



National action plan on mercury in the artisanal and small-scale gold mining sector in Cameroon

Part I: Project Information

GEF ID

Project Type

EA

Type of Trust Fund

GET

CBIT

CBIT

Project Title

National action plan on mercury in the artisanal and small-scale gold mining sector in Cameroon

Countries

Cameroon

Agency(ies)

UNIDO

Other Executing Partner(s):

Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development (MINEPDED)

Executing Partner Type

Government

GEF Focal Area

Chemicals and Waste

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Chemicals and Waste, Mercury, Artisanal and Scale Gold Mining

Rio Markers**Climate Change Mitigation**

Climate Change Mitigation 0

Climate Change Adaptation

Climate Change Adaptation 0

Type of Reports	Submission Date	Expected Implementation Start	Expected Completion Date	Expected Report Submission to Convention
ASGM National Action Plan (ASGM NAP)	11/14/2019	2/1/2020	2/1/2022	8/1/2022

Duration

24In Months

Agency Fee(\$)

47,500

A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS

Objectives/Programs	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
CW-EA	GET	500,000	58,500
		Total Project Cost(\$)	500,000
			58,500

B. Project description summary

Project Objective

National capacity and capability improved for the management of mercury, through the preparation of National Action Plan (NAP) for the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) sector

Project Component	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
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Project Component	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
1. Improve understanding on the scope of mercury use/ prevention measures in the ASGM sector and strengthen national capacity to manage mercury in the sector in compliance with the Minamata Convention	1. National capacity (awareness, technical skills, expertise) is enhanced to effectively manage mercury in accordance with the Minamata Convention	<p>1.1: Information disseminated and national coordination on mercury established</p> <p>1.2: National comprehensive analysis of ASGM sector completed to support the development and implementation of a road map to prevent and reduce mercury use, emissions and releases</p> <p>1.3: Institutional and capacity needs assessment completed to implement a public health strategy on ASGM</p> <p>1.4: Rapid health situation assessment conducted; drafting of the public health strategies including a curriculum for professionals initiated and awareness raising workshop organized</p>	325,000	18,000
2. Finalization of the NAP for endorsement	2. NAP finalized for the endorsement from relevant stakeholders	2.1: NAP drafted, finalized and presented to relevant stakeholders for iterative feedback	100,000	4,000

Project Component	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
3. Monitoring and evaluation	3. Project achieves objective on time through effective monitoring and evaluation	3.1 Periodic monitoring and terminal evaluation of project implementation completed	30,000	24,000
Sub Total (\$)			455,000	46,000
Project Management Cost (PMC)				
			45,000	12,500
Sub Total(\$)			45,000	12,500
Total Project Cost(\$)			500,000	58,500

C. Source of Co-Financing for the Project by Name and by Type

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
GEF Agency	UNIDO	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	17,250
GEF Agency	UNIDO	Grant	Recurrent expenditures	17,250
Government	Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development (MINEPDED)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	12,000
Others	UNITAR	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	12,000
			Total Co-Financing(\$)	58,500

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

Not Applicable

D. GEF Financing Resources Requested by Agency, Country and Programming of Funds

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)
UNIDO	GET	Cameroon	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	500,000	47,500
Total Gef Resources(\$)					500,000	47,500

Part II. Enabling Activity Justification

A. ENABLING ACTIVITY BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Provide brief information about projects implemented since a country became party to the convention and results achieved

In response to growing international concern, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) formalized the Global Mercury Partnership in 2008 to eliminate systematically anthropogenic mercury releases through strategic intervention and collaboration with national governments. In 2009, UNEP's governing council entered into negotiations for the preparation of a legally binding global instrument on mercury to safeguard human and ecosystem health. Negotiations were successfully completed in January 2013 with 147 governments agreeing to the draft text for the Minamata Convention on Mercury. At the Conference of Plenipotentiaries held from 9 to 11 October 2013 in Minamata and Kumamoto, Japan, the "Minamata Convention on Mercury" was formally adopted and opened for signature.

