



# ***Arnika***

## ***Toxics And Waste Programme***

### ***Brief introduction***

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"Arnika is a grassroots organization. Our mission is to *protect nature and a healthy environment for future generations at home and worldwide*. We consistently advocate for less waste and hazardous substances, living rivers, diverse wildlife, and the right of citizens to decide on the environment."



## Key principles:

Independence - Expertise - Cooperation - Right to information - Citizen science - Global environmental justice





Pollution has  
no borders





# IPEN

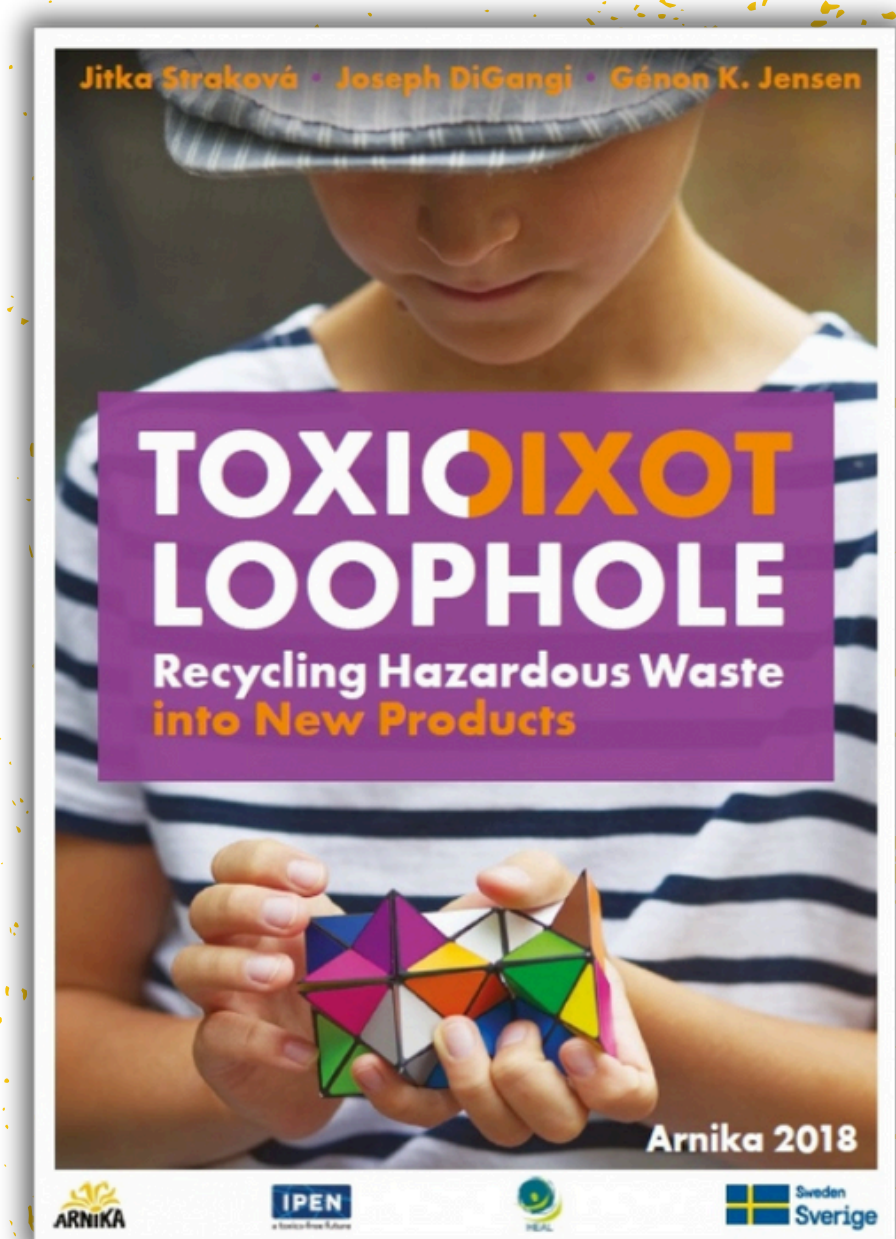
## International Pollutants Elimination Network

- Over 600 civil society organizations from more than 120 countries
- Focus on global problems and international conventions - industrial pollution, contaminated sites, chemicals in products, right to information,
- Arnika is a coordination hub for Central, Eastern and Western Europe



