



**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,<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup>
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.<sup>3</sup>
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.<sup>4</sup> 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

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<sup>1</sup> UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/CONF/3,

[http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/dipcon/english/CONF\\_3\\_Minamata\\_Convention\\_on\\_Mercury\\_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)

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> GEF/A.5/09, [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-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)

<sup>4</sup> GEF Council Decision by Mail, 01.14.2015.

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.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> This amount includes the GEF grants only and excludes associated fees and project preparation grants.

## 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.<sup>6</sup>

## Part I: GEF and Minamata Convention

4. 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

5. 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.
6. 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).
7. 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

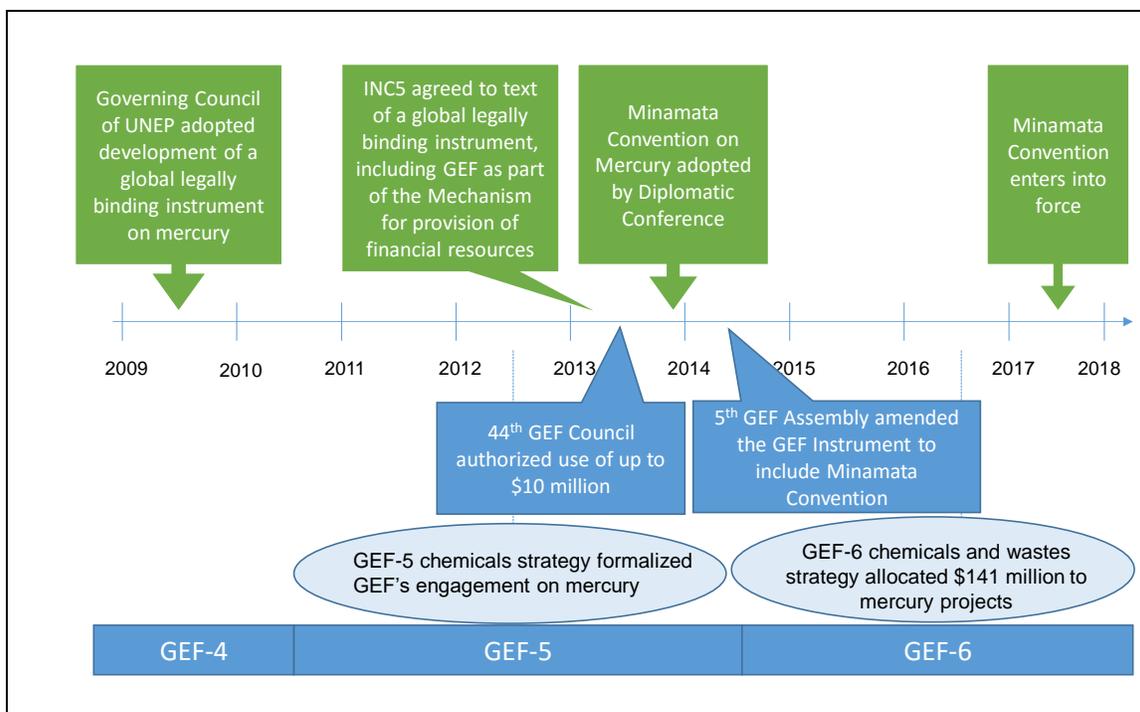
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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/dipcon/english/CONF\\_4\\_Final\\_Act\\_e.pdf](http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/dipcon/english/CONF_4_Final_Act_e.pdf)

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.<sup>7</sup>

8. The 44<sup>th</sup> 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.<sup>8</sup>
9. 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**



<sup>7</sup> UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.5/7,

[http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/inc5/English/INC5\\_7asterix\\_final\\_report\\_26\\_08\\_e.pdf](http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/inc5/English/INC5_7asterix_final_report_26_08_e.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> GEF/C.44/04, [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](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)

10. 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).
11. 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.<sup>9</sup>

### **Resolutions and Decisions of Relevance and GEF's Response**

12. 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.”

13. 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.<sup>10</sup> The GEF has provided such support, as summarized in Annex 2 and reported to INC6.<sup>11</sup>
14. 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:

- a. Parties to the Convention;

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<sup>9</sup> GEF/A.5/07/Rev.01, [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/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/GEF.A.5.07.Rev._01_Report_on_the_Sixth_Replenishment_of_the_GEF_Trust_Fund_May_22_2014_1.pdf)

<sup>10</sup> UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/CONF/4, [http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/dipcon/english/CONF\\_4\\_Final\\_Act\\_e.pdf](http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/dipcon/english/CONF_4_Final_Act_e.pdf)

<sup>11</sup> UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF/6, [http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/inc6/English/6\\_INF6\\_GEF.pdf](http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/inc6/English/6_INF6_GEF.pdf)

- b. Signatories to the Convention in undertaking activities, particularly enabling activities, to facilitate early implementation and ratification of the Convention;
  - c. 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.<sup>12</sup>
15. 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.
16. 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.<sup>13</sup>
17. 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).<sup>14</sup> 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 52<sup>th</sup> 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.

