

# Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)

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# What are the persistent organic pollutants?

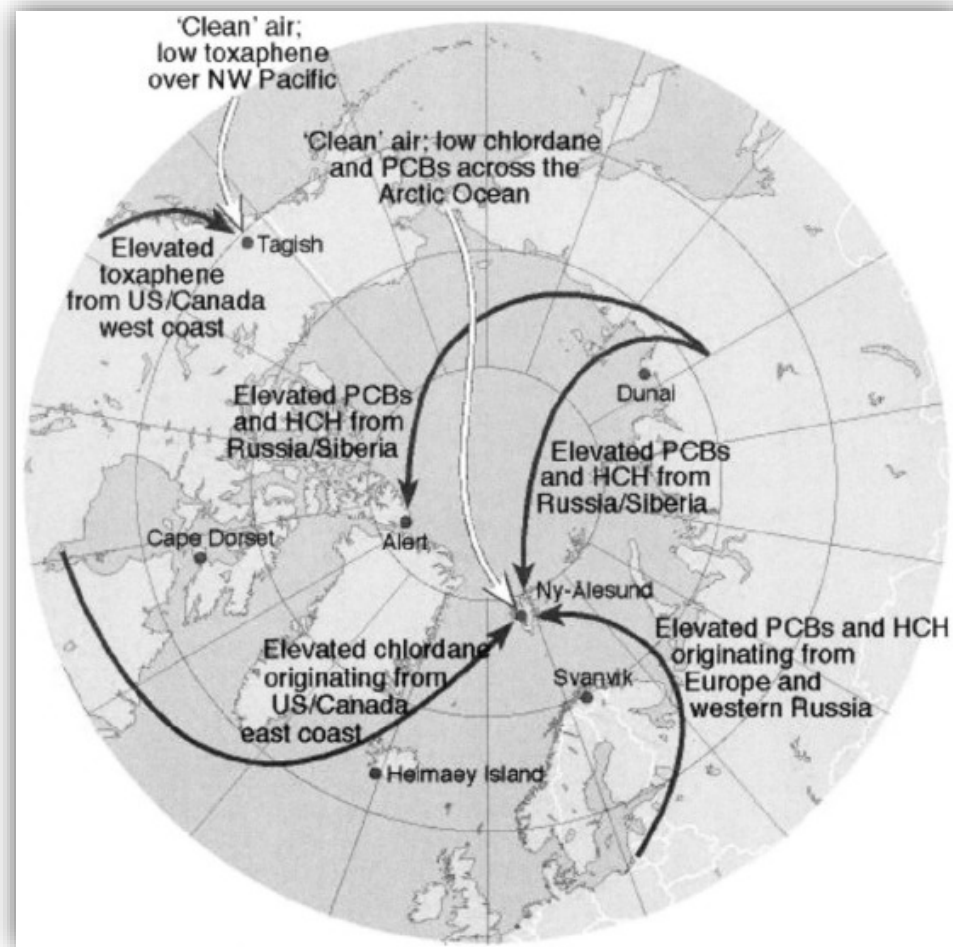
Persistent organic pollutants (POPs) are hazardous organic chemicals with particular properties:

- **persistent**
- **bioaccumulative**
- **toxic**
- **very mobile (long-distance travellers)**

➔ Risk for human health and the environment

Three Main Sources were identified:

- Pesticides
- Industrial chemicals
- Unintentional production



Transboundary Travelers

# International and European POPs Regulations

The POPs problematic needs global cooperation:



POPs are regulated worldwide by the **Stockholm Convention** and the **Aarhus Protocol**



**Adoption:** 2001  
**Entry into force:** 2004  
**Number of Parties:** 183  
**Number of Signatories:** 152

Source: [www.pops.int/TheConvention/Overview](http://www.pops.int/TheConvention/Overview)



**Adoption:** 1998  
**Entry into force:** 2001  
**Number of Parties:** 47 (2014)

Source: [www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarhus\\_Convention](http://www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarhus_Convention)

➔ **same objectives:** control, reduce or eliminate POPs emissions into the environment



These pieces of legislation are implemented in the European Union by the **POPs Regulation**



**Regulation (EU) 2019/1021 – In force**  
Recast of Regulation (EC) No 850/2004

# POPs regulation - Regulation (EU) 2019/1021

[Article 1 POPs Regulation]

**Aim:** protect human health and the environment with specific control measures that

- prohibit or severely restrict the production, placing on the market and use of POPs
- minimise the environmental release of POPs that are formed as industrial by-products
- make sure that stockpiles of restricted POPs are safely managed
- ensure the environmentally sound disposal of waste consisting of, or contaminated by POPs.

