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Conference of the Parties to the

Minamata Convention on Mercury

First meeting

Geneva, 24–29 September 2017

Item 5 (a) (iv) of the provisional agenda[[1]](#footnote-2)\*

Matters for action by the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting: matters stipulated under the Convention: the measures to give effect to the arrangements for the financial mechanism referred to in article 13

Activities of the Global Environment Facility

Note by the secretariat

In paragraph 11 of its resolution on arrangements in the interim period (UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/CONF/4, annex I), the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to provide the interim secretariat services to support the intergovernmental negotiating committee to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury and its activities until the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention, while in paragraph 13 of the resolution it further requested the Executive Director to facilitate activities at regional and country levels to support implementation during the interim period in an effective and efficient manner. In paragraph 16 of the same resolution, the Conference of Plenipotentiaries invited the Council of the Global Environment Facility to support developing countries and countries with economies in transition that were signatories to the Convention in undertaking activities, particularly enabling activities, to facilitate early implementation and ratification of the Convention. A report of the Global Environment Facility on such activities is reproduced in the annex to the present note, without formal editing by the secretariat.

Annex



**Report of the Global Environment Facility**

**to the First Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury**

27 July 2017

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

AMR Annual Monitoring Report

ASGM Artisanal Small-Scale Gold Mining

BAT Best Available Techniques

BEP Best Environmental Practice

BRS Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions

CEIT Country with Economies in Transition

COP Conference of the Parties

CW Chemicals and Wastes

DO Development Objective

FSP Full-sized Project

FY Fiscal Year

GEF Global Environment Facility

IEO Independent Evaluation Office

INC Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee

IP Implementation Progress

LDC Least Developed Country

MEA Multilateral Environmental Agreement

MIA Minamata Initial Assessment

MOU Memorandum of Understanding

MSP Medium-sized Project

NAP National Action Plan

ODS Ozone Depleting Substance

PIR Project Implementation Report

POP Persistent Organic Pollutant

PVC Polyvinyl Chloride

SAICM Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management

SGP Small Grant Programme

SIDS Small Island Developing State

UNDP United Nations Development Programme

UNEP United Nations Environment Programme

UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization

UPOP Unintentional Persistent Organic Pollutant

VCM Vinyl Chloride Monomer

Executive Summary

1. The Minamata Convention on Mercury, adopted by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries in October 2013,[[2]](#footnote-3) is the most recent Convention served by the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The objective of the Convention is to protect the human health and the environment from anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds. Article 13 of the Minamata Convention includes the GEF as part of the Mechanism to support developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition in implementing their obligations under the Convention.[[3]](#footnote-4)
2. This report presents the work of the GEF on mercury between July 2010 and June 2017, providing a historical background of the GEF’s support to the Minamata Convention as well as the process through which the GEF operationalized its role as part of the financial mechanism of the Convention.
3. The GEF Instrument was amended by the Fifth GEF Assembly, held in May 2014, to incorporate the Minamata Convention and to create the chemicals and wastes focal area under which resources for the Minamata Convention are programmed.[[4]](#footnote-5)
4. In response to the conclusions from sixth intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC6) held in Bangkok, Thailand, in November 2014, the GEF Council decided to extend GEF eligibility criteria for the enabling activities, which are Minamata Initial Assessments (MIAs), artisanal small-scale gold mining (ASGM) National Action Plan (NAP) development, and to include   
   non-signatories that are taking bona fide steps to ratify the Minamata Convention.[[5]](#footnote-6) As of June 2017, the GEF has cumulatively supported these enabling activities in 98 countries to facilitate ratification.
5. Of the 94 eligible signatories or Parties, all except seven GEF eligible countries that have signed the Convention have received funding for enabling activities under the Minamata Convention.
6. At INC7, held in March 2016, the Committee adopted the draft guidance to the GEF on a provisional basis, pending its formal adoption by the first Conference of the Parties (COP1). The GEF has used this draft guidance to help inform the programming in the GEF-6 period (July 2014 to June 2018) and the programming directions development for the ongoing GEF- 7 replenishment negotiations.
7. The corporate target for mercury reduction in the GEF-6 period is 1,000 tons for $141 million of GEF resource allocation. The 68 projects, totaling $124 million, approved during the first three years of the GEF-6 period of July 2014 to June 2017 are expected to achieve 858.8 tons of mercury phase-out, which is eighty-six percent (86%) of the GEF-6 corporate target. These figures are indicative of sufficient progress made to date in GEF-6 programming.
8. Between July 2010 to June 2017, 106 mercury projects and programs have been approved with the GEF financing of $145 million. These projects and programs include: MIAs, ASGM NAPs, and projects to address mercury-added products, manufacturing processes, ASGM, mercury wastes, and capacity-building.[[6]](#footnote-7)

Introduction

1. This report presents the work of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) on mercury between July 2010 and June 2017 and provides a historical background of the GEF’s support to the Minamata Convention on Mercury as well as the process through which the GEF operationalized its support for the Convention.
2. The Minamata Convention is the newest Convention served by the GEF. The objective of the Convention is to protect the human health and the environment from anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds. The GEF serves as financial mechanism for other Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), including the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Convention of Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. The GEF also supports the Montreal Protocol in Countries with Economies in Transition.
3. Consistent with the resolution on financial arrangements in the final act of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury from October 2013, during the interim period, the GEF is providing support to countries towards early ratification and implementation of the Convention.[[7]](#footnote-8)

Part I: GEF and Minamata Convention

1. This section provides GEF’s role to the Minamata Convention and its responses to the resolutions and outcomes of relevance provided at major meetings, such as the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury, held in October 2013, and various intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC) meetings. Figure 1 provides a timeline of the development, and Annex 1 provides details on the process that was undertaken to operationalize the role of the GEF to serve the Convention.

GEF’s Role in Minamata Convention and Addressing Mercury

1. The GEF started to support initiatives to reduce mercury contamination in the 1990s. In the GEF’s Operational Strategy in 1995 under Operational Program 10 (Contaminant-based Operation Program), the GEF undertook activities that aimed to limit the contamination of international waters from toxic pollutants including persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and mercury.
2. The negotiation process towards a global, legally-binding agreement started after February 2009 when the Governing Council of UNEP adopted Decision 25/5 on the development of a global legally binding instrument on mercury. The GEF’s engagement to complement and advance negotiations was formalized during the GEF-5 period (July 2010 to June 2014).
3. At INC5 in January 2013, governments agreed to the text of a global legally binding instrument on mercury. Article 13 of the agreed text of the Convention stated, “A Mechanism for the provision of adequate, predictable, and timely financial resources is hereby defined. The Mechanism is to support developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition in implementing their obligations under this Convention.” Article 13 included the GEF as part of the Mechanism.[[8]](#footnote-9)
4. The 44th meeting of the GEF Council in June 2013 “Welcomed with appreciation the invitation from the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to Prepare a Global Legally Binding Instrument on Mercury to the GEF, to be the Financial Mechanism of the Minamata Convention on Mercury as drafted in Article 13 of the agreed text of the Convention,” and authorized the use of up to $10 million for the funding of an early action pre-ratification program for the Minamata Convention.[[9]](#footnote-10)
5. The Minamata Convention on Mercury was adopted by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury on 10 October 2013 in Kumamoto, Japan. The GEF was included as part of the Mechanism to support developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition in implementing their obligations under the Convention in Article 13.

Figure 1: Timeline of Development of GEF’s Role in Minamata Convention

Governing Council  
of UNEP adopted development of a global legally binding instrument on mercury

INC5 agreed to text  
of a global legally binding instrument, including GEF as part of the Mechanism for provision of financial resources

Minamata  
Convention on Mercury adopted by Diplomatic Conference

Minamata  
Convention enters into force

2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

2016

2017 2018



GEF-5 chemicals strategy formalized GEF’s engagement on mercury

GEF-6 chemicals and wastes strategy allocated $141 million to mercury projects

**44th GEF Council  
authorized use of up to  
$10 million**

**5 GEF Assembly amended  
the GEF Instrument to include Minamata Convention**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| GEF-4 | GEF-5 | GEF-6 |

1. At the fifth GEF Assembly in May 2014, the GEF Instrument was amended to include the Minamata Convention. A new focal area of chemicals and wastes was created, combining the previous POPs and Ozone focal area with the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM).
2. For the GEF sixth replenishment period (GEF-6) from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2018, $141 million has been allocated to mercury projects. Eligible activities are outlined in the GEF-6 chemicals and wastes strategy, which is part of the GEF-6 programming directions.[[10]](#footnote-11)

Resolutions and Decisions of Relevance and GEF’s Response

1. In relation to the GEF, Article 13 of the Minamata Convention states the following:

“The Global Environment Facility Trust Fund shall provide new, predictable, adequate and timely financial resources to meet costs in support of implementation of this Convention as agreed by the Conference of the Parties. For the purposes of this Convention, the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund shall be operated under the guidance of and be accountable to the Conference of the Parties. The Conference of the Parties shall provide guidance on overall strategies, policies, programme priorities and eligibility for access to and utilization of financial resources. In addition, the Conference of the Parties shall provide guidance on an indicative list of categories of activities that could receive support from the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund. The Global Environment Facility Trust Fund shall provide resources to meet the agreed incremental costs of global environmental benefits and the agreed full costs of some enabling activities.”

1. The resolution on financial arrangements, annexed to the Final Act of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury, invited the GEF Council to support developing countries and countries with economies in transition that are signatories to the Convention in undertaking activities, particularly enabling activities, to facilitate early implementation and ratification of the Convention.[[11]](#footnote-12) The GEF has provided such support, as summarized in Annex 2 and reported to INC6.[[12]](#footnote-13)
2. The INC6 requested the GEF to consider enabling activities and activities to implement the provisions of the Convention when providing financial resources to developing countries and countries with economies in transition. The INC6 also requested the GEF to apply the following eligibility criteria in providing financial support to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for activities under the Minamata Convention on Mercury:
   1. Parties to the Convention;
   2. Signatories to the Convention in undertaking activities, particularly enabling activities, to facilitate early implementation and ratification of the Convention;
   3. Non-signatories to the Convention, for enabling activities, provided that any such State is taking meaningful steps toward becoming a Party as evidenced by a letter from the relevant minister to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and to the Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility.[[13]](#footnote-14)
3. Furthermore, the committee requested the interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention to continue to collaborate with the GEF secretariat in the elaboration of a memorandum of understanding between the GEF Council and the COP for consideration at INC7 and adoption at COP1.
4. Annex 3 summarizes outcomes of GEF relevance adopted at INC6 and GEF responses. Annexes 4 and 5 provide two model letters shared by the interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention to be submitted from non-signatories on their meaningful steps towards becoming a Party. The GEF response to these INC6 outcomes was reported at INC7, held in Jordan in March 2016.[[14]](#footnote-15)
5. The INC7 adopted draft initial guidance to the GEF on a provisional basis pending its formal adoption at the first Conference of the Parties (COP1).[[15]](#footnote-16) The INC7 requested the GEF Council to consider the guidance in the context of the seventh replenishment of the GEF. While the guidance is draft and its adoption is pending at COP 1, the GEF has made progress in addressing various aspects. For example, the GEF has been incorporating it into its draft chemicals and wastes strategy for the ongoing seventh replenishment negotiations and helping to inform project approvals in GEF-6. Furthermore, the GEF Council at its 52th meeting in June 2017 requested the GEF network to continue to work with recipient countries to reflect the guidance and national priorities in their GEF programming and activities. The following table describes the GEF’s response to the INC7 decisions and conclusions.

Table 1: Draft Initial Guidance to the GEF Adopted on a Provisional Basis at INC7 and GEF's Response

| **Paragraph** | **Draft Initial Guidance** | **GEF Response** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **I. Eligibility for access to and utilization of financial resources** | | |
| **2** | To be eligible for funding from GEF as one of the entities comprising the financial mechanism of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, a country must be a Party to the Convention and must be a developing country or a country with an economy in transition. | The GEF’s eligibility policy for mercury incorporates the criteria for funding enabling activities. The guidelines for these enabling activities are found in the information document of the 45th meeting of the GEF Council, revised in January 2014.[[16]](#footnote-17) |
| **3** | Activities that are eligible for funding from the GEF trust fund are those that seek to meet the objectives of the Convention and are consistent with the present guidance. | All activities that have been funded by the GEF to date are considered eligible. |
| **4** | [Signatories to the Convention are eligible for funding from GEF for enabling activities, provided that any such signatory is taking meaningful steps towards becoming a Party as evidenced by a letter from the relevant minister to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and to the Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility.] | This paragraph is in brackets, and discussion is expected to continue at COP1.  To date, the GEF supported total 98 countries through GEF-5 and GEF-6 to implement Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA) and/or artisanal small-scale gold mining (ASGM) National Action Plan (NAP). Among these 98 countries, 31 countries are Parties to the Convention, |
|  |  | 48 countries are signatories and 19 countries are non-signatories. The 19 that are non-signatory provided the appropriate letters consistent with the decisions of INC6. |
| **II. Overall strategies and policies** | | |
| **5** | In accordance with Article 13, paragraph 7, of the Convention, the GEF trust fund shall provide new, predictable, adequate and timely financial resources to meet costs in support of implementation of the Convention as agreed by the Conference of the Parties, including costs arising from activities that: | This has been used to guide the programming in GEF-6 and will be addressed in the context of the ongoing GEF-7 replenishment negotiations, which will conclude in early 2018. |
| (a) Are country-driven; |
| (b) Are in conformity with programme priorities as reflected in relevant guidance provided by the Conference of the Parties; |
| (c) Build capacity and promote the utilization of local and regional expertise, if applicable; |
| (d) Promote synergies with other focal areas; |
| (e) Continue to enhance synergies and  co-benefits within the chemicals and wastes focal area; |
| (f) Promote multiple-source funding approaches, mechanisms and arrangements, including from the private sector, if applicable; and |
| (g) Promote sustainable national socioeconomic development, poverty reduction and activities consistent with existing national sound environmental management programmes geared towards the protection of human health and the environment. |
| **III. Programme priorities** | | |
| **6** | In accordance with article 13, paragraph 7, of the Convention, the GEF trust fund shall provide resources to meet the agreed incremental costs of global environmental benefits and the agreed full costs of some enabling activities. | This is reflected in the strategies of the GEF.  In GEF-6, $141 million was allocated by the replenishment to the implementation of the Minamata Convention. The GEF has programmed resources to meet the full cost of the MIAs and the ASGM NAPs. The GEF has programmed resources for several projects that are aimed at early implementation, particularly in the ASGM sector. |
| **7** | In particular, it should give priority to the following activities when providing financial resources to developing-country Parties and Parties with economies in transition:  (a) Enabling activities, particularly Minamata Convention initial assessment activities and national action plans for artisanal and small- scale gold mining;  (b) Activities to implement the provisions of the Convention, affording priority to those that:  (i) Relate to legally binding obligations;  (ii) Facilitate early implementation on entry into force of the Convention for a Party;  (iii) Allow for reduction in mercury emissions and releases and address the health and environmental impacts of mercury. | This has been used to guide the programming in GEF-6 and will be addressed in the context of the ongoing  GEF-7 replenishment negotiations. All projects and programs in GEF-6 that seek to implement the Minamata Convention are already consistent with this draft initial guidance. |
| **8** | In providing resources for an activity, GEF should take into account the potential mercury reductions of a proposed activity relative to its costs in accordance with paragraph 8 of article 13 of the Convention. | In GEF-6, projects with potential for significant mercury reduction have been approved. The GEF will continue to work with countries and agencies to look at the potential reduction of mercury relative to its cost. |
| **IV. Indicative list of categories of activities that could receive support**  **A. Enabling activities** | | |
|  | 1. Minamata Convention initial assessments (MIAs)  2. Preparation of national action plans for artisanal and small-scale gold mining in accordance with paragraph 3 of article 7 and Annex C  3. Other types of enabling activities as agreed by the Conference of the Parties | This has been used to inform the programming in GEF-6 and will be addressed in the context of the ongoing GEF-7 replenishment negotiations. .  In GEF-6, all eligible enabling activities that were submitted to the GEF to date have received funding. |
| **B. Activities to implement the provisions of the Convention**  **Activities to implement the provisions of the Convention that relate to legally binding obligations** | | |
| **9** | When providing financial resources to eligible Parties for activities to implement the provisions of the Convention, GEF should afford priority to those activities that relate to legally binding obligations of Parties under the Convention and should take into account the potential mercury reductions of a proposed activity relative to its costs. Such activities could include those related to the following areas, listed in no particular order:   * Mercury supply sources and trade; * Mercury-added products; * Manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used; * Artisanal and small-scale gold mining; * Emissions; * Releases; * Environmentally sound interim storage of mercury, other than waste mercury; * Mercury wastes; * Reporting;   Relevant capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer in relation to the above. | This will be addressed in the context of the ongoing GEF-7 replenishment negotiations. |
| **2. Activities to implement the provisions of the Convention that facilitate early implementation on entry into force of the Convention for a Party** | | |
| **10** | When considering activities to implement the provisions of the Convention that facilitate early implementation on entry into force, GEF should also consider providing support for activities that, although they are not the subject of a legal obligation under the Convention, may significantly contribute to a Party’s preparedness to implement the Convention upon its entry into force for that country. | This will be addressed in the context of the ongoing GEF-7 replenishment negotiations. |
| **11** | Within the context of the GEF mandate, such activities could include, inter alia, support for:   1. With regard to emissions, the development by Parties with relevant sources of emissions of national plans setting out the measures to be taken to control emissions and their expected targets, goals and outcomes; 2. With regard to releases, the development by Parties with relevant sources of releases of national plans setting out the measures to be taken to control releases and their expected targets, goals and outcomes; 3. With regard to contaminated sites, capacity-building for the development of strategies for identifying and assessing sites contaminated by mercury or mercury compounds and, as appropriate, the remediation of those sites; 4. Information exchange; 5. Public information, awareness and education; 6. Cooperation in the development and improvement of research, development and monitoring;   Development of implementation plans following initial assessments. | This will be addressed in the context of the ongoing GEF-7 replenishment negotiations. |
| **3. Activities to implement the provisions of the Convention that allow for the reduction of mercury emissions and releases and address both the health and environmental impacts of mercury** | | |
| **12** | Activities to implement the provisions of the Convention that allow for the reduction of mercury emissions and releases and address both the health and environmental impacts of mercury may encompass activities relating to both binding and non-binding provisions, with priority to the legally binding provisions discussed above, that accord with the GEF mandate to deliver global environmental benefits and reflect the GEF chemicals and wastes focal area strategy. | This will be addressed in the context of the ongoing GEF-7 replenishment negotiations. |
| **V. Review by the Conference of the Parties** | | |
| **13** | In accordance with paragraph 11 of article 13, the Conference of the Parties will review, no later than at its third meeting, and thereafter on a regular basis, the level of funding, the guidance provided by the Conference of the Parties to GEF as one of the entities entrusted with operationalizing the mechanism established under this article and the mechanism’s effectiveness and ability to address the changing needs of developing- country Parties and Parties with economies in transition. On the basis of such review, the Conference of the Parties will take appropriate action to improve the effectiveness of the financial mechanism, including by updating and prioritizing as necessary its guidance to GEF. | At the request of the COP, the GEF will provide information as it relates to the review described in paragraph 11 of article 13 of the Minamata Convention. |