# Data-drive advocacy

## Multi-country research





**Collect, analyze and interpret data**



**Inform citizens  
(awareness raising)**



**Inform decision makers  
(policy advocacy)**



**Inform industry  
(negotiations)**



**Demand for safe products**



**Better regulations**



**Cleaner products**



**Safer environment for all**

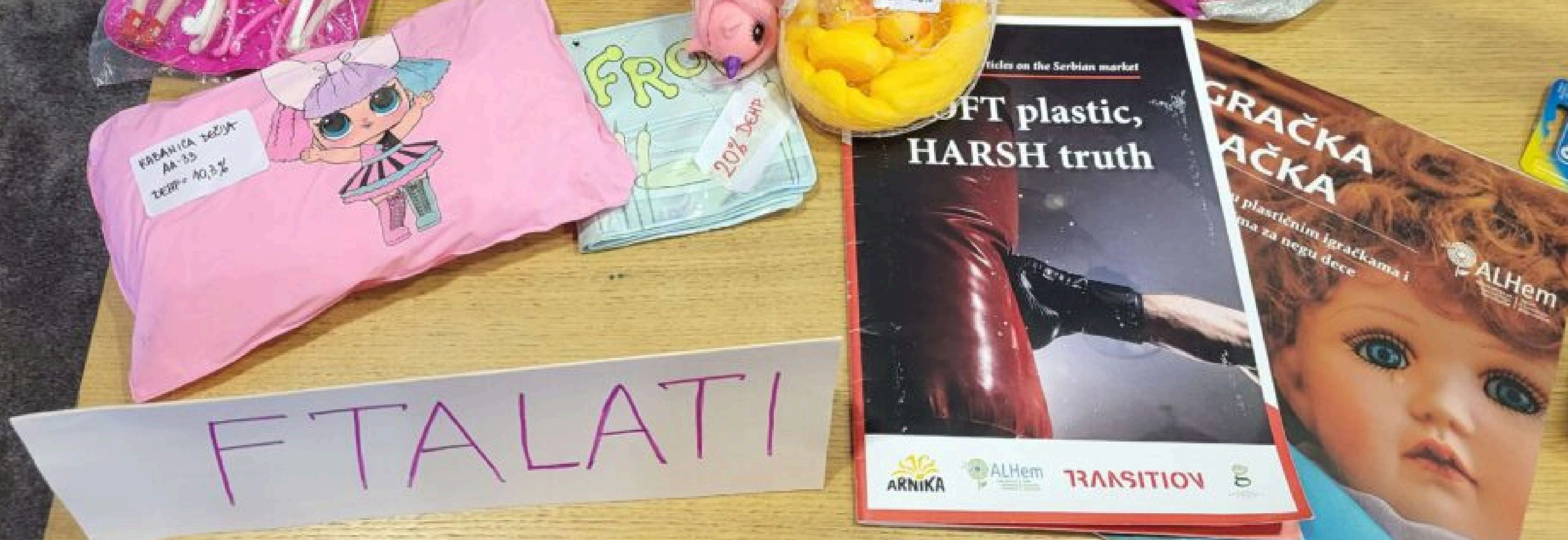




# Examples of achievements

- EU ended exceptions allowing higher amount of toxic chemicals in recycled plastic products
- Global ban of toxic flame retardant Dechlorane Plus
- Clean-up of obsolete pesticide stockpiles in Armenia
- Multiple polluters switching to safer technologies





## PAST ACTIVITIES IN SERBIA

- 2016 - Monitoring of toxic substances in the vicinity of the Obrenovac power plant (together with the CEE Bankwatch Network and CEKOR from Subotica)
- 2020 - Promoting the protection of citizens against dangerous phthalates and the introduction of regulations that are standard in EU countries (with ALHem)
- 2024 - Empowering young people to advocate for toxics-free future (with ALHem)

We've also worked with other organizations in the Balkans



# SOFT plastic, HARSH truth 2

*From Regulation to reality: Have we cleared  
the Serbian market of restricted toxic phthalates?*



TRANSITION

*Phthalates in articles on the Serbian market*

# SOFT plastic, HARSH truth



TRANSITION



Impact of heavy metals from Balkan power plants on inhabitants and the environment



Ing. Marek Šír Ph.D.

University of Chemistry and Technology Prague, 2016 in collaboration with Arnika – Toxics and Waste Programme

Supporting cooperation on research: Mgr. Jitka Straková, RNDr. Jindřich Petrlík







*Looking  
forward to  
working  
together*

*arnika.org  
ipen.org*