

The Sustainable Development and Ecological Education Centre ‘Dovkillya’ (SDEEC) was created in 1999 in order to disseminate sustainable development principles in Ukrainian society, particularly in rural areas. Activities regarding pesticide reduction promoting IPM and organic farming as the primary principles of sustainable agricultural focus on environmental education and ecological awareness-raising among different stakeholders in rural areas. Center have carried out a several projects on elimination of women health risk of poses by obsolete pesticide stockpiles.

Latest activities concerning pesticide reduction and introduction of sustainable agriculture practices accomplished by the SDEEC :

- **Fact Finding Missions in 2001-2002** and independent inventory of **obsolete pesticide problems** in three villages of Sokiryanskiy rayon in Chervonohirskaya region
- **Obsolete pesticides storages fact Finding Mission** in June 2003 across the seven sites in Poltava region (Central-Eastern Ukraine) Odessa region (Southern Ukraine) and Crimea Autonomous Republik in cooperation with r TAUW (Netherlands)
- **The 7 International HCH& Pesticides Forum** was organized in June, 2003 in cooperation with the IHPE supported by the Ukrainian authorities. The Forum was recognized as a side event of the **Fifth Ministerial Conference “ Environment for Europe”**.
- Project **“Public awareness and elimination of risk poses by obsolete pesticides in rural community in Poltavka region”** October 2004- August 2005 supported by PAN Germany and Green Fund. Project was ended up with cleaning up of stockpile in Svichkarevo village initiated by members of community who got trained in OP risk elimination. *The new NGO “Ecosvichkarevo” in the village was created caused by project in April 2005.*
- **International workshop “Sustainable solution for pesticides problems in Eastern Europe”** took place in the Ukraine (Kamenetz- Podilskiy) jointly organized by PAN Germany and SDERC (16-18 June 2005) with participation of representatives from 7 countries. Workshop had a goal to discuss the issues regarding: appropriate and inappropriate policies of obsolete pesticides management; the potentials of the introduction and development of Good and Best Agricultural Practices and Organic Farming in Central and Eastern Europe; the potentials for local initiatives to enhance

sustainable agriculture and implementation of appropriate obsolete pesticides management; to set a productive dialog between different stakeholders group regarding POPs -Convention ratification and implementation, and cleaning up an obsolete pesticides places in Ukraine

Outcome of the workshop was a “Call for Action“, signed by the NGO representatives. The Call for Action demands the implementation of the Stockholm POPs Convention and the FAO Code.

Workshop had a goal to discuss the issues regarding: appropriate and inappropriate policies of obsolete pesticides management;the potentials of the introduction and development of Good and Best Agricultural Practices and Organic Farming in Central and Eastern Europe; the potentials for local initiatives to enhance sustainable agriculture and implementation of appropriate obsolete pesticides management; to set a productive dialog between different stakeholders group regarding POPs -Convention ratification and implementation, and cleaning up an obsolete pesticides places in Ukraine

Current project

• **Promoting the FAO Code of Conduct in Ukraine”** Project started in September 2005 PAN Germany supports the project with a small grant provided by the British Rausing Trust.

Background:

To help NGOs supporting the implementation of the FAO Code PAN Germany published “The FAO Code: Grab it! for Action – for the implementation of the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides” in English. Since Ukraine had joined FAO in 2004, Introduction of FAO code on pesticide use and distribution is an can be an guide can be used in the development of Ukrainian patricide Policy.

Project goals:

1. FAO code translation from English to Ukrainian and Russian
2. Dissimilation among NGOs, farmers and public of FAO Code in Ukraine and other NIS countries.
3. Lobby and media activities, supported by PAN Germany, to increase the pressure on the Ukrainian Government to sign the FAO Code in order to ensure the safe disposal of

obsolete pesticide stockpiles and to develop a pesticide legal framework according the FAO Code.

Project main accomplishments:

Ukrainian copies of FAO Code was disseminated in Ukraine and was utilized at 50 NGO and farmers organisation either by post or during the 6 meetings. 20 Russian copies of FAO code were posted to NGOs in Byelorussia and Russia and was handed out during the meeting to representatives of Moldova NGOs. SDEEC received messages from three NGOs requested to send the a copy of FAO Brochure. Those NGO got the information about brochure in Russian and Ukrainian language from PAN Web-Site. One request came from NGO Environmental Public Advocacy Center "Armon" in Uzbekistan which show the keen interest in dissemination of FAO Code not only European but also Meddle Asia organization

- Briefing for faculty and students of School of Journalism, Kiev State University majoring in Environmental journalism took place in May 15th 2006. There were 10 participants who works for State TV channel ICTV, National Radio Channel, local Radio Shows "Morning political coffee" and "Porto Franko ". Two journalist worked for local newspapers in Kievska region. The main objectives of FAO code was presented The information about FAO Code and information about current project on its promotion were presented in local Radio show "Morning political coffee" after mentioned above Press Conference

- FAO code was promoted at the level of Poltavaska Regiocal and Local Government.

The meeting with was representatives from Local administration of city Kobelyaky (Poltavaska region) was held in April 14th. This county was selected because of very successful project in Public awareness on OP health elimination risk carried out by SDEEC in 2004-2005 in village Svichkarevo from this county and supported by PAN. The FAO Code brochure was turned out to Head of Local Administration. It was followed by introduction of FAO Code content and explanation why it is important for Ukraine to sigh it.

- Press Conference for journalists from Poltavaska region was held in May 29th. The total number of participants were 14, including 6 journalists from local newspapers. The Press Conferenc was done by Haad of city Kobelyaki

- Meeting with representative of Committee on Science and Education of Ukrainian Parliament took place in June 10th. . During this meeting member of SDEEC introduced briefly FAO Code content and objectives and emphasized the arguments why it would be useful for Ukraine to sign it. Igor Rudik was listening to the information with interest and expressed his full support of Promotion FAO Code Project was expressed by representative of Parliament committee who has an opinion that that FAO code can be used for harmonization of existing pesticide legislation with European. The communication with this state level friendly governmental official is continuing.