1. The INC7 also adopted a draft memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Conference of the Parties of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Council of the GEF, and decided that it should be submitted to the GEF Council for its consideration prior to its consideration and formal adoption at COP1.[[17]](#footnote-18) The 51st GEF Council considered the draft MOU.[[18]](#footnote-19) Council Members were invited to submit to the GEF Secretariat any comments on the draft MOU by January 31, 2017 and GEF Secretariat was requested to reflect Council Members’ views in its collaboration with the interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention to revise the draft MOU to be presented to COP1.
2. The GEF Secretariat transmitted the comments of the 51st GEF council to the Interim Minamata Secretariat for inclusion in the documents for COP1 of the Minamata Convention.[[19]](#footnote-20) The interim secretariat has included these comments in the revision of the MOU, to be presented to COP1 for its consideration.

Cooperation with Interim Secretariat of Minamata Convention

1. Since the adoption of the Convention in October 2013, the GEF Secretariat has initiated formal cooperation and communication with the interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention to enhance coordination, share information and collaborate on issues related to the implementation of the Convention.
2. The Principal Coordinator of the interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention has attended several GEF Council meetings prior to and since the Diplomatic Conference. The GEF Council has been provided with regular updates on the progress of the Minamata Convention during the Convention heads panel for the relations with Conventions Session at the GEF Council. The GEF Secretariat has also organized informal MEA dialogues since the 50th GEF Council, with the participation of high level representatives from Convention Secretariats, including the interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention and participants of the GEF Council meetings. Representatives of the Minamata interim secretariat are also actively engaged in the GEF-7 replenishment process.
3. Furthermore, the GEF Senior Management has attended key negotiation meetings. The current GEF CEO has participated in INC5, Diplomatic Conference, and INC6. The GEF CEO has supported the Convention through high level engagement with the Executive Director of UNEP and the Minamata interim secretariat. The GEF has hosted a bureau meeting of the INC. The GEF recently hosted an event at the 52nd GEF Council to celebrate the 50th Ratification of the Convention that triggered entry into force of the Convention.
4. The GEF routinely organizes chemicals and wastes task force meetings regarding the chemicals and wastes work stream in the context of the GEF. The meeting participants include representatives from the GEF implementing and project agencies, the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel of the GEF, and the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm (BRS) Conventions and the interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention. In recent meetings, participants discussed the GEF-6 chemicals and wastes strategy and GEF- 7 strategy, and shared information on enabling activities, project ideas and their statuses.
5. The GEF and the Interim Minamata Convention Secretariats had in-person meetings after the fourth International Conference on Chemical Management in October 2015. This meeting discussed preparation for the INC7, in particular the draft MOU between the COP and the GEF Council in line with the conclusion of INC6.
6. Additional consultations have taken place to discuss programming, replenishment, and other items at the margins of key events, including at the first GEF-7 replenishment meeting in March 2017 and the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm COPs held in May 2017.
7. The GEF joined the Minamata Convention regional workshops to support countries in the interim period until the Convention entry into force, including the following:
   1. Anglophone Africa, Nairobi, April 2014
   2. Francophone Africa, Dakar, July 2014
   3. Arab Countries, Jordan, August 2014
   4. South America, Brazil, September 2014
   5. South Asia, India, September 2014
   6. Caribbean, Trinidad and Tobago, January 2015
   7. Pacific, Samoa, January 2015
   8. Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Belarus, February 2015.
8. The GEF also joined the back-to-back Minamata and BRS Conventions Regional Meetings in 2015 and 2016, including the following:
   1. Asia and the Pacific, Indonesia, March 2015
   2. Africa, Kenya, March 2015
   3. Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Slovakia, April 2015
   4. Latin America and the Caribbean, Uruguay, April 2015
   5. Asia and the Pacific, Thailand, March 2017
   6. Africa, Senegal, March 2017
   7. Central and Eastern Europe, Latvia, March 2017
   8. Latin America and the Caribbean, Brazil, March 2017.

Part II: Progress in GEF Programming

Overview of GEF Support for Minamata Convention

1. During the reporting period (July 2010 to June 2017), the GEF has programmed $145 million in 106 mercury projects and programs, including 76 Enabling Activity projects, 16 Medium- sized projects (MSPs) under $2 million, and 14 Full-sized projects (FSP) and programs over $2 million.[[20]](#footnote-21) The total number of countries implementing the Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA) is 69, ASGM NAP is two, and both MIA and ASGM NAP is 27. Among these 98 countries, 31 countries are the Parties to the Convention, 48 countries are signatories and 19 are   
   non-signatories. Two Parties, Botswana and Swaziland, were non-signatories when their MIA project was approved in September 2015.
2. The following sections provide a retrospective look at the work of the GEF during the GEF- 5 replenishment period to support the Minamata Convention and then the work of the GEF during the GEF-6 replenishment period. The GEF-5 period coincides approximately with the negotiations of the Convention up to its adoption, and the GEF-6 period coincides with the period from adoption to entry into force.

GEF-5 Programming for Mercury

*Resources Committed and Projects Approved in GEF-5*

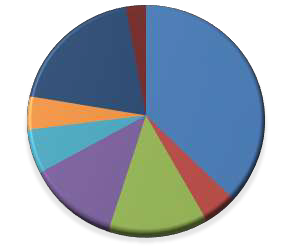
1. The GEF-5 replenishment negotiation agreed in May 2010 to set aside $10 million of resources for assessment-type activities to support the development of the mercury agreement, where several pilots “country case studies” were envisaged. In June 2013, an additional $10 million was authorized for the funding of an early action pre-ratification program for the Minamata Convention.
2. The GEF supported 38 mercury projects in total with $21 million of GEF resources and an additional $46 million in co-financing in GEF-5, as shown in Table 2.[[21]](#footnote-22) These projects are consistent with the GEF-5 chemicals strategy and initial guidelines for enabling activities for the Minamata Convention. Most enabling activities were funded without co-financing.

Table 2: Resources Programmed for Mercury Projects in GEF-5

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Project Type** | **Number of Projects** | **GEF Resources ($)[[22]](#footnote-23)** | | **Co-financing ($)** | |
| Enabling Activities | 17 | | 7,917,923 | | 7,251,227 |
| Full-sized projects | 7 | | 1,904,848 | | 7,070,345 |
| Medium-sized projects | 14 | | 11,309,900 | | 32,381,849 |
| **Total** | 38 | | 21,132,671 | | 46,703,421 |

1. Annex 6 summarizes the project approved during GEF-5, and Annex 7 provides further descriptions of FSPs and MSPs according to their themes.
2. Approved projects in GEF-5 included MIAs to help countries identify needs and priority issues, and MSPs and FSPs on primary mercury mining, introduction of mercury free produces in health care sector, healthcare waste management, ASGM, emission reduction form industrial sources, and capacity-building, as illustrated in Figure 2.

Figure 2: Thematic Distribution of GEF-5 Mercury Project Resources



**Capacity- building, 19.5%**

**Contaminated sites, Wastes, 2.8%**

**MIA, 37.5%**

**Emissions, 4.7%**

**ASGM,**

**Products, Wastes, 6.2%**

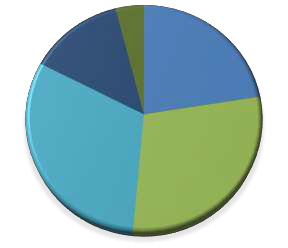
**ASGM, 12.0%**

**Products, Wastes, 12.9%**

**Supply sources, 4.5%**

1. As shown in the Figure 3 Latin America region received the highest share of GEF resources during GEF-5, due to the large number of countries that have started project implementation.

Figure 3: Regional Distribution of GEF-5 Mercury Project Resources



**Eastern Europe and Central Asia, 13.5%**

**Global, 4.0%**

**Africa, 22.5%**

**Latin America, 31.1%**

**Asia, 28.9%**

*Support for Key Elements of Minamata Convention*

**Enabling Activities**

1. During GEF-5, 17 MIA projects for 26 countries were approved. To date, nine out of these 26 countries have ratified the Convention. These are, Bolivia, China, Costa Rica, Gambia, Madagascar, Mexico, Moldova, Vietnam and Zambia. The other countries have not yet ratified the Convention.

**Activities to Implement Provision of Convention that Relate to Legally-Binding Obligations**

1. In GEF-5, 20 projects were funded for activities that relate to legally-binding obligations. The following are examples of these projects.
2. The project, “*Reducing global and local environmental risks from primary mercury mining in Khaidarkan the Kyrgyz Republic,”* seeks to address the primary mercury mine which accounts for 10% of the global supply of mercury. The mine if left unaddressed has the potential to produce 1,500 tons of mercury annually. The main reason for the non-action on closure of this mine, is the economic impact on the surrounding community whose livelihoods depend on the mine. Several donors and United Nations agencies have been working in Kyrgyzstan for many years on identifying alternative small and medium enterprise business options for the community. The project builds on this work and seeks to identify and promote economic alternatives to mercury mining such as mining and processing of gold and non-metallic minerals as well as other   
   non-mining small-scale business development.
3. There are seven MSPs on healthcare sector to introduce mercury-free products and sound management of mercury wastes in Honduras, Egypt, Kazakhstan, Ghana, Madagascar, Tanzania, Vietnam, Uruguay, and Kyrgyz Republic. For example, the project in Uruguay involves phasing-out and phasing-down mercury-containing devices and products by introducing mercury-free alternatives or products with a lower mercury content, improving national capacity to make the management of mercury-containing products technically and economically feasible, and implementing and developing safe storage practices for mercury- containing waste and products.
4. There are four MSPs on ASGM under implementation in Burkina Faso, Mali, Senegal, Ecuador, Peru, Philippines and Honduras. For example, the regional project in Ecuador and Peru introduces innovative ASGM practices, to manage and reduce mercury use, that will minimize environmental and health hazards posed by local mercury use, and reduce impacts at the regional and global level. Some innovate solutions include improved water use efficiency, aquifer and catchment protection, and rights-based water management.

**Activities to Implement Provision of Convention that Facilitate Early Implementation on Entry into Force of Convention for a Party**

1. The following project was the only project that was funded that could be considered as a project to facilitate early implementation of the convention. The project, “*Reduce Exposure of Mercury to Human Health and the Environment by Promoting Sound Chemical Management in Mongolia,”* assists the country in building its capacity to deal with the technical challenges associated with the assessment and cleanup of mercury contaminated sites.

*Chemicals and Wastes Portfolio in Small Grants Programme*

1. The GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) supports community-based approaches for the reduction, elimination and prevention of mercury use, and promotes safe handling of   
   mercury-containing products. These projects were funded separately from the resources in the focal area, but are included here as they support community level initiatives that are aligned with the objectives of the Convention.
2. During GEF-5, SGP developed and implemented 18 projects on mercury reduction and management in Belarus, China, Ghana, Macedonia, Malaysia, Mozambique, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, and Ukraine with a total GEF grant of $676,083 and $722,758 in co- financing.[[23]](#footnote-24) Annex 8 includes a list of the mercury projects supported by SGP.

GEF-6 Programming for Mercury

*Resources Committed and Projects Approved in GEF-6*

1. Under the GEF-6 chemicals and wastes strategy, $554 million of GEF resources was committed at the time of replenishment, of which $141 million is allocated to the implementation of the Minamata Convention. Table 3 summarizes the objectives and programs of the chemicals and wastes strategy and the GEF programming target.

Table 3: GEF-6 Chemicals and Wastes Programs and Programming Target

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Focal Area Programs Programing**  **Objective Target ($ million)** | | | |
| CW 1  Develop the enabling conditions, tools and environment to manage harmful chemicals and wastes | **Program 1:**  Develop and demonstrate new tools and regulatory along with economic approaches for managing harmful chemicals and wastes in a sound manner | POPs | 20 |
| Mercury | 10 |
| SAICM | 8 |
|  | |
| **Program 2:**  Support enabling activities and promote their integration into national budgets, planning processes, national and sectoral  policies and actions, and global monitoring | POPs | 20 |
| Mercury | 30 |
|  | |
| CW 2  Reduce the prevalence of harmful chemicals and wastes and support the implementation of clean alternative technologies/ subst ances | **Program 3:**  Reduction and elimination of POPs | POPs | 307 |
| **Program 4**:  Reduction of anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury to the environment | Mercury | 78 |
| **Program 5:**  Complete the phase out of ODSa in CEITsb and assist Article 5 countries under the Montreal Protocol to achieve climate  mitigation benefits | ODS | 25 |
| **Program 6:**  Support regional approaches to eliminate and reduce harmful chemicals and wastes in LDCsc and SIDSd | POPs | 28 |
| Mercury | 23 |
| SAICM | 5 |
| Sub Total (Mercury) | | | **141** |
| Total | | | **554** |

a: Ozone Depleting Substances; b: Countries with Economies in Transition; c: Least Developed Countries; d: Small Island Developing States

1. The GEF supported 68 projects supporting mercury with $124 million of GEF financing during the first three years of the GEF-6 period (July 2014 to June 2017), as shown in Table 4.[[24]](#footnote-25) This amount is 88% of the GEF-6 programming targets of $141 million for the Mercury Convention, indicative of sufficient progress made to date in programming. These projects are expected to achieve 858.8 tons of mercury phase out, which is 86% of the GEF-6 target for the reduction of 1,000 tons of mercury. Support for key elements of the Convention is summarized in the following section.
2. On average, the portfolio leveraged four dollars for every GEF dollar invested from co- financing. Annex 9 further summarizes the project approved in the first three years of GEF-6, and Annex 10 provides additional descriptions of FSPs and MSPs according to their themes.
3. At the 51st GEF Council in October 2016, the Council was informed about a potential shortfall in resources that resulted due to currency fluctuations. The Council took the following decision:

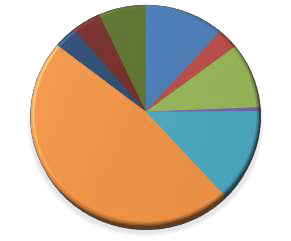
“The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.51/04, Update on GEF-6 Resource Availability, agreed that, as a contingency measure to effectively manage the projected shortfall of the GEF-6 resource envelope, the Secretariat undertake programming aiming to maintain the balance among the original allocations in the GEF-6 replenishment decision, assisting Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in accessing resources, and supporting core obligations to the conventions for which the GEF is a or the financial mechanism.”