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<sup>12</sup> Annex III, UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/24,

[http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/inc6/English/6\\_24\\_e\\_report.pdf](http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/inc6/English/6_24_e_report.pdf)

<sup>13</sup> 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)

<sup>14</sup> 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](http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/inc7/English/7_22_rev_e_report.pdf)

**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
<b>I. Eligibility for access to and utilization of financial resources</b>		
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 45 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the GEF Council, revised in January 2014. <sup>15</sup>
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.
<b>II. Overall strategies and policies</b>		
5	In accordance with Article 13, paragraph 7, of the Convention, the GEF trust fund shall provide new, predictable, adequate and timely	This has been used to guide the programming in GEF-6 and will be addressed in the context of the ongoing

<sup>15</sup> GEF/C.45/Inf.05/Rev.01, <https://www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/initial-guidelines-enabling-activities-minamata-convention-mercury-0>

Paragraph	Draft Initial Guidance	GEF Response
	<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Are country-driven;</li> <li>(b) Are in conformity with programme priorities as reflected in relevant guidance provided by the Conference of the Parties;</li> <li>(c) Build capacity and promote the utilization of local and regional expertise, if applicable;</li> <li>(d) Promote synergies with other focal areas;</li> <li>(e) Continue to enhance synergies and co-benefits within the chemicals and wastes focal area;</li> <li>(f) Promote multiple-source funding approaches, mechanisms and arrangements, including from the private sector, if applicable; and</li> <li>(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.</li> </ul>	<p>GEF-7 replenishment negotiations, which will conclude in early 2018.</p>
<h3>III. Programme priorities</h3>		
<p>6</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>This is reflected in the strategies of the GEF.</p> <p>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.</p>

Paragraph	Draft Initial Guidance	GEF Response
7	<p>In particular, it should give priority to the following activities when providing financial resources to developing-country Parties and Parties with economies in transition:</p> <p>(a) Enabling activities, particularly Minamata Convention initial assessment activities and national action plans for artisanal and small-scale gold mining;</p> <p>(b) Activities to implement the provisions of the Convention, affording priority to those that:</p> <p>(i) Relate to legally binding obligations;</p> <p>(ii) Facilitate early implementation on entry into force of the Convention for a Party;</p> <p>(iii) Allow for reduction in mercury emissions and releases and address the health and environmental impacts of mercury.</p>	<p>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.</p>
8	<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p><b>IV. Indicative list of categories of activities that could receive support</b></p>		
<p><b>A. Enabling activities</b></p>		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Minamata Convention initial assessments (MIAs)</li> <li>2. Preparation of national action plans for artisanal and small-scale gold mining in accordance with paragraph 3 of article 7 and Annex C</li> <li>3. Other types of enabling activities as agreed by the Conference of the Parties</li> </ol>	<p>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. ▸</p> <p>In GEF-6, all eligible enabling activities that were submitted to the GEF to date have received funding.</p>

Paragraph	Draft Initial Guidance	GEF Response
<b>B. Activities to implement the provisions of the Convention</b>		
<b>1. Activities to implement the provisions of the Convention that relate to legally binding obligations</b>		
9	<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mercury supply sources and trade;</li> <li>• Mercury-added products;</li> <li>• Manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used;</li> <li>• Artisanal and small-scale gold mining;</li> <li>• Emissions;</li> <li>• Releases;</li> <li>• Environmentally sound interim storage of mercury, other than waste mercury;</li> <li>• Mercury wastes;</li> <li>• Reporting;</li> <li>• Relevant capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer in relation to the above.</li> </ul>	<p>This will be addressed in the context of the ongoing GEF-7 replenishment negotiations.</p>
<b>2. Activities to implement the provisions of the Convention that facilitate early implementation on entry into force of the Convention for a Party</b>		
10	<p>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.</p>	<p>This will be addressed in the context of the ongoing GEF-7 replenishment negotiations.</p>

Paragraph	Draft Initial Guidance	GEF Response
11	<p>Within the context of the GEF mandate, such activities could include, inter alia, support for:</p> <p>(a) 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;</p> <p>(b) 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;</p> <p>(c) 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;</p> <p>(d) Information exchange;</p> <p>(e) Public information, awareness and education;</p> <p>(f) Cooperation in the development and improvement of research, development and monitoring;</p> <p>(g) Development of implementation plans following initial assessments.</p>	<p>This will be addressed in the context of the ongoing GEF-7 replenishment negotiations.</p>
<p><b>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</b></p>		
12	<p>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</p>	<p>This will be addressed in the context of the ongoing GEF-7 replenishment negotiations.</p>

Paragraph	Draft Initial Guidance	GEF Response
	benefits and reflect the GEF chemicals and wastes focal area strategy.	
<b>V. Review by the Conference of the Parties</b>		
<b>13</b>	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.

