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on mercury**

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Item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda*

**Report on activities of the interim secretariat during the
period before entry into force of the convention:
cooperative activities with other relevant actors**

**Report on activities of the Global Environment Facility in
relation to the Minamata Convention during the interim period**

Note by the secretariat

Article 13 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury defines a mechanism for the provision of adequate, predictable and timely financial resources that includes the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The annex to the present note sets out for the information of the Committee a report prepared by the GEF secretariat on GEF efforts in relation to the implementation of the Convention during the interim period between the signing of the Convention and its entry into force. The report is presented as received, without formal editing by the secretariat.

* UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/1.

Annex



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

GEF Report to the 6th Intergovernmental Negotiating
Committee of the Minamata Convention
*“Efforts Taken by the GEF in Relation to the Implementation of
the Minamata Convention on Mercury in the Interim Period”*

Global Environment Facility
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Acronym List

AMR	Annual Monitoring Report
ASGM	Artisanal Small-Scale Gold Mining
BRS	Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions
CEITs	Countries with Economies in Transition
COP	Conference of the Parties
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBOs	Community-based Organizations
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
EA	Enabling Activity
FSP	Full-sized Project
GEB	Global Environmental Benefit
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEFTF	Global Environment Facility Task Force
IAP	Integrated Approach Pilots
INC	Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee
LDCs	Least-developed Countries
MDBs	Multi-lateral Development Banks
MEAs	Multi-lateral Environmental Agreements
MIA	Mercury Initial Assessment
MSP	Medium-sized Project
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NPFD	National Portfolio Formulation Document
NPFE	National Portfolio Formulation Exercise
ODS	Ozone Depleting Substance
POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants
RBM	Results-Based Management
SAICM	Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management
SGP	Small-Grants Programme
SIDS	Small-Island Developing States
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
STAP	Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
IPEN	International POPs Elimination Network

Executive Summary

1. The Minamata Convention is the newest Convention served by the GEF, and seeks to limit human and environmental exposure to mercury by reducing and eliminating mercury emissions and releases globally. During Convention negotiations the GEF was selected as part of the financial mechanism to the Minamata Convention. The GEF Instrument has been amended to accommodate the Minamata Convention.
2. During the 5th replenishment period of the GEF (GEF-5) \$20,766,768¹ of GEF resources were committed to mercury projects, including Minamata Initial Assessments (MIAs), development and capacity building, healthcare waste management, lifecycle management of mercury-containing products and waste, and artisanal small-scale gold mining (ASGM). The GEF-5 replenishment allocated \$15 million to fund mercury projects to support the INC process. When the GEF was included in the financial mechanism of the Convention, the 45th council meeting the GEF Council in June 2013 took a historic decision to increase the allocation by an additional \$10 million to support early action and support the ratification of the Convention.
3. The 6th replenishment period of the GEF (GEF-6) has allocated \$554 million in funding to the Chemicals and Waste Focal Area (which replaces the previous Ozone and POPs Focal Areas of the GEF and incorporated the Minamata Convention and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)). Of this, \$141 million has been allocated to the implementation of the Minamata Convention.
4. The GEF-6 Chemicals and Waste focal area strategy includes six programs that will fulfill the focal area's primary objective of preventing the exposure of humans and the environment to harmful chemicals and waste of global importance. Program 4, in particular, seeks to reduce or eliminate anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury in to the environment. This part of the focal area's overall strategy will follow the guidance of the Minamata Convention on priority actions for mercury into GEF-6.
5. The Chemicals and Waste strategy places a great deal of emphasis on integration with other focal areas and issues, which can provide more resources and opportunities to make a greater impact. The emphasis on integrated projects and approaches in GEF-6, will help to ensure that chemicals and waste, including mercury, are dealt with coherently at the local, national, regional, and global level. In addition to integrative projects in GEF-6 a closer involvement with the private sector is a focus in order to bring all relevant stakeholders into projects thereby increasing the impact of GEF investments.
6. Across GEF focal areas, progress and changes are being made in the GEF-6 replenishment cycle. Synergies across issue areas, long-term visions, and broader partnerships are being formed to help allow the GEF to have the largest impact possible.

¹ This number includes only the GEF grant amount, not associated fees or PPG.

Introduction

1. The GEF serves as the financial mechanism for a number of Multilateral Environmental Agreements, including the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Convention of Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and the Minamata Convention on Mercury. The Minamata Convention is the newest Convention served by the GEF, and seeks to limit human and environmental exposure to mercury by reducing and eliminating mercury emissions and releases globally. During Convention negotiations the GEF was selected as part of the financial mechanism to the Minamata Convention.
2. Consistent with the financial elements in the final act of the convention during the interim period, the GEF is providing support to countries towards early ratification and implementation of the convention.
3. This report presents the work of the GEF on mercury with an emphasis on the period since the adoption of the Convention in October 2013.

GEF's Support to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

GEF's Role in the Convention

4. When the Minamata Convention on Mercury was adopted on 10 October, 2013, the GEF was included in the financial mechanism in Article 13 of the Convention. However, this was not the beginning of GEF's support to mercury reduction or the Convention. The GEF has supported mercury projects starting in the early 1990's under the International Waters Focal Area. In the 5th replenishment period of the GEF (GEF-5) the GEF set aside \$15 million to fund mercury projects to support the INC process.
5. At its 44th Meeting in June 2013, the GEF Council considered document GEF/C.44/04, "Preparing the GEF to serve as the Financial Mechanism of the Minamata Convention on Mercury" upon entry into force and in its decision, inter alia:

“Authorized the use of up to \$10 million for the funding of an early action pre-ratification program for the Minamata Convention to be programed during the remainder of GEF-5, upon request by eligible signatory countries.