Table 4: Resources Programmed for Mercury Projects in GEF-6   
(July 2014 - June 2017)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Project Type Number of Projects GEF Resources ($)[[25]](#footnote-26) Co-financing ($)** | | | |
| Enabling Activities | 59 | 30,297,045 | 3,251,470 |
| Full-sized Projects | 7 | 93,029,533 | 377,406,658 |
| Medium-sized Projects | 2 | 1,069,800 | 3,350,000 |
| **Total** | **68** | **124,396,378** | **384,008,128** |

1. In the first three years of GEF-6, support for mercury reduction from ASGM received the largest share of resources followed by support to the two enabling activities of MIA and ASGM NAP that are currently eligible for GEF support. The thematic distribution of support is illustrated in Figure 4 below.

Figure 4: Thematic Distribution of GEF-6 Mercury Resources



**Capacity- Wastesb, uilding, 4.2% 6.9%**

**ASGM,**

**Products, 3.3%**

**MIA,**

**11.7% MIA/ASG**

**M NAP, 3.1%**

**NAP,**

**9.6%**

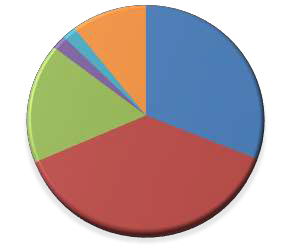
**Products, Wastes, 0.6%**

**ASGM, 47.2%**

**Manufactu ring process, 13.4%**

1. As shown in Figure 5, the Asia region received the highest percentage of GEF resources in GEF-6. The relatively large financing on ASGM and manufacturing processes have contributed these large distributions in Asia and Africa.

Figure 5: Regional Distribution of GEF-6 Mercury Resources



**Earstan Europe and Central Asia, 2.0%**

**Latin America, 17.0%**

**SIDS, 1.9%**

**Global, 10.7%**

**Africa, 31.1%**

**Asia, 37.3%**

*Support for Key Element of Minamata Convention*

**Enabling Activities**

1. During the first three years of the GEF-6 period, 39 MIA projects for 65 countries, 15 ASGM NAP projects for 24 countries and five MIA and ASGM NAP projects for five countries were approved. Support was provided to both Parties and non-signatory countries that are taking meaningful steps towards becoming a Party.
2. The following 26 Parties to the Minamata Convention received GEF support: Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Chad, Djibouti, Ecuador, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Jordan, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Panama, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Togo and Zambia.
3. The following 24 non-signatory countries submitted the letter on their meaningful steps towards becoming a Party: Azerbaijan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Botswana, Cabo Verde, Congo, Cook Islands, El Salvador, Eritrea, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Lao, Maldives, Myanmar, Namibia, Papua New Guinea, Sao Tome and Principe, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, Suriname, Swaziland, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, and Vanuatu. Of these, five countries have ratified the Convention since receiving the GEF support.
4. Through enabling activities in GEF-5 and GEF-6, 87 out of 94 GEF eligible countries have received funding for enabling activities under the Minamata Convention, as shown in Figure 6 and Table 5.

**Activities to Implement Provision of Convention that Relate to Legally-Binding Obligations**

1. In the first three years of GEF-6, seven projects were funded for activities that relate to   
   legally-binding obligations. The following are examples of these projects.
2. The project, *Demonstration of Mercury Reduction and Minimization in the Production of Vinyl Chloride Monomer in China,* aims to decrease the production and use of mercury by 50% per ton of vinyl chloride monomer (VCM) production in 2020, which will result in the reduction of 360 tons of mercury usage in polyvinyl chloride (PVC) industries. This will be achieved through optimizing the existing production and achieving 90% recovery of mercury in production processes and promoting mercury-free catalyst and trial application as the initial step of commercialization. The project will promote technology transfer and investment for the widespread application of best available techniques and best environmental practices (BAT/BEP).

Figure 6: Map of Countries Receiving Support for Minamata Convention Enabling Activities (as of June 2017)

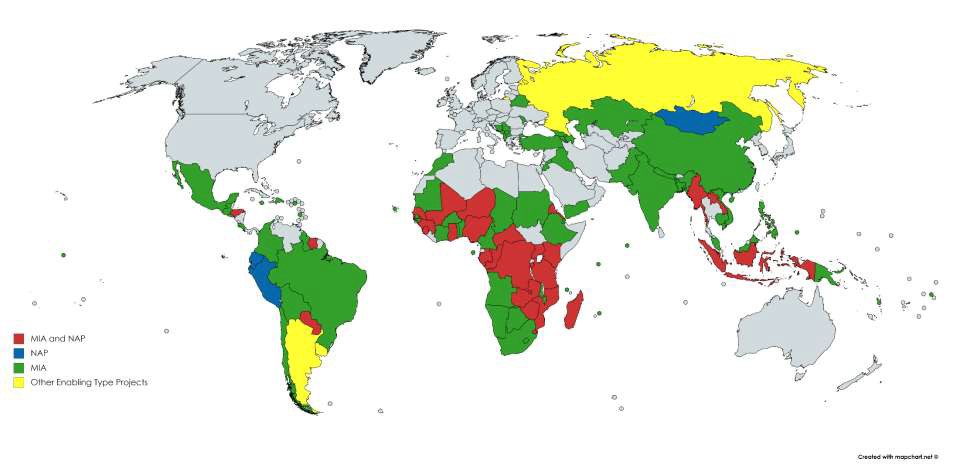


Table 5: List of Countries that Have Received GEF Funding for Minamata Convention Enabling Activities (as of June 2017)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Albania | Congo | Comoros | Honduras | Moldova | Serbia | Zimbabwe |
| Angola | Congo DR | Congo | India | Mongolia | Seychelles |  |
| Armenia | Cook Islands | Congo DR | Indonesia | Montenegro | Sierra Leone |  |
| Azerbaijan | Costa Rica | Cook Islands | Iraq | Morocco | South Africa |  |
| Bangladesh | Cote d'Ivoire | Costa Rica | Jamaica | Mozambique | Sri Lanka |  |
| Benin | Djibouti | Cote d'Ivoire | Jordan | Myanmar | St. Kitts And Nevis |  |
| Bolivia | Dominican Republic | Djibouti | Kazakhstan | Namibia | St. Lucia |  |
| Bosnia-Herzegovina | Ecuador | Dominican Republic | Kenya | Nepal | Sudan |  |
| Botswana | El Salvador | Ecuador | Kiribati | Niger | Suriname |  |
| Brazil | Eritrea | El Salvador | Lao PDR | Nigeria | Swaziland |  |
| Burkina Faso | Ethiopia | Eritrea | Lesotho | Pakistan | Tanzania |  |
| Burundi | Gabon | Ethiopia | Macedonia | Palau | Togo |  |
| Cabo Verde | Gambia | Gabon | Madagascar | Panama | Tonga |  |
| Cambodia | Georgia | Gambia | Malawi | Papua New Guinea | Trinidad and Tobago |  |
| Cameroon | Ghana | Georgia | Malaysia | Paraguay | Turkey |  |
| Central African Republic | Guatemala | Ghana | Maldives | Peru | Uganda |  |
| Chad | Guinea | Guatemala | Mali | Philippines | Vanuatu |  |
| Chile | Guinea-Bissau | Guinea | Mauritania | Samoa | Vietnam |  |
| China | Guyana | Guinea-Bissau | Mauritius | Sao Tome and Principe | Yemen |  |
| Colombia | Honduras | Guyana | Mexico | Senegal | Zambia |  |

1. The program, *Global Opportunities for Long-term Development (GOLD) of the Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) Sector*, seeks to significantly reduce the barrier to accessing resources, by artisanal and small scale miners, to technologies and technical assistance that will help eliminate or reduce the use of mercury in the processing of gold. The program is a global multi-country (Colombia, Guyana, Peru, Kenya, Burkina Faso, Philippines, Indonesia and Mongolia) multi-agency initiative. The countries were selected based on their consumption of mercury in ASGM, the size of the gold mining sector and hence the ability to quickly scale interventions, and finally their legal relationship with the Convention (ratified or signatory).
2. The program proposes to directly reduce 123 tons of mercury. This is a conservative estimate and greater benefits are expected because of the replication potential of the investment funds to be set up. The program proposes to design and deploy several financial instruments such as revolving loans, loan guarantees and others that will be accessed by miners to implement technology changes in their mining operations. The program will also connect the resulting mercury free mines to global gold supply chains including refiners and other off-takers.
3. The program, *EHPMP****―****Environmental Health and Pollution Management Program in Africa*, will address the critical environmental health issues related to mercury in ASGM in Tanzania and Ghana. The objective is to empower the rural poor and provide them with cleaner and simpler technologies to eliminate the harmful chemical, mercury, from the processing chain. It is expected that the planned pilot projects can then be replicated elsewhere. The co-financing provided by the World Bank will contribute to funding the gap analysis of the legal framework needed to support the project intervention to mitigate the socio-economic impacts of the project activities on ASGM. Global environmental benefits will accrue, in particular the reduction of 75 tons of mercury.

**Activities to Implement Provision of Convention that Facilitate Early Implementation on Entry into Force of Convention for a Party**

1. One of the two projects that sought to facilitate early entry is a project in China, *Capacity Strengthening for Implementation of Minamata Convention on Mercury*, will provide the basis for developing a national strategy and an investment plan to deal with mercury in China. It will also form the basis for the World Bank to develop its lending strategy for the mercury sector in China. China is the largest consumer of mercury and the largest emitter. Given the complexity of the mercury sector in China, in order to take strategic action their level of understanding of the sector needs to be significantly increased and options for addressing these challenging sectors needs to be fully understood.
2. Full details of the projects summarized above are in Annexes 9 and 10.

*Chemicals and Wastes Portfolio in Small Grants Programme*

1. In GEF-6, the SGP seeks to pilot and test innovative community-based mercury reduction and management practices in support of the implementation of the Minamata Convention at the community level. The SGP also continues to develop local communities’ awareness and capacities to address mercury issues and pilot activities on the ground, including issues with gold-mining under the GEF GOLD Program. These projects are funded separately from the resources in the chemicals and wastes focal area, but are included in this report as they support community level initiatives that are aligned with the objectives of the Convention.
2. The SGP provides local experiences and lessons in tackling mercury issues to the global community, and promotes global awareness and actions through local to global coalitions in partnership with the government, GEF agencies, the private sector, civil society organizations and other key stakeholders. In GEF-6, to date, the SGP supported 15 projects in mercury reduction and management with a total of $524,859 in GEF funding, having generated $539,771 in co-financing in Belarus, China, Ghana, Guyana, Malaysia, Nepal, St Vincent and Grenadines, Suriname and Ukraine. They are summarized in Annex 11.
3. The key focus of these SGP projects were on community-based collection and recycling of   
   e-waste to avoid mercury contamination, reduction of the use of mercury in gold mining and jewelry production, and awareness raising for on the multilateral environmental agreements/conventions and campaigns to influence government policies. For example, in Ukraine, three projects addressed the collection, storage, transportation, and disposal of   
   mercury-vapor lamps in the country. The SGP-supported activities developed a comprehensive system for collection and transportation of a total of 150,000 mercury- containing light bulbs.
4. In Ghana, the SGP supported community-based activities to build capacities of artisanal miners and local communities engaged in gold mining, and reduce the use of mercury improved practices and strengthen the organizational capacity of artisanal miners within the selected area to ensure safe and limited use of mercury. Experiences through this project could be replicated and scaled up for strategic management of mercury in artisanal and small- scale gold mining at the national and global scale.

Part III: Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and Evaluation of Mercury Projects

1. GEF projects and focal area portfolio are monitored by the GEF Secretariat through its Annual Monitoring Review (AMR), Annual Portfolio Monitoring Report and Corporate Scorecard, and evaluated by the GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO).
2. The AMR is developed by an in-depth analysis of Project Implementation Reports (PIR), submitted by agencies for projects under implementation. These PIRs are submitted annually and are supplemented by Mid Term Evaluation Reports and Terminal Evaluation Reports.
3. The first Corporate Scorecard was presented in the 50th GEF Council in June 2016 to strengthen corporate level results reporting in addition to the AMR. The Corporate Scorecard has analyzed key themes such as contribution to global environment benefits and corporate efficiency and effectiveness.
4. The GEF IEO is responsible for undertaking independent evaluations that involve a set of projects from more than one Implementing or Executing Agency. These evaluation results are presented by the following reports:
   1. Annual Performance Reports
   2. Annual Impact Reports
   3. Annual Country Portfolio Evaluations
   4. Thematic Evaluations: programs, processes, and cross-cutting or focal areas.
5. The GEF IEO supports knowledge sharing and follow-up of evaluation recommendations. It works with the GEF Secretariat and the GEF Agencies to establish systems to disseminate lessons learned and best practices emanating from monitoring and evaluation activities and provides independent evaluative evidence to the GEF knowledge base.

*Annual Monitoring Review and Annual Portfolio Monitoring Reports*

1. Agencies are required on an annual basis to provide results for development objective (DO) rating and implementation progress (IP) rating for projects under implementation. The IP rating is based on progress made for the given reporting period, i.e. how the project progressed during one year of implementation. The DO rating is based on the likelihood that a project will achieve its stated objectives by the end of its implementation.
2. The GEF secretariat has reported the ratings of projects under implementation in the AMRs from 41st to 49th meeting, and Annual Portfolio Monitoring Report in 50th and 51st meeting of the GEF Council. The result of the mercury projects is summarized below.
3. Based on data submitted by Agencies from fiscal year (FY)2012 to FY2016, the GEF mercury portfolio under implementation received a DO rating of moderately satisfactory or higher for 92 to 100% of projects. Mercury projects received an IP rating of moderately satisfactory or higher for 92 to 100% of the projects. These ratings significantly surpass the GEF corporate targets of 75% for both DO and IP. There was one project with moderately unsatisfactory ratings in 2015. Table 6 presents performance ratings from 2013 to 2016.[[26]](#footnote-27)

Table 6: Performance Ratings of Mercury Projects

**Fiscal Year**

**Total Number Development Objective (DO) Implementation Progress (IP) of Projects Ratings (% of projects) Ratings (% of projects)**

**2013**

**2014**

**2015**

**2016**

**Corporate target**

4

9

13

1

**Moderately Moderately Satisfactory Unsatisfactory or above or below**

100% 0%

100% 0%

92% 8%

100% 0%

Above 75%

**Moderately Satisfactory or above**

100%

100%

92%

100%

Above 75%

**Moderately Unsatisfactory or below**

0%

0%

8%

0%

*GEF Corporate Scorecard*

1. In GEF-6, several corporate indicators were set to monitor the progress of implementation of the GEF-6 programming strategy. The GEF Secretariat presented three Corporate Scorecards from the 50th to 52nd GEF Council including the results of chemicals and wastes focal area in: (i) contribution to the generation of global environment benefits; and (ii) cumulative summary of GEF-6 utilization of funds against the programming targets.
2. The Corporate Scorecard released at the 50th Council in June 2016 showed that the GEF-6 projects approved by April 20, 2016 contributed 37% of the GEF-6 corporate target for mercury reduction.[[27]](#footnote-28) The latest Corporate Scorecard released at the 52nd Council in May 2017 showed that the approved GEF-6 projects approved by April 30, 2017 contributed 62% of the target for mercury reduction, and that the GEF had programmed 98% of the targeted mercury resources for GEF-6.[[28]](#footnote-29) The close to 100% programming for the Minamata Convention takes into consideration the impact of the potential shortfall discussed at the 51st GEF Council, and reflects significant resources programmed prior and up to that time period.