The Republic of Cameroon became a signatory to the Minamata Convention on 24 September 2014. Aware of the threats mercury can impose on human health and the global environment, the Government has been an active participant in international programmes and agreements to address mercury use and releases, led by the Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development (MINEPDED) of the Republic of Cameroon.

The treaty has a phased approach to reduce, and where possible, eliminate mercury use in key industrial sectors. Provisions of the Convention include deadlines established for supply sources and trade, mercury added products, artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM), and manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used. As the ASGM sector is a major source of mercury release and environmental pollution in the world, Article 7 of the Convention requires countries with more than insignificant use of mercury in ASGM operations to develop a National Action Plan (NAP) in order to reduce the use of mercury and mercury compounds within three years of the treaty entering into force. As the use of mercury is more than insignificant in the Republic of Cameroon, the country has notified the Secretariat of the Convention on 30 January 2019 and requires assistance to develop the NAP.

According to Article 7 and Annex C of the Convention, each Party that is subject to the provisions of paragraph 3 of the article shall include in its NAP (a) information on the scope of mercury in the ASGM sector; (b) inventory of quantities of mercury and other harmful chemicals used, including cyanide, and practices employed in the sector; (c) a public health strategy on the exposure of ASGM miners and their communities to mercury; (d) an assessment and cost-benefit analysis of technically available and economically feasible techniques and technologies to replace and prevent the use of mercury; and (e) a road map to reduce the use of mercury in the sector including potential funding sources to implement it. A series of strategies, baselines and steps to regulate anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury and its compounds shall also be included in the NAP as noted

in the Global Environment Facility's (GEF) guidelines on Enabling Activities (EA) to assist countries. While not an explicit focus of the health activities of this project, the proposed project will also lay the groundwork for actions called for under Article 16 of the Convention.

Worldwide, among the most critical environmental issues related to small-scale mining are the use of mercury for gold amalgamation and the use of cyanide, sometimes in combination with mercury. The ASGM sector is the world's largest source of mercury pollution from intentional uses (the second largest emission source after coal-fired power plants) as mercury is simple to use, cheap and easily available.

Cameroon is a resource-rich country, with a significant geological potential covering minerals such as gold, bauxite, cobalt-nickel, iron and precious minerals among others. Artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) has been traditionally present in the eastern and northern part of the country, although it later spread throughout all the territory. The Bureau de Recherches Géologiques et Minières (BRGM) suggests that gold mineralization is related to the volcanic sedimentary belts characteristics of the Birimian belt. Natural resources exploitation has a long history beginning before the independence, contributing largely to the national economy. In terms of gold mining, the estimated annual production is approximately 1,500 kg/year (Journal of Mining and Environment, 2018).

Although there is no official record of the number of people involved in ASM in the country, the number keeps growing due to the relatively high income perceived by these activities. Women are actively involved in ASGM although the participation varies depending on the area and the local beliefs reaching up to 50% in some sites. Their role also depends, as they can be directly undertaking mining activities (panning, transport and selection of gold) or carrying out complementary tasks around the mining sites (i.e. supply of food).

There are two types of mining operations based on the level of mechanization and technology practiced in Cameroon: the artisanal mining and the semi-mechanized mining. The processes are the same in essence but in artisanal mining, rudimentary tools are present while the semi-mechanized mining involves the use of heavy machinery such as excavators and bulldozers.

On the one hand, ASGM contributes to employment creation especially at local level and has the potential to do even more. ASGM also contributes to the establishment local development, infrastructure and social/community development and financial income. On the other hand, ASGM activities have stressed the local flora and fauna including adversely affecting human health and safety. Due to the lack of skills of most of the artisanal miners, their rudimentary methods and the lack of awareness on the impacts of the mining activities on the environment, ASGM has exacerbated environmental degradation. Also, the presence of open pits in traditional or newly discovered gold mining areas disturb land surface as it reduces the cultivable land available and worsens deforestation.