Requested the GEF Secretariat to develop initial guidelines consistent with the final resolutions of the Diplomatic Conference for enabling activities and pre-ratification projects, in consultation with the interim Secretariat of the Minamata Convention, and present this as an information document at the 45th Council Meeting.”
6. The 6th Replenishment period of the GEF began on 1 July 2014. During the GEF-6 negotiations, \$141 million was allocated to mercury projects for the four year cycle. The resources for GEF-6 are planned to cover the interim period, early action, and implementation after entry into force.

7. The GEF, in fulfilling its role in the Financial Mechanism of the Convention and during the interim period shall provide resources to meet the agreed incremental costs of global environmental benefits and the agreed full costs of some enabling activities for eligible countries.
8. The GEF-6 Chemicals and Waste Strategy, guidance from the INC, and eventually guidance from the COP will direct the allocation of resources for the Minamata Convention.

Communication with the Interim Minamata Convention Secretariat

9. Since the adoption of the Convention in October 2013, the GEF Secretariat has initiated formal cooperation and communication with the Interim Minamata Convention Secretariat.
10. A retreat was held among the GEF Secretariat, the Interim Secretariat of the Minamata Convention, the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions, and the Secretariat of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) from January 20 - 24, 2014 to improve coordination among the Secretariats, and to support and create synergies between the GEF and the Conventions. The retreat discussed ways to advance programming for the Chemicals and Waste focal area, how to expedite the development and implementation of mercury projects in the interim period, and in particular MIAs.
11. The GEF and the Interim Minamata Convention Secretariat had another in-person meeting during the GEF Chemicals and Waste Task Force Meeting from July 21 - 23, 2014 that included the GEF implementing and project agencies, the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) of the GEF, and the BRS Conventions Secretariat. This meeting discussed the GEF-6 replenishment, how to move forward, and how to meet the objectives and needs of the Conventions. The meeting deliberated on how to best enable countries to sign and ratify the Minamata Convention.
12. The GEF has also committed to joining the Minamata Convention regional workshops to support countries in the interim period until the Convention enters into force. To date the GEF has participated in the following regional workshops:
 - i. Anglophone Africa, Nairobi April 2014
 - ii. Francophone Africa, Dakar – July 2014
 - iii. Arab Countries, Jordan- August 2014
 - iv. South America, Brazil- September 2014
 - v. South Asia, India- September 2014

Guidance and GEF response

13. In regard to the GEF, Article 13 of the Minamata Convention provides 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.”

14. Final Act of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury includes guidance to the GEF. This guidance includes an invitation to 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. The 44th GEF Council allocated \$10M for enabling activities under the Minamata Convention in the GEF-5 period, specifically the Minamata Convention Initial Assessments (MIAs) and Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining National Action Plans (ASGM NAPs). Guidelines have been developed for application of these projects. In GEF-6, \$30M in additional resources have been allocated for these enabling activities. The initial guidelines were approved by the GEF council at the 45th Meeting in November 2013 and may be amended by the INC or COP as required. The guidelines lay out eligibility criteria, including, the requirement that a country receiving GEF funding for mercury projects must be a signatory to the Convention. The guidelines can be found at: <http://www.thegef.org/gef/node/9983>
15. A table of all guidance and the GEF’s response can be found in Annex 3.

GEF’s Contributions to the Implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury in the Interim Period

Resources Committed in GEF-5

16. Throughout the GEF-5 replenishment period, the GEF funded 40 projects supporting mercury, including seven cross-cutting projects. Funding priorities followed the objective laid out in the Strategy for mercury funding in the 5th replenishment of the GEF which was approved at the 39th GEF Council meeting.² In GEF-5, the GEF has programmed \$20,766,768³ in mercury projects, including enabling activities (EA)⁴, medium-sized projects (MSP)⁵, and full-sized projects (FSP)⁶. The projects are consistent with the GEF-5 mercury strategy and initial guidelines for enabling activities for the Minamata Convention. The projects have provided assistance to countries to develop initial assessments of their mercury issues, mercury reduction or elimination, and sustainable alternatives.

² The GEF-5 Strategy document can be found at: https://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/C.39.Inf_.9%20GEF%205%20Mercury%20Strategy.pdf

³ This number includes only the GEF grant amount, not associated fees or PPG.

⁴ Enabling Activities are projects to help countries meet their obligations under the convention, for Minamata these include Minamata Initial Assessments and ASGM National Action Plans.

⁵ Medium-sized projects are projects under \$2 million.

⁶ Full-sized projects are project over \$2 million

Figure 1: GEF Funded Mercury Projects in GEF-5

Project Type	Number of Projects	GEF Grant Amount
Enabling Activities	20	\$ 9,456,868*
Full-sized Projects	6	\$1,354,768**
Medium-sized Projects	14	\$11,309,900*

