



Making Visible the Legacy of Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) A REGIONAL WEBINAR – Europe

PCBs elimination goals under the scope of the Stockholm

Convention, the BRS programme of work,

and progress in the European region

Agustín Harte, Programme Management Officer 4 September 2025







Stockholm Convention goals on PCB elimination

- Parties to ban the production, commerce and new uses of PCB;
- •Parties to <u>make determined efforts</u> to identify, label and <u>remove from use</u> equipment (e.g. transformers, capacitors or other receptacles containing liquid stocks) containing PCB <u>by 2025</u>;
- •Parties to make determined efforts designed to lead <u>to environmentally</u> <u>sound waste management</u> of liquids containing PCB and equipment contaminated with PCB as soon as possible but <u>no later than 2028</u>;
- •Parties to identify other articles containing PCB (open applications) and manage them in an environmentally sound manner; and
- Parties to allow <u>export or import PCB only for the purpose of</u>
 <u>environmentally sound waste management</u>







12th Conference of the Parties – outcomes on PCBs: Decision 12-3



- Welcomes the updated guidance for the development of inventories of PCBs and analysis of PCBs (UNEP/POPS/COP.12/INF/10), as well as the strategy to enable Parties to the Stockholm Convention to meet the 2025 and 2028 goals on PCBs elimination of the Convention UNEP/POPS/COP.12/INF/10.
- Urges Parties:

To implement measures to meet their obligations under the Stockholm Convention, in particular with respect to paragraphs (a) and (e) of part II of Annex A to the Convention, taking into account the strategy for PCBS towards meeting the 2025 and 2028 goals, and to **develop, update and maintain national inventories of PCBs**, following the updated guidance.

To endeavour to identify articles containing more than 0.005 per cent (50ppm) PCBs in open applications, such as cable sheaths, cured caulk and painted objects, and to manage them in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 6

To report to the Conference of the Parties on the measures taken to implement part II of Annex A to the Convention, including quantitative information on PCBs, in their national reports pursuant to Article 15 and encourages them to enhance synergies at the national level with focal points and competent authorities of the Basel Convention in the preparation of their national reports to ensure consistency in the information submitted, as appropriate, and to ensure the environmentally sound management of polychlorinated biphenyls

Requests the Secretariat:

To continue to **provide technical assistance** to strengthen developing countries national and regional capacities for the elimination and reporting of PCBs