18. 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.<sup>16</sup> The 51<sup>st</sup> GEF Council considered the draft MOU.<sup>17</sup> 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.
19. The GEF Secretariat transmitted the comments of the 51<sup>st</sup> GEF council to the Interim Minamata Secretariat for inclusion in the documents for COP1 of the Minamata Convention.<sup>18</sup> The interim secretariat has included these comments in the revision of the MOU, to be presented to COP1 for its consideration.

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<sup>16</sup> 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](http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/inc7/English/7_22_rev_e_report.pdf)

<sup>17</sup> GEF/C.51/11, [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-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)

<sup>18</sup> GEF/C.51/11

## Cooperation with Interim Secretariat of Minamata Convention

20. 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.
21. 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 50<sup>th</sup> 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.
22. 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 52<sup>nd</sup> GEF Council to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Ratification of the Convention that triggered entry into force of the Convention.
23. 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.
24. 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.
25. 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.
26. The GEF joined the Minamata Convention regional workshops to support countries in the interim period until the Convention entry into force, including the following:
  - (a) Anglophone Africa, Nairobi, April 2014
  - (b) Francophone Africa, Dakar, July 2014

- (c) Arab Countries, Jordan, August 2014
  - (d) South America, Brazil, September 2014
  - (e) South Asia, India, September 2014
  - (f) Caribbean, Trinidad and Tobago, January 2015
  - (g) Pacific, Samoa, January 2015
  - (h) Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Belarus, February 2015.
27. The GEF also joined the back-to-back Minamata and BRS Conventions Regional Meetings in 2015 and 2016, including the following:
- (a) Asia and the Pacific, Indonesia, March 2015
  - (b) Africa, Kenya, March 2015
  - (c) Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Slovakia, April 2015
  - (d) Latin America and the Caribbean, Uruguay, April 2015
  - (e) Asia and the Pacific, Thailand, March 2017
  - (f) Africa, Senegal, March 2017
  - (g) Central and Eastern Europe, Latvia, March 2017
  - (h) Latin America and the Caribbean, Brazil, March 2017.

## Part II: Progress in GEF Programming

### Overview of GEF Support for Minamata Convention

28. 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.<sup>19</sup> 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.
29. 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*

30. 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.
31. 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.<sup>20</sup> 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 (\$) <sup>21</sup>	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
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>21,132,671</b>	<b>46,703,421</b>

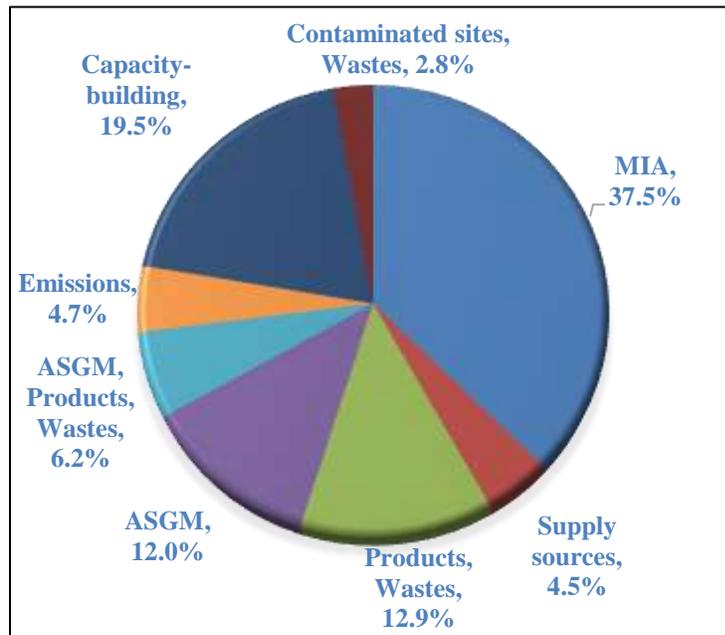
<sup>19</sup> The figure includes the GEF grant allocated to mercury components only, and excludes fees and project preparation grant.

<sup>20</sup> Two out of the 38 projects have been cancelled since their approval.

<sup>21</sup> 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.