Furthermore, the use of mercury in the gold extraction methods has greatly contributed to environmental pollution and posing greater health risks to the surrounding communities. After concentrating the gold through separation techniques such as panning, the miners mix the remaining combination of gold, soils, sands, or sediments with elemental mercury

to concentrate the gold and create a mercury/gold amalgam. They then heat in backyards the amalgam, which volatilizes the mercury, leaving behind fairly pure gold. Chronic exposure to mercury results in different forms of intoxication: respiratory diseases, cognitive and motor disorders among other impacts. The exposure to mercury during the gold panning and the amalgamation process adds to other health hazards such as inhalation of other hazardous substances or poor safety conditions for the miners.

The government has taken a number of steps to address the issues of ASGM in the country including reforming the sector. For example, in 2003, the government established CAPAM (Government Support Scheme for Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining) as a vehicle to help formalize the sector. CAPAM provides a framework for support and promotion of mining activities and coordination. The key purpose of CAPAM is to assist and promote ASM in an area where there are conflicting interests including conservation, alternative rural livelihoods, and large-scale mining concessions [25]. Cameroon Government involvement in the ASM sector is through the Divisional Delegations and CAPAM.

The government has also put in place regulations to protect protected areas such as national parks from mining activities. However, despite these efforts and clear regulations governing mining activities in protected areas, these legal provisions have not been respected in the granting of recent mineral exploration permits. Another challenge recognized by the 2001 Mining Code is to mitigate problems related from ASGM and large-scale mining activities. The new mining code (revised version 2010) has just been promulgated by the Head of State of Cameroon on December 14, 2016, Law 2016/017 of December 14th, 2016 on Mining Code. Besides facilitating the collection of taxes, CAPAM also provides support and helps the management of artisanal miners, contribute to the improvement of geological and mining information, and improve the recovery and process of mining products.

Among the many achievements of CAPAM to date, is the “Operation Gold” launched in 2011 which sought to ensure that at least 70 per cent of the then 179 kilograms of gold produced monthly by artisanal miners was channeled into the formal economy and strengthen Cameroon’s gold reserves at the Central African States Central Bank (BEAC) with the view of providing alternative funding sources for the national economy. The operation was expected to generate more than FCFA 1,000 billion before 2016 with the State of Cameroon gaining at least FCFA 200 billion to finance some development projects outlined in the Country’s Growth and employment Strategy Paper. The ASGM sector in Cameroon is attracting foreign investments especially from Asia (more concretely from countries like China, India and Korea).

Cameroon has also developed an ASGM activity map. According to this map the activity was previously concentrated on alluvial deposits in the Eastern region of Cameroon. Currently, it has significantly spread throughout the other regions of the country including sites with solid rocks.

ASGM is associated with environmental and human health impacts, affecting the health of miners and in particular children working in the mines. The activity is also associated with social impacts leading to poverty traps and dependence as the population increases its reliance on mining, and there are more conflicts over land and resettlement.

Well-known environmental impacts associated with ASGM in Cameroon are water and air pollution, river and dam siltation, uncovered open pits and loss of biodiversity, deforestation, over-fishing, and poaching.

Currently, in the Republic of Cameroon, the effect of gold mining using amalgamation technique has not been thoroughly investigated. Specifically, the fate of mercury in the environment is virtually unknown, and the total amount of mercury used for the recovery of gold unascertained.

Therefore, the Republic of Cameroon has expressed an interest in addressing these issues and developing ASGM in alignment with its current reform on the ASGM sector. Therefore, the development of a NAP focused on the ASGM sector will enable the country to achieve the goals of the implementation phase of the Convention.

The efforts made by the Republic of Cameroon, mentioned above, demonstrate that this project is fully in line with the country's goal to map and prevent mercury related environment and health problems in the ASGM sector and invest in technological solutions to fulfill obligations under the Minamata Convention.

