



GEF-6 REQUEST FOR Chemicals and Wastes ENABLING ACTIVITY
PROPOSAL FOR FUNDING UNDER THE GEF Trust Fund

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PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFIERS

Project Title:	Strengthen Bosnia and Herzegovina decision making towards becoming a Party to the Minamata Convention and build capacity towards implementation of future provisions.		
Country(ies):	Bosnia and Herzegovina	GEF Project ID: ¹	
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP (select)	GEF Agency Project ID:	5614
Other Executing Partner(s):		Submission Date:	20 May 2015
GEF Focal Area (s):	Chemicals and Wastes	Project Duration (Months)	24
Type of Report:	National Implementation Plan (NIP)	Expected Report Submission to Convention	June 2017

A. PROJECT FRAMEWORK*

Project Objective: Undertake a Mercury Initial Assessment to enable the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina to determine the national requirements and needs for becoming a Party of the Minamata Convention and establish a national foundation to undertake future work towards the implementation of the Convention				
Project Component	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	(in \$)	
			GEF Project Financing	Confirmed Co-financing ²
1. Enabling environment for decision-making on becoming the Party to the Minamata Convention established	1.1 National decision making structure on Mercury operational	1.1 National Mercury Coordination/consultation Mechanism established.	60,000	
	1.2 Policy and regulatory framework, and institutional and capacity needs in regard to the implementation of Convention provisions assessed.	1.2 Assessment report prepared on the existing and required policy and regulatory framework as well as institutional capacity to implement the Convention (incl. overview of existing barriers).		
	1.3 Awareness raised on the environmental and health impacts of Mercury in the country.	1.3 Hg awareness raising activities conducted targeting decision makers and population groups at risk.		
	1.4 Importance of Hg priority interventions at national level raised through mainstreaming in relevant policies/plans.	1.4 National Hg priority interventions (identified in MIA report- see 2.3) mainstreamed in national policies/plans.		
2. National Mercury Profile and Mercury Initial Assessment	2.1 National capacity built to undertake Mercury inventories.	2.1 Capacity building and training conducted to commence the Mercury	105,000	

¹ Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC and to be entered by Agency in subsequent document submission.

² Co-financing for enabling activity is encouraged but not required.

Report development	2.2 National Mercury Profile prepared for the country. 2.3 National MIA Report available for the country	inventory. 2.2 Mercury Inventory conducted and sector description by usage of mercury developed. 2.3 National MIA Report for accessing the convention and implementation of the Convention prepared (including proposed policy/regulatory interventions, inst. Cap. Building and required investment plans).		
3. Monitoring and evaluation	3.1 Monitoring, reporting, and preparing of financial audits	3.1.1 Project financial and progress reports prepared and submitted. 3.1.2 Terminal Evaluation	15,000	
Subtotal			180,000	0
Project Management Cost ³			20,000	
Total Project Cost			200,000	0

* List the \$ by project components. Please attach a detailed project budget table that supports all the project components in this table.

B. SOURCE OF CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY NAME AND BY TYPE

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
Total Co-financing			0

³ This is the cost associated with the unit executing the project on the ground and could be financed out of trust fund or co-financing sources. For EAs within the ceiling, PMC could be up to 10% of the Subtotal GEF Project Financing.

C. GEF FINANCING RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY, COUNTRY AND PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b) ^{b)}	Total (c)=a+b
UNDP	GEFTF	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Chemicals and Wastes	Mercury	200,000	19,000	219,000
Total GEF Resources					200,000	19,000	219,000

a) Refer to the Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies

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):

Mercury pollution and its hazards have not yet appropriately been addressed in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The country does not dispose of specific data and information on Mercury imports or imports of Mercury-containing products, the use of Mercury in various industrial processes or important release sources of Mercury. For this reason it is very important to assess the country's situation related to the management of Mercury, to enable it to start addressing its main priorities in this respect.

B&H has demonstrated a continued commitment to the advancement of the environment and sustainable development agendas. As it is currently in the process of becoming a party to the Convention, it lacks a clear picture of the effort that will be required nationally to be able to fulfill all of its commitments.

