



# POPS ANALYSIS AND MONITORING IN THE ASIAN COASTAL HYDROSPHERE

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## Introduction

The UNU's capacity development project on environmental pollutant analysis using a quadruple type gas chromatograph mass spectrometer (GC/MS, Shimadzu-GCMS QP5050A and Shimadzu-GCMS QP2010) has been implemented since 1996 with support from Shimadzu Corporation. Trained on sample pretreatment and data analysis using GC/MS for a wide variety of samples (water, biota, sediment, and food, fish scale and air), the project partners have monitored various target environmental pollutant chemicals from Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) to Persistent Organic Compounds (POPs) as shown in Table 1 (see the back of this flyer). The project's monitoring results as well as the quality assurance and quality control aspects of the project activities are discussed here.

## Quality Assurance

Data quality was assured routinely by conducting blank tests, injection repeatability tests and standard addition recovery tests. A single surrogate of DDT-<sup>13</sup>C<sub>12</sub> for all POPs (excluding PCDD/Fs and PCBs) was chosen to check the sample recoveries with the recovery ratio range of 70-130% as an acceptable range. No decomposition of the DDT in the GC was confirmed with the chromatogram peaks of DDD and DDE. Two internal standards, phenanthrene-d<sub>10</sub> and chrysene-d<sub>12</sub>, were injected as syringe-spike. An inter-laboratory calibration was carried out in 2002 using two reference water samples prepared by Shimadzu Corporation. Table 2 (see the back of the flyer) shows the statistical analysis of the reported results. All z-scores were lower than 2 indicating all data were within the acceptable range of inter-laboratory variability. However, a closer look at the inter-lab data and NIQR values reveals that some countries faced difficulties getting accurate concentrations of Aldrin, Endrin, and p,p'-DDT. Please refer to the Quality assurance document on blank tests, injection repeatability tests and standard addition recovery tests.

## Monitoring data in the third phase (2002-2005)

The third phase of this project monitored POPs in water, sediment, and soil. Over the period of 4 years, 57 different compounds were measured in the 8 participating Asian countries.

The samples were collected at approximately 670 sites in rivers, lakes, coastal waters and sediments throughout the 8 participating Asian countries and provide a general overview of POP levels in these countries. During the 4 consecutive years some countries conducted the sampling fully or largely at the same sites (e.g. Thailand, Philippines, Singapore, Indonesia) allowing inter-annual comparisons whereas other countries changed the sites partially (e.g. Vietnam, Korea and Malaysia) or even every year (China).

Among all samples the most commonly detected compounds were p,p'-DDT and its metabolites p,p'-DDD and p,p'-DDE, followed by HCB, Lindane and cis- and trans-Chlordane. Specifically, in limnic sediment samples p,p'-DDD, p,p'-DDE and HCB have exceeded 70% of detection frequency. In marine sediment Lindane, HCB and p,p'-DDD were recorded in more than 70% of the samples. In seawater, detection frequencies for cis-Chlordane, Heptachlor, Lindane, Dieldrin and p,p'-DDT ranged above 50% whereas in freshwater samples, the most common compounds p,p'-DDT, Lindane, trans-Chlordane, and HCB exceeded only the detection frequency of 30%. Figures 2-4 show temporal trend data in Thailand between 2002-2005, sea water (2002), and fresh water (2003), respectively.

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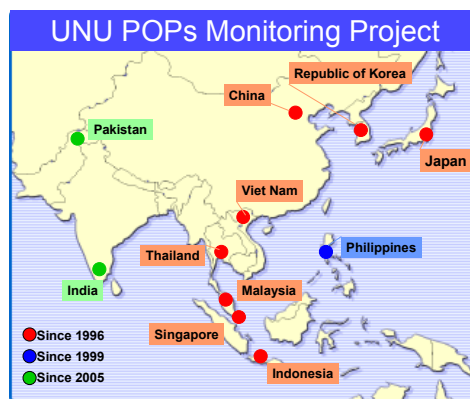
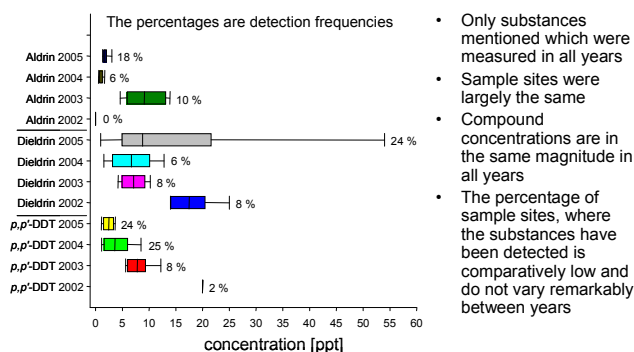
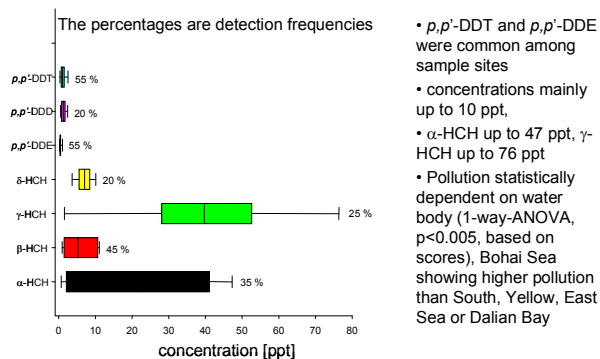