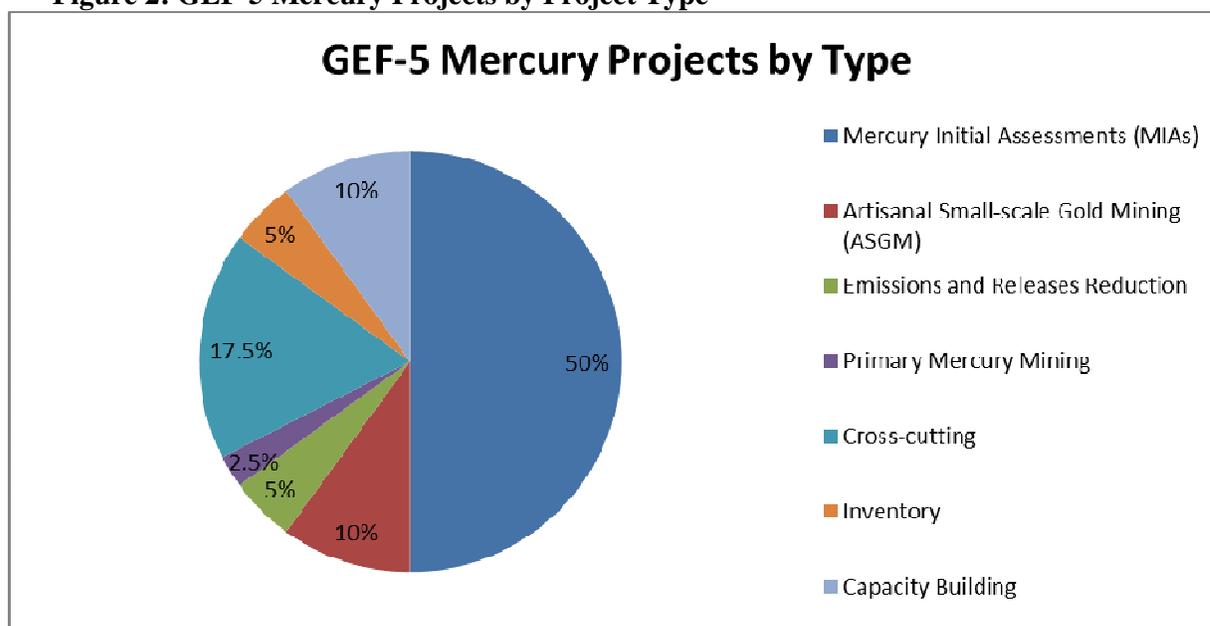
*These totals include only the GEF grant, not associated fees. For the medium and full-sized projects, the mercury components have been extracted from the larger project grant amount.

**This total includes the funding allocated to mercury components only, not the full project amount.

Projects Approved in GEF-5

Approved projects in GEF-5 included MIA development to help countries identify needs and priority issues, capacity building, healthcare waste management, lifecycle management of mercury-containing products and waste, emission reduction from industrial sources, ASGM, primary mercury mining, mercury storage, and inventories. The approved projects which total approximately \$21,000,000, including the mercury components of multi-focal projects, cover a wide variety of mercury issues, and interlink with other focal areas.

Figure 2: GEF-5 Mercury Projects by Project Type



Cross-cutting Projects (GEF-5)

17. In GEF-5, there was an emphasis on the importance of multi-focal area and cross-cutting projects that address and apply resources to several problems at once. Examples of these cross-cutting projects include hospital medical waste projects that address POPs and mercury releases, and lighting projects that address climate change through energy efficiency and mercury waste management.

18. Cross-cutting projects and program will be further encouraged and developed in GEF-6. There are several cross-cutting projects that can apply to the Minamata Convention. These include projects and programs that incorporate biodiversity, climate change mitigation, and international waters. Within the chemicals and waste focal area, the cross-cutting projects can involve work with other Conventions that aim to reduce or eliminate POPs and other chemicals.

GEF Initiatives during the Interim Period

GEF-6 Replenishment

19. Resources for the GEF Trust Fund are replenished every four years, when countries that wish to contribute to the Fund pledge resources through a process called ‘GEF Replenishment.’ During the negotiating sessions that constitute the replenishment process, participants discuss and come to agreement on a set of GEF policy reforms to be undertaken, a document to guide programming of resources (i.e. the GEF-6 Strategy)⁷, and a level of resources that the GEF will aim to provide to recipient countries during the replenishment period.
20. In the GEF-6 Replenishment cycle, the Chemicals and Waste focal area received a record funding level, at \$554,000,000; \$141,000,000 of which is allocated to the Minamata Convention. The overall 6th replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund was a record level of \$4.43 billion.
21. One of the key initiatives in GEF-6 replenishment is the Integrated Approach Pilots (IAPs). Through these, the GEF seeks to address the drivers of environmental degradation more holistically, through programs focusing on complex, cross-cutting areas. The three IAPs include 1) sustainable cities - harnessing local action for global commons, 2) sustainability and resilience for food security in sub-Saharan Africa, and 3) taking deforestation out of commodity supply chains.

GEF-6 Chemicals and Waste Strategy

22. At the 5th GEF Assembly in May 2014 the GEF Instrument was amended to accommodate the Minamata Convention, a new integrated focal area was created that combines the previous POPs and Ozone focal areas with mercury and SAICM. The new Chemicals and Waste focal area has the primary objective of preventing the exposure of humans and the environment to harmful chemicals and waste of global importance. The focal area’s programs and policies reflect this goal and use integrated approaches and targeted programs to achieve it. Innovative and integrated approaches are new key aspects of the strategy that seek to allow partnerships and investment in non-traditional sectors. In order to effectively make the changes the chemicals and waste focal area is aiming for, a closer integration and involvement with the private sector is critical.
23. The strategy seeks to combine environmentally safe technologies and systems, and policies and practices that help countries move towards innovative, rapid, transformational change. The GEF-6 strategy is based on two strategic objectives that in combination will build and sustain capacity, opportunity, and means to meet the goals of eliminating harmful chemicals and waste. These two strategic objectives contain six programs, which encompass activities to be supported by GEF funding.
24. The following figures show the GEF-6 Chemicals and Waste focal area framework, funding by Convention, and funding by objective and program. Figure 4 shows the focal area’s replenishment cycle objectives and programming directions that work under those goals. Figure 5 depicts the focal area’s program funding broken down by Conventions that

⁷ The GEF-6 Strategy document can be found at: <http://www.thegef.org/gef/GEF6-Programming-Directions>

the GEF serves. Figure 6 shows the focal area's replenishment cycle funding broken down by GEF-6 program. These figures illustrate the Chemical and Waste focal area strategy for the GEF-6 cycle, where the funding will go, and what issue areas it will address.