*Country Portfolio Evaluation*

1. The GEF IEO has submitted the country portfolio evaluation reports for 15 countries to the GEF Council during the reporting period. In these reports, one evaluation report considered the mercury activities in Tajikistan.[[29]](#footnote-30)
2. The evaluation report on Tajikistan concluded that GEF support to dealing with chemicals issues in Tajikistan was effective in the ODS sector. Results on the reduction of POPs are mixed. On mercury, it argued that Tajikistan has not yet signed the Convention, although mercury is among the major mineral resources extracted in Tajikistan, where chemicals leaking in waters because of mining activities is a cause of concern. It recommended that mercury, POPs, and other hazardous chemicals related issues should be given priority in Tajikistan.

*Thematic Evaluation: Chemicals and Wastes Focal Area Study*

1. The GEF IEO submitted the chemicals and wastes focal area study to the 52nd meeting of the GEF Council.[[30]](#footnote-31) The purpose of this study is to provide insights and lessons for the focal area going forward into the next replenishment cycle (GEF-7), based on evidence from an analysis of the chemicals and wastes portfolio’s projects and terminal evaluations.
2. The study argues that the chemicals and wastes focal area of the GEF has evolved through the GEF-4, GEF-5, and GEF-6 phases to remain highly relevant, including expanding to cover new global priorities such as mercury and embracing synergies between chemicals issues. The transition to a single chemicals and wastes focal area has been synergistic. As the first to attempt to comprehensively assess the results of the chemicals and wastes focal area, this study faced some difficulties. Reliable data on the aggregate impact of closed chemicals and wastes projects in terms of tons of POPs, ODS, mercury, and other chemicals and related wastes phased out, reduced, or disposed were not consistently available.
3. The recommendations include support for reforms, where the GEF may want to consider providing more support for broad-based regulatory reform and sector-wide approaches, to address chemicals and wastes issues more holistically. Also, given the challenges this study faced in tallying the verified results of the GEF chemicals and wastes focal area, the GEF’s monitoring procedures deserve more scrutiny.

Annex 1: Process Undertaken to Operationalize the GEF’s Role in Minamata Convention

| **Date** | **Body** | **Action** | **Reference** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **May 2012** | 42nd GEF Council | The GEF Council considered an operational program for mercury and options for financing, should the GEF be included in the financial mechanism of the Convention. | GEF/C.42/Inf.10 |
| **June 2012** | INC4 | The result of the negotiations on the financial mechanism included the GEF as a possible option for being in or the Financial Mechanism of the Convention. | UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.4/8 |
| **October 2012** | 43rd GEF Council | The GEF Council reviewed the “proposed framework for a financial mechanism for the future convention and a draft operational program for mercury.” The Council also decided that ‘if requested by the INC, would welcome the GEF becoming a Financial Mechanism of the future instrument on mercury, within the framework of the GEF.’ | GEF/C.43/04 |
| **January 2013** | INC5 | The INC concluded negotiations of the Minamata Convention and approved the text of the Convention. The GEF was included as part of “the Mechanism for the provision of adequate, predictable, and timely financial resources,” “to support developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition in implementing their obligations under the Convention,” as described in Article 13 on Financial Resources and Mechanism of the Convention. | UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.5/7 |
| **May 2103** | 44th GEF Council | The GEF Council “welcomed with appreciation the invitation from the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to Prepare a Global Legally Binding Instrument on Mercury to the GEF, to be the Financial Mechanism of the Minamata Convention on Mercury as drafted in Article 13 of the agreed text of the Convention, which will be adopted and opened for signature in Kumamoto and Minamata, Japan in October 2013.”  The Council also authorized the use of up to $10 million for the funding of an early pre-ratification program for the Minamata Convention to be programmed during the remainder of GEF-5 period. The Council additionally requested the GEF Secretariat to develop initial guidelines for enabling activities and  pre-ratification projects. | GEF/C.44/04 |
| **October 2013** | Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury | The text of the Minamata Convention was adopted. Article 13 of the Convention on Financial resources and mechanism includes the following paragraphs of relevance to the GEF:   1. A Mechanism for the provision of adequate, predictable, and timely financial resources is hereby defined. The Mechanism is to support developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition in implementing their obligations under this Convention. 2. The Mechanism shall include:    1. The Global Environment Facility Trust Fund; and    2. A specific international Programme to support capacity-building and technical assistance. 3. The Global Environment Facility Trust Fund shall provide new, predictable, adequate and timely financial resources to meet costs in support of implementation of this Convention as agreed by the Conference of the Parties. For the purposes of this Convention, the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund shall be operated under the guidance of and be accountable to the Conference of the Parties. The Conference of the Parties shall provide guidance on overall strategies, policies, programme priorities and eligibility for access to and utilization of financial resources. In addition, the Conference of the Parties shall provide guidance on an indicative list of categories of activities that could receive support from the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund. The Global Environment Facility Trust Fund shall provide resources to meet the agreed incremental costs of global environmental benefits and the agreed full costs of some enabling activities.   8. In providing resources for an activity, the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund should take into account the potential mercury reductions of a proposed activity relative to its costs.  The resolution on arrangements in the interim period adopted by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries states the following in paragraph 16:  *Invites* the Council of the Global Environment Facility to support developing countries and countries with economies in transition that are signatories to the Convention in undertaking activities, particularly enabling activities, to facilitate early implementation and ratification of the Convention;  The resolution on financial arrangements, adopted by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries states the following of relevance to the GEF:   1. *Invites* the Council of the Global Environment Facility to give effect to the inclusion of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund as a part of the financial mechanism of the Minamata Convention and to recommend to the Assembly of the Global Environment Facility, as a matter of urgency, that it make any adjustments to the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility that are necessary to allow it to fulfil its role in the financial mechanism; 2. *Decides* that the Committee should develop, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting, a draft memorandum of understanding to be agreed between the Council of the Global Environment Facility and the Conference of the Parties on arrangements to give effect to the relevant provisions of paragraphs 5 to 8 of Article 13; 3. *Decides* also that the Committee should develop, and adopt provisionally pending formal adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting, guidance to the Council of the Global Environment Facility on overall strategies, policies, programme priorities, eligibility for access to and utilization of financial resources and an indicative list of categories of activities eligible for support from the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund; 4. *Encourages* the Council of the Global Environment Facility to apply provisionally any guidance provided to it by the Committee pending the adoption of the guidance by the Conference of the Parties; 5. *Invites* donors to the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund to contribute through the sixth and subsequent replenishments of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund additional financial resources adequate to enable the Global Environment Facility to support activities to facilitate the rapid entry into force and effective implementation of the Convention; 6. *Requests* the Committee to develop for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting a proposal for the hosting institution for the specific *international* programme, including any necessary arrangements with the hosting institution, as well as guidance on the operation and duration of that programme. | UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/CONF/4 |
| **November 2013** | 45th GEF Council | The GEF Council considered “initial guidelines for the enabling activities for the Minamata Convention on Mercury.” These guidelines facilitated the programming of the additional $10 million authorized by the 44th Council.  The Council requested the GEF Secretariat to submit a draft decision by January 15, 2014, for consideration and decision by mail, on amendments to the Instrument to be recommended to the Fifth Assembly, including but not limited to the Minamata Convention on Mercury. | GEF/C.45/Inf.05/Rev.01 |
| **January 2014** | GEF Council | Council decision by mail to recommend to the GEF Assembly to amend the GEF instrument to include the Minamata Convention and to create a new focal area called ‘chemicals and wastes’ that would replace the POPs focal area and the ODS focal area and which would respond to the Stockholm Convention, the Minamata Convention, the Montreal Protocol and SAICM. | GEF/C.45/11.Rev.02 |
| **April 2014** | Fifth GEF Assembly | The GEF Assembly approved the amendments to the GEF Instrument recommended by the GEF Council to include the Minamata Convention on Mercury and to create the chemicals and wastes focal area that includes the Minamata Convention.  The Assembly also approved the summary of negotiations of the 6th GEF replenishment which allocated $141 million for the implementation of Minamata Convention in the GEF 6 period. | GEF/A.5/09 GEF/A.5/07/Rev.01 |
| **November 2014** | INC6 | The INC6 requested the GEF to consider enabling activities and activities to implement the provisions of the Convention when providing financial resources to developing countries and countries with economies in transition.  The INC6 also requested the GEF to apply eligibility criteria, including “Non-Signatories to the Convention, for enabling activities, provided that any such State is taking meaningful steps towards becoming a Party as evidenced by a letter from a relevant Minister to the Executive Director of UNEP and the CEO and Chairperson of the GEF.”  The Committee requested the interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention to continue to collaborate with the GEF secretariat in the elaboration of a memorandum of understanding between the GEF Council and the COP for consideration at INC7 and adoption at COP1. | UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/24  Annex III |
| **January 2015** | GEF Council | By decision by mail, the GFF Council agreed to the eligibility as requested by the INC6. | Letter to Council confirming the decision sent by the GEF CEO January 14, 2015 |
| **March 2016** | INC7 | The MOU between the COP of the Minamata Convention and the GEF Council was negotiated. The Committee agreed on a revised MOU, which was submitted to the GEF Council for review and comments.  The INC7 negotiated draft initial guidance to the GEF, which was adopted on a provisional basis, pending its formal adoption by COP1. | UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.7/22.1  Annex IV – MOU  Annex V – Draft Guidance |
| **October 2016** | 51st GEF Council | The GEF Council considered the draft MOU and provided comments on it. The comments were transmitted to the Interim Minamata Secretariat. The revised MOU is to be presented to the COP for its consideration. | GEF/C.51/11 |

Annex 2: Resolutions Adopted by Conference of Plenipotentiaries on Minamata Convention on Mercury and GEF's Response

Resolutions on arrangements in the interim period and resolution on financial arrangements, adopted by Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury, October 2013[[31]](#footnote-32)

| **Resolution** | **GEF Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Invites the Council of the Global Environment Facility to support developing countries and countries with economies in transition that are signatories to the Convention in undertaking activities, particularly enabling activities, to facilitate early implementation and ratification of the Convention; | The 44th GEF Council in June 2013 allocated $10 million for enabling activities under the Minamata Convention in the GEF-5 period, specifically MIAs and ASGM NAPs. Guidelines have been developed for application of these projects. In GEF-6, $30 million in additional resources has been allocated for these enabling activities.  The initial guidelines[[32]](#footnote-33) may be amended by the INC or COP as required. |
| Invites the Council of the Global Environment Facility to give effect to the inclusion of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund as a part of the financial mechanism of the Minamata Convention and to recommend to the Assembly of the Global Environment Facility, as a matter of urgency, that it make any adjustments to the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility that are necessary to allow it to fulfil its role in the financial mechanism; | At the 5th GEF Assembly in May 2014, the GEF Instrument was amended to include the Minamata Convention in the list of Conventions served by the GEF. [[33]](#footnote-34)The new paragraph 6(e) of the GEF Instrument contains the following text:  “(e) Operate as one of the entities comprising the financial mechanism of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, pursuant to its Article 13, paragraphs 5, 6 and 8. In such respects, the GEF shall operate under the guidance of, and be accountable to the Conference of the Parties, which shall provide guidance on overall strategies, policies, program priorities and eligibility for access to and utilization of financial resources. In addition, the GEF shall receive guidance from the Conference of the Parties on an indicative list of categories of activities that could receive support; and shall provide resources to meet the agreed incremental costs of global environmental benefits and the agreed full costs of some enabling activities, pursuant to Article 13, paragraph 7, of the Minamata Convention on  Mercury.” |
| Decides that the Committee should develop, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting, a draft memorandum of understanding to be agreed between the Council of the Global Environment Facility and the Conference of the Parties on arrangements to give effect to the relevant provisions of paragraphs 5 to 8 of Article 13; | GEF Secretariat shared the MOU with the Stockholm Convention with the Interim Minamata Secretariat for background to assist in developing the MOU. Examples of MOU between the GEF Council and various COPs were provided by the Interim Minamata Convention Secretariat in the meeting documents for INC6.  INC7 agreed on a revised draft MOU, which was submitted to the 51st GEF Council for its consideration. In early 2017, the GEF Secretariat transmitted comments of the GEF Council to the interim secretariat for inclusion in the document for COP1, to be presented to the COP for its consideration. |
| Decides also that the Committee should develop, and adopt provisionally pending formal adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting, guidance to the Council of the Global Environment Facility on overall strategies, policies, programme priorities, eligibility for access to and utilization of financial resources and an indicative list of categories of activities eligible for support from the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund; | INC7 adopted, on a provisional basis, pending its formal adoption at COP1, revised draft guidance to the GEF on overall strategies, policies, programme priorities and eligibility for access to and utilization of financial resources as well as on an indicative list of categories of activities that could receive support from the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund.  The GEF has made progress in various aspects of the draft initial guidance, as summarized in Table 1 of this report. For example, they are used to guide the programming in GEF-6, and referenced in the draft programming directions document for GEF-7 replenishment negotiations.  The GEF-6 programming focus has been on enabling activities and actions to facilitate early implementation of the Convention. As of June 2017, the GEF funded 100 MIAs, 30 NAPs and projects that seek to eliminate over 800 tons of mercury. |
| Encourages the Council of the Global Environment Facility to apply provisionally any guidance provided to it by the Committee pending the adoption of the guidance by the Conference of the Parties; | The GEF has incorporated and responded to outcomes of INCs and resolutions adopted by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries that are relevant to the GEF, as summarized in this report. |
| Invites donors to the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund to contribute through the sixth and subsequent replenishments of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund additional financial resources adequate to enable the Global Environment Facility to support activities to facilitate the rapid entry into force and effective implementation of the Convention; | The 6th replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund includes an allocation of $141 million to support activities to advance early entry into force and effective implementation of the Minamata Convention. $30 million has been allocated for enabling activities and $111 million has been allocated to support early action. |

Annex 3: Outcomes from INC6 and GEF's Response

Report of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury on the work of its sixth session, November 2014, Annex III[[34]](#footnote-35)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Outcome GEF Response** | |
| Request the Global Environment Facility to apply the following eligibility criteria in providing financial support to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for activities under the Minamata Convention on Mercury:  Eligibility criteria   1. Parties to the Convention; 2. Signatories to the Convention in undertaking activities, particularly enabling activities, to facilitate early implementation and ratification of the Convention; 3. Non-signatories to the Convention, for enabling activities, provided that any such State is taking meaningful steps towards becoming a Party as evidenced by a letter from the relevant minister to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and to the Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility. | The GEF Council approved new eligibility criteria in January 2015. The GEF Secretariat also circulated this revision of criteria among the GEF Agencies in February 2015.  The Interim Minamata Convention Secretariat shared the template of the letter to be submitted from non- signatories on their meaningful steps towards becoming a Party.  Based on the new criteria, 24 non-signatory countries were supported during the reporting period in GEF-6. Among these 24 countries, five countries, Botswana, El Salvador, Lesotho. Saint Kitts and Nevis and Swaziland, ratified the Convention. |
| Request the Global Environment Facility to consider the following activities when providing financial resources to developing countries and countries with economies in transition:   1. Enabling activities as outlined in the Initial Guidelines for Enabling Activities for the Minamata Convention on Mercury of the Global Environment Facility, particularly Minamata Convention initial assessment activities and national action plans for artisanal and small- scale gold mining, to facilitate ratification; 2. Activities to implement the provisions of the Convention, affording priority to those that: 3. Relate to legally-binding obligations; 4. Facilitate early implementation on entry into force; 5. Allow for reduction in mercury emissions and releases and address the health and environmental impacts of mercury. | The GEF-6 chemicals and wastes strategy has two strategic objectives to meet the goals of eliminating harmful chemicals and wastes. The GEF has programmed $124 million for mercury projects under these two programs of in the first three years of the GEF-6 period. |

Annex 4: Model Letter on Eligibility on Minamata Initial Assessment

*[To be issued on letterhead of relevant Minister]*

*[Original signed copies to be addressed to, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, P.O. Box 47074 - Nairobi 00100, Kenya, Email:* [*executiveoffice@unep.org*](mailto:executiveoffice@unep.org) *and to Ms. Naoko Ishii, CEO and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility at 1818 H Street, NW, Mail Stop P4-400, Washington, DC 20433 USA, Email:* [*secretariat@thegef.org*](mailto:secretariat@thegef.org)*]*

*[Signed copies to be addressed to the GEF Secretariat at* [*secretariat@thegef.org*](mailto:secretariat@thegef.org) *and to the Interim Secretariat of the Minamata Convention at* [*mercury.chemicals@unep.org*](mailto:mercury.chemicals@unep.org)*]*

*To the attention of:*

* *Eric Solheim Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme*
* *Ms. Naoko Ishii, CEO and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility*

*Subject: Steps taken by [name of country] towards becoming a Party to the Minamata Convention on Mercury and request for consideration as eligible for financial support for enabling activities*

At its sixth session held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 3 to 7 November 2014, the intergovernmental negotiating committee to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury requested the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to apply revised eligibility criteria in providing financial support to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for activities under the Minamata Convention on Mercury. In particular, it requested the eligibility for funding be extended for enabling activities to non-signatories to the Convention, provided that any such State is taking meaningful steps towards becoming a Party. Such request was approved by the Council of the GEF in January 2015.

