

Occurrence and dynamics of organic contaminants in Tanzanian biota: legacies of the past and emerging concerns

Dissertation for the degree of Philosophiae Doctor

By

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Summary

Data on the occurrence and dynamics of persistent organic contaminants (POPs) in tropical regions is scarce. While research and monitoring efforts largely have been carried out in the Global North (e.g. the Arctic), the Global South is greatly understudied. In order to meet the demands of a modern world, new contaminants are synthesized and legacy contaminants find new ways of entering the environment. In particular, the active transport of contaminants embedded in modern consumer products (e.g. electronics) from industrialized countries to developing countries, raises concern. A large amount of consumer goods and waste end up in dumpsites in developing countries that lack the capacity for safe handling and recycling of waste. Thus, contaminants may leach into the environment, contaminating the air, soil and water bodies, and eventually enter the food chain where they can exert toxic effects in wildlife and humans. Waste from electronic products (e-waste) is particularly problematic due to their increasing demand, high consumer turnover, and contaminants contained within, including polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs), chlorinated paraffins (CPs) and dechloranes.

The aim of this thesis is to understand whether e-waste represents a potential contaminant source to the Tanzanian environment, and increase the understanding of the occurrence and dynamics of both legacy and emerging organic contaminants in tropical biota from various habitats. The sampled material include marine fish from locations differing in degree of human activity, from Dar es Salaam to more rural locations on mainland Tanzania and on Zanzibar. On Zanzibar, marine fish were collected during two seasons in order to assess the effect of terrestrial runoff and/or atmospheric deposition on the dynamics of legacy contaminants such as PCBs, PBDEs and organochlorine pesticides (OCPs). Free-range chicken eggs and soil were collected around dumpsites on Zanzibar and in Dar es Salaam, including one e-waste location. Eggs and soil were analyzed for CPs and dechloranes and sources of these emerging contaminants to the Tanzanian environment were assessed.

As a fast-growing, urban and industrial center of Tanzania, Dar es Salaam is a source of contaminants to the Tanzanian environment. This was reflected in higher contaminant concentrations in marine fish collected around the central harbor fish market compared to a more rural location outside Dar es Salaam and on Zanzibar. Occurrence of BDE-209 and hexachlorobenzene (HCB) in marine fish from Zanzibar could suggest local point sources such as burning of waste. Seasonal variation in contaminant concentrations and patterns was

found in marine fish from Zanzibar. Following a period with heavy rain, concentrations of lower halogenated, more mobile PCB and PBDE congeners increased. Changes in composition patterns of dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) after the rainy season were also found, suggesting remobilization of terrestrial pools of non-degraded DDT and its metabolites into the marine environment. These findings point towards an effect of terrestrial runoff following a period with heavy rain. No clear conclusions could be made on e-waste as a source of emerging contaminants to the Tanzanian environment based on concentrations of CPs and dechloranes in chicken eggs and soil. Rather, these two chemical groups seem to be ubiquitous in the environment, even in a region with no production or extensive use. At one location, concentrations of short chain chlorinated paraffins (SCCPs) in two eggs were close to and exceeding the safety limit set by the EU, suggesting health concern from SCCP intake via egg consumption.

Occurrence of legacy and emerging contaminants in biota from the Tanzanian environment along with recent reports of their increasing trends call for further research and monitoring in this region. The material sampled and analyzed in the present study has enabled a broad assessment of contaminants concentrations and patterns in biota, representing different trophic levels and habitats, as well as their seasonal and spatial variation, for which there was limited knowledge from tropical regions prior to this study.

Sammendrag

Det er lite informasjon om organiske miljøgifter i tropiske regioner, både om forekomst og hvordan disse stoffene oppfører seg i miljøet og i næringskjeden. Mens forsknings- og overvåkningsinnsatsen i stor grad har blitt gjennomført i det globale nord (for eksempel i Arktis), er det globale sør relativt lite studert. For å imøtekomme kravene i en moderne verden, blir nye typer miljøgifter syntetisert og gamle miljøgifter finner nye veier ut i miljøet. Et økende problem er den aktive transporten av miljøgifter tilsatt i moderne forbrukerprodukter (for eksempel elektronikk) fra industrialiserte land til utviklingsland. Store mengder forbruksvarer og avfall ender opp i avfallsdeponier i utviklingsland som mangler kapasitet for sikker håndtering og gjenvinning av avfall. Dermed kan miljøgifter lekke ut i miljøet, forurense luft, jord, vann og forårsake toksiske effekter hos dyr og mennesker. Avfall fra elektroniske produkter er spesielt problematiske på grunn av økende etterspørsel, kort levetid samt tilsatte miljøgifter, som inkluderer polyklorerte bifenyler (PCB), polybrominerte difenyl etere (PBDE), klorparaffiner (CP) og dekloraner.

Målet med denne avhandlingen er å forstå om elektronisk avfall representerer en potensiell kilde til forurensning i det Tanzanianske miljøet, og bidra til forståelsen av forekomst og dynamikk av både eldre og nye typer organiske miljøgifter i tropisk biota fra ulike habitater.

Det innsamlede prøvematerialet inkluderer marin fisk fra steder som varierer i grad av menneskelig aktivitet, fra Dar es Salaam til mer rurale steder på det Tanzanianske fastlandet og på Zanzibar. På Zanzibar ble marin fisk samlet inn i løpet av to sesonger for å vurdere effekten av terrestrisk avrenning og/eller atmosfærisk avsetning på dynamikken til internasjonalt regulerte miljøgifter som PCBer, PBDEer og organiske klorpesticider (OCPer). Egg fra frittgående høns og jord ble samlet inn rundt søppelfyllinger på Zanzibar og i Dar es Salaam, inkludert en lokasjon med elektronisk avfall. Egg og jord ble analysert for klorparaffiner (CPs) og dekloraner, og vi undersøkte potensielle kilder til disse nye og uregulerte miljøgiftene i det Tanzanianske miljøet.

Som et raskt voksende, urbant og industrielt senter i Tanzania, er Dar es Salaam en kilde til forurensning i det Tanzanianske miljøet. Dette ble gjenspeilet i høyere miljøgiftkonsentrasjoner i marin fisk samlet inn rundt det sentrale fiskemarkedet sammenlignet med mer rurale lokasjoner utenfor Dar es Salaam og på Zanzibar. Forekomsten av BDE-209 og HCB i marin fisk fra Zanzibar kan tyde på lokale punktkilder som

forbrenning av avfall. Sesongvariasjon i miljøgiftkonsentrasjon og mønstre ble funnet i marin fisk fra Zanzibar. Etter en periode med kraftig regn økte konsentrasjoner av mindre halogenerte, mer mobile PCB- og PBDE-kongenere. Endringer i dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethan (DDT)- sammensetning etter regntiden ble også funnet, noe som antyder remobilisering av terrestriske kilder og avrenning til det marine miljøet. Ingen klare konklusjoner om elektronisk avfall som en kilde til miljøgifter i det Tanzanianske miljøet kunne trekkes basert på konsentrasjoner av CPer og dekloraner i hønseegg og jord. Disse kjemikaliene ser heller ut til å være til stede overalt i miljøet, selv i en region uten produksjon eller omfattende bruk. På en lokasjon var konsentrasjonene av kortkjedet-klorparaffiner (SCCPer) i to egg nær og under sikkerhetsgrensen satt av EU, noe som antyder risiko knyttet til eksponering av SCCP via inntak av egg.

Forekomsten av eldre og nyere typer miljøgifter i biota fra det Tanzanianske miljøet, sammen med nylige rapporter om økende trender, krever mer forskning og overvåking i denne regionen. Det innsamlede og analyserte materialet presentert i denne avhandlingen har muliggjort en bred vurdering av miljøgiftkonsentrasjoner og mønstre i biota som representerer ulike trofiske nivåer og habitater, samt deres sesongmessige og romlige variasjon, noe det var begrenset kunnskap om fra tropiske regioner.

Abbreviations

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| aBFRs | Alternative brominated flame retardants |
| BAF | Bioaccumulation factor |
| BCF | Bioconcentration factor |
| BFRs | Brominated flame retardants |
| CPs | Chlorinated paraffins |
| DDD | Dichlorodiphenyldichloroethane |
| DDE | Dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene |
| DDT | Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane |
| Dec 602 | Dechlorane 602 |
| Dec 603 | Dechlorane 603 |
| DP | Dechlorane Plus |
| E-waste | Electronic waste |
| EFSA | European Food Safety Authority |
| EQS | Environmental Quality Standard |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations |
| GC/Q-TOF | Gas chromatography quadrupole time-of-flight high-resolution mass spectrometry |
| GC-HRMS | Gas chromatography high-resolution mass spectrometry |
| HBCDD | Hexabromocyclododecane |
| HCB | Hexachlorobenzene |
| HPLC | High performance liquid chromatography |
| HCH | Hexachlorocyclohexane |
| IMS | Institute of Marine Science, Zanzibar |
| IPEN | International POPs Elimination Network |
| Kow | Octanol/water equilibrium partitioning coefficient |
| LC | Liquid chromatography |
| LCCPs | Long chain chlorinated paraffins |
| LOD | Limit of detection |
| LRT | Long-range transport |
| MCCPs | Medium chain chlorinated paraffins |
| MRL | Maximum residue limit |
| MONET | Monitoring Network |
| NILU | Norsk institutt for luftforskning / Norwegian Institute for Air Research |
| NMBU | Norges miljø- og biovitenskapelige universitet / Norwegian University of Life Sciences |
| OCPs | Organochlorine pesticides |
| PBT | Persistent, Bioaccumulative, Toxic |
| PBDEs | Polybrominated diphenyl ethers |
| PCBs | Polychlorinated biphenyls |
| POPs | Persistent organic pollutants |
| REACH | Registration, Evaluation, Authorization, and Restriction of Chemicals |
| SCCPs | Short chain chlorinated paraffins |
| UNEP | United Nations Environment Program |
| WIO | Western Indian Ocean |

List of papers

This thesis is based on the three papers listed below:

Paper I Seasonal rainfall affects occurrence of organohalogen contaminants in tropical marine fishes and prawns from Zanzibar, Tanzania

Haarr A., Mwakalapa E.B., Mmochi A.J., Lyche J.L., Ruus A., Othman H., Larsen M.M., Borgå K.

Science of the Total Environment 774 (2021) 145652

Paper II Spatial variation in contaminant occurrence in marine fishes and prawns from coastal Tanzania

Haarr A., Mwakalapa E.B., Lyche J.L., Mmochi A.J., Polder A., Ruus A., Borgå K.

Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry 41 (2022) 321-333

Paper III Chlorinated paraffins and dechloranes in free-range chicken eggs and soil around waste disposal sites in Tanzania

Haarr A., Nipen M., Mwakalapa E.B., Borgen A.R., Mmochi A.J., Borgå K.

Chemosphere 329 (2023) 138646

1. Background

1.1 The global challenge of environmental pollution

Environmental pollution is a global challenge, as contaminants can disperse over vast distances and reach areas far from their initial production and use. Since the second World War, organic contaminants as industrial and agricultural chemicals have been synthesised and produced in large quantities, and used mostly in industrialized regions of the world (Breivik et al., 2002; Abbasi et al., 2019; Melymuk et al., 2022). The physicochemical properties that make chemicals advantageous for use in industry and agriculture are the same reasons that make them problematic for the environment. These properties include long half-lives and persistence, the ability to bioaccumulate in humans and wildlife, and ability to exert toxic effects, summarized as Persistent, Bioaccumulative and Toxic (PBT) properties. As we have learned about their problematic properties, these chemicals have been characterized as persistent organic pollutants (POPs).

POPs have low water solubility but high solubility in organic phases meaning they readily accumulate in lipid-rich tissues of living organisms, i.e. are lipid soluble. POPs can biomagnify in food webs, reaching high concentrations in top predators, especially in long, marine food webs (AMAP, 1998; Borgå et al., 2004). At the top of the food web, humans are also at risk of accumulating POPs. Intake of animal fats, including dairy products, meat, fish and eggs, are essential sources of nutrients for humans but also an important pathway of contaminant exposure (Fries, 1995; Djien Liem et al., 2000; Bocio et al., 2003). As POPs are semi-volatile and mobile, many can undergo long-range transport (LRT) and be transported to remote regions of the world, such as the Poles, by repeated evaporation and condensation known as the “grasshopper effect”. Contaminants can also be transported passively via oceanic and atmospheric currents (Wania & Mackay, 1993), via migrating species, and of increasing societal interest, via trade of products and consumer goods (Wong et al., 2007; Breivik et al., 2015). This active transport of contaminants typically happens along international gradients of economic inequality and regulatory weaknesses, from industrialized countries in the Global North, to developing countries in the Global South (Figure 1). The high costs associated with the environmentally sound recycling practices of modern consumer goods and their increasing demand in the Global South, are also facilitating this form of active transport (Breivik et al., 2011; Breivik et al., 2015).

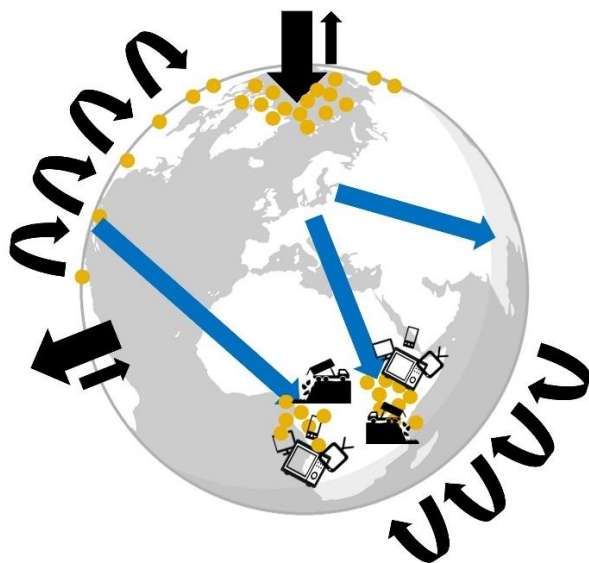


Figure 1. *Illustration of the passive, atmospheric transport (black arrows) of contaminants (yellow dots) and the active transport of contaminants (blue arrows). Passive transport of contaminants typically happens from warmer regions to colder regions due to evaporation and cold condensation, while active transport of contaminants happens via trade of products (e.g. e-waste), in which contaminants are embedded as chemical additives. Illustration inspired and modified from Breivik et al. (2015)*

Waste disposal sites in developing countries represent significant contaminant sources due to lack of sufficient infrastructure and regulations that enable the safe recycling and management practices of various waste types such as waste from electronic products (e-waste), medical- and industrial waste, and other types of hazardous waste. E-waste is considered particularly problematic due to an increasing consumer demand for modern electronic products, trade and use around the globe, as well as their short lifespan (Wong et al., 2007; Perkins et al., 2014; Forti et al., 2020). E-waste may contain a range of contaminants including heavy metals and organic compounds such as polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs), and other halogenated flame retardants, such as chlorinated paraffins (CPs) and dechloranes. The incomplete combustion of e-waste, as part of disposal or crude recycling, can also produce and release toxic by-products such as dioxins and furans (Wong et al., 2007; Yu et al., 2010; Zeng et al., 2018; Ssebugere et al., 2019; UNEP/GMP3, 2021). Contaminants embedded in discarded products can leach into the air, soil, and surrounding water bodies, exposing wildlife, domestic animals and humans, meaning these waste disposal sites are contamination “hot-spots” (Zhao et al., 2009; Arukwe et al., 2012; Petrlik et al., 2022).

Both regional and international governing bodies regulate POPs for the protection of human and environmental health. The Stockholm Convention is administered under the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) and was ratified in 2004 by 131 countries, which agreed to work towards the elimination of the world’s most problematic chemicals (UNEP, 2001). Regulation through the Stockholm Convention is based on a compound’s PBT properties and potential for LRT. Persistence is determined by resistance to degradation, often

defined as a compound's half-life in a given environmental matrix, e.g. water or soil. The identification of bioaccumulative substances is often based on the chemicals' octanol-water partitioning coefficient (K_{ow}), bioconcentration factors (BCF) obtained from laboratory tests, or field-derived bioaccumulation factors (BAF) (Arnot & Gobas, 2006). Detection of a chemical in remote locations, such as the Arctic, is often an indication of its potential for LRT. Within the Stockholm Convention framework, the assessment of toxicity is based on a chemical's potential to exert adverse effects on human health or the environment. Production and import of chemicals (embedded in products or as pure substances) has to be registered within the European Chemical Agency (ECHA) according to the REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation of Chemicals) regulation. All manufacturers and importers of chemicals in quantities exceeding one tonne per year are thus responsible for assessing and managing the risks associated with the substances in question. The Rotterdam and Basel Conventions are additional international treaties under the UNEP framework working specifically to control international trade of contaminants (UNEP, 2004) and the transboundary movement of hazardous waste (UNEP, 2002), respectively.

A challenge for environmental pollution includes the complex task of managing the global stock of POPs produced over the years. For example, over 80% of PCB-containing materials have still not been eliminated despite regulations being in place since the 1970s and its listing under the Stockholm Convention since 2004. Some countries, such as Canada and the Czech Republic, have succeeded in reducing their PCB stocks by 99% the last 10 years (Melymuk et al., 2022). However, over 10 million tons of PCB-containing materials remain; mainly in countries lacking the ability to manage PCB-containing waste safely, but also in e.g. the USA which has not ratified the Stockholm Convention (Melymuk et al., 2022). PCB concentrations in biota remain high, especially in long-lived marine mammals feeding at high trophic levels. The high PCB body burdens in these mammals are still associated with adverse effects including reproductive impairment, disruption of endocrine and immune functions, cancers, and possibly animal population collapse, as hypothesized for the killer whale (*Orcinus orca*) (Desforges et al., 2018).

Another example is the large stock of organochlorine pesticides (OCPs) in African countries. Large stocks of pesticides, including dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT), were received as donations from industrialized countries, often after the substances in question had been banned in parts of the global North (Manyilizu, 2019). Stockpiles of these pesticides were inadequately stored and needed safe disposal and destruction. This initiated the "Africa

Stockpiles Programme,” aiming to clear all obsolete pesticide stocks from Africa and prevent further build-up and recurrence of OCPs (WorldBank, 2016). Pesticide storage under inadequate conditions represents a significant source of environmental pollution in many African countries, including Tanzania (Elfvendahl et al., 2004; Elibariki & Maguta, 2017).

1.2 Shift in contaminant source regions – from “cradle” to “grave”

The research efforts on environmental contamination have historically been directed to industrialized regions in the Global North, meaning less industrialized and developing regions in the Global South are greatly understudied. Most knowledge on the potential for LRT and the PBT properties of POPs comes from research conducted in the Global North, particularly in the Arctic (de Wit et al., 2010; Letcher et al., 2010; AMAP, 2017; Wong et al., 2021). Decades of monitoring POPs in Arctic air show declining trends of most POPs since their regulation (Wong et al., 2021), but this is typically not the trend in developing regions in the Global South. This has been attributed to increased import of waste and its improper handling in developing regions, e.g. crude recycling of electronic waste and shipwreck dismantling (Gioia et al., 2014; White et al., 2020; de Boer et al., 2023). The reduction in atmospheric levels of POPs in the Northern hemisphere has also been hypothesized to be partly achieved by the transport of waste (e.g. e-waste) from the Global North to the Global South (Breivik et al., 2011; Gioia et al., 2011; Breivik et al., 2014; Breivik et al., 2015). A shift in contaminant inventory and source regions is thus expected, from source regions where contaminants have been produced and used, to source regions in the receiving end of used goods and waste (Breivik et al., 2011; Li et al., 2016; Abbasi et al., 2019; Babayemi et al., 2022).

An increasing proportion of contaminants from consumer products are estimated to end up in dumpsites in developing countries after reductions in production and use in developed countries (Abbasi et al., 2019). For example, estimations show that the global BDE-209 stock will shift from the Global North to the Global South after its listing in the Stockholm Convention (2017), and that 5 kt of BDE-209 will still be in use by 2050, mainly in less industrialized countries (Abbasi et al., 2019). Pharmaceuticals, many of which are considered chemicals of emerging concern, were also found in highest concentrations in rivers in less industrialized regions compared to industrialized regions. This finding was attributed to poor wastewater treatment and waste handling systems in low- to middle income countries (Wilkinson et al., 2022).

The use of sediment cores can reveal time-trends in contaminant deposition, and investigating contaminant occurrence in dated sediment layers can give insights into the historical pollution in the sampling area. Studies using sediment cores also indicate a shift in contaminant source regions by showing regional differences in peak contaminant concentrations in dated sediment layers. A general trend is that contaminant concentrations in countries that have been industrialized for some time peak around the time when production was highest (typically late 1990s), while in developing and newly industrialized countries contaminant concentrations peak in the top sediment layers representing the most recent years (Iozza et al., 2008; Arp et al., 2011; Nipen et al., 2022b). For example, sediment cores from a Mexican lake show an increase in PCB and PBDE concentrations during the recent years, suggesting that despite their restrictions and bans decades ago, these POPs are still being released to the environment (Ontiveros-Cuadras et al., 2019). These trends are attributed to release of POPs to the environment from products and waste causing delayed emissions in developing and newly industrialized countries compared to industrialized countries.

1.3 Organohalogen contaminants

The contaminants that were studied in this thesis include PCBs, OCPs, CPs, dechloranes, and brominated flame retardants (BFRs), including PBDEs and alternative BFRs (aBFRs). aBFRs is herein used to describe non-PBDE BFRs. A list of all organic contaminants analyzed in the present study along with their start of production, regulation and listing in the Stockholm Convention is given in Table A1. The selected contaminants represent chemicals with different production volumes, usages, sources and regulations. PCBs, BFRs, CPs, and dechloranes are herein referred to as industrial-use contaminants because they are deliberately produced and used for various purposes in industrial and consumer products. OCPs are designed and produced to be toxic to control weeds, insect infestations and diseases in agriculture, but may also be toxic to other organisms, including humans (AMAP, 1998).

PCB production occurred mainly in Europe, USA, Russia and Japan, and peaked in the 1970s before being phased out in the 1990s. PCBs were used in hydraulic fluids, heat transfer fluids, lubricants, and as plasticizers (Kimbrough & Jensen, 1989; Breivik et al., 2002). Production of PBDEs started in the 1970s in China, Japan, Europe, USA, and Israel, and peaked around the year 2000. PBDEs were mainly used as flame retardants in electronics, furniture, textiles, construction materials and vehicles. Penta- and Octa-BDE mixtures were listed under the Stockholm Convention in 2009, while Deca-BDE was the last PBDE mixture to be banned through the Stockholm Convention in 2017 (Abbasi et al., 2019). aBFRs have been

introduced to the market to replace restricted or highly regulated contaminants, and often share structural and functional similarities with the legacy PBDEs (Covaci et al., 2011).

Dechloranes and CPs are high-production chlorinated flame retardants and are currently applied in modern consumer products such as plastics and electronics. Today, China is the biggest manufacturer of CPs and the annual production is estimated to exceed 1 million tons, which is more than the total production volume for PCBs (van Mourik et al., 2016). CPs are mainly used as additives in metal working fluids, in paints, sealing materials, and in the industrial production of rubber, leather and other textiles (Wei et al., 2016). Based on their carbon chain length, CPs can be classified into four groups: very short-chain CPs ($C_{<10}$, VSCCPs), short-chain CPs (C_{10-13} , SCCPs), medium-chain CPs (C_{14-17} , MCCPs), and long-chain CPs ($C_{>17}$, LCCPs). Short-chain CPs have recently been subjected to regulation through the Stockholm Convention (UNEP, 2017), while MCCPs are currently under consideration. Dechlorane Plus (DP) was first manufactured in the USA and later in China (Sverko et al., 2011). DP is mainly used as a flame retardant in electrical wires and cable coatings, computer connectors and plastic materials. Dechlorane 602 and 603 are often detected together with DP in environmental samples, and studies suggest worldwide occurrence of these DP related compounds. However, details on their production and usage are not readily available (Wang et al., 2016).

POPs under international regulation, such as PCBs, PBDEs and several OCPs, including Σ DDT (DDT, DDE and DDD) and hexachlorobenzene (HCB), are often referred to as legacy contaminants, meaning that their presence in the environment is largely a legacy of historical production and use. Contaminants of emerging concern include newer and unregulated chemicals whose production, use, and release in the environment are increasing, such as dechloranes and CPs. However, new releases of legacy POPs to the environment may still occur from stockpiles and waste (De Wit et al., 2019), and from permafrost, sea ice, glaciers and soils, whose capacity to store contaminants are affected by changing climatic conditions, e.g. higher temperatures (Ma et al., 2016) and increased precipitation (Ruus et al., 2010). Many legacy POPs are also by-products formed during combustion processes, such as HCB, or are only partly regulated and allowed for use in certain cases, such as indoor spraying of DDT for malaria control (De Wit et al., 2019). Therefore, even though legacy POPs are subjected to regulations, these contaminants also represent an emerging concern, especially in countries where the capacity for safe handling of waste is lacking (Breivik et al., 2011; Breivik et al., 2015; Melymuk et al., 2022; Wilkinson et al., 2022).

1.3.1 Human risk assessment of chlorinated paraffins

Human risk assessment involves hazard identification, determination of the relationship between exposure and an adverse effect (dose-response assessment), assessing the level of exposure (e.g. through intake data) and risk characterization (EFSA, 2023). A toxicity test, performed under controlled laboratory settings, can provide useful data for risk assessment, including a dose-response curve. A dose-response curve provides information on the no-observed adverse effect level (NOAEL) and the lowest-observed adverse effect level (LOAEL). The benchmark dose level (BMDL) describes the dose or concentration for when a specified health risk is induced and can be statistically modelled using toxicity studies, taking into account the uncertainties in the dose-response data. Based on available data from toxicity testing, expert panels, like the European Food Safety Association (EFSA), extrapolate results and determine tolerable levels for contaminants in food. Other region-specific guidelines exist, e.g. American (USEPA) and Chinese guidelines, but there are no regulations specifically for Africa.

Risk assessment of CPs in food was recently conducted by the EFSA CONTAM panel. Based on the available scientific literature, the panel selected BMDLs for SCCP and MCCP exposure. Further, a Margin of Exposure (MOE) approach was used to assess potential health concern from CP intake via food. The MOE is the ratio of the BMDL and estimated exposure dose. For CPs in food, the panel selected a MOE above 1000 to indicate no health concern and MOE below 1000 to indicate health concern (EFSA, 2020).

1.4 Environmental contamination in Tanzania

Most African countries have ratified the Stockholm Convention. However, the information on POPs in Africa is scarce and does not allow proper evaluation of temporal trends and population exposures levels (Bruce-Vanderpuije et al., 2019; UNEP/GMP3, 2021). Tanzania ratified the Stockholm Convention in 2004, but many of the challenges faced here are representative of most of Sub-Saharan Africa: lack of monitoring studies and historical data, lack of capacity to analyse organic contaminants in environmental samples, lack of capacity to safely manage hazardous waste, weak enforcement of legislation, and low public awareness on the issues of pollution (Leslie et al., 2013; White et al., 2020; UNEP/GMP3, 2021).

Sources of POPs to the Tanzanian environment include runoff from agriculture and urban areas, wastewater discharge from sewage and industrial activities, shipwreck dismantling, and improper waste management (Machiwa, 2010; Magashi & Schluep, 2011; Yhdego, 2017; de

Boer et al., 2023). The aquaculture industry in Tanzania is growing (MALF, 2016), and the country is in the initial phases of oil and gas exploration, which may represent additional sources of future contamination. Tanzania is not an officially known recipient of e-waste from industrialized regions, as are other countries in West Africa. However, Tanzania is experiencing rapid economic growth with increased import and domestic use of new and used electrical goods (Ntapanta, 2022).

Elevated concentrations of chlorinated paraffins and dechloranes have been found in the air and soil around urban locations and near waste and e-waste handling facilities around Dar es Salaam in Tanzania (Nipen et al., 2022a). Sediment core sampling has also revealed a recent environmental increase of both legacy (PCBs, PBDEs) and emerging (aBFRs, CPs, Dechloranes) contaminants in this region (Nipen et al., 2022b). Environmental pollution from pesticides have been found in Tanzanian sediments, soil, water, vegetation and biota (Mwevura et al., 2002; Kishimba et al., 2004; Elibariki & Maguta, 2017). Müller et al. (2019) analysed POPs in Tanzanian mothers and infants, and found that BDE-47 concentrations in maternal blood were in the same range as in Californian mothers, a population cohort known to be highly exposed to PBDEs (Sagiv et al., 2015). The intake of non-dioxin-like PCBs (Σ 6PCBs) from breast milk in Tanzanian infants has also been estimated, and exceeded the provisional tolerable daily intake (PTDI) in more than 50% of the infants (Müller et al., 2017). At present, there are few studies on the occurrence of PCBs, PBDEs and other industrial-use contaminants in Tanzanian biota (Polder et al., 2014; Polder et al., 2016), and even fewer in the Tanzanian marine system (Mwakalapa et al., 2018).

Population growth, industrialization and urbanization in Tanzania may cause an increase in environmental pollution, especially if waste handling practices are not improved. This is particularly important for the major urban areas in coastal Tanzania, such as Dar es Salaam, where the economy is rapidly growing (Kruitwagen et al., 2008; Todd et al., 2019; Nipen et al., 2022a). These results call for further investigations of both legacy and emerging contaminants in Tanzania, their spatial distribution and accumulation in biota.

1.5 Bioaccumulation of contaminants in tropical systems

Our understanding on the factors affecting the environmental fate and dynamics of organic contaminants in food webs is largely based on studies on mid- to high-latitude systems. Limited information exists on the bioaccumulation and dynamics of contaminants in tropical systems (Alava & Gobas, 2012; Walters et al., 2016; Zhang et al., 2017). Arctic and

temperate food webs are adapted to high seasonal variation in irradiance and thus, primary production and food availability. This has an impact on the lipid dynamics for energy storage in organisms, which again influences the accumulation, distribution and metabolism of lipid soluble contaminants (Borgå et al., 2004). Tropical marine systems are rich in biodiversity, have complex food webs, higher microbial activity and metabolic efficiency compared to Arctic and temperate systems (Paine, 1966; Borgå et al., 2012; Brown, 2014; UNEP/GMP3, 2021). Tropical systems are not adapted to large variations in temperature or irradiation, but experience large seasonal changes in precipitation, which can affect environmental (re)distribution and bioavailability of contaminants. Heavy rainfall, which occurs seasonally in tropical regions, is associated with increased atmospheric deposition of contaminants and runoff from land (Fu & Wu, 2006; Shi et al., 2016; Lammel et al., 2018).

In tropical terrestrial environments, low content of organic matter in soil can limit the capacity to bind organic contaminants, and high temperatures facilitate evaporation and lower the environmental half-life of contaminants (Webster et al., 1998). However, recent studies have shown relatively high concentrations of both legacy (e.g. PCBs and PBDEs) and emerging (CPs and dechloranes) contaminants in air and soil measurements from Tanzania, especially around urban areas and waste disposal sites (Nipen et al., 2022a).

2. Aims and objectives

This PhD project is part of the convergence environment “Anthropology of Toxicity” (AnthroTox), which is an interdisciplinary project aiming to study various aspects of environmental pollution in Africa, with Tanzania as the main study site. The AnthroTox project has brought together students and researchers from social anthropology, environmental chemistry and ecotoxicology, from different parts of the world, engaging, communicating and cooperating on challenges regarding environmental pollution. The overarching aim of the AnthroTox project is to “understand how environmental and social processes and their relationships dictate flows and impacts of anthropogenic contaminants within and across societies and ecosystems”. Anthropogenic activity, with increasing demand of modern consumer products, results in an increasingly efficient transport of contaminants and strongly influences their global distribution. As contaminants increase in terms of global concern, aspects of social differences and injustice become relevant as societies have different capacities to monitor contaminants and enforce international regulations and safety measurements, including waste handling. The topic of toxic waste is a highly complex issue as it touches upon factors of economic, social, ethical and political concern. Within the AnthroTox project, the main focus has been to study contaminants associated with industrial activities and consumer products, particularly electronic equipment and e-waste such as PCBs, BFRs, chlorinated paraffins and other types of halogenated flame retardants.

The aim of this thesis is to understand whether e-waste represents a potential contaminant source to the Tanzanian environment, and increase understanding of the occurrence and dynamics of both legacy and emerging organic contaminants in various tropical habitats and biota. To pursue this aim, the following objectives were addressed:

- To investigate contaminant concentrations and patterns in coastal marine fishes before and after the rainy season to assess potential effects of terrestrial runoff (**Paper I**)
- To investigate whether the degree of anthropogenic activity affects spatial variation in contaminant occurrence in marine fishes along the Tanzanian coast (**Paper II**)
- To investigate whether waste in general, and e-waste in particular, represent a source of emerging contaminants to soil and chicken eggs near waste disposal sites in Tanzania (**Paper III**)

3. Methods

3.1 Fieldwork

To address the aims and objectives of this study, fieldwork was carried out in Dar es Salaam on the Tanzanian mainland and on Unguja Island of Zanzibar in three rounds: January 2018, August 2018 and January/February 2019. January and February represent the dry and warm season. The main rainy season occurs between March and May, while August is usually associated with lower temperatures. The selection of sampling sites and study species, and the sample collection was conducted together with the AnthroTox-team (students and supervisors) and in close collaboration with local partners and experts. Local anglers, small-scale farmers, residents and landowners were very helpful with advising and assisting in sample collection. Sample size throughout was limited by the high costs associated with analyses of organic contaminants, which is not unusual for ecotoxicological studies of this kind. In general, six replicates per sample type were attempted to collect to make statistical inferences.

The selection of marine organisms for **Paper I** and **II** represent species that are fished for human consumption and thus of commercial interest. Fishes and prawn were bought from local anglers at three fish markets: “Malindi” fish market on Zanzibar, “Harbor” fish market in central Dar es Salaam, and “Kunduchi” fish market, 25 km North of Dar es Salaam city center (Figure 2). Through communication with the anglers, fish from the local, coastal environment was collected as far as possible. In **Paper III**, eggs from free-range chickens (*Gallus domesticus*) and soil samples were collected around three different waste disposal sites: “Maruhubi” on Zanzibar, which is an informal dumpsite (not regulated); “Mtoni” dumpsite in Dar es Salaam, which is an historical dumpsite no longer in use (closed in 2009); and the currently official dumpsite of Dar es Salaam, “Pugu Kinyamwezi.” The official dumpsite is located around 25 km South-East of the city center. Next to the official dumpsite lies a licensed e-waste dealer that buys electronic waste, dismantles, sorts and sends byproducts to other waste dealers. The owner reported that some material was sent to Belgium for recycling of valuable materials. The lack of an incineration oven made it impossible for the owner to properly recycle the material they received. Eggs were also collected at a presumed reference location: a residential area at Bumbwini, Makoba, located around 25km North of Zanzibar city and away from any known waste disposal sites.

Sample processing and subsample collection were conducted at the facilities of the Zanzibar State University (SUZA), the Institute of Marine Science (IMS) on Zanzibar, or outdoors at an adequate place. Established protocols for fish dissection were followed and quality assurance was obtained by use of e.g. clean aluminium foil and nitrile gloves for each fish, cleaning of equipment between samples, and proper storage of samples prior to analyses. Details of sampling and dissection procedures are described in the respective papers.