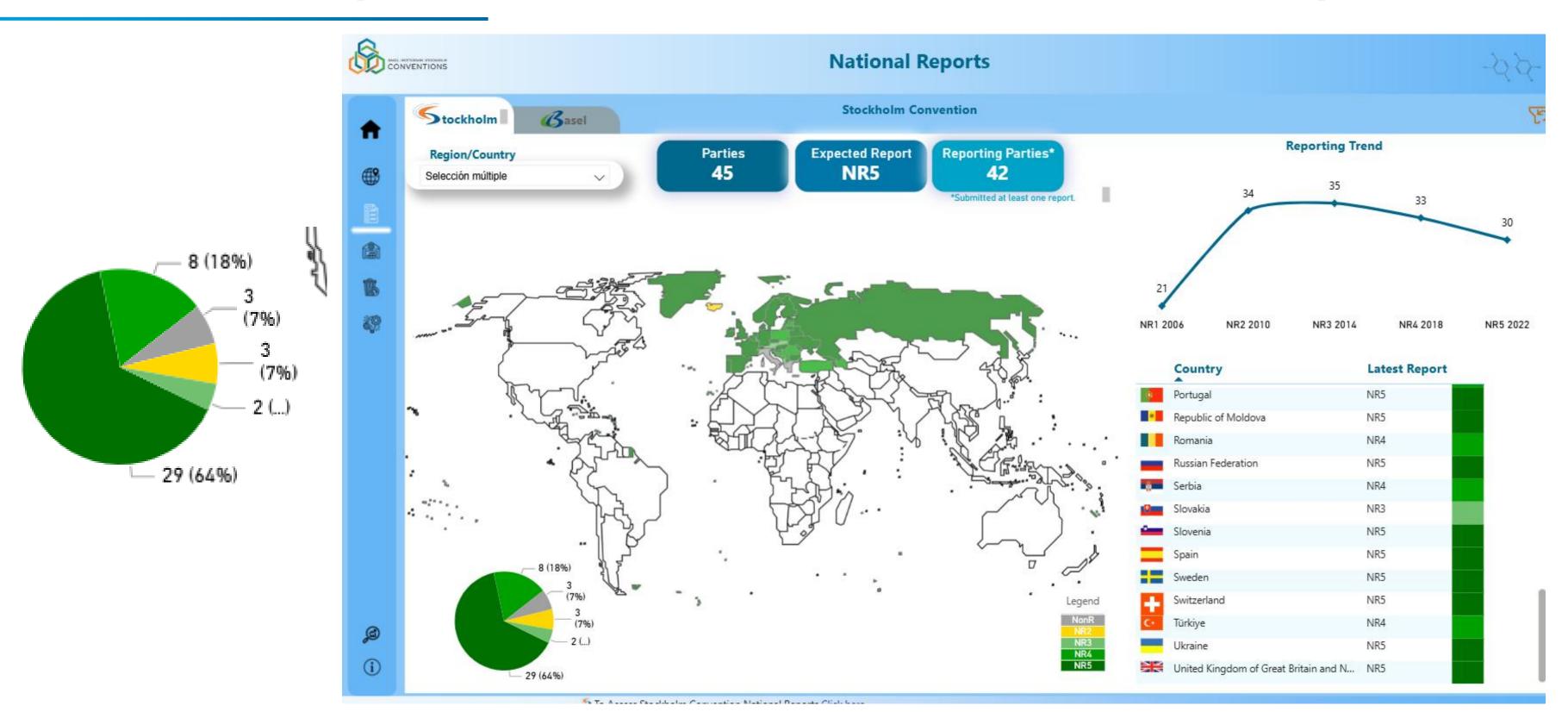
To collaborate with UNEP's Chemicals and Health Branch

- Recalls Decision 11-3 on the re-establishment of the Small intersessional working group established to assist the Secretariat on the preparation of:
 - Revised guidance on PCB environmentally sound management
 - An updated report on the progress towards the elimination of PCBs.





