



Development of Minamata Convention Initial Assessment (MIA) for the Kingdom of Bahrain

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

11542

Countries

Bahrain

Project Name

Development of Minamata Convention Initial Assessment (MIA) for the Kingdom of Bahrain

Agencies

UNEP

Date received by PM

3/20/2024

Review completed by PM

3/25/2024

Program Manager

Toshiyuki Yamasaki

Focal Area

Chemicals and Waste

Project Type

EA

Expedited Enabling Activity req (CEO)

Section I - Enabling Activity Summary

Funding elements.

Is the enabling activity aligned with the relevant GEF funding elements as indicated in Table A and as defined by the GEF-8 Programming Directions? Is the General Enabling Activity Information table correctly populated?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi 4/15/2024:

This project is aligned with the GEF-8 Chemical and Waste focal area strategy.

Agency's Comments

Cost Ranges.

If there was a deviation in the cost range, was this explained?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi 4/15/2023:

Cleared. The project has no deviations in the cost range.

Agency's Comments

Enabling activity summary.

Is the enabling activity summary clear? Are the components in Table B and as described in the enabling activity request sound, appropriate, and sufficiently clear to achieve the project objectives?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi 4/29/2024:

Thank you, cleared.

Toshi 4/15/2024:

1) Gender:

Please integrate gender perspectives in Outputs: 1.1 and 2.1. And also, please ensure that gender perspectives are captured in the relevant activities under Outputs 1.1 and 2.1, ensuring gender-responsive frameworks and women representation. Under M&E, please ensure that gender-related results are monitored and reported on. Furthermore, on stakeholders to be engaged or consulted, please ensure that gender experts are engaged, as well as the Gender and Chemicals Partnership (<https://gender-chemicals.org/gandcpartnership>), and when developing the Gender Action Plan, please ensure that it is budgeted, monitored and reported on.

2) Please add a brief explanation or footnote on 'mercury inventory level 2 in UNEP's Toolkit' in component 2 to make the proposal easier to understand.

Agency's Comments

Response to 4/15/2024

1) Gender: Many thanks for your inputs. The Enabling activity summary has been updated accordingly. The Gender and Chemical Partnership will be consulted as relevant along with the gender expert(s) involved in the project. Regarding the Gender Action Plan, it is part of the socio-economics assessment chapter of the MIA report, it will be consistently mainstreamed across the project and the final MIA report.

2) The Mercury inventory toolkit level 2 has been explained and referred in a footnote.

Section 2 - Enabling Activity Supporting Information

Eligibility Criteria.

Is this enabling activity eligible for GEF funding?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi 4/15/2024:

Yes.

Agency's Comments

Institutional framework.

Are the institutional arrangements for implementation adequately described?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi 4/29/2024:

Thank you, cleared.

Toshi 4/15/2024:

Stakeholders:

- 1) This project could further elaborate on stakeholder consultations and approach to engage different stakeholders in project implementation.
- 2) Please consider adding a list of project's stakeholders, including the role each of them is expected to have in the project and their means of engagement. This list shall include private sector, NGOs, academia and financial institutions. In addition to these stakeholders, it is recommended that the list include relevant civil society organizations and local communities.

Agency's Comments

Response to 4/15/2024:

- 1) The stakeholder approach was further elaborated in Table 1.
- 2) Yes, a tentative list has been added to the document and a more detailed and definitive list of stakeholders will be elaborated at the project inception.

Monitoring and Evaluation.

Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi 4/15/2024:

Yes. The M&E budget for the project is \$15,000.

Agency's Comments

Section 3. Information Tables

GEF resource availability.

Is the proposed GEF financing in Table F (including the Agency fee) in line with GEF policies and guidelines?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Toshi 4/15/2024:

Yes.

Agency Response

**Are they within the resources available from (mark all that apply):
STAR allocation?**

Secretariat's Comments
N/A.

Agency's Comments
Focal Area allocation?

Secretariat's Comments
Toshi 4/15/2023:
Yes.

Agency's Comments
LDCF under the principle of equitable access?