Figure 3: GEF-6 Chemicals and Waste Framework

<i>CW 1: Develop the enabling conditions, tools and environment for the sound management of harmful chemicals and wastes</i>	Program 1	Develop and demonstrate new tools and economic approaches for managing harmful chemicals and waste in a sound manner
	Program 2	Support enabling activities and promote their integration into national budgets and planning processes, national and sector policies and actions and global monitoring
<i>CW 2: - Reduce the prevalence of harmful chemicals and waste and support the implementation of clean alternative technologies/substances</i>	Program 3	Reduction and elimination of POPs
	Program 4	Reduction or elimination of anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury to the environment
	Program 5	Complete the phase out of ODS in CEITs and assist Article 5 countries under the Montreal Protocol to achieve climate mitigation benefits
	Program 6	Support regional approaches to eliminate and reduce harmful chemicals and waste in LDCs and SIDS
INNOVATIVE PROGRAMMING OPTIONS		

Figure 4: GEF-6 Programming Target by Convention

Convention	GEF-6 Programming Targets (\$ million)
POPs	375
Mercury	141
SAICM	13
ODS	25
Total Chemicals	554

Figure 5: Focal Area Objectives and Programming Targets by Program

			GEF-6 Programming Targets (\$ million)
CW-1	Program 1	POPs	20
		Mercury	10
		SAICM	8
		<i>sub-total</i>	38
	Program 2	POPs	20
		Mercury	30
		<i>sub-total</i>	50
Total CW-1			88
CW-2	Program 3	POPs	307
	Program 4	Mercury	78
	Program 5	ODS	25
	Program 6	POPs	28
		Mercury	23
		SAICM	5
		<i>sub-total</i>	56
Total CW-2			466
Total Chemicals			554

GEF-wide Policies and Programs

Results-Based Management

25. Results-Based Management (RBM) has been central in strategy development since GEF-5 and all focal area and corporate program strategies that have been developed with results-frameworks are integrated within the overall corporate results framework. In GEF-6, the system will be developed further to close the feedback loop for lessons learned to influence policies and projects, measure what matters, understand how GEF impacts add up, and lay the foundation for next-generation results management. RBM will offer a clear way to track results and provide input for future programs and projects.
26. The GEF's RBM system aims to improve management effectiveness and accountability by defining expected results and targets, monitoring progress toward results, integrating lessons learned into management decisions, and reporting on performance. The GEF has strengthened its RBM system and engaged with GEF agencies to improve its Annual Monitoring Review (AMR) process.
27. The AMR is designed to provide information regarding the overall health of the GEF Trust Fund's active portfolio of projects and to provide an overview of the portfolio approvals in any given fiscal year and is presented to the GEF Council in two parts. Part one contains a macro view of the portfolio under implementation and is presented to the Council at its fall meeting soon after the conclusion of the fiscal year. Part two is presented to the Council at its Spring meeting and contains a deeper assessment of outcomes, experiences, and lessons learned from the GEF's active portfolio of projects, with an emphasis on those at mid-term and completion.

National Portfolio Formulation Exercise

28. The National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE), introduced as part of the GEF-5 replenishment policy recommendations, is a voluntary exercise undertaken to serve as a priority setting tool for countries and as a guide for GEF Agencies as they assist recipient countries. At the request of the OFP, the GEF Secretariat will support the organization of these exercises with up to \$30,000. This activity is to help GEF Operational Focal Points to engage main national stakeholders and line ministries, in the planning process for developing national priorities for GEF support. This approach strongly promotes national ownership and will result in a document that will guide programming of GEF resources (National Portfolio Formulation Document - NPDF). The NPFE is optional, is not a prerequisite for project funding and when countries decide to undertake it, it is built upon existing national development plans and strategies. During GEF-5 the Secretariat financed NPFEs in 32 countries. In addition, 10 countries carried out similar programming exercises with their own resources.
29. For GEF-6 the GEF Secretariat attended the Council request on including in the final replenishment proposals the continuation of NPFE support, to be implemented through the Secretariat. The Council also requested to use the balance of the GEF-5 NPFE support for programming exercises to enable countries --on a voluntary basis-- to prepare for GEF-6. Therefore, the GEF Secretariat updated the NPFE guidelines to make this exercise available to countries. On March 19, 2014 a message was sent out by the GEF CEO to all

GEF Political and Operational Focal Points inviting the countries to carry out, on a voluntary basis, a National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE). The Exercise will serve as a priority setting tool for countries to program GEF resources under GEF-6.

