

# EFFECTS OF POPs ON HUMANS & THE ENVIRONMENT

## ENVIRONMENTAL & WILDLIFE IMPACTS

There is insufficient data available to properly assess the extent of the effects of POPs on the environment in Maldives. However, some ecosystems may be regarded as "hotspots" due to their proximity to dump sites or industrial estates and hence have a higher risk of exposure.

POPs can be stored in the fatty tissue or organs of animals and as such accumulate as you go further up the food chain (bioconcentrate). The build-up of POPs in wildlife can lead to:

- ◆ Damage to Nervous System
- ◆ Weakened Immune System
- ◆ Reproductive Disorders
- ◆ Genetic Defects
- ◆ Cancer

