

GEF - PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)

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UNEP GEF PIR Fiscal Year 2024
Reporting from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024

1 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Project Details

GEF ID: 10086	Umoja WBS: SB-012768
SMA IPMR ID: 40294	Grant ID: S1-32GFL-000632
Project Short Title: GEF-CW.10086.Mexico Mercury Mining	
Project Title: Reducing Global Environmental Risks through the Monitoring and Development of Alternative Livelihood for the Primary Mercury Mining Sector	
Duration months planned:	60
Duration months age:	36
Project Type:	Full Sized Project (FSP)
Parent Programme if child project:	
Project Scope:	National
Region:	Latin America and Caribbean
Countries:	Mexico
GEF Focal Area(s):	Chemicals and Waste
GEF financing amount:	\$ 7,035,000.00
Co-financing amount:	\$ 51,068,844.00
Date of CEO Endorsement/Approval:	2020-12-07
UNEP Project Approval Date:	2021-02-19
Start of Implementation (PCA entering into force):	2021-06-07
Date of Inception Workshop, if available:	2021-06-25
Date of First Disbursement:	2021-07-02
Total disbursement as of 30 June 2024:	\$ 864,069.00
Total expenditure as of 30 June:	\$ 318,186.00

Midterm undertaken?:	No
Actual Mid-Term Date, if taken:	
Expected Mid-Term Date, if not taken:	2024-08-01
Completion Date Planned - Original PCA:	2026-12-31
Completion Date Revised - Current PCA:	2026-12-31
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date:	2026-12-31
Expected Financial Closure Date:	2027-06-30

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 Sierra Gorda Region in the state of Queretaro. The project consists of 2 main components:

Component 1: Characterization 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 generation of conditions that allow the permanent closure of the mercury mines in 2032 without affecting the situation of the miners and their families (who are expected to have already transitioned to an alternative way of life by that date), 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.

The project executing agency is the National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change (INECC). Also, other main partners involved for this project are the Global Mercury Partnership, General Direction of Integral Management of Materials and Risky Activities of the Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (DGGIMAR-SEMARNAT), SEMARNAT regional office in Querétaro (SEMARNAT-QRO) and the Secretariat of Sustainable Development of the state of Querétaro (SEDESU). Likewise, there is additional support from other federal, state and local agencies in areas of education, health, infrastructure, such as the following: the Autonomous University of Querétaro, the National Institute of Social Economy, the National Water Commission, the Agrarian Attorney's Office, the National Commission of Protected Natural Areas, the Health Secretariat of the State of Querétaro, the Querétaro Institute of Women, among others.

1.3 Project Contacts

Division(s) Implementing the project	Industry and Economy Division
Name of co-implementing Agency	
Executing Agency (ies)	National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change (INECC)
names of Other Project Partners	
UNEP Portfolio Manager(s)	Kevin Helps
UNEP Task Manager(s)	Ramon Jimenez Galicia
UNEP Budget/Finance Officer	Edward Aput
UNEP Support Assistants	
Manager/Representative	Mariana Morales Hernandez
Project Manager	Jose Abraham Ortinez Alvarez
Finance Manager	Jaime Estanislao Perez Martinez
Communications Lead, if relevant	Jose Carlos Perez Rodriguez

2 Overview of Project Status

2.1 UNEP PoW & UN

UNEP Current Subprogramme(s):	Thematic: Chemicals and pollution action subprogramme
UNEP previous Subprogramme(s):	
PoW Indicator(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollution: (i) Number of Governments that, with UNEP support, are developing or implementing policies, strategies, legislation or action plans that promote sound chemicals and waste management and/or the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements and the existing framework on chemicals and waste • Pollution: (iii) Number of policy, regulatory, financial and technical measures developed with UNEP support to reduce pollution in air, water, soil and the ocean • Pollution: (iv) Reduction in releases of pollutants to the environment achieved with UNEP support
UNSDCF/UNDAF linkages	UNSDCF Mexico 2020-2025 Cooperation area III which refers to climate change and green economy
Link to relevant SDG Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages • Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
Link to relevant SDG Targets:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination • 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

2.2. GEF Core and Sub Indicators

GEF core or sub indicators targeted by the project as defined at CEO Endorsement/Approval, as well as results

Indicators	Targets - Expected Value			Materialized to date
	Mid-term	End-of-project	Total Target	
4- Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas)	1000	2000	2000	
9- Chemicals of global concern and their waste reduced	70	140	140	50 tons considered in the key work area