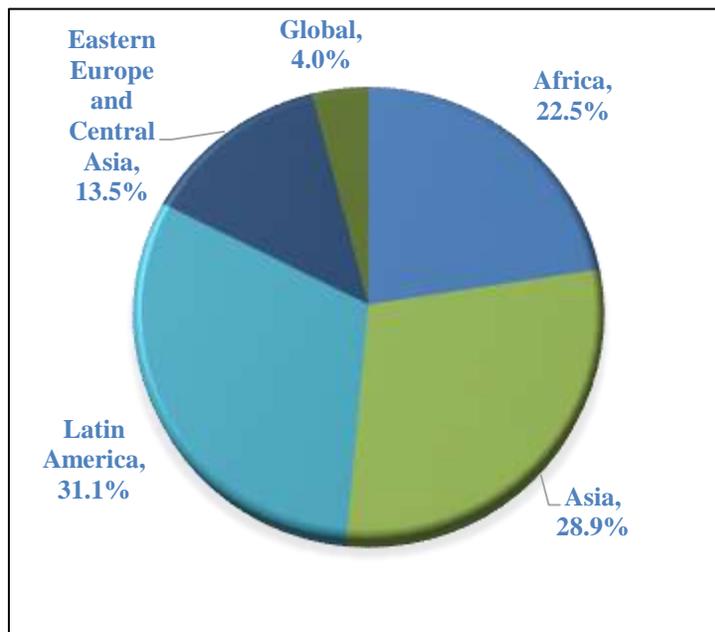
32. Annex 6 summarizes the project approved during GEF-5, and Annex 7 provides further descriptions of FSPs and MSPs according to their themes.
33. Approved projects in GEF-5 included MIAs to help countries identify needs and priority issues, and MSPs and FSPs on primary mercury mining, introduction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

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



34. 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**



*Support for Key Elements of Minamata Convention*

***Enabling Activities***

35. 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***

36. In GEF-5, 20 projects were funded for activities that relate to legally-binding obligations. The following are examples of these projects.
37. 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.

38. 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.
39. 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 innovative 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***

40. 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*

41. 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.
42. 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.<sup>22</sup> 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*

43. 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

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<sup>22</sup> The SGP resources are not counted in the GEF Trust Fund resource tables.

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 Objective	Programs	Programing Target (\$ million)	
CW 1 Develop the enabling conditions, tools and environment to manage harmful chemicals and wastes	<b>Program 1:</b> 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
	<b>Program 2:</b> 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/substances	<b>Program 3:</b> Reduction and elimination of POPs	POPs	307
	<b>Program 4:</b> Reduction of anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury to the environment	Mercury	78
	<b>Program 5:</b> Complete the phase out of ODS <sup>a</sup> in CEITs <sup>b</sup> and assist Article 5 countries under the Montreal Protocol to achieve climate mitigation benefits	ODS	25
<b>Program 6:</b> Support regional approaches to eliminate and reduce harmful chemicals and wastes in LDCs <sup>c</sup> and SIDS <sup>d</sup>	POPs	28	
	Mercury	23	
	SAICM	5	
		<b>Sub Total (Mercury)</b>	<b>141</b>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>554</b>

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

44. 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.<sup>23</sup> 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.

45. 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.

<sup>23</sup> 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.

46. At the 51<sup>st</sup> 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)**

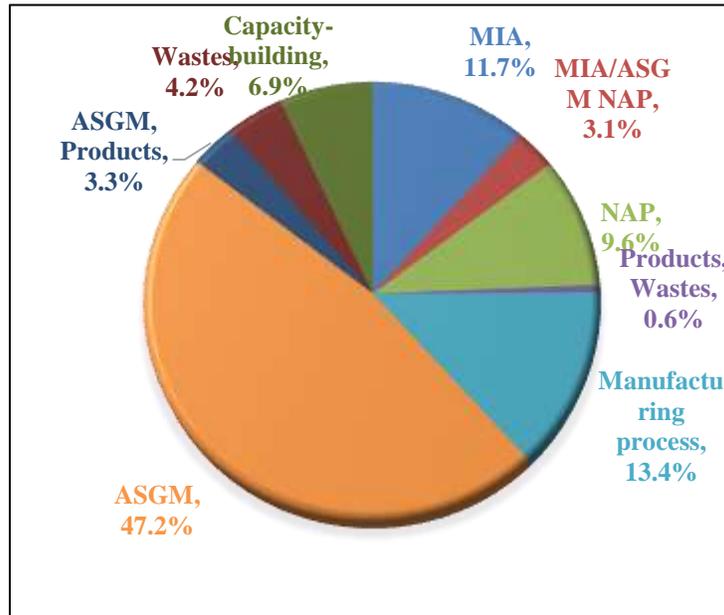
Project Type	Number of Projects	GEF Resources (\$) <sup>24</sup>	Co-financing (\$)
Enabling Activities	59	30,297,045	3,251,470
Full-sized Projects	7	93,029,533	377,406,658
Medium-sized Projects	2	1,069,800	3,350,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>124,396,378</b>	<b>384,008,128</b>

47. 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.