*[Name of country]* was not in a position to sign the Minamata Convention on Mercury before it was closed to signature on 9 October 2014. However, our Government supports the objective of the Minamata Convention to protect human health and the environment from anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds and has taken a number of steps at the national level towards becoming a Party and allow for the deposit of the instrument of accession to the Convention. In particular, *[name of country]* has *[select as appropriate]:*

* participated in the sub-regional workshop organized by UNEP *[specify date/place]* and developed in that context a draft national roadmap on the Minamata Convention;
* discussed and/or further elaborated the draft national roadmap with other ministries / stakeholders;
* engaged with UN agencies, intergovernmental and/or non-governmental organizations to discuss possible actions at the national level in support for the accession to and early implementation of the Minamata Convention;
* undertaken a preliminary analysis of key mercury-related issues and/or stakeholders at the national level;
* organized a national inter-ministerial / stakeholder consultation on the Minamata Convention  
  *[specify date/place]*;
* identified the national process for accession to international instruments;
* carried out an initial legal gap analysis in order to identify the regulatory amendments that may be needed for the implementation of the Minamata Convention’s provisions;
* Etc.*]*

In order to adequately prepare for acceding to and effectively implementing the Minamata Convention, our Government would benefit from the enabling activities funded under the GEF as they would allow the identification of the domestic mercury challenges and the extent to which existing legal and regulatory frameworks enable to implement future obligations under the Minamata Convention.

In light of the steps taken by my country towards acceding to the Minamata Convention in line with the requirements to become eligible to financial support for enabling activities, I thank you in advance for supporting our project application for a Minamata Convention Initial Assessment (MIA).

*Signed on [specify date/place] by [Full name, function and official seal of relevant Minister]*

*Cc: Interim Secretariat of the Minamata Convention and GEF Secretariat*

Annex 5: Model Letter on Eligibility on Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining National Action Plan

## INTRODUCTORY NOTES:

**Status of the model letter and of notifications submitted before entry into force of the Convention**

* 1. The Global Environment Facility (GEF) *Initial guidelines for enabling activities for the Minamata Convention[[35]](#footnote-36)* state that in the period between adoption of the Convention and the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties “countries eligible to receive GEF funding for the preparation of ASGM National Action Plans (ASGM NAPs) will (…) Notify the Secretariat of the Convention in writing that there is more than insignificant ASGM and processing in its territory”.
  2. The present document has been prepared by the interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention in cooperation with the GEF Secretariat to assist countries prepare such notification and enable them meet the eligibility criteria for funding from the GEF in the period pending entry into force of the Convention.
  3. While it may be used as a guiding tool, it is not intended to interpret nor to substitute the original authentic texts of the Minamata Convention, nor is it intended to replace any formal notification under Article 3 paragraph 7 following entry into force of the Convention for a Party. Any notification submitted by a country before it becomes a Party does not replace the notification obligation it may have pursuant to paragraph 3 of Article 7 of the Minamata Convention.

**Overview of the related provisions under Article 7 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury (see abstract from the Convention text in Annex I)[[36]](#footnote-37)**

* 1. The measures in Article 7 and its associated Annex C apply to artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing in which mercury amalgamation is used to extract gold from ore (paragraph 1).
  2. Each Party that has artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing within its territory, independently of its importance, has the general obligations to take steps to reduce, and where feasible eliminate, the use of mercury and mercury compounds in such mining and processing, as well as the emissions and releases to the environment of mercury from such activities (paragraph 2).
  3. Further, a Party that at any time determines that artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing in its territory is more than insignificant, shall notify the Secretariat (paragraph 3). Any such Party shall also develop and implement a national action plan in accordance with Annex C (paragraph 3(a)); submit its national action plan to the Secretariat no later than three years after entry into force of the Convention for it or three years after the notification to the Secretariat, whichever is later (paragraph 3(b)); and thereafter, provide a review every three years of the progress made in meeting its obligations under this Article and include such reviews in its reports submitted pursuant to Article 21 (paragraph 3(c)).
  4. The process to determine “more than insignificant” with respect to artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing is not prescribed in the Convention. Each Party may use its own criteria in determining whether such activities are more than insignificant within its territory.
  5. The notification must be done at any time the Party determines artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing in its territory is more than insignificant. The notification should therefore be submitted once a country becomes a Party.

## ANNEX I: ABSTRACT FROM THE MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

**Article 7**

**Artisanal and small-scale gold mining**

1. The measures in this Article and in Annex C shall apply to artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing in which mercury amalgamation is used to extract gold from ore.
2. Each Party that has artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing subject to this Article within its territory shall take steps to reduce, and where feasible eliminate, the use of mercury and mercury compounds in, and the emissions and releases to the environment of mercury from, such mining and processing.
3. Each Party shall notify the Secretariat if at any time the Party determines that artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing in its territory is more than insignificant. If it so determines the Party shall:
   1. Develop and implement a national action plan in accordance with Annex C;
   2. Submit its national action plan to the Secretariat no later than three years after entry into force of the Convention for it or three years after the notification to the Secretariat, whichever is later; and
   3. Thereafter, provide a review every three years of the progress made in meeting its obligations under this Article and include such reviews in its reports submitted pursuant to Article 21.
4. Parties may cooperate with each other and with relevant intergovernmental organizations and other entities, as appropriate, to achieve the objectives of this Article. Such cooperation may include:
   1. Development of strategies to prevent the diversion of mercury or mercury compounds for use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing;
   2. Education, outreach and capacity-building initiatives;
   3. Promotion of research into sustainable non-mercury alternative practices;
   4. Provision of technical and financial assistance;
   5. Partnerships to assist in the implementation of their commitments under this Article; and
   6. Use of existing information exchange mechanisms to promote knowledge, best environmental practices and alternative technologies that are environmentally, technically, socially and economically viable.

## ANNEX II: MODEL LETTER OF NOTIFICATION THAT ARTISANAL AND SMALL- SCALE GOLD MINING AND PROCESSING IS MORE THAN INSIGNIFICANT

[Government letterhead]

The Coordinator Interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Chemicals and Waste Branch Division of Technology, Industry and Economics United Nations Environment Programme

11 - 13 chemin des Anémones CH - 1219 Châtelaine, Geneva

SWITZERLAND

Fax: (41 22) 797 3460

E-mail: [mercury.chemicals@unep.org](mailto:mercury.chemicals@unep.org)

[Date]

Dear Sir or Madam,

Notification that artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing is more than insignificant within [Name of country]

[Name of country] hereby notifies the interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury that artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing in which mercury amalgamation is used to extract gold from ore is more than insignificant within its territory.

Yours faithfully,

[Name and signature

of SAICM National Focal Point]

Annex 6: List of GEF-5 Mercury Projects (July 2010 - June 2014)

GEF grant includes the GEF project grant allocated to mercury components only, not the full project amount, excluding associated fees and project preparation grant.

Enabling Activity Projects

| **Agency** | **Country** | **Title** | **MIA, NAP** | **GEF Grant ($)** | **Co-financing ($)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **UNIDO** | Armenia | Minamata Convention Initial Assessment (MIA) in the Republic of Armenia | MIA | 200,000 | 22,000 |
| **UNEP** | Brazil | Development of Minamata Convention on Mercury Initial Assessment in Brazil | MIA | 821,918 | 1,690,000 |
| **UNIDO** | China | Minamata Convention Initial Assessment in the People’s Republic of China | MIA | 1,000,000 | 975,000 |
| **UNIDO** | Comoros | Minamata Convention Initial Assessment in the Comoros | MIA | 200,000 | 67,000 |
| **UNDP** | Costa Rica | Minamata Initial Assessment for Costa Rica | MIA | 200,000 | 0 |
| **UNDP** | Georgia | Strengthen national decision making towards ratification of the Minamata Convention and build capacity towards implementation of future provisions. | MIA | 200,000 | 0 |
| **GEFSEC[[37]](#footnote-38)** | Kenya | Mercury Initial Actions for Kenya | MIA | 200,000 | 34,000 |
| **UNEP** | Madagascar | Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Madagascar | MIA | 182,648 | 200,000 |
| **UNDP** | Mauritius | Strengthen National Decision Making Towards Ratification of the Minamata Convention and Build Capacity Towards Implementation of Future Provisions. | MIA | 199,749 | 125,000 |
| **UNEP** | Mexico | Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Mexico | MIA | 456,530 | 40,000 |
| **UNEP** | Moldova | Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Moldova | MIA | 182,648 | 52,000 |
| **UNIDO** | Nigeria | Minamata Convention Initial Assessment in the Federal Republic of Nigeria | MIA | 1,000,000 | 182,000 |
| **UNIDO** | Vietnam | Minamata Convention Initial Assessment in Vietnam | MIA | 500,000 | 47,000 |
| **UNIDO** | Yemen | Minamata Convention Initial Assessment (MIA) in the Republic of Yemen | MIA | 200,000 | 50,200 |
| **UNEP** | Regional (Ethiopia, Gambia, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia) | Development of Minamata Convention on Mercury Initial Assessment in Africa | MIA | 913,242 | 1,129,943 |
| **UNEP** | Regional (Cambodia, Philippines, Pakistan) | Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Three Asian Countries | MIA | 730,594 | 1,702,084 |
| **UNEP** | Regional (Bolivia, Chile, Dominican Republic, Paraguay) | Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in LAC | MIA | 730,594 | 935,000 |

Medium-Sized Projects

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Agency** | **Country** | **Title** | **GEF Grant ($)** | **Co-financing ($)** |
| **UNIDO** | Argentina | Preparatory Project to Facilitate the Implementation of the Legally Binding Instrument on Mercury (Minamata Convention) in Argentina to Protect Health and the Environment | 350,000 | 530,000 |
| **UNEP** | China | Pilot project on the development of a mercury inventory in China | 1,000,000 | 3,146,265 |
| **UNIDO** | China | Reduction of Mercury Emissions and Promotion of Sound Chemical Management in Zinc Smelting Operations | 990,000 | 4,000,000 |
| **UNDP** | Honduras | Environmental Sound Management of Mercury and Mercury Containing Products and their Wastes in Artisanal Small-scale Gold Mining and Healthcare | 1,300,000 | 3,960,000 |
| **UNEP** | Kyrgyz Republic | Reducing global and local environmental risks from primary mercury mining in Khaidarkan the Kyrgyz Republic | 944,000 | 3,007,000 |
| **UNDP** | Kyrgyz Republic | Protect Human Health and the Environment from Unintentional Releases of POPs and Mercury from the Unsound Disposal of Healthcare Waste in Kyrgyzstan | 120,000 | 360,000 |
| **UNIDO** | Mongolia | Reduce Exposure of Mercury to Human Health and the Environment by Promoting Sound Chemical Management in Mongolia | 600,000 | 1,569,000 |
| **UNIDO** | Philippines | Improve the Health and Environment of Artisanal Gold Mining Communities in the Philippines by Reducing Mercury Emissions | 550,000 | 1,081,070 |
| **UNEP** | Russian Federation | Pilot Project on the Development of Mercury Inventory in the Russian Federation (RF) | 1,000,000 | 3,418,969 |
| **UNDP** | Uruguay | Environmental Sound Life-Cycle Management of Mercury Containing Products and their Wastes | 700,000 | 2,959,700 |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Agency** | **Country** | **Title** | **GEF Grant ($)** | **Co-financing ($)** |
| **UNIDO** | Regional (Burkina Faso, Mali, Senegal) | Improve the Health and Environment of Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) Communities by Reducing Mercury Emissions and Promoting Sound Chemical Management | 990,000 | 2,450,000 |
| **UNEP** | Regional (Argentina, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Peru, Uruguay) | Development of Mercury Risk Management Approaches in Latin America | 916,000 | 2,894,434 |
| **UNIDO** | Regional (Ecuador, Peru) | Implementing Integrated Measures for Minimizing Mercury Releases from Artisanal Gold Mining | 999,900 | 2.676.764 |
| **UNEP** | Global | Development of a Plan for Global Monitoring of Human Exposure to and Environmental Concentrations of Mercury | 850,000 | 3,005,411 |

Full-Sized Projects

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Agency** | **Country** | **Title** | **GEF Grant ($)** | **Co- financing ($)** |
| **UNEP** | Bolivia | Delivering the Transition to Energy Efficient Lighting | 45,662 | 0 |
| **UNEP** | Chile | Delivering the Transition to Energy Efficient Lighting | 45,662 | 0 |
| **UNDP** | Egypt | Protect Human Health and the Environment from Unintentional Releases of POPs Originating from Incineration and Open Burning of Health Care- and Electronic-waste | 550,000 | 1,600,000 |
| **UNDP** | Kazakhstan | NIP Update, Integration of POPs into National Planning and Promoting Sound Healthcare Waste Management in Kazakhstan | 200,000 | 470,000 |
| **World Bank** | Vietnam | Hospital Waste Management Support Project\* | 500,000 | 3,000,000 |
| **UNEP** | Yemen | Delivering the Transition to Energy Efficient Lighting\*\* | 45,622 | 0 |
| **UNDP** | Regional (Ghana, Madagascar, Tanzania) | Reducing unintentional POPs (UPOPs) and Mercury Releases from the Health Sector in Africa | 517,902 | 2,000,345 |

\* The project was cancelled in April 2014.

\*\* This project was cancelled in June 2017.

Annex 7: Summary of GEF-5 Mercury Projects (June 2010 - July 2014)

GEF funding figures includes the GEF project grants only, excluding associated fees and project preparation grant.