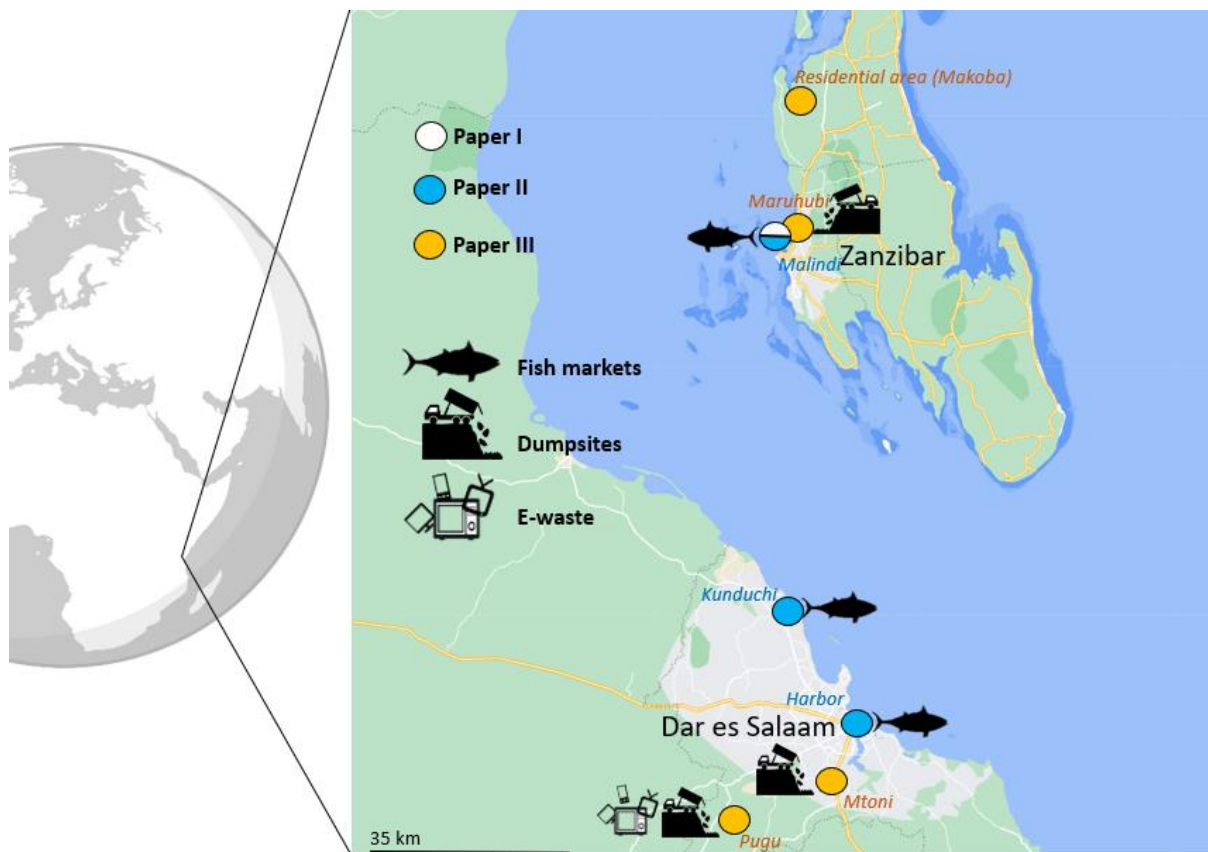


Figure 2. *Figure of sampling sites on the Tanzanian mainland and on Unguja Island, Zanzibar.*

3.2 Permissions and ethical clearance

Ethical clearance for the whole AnthroTox project was granted by the National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR), Tanzania. Permissions to conduct field work was granted by the Tanzanian Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH), permit no. 2019-016-NA-2018-251. Permission to export samples from Tanzania was granted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, and permission to import samples to Norway was granted by the Norwegian Food Safety Authority.

3.3 Analyses of organic contaminants

Sample preparation, extraction, clean-up, lipid quantification and instrument analyses of PCBs, BFRs and OCPs were conducted at the Norwegian University of Life Science (NMBU), Adamstuen, Norway. Methods are described in detail in Polder et al. (2014) and in **Paper I** and **II**. In short, homogenized samples of fish and shrimp (muscle tissue) was extracted using acetone and cyclohexane (2:3). Extracts were treated with sulfuric acid for lipid removal. Sample extracts were run on a high-resolution gas chromatograph (HRGC) coupled to a mass spectrometer (MS). The laboratory is accredited by “Norwegian Accreditation”, which is the national accreditation body of Norway established by the Royal Norwegian Ministry of Trade and Fisheries in accordance with EU Regulation 765. Analyses of POPs in biological materials by the laboratory is conducted according to the requirements of the NS-EN ISO/IEC 17025 (test 137). The laboratory follows strict protocols and routines for quality control measures by running parallel samples, procedural blanks, internal laboratory reference material, European certified reference material, and regular participation in international ring tests.

Analyses of the emerging CPs and Dechloranes in egg and soil samples were conducted at the Norwegian Institute for Air Research (NILU), Kjeller, Norway. Methods are described in **Paper III** and references therein. In short, egg and soil samples were extracted using cold column and accelerated solvent extraction, respectively, using acetone and n-hexane (1:1). Sulphuric acid was used for lipid removal. An extra clean-up step was conducted using activated silica and sodium sulphate packed in a column and diluted with diethyl ether in n-hexane before the solvent was changed to isooctane. Concentration of dechloranes and chlorinated paraffins was determined in the final extract using gas chromatography quadrupole time-of-flight high-resolution mass spectrometer (GC-QTOF). A pattern deconvolution method developed by Bogdal et al. (2015) was used for the quantification of CPs. Since CPs are particularly challenging to quantify, the laboratory follows strict quality control measures to ensure method performance, as well as participation in international laboratory certification studies.

3.4 Analysis of stable isotopes

Analyses of stable isotopes were conducted at the Stable Isotope Laboratory of the University of Oslo (UiO:CLIPT). Detailed description of the methods is given in **Paper I**. In short, dried and homogenized tissues were sealed in tin capsules and analysed for carbon ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$) and nitrogen ($\delta^{15}\text{N}$) isotopes using a Thermo Fisher Scientific EA IsoLink IRMS System with a

Flash Elemental Analyses and DeltaV Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometer. Calibrated internal laboratory reference material and quality control material (from Fisher Scientific) were run with each sample batch to normalize the data and assess precision and accuracy to the measurements.

Dietary descriptions such as stable isotopes of carbon and nitrogen can be used to characterize an organism's dietary habits of carbon source and relative trophic position, respectively, integrated over time (Hobson & Welch, 1992). Stable isotopes are useful tools providing ecological linkages to contaminant occurrence and distribution in organisms and food webs (Kidd et al., 2001; Borgå et al., 2004). The heavier nitrogen isotope (^{15}N) is enriched relative to the lighter nitrogen isotope (^{14}N) from prey to predator by 3-5‰, and thus reflects relative trophic status. $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ does not change along a trophic level gradient, but changes with different photosynthetic pathways in primary producers (e.g. C3 and C4 plants) (Minagawa & Wada, 1984; Layman et al., 2012). In marine systems, $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ can be used to assess gradients of pelagic/demersal and marine/terrestrial carbon sources.

3.5 Data treatment and statistical analyses

All datasets were established in Windows Excel and statistical analyses were conducted using RStudio. In general, assumptions of normal distribution and homogenous variance were not met and so non-parametric testing of group-differences were conducted throughout (or log-transformed for multivariate analyses). Lipid normalized contaminant concentrations were used throughout in order to compare concentrations among species in the present study and with data from the literature.

The use of multivariate statistics is well established in the field of ecotoxicology (Sparks et al., 1999). In ecotoxicology, we often measure multiple parameters in the same samples, and multivariate methods allows for investigations of occurrence and interrelations among responses, and how they can be explained by selected explanatory factors. The *Vegan* package in R was developed for gradient analyses in ecology, but is also useful dealing with other types of datasets that include several response variables (e.g. contaminants concentrations) and few explanatory variables (e.g. location, species). In this study, principal component analyses (PCA) were used to visualize and explore trends and patterns in the dataset (**Paper I and III**), and redundancy analyses (RDA) were conducted for significance testing of relationships between explanatory and response variables (**Paper I**).

4. Results and Discussion

In **Paper I** and **II**, we present and discuss concentrations and patterns of legacy contaminants in marine fishes and prawns. We demonstrate variations in concentrations of PCBs, BFRs and OCPs related to species-specific dietary niches, seasonal dynamics (**Paper I**) and spatial variation (**Paper II**). In **Paper III**, we present and discuss concentrations and composition patterns of two groups of emerging contaminants, CPs and dechloranes, in free-range chicken eggs and soil around Tanzanian dumpsites. **Paper III** is the first peer-reviewed paper to report concentrations of CPs and dechloranes in African biota and to perform risk assessment of human CP intake via egg consumption.

4.1 Legacy contaminants

In general, the levels of legacy, industrial-use contaminants (PCBs and PBDEs) were low in coastal marine fishes and prawns from Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar (**Paper I and II**). This finding is probably representative for the whole Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region. Due to distance from point sources and a history of low degree of industrialization in the region, the WIO is not considered to be very contaminated (Munschy et al., 2020; van der Schyff et al., 2021). The highest contaminant concentrations were found in fish from central Dar es Salaam, which indicates that urban and industrial areas are sources of POPs to the local marine environment (**Paper II**).

A high proportion of pesticide-use contaminants (OCPs) to total POP concentrations was expected due to the importance of agriculture and the historical and present use of pesticides in this region. OCP composition consisted of up to 94% Σ DDTs followed by HCB, HCH, chlordanes and mirex. Σ DDT patterns were largely dominated by *p,p'*-DDE, which is the main DDT metabolite and a highly persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic compound (Mirmigkou & de Boer, 2016). The ratio of the mother compound (DDT) to its metabolites (mainly DDE, but also DDD) is useful when understanding if DDT use has occurred in the past or recently. A high DDE/ Σ DDT ratio indicates that metabolites dominate the Σ DDT pattern and suggest historic use, while a low ratio means that the Σ DDT pattern is dominated by non-degraded DDT, and indicate recent use. Indications of recent DDT use in Tanzania are somewhat contrasting, as some studies report indications of recent use (Polder et al., 2014; Polder et al., 2016; Mwakalapa et al., 2018), while others do not (Müller et al., 2017; Mwakalapa et al., 2018; Mwevura et al., 2020). Policy for indoor residual spraying for malaria prevention exists in Tanzania and on Zanzibar, but not specifically for DDT use

(WHO, 2021). Results from **Paper I** and **II** indicate historical DDT use, as contaminant patterns were dominated by the main DDT metabolite, DDE.

In **Paper II**, we compile literature data to compare POP concentrations from fish in this study to what has been found in similar fish species from other areas of the world. Figure 3 shows concentrations of legacy POPs (Σ PCBs, Σ PBDEs, Σ DDTs, HCB) in different fish species from Tanzania, various African freshwater lakes, remote locations in the WIO such as the Seychelles, the South China Sea, and Europe. Notably, Σ PCB concentrations in fish from the WIO is low compared to fish sampled from more industrialized regions in China and Europe. The high PCB concentrations in silver biddy presented in **Paper II** are comparable to what is found in Atlantic cod (*Gadus morhua*) from Norway, but the mean concentration is largely affected by very high concentrations in one individual fish, which most likely represents an outlier rather than a general trend. Relatively high DDT levels in fish from Lake Tanganyika and Lake Malawi, which lie on the borders of western and southern inland Tanzania respectively, suggest that fishes from these lakes, receiving runoff from several bordering countries, are more exposed to DDT compared to marine fishes.

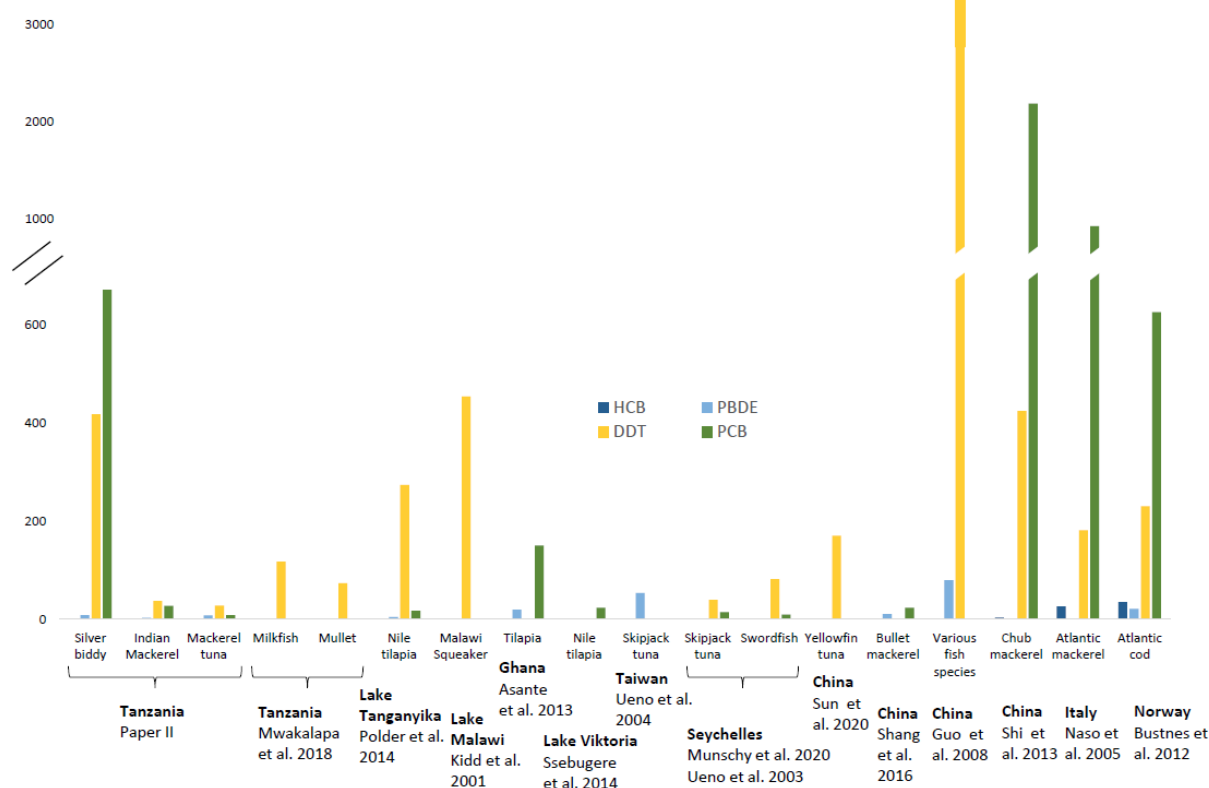


Figure 3. Concentrations of PCBs, PBDEs, HCB and DDTs (ng/g lipid weight) in marine fishes from the present study and data collected from the literature. Note the axis break at the vertical axis and different scales above and below this break.

In Paper II, we conduct a crude assessment of adequacy for human consumption by comparing levels of PCBs, PBDEs, HCB, HBCDD and DDT found in marine fish to European thresholds. Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) describe the maximum allowed concentration of a chemical in food products (E.C. 2011). No samples exceeded the MRLs set for PCBs, HCB, HBCDD or DDTs. Environmental Quality Standards (EQS) are set by the water framework directive to protect human health and top predators from secondary poisoning through biomagnification (E.C. 2013). The EQS_{biota} set for PBDEs is conservative (0.0085 ng/g ww), and close to the detection limit for the analyzed PBDEs in the present study.

Even though PCBs and PBDEs are considered legacy contaminants, studies indicate that there is an environmental increase of both legacy and emerging industrial contaminants in this region (Gioia et al., 2011; Breivik et al., 2015; Nipen et al., 2022b). PBDE levels exceeding levels of PCBs in fish from Zanzibar, as discussed in **Paper I**, was a somewhat unexpected result, as PCBs most often dominate over PBDEs in the contaminant profile in environmental samples due to historical production and use (Breivik et al., 2002). This finding may be related to the difference in use between the two groups of industrial contaminants, where PBDEs are associated with more modern consumer products compared to PCBs, which were used in products produced before 1990s (Nipen et al., 2022b). Tanzania has stopped importing transformers containing PCB oils, but still has a substantial PCB stock associated with this type of electrical equipment (IPEN, 2005). Increasing PBDE concentrations in sediment from Dar es Salaam during recent years have been linked to a range of socioeconomic factors, including population growth, industrialization, and waste generation (Nipen et al., 2022b).

The detection of brominated flame retardants in fishes and prawns could indicate exposure from e-waste. For example, BDE-209 is the main constituent in the commercial deca-BDE mixture that was extensively used as a flame retardant in electronics and other consumer products before it was phased out of production in 2017 (de Wit et al., 2010). Normally, BDE-209 does not readily accumulate in fish because of its high molecular weight, high hydrophobicity and low bioavailability. It is also known to be efficiently metabolized and eliminated and therefore often not detected in fish (Viganò et al., 2011). Therefore, the detection of BDE-209 in fish could indicate recent exposure to the commercial deca-BDE mixture. Higher concentration and detection frequency of HCB and BDE-209 in fish from Zanzibar compared to mainland Tanzania (**Paper I and II**) could point towards a point source

on Unguja Island, such as the use of fire foam on the airfield or open burning of waste (Mwakalapa et al., 2018; Zhang et al., 2018). The aBFRs were only detected in very few marine species (**Paper I and II**). Due to low instrumental sensitivity and detection frequency, most aBFRs were omitted from data analyses. It could be hypothesized that the relatively recent phase-out of deca-BDE usage and the substitution by aBFRs has yet to reflect current contaminant composition in marine organisms in Tanzania. However, this should be further monitored as a shift from the legacy BDEs to emerging BFRs is expected also in the future (Covaci et al., 2011).

4.2 Seasonal dynamics and bioaccumulation of contaminants

In **Paper I**, we document a general increase in POP concentrations in fishes and prawns after the rainy season, as well as a shift in contaminant pattern to a higher relative occurrence of lighter, more mobile PCB and PBDE congeners. These findings suggest that there may be atmospheric deposition and/or terrestrial runoff of these congeners into the marine environment. Differences in the composition patterns of Σ DDT between January and August also indicates a signal of terrestrial runoff. We found a higher contribution of DDT and DDD to total Σ DDTs in samples from August compared to January, suggesting that terrestrial pools of DDT and DDD are remobilized and entering the marine environment following a period with heavy rain. The two months with most precipitation on Unguja Island in 2018 was April and May. Although the following months had relatively little precipitation, there was likely still a signal from increased rainfall during sampling in August. More data over time is needed in order to better understand differences in contaminant concentrations and patterns driven by the seasonal rain.

Results from **Paper I and II** indicate that trophic level ($\delta^{15}\text{N}$) is the most important explanatory factor for contaminant concentrations in marine fishes and prawns from Tanzania. The biomagnification potential, i.e. the increase in contaminant concentrations with increasing trophic level, varied among locations and between habitats, but appeared to be the greatest in Dar es Salaam and in the demersal system at Kunduchi. Higher biomagnification in the demersal system may be due to a higher affinity of organic contaminants to sediment and that organisms that feed closer to sediment are more easily exposed. Spatial variation in $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ was observed, as fish from Dar es Salaam generally contained a higher $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ signal compared to the same species from the other locations. For example, two demersal fish species (thumbprint emperor and silver biddy) sampled at the central fish market in Dar es Salaam had higher $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values compared to the same species from the other locations. The

two species are known to be demersal mid-trophic level feeders, but had $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values comparable to predator fish species from the present study. They also contained high contaminant concentrations indicating that they were feeding at higher trophic levels (**Paper II**). Variations in individual feeding behaviour and differences in baseline $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ among locations could explain the observed patterns, but is difficult to assess with this limited sample size. The sampling of marine fishes and prawns was based on what is sold on the fish markets, which results in a human consumption-biased selection of organisms. Full characterization of the local marine food web, including primary producers, was beyond the scope of the present study. Rather, a broad selection of different species representing low to high trophic level feeders and both the demersal and pelagic systems was sampled.

4.3 Contaminants of emerging concern

Chlorinated paraffins and dechloranes are considered contaminants of emerging concern even though they are subjected to international regulation. The regulation of SCCPs is associated with several exceptions for production and usage for certain purposes, as well as the unintentional presence of SCCPs in other CP mixtures or as degradation products (Guida et al., 2020). Very little data exist on the occurrence of emerging contaminants in the African environment, especially in biota. Eggs from free-range household chickens (*Gallus domesticus*) are ideal indicators for local contamination, and represent a commonly used matrix in global monitoring programs. The chicken egg is lipid-rich, important for human consumption, and can be used to make inferences about bioaccumulation (soil to hen) and maternal transfer (hen to egg) of lipophilic contaminants (Polder et al., 2016; Petrlik et al., 2022). The soil-chicken-egg pathway is typically studied when estimating human risk and intake of dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs (Polder et al., 2016), but is also relevant for other semi-volatile contaminants such as CPs. Relatively high levels of CPs were found in house dust in South Africa (Brits et al., 2020) and in breastmilk from African mothers (Krätschmer et al., 2021), demonstrating their ubiquitous presence.

In **Paper III**, we report high detection frequency of CPs and Dechlorane Plus in free-range chicken eggs and soil. Elevated concentrations of CPs and DP in soil were found at the two active dumpsites: the official dumpsite of Dar es Salaam located next to an e-waste handler and the informal dumpsite on Zanzibar (Figure 4). This finding is in accordance with air and soil concentrations from the same region (Nipen et al., 2022a). Elevated concentrations of SCCPs in eggs at the e-waste location was also found, but this difference was not statistically significant. Due to a low sample size, low spatial variation across sites, high variation in CP

concentrations in eggs within sites, and the relatively high concentrations in eggs from the reference location, no clear conclusions regarding an e-waste source could be made. Even though comparison between different laboratories and quantification methods is challenging, CP concentrations in soil and eggs from all locations in the present study was higher compared to eggs from reference locations (no e-waste) in Europe, Indonesia and Ghana, but lower compared to e-waste locations in China (Figure 4).

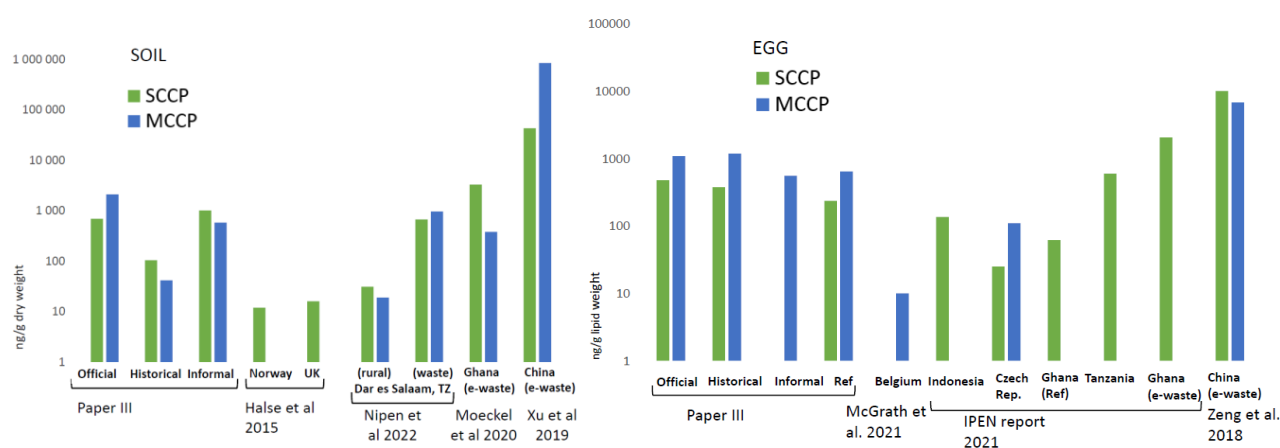


Figure 4. Mean concentrations of SCCPs and MCCPs in soil and egg from the present study and data collected from the literature. Data is presented on a logarithmic scale.

The waste disposal sites described in **Paper III** were all characterized as dumpsites because there are no particular safety measures in place for leachate management, and no regulations on types of waste permitted for disposal. E-waste and other valuable material are not separated from general waste before ending up at the dumpsites. However, valuable materials are removed from the dumpsites by local waste scavengers for recycling, refurbishing purposes or are sold to other traders (Ntapanta, 2022). Only the sampling site by the e-waste handler and the official dumpsite in Dar es Salaam were considered a “true” e-waste location. At the other dumpsites, we could not determine how long potential hazardous waste had been stored. The assessment of potential sources of emerging contaminants to local soil and chickens would have been improved by collecting any industrial feed that the chickens received, and by including a representative reference location. Unknown contaminant sources at the presumed reference location, e.g. open burning of waste, cannot be ruled out.

We found no apparent association in contaminant concentrations or composition pattern between soil and egg (**Paper III**). In general, MCCPs dominated in the eggs, and SCCPs dominated in the soil, except from at the official dumpsite, where MCCP concentrations were

higher than SCCPs (Figure 4). Dechlorane Plus dominated the dechlorane pattern in eggs and soil, except from soil at the historical dumpsite in Dar es Salaam, where concentrations of Dechlorane 603 was very high. This might be linked to a waste signal, but Dechlorane 603 also appears as an impurity in pesticides, and its occurrence here may instead be a signal of pesticide use (Nipen et al 2022b). A dominance of MCCPs over SCCPs in eggs is probably because MCCPs have higher K_{ow} and affinity to lipid-rich tissues. CPs with 5-8 Chlorine atoms were dominating the CP composition patterns in eggs, suggesting that these congeners are more readily accumulated in the hen and transferred to the egg during egg formation. The sampling of other tissues from the hen would allow a better assessment on the accumulation of contaminants from soil to chicken, tissue distribution, and the maternal transfer of contaminants from the hen to the egg during egg formation.

4.3.1 Human risk assessment of chlorinated paraffins

A complete assessment of the human health risks associated with the contaminants addressed herein is beyond the scope of this study. In **Paper III**, we assess the potential health concern from CP exposure via egg consumption based on the newly identified BMDLs and a MOE approach.

Based on the BMDLs and estimated daily intake of eggs in the Tanzanian population, SCCP concentrations in one egg represented potential human health concern ($MOE < 1000$, **Paper III**). Even though only one out of 24 sampled eggs had $MOE < 1000$, this finding indicates that concentration ranges in the upper percentiles could represent a health concern. Uncertainties and limitations following these assessments must be taken into account as the sample size is low and the assessment only describe a limited exposure scenario. Importantly, exposure from other sources (air, dust, and other types of food) or contaminant mixtures are not accounted for. Exposure risk to infants, toddlers and other sensitive population member are also not accounted for. Thus, the current risk assessment might be an underestimation. Further research need to be conducted on the sources of contaminants to the Tanzanian population and the associated health risks.

4.4 Shift in contaminant source regions: need for effective regulation of contaminants in products and waste

Monitoring of several legacy POPs, including PCBs, PBDEs and OCPs, in African air using passive samplers has been conducted through the MONitoring NETwork (MONET). These results have been implemented in the global monitoring plan (GMP) to assess the

effectiveness of the Stockholm Convention regulatory framework (White et al., 2020; UNEP/GMP3, 2021).

Ten years of monitoring POPs in African air conclude that Σ DDTs still dominate the contaminant profile, but are decreasing over time (White et al., 2020). Trends of PCB and PBDE concentrations in air vary among locations, but evidence point towards continuous input of these contaminants to the African environment (White et al., 2020; de Boer et al., 2023), including Tanzania (Nipen et al., 2022b). Important sources of environmental pollution from both legacy and emerging contaminants in Tanzania include urban areas, i.e. Dar es Salaam, and dumpsites (**Paper II and Paper III**, Nipen et al. 2022a).

Although the transboundary movement of hazardous waste is restricted by regulations, the e-waste trade still occurs and typically happens covertly, often under the disguise of being intended for reuse or recycling, and is difficult to measure or control. Regulatory bodies such as the Basel and Rotterdam Conventions lack the ability to efficiently regulate the movement of contaminants embedded in products. The Prior Informed Consent (PIC) regulation aiming to share information on how to safely store, transport, use, and dispose of chemicals is deficient, and there are currently no requirements for labelling of chemical additives in products (Babayemi et al., 2022; Guida et al., 2022). Because of this, large volumes of contaminants, such as CPs, can be transported to developing countries embedded in products such as plastics and electronics (Babayemi et al., 2015; Babayemi et al., 2019; Nevondo & Okonkwo, 2021). The recently established International Panel on Chemical Pollution (IPCP) work beyond geographical regions and legislations such as the Stockholm, Rotterdam and Basel Conventions to tackle the issues of chemical pollution and waste. Importantly, IPCP recognizes the significant role of less industrialized countries in the Global South regarding the burden of chemical pollution and consequences of waste mismanagement (Ågerstrand et al., 2023).

5. Conclusion

This thesis has presented and discussed the occurrence of legacy and emerging contaminants in the Tanzanian environment. Terrestrial and marine habitats, and environmental matrices ranging from soil to chicken eggs and marine biota have been sampled. This information has enabled a broad assessment of contaminant concentrations, patterns, dynamics and potential sources in a region where contaminant data has been very limited. The main conclusions drawn from the present work were as follows:

Spatial variation in concentrations of OCPs, PCBs and BFRs in the Tanzanian coastal marine system (**Paper I and II**):

- Concentrations of legacy contaminants were relatively low and intake of marine fishes and prawns from mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar do not represent high contaminant exposure
- Highest contaminant concentrations in marine fishes and prawns from central Dar es Salaam confirm that major urban and industrialized areas are important contaminant sources
- Higher concentration and detection frequency of HCB and BDE-209 on Zanzibar could indicate local point sources such as open burning of waste
- In general, contaminant concentrations increased with $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ indicating food web biomagnification
- Spatial variation in $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ across species reflects individual feeding behaviour or differences in baseline $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ among locations

Seasonal variation in the occurrence of OCPs, PCBs and BFRs in marine fishes and prawns from Zanzibar (**Paper I**):

- Increasing concentrations and changes in contaminant composition patterns following a period with heavy rain indicate an effect of atmospheric deposition and/or terrestrial runoff

Occurrence of CPs and dechloranes in chicken eggs and soil from various waste disposal sites in Tanzania (**Paper III**):

- High detection frequency of CPs and Dechlorane Plus in chicken eggs and soil highlights their ubiquitous presence even in regions with no production or intensive use
- No direct relationship in contaminant concentrations or patterns between soil and egg suggest specific mechanisms of accumulation and/or maternal transfer
- Risk assessment of CPs gave margin of exposures (MOE) close to or below the safety limit in two eggs from one location, suggesting human health concern for SCCP exposure via egg consumption

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Appendix

Table A1. Contaminants (groups and individual congeners) analyzed in this study. Information on their production start, start of regulation and listing in the Stockholm Convention is added where applicable.

| Compound group / congener | Name | Start of production | Start of regulation | Listed under the Stockholm Convention |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| PCBs ^{1), 2)} | | 1930s | 1970s | 2004 |
| PCB-28 | 2,4,4'-Trichlorobiphenyl | | | |
| PCB-52 | 2,2',5,5'-Tetrachlorobiphenyl | | | |
| PCB-74 | 2,4,4',5-Tetrachlorobiphenyl | | | |
| PCB-99 | 2,2',4,4',5-Pentachlorobiphenyl | | | |
| PCB-101 | 2,2',4,5,5'-Pentachlorobiphenyl | | | |
| PCB-105 | 2,3,3',4,4'-Pentachlorobiphenyl | | | |
| PCB-118 | 2,3',4,4',5-Pentachlorobiphenyl | | | |
| PCB-153 | 2,2',4,4',5,5'-Hexachlorobiphenyl | | | |
| PCB-128 | 2,2',3,3',4,4'-Hexachlorobiphenyl | | | |
| PCB-136 | 2,2',3,3',6,6'-Hexachlorobiphenyl | | | |
| PCB-138 | 2,2',3,4,4',5-Hexachlorobiphenyl | | | |
| PCB-156 | 2,3,3',4,4',5-Hexachlorobiphenyl | | | |
| PCB-170 | 2,2',3,3',4,4',5-Heptachlorobiphenyl | | | |
| PCB-180 | 2,2',3,4,4',5,5'-Heptachlorobiphenyl | | | |
| PCB-183 | 2,2',3,4,4',5',6-Heptachlorobiphenyl | | | |
| PCB-187 | 2,2',3,4',5,5',6-Heptachlorobiphenyl | | | |
| OCPs ¹⁾ | | | | |
| HCB | Hexachlorobenzene | | | 2004 |
| α -HCH | Hexachlorohexane | | | 2010 |
| β -HCH | Hexachlorohexane | | | 2011 |
| γ -HCH | Hexachlorohexane / lindane | | | 2015 |
| Heptachlor | | | | 2004 |
| oxychlordane | | | | 2004 |
| <i>trans</i> -chlordane | | | | 2004 |
| <i>cis</i> -chlordane | | | | 2004 |
| <i>trans</i> -Nonachlor | | | | 2004 |
| <i>cis</i> -Nonachlor | | | | 2004 |
| DDTs ^{1), 3)} | | 1940s | 1970s | 2004 |

| | | | | |
|--|---|-------|-------|------|
| <i>p,p'</i> -DDE | Dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene | | | |
| <i>o,p'</i> -DDD | Dichlorodiphenyldichloroethane | | | |
| <i>p,p'</i> -DDD | | | | |
| <i>o,p'</i> -DDT | Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane | | | |
| <i>p,p'</i> -DDT | | | | |
| Mirex | | 1950s | 1970s | 2004 |
| PBDEs ^{1), 4)} | | 1970s | 1990s | |
| Penta-BDE mix | | | 2004 | 2009 |
| BDE-28 | 2,4-Dibromo-1-(4-bromophenoxy)benzene | | | |
| BDE-47 | 2,2',4,4'-Tetrabromodiphenyl ether | | | |
| BDE-99 | 2,2',4,4',5-Pentabromodiphenyl ether | | | |
| BDE-100 | 1,3,5-Tribromo-2-(2,4-dibromophenoxy)benzene | | | |
| BDE-153 | 2,2',4,4',5,5'-Hexabromodiphenyl ether | | | |
| Octa-BDE mix | | | 2004 | 2009 |
| BDE-154 | 2,2',4,4',5,6'-Hexabromodiphenyl ether | | | |
| BDE-183 | 2,2',3,4,4',5,6'-Heptabromodiphenyl ether | | | |
| BDE-196 | 2,2',3,3',4,4',5,6'-Octabromodiphenyl ether | | | |
| BDE-202 | 2,2',3,3',5,5',6,6'-Octabromodiphenyl ether | | | |
| BDE-206 | 2,2',3,3',4,4',5,5',6-Nonabromodiphenyl ether | | | |
| BDE-207 | 2,2',3,3',4,4',5,6,6'-Nonabromodiphenyl ether | | | |
| BDE-208 | 2,2',3,3',4,5,5',6,6'-Nonabromodiphenyl ether | | | |
| Deca-BDE mix | | | 2008 | 2017 |
| BDE-209 | Decabromodiphenyl oxide | | | |
| Non-PBDE BFRs | | | | |
| HBCDD | Hexabromocyclododecane | | | 2013 |
| DPTE | 1,3,5-tribromo-2-benzene | | | |
| HBB | 1H-Benzimidazol-2-yl(phenyl)methanol | | | |
| PBT | pbt-1033 hydrochloride | | | |
| PBEB | Pentabromoethylbenzene | | | |
| BTBPE | 1,2-Bis(2,4,6-tribromophenoxy)ethane | | | |
| DBDPE | Decabromodiphenyl ethane | | | |
| Chlorinated paraffins ¹⁾ | | | | |

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--|--|---------------------|
| SCCPs | Short-chain chlorinated paraffins (C10-C13) | | | 2017 |
| MCCPs | Medium-chain chlorinated paraffins (C14-C17) | | | Under consideration |
| Dechloranes ¹⁾ | | | | |
| DP <i>anti</i> | Dechlorane Plus <i>anti</i> isomer | | | 2023 |
| DP <i>syn</i> | Dechlorane Plus <i>syn</i> isomer | | | 2023 |
| Dec 601 | Dechlorane 601 | | | |
| Dec 602 | Dechlorane 602 | | | |
| Dec 603 | Dechlorane 603 | | | |
| Dec 604 | Dechlorane 604 | | | |

¹⁾ UNEP (2001)

²⁾ Breivik et al. (2002)

³⁾ Barrie et al. (1992)

⁴⁾ PolyBDEs EQS dossier (2011)

Paper I





Seasonal rainfall affects occurrence of organohalogen contaminants in tropical marine fishes and prawns from Zanzibar, Tanzania

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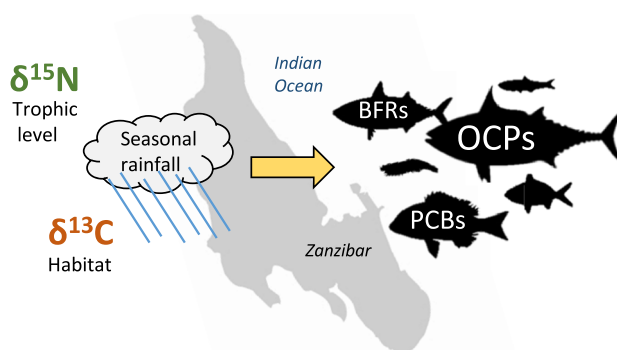
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HIGHLIGHTS

- Assessing organic pollutants in a tropical, marine ecosystem where little data exist
- Occurrence of PCBs, BFRs and OCPs varied with trophic level, habitat and season
- Higher relative concentration increase of more mobile congeners after the rainfall
- Seasonal variation in contaminant occurrence suggests a signal of terrestrial runoff.

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT



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ABSTRACT

Seasonal differences in precipitation may affect contaminant dynamics in tropical coastal regions due to terrestrial runoff of contaminants to the marine environment after the rainy seasons. To assess the effect of seasonal rainfall on occurrence of organohalogen contaminants in a coastal ecosystem, marine fishes and prawns were collected off the coast of Zanzibar, Tanzania in January and August 2018, representing pre- and post-rainy season, respectively. Samples were analyzed for organochlorine pesticides (OCPs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), brominated flame retardants (BFRs), including polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) and emerging BFRs, as well as the dietary descriptors stable isotopes of carbon ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$) and nitrogen ($\delta^{15}\text{N}$). Across all species and seasons, mean contaminant concentrations ranged from below limit of detection (LOD) to 129 ng/g lipid weight (lw) ΣPCBs ; 5.6–336 ng/g lw ΣOCPs ; and < LOD–22.1 ng/g lw ΣPBDEs . Most of the emerging BFRs were below LOD. Contaminant concentrations generally increased with higher pelagic carbon signal ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$) and higher relative trophic position ($\delta^{15}\text{N}$). The ratio of DDE/ ΣDDTs in fishes and prawns was lower in August than in January, suggesting runoff of non-degraded DDT into the marine system during or after the seasonal rainfall. Contaminant patterns of OCPs and PCBs, and concentrations of BFRs, differed between seasons in all species. A higher relative concentration-

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increase in lower halogenated, more mobile PCB and PBDE congeners, compared to higher halogenated congeners with lower mobility, between January and August aligns with a signal and effect of terrestrial runoff following the rainy season.