Indicators	Targets - Expected Value			Materialized to date
	Mid-term	End-of-project	Total Target	
11- People benefitting from GEF-financed investments	50000	At least 100,000 people from the communities in the Sierra Gorda region	At least 100,000 people from the communities in the Sierra Gorda region	414 people related to primary mercury mining contacted to alternative livelihoods workshops (without considering authorities), equivalent to 57,000 people indirectly impacted in the communities in the Sierra Gorda region.
11.1- Male	23500	47000	47000	331 miners contacted to alternative livelihoods workshops, equivalent to 40,000 men indirectly impacted in communities in the Sierra Gorda region.
11.2- Female	26500	53000	53000	83 women related to primary mercury mining contacted to alternative livelihoods workshops, equivalent to 17,000 women indirectly impacted in the communities in the Sierra Gorda region.

Implementation Status 2024: 3rd PIR

2.3. Implementation Status and Risks

	PIR#	Rating towards outcomes (section 3.1)	Rating towards outputs (section 3.2)	Risk rating (section 4.2)
FY 2024	3rd PIR	MU	MU	L
FY 2023	2nd PIR	MS	MS	L
FY 2022	1st PIR	MU	MU	M

FY 2021				
FY 2020				
FY 2019				
FY 2018				
FY 2017				
FY 2016				
FY 2015				

Summary of status

During this third PIR reporting year, the project experienced limited progress compared to the previous period due to political constraints. In October 2023, the PSC evaluated project progress and initiated discussions on upcoming consultancies required for both components. The project has achieved significant coordination in gaining approval for the ToRs regarding intervention workshops aimed at training and creating favorable conditions in the Sierra Gorda communities. This will support the transition from primary mercury mining to alternative economic activities through pilot projects.

For Component 1, progress was hindered by national political constraints, which limited the Executing Agency's (EA) ability to implement activities. Planned risk-based site assessments of hotspots for specific remediation were halted. Despite assessing laboratory capacities last year, no further progress was made to link these with remediation activities, resulting in delays according to the approved work plan.

Under Component 2, field consultations concluded in the project's municipalities (Pinal de Amoles, San Joaquin, Cadereyta de Montes, and Peñamiller). The consultations for alternative livelihoods considered legal, economic, financial, social, and gender aspects. Intervention workshops began in the communities at the end of June, with the first pilot alternative livelihoods expected to materialize by the end of 2024.

Total expenditure for FY2023-2024 was \$318,186 (23% of the planned forecast of \$1,372,196). Project activities ceased during the national electoral process, as the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit prematurely closed the bidding and contracting processes. This unforeseen early cessation had a direct impact on the EA, making it impossible to carry out field activities from March 1st to June 2nd. This resulted in a delay of approximately four months, and administrative recruitment processes took longer than expected. A PSC meeting is scheduled for August 29th to discuss corrective actions.

2.4 Co Finance

Planned Co-finance:	\$ 51,068,844
Actual to date:	9,448,269
Progress	<p>Justify progress in terms of materialization of expected co-finance. State any relevant challenges:</p> <p>To develop the committed activities, numerous planning, decision-making, and follow-up actions have been undertaken with the Steering Committee's approval. These efforts have incurred costs for the participation of expert personnel from DGGIMAR-SEMARNAT, INECC, SEDESU, SEMARNAT-QRO, and the Autonomous University of Querétaro (UAQ).</p> <p>Additionally, meeting time and technical advice have been provided by staff and experts from various federal, state, and municipal agencies on topics such as education, health, infrastructure, and the environment. A crucial support for component 2 of the project has been the training initiated by the National Institute of Social Economy (INAES) for miners and their wives, helping them form cooperatives that will develop pilot studies serving as models for transitioning to alternative activities and lifestyles. Similarly, regarding the risks to people exposed to mercury, the support from the Ministry of Health of the State of Querétaro has been crucial in organizing and conducting training for doctors on community clinical toxicology. This training aims to enhance the diagnostic and treatment capabilities for mercury poisoning.</p> <p>Moreover, as an indirect benefit stemming from the project's identification of socio-economic development needs, the access road to the community of Bucareli in the Municipality of Pinal de Amoles, where one of the main mercury mines is located and training for conversion has already begun, is being improved.</p> <p>One of the main challenges in the upcoming phases is the careful coordination of the GEF-funded financing with the economic mechanisms provided by various Mexican agencies (through co-financing) to the pilot projects. This will ensure the swiftest possible conversion of the largest number of miners and their wives to alternative livelihoods.</p>

2.5. Stakeholder

Date of project steering committee meeting	2024-07-22
Stakeholder engagement (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)	INECC staff has been actively involved in management meetings for planning and decision-making, as well as various activities in the Sierra Gorda region. Continuous communication and participation have been maintained to ensure progress toward achieving project objectives. However, a more systematic approach, based on a formalized stakeholder engagement plan monitored by the PSC partners, is needed.