Overview of European efforts on PCB elimination – National Reports





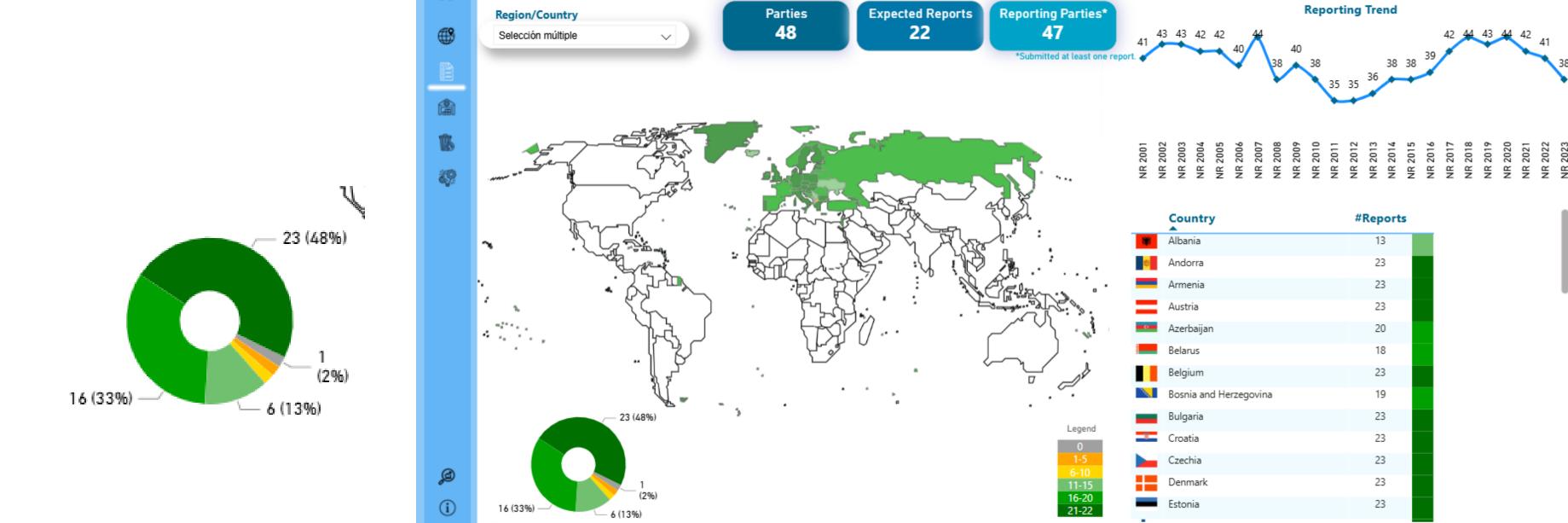
National Reports
Basel Convention



Overview of European efforts on PCB elimination – National Reports