B. ENABLING ACTIVITY GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIVITIES

The proposal should briefly justify and describe the project framework. Identify also key stakeholders involved in the project including the private sector, civil society organizations, local and indigenous communities, and their respective roles, as applicable. Describe also how the gender equality and women's empowerment are considered in project design and implementation

The outcomes of the proposed project will be the enablement of participatory stakeholders to manage mercury in the ASGM sector, as well as the NAP's finalization for the endorsement of relevant stakeholders and future submission by the government to the Minamata Convention secretariat. The activities of the project will fill the gaps required to develop the NAP, by assisting the government of The Republic of Cameroon and ASGM partners in the formulation of strategies to prevent, reduce, and where feasible eliminate mercury emissions and by increasing awareness of risks to human and ecosystem health. This will include: (a) Analysis of the ASGM sector, including main mining areas, miners/private sector involved, relevant stakeholders, level of formalization and other relevant information, as well as an assessment on the involvement of women and children; (b) inventory on the quantities of mercury used and practices employed in the ASGM sector within the country; (c) assessment of institutional capacity in the health sector, particularly in locations/areas host to ASGM activities, to gather basic health information related to mercury and ASGM, and conduct training and awareness raising activities; (d) baseline of any other harmful chemicals, including cyanide and acids; (e) options for elimination of the practices specified in Annex C of the Convention; (f) strategies to prevent exposure to mercury together with the health authorities, which are inclusive of a special focus on vulnerable populations including women and children; (g) definition of steps and presentation of models to formalize the ASGM sector; (h) strategies for managing trade and preventing the diversion of mercury into the ASGM sector; (i) strategies for involving stakeholders in the implementation and continuing development of the NAP; (j) awareness raising activities for ASGM miners and affected communities, as well as for national and regional-level policy makers; and (k) a road map for the reduction of mercury in the sector, including intervention options and potential funding sources to implement it.

Under this project a comprehensive national assessment of all ASGM activities where mercury is heavily used in the ASGM sector will be undertaken. GEF resources will help the Republic of Cameroon to identify and prioritize hotspot areas for future investments and intervention in the country to promote sound chemicals management as a key

component of green industrial growth. The majority of socio-economic benefits associated with this project will contribute to the achievement of SDG 3 (Good health and well-being), SDG 11 (Sustainable cities and communities) and SDG 12 (Responsible consumption and production).

Key stakeholders will be consulted and engaged through the project implementation process as follows:

UNIDO will act as the GEF Implementing Agency (IA) for the project. The UNIDO project manager or his/her representative will provide technical advice, as well as coordinate and monitor the project activities.

UNITAR will act as an executing agency assisting with day-to-day management and providing technical expertise for the development of all relevant areas under the project. A project management unit will be hosted by the Ministry of Environment, concretely within the department responsible of the Minamata Convention responsible of the project coordination as well as taking care of the ‘day-to-day’ management and monitoring.

The Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development (MINEPDED) of the Republic of Cameroon is the Government entity responsible for the formulation of policies on all aspects of the environment. The agency’s functions include liaising and cooperating with other Government agencies; collaborating with foreign and international agencies, as necessary; conducting investigations into environmental issues; coordinating the activities of bodies concerned with the technical aspects of the environment for the purpose of controlling the generation, treatment, storage, transportation, and disposal of industrial waste; ensuring compliance with environmental impact assessment procedures; issuing environmental permits and pollution abatement notices; making recommendations to the Government for the protection of the environment; prescribing standards and guidelines related to the pollution of air, water, and land; protecting and improving the quality of the environment; and securing the control and prevention of discharge waste into the environment among several other functions. The MINEPDED will serve as the main governmental counterpart providing national leadership. The Minamata Convention focal point of the Republic of Cameroon will be responsible for the day-to-day compliance of the treaty and its provisions. The MINEPDED will also act as the chair and secretariat of the National Steering Group (NSG). The representative from the Ministry of Mines, industries and technological development (MINMIDT) will act as deputy chair.

The NSG will be established as an inter-ministerial Steering Group comprised of MINEPDED, MINMIDT, UNITAR, and other relevant ministries and associations as needed to provide overall guidance and coordination. Participation in the NSG will be consulted with MINEPDED, UNITAR and UNIDO. All project amendments will be done in accordance with the UNIDO rules and regulations and GEF policies, in particular documents “GEF project and programmatic approach cycle” (GEF/C.39/Inf.3) and “GEF project and program cycle policy” (GEF/C.50/08/Rev.01) and ‘Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy’ (GEF/C.52/Inf.06/Rev.01).