	<p>Coordination has been facilitated by PSC members, regional authorities from the four municipalities, state authorities (SEMARNAT-QRO, SEDESU), UAQ (the project coordinator in the territory), and the mining communities. These communities include key stakeholders such as mining leaders and miners from the project's municipalities. Beneficiaries involved in primary mercury mining and the transition to alternative economic activities have already been identified and engaged in project activities. Key mining leaders, miners, women associated with primary mercury mining, opinion leaders, and others have participated in various workshops and meetings organized by the EA in the region.</p> <p>Mexican government institutions, like INAES, have actively participated in supporting activities related to economic transition. The Ministry of Health of the State of Querétaro, the Geological Survey of Mexico, and academic institutions with local information on health conditions and mercury-contaminated sites and other heavy metals have also been engaged. However, their participation was temporarily halted due to political constraints related to the Mexican electoral process during the first half of 2024.</p> <p>In 2025, the Project Steering Committee (PSC) partners will monitor the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) and prepare a report for the PIR. This report will cover the purpose of the consultations, the topics discussed, the concerns raised by relevant stakeholders, the communication channels used, and the status of the resolution of these concerns.</p>
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2.6. Gender

Does the project have a gender action plan?	Yes
Gender mainstreaming (will be uploaded to GEF Portal):	<p>To achieve the objectives related to the transition of women's economic activities, an educational program focused on the participation of women in the target communities began in the communities. The educational program included in the alternative livelihood workshops currently implemented, aims to achieve the identification and organization of women for the development and implementation of economic reconversion projects.</p> <p>During 2024, previous efforts were expanded with the training that INAES has begun to provide for the formation of cooperatives that give rise to pilot reconversion projects. The idea of supporting women, given their relevant social role in their communities, is to be an engine that drives the reconversion of men through the example of the businesses they start for the benefit of their families and communities. In this sense, women are considered the spearhead to promote the transition to new productive activities. In this way, priority has been given to miners' wives.</p> <p>In addition, with the support programs provided by the Queretaro Women's Institute, issues of gender perspective and family well-being will be disseminated, networks of sisterhood will be consolidated among women in mining communities, and the social enterprises that they build under supervision will be strengthened. of the INAES.</p> <p>For next PIR 2025, the project in coordination with EA will produce a report on the implementation status of the pilot reconversion projects and other programs supported by the Queretaro Women's Institute.</p>

2.7. ESSM

Moderate/High risk projects (in terms of Environmental and social safeguards)	<p>Was the project classified as moderate/high risk CEO Endorsement/Approval Stage?</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>If yes, what specific safeguard risks were identified in the SRIF/ESERN?</p> <p>SS1: Sierra Gorda is a biodiversity rich protected region. The project aims to improve local people's livelihood by exploring some viable options including forest management, non-timber forest harvesting and tourism. Ecosystem restoration and conservation should not be compromised. SS2: The project aims to prevent mercury releases through permanent closure of primary mercury mines and effective</p>
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	ending of new mercury mine development. health and safety of project team, contractors and local communities will be considered as high priority through minimizing their exposure to mercury-contaminated soil and water. Protective equipment and safety-related training will be provided and enforced.SS5: While indigenous communities are not direct target of the economic livelihood alternatives, conservation and commercialization of the resources in the protected areas will engage them actively if necessary.
New social and/or environmental risks	<p>Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during the reporting period?</p> <p>No</p> <p>If yes, describe the new risks or changes?</p> <p>\n</p>
Complaints and grievances related to social and/or environmental impacts	<p>Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential) during the reporting period?</p> <p>No</p> <p>If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail, including the status, significance, who was involved and what actions were taken?</p>
Environmental and social safeguards management	<p>The project has been identified with moderate risk safeguards. To manage these risks effectively, the EA, in coordination with PSC members and stakeholders, maintains consistent and thorough communication to prevent any escalation of these risks. Informative workshops have been conducted collaboratively by the EA and regional stakeholders to prepare viable alternative livelihoods that do not threaten the natural protected areas and biodiversity of the region (SS1). Although there has been a delay in implementing planned actions at mercury-contaminated sites, the monitoring and laboratory capacities assessment is about to be concluded, since the corresponding report is almost finished; nevertheless, subsequent activities have been delayed due to political constraints of Mexican electoral process. The health risk monitoring plan is scheduled to begin in the second half of 2024 or beginnings of 2025. Outreach workshops on the environmental and health risks of mercury for the communities have successfully concluded (SS2). Since the first quarter of 2024, these outreach workshops have engaged most of the communities in the mining municipalities, in collaboration with the project coordinator in territory (UAQ), municipal authorities, federal authorities, mining leaders, and miners from the four municipalities (SS5). Additionally, an educational program has commenced, focusing on women in the Sierra Gorda, and INAES is integrating it into the training using the Social and Solidarity Economy methodology.For PIR 2025, a report will be developed to recognize the commendable efforts in developing sustainable alternatives that do not threaten biodiversity. The report will include progress on the closure and rehabilitation of mercury-contaminated sites, along with the outcomes of monitoring and capacity assessments. Remediation will address contamination cases, and health and safety risks for workers exposed to mercury will be mitigated by providing proper PPE. Additionally, the report will detail the communities involved in workshops and the outcomes of these initiatives.</p>