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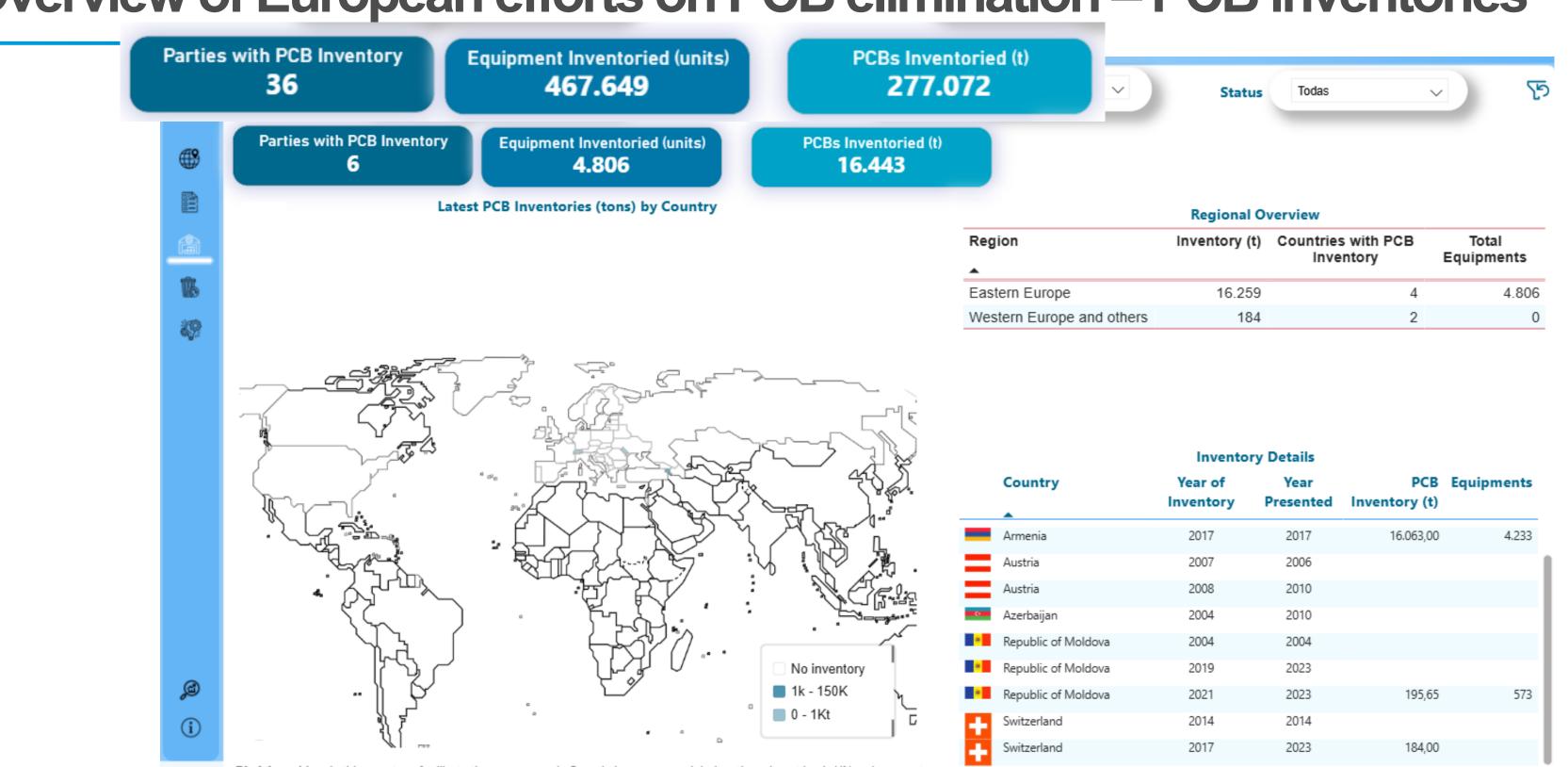
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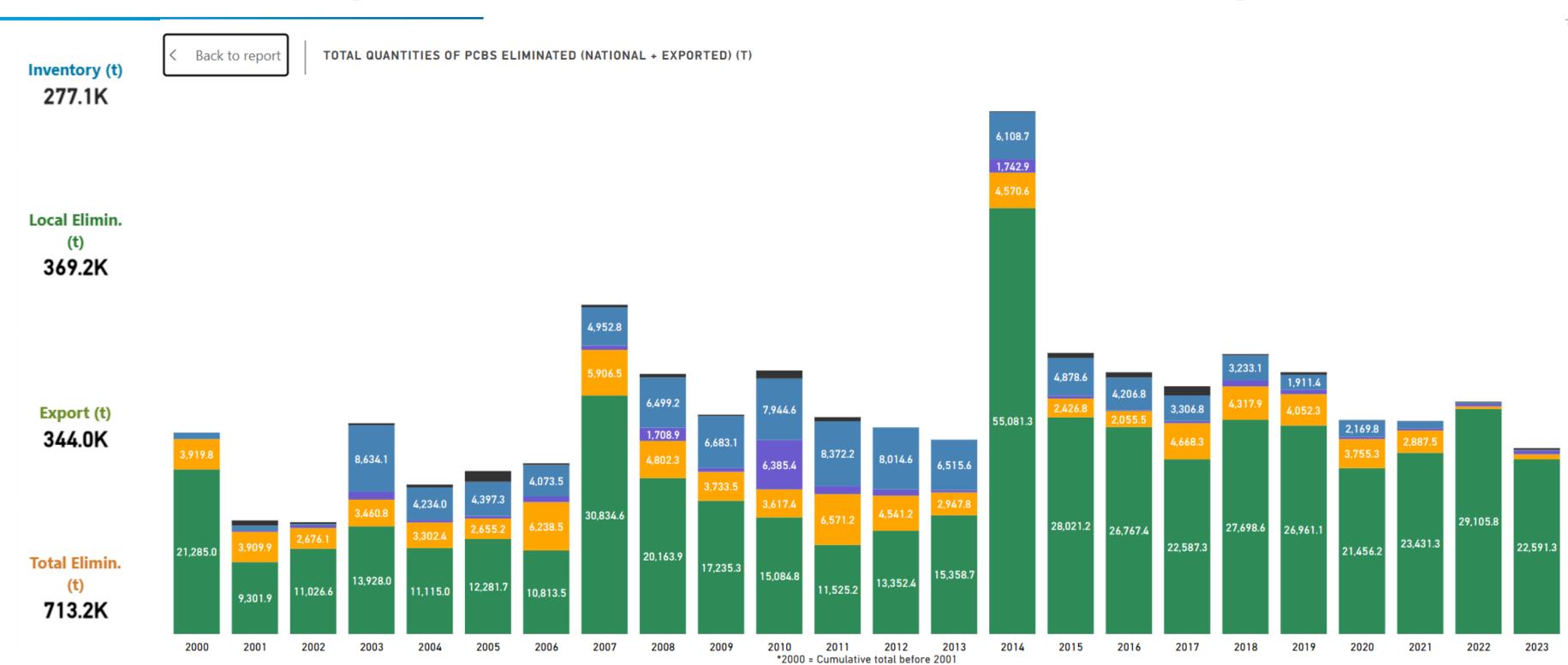
Overview of European efforts on PCB elimination – PCB inventories