As becoming a Party to the Convention would legally bind Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Convention's obligations, national inventories and detailed assessment processes are highly necessary to be conducted with preparation of legislative and institutional capacity to implement the Convention effectively once it has entered into force.

All products and chemicals containing mercury compounds are imported into Bosnia and Herzegovina as none is produced locally for use. However, there are also growing concerns about the hazardous nature from anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds that pose adverse effects on human health and the environment.

Little data and information on the import and use of mercury in various industrial process and consumer products are available. However, several scientific studies have shown and flagged the problem, especially within the following categories: Lack of awareness of the dangers posed by mercury; Residues in agricultural products and fish; Atmospheric pollution from mercury; The presence of residues in rivers and groundwater; The pollution of river and coastal sediments; Occupational diseases caused by chemicals and particularly mercury; Inadequate treatment of hazardous chemical waste including mercury.

Fishing, as a popular activity throughout major rivers of BiH, has been flagged for potential susceptibility to overexposure to mercury, whether caused by domestic or international pollution, and it requires monitoring. Health effects due to fish consumption could not be excluded. Local scientific research has strongly recommended further investigation, including a survey of fish consumption frequency among the local inhabitants and sports fishermen.

Scientific research has also shown increased levels of mercury in soils around chemical plants, especially in front of plant for chloralkali electrolysis around Tuzla city. All of these are due to anthropogenic influence, uncontrolled discharge and dispersed by frequent flooding.

Additionally, there are several hundreds of mercury ore deposits in BiH, mainly cinnabar and tetrahedrite, and rarely metacinnabar. Mercury was mined from Ancient Roman period until 1960s in several different locations of the country. It has to be noted, however, that there is no Artisanal small-sale gold mining in B&H: this sector can be a large source of mercury emissions in other countries.

Another Mercury release source is the burning of waste and obsolete products containing mercury, as burning is still a common treatment method in the country.

Finally, the health care sector also has equipment containing mercury, and the situation can be assessed during the MIA survey. This includes thermometers, blood pressure measurement equipment, as well as dental amalgam.

In spite of all of these, the current situation with respect to Mercury management and national challenges and priorities is not very clear. This is why it is of paramount importance to assist the country in assessing its situation pertaining to mercury sources, uses, emissions and hotspots and conduct an analysis on potential policy and regulatory gaps.

No specific activities related to Mercury have been supported in the past. As such Bosnia and Herzegovina would benefit significantly from a GEF project that would build capacity to address Mercury priorities, but at the same time would also allow strengthening the entire sound management of chemicals regime in the country.

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 dimensions are considered in project design and implementation):

The proposed EA and the project framework, including envisaged activities, are entirely in line with the GEF Initial Guidelines for Enabling Activities for the Minamata Convention on Mercury (GEF/C.45/Inf.05).

Project Objective:

The project's objective is to undertake a Mercury Initial Assessment to enable the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina to determine the national requirements and needs for the ratification of the Minamata Convention and establish a sound foundation to undertake future work towards the implementation of the Convention.

It will do so by implementing 4 components as specified in the GEF guidelines (GEF/C.45/Inf.05 paragraph 19), as well as a fifth component on mainstreaming.

1. Undertake an assessment of legislation and policies in regard to the implementation of Convention provisions of

- Article 3;
- Article 5;
- Article 7 (including legislation and policy to cover formalization, worker health and safety);
- Article 8 (specifically in regard to relevant national air pollution/emission standards and regulations);
- Article 9 (specifically in regard to the ability to identify and categorize sources of releases).

The policy and legislative assessment will be undertaken through a review of existing legislation on chemicals management and identification of the gaps prevalent in association to issues of mercury. In addition the legislation review will assess the necessary steps for the establishment of a National Mercury Coordination/Consultation Mechanism.

2. Undertake an initial assessment of Mercury in the following categories:

- Stocks of mercury and/or mercury compounds and import and export procedures including an assessment of the storage conditions;
- Supply of mercury, including sources, recycling activities and quantities;
- Sectors that use mercury and the amount per year, including manufacturing processes and mercury added products (there is no ASGM in Bosnia and Herzegovina);
- Trade in mercury and mercury containing compounds.