Expanded Constituency Workshops

30. The expanded constituency workshops include the participation of GEF focal points, Convention focal points and other key representatives, including civil society organizations (CSO). These meetings allow the participant's interaction with staff from the GEF Secretariat (including technical staff) and the GEF Agencies to discuss priority issues, review policies and procedures, and share lessons and experiences from the development and implementation of GEF projects and their integration within national policy frameworks. Especially relevant was the interaction among Convention focal points (including chemicals / mercury) which—in several of these workshops— they had the opportunity for first time to discuss with their pairs issues of national relevance. During GEF-5 thirty nine expanded constituency workshops were held worldwide. These workshops will continue in GEF-6.

Small Grants Program

31. The GEF Small-Grants Programme (SGP), implemented by UNDP on behalf of the GEF partnership, was launched at the time of the Earth Summit in 1992. Through its decentralized governance mechanism, the GEF SGP channels its support through civil society action by providing grants of up to \$50,000 directly to civil society organizations (CSOs), community-based organizations (CBOs) and indigenous peoples to undertake environmental projects. Since 1992, the program has supported a cumulative total of more than 18,200 projects and strengthened more than 15,500 civil society groups in 128 countries, across all the GEF focal areas.

32. The goal of the SGP in GEF-6 is to effectively support the creation of global environmental benefits and the safeguarding of the global environment through community and local solutions that complement and add value to national and global level action. To achieve the overall goal, SGP will use a three-pronged approach. It will focus its work on globally recognized critical ecosystems; set-up innovative institutional and financial support mechanisms to expand the value and impact of projects nationally and globally; and systematically develop the capacity of local and national civil society stakeholders as a key factor for environmental sustainability.

33. The GEF SGP has supported 32 projects that addressed mercury issues directly or as part of natural ecosystem management activities. GEF SGP activities have mainly focused on three types of interventions related to mercury management. First is related to the collection and recycling of mercury-contained lamps, medical appliances and other wastes in Belarus, China, Fiji, Macedonia, Malaysia, Nepal, Tajikistan and Ukraine. For example in Nepal, the collection and management of mercury contained medical waste were part of a project that won the Stockholm Convention PEN Award. In China, at least 30,000mg of mercury are collected and disposed properly each year from mercury-containing energy efficient lamps and fluorescent lamps as a result of a SGP project in Baoshang, Shanghai. Second, SGP has piloted activities in Guyana, Mozambique and Suriname in reducing

mercury emissions from promoting alternatives to Artisanal Small-scale Gold Mining (ASGM) practices that released mercury directly to the environment. Information on the environmental and health impacts of mercury related to gold mining are widely disseminated to gold-mining communities, and alternative gold mining practices were tested and promoted. Third, capacity development and awareness raising activities related to the sources and impacts of mercury have been conducted in Albania, Ghana, India and Sri Lanka.

34. In GEF-6, SGP is exploring and strengthening global partnerships with organizations such as International POPs Elimination Network (IPEN) and other partners to jointly address mercury issues. SGP plans to continue its focus on e-waste and other mercury-contained waste management, promotion of sustainable alternatives to mercury-using artisanal small-scale gold mining and enhance local capacity and awareness on mercury management. Good practices and lessons learnt will be extracted and documented from these initial activities, and shared globally for learning and replication/upscaling.

Broadening the GEF Partnership

35. Historically, the GEF Partnership included 10 implementing agencies: the United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Environment Programme, World Bank, Food and Agriculture Organization, Inter-American Development Bank, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, Asian Development Bank, African Development Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and International Fund for Agricultural Development. Recently, under a pilot initiative to broaden the GEF Partnership, 16 agencies applied for accreditation as GEF project agencies. Eleven of these applicants were approved by the GEF Council to move onto Stage II of the process where an independent Accreditation Panel evaluates the applicants' level of compliance with the GEF's fiduciary standards as well as the GEF's environmental and social safeguards, including gender mainstreaming. To date, four agencies have completed Stage II and received Panel approval for accreditation: the World Wildlife Fund- US (WWF-US), the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and Conservation International (CI). WWF-US, IUCN and CI have also completed Stage III which involves the signing of necessary agreements with the GEF and the Trustee; DBSA is in the process of doing so.

Private Sector Strategy

36. The GEF has engaged with the private sector since its inception, based on the underlying idea that, in order to have long-term and substantive impact on the global environment, private enterprises – the dominant driver of economic activity – need to be encouraged to pursue commercially viable activities that also generate Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs). In GEF-5, a special emphasis was put on the use of non-grant instruments for investments, such as loans and equity that have the potential for returns. Over \$70 million was invested in five public-private partnerships with AfDB, IADB, and EBRD. During the GEF-6 replenishment negotiations, the importance of expanded engagement with the private sector and the use of non-grant instruments was emphasized. GEF-6 strategies call for a holistic and comprehensive approach for mainstreaming private sector engagement across GEF focal area strategies and proposed integrated approach pilots. Specifically, the

focal area strategies identify potential opportunities to enhance private sector engagement; the integrated approach pilots also emphasize and explicitly include private sector engagement. An additional \$110 million for a Non-Grant Pilot Program was made available to catalyze GEF-6 efforts.

37. The GEF-6 Chemicals and Waste Strategy also prioritizes engagement with the private sector. Engagement with the private sector in mercury projects will be important in many sectors, including industrial processes, waste management, and mining.