Mercury Supply Sources

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Kyrgyz Republic | GEF ID | 4985 |
| Title | Reducing global and local environmental risks from primary mercury mining in Khaidarkan the Kyrgyz Republic | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | UNEP | |
| Executing Agency | State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry | |
| GEF Funding | 944,000 | Co-financing | 3,007,000 |
| Project Summary | After more than 70 years of mercury mining and smelting at Khaidarkan, a number of mercury-contaminated hot-spots exist while atmospheric emissions of mercury from the smelter continue. These are sources of mercury released to the global and local environment. This project is supporting activities in different thematic areas at different scales that will lead to the ultimate overall project goal to reduce global and local environmental risks from primary mercury mining in Khaidarkan. | | |

Mercury-Added Products, Mercury Wastes

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Egypt | | GEF ID | 4392 | |
| Title | Protect Human Health and the Environment from Unintentional Releases of POPs Originating from Incineration and Open Burning of Health Care- and  Electronic- waste | | | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | | UNDP | | |
| Executing Agency | | n/a | | |
| GEF Funding | 4,100,000 | | Co-financing | 16,781,000 | |
| mercury component | 550,000 | mercury component | 1,600,000 |
| Project Summary | This project is facilitating the incorporation of sustainable management of chemicals and POPs issues into national development planning processes to collectively address POPs and UPOPs management efforts, as well as other pressing chemical management priorities. The project aims to protect human and environmental health by reducing releases of POPs and mercury from the unsound management of waste, in particular, the incineration and open burning of hazardous health care and electronic waste by demonstrating and promoting BAT/BEP to manage and dispose of such wastes. | | | | |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Kazakhstan | | GEF ID | 4442 | |
| Title | NIP Update, Integration of POPs into National Planning and Promoting Sound Healthcare Waste Management in Kazakhstan | | | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | | UNDP | | |
| Executing Agency | | Ministry of Environment Protection of the Republic of Kazakhstan | | |
| GEF Funding | 3,400,000 | | Co-financing | 16,011,000 | |
| mercury component | 200,000 | mercury component | 470,000 |
| Project Summary | The objective of the project is to reduce the releases of unintentionally produced POPs, mercury and other globally harmful pollutants into the environment by promoting sound healthcare waste management in Kazakhstan, and to assist the country in implementing its relevant obligations under the Stockholm Convention. This project involves enabling policy, institutional, regulatory, and planning environment for controlling POPs, mercury and contaminants of concern, and demonstrating sound healthcare waste management. | | | | |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Regional (Ghana, Madagascar, Tanzania) | | GEF ID | | 4611 | |
| Title | Reducing UPOPs and Mercury Releases from the Health Sector in Africa | | | | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | | UNDP | | | |
| Executing Agency | | WHO and Health Care Without Harm Persistent Organic Pollutants | | | |
| GEF Funding | 6,453,195 | | Co-financing | 25,810,000 | | |
| mercury component | 517,902 | mercury component | | 2,000,345 |
| Project Summary | This project is implementing best environmental practices and non-incineration and mercury-free technologies to help African countries meet their Stockholm Convention obligations and reduce mercury use in healthcare, and ensure the availability and affordability of non-incineration waste treatment technologies in the region. The project will avoid/reduce UPOPs releases from the health sector, enhance legal and regulatory frameworks, develop and implement national plans, and implement pilot mercury reduction and management activities in the health sector. | | | | | |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Uruguay | GEF ID | 4998 |
| Title | Environmental Sound Life-Cycle Management of Mercury Containing Products and their Wastes | | |
|  | GEF Agency | UNDP | |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | Executing Agency | National Environment Directorate | |
| GEF Funding | 700,000 | Co-financing | 2,595,700 |
| Project Summary | This project aims to protect human health and the environment from mercury releases originating from the intentional use of mercury in products and the unsound management and disposal of such products and strengthen the regulatory and policy framework for the sound management of mercury-containing products and their wastes. The project involves phasing-out and phasing-down  mercury- containing devices and products by introducing mercury-free alternatives or products with a lower mercury content, improving national capacity to make the management of mercury-containing products technically and economically feasible, and implementing and developing safe storage practices for mercury- containing waste and products. | | |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Kyrgyz Republic | | GEF ID | | | 5068 | |
| Title | Protect Human Health and the Environment from Unintentional Releases of POPs and Mercury from the Unsound Disposal of Healthcare Waste in Kyrgyzstan | | | | | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | | | UNDP | | | |
| Executing Agency | | | WHO | | | |
| GEF Funding | 1,425,000 | | | Co-financing | 5,700,000 | | |
| mercury component | 120,000 | | mercury component | | 360,000 |
| Project Summary | This project aims to implement BAT/BEP in the healthcare sector to assist Kyrgyzstan in meeting its obligations under the Stockholm Convention to reduce UPOPs and mercury releases, while also reducing the occurrence of the spread of infectious diseases due to inadequate healthcare waste management. The project involves enhancing national and city-wide policies, management plan, and implementation strategies, implementing BAT/BEP and recycling systems in the capital area, and implementing mercury waste management and reduction. | | | | | | |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Chile | | GEF ID | | 5150 | |
| Title | Delivering the Transition to Energy Efficient Lighting | | | | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | | UNEP | | | |
| Executing Agency | | Energy and Environment Ministries | | | |
| GEF Funding | 2,485,713 | | Co-financing | 9,791,000 | | |
| mercury component | 45,622 | mercury component | | 0 |
| Project Summary | The objective of this project is to promote the rapid utilization of high energy efficient lighting technologies through the transformation of efficient lighting  markets, thereby reducing electrical demand and consumption and the related greenhouse gas emissions. The project components include the strengthening of monitoring, verification, and enforcement capacities to ensure an effective transition to efficient lighting markets, ensuring environmentally sound management, and lighting innovation. | | | | | |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Bolivia | | GEF ID | | 5299 | |
| Title | Delivering the Transition to Energy Efficient Lighting | | | | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | | UNEP | | | |
| Executing Agency | | Ministry of Hydrocarbons and Energy and Ministry of Environment and Water | | | |
| GEF Funding | 3,059,361 | | Co-financing | 12,075,000 | | |
| mercury component | 45,662 | mercury component | | 0 |
| Project Summary | This project aims to help create national policy and regulation development to promote the rapid transition to efficient lighting through the building of monitoring, verification, and enforcement capacities and lighting innovation, including the use of solid state lighting and controls. The project will also ensure environmentally-sound management for a sustainable transition to efficient lighting. | | | | | |

Emissions

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | China | GEF ID | 4816 |
| Title | Reduction of Mercury Emissions and Promotion of Sound Chemical Management in Zinc Smelting Operations | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | UNIDO | |
| Executing Agency | Ministry of Environment and Foreign Economic Cooperation Office | |
| GEF Funding | 990,000 | Co-financing | 4,000,000 |
| Project Summary | This project aims to help China build capacity to effectively manage and reduce mercury in the priority sector of zinc smelting operations and raise awareness in the sector. | | |

ASGM

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Regional (Burkina Faso, Mali, Senegal) | GEF ID | 4569 |
| Title | Improve the Health and Environment of Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining Communities by Reducing Mercury Emissions and Promoting Sound Chemical Management | | |
|  | GEF Agency | UNIDO | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | Executing Agency | Ministries of Environment | |
| GEF Funding | 990,000 | Co-financing | |
| Project Summary | This project is promoting the sound management of mercury in ASGM through the development and implementation of national strategic action plans. The project has involved incremental activities, which help reduce the use of Hg in the ASGM sector. The project will contribute to the dissemination of good practices and replication in other areas. | | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Regional (Ecuador, Peru) | GEF ID | 4799 |
| Title | Implementing Integrated Measures for Minimizing Mercury Releases from Artisanal Gold Mining | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | UNIDO | |
| Executing Agency | National Geologic, Mining, and Metallurgy Research Institute and the Ministry of Environment | |
| GEF Funding | 999,900 | Co-financing | 2,676,764 |
| Project Summary | The project aims to introduce innovative ASGM practices, to manage and reduce mercury use, that minimize environmental and health hazards posed by local mercury use, and reduce impacts at the regional and global level. Some innovate solutions include improved water use efficiency, aquifer and catchment protection, and rights-based water management. | | |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Philippines | GEF ID | 5216 |
| Title | Improve the Health and Environment of Artisanal Gold Mining Communities in the Philippines by Reducing Mercury Emissions | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | UNIDO | |
| Executing Agency | Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Department of Health. and Ban Toxics | |
| GEF Funding | 550,000 | Co-financing | 1,081,070 |
| Project Summary | This project aims to implement demonstration projects at pilot sites to determine if scaling-up of the alternative technologies is feasible, with the intention of reducing at least 50% of mercury use and emissions at the pilot sites. The project involves building capacity for mercury reduction and management. | | |

ASGM, Mercury-Added Products, Mercury Wastes

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Honduras | GEF ID | 5484 |
| Title | Environmental Sound Management of Mercury and Mercury Containing Products and their Wastes in Artisanal Small-scale Gold Mining and Healthcare | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | UNDP | |
| Executing Agency | Mining Executive Direction | |
| GEF Funding | 1,300,000 | Co-financing | 3,960,000 |
| Project Summary | This project seeks to reduce mercury use in ASGM and clean up the gold supply chain in Honduras, using national and local capacity and knowledge, which would allow better gold pricing and create a platform for replication. The project also involves education and awareness-raising for the miners, so that they understand the dangers of using mercury and the potential economic benefit of using alternative practices and technologies. | | |

Capacity-Building

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | China | GEF ID | 4962 |
| Title | Pilot project on the development of a mercury inventory in China | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | UNEP | |
| Executing Agency | Ministry of Environment and the Foreign Economic Cooperation Office | |
| GEF Funding | 1,000,000 | Co-financing | 3,146,265 |
| Project Summary | The project aims to provide a mercury inventory to create a baseline for China’s national mercury pollution control, build national capacity management, and advocate for a national regulatory framework targeting the protection of vulnerable groups, including women and children. | | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Russian Federation | GEF ID | 5222 |
| Title | Pilot Project on the Development of Mercury Inventory in the Russian Federation | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | UNEP | |
| Executing Agency | Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation | |
| GEF Funding | 1,000,000 | Co-financing | 3,418,969 |
| Project Summary | The project objective is to strengthen Russian Federation’s capacity for identification of mercury sources, quantification, monitoring of mercury releases and priority actions to address mercury issues under a future global convention. This project supports mercury inventory and strengthening of the capacity to identify mercury sources and priority actions to address mercury issues and build capacity to manage mercury in priority sectors. | | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Global | GEF ID | 5409 |
| Title | Development of a Plan for Global Monitoring of Human Exposure to and Environmental Concentrations of Mercury | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | UNEP | |
| Executing Agency | UNEP DTIE Chemicals Branch | |
| GEF Funding | 850,000 | Co-financing | 3,005,411 |
| Project Summary | This project aims to create a global mercury monitoring system from air, water, soil, and human samples with standards that can be used globally and long-term and can be scaled up. This information will be used to create a global data bank. This project involves capacity building in monitoring sites and labs. | | |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Regional (Argentina, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Peru, Uruguay) | GEF ID | 5494 |
| Title | Development of Mercury Risk Management Approaches in Latin America | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | UNEP | |
| Executing Agency | Basel Convention Coordinating Centre-Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean Region | |
| GEF Funding | 916,000 | Co-financing | 2,894,434 |
| Project Summary | The project aims to strengthen the capacity of the involved countries to develop mercury inventories, identify key sectors that need to be addressed, disseminate information about mercury use and hazards, and determine priority actions to address mercury issues under the Minamata Convention. | | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Argentina | GEF ID | 5496 |
| Title | Preparatory Project to Facilitate the Implementation of the Legally Binding Instrument on Mercury (Minamata Convention) in Argentina to Protect Health and the Environment | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | UNIDO | |
| Executing Agency | Argentinean Society of Doctors for the Environment | |
| GEF Funding | 350,000 | Co-financing | 530,000 |
| Project Summary | This project aims to improve data and scientific information at the national level, enhance capacity to address contaminated sites, develop capacity for mercury storage, and create dialogue between important stakeholders, including government institutions, NGOs, and the private sector. | | |

Mercury Wastes, Contaminated sites

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Mongolia | GEF ID | 5323 |
| Title | Reduce Exposure of Mercury to Human Health and the Environment by Promoting Sound Chemical Management in Mongolia | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | UNIDO | |
| Executing Agency | Ministry of Nature and Green Development | |
| GEF Funding | 600,000 | Co-financing | 1,569,000 |
| Project Summary | This project aims to assist the country in building its capacity to deal with the technical challenges associated with the assessment and clean-up of contaminated sites. The project also supports establishment of regulatory framework and national guidelines for environmentally sound management of mercury containing waste. | | |

Annex 8: List of Mercury Projects Supported by SGP in GEF-5

| **Country** | **Grantee Name** | **Project Title** | **Duration** | **GEF Grant ($)** | **Co-financing ($)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Belarus** | Lubcha village council | Implementation of energy-efficient street lighting technologies in Lubcha settlement, Novogrudsk district | 12/2014- 2/2016 | 49,437 | 34,357 |
| **Ghana** | Sustainable Development  Institute | Building capacities of civil society organizations to synergize and support the implementation of the global environmental conventions through the promotion of best practices and knowledge fairs | 9/2013- 5/2015 | 43,300 | 36,000 |
| **Ukraine** | NGO "Ecosystem" | Demonstration and implementation of mechanism for mercury-vapour lamps neutralization in Lugansk region | 7/2013- 4/2014 | 49,625 | 57,202 |
| **Belarus** | Gizhenka village Council, Slavgorod district | Introduction of energy saving technologies street lighting to improve the quality of life of Gizhenka rural  community Slavgorod district | 9/2013- 8/2014 | 31,445 | 7,276 |
| **Nepal** | Centre for Public Health and Environmental Development | Awareness Raising and Capacity Building for elimination of POPs and its sources from Nepal | 11/2012- 5/2015 | 49,918 | 73,048 |
| **China** | Grassroots Community (Shanghai Zhabei District Re Ai Jia Yuan Youth Community Volunteers Association) | Community-based Mercury-contained Waste Investigation and Recycling | 10/2012- 11/2013 | 6,125 | 7,387 |
| **Ukraine** | Western Ukrainian regional training centre | Demonstrating a model for mercury-vapour lamps collection and utilization in small towns of Ukraine | 04/2012- 03/2013 | 41,000 | 46,080 |
| **Ukraine** | Agency of Social Development | Implementation of mechanism for mercury-vapour  lamps neutralization | 04/2012-  02/2013 | 49,998 | 49,399 |
| **Malaysia** | The electrical and electronics association of Malaysia | Knowledge enhancement of the community through capacity building for the protection of the environment and community health for mercury containing products in the lighting industry in Malaysia | 11/2012- 01/2014 | 20,000 | 4,600 |
| **Macedonia** | Regional centre for  sustainable development, Kratovo | Kriva Palanka Energy efficient municipality – a successful municipality | 02/2012- 01/2013 | 18,277 | 17,853 |
| **Mozambique** | ASSOCIACAO ACOPA | Promocao de praticas sustentaveis de exploracao  artesanal de ouro no distrito de manica | 06/2012- 05/2013 | 21,540 | 6,852 |
| **Tajikistan** | CSO 'Dastgiri Center' | Reduction of Mercury impact to Health and Environment -enhance sound medical-waste management | 06/2012- 07/2013 | 22,822 | 54,300 |
| **Nepal** | Health Care Foundation  Nepal | Waste Management in Small Scale Health Care Facilities in Nepal: Demonstrating Safe and Sustainable Waste Management Techniques and Reducing POPS and Climate Impact in a Rural Community | 06/2012- 05/2014 | 49,880 | 100,000 |
| **Malaysia** | The electrical and electronics association of Malaysia | Knowledge enhancement of the community through capacity building for the protection of the environment and community health for mercury containing products in the lighting industry in Malaysia | 11/2012- 01/2014 | 20,000 | 4,600 |
| **Macedonia** | Utro | Decreasing of climatic changes – condition for healthy life | 12/2011- 12/2012 | 25,472 | 25,867 |
| **China** | China Ecological Civilization Research and Promotion Association | Demonstration Project of Farmers Preventing Chemical Risk in Ecological Conservation Area of Beijing | 12/2011- 12/2013 | 47,244 | 94,488 |
| **China** | Ningxia Centre for Environment and Poverty | Demonstration Project on Used Energy-saving Lamp Recycling and Reduction of Mercury Pollution in Yinchuan, Ningxia | 12/2011- 11/2013 | 50,000 | 25,197 |
| **Sri Lanka** | Centre for Environment Justice | Enhancing public awareness on POPs and other Chemicals and raising civil society participation in managing chemicals by Centre for Environment Justice | 12/2011- 09/2013 | 50,000 | 10,017 |
| **China** | Green River Environmental Protection Association of Sichuan | Project on Reduction of POPs at the Source of Yangtze River and Development of Alternative Livelihood to Achieve Sustainable Grassland Management | 12/2011- 12/2013 | 50,000 | 72,835 |
|  | **Total** |  |  | **676,083** | **722,758** |

Annex 9: List of GEF-6 Mercury projects (June 2014 – June 2017)

GEF grant includes the GEF project grant allocated to mercury components only, excluding associated fees and project preparation grant.