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1. Introduction

Environmental fate, food web dynamics and spatial, and temporal variations of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) have been relatively understudied in tropical ecosystems (Kidd et al., 2001; Verhaert et al., 2013). High ambient temperatures and low organic matter content in environmental compartments in tropical regions increase volatilization and reduce the environmental storage capacity of semi-volatile POPs, in contrast to high latitude regions that typically function as contaminant sinks due to long range atmospheric transport and cold condensation (Wania and Mackay, 1993). However, POPs may also be transported via trade of products and waste from developed to developing regions of the world where a lack of appropriate waste management practices may result in environmental pollution (Abbasi et al., 2019; Asante et al., 2011; Breivik et al., 2015; Gioia et al., 2011). In Africa, local sources of pollution including discharge from landfills and waste incineration plants, sewage, wastewater, industry and agriculture play an increasingly important role in environmental pollution pressure (Gioia et al., 2014; Mmochi and Francis, 2003; UNEP/Nairobi Convention Secretariate, 2009).

The Zanzibar islands of Tanzania are representative of a developing region with major identified pressures for the marine environment in the Western Indian Ocean region, including increasing anthropogenic activity and urbanization, overexploitation of fish stocks, destruction of sensitive ecosystems and habitats, and pollution (Johnstone et al., 1998; Mmochi and Francis, 2003; UNEP et al., 1998). Commercial fisheries, small-scale artisanal fishing and an increasing aquaculture industry are important for the economy and food security in Tanzania (Mwakalapa et al., 2018; Wetengere et al., 2008). On Zanzibar, fisheries mostly consist of artisanal fishers using traditional canoes and small vessels, and local fisheries provide an income for around 20% of the population (Feidi, 2005). Dietary intake of fish and seafood represents a major source of contaminants to humans (Darnerud et al., 2006; Djen Liem et al., 2000). Only few studies have addressed POPs in freshwater fish from Tanzanian lakes (Henry and Kishimba, 2006; Mahugija et al., 2018; Mdegela et al., 2009; Polder et al., 2014), and even fewer results are available on POPs in marine fish from coastal Tanzania and Zanzibar (Pratap et al., 2008; Mwakalapa et al., 2018). The occurrence of organochlorine pesticides in the Tanzanian environment has been more extensively documented (Elibariki and Maguta, 2017; Kishimba et al., 2004; Lema et al., 2014; Machiwa, 2010; Mahugija et al., 2017, 2018; Mmochi and Mberek, 1998; Mwakalapa et al., 2018; Mwevura et al., 2020; Müller et al., 2017; Nonga et al., 2011; Polder et al., 2016; Polder et al., 2014), and is still considered a significant pollution issue due to indoor residual spraying, unregulated use and large pesticide stockpiles still residing in the country.

The effect of episodic heavy rain on occurrence of organic contaminants was studied in a temperate food web, resulting in a shift in dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) composition to higher contribution of non-degraded DDT relative to degradation products in post-flood sediments, as well as increased concentrations of total DDTs and total polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in fishes after the flooding event (Stewart et al., 2003). However, little is known about the effects of seasonally heavy rain on contaminant dynamics in tropical food webs (Fu and Wu, 2006; Verhaert et al., 2017). Seasonal rainfall can represent a significant driver of contaminant dynamics and mobility, as atmospheric wet deposition, soil erosion and runoff from land, as well as increased discharge of untreated wastewater may introduce pollutants to

the marine environment where they can cause environmental and human health concerns (Fu and Wu, 2006; Gerber et al., 2015; Sorensen et al., 2015).

The present study aimed to quantify concentrations and patterns of legacy and emerging brominated flame retardants (BFRs), PCBs and organochlorine pesticides (OCPs) in tropical marine fishes and prawns, and to assess the effect of seasonal rainfall on contaminant dynamics. We further explore how different feeding habitats and trophic position may affect the contaminant occurrence in the study species. Samples of commercially important fishes and prawns representing different ecological niches were collected from Zanzibar in January and August 2018, representing pre- and post-rainy season, respectively.

2. Materials and methods

2.1. Study area and field sampling

The Zanzibar archipelago is located 25–50 km off the coast of the Tanzanian mainland. The climate in coastal Tanzania is tropical and humid, and the main rainy season usually occurs from March through May. In 2018, the precipitation peak at Unguja Island (6.1357°S, 39.3621°E), Zanzibar, was registered in April and May with 610.8 mm and 528.2 mm average monthly precipitation, respectively, compared to a yearly average of 156.4 mm in 2017 and 166.5 mm in 2018 (Table A1 (OCGS, 2018)). Stone Town is located on the west coast of Unguja Island and is the center of the capital, Zanzibar City. In January and August 2018, prawn and six fish species were purchased from small-scale artisanal anglers near Stone Town Harbor in Zanzibar City. Muscle samples from 4 to 8 individuals per fish species and 3–4 pooled samples of approximately 100 g prawn muscle and whole herring were analyzed for organic contaminants, including polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), legacy and emerging brominated flame retardants (BFRs), organochlorine pesticides (OCPs), lipid content, and the dietary descriptors stable isotopes of carbon ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$) and nitrogen ($\delta^{15}\text{N}$). The collected species included silver-stripe round herring (*Spratelloides gracilis*), Indian mackerel (*Rastrelliger kanagartha*), pickhandle barracuda (*Spyraena jello*), and mackerel tuna (*Euthynnus affinis*), representing pelagic, offshore feeders; and prawn (*Penaeus spp.*), silver biddy (*Gerres oyena*) and thumbprint emperor (*Lethrinus harak*), representing demersal, inshore feeders (Richmond, 2011). Herring and prawn were sampled to represent lower trophic level species, pelagic and demersal, respectively. Silver biddy, thumbprint emperor (both demersal species) and mackerel (pelagic) were sampled to represent mid-trophic levels. Barracuda and tuna were selected as pelagic predatory species.

2.2. Ethical clearance and research permission

Research permit was granted by the Office of Chief Government Statistician, Zanzibar. Permission to export samples from Tanzania was granted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (Tanzania), and permission to import samples to Norway was granted by the Norwegian Food Safety Authority.

2.3. Analyses of stable isotopes

Stable isotopes of carbon and nitrogen can be used as dietary descriptors to characterize an organism's dietary habits integrated over time, and are useful tools providing ecological linkages to contaminant

occurrence and distribution in organisms and food webs (Borgå et al., 2004; Kidd et al., 2001). The heavier nitrogen isotope (^{15}N) is enriched relative to the lighter nitrogen isotope (^{14}N) from prey to predator by 3–5‰, and thus $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ reflect relative trophic status. $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ reflects the carbon source and change with different photosynthetic pathways in primary producers (e.g. C3 and C4 plants) (Layman et al., 2012). In marine systems, $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ can be used to assess gradients of pelagic/benthic and marine/terrestrial carbon sources.

Muscle tissue of fish, prawn and whole, homogenized herring were freeze dried overnight and ground into a fine powder using a mortar and pestle. Pre-weighed samples (1 mg) were sealed in tin capsules and analyzed for carbon ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$) and nitrogen ($\delta^{15}\text{N}$) isotopes using a Thermo Fisher Scientific EA IsoLink IRMS System (consisting of Flash Elemental Analyses and DeltaV Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometer) at the Stable Isotope Laboratory of the University of Oslo (UiO:CLIPT). With each sample batch, two calibrated internal laboratory reference materials (GLUT, POPPLY, Fisher Scientific) were analyzed and used to normalize the data. In addition, calibrated quality control material (JALA, Fisher Scientific) were analyzed for each sample run to assess precision and accuracy of the measurement. For $\delta^{13}\text{C}$, reference/control materials were calibrated to the VPDB scale using LSVEC (lithium carbonate, $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -46.6\text{‰}$) and NBS-19 (calcium carbonate, $\delta^{13}\text{C} = 1.95\text{‰}$) (International Atomic Energy Agency, Vienna, Austria). For $\delta^{15}\text{N}$, reference/control material were calibrated to the AIR scale using USGS40 (L-glutamic acid, $\delta^{15}\text{N} = -4.52\text{‰}$) and USGS41 (L-glutamic acid, $\delta^{15}\text{N} = 47.57\text{‰}$) (United States Geological Survey, Reston, VA, USA). Isotope measurements are reported in delta notations (δ) and in parts per thousand (‰). Stable isotopes were analyzed at the University of Oslo Stable Isotope Laboratory (CLIPT).

2.4. Analyses of organic contaminants

A total of 50 chemicals were analyzed, including 16 organochlorine pesticides: *p,p'*- and *o,p'*-congeners of DDD, DDE and DDT, hexachlorobenzene (HCB), α -, β -, and γ -HCH, heptachlor, oxychlorane, *cis*- and *trans*-chlordane/nonachlor, and mirex; 16 PCBs: CB-28, -52, -74, -99, -101, -105, -118, -128, -136, -138, -153, -156, -170, -180, -183, and -187; 13 polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs): BDE-28, -47, -99, -100, -153, -154, -183, -196, -202, -206, -207, -208, and -209; and five non-PBDE BFRs: hexabromocyclododecane (HBCDD), hexabromobenzene (HBB), pentabromotoluene (PBT), 2,3-dibromopropyl-2,4,6-tribromophenyl ether (DPTE), and pentabromoethylbenzene (PBEB). The analyses of organic contaminants were conducted at the Laboratory of Environmental Toxicology at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU).

2.4.1. Sample extraction and clean-up

Fish and prawn muscle and whole herring were homogenized, and 5 g of pre-weighed sample was used for analyses. Internal standards were added to all samples: 25 μL PCB-29, -112 and -207 (1000 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$) (Ultra-Scientific, RI, USA); 20 μL BDE-77, -119, -181, and $^{13}\text{C}_{12}$ -209, (Cambridge Isotope Laboratories, Inc., MA, USA). For the first round of extraction, 10 mL distilled water, 2 mL 6% sodium chloride (NaCl), 15 mL acetone and 20 mL cyclohexane were used. For the second round of extraction, 5 mL acetone and 10 mL cyclohexane were used. All samples were homogenized with an Ultra Turrax homogenizer (IKA UltraTurrax T25, IKA Laboratory Technology, Staufen, Germany) followed by ultrasonic sonication (Cole Parmer CPX 750, Vernon Hills IL, USA). The lipid extract was concentrated to 5 mL using a Zymark Turbo Vap II evaporator (Zymark Cooperation, Hopkinton, MA, USA) at 40 °C. Lipid content was determined gravimetrically using a 1 mL aliquot of the lipid extract. Clean-up was done using 96% sulfuric acid (H_2SO_4) (Fluka Analytika, Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, USA). The final extracts were put on a sand bath at 40 °C followed by gentle evaporation

using N_2 , concentrated to a final volume of 0.4 mL and transferred to 2 mL vials for storage until gas chromatography (GC) analysis.

2.4.2. Instrumental analyses

Detailed description of the instrumental analyses can be found in Mwakalapa et al. (2018, and references therein). In short, separation and detection of organochlorine compounds were performed on a HRGC (Agilent 6890 Series) coupled to a MS detector (Agilent 5975C Agilent Technologies) operated in negative chemical ionization (NCI) mode with selected ion monitoring (SIM), and configured with a programmable temperature vaporization (PTV) injector (Agilent Technologies). The compounds were separated on a DB-5 MS column (60 m, 0.25 mm i.d., 0.25 mm film thickness; J&W Scientific). The carrier gas was helium (He) at a 1.3 mL/min constant flow. Detection of tri-through hepta-PBDEs, BDE-28, -47, -99, -100, -153, -154, -183 and non-PBDE BFRs was performed on a HRGC (Agilent 6890 Series; Agilent Technologies), equipped with an auto-sampler (Agilent 7683 Series; Agilent Technologies) and coupled to a MS detector (Agilent 5973; Agilent Technologies). Separation and identification of the compounds were performed on a DB-5 MS column (30 m, 0.25 mm i.d., 0.25 mm film thickness; J&W Scientific). The carrier gas was He at a 1.6 mL/min constant flow. For detection of octa-, nona-, and deca-BDE congeners, extracts (10 μL) were injected on a GCMS (Agilent 6890 Series/5973 Network) configured with a programmable temperature vaporization (PTV) injector (Agilent Technologies). The separation and identification of BDE-209 were performed on a 10 m DB-5-MS column (J&W Scientific, Agilent Technologies). The carrier gas was He at a 1.8 mL/min constant flow.

2.4.3. Quality assurance and quality control

The analytical quality of the laboratory is approved by routinely analyzing different Certified Reference Materials (CRMs), and participation in the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program (AMAP) ring test. For every analytical series (17 samples), one blind sample of non-spiked Atlantic cod muscle (*Gadus morhua*) two samples of spiked cod muscle for recovery, three procedural blanks of only solvents and an internal reference sample of harp seal blubber (*Pagophilus groenlandicus*) were included. The recoveries for OCPs were between 86% and 135%, for PCBs between 97% and 107% and for BFRs between 81% and 116%. Results under and over the recovery limit (80%–120%) were corrected for recovery. The limit of detection (LOD) was individually defined as 3 times the signal noise for each analyte. The LODs ranged 0.001–0.017 ng/g wet weight (ww) for OCPs, 0.001–0.07 ng/g ww for PCBs and 0.001–0.016 ng/g ww for BFRs. Individual contaminants below LOD in >60% of the samples per species were removed from the data analyses. For contaminants detected in 60% or more of the samples per species, missing values < LOD were replaced with a random number between $0.5 \times \text{LOD}$ and LOD, and further used in statistical analyses and calculations of sums. Detection frequency for each chemical is given in Table A2.

2.5. Data treatment

Multivariate analyses were conducted using the vegan package in R (Jari Oksanen et al., 2019). Principal component analysis (PCA) was run initially to explore trends and tendencies in the dataset (Sparks et al., 1999). In short, PCA is an indirect ordination method for dimension reduction into principal component axes, where each extracted axis reflects as much variation as possible. Individual samples are assigned scores representing linear combinations of the response variables. PCA results are presented as biplots with two uncorrelated axes, where axis one (PC1) accounts for the largest part of the variance of the samples and axis two (PC2) accounts for the largest part of the remaining variance. Response variable loadings (here: contaminant concentrations or relative proportion), are plotted as arrows where direction and length of arrows indicate intercorrelation and variance, respectively.

Arrows with similar orientation are positively correlated, whereas orthogonal arrows are uncorrelated. Long arrows indicate that the parameter shows large variation among the samples. Redundancy analysis (RDA) is a direct ordination method where sample scores are additionally constrained to be linear combinations of a set of explanatory variables. In the present study, RDA was run to assess which explanatory variables (lipid, length, body mass, $\delta^{15}\text{N}$, $\delta^{13}\text{C}$, season and species) could account for the observed structure and variation in the response variables, i.e. concentrations (ng/g wet weight) or patterns (relative contribution to total concentration). Significance at α -level 0.05 was tested with forward permutation tests. When significant, lipid was included as a covariable in the analyses of concentrations to remove effect of lipid content (lipid% explained up to 16% of the constrained variation in initial analyses of contaminant concentrations). After initial PCA analysis using individual contaminants (not shown), several contaminants were found to be strongly intercorrelated. PCB and PBDE congeners were therefore grouped in homologue groups according to degree of halogenation. OCPs were grouped according to functional groups (ΣHCH , $\Sigma\text{Chlordanes}$, DDE, DDD, DDT).

3. Results and discussion

In total, 65 samples of fish and prawn were analyzed for chlorinated and brominated contaminants, and dietary descriptors. Of the 50 contaminants analyzed for, 18 were below LOD in all samples (Table 1), whereas 12 OCPs, 13 PCBs and 7 BFRs were above LOD in sufficient samples to be included in further data analyses. For the contaminants included in the data analyses, 65 substitutions were made for values below LOD, representing around 3% of the whole dataset. Lipid content in the muscle samples varied between January and August for some species, including the silver biddy (0.89% lipid content in January and 0.41% in August), thumbprint emperor (0.36% in January and 0.25% in August) and herring (1.32% in January and 1.97% in August) (Table 1). Thus the effect of variation in lipid content on contaminant concentration was removed by including lipid as a covariable in the multivariate analyses. Some individuals were characterized as juveniles due to small relative body size (Table 2). Other potential explanatory factors such as sex and age were not included in further data analyses due to an incomplete dataset and resources, respectively. Although sampling was selective to obtain individuals with similar body size (length and weight), differences in size were observed for some species between the seasons, e.g. the mackerel was larger in August compared to January and the silver biddy was larger in January compared to August. However, this was assumed a negligible explanatory factor for contaminant accumulation

relative to lipid content, diet and trophic position, which was supported by regression analyses (Fig. A2).

3.1. Dietary descriptors: food web characteristics and seasonal variation

Due to overall low lipid% (<5%), low C/N ratio (<3.6) in all species, and low interspecies variability (Table 2), the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values were not corrected for lipid content (Post et al., 2007). The spread of the species along the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ gradient indicate a shift in carbon source around -16‰ from pelagic/offshore feeding species, such as the mackerel, herring, tuna and barracuda, to the more demersal/inshore feeders, such as the silver biddy and thumbprint emperor (Fig. 1). Prawn (*Penaeus* sp.) is located in the middle of the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ gradient, with no clear pelagic or demersal signal. The $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ gradient represents trophic status signal, with top predators, i.e. tuna and barracuda, having the highest $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values. The prawn has similar $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values as the thumbprint emperor and silver biddy, which might reflect an opportunistic feeding behavior, e.g. scavenging, resulting in elevated $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values. The mackerel can be characterized as a mid-trophic level species, while the rest are characterized as low trophic level species, with some overlap with the mackerel. The tuna and barracuda were not available for sampling in both seasons. However, due to a similar trophic niche in the two predator species, as supported by stable isotopes results, they were included in the multivariate analyses as representatives of a pelagic top predator in January and August, respectively.

In addition to food web characterization, stable isotopes of nitrogen and carbon can indicate eutrophication in coastal ecosystems. While an increase in $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ can indicate an increased anthropogenic input of nitrogen into a system, $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ may increase in response to increased primary production during eutrophication events (Oczkowski et al., 2014). For prawn, the demersal thumbprint emperor and silver biddy, there was no difference in $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ or $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ between the seasons. For the pelagic mackerel, $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ were higher in August compared to January, while the pelagic herring showed an opposite trend. Due to these contrasting results, no conclusions on eutrophication can be made. However, the factors governing isotope uptake and fractionation in food webs are complex and might challenge the data interpretation.

3.2. Contaminant concentrations and patterns

Mean contaminant concentrations in fishes and prawn were relatively low throughout, with organochlorine pesticides being the most dominant contaminant group in all species and seasons, except for mackerel in August, where ΣPCB was the dominating contaminant

Table 1

Mean (range) contaminant concentrations (ng/g lipid weight (lw)) in fishes and prawn from Zanzibar in January and August 2018. Concentrations in wet weight (Table A3) and concentrations of individual congeners (Table A4) are presented in Appendix.

| Species | Season | n | Lipid% | ΣDDT^a | ΣOCP^b | DDE/ ΣDDT | ΣPCB^c | ΣPBDE^d | $\Sigma(\text{PCB}/(\text{PCB} + \text{PBDE}))$ |
|---------------------------------------|---------|----|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Herring (<i>S.gracilis</i>) | January | 4* | 1.32 (1.10–1.54) | 89.0 (76.5–102) | 90.4 (77.5–104) | 0.79 | 19.3 (16.8–22.7) | 4.09 (3.70–4.50) | 0.83 |
| | August | 3* | 1.97 (1.91–2.02) | 10.4 (9.76–10.9) | 12.0 (11.4–12.3) | 0.66 | 2.33 (2.29–2.43) | 3.28 (2.65–4.43) | 0.42 |
| Mackerel (<i>R.kanagaruta</i>) | January | 6 | 1.95 (1.08–3.35) | 15.8 (4.49–30.6) | 26.9 (14.7–36.6) | 0.68 | 3.34 (1.93–4.43) | 0.79 (0.33–1.14) | 0.82 |
| | August | 8 | 1.24 (0.25–3.89) | 68.5 (2.59–262) | 73.3 (3.24–277) | 0.60 | 129 (0.56–562) | 6.73 (2.61–9.94) | 0.75 |
| Barracuda (<i>S.jello</i>) | January | 6 | 1.50 (0.91–2.93) | 31.8 (28.3–37.6) | 34.6 (31.4–41.0) | 0.70 | 17.8 (12.1–31.6) | 4.10 (2.32–6.31) | 0.81 |
| | August | 6 | 3.62 (0.91–10.3) | 27.6 (11.1–42.3) | 30.9 (13.4–46.5) | 0.71 | 7.71 (3.28–15.6) | 7.38 (1.11–23.8) | 0.59 |
| Prawn (<i>Penaeus</i> sp.) | January | 3* | 0.55 (0.45–0.65) | 5.60 (3.92–8.76) | 5.60 (3.92–8.76) | 1 | nd | 4.15 (1.68–6.82) | 0 |
| | August | 3* | 0.59 (0.37–0.79) | 331 (233–457) | 336 (237–464) | 0.9 | 116 (87.4–160) | 22.1 (17.2–27.8) | 0.84 |
| Silver biddy (<i>G.oyena</i>), | January | 4 | 0.89 (0.48–1.12) | 194 (3.35–724) | 195 (4.07–725) | 0.80 | 0.88 (0.36–1.82) | 7.54 (3.06–12.2) | 0.13 |
| | August | 8 | 0.41 (0.31–0.59) | 24.1 (15.7–41.8) | 27.3 (18.1–44.6) | 0.66 | 2.80 (1.43–6.36) | 18.8 (1.10–34.4) | 0.24 |
| Thumbprint emperor (<i>L.harak</i>) | January | 6 | 0.36 (0.31–0.46) | 8.56 (3.15–15.7) | 22.2 (17.4–32.2) | 1 | 5.68 (3.97–7.18) | nd | 1 |
| | August | 8 | 0.25 (0.18–0.33) | 85.0 (22.4–332) | 89.6 (26.0–337) | 0.60 | 38.6 (5.76–167) | 7.80 (3.63–16.0) | 0.65 |

^a ΣDDTs : (p,p', o,p'-) DDD + DDE + DDT.

^b ΣOCP : ΣDDTs , ΣHCH , $\Sigma\text{Chlordane}$, HCB. <LOD: α -HCH, oxychlordane, trans-chlordane, heptachlor.

^c ΣPCB : CB-28, -74, -99, -101, -105, -118, -138, -153, -156, -170, -180, -183, -187. <LOD: CB-52, -128, -136.

^d ΣPBDE : BDE-28, -47, -99, -100, -153, -154, -209. <LOD: BDE-28, -186, -196, -202, -206, -207, -208.

* Number of pooled samples (3–4 samples of pooled individuals of prawn and herring).

Table 2

Biometric measurements, stable isotopes of carbon and nitrogen, and C/N ratio (%C/%N) in marine fish and prawn sampled on Zanzibar in January and August 2018. Values are reported as means and ranges.

| Species (common name) | Season | Length (cm) (mean, range) | Weight (g) (mean, range) | $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (mean, range) | $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (mean, range) | C/N | Trophic niche |
|--|---------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Silver-stripe herring <i>Spratelloides gracilis</i> (dagaa lumbunga) | January | NA | 100 ^a | -18.6, -(18.7–18.3) | 9.7, 9.4–10.4 | 3.2 3.1–3.2 | Low, pelagic |
| | August | NA | 100 ^a | -19.8 ^b | 9.12 ^b | 3.5 3.5–3.5 | |
| Indian mackerel <i>Rastrelliger kanagaruta</i> , (kibua) | January | 21.3, 19.5–22.1 | 110.6, 80.7–123.4 | -18.9, -(20.2–18.4) | 10.7, 10.4–11.0 | 3.5 3.3–4.1 | Medium, pelagic |
| | August | 26.6, 25.3–28.5 | 257.7, 227.2–298.4 | -17.6, -(18.4–17.3) | 11.3, 10.2–11.6 | 3.3 3.1–3.9 | |
| Pickhandle barracuda <i>Spyraena jello</i> , (mzia) | August | 44.7, 43.0–46.0 | 429.5, 366.3–466.9 | -17.2, -(17.7–16.8) | 13.3, 13.2–13.5 | 3.4 3.3–3.7 | High, pelagic (juvenile) |
| Mackerel tuna <i>Euthynnus affinis</i> , (jodari) | January | 56.0, 52.0–64.3 | 3100, 2500–3500 | -17.1, -(18.5–16.3) | 13.4, 13.0–13.6 | 3.4 3.1–3.7 | High, pelagic |
| Prawn <i>Penaeus</i> sp. (kamba) | January | NA | NA | -15.0, -(16.0–14.4) | 9.8, 9.6–10.3 | 3.2 3.3–3.3 | Low, demersal (scavenging) |
| | August | NA | NA | -16.3, -(16.5–15.9) | 10.0, 9.9–10.1 | 3.2 3.2–3.2 | |
| Silver biddy <i>Gerres oyena</i> , (chaa) | January | 21.5, 21.1–21.9 | 149.9, 127.1–159.6 | -10.7, -(14.2–9.1) | 9.4, 8.7–10.6 | 3.2 3.2–3.4 | Low/medium demersal |
| | August | 20.3, 29.0–23.0 | 119.4, 102.1–170.5 | -9.7, -(12.6–8.9) | 9.1, 8.2–10.4 | 3.1 3.1–3.2 | |
| Thumbprint emperor <i>Lethrinus harak</i> , (changu) | January | 26.9, 26.2–27.3 | 290.0, 254.2–318.1 | -12.3, -(13.6–11.2) | 9.6, 9.5–9.7 | 3.2 3.1–3.3 | Low/medium demersal |
| | August | 27.2, 22.5–34.0 | 348.5, 186.0–645.0 | -13.9, -(18.4–11.1) | 10.4, 8.5–12.9 | 3.2 3.1–3.2 | |

^a Number of pooled samples (3–4 samples of pooled individuals of prawn and herring).

^b Pooled samples.

group. Although there were species specific exceptions, for all the species combined, mean concentrations increased from January to August, with January concentrations of 5.60–195 ng/g lw (0.03–1.18 ng/g ww) ΣOCPs , <LOD–19.3 ng/g lw (<LOD–0.25 ng/g ww) ΣPCBs , and <LOD–7.54 ng/g lw (<LOD–0.18 ng/g ww) ΣBFRs . In August, concentration range was 12.0–336 ng/g lw (0.11–1.66 ng/g ww) ΣOCPs , 2.80–129 ng/g lw (0.01–1.55 ng/g ww) ΣPCBs , and 3.28–22.1 ng/g lw (0.02–0.11 ng/g ww) ΣBFRs in all species combined (Table 1).

3.2.1. Organochlorine pesticides (OCPs)

ΣOCPs were higher in August than January for the mackerel, prawn, and thumbprint emperor, but the opposite trend was found for the herring and silver biddy. One individual of silver biddy from January was driving the seasonal difference in pesticide concentrations, with 652 ng/g lw DDE compared to a mean of 16 ng/g lw DDE in the remaining three individuals. This individual had relatively high $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ signal (Fig. 1), indicating that individual feeding behavior and diet specialization can lead to large intraspecific variability in contaminant accumulation. ΣDDTs (*p,p'* and *o,p'* isomers of DDD + DDE + DDT) exhibited the highest proportion in the organochlorine pesticide pattern (70% of ΣOCP) in most species, except for mackerel and thumbprint emperor in January, where HCB represented 40% and 61% of ΣOCP , respectively (Fig. 2). Concentrations of chlordanes (*cis*-, *trans*- chlordane/nonachlor), HCH (α -, β -, γ - HCH) and mirex were low (<LOD–2.70, <LOD–1.59 and <LOD–0.66 ng/g lw, respectively) across all species and seasons.

For DDTs, *p,p'*-isomers represented on average 100%, 97% and 93% of total DDE, DDD and DDT, respectively. Thus, herein DDE, DDD and DDT refer to the sum of their para-para (*p,p'*) and ortho-para (*o,p'*) isomers. Technical DDT consists of 75% *p,p'*-DDT, 15% *o,p'*-DDT, 5% *p,p'*-DDE, and <5% other (Zhou et al., 2014), and the ratio of the main DDT metabolite, DDE to ΣDDTs ($\text{DDE} / (\text{DDD} + \text{DDE} + \text{DDT})$), can reflect recent or historical use of technical DDT. A high ratio (~1) indicates older sources of DDT, i.e. that DDE is the only major DDT component, while a lower ratio indicates recent input of non-degraded DDT (Kidd et al., 2001; Mwevura et al., 2002; Ssebugere et al., 2009).

DDE, DDT and DDD represented 85%, 12% and 3%, respectively, of ΣDDT concentrations in January, and 81%, 13% and 6%, respectively, in August. As DDE represented most of ΣDDT in fish and prawn from the present study, we have no indication of recent DDT use in the marine environment on Zanzibar. However, seasonal difference in composition of ΣDDTs was observed, as the DDE/ ΣDDTs ratio was higher in January compared to August in all species (Table 1). The higher DDE/ ΣDDTs ratios in January compared to August might indicate transport of recent-use or non-degraded DDT from the terrestrial environment (Ruus et al., 2010). The percent increase in concentration between January and August for DDE, DDT and DDD was 53%, 73% and 282%, respectively. Thus, the difference in DDE/ ΣDDTs ratio is most affected by changes in DDD concentrations between seasons relative to changes in DDT concentrations. While DDT is degraded to DDE under aerobic conditions,

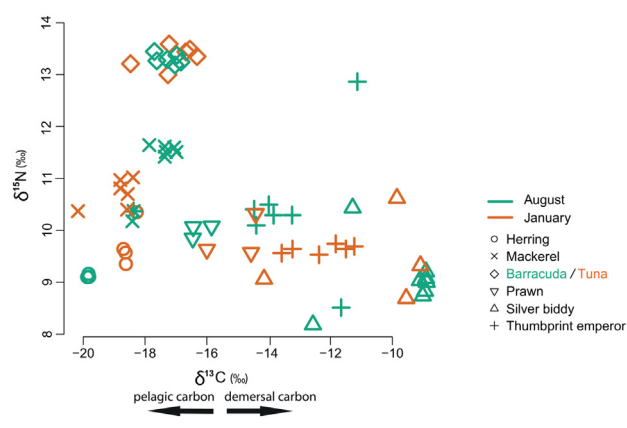


Fig. 1. Stable isotopes of carbon and nitrogen in homogenized muscle tissue, or whole body (herring), of marine fish and prawn sampled on Zanzibar in January and August 2018. The tuna and the barracuda are both representative of a pelagic predator, and different colors indicate that they are sampled from two different seasons (August: green, January: orange).

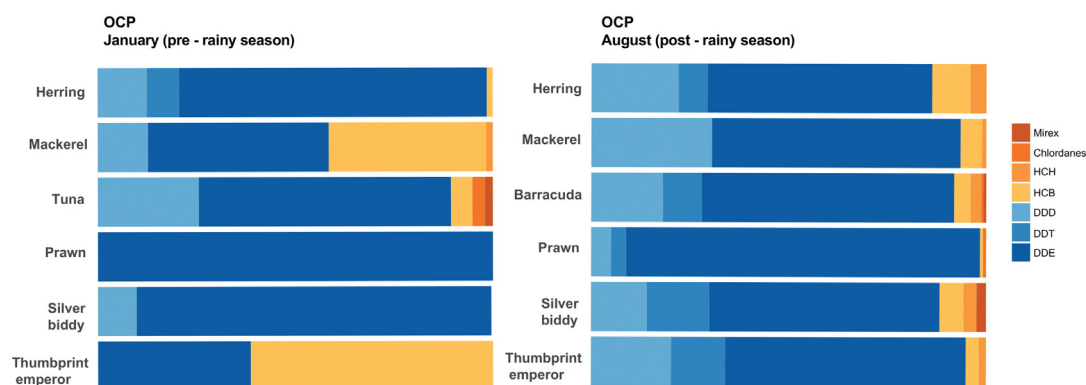


Fig. 2. Relative contribution of each compound to total organochlorine pesticide (OCP) concentration in fish and prawn from Zanzibar, Tanzania in January (pre-rainy season) and August (post-rainy season) 2018.

DDD is the main metabolite under anaerobic conditions (Connor et al., 2007). Anoxic conditions in sediments and the flooding of soils have been shown to promote the reduction of DDT to DDD, and DDD readily accumulates in soil (Castro and Yoshida, 1971; Huang et al., 2001). The seasonal difference in DDE/ Σ DDTs ratios may therefore be a result of terrestrial runoff of DDD and, to a lesser degree, DDT runoff from contaminated soils and/or leaching/redistribution from coastal sediments.

3.2.2. Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)

Mean Σ PCB concentrations increased in all species between January and August, except in herring, with highest concentrations in January. The mackerel in August had the highest Σ PCB concentration compared to all other species, but also showed high intra-species variability (mean Σ PCB 129 ng/g lw, range: 0.6–562 ng/g lw). While mean concentrations of hexa- and hepta-CBs increased up to 20 times between January and August in the mackerel, silver biddy, thumbprint emperor and prawn combined (2.2 and 51.7 ng/g lw in January and August, respectively), concentrations of tri-, tetra- and penta-CBs increased up to 60 times between January and August for the four species combined (0.3 and 19.8 ng/g lw in January and August, respectively). In January, PCB-138, PCB-153 (hexaCBs) and PCB-180 (hepta) dominated the overall PCB pattern in most species. The higher chlorinated congeners also dominated the PCB patterns in August, but the lower chlorinated congeners, particularly PCB-28, were found in higher concentrations compared to January, and thus made up a larger part of Σ PCB (Fig. 3). In some species, PCB-28 concentrations were similar to, or even higher than PCB-153, which is unusual as PCB-153 is a more persistent and bioaccumulative congener.

Respiratory and dietary bioaccumulation of PCBs in aquatic organisms occur faster for lower chlorinated congeners with lower octanol-water partitioning coefficient ($\log K_{ow} < 6$), compared to higher

chlorinated congeners (Mackay and Fraser, 2000), as has been shown previously in cod (*Gadus morhua*) (Ruus et al., 2012). Thus, the relative concentration increase of lower chlorinated PCBs between January and August could be explained in two ways: differences in rate of dietary and/or respiratory uptake of the various PCB congeners after an increase in total PCB exposure; or, an increase in exposure to lower chlorinated, more mobile PCBs following the rainy season. In accordance with the present study, concentrations of lower chlorinated PCBs in sediment and mullet (*Liza macrolepis*) increased more relative to higher chlorinated PCBs in the estuary of Er-Jen River, Taiwan, after the seasonal rainfall (Fu and Wu, 2006). Furthermore, following the rainy season, the sediment in the estuary was covered with surface soil contaminated with un-weathered PCBs (Fu and Wu, 2006). We observed seasonal change in PCB occurrence with increasing detection of lower chlorinated, more mobile congeners in August compared to January, which could suggest atmospheric wet-deposition and/or discharge of these congeners from terrestrial pools into the marine environment after the seasonal rainfall.

3.2.3. Legacy and emerging brominated flame retardants (BFRs)

Mean Σ PBDE concentration increased between January and August in all species, except herring, where concentrations were comparable between seasons (~ 4 ng/g lw). HBCDD was only quantified above LOD in mackerel and tuna in January, and prawn and mackerel in August. A high blank signal for HBCDD resulted in the removal of this compound in the mackerel samples from August. None of the emerging BFRs (PTB, DPTE, PBEB, HBB) were detected above LOD. The dominating congeners in the PBDE pattern depended on species and season, with no clear overall trend (Fig. 4). Tri-, tetra penta- and hexa- BDE congeners were dominating the PBDE patterns in fish and prawn sampled in August, and in herring and silver biddy from January. BDE-209 was the

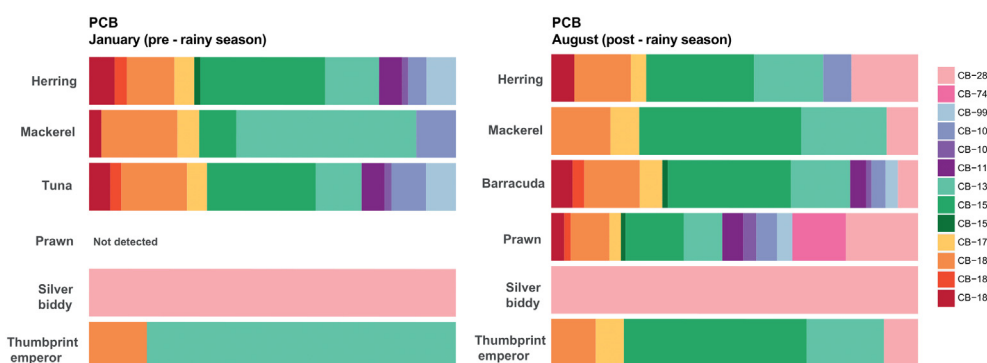


Fig. 3. Relative contribution of each polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) congener to total PCB concentration in fish and prawn from Zanzibar, Tanzania in January (pre-rainy season) and August (post-rainy season) 2018.

dominating compound in tuna and prawn from January, and in thumbprint emperor from August. Due to its high hydrophobicity ($\log K_{ow}$ around 10) BDE-209 has low bioavailability and is known to be efficiently biotransformed by fish. Thus, the detection of BDE-209 in the present study might indicate recent exposure to the commercial mixture deca-BDE (Stapleton et al., 2004). BDE-47 was in general more prominent in August compared to January. BDE-47 is commonly detected in biota due to its effective uptake and resistance to degradation, and is the main component of the widely used penta-BDE mixture (De Wit, 2002). BDE-47 is also an important degradation product resulting from debromination of higher brominated PBDEs, including BDE-209. Species-specific differences in debromination of PBDEs could explain the observed variation in occurrence of PBDEs (Roberts et al., 2011), but is not the scope of the present study. Lower brominated PBDE congeners showed a higher relative concentration increase from January to August compared to higher brominated congeners. Concentrations of BDE-47, 99, 100, 153 and 154 combined increased by about 370% between January and August, while BDE-183, 202 and 209 combined increased by about 67%. Similar to PCBs, an increase in the detection of lower halogenated, more volatile congeners after the rainy season might indicate atmospheric wet deposition or runoff from land.