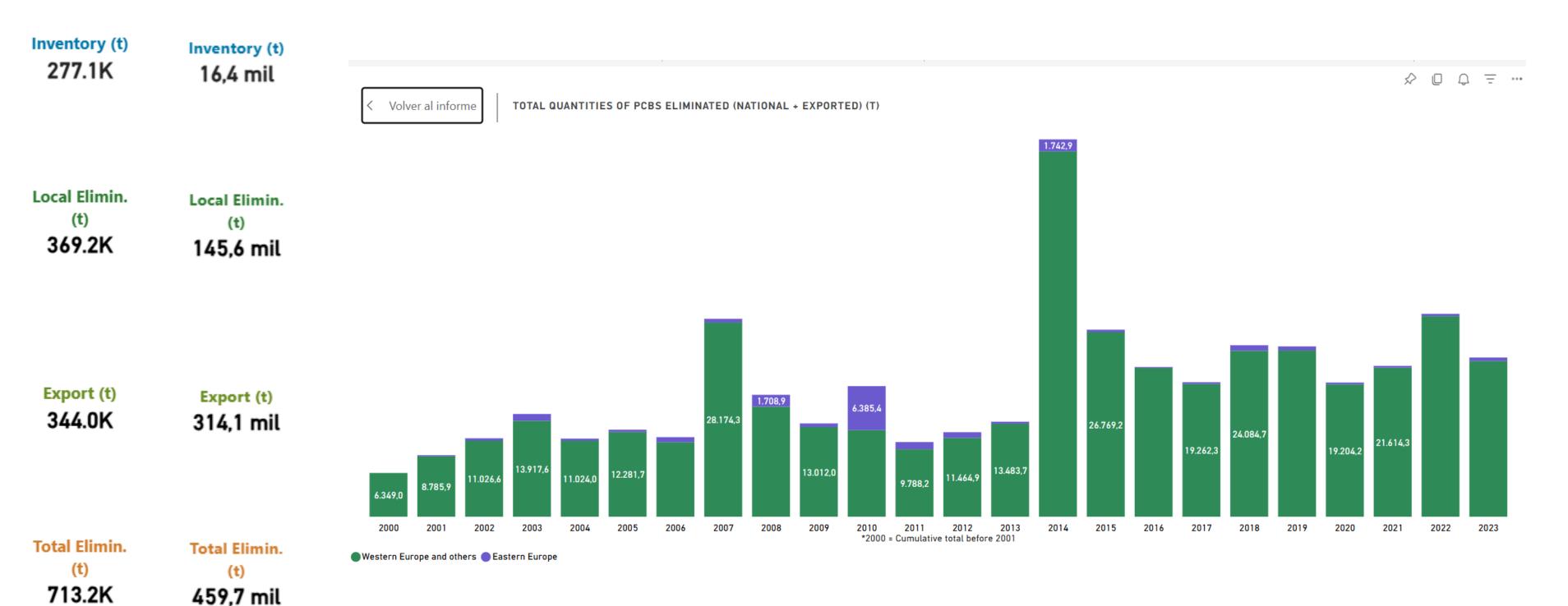
Overview of European efforts on PCB elimination – PCB disposal