The Ministry of Mines, industries and technological development (MINMIDT) and UNITAR will provide national leadership and technical support for ASGM related activities. Particularly, MINMIDT will lead the development of the National comprehensive analysis of ASGM sector completed to support the development and implementation of a road map to prevent and reduce mercury use, emissions and releases.

The Ministry of Public Health Cameroon (PMNCH) and UNITAR will provide national leadership and technical support for health-related activities.

ASGM stakeholders including academia, NGOs, and the private sector will be engaged to assist in the development of the NAP. This network of stakeholders will liaise with miners to increase awareness, share knowledge and promote technology transfer to prevent and reduce mercury use in the ASGM sector within the enabling activities framework and to develop a responsible and sustainable ASGM sector.

An expert team comprised of national and international consultants and technical specialists will be recruited to provide technical support for the NAP implementation. The team will be selected based on technical expertise to assist in the development of a national comprehensive analysis of ASGM sector and plan activities for national capacity building.

The project will not have an impact on indigenous people groups as they are not present in the region where the project will be executed.

Refer to Annex B for a flow chart of various stakeholders.

Recognizing that the level of exposure to mercury and its related impacts on human health are determined by social and biological factors, women, children and men might be exposed to different kinds, levels and frequency of mercury. Therefore, gender mainstreaming will play a key role in the development of the NAP and will be an integral part of the project activities. This will be addressed based on UNIDO's gender policy, among others by involving women and vulnerable groups at the sector level in the information sharing and dissemination events, in the project coordination unit and national steering committee, and at the stakeholder level (e.g. by consulting women during the analysis of the ASGM sector and the assessment of health impacts of mercury use on women).

Special attention will be paid to gender equality when evaluating and inviting members to participate in the National Steering Committee and attending the awareness workshops. Strategies to mitigate gender inequality and prevent child labour in ASGM will be part of the proposed NAP.

C. DESCRIBE THE ENABLING ACTIVITY AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Discuss the work intended to be undertaken and the output expected from each activity as outlined in Table A

This project sets out the activities necessary to improve the national capacity for the management of mercury in the ASGM sector, through the preparation of a National Action Plan (NAP). Outputs from the project will also provide a basic situation evaluation and inventory/characterization of the ASGM sector that will assist in the design of future

interventions to meet the obligations of the Convention. The NAP will generate global environmental and socio-economic benefits, as well as enable Cameroon to place mercury management at the leading edge of their sustainable development agenda. Inputs and data collected from the NAP proposed in this project will provide key information on the use and reduction of mercury in the ASGM sector. The planned activities per output are listed below:

Output 1.1: Information disseminated and national coordination on mercury established:

Activity 1.1.1: Conduct national start-up workshop;

Activity 1.1.2: Establish mercury coordination mechanism at the national level;

Activity 1.1.3: Develop strategies to involve stakeholders in the implementation and continued development of the NAP, including the recruitment of inventory trainees;

Activity 1.1.4: Develop communication materials taking into account the impacts of mercury on different gender groups;

Activity 1.1.5: Organize and conduct information sharing and dissemination events and workshops adapting time and location of the events to different gender groups' needs.

Output 1.2: National comprehensive analysis of ASGM sector completed to support the development and implementation of a road map to prevent and reduce mercury use, emissions and releases:

Activity 1.2.1: Collect and analyze data on the ASGM sector (e.g. quantities of mercury used and practices employed; number of main mining sites and miners; relevant stakeholders including /miners private sector; and level of sector formalization);

Activity 1.2.2: Define national objectives and reduction targets;

Activity 1.2.3: Define steps to facilitate the formalization or regulation of ASGM sector;

Activity 1.2.4: Finalize strategies to promote reduction of mercury emissions and releases in ASGM and actions to eliminate worst practices mentioned on Annex C of Minamata Convention;

Activity 1.2.5: Identify potential sources of necessary funding to implement the road map as part of the NAP.