2.8. KM/Learning

<p>Knowledge activities and products</p>	<p>For the development of the project components, several by-products (banners, information brochures, flipchart canvas and Power point presentations about the project, Minamata Convention and the risks posed by mercury use in the mining sector) have been developed.</p> <p>As advances of the different activities, several documents have been prepared; some are under editorial review and the following have been shared with the PSC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First, second and third report on activities of the Autonomous University of Querétaro (UAQ), as support in the territory for the coordination of the project. • Descriptive sheets of the communities of Camargo, Bucareli and San Joaquín. • Analysis of the Mining Law within the Framework of the Minamata Convention <p>For the work in the communities, an evaluation matrix and heat map were developed for the selection of the target localities. As a complement, detail fact sheets were integrated for each one of these target localities, which will be the ones where reconvention pilot project will initiate.</p> <p>Also preliminary alternative economic activities with the potential to be developed have been identified for each one community.</p> <p>They will be the start point considered during the training in the territory suitability analysis that INAES will provide.</p>
<p>Main learning during the period</p>	<p>The main lessons learned are in line with component 2. The transition to alternative economic activities is a process that must respect the identity, dignity and free will of the communities. Although there is a previous exploratory study on the potential economic activities to be implemented in the region, it is necessary to identify and propose them in a context-specific manner, respecting the will of the miners, women and communities in general. This has represented a complementary work that guarantees the strategic approach for the communities to achieve the identification and integration of the alternatives, as well as their validation by the participating communities.</p>

	Although the tenders were stopped due to the Mexican electoral process, the terms of reference are ready to restart contracting as soon as possible.
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2.9. Stories

Stories to be shared	In July 2023, a visit by the UNEP communication team about the project was carried out, in which testimonies were obtained from the miners and their wives in the Sierra Gorda communities through a video recording. Although this video was not published in UNEP official channels, this material is available to disseminate the stories of the people who are experiencing the reconversion of mercury mining. With the development of the first social enterprises that are launched in the second half of 2024, there will be success stories to be shared from the beginning of 2025.
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3 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	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
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	70 tons Hg production reduced	140 tons Hg production reduced over the life of the project	50 tons considered in the key work area	For the strategic achievement of this indicator, an assessment of the communities related to the 19 mines initially identified has been developed. The assessment allowed the selection of 3 locations to develop the initial work (Camargo, Bucareli and San Joaquin), which together represent the generation of 50 tons of mercury.	MS
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 people benefiting from the alternative economic activities and livelihoods	None. Alternative livelihoods have not yet been introduced	150, 51 % female	400, 51 % female	414 miners and 83 (40% of the target based on the project threshold) womens contacted to alternative livelihoods workshops.	For the strategic achievement of this indicator, an assessment of the communities related to the 19 mines initially identified has been carried out considering the population distribution. The key work locations are Camargo, Bucareli and San Joaquín. The initial workshops have been prepared not only for the miners, but for the involvement of their families as well (wives and children), and to expand the	MS

