



Emergency issues related with obsolete pesticides in Azerbaijan Republic

Gulchohra Aliyeva, PhD candidate

**ECORES/UNEP National Committee,
Information-Analytic Environmental Agency**



PRE-HISTORY OF PRODUCTION AND USAGE OF PESTICIDES IN AZERBAIJAN

1958-1989	Production of DDT (Total 480,549 tonnes of 5% DDT until 1980)
1965 -1982	Total usage DDT in the cotton and grape yards 284,986 tonnes (Mustafayev, 2005)
1951-1978	Production of tech HCH, capacity >10,000 tonnes a year between 1956-1970
1970	DDT banned, however, was still allowed for application in cotton-growing areas of Azerbaijan up to 1986
1990	HCH banned
End of 1980s	Accumulation of banned and unused pesticides in both production and agricultural sites
1989 - 1990	Construction of “pesticide cemetery” in 53 km from Baku for burial of banned and unused toxic pesticides (183 bunkers containing ~8,000 tons of pesticides)



STEPS UNDERTAKEN BY AZERBAIJAN GOVERNMENT TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE

- National Environmental Action Plan 2006-2010 adopted by the Government of Azerbaijan Republic for the improvement of the environmental situation in Azerbaijan:
Clause 5.11 “Inventory, re-collection and destruction of obsolete toxic pesticides and agrochemicals; Improvement of the environmental condition and re-construction of the pesticide burial site located on Apsheron peninsula”
- Expenses within last 3 years from the State Budget : 3 mln Azerbaijan Manats (~3,750,000 US dollars):
Burial site has been completely re-constructed;
More than 2000 tonnes of obsolete pesticides have been re-collected from the regions of Azerbaijan, packed and buried.

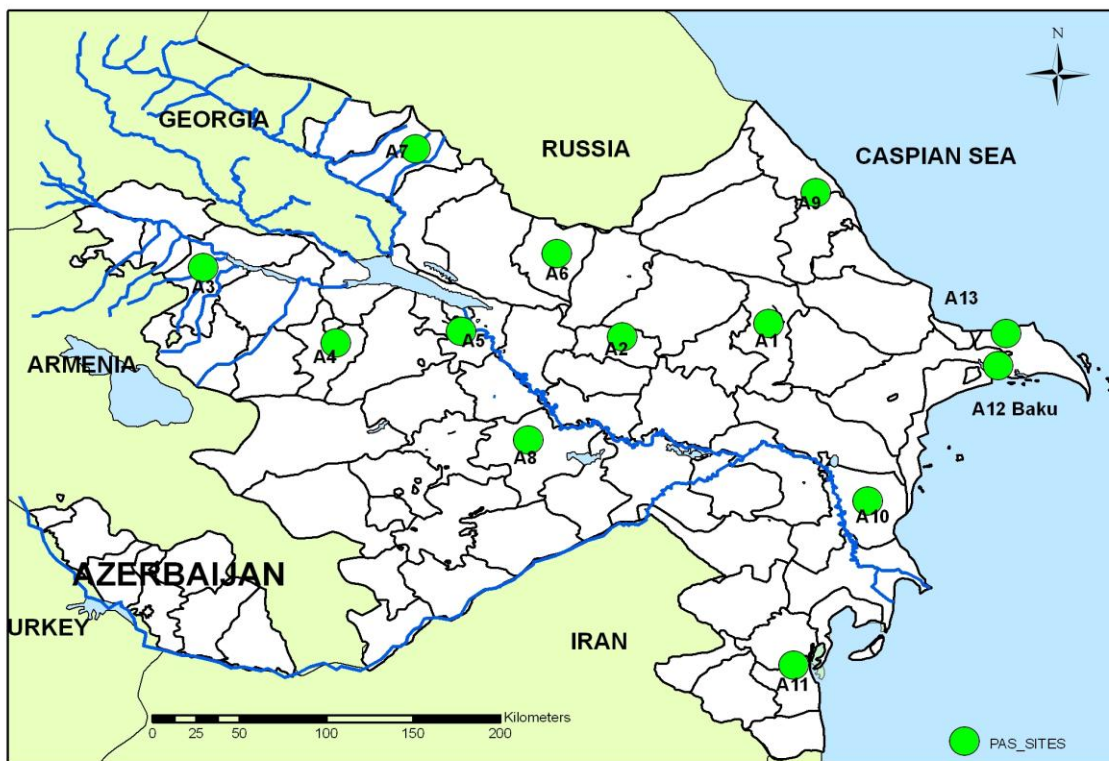


OBSOLETE PESTICIDE STOCKS



➤ After re-collection of obsolete pesticides from the regions, the contaminated soil in almost every region pose serious threat to the environment (proximity to living settlements)

➤ Improper use of lands for development of agriculture what impact socio-economic development of regions which are totally dependent on the development of agriculture





EMERGENCY PROBLEMS

➤ **Contaminated soil remediation:**

Soil contamination with persistent toxic substances which are in turn disseminating in the environment and causing irreversible effect on the socio-economic situation in the country:

Impropriety of lands for agricultural use, acute toxic effect on human and wildlife (extinction of Caspian Seal, decline of sturgeon stock, high rates of cancer in the settlements close to former pesticide production sites and obsolete pesticide stocks etc.)

➤ **Destruction of obsolete pesticides:**

Burial of obsolete pesticides is only 1/3 of the problem solution, while Government is looking for urgent technical and financial assistance to liquidate remainders of obsolete pesticides.

➤ **Liquid pesticide Polydofen:** More than 200 tonnes of liquid pesticide Polydofen (liquid mixture 20% DDT, 40% Toxaphene) need to be destructed. This is a priority problem as evaporation is one of the main processes contributing to air and water reservoir pollution as well as dissemination of the chemicals in the environment



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OBSOLETE PESTICIDE STOCKPILE IN SALYAN REGION OF AZERBAIJAN BEFORE RE-COLLECTION OF PESTICIDES



JANGI POLYGON BEFORE RECONSTRUCTION



JANGI POLYGON AFTER RECONSTRUCTION





THANK YOU! ☺



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