Enabling Activity Projects

| **Agency** | **Country** | **Title** | **MIA, NAP** | **GEF Grant ($)** | **Co-financing ($)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **UNEP** | Albania | Minamata Initial Assessment for Albania | MIA | 200,000 | 0 |
| **UNDP** | Azerbaijan | Strengthen National Decision making towards Ratification of the Minamata Convention and Build Capacity towards Implementation of Future Provisions | MIA | 200,000 | 0 |
| **UNEP** | Bosnia- Herzegovina | Strengthen Bosnia and Herzegovina Decision- making Towards Becoming a Party to the Minamata Convention and Build Capacity Towards Implementation of Future Provisions | MIA | 200,000 | 0 |
| **UNIDO** | Burkina Faso | National Action Plan on Mercury in the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Sector in Burkina Faso | NAP | 500,000 | 216,000 |
| **UNIDO** | Cameroon | Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Cameroon | MIA | 200,000 | 0 |
| **UNEP** | Chad | Minamata Convention Initial Assessment in Chad | MIA | 200,000 | 78,600 |
| **UNEP** | Colombia | Minamata Convention Initial Assessment (MIA) in the Republic of Colombia | MIA | 200,000 | 8,000 |
| **UNEP** | Congo DR | Development of Minamata Initial Assessment and National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) | MIA, NAP | 1,000,000 | 0 |
| **UNIDO** | Djibouti | Development of a Minamata Initial Assessment in Djibouti | MIA | 200,000 | 0 |
| **UNIDO** | Ecuador | National Action Plan on Mercury in the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Sector in Ecuador | NAP | 500,000 | 81,000 |
| **UNEP** | Eritrea | Development of Minamata Initial Assessment and National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Eritrea | MIA, NAP | 700,000 | 0 |
| **UNIDO** | Gabon | National Action Plan on Mercury in the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining sector in Gabon | NAP | 500,000 | 161,000 |
| **UNEP** | Ghana | Development of Minamata Convention Initial Assessment (MIA) for Ghana | MIA | 200,000 | 0 |
| **UNEP** | Ghana | National Action Plan on Mercury in the Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining Sector in Ghana | NAP | 500,000 | 55,250 |
| **UNIDO** | Global (Bangladesh, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Mozambique, Samoa) | Strengthen national decision making towards ratification of the Minamata Convention and build capacity towards implementation of future provisions | MIA | 1,000,000 | 0 |
| **UNEP** | Guatemala | Minamata Convention: Initial Assessment in Guatemala | MIA | 200,000 | 78,600 |
| **UNDP** | Guyana | Minamata Initial Assessment for Guyana | MIA | 200,000 | 0 |
| **UNEP** | Honduras | Development of Minamata Initial Assessment and National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Honduras | MIA, NAP | 700,000 | 0 |
| **UNEP** | India | Improve Mercury Management in India | MIA | 1,000,000 | 0 |
| **UNEP** | Iraq | Develop the National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and the Minamata Initial Assessment for the Minamata Convention on Mercury in Iraq | MIA | 200,000 | 0 |
| **UNEP** | Jordan | Strengthen National Decision Making towards Ratification of the Minamata Convention and Build Capacity towards Implementation of Future Provisions | MIA | 200,000 | 0 |
| **UNDP** | Kazakhstan | Minamata Initial Assessment | MIA | 400,000 | 0 |
| **UNEP** | Lao PDR | Development of Minamata Initial Assessment and Updating of National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining | MIA, NAP | 700,000 | 0 |
| **UNDP** | Macedonia | Development of a Minamata Initial Assessment | MIA | 200,000 | 0 |
| **UNEP** | Madagascar | Development of National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Madagascar | NAP | 500,000 | 0 |
| **UNEP** | Malaysia | Minamata Convention Initial Assessment in Malaysia | MIA | 250,000 | 250,000 |
| **UNEP** | Maldives | Development of a Minamata Initial Assessment in Maldives | MIA | 200,000 | 0 |
| **UNEP** | Mongolia | Development of National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining | NAP | 500,000 | 0 |
| **UNIDO** | Mongolia | Advanced Minamata Initial Assessment in Mongolia | MIA | 200,000 | 18,600 |
| **UNEP** | Montenegro | Minamata Initial Assessment for Montenegro | MIA | 200,000 | 20,000 |
| **UNDP** | Morocco | Strengthen the National Decision Making Mechanism to Ratify the Minamata Convention and Strengthen National Capacities for the Implementation of its Futures Provisions | MIA | 200,000 | 0 |
| **UNIDO** | Mozambique | National Action Plan on Mercury in the Mozambican Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining sector | NAP | 500,000 | 84,000 |
| **UNEP** | Nepal | Minamata Initial Assessment in Nepal | MIA | 200,000 | 108,600 |
| **UNIDO** | Nigeria | National Action Plan on Mercury in the Nigerian Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining sector | NAP | 500,000 | 373,000 |
| **UNDP** | Panama | Minamata Initial Assessment for Panama | MIA | 200,000 | 0 |
| **UNEP** | Papua New Guinea | Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Papua New Guinea | MIA | 300,000 | 0 |
| **UNEP** | Paraguay | Development of National Action Plans for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Paraguay | NAP | 500,000 | 0 |
| **UNEP** | Peru | National Action Plan on Mercury in the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Sector in Peru | NAP | 500,000 | 217,000 |
| **UNIDO** | Regional (Angola, Malawi, Zimbabwe) | Development of Minamata Convention on Mercury Initial Assessment in Africa | MIA | 547,945 | 505,000 |
| **UNIDO** | Regional (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Swaziland) | Development of Minamata Initial Assessment | MIA | 800,000 | 61,000 |
| **UNIDO** | Regional (Burkina Faso, Benin, Niger, Togo) | Minamata Convention Initial Assessment in Francophone Africa II | MIA | 800,000 | 134,400 |
| **UNDP** | Regional (Burundi, Central African Republic, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon) | Development of Minamata Convention Mercury Initial Assessment in Africa | MIA | 1,000,000 | 60,000 |
| **UNDP** | Regional (Burundi, Central African Republic, Congo, Kenya, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe) | Regional Project on the Development of National Action Plans for the Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Africa | NAP | 4,000,000 | 50,000 |
| **UNDP** | Regional (Cabo Verde, Sao Tome and Principe) | Minamata Convention: Initial Assessment in Cabo Verde and Sao Tome and Principe | MIA | 400,000 | 187,200 |
| **UNDP** | Regional (Cook Islands, Kiribati, Palau, Tonga, Vanuatu) | Development of Minamata Convention Mercury Initial Assessment in Pacific | MIA | 500,000 | 20,000 |
| **UNDP** | Regional (Guinea, Mali, Senegal) | Minamata Convention Initial Assessment in Francophone Africa I | MIA | 600,000 | 175,800 |
| **UNDP** | Regional (Guinea, Niger) | Development of National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Guinea and Niger | NAP | 1,000,000 | 0 |
| **UNIDO** | Regional (Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago) | Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in the Caribbean | MIA | 600,000 | 0 |
| **UNIDO** | Regional (Mali, Senegal) | Development of National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining Mali and Senegal | NAP | 1,000,000 | 0 |
| **UNIDO** | Serbia | Minamata Initial Assessment | MIA | 200,000 | 97,220 |
| **UNIDO** | Seychelles | Strengthen National Decision Making Towards Ratification of the Minamata Convention and Build Capacity Towards Implementation of Future Provisions. | MIA | 199,100 | 25,000 |
| **UNIDO** | Sierra Leone | Development of Minamata Initial Assessment and National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Sierra Leone | MIA, NAP | 700,000 | 0 |
| **UNIDO** | South Africa | Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in South Africa | MIA | 1,000,000 | 0 |
| **UNDP** | Sri Lanka | Minamata Convention: Initial Assessment in Sri Lanka | MIA | 200,000 | 38,600 |
| **UNEP** | Sudan | Minamata Convention: Initial assessment in the Republic of Sudan | MIA | 200,000 | 118,600 |
| **UNDP** | Suriname | Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) National Action Plan (NAP) for Suriname | NAP | 500,000 | 0 |
| **UNDP** | Suriname | Minamata Initial Assessment for Suriname | MIA | 200,000 | 0 |
| **UNDP** | Tanzania | Development of National Action Plans for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in the United Republic of Tanzania | NAP | 500,000 | 0 |
| **UNDP** | Turkey | Minamata Convention: Initial Assessment in Turkey | MIA | 500,000 | 29,000 |

Medium-Sized Projects

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Agency** | **Country** | **Title** | **MIA, NAP** | **GEF Grant ($)** |
| **UNIDO** | Tunisia | Improve Mercury Management in Tunisia | 600,000 | 2,350,000 |
| **UNDP** | Vietnam | Application of Green Chemistry in Vietnam to Support Green Growth and Reduction in the use and Release of POPs/harmful Chemicals | 469,800 | 1,000,000 |

Full-Sized Projects and Programs

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Agency** | **Country** | **Title** | **MIA, NAP** | **GEF Grant ($)** |
| **UNIDO** | China | Demonstration of Mercury Reduction and Minimization in the Production of Vinyl Chloride Monomer | 16,200,000 | 99,000,000 |
| **World Bank** | China | Capacity Strengthening for Implementation of Minamata Convention on Mercury | 8,000,000 | 8,000,000 |
| **UNDP** | Colombia | Reducing UPOPs and Mercury Releases from Healthcare Waste Management, e-Waste Treatment, Scrap Processing and Biomass Burning | 686,000 | 1,000,000 |
| **UNDP** | Ecuador | National Program for the Environmental Sound Management and Live Cycle Management of Chemical Substances | 4,145,000 | 15,131,702 |
| **UNEP** | Regional (Albania, Bosnia- Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Tunisia) | Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme): Enhancing Environmental Security | 5,250,000 | 20,500,000 |
| **UNEP, Conservation International,** | Global (Burkina Faso, Colombia, Guyana, | Global Opportunities for Long-term Development of ASGM Sector - GEF GOLD | 45,262,294 | 135,174,956 |
| **UNDP, UNIDO** | Indonesia, Kenya, Mongolia, Peru, Philippines) |  |  |  |
| **World Bank** | Regional (Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, Tanzania, Zambia) | EHPMP - Environmental Health and Pollution Management Program in Africa | 13,486,239 | 98,600,000 |

Annex 10: Summary of GEF-6 Mercury Projects (June 2014 – June 2017)

GEF funding includes the GEF project grant only, and excludes associated fees and project preparation grant.

Mercury-Added Products, Mercury Wastes

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Colombia | | GEF ID | | 6928 | |
| Title | Reducing UPOPs and Mercury Releases from Healthcare Waste Management, e-Waste Treatment, Scrap Processing and Biomass Burning | | | | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | | UNDP | | | |
| Executing Agency | | Ministries and Regional Environmental Authorities | | | |
| GEF Funding GEF Funding | $5,750,000 | | Co-financing | $22,050,000 | | |
| mercury component | $250,000 | mercury component | | $1,000,000 |
| Project Summary | This aims to introduce BAP/BAT to reduce the release of unintentionally generated POPs and mercury from the treatment of healthcare waste, the processing of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment, secondary metal processing and biomass burning. The project takes a holistic approach to achieve environmentally sound management of UPOPs and mercury generating waste in the country. This holistic approach makes the project innovative.  In addition to demonstrating environmentally sound management of UPOPs and mercury the project will strengthen the institutional, administrative, legal, technical, and regulatory framework for managing these harmful chemicals. This capacity building will contribute to the sustainability of the project. Additionally, the inventory of dioxins and furans from this project will be incorporated in to the country’s National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention.  This project will contribute to the convention obligations of the country in two chemicals conventions, the Stockholm Convention and the Minamata Convention on Mercury. | | | | | |

Manufacturing Processes

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | China | GEF ID | 6921 |
| Title | Demonstration of Mercury Reduction and Minimization in the Production of Vinyl Chloride Monomer | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | UNIDO | |
| Executing Agency | Foreign Economic Cooperation Office, Ministry of Environmental Protection, China | |
| GEF Funding | $16,500,000 | Co-financing | $99,000,000 |
| Project Summary | The objective of the proposal is to reduce risks of mercury on human health and the environmental impact from industrial production of VCM to achieve 50% reduction of mercury use in per unit production by the year 2020 (reference year 2010) through optimizing the existing production and achieving 90% recovery of mercury in production processes. Promote mercury-free catalyst research and development and trial application as the initial step of commercialization.  The project will promote technology transfer and investment for the widespread application of BAT/BEP. This will emphasize the technology accessibility and removing the market barriers from applying BAT/BEP across the industry sector. Currently smaller PVC producers are reluctant to make the conversion to low mercury processes due to perceived high costs and technical uncertainties. The project will further introduce  public-private partnership model to foster a wide range of domestic and international exchanges and cooperation partner’s participation (including the VCM producers, catalyst producers, academic institutions and public sectors such as the Ministry of Environment Protection and the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology), promoting the technology transfer and exchange. | | |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Vietnam | | GEF ID | | 9379 | |
| Title | Application of Green Chemistry in Vietnam to Support Green Growth and Reduction in the use and Release of POPs/harmful Chemicals | | | | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | | UNDP | | | |
| Executing Agency | | - | | | |
| GEF Funding | $ 1,999,800 | | Co-financing | $8,400,000 | | |
| mercury component | $469,800 | mercury component | | $1,000,000 |
| Project Summary | Vietnam has been engaged in several GEF projects and projects funded from their own resources and other bilateral resources to build the capacity of the productive sectors and the governments to reduce and minimize the negative impact of the growing chemicals industry and its related activities. While these efforts have helped to decrease the legacy chemicals issues and begin to address emissions and releases, the steadily growing chemicals industry will continue be a challenge in curbing its impacts on the environment unless industry takes steps to reduce the toxic content of the supply chain and manufactured products.  Green chemistry presents a range of options to transform the manufacturing sector to sustainably consumption and production using material and technologies that eliminates the toxic impacts of products and their eventual waste.  This pilot intervention will seek to demonstrate the 12 principles of Green Chemistry in representative industries in Vietnam and build the enabling environment in which Vietnam can transform their chemicals industry. If successful, the project will develop guidance that can be used by similar industries in other countries | | | | | |

ASGM

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Regional (Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, Tanzania, Zambia) | | GEF ID | | | 9444 | |
| Title | EHPMP - Environmental Health and Pollution Management Program in Africa | | | | | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | | | World Bank | | | |
| Executing Agency | | | Governments of participating countries | | | |
| GEF Funding | $ 42,201,835 | | | Co-financing | $234,050,000 | | |
| mercury component | $ 13,486,239 | | mercury component | | $98,600,000 |
| Project Summary | The project will assist African countries to develop integrated strategies and plans to reduce the risks of exposure to harmful and toxic chemicals, such as mercury, lead, waste and POPs. This program will also assist African countries in their commitments to the Stockholm and Minamata conventions.  The regional program will address the critical environmental health issues related to harmful chemicals in urban cities and ASGM. For ASGM, the objective is to empower the rural poor and provide them with cleaner and simpler technologies to eliminate the harmful chemical, mercury, from the processing chain. It is expected that the planned pilot projects can then be replicated elsewhere.  Additionally, the program is designed to assess and lay the groundwork for ensuring that technical assistance and investments are supporting true green growth through enhancing the region’s ability to deal with the issues related to the handling, recycling and management of e-waste. The co-financing provided by the Bank will contribute to funding the gap analysis of the legal framework needed to support the project  intervention to reduce UPOPs emissions from dumpsites as well as mitigate the  socio-economic impacts of the project activities on ASGM and on the waste pickers and informal recycling sectors. Co-financing  will also support awareness raising and education for those working at the dump site, and will help them improve their recycling activities. It is important to note that the proposed activities in this program provide for long-term and sustainable reductions of chemicals far beyond the life of the program. | | | | | | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Global | GEF ID | 9602 |
| Title | Global Opportunities for Long-term Development of ASGM Sector - GEF GOLD | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | UNEP, CI, UNDP, UNIDO | |
| Executing Agency | National Governments, Artisanal Gold Council, National Resources Defence Council | |
| GEF Funding | $45,262,294 | Co-financing | $135,174,956 |
| Project Summary | The program seeks to significantly reduce the barrier to accessing resources, by artisanal and small scale miners, to technologies and technical assistance that will  help eliminate or reduce the use of mercury in the processing of gold. The GOLD program is a global multi-country (Colombia, Guyana, Peru, Kenya, Burkina Faso, Philippines, Indonesia and Mongolia) multi-agency program. The countries were selected based on their consumption of mercury in ASGM, the size of the gold mining sector and hence the ability to quickly scale interventions, and finally their legal relationship with the convention (ratified or signatory).  The program proposes to directly reduce 145 tons of mercury. This is a conservative estimate and greater benefits are expected because of the replication potential of the investment funds that will be set up. The program proposes to design and deploy several loan instruments such as revolving loans, loan guarantees and others that will be accessed by miners to implement technology changes in their mining operations. The program will also connect the resulting mercury free mines to global gold supply chains including refiners and other off- takers. | | |