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
						knowledge and relevance of the project within the communities.	
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	1 modification to the mining law and two proposals for legislative initiatives on mercury to further expand the scope of the modifications to the Mining Law already published and to reform the General Health Law.	The mining Law has been modified. National Government is aware of the priorities of the country in order to comply with the Minamata Convention and has made positive progress for doing the necessary changes to remove mercury as an exploitable mineral based on the consultations carried as part of the activities of the project.	MS
The Government monitors primary mercury mining and adopts an adequate regulatory framework	Monitoring system operational	There are several inconsistent though disconnected efforts by researchers. No regular monitoring by government is conducted	Draft system developed	Monitoring system fully operational	0 Monitoring system	In general activities under this output are delayed, but the terms of reference are ready to carry out an evaluation of the mining liabilities located in the four municipalities of interest within the Sierra Gorda, which considers both the presence of artisanal mines and kilns, as well as mining waste deposits. The hiring of this consultancy will be restarted as soon as possible. Contact has been made with the National Metrology Center, which will join the project to support the validation of mercury measurement methods in air and soil.	U

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
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		At least 40% (n=80) of targeted miners	414 miners contacted	414 people have been contacted in the region, corresponding to 103.5% of the target population. This population has not yet adopted new livelihood alternatives but the information provided is being analyzed by a group of experts to propose the first pilot alternatives based on the criteria matrix evaluated by EA and technical personnel.	MS

3.2 Rating of progress implementation towards delivery of outputs (Implementation Progress)

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
1 Characterisation of primary mercury mining and reinforcement of control mechanisms	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	2026-07-31	50%	60%	[Mid-term: At least 3 draft regulations or protocols modified][End of project: At least 5 draft regulations or protocols modified][End of project: One gender review received1 draft regulations or protocols modified. In this case the mining law has removed mercury as an exploitable mineral in the nation.We already have two proposals for legislative initiatives on mercury to further expand the scope of the	S

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					modifications to the Mining Law already published and to reform the General Health Law.	
1 Characterisation of primary mercury mining and reinforcement of control mechanisms	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	2026-04-30	20%	25%	[Mid-Point Target: Completion of monitoring needs assessment][Mid-term: Development of one monitoring regimen][End of project: One gender review of training materials][Mid-term Target: At least 75 mines inventoried][End of Project Target: All mines in the Sierra Gorda inventoried][Mid-term: 3 preliminary risk assessments conducted][End of project: At least 10 preliminary risk assessments conducted]The monitoring and laboratory need assessment is being developed, results are being incorporated in a special inform.In preparation for the human health risk studies, a course on community clinical toxicology was taught to first and second level doctors in the state of Querétaro, with emphasis on exposure to mercury.The terms of reference are ready to hire experts to develop a guide with the key elements to develop an official Mexican standard with limits to protect human health and wildlife.	MU
1 Characterisation	Output 1.3: Site specific remediation mapping and planning are undertaken	2026-04-30	0%	0%	[Mid-Point Target: At least 3 potentially contaminated sites	MU

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
of primary mercury mining and reinforcement of control mechanisms					identified][End of Project Target: At least 10 potentially contaminated sites identified][End of project: At least 3 alternatives matrices developed with inclusion of preliminary costing][Mid-term: At least 1 detailed assessment consistent with SEMARNAT's National Program for the Remediation of Contaminated Sites][End of project: At least 3 detailed assessments consistent with SEMARNAT's National Program for the Remediation of Contaminated Sites][End of project: At least one set of gender specific recommendations included in reports.]1 potentially contaminated site identified. In general activities under this output are delayed but the terms of reference are ready to carry out an evaluation of the mining liabilities located in the four municipalities of interest within the Sierra Gorda, which considers both the presence of artisanal mines and kilns, as well as mining waste deposits. The hiring of this consultancy will be restarted as soon as possible.	
2 Introduction of alternative livelihood	Output 2.1: Alternative economic activities and livelihoods for miners and local communities identified	2026-07-31	30%	35%	[Mid-term: Five alternative livelihoods identified][End of project: At least one set of gender reviews of workshop and training materials received and	MS

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					annexed to reports][Mid-term: At least 100 miners trained in alternative livelihoods][End of project: At least 200 miners trained in alternative livelihoods]Five alternative livelihoods identified. (pilot studies have been updated with the feedback and information provided by selected mining communities. The technical group responsible for the development of this activity has selected the most relevant communities to begin the pilot studies, based on the previously constructed matrix and heat map. In these communities, INAES has already begun training women and miners to join cooperatives who will then put their knowledge into practice to undertake the first mining reconversion businesses.	
2 Introduction of alternative livelihood	Output 2.2: Awareness of miners and local communities of the Minamata Convention obligations enhanced	2026-07-31	57%	65%	[Mid-term: at least 50 % of mining communities report awareness of the Convention][End of project: at least 100 % of mining communities report awareness of the convention]{End of project: 100 % of materials include gender and principles of equal opportunity}65% of the communities identified are aware of the aspects related to the Minamata Convention. During the workshops carried in this	S

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					cycle, the EA in coordination with key stakeholders, have visited new mining communities in San Joaquín Municipality to share legal and health knowledge of mercury and the risk it poses not only to the environment, but to the health of the mining communities.	