A $\Sigma\text{PCB}/\Sigma(\text{PCB} + \text{PBDE})$ ratio reflect the contribution of the two contaminant groups to their total, and can be used to infer possible differences in sources. For the herring from August, prawn from January and silver biddy in both seasons, the $\Sigma\text{PCB}/\Sigma(\text{PCB} + \text{PBDE})$ ratio was below 0.5, i.e. PBDE concentrations exceeded PCB concentrations (Table 1). Comparable concentrations of PCBs and PBDEs, or PBDE concentrations exceeding PCB concentrations, are relatively unusual in biota as PCBs are among the most persistent and ubiquitous contaminants found in the environment, despite declining levels following the international ban (Rigét et al., 2019). The dominance of PBDEs over PCBs may be explained by global production and use of PCBs that historically have occurred in industrialized regions in the northern hemisphere (Breivik et al., 2002), while PBDEs are more associated with consumer products that are being introduced to developing regions as a result of global trade and declining use in developed regions (Abbasi et al., 2019).

3.3. Contaminant occurrence in marine fishes and prawns from Zanzibar

In the multivariate analyses of contaminant occurrence, species, $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ were significant explanatory variables for OCP and PCB concentrations, but season was only a significant explanatory factor for BFR concentrations (Table 3, Fig. A1). Season was a significant explanatory factor for PCB concentrations only when including two mackerels from August with higher concentrations compared to all other individuals and therefore treated as outliers in the multivariate analyses. A positive association between $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ and DDT, chlordanes, mirex

and PCBs indicates higher concentrations of these compounds with increasing trophic position. A negative association between $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and DDT and PCBs indicates higher concentration with increasing pelagic influence (Table 3, Fig. A1). $\delta^{13}\text{C}$, $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ were also significant explanatory variables for PCB patterns. $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ was positively associated with PCB-28, suggesting increasing relative contribution of PCB-28 to ΣPCB in the demersal system. $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ was positively associated with higher chlorinated congeners (including PCB-187, -153 and -101), suggesting increasing relative contribution of these congeners to ΣPCB with increasing trophic signal (Table 3, Fig. A1). Season was a significant explanatory variable for PCB and OCP patterns, which confirms the observed change in contaminant- and congener composition from January to August.

Concentrations of chlorinated and brominated contaminants in marine fish and prawn from the present study were comparable to concentrations found in tilapia (*Oreochromis* sp.) from Tanzanian lakes (Polder et al., 2014) and in lakes and lagoons from Ghana (Asante et al., 2013). However, tilapia is a relatively low trophic level species and contaminants are likely more concentrated in freshwater systems compared to the ocean off the coast of Zanzibar. ΣDDTs concentration in fish and prawn from the present study were around two orders of magnitude lower compared to predatory fish species in Lake Malawi (Kidd et al., 2001). ΣDDTs concentration in fish and prawn from the present study (0.03–1.67 ng/g ww) were up to four orders of magnitude lower compared to concentrations in marine fish and prawn collected from markets around several coastal cities in the Pearl River Delta region in China (ΣDDTs LOD-52.2 ng/g ww in prawn and LOD-699 ng/g ww in fish) (Guo et al., 2010). ΣPBDE concentrations ranged from LOD-1.11 ng/g ww in prawn and LOD- 5.93 ng/g ww in fish (Guo et al., 2010). ΣPBDE concentrations in fish and prawn from the present study were around three orders of magnitude lower compared to ΣPBDE concentrations in marine fish sampled in Hong Kong that ranged from 0.95–60.6 ng/g ww (Cheung et al., 2008). Even higher ΣPBDE concentrations in fish have been reported in studies targeting freshwater systems connected to dismantling and recycling of electronic waste in the Pearl River Delta, which is a sub-tropical region associated with rapid urbanization and agricultural and industrial development during the last decades (Zhang et al., 2013).

Very few studies are available on organic contaminants in the marine environment of Zanzibar. Shilla (2016) and Mwevura et al. (2020) showed that marine invertebrates and sediments were more contaminated by POPs in the area around Zanzibar harbor relative to areas less affected by anthropogenic activities, suggesting that the sampling location of the present study represents a pollution hotspot on Zanzibar. Mwakalapa et al. (2018) analyzed organic contaminants in farmed and wild milkfish (*Chanos chanos*) and mullet (*Mugil cephalus*), which are relatively low trophic level species, from Zanzibar and the Tanzanian mainland. Lipid normalized liver concentrations of ΣDDTs , ΣPCBs and ΣPBDEs in those farmed milkfish sampled on Zanzibar in

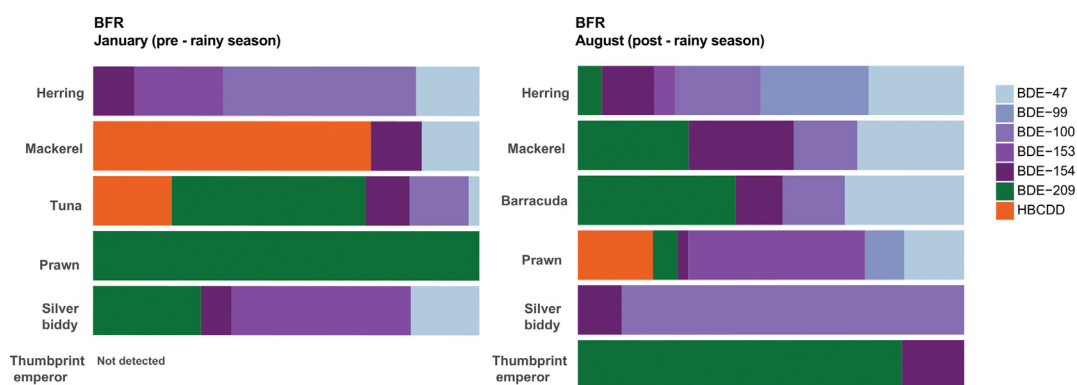


Fig. 4. Relative contribution of each compound to total brominated flame retardant (BFR) concentration in fish and prawn from Zanzibar, Tanzania in January (pre-rainy season) and August (post-rainy season) 2018.

Table 3

Multivariate redundancy analysis of contaminant concentrations (ng/g ww) and patterns (individual compound relative to its respective contaminant group, i.e. Σ OCP, Σ PCB, Σ BFR). Lipid is included as covariate in analyses of concentrations. Grouped contaminants are used as response variables for concentrations, but not for patterns. OCP: Σ HCH, HCB, Mirex, Σ Schlordanes, Σ DDE, Σ DDD, Σ DDT. PCB: tetra, penta, hexa, hepta-CBs. BFR: tri/tetra/penta, hexa, octa, BDE-209, Σ HBCDD.

| | Concentrations | | | | Patterns | | | |
|-----|-----------------------|---------------------|---------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------|----------------------------------|
| | Explanatory variable | Variation explained | p-Value | Total variation explained by RDA | Explanatory variable | Variation explained | p-Value | Total variation explained by RDA |
| OCP | Season | 9% | 0.138 | 38% | Season | 12% | 0.001 | 67% |
| | Species | 35% | 0.001 | | Species | 34% | 0.001 | |
| | $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ | 14% | 0.001 | | $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ | 7% | 0.883 | |
| | $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ | 9% | 0.001 | | $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ | 7% | 0.782 | |
| PCB | Season | 4% | 0.083 | 44% | Season | 6% | 0.001 | 77% |
| | Species | 32% | 0.001 | | Species | 59% | 0.001 | |
| | $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ | 13% | 0.001 | | $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ | 19% | 0.001 | |
| | $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ | 9% | 0.018 | | $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ | 22% | 0.001 | |
| BFR | Season | 6% | 0.002 | 36% | Season | 5% | 0.320 | 44% |
| | Species | 24% | 0.001 | | Species | 28% | 0.001 | |
| | $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ | 9% | 0.223 | | $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ | 4% | 0.039 | |
| | $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ | 4% | 0.070 | | $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ | 10% | 0.052 | |

January 2016 were comparable to lipid normalized concentrations in muscle tissue in mackerel, thumbprint emperor and prawn from the present study sampled in January 2018. However, concentrations in the same species sampled in August 2018 exceeded concentrations in the farmed milkfish, which indicates the importance of season when conducting field sampling in tropical regions. Ratios of DDE/ Σ DDTs were relatively high in farmed and wild mullet and milkfish (0.8–1) at all sampling sites, and did not indicate recent use of DDT (Mwakalapa et al., 2018). In accordance with the present study, Σ PCB/ Σ (PCB + PBDE) ratios were low (0.1–0.8) in farmed and wild milkfish and mullet from Zanzibar and HBCDD was only sporadically detected in wild fish, but with concentrations up to ten times higher than Σ PCBs and Σ PBDEs (Mwakalapa et al., 2018). Higher levels of PBDEs compared to PCBs could indicate that flame retardants from electronics, other consumer products and waste may be more important contributors to pollution pressure on Zanzibar compared to older-type flame retardants and legacy industrial contaminants such as PCBs. Regular monitoring of emerging BFRs should be conducted, as these contaminant could be expected to increase in this region due to regulations and replacements of PBDEs.

4. Conclusion

In the present study, seasonal variation in occurrence of organic contaminants was found in marine fishes and prawn sampled on Zanzibar before and after the main rainy season. Species identity, dietary habitat and relative trophic position were in general dominating factors explaining contaminant concentrations and patterns in marine fish and prawn from Zanzibar. Despite only explaining a low relative proportion of the constrained variation, season explained variability in BFR concentrations, and OCP and PCB patterns. Atmospheric wet-deposition and terrestrial runoff after the rainy season are possible mechanisms resulting in increasing contaminant exposure to marine organisms, particularly exposure to lower halogenated, more mobile compounds. Coastal areas with increasing anthropogenic activities along with lack of appropriate waste management and sewage and wastewater treatment might be particularly vulnerable to seasonal variation in contaminant discharge and runoff, warranting further research on the impact of seasonality in contaminant occurrence also in tropical regions.

CRedit authorship contribution statement

Ane Haarr: Conceptualization, Investigation, Writing – original draft. **Eliezer B. Mwakalapa:** Investigation, Writing – review & editing.

Aviti J. Mmochi: Supervision, Resources, Writing – review & editing. **Jan L. Lyche:** Supervision, Resources, Writing – review & editing. **Anders Ruus:** Supervision, Writing – review & editing. **Halima Othman:** Conceptualization, Investigation. **Martin M. Larsen:** Conceptualization, Resources, Writing – review & editing. **Katrine Borgå:** Supervision, Conceptualization, Project administration.

Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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Appendix A. Supplementary data

Supplementary data to this article can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2021.145652>.

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Supplementary Information

For:

Seasonal rainfall affect occurrence of organohalogen contaminants in marine fishes and prawn from Zanzibar, Tanzania

Contains:

Table A1. *Mean monthly precipitation (mm) on Unguja Island, Zanzibar. Based on “Zanzibar Statistical Abstract, 2018” (OCGS, 2018, Zanzibar Statistical Abstract 2018. Office of the Chief Government Statistician (OCGS), <http://www.ocgs.go.tz/>)*

Table A2. *Detection frequency (% detection) of all analytes in all samples.*

Table A3. *Contaminant concentrations in ng/g wet weight (ww)*

Table A4. *Contaminant concentrations and lipid content in all species sampled on Zanzibar in January and August 2018.*

Figure A1. *Principal Component Analyses (PCA). PCA triplots showing contaminant concentrations and patterns (relative contribution of each congener to respective contaminant group) for the three contaminant groups (OCPs, PCBs and BFRs) among all species, both seasons. Explanatory variables are passively projected onto the plots, and significant explanatory variables are indicated with yellow boxes.*

Figure A2. *Linear regression plots showing the relationship between fish size (shown here as total weight) and selected POPs (log₁₀ transformed, ng/g wet weight) for the two species where fish size was different between seasons (mackerel and silver biddy). Black symbols indicate fish collected in August, and grey symbols indicate fish collected in January. No significant interaction term for weight and season was found. PCB-153 was not detected in silver biddy in January or August, and BDE-47 was not detected in silver biddy in August*

Table A1. Mean monthly precipitation (mm) on Unguja Island, Zanzibar. Based on “Zanzibar Statistical Abstract, 2018” (OCGS, 2018, Zanzibar Statistical Abstract 2018. Office of the Chief Government Statistician (OCGS), <http://www.ocgs.go.tz/>)

| Year | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| 2016 | 120.2 | 0.5 | 218.1 | 630.9 | 27.6 | 7.8 | 0.9 | 34.8 | 58.9 | 20 | 89.6 | 181.6 |
| 2017 | 0 | 12.5 | 69.9 | 516.5 | 670.6 | 38.5 | 2.5 | 30.1 | 28.8 | 285.7 | 200.2 | 143 |
| 2018 | 60.1 | 39.6 | 119.5 | 610.8 | 528.2 | 25.3 | 122.9 | 23.3 | 24.1 | 97.7 | 53.9 | 171 |

Table A2. Detection frequency (% detection) of all analytes in all samples

| Analyte | Detection frequency (%) |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>b</i> -HCH | 13.8 |
| <i>g</i> -HCH | 53.8 |
| ΣHCHs | 53.8 |
| <i>p,p'</i> -DDE | 98.5 |
| <i>o,p'</i> -DDE | 0 |
| <i>p,p'</i> -DDD | 32.3 |
| <i>o,p'</i> -DDD | 6.2 |
| <i>p,p'</i> -DDT | 84.6 |
| <i>o,p'</i> -DDT | 38.5 |
| ΣDDTs | |
| Oxychlordane | 4.6 |
| <i>trans</i> -chlordane | 0 |
| <i>cis</i> -chlordane | 12.3 |
| <i>trans</i> -nonachlor | 21.5 |
| <i>cis</i> -nonachlor | 12.3 |
| ΣChlordanes | 21.5 |
| Mirex | 23.1 |
| HCB | 95.4 |
| CB-28 | 56.9 |
| CB-52 | 0 |
| CB-74 | 4.6 |
| CB-99 | 24.6 |
| CB-101 | 41.5 |
| CB-105 | 26.2 |
| CB-118 | 29.2 |
| CB-138 | 72.3 |
| CB-153 | 64.6 |
| CB-156 | 20 |
| CB-170 | 61.5 |
| CB-180 | 73.8 |
| CB-183 | 29.2 |
| CB-187 | 40 |
| ΣPCBs | 95.4 |
| BDE-47 | 61.5 |
| BDE-99 | 9.2 |
| BDE-100 | 46.2 |
| BDE-153 | 20 |
| BDE-154 | 75.4 |
| BDE-183 | 0 |
| BDE-196 | 0 |
| BDE-202 | 0 |
| BDE-206 | 0 |
| BDE-207 | 0 |
| BDE-208 | 0 |
| BDE-209 | 47.7 |
| ΣPBDEs | 90.8 |
| HBCDD | 20 |

Table A3. Contaminant concentrations (mean, range) in fishes and prawn from Zanzibar in January and August

| Species | Season | Lipid% | ΣDDT ¹⁾ | ΣOCP ²⁾ | ΣPCB ³⁾ | ΣPBDE ⁴⁾ | HBCDD |
|---|---------|-----------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Herring (<i>S.gracilis</i>) | January | 1.32 | 1.16 | 1.18 | 0.25 | 0.05 | nd |
| | | 1.10-1.54 | 1.13-1.21 | 1.15-1.23 | 0.24-0.26 | 0.05-0.06 | |
| | August | 1.97 | 0.20 | 0.24 | 0.05 | 0.06 | nd |
| | | 1.91-2.02 | 0.20-0.21 | 0.24-0.24 | 0.05-0.05 | 0.05-0.08 | |
| Mackerel (<i>R.kanagurta</i>) | January | 1.95 | 0.33 | 0.51 | 0.06 | 0.01 | 0.04 |
| | | 1.08-3.35 | 0.06-0.80 | 0.22-0.96 | 0.04-0.12 | 0.01-0.03 | 0.01-0.07 |
| | August | 1.24 | 0.37 | 0.40 | 1.55 | 0.07 | nd |
| | | 0.25-3.89 | 0.03-1.05 | 0.04-1.11 | 0.02-6.34 | 0.01-0.15 | |
| Barracuda (<i>S.jello</i>) | August | 1.50 | 0.48 | 0.51 | 0.24 | 0.05 | nd |
| | | 0.91-2.93 | 0.28-0.93 | 0.31-0.99 | 0.12-0.35 | 0.03-0.07 | |
| Tuna (<i>E.affinis</i>) | January | 3.62 | 0.79 | 0.90 | 0.24 | 0.18 | 0.03 |
| | | 0.91-10.3 | 0.30-1.62 | 0.32-1.78 | 0.05-0.60 | 0.04-0.58 | 0.02-0.05 |
| Prawn (<i>Penaeus sp.</i>) | January | 0.55 | 0.03 | 0.03 | nd | 0.02 | nd |
| | | 0.45-0.65 | 0.02-0.04 | 0.02-0.04 | | 0.01-0.03 | |
| | August | 0.59 | 1.63 | 1.66 | 0.59 | 0.11 | 0.02 |
| | | 0.37-0.79 | 1.38-1.84 | 1.40-1.87 | 0.40-0.79 | 0.10-0.14 | 0.01-0.05 |
| Silver biddy (<i>G.oyena</i>), | January | 0.89 | 1.01 | 1.02 | 0.01 | 0.06 | nd |
| | | 0.48-1.12 | 0.03-3.47 | 0.04-3.48 | 0.002-0.02 | 0.03-0.12 | |
| | August | 0.41 | 0.10 | 0.11 | 0.01 | 0.07 | nd |
| | | 0.31-0.59 | 0.06-0.18 | 0.07-0.19 | 0.01-0.03 | 0.01-0.13 | |
| Thumbprint emperor (<i>L.harak</i>) | January | 0.36 | 0.03 | 0.08 | 0.02 | nd | nd |
| | | 0.31-0.46 | 0.01-0.07 | 0.06-0.12 | 0.02-0.02 | | |
| | August | 0.25 | 0.22 | 0.23 | 0.10 | 0.02 | nd |
| | | 0.18-0.33 | 0.06-1.0 | 0.07-1.0 | 0.01-0.50 | 0.01-0.05 | |

2018. Concentrations are reported in ng/g wet weight (ww).

1) ΣDDTs: *p,p'*, *o,p'* (DDE, DDD, DDT)

2) ΣHCH, Σchlordanes, HCB

3) PCBs: CB-28, -74, -99, -101, -105, -118, -138, -153, -156, -170, -180, -183, -187

4) PBDEs: BDE-28, -47, -99, -100, -153, -154, -209

Table A4. Contaminant concentrations (mean, range (min-max) (ng/g lipid weight) in all species, January and August.

| | January | | | | | August | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | <i>S. gracilis</i> | <i>R.kanagurta</i> | <i>E.affinis</i> | <i>Penaeus sp.</i> | <i>G.oyena</i> | <i>L.hararak</i> | <i>S. gracilis</i> | <i>R.kanagurta</i> | <i>S.jello</i> | <i>Penaeus sp.</i> | <i>G.oyena</i> | <i>L.hararak</i> |
| Lipid% | 1.32 (1.10-1.54) | 1.95 (1.08-3.35) | 3.62 (0.91-10.3) | 0.55 (0.45-0.65) | 0.89 (0.48-1.12) | 0.36 (0.31-0.46) | 1.97 (1.91-2.02) | 1.24 (0.25-3.89) | 1.50 (0.91-2.93) | 0.59 (0.37-0.79) | 0.41 (0.31-0.59) | 0.25 (0.18-0.33) |
| ΣHCH | nd | 0.44 (0.19-1.05) | nd | nd | nd | nd | 0.49 (0.30-0.63) | 0.80 (0.08-1.60) | 0.92 (0.31-1.33) | nd | 0.90 (0.30-0.63) | 1.59 (0.80-2.81) |
| HCB | 1.34 (0.92-2.01) | 10.7 (5.34-21.5) | 1.68 (1.13-2.12) | nd | 0.83 (0.63-1.09) | 13.6 (10.1-16.7) | 1.16 (1.11-1.21) | 4.01 (0.60-14.2) | 1.44 (1.11-1.72) | 2.51 (1.67-3.53) | 1.66 (1.16-2.26) | 3.00 (1.82-4.25) |
| ΣChlordanes | nd | nd | 0.98 (0.37-1.64) | nd | nd | nd | nd | nd | 0.20 (0.18-0.41) | 2.70 (2.16-3.53) | nd | nd |
| Mirex | nd | nd | 0.62 (0.18-1.15) | nd | nd | nd | nd | nd | 0.25 (0.18-0.41) | 0.66 (0.25-1.18) | 0.66 (0.25-1.18) | nd |
| ΣDDE | 70.4 (61.5-79.7) | 12.3 (0.36-26.2) | 19.7 (7.62-30.8) | 5.60 (3.92-8.76) | 175 (2.21-652) | 8.56 (3.15-15.7) | 6.82 (6.42-7.15) | 46.1 (0.61-179) | 22.1 (19.4-25.2) | 301 (210-414) | 15.9 (9.01-25.5) | 54.6 (12.1-221) |
| ΣDDD | 7.35 (6.11-8.91) | nd | nd | nd | nd | nd | 0.88 (0.73-1.11) | nd | 3.41 (2.72-5.27) | 12.8 (9.36-17.3) | 4.31 (1.46-8.40) | 12.3 (2.75-27.6) |
| ΣDDT | 11.3 (8.82-13.8) | 3.42 (2.01-4.43) | 7.90 (3.50-11.5) | nd | 19.1 (1.07-71.4) | nd | 2.65 (2.46-2.86) | 22.4 (1.38-82.3) | 6.27 (3.69-9.23) | 16.9 (11.4-26.2) | 3.86 (1.77-7.96) | 18.2 (5.43-83.5) |
| ΣOCps | 90.4 (77.5-104) | 26.9 (14.9-36.9) | 30.9 (13.4-46.5) | 5.60 (3.92-8.76) | 195 (4.07-725) | 22.2 (17.4-32.2) | 12.0 (11.4-12.3) | 73.3 (3.24-277) | 34.8 (31.3-41.0) | 336 (237-464) | 27.3 (18.1-44.6) | 89.6 (26.0-337) |
| DDE/ΣDDTs | 0.79 | 0.68 | 0.71 | 1 | 0.88 | 1 | 0.66 | 0.60 | 0.69 | 0.91 | 0.64 | 0.60 |
| CB-28 | nd | nd | nd | nd | 0.88 (0.36-1.82) | nd | 0.43 (0.39-0.45) | 11.00 (0.12-69.4) | 0.98 (0.61-1.31) | 22.7 (17.7-31.6) | 2.80 (1.43-6.36) | 3.59 (2.12-5.86) |
| CB-101 | 0.97 (0.65-1.35) | 0.39 (0.19-0.60) | 0.73 (0.26-1.20) | nd | nd | nd | 0.18 (0.15-0.24) | nd | 0.69 (0.51-0.91) | 6.50 (4.68-8.38) | nd | nd |
| CB-118 | 1.21 (1.08-1.41) | nd | 0.48 (0.22-0.96) | nd | nd | nd | nd | nd | 0.78 (0.61-1.19) | 6.61 (3.69-9.55) | nd | nd |
| CB-138 | 2.84 (2.51-3.30) | 1.63 (0.95-2.11) | 0.96 (0.15-2.36) | nd | nd | 4.78 (3.55-5.66) | 0.44 (0.44-0.45) | 29.9 (0.08-148) | 2.89 (1.92-4.78) | 12.1 (10.6-15.1) | nd | 8.12 (0.91-35.2) |
| CB-153 | 6.58 (5.91-7.38) | 0.33 (0.09-1.09) | 2.29 (1.0-4.51) | nd | nd | nd | 0.69 (0.64-0.72) | 56.8 (0.23-265) | 5.98 (3.74-12.0) | 18.4 (15.8-23.3) | nd | 19.2 (0.8396.6) |
| CB-180 | 2.51 (2.29-2.82) | 0.69 (0.36-0.86) | 1.38 (0.55-2.67) | nd | nd | 0.90 (0.43-1.52) | 0.36 (0.39-0.40) | 20.8 (0.08-100) | 2.70 (1.60-4.59) | 12.2 (9.88-15.1) | nd | 4.68 (0.30-17.9) |
| Σ₁₃ PCBs | 19.3 (16.8-22.7) | 3.34 (1.93-4.43) | 7.71 (3.28-15.6) | nd | 0.88 (0.36-1.82) | 5.68 (3.97-7.18) | 2.33 (2.29-2.43) | 129 (0.56-562) | 17.8 (12.1-31.6) | 116 (87.4-160) | 2.80 (1.43-6.36) | 38.6 (5.76-167) |
| BDE-47 | 0.67 (0.58-0.90) | 0.42 (0.24-0.64) | 0.26 (0.09-0.54) | nd | 1.34 (0.62-1.67) | nd | 0.81 (0.72-0.95) | 1.86 (0.55-5.14) | 1.27 (0.85-1.74) | 4.24 (3.37-5.09) | nd | nd |
| BDE-99 | nd | nd | nd | nd | nd | nd | 0.92 (0.73-1.21) | nd | nd | 2.81 (2.70-2.98) | nd | nd |
| BDE-100 | 2.04 (1.75-2.33) | nd | 1.42 (0.37-2.17) | nd | nd | nd | 0.72 (0.44-1.16) | 1.11 (0.43-2.40) | 0.66 (0.20-1.10) | nd | 16.6 (0.93-27.4) | nd |
| BDE-153 | 0.94 (0.82-1.08) | nd | nd | nd | 3.50 (0.80-9.31) | nd | 0.18 (0.15-0.25) | nd | nd | 12.6 (7.98-16.5) | nd | nd |
| BDE-154 | 0.44 (0.39-0.45) | 0.37 (0.09-0.77) | 1.06 (0.49-1.68) | nd | 0.60 (0.22-1.04) | nd | 0.44 (0.39-0.8) | 1.83 (0.42-4.0) | 0.50 (0.31-0.61) | 0.71 (0.64-0.81) | 2.13 (0.25-7.65) | 1.25 (0.61-1.67) |
| BDE-209 | nd | nd | 4.64 (0.17-21.6) | 4.15 (1.68-6.85) | 2.10 (1.04-4.04) | nd | 0.21 (0.10-0.42) | 1.93 (0.27-3.94) | 1.68 (0.71-3.37) | 1.78 (1.09-2.73) | nd | 6.55 (2.03-14.6) |
| Σ₆PBDEs | 4.09 (3.70-4.50) | 0.79 (0.33-1.14) | 7.38 (1.11-23.8) | 4.15 (1.68-6.85) | 7.54 (3.06-12.2) | nd | 3.28 (2.65-4.43) | 6.73 (2.61-9.94) | 4.10 (2.32-6.31) | 22.1 (17.2-27.8) | 18.8 (1.38-34.4) | 7.80 (3.63-16.0) |
| HBCDD | nd | 2.05 (1.08-4.72) | 1.88 (0.34-5.98) | nd | nd | nd | nd | nd | nd | 5.33 (1.53-10.2) | nd | nd |
| Σ(PCB/PBDE+PCB) | 0.83 | 0.82 | 0.58 | 0 | 0.13 | 1 | 0.42 | 0.75 | 0.81 | 0.84 | 0.24 | 0.65 |

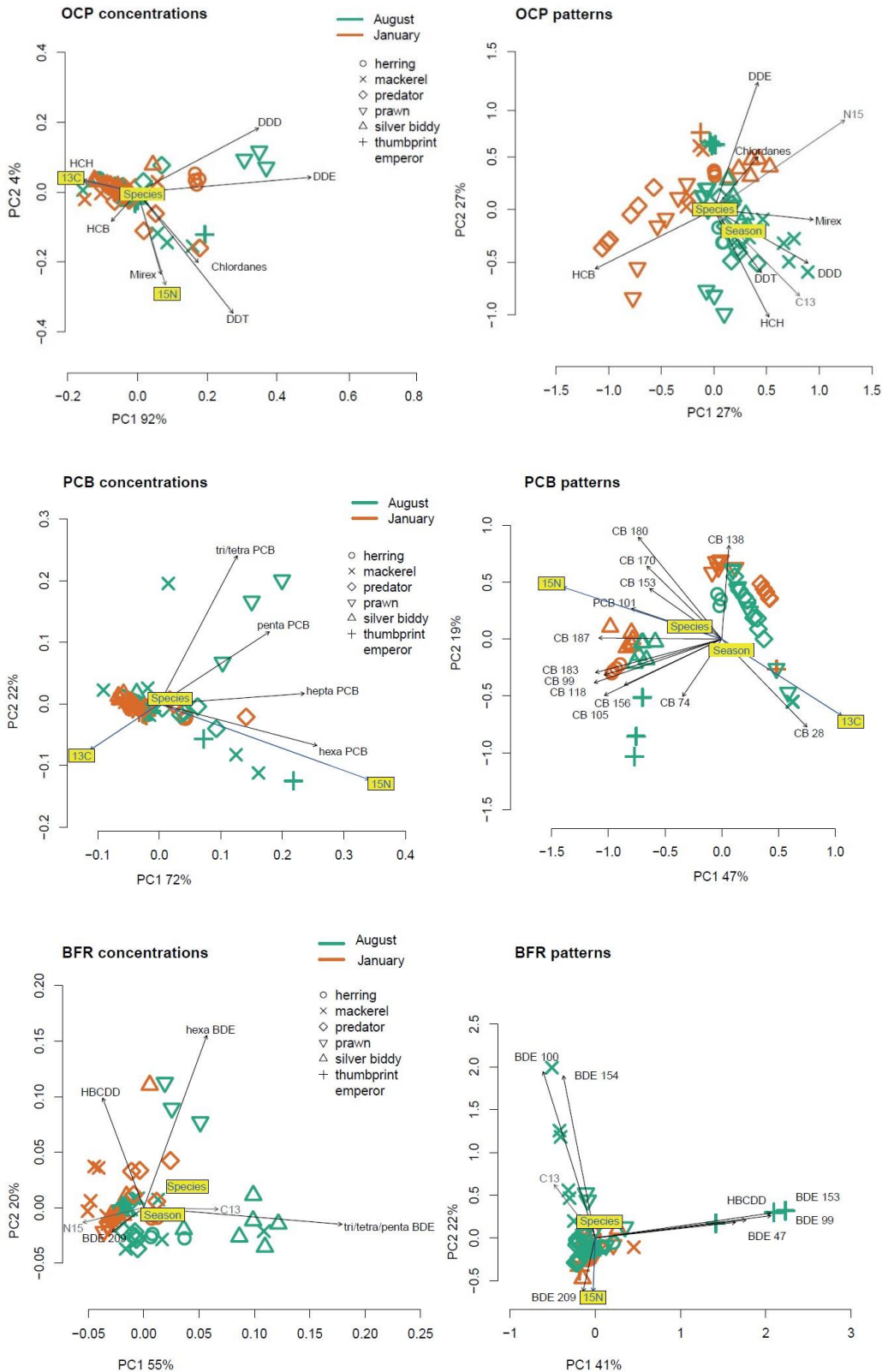


Figure A1. PCA triplots of contaminant concentrations and patterns. Lipid is included as covariate for concentrations. Patterns are relative contribution of each contaminant to its respective contaminant group. Explanatory variables are passively displayed, and significant explanatory variables are indicated with yellow boxes. Outliers are removed due to high loadings in the PCA: One outlier removed for OCP concentrations, two outliers removed for PCB conc, and one outlier removed for BFR concentrations.

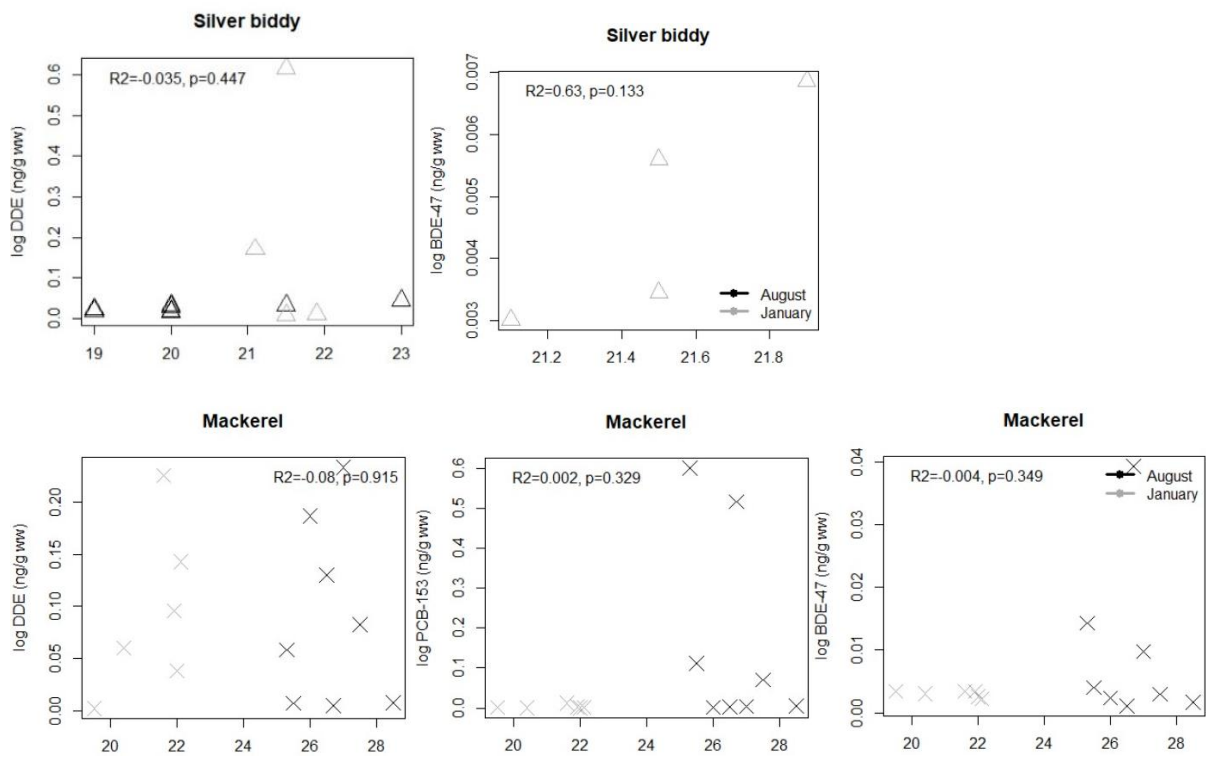


Figure A2. Linear regression plots showing the relationship between fish size (shown here as total weight) and selected POPs (log₁₀ transformed, ng/g wet weight) for the two species where fish size was different between seasons (mackerel and silver biddy). Black symbols indicate fish collected in August, and grey symbols indicate fish collected in January. No significant interaction term for weight and season was found. PCB-153 was not detected in silver biddy in January or August, and BDE-47 was not detected in silver biddy in August.

Paper II



Environmental Toxicology

Spatial Variation in Contaminant Occurrence in Marine Fishes and Prawns from Coastal Tanzania

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Abstract: There are limited data on organic contaminants in marine biota from coastal Tanzania, especially on the occurrence of industrial-use contaminants such as polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs). The present study, performed in 2018–2019 in coastal Tanzania and Zanzibar Island, aimed at assessing spatial variation in the occurrence of PCBs; brominated flame retardants (BFRs), including PBDEs; and organochlorine pesticides, including dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT), among three locations that differ in degree of anthropogenic activity. Analyzed samples included edible tissues of marine fishes and prawns representing different trophic levels and habitats. The results indicate a mainland–island difference, with fishes and prawns collected on Zanzibar having significantly lower PCB and DDT concentrations but higher concentrations of hexachlorobenzene compared to the two mainland locations. The highest contaminant concentrations were found in fishes and prawns collected around central Dar es Salaam harbor, with median Σ PCBs ranging from 22.3 to 577 ng/g lipid weight and Σ DDTs from 22.7 to 501 ng/g lipid weight, suggesting local sources. Concentrations of PBDEs were similar among locations, suggesting more diffuse sources. None of the “newer-type” BFRs, including compounds introduced as replacements for PBDEs, were detected in the present study. Stable isotope values of carbon ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$) and nitrogen ($\delta^{15}\text{N}$) varied among locations, and the relationship between contaminants and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ varied among locations and habitat (pelagic/demersal). Concentrations measured in the present study are below European guidelines for human consumption of fishes and prawns. However, industrial-use contaminants should be monitored in developing countries because they are contaminants of emerging concern as a result of increasing industrialization and global trade of used products and wastes. *Environ Toxicol Chem* 2022;41:321–333. © 2021 The Authors. *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry* published by Wiley Periodicals LLC on behalf of SETAC.