Secretariat's Comments
N/A.

Agency's Comments
SCCF (Adaptation or Tech Transfer)?

Secretariat's Comments
N/A.

Agency's Comments
Focal Area Set Aside?

Secretariat's Comments
N/A.

Agency's Comments
Rio Markers.
Are the Rio Markers for CCM ,CCA, BD and LD presented?

Secretariat's Comments
N/A.

Agency's Comments

Country endorsement.

Has the project been endorsed by the country's GEF Operational Focal Point at the time of the EA submission and has the name and position been checked against the GEF database? Are the endorsed amounts consistent with the amounts included in Portal

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi 4/29/2024:

Thank you, cleared (an email from the OFP accepting this footnote to be part of the LoE is uploaded).

Toshi 4/15/2024:

The LOE template used for this project removed the footnote that conditions the selection of the executing partner to the following: "Subject to the capacity assessment carried out by the GEF Implementing Agency, as appropriate". Per the attached email distributed back in March last year when we were aiming to constitute June 2023 Work Program, Agencies were informed that LoEs "with modifications cannot be accepted and will be returned". While the removal of the footnote seems to be trivial, it is not: this footnote reduces the chances of having an executing partner that does not meet the fiduciary and procurement standards required to safely execute the project. Please get an email from the OFP accepting this footnote to be part of the LoE (this is an alternative to request a new LoE).

Agency's Comments

Response to 4/15/2024:

Many thanks for your comment. The footnote has been accepted by the OFP (see attached email).

Response to Comments

Are all the comments adequately responded to? (only as applicable)

GeF Secretariat comments

Secretariat's Comments

N/A.

Agency's Comments

Other Agencies comments

Secretariat's Comments
N/A.

Agency's Comments
Council comments

Secretariat's Comments
N/A.

Agency's Comments
STAP comments

Secretariat's Comments
N/A.

Agency's Comments
Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat's Comments
N/A.

Agency's Comments
CSOs comments

Secretariat's Comments
N/A.

Agency's Comments
Project Budget Table.

Is the project budget table attached? Are the activities / expenditures reasonably and accurately charged to the three identified sources (Components, M&E and PMC)?

Secretariat's Comments
Toshi 5/17/2024:
Thank you, cleared.

Toshi 5/16/2024:
Thank you, cleared.

However, P.15 of CEO Approval (PDF) is unnecessary (it overlaps with P.14 and is cluttered), so please delete it.

Toshi 5/14/2024:

The amounts of budget in a table B are corrected, but a column that mentions the responsible entity is missing again. The table attached in the "GEF-8 CEO Approval request - MIA Barhain - GEF review response" looks correct, so, please use it and resubmit.

Toshi 4/30/2024:

Thank you. However, there are many discrepancies where the Sub Total value does not match the previous total, so please correct them and check through the table again. The table attached in the "GEF-8 CEO Approval request - MIA Barhain - GEF review response" looks correct, but the table attached in CEO Approval which you resubmitted today has many discrepancies as shown in the screenshot below.

3200	Group training (field trips, WS, etc.)							0			0
3201	Training on inventory development		2,000	15,000	2,000			19,000	16,000	3,000	19,000
3299	Sub-Total	0	0	13,000	0	0	0	19,000	16,000	3,000	19,000
3300	Meetings/conferences							0			0
3301	National coordination meetings					10,000		10,000	6,000	4,000	10,000
3302	National project inception workshop		10,000					10,000	10,000		10,000
3302	National MIA Results Workshops				10,000			10,000		10,000	10,000
3399	Sub-Total	0	10,000	0	10,000	10,000	0	30,000	16,000	14,000	30,000
3999	Component Total	0	10,000	13,000	10,000	10,000	0	43,000	29,000	14,000	43,000
40	EQUIPMENT and PREMISES COMPONENT							0			0
4100	Expendable equipment (under 1,500 \$)							0			0
4101	Operational costs							0			0
4102	Office premises							0			0
4199	Sub-Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4200	Non expendable equipment							0			0
4201	Computer, projector, etc							0			0
4202	Software							0			0
4299	Sub-Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4999	Component Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
50	MISCELLANEOUS COMPONENT							0			0
5200	Reporting costs (publications, maps, NI)							0			0
5201	Summary reports, visualization and diffusion of results		500		9,500			10,000	2,500	7,500	10,000
5202	Preparation of final report				5,000			5,000		5,000	5,000
5299	Sub-Total	0	0	0	14,000	0	0	15,000	2,500	12,500	15,000
5300	Sundry (communications, postages)							0			0
5301	Communications (postage, bank transfers, etc)							0			0
5399	Sub-total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5500	Evaluation							0			0
5501	Independent Terminal Evaluation					5,000		5,000		5,000	5,000
5599	Sub-Total					5,000		5,000		5,000	5,000