Fig. 1 Project partners countries



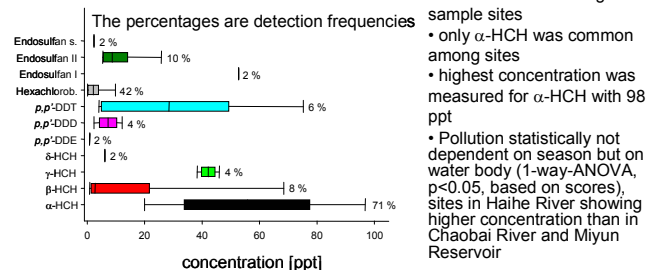
- Only substances mentioned which were measured in all years
- Sample sites were largely the same
- Compound concentrations are in the same magnitude in all years
- The percentage of sample sites, where the substances have been detected is comparatively low and do not vary remarkably between years

Fig. 2 Water samples, Thailand 2002-2005



- p,p'-DDT and p,p'-DDE were common among sample sites
- concentrations mainly up to 10 ppt,
- α-HCH up to 47 ppt, γ-HCH up to 76 ppt
- Pollution statistically dependent on water body (1-way-ANOVA, p<0.005, based on scores), Bohai Sea showing higher pollution than South, Yellow, East Sea or Dalian Bay

Fig. 3 Sea water samples, China 2002



- Only 11 out of 21 pesticides were detectable among sample sites
- only α-HCH was common among sites
- highest concentration was measured for α-HCH with 98 ppt
- Pollution statistically not dependent on season by on water body (1-way-ANOVA, p<0.05, based on scores), sites in Haihe River showing higher concentration than in Chaobai River and Miyun Reservoir

Fig. 4 River water samples, China 2003

Table 1. Target chemicals and media examined in this project during the last three phases (1996 - 2004)

