



*An effort towards risk reduction  
and global elimination*

# *Background*



- Sound Management of Chemicals (SMOC) initiative of the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation.
- Cooperation scheme to address priority chemicals of mutual concern aimed at management and control actions.
- A feature of this work is the development of North American Regional Action Plans (NARAPs) for specific substances.
- Additional work on the monitoring and assessment of pathways of exposure.
- This collaboration has resulted in information sharing on technical, scientific and policy issues.
- It has helped Mexico build its capacity for the sound management of chemicals.



# Background

- Lindane is a pesticide which was used in agriculture and as a human and animal drug.
- Its use in Mexico has led to its accumulation in humans and other organisms.
- Under the CEC framework, Mexico committed to develop a national assessment for lindane.
- This work provided a summary of its use in Mexico, and availability and cost of alternatives.
- Compilation of the data was done using a coordinated and collaborative effort with multi stakeholder participation.



# *The Approach*

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# *National assessment*

- - consultations with relevant public and private organizations were held to obtain information
  - estimates of quantities of imports, exports and production were made
  - a field survey in 5 states collected data on actual prices and uses of lindane containing products
  - an analysis of the potential legal basis for elimination and
  - ways to proceed with elimination assessed



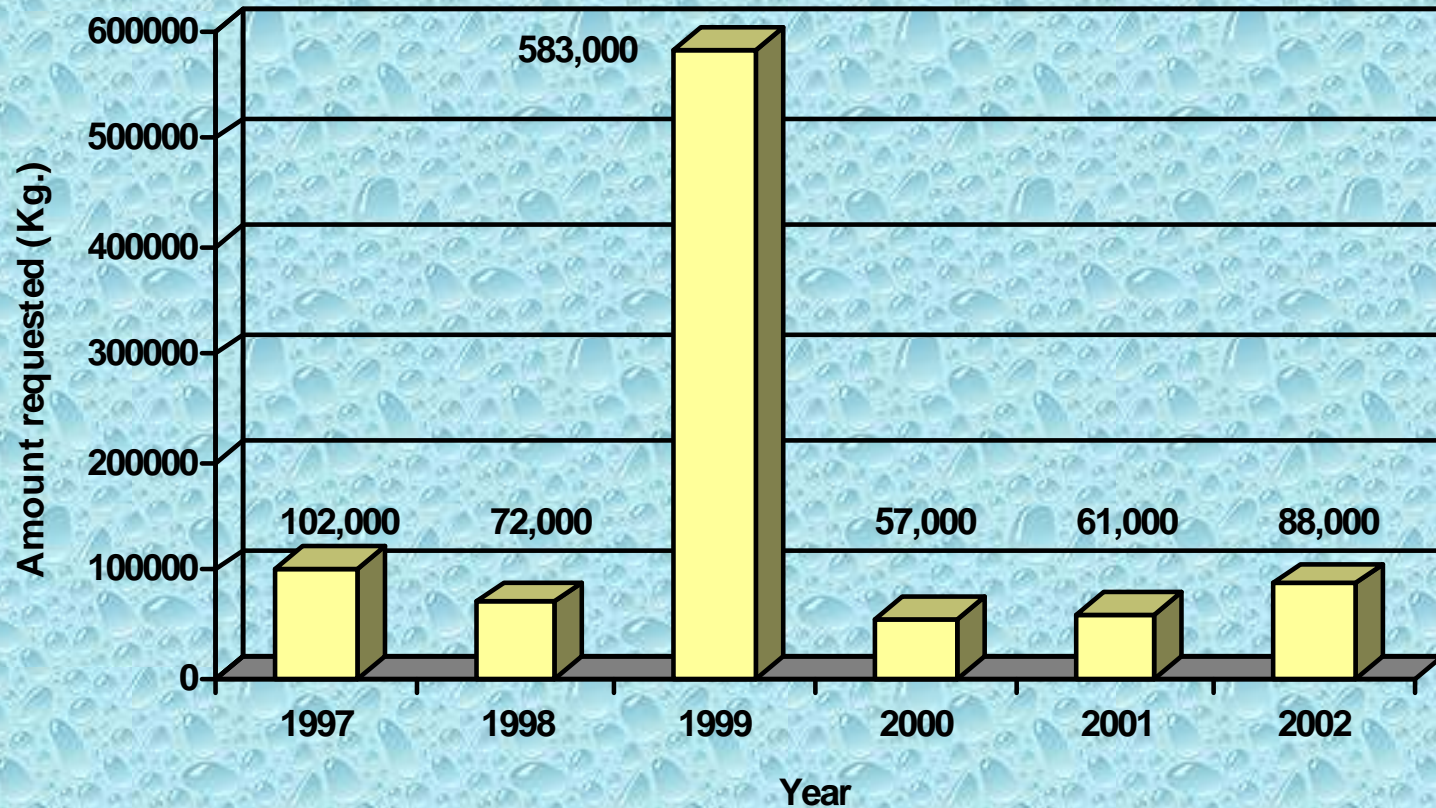




# *Implementation (2)*

- *Data gaps, information needs , challenges:*
  - poor data on import/export and

## Quantity of Lindane authorized for import in Mexico, 1997-2002\*



\* The amounts reflect the quantities requested for authorization. Actual importation is likely lower. There was one unusually high request for importation in 1999.

# *Implementation (3)*

- To address some of the data gaps a survey was conducted
- Insufficient information on imports and other data made it difficult to estimate the extent of consumption accurately
- Survey showed that potential substitutes for most of the uses of lindane were readily available.
- Survey results shared with committee
- Members agreed to share additional information they had available.
- Search in several databases and scientific papers.
- All this provided the information needed to draft the supporting documentation for decision making.

# *Achievements (1)*



- Effective and coordinated effort with active participation from all stakeholders: *National action plan*
- *Improved collaboration* between government and industry on other chemical management issues.
- Evidence assembled in the profile helped *government decisions* to revoke the registration for all uses of lindane, including a phase out for pharmaceutical uses.
- Mexico *nominated lindane and related compounds* as candidates for substances to be controlled under the Stockholm Convention on POPs.

# *Achievements (2)*



- The methodology used to collect data in Mexico was adapted and included in the
- Lindane, alfa and beta HCH are some of the new chemicals added to this Convention, promoting global elimination

# *Achievements (3)*



- *Establishment of initiatives aimed at:*
  - promoting research on chemicals of concern, including monitoring and assessment
  - awareness raising and outreach campaigns to promote alternatives and substitutes
  - capacity building through the development of effective partnerships, and
  - recommendations for policy and decision making

# *Further work*

- Implementation of the

Thank you for your attention!

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