ASGM, Mercury-Added Products

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Ecuador | | GEF ID | | 9203 | |
| Title | National Program for the Environmental Sound Management and Live Cycle Management of Chemical Substances | | | | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | | UNDP | | | |
| Executing Agency | | - | | | |
| GEF Funding | $ 8,490,000 | | Co-financing | $36,113,702 | | |
| mercury component | $4,145,000 | mercury component | | $15,313,702 |
| Project Summary | The project aims to protect human health and the environment by adopting environmentally sound management and live cycle management approach of chemical substances in Ecuador. The project takes a comprehensive approach to managing POPs and mercury and the project will result in global environmental benefits of an estimated 150 tons POPs and 3.14 tons mercury reduction.  The components of the project supporting the Minamata Convention to reduce mercury will cover priority sectors including ASGM and mercury containing products. The ASGM component will help miners access financing through setting up an innovative fund that will help connect miners to commercial financing for mercury free technology. | | | | | |

Mercury Wastes

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Regional | | GEF ID | | 9607 | |
| Title | Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme): Enhancing Environmental Security | | | | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | | UNEP | | | |
| Executing Agency\* | | UNEP/MAP, EIB, UNESCO IHP, GWP Med, WWF MedPO, UNIDO and IUCN. | | | |
| GEF Funding | $ 42,376,147 | | Co-financing | $708,000,000 | | |
|  | mercury component | $5,250,000 |  | mercury component | | $20,500,000 |
| Project Summary | The program will focus on integrated land and coastal waste management to restore the health of the ecosystem for the benefit of local populations and the coastal areas in Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro and Tunisia. The Mediterranean Sea has experienced a continuing degradation of its coastal zone and shallow  marine environments. In parallel, critical sections of the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean shores are increasingly impacted by climate variability, and the dramatic deterioration of social conditions along its coasts. In view of this, and to accelerate the response of the countries to the multi-faceted challenges facing the shared sea, the countries are launching the Mediterranean Sea Program, representing a comprehensive, powerful response to these environmental and deeply-routed social challenges.  The objective of the program is to implement priority actions to reduce the major transboundary environmental stresses affecting the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal areas, while strengthening climate resilience and water security, and improving the health and livelihoods of coastal populations.  The program is made possible due to a series of strategic GEF investments on diagnostics, priority setting, planning and experimentation across the region.  Consequently, the countries of the Mediterranean have agreed that a higher level of effort is now required at the national and regional levels with a focus on (i) hotspots of land based pollution, harmful chemicals and wastes including mercury, and excess nutrients; (ii) securing long term freshwater supply along critical sections of the coastal zone; (iii) the management and financial sustainability of priority protected areas and (iv) the monitoring of trends and overall Program coherence. The Mediterranean Sea program is highly innovative in using an integrated approach to coastal and marine natural resource management.  Also, this program brings significant co-financing in the form of loans from the European Investment Bank to countries to improve water and waste management. | | | | | |

\*: UNEP/MAP: United Nations Environment Programme Mediterranean Action Plan EIB: European Investment Bank

UNESCO IHP: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization International Hydrological Programme

GWP Med: Global Water Partnership-Mediterranean

WWF MedPO: World Wildlife Fund Mediterranean Programme Office IUCN: International Union for Conservation of Nature

Capacity-Building

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Tunisia | GEF ID | 8000 |
| Title | Improve Mercury Management in Tunisia | | |
|  | GEF Agency | UNIDO | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | Executing Agency | * Directorate General for the Environment and Quality of Life * National Sanitary and Environmental Product Control Agency * International Centre for Environmental Technologies of Tunis | |
| GEF Funding | $600,000 | Co-financing | $2,350,000 |
| Project Summary | This project aims to contribute to the reduction of negative mercury impacts on human health and the environment in Tunisia. Because of using mercury-cell technology for 36 years (1962-1998) to produce chlorine, the National Society of Cellulose and Paper Alfa (SNCPA) is currently a hotspot for mercury contamination.  This project has two components; (i) developing a national inventory of mercury sources, conducting a gap analysis of the regulatory and institutional framework, enhancing the laboratory capacity to analyse mercury and raising the awareness on risks associated with mercury, and (ii) conducting a complementary assessment of previous investigations at the SNCPA site and in the downstream alluvial plain, including additional soil and water samples as deemed necessary and a sanitary risk evaluation based on biological samples. | | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | China | GEF ID | 9240 |
| Title | Capacity Strengthening for Implementation of Minamata Convention on Mercury | | |
| Implementing/ Executing Partners | GEF Agency | World Bank | |
| Executing Agency | - | |
| GEF Funding | $8,000,000 | Co-financing | $8,000,000 |
| Project Summary | China is the largest consumer of mercury and the largest emitter. It’s emissions from coal fired power plants alone account for 50% of the global total. China in addition to using and emitting mercury also produces mercury. They at one time produced close to 1200 tons/yr. and have since reduced their production to 720 tons/yr. Given the complexity of the mercury sector in China, in order for them to take strategic action their level of understanding of the sector needs to be significantly increased and options for addressing these difficult sectors needs to be fully understood. For example, addressing emissions of mercury for the coal fired powered plants will be a challenge.  This project will provide the basis for developing a national strategy and an investment plan to deal with mercury in China. It will also form the basis for the World Bank to develop its lending strategy for the mercury sector in China. | | |

Annex 11: List of Mercury Projects Supported by SGP in GEF-6

| **Country** | **Grantee Name** | **Project Title** | **Duration** | **GEF Grant ($)** | **Co-financing ($)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Ghana** | HATOF Foundation | Capacities of civil society to contribute to the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) | 11/2016- 3/2018 | 21,800 | 24,600 |
| **Ukraine** | NGO Vavilon | Implementation of mechanism for collection and recycling of used mercury lamps in retail chains | 5/2016- 11/2016 | 45,255 | 30,840 |
| **Ukraine** | NGO “Centre for ecology-concerned parents “Dhzerela radosti” | Organization of collection and recycling points for mercury containing lighting products | 5/2016- 11/2016 | 45,530 | 31,540 |
| **Ukraine** | NGO "Green Sail" | Organization of collection points for energy efficient lighting products containing mercury and development of the mechanism for its utilization | 6/2016- 11/2016 | 45,585 | 21,075 |
| **Ghana** | Green Waterhut | Promoting mercury management among artisanal miners and processing of plastic waste into fuel in Wakawaka, Jama, and Banda Nkwanta, within the Black Volta Basin | 11/2016- 7/2018 | 23,500 | 24,000 |
| **St Vincent and Grenadines** | Constructive Solutions Inc. | Developing Good Environmental Practices for Managing and Disposal of Hazardous Materials found in E-Waste across St. Vincent & the Grenadines | 7/2015- 6/2016 | 40,239 | 73,039 |
| **Ghana** | Green Waterhut | Development of baseline data and strategic document for the economic, ecological and social transformation of the Black Volta Basin | 9/2015- 12/2015 | 25,000 | 27,000 |
| **Malaysia** | Perstuan Keserdaran Dan Pendidikan 3R Kuala Lumpur | Awareness campaign on sustainable waste management as opposed to incinerator | 10/2014- 5/2015 | 2,000 |  |
| **Malaysia** | Pertubuhan Gerakan belia bersatu Malaysia caw. Pulau Pangkor | Chemical pollutants from solid waste landfill area and its minimization by engaging the local community in 3R (reduce, reuse and recycle) program | 10/2014- 2/2015 | 2,000 |  |
| **Guyana** | Global Youth Movement - Guyana | Community Environment, Health and Recycling Project | 2/2014- 6/2015 | 50,000 | 65,908 |
| **Nepal** | Women Environment Preservation Committee | E-waste Management, Mass Media Campaign and Electrification from Biogas | 4/2014- 5/2015 | 45,000 | 23,430 |
| **Malaysia** | The electrical and electronics association of Malaysia | Knowledge Enhancement of the Community through Capacity Building for the Protection of the Environment and Community Health for Mercury Containing Products in the Lighting Industry in Malaysia | 5/2014- 7/2015 | 30,000 | 12,500 |
| **Suriname** | The Back Lot | Mercury Public Awareness Programme | 8/2014- 8/2015 | 50,000 | 49,496 |
| **China** | Shanghai Zhonggu Charity Youth Development Centre | Recycling and Environmentally Sound Disposal of Used Computers | 10/2014- 10/2016 | 50,000 | 151,448 |
| **Belarus** | International Public Organization “Ecoproject “Partnership” | Towards increased capacities of environmental NGOs in Belarus to participate in waste management policy formulation and enforcement | 3/2014- 4/2016 | 48,950 | 4,895 |
|  | **Total** |  |  | **524,859** | **539,771** |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |

1. \* UNEP/MC/COP.1/1. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/CONF/3, [http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/dipcon/english/CONF\_3\_Minamata\_Convention\_on\_Mercur](http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/dipcon/english/CONF_3_Minamata_Convention_on_Mercury_final_26_08_e.pdf) [y\_final\_26\_08\_e.pdf](http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/dipcon/english/CONF_3_Minamata_Convention_on_Mercury_final_26_08_e.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Article 13 (6). The Mechanism shall include: (a) The Global Environment Facility Trust Fund; and (b) A specific international Programme to support capacity-building and technical assistance. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. GEF/A.5/09, [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/GEF.A.5.09_Amendments_to_the_Instrument_April_16_2014_V3_1.pdf) [documents/GEF.A.5.09\_Amendments\_to\_the\_Instrument\_April\_16\_2014\_V3\_1.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/GEF.A.5.09_Amendments_to_the_Instrument_April_16_2014_V3_1.pdf). [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. GEF Council Decision by Mail, 01.14.2015. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. This amount includes the GEF grants only and excludes associated fees and project preparation grants. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. <http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/dipcon/english/CONF_4_Final_Act_e.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.5/7, <http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/inc5/English/INC5_7asterix_final_report_26_08_e.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. GEF/C.44/04, [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/GEF.C.44.04_Preparing_the_GEF_to_serve_as_the_Financial_Mechansim_of_the_Minamata_Convention_on_Mercury_upon_entry_into_force_1.pdf) [documents/GEF.C.44.04\_Preparing\_the\_GEF\_to\_serve\_as\_the\_Financial\_Mechansim\_of\_the\_Minamata\_Convention\_on\_Merc](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/GEF.C.44.04_Preparing_the_GEF_to_serve_as_the_Financial_Mechansim_of_the_Minamata_Convention_on_Mercury_upon_entry_into_force_1.pdf) [ury\_upon\_entry\_into\_force\_1.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/GEF.C.44.04_Preparing_the_GEF_to_serve_as_the_Financial_Mechansim_of_the_Minamata_Convention_on_Mercury_upon_entry_into_force_1.pdf). [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. GEF/A.5/07/Rev.01, [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/%20GEF.A.5.07.Rev_.01_Report_on_the_Sixth_Replenishment_of_the_GEF_Trust_Fund_May_22_2014_1.pdf) [GEF.A.5.07.Rev\_.01\_Report\_on\_the\_Sixth\_Replenishment\_of\_the\_GEF\_Trust\_Fund\_May\_22\_2014\_1.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/%20GEF.A.5.07.Rev_.01_Report_on_the_Sixth_Replenishment_of_the_GEF_Trust_Fund_May_22_2014_1.pdf). [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
11. UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/CONF/4,  
    <http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/dipcon/english/CONF_4_Final_Act_e.pdf>. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
12. UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF/6,  
    <http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/inc6/English/6_INF6_GEF.pdf>. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
13. Annex III, UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/24,  
    <http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/inc6/English/6_24_e_report.pdf>. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
14. UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.7/INF/3,  
    [http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/inc7/English/7\_INF3\_GEF\_.pdf](http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/inc7/English/7_INF3_GEF.pdf). [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
15. Annex V, UNDP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.7/22/Rev.1,  
    <http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/inc7/English/7_22_rev_e_report.pdf>. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
16. GEF/C.45/Inf.05/Rev.01, [https://www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/initial-guidelines-enabling-activities-minamata-](https://www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/initial-guidelines-enabling-activities-minamata-convention-mercury-0) [convention-mercury-0](https://www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/initial-guidelines-enabling-activities-minamata-convention-mercury-0). [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
17. Paragraph 96 and Annex IV, UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.7/22/Rev.1, <http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/inc7/English/7_22_rev_e_report.pdf>. [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
18. GEF/C.51/11, [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF.C.51.11_MoU_GEF_Minamata.pdf) [documents/EN\_GEF.C.51.11\_MoU\_GEF\_Minamata.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF.C.51.11_MoU_GEF_Minamata.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
19. GEF/C.51/11. [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
20. The figure includes the GEF grant allocated to mercury components only, and excludes fees and project preparation grant. [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
21. Two out of the 38 projects have been cancelled since their approval. [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
22. The figures do not include agency fees. Agency fees are calculated at 9.5% for projects under $2 million and 9% for projects over 2 million. [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
23. The SGP resources are not counted in the GEF Trust Fund resource tables. [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
24. GEF resource figures include the GEF grants allocated to mercury components only, not the full project amount (supported by other focal areas and/or trust funds), and exclude associated fees and project preparation grants. [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
25. These figures do not include agency fees. [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
26. There were no projects under implementation in 2012 for which ratings were submitted. [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
27. GEF/C.50/03, [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF.C.50.03_Corporate_Scorecard_RBM_v2_0.pdf) [documents/EN\_GEF.C.50.03\_Corporate\_Scorecard\_RBM\_v2\_0.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF.C.50.03_Corporate_Scorecard_RBM_v2_0.pdf). [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
28. GEF/C.52/Inf.05, [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF.C.50.03_Corporate_Scorecard_RBM_v2_0.pdf) [documents/EN\_GEF.C.50.03\_Corporate\_Scorecard\_RBM\_v2\_0.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF.C.50.03_Corporate_Scorecard_RBM_v2_0.pdf). [↑](#footnote-ref-29)
29. GEF/ME/C.50/Inf.04, [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF.C.50.Inf_.04_IAPs_1.pdf) [documents/EN\_GEF.C.50.Inf\_.04\_IAPs\_1.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF.C.50.Inf_.04_IAPs_1.pdf). [↑](#footnote-ref-30)
30. GEF/ME/C.52/Inf.03, [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF.C.52.Inf_.03_Update_on_GEF2020.pdf) [documents/EN\_GEF.C.52.Inf\_.03\_Update\_on\_GEF2020.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF.C.52.Inf_.03_Update_on_GEF2020.pdf). [↑](#footnote-ref-31)
31. UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/CONF/4,  
    <http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/dipcon/english/CONF_4_Final_Act_e.pdf>. [↑](#footnote-ref-32)
32. GEF/C.45/Inf.05/Rev.01, [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/GEF.C.45.Inf_.05.Rev_.1_Initial_Guidelines_for_Enabling_Activities_for_the__Minamata_Convention_on_Mercury_Jan_23_2014_4.pdf) [documents/GEF.C.45.Inf\_.05.Rev\_.1\_Initial\_Guidelines\_for\_Enabling\_Activities\_for\_the Minamata\_Convention\_on\_Mercury\_Jan\_23\_2014\_4.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/GEF.C.45.Inf_.05.Rev_.1_Initial_Guidelines_for_Enabling_Activities_for_the__Minamata_Convention_on_Mercury_Jan_23_2014_4.pdf). [↑](#footnote-ref-33)
33. GEF/A.5/09, [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/GEF.A.5.09_Amendments_to_the_Instrument_April_16_2014_V3_1.pdf) [documents/GEF.A.5.09\_Amendments\_to\_the\_Instrument\_April\_16\_2014\_V3\_1.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/GEF.A.5.09_Amendments_to_the_Instrument_April_16_2014_V3_1.pdf). [↑](#footnote-ref-34)
34. UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/24,  
    <http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/inc6/English/6_24_e_report.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-35)
35. GEF/C.45/Inf.05/Rev.01, [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/GEF.C.45.Inf_.05.Rev_.1_Initial_Guidelines_for_Enabling_Activities_for_the__Minamata_Convention_on_Mercury_Jan_23_2014_4.pdf) [documents/GEF.C.45.Inf\_.05.Rev\_.1\_Initial\_Guidelines\_for\_Enabling\_Activities\_for\_the Minamata\_Convention\_on\_Mercury\_Jan\_23\_2014\_4.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/GEF.C.45.Inf_.05.Rev_.1_Initial_Guidelines_for_Enabling_Activities_for_the__Minamata_Convention_on_Mercury_Jan_23_2014_4.pdf). [↑](#footnote-ref-36)
36. The below overview is provided for information purposes only and is not intended to interpret nor to substitute the original authentic texts of the Minamata Convention on Mercury. [↑](#footnote-ref-37)
37. This project utilized the Direct Access Modality which is available for Enabling Activities. [↑](#footnote-ref-38)