3. Identify:

- Emission sources of mercury;
- Release sources of mercury to land and water.

4. Assess institutional and capacity needs to implement the Convention.

5. Mainstream national Mercury priorities in national policies and plans to raise the importance of Hg priority interventions:

- Identify national mercury priorities;
- Assess opportunities for mainstreaming Hg priorities;
- Mainstream Hg priority interventions in relevant policies/plans.

The key stakeholders involved in the project are:

Ministries of Environment - Responsible for providing policies pertaining to environmental protection e.g. such as National Environmental Policies, Environmental Management Acts and its Regulations, programmes and projects.

Gender Dimensions

Generally, two groups are more sensitive to the effects of mercury. Fetuses and people who are regularly exposed (chronic exposure) to high levels of mercury (such as populations that rely on subsistence fishing or people who are occupationally exposed). This is because Mercury is passed on from mother to child, and fetuses and children are most susceptible to developmental effects due to mercury. The MIA will pay particular attention to assessing national capacity to keep such risk groups safe. Recommendations on how to improve gender dimensions and gender mainstreaming related to Mercury, and priorities actions in this area will be highlighted in the MIA report.

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).

UNDP will act as the GEF Implementing Agency (IA) for the project. A UNDP project manager will provide overall project oversight and implementation.

Department of environmental protection of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations will be the MIA project counterpart.

The proposed EA project has been organized into two components:

1. Enabling environment for decision-making on the ratification of Minamata.
2. Development of the National Mercury Profile and Mercury Initial Assessment Report.

1.1 Establishing a national decision making structure on Mercury
A national decision-making structure on Mercury (“Mercury Coordination/Consultation Mechanism (MCM)”) will be established in line with national capacities and existing structures and practices present in the country and where feasible will build/expand on similar structures established in support of other chemicals-related multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs).

1.2 Conducting an assessment of the policy and regulatory framework and institutional capacity needs in regard to the implementation of the Convention’s provisions.

The work will begin with a review of the structures, institutions and policies and regulations already in place:

- Legislation on the governance of chemicals in general and the capacities of the key institutions such as the Waste and Chemicals Units at the Ministries that are responsible for environmental issues will be the initial focus.
- Review of existing legislation, identification of gaps for meeting the Minamata Convention requirements and initial technical input on proposed amendments.
- Roles of other ministries and institutions related to the key sectors where mercury inventory establishes the presence of mercury use, emissions and/or releases are to be analyzed. These institutions will include, but not be limited to the ministries related to Health, Economy and Energy
- Capacities of these institutions will be reviewed and the gaps for comprehensive management of mercury issues will be identified.
 - Identification of barriers that would hinder or prevent implementation of the Convention.

Upon the identification of capacity and/or regulatory gaps (in relation to the Convention’s obligations), these will be discussed and reviewed by the “MCM”. The results of these discussions will direct the work under component 2, in particular related to the development of the MIA Report.

1.3 Raising awareness on the environmental and health impacts of Mercury

Targeted information awareness activities will be supported on

the risks of Mercury and mercury-associated impact on human health and the environment. Awareness raising will target decision makers, the general public and population groups at risk.

1.4 Mainstreaming Hg priorities into national policies/plans.

The mainstreaming exercise will be led and supported by the interim ministerial coordination committee with the objective to include mercury priorities into national policies and development plans. The mainstreaming exercise will also include a socio-economic study on the effects of mercury and alternatives in the relevant sectors that were identified in the inventory, which can help inform priority setting for this sector and support decision making to facilitate the mainstreaming of selected priorities.

2.1 Building national capacity to under the Mercury Inventory.

National capacity to undertake the Mercury Inventory will be built through training, which will be conducted and facilitated by the project's international technical advisor. Training will be provided on data collection methodologies, reliability, credibility, data analysis, etc.

Training will be targeted towards a group of national technical experts who will conduct and develop the National Mercury Profile. Training will also be targeted towards key government representatives who make up the MCM and who need sufficient knowledge about conducting a Mercury Inventory to be able to review it and comment on it.