Output 1.3: Institutional and capacity needs assessment completed to implement a public health strategy on ASGM:

Activity 1.3.1: Consult representatives of various ministries and other stakeholder groups;

Activity 1.3.2: Identify institutional capacity gaps/barriers;

Activity 1.3.3: Finalize institutional and capacity needs assessment report on public health.

Output 1.4: Rapid health situation assessment conducted; drafting of the public health strategies initiated including a curriculum for professionals and awareness raising workshop organized*:

Activity 1.4.1: Plan and adapt survey tools to The Republic of Cameroon 's context;

Activity 1.4.2: Conduct consultation with community and with health care providers in selected ASGM locations;

Activity 1.4.3: Analyze collected data and prepare recommendations;

Activity 1.4.4: Facilitate the drafting of a public health strategy for the ASGM sector, considering the vulnerabilities of different gender groups.

*Note: Primary monitoring (i.e. human bio-monitoring) is considered out of the scope of the rapid health situation assessment and of the project. The principle objective of the rapid assessment is to identify patterns of health care seeking behavior among ASGM miners and their family members so as to determine the most effective entry point for engagement with them. For example in cases where ASGM miners do not utilize health services, promotional and awareness raising efforts may need to be conducted through mobile clinics or as part of other social mobilization efforts carried out by the health sector. The rapid health situation assessment will also identify current capacities in local health centres to identify and address ASGM related health issues. This latter information is needed to inform the training activities to be conducted under the NAP.

Output 2.1: NAP drafted, finalized and presented to relevant stakeholders for interactive feedback:

Activity 2.1.1: Draft NAP according to the national comprehensive analysis report (Output1.2);

Activity 2.1.2: Conduct stakeholder consultation meetings;

Activity 2.1.3: Finalize NAP;

Activity 2.1.4: Define NAP implementation schedule.

Refer to the attached logical framework in Annex C for specific outputs and their associated indicators, verifications and assumptions.

D. DESCRIBE, IF POSSIBLE, THE EXPECTED COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT

GEF resources will assist the government of the Republic of Cameroon and partners in understanding the use of mercury and how to minimize it in the ASGM sector, and increase awareness of risks to human and ecosystem health. It will also assist in the broad dissemination of project achievements nationally to promote future projects. GEF resources will not only help to streamline interventions and related capacity building efforts in the ASGM sector, but also ensure that the key stakeholders involved in the compliance of Article 7 and Annex C under the Convention are sufficiently aware of and appropriately engaged in the design and delivery of the activities identified in the road map.

To ensure cost effectiveness, infrastructure and human resources at each governmental counterpart involved in the project will be efficiently utilized. Most project activities will be carried out by national experts. This will foster an increase in local and national capacity to manage mercury and will contribute to the cost effectiveness of the project through reduced consultancy fees and travel expenses. Project execution is expected to remain at low risk.

UNIDO has solid experience in promoting environmentally sound management of mercury in the ASGM sector and plays an important role as co-lead of the sector under the Global Mercury Partnership – the main mechanism and technical advisory group of the Minamata Convention created by UNEP in 2008. UNIDO has also extensive experience

with enabling activities through the Stockholm Convention National Implementation Plans (NIPs), NIP updates, MIAs and NAPs. The local and regional presence of UNIDO through the field offices will also help to ensure the smooth development of project activities.

Enabling activities to implement the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) have already been developed in the Republic of Cameroon with GEF's resources. The NAP will complement the country's efforts to reduce significantly the exposure of harmful chemicals and wastes of global importance to humans and the environment.

UNITAR has experience supporting countries with the development of the NAP and MIA related activities. UNITAR has supported a number of countries to strengthen their national capacities to manage mercury and comply fully with the national obligations of the Minamata Convention. Areas of support include: capacity-building and training, policy reform, development of national action plans for artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) and Minamata Initial Assessments and supporting phase-out activities. These capacity-development activities are geared towards addressing the main global objectives of reduction of mercury releases and emissions to the environment and ensuring the sound management of mercury in different sectors.