Keywords: Tropical ecotoxicology; Spatial variation; Coastal ecosystems; Brominated flame retardants; Organochlorines; Polychlorinated biphenyls

INTRODUCTION

The challenge of environmental pollution is a global issue because pollutants disperse over vast distances and often far from initial production and use. Long-range transport of

persistent organic pollutants (POPs) occurs mainly via atmospheric and oceanic currents (Wania & MacKay, 1996) but also via transboundary trade of goods and wastes (Breivik et al., 2015). Following international regulations on production and use of contaminants (Stockholm Convention, <http://www.pops.int/>), a spatial and temporal shift in contaminant sources is estimated to occur; from emissions from production and products in use to emissions from end-of-life products and waste (Abbasi et al., 2019). A decrease in environmental levels of certain POPs such as polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and polybrominated diphenyls (PBDEs) in industrialized regions is a result of international regulations (United Nations Environment Programme, 2021). Further decline is also hypothesized as a

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result of the controlled and uncontrolled export of goods and wastes from industrialized regions to developing regions of the world (Breivik et al., 2011; Vaccher et al., 2020). Consumer products and wastes, for example electronic waste, contain both elements and organic contaminants and represent a potential threat to the environment and human health when subjected to insufficient waste management and crude recycling practices (Asante et al., 2010; Breivik et al., 2015). Contaminants of emerging concern thus also comprise well-known contaminants that have been in commerce or regulated for several years but are of growing concern in certain regions of the world as a result of increasing use and disposal of products containing these contaminants.

Tanzania ratified the Stockholm Convention on POPs in 2004. Although Tanzania is not a known recipient of bulk waste from developed countries, the rapid economic growth, urbanization, and industrialization render a need for understanding environmental contamination from sources of emerging concern. Despite being banned under the Stockholm Convention, organochlorine pesticides (OCPs), such as dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT), are still considered an environmental issue in Africa (United Nations Environment Programme, 2021); and findings of DDT and its metabolites in Tanzania suggest recent use in certain regions and matrices (Mwewura et al., 2002, 2020; Polder et al., 2014). However, knowledge of the occurrence of industrial-use contaminants including PCBs and PBDEs in the Tanzanian environment is scarce, especially in biota (Haarr et al., 2021; Mwakalapa et al., 2018; Polder et al., 2014). Because diet is the main source of contaminant uptake in humans (Vaccher et al., 2020), it is important to monitor contaminant concentrations and patterns in food items. In Tanzania, fish represent an important source of nutrients, and commercial fisheries, small-scale artisanal fishing, and an increasing aquaculture industry are of great importance for the economy and food safety in the country (Wetengere et al., 2008).

The purpose of the present study was to assess spatial variation in occurrence of PCBs; brominated flame retardants (BFRs), including PBDEs; and OCPs in marine fishes and prawns at three locations in coastal Tanzania including both the mainland and the islands of Zanzibar. The locations differ in degree of anthropogenic activity and potential pollution exposure. In addition, we address variation in contaminant occurrence among the study species differing in habitat and trophic level and compare the contaminant concentrations with maximum residue limits (MRLs) and environmental quality standards (EQSs) set by the European Union for contaminant residues in fish products for protection of the environment and human health.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study area and field sampling

Samples were collected in January 2018 and 2019. The sampling locations in coastal mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar represent important locations for both small- and large-scale fisheries and differ in anthropogenic activity and potentially contaminant exposure (Figure 1). The East African Coastal

Current flows northward along the Tanzanian coast, but the Zanzibar channel is also locally influenced by tidal currents, winds, and gyres (Jahnke et al., 2019; Richmond, 2011). Dar es Salaam is the most populated city in Tanzania and a fast-growing economic center in the region. The fish market in central Dar es Salaam is located by the harbor area, which is associated with heavy traffic from large international container ships, fishing, and public transport vessels. Additional sources of pollution to the Dar es Salaam harbor include uncontrolled disposal of solid and liquid wastes, discharge from polluted rivers and streams, and discharge of untreated industrial and municipal stormwater and sewage (Machiwa, 1992; Tanzania Ports Authority, 2016). The fish market in Kunduchi is located approximately 25 km north of the harbor in Dar es Salaam, with less influence from heavy ship traffic and anthropogenic activity. The fish market on Unguja Island, Zanzibar, is located close to the harbor area of Zanzibar City, which is also a densely populated area but with less industrial activity compared to Dar es Salaam.

Fish was purchased from small-scale artisanal anglers at Malindi fish market on Zanzibar in January 2018 (data presented in Haarr et al. [2021]) and the fish markets at the Dar es Salaam harbor and Kunduchi in January 2019. Muscle samples from four to eight individuals per species (pooled samples of prawn and herring in triplicates) were analyzed for organic contaminants, including PCBs, BFRs, OCPs, and stable isotopes of carbon and nitrogen (Table 1).

The collected species included silver-stripe round herring (*Spratelloides gracilis*), Indian mackerel (*Rastrelliger kanagurta*), pickhandle barracuda (*Spyraena jello*), and mackerel tuna (*Euthynnus affinis*), representing pelagic, offshore feeders; and prawn (*Penaeus* spp.), silver biddy (*Gerres oyena*), thumbprint emperor (*Lethrinus harak*), and white-spotted grouper (*Epinephelus fasciatus*), representing demersal, inshore feeders (Froese & Pauly, 2020; Richmond, 2011). Herring and prawn were sampled to represent low-trophic level species, pelagic and demersal, respectively. Silver biddy, thumbprint emperor, and mackerel were sampled to represent mid-trophic levels, where the latter is a pelagic feeder. Barracuda, tuna, and grouper were

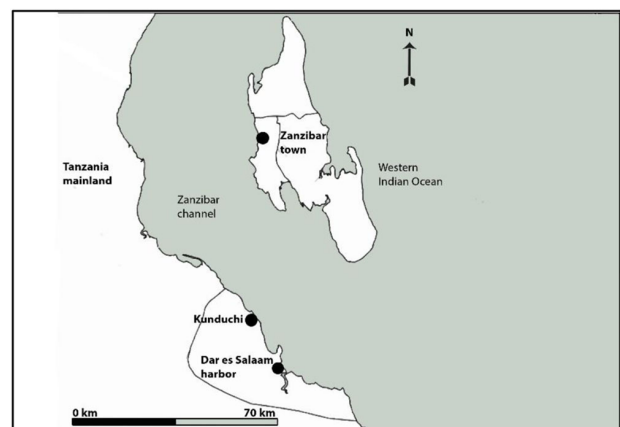


FIGURE 1: Study area and fish marked locations at mainland Tanzania (Dar es Salaam harbor and Kunduchi) and on Unguja Island, Zanzibar.

TABLE 1: Biometrics and stable isotopes in fishes and prawns collected from Dar es Salaam harbor, Kunduchi, and Zanzibar

| Species (common name) | Trophic niche | Location | n | Length (cm) mean range | Weight (g) mean range | $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ mean range | $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ mean range | Total C/total N |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|--------------------|
| Silver-stripe herring, <i>Spratelloides gracilis</i> (dagaa lumbunga) | Low, pelagic Fish | DAR | 1 ^a | – | 100 ^a | –17.9 | 7.94 | 0.29 |
| | | KUN | 1 ^a | – | 100 ^a | –17.9 | 8.13 | 3.3 |
| | | ZNZ ² | 4 ^a | – | 100 ^a | –18.6 | 9.7 | 3.2 |
| Indian mackerel, <i>Rastrelliger kanagurta</i> (kibua) | Medium, pelagic Fish | DAR | 6 | 29.5 27.0–31.0 | 267 197–297 | –17.3 –(17.7–16.9) | 11.7 11.2–11.9 | 3.47 3.3–3.7 |
| | | KUN | 6 | 30.5 | 306 | –17.2 | 11.8 | 3.4 |
| | | ZNZ ^a | 6 | 29.0–32.0 21.3 | 256–353 110.6 | –(17.5–17.0) –18.9 | 11.7–12.0 10.7 | 3.3–3.6 3.5 |
| | | | 6 | 19.5–22.1 | 80.7–123.4 | –(20.2–18.4) | 10.4–11.0 | 3.3–4.1 |
| Pickhandle barracuda, <i>Spyraena jello</i> (mzia) | High, pelagic Fish | DAR | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| | | KUN | 6 | 70.8 59.0–88.0 | 1470 835–2300 | –15.8 –(16.2–15.4) | 13.6 13.2–14.5 | 3.1 3.1–3.2 |
| | | ZNZ ^b | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Mackerel tuna, <i>Euthynnus affinis</i> (jodari) | High, pelagic Fish | DAR | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| | | KUN | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| | | ZNZ ^a | 6 | 56.0 52.0–64.3 | 3100 2500–3500 | –17.1 –(18.5 to 16.3) | 13.4 13.0–13.6 | 3.4 3.1–3.7 |
| Prawn, <i>Penaeus</i> sp. (kamba) | Low, demersal (scavenging) | DAR | 1 ^a | – | 100 ^a | –14.5 | 13.5 | 3.2 |
| | | KUN | 1 ^a | – | 100 ^a | –17.0 | 13.7 | 3.3 |
| | | ZNZ ^b | 3 ^a | – | 100 ^a | –15.0 | 9.8 | 3.2 |
| Silver biddy, <i>Gerres oyena</i> (chaa) | Low/medium, demersal Fish | DAR | 5 | 19.4 17.0–21.0 | 105 69.1–130 | –14.1 –(14.6–13.6) | 14.0 7.71–16.1 | 2.9 0.29–4.1 |
| | | KUN | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| | | ZNZ ^b | 4 | 21.5 21.1–21.9 | 149.9 127–160 | –10.7 –(14.2–9.10) | 9.4 8.7–10.6 | 3.2 3.2–3.4 |
| Thumbprint emperor, <i>Lethrinus harak</i> (changu) | Low/medium, demersal Fish | DAR | 6 | 23.8 22.0–25.5 | 224 172–273 | –12.9 –(14.1–11.9) | 14.0 8.88–17.0 | 3.2 3.1–3.4 |
| | | KUN | 6 | 27.8 25.5–31.0 | 329 275–451 | –15.0 –(18.6–12.4) | 10.6 7.65–12.0 | 3.2 3.1–3.4 |
| | | ZNZ ^b | 6 | 26.9 26.2–27.3 | 290.0 254.2–318.1 | –12.3 –(13.6–11.2) | 9.6 9.5–9.7 | 3.2 3.1–3.3 |
| | | | 6 | 24.8 17.0–33.0 | 243 73.7–499 | –13.8 –(14.9 to 12.9) | 14.8 13.1–16.9 | 3.2 3.2–3.3 |
| Whitespotted grouper, <i>Epinephelus fasciatus</i> | High, demersal Fish | DAR | 4 | – | – | – | – | – |
| | | KUN ZNZ ^b | – – | – – | – – | – – | – – | – – |

Trophic niche is determined from the literature (FishBase, Froese & Pauly, 2020) and stable isotope data (pelagic, $\delta^{13}\text{C} < -15\text{‰}$; demersal, $\delta^{13}\text{C} > -15\text{‰}$).

DAR = Dar es Salaam harbor; KUN = Kunduchi; ZNZ = Zanzibar; – = data not analyzed.

^aPooled samples. Samples of herring and prawn include one to four pooled samples of 100 g homogenized muscle tissue from prawns and whole fish for herring.

^bData presented in Haarr et al. (2021).

selected to represent top predators, where the latter is a demersal feeder.

Ethical clearance and research permission

Ethical clearance and a research permit were granted by National Institute for Medical Research (Tanzania) and the Tanzanian Commission for Science and Technology (permit no. 2019-016-NA-2018-251). Permission to export samples from Tanzania was granted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries; and permission to import samples to Norway was granted by the Norwegian Food Safety Authority.

Analyses of stable isotopes

Bulk stable isotope analyses of carbon and nitrogen were carried out at the University of Oslo Stable Isotope Laboratory,

as described in detail in Haarr et al. (2021). In short, muscle tissue of fishes and prawns and homogenized whole herring were freeze-dried overnight and ground into a fine powder using a mortar and pestle. Samples (1 mg) were sealed in tin capsules and analyzed for carbon ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$) and nitrogen ($\delta^{15}\text{N}$) isotopes using a Thermo Fisher Scientific EA IsoLink IRMS System (consisting of Flash Elemental Analyses and the DeltaV Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometer).

Analyses of organic contaminants

Analyses of organic contaminants were conducted at the Laboratory of Environmental Toxicology at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences. The chemical method used in the present study is accredited by Norwegian Accreditation for analyzing organohalogen contaminants in biological samples according to the requirements of the NS-EN SO/IEC 17025

(test 137). A total of 50 components were analyzed, including 16 OCPs: *p,p'*-*o,p'*-dichlorodiphenyldichloroethane (DDD), -dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene (-DDE), -DDT, hexachlorobenzene (HCB), α - β - γ -hexachlorocyclohexane (HCH), heptachlor, oxychlordane, *cis/trans*-chlordane/nonachlor, and mirex; 16 PCBs: PCB-28, -52, -74, -99, -101, -105, -118, -128, -136, -138, -153, -156, -170, -180, -183, and -187; 13 PBDEs: BDE-28, -47, -99, -100, -153, -154, -183, -196, -202, -206, -207, -208, and -209; and seven non-PBDE BFRs: hexabromocyclododecane (HBCDD), hexabromobenzene (HBB), pentabromotoluene (PBT), 2,3-dibromopropyl-2,4,6-tribromophenyl ether (DPTE), decabromodiphenyl ethane (DBDPE), 1,2-bis(2,4,6-tribromophenoxy)-ethane (BTBPE), and pentabromoethylbenzene (PBEB). Sample extraction and cleanup, instrumental analyses, analyte detection, and quality assurance and control are described in detail in Polder et al. (2014). In short, 5 g of fresh, homogenized muscle tissue was used for analyses. Because of the small weight, for herring the whole fish was homogenized. Internal standards were added to all samples: 25 μ l PCB-29, -112, and -207 (1000 μ g/ml; Ultra-Scientific); 20 μ l BDE-77, -119, -181, and $^{13}\text{C}_{12}$ -209 (Cambridge Isotope Laboratories); as well as solvents for extraction, followed by homogenization with an Ultra-Turrax[®]. Lipids were extracted twice with cyclohexane and acetone (3:2) using an ultrasonic homogenizer, followed by centrifugation and separation. Cleanup of lipids was done using 96% sulfuric acid, and quantification of lipids was done gravimetrically using 1 ml of sample extract aliquot prior to lipid cleanup. Sample extracts were run on a high-resolution gas chromatograph (Agilent 6890 Series) coupled to a mass spectrometry detector (Agilent 5975C; Agilent Technologies).

Analytical quality. The laboratory is accredited by Norwegian Accreditation for testing the analyzed chemicals in biological material according to the requirements of the NS-EN ISO/IEC 17025 (test 137). Each analytical series of 24 samples included three blank samples (only solvents), one blind (nonspiked sample of Atlantic cod [*Gadus morhua*] muscle), two spiked samples of Atlantic cod, and the laboratory's own internal reference material of harp seal blubber (*Pagophilus groenlandicus*). The cod samples were spiked with a wide spectrum of the analytes to be analyzed in the study, in different concentrations, with the purpose of calculating the recoveries and clarifying the sensitivity range of the method. The limit of detection (LOD) was set to three times the signal noise for each analyte. Detection frequency for each chemical is given in Supporting Information, Table A1. In addition, quality assurance was obtained by analyzing several certified reference materials and participation in relevant ring tests such as QUASIMEME Laboratory Performance Studies. The results of these tests were within acceptable ranges.

Data treatment

Contaminants detected above the LOD in a minimum of 65% of individual samples per species per location were included in data presentation and statistical analyses, while

contaminants detected in <65% of the samples were not included in the data treatment. Contaminant sums (e.g., Σ PCBs and Σ PBDEs) are defined as the sum of all congeners detected in a minimum of 65% of the samples (Table 2).

Statistical analyses were conducted using R (R Foundation for Statistical Computing, 2017). To account for variations in lipid content among species and potential confounding effects, all statistical analyses were conducted using lipid-normalized concentrations. Spatial variation in contaminant concentrations was assessed by combining all species (excluding the silver biddy because this species was not collected from Kunduchi), including one top predator for each location (tuna, barracuda, grouper at Zanzibar, Kunduchi, and Dar es Salaam harbor, respectively). The "ggstatsplots" package was used for statistical testing and visualization of spatial variation in contaminant concentrations (Patil, 2018). Because test assumptions of normal distribution and equal variance were not met, non-parametric Kruskal-Wallis test, followed by Dunn's test for multiple comparisons were used. The *p* values were Holm-corrected. Linear regression models were run to assess the relationship between contaminant concentrations and various explanatory variables, including lipid content, fish size, $\delta^{15}\text{N}$, and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ for each location separately. Differences in accumulation, that is, the relationship between $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ and contaminant concentration between habitat types (pelagic, $\delta^{13}\text{C} < -15\%$; demersal, $\delta^{13}\text{C} > -15\%$) were assessed by adding an interaction term to the model:

$$\text{Log}_{10}(\text{POP}) = \delta^{15}\text{N} + \text{Habitat} + \delta^{15}\text{N} * \text{Habitat}$$

For significant interactions between $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ and habitat, the linear relationship between the contaminant and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ for the two habitats (demersal and pelagic) is shown by two separate regression lines, when significant.

A crude assessment of adequacy for human consumption was done by comparing contaminant concentrations found in fish from the present study to limit values set by the European Commission. The measured levels were compared to the MRLs, which describe the maximum level of contaminant residue that is tolerated in commercial food items, and to EQS set by the European Union water framework directive to protect human health and the most sensitive species in the ecosystem.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A total of 82 individual samples of fish muscle and pooled samples of herring and prawn were analyzed for 52 organic contaminants. Of these, 14 PCBs, 7 PBDEs, HBCDD, and 14 OCPs including β -HCH, γ -HCH, DDTs, HCB, chlordanes, and Mirex were included in further analyses; PCB-128, PCB-136, α -HCH, heptachlor, PBDE-28, PBT, DPTE, PBEB, HBB, DBDPE, and BTBPE were not detected in any samples. Also, PBDE-183, -196, -206, -207, and -208 were detected in <65% of samples and thus removed from data analyses. The instrumental recoveries of contaminants included in analyses were within acceptable ranges (80–120%), except for *p,p'*-DDT, PBDE-202,

TABLE 2: Contaminant concentrations (mean [median], range [nanograms per gram lipid wt]) in fishes and prawns from Dar es Salaam harbor, Kunduchi, and Zanzibar

| Species (common name) | Location | n | Lipid% | Σ DDTs ^a | HCB | Σ HCH | Σ PCBs ^b | Σ PBDEs ^c | HBCDD |
|---|------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | | mean (median) range | mean (median) range | mean (median) range | mean (median) range | mean (median) range | mean (median) range | mean (median) range |
| Silver-stripe herring, <i>Spratelloides gracilis</i> (dagaa lumbunga) | DAR | 3 ^d | 0.97 (0.98) 0.91–1.01 | 22.2 (22.5) 21.0–23.2 | 1.36 (1.35) 1.29–1.44 | 0.50 (0.49) 0.40–0.61 | 21.3 (20.8) 20.0–23.2 | 2.13 (1.58) 1.47–3.33 | nd |
| | KUN | 3 ^d | 1.31 (1.3) 1.29–1.33 | 53.1 (52.3) 51.3–55.7 | 1.17 (1.16) 1.15–1.19 | 0.28 (0.29) 0.20–0.35 | 45.9 (45.8) 47.1–47.7 | 10.7 (10.9) 10.0–11.3 | nd |
| | ZNZ ^e | 4 ^d | 1.32 (1.32) 1.10–1.54 | 89.0 (88.7) 76.5–102 | 1.34 (1.21) 0.92–2.01 | nd nd | 19.4 (19.0) 16.8–22.7 | 4.09 3.70–4.50 | nd |
| Indian mackerel, <i>Rastrelliger kanagurta</i> (kibua) | DAR | 6 | 1.27 (1.24) 0.74–1.88 | 37.2 (37.9) 32.4–41.0 | 1.1 (1.1) 0.9–1.35 | 0.26 (0.28) nd–0.41 | 27.0 (26.7) 20.5–33.8 | 2.54 (2.27) 1.84–4.19 | nd |
| | KUN | 6 | 1.30 (1.17) 0.78–2.24 | 38.0 (38.0) 32.9–42.4 | 1.04 (1.02) 0.98–1.15 | nd nd | 34.0 (34.9) 28.5–37.0 | nd | nd |
| | ZNZ ^e | 6 | 1.95 (1.75) 1.08–3.35 | 15.7 (13.8) 4.13–30.6 | 10.7 (9.18) 5.34–21.5 | 0.44 (0.33) 0.19–1.05 | 3.31 (3.33) 1.99–4.59 | 0.78 (0.83) (0.33–1.14) | 1.69 (1.64) nd–4.72 |
| Pickhandle barracuda, <i>Spyraena jello</i> (mzia) | DAR | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| | KUN | 6 | 0.37 (0.35) 0.24–0.59 | 47.1 (37.2) 15.8–104 | 2.61 (2.57) 1.80–3.60 | 1.16 (1.03) 0.75–1.77 | 44.1 (37.0) (12.1–99.1) | 1.21 (1.14) 0.78–1.73 | nd |
| Mackerel tuna, <i>Euthynnus affinis</i> (jodari) | DAR | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| | KUN | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Prawn, <i>Penaeus</i> sp. (kamba) | DAR | 3 ^d | 3.62 (2.81) 0.91–10.3 | 27.5 (30.4) 11.1–42.3 | 1.68 (1.72) 1.13–2.12 | nd nd | 7.05 (6.35) 3.03–14.1 | 3.37 (3.37) 1.1–5.82 | 1.88 (1.02) 0.34–5.98 |
| | KUN | 3 ^d | 0.78 (0.78) 0.75–0.81 | 104 (105) 99.0–107 | 1.61 (0.62) 1.51–1.69 | 0.48 (0.51) 0.36–0.58 | 127 (126) 126–129 | 9.06 (9.06) 8.81–9.31 | nd |
| | ZNZ ^e | 3 ^d | 1.01 (1.01) 0.53–1.49 | 47.1 (53.7) 29.4–58.3 | 2.0 (1.96) 1.33–2.73 | 1.80 (1.08) 0.33–4.0 | 51.5 (53.1) 44.9–56.4 | 4.61 (5.09) 3.27–5.47 | nd |
| Silver biddy, <i>Gerrus oyena</i> (chaa) | DAR | 5 | 0.55 (0.56) 0.45–0.65 | 5.61 (4.13) 3.92–8.77 | nd nd | nd nd | nd nd | 4.15 (3.9) 1.68–6.85 | nd |
| | KUN | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| | ZNZ ^e | 4 | 1.28 (1.27) 0.35–1.85 | 417 (501) 14.7–615 | 0.95 (0.93) 0.87–1.05 | 0.81 (0.75) 0.57–1.32 | 671 (544) 5.17–1160 | 8.1 (7.42) 3.95–11.1 | 9.12 (6.42) nd–19.6 |
| Thumbprint emperor, <i>Lethrinus harak</i> (changui) | DAR | 6 | 0.87 (0.94) 0.48–1.12 | 194 (24.6) 3.35–724 | 0.83 (0.81) 0.63–1.09 | nd nd | 0.79 (0.67) nd–1.82 | 7.49 (7.47) 3.06–11.9 | nd |
| | KUN | 6 | 0.81 (0.60) 0.33–1.50 | 73.4 (78.2) 7.87–117 | 0.80 (0.85) 0.62–0.93 | 0.47 (0.38) nd–1.0 | 50.6 (54.5) 7.7–80.7 | 0.77 (0.43) 0.34–1.33 | nd |
| | ZNZ ^e | 6 | 0.63 (0.48) 0.28–1.26 | 19.1 (12.4) nd–63.8 | 0.54 (0.67) nd–0.73 | nd nd | 20.5 (12.6) 4.37–65.8 | nd nd | nd |
| Whitespotted grouper, <i>Epinephelus fasciatus</i> | DAR | 4 | 0.36 (0.34) 0.31–0.46 | 8.04 (6.56) nd–15.7 | 13.6 (14) 10.1–16.8 | nd nd | 5.68 (5.84) 3.97–7.17 | nd | nd |
| | KUN | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| | ZNZ ^e | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |

^a Σ DDTs: *p,p'*, *o,p'* (dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene, dichlorodiphenyldichloroethane, and DDT).^bPCBs: CB-28, -52, -74, -99, -101, -105, -118, -138, -153, -156, -170, -180, -183, -187.^cPBDEs: BDE-47, -99, -100, -153, -154, -202, -209.^dPooled samples.^eData presented in Haarr et al. (2021).

DDTs = dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethanes; HCB = hexachlorobenzene; HCH = hexachlorocyclohexane; PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl; PBDE = polybrominated diphenyl ether; HBCDD = hexabromocyclododecane; DAR = Dar es Salaam harbor; KUN = Kunduchi; ZNZ = Zanzibar; – = data not analyzed; nd = not determined.

and HBCDD in a few analytical series. These were corrected for recovery percentage. Biometric data, trophic niche, and stable isotope values in all collected samples are shown in Table 1. Combining all species, concentrations of Σ DDTs, HCH, HBCDD, and PCBs were highest in Dar es Salaam, followed by Kunduchi and Zanzibar, while HCB concentrations were the highest on Zanzibar (Table 2).

OCPs

The OCPs were dominated by Σ DDTs (DDE, DDD, and DDT), representing on average 73% of Σ OCPs on Zanzibar and 94 and 90% in Dar es Salaam and Kunduchi, respectively. Median concentrations of Σ DDTs among all species ranged from 12.4 to 53.7 ng/g lipid weight in Kunduchi, 4.13–88.7 ng/g lipid weight on Zanzibar, and 22.7–501 ng/g lipid weight in Dar

es Salaam (Table 2). Spatial variation was found for Σ DDTs with lipid-adjusted median concentrations (all species combined, except silver biddy) decreasing in the following order: Dar es Salaam > Kunduchi > Zanzibar (Kruskal-Wallis, $\chi^2 = 20.35$, $p = 0.003$; Figure 2). There was no indication of recent DDT usage because the DDT pattern at all locations was dominated by the main degradation product, *p,p'*-DDE, which accounted for between 68 and 100% of Σ DDTs (Figure 3). No MRL for DDT is set for aquatic animals, but a default value of 100 ng/g wet weight, set to “protect the consumer from the intake of unauthorized or excessive levels of pesticide residues” (European Commission, 2005), can be used as a reference. The maximum Σ DDTs concentration found in the present study was 9.26 ng/g wet weight (in silver biddy from Dar es Salaam), and thus well below this threshold (Supporting Information, Table A2).

The second most detected OCP was HCB, in 96% of all samples, with median concentrations among all species ranging from 0.9 to 1.6 ng/g lipid weight in Dar es Salaam, from

0.7 to 2.6 ng/g lipid weight in Kunduchi, and from <LOD to 14 ng/g lipid weight on Zanzibar (Table 2). No samples exceeded the EQS set for HCB at 10 ng/g wet weight (European Commission, 2013). On Zanzibar, HCB was particularly prominent in the OCP patterns of the mackerel (42% of Σ OCPs) and thumbprint emperor (67% of Σ OCPs), which are mid-trophic level, pelagic and demersal species, respectively. Concentrations of HCB were higher on Zanzibar compared to the mainland (Kruskal-Wallis, $\chi^2 = 11.41$, $p = 0.003$; Figure 2). This could indicate spatial variation in OCP exposure between the mainland and Zanzibar. Although HCB is no longer used as a fungicide on Zanzibar, residues from historical application, leaching from obsolete stockpiles, unregulated use, and waste incineration (Adu-Kumi et al., 2010), could represent sources of HCB to the local environment.

Concentrations of OCPs were in the same range as what has been reported in marine (Mwakalapa et al., 2018) and freshwater (Polder et al., 2014) fish from Tanzania, as well as marine predator species collected off the Seychelles (Munsch et al.,

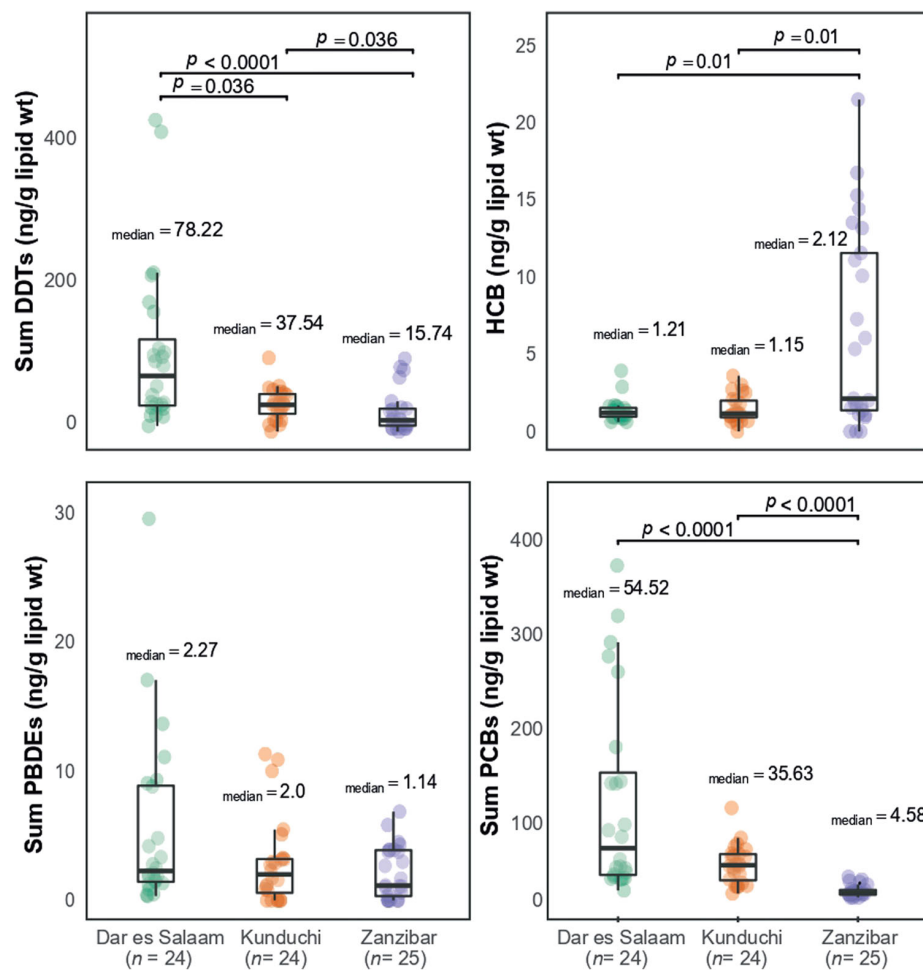


FIGURE 2: Contaminant concentrations in fishes and prawns collected from fish markets at the Dar es Salaam harbor, Kunduchi, and Zanzibar. Significant spatial difference is estimated using the Kruskal-Wallis test, followed by Dunn's pairwise comparisons. p values are Holm-corrected and indicate significant difference, where applicable, among the three locations. DDT = dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane; HCB = hexachlorobenzene; PBDE = polybrominated diphenyl ether; PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl.

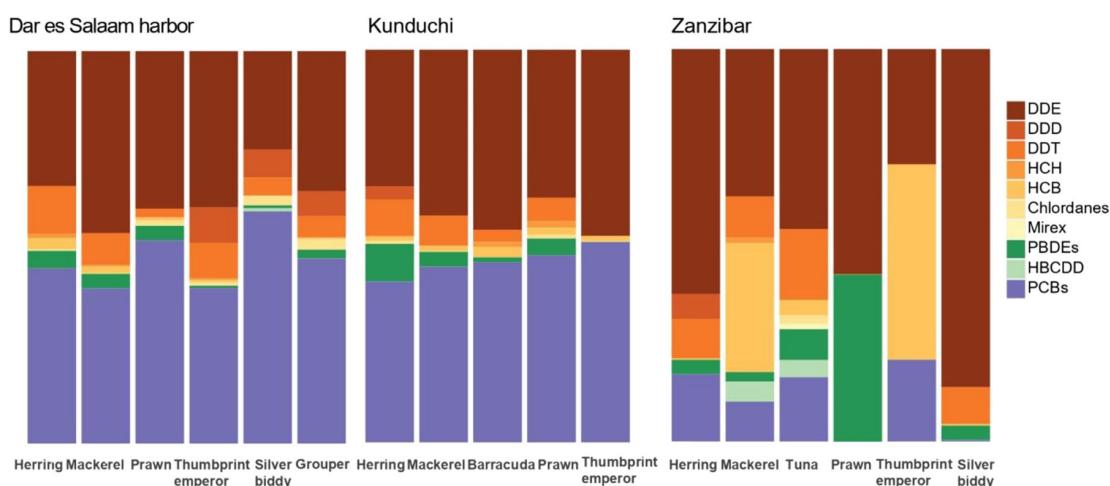


FIGURE 3: Relative contribution of each contaminant group to total contaminant load in marine fishes and prawns collected from fish markets at the Dar es Salaam harbor, Kunduchi, and Zanzibar. DDE = dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene; DDD = dichlorodiphenyldichloroethane; DDT = dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane; HCH = hexachlorocyclohexane; HCB = hexachlorobenzene; PBDE = polybrominated diphenyl ether; HBCDD = hexabromocyclododecane; PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl.

2020; Ueno et al., 2003), but lower compared to what has been reported in marine fish collected from the South China Sea (Shi et al., 2013), Italy (Naso et al., 2005), and northern Norway (Bustnes et al., 2012; Table 3). This is attributable to differences in agricultural, domestic, and industrial pollution sources.

Industrial-use contaminants (PCBs and BFRs)

Median concentrations of Σ PCBs among all species ranged from <LOD to 19 ng/g lipid weight on Zanzibar, from 12.6 to 53.1 ng/g lipid weight in Kunduchi, and from 20.8 to 544 ng/g lipid weight in Dar es Salaam (Table 2). The highest Σ PCB concentration was found in one silver biddy from Dar es Salaam (1160 ng/g lipid weight), which exceeded the highest concentration found in the grouper (367 ng/g lipid weight), which is a higher-trophic level species. Congener patterns were similar among all locations, dominated by highly persistent hexa- and hepta-congeners, including PCB-138, -153, and -180. The Σ PCB concentrations differed among locations, with lower levels on Zanzibar compared to the mainland (Kruskal-Wallis, $\chi^2 = 42.9$, $p = 4.9e-10$; Figure 2). For PCB₆ (six “indicator” PCBs: PCB-28, -52, -101, -138, -153, -180), the MRL for “muscle meat of fish and fishery products” is 75 ng/g wet weight (European Commission, 2011). No samples exceeded this limit as the maximum Σ PCB₆ concentration found in the present study was 9.61 ng/g wet weight (silver biddy from Dar es Salaam).

The Σ PBDEs were similar among locations (Figure 2), median concentrations ranging from <LOD to 7.47 ng/g lipid weight on Zanzibar, from <LOD to 9.06 ng/g lipid weight in Dar es Salaam, and from <LOD to 10.9 ng/g lipid weight in Kunduchi. Congener patterns of PBDEs were dominated by penta-BDE congeners including BDE-47, -99, -100, and -153 in most species. A higher dominance of BDE-209 to Σ PBDEs on Zanzibar relative to the mainland could indicate recent exposure to

the commercial deca-BDE mixture. No MRLs exist for PBDEs, but the EQS for Σ_6 PBDEs (-28, -47, -99, -100, -153, -154) is set at 0.0085 ng/g wet weight (European Commission, 2013), which is close to the detection limit for several PBDE congeners. Most samples from the present study exceed this limit (Supporting Information, Table A2). Hexabromocyclododecane was only detected in mackerel and tuna from Zanzibar (median concentration 1.64 and 1.02 ng/g lipid wt, respectively) and silver biddy from Dar es Salaam (median concentration 6.42 ng/g lipid wt). The EQS for HBCDD is set at 167 ng/g wet weight (European Commission, 2013), and no samples exceeded this limit. None of the “newer-type” BFRs (PTB, DPTE, PBEB, HBB, DBDPE, and BTBPE) were detected above the LOD in the present study. This could serve as a reference for future studies because these contaminants could be expected to increase in this region because of replacements of PBDEs and increasing urban development, industrialization, and globalization.

