

**1- Identification**

**1.1 Project details**

GEF ID	10086	Umoja No:	SB-012768.01
Project Title	Reducing Global Environmental Risks through the Monitoring and Development of Alternative Livelihood for the Primary Mercury Mining Sector in Mexico		
Duration months	<i>Planned</i> 60 <i>Extension</i> -	GEF financing amount	USD 7,035,000
Division(s) Implementing the project	UNEP Economy Division, GEF Chemicals and Waste, Chemicals and Health Branch	Co-financing amount	USD 51,068,844
Name of co-implementing Agency	-	Date of CEO Endorsement	7-Dec-20
Executing Agency(ies)	Institute for Ecology and Climate Change (INECC)	Start of Implementation	7-Jun-21
Names of Other Project Partners	General Direction of Integral Management of Materials and Risky Activities (DGGIMAR) Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources Queretaro (SEMARNAT-QRO) Government of the State of Queretaro Mexican Geological Survey (SGM) Ministry of Economy (SE)	Date of first disbursement	2-Jul-21
Project Type	FSP	Total disbursement as of 30 June	USD 200,000
Project Scope	National	Total expenditure as of 30 June	USD 0
Region ( <i>delete as appropriate</i> )	Latin America and Caribbean	Expected Mid-Term Date	2-Jan-24
Countries	Mexico	Completion Date	<i>Planned</i> 31-Dec-25 <i>Revised</i> -
Programme of Work	PoW 5: Chemicals, waste and air quality	Expected Terminal Evaluation Date	30-Dec-25
GEF Focal Area(s)	Chemicals and Waste	Expected Financial Closure Date	30-Jun-26
<b>EA:</b> UNSDCF/UNDAF linkages	UNSCDF Mexico 2020-2025 Cooperation area III which refers to climate change and green economy		
<b>EA:</b> Link to relevant SDG target(s) & indicator(s)	SDG 3.9: By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination; SDG 12.4: By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.		

**1.2 Project description**

The project's main objective is to prevent the risks to environment and human health from mercury through the control of primary mercury mining and enabled environmentally and socially sound alternative economic activities and livelihoods in the state of Queretaro.

The project consists of 2 main components: 1) Characterisation of primary mercury mining and reinforcement of control mechanisms, and 2) Introduction of alternative livelihood. The project's executing agency is the National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change (INECC) which has experience working with UNEP. The main partners involved for this project are the Global Mercury Partnership, General Direction of Integral Management of Materials and Risky Activities (DGGIMAR), Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT-QRO), Government of the State of Queretaro, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Economy, Mexican Geological Survey (SGM), Federal Attorney for Environmental Protection (PROFEPA), National Institute of Women (INMUJERES), Municipal Governments of the Sierra Gorda, University of Queretaro, University of San Luis Potosi, Mining Communities of Sierra Gorda, Ecological Group Sierra Gorda and Mining Association of Queretaro AC.

**Component 1:** Characterisation of primary mercury mining and reinforcement of control mechanisms.  
This component aims to improve the capacity of regulators to better characterize the primary mercury mining sector in Queretaro, including its releases and emissions. It also intends to cultivate a regulatory environment that will result in the permanent closure of primary mercury mines and the effective ending of new mercury mine development in accordance with the stated by the Minamata Convention.

**Component 2:** Introduction of alternative livelihood  
This component will be informed by the results of assessment work carried on the feasibility of viable and sustainable alternatives in the Sierra Gorda region.

**1.3 History of project revisions (TM)**

Version	Date	Main changes introduced in this revision
Rev0 (CEO ED)	07-dic-20	
Rev1 (Agreement EA)	07-jun-21	Project Cooperation Agreement with INECC

**2- OVERVIEW OF PROJECT STATUS**

<b>2.1 UNEP PoW</b>	UNEP Subprogramme(s)	Subprogramme 5: Chemicals and Pollution Action		Specify the relevant Expected Accomplishment(s) & Indicator(s)	PoW Outcomes: 3A, 3C PoW Outcomes Indicators: (i) (iii) (iv) Direct outcomes to which project contributes: 3.1, 3.5, 3.10, 3.12, 3.13
	<b>TM:</b> Progress towards delivering the stated PoW	The project has suffered some implementation delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the coordination among Project Steering Committee members has slowed the implementation of the project activities. At this moment no progress has been done to deliver the stated PoW expected accomplishments and indicators.			
<b>Key Indicators</b>	GEF Core Indicators	Reduction, disposal/destruction, phase out, elimination and avoidance of chemicals of global concern and their waste in the environment and in processes, materials, and products (metric tons of toxic chemicals reduced)	Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefits of GEF investment	Area of landscapes under improved practices (Hectares)	
	Indicative expected Results	140 metric tons of Hg	100,000	2,000	
		Indicators	Expected value at		

