

# **ARNIKA Experiencies: POPs issue, national / international work**

Experience exchange tour 2005  
Turkey – Bulgaria – Romania

ARNIKA Association & IPEN Europe



## **"Toxics Free Future"**

**an Arnika's Toxics and Waste Program**

- This project brings together three important steps towards a clean environment
- **Integrated register of pollution** (= Pollutant Release and Transfer Register - PRTR)
- signing, ratification and implementation of the **Stockholm Convention on POPs**
- reduction in the quantity of harmful materials released into the environment from particular industrial plants



## Spolana Neratovice



**Spolana Neratovice -August 2002**

- chlor-alkali plant
- 25 km from Prague
- both sides of river Labe
- chlor production from 40's of 20<sup>th</sup> century
- PVC production

## Spolana Neratovice campaign history 1

- 1996 - Children of the Earth published article "Czech Agent Orange" and warned about dioxin other possible sources of contamination
- 2001 Greenpeace started campaign on cleaning up old pesticide production buildings and warned before possible floods
- at the beginning of 2002 Arnika started campaign on safety measures and cleaning up old chlorine electrolysis production from mercury
- August 2002 Spolana was flooded

## Spolana Neratovice - ch 2

In January 2003 scientists found that in Spolana are at least two sources of dioxins

- characteristic congeners for each activity
- old pesticide production
- amalgam electrolysis



## Spolana Neratovice - ch 3



Czech officials and industry representatives got answer on this question on conference organized by NGOs (IPEN and Arnika) together with UNIDO in January 2003 in Prague. By dioxins and other POPs contaminated sites can be cleaned up by non-combustion technologies such as GPCR (above) or BCD (below) processes are.

## Spolana Neratovice - ch 4

2004

- State Health Institute Research – mercury, dioxins and PCBs blood concentrations / inhabitants from Spolana's surrounding area
- EIA documentation (Buildings contaminated by dioxins)
  - submitting Arnika's comments
  - public discussion
  - press releases

## ARNIKA campaign activities

- press releases
- public action
- participation at public discussions
- EIA documentation
- IPPC process
- research / documents / scientist

## Thank you for your attention

**Address:** ARNIKA Association

Chlumova 17

130 00 Prague

Czech Republic

**Tel./fax:** +420 222 781 471

**E-mail:**

toxic@arnika.org

hana.kuncova@arnika.org

martin.skalsky@arnika.org

<http://english.arnika.org>

<http://ipen.ecn.cz>

