



**REQUEST FOR CHEMICALS AND WASTE ENABLING ACTIVITY
PROPOSAL FOR FUNDING UNDER THE GEF TRUST FUND**

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFIERS

Project Title:	Development of a Minamata Initial Assessment in the Republic of Belarus		
Country(ies):	Republic of Belarus	GEF Project ID: ¹	
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP	GEF Agency Project ID:	01552
Other Executing Partner(s):	Green Cross Switzerland in close collaboration with the Ecological Initiative	Submission Date:	January 23, 2017
GEF Focal Area (s):	Chemicals and Wastes	Project Duration (Months)	24 months
Type of Report:	Minamata Initial Assessment	Expected Report Submission to Convention	24 months after receipt of the first cash advance

A. PROJECT FRAMEWORK*

Project Objective: Ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention contributes to the protection of human health and the environment from the risks posed by unintentional and intentional emissions and releases as well as unsound use and management of mercury			
Project Component	Project Outputs	(in \$)	
		GEF Project Financing	Confirmed Co-financing ²
1. Global technical support for MIA development	1.1 Technical assistance provided to Belarus to develop the MIA while building sustainable foundations for its future implementation	10,000	0
2. Development and validation of the Minamata Initial Assessment	2.1 Identified and strengthened national coordination mechanism dealing with mercury management that will guide the project implementation	10,000	5,000
	2.2 National institutional and regulatory framework and national capacities on mercury management assessed	40,000	0
	2.3 National inventories of mercury sources and releases developed using the UNEP Mercury Toolkit Level II and strategy for the identification of mercury contaminated sites developed	60,000	20,000
	2.4 Challenges, needs and opportunities to implement the Minamata Convention assessed and recommendations to ratify and implement the Minamata Convention developed	45,000	7,500
	2.5 MIA validated by national stakeholders	17,000	17,500

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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.

3. Monitoring and Evaluation	3.1 Status of project implementation and probity of use of funds accessed on a regular basis and communicated to the GEF	18,000	0
	3.2 Independent terminal evaluation developed and made publicly available		
Subtotal		200,000	50,000
Project Management Cost ³		0	12,000
Total Project Cost		200,000	62,000

*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 (\$)
UN	UNITAR	Cash	20,000
		In-Kind	10,000
NGO	Ecological Initiative	Cash	7,000
		In-Kind	5,000
NGO	Green Cross Switzerland	Cash	5,000
		In-Kind	15,000
Total Co-financing			62,000

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country Name/Global	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
				GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee ^{a)} / (b) ²	Total c=a+b
UNEP	GEFTF	Republic of Belarus	Chemicals and Wastes	200,000	19,000	219,000
Total Grant 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):

The Minamata Convention on Mercury is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from the adverse effects of mercury. The major highlights of the Convention include a ban on new mercury mines, the phase-out of existing ones, control measures on air emissions, and the international regulation of the informal sector for artisanal and small-scale gold mining.

The Minamata Convention on Mercury identifies and describes in its Article 13 the financial mechanism to support Parties to implement the Convention. It identifies two entities that will function as the Financial Mechanism: a) the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund; and b) a specific international Programme to support capacity-building and technical

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.

assistance. The GEF financial support of mercury related activities is included in the GEF VI Focal Area Strategies document, which addresses mercury issues under the Strategic Objective 1, Programme 2: Support enabling activities and promote their integration into national budgets and planning processes, national and sector policies and action and global monitoring.

The project contributes to the achievement of the expected accomplishment A under the UNEP biennial Programme of Work (PoW) 2016-2017 “countries increasingly have the necessary institutional capacity and policy instruments to manage chemicals and waste soundly, including the implementation of related provisions in the multilateral environmental agreements”. More precisely, the project contributes to the PoW output 2 “secretariat support provided to the intergovernmental negotiating committee to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury (the Minamata Convention on Mercury) during the interim period, prior to its entry into force”. Through this project UNEP will provide national stakeholders with the policy and technical instruments needed to ratify the Minamata Convention and will strengthen the national institutional capacity to its early implementation.

The Republic of Belarus signed the Minamata Convention on 23 September 2014. This project is aimed at facilitating the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention by providing key national stakeholders in Belarus with the scientific and technical knowledge and tools needed for that purpose. Belarus will benefit from new and updated information about the mercury situation in the country and from increased capacity in managing the risks from mercury. The sharing of experiences and lessons learned throughout the project is also expected to be an important contribution to other similar countries within region.

National priorities and UNDAF in the Republic of Belarus

The following section draws on the **UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF)** of the Republic of Belarus. In order to ensure that this project contributes to the UNDAF outcomes in the country, representatives from the United Nations Country Teams (e.g. UNDP National Representation) will be invited to attend the inception workshop and to take part in the National Coordination Mechanisms. It is important to indicate that the participation of the United Nations Country teams in the respective National Coordination Mechanisms will result in a closer analysis and assessment of the progress made in terms of National Priorities.