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

4 Risks

4.1 Table A. Project management Risk

Please refer to the Risk Help Sheet for more details on rating

Risk Factor	EA Rating	TM Rating
1 Management structure - Roles and responsibilities	Low	Low
2 Governance structure - Oversight	Moderate	Moderate
3 Implementation schedule	Moderate	Moderate
4 Budget	Low	Low
5 Financial Management	Low	Low
6 Reporting	Moderate	Moderate
7 Capacity to deliver	Moderate	Moderate

If any of the risk factors is rated a Moderate or higher, please include it in Table B below

4.2 Table B. Risk-log

Implementation Status (Current PIR)

Insert ALL the risks identified either at CEO endorsement (inc. safeguards screening), previous/current PIRs, and MTRs. Use the last line to propose a suggested consolidated rating.

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
Risk 1: Political instability and shifting priorities	Outcome 1 Outputs 1.1. 1.2	M	L	L	M				↑	Political constraints delayed full implementation of activities during 2024

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
Risk 2: Local support is not provided or is not adequate for project needs	Outcome 2 Outputs 1.2. 1.3. 2.1 and 2.2	M	M	L	L				=	
Risk 3: Lack of transparency in financial management and distribution	All outcomes and outputs	L	L	L	L				=	
Risk 4: Limited mobility of project team due to ongoing COVID-19 pandemic inhibits project execution	Outcome 2 Outputs 1.2. 1.3. 2.1 and 2.2	H	S	L	L				=	
Risk 5: Environmental assessment inadequately characterizes site	Outputs 1.2 and 1.3	L	L	L	L				=	
Risk 6: Accident or spill during the field waste operation	Output 1.3	L	L	L	L				=	
Risk 7: Injury resulting to investigators during site visits	Outputs 1.2. 1.3	H	S	M	M				=	
Risk 8: Increased COVID-19 exposure risk to project staff and targeted communities	Outcome 2 Outputs 1.2. 1.3. 2.1 and 2.2	M	L	L	L				=	
Risk 9 : Disregard for the environmental and health impacts of the mercury mines	Outputs 1.2 and 1.3	M	M	M	M				=	
Risk 10: Poor uptake of alternative livelihoods	Outcome 2 Output 2.1	M	M	M	M				=	
Risk 11: Increases in the Price paid for mercury resulting from external or internal forces affects adoption of alternatives livelihood	Outcome 2 Outputs 2.1 and 2.2	M	L	M	H				↑	According to information recently shared by miners. mercury prices show a tendency to increase compared to previous years
Risk 12: Climate change adversely impacts tourism (e.g. through forest fires) reducing employment in this sector	Outcome 2 Output 2.1	L	L	M	H				↑	Climate change has exacerbated water scarcity in the communities of the Sierra Gorda in recent years.
SS 1: Biodiversity, natural habitat and Sustainable Management of Living Resources (M)	Objective	M	M	L	L				=	

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
SS 2: Resource Efficiency. Pollution Prevention and Management of Chemicals and Wastes (M)	Objective	M	M	M	M				=	
SS 5: Indigenous peoples (M)	Objective	M	M	L	L				=	
Consolidated project risk		M	M	L	L				=	

4.3 Table C. Outstanding Moderate, Significant, and High risks

Additional mitigation measures for the next periods

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
Governance structure - Oversight	Steering Committee and/or other project members are notified of any consultancy requested by the project considering sound deadlines for accepting or rejecting them (PIR 2023)	In addition to informing and requesting approval from the Steering Committee of the consultancies to be hired to carry out the project activities. all documents and products that are obtained will be shared on a regular basis so that they have a clear perspective of the results that are being achieved.	Improve communication channels with Steering Committee members.	During the second half of 2024 until the end of the project (2026)	Executing Agency and Steering Committee members
Implementation schedule	Most of Project's activities are progressing according to last work plan approved in August 2022 (PIR 2023)	All adjustments to the work calendar are promptly communicated to the Steering Committee so that	Maintain periodic reports to the Steering Committee during its regular meetings	During the second half of 2024 until the end of the project (2026)	Executing Agency