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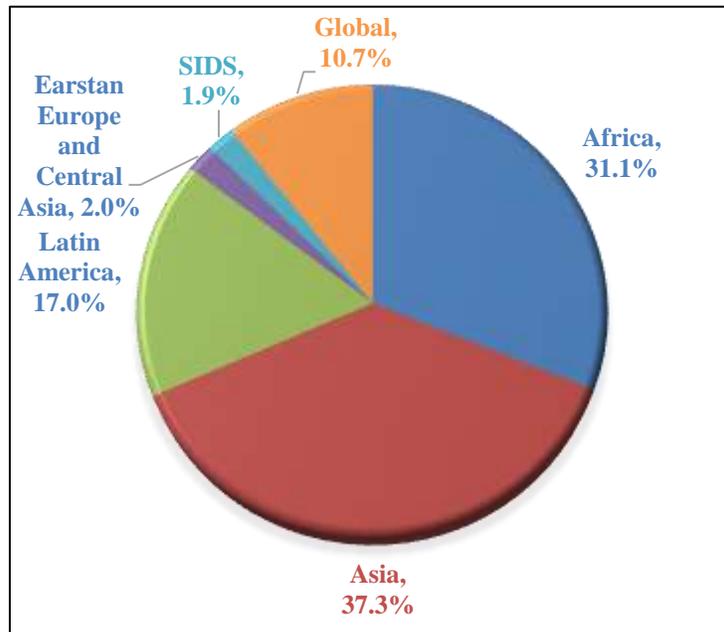
<sup>24</sup> These figures do not include agency fees.