2.2. GEF Cor

TM: GEF core indicators targeted by the

Indicators	Mid-term	End-of-project
4.Area of landscapes under improved practices (Hectares)	1,000	2,000
9.Reduction, disposal/destruction, phase out, elimination and avoidance of chemicals of global concern and their waste in the environment and in processes, materials and products (metric tons of toxic chemicals reduced)	70	140
11 Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment	50,000	100,000

Implementation Status

2022

2.3 Implementation status & Risk

	PIR #	Rating towards outcomes (section 3.1)	Rating towards outputs (section 3.2)	Risk rating (section 3.3)
FY 2022	1st	MU	MU	M
FY 2021				
FY 2020				
FY 2019				
FY 2018				
FY 2017				
FY 2016				
FY 2015				

EA: Summary of status  
(will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

The project has suffered delays in execution as the steering committee decided to meticulously review the terms of reference for the hiring of the project coordinator and administrator. The steering committee met more than 3 times during the second half of 2021 and it was not until early January 2022 that the chairman of the steering committee approved these documents. In the first quarter of 2022 the chairman of the steering committee was replaced and this delayed the review of the terms of reference. In the middle of the second quarter of 2022 both the terms of reference for the coordinator and the administrator are finally published in order to find the people to be hired and the project activities can start.  
Rating towards outcomes: The rating is unsatisfactory because in this first year, none of the outcomes have been initiated yet. Differences between the president and members of the steering committee led to a revision of the endorsed documents during the second half of 2021. After reviewing the information and proposing minor changes to the workplan activities of the first year, the president of the Project Steering Committee finally accept the previously approved documents at the beginning of 2022 and the terms of reference for the coordinator and administrator are currently on bid.

2.4 Co-finance

EA:Planned Co-finance

51,068,844

EA: Actual to date:

\$32,000 and 0.06%  
28/07/2022

EA: Justify progress in terms of materialization of expected co-finance. State any relevant challenges.

The project has suffered coordination problems by part of the members of the Project Steering Committee that have delayed the hiring of the project coordinator and administrator. Since July of 2021, no activity has been implemented yet, but the invested time in the internal coordination of meetings with the members of INECC and DGGIMAR is reflected on the co-finance spent at the moment.

2.5 Stakeholder

EA: Stakeholder engagement  
(will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

As stated in previous sections, the project is still in the process of hiring the project coordinator and administrator. No progress in the planned activities have been yet executed. The main challenges for this has been caused by the disagreement in the validation of the terms of reference by members of the Project Steering Committee. Despite the situation, Implementing Agency in coordination with Executing Agency have exchanged mails with project stakeholders to explain the delays in the planned workplan of the activities and to inform them that the project is delayed, but activities will begin in the second semester of the 2022.

2.6 Gender

EA: Gender mainstreaming  
(will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

The project has not been able to begin the implementation of planned activities. The gender responsive measures have not been applied at the moment as indicated in the CEO endorsed document.

2.7 ESSM

EA: Environmental and social safeguards management  
(will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

Informative workshops have been conducted in coordination between EA and regional project stakeholders to expose the relevance of viable alternative livelihoods that do not pose a risk to the natural protected areas and biodiversity of the region's natural protected areas (SS1). So far it has not been possible to implement actions at the mercury contaminated sites, but the work plan calls for both project staff and communities to wear protective equipment at all times when at these sites. Outreach workshops on the environmental and health risks of mercury for the communities are also part of the upcoming project activities (SS2 and SS6). Among the next activities planned will be to involve most of the communities living in these mining municipalities through outreach workshops (where members of the indigenous communities will be invited) on the environmental and health risks of mercury (SS5).

2.8 KM

EA: Knowledge activities and products  
(will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

The project has not been able to begin the implementation of planned activities. The knowledge activities and products have not been implemented in the project as outlined at CEO endorsed document

2.9 Stor

EA: Stories to be shared  
(section to be shared with communication)

The progress of the project at the moment does not has developed results worth sharing

## Primary mercury mining

**3. RATING PROJECT PERFORMANCE**
**3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project outcomes**

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	EA: Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	TM: Progress rating
<b>Objective</b>						
Prevent the risks to environment and human health from mercury through the control of primary mercury mining and enabled environmentally and socially sound alternative economic activities and livelihoods in the state of Queretaro	Number of tons of reduced emissions from primary mercury mining	104 tons of Hg emitted or produced from 19 assessed mines annually. Baseline to be revised following monitoring data from activity 1.2.2 and 1.2.3	50 tons Hg production reduced	140 tons Hg production reduced over the life of the project	The progress towards indicators and targets planned for the objectives have not started yet	<b>MU</b>
	Number of people benefiting from the alternative economic activities and livelihoods	None. Alternative livelihoods have not yet been introduced	150, 51 % female	400, 51 % female	The progress towards indicators and targets planned for the objectives have not started yet	<b>MU</b>
<b>Outcome 1</b>						
The Government monitors primary mercury mining and adopts an adequate regulatory framework.	Number of new regulations and enforcement protocols adopted to implement article 3	The current regulatory and legal frameworks are incongruent with the Minamata Convention	At least 3 regulations or protocols adopted	At least one revision to existing laws and 5 new regulations or protocols adopted	The progress towards indicators and targets planned for outcome 1 have not started yet	<b>MU</b>
	Monitoring system operational	There are several inconsistent though disconnected efforts by researchers. No regular monitoring by government in conducted	Draft system developed	Monitoring system fully operational	The progress towards indicators and targets planned for outcome 1 have not started yet	<b>MU</b>
<b>Outcome 2</b>						