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
		it approves the changes and is aware of the adjustment of compliance dates.	and, if necessary, through extraordinary meetings.		
Reporting	Substantive reports are presented in a timely manner and are completed with a good analysis of project progress (PIR 2023)	There is the support of a project manager to generate the quarterly, semi-annual and annual technical and financial reports that must be presented to UNEP/GEF and the Steering Committee.	A new contract for the project manager will be prepared for a second phase of the project. Progress reports will be requested from the EA's Financial Area further in advance than previously considered, to reduce the delay in the delivery of relevant information to integrate the annual and semi-annual reports.	Start Q1 2025	Executing Agency
Capacity to deliver	Sound technical and managerial capacity of EA with participant consultancies and institutions (PIR 2023)	The project combines the managerial capabilities of the executing agency, with the technical and logistical support of the project manager and the coordinator in the territory, which allows for timely follow-up of the contracted consultancies and activities in the communities.	Extend the contracts of the project manager and the coordinator in territory for a second phase of the project.	Start Q1 2025	Executing Agency

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
Political instability and shifting priorities	New risk	Close communication will be established with the transition team that will transfer information from the current government to the one that will take office in October 2024 so that it is aware of the relevance of the project and the obligation to comply with the commitments acquired. in such a way that it continues with planned activities in a timely manner.	Communication channels will be established with the transition team to inform about the project.	During the second half of 2024	Executing Agency
Injury resulting to investigators during site visits	Evaluations of the communities were carried out. considering aspects such as political will. social acceptance and identified risks. (PIR 2023)	Close communication has been maintained with the communities since the beginning of activities in the territory. this has generated a cordial and trusting environment for the free movement of staff and consultants. In cases where it has been necessary. specific meetings have been held to clarify doubts and address project concerns	Maintain close communication and cordial collaboration with communities.	During the second half of 2024 until the end of the project (2026)	Executing Agency and consultants.

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
		that reduce pressure on staff.			
Disregard for the environmental and health impacts of the mercury mines	Project staff will ensure participating communities have a clear understanding of the risks to environment and health from mercury mines (PIR 2022). Health fairs and workshops have been held in target communities where health and environmental issues have been shared and reinforced. (PIR 2023)	A training program for medical sector in the region has been started to strengthen the diagnosis of health impacts derived from primary mercury mining.	In meetings with the new communities of the Municipality of San Joaquín recently involved in the project, information was also shared with them about the environmental and health risks of mercury. This is how their awareness was standardized with the rest of the communities.	During 2024	Executing Agency, consultants and Health Authorities
Poor uptake of alternative livelihoods	Constant communications from project staff to participate in communities will take place to ensure commitment and willingness for alternative livelihoods (PIR 2022) Effective communication with the communities has been carried out to motivate the change to alternative economic activities (PIR 2023)	Through INAES, training has begun to establish cooperatives that will implement pilot projects in the target communities. With this, it is intended that these projects serve as strategic models so that more members of the mining communities are encouraged to participate in reconversion.	Alternative economic activities will be developed considering the models and methodologies of the social economy.	Continued support from 2023-2026	Executing Agency, INAES and target communities

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
Increases in the Price paid for mercury resulting from external or internal forces affects adoption of alternatives livelihood	Communities are aware of the increase in mercury prices. which may temporarily motivate the market. but will eventually decline.(PIR 2023)	Through consultations with miners. changes in the price of mercury have been monitored.	An information channel will be maintained to link the implementation of NAPs in Latin America with the Sierra Gorda market.	second half of 2023 until end of project (2026)	Executing Agency and Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Health
Climate change adversely impacts tourism (e.g. through forest fires) reducing employment in this sector	The economic activities to be developed will be evaluated and selected considering environmental. economic and social aspects. (PIR 2023)	Within the feasibility analysis carried out for pilot projects to be implemented in the target communities. environmental (including climate change). economic. social and political aspects will be taken into account.	Comprehensive services will be contracted to provide support for the development and implementation of alternative economicactivities.	Second half of 2024 until end of project (2026)	Executing Agency and consultants
Resource Efficiency. Pollution Prevention and Management of Chemicals and Wastes (M)	A strategic program for the remediation of contaminated sites will be proposed. (PIR 2023)	As part of the remediation program. in an initial stage. experts will be hired to carry out an analysis and location of the mining liabilities and the areas most affected by mercury contamination.	The economic activities to be developed will beevaluated and selectedconsidering environmental. economic and socialaspects.	Second half of 2024 until end of project (2026)	Executing Agency. SEMARNAT and INAES
Stakeholder engagement - development of a stakeholder engagement plan	A stakeholder engagement plan will be developed (PIR 2023)	Develop and implementStakeholder EngagementPlan considering vulnerablepeople groups.	From the participation and degree of involvement obtained from the training that INAES is providing. valuable information will be obtained to strengthen the	Second half of 2024 until end of project (2026)	Executing Agency. INAES and communities