Gender

38. The GEF Policy on Gender Mainstreaming that was approved in 2011 states that “the GEF Secretariat and GEF Partner Agencies shall strive to attain the goal of gender equality, the equal treatment of women and men, including the equal access to resources and services through its operations.” It also states that “to accomplish this goal, the GEF Secretariat and GEF Partner Agencies shall mainstream gender into their operations, including efforts to analyze systematically and address the specific needs of both women and men in GEF projects.”
39. The GEF Policy on Gender Mainstreaming requires GEF Partner Agencies to have policies or strategies that satisfy seven minimum requirements to ensure gender mainstreaming: 1) institutional capacity for gender mainstreaming; 2) consideration of gender elements in project review and design; 3) undertaking of gender analysis; 4) measures to minimize/mitigate adverse gender impacts; 5) integration of gender sensitive activities; 6) monitoring and evaluation of gender mainstreaming progress; and 7) inclusion of gender experts in projects.
40. Under GEF-6, the GEF will adopt a more comprehensive and programmatic approach toward gender mainstreaming across GEF programs and projects. The degree of relevance of gender dimensions in GEF projects differs depending on focal areas and specific programs. The GEF will focus its efforts on strengthening gender mainstreaming in programs and projects that could generate significant results and contribute to achieving the goals of gender equality and sustainable development. The chemicals portfolio has generated noticeable impacts on the improvement of the health of women and children through active engagement of both women and men in awareness-raising and capacity-building activities as well as the eradication of exposure to these chemicals. It will be critical to design mercury projects that incorporate gender considerations, especially in sectors like ASGM, where women play a large role.

Synergies across the GEF Focal Areas

41. The GEF seeks to promote projects that combine multiple focal areas and trust funds to deliver benefits within chemicals and waste and other focal areas. There are many emerging opportunities for co-benefits between focal areas, and GEF-6 will explore these. Cross-cutting between focal areas allows greater investment, farther-reaching projects, and more benefits. Closer integration of projects and focal areas will create greater opportunities to make a difference in global environmental problems. The GEF has a unique advantage to support cross-cutting issues because it is the financial mechanism and

supports a number of conventions. As an entity set up to finance these conventions, and its institutional understanding of the environmental issues and linkages among them, the GEF is well-positioned to leverage the synergies across its focal areas and funds.

42. GEF-6 will offer continued and enhanced support to integrated programming that generates both mitigation and adaptation benefits, in addition to potentially contributing to other GEF focal areas' strategic objectives. The work on mercury in the GEF will seek to reduce the emissions of mercury in a number of sectors, including the industrial sector which includes coal-fired power plants. This will provide an opportunity, when addressing mercury emissions in this sector, to also improve the efficiency of the facilities. Increasingly, there are projects that address the environmental performance of industrial sites through reducing emissions of POPs, improving the energy efficiency and water management. There is also a strong links between mercury, biodiversity, and land degradation in the artisanal and small scale gold mining sector. These types of projects will be encouraged in GEF-6.

GEF Vision 2020

43. At its May 2014 meeting, the GEF Council welcomed the GEF's Long-term Strategy (GEF 2020). The Strategy has been prepared on the basis of inputs from across the GEF partnership; written comments were received from a large number of Council members, STAP, the CSO network, agencies, and others.
44. The GEF 2020 vision for the GEF is to be a champion of the global environment, building on its role as financial mechanism of several MEAs, supporting transformational change and achieving GEBs at scale. To achieve this vision, the GEF will: (i) address drivers of environmental degradation. The GEF will proactively seek out interventions that focus on the underlying drivers of global environmental degradation, and support coalitions that bring together partnerships of committed stakeholders around solutions to complex environmental challenges; (ii) support innovative and scalable activities. The GEF will support innovative ways of doing business that are complementary to other institution's activities and focus on activities that are scalable across multiple countries, regions and sectors through policy, market or behavioral transformations; and (iii) deliver the highest impacts cost-effectively. The GEF will keep a clear focus on maximizing the global environmental benefits it generates from its funding by pursuing cost-effective solutions to major environmental challenges through its partner agencies.
45. In the context to mercury programing the principles of GEF Vision 2020 will be used to target the underlying forces and drivers of mercury emissions and releases to maximize the global environmental benefits of GEF investments under the Minamata Convention.

Annex 1: Table of GEF-5 Funded Projects**Enabling Activity Projects**

Agency	Country	Title	Project Type	GEF Grant
UNIDO	Armenia	Minamata Convention Initial Assessment (MIA) in the Republic of Armenia	EA	\$200,000
UNEP	Brazil	Development of Minamata Convention on Mercury Initial Assessment in Brazil	EA	\$821,918
UNIDO	China	Minamata Convention Initial Assessment in the People's Republic of China	EA	\$1,000,000
UNIDO	Comoros	Minamata Convention Initial Assessment in the Comoros	EA	\$200,000
UNDP	Costa Rica	Minamata Initial Assessment for Costa Rica	EA	\$200,000
UNDP	Georgia	Strengthen national decision making towards ratification of the Minamata Convention and build capacity towards implementation of future provisions.	EA	\$198,000
UNDP	Guyana	Minamata Initial Assessment for Guyana	EA	\$200,000
GEFSEC	Kenya	Mercury Initial Actions for Kenya	EA	\$200,000
UNEP	Madagascar	Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Madagascar	EA	\$182,648
UNDP	Mauritius	Strengthen National Decision Making Towards Ratification of the Minamata Convention and Build Capacity Towards Implementation of Future Provisions.	EA	\$199,749
UNEP	Mexico	Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Mexico	EA	\$456,530