Overview of European efforts on PCB elimination – PCB disposal





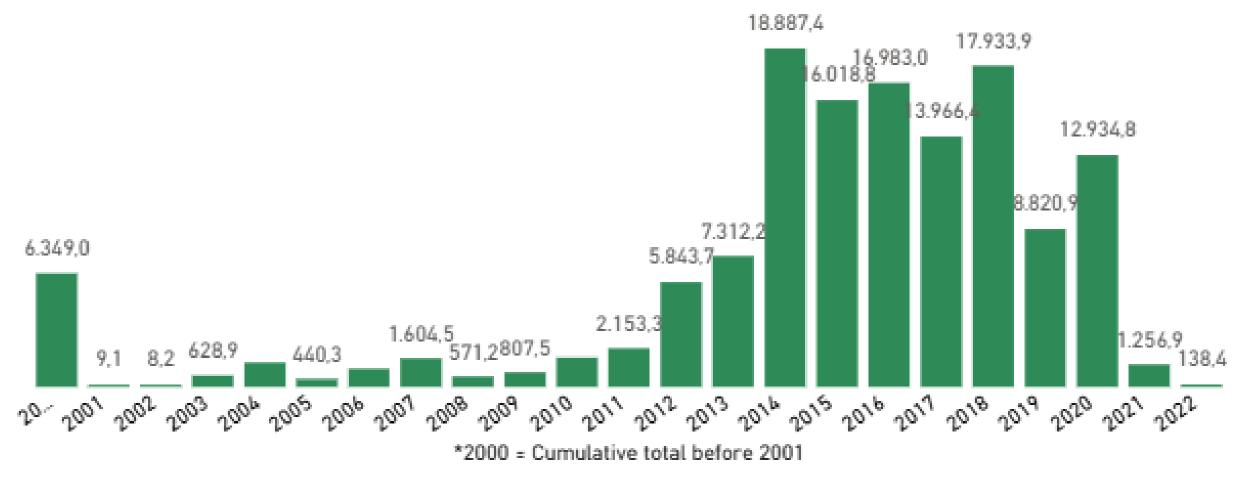


Overview of European efforts on PCB elimination – Local elimination

Western Europe and others

	others
3.626,0	Austria
5.145,0	Belgium
102.437,0	Denmark
1.107,1	Finland
69,0	Lithuania
3.514,0	Netherlands (Kingdom of the)
524,9	Spain
11.254.2	Sweden
3.505,0	Switzerland
	Türkiye
4.789,0	United Kingdom of Great
725,7	Britain and Northern Ireland

Quantities of PCB Destroyed Within National Boundaries (t)



Western Europe and others





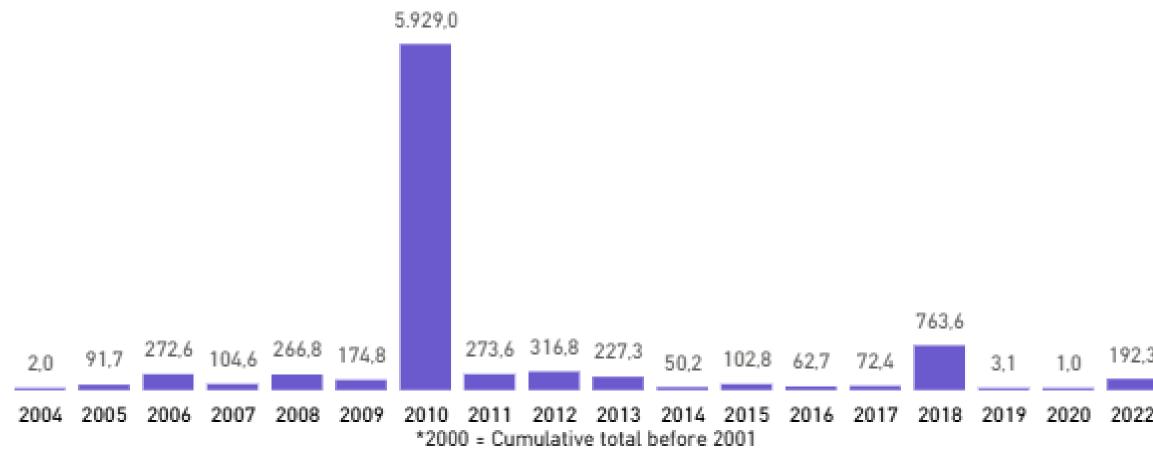
Overview of European efforts on PCB elimination – Local elimination

	Cumulative Total (t)
□ Eastern Europe	
Azerbaijan	10,0
Czechia	5.470,9
Estonia	461,7
Montenegro	247,0
North Macedonia	873,8
Poland	525,7
Romania	545,1
Slovakia	773,0
Grand Total (t)	8.907,2