**New substances added in the lists of the Stockholm Convention or the Aarhus Protocol  
→ amendment of the annexes of the POPs regulation**

# Implementation Plans

[Article 9 POPs Regulation]

**Necessary measures to identify, reduce or eliminate releases of POPs into the environment**

**→ Develop & communicate an action plan**

On national and EU level

- rise awareness within public, professionals & decision makers
- Monitor certain POPs

# Implementation Plan in Luxembourg

Law of 8 January 2003

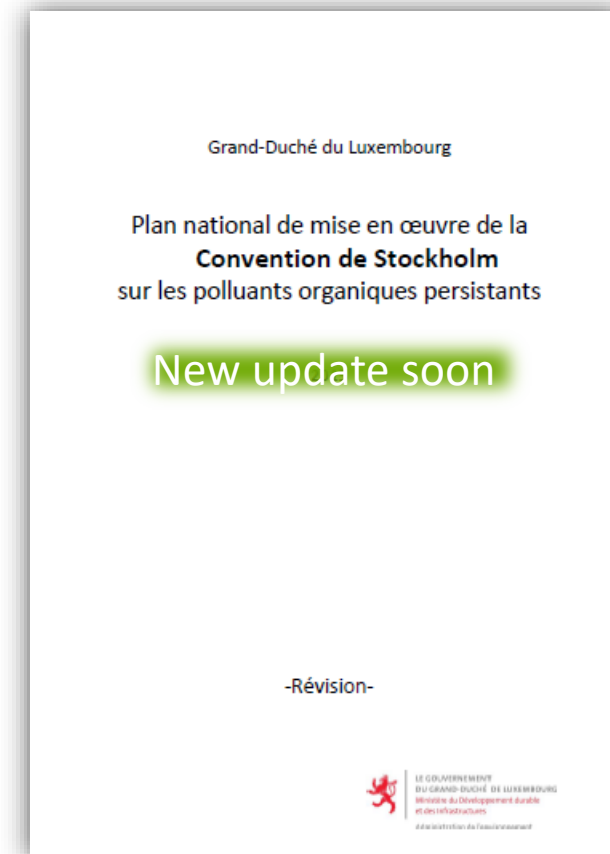
→ approving the **Stockholm Convention** on Persistent Organic Pollutants, done at Stockholm on 22 May 2001.



# Implementation Plan in Luxembourg

## National Implementation Plan (2015)

- an overview of the situation of POPs in the Grand Duchy
- details on the POPs reduction provisions
- Measures to apply the best available techniques, strengthening of the limit values
- Regular measurement programs, such as the Environmental Administration's biomonitoring program, of air quality, soils, surface water, the food chain and occupational health.
- Proactive information to the public



# Implementation Plan in Luxembourg

## National Implementation Plan (2015)

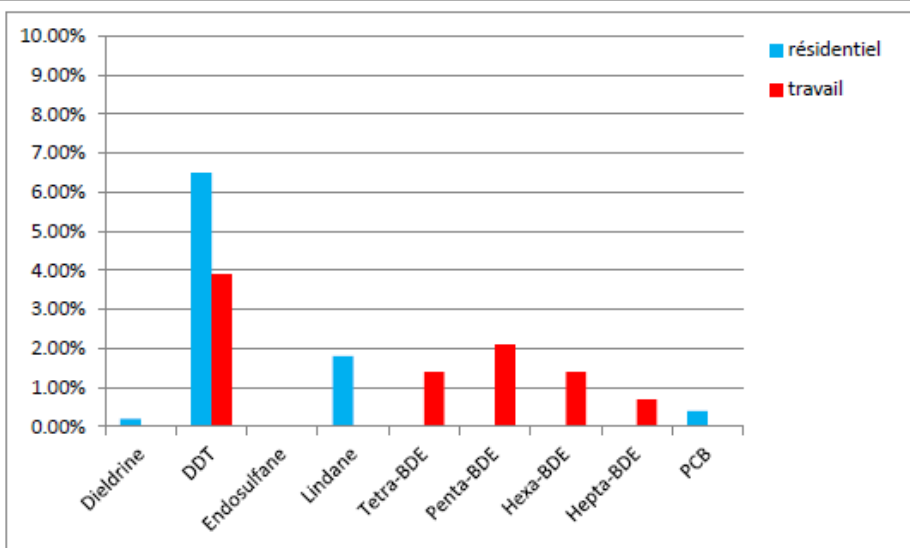


Figure 2: Fréquence des contaminations de poussières dans le secteur résidentiel (n=2178 de 2004-2007) et du lieu de travail (n=487 de 2008-2014).