UNEP	Moldova	Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Moldova	EA	\$182,648
UNIDO	Nigeria	Minamata Convention Initial Assessment in the Federal Republic of Nigeria	EA	\$1,000,000
UNEP	Regional	Development of Minamata Convention on Mercury Initial Assessment in Africa	EA	\$913,242
UNEP	Regional	Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in three Asian countries	EA	\$730,594
UNEP/UNIDO	Regional	Development of Minamata Convention on Mercury Initial Assessment in Africa (Angola, Malawi and Zimbabwe)	EA	\$547,945
UNEP	Regional	Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in LAC	EA	\$723,594
UNDP	Regional	Strengthen National Decision Making Towards Ratification of the Minamata Convention and Build Capacity Towards Implementation of Future Provisions.	EA	\$800,000
UNIDO	Vietnam	Minamata Convention Initial Assessment in Vietnam	EA	\$500,000
UNIDO	Yemen	Minamata Convention Initial Assessment (MIA) in the Republic of Yemen	EA	\$200,000

Medium-Sized Projects

Agency	Country	Title	Project Type	GEF Grant
UNIDO	Argentina	Preparatory Project to Facilitate the Implementation of the Legally Binding Instrument on Mercury	MSP	\$350,000

		(Minamata Convention) in Argentina to Protect Health and the Environment		
UNIDO	China	Reduction of Mercury Emissions and Promotion of Sound Chemical Management in Zinc Smelting Operations	MSP	\$990,000
UNEP	China	Pilot project on the development of a mercury inventory in China	MSP	\$1,000,000
UNEP	Global	Development of a Plan for Global Monitoring of Human Exposure to and Environmental Concentrations of Mercury	MSP	\$850,000
UNDP	Honduras	Environmental Sound Management of Mercury and Mercury Containing Products and their Wastes in Artisanal Small-scale Gold Mining and Healthcare	MSP	\$1,300,000
UNEP	Kyrgyz Republic	Reducing global and local environmental risks from primary mercury mining in Khaidarkan the Kyrgyz Republic	MSP	\$944,000
UNDP	Kyrgyzstan	Protect Human Health and the Environment from Unintentional Releases of POPs and Mercury from the Unsound Disposal of Healthcare Waste in Kyrgyzstan	MSP	\$1,425,000
UNIDO	Mongolia	Reduce Exposure of Mercury to Human Health and the Environment by Promoting Sound Chemical Management in Mongolia	MSP	\$600,000

UNIDO	Philippines	Improve the Health and Environment of Artisanal Gold Mining Communities in the Philippines by Reducing Mercury Emissions	MSP	\$550,000
UNEP	Russian Federation	Pilot project on the development of a mercury inventory in Russian Federation	MSP	\$1,000,000
UNDP	Uruguay	Environmental Sound Life-Cycle Management of Mercury Containing Products and their Wastes	MSP	\$700,000
UNEP	Regional (Argentina, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Peru, Uruguay)	Development of Mercury Risk Management Approaches in Latin America	MSP	\$916,000
UNIDO	Regional (Ecuador, Peru)	Implementing Integrated Measures for Minimizing Mercury Releases from Artisanal Gold Mining	MSP	\$999,900
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	MSP	\$990,000

Full-Sized Projects

Agency	Country	Title	Project Type	GEF Grant
UNEP	Bolivia	Delivering the Transition to Energy Efficient Lighting	FP	\$3,059,361
UNEP	Chile	Delivering the Transition to Energy Efficient Lighting	FP	\$2,485,713
UNDP	Kazakhstan	NIP Update, Integration of POPs into National Planning and Promoting Sound	FP	\$3,400,000

		Healthcare Waste Management in Kazakhstan		
UNDP	Regional (Ghana, Madagascar, Rwanda, Tanzania)	Reducing UPOPs and Mercury Releases from the Health Sector in Africa	FP	\$6,453,195
World Bank	Vietnam	Hospital Waste Management Support Project	FP	\$7,000,000
UNEP	Yemen	Delivering the Transition to Energy Efficient Lighting	FP	\$2,028,616

Annex 2: GEF-5 Funded Medium Size and Full Size Projects and Descriptions

Artisanal Small-scale Gold Mining Projects

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.		

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 will 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.		

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		
Implementing/ Executing Partners	GEF Agency	UNIDO	
	Executing Agency	Ministries of Environment	
GEF Funding	990,000	Co-financing	2,450,000
Project Summary	This project will promote the sound management of mercury in ASGM through the development and implementation of national strategic action plans. The project will involve incremental activities, which will 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 will introduce 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 innovative solutions include improved water use efficiency, aquifer and catchment protection, and rights-based water management.		

Mercury Emissions and Releases Project

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 will help China build capacity to effectively manage and reduce mercury in the priority sector of zinc smelting operations and raise awareness in the sector.			
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 will facilitate the incorporation of SMC 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 will also protect human and environmental health by reducing releases of POPs and mercury from the unsound management of waste. In particular, the project will address 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.			

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 will 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	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 will assist the country in building its capacity to deal with the technical challenges associated with the assessment and cleanup of contaminated sites. The project will create a sustainable platform for future work in Mongolia to implement the Minamata Convention.		

Country	Regional (Ghana, Madagascar, Rwanda, 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
Project Summary	This project will implement 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.		
Country	Uruguay	GEF ID	4998
Title	Environmental Sound Life-Cycle Management of Mercury Containing Products and their Wastes		
Implementing/ Executing Partners	GEF Agency	UNDP	
	Executing Agency	National Environment Directorate	
GEF Funding	700,000	Co-financing	2,595,700
Project Summary	<p>This project will 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.</p>		

Other Projects

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	<p>This project will 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.</p>		

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
Project Summary	<p>This project will 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.</p>		

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
Project Summary	<p>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. This will occur through the strengthening of monitoring, verification, and enforcement capacities to ensure an effective transition to efficient lighting markets, ensuring environmentally sound management, and lighting innovation.</p>		

Country	China	GEF ID	4962
Title	Pilot project on the development of a mercury inventory in China		
Implementing/	GEF Agency	UNEP	

Executing Partners	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 will 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	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 will 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 will also involve capacity building in monitoring sites and labs where the testing will occur.		