	First Phase (1996 - 1998)				Second Phase (1999 - 2001)			Third Phase (2002 - 2004)			
	1996	1997	1998	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	
Target Media	Pesticides Rice	VOCS Tap/River Water	TBTs Fish Scales	VOCS Indoor/Ambient Air	Aldehydes Indoor/Ambient Air	EDC-like Pesticides River Water	EDC-like Phenols River Water	EDC-like Phthalates River Water	Pesticides POPs River Water	Pesticides POPs River Water/Sediment	Pesticides POPs River Water/Sediment
Target Chemicals	Fenitrothion(MEP)	1,1-Dichloroethylene	Tri Butyl Tin	Trichloromethane	Formaldehyde	$\alpha$ -BHC	Bisphenol-A	Di methyl phthalate	Hexachlorobenzene	Hexachlorobenzene	Hexachlorobenzene
	Malathion	Dichloroethane	Tri Phenyl Tin	1,1,1-Trichloroethane	Acetaldehyde	$\beta$ -BHC	4-t-Butylphenol	Di ethyl phthalate	Heptachlor	Heptachlor	Heptachlor
	Chlorpyrifos	<i>t</i> -1,2-Dichloroethane		Terachloromethane		$\gamma$ -BHC	4-n-Butylphenol	Di <i>t</i> -propyl phthalate	Ardrin	Ardrin	Ardrin
	<i>p,p'</i> -DDT	<i>c</i> -1,2-Dichloroethane		Benzene		$\delta$ -BHC	4-n-Pentylphenol	Di allyl phthalate	<i>t</i> -Chlordane	<i>t</i> -Chlordane	<i>t</i> -Chlordane
		Trichloromethane		1,2-Dichloroethane		Aldrin	4-n-Hexylphenol	Di <i>n</i> -propyl phthalate	<i>c</i> -Chlordane	<i>c</i> -Chlordane	<i>c</i> -Chlordane
		1,1,1-Trichloroethane		Trichloroethane		Dieldrin	4-n-Heptylphenol	Di <i>n</i> -butyl phthalate	Dieldrin	Dieldrin	Dieldrin
		Terachloromethane		Terachloropropane		<i>p,p'</i> -DDE	4-t-Octylphenol	Di <i>n</i> -butyl phthalate	Endrin	Endrin	Endrin
		Benzene		Bromodichloromethane		Endrin	4-n-Octylphenol	Di <i>n</i> -pentyl phthalate	<i>p,p'</i> -DDT	<i>p,p'</i> -DDT	<i>p,p'</i> -DDT
		1,2-Dichloroethane		<i>c</i> -1,3-Dichloropropene		<i>p,p'</i> -DDD	4-Nonylphenol	Butyl benzyl phthalate			
		Trichloroethane		Toluene		<i>p,p'</i> -DDT	2,4-Dichlorophenol	Di <i>n</i> -hexyl phthalate			
		1,2-Dichloropropane		<i>t</i> -1,3-Dichloropropene			Pentachlorophenol	Di butoxy ethyl phthalate			
		Bromodichloromethane		1,1,2-Trichloroethane				Di cyclohexyl phthalate			
		<i>c</i> -1,3-Dichloropropene		Tetrachloroethane				Di phenyl phthalate			
		Toluene		Dibromochloromethane				Di <i>n</i> -heptyl phthalate			
		<i>t</i> -1,3-Dichloropropene		<i>m,p</i> -Xylene				Di 2-ethyl hexyl phthalate			
		1,1,2-Trichloroethane		<i>o</i> -Xylene				Di <i>n</i> -octyl phthalate			
		Tetrachloroethane		Tribromomethane				Di 2-ethyl hexyl adipate			
		Dibromochloromethane		<i>p</i> -Dichlorobenzene							
		<i>m,p</i> -Xylene									
		<i>o</i> -Xylene									
		Tribromomethane									
		<i>p</i> -Dichlorobenzene									
	Surrogate		<i>p</i> -Bromofluorobenzene	Tetra Butyl Tin		Diphenylamine	Phenanthrene- <i>d</i> <sub>10</sub>	Bisphenol-A <i>d</i> <sub>16</sub>	Di <i>n</i> -pentyl phthalate- <i>d</i> <sub>4</sub>	<i>p,p'</i> -DDT- <i>l</i> - <sup>14</sup> C <sub>12</sub>	<i>p,p'</i> -DDT- <i>l</i> - <sup>14</sup> C <sub>12</sub>
Internal Standards						Pyrene- <i>d</i> <sub>10</sub>	Naphthalene- <i>d</i> <sub>8</sub>	Di <i>n</i> -butyl phthalate- <i>d</i> <sub>4</sub>	Pyrene- <i>d</i> <sub>10</sub>	Pyrene- <i>d</i> <sub>10</sub>	Pyrene- <i>d</i> <sub>10</sub>
Instruments		GCMS-QP5050A				GCMS-QP5050A			GCMS-QP2010		

Table 2. Data from inter-laboratory calibration exercise conducted in 2002

Countries (A-H)	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	Average	Median	SD	NIQR
Hexachlorobenzene	1.77	1.01	0.29	1.15	0.52	0.32	0.19	0.14	8.0	7.6	2.1	2.3
Heptachlor	0.10	0.51	0.86	0.27	1.10	1.04	0.05	0.46	18.2	18.3	3.1	3.4
<i>cis</i> -Chlordane	0.67	0.27	1.46	0.03	0.16	0.30	0.48	0.78	19.5	19.2	2.0	1.8
Dieldrin	0.49	1.50	0.60	0.01	0.87	0.57	0.58	0.17	29.1	30.2	3.7	4.0
Aldrin	0.83	0.35	0.71	0.66	0.43	0.36	0.95	0.03	53.1	52.1	15.8	23.9
Dieldrin	0.20	1.15	0.70	0.10	0.56	0.26	1.09	0.25	54.8	55.5	6.9	7.9
Endrin	1.05	0.19	1.06	0.19	0.87	1.61	0.03	0.08	82.6	79.9	45.4	50.6
<i>p,p'</i> -DDT	0.42	0.04	0.66	0.77	0.68	1.24	0.03	0.84	54.1	51.4	13.7	18.2

$|z| < 2$ : Satisfiable,  $2 < |z| < 3$ : Doubtful,  $|z| > 3$ : Unsatisfiable, SD: Standard Deviations, NIQR: Normalized InterQuartile Range

Some of Scientific Journal Papers Produced using the Project Results

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 Bayen, S., Wurl, O., Sivasubhi, N., Subramanian, K., Lee, H.K. & Obbard, J.P. Persistent Organic Pollutants in Mangrove Food Webs in Singapore. *Chemosphere* (2005) 61, 303-313.  
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