E. DESCRIBE, DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M & E PLAN

Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) for this project will rely on several levels of review, quality control and feedback. Overall M&E will be conducted by UNIDO through annual supervision visits to the Republic of Cameroon. The National Steering Group including the main project stakeholders will meet annually to: (a) review annual work plan, (b) assess progress against M&E targets as indicated in the Project Results Framework, (c) review interim and final reports, and (d) assess any gaps or weakness and make appropriate adaptive management decisions based on progress and achievements. Work plan for year two will be based on the results achieved in the first year, including associated budget allocations, in agreement with the GEF and UNIDO's documents, rules and guidelines, in particular documents "UNIDO-GEF cooperation project operating manual", "GEF project and program cycle policy" (GEF/C.50/08/Rev.01), "Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy" (GEF/C.52/Info.06/Rev.01) and "Policy Measures to Enhance Operational Efficiency, Accountability and Transparency" (GEF/C.55.04/Rev.01). UNIDO Project Manager's representative will assist and participate in monitoring and evaluation visits as needed. The final evaluation, to be conducted by an independent evaluator, will be arranged by UNIDO's project manager with support from UNIDO's Evaluation Group and reports submitted to the donor within 90 days of project end. The terms of reference for the evaluator will be developed with the support of UNIDO's project manager under UNIDO's guidance.

Programmatic M&E: The main executing partners, MINEPDED and UNITAR will be responsible for day-to-day execution of the project, reporting semi-annually to UNIDO, who will be responsible for the overall management and evaluation. Progress of activities and outputs against the targets and desired outcomes will be assessed bi-annually by the executing partners using the means of verification and impact indicators for measurement explained in the Project Results Framework.

Financial Monitoring: All project costs will be accounted for and documented. Financial reports will be required from the executing agency according to standard UNIDO accounting procedures. A terminal evaluation will be submitted to the GEF within 90 days of the project end.

According to the Monitoring and Evaluation policy of the GEF and UNIDO, follow-up studies like Country Portfolio Evaluations and Thematic Evaluations can be initiated and conducted. All project partners and contractors are obliged to (a) make available studies, reports and other documentation related to the project and (b) facilitate interviews with staff involved in the project activities.

Legal context clause: This project is governed by the provisions of the Basic Standard Cooperation Agreement between the Government of Cameroon and UNIDO, signed on 24 April 1989.

Monitoring and Evaluation Table

M&E activity	Time	Budget (USD)	
		GEF Grant (USD)	Co-financing
Start-up workshop report*	Within 3 months of project star	0	0
Project review by NSG at the end of year 1*	Month 12	0	0
Project review by NSG at the end of the project*	Month 24	0	0
Terminal evaluation	At project closure	30,000	24,000
Total M&E cost		30,000	24,000

*Funded by Project Management Costs

F. EXPLAIN THE DEVIATIONS FROM TYPICAL COST RANGES (WHERE APPLICABLE)

Not Applicable

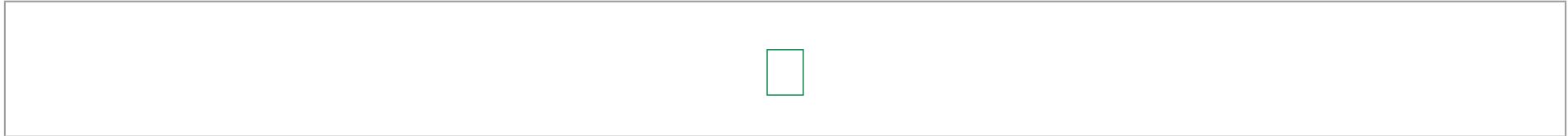
Part III: Approval/Endorsement By GEF Operational Focal Point(S) And Gef Agency(ies)

A. Record of Endorsement of GEF Operational Focal Point (s) on Behalf of the Government(s):

Focal Point Name	Focal Point Title	Ministry	Signed Date
Dr. Unusa Haman	Sub Director for Environmental Planning	Ministry of Environment, Protection of Nature and Sustainable Development (MINEPDED)	5/31/2019

B. Convention Participation

Convention	Date of Ratification/Accession	National Focal Point
Minamata Convention on Mercury	9/24/2014	Ministry of Environment (MINEPDED)



Submitted to GEF Secretariat Review

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