In industrialized regions, PCBs are typically the dominant contaminant group compared to PBDEs because of their historical production and use (Breivik et al., 2002). The percent contribution of PCBs and PBDEs relative to the sum of the two (Σ [PCBs + PBDEs]) can be used to identify the importance of the two contaminant groups to the total industrial-use contaminants load and possibly identify a shift between “older” and “newer” types of flame retardants. In silver biddy sampled on Zanzibar, Σ PCBs and Σ PBDEs represented 12 and 87% of Σ (PCBs + PBDEs), respectively. In fishes and prawn from Kunduchi and Dar es Salaam, Σ PCBs represented on average 93% of Σ (PCBs + PBDEs) at both locations, indicating a similarity between the two mainland locations relative to Zanzibar (63%; Figure 3). Less influence from industrialization and urbanization on Zanzibar relative to the mainland could result in less pollution from the older-type industrial-use contaminants, such as PCBs. Similar PBDE concentrations among all three

TABLE 3: Mean contaminant concentrations (nanograms per gram lipid wt) in fishes from other studies

| Location | Species | n | Year | Tissue | Lipid% (mean) | HCB | HCH | ΣDDTs | ΣPCB | ΣPBDE | Reference |
|------------------------------------|--|----|-----------|----------------|---------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| Dar es Salaam, Tanzania | Silver biddy, <i>Gerres oyoena</i> | 5 | 2019 | Muscle | 1.28 | 0.95 | 0.81 | 417 | 671 | 8.06 | Present study ^a |
| Dar es Salaam, Tanzania | Indian mackerel, <i>Rastrelliger kanagurta</i> | 6 | 2019 | Muscle | 1.27 | 1.1 | 0.26 | 37.2 | 27.0 | 2.54 | Present study ^a |
| Zanzibar, Tanzania | Mackerel tuna, <i>Euthynnus affinis</i> | 6 | 2018 | Muscle | 3.62 | 1.68 | nd | 27.6 | 7.71 | 7.38 | Haarr et al. (2021) ^a |
| Tanzania | Milkfish, <i>Chanos chanos</i> | 7 | 2016 | Liver | 7.81 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 117 | 0.2 | 1.3 | Mwakalapa et al. (2018) ^a |
| Tanzania | Mullet, <i>Mugil cephalus</i> | 8 | 2016 | Liver | 4.85 | 0.2 | 0.04 | 73.3 | 0.6 | 1.1 | Mwakalapa et al. (2018) ^a |
| Lake Tanganyika | Nile tilapia, <i>Oreochromis niloticus</i> | 16 | 2011 | Muscle | 3.3 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 273 | 17.2 | 4.1 | Polder et al. (2014) ^a |
| Lake Malawi | Malawi squeaker, <i>Synodontis njassae</i> | 5 | 1996–1997 | Muscle | 12.8 | | | 453.1 | | | Kidd et al. (2001) |
| Benya lagoon, Ghana | Tilapia, <i>Sarotherodon melanotheron</i> | 8 | 2010 | Muscle | 3.1 | | | 150 | 19 | | Asante et al. (2013) ^b |
| Lake Victoria, Uganda | Nile tilapia, <i>Oreochromis niloticus</i> | 3 | 2013 | Muscle | 2.8 | | | 22.7 | | | Ssebugere et al. (2014) ^c |
| Offshore Taiwan | Skipjack tuna, <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> | 3 | 1999 | Muscle | 0.9 | | | | 53 | | Ueno et al. (2004) ^d |
| Seychelles | Skipjack tuna, <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> | 5 | 1999 | Liver | 3.0 | 1.7 | <0.29 | 39 | 14 | | Ueno et al. (2003) ^e |
| Seychelles | Swordfish, <i>Xiphias gladius</i> | 18 | 2013–2014 | Muscle | | | | 81.4 | 9.3 | | Munschy et al. (2020) ^c |
| South China Sea | Yellowfin tuna, <i>Thunnus albacares</i> | 6 | 2017 | Muscle | 0.28 | | | 169.5 | | | Sun et al. (2020) |
| Zhoushan, East China Sea | Bullet mackerel, <i>Auxis rochei</i> | 6 | 2011 | Muscle | 16.7 | | | | 22.9 | 10.1 | Shang et al. (2016) ^f |
| Pearl River delta, South China Sea | Various fish species | 19 | 2004 | Whole body (?) | 2.4 | | 8.3 | 3330 | | 79.2 | Guo et al., (2008) ^{g, h} |
| South China Sea | Chub mackerel, <i>Scomber japonicus</i> | 7 | 2010 | Muscle | 1.98 | 3.03 | 94.4 | 423.7 | 2152 | | Shi et al. (2013) ⁱ |
| Gulf of Naples, Italy | Atlantic mackerel, <i>Scomber scombrus</i> | 10 | 2003 | Muscle | 4.47 | 15.6 | | 180.9 | 1005 | | Naso et al. (2005) ^j |
| Øksfjord, northern Norway | Atlantic cod, <i>Gadus morhua</i> | 10 | 2007 | Liver | 42.8 | 34.8 | 2.81 | 230.3 | 625.1 | 20.5 | Bustnes et al. (2012) ^k |

^aPCB₁₆ (-28, -52, -74, -99, -101, -105, -118, -128, -136, -138, -153, -156, -170, -180, -183, -187); PBDE₁₃ (-28, -47, -99, -100, -153, -154, -183, -196, -202, -206, -207, -208, -209).

^bPCB₁₆ (-28, -52, -70, -74, -99, -101, -105, -110, -118, -138, -149, -153, -170, -180, -183, -187); PBDE₁₃ (-15, -28, -47, -49, -66, -100, -154, -155, -197 + 204, -206, -207, -208, -209).

^cPCB₆₁ (PCB-28, -52, -101, -138, -153, -180).

^dPBDE₁₁ (-3, -15, -28, -47, -99, -100, -138, -153, -154, -183, -209).

^ePCB₄₉ (-41 + 64, -42, -44, -47, -49 + 69, -51, -52, -53, -66, -70, -91 + 95, -102, -84 + 92 + 90, -101, -99, -83, -97 + 113, -87 + 117, -85, -82 + 120 + 110, -118, 105, -144 + 149, -134, -133, -132, -128, -153, -141, -137, -138, -159, -156, -176, -178, -187, -285 + 183, -177, -173, -172, -180, -170, -202, -200, -198, -201, -195, -194).

^fPCB₆₁; PBDE₉ (-28, -47, -66, -85, -99, -100, -153, -154, -183).

^gMedian values.

^hPBDE₁₅ (-3, -15, -28, -47, -60, -85, -99, -100, -138, -153, -183, -197, -207, -209).

ⁱPCB₂₇ (-1, -8, -18, -28, -29, -44, -50, -52, -66, -77, -87, -101, -104, -105, -118, -126, -128, -138, -153, -154, -170, -180, -187, -188, -195, -200, -206).

^jPCB₂₀ (-28, -52, -66, -74, -99, -101, -105, -118, -128, -138, -146, -153, -170, -177, -180, -183, -187, -194, -196, -201).

^kPCB₂₄ (-28, -52, -47, -74, -66, -101, -99, -110, -149, -118, -153, -105, -138, -187, -183, -128, -156, -157, -180, -170, -196, -189, -194, -206); PBDE₄ (-47, -100, -99, -154).

DDTs = dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethanes; HCB = hexachlorobenzene; HCH = hexachlorocyclohexane; PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl; PBDE = polybrominated diphenyl ether; nd = not determined.

locations suggest more diffuse sources and relatively low input from local sources.

Relatively low levels of PCBs in fishes and prawn from Zanzibar are in accordance with findings of organochlorines in blubber of bottlenose (*Tursiops aduncus*) and spinner (*Stenella longirostris*) dolphins from Zanzibar, with PCBs <LOD, while methoxylated PBDEs were quantified at high levels, ranging from 0.6 to 210 mg/g lipid weight (Mwevura et al., 2010). In Ghana, West Africa, mean Σ PCB concentrations in muscle tissue of tilapia fish, which is a relatively low-trophic level species, ranged from 22 to 150 ng/g lipid weight (Asante et al., 2013), which is higher than what was found on Zanzibar and Kunduchi in the present study but comparable to fishes and prawn collected from the Dar es Salaam harbor (Table 3). This might indicate similarities in PCB sources in central Dar es Salaam and Ghana, such as waste disposal practices. Concentrations of PCBs in two mackerel species from areas influenced by industrial and urban pollution (China and Italy) exceeded concentrations in mackerel from Dar es Salaam (present study) by up to 2 orders of magnitude (Table 3). In tilapia fish from Ghana, Σ PBDE concentrations ranged from 0.64 to 52 ng/g lipid weight (Asante et al., 2013), exceeding concentrations in all samples from the present study, which might be a result of a larger e-waste recycling industry in Ghana compared to Tanzania (Asante et al., 2010). It is important to remember, however, that evaluation of spatial variation in contaminant occurrence using different species must be done with care because species-specific variations in contaminant accumulation may vary as a result of, for example, trophic position.

Stable isotopes of carbon and nitrogen: Variations within and among locations

Because of overall low lipid content (<5%; Table 2), low C/N ratio (<3.6; Table 1), and low interspecies variability, the

isotope values were not corrected for lipid content (Post et al., 2007). The $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values suggest a separation of pelagic and demersal feeding organisms at -15‰ (Figure 4). There were no clear differences in $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values among locations. The species-specific $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values were higher in fish collected from Dar es Salaam compared to Zanzibar. Median $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values in the thumbprint emperor collected in Dar es Salaam (15.1‰) were higher compared to individuals sampled from Zanzibar (9.6‰; Kruskal-Wallis, $\chi^2 = 6.47$, $p = 0.039$). Median $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values in mackerel collected on Zanzibar (10.7‰) were lower than those in mackerel from the two mainland locations (11.2 and 11.9‰ in Dar es Salaam and Kunduchi, respectively; Kruskal-Wallis, $\chi^2 = 11.56$, $p = 0.003$). Contrary to our expectations, the silver biddy and thumbprint emperor sampled in Dar es Salaam had among the highest $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values, with relatively large variation (Figure 4), suggesting specialized individual feeding behavior. They are both demersal feeders, known to feed on small organisms like crustaceans, polychaetes, and mollusks along shallow, sandy lagoons or coral reefs, and are considered to be low- to mid-trophic level species (Froese & Pauly, 2020). However, their $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values were comparable to the grouper from Dar es Salaam and higher compared to tuna from Zanzibar and barracuda from Kunduchi, which are all considered top predators in the marine system. Spatial variation in $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values could be caused by dietary differences, with individuals from Dar es Salaam feeding on a higher trophic level compared to the same species from other locations; or it can be due to differences in $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ at the base of the food web, causing a systematic shift in values through the food web. Baseline $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ could vary among locations because of differences in species composition in the lower trophic levels, that is, primary producers/consumers, or differences in nutrient input to the marine system (Guzzo et al., 2011), for example, sewage/industrial wastewater discharge and urban/agricultural runoff in the harbor area of Dar es Salaam.

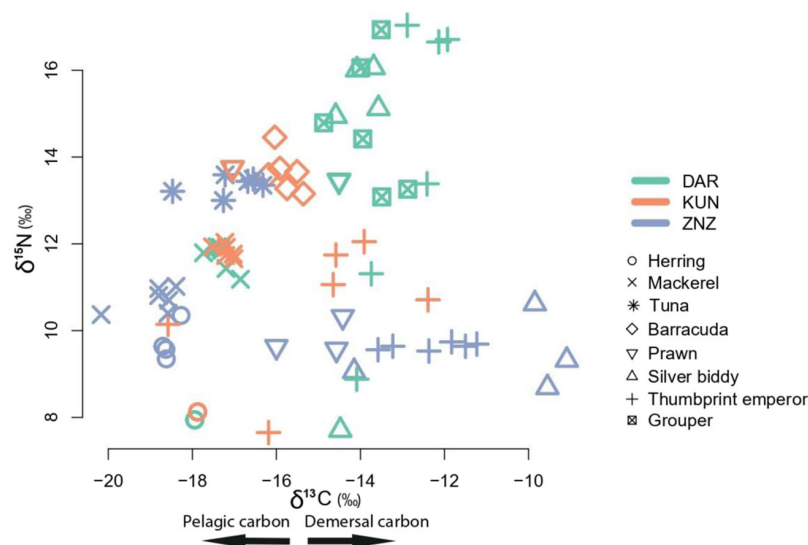


FIGURE 4: Stable isotopes of carbon and nitrogen in various marine species collected from fish markets at the Dar es Salaam harbor, Kunduchi, and Zanzibar. DAR = Dar es Salaam harbor; KUN = Kunduchi; ZNZ = Zanzibar.

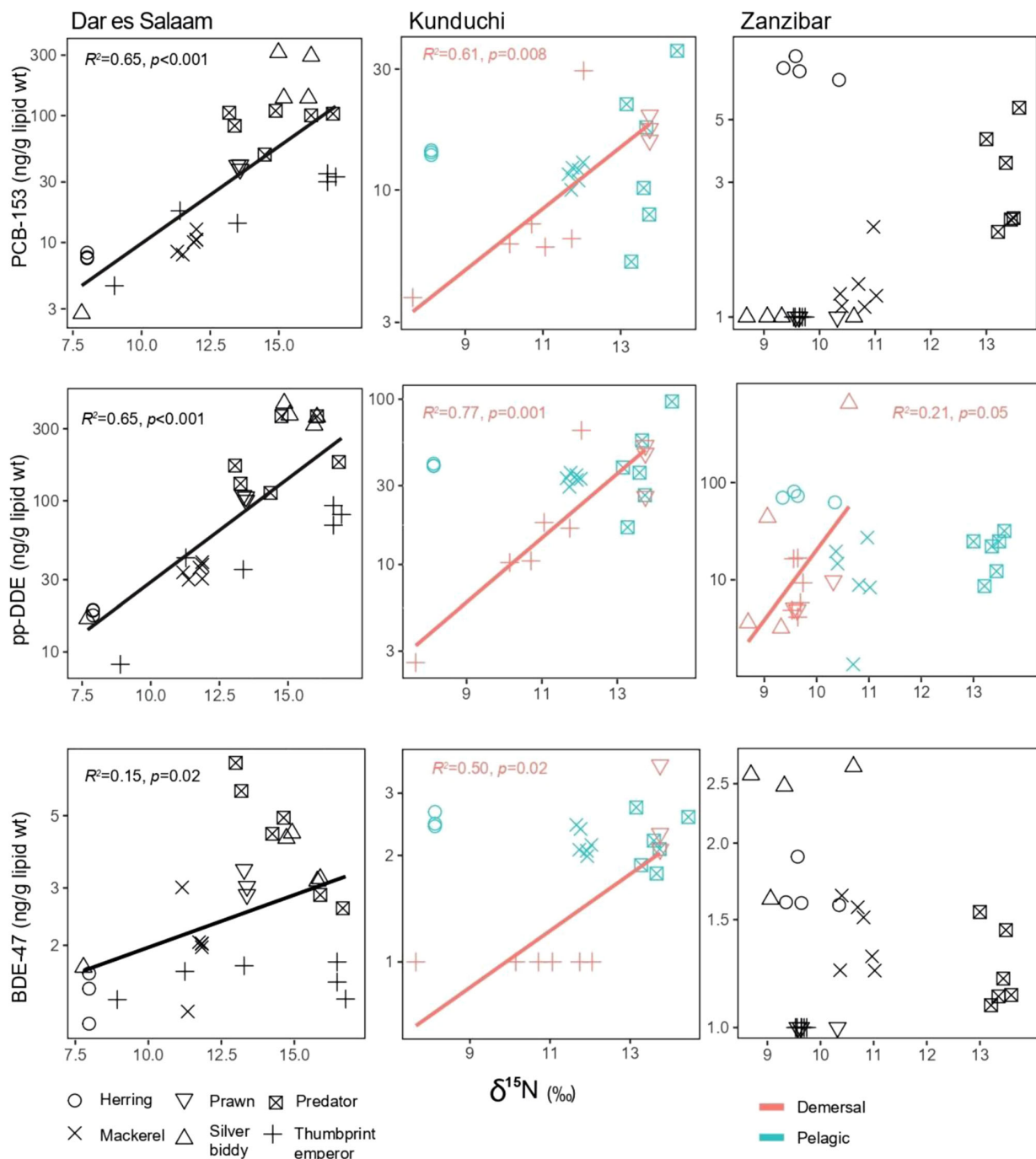


FIGURE 5: Associations between contaminants (PCB-153, pp-DDE, and BDE-47) and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ in marine fishes and prawns collected from fish markets at the Dar es Salaam harbor, Kunduchi, and Zanzibar. Red and blue indicate significant interaction between habitat (pelagic/demersal) and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$, while black indicates no significant interaction. Regression line is shown only when the relationship between contaminant and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ was significant. PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl; DDE = dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene; BDE = brominated diphenyl ether.

Associations between $\delta^{15}\text{N}$, habitat, and contaminant concentrations

Linear regression analyses showed that fish size (weight and length) was not a significant explanatory variable for variation in POP concentrations at any location. In Kunduchi and Zanzibar,

POP concentrations tended to be higher in organisms with higher lipid content, but this was not the case in fish from the Dar es Salaam harbor area. Contaminant concentrations are therefore presented on a lipid weight basis, while wet weight concentrations are shown in the Supporting Information.

The importance of $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ in explaining contaminant concentrations varied depending on contaminants and location and between habitats (pelagic/demersal; Figure 5). In Dar es Salaam, concentrations of PCB-153, PBDE-47, and *p, p'*-DDE were positively associated with $\delta^{15}\text{N}$; and this association did not differ between habitats. In Kunduchi, a positive association between contaminants and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ was found for the demersal system but not the pelagic system. On Zanzibar, a positive association between *p, p'*-DDE and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ was found only for the demersal system, and no significant associations were found for the other contaminants. Differences in contaminant accumulation between organisms relying on demersal or pelagic carbon sources have previously been demonstrated in Lake Malawi (Kidd et al., 2001). A more efficient accumulation of ΣDDTs per trophic level was found for the pelagic system compared to the benthic system, possibly due to higher carbon turnover rates at the base of the benthic food web resulting in reduced ΣDDT exposure to consumers (Kidd et al., 2001). Biomagnification was not found in a food web from the subtropical region of the Pearl River delta in China, with no significant relationships between $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ and contaminants (Guo et al., 2008). Results from the present study could indicate a higher biomagnification potential in the demersal system compared to the pelagic, which could be explained by lipophilic contaminants having a higher affinity to sediments compared to water, and thus a higher exposure potential to organisms feeding in closer association to sediments. However, evaluation of accumulation of POPs in the Tanzanian coastal marine food web must be done with care because the food web was not fully characterized in the present study but biased by the selection of local, common fish species for human consumption. To better understand the trophodynamics of contaminants in this tropical marine system, the trophic niche of a wider range of species including primary consumers should be further investigated.

CONCLUSION

In the present study, occurrence of OCPs and industrial-use contaminants in marine fishes and prawns from coastal Tanzania was investigated among three locations differing in degree of anthropogenic activity. The collected species represented a wide range of different habitats and trophic levels, and contaminant concentrations among and within species varied accordingly. The contaminant concentrations in collected samples from the fish market in central Dar es Salaam were generally higher compared to those in a more rural fish market 25 km north of the city center (Kunduchi) and on Unguja Island of Zanzibar, which is as expected because of the higher anthropogenic activity in this fast-growing urban area. The results indicate spatial variation in concentrations of ΣPCBs , ΣDDT , and HCB with a mainland–island trend. Concentrations of ΣPCBs and ΣDDT were higher and those of HCB lower at the two mainland locations compared to Zanzibar, which may reflect differences in local pollution sources, while ΣPBDE concentrations were similar among locations.

Species-specific spatial variation in $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values reflects individual feeding behavior or differences in baseline $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values among locations. In general, contaminant concentrations were positively associated with $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values, indicating higher contaminant exposure for organisms feeding at higher trophic levels.

Because of the relatively low levels of contaminants found in the present study, consumption of fishes and prawns from coastal Tanzania and Zanzibar does not represent a major risk for humans. However, environmental monitoring of PCBs, PBDEs, and other flame retardants should be conducted because the occurrence of industrial-use contaminants is assumed to increase in this region.

Supporting Information—The Supporting Information is available on the Wiley Online Library at <https://doi.org/10.1002/etc.5254>.

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Data Availability Statement—Data, associated metadata, and calculation tools are available from the corresponding author (katrine.borga@ibv.uio.no).

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Supplementary Information

For:

**Spatial variation in contaminant occurrence in marine fishes and prawns from coastal
Tanzania**

Contains:

Table A1. *Detection frequency of all analyzed chemicals*

Table A2. *Contaminant concentrations (mean (median), ng/g wet weight) in fishes and prawns from three different locations in mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.*

Table A3. *Concentrations (mean (median), range (ng/g lipid weight)) of organochlorine pesticides, PCBs, PBDEs and HBCDD in muscle tissues of fishes and prawns from coastal Tanzania and Zanzibar.*

Table A1. Detection frequency of all analyzed chemicals

| Analyte | Detection frequency (%) |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>b</i> -HCH | 9.8 |
| <i>g</i> -HCH | 61 |
| <i>p,p'</i> -DDE | 96.3 |
| <i>o,p'</i> -DDE | 0 |
| <i>p,p'</i> -DDD | 37.8 |
| <i>o,p'</i> -DDD | 11 |
| <i>p,p'</i> -DDT | 84.1 |
| <i>o,p'</i> -DDT | 15.9 |
| Oxychlordane | 17.1 |
| <i>trans</i> -chlordanane | 20.7 |
| <i>cis</i> -chlordanane | 32.9 |
| <i>trans</i> -nonachlor | 57.3 |
| <i>cis</i> -nonachlor | 40.2 |
| Mirex | 11.0 |
| HCB | 96.3 |
| CB-28 | 24.4 |
| CB-52 | 34.1 |
| CB-74 | 17.1 |
| CB-99 | 47.6 |
| CB-101 | 69.5 |
| CB-105 | 78.0 |
| CB-118 | 75.6 |
| CB-138 | 90.2 |
| CB-153 | 82.9 |
| CB-156 | 64.9 |
| CB-170 | 82.9 |
| CB-180 | 90.2 |
| CB-183 | 73.2 |
| CB-187 | 80.5 |
| BDE-47 | 90.2 |
| BDE-99 | 24.4 |
| BDE-100 | 59.8 |
| BDE-153 | 37.8 |
| BDE-154 | 52.4 |
| BDE-183 | 1.2 |
| BDE-196 | 11.0 |
| BDE-202 | 35.4 |
| BDE-206 | 6.1 |
| BDE-207 | 6.1 |
| BDE-208 | 4.9 |
| BDE-209 | 36.6 |
| HBCDD | 26.8 |

Table A2. Contaminant concentrations (mean (median), ng/g wet weight) in fishes and prawns from three different locations in mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar

| Species (common name) | Location | n | Lipid% | ΣDDTs ³⁾ | HCB | ΣPCBs ⁴⁾ | ΣPBDEs ⁵⁾ | HBCDD |
|---|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Silver-stripe herring | DAR | 3 ²⁾ | 0.97 (0.05) | 0.21 (0.005) | 0.01 (0.01) | 0.21 (0.005) | 0.02 (0.01) | nd |
| | | | 0.98 (0.91-1.01) | 0.21 (0.21-0.22) | 0.01 (0.01-0.01) | 0.21 (0.20-0.21) | 0.02 (0.01-0.03) | |
| <i>Spratelloides gracilis</i> (dagaa) | KUN | 3 ²⁾ | 1.31 (0.18) | 0.69 (0.03) | 0.02 (0) | 0.60 (0.02) | 0.14 (0.006) | nd |
| | | | 1.29-1.33 | 0.7 (0.66-0.72) | 0.2 (0.02-0.02) | 0.59 (0.59-0.62) | 0.14 (0.13-0.14) | |
| lumbunga) | ZNZ ¹⁾ | 4 ²⁾ | 1.32 (0.18) | 1.16 (0.04) | 0.02 (0.004) | 0.25 (0.01) | 0.05 (0.003) | nd |
| | | | 1.32 (1.10-1.54) | 1.15 (1.13-1.21) | 0.02 (0.01-0.02) | 0.26 (0.24-0.26) | 0.05 (0.05-0.06) | |
| Indian mackerel | DAR | 6 | 1.27 (0.36) | 0.47 (0.11) | 0.01 (0.01) | 0.35 (0.13) | 0.03 (0.004) | nd |
| | | | 1.24 (0.74-1.88) | 0.49 (0.28-0.61) | 0.01(0.01-0.02) | 0.36 (0.15-0.53) | 0.03 (0.03-0.03) | |
| <i>Rastrelliger kanagurta</i> , (kibua) | KUN | 6 | 1.30 (0.54) | 0.49 (0.2) | 0.003 (0.003) | 0.44 (0.19) | nd | nd |
| | | | 1.17 (0.78-2.24) | 0.41 (0.3-0.83) | 0.003 (nd-0.01) | 0.38 (0.27-0.78) | | |
| | ZNZ ¹⁾ | 6 | 1.95 (0.90) | 0.33 (0.27) | 0.17 (0.04) | 0.06 (0.03) | 0.01 (0.01) | 0.03 (0.03) |
| | | | 1.75 (1.08-3.35) | 0.25 (0.06-0.80) | 0.16 (0.14-0.25) | 0.06 (0.03-0.12) | 0.01 (0.01-0.03) | 0.04 (0.01-0.07) |
| Pickhandle barracuda | DAR | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| <i>Spyraena jello</i> , (mzia) | KUN | 6 | 0.37 (0.12) | 0.17 (0.10) | 0.01 (0.002) | 0.15 (0.10) | 0.004 (0.001) | nd |
| | | | 0.35 (0.24-0.59) | 0.14 (0.06-0.34) | 0.01 (0.01-0.02) | 0.14 (0.05-0.32) | 0.004 (0.002-0.01) | |
| | ZNZ ¹⁾ | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Mackerel tuna | DAR | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | | | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| <i>Euthynnus affinis</i> , (jodari) | KUN | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | | | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | ZNZ ¹⁾ | 6 | 3.62 (3.45) | 0.79 (0.53) | 0.06 (0.05) | 0.22 (0.19) | 0.09 (0.04) | 0.03 (0.01) |
| | | | 2.81 (0.91-10.3) | 0.67 (0.30-1.62) | 0.05 (0.01-0.16) | 0.18 (0.05-0.54) | 0.08 (0.04-0.14) | 0.03 (0.02-0.05) |
| Prawn | DAR | 3 ²⁾ | 0.78 (0.03) | 0.81 (0.04) | 0.01 (0.002) | 0.99 (0.05) | 0.07 (0.01) | nd |
| | | | 0.77 (0.75-0.81) | 0.81 (0.76-0.86) | 0.01 (0.01-0.01) | 0.98 (0.95-1.05) | 0.07 (0.07-0.07) | |
| <i>Penaeus sp.</i> (kamba) | KUN | 3 ²⁾ | 1.01 (0.48) | 0.47 (0.29) | 0.02 (0.01) | 0.50 (0.19) | 0.04 (0.01) | nd |
| | | | 1.01 (0.53-1.49) | 0.41 (0.3-0.83) | 0.01 (0.01-0.02) | 0.54 (0.30-0.67) | 0.05 (0.03-0.06) | |
| | ZNZ ¹⁾ | 3 ²⁾ | 0.55 (0.1) | 0.03 (0.01) | nd | nd | 0.02 (0.01) | nd |
| | | | 0.56 (0.45-0.65) | 0.03 (0.02-0.04) | | | 0.03 (0.01-0.03) | |
| Silver biddy | DAR | 5 | 1.28 (0.6) | 6.15 (3.6) | 0.01 (0.005) | 9.39 (5.64) | 0.11 (0.07) | 0.13 (0.14) |
| | | | 1.27 (0.35-1.85) | 7.66 (0.05-9.26) | 0.01 (0.004-0.02) | 9.85 (0.02-14.8) | 0.13 (0.02-0.20) | 0.07 (nd-0.29) |
| <i>Gerrus oyena</i> , (chaa) | KUN | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | | | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | ZNZ ¹⁾ | 4 | 0.87 (0.28) | 0.01 (1.66) | 0.01 (0.003) | nd | 0.06 (0.04) | nd |
| | | | 0.94 (0.48-1.12) | 0.28 (0.03-3.47) | 0.01(0.004-0.01) | | 0.05 (0.03-0.12) | |
| Thumbprint emperor | DAR | 6 | 0.81 (0.49) | 0.53 (0.5) | 0.01 (0.002) | 0.37 (0.34) | 0.01 (0.002) | nd |
| | | | 0.6 (0.33-1.50) | 0.35 (0.13-1.51) | 0.01 (0.003-0.01) | 0.24 (0.12-1.05) | 0.01 (0.002-0.01) | |
| <i>Lethrinus harak</i> , (changu) | KUN | 6 | 0.63 (0.38) | 0.19 (0.31) | 0.004 (0.003) | 0.19 (0.32) | nd | nd |
| | | | 0.48 (0.28-1.26) | 0.06 (nd-0.80) | 0.003 (nd-0.01) | 0.07 (0.01-0.83) | | |
| | ZNZ ¹⁾ | 6 | 0.36 (0.06) | 0.03 (0.03) | 0.05 (0.003) | 0.02 (0.002) | nd | nd |
| | | | 0.34 (0.31-0.46) | 0.02 (nd-0.07) | 0.05 (0.05-0.06) | 0.02 (0.02-0.02) | | |
| <i>Epinephelus fasciatus</i> , whitespotted grouper | DAR | 4 | 0.55 (0.27) | 1.62 (1.41) | 0.01 (0.002) | 1.51 (0.91) | 0.05 (0.02) | nd |
| | | | 0.47 (0.27-1.04) | 1.14 (0.60-4.37) | 0.01 (0.006-0.01) | 1.24 (0.78-3.23) | 0.05 (0.01-0.08) | |
| | KUN | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | ZNZ ¹⁾ | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

¹⁾ Data presented in Haarr (2021)

²⁾ Pooled samples

³⁾ ΣDDTs: *p,p'*, *o,p'* (DDE, DDD, DDT)

⁴⁾ PCBs: CB-28, -52, -74, -99, -101, -105, -118, -138, -153, -156, -170, -180, -183, -187

⁵⁾ PBDEs: BDE-47, -99, -100, -153, -154, -202, -209

Table A3. Concentrations (mean (median), range (ng/g lipid weight)) of organochlorine pesticides, PCBs, PBDEs and HBCDD in muscle tissues of fishes and prawns from coastal Tanzania and Zanzibar

| | Herring <i>S. gracilis</i> | Mackerel <i>R. kanagurta</i> | Prawn <i>Penaeus sp.</i> | Silver biddy <i>G. oyena</i> , | T. emperor <i>L. harak</i> , | Predator | Location |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| HCH | 0.50 (0.49) | 0.26 (0.28) | 0.48 (0.51) | 0.81 (0.75) | 0.47 (0.38) | 0.87 (0.72) | DAR |
| | 0.40-0.61 | nd-0.41 | 0.36-0.58 | 0.57-1.32 | nd-1.0 | nd-1.79 | KUN |
| | 0.28 | nd | 1.8 (1.1) | - | nd | 1.16 (1.03) | |
| | 0.20-0.35 | | 0.33-4.0 | | | 0.75-1.76 | ZNZ ¹⁾ |
| nd | 0.44 (0.33) 0.19-1.05 | nd | nd | nd | nd | | |
| HCB | 1.36 (1.35) | 1.10 (1.06) | 1.61 (1.62) | 0.95 (0.93) | 0.79 (0.85) | 2.07 (1.60) | DAR |
| | 1.29-1.44 | 0.96-1.35 | 1.51-1.69 | 0.87-1.05 | 0.62-0.93 | 1.6-3.93 | KUN |
| | 1.17 (1.16) | 1.04 (1.02) | 2.0 (1.96) | - | 0.54 (67) | 2.61 (2.57) | |
| | 1.16-1.19 | 0.98-1.15 | 1.33-2.73 | | nd-0.73 | 1.80-3.60 | ZNZ ¹⁾ |
| | 1.34 (1.21) | 10.7 (9.18) | nd | 0.83 (0.81) | 13.6 | 1.68 (1.72) | |
| 0.92-2.01 | 5.34-21.5 | | 0.63-1.09 | 10.1-16.7 | (.13-2.12) | | |
| Σchlordanes | 0.20 (0.29) | 0.14 (0.18) | 3.33 (3.22) | 26.8 (32.9) | 1.13 (1.29) | 15.6 (14.1) | DAR |
| | nd-0.30 | nd-0.24 | 3.08-3.69 | nd-34.9 | 0.13-1.71 | 5.0-28.5 | KUN |
| | 0.89 (0.83) | 0.17 (0.18) | 1.05 (0.98) | - | nd | nd | |
| | 0.81-1.04 | nd | 0.53-1.64 | nd | nd | 0.92 (0.99) nd-1.64 | ZNZ ¹⁾ |
| Mirex | nd | nd | nd | nd | nd | nd | DAR |
| | nd | nd | nd | nd | nd | nd | KUN |
| | nd | nd | nd | nd | nd | 0.62 (0.59) 0.18-1.15 | ZNZ ¹⁾ |
| ΣDDE | 16.4 (16.8) | 31.7 (32) | 98.5 (99.4) | 284 (339) | 50.8 (51.5) | 208 (166) | DAR |
| | 15.5-16.9 | 27.4-36.2 | 94.4-102 | 14.7-419 | 6.84-87.2 | 106-343 | KUN |
| | 39 (38.8) | 32.1 (32.3) | 40.8 (46.0) | - | 19.1 (12.4) | 44.1 (36.3) | |
| | 38.5-39.7 | 28.5-34.9 | 24.8-51.5 | | nd-63.8 | 15.8-95.9 | ZNZ ¹⁾ |
| | 70.5 (70.3) | 12.3 (10.8) | 5.61 (4.12) | 175 (22.8) | 8.56 | 19.7 (22.5) | |
| 61.5-79.8 | nd-26.2 | 3.92-8.76 | 2.22-652 | 3.15-15.7 | 7.62-30.8 | | |
| ΣDDD | nd | nd | nd | 81.3 (96.2) nd-114 | 11.6 (11.5) nd-18.3 | 36.6 (35.5) 30.9-45.4 | DAR |
| | nd | nd | nd | - | nd | nd | KUN |
| | 7.27 (7.19) 5.78-8.92 | nd | nd | nd | nd | nd | ZNZ ¹⁾ |
| ΣDDT | 5.81 (5.53) | 5.55 (5.48) | 5.24 (5.52) | 51.7 (44.2) | 11.5 (11.5) | 31.5 (27.2) | DAR |
| | 5.45-6.47 | 4.52-6.59 | 4.62-5.6 | nd-92.1 | 1.03-19.8 | (21.4-49.8) | KUN |
| | 10.4 (10.3) | 5.82 (5.71) | 6.37 (6.82) | - | nd | 2.95 (2.11) | |
| | 9.44-11.4 | 4.42-7.53 | 4.61-7.62 | | | nd-7.67 | ZNZ ¹⁾ |
| | 11.3 (11.2) | 3.42 (3.54) | nd | 19.1 (1.9) 1.07-71.4 | nd | 7.76 (7.88) 3.50-11.5 | |
| 8.82-13.8 | 2.01-4.43 | | | | | | |
| ΣOCPs | 24.3 (24.4) | 38.7 (39.4) | 109 (110) | 446 (536) | 76.3 (81.1) | 294 (239) | DAR |
| | 23.0-25.5 | 33.6-42.4 | 104-113 | 17.1-652 | 8.82-120 | 175-470 | KUN |
| | 55.4 (54.6) | 39.2 (39.2) | 52.0 (55.9) | - | 19.7 (13.0) | 50.9 (41.1) | |
| | 53.8-58.0 | 34.1-43.7 | 33.5-66.6 | | nd-64.9 | 18.9-108 | ZNZ ¹⁾ |
| | 90.3 (89.8) | 27.0 (30.4) | 5.61 (4.12) | 195 (25.5) | 22.2 | 30.7 (33.2) | |
| 77.2-105 | 14.9-37.1 | 3.92-8.76 | 4.07-725 | 17.4-32.2 | 13.4-46.5 | | |

¹⁾ Data presented in Haarr (2021)