**Figure 4: Thematic Distribution of GEF-6 Mercury Resources**



48. 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**



## *Support for Key Element of Minamata Convention*

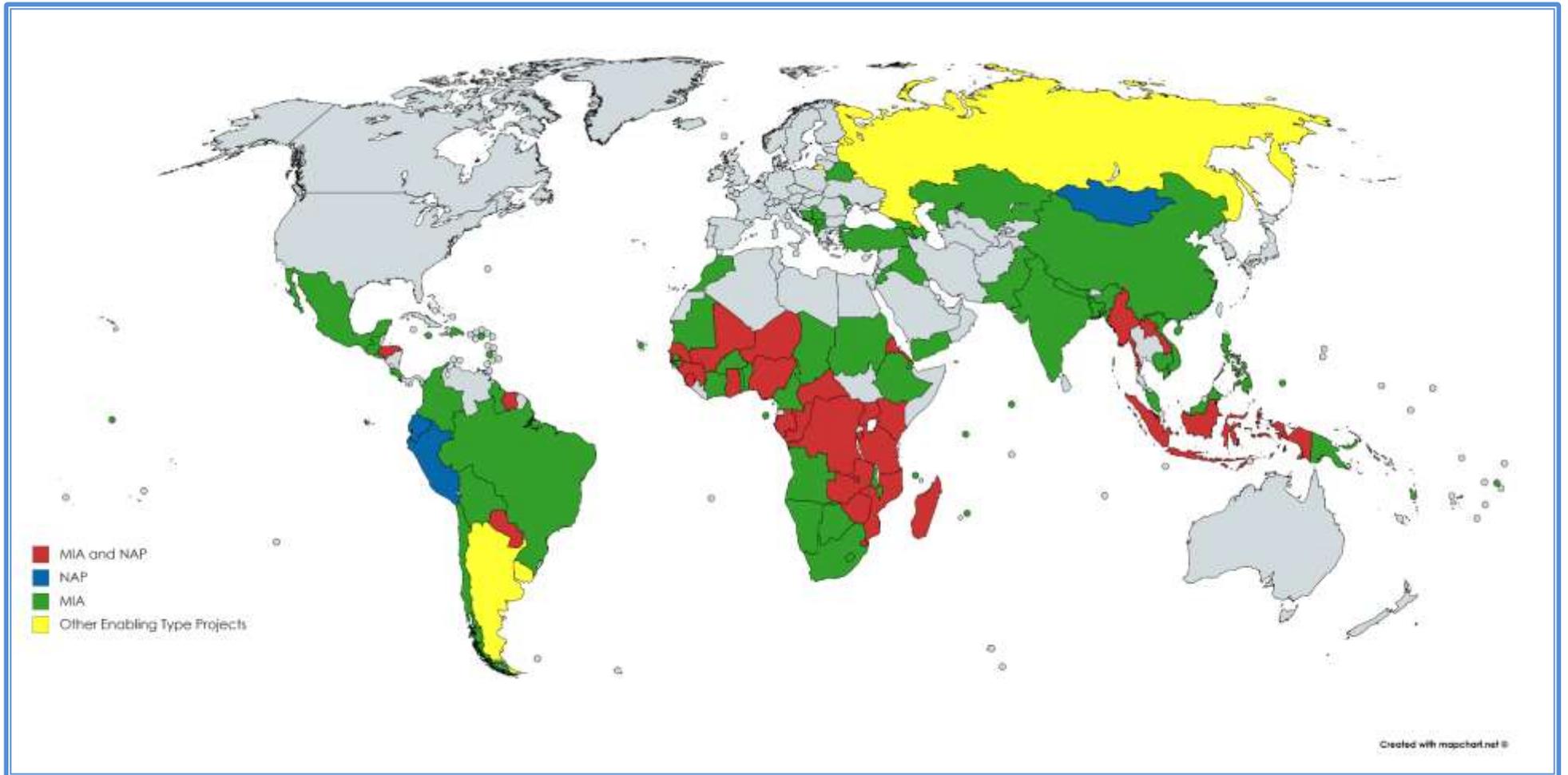
### ***Enabling Activities***

49. 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.
50. 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.
51. 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.
52. 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***

53. 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.
54. 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	

55. 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).
56. 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.
57. 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***

58. 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.
59. Full details of the projects summarized above are in Annexes 9 and 10.

***Chemicals and Wastes Portfolio in Small Grants Programme***

60. 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.

61. 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.
62. 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.
63. 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

64. 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).
65. 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.
66. The first Corporate Scorecard was presented in the 50<sup>th</sup> 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.
67. 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:
  - (a) Annual Performance Reports
  - (b) Annual Impact Reports
  - (c) Annual Country Portfolio Evaluations
  - (d) Thematic Evaluations: programs, processes, and cross-cutting or focal areas.
68. 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*

69. 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.
70. The GEF secretariat has reported the ratings of projects under implementation in the AMRs from 41<sup>st</sup> to 49<sup>th</sup> meeting, and Annual Portfolio Monitoring Report in 50<sup>th</sup> and 51<sup>st</sup> meeting of the GEF Council. The result of the mercury projects is summarized below.
71. 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.<sup>25</sup>

**Table 6: Performance Ratings of Mercury Projects**

Fiscal Year	Total Number of Projects	Development Objective (DO) Ratings (% of projects)		Implementation Progress (IP) Ratings (% of projects)	
		Moderately Satisfactory or above	Moderately Unsatisfactory or below	Moderately Satisfactory or above	Moderately Unsatisfactory or below
2013	4	100%	0%	100%	0%
2014	9	100%	0%	100%	0%
2015	13	92%	8%	92%	8%
2016	1	100%	0%	100%	0%
Corporate target		Above 75%		Above 75%	

### *GEF Corporate Scorecard*

72. 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 50<sup>th</sup> to 52<sup>nd</sup> 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.
73. The Corporate Scorecard released at the 50<sup>th</sup> 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.<sup>26</sup> The latest Corporate Scorecard released at the 52<sup>nd</sup> 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.<sup>27</sup> The close to 100% programming for the Minamata Convention takes into consideration the impact of the potential shortfall discussed at the 51<sup>st</sup> GEF Council, and reflects significant resources programmed prior and up to that time period.

<sup>25</sup> There were no projects under implementation in 2012 for which ratings were submitted.

<sup>26</sup> GEF/C.50/03, [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-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)

<sup>27</sup> GEF/C.52/Inf.05, [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-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)

### *Country Portfolio Evaluation*

74. 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.<sup>28</sup>
75. 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*

76. The GEF IEO submitted the chemicals and wastes focal area study to the 52<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the GEF Council.<sup>29</sup> 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.
77. 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.
78. 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.

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<sup>28</sup> GEF/ME/C.50/Inf.04, [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-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)

<sup>29</sup> GEF/ME/C.52/Inf.03, [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-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)

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

Date	Body	Action	Reference
May 2012	42 <sup>nd</sup> 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	43 <sup>rd</sup> 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 2013	44 <sup>th</sup> GEF Council	<p>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.”</p> <p>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</p>	GEF/C.44/04

Date	Body	Action	Reference
		<p>additionally requested the GEF Secretariat to develop initial guidelines for enabling activities and pre-ratification projects.</p>	
<p>October 2013</p>	<p>Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury</p>	<p>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:</p> <p>5. 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.</p> <p>6. The Mechanism shall include:</p> <p>(a) The Global Environment Facility Trust Fund; and (b) A specific international Programme to support capacity-building and technical assistance.</p> <p>7. 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</p>	<p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/CONF/4</p>