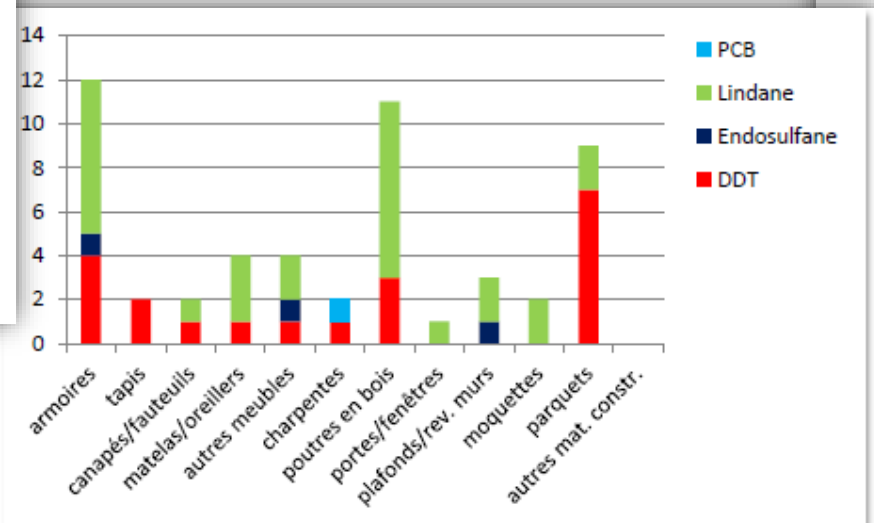
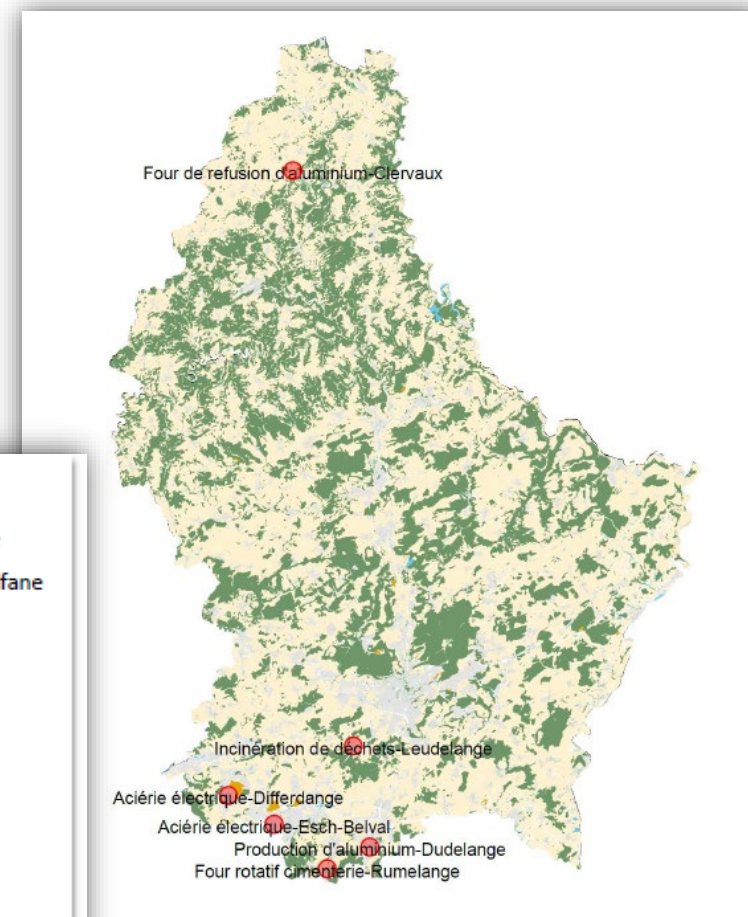


Figure 3: Sources contamination (matériaux) identifiées.



Main POPs sources in Luxembourg, 2015  
(map.geoportail.lu)



# Penalties in Luxembourg

Member States shall lay down rules on penalties applicable to infringements of POPs Regulation  
[Article 14 POPs Regulation]

Act of 12 May 2011 laying down certain **implementing rules and sanctioning** of Regulation (EC) No 850/2004



## JOURNAL OFFICIEL

DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG

MÉMORIAL A

N° 145 du 13 mars 2020

Loi du 11 mars 2020 portant certaines modalités d'application et les sanctions du règlement (UE) 2019/1021 du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 20 juin 2019 concernant les polluants organiques persistants.

Law of 11 March 2020

→ **laying down certain implementing rules and penalties**  
for the POPs Regulation

# REACH&CLP Helpdesk Luxembourg

## POPs Regulation

**New Helpdesk activity – support for companies**

**New website: <https://www.pop-chemicals.lu/>**

