Hazardous Waste is exploring demonstration projects that seek to address releases of chemicals of emerging concern.
- Includes: flame retardants, perfluorinated chemicals, pharmaceutical/personal care products, short-chained paraffins, current use pesticides and microplastics.
- Address through waste-water treatment and releases from landfills to benefit local communities.

THANK YOU

ARCTIC MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME WWW.AMAP.NO
ARCTIC CONTAMINANTS ACTIONS PROGRAM WWW.ACAP.ARCTIC-COUNCIL.ORG