2.2 Conducting the Mercury Inventory and prepare the National Mercury Profile.

The inventory will make use of the UNEP "*Toolkit for identification and quantification of mercury releases*"⁴, which is intended to assist countries to develop a national mercury releases inventory. It provides a standardized methodology and accompanying database enabling the development of consistent national and regional mercury inventories.

Throughout the data collection, analysis and preparation of the Mercury Inventory, the national expert team will be guided by an international technical advisor.

The inventory will review all the relevant sectors which make up the UNEP Inventory Level 2. This inventory will also include:

- Identification and assessment of the amounts of emission sources of mercury and release sources of mercury to land and water.
- Identification of old, historical sources of mercury contamination (such as abandoned mining sites).
- Identification of key sectors, municipalities, communities and other stakeholders affected by or involved with important Mercury sources and/or emissions.

After completion of the data gathering stage, a National Mercury Profile, including significant sources of emissions and releases, as well as inventories of mercury and mercury compounds, will be prepared for review, approval and adoption by the MCM during a national stakeholder workshop.

	<p><u>2.3 Preparing the National MIA Report</u></p> <p>Following the finalization of the project activities as envisaged under component 1 (1.1 – 1-3) as well as completion of the project activities 2.1 and 2.2 (see above), the national project team will prepare a National MIA Report.</p> <p>The National MIA Report will provide information on the following key areas, which will enable the government to make a decision on ratifying the Convention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Structures, institutions, legislation already available to implement the Convention. - Identification of barriers that would hinder or prevent implementation of the Convention. - Summary of the results from the Mercury Profile. - Identification of technical and financial needs for implementation of the Convention, including resources from the GEF, national sources, bilateral sources, the private sector, and others integrated into a National Action Plan. <p>Expert teams will draft proposals for actions to be included in the Mercury Initial Assessment Report on how to address the pertinent gaps and barriers. These proposals will also include an overview of the costs to the Government in meeting its obligations under the Minamata Convention.</p> <p>After the development of the draft National Mercury Profile and MIA Report these will be prepared for review, approval and adoption by the MCM during a national stakeholder workshop.</p>
<p><u>D. DESCRIBE, IF POSSIBLE, THE EXPECTED COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT:</u></p>	<p>The project will as much as possible engage national experts to facilitate the collection of accurate information and to establish a high-responsiveness of the project to keep a steady momentum in project implementation with an international technical advisor providing succinct, specific input where local expertise gaps exist</p>
<p><u>E. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M&E PLAN:</u></p>	<p>Project monitoring and evaluation will be conducted in accordance with established UNDP and GEF procedures and will be provided by the project team with support from the UNDP/MPU Chemicals team. This will be done through project implementation reviews, quarterly review reports and a final evaluation (the latter conducted at least 3 months before project closure).</p>
<p><u>F. EXPLAIN THE DEVIATIONS FROM TYPICAL COST RANGES (WHERE APPLICABLE):</u></p>	<p>Not Applicable</p>

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):
(Please attach the [*Operational Focal Point endorsement letter\(s\)*](#) with this template).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (Month, day, year)
Mr. Senad Oprasic	Head of Environment Protection Department	MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS	02/16/2015

B. CONVENTION PARTICIPATION

CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION (mm/dd/yyyy)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	
UNCBD			
UNFCCC			
UNCCD			
STOCKHOLM CONVENTION			
	DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	DATE OF NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 7 TO THE MINAMATA CONVENTION SECRETARIAT
MINAMATA CONVENTION		N / A	

C. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies⁵ and procedures and meets the standards of the GEF Project Review Criteria for Chemicals and Waste Enabling Activity approval in GEF 6.					
Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	E-mail Address
Adriana Dinu, UNDP-GEF Executive Coordinator		05/20/2015	Jacques Van Engel, Director, MPU-Chemicals	+1-212-906-5782	jacques.van.engel@undp.org

⁵ GEF policies encompass all managed trust funds, namely: GEFTF, LDCF, and SCCF