Miners in Queretaro adopt alternative income generation activities	Percent of targeted miners adopting alternative livelihoods	Miners are not currently leaving the practice. There is a robust regional economy in which miners can be integrated	N/A	At least 40% (n=80) of targeted miners have adopted alternative livelihoods.	The progress towards indicators and targets planned for outcome 2 have not started yet	MU
<b>Outcome 3</b>						
<b>Outcome 4</b>						

For joint projects and where applicable ratings should also be discussed with the Task Manager of co-implementing agency.

### 3.2 Rating of progress implementation towards delivery of outputs

Output	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of 30 June 2021 (%)	Implementation status as of 30 June 2022 (%)	EA: Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	TM: Progress rating
<b>Under Comp 1</b>					
Output 1.1: Modifications to the existing legislative and regulatory frameworks on mercury production, management, use and trade, are developed with relevant government experts and representatives from NGOs and key stakeholders	31/03/2023	0	0%	Output 1.1 has not begun at the moment. Administrative delays for the execution have slowed the start of the activities	MU
Output 1.2: Relevant agencies' capacity to identify and quantify mercury sources, including ongoing monitoring of mercury emissions and releases in the primary mining sector is enhanced	31/07/2026	0	0%	Output 1.2 has not begun at the moment. Administrative delays for the execution have slowed the start of the activities	MU
Output 1.3: Site specific remediation mapping and planning are undertaken	31/03/2025	0	0%	Output 1.3 has not begun at the moment. Administrative delays for the execution have slowed the start of the activities	MU
<b>Under Comp 2</b>					
Output 2.1: Alternative economic activities and livelihoods for miners and local communities identified	31/07/2026	0	0%	Output 2.1 has not begun at the moment. Administrative delays for the execution have slowed the start of the activities	MU
Output 2.2: Awareness of miners and local communities of the Minamata Convention obligations enhanced	31/07/2026	0	0%	Output 2.2 has not begun at the moment. Administrative delays for the execution have slowed the start of the activities	MU

### Under Comp 3


**Under Comp 4**


**Under Comp 5**


The Task Manager will decide on the relevant level of disaggregation (i.e. either at the output or activity level).



		#N/D								
<b>Consolidated project risk</b>		<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>							
	all outcomes and outputs									The overall consolidated project risk still remains as moderate but with some minor risks decrease thanks to the communications held between project partners and ensuring that all safety measures (COVID-19 pandemic included) will be taken for some of the indicated risks. This section focuses on the variation. The overall rating is discussed in section 2.3.

**Table B. Outstanding medium & high risks**

List here only risks from Table A above that have a risk rating of **M or worse** in the **current PIR**

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	Additional mitigation measures for the next periods		
			What	When	By whom
Risk 2. Local support is not provided or is not adequate for project needs		Constant communication with regional project partners to ensure support	After the communication limitations derived from the COVID-19 confinement, contacts will be resumed with the different actors involved to endorse their commitment to participate in the project. For this, the project coordinator will already be in place, who will maintain close communication with all of them to start the development of the activities planned for the second half of 2022.	During the activities planned for the second half of 2022 and the rest of the project.	Project coordinator, who will already be in place, will maintain close communication with all stakeholders
Risk 4 Limited mobility of project team due to ongoing COVID-19 pandemic inhibits project execution		Protective personal equipment will be provided when necessary during visits to the sites	When the needs of the project allow it, work or information exchange meetings will be held in virtual format. In cases where face-to-face meetings are required, these will be held, as far as possible, in open venues and precautions will be taken to maintain a healthy distance.	During the activities planned for the second half of 2022 and the rest of the project.	The project coordinator will organize the logistics of the meetings in such a way as to ensure the protection of the health of all attendees against contagion by COVID-19.
Risk 8 Increased COVID-19 exposure risk to project staff and targeted communities		Protective personal equipment and safe distance protocols for COVID-19 will be followed by project staff and participating communities	When the needs of the project allow it, work or information exchange meetings will be held in virtual format. In cases where face-to-face meetings are required, these will be held, as far as possible, in open venues and precautions will be taken to maintain a healthy distance.	During the activities planned for the second half of 2022 and the rest of the project.	The project coordinator will organize the logistics of the meetings in such a way as to ensure the protection of the health of all attendees against contagion by COVID-19.