Select Item to be displayed in the chart below

Local Elimination

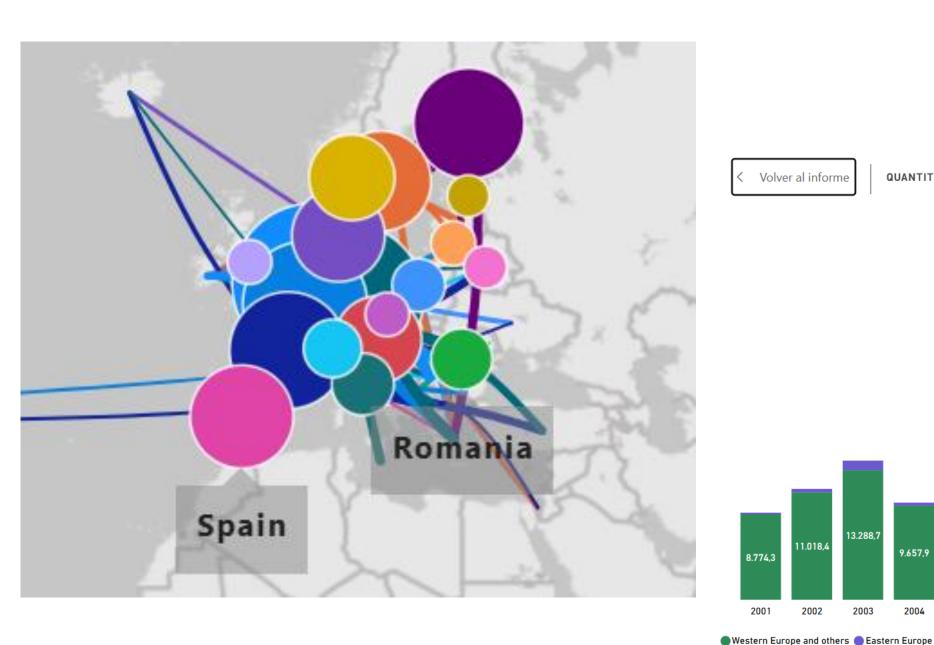


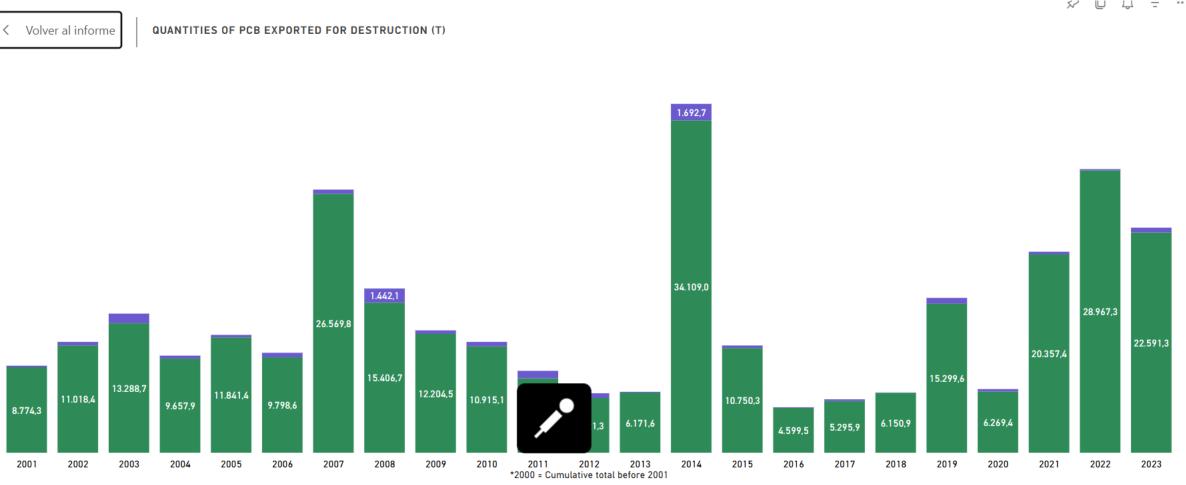






Overview of European efforts on PCB elimination - Exports

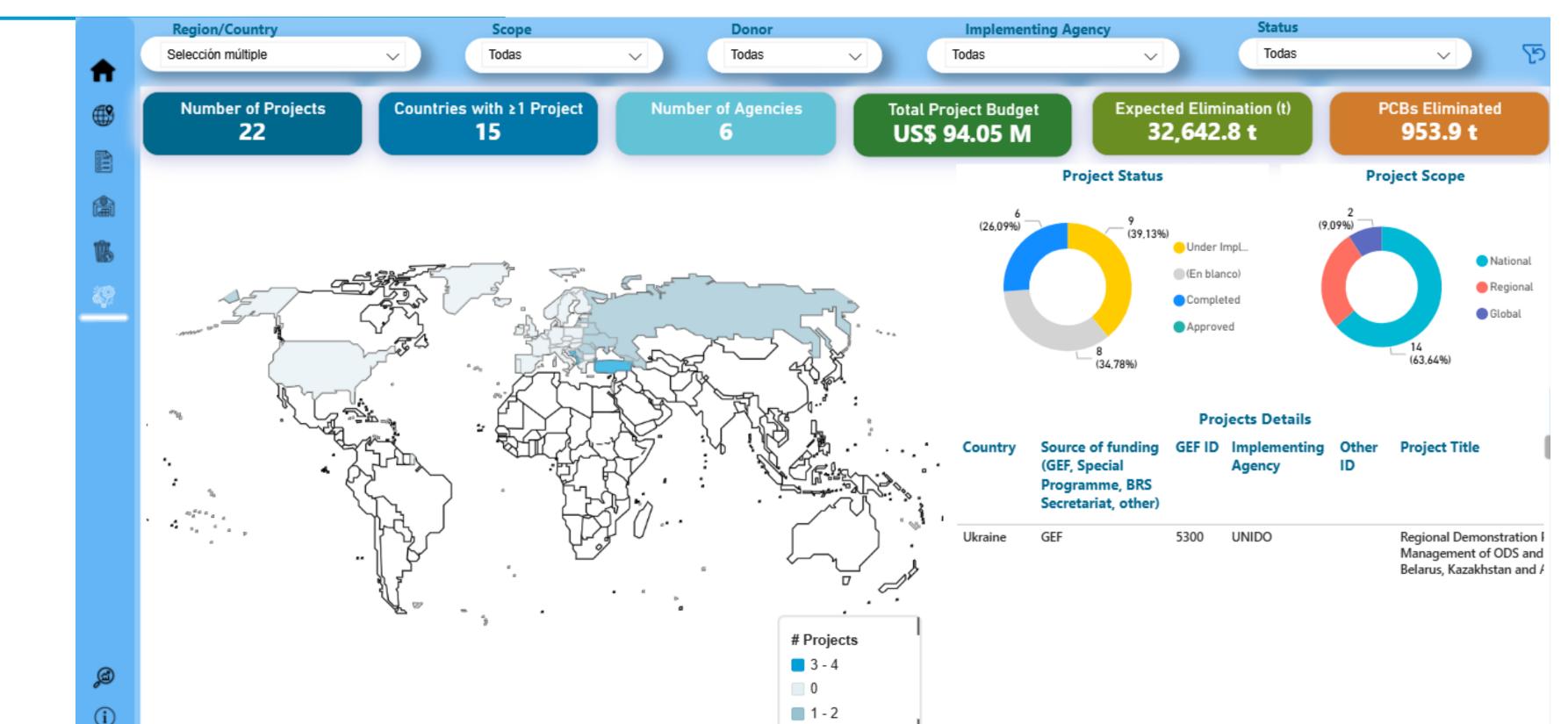








Overview of European efforts on PCB elimination - GEF projects







Next steps and actions

Regional assessment on the capacities of the region on the environmentally sound management of PCBs

- Desktop study: NIPs + Projects
- Survey
- Report (inputs to the PCB SIWG)

With the support of the regional Centre in Czechia







Next steps and actions

- •6th National Reports by 31 August 2026
- Updating on National Implementation Plans continuous
- SC Compliance Committee to start their work
- COP 13 (2027) to review the progress on PCBs elimination
- report developed by the SIWG on PCBs (nominations accepted)
- GEF 9 replenishment
- Secretariat technical assistance and capacity building

activities: Webinars, workshops and trainings, pilot projects...







Thank you!

For more information, visit the PCBs site

under the Stockholm Convention website:

https://www.pops.int/tabid/273/Default_aspx

Agustin Harte

Programme Management Officer agustin.harte@un.org