Toshi 4/29/2024:

I found that you addressed to my comments related to project budget table appropriately on the submitted file named "GEF-8 CEO Approval request - MIA Barhain - GEF review response", however, the project budget table attached to the CEO approval is still old one. Please update and resubmit it.

Toshi 4/15/2024:

1) Operational costs (\$6,000) and sundry communication (postage, bank transfers, etc?) should be charged to PMC but not to project components.

2) Please include, in the budget table in Annex B, a column that mentions the responsible entity for executing each expenditure category. You can use the project budget template

provided in the *Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy*

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)									Total (USD eq.)	Responsible Entity (Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency) ⁸⁰
		Component 1		Component 2		Component 3		Sub-Total	M & E	P M C		
		Outcome 1.1	Outcome 1.2	Outcome 2.1	Outcome 2.2	Outcome 3.1	Outcome 3.2					
Travel	...											
	...											
Office Supplies	...											
	...											
Other Operating Costs	...											
	...											
Grand Total												

Agency's Comments

Agency's Comments

Response to 5/16/2024

P.15 deleted.

Response to 5/14/2024:

Apologies. The correct table with the right amounts and the *Responsible Entity* column has been updated in the relevant sections.

Response to 4/30/2024:

Apologies, totals carried out and correct table uploaded as Annex B: Budget Table.

Response to 4/29/2024:

Budget table updated and uploaded as Annex B: Budget Table.

Response to 4/15/2024:

1) After further considerations, expenses have been re-allocated to training and reporting budget lines under the same components.

2) Many thanks, the column was added to the budget.

Response to 4/29/2024:

Budget table updated and uploaded as Annex B: Budget Table.

Response to 4/15/2024:

1) After further considerations, expenses have been re-allocated to training and reporting budget lines under the same components.

2) Many thanks, the column was added to the budget.

Environmental and Social Safeguards.

If there are screening documents or other ESS documents available, have these been attached? (only as applicable)

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi 4/15/2024:

Yes. ESS documents have been attached. The overall project risk is categorized as low risk.

Agency's Comments

GEFSEC DECISION

RECOMMENDATION.

Is CEO endorsement/ approval recommended?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi 5/16/2024:

Please address a comment above ("P.15 of CEO Approval (PDF) is unnecessary (it overlaps with P.14 and is cluttered), so please delete it") and resubmit it.

Toshi 5/14/2024:

Please address a comment above (project budget table) and resubmit it.

Toshi 4/30/2024:

Please address a comment above (project budget table) and resubmit it.

Toshi 4/29/2024:

Please address a comment above (project budget table) and resubmit it.

Also, I was able to find how you addressed to my comments in the uploaded file named

"[MIA Barhain - GEF Review - Agency Response](#)", but next time, please also write in the "Agency's Comments" section of the portal.

Toshi 4/15/2024:

Please address the comments above and resubmit. Please highlight in yellow the changes you make to the portal form for ease of revision.

REVIEW DATE(S)

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review	3/25/2024	4/25/2024

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
Additional Review (as necessary)	4/15/2024	4/30/2024
Additional Review (as necessary)	4/29/2024	5/2/2024
Additional Review (as necessary)	4/30/2024	
Additional Review (as necessary)	5/14/2024	