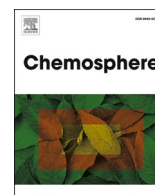
Table A3. Continued

| | Herring | Mackerel | Prawn | Silver biddy | T. emperor | Predator | Location |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| CB-28 | nd | nd | 4.68 (4.76) | 13.5 (14.5) | nd | 5.54 (4.93) | DAR |
| | nd | nd | 4.14-5.13 | nd-24.1 | nd | nd-11.8 | KUN |
| | nd | nd | nd | 0.78 (0.67) | nd | nd | ZNZ ¹⁾ |
| CB-101 | 1.52 (1.57) | 1.29 (1.49) | 8.41 (8.45) | 71.4 (49.4) | 1.86 (2.4) | 10.9 (7.89) | DAR |
| | 1.40-1.58 | nd-1.83 | 7.93-8.85 | nd-131 | nd-3.37 | 5.27-25.1 | |
| | 2.85 (2.78) | 1.76 (1.83) | 2.78 (2.72) | - | nd | 1.55 (0.98) | KUN |
| | 2.57-3.19 | 1.34-2.07 | 2.35-3.27 | | | nd-5.0 | |
| | 0.97 (0.94) | 0.34 (0.35) | nd | nd | nd | 0.73 (0.74) | ZNZ ¹⁾ |
| CB-118 | 0.65-1.35 | nd-0.60 | | | | 0.26-1.20 | |
| | 1.20 (1.23) | 1.43 (1.41) | 10.8 (11.0) | 42.3 (38.2) | 4.52 (4.72) | 21.6 (22.0) | DAR |
| | 1.09-1.28 | 1.15-1.83 | 10.4-11.1 | 0.79-70.5 | 0.45-7.95 | 14.7-26.8 | |
| | 3.05 (2.99) | 1.73 (1.74) | 2.65 (2.58) | - | 1.31 (0.73) | 2.4 (2.03) | KUN |
| | 2.99-3.18 | 1.46-2.03 | 2.45-2.91 | | nd-4.92 | nd-5.88 | |
| CB-138 | 1.21 (1.17) | nd | nd | nd | nd | 0.48 (0.42) | ZNZ ¹⁾ |
| | 1.08-1.41 | | | | | 0.22-0.96 | |
| | 3.44 (3.39) | 5.14 (5.21) | 18.6 (18.8) | 90.5 (73.3) | 8.92 (8.7) | 43.2 (44.4) | DAR |
| | 3.33-3.6 | 4.22-6.09 | 17.7-19.0 | nd-161 | 1.53-15.7 | 25.9-51.9 | |
| | 8.01 (7.96) | 6.69 (6.83) | 9.28 (8.59) | - | 4.24 (2.75) | 8.78 (7.46) | KUN |
| CB-153 | 7.82-8.29 | 5.57-7.17 | 8.40-10.8 | | 1.61-12.6 | 2.28-18.4 | |
| | 2.84 (2.78) | 1.63 (1.70) | nd | nd | 4.78 (4.88) | 0.96 (0.78) | ZNZ ¹⁾ |
| | 2.51-3.30 | 0.95-2.11 | | | 3.55-5.66 | 0.15-2.36 | |
| | 6.06 (5.91) | 8.08 (8.29) | 34.9 (35.6) | 159 (123) | 19.2 (20.6) | 82.0 (91.1) | DAR |
| | 5.78-6.50 | 6.25-10.5 | 33.1-35.9 | 1.49-283 | 3.12-30.5 | 43.5-97.6 | |
| CB-180 | 13.1 (13.1) | 10.6 (10.8) | 16.6 (16.5) | - | 8.85 (5.23) | 15.4 (12.9) | KUN |
| | 12.7-13.4 | 9.0-11.8 | 14.7-18.7 | | 2.76-28.5 | 4.21-34.4 | |
| | 6.58 (6.52) | 0.30 (0.20) | nd | nd | nd | 2.29 (1.88) | ZNZ ¹⁾ |
| | 5.91-7.39 | nd-1.09 | | | | 1.0-4.51 | |
| | 2.87 (2.84) | 3.86 (3.95) | 14.5 (14.8) | 60.2 (49.4) | 5.84 (6.43) | 31.5 (33.4) | DAR |
| BDE-47 | 2.81-2.97 | 2.96-4.95 | 13.8-15.0 | 1.05-102 | 1.12-9.07 | 15.7-42.0 | |
| | 5.55 (5.44) | 5.33 (5.49) | 8.65 (9.25) | - | 2.78 (1.76) | 7.21 (5.63) | KUN |
| | 5.44-5.77 | 4.49-5.98 | 6.65-10.1 | | nd-8.49 | 2.19-15.4 | |
| | 2.51 (2.46) | 0.69 (0.75) | nd | nd | 0.90 (0.95) | 1.38 (1.41) | ZNZ ¹⁾ |
| | 2.29-2.82 | 0.36-0.86 | | | 0.43-1.52 | 0.55-2.67 | |
| BDE-99 | 0.34 (0.40) | 1.22 (1.14) | 2.81 (2.69) | 3.31 (2.98) | 0.53 (57) | 5.79 (5.59) | DAR |
| | nd-0.61 | 0.12-2.66 | 2.41-3.33 | 0.71-5.14 | 0.26-0.80 | 2.0-11.0 | |
| | 1.51 (1.46) | 1.18 (1.11) | 1.67 (1.31) | - | nd | 1.21 (1.14) | KUN |
| | 1.42-1.67 | 0.99-1.44 | 1.08-2.61 | | | 0.78-1.73 | |
| | 0.67 (0.60) | 0.42 | nd | 1.34 (1.53) | nd | 0.26 (0.17) | ZNZ ¹⁾ |
| BDE-100 | 0.58-0.90 | 0.24-0.64 | | 0.62-1.67 | | 0.09-0.54 | |
| | nd | nd | 1.95 (1.67) | 1.52 (1.50) | nd | 2.26 (1.64) | DAR |
| | | | 1.54-2.64 | nd-2.71 | | nd-6.07 | |
| | 4.18 (3.75) | 0.07 (0) | nd | - | nd | nd | KUN |
| | 3.65-5.14 | nd-0.24 | | | | | ZNZ ¹⁾ |
| BDE-153 | nd | nd | nd | nd | nd | nd | |
| | 1.03 (0.93) | 0.78 (0.75) | 0.61 (0.58) | 0.95 (1.14) | nd | 1.03 (0.93) | DAR |
| | 0.39-1.32 | 0.40-1.21 | 0.36-0.90 | nd-1.34 | | nd-2.86 | |
| | 2.43 (2.43) | 0.86 (0.80) | 0.92 (1.37) | - | nd | nd | KUN |
| | 2.22-2.64 | 0.71-1.12 | nd-1.39 | | | | ZNZ ¹⁾ |
| BDE-154 | 2.04 (2.04) | nd | nd | nd | nd | 1.42 (1.47) | |
| | 1.75-2.33 | | | | | 0.37-2.17 | |
| | nd | 0.05 (0) | 3.23 (3.21) | 0.72 (0.66) | nd | 2.13 (1.40) | DAR |
| | | nd.0.29 | 2.87-3.59 | nd-1.58 | | nd-2.43 | |
| | nd | 0.16 (0.19) | nd | - | nd | nd | KUN |
| BDE-209 | 0.95 (0.94) | nd | nd | 3.50 (1.95) | nd | nd | ZNZ ¹⁾ |
| | 0.82-1.08 | | | 0.80-9.31 | | | |
| | nd | 0.49 (0.53) | nd | 1.30 (1.34) | nd | nd | DAR |
| | | 0.24-0.72 | | 0.69-1.66 | | | |
| | nd | 0.60 (0.60) | 0.65 (0.66) | - | nd | nd | KUN |
| HBCDD | 0.44 (0.45) | 0.55-0.65 | 0.20-1.09 | | | | ZNZ ¹⁾ |
| | 0.39-0.45 | 0.36 (0.35) | nd | 0.55 (0.58) | nd | 1.06 (1.10) | |
| | nd | nd-0.77 | | nd-1.04 | | 0.49-1.68 | |
| | nd | nd | nd | nd | nd | 1.81 (1.65) | DAR |
| | | | | | | nd-4.39 | |
| HBCDD | 2.61 (3.18) | nd | nd | - | nd | nd | KUN |
| | 1.18-3.47 | | | | | | ZNZ ¹⁾ |
| | nd | nd | 4.15 (3.90) | 2.10 (1.67) | nd | 0.64 (0.48) | |
| | | | 1.68-6.85 | 1.04-4.04 | | nd-1.84 | |
| | nd | nd | nd | 9.12 (6.42) | nd | nd | DAR |
| HBCDD | nd | nd | nd | nd-19.6 | nd | nd | KUN |
| | nd | 1.69 (1.64) | nd | nd | nd | 1.88 (1.02) | ZNZ ¹⁾ |
| | nd | nd-4.71 | | | | 0.34-5.98 | |

¹⁾ Data presented in Haarr (2021)

Paper III





Chlorinated paraffins and dechloranes in free-range chicken eggs and soil around waste disposal sites in Tanzania

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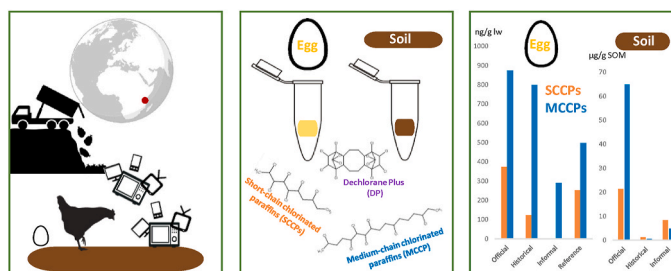
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HIGHLIGHTS

- We quantify chlorinated paraffins and dechloranes in Tanzanian soil and chicken eggs.
- No clear association in contaminant levels or patterns between soil and eggs.
- Elevated contaminant levels in soil from e-waste location, but not in eggs.
- Risk assessment suggest concern for SCCP exposure via egg consumption at one site.

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT



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ABSTRACT

Electronic waste is a source of both legacy and emerging flame retardants to the environment, especially in regions where sufficient waste handling systems are lacking. In the present study, we quantified the occurrence of short- and medium chain chlorinated paraffins (SCCPs and MCCPs) and dechloranes in household chicken (*Gallus domesticus*) eggs and soil collected near waste disposal sites on Zanzibar and the Tanzanian mainland. Sampling locations included an e-waste facility and the active dumpsite of Dar es Salaam, a historical dumpsite in Dar es Salaam, and an informal dumpsite on Zanzibar. We compared concentrations and contaminant profiles between soil and eggs, as free-range chickens ingest a considerable amount of soil during foraging, with potential for maternal transfer to the eggs. We found no correlation between soil and egg concentrations or patterns of dechloranes or CPs. CPs with shorter chain lengths and higher chlorination degree were associated with soil, while longer chain lengths and lower chlorination degree were associated with eggs. MCCPs dominated the CP profile in eggs, with median concentrations ranging from 500 to 900 ng/g lipid weight (lw) among locations. SCCP concentrations in eggs ranged from below the detection limit (LOD) to 370 ng/g lw. Dechlorane Plus was the dominating dechlorane compound in all egg samples, with median concentrations ranging from 0.5 to 2.8 ng/g lw. SCCPs dominated in the soil samples (400–21300 ng/g soil organic matter, SOM), except at the official

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dumpsite where MCCPs were highest (65000 ng/g SOM). Concentrations of dechloranes in soil ranged from below LOD to 240 ng/g SOM, and the dominating compounds were Dechlorane Plus and Dechlorane 603. Risk assessment of CP levels gave margins of exposure (MOE) close to or below 1000 for SCCPs at one location.

1. Introduction

Chemical flame retardants are added to a wide range of consumer goods, such as electronic products, that eventually become obsolete. Lack of sound handling and recycling of waste in developing regions in Africa represents an emerging environmental concern (White et al., 2020; Nipen et al., 2022b). Electronic waste (e-waste) is a source of both legacy, e.g. polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs), as well as emerging flame retardants, e.g. chlorinated paraffins (CPs) and dechloranes, that are replacing regulated contaminants (Abbasi et al., 2019; Nevondo and Okonkwo, 2021; White et al., 2020). Apart from some production of short chain chlorinated paraffins (SCCPs) in South Africa (10,000 tons year⁻¹ as per 2015) and Egypt, other production of these contaminants has not been reported for Africa (Breivik et al., 2002; Abbasi et al., 2019; Hansen et al., 2020; Nevondo and Okonkwo, 2021). Thus, their increased environmental occurrence in this region is largely attributed to increased import and use of consumer goods along with lack of sound treatment of end-of-life products and waste (Breivik et al., 2015; Nipen et al., 2022b).

Declining levels of atmospheric legacy contaminants seen in industrialized regions as a result of reduced emissions is generally not found in developing countries (Gioia et al., 2011; Wong et al., 2021). Temporal trend studies using dated sediment cores show that concentrations of both legacy and emerging contaminants often peak in surface sediment layers in developing and newly industrialized regions, suggesting recent sources, compared to regions that have remained industrialized for some time, where peak concentrations in sediment layers correlate with peak in global production (Nipen et al., 2022b). A spatial shift in contaminant sources is thus occurring, from source regions where production and use have taken place historically, to source regions at the receiving end of obsolete products and waste (Breivik et al., 2011; Abbasi et al., 2015; Nipen et al., 2022b). This spatial shift can be attributed to increasing economic development and industrialization as well as a range of socio-economic factors (Nipen et al., 2022b), and stresses the need for expanding the research efforts on environmental contamination to developing regions in the Global South. Tanzania is experiencing rapid economic and population growth, expanding industry, and increasing import of consumer goods and potentially also waste. With limited capacity to safely manage an increasing stream of waste, both industrial and domestic, Tanzania faces a challenge regarding environmental contamination (Yhdego, 2017; Mahenge et al., 2018).

CPs are a large group of polychlorinated alkanes that encompass thousands of different congeners that are used in metal-working fluids, paints and sealants, and added to a wide range of products as plasticizers and flame retardants (Glüge et al., 2016, 2018). CPs have become ubiquitous in the environment since their introduction in the 1930s, and annual production is today estimated to exceed 1 million tons (Glüge et al., 2016, 2018; Wei et al., 2016; Vorkamp et al., 2019). Based on the carbon chain length, CPs can be classified into three groups: short chain CPs (C10–C13, SCCPs), medium chain CPs (C14–C17, MCCPs), and long chain CPs (>C18, LCCPs). They cover a wide range of physical-chemical properties, with octanol-water partitioning coefficients (Kow) varying from log Kow 5 to 7.5 for SCCPs and 6 to 10 for MCCPs (Glüge et al., 2013). Since the listing of SCCPs under Annex A of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants in 2017 (UNEP, 2017), MCCPs have increasingly been introduced as replacement substances (Glüge et al., 2018). However, studies indicate that MCCPs have similar Persistent, Bioaccumulative and Toxic (PBT) properties as the regulated SCCPs (Castro et al., 2019), and are currently listed for consideration under the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA, 2021). Dechloranes are

another group of high production volume chlorinated flame retardants that includes Dechlorane Plus (DP) and Dechlorane 602 and 603. DP is used in plastic and electronic products and is currently listed for consideration under the Stockholm Convention due to its bio-accumulative properties and ability to undergo long-range transport (Hansen et al., 2020; Schuster et al., 2020). Estimated annual production of DP is around 750–6000 tons, while less is known about the chemical properties and production volumes for Dechlorane 602 and 603 (Wang et al., 2016; Hansen et al., 2020). The EFSA Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain (CONTAM) recently performed benchmark dose (BMD) modelling on data from various studies on the effects of CPs on rodents, and selected as reference points a BMDL10 of 2.3×10^6 ng/kg body weight/day and 36×10^6 ng/kg body weight/day for SCCPs and MCCPs, respectively (EFSA CONTAM Panel et al., 2020). Similar reference points for risk assessment of dechloranes in food for human consumption are not available.

Most studies reporting occurrence of CPs and dechloranes in the environment are from the Northern hemisphere, and China is the main producer of these chemicals (Houde et al., 2008; Clement et al., 2012; Wei et al., 2016; Zhang et al., 2019). Very few studies have investigated CPs and dechloranes in the sub-Saharan African environment (Moekkel et al., 2020; Nevondo and Okonkwo, 2021; Nipen et al., 2022a). Concentrations and composition profiles of CPs and dechloranes in various environmental matrices are governed by complex processes and mechanisms including distance from primary sources, temperature and season, and distance from urban and industrialized areas (Wang et al., 2013; Nipen et al., 2022a). Due to relatively high Kow, these substances will partition to hydrophobic matrices such as organic matter in soil and lipids in organisms, which also affect their environmental distribution and accumulation (Castro et al., 2019; Hansen et al., 2020). In a tropical climate, semi-volatile organic substances, like PCBs, dechloranes and CPs, will more readily evaporate and could be transported and deposited at higher latitudes (Breivik et al., 2011; Vorkamp et al., 2019). Recently, elevated concentrations of CPs and dechloranes were found in air and soil in urban areas and around waste and e-waste disposal sites in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (Nipen et al., 2022a). CPs were also detected in human milk samples from Africa, with concentrations exceeding concentrations of PCBs, and with a dominance of MCCPs over SCCPs suggesting a shift towards non-regulated compounds (Krätschmer et al., 2021). Prior to our study, no peer-reviewed literature exists on CPs and dechloranes in African biota, but SCCP concentrations in chicken eggs from selected sites in Africa, including Tanzania, are reported by the International Pollutants Elimination Network (IPEN) showing elevated levels around waste and e-waste disposal sites (Petrlík et al., 2021). Eggs from free-range household chickens (*Gallus domesticus*) are ideal indicators for contaminated soils, and eggs are a commonly included matrix in environmental monitoring programs globally (Polder et al., 2016; Petrlík et al., 2022). In addition to commercial feed, invertebrates, seeds and household leftovers, free-range chickens ingest considerable amounts of soil during foraging, which can lead to accumulation of contaminants in the tissues of the hen and further transfer into the egg (De Vries et al., 2006; Waegeneers et al., 2009; Polder et al., 2016; Petrlík et al., 2022). Chickens also accumulate CPs from feed (Ueberschär et al., 2007), and mixtures of both short- and medium chained CPs were found to be transferred from chicken to egg with increasing accumulation ratios with increasing carbon chain length and chlorine content (Mézière et al., 2021).

Few studies have previously quantified emerging contaminants in tropical regions far from production and use, where occurrence of these contaminants is expected to increase due to economic development and

industrialization. The aim of the present study was to assess the occurrence of CPs and dechloranes in soil and chicken eggs around waste disposal sites on mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar and to investigate if and how concentrations and congener group profiles vary among locations and between matrices. Collection of soil samples were conducted during an initial screening study of contaminant occurrence around waste disposal sites. As these initial analyses of soil samples showed elevated concentrations of CPs and dechloranes, this motivated collection of eggs from free-range, household chickens from the same locations and one presumed reference site in later fieldwork campaigns. Using the reference dose levels set for CPs and a margin of exposure (MOE) approach, risk assessment of CP exposure via egg consumption was conducted.

2. Materials and methods

2.1. Sample sites

In our initial screening sampling in January 2018, soil from waste disposal sites on the Tanzanian mainland and Zanzibar were specifically targeted to assess CP and dechlorane contamination from waste in general, and from electronic waste in particular (Fig. 1). The two sample sites in Dar es Salaam consisted of one historical dumpsite and the current official dumpsite. The historic Mtoni dumpsite in Dar es Salaam (-6.8730° , 39.2832°) was closed in 2009 after operating for around six years and is located around 8 km from Dar es Salaam city center. This historical dumpsite is in close vicinity of the Kizinga River flowing into Kurasini Creek, surrounded by residential areas. The currently used, official dumpsite at Pugu Kinyamwezi (-6.9278° , 39.12785°) is located around 25 km from the city center. Despite initial plans for building a sanitary landfill for Dar es Salaam, Pugu is today receiving industrial, agricultural, domestic, commercial, medical and other hazardous wastes (e.g. e-waste) without restrictions or regulations regarding leachate and gas management, fencing, soil covering and worker safety measures (Yhdego, 2017). A licensed e-waste dealer is located next to the official dumpsite, where e-waste collection, sorting and dismantling take place. On Zanzibar, the Maruhubi dumpsite (-6.1442° , 39.2101°) is an informal dumpsite receiving solid wastes from Zanzibar municipality. It

is located around 3 km from Zanzibar city center, and close to mangrove forests. From these same sites, chicken eggs were sampled in August 2018 (Zanzibar) and February 2019 (Tanzanian mainland/Dar es Salaam). In addition, eggs were collected from an area away from any known waste disposal sites, a residential area (Bumbwini Makoba, -5.9500° , 39.2000°) around 25 km North of Zanzibar city. Soil samples were not obtained from the residential area on Zanzibar. However, soil samples collected at rural locations around Dar es Salaam as part of a parallel study by Nipen et al. (2022a) are used for reference.

2.2. Sample collection and preparation

At each location, three soil cores (approximately 5 cm deep) were collected within a range of three to five square meters using a stainless-steel hand-held corer. The three cores from each site were pooled into one composite sample. Soil organic matter content (SOM) was estimated by loss on ignition using dried sample material. SOM in the soil samples varied among locations, from dry, sandy soil at the official dumpsite (SOM 3.2%), to 12% SOM at the informal dumpsite on Zanzibar. Two composite soil samples were collected at the historical dumpsite, one from a location influenced by run-off from the old dumpsite and one around 200 m away from the run-off location. The latter had lower SOM content (4.1%) compared to the area influenced by run-off from the old dumpsite (8.3% SOM).

The chickens were kept outside picking food from the local grounds, but owners also reported giving them additional feed such as food scraps and industrial feed. Six eggs were collected from each location, in total 24 eggs. The egg-laying sequence of the sampled eggs is not known. The whole egg content was collected in falcon tubes and kept frozen (-20°C) until laboratory analyses.

2.3. Sample extraction

Composite soil samples (around 7 g) were dried and homogenized together with sodium sulphate with a mortar and pestle to a fine powder. Fresh samples of whole eggs (around 1 g) were used for extraction after homogenization with sodium sulphate. Soil samples were extracted using accelerated solvent extraction, while egg samples were extracted using a cold column technique, both extractions using acetone and n-hexane (1:1) after the addition of internal standards (13C - labelled 1,5,5,6,6,10 - hexachlorodecane, DP syn and Dec 602). Extracts were concentrated using a Turbovap system (Zymark) and sulphuric acid was used for removal of lipids. Extracts were cleaned with 4 g activated silica and a 1 cm layer of sodium sulphate packed in a column eluted with diethyl ether in n-hexane (1:9). Solvent was changed to isoctane, volume concentrated to 100 μL , and 1,2,3,4-tetrachloronaphthalene (TCN) was added as recovery standard. Extracts were analyzed for CPs, DP (syn- and anti-isomers), Dec 602, and Dec 603 using gas chromatography quadrupole time-of-flight high-resolution mass spectrometry (GC/Q-TOF) (Agilent, Santa Clara, USA) in electron capture negative ionization (ECNI) mode. 34 SCCPs and 28 MCCPs congener groups (groups of CPs sharing the same molecular formula) were identified and quantified. A total of 22 egg samples were analyzed for CPs (two samples were lost during sample preparation), and 24 egg samples were analyzed for dechloranes. Lipid content in the egg samples was determined gravimetrically.

2.4. Quantification of chlorinated paraffins

The quantification of CPs in soil in the initial screening study was conducted using the method described by Tomy et al. (1997), where the technical mixture with the closest matching chlorination degree and congener group pattern is used for quantification of each sample. As the chemical analysis of chlorinated paraffins was a field in rapid development at the time of our study, the laboratory further improved its methods and updated to the deconvolution method developed by Bogdal

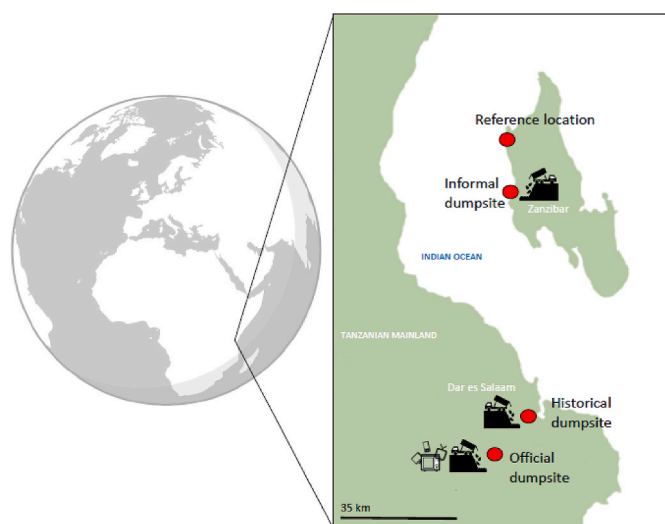


Fig. 1. Sampling locations on mainland Tanzania and Unguja island of Zanzibar. Free-range household chicken eggs and soil were collected at three waste disposal sites: The official dumpsite of Dar es Salaam located next to a small e-waste handling facility, a historical dumpsite in Dar es Salaam, no longer in use, and an informal dumpsite on Zanzibar, where unofficial waste disposal takes place. Only egg samples were collected from the residential area, located away from any waste disposal sites.

et al. (2015), by the time of the follow up study with egg analysis. The congener group profiles of CPs are comparable across the two methods of quantification as the same instrument was used for both soil and egg samples. Unfortunately we were not able to re-quantify the initial screening samples based on the Bogdal method, but our soil data from the official dumpsite/e-waste facility of Dar es Salaam were comparable to CPs quantified in soil samples collected from the same location the following year using the deconvolution method (Nipen et al., 2022a) (See quality assurance below).

The deconvolution method by Bogdal et al. (2015) involves quantification of CPs using technical mixtures with different chlorination degree (SCCPs: C10 – C13 standards with 51%, 55% and 63% Cl; MCCPs: C14 – C17 standards of 42%, 52%, and 57% Cl, Dr. Ehrenstorfer, Germany) and standards with single carbon chain lengths as calibration standards (SCCPs: C10, C11, C12, and C13 (50% and 65% Cl); MCCPs: C14 with 52% Cl, Dr. Ehrenstorfer, Germany). A mathematical deconvolution method reconstructs the congener group pattern in the samples using a linear combination of the congener group patterns in the calibration standards. Match between sample and standard pattern was assessed with the goodness of fit where R² above 0.5 was considered acceptable. Average R² for SCCPs were 0.91 while average R² for MCCPs was 0.89 (Table A1).

2.5. Quality assurance & quality control

Despite using different quantification methods of soil CP occurrence in the present study and the soil transect study by Nipen et al. (2022a), the concentrations are comparable in the two soil samples from same site (the official dumpsite/e-waste facility in Dar es Salaam: present study: 670 ng/g dw SCCPs, 2100 ng/g MCCPs, and 7.6 ng/g dw DP. Sample W-23 from Nipen et al., 2022a: 480 ng/g dw SCCPs, 2700 ng/g dw MCCPs, and 6 ng/g dw DP). This confirms the quality and representativeness of the quantification methods used in the present study.

Substantial measures were done to avoid contamination during sample preparation and extraction, including use of high-quality grade solvents, glassware heat-treated at 450 °C and rinsed with solvents immediately prior to use, and sample preparation procedures performed in a laminar flow cabinet when possible. For every sample batch (samples were run in five batches), 1–2 blank samples were included to account for any background signal or contamination of CPs during the extraction. In total, eight blank samples were run to assure representative values of the background signal. The limit of detection (LOD) was defined as three times standard deviation of the blanks. The LODs for CPs in eggs were 16.2 ng/g ww and 65.0 ng/g ww for SCCPs and MCCPs, respectively, and 11 ng/g dw and 19 ng/g dw for SCCPs and MCCPs, respectively, in soil. LODs for dechloranes in eggs were 0.01 ng/g ww for Dechlorane 602 and 603, and 0.02 for Dechlorane Plus. The LODs for dechloranes in soil were 0.01 and 0.001 ng/g dw for Dechlorane Plus, and Dechlorane 602 and 603, respectively. The ratios of TCN and 13C labelled internal standards were compared against the ratios of TCN and internal standards in quantification mixtures (which were not subject to extraction and clean-up) to determine the recovery of internal standards. Recovery of CPs in soil samples were between 54% and 57% and between 71% and 87% for dechloranes. Recovery of CPs in eggs were between 83% and 130% (Table A1). Average recoveries of dechloranes in eggs were between 84% and 147% (calculated from two radiolabeled congeners used for recovery calculations, Table A2). Quantification of both CPs and dechloranes involves addition of internal standards prior to sample extraction and clean up, and thus recovery percentage is automatically corrected for.

2.6. Risk assessment of CP intake via egg consumption

Human risk assessment of CP intake via eggs was assessed using the margin of exposure (MOE) approach. Egg consumption for the Tanzanian population is estimated to be 106 eggs per person per year (Ringo

and Lekule, 2020), and average weight for all eggs sampled in the present study (46.3 g) was used to calculate daily egg intake in grams per day. Daily intake of CPs via consumption of eggs was calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Egg intake} = (\text{ConcCP} \times \text{ecd} \times \text{lipidegg}) / \text{BW}$$

where ConcCP is SCCP or MCCP concentration in the egg samples (ng/g lw); ecd is the daily egg consumption (g/day); lipidegg the average lipid content (%) of eggs at each location in the present study; and average human body weight (BW), set at 60 kg. The MOE was calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{MOE} = \text{BMDL10} / \text{Egg intake}$$

where BMDL10 is 2.3×10^6 ng/kg bw/day and 36×10^6 ng/kg bw/day for SCCPs and MCCPs, respectively. The CONTAM Panel conclude that a MOE higher than 1000 indicate no health concern.

2.7. Data treatment and statistical analyses

All statistical analyses were conducted using R Studio. Compounds detected below LOD in more than 85% of the samples were removed from further data treatment. This included SCCPs in eggs from the informal dumpsite on Zanzibar (Table A1). Otherwise, values that were quantified but below LOD were included for data treatment and statistical analyses. This included three egg samples for SCCPs and five samples for MCCPs (Table A1). Due to low sample size, and because assumptions of normality and equal variance were not met, assessment of spatial variation of contaminant concentrations in eggs was conducted using the non-parametric Kruskal Wallis test.

Assessment of CP congener group profiles among sites and between matrices was done using principal component analyses (PCA) with the vegan package for R (Jari Oksanen et al., 2019). All variables were scaled to zero mean and unit standard deviation. For the multivariate assessment of CP congener group profiles, individual congener groups (e.g. C10H17Cl5) were normalized to total CP concentrations (SCCPs + MCCPs). For visualization of CP congener group profiles in Fig. 4, individual congener groups were normalized to total SCCP and MCCP concentrations, respectively.

3. Results

CPs was the dominant contaminant group in both egg and soil samples from the present study, with concentrations up to three orders of magnitude higher than for dechloranes (Table 1). Elevated concentrations of SCCPs, MCCPs and DP in soil were found at the official dumpsite compared to the other locations (Fig. 2), but there was no clear association between concentrations or congener group profiles between egg and soil samples. Contaminant concentrations in eggs did not differ between dumpsites and the reference location, and the standard deviation within sites was relatively large (Table 2). Contaminant concentrations on a wet weight/dry weight basis with LODs annotated can be found in the Appendix (Figure A1).

Mean lipid content in eggs ranged from 8.9% from the official dumpsite to 14.2% in eggs from the residential area. Due to the high lipid solubility of CPs and dechloranes and differences in lipid content among eggs from the different locations, the assessment of spatial variation in contaminant concentrations was conducted on a lipid weight basis to ensure that spatial variability in CP and dechloranes reflects variation beyond lipid content. SOM content in the soil samples ranged from 3% to 12%. Due to low sample size, statistical testing of differences in SOM content or contaminant concentrations among locations could not be performed, but data are presented normalized to SOM, also to allow comparison to the egg lipid normalized concentrations.

Table 1
Concentrations of short and medium chained chlorinated paraffins (SCCP, MCCP) and dechloranes (mean (median), range (standard deviation, SD), ng/g) in chicken eggs from four locations in Dar es Salaam (Tanzanian mainland) and Zanzibar (Unguja island).

| Location | n | Lipid% mean | SCCP ng/g wet weight mean (median) min-max (SD) | MCCP | MCCP/SCCP | Dech Plus (DP) mean (median) min-max (SD) | Dech 602 | Dech 603 |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------|--|-------------------------------|-----------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Official, DAR | 5/6 ^a | 8.9 | 38 (37) 32-49 (6) | 81 (76) <LOD-110 (18) | 2.7 | 0.04 (0.04) 0.03-0.05 (0) | <LOD | <LOD |
| Historical, DAR | 6 | 10 | 40 (17) <LOD-115 (41) | 130 (78) <LOD-305 (93) | 4.4 | 0.3 (0.1) 0.1-0.6 (0.2) | <LOD | 0.2 (0.1) 0.1-0.3 (0.1) |
| Informal, ZNZ | 6 | 11.6 | <LOD | 64 (67) <LOD-75 (10) | 6.6 | 0.3 (0.3) 0.2-0.5 (0.1) | 0.02 (0.02) 0.01-0.02 (0.002) | 0.2 (0.3) 0.2-0.3 (0.03) |
| Reference, ZNZ | 5/6 ^a | 14.2 | 33 (28) 19-57 (13) | 86 (70) <LOD-127 (28) | 2.9 | 0.1 (0.1) 0.1-0.3 (0.1) | <LOD | 0.2 (0.1) 0.03-0.9 (0.3) |
| Official, DAR | 5/6 ^a | 8.9 | 480 (370) 290-790 (185) | 1100 (870) <LOD-2400 (655) | 2.7 | 0.5 (0.5) 0.3-0.8 (0.2) | <LOD | <LOD |
| Historical, DAR | 6 | 10 | 380 (220) <LOD-940 (325) | 1200 (900) <LOD-2500 (683) | 4.4 | 2.5 (1.5) 0.7-5 (1.8) | <LOD | 1.6 (1.4) 0.9-2.7 (0.7) |
| Informal, ZNZ | 6 | 11.6 | <LOD | 560 (560) <LOD-670 (91) | 6.6 | 2.9 (2.8) 1.6-4.1 (1) | 0.2 (0.2) 0.1-0.2 (0.02) | 2.1 (2.2) 1.8-2.4 (0.2) |
| Reference, ZNZ | 5/6 ^a | 14.2 | 240 (250) 130-390 (94) | 650 (500) <LOD-1230 (323) | 2.9 | 0.8 (0.7) 0.4-2 (0.6) | <LOD | 1.5 (0.4) 0.3-6.2 (2.1) |

^a Five eggs analyzed for chlorinated paraffins, six eggs analyzed for dechloranes.

3.1. Concentrations of chlorinated paraffins in eggs and soil

SCCPs were detected above LOD in 13 of 22 egg samples, while MCCPs were above LOD in 16 of 22 egg samples. Median concentrations of SCCPs in eggs ranged from <LOD to 370 ng/g lipid weight (lw) among locations. SCCPs were below LOD in all eggs from the informal dumpsite on Zanzibar while highest concentrations were found at the official dumpsite (p = 0.02, χ^2 Kruskal Wallis = 14.5, Fig. 2, Table 1). MCCP concentrations in eggs were higher compared to SCCPs at all locations (SCCP/MCCP ratio ranging from 0.3 to 0.5, Table 1). Concentrations ranged from 500 to 900 ng/g lw with no significant difference among locations (p = 0.09, χ^2 Kruskal Wallis = 6.43, Fig. 2). The average MOE values ranged from 2400 to 3100 for SCCPs and 13,500 to 24,900 for MCCPs among locations (Table A3). At all locations, MOE for MCCPs exceeded 1,000, while MOE for SCCPs was below or close to 1000 (890 and 1300, Fig. 3) in two egg samples collected at the historical dumpsite in Dar es Salaam.

In the soil samples, CP concentrations were highest at the official dumpsite next to the e-waste handling facility in Dar es Salaam. MCCPs was the dominating CP group at the official dumpsite (SCCP/MCCP ratio 0.3, Table 1), while SCCPs dominated at the other locations. Concentrations among locations ranged from 400 to 21300 ng/g SOM for SCCPs and <LOD to 65000 ng/g SOM for MCCPs (Table 1).

3.2. Concentrations of dechloranes in eggs and soil

Dechlorane Plus (combining both syn- and anti-isomers) was detected in eggs from all locations, and was the dominant dechlorane group. Median DP concentrations ranged from 0.5 ng/g lw to 2.8 ng/g lw among locations, and highest concentrations were found at the informal dumpsite on Zanzibar (p = 0.006, χ^2 Kruskal Wallis = 12.3, Fig. 2). Dechlorane 603 was detected above LOD in 18 of 24 samples, with median concentrations ranging from <LOD to 2.2 ng/g lw. Dechlorane 602 was only detected above LOD in eggs from the informal dumpsite on Zanzibar (Table 1).

Dechlorane 602 was detected at relatively low concentrations (below or close to LOD) in soil from all sites. However, relatively high concentration of Dechlorane 603 was found at the historical dumpsite, at the location away from the area affected by run-off from the old dumpsite. Here, concentration of Dech 603 was up to two orders of magnitude higher compared to the other locations, and higher than DP from the same site (230 and 12 ng/g SOM, respectively). Except from at this site, DP dominated the dechlorane pattern in soil, and the concentration was highest at the official dumpsite of Dar es Salaam and the informal dumpsite on Zanzibar, 240 and 70 ng/g SOM, respectively (Table 2).