<p>Risk 9 Disregard for the environmental and health impacts of the mercury mines</p>		<p>Project staff will ensure that participating communities have a clear understanding of the risks posed to environment and health from mercury mines</p>	<p>It will be sought that the productive activities that are proposed to the participating mining communities, in addition to their legal, technical and economic viability, contemplate their specific social and cultural aspects, in such a way that this is an impulse to achieve their acceptance and that they leave primary mining. which is the main source of exposure to this metal and of the risks to health and the environment in these communities.</p>	<p>During the activities planned for the second half of 2022 and the rest of the project.</p>	<p>Experts and researchers will be aware of and will take into account all the aspects that lead to the acceptance of alternative productive activities, so that exposure and risks to human health and the environment derived from primary mercury mining are eliminated. With the support of the project coordinator, the necessary informative materials will be developed and distributed to alert the communities about the effects of mercury and the advantages of implementing alternative economic activities.</p>
<p>Risk 10 Poor uptake of alternative livelihoods</p>		<p>Constant communications from project staff to participating communities will take place to ensure commitment and willingness for alternative livelihoods</p>	<p>It will be sought that the productive activities that are proposed to the participating mining communities, in addition to their legal, technical and economic viability, contemplate their specific social and cultural aspects, in such a way that this is an impulse to achieve their acceptance and that they leave primary mining. which is the main source of exposure to this metal and of the risks to health and the environment in these communities.</p>	<p>During the activities planned for the second half of 2022 and the rest of the project.</p>	<p>Experts and researchers will be aware of and will take into account all the aspects that lead to the acceptance of alternative productive activities, so that exposure and risks to human health and the environment derived from primary mercury mining are eliminated.</p>

**High Risk (H):** There is a probability of greater than 75% that **assumptions** may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.  
**Significant Risk (S):** There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that **assumptions** may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks.  
**Medium Risk (M):** There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that **assumptions** may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.  
**Low Risk (L):** There is a probability of up to 25% that **assumptions** may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.



### Project Minor Amendments

Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5% as described in Annex 9 of the Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines.

Minor amendments	Changes
Results framework	
Components and cost	
Institutional and implementation arrangements	
Financial management	
Implementation schedule	
Executing Entity	
Executing Entity Category	
Minor project objective change	
Safeguards	
Risk analysis	
Increase of GEF project financing up to 5%	
Co-financing	
Location of project activity	
Other	

Minor amendments
No changes have been done to the documents and annexes approved by the GEF.

### GEO Location Information:

The Location Name, Latitude and Longitude are required fields insofar as an Agency chooses to enter a project location under the set format. The Geo Name ID is required in instances where the location is not exact, such as in the case of a city, as opposed to the exact site of a physical infrastructure. The Location & Activity Description fields are optional. Project longitude and latitude must follow the Decimal Degrees WGS84 format and Agencies are encouraged to use at least four decimal points for greater accuracy. Users may add as many locations as appropriate. Web mapping applications such as OpenStreetMap or GeoNames use this format. Consider using a conversion tool as needed, such as: <https://coordinates-converter.com> Please see the Geocoding User Guide by clicking here

Location Name Required field	Latitude Required field	Longitude Required field	Geo Name ID Required field if the location is not an exact site	Location Description Optional text field	Activity Description Optional text field
Pinal de Amoles	21.134167	-99.458611	3521440 (21.13448 -99.6259)	Occupies 6.08% of the state surface, has 219 localities with a mainly semi-warm sub-humid climate (INEGI, 2010). The total population registered in 2020 was 27,365 inhabitants (INEGI, 2021).	
San Joaquín	20.916667	-99.566667	8583276 (20.95754 -99.53221)	Occupies 2.37% of the surface of the state, with 74 localities with a predominantly semi-warm sub-humid climate (INEGI, 2010) and a registered population of 8,359 inhabitants (INEGI, 2021).	
Cadereyta de Montes	20.690278	-99.820833	3531863 (20.69701 -99.81624)	Occupies 11.52% of the state surface, has 285 localities in a mostly semi-dry temperate climate (INEGI, 2010). It has a registered population of 69,075 inhabitants (INEGI, 2021).	

Peñamiller	21.051944	-99.815	3521677 (21.05408 -99.81573)	Municipality of 694.9 km2 (5.9% of the extension of Querétaro), where 69.7% of its extension belongs to the Sierra Gorda Queretana. Its population is 19,141 inhabitants, equivalent to 0.8% of the state population (INEGI, 2021).	

**Please provide any further geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions is taking place as appropriate. \***

Please find it attached in the next sheet

[Annex any linked geospatial file]

