

CALL FOR
INFORMATION ON

GENDER AND MERCURY

By 13th December 2020



MINAMATA
CONVENTION
ON MERCURY

The third Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury (25-29 November 2019, Geneva, Switzerland) decided to include gender as a focus area of the Convention's [Programme of Work for the biennium 2020–2021](#) (Activity 13). Thanks to the generous financial support of Sweden, the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention has undertaken to develop a gender roadmap with the objective of mainstreaming gender within its programme of work.

The Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury is inviting Parties and interested stakeholders to submit, by December 13th, scientific, technical and policy information on gender and mercury.

Information on integrating gender into national policies, plans, and actions, as well as material of a scientific or technical nature is sought, including studies, webinars and videos that explore:

- the impacts of mercury exposure on vulnerable groups, such as women and children;
- gender-differentiated relationships in producing, using, working with, or lifecycle engagement with mercury;
- advocacy around controlling use and exposures;
- gender relationship across all sectors – mining, energy, manufacturing processes, consumer products such as cosmetics and other mercury-added products, and mercury waste management.

All information should be submitted in electronic form to: mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org with the subject "Call for Information on Gender and Mercury".

Deadline for submissions: **December 13th, 2020**

Background

The [Minamata Convention on Mercury](#) preamble notes awareness of "health concerns, especially in developing countries, resulting from exposure to mercury of vulnerable populations, especially women, children, and through them future generations." Furthermore, National Action Plans to address artisanal and small-scale gold mining are to include "Strategies to prevent the exposure of vulnerable populations, particularly children and women of childbearing age, especially pregnant women, to mercury used in artisanal and small-scale gold mining." In addition, Articles 16 (Health aspects), Article 18 (Public information, awareness and education), Article 19 (Research, development and monitoring) and Article 22 (Effectiveness evaluation) of the Minamata Convention on Mercury all refer to the needs of vulnerable groups and populations.