Date	Body	Action	Reference
		<p>the agreed incremental costs of global environmental benefits and the agreed full costs of some enabling activities.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The resolution on arrangements in the interim period adopted by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries states the following in paragraph 16:</p> <p><i>Invites</i> 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 resolution on financial arrangements, adopted by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries states the following of relevance to the GEF:</p> <p>1. <i>Invites</i> 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>2. <i>Decides</i> 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</p>	

Date	Body	Action	Reference
		<p>Parties on arrangements to give effect to the relevant provisions of paragraphs 5 to 8 of Article 13;</p> <p>3. <i>Decides</i> 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>4. <i>Encourages</i> 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>5. <i>Invites</i> 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>6. <i>Requests</i> 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.</p>	
November 2013	45 <sup>th</sup> 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 44 <sup>th</sup> Council.	GEF/C.45/Inf.05/Rev.01

Date	Body	Action	Reference
		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.	
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	<p>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.</p> <p>The Assembly also approved the summary of negotiations of the 6<sup>th</sup> GEF replenishment which allocated \$141 million for the implementation of Minamata Convention in the GEF 6 period.</p>	<p>GEF/A.5/09</p> <p>GEF/A.5/07/Rev.01</p>
November 2014	INC6	<p>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.</p> <p>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.”</p> <p>The Committee requested the interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention to continue to collaborate with the GEF secretariat in the</p>	UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/24 Annex III

Date	Body	Action	Reference
		elaboration of a memorandum of understanding between the GEF Council and the COP for consideration at INC7 and adoption at COP1.	
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	<p>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.</p> <p>The INC7 negotiated draft initial guidance to the GEF, which was adopted on a provisional basis, pending its formal adoption by COP1.</p>	<p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.7/22.1 Annex IV – MOU Annex V – Draft Guidance</p>
October 2016	51 <sup>st</sup> 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<sup>30</sup>

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;	<p>The 44<sup>th</sup> 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.</p> <p>The initial guidelines<sup>31</sup> may be amended by the INC or COP as required.</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>At the 5<sup>th</sup> GEF Assembly in May 2014, the GEF Instrument was amended to include the Minamata Convention in the list of Conventions served by the GEF.<sup>32</sup> The new paragraph 6(e) 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>

<sup>30</sup> UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/CONF/4,

[http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/dipcon/english/CONF\\_4\\_Final\\_Act\\_e.pdf](http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/dipcon/english/CONF_4_Final_Act_e.pdf)

<sup>31</sup> GEF/C.45/Inf.05/Rev.01, [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](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)

<sup>32</sup> GEF/A.5/09, [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-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)

Resolution	GEF Response
<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 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.</p> <p>INC7 agreed on a revised draft MOU, which was submitted to the 51<sup>st</sup> 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.</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>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</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>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.</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 6<sup>th</sup> 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.</p>

## 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<sup>33</sup>

Outcome	GEF Response
<p>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:</p> <p>Eligibility criteria</p> <p>(a) Parties to the Convention;</p> <p>(b) Signatories to the Convention in undertaking activities, particularly enabling activities, to facilitate early implementation and ratification of the Convention;</p> <p>(c) 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.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>Request the Global Environment Facility to consider the following activities when providing financial resources to developing countries and countries with economies in transition:</p> <p>(a) 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;</p> <p>(b) Activities to implement the provisions of the Convention, affording priority to those that:</p> <p>(i) Relate to legally-binding obligations;</p> <p>(ii) Facilitate early implementation on entry into force;</p>	<p>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.</p>

<sup>33</sup> UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/24,  
[http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/inc6/English/6\\_24\\_e\\_report.pdf](http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/inc6/English/6_24_e_report.pdf)

Outcome	GEF Response
(iii) Allow for reduction in mercury emissions and releases and address the health and environmental impacts of mercury.	

## 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)]*

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*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*<sup>34</sup> 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)<sup>35</sup>**

- (4) 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).
- (5) 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).

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<sup>34</sup> GEF/C.45/Inf.05/Rev.01, [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](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)

<sup>35</sup> 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.

- (6) 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)).
- (7) 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.
- (8) 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:
  - (a) Develop and implement a national action plan in accordance with Annex C;
  - (b) 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
  - (c) 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:
  - (a) Development of strategies to prevent the diversion of mercury or mercury compounds for use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing;
  - (b) Education, outreach and capacity-building initiatives;
  - (c) Promotion of research into sustainable non-mercury alternative practices;
  - (d) Provision of technical and financial assistance;
  - (e) Partnerships to assist in the implementation of their commitments under this Article; and
  - (f) 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 <sup>36</sup>	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

<sup>36</sup> This project utilized the Direct Access Modality which is available for Enabling Activities.

Agency	Country	Title	MIA, NAP	GEF Grant (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
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

Agency	Country	Title	GEF Grant (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
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

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.		