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
Project Summary	This project will reduce the releases of UPOPs and other globally harmful pollutants into the environment by promoting sound healthcare waste management, and will assist in implementing relevant obligations under the Stockholm Convention. This project involves enabling policy, institutional, regulatory, and planning environment for controlling POPs		

	and contaminants of concern, and demonstrating sound healthcare waste management.
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Country	Kenya	GEF ID	5762
Title	Mercury Initial Actions for Kenya		
Implementing/ Executing Partners	GEF Agency	GEFSEC	
	Executing Agency	Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources and the National Environment Management Authority	
GEF Funding	200,000	Co-financing	34,000
Project Summary	This project will prepare Kenya to ratify the Minamata Convention, support activities between adoption and entry into force, meet eligible enabling activities for the interim period of entry into force, fulfill essential communication requirements, provide basic and essential levels of information to enable policy and strategic decisions to be made by institutions related to mercury emissions, and identify priority actions after ratification.		

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	This project will identify and implement alternative livelihoods to mercury mining within the local community, educate and raise awareness of the miners, and build the capacity to reduce/eliminate mercury use.		

Country	Regional (Argentina, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Peru, Uruguay)	GEF ID	5494
Title	Development of Mercury Risk Management Approaches in Latin America		
Implementing/	GEF Agency	UNEP	

Executing Partners	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 will 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	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	This project will develop and implement management plans for persistent toxic substances and other chemicals of global concern, with particular respect to mercury, on a pilot basis. The project will strengthen the capacity to identify mercury sources and priority actions to address mercury issues and build capacity to manage mercury in priority sectors.		

Country	Vietnam	GEF ID	4614
Title	Hospital Waste Management Support Project		
Implementing/ Executing Partners	GEF Agency	World Bank	
	Executing Agency	Vietnam Health Environment Management Agency, Ministry of Health, Vietnam Environmental Administration, and Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	
GEF Funding	7,000,000	Co-financing	150,000,000
	Mercury Component		500,000
Project Summary	This project will significantly reduce the amount of UPOPs through the development and pilot application of BAT/BEP options for healthcare		

	facilities, reduce and assess the environmental and human health risk related to POPs and PTS releases from the healthcare sector, establish, strengthen, and introduce integrated policy, legal, and institutional framework for management of POPs and PTS releases in the healthcare sector to be applied nation-wide, and create mercury inventory, risk management mechanisms, and a reduction of mercury releases in the healthcare sector.
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Country	Yemen	GEF ID	5152	
Title	Delivering the Transition to Energy Efficient Lighting			
Implementing/ Executing Partners	GEF Agency		UNEP	
	Executing Agency		Public Electricity Corporation	
GEF Funding	2,028,616		Co-financing	9,655,000
	Mercury Component	45,622		Mercury Component
Project Summary	This project will 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.			

Annex 3: Guidance and GEF Response

Source	Guidance	GEF Response
Minamata Convention Article 13	<p>“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.”</p>	<p>The GEF during the negotiations of the 6th replenishment allocated \$141 million of new funding to support the Minamata Convention during the 6th replenishment period. From this allocation the GEF will provide resources to meet the agreed incremental costs of global environmental benefits and the agreed full costs of some enabling activities.</p> <p>The GEF-6 strategy for chemicals and waste includes specific programs for mercury.</p>
Final Act of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury	<p>“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;”</p>	<p>The 44th GEF Council allocated \$10M for enabling activities under the Minamata Convention in the GEF-5 period, specifically the Minamata Convention Initial Assessments (MIAs) and Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining National Action Plans (ASGM NAPs). Guidelines have been developed for application of these projects. In GEF-6, \$30M in additional resources has been allocated for these enabling activities.</p>

		<p>The initial guidelines may be amended by the INC or COP as required.</p> <p>The guidelines can be found at: http://www.thegef.org/gef/node/9983</p>
Final Act of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury	<p>“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;”</p>	<p>At the 5th GEF Assembly in June 2014 the GEF Instrument was amended to include the Minamata Convention in the list of conventions served by the GEF. The new paragraph 6e of the GEF instrument contains the following text:</p> <p>“(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.”</p>
Final Act of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury	<p>“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;”</p>	<p>GEF Secretariat shared the memorandum of understanding that it has with the other Chemicals Conventions with the Interim Minamata Secretariat for background to assist in developing the MOU between the GEF and the Minamata COP. These will be provided by the Minamata Secretariat in the meeting documents for INC 6.</p>

<p>Final Act of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury</p>	<p>“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;”</p>	<p>Noted. The GEF will incorporate and respond to guidance received by the INC and will report at a subsequent meeting of the Convention.</p>
<p>Final Act of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury</p>	<p>“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;”</p>	<p>Noted. The GEF will incorporate and respond to guidance received by the INC and will report at a subsequent meeting of the Convention.</p>
<p>Final Act of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury</p>	<p>“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;”</p>	<p>The 6th replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund includes an allocation of \$141M to support activities to advance early entry into force and effective implementation of the Minamata Convention. \$30M has been allocated for enabling activities and \$111M has been allocated to support early action.</p>