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
			engagement of the communities.		
Gender sensitivity - Education programs lead to economic advancement of women	Information is being collected and analyzed. The outcomes will be included in the generated gender report.(PIR 2023)	As a fundamental part of the gender report. the advances in the training that women receive and the pilot projects they undertake in their communities will be considered.	Consider in the GenderAction Plan the economic advancement of women.	Second half of 2024 until end of project (2026)	Executing Agency. INAES and consultants
Safeguards - Sound management of mercury contamination	technical studies conducted (PIR 2023)	Technical studies conducted	Develop the information processing of mercury contamination management	Start 2025	Executing Agency
Safeguards - health risk monitoring plan	technical studies conducted (PIR 2023)	Technical studies conducted	Develop the information processing of mercury contamination management	Start 2025	Executing Agency
Delays in administrative contracting processes due to early closure by the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit	New risk	All requirements and documents have been prepared to expedite the hiring processes as much as possible as soon as they reopen.	The revised terms of reference are now in place to launch the tenders for the studies. consultancies and services that were planned for 2023. in such a way that the contracting processes are accelerated when they are reopened.	Start Q1 2025	Executing Agency and consultants.

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
Dissemination of artisanal ovens in the homes of miners. whose magnitude and location are very difficult to identify.	New risk	The benefits of the project will be disseminated among the largest number of miners possible. in such a way that those who have furnaces in their homes are considered and with this. it is expected that a broad reconversion will be achieved that reduces the need to process mineral ore mercury in homes and will prevent family exposure.	Training workshops on entrepreneurship of productive projects are being held in several communities of the Municipality of San Joaquín where homes that have furnaces are concentrated to discourage mineral processing in homes.	During the second half of 2024 until the end of the project (2026)	Executing Agency. INAES and target communities
Difficulty in identifying who are really miners and who therefore. should receive support for reconversion.	New risk	A registry of people who can be classified as active miners. ex-miners and migrant miners is being built with the support of municipal authorities.	The construction of the registry has already begun in the municipality of San Joaquín.	During the second half of 2024 and 2025	Executing Agency. coordinator in territory. INAES. municipal authorities

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. Moderate 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.

5 Amendment - GeoSpatial

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. Please tick each category for which a change occurred in the fiscal year of reporting and provide a description of the change that occurred in the textbox. You may attach supporting document as appropriate

5.1 Table A: Listing of all Minor Amendment (TM)

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 financing up to 5%:	
Location of project activity:	
Other:	

Minor amendments

5.2 Table B: History of project revisions and/or extensions (TM)

Version	Type	Signed/Approved by UNEP	Entry Into Force (last signature Date)	Agreement Expiry Date	Main changes introduced in this revision
Original Legal Instrument		2021-06-07	2021-06-07	2026-06-30	Project Cooperation Agreement with INECC
Original Legal Instrument		2023-04-24	2023-04-24	2026-06-30	Internal Agreement with UNEP Knowledge and Risk Unit

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	Latitude	Longitude	GEO Name ID	Location Description	Activity Description
Pinal de Amoles	21.13448	-99.6259	3521440 Pinal de Amoles	Pinal de Amoles 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). https://www.geonames.org/8583263/pinal-de-amoles.html	
San Joaquín	20.95754	-99.53221	8583276 San Joaquín	San Joaquin 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). https://www.geonames.org/8583276/san-joaquin.html	
Cadereyta de Montes	20.78238	-99.65621	8583265 Cadereyta de Montes	Cadereyta de Montes occupies 11.52% of the state surface. has 285 localities in a mostly semi-dry temperate climate	

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GEO Name ID	Location Description	Activity Description
				(INEGI. 2010). It has a registered population of 69.075 inhabitants (INEGI. 2021). https://www.geonames.org/8583265/cadereyta-de-montes.html	
Peñamiller	21.09568	-99.83628	8583274 Peñamiller	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). https://www.geonames.org/8583274/penamiller.html	

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

https://public.tableau.com/shared/X4PD6DNBK?:display_count=n&:origin=viz_share_link

[Annex any linked geospatial file]

Additional Supporting Documents:

Filename	File Uploaded By	File Uploaded At	
GEFID_10086_Mexico Mercury Mining_PIR 2023_final.pdf	CW TM	2024-06-26 06:29:22	<u>Download</u>