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	<p>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.</p>				

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	<p>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.</p>				

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

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.		

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.				

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
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

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	2,450,000
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 innovative solutions include improved water use efficiency, aquifer and catchment protection, and rights-based water management.		

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

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.		

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

Country	Grantee Name	Project Title	Duration	GEF Grant (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
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
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

Country	Grantee Name	Project Title	Duration	GEF Grant (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
<b>China</b>	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
	<b>Total</b>			<b>676,083</b>	<b>722,758</b>

## 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	MIA, NAP	1,000,000	0

Agency	Country	Title	MIA, NAP	GEF Grant (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
		Gold Mining in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)			
<b>UNIDO</b>	Djibouti	Development of a Minamata Initial Assessment in Djibouti	MIA	200,000	0
<b>UNIDO</b>	Ecuador	National Action Plan on Mercury in the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Sector in Ecuador	NAP	500,000	81,000
<b>UNEP</b>	Eritrea	Development of Minamata Initial Assessment and National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Eritrea	MIA, NAP	700,000	0
<b>UNIDO</b>	Gabon	National Action Plan on Mercury in the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining sector in Gabon	NAP	500,000	161,000
<b>UNEP</b>	Ghana	Development of Minamata Convention Initial Assessment (MIA) for Ghana	MIA	200,000	0
<b>UNEP</b>	Ghana	National Action Plan on Mercury in the Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining Sector in Ghana	NAP	500,000	55,250
<b>UNIDO</b>	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
<b>UNEP</b>	Guatemala	Minamata Convention: Initial Assessment in Guatemala	MIA	200,000	78,600
<b>UNDP</b>	Guyana	Minamata Initial Assessment for Guyana	MIA	200,000	0
<b>UNEP</b>	Honduras	Development of Minamata Initial Assessment and National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Honduras	MIA, NAP	700,000	0

Agency	Country	Title	MIA, NAP	GEF Grant (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
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

Agency	Country	Title	MIA, NAP	GEF Grant (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
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

Agency	Country	Title	MIA, NAP	GEF Grant (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
<b>UNIDO</b>	Regional (Burkina Faso, Benin, Niger, Togo)	Minamata Convention Initial Assessment in Francophone Africa II	MIA	800,000	134,400
<b>UNDP</b>	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
<b>UNDP</b>	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
<b>UNDP</b>	Regional (Cabo Verde, Sao Tome and Principe)	Minamata Convention: Initial Assessment in Cabo Verde and Sao Tome and Principe	MIA	400,000	187,200
<b>UNDP</b>	Regional (Cook Islands, Kiribati, Palau, Tonga, Vanuatu)	Development of Minamata Convention Mercury Initial Assessment in Pacific	MIA	500,000	20,000
<b>UNDP</b>	Regional (Guinea, Mali, Senegal)	Minamata Convention Initial Assessment in Francophone Africa I	MIA	600,000	175,800
<b>UNDP</b>	Regional (Guinea, Niger)	Development of National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Guinea and Niger	NAP	1,000,000	0
<b>UNIDO</b>	Regional (Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago)	Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in the Caribbean	MIA	600,000	0

Agency	Country	Title	MIA, NAP	GEF Grant (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
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	GEF Grant (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
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	GEF Grant (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
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

Agency	Country	Title	GEF Grant (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
UNEP, Conservation International, UNDP, UNIDO	Global (Burkina Faso, Colombia, Guyana, Indonesia, Kenya, Mongolia, Peru, Philippines)	Global Opportunities for Long-term Development of ASGM Sector - GEF GOLD	45,262,294	135,174,956
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	\$5,750,000	Co-financing	\$22,050,000
GEF Funding	mercury component \$250,000		mercury component
Project Summary	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>This project will contribute to the convention obligations of the country in two chemicals conventions, the Stockholm Convention and the Minamata Convention on Mercury.</p>		

### 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	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
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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	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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</p>		

## 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	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>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.</p>				

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	<p>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</p>				

	<p>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).</p> <p>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.</p>
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### ASGM, Mercury-Added Products

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	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>		

### Mercury Wastes

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	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The program is made possible due to a series of strategic GEF investments on diagnostics, priority setting, planning and experimentation across the region.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>				

- \*: 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Directorate General for the Environment and Quality of Life</li> <li>- National Sanitary and Environmental Product Control Agency</li> <li>- International Centre for Environmental Technologies of Tunis</li> </ul>	
GEF Funding	\$600,000	Co-financing	\$2,350,000
Project Summary	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>		

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	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>		

## 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

Country	Grantee Name	Project Title	Duration	GEF Grant (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
Malaysia	Perstuan Kesedaran 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
	<b>Total</b>			<b>524,859</b>	<b>539,771</b>