3.3. CP congener group profiles in egg and soil

C10 and C14 homologues were evenly distributed among samples and locations, while C15-C17 homologues were generally more present in eggs compared to soil. SCCPs with higher chlorination degree dominated in the soil samples, while MCCPs with lower chlorination degree dominated in the egg samples (Fig. 4). The multivariate analyses of CP congener group profiles showed a gradient from high to low chlorination degree along the first principal component (PC1 28%) of the PCA plot (Fig. 5). Congener groups with more chlorine atoms pointed in the direction of the soil samples, and groups with fewer chlorine atoms point in the direction of the egg samples. There is a gradient from low to high carbon chain length along the second principal component (PC2, 21%), with increasing relative contribution of CPs with shorter carbon chain lengths in soil samples and longer carbon chain lengths in egg samples with increasing PC2 values. PC1 and PC2 together account for 49% of the total variation in the dataset, meaning that there might be other drivers of variation in the data not captured in this study. Some CPs had higher absolute loadings on the third axis, PC3 (C10Cl5, C10Cl6,

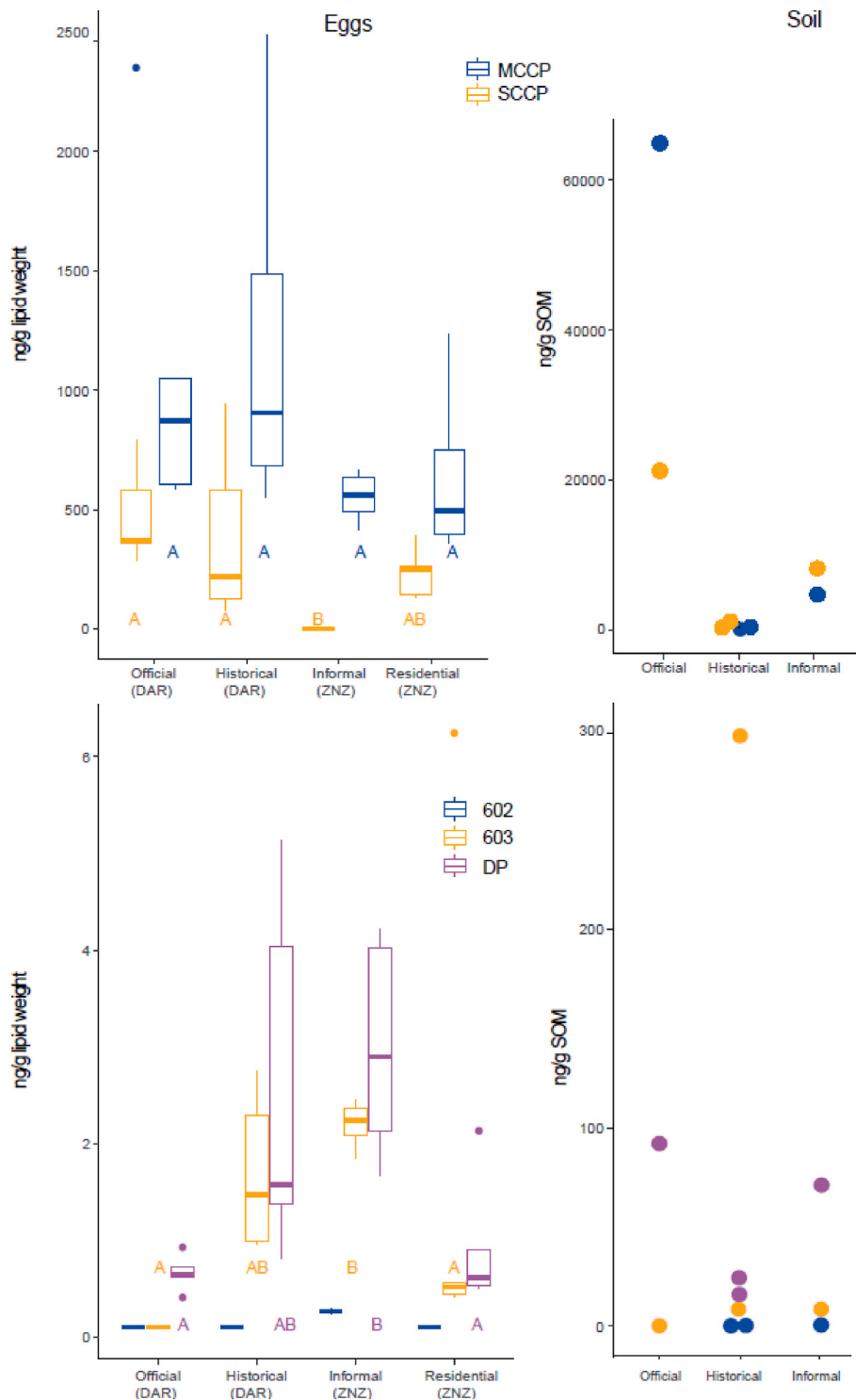


Fig. 2. Concentrations of chlorinated paraffins and dechloranes in eggs (ng/g lipid weight) and soil (ng/g SOM) from three dumpsites on mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar. Groups not significantly different from each other (Kruskal Wallis test) share letter code (A, B).

C13Cl5, C13Cl6, C14Cl5, C16Cl7, C16Cl8), but due to the low amount of variation explained by this axis (12%), PC3 was not considered important for interpretations of the main trends in the results.

4. Discussion

Elevated concentrations of SCCPs, MCCPs and DP in soil at the official dumpsite next to the e-waste facility in Dar es Salaam could indicate that waste and e-waste represent a contaminant source to the

Tanzanian environment. However, due to the low spatial variation of CP concentrations in eggs and the large variation within sites, no clear conclusions regarding a waste signal can be made. Unknown contaminant sources at the residential area cannot be ruled out. Particularly high concentrations of SCCPs in two eggs from the historical dumpsite resulted in MOE close to or below the 1000-limit set by the CONTAM panel. This suggests that consumption of eggs from this location represent a health concern, which warrants further research on human exposure to CPs and their health effects.

Table 2

Concentrations of chlorinated paraffins and dechloranes in soil samples collected at three locations around Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar, Tanzania. Each soil sample consists of three composite samples.

| Location | %SOM | SCCP | MCCP | SCCP/MCCP | Dech Plus (DP) | Dech 602 | Dech 603 |
|---------------------|------|-------|-------|-----------|----------------|----------|----------|
| ng/g dry weight | | | | | | | |
| Official (DAR) | 3.2 | 670 | 2100 | 0.3 | 7.6 | 0.004 | <LOD |
| Historical (DAR) | 8.3 | 100 | 40 | 2.5 | 0.7 | 0.01 | 0.4 |
| Historical II (DAR) | 4.1 | 17 | <LOD | 1.9 | 0.5 | <LOD | 10 |
| Informal (ZNZ) | 12.1 | 1010 | 580 | 1.7 | 8.4 | 0.1 | 0.3 |
| ng/g SOM | | | | | | | |
| Official (DAR) | 3.2 | 21300 | 65000 | 0.3 | 240 | 0.1 | <LOD |
| Historical (DAR) | 8.3 | 1250 | 500 | 2.5 | 9 | 0.1 | 4 |
| Historical II (DAR) | 4.1 | 400 | <LOD | 1.9 | 12 | <LOD | 230 |
| Informal (ZNZ) | 12.1 | 8300 | 4800 | 1.7 | 70 | 0.6 | 2.5 |

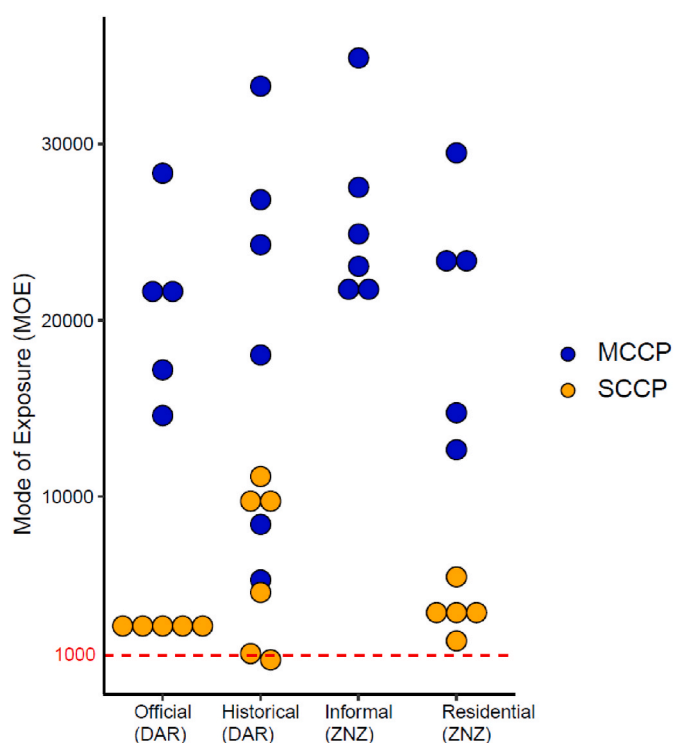


Fig. 3. Mode of Exposure (MOE) calculated for SCCPs and MCCPs in individual egg samples collected from locations on mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar. The MOE limit at 1000 (indicated by the red, dotted line) is set by the CONTAM panel for human exposure to CPs and MOE above this limit indicate no risk. (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the Web version of this article.)

Despite limited amount of soil samples collected in the present study, differences in CP congener group patterns between soil and eggs were observed. While MCCPs was the dominant CP group in the egg samples, SCCPs dominated in two out of three soil samples. This may be due to higher K_{ow} and affinity to lipid-rich tissues such as eggs for CPs with longer carbon chain lengths. Elevated concentrations of Dechlorane Plus in soil from the official and informal dumpsites, compared to the historical dumpsite, could also indicate a waste signal. As opposed to the historical dumpsite, the informal and official dumpsites are active and currently receiving household wastes, which might be represented by more modern products and consumer goods compared to what has been discarded at the historical dumpsite that was shut down in 2009. Elevated concentrations of Dechlorane 603 at the historical dumpsite but not at the official dumpsite suggest local use of pesticides rather than a waste signal, as this compound can occur as an impurity in the pesticides aldrin and dieldrin (Shen et al., 2011). Higher concentrations of

MCCPs compared to SCCPs in soil samples at the official dumpsite next to the e-waste handling facility could be a consequence of more modern products containing MCCPs being disposed of at this location, as regulatory efforts have led to a dominance of MCCPs over SCCPs in environmental compartments (Gluge et al., 2018). The calculated MOEs for the CP exposure via consumption of eggs from the present study do not suggest a health concern for MCCPs (all MOEs >1000), whereas one egg from the historic waste site had SCCPs levels of concern with MOE values below 1000. However, this limited scenario does not account for differences in egg consumption or CP exposure from other sources, and further investigations should be made regarding human exposure to CPs and dechloranes and potential health risks.

In general, chlorinated paraffin and dechlorane concentrations in eggs and soil in the present study were higher compared to what has been reported from Europe, but several orders of magnitude lower compared to e-waste locations in China (Table 3). Due to few replicates in the present study, comparisons between other studies must be done with care. In addition, analytical challenges and uncertainties, especially regarding quantification of CPs, make comparisons among different laboratories challenging. Concentrations of CPs and DP in home-produced eggs from e-waste locations in China were up to three orders of magnitude higher compared to the present study (Zheng et al., 2012; Zeng et al., 2018). Concentrations of DP in eggs from the present study were in the same range as in eggs from Latvia (Zacs et al., 2021). SCCPs could not be detected in chicken eggs purchased from different suppliers from Belgium (LOQ: 0.5 ng/g ww), while MCCP concentrations were around ten times lower than concentrations in eggs from the present study (McGrath et al., 2021, Table 3). Concentrations of CPs in soil from an e-waste dismantling location in China were 200 times higher than the highest SCCP concentration found in the present study, and over three orders of magnitude higher compared to the highest MCCP concentration measured in the present study (Xu et al., 2019). In background soil samples collected from Norway and the UK in 2008, average concentrations of SCCPs were more than ten times lower than the lowest concentration measured in the present study (Halse et al., 2015). Soil samples collected at rural sites outside Dar es Salaam (Table 3) showed CP concentrations in the same range as samples collected in the present study from the historical dumpsite, and lower concentrations of DP (Nipen et al., 2022a). This supports the hypothesis that wastes containing CPs and dechloranes have not readily been discarded at the historical dumpsite, and that soil from this location does not represent a major contaminant source to household chickens foraging in the area.

Avian maternal transfer of CPs is lower compared to other POPs, such as PCBs and DDT (Choo et al., 2020; Guan et al., 2020; Knudtson et al., 2021). However, the effects of CP chain length, chlorine content and chlorine distribution/positioning on bioaccumulation and maternal transfer are still not well understood (Bettina et al., 2011; Mézière et al., 2021). After dietary exposure to five technical mixtures, the maternal transfer of CPs with both low and high chlorine content from feed to chicken eggs was favored for SCCPs and MCCPs, whereas lower

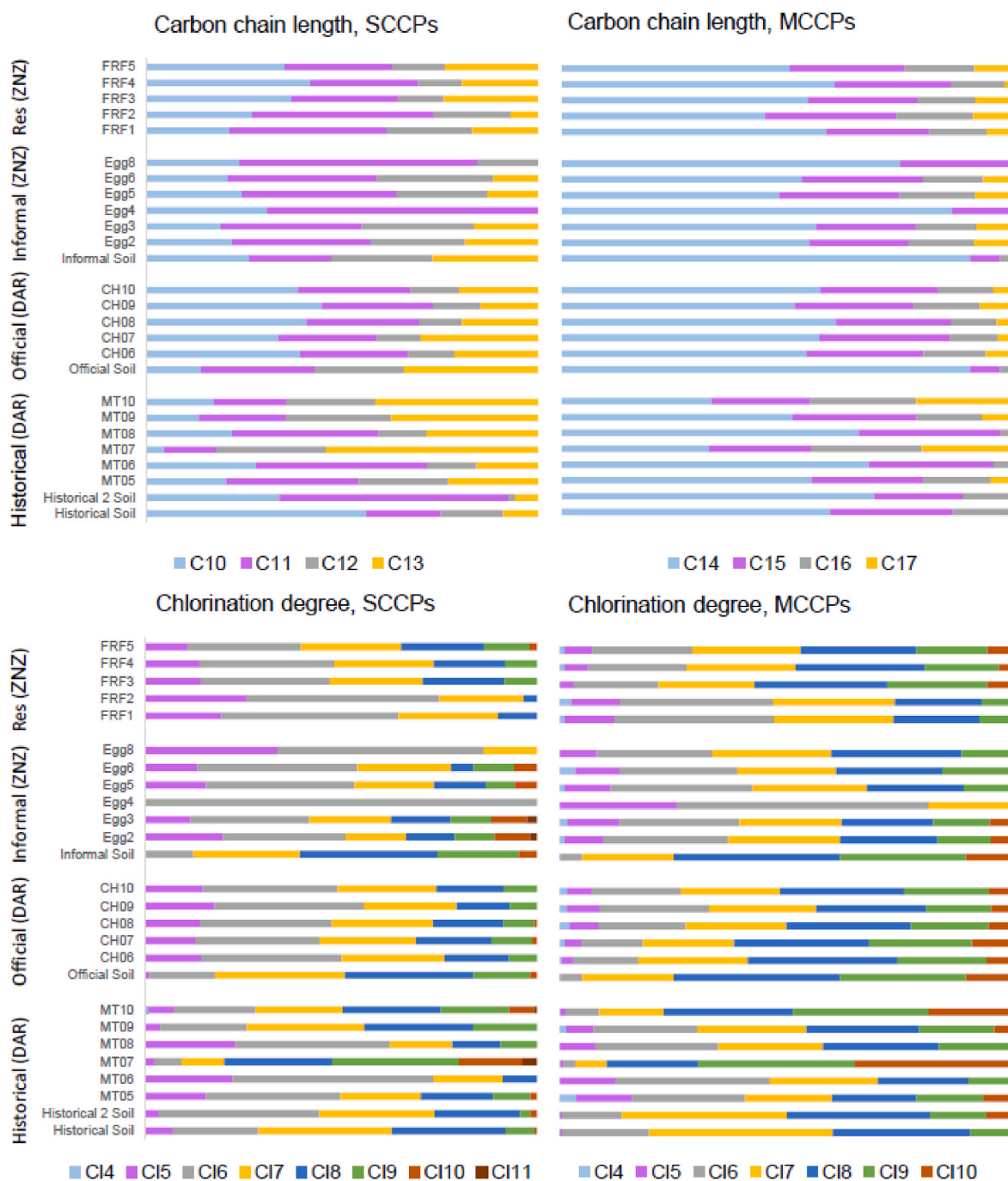


Fig. 4. Congener group profiles for chlorinated paraffins (SCCPs and MCCPs) in chicken egg and soil collected around various waste disposal sites on mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.

chlorinated congeners were transferred for long chained chlorinated paraffins (LCCPs) (Mézière et al., 2021). Maternal transfer of CPs in watersnake, *Enhydrys chinensis*, (egg to muscle ratio) decreased with increasing log Kow (ranging from log Kow 5 to 10) (Guan et al., 2020). Contrary, egg to liver ratio of CPs in the black-spotted frog, *Pelophylax nigromaculatus*, increased with log Kow and carbon chain length, suggesting that maternal transfer of CPs is related to the lipophilicity of the chemical. In addition, maternal transfer and chlorine content had a parabolic relationship, where egg to liver ratio increased up to chlorine content of 6–7, and then decreased as chlorine content increased further (Du et al., 2019). This parabolic relationship was also found for PBDEs in the rice frog, *Rana limnocharis*, with maternal transfer ratio peaking at 6–7 bromine atoms and log Kow at around 8 (Wu et al., 2009). A study

by Zheng et al. (2018) also suggests highest maternal transfer rate for mid-halogenated POPs with log Kow of 6.5–7 in the Kentish Plover, *Charadrius alexandrinus*. This seems in accordance with the present study, where CPs with 5–8 chlorine atoms and log Kow values around 6.5–9 were dominating in the egg samples. Dechlorane Plus is a relatively large molecule with a log Kow value above 9, and a high potential for maternal transfer in chickens compared to other organohalogen contaminants, including PBDEs and PCBs. However, the mechanisms for maternal transfer of DP are not clear (Li et al., 2021), and cannot be assessed further in the present study.

The different sampling times of egg and soil pairs (collected up to one year apart) from each location could affect the lack of correspondence in egg and soil concentrations in the present study. However, this is

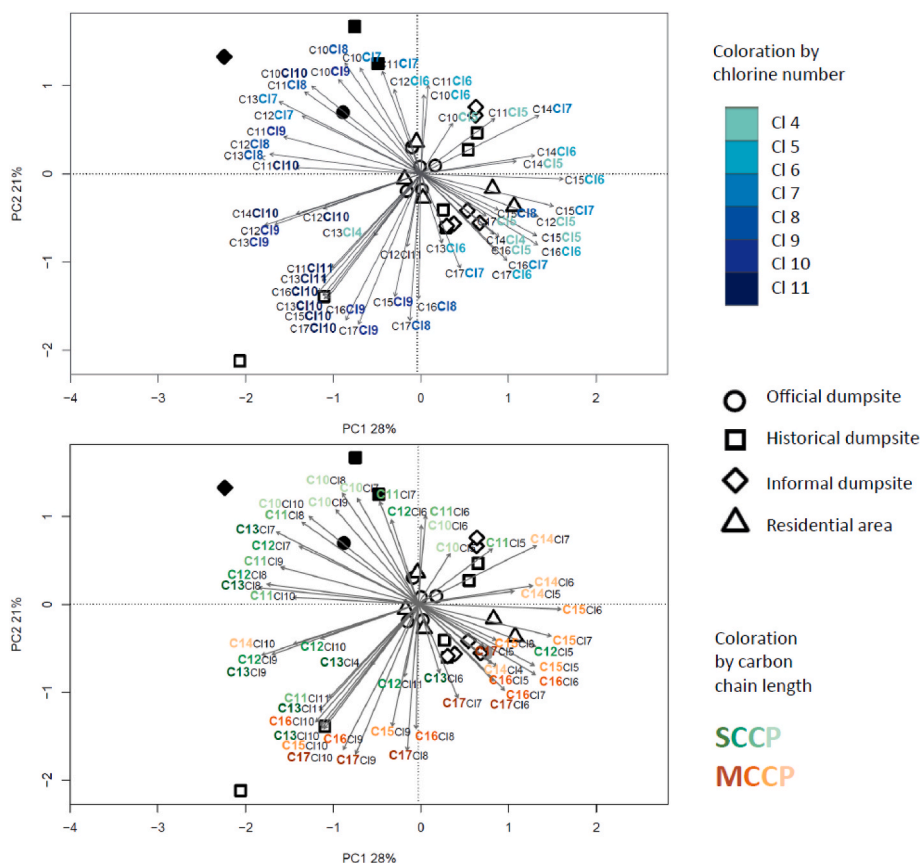


Fig. 5. Biplots of congener group profiles of chlorinated paraffins in eggs and soil from dumpsites on mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar. The different locations are shown as different symbols. Open symbols represent eggs, while filled symbols represent soil. Carbon chain length and chlorination degree of the different congener groups are highlighted in the two plots, respectively. Coloration of congener groups with light to darker blue with increasing chlorine number (above), and by carbon chain length of short-chain and medium-chain CPs, respectively. (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the Web version of this article.)

Table 3

Concentrations of CPs and dechloranes in chicken egg and soil reported from other studies. Concentrations are given in ng/g (different units used for normalization (lipid weight, SOM) is annotated). Mean (median) and range is reported when given in reference.

| Location | n | Matrix | SCCP | MCCP | Dech Plus (DP) | Unit | Reference |
|---------------------------|------------|--------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------|-----------------------|
| Tanzania | 1 (pooled) | egg | 599 (–) | NA | | lw | Petrlík et al. (2021) |
| China (e-waste) | 30 | egg | 10,100 (1490) | 6830 (999) | | lw | Zeng et al. (2018) |
| Belgium | 10 | egg | ND | 297-91,100 | | ww | McGrath et al. (2021) |
| China (e-waste) | 33 | egg | | 3.3–16 | | lw | Zheng et al. (2012) |
| Latvia | 8 | egg | | | 665–3290 | ww | Zacs et al. (2021) |
| China (e-waste) | 7 | soil | 43000 (2300) | 841000 (22600) | 0.03 | dw | Xu et al. (2019) |
| Norway & UK | 58 | soil | 69-2,2x105 | 507-4,4x106 | | ng/g SOM | Halse et al. (2015) |
| Tanzania (waste transect) | 9 | soil | 35 (–) | NA | | | |
| | | | <0.6–570 | | | | |
| Tanzania (waste transect) | 9 | soil | 670 (40) | 966 (160) | 0.9 (0.1) | dw | Nipen et al. (2022a) |
| | | | 11–5300 | <19-5100 | <0.01–6 | | |
| Tanzania (rural transect) | 6 | soil | 31 (58) | 19 (19) | 0,04 (0,04) | dw | Nipen et al. (2022a) |
| | | | <11-120 | <19-210 | 0,03–0,07 | | |

probably more relevant in regions where organisms experience large seasonal variation in lipid content (Warner et al., 2019). In addition to soil, industrial feed is also considered a significant source of CPs to domestic chickens (Dong et al., 2019). Future studies should include analyses of industrial feed, in addition to soil, to assess its importance as a source of CPs and dechloranes to domestic animals.

5. Conclusion

This study is one of very few studies to quantify levels of CPs and dechloranes in biota from Sub-Saharan Africa. A spatial shift in contaminant sources is expected and stresses the need for increasing the monitoring- and research efforts to developing regions in the Global

South. Our results show higher levels of MCCPs compared to SCCPs in eggs, while SCCPs were dominating in two out of three soil samples. The detected levels of dechloranes were up to three orders of magnitude lower compared to CPs with DP as the dominant compound. Further, our results indicate that MCCPs congeners with lower chlorine content (5–8 chlorine atoms) seem to accumulate more readily in eggs compared to soil. This might be due to dechlorination of MCCPs in the hen or that larger congeners with higher log Kow are less bioavailable or more readily eliminated prior to maternal transfer. This would need to be confirmed by comparing the congener profiles in the eggs with profiles in other tissues from the mother, which is beyond the scope of the present study. Based on results from the present study, no clear conclusion can be made regarding waste and e-waste as a source of CPs

and dechloranes to the Tanzanian environment. Rather, results indicate that CPs and dechloranes are ubiquitous in the environment as a result of large-scale production and lack of regulations. Risk assessment of CPs shows that consumption of eggs from free-range chickens could represent a health concern regarding exposure to SCCPs, which warrants further research on the occurrence and sources of these chemicals in this region.

Credit author statement

Ane Haarr: Conceptualization, Investigation, Formal analysis, Visualization, writing – original draft preparation. **Maja Nipen:** Investigation, Resources – contaminant analyses, Writing - review and editing. **Eliezer B. Mwakalapa:** Investigation, Writing - review and editing. **Anders R. Borgen:** Resources – contaminant analyses, Writing - review and editing. **Aviti J. Mmochi:** Resources – provision of laboratory facilities in Tanzania, Writing - review and editing. **Katrine Borgå:** Supervision, Project administration, Conceptualization, Writing - review and editing.

Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

Data availability

Data will be made available on request.

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Appendix A. Supplementary data

Supplementary data to this article can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemosphere.2023.138646>.

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Supplementary information

For

Chlorinated paraffins and dechloranes in free-range chicken eggs and soil around waste disposal sites in Tanzania

Contains:

Table S1. Concentrations, chlorination degree (Cl%), MCCP/SCCP ratio and recovery % of chlorinated paraffins in individual egg samples. Match between sample and standard pattern used in deconvolution method for CP quantification is assessed by goodness of fit (R^2).

Table S1. Concentrations of dechloranes in egg samples among the different locations. Two radiolabeled congeners were used for recovery calculations: Dechlorane 602 and Dechlorane Plus syn

Figure S1. Concentrations of chlorinated paraffins (above) and dechloranes (below) in eggs (ng/g ww) and soil (ng/g dw). Detection limits (LODs) are indicated with dashed lines.

Table S2. Concentrations, chlorination degree (Cl%), MCCP/SCCP ratio and recovery % of chlorinated paraffins in egg samples. Match between sample and standard pattern used in deconvolution method for CP quantification is assessed by goodness of fit (R^2).

| ID | Location | Lipid % | SCCPs ng/g ww | SCCP Cl% | SCCP R^2 | MCCPs ng/g ww | MCCP Cl% | MCCP R^2 | MCCP / SCCP | Recovery (%) |
|------|------------|---------|---------------|----------|------------|---------------|----------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| CH05 | Official | 8.3 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| CH06 | DAR | 4.7 | 37.2 | 60.6 | 0.94 | 110 | 57.2 | 0.96 | 3.0 | 74 |
| CH07 | | 8.9 | 32 | 60.7 | 0.91 | 93.4 | 57.5 | 0.96 | 2.9 | 73 |
| CH08 | | 8.4 | 49 | 60.9 | 0.94 | 73 | 56.2 | 0.98 | 1.5 | 81 |
| CH09 | | 9.3 | 34.7 | 60.5 | 0.95 | 56.7* | 55.4 | 0.96 | 1.6 | 85 |
| CH10 | | 13.3 | 38.7 | 60.7 | 0.94 | 75.7 | 56.3 | 0.96 | 2.0 | 74 |
| MT05 | Historical | 9.2 | 22.5 | 59.6 | 0.95 | 89.1 | 54.7 | 0.93 | 4.0 | 67 |
| MT06 | DAR | 5.7 | 11.1* | 58.3 | 0.89 | 48.3* | 54.6 | 0.99 | 4.3 | 72 |
| MT07 | | 12.3 | 115.4 | 63.8 | 0.96 | 305 | 59.9 | 0.13** | 2.6 | 61 |
| MT08 | | 9.5 | 10* | 58.3 | 0.78 | 59.8 | 55.5 | 0.98 | 6.0 | 70 |
| MT09 | | 12.0 | 9.2* | 59.8 | 0.83 | 66.1 | 55.5 | 0.95 | 7.2 | 97 |
| MT10 | | 11.5 | 79.5 | 61.6 | 0.93 | 191 | 58.3 | 0.33** | 2.4 | 68 |
| EGG2 | Informal | 11.2 | 16.1* | 60.2 | 0.92 | 74.8 | 54.8 | 0.97 | 4.6 | 60 |
| EGG3 | ZNZ | 12.6 | 13.3* | 60.8 | 0.94 | 72.9 | 54.5 | 0.97 | 5.5 | 58 |
| EGG4 | | 10.6 | 6.3* | 59.4 | 0.71 | 69.7 | 51.8 | 0.94 | 11.1 | 68 |
| EGG5 | | 12.2 | 9.8* | 59.8 | 0.95 | 58.3* | 53.8 | 0.95 | 6.0 | 130 |
| EGG6 | | 11.9 | 11.2* | 59.3 | 0.82 | 64.5* | 54.4 | 0.92 | 5.8 | 64 |
| EGG8 | | 11.1 | 10.3* | 57.4 | 0.89 | 46* | 55.3 | 0.96 | 4.5 | 75 |
| FRF1 | Reference | 10.3 | 27.5 | 58.5 | 0.96 | 127 | 53.9 | 0.98 | 4.6 | 71 |
| FRF2 | ZNZ | 14.1 | 18.9 | 58.2 | 0.96 | 70.1 | 53.6 | 0.95 | 3.7 | 68 |
| FRF3 | | 14.5 | 56.8 | 60.6 | 0.93 | 109 | 56.9 | 0.91 | 1.9 | 75 |
| FRF4 | | 13.8 | 34.5 | 60.6 | 0.95 | 54.5* | 55.7 | 0.97 | 1.6 | 79 |
| FRF5 | | 18.5 | 26.7 | 61.0 | 0.93 | 67.4 | 55.5 | 0.95 | 2.5 | 76 |
| FRF6 | | 12.0 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |

NA indicates that sample was lost during sample preparation and thus not quantified for CPs. * indicates that sample has been quantified, but is below the limit of detection, set at 16.2 and 65 ng/g ww for SCCPs and MCCPs, respectively. ** Goodness of fit (R^2) between sample and standard pattern below 0.5 meaning that these values are associated with higher uncertainty than the rest of the samples

Table S3. Concentrations of dechloranes in egg samples among the different locations. Two radiolabeled congeners were used for recovery calculations: Dechlorane 602 and Dechlorane Plus *syn*

| ID | Location | Lipid % | Dech 602 ng/g ww | Dech 603 | DP <i>syn</i> | DP <i>anti</i> | Recovery (%) Dech 602, DP <i>syn</i> |
|------|------------|---------|------------------|----------|---------------|----------------|---|
| CH05 | Official | 8.3 | 0.01* | 0.01* | 0.018* | 0.03 | 117,99 |
| CH06 | DAR | 4.7 | 0.01* | 0.01* | 0.018* | 0.04 | 121,101 |
| CH07 | | 8.9 | 0.01* | 0.01* | 0.018* | 0.05 | 107, 93 |
| CH08 | | 8.4 | 0.01* | 0.01* | 0.018* | 0.05 | 153, 113 |
| CH09 | | 9.3 | 0.01* | 0.01* | 0.021 | 0.03 | 132, 105 |
| CH10 | | 13.3 | 0.01* | 0.01* | 0.018* | 0.04 | 123, 120 |
| MT05 | Historical | 9.2 | 0.01* | 0.16 | 0.03 | 0.08 | 108, 101 |
| MT06 | DAR | 5.7 | 0.01* | 0.13 | 0.02 | 0.06 | 102, 95 |
| MT07 | | 12.3 | 0.01* | 0.12 | 0.19 | 0.39 | 103, 95 |
| MT08 | | 9.5 | 0.01* | 0.25 | 0.03 | 0.11 | 120, 99 |
| MT09 | | 12.0 | 0.01* | 0.10 | 0.02 | 0.06 | 136,111 |
| MT10 | | 11.5 | 0.01* | 0.10 | 0.13 | 0.45 | 114, 100 |
| EGG2 | Informal | 11.2 | 0.022 | 0.26 | 0.09 | 0.30 | 99, 93 |
| EGG3 | ZNZ | 12.6 | 0.020 | 0.26 | 0.06 | 0.21 | 103, 95 |
| EGG4 | | 10.6 | 0.015 | 0.19 | 0.04 | 0.13 | 86, 82 |
| EGG5 | | 12.2 | 0.020 | 0.24 | 0.06 | 0.19 | 95, 86 |
| EGG6 | | 11.9 | 0.019 | 0.27 | 0.10 | 0.39 | 113, 97 |
| EGG8 | | 11.1 | 0.021 | 0.25 | 0.10 | 0.35 | 131, 106 |
| FRF1 | Reference | 10.3 | 0.01* | 0.03 | 0.03 | 0.06 | 120, 116 |
| FRF2 | ZNZ | 14.1 | 0.01* | 0.06 | 0.02 | 0.04 | 131, 109 |
| FRF3 | | 14.5 | 0.01* | 0.89 | 0.06 | 0.24 | 143, 110 |
| FRF4 | | 13.8 | 0.01* | 0.05 | 0.018* | 0.60 | 154, 122 |
| FRF5 | | 18.5 | 0.01* | 0.09 | 0.02 | 0.07 | 145, 113 |
| FRF6 | | 12.0 | 0.01* | 0.13 | 0.02 | 0.07 | 165, 128 |

*Indicates that sample is not detected above LOD

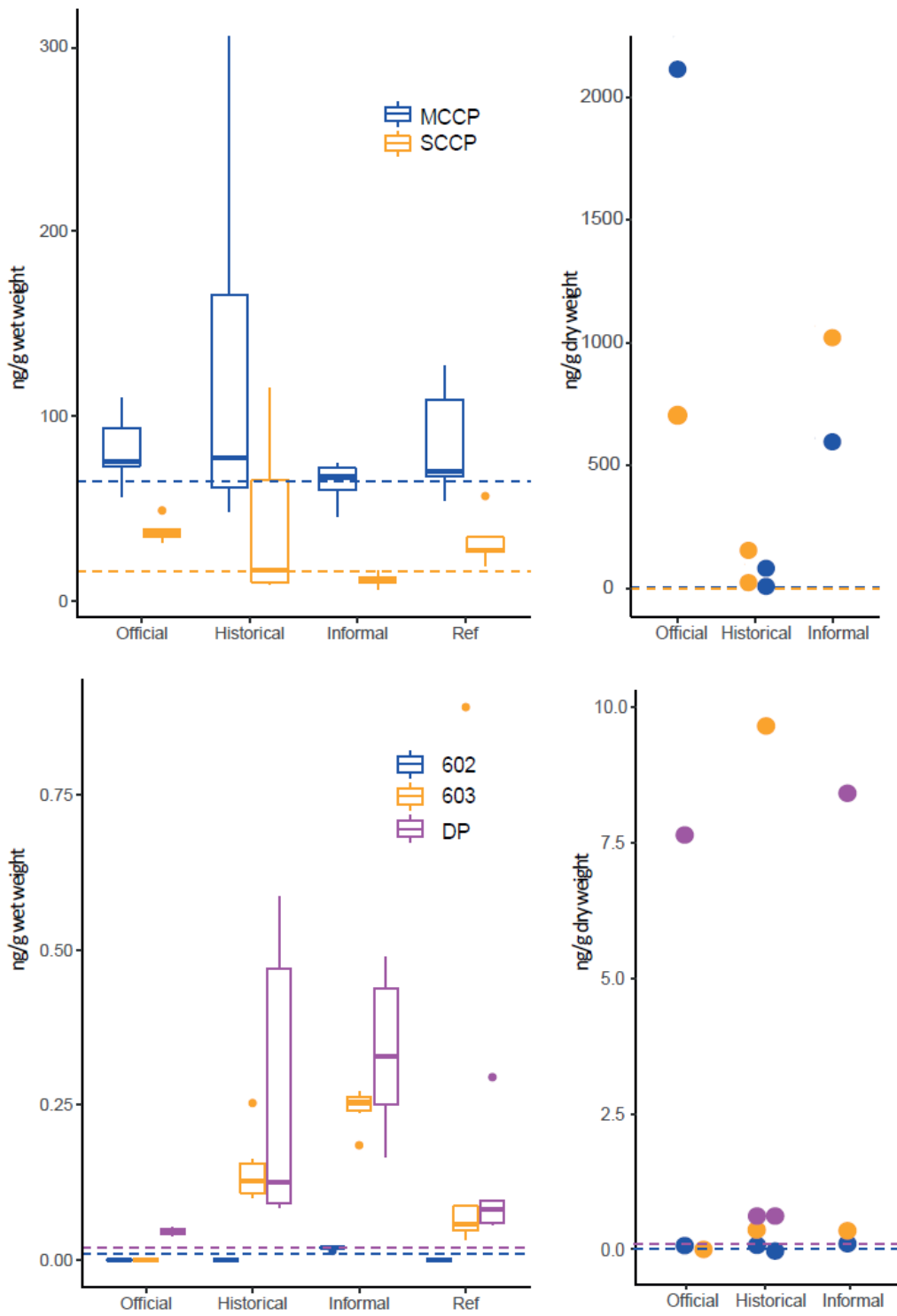


Figure S1. Concentrations of chlorinated paraffins (above) and dechloranes (below) in eggs (ng/g ww) and soil (ng/g dw). Detection limits (LODs) are indicated with dashed lines.