UNDAF BELARUS 2011-2015⁴: has identified five priority areas of cooperation in the country (i) assistance for ensuring sustainable social and economic development; (ii) assistance for strengthening national health care system; (iii) assistance for ensuring environmental sustainability; (iv) assistance for developing national migration management in line with international standards; and (v) assistance for improving the national governance system. This project contributes directly to the areas of cooperation (ii) and (iii). Mercury inventories and the assessment of mercury contaminated sites will provide Belarus with information on populations at risk of mercury exposure and contamination. Consequently policy makers will be able to develop a National Plan and related policies aimed at reducing morbidity due to mercury exposure. The promotion of healthy lifestyles by decreased morbidity is also included in the National Strategy for Sustainable Social and Economic Development of the Republic of Belarus until 2030. Equally, the outputs of this project will also provide national and regional stakeholders with accurate information to improve the quality of the environment and develop new management strategies on the use of natural resources and environmental protection.

Table 1: Legal framework

Provision of the Minamata Convention	Relevant existing legislation in the country
Article 3 on supply sources and trade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Standard (here and after – GOST, STB) 4658-73 on “Mercury. Specifications”: The standard establishes requirements to mercury made for needs of the national economy or for export. The standard contains technical requirements to mercury and its purity level, safety requirements for handling and transportation including carrying out activities on the decontamination of

Provision of the Minamata Convention	Relevant existing legislation in the country
	<p>mercury as well as acceptance procedures, test methods, rules of packaging, labelling, transportation and storage. These requirements concern only mercury with a purity of not less than 99,9%.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On Mercury (metal) and its compounds (Foreign Economic Activity Commodity Nomenclature of the Customs Union code 2805 40): 2.13. “TOXIC AGENTS THAT ARE NOT PRECURSORS OF DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES, MOVEMENT OF WHICH IS LIMITED THROUGH BOUNDARIES OF THE CUSTOMS UNION DURING IMPORT AND EXPORT”. This is the Unified Register which bans or restricts import or export by member states of the Customs Union within the Eurasian Economic Community regarding trade with third parties. It means that import, export and transit of mercury is regulated by the regulation on the delivery arrangements and conditions by the Department on Supervision of Safe Operation in the Industry and the Department on Nuclear and Radiation Safety of the Emergencies Ministry. Import and export licenses for explosives, explosive devices and blasting agents of industrial function, sources of ionizing radiation which movement is limited through boundaries of the Republic of Belarus on the basis of uneconomic character as well as conclusions (allowing documents) for import, export and transit of particular goods are specified in section 2.13 of the Unified Register for bans or restrictions on the import or export by member states of the Customs Union within the Eurasian Economic Community regarding trade with the third parties approved by the Resolution of the Council of Ministers #1397 from September 23, 2008. The issued conclusion is applied by the Emergencies Ministry in order to coordinate the issuing of corresponding licenses of the Ministry of Trade.
Article 4 on mercury-added products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to Paragraph 5 of the Technical Regulations of the Customs Union (TR TC 009/2011) “On the security of perfumes and cosmetics”, raw materials of natural vegetable or natural mineral origin in amounts greater than 1%, the content of mercury should not exceed 1,0 mg/kg (i.e. 1 part per million according to the Convention).
Article 5 on manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GOST 12.3.031-83 “Occupational safety standards system when working with mercury. Safety requirements”: This standard establishes safety requirements for working with mercury in various branches of the national economy, i.e. requirements to production sites, facilities, machinery, placement of the production equipment, organization of workplaces, storage, transportation and neutralization, protection of workers, professional selection and expertise and also control methods of performance of safety requirements. The National Medical Standard (here and after – SanPiN) #30 from April 12, 2013 “On Sanitary and epidemiologic requirements during the work with mercury, its compounds and devices filled with mercury”: The sanitary standards and rules establish requirements to the placement and design of technological processes, production equipment, ventilation, heating, sanitary and non-production premises of enterprises, facilities, laboratories in which mercury and its compounds are used. Documents of the technical plan in respect of the purposes of Article 5 of the Convention are not relevant but certain sanitary requirements can be established.
Article 6 on exemptions available to a Party upon request	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the MIA implementation the phase-out period for mercury-containing equipments as well as possible exemptions has to be evaluated and decided.

Provision of the Minamata Convention	Relevant existing legislation in the country
Article 7 on artisanal and small-scale gold mining	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity not existing in the Republic of Belarus.
Article 8 on emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Technical Standard (named according to the Belarusian Law as Technical Code of Established Practice (here and after – TKP) 17.08-14-2011 "Environmental protection and environmental management. Atmosphere. Emissions of polluting substances into air. Rules of calculation of emissions of heavy metals." STB 17.13.05-12-2010/EN 13211:2001 "Protection of the environment and natural resources. Analytical control and monitoring. Emissions from stationary sources. Guidelines for the determination of total mercury content": it establishes requirements for the determination of total mercury in the stack flue gas and chimneys. It is applicable for the determination of total mercury in flue gas from waste incineration with contents of 0.001 mg/m³ to 0.5 mg/m³
Article 9 on releases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decree of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus № 13 dating 30 March 2015: it sets for mercury maximum permissible concentration level in surface waters of 0.07 micrograms / dm³. STB 17.13.05-40-2015/ISO 12846:2012 "Protection of the environment and natural resources. Analytical (laboratory) control, and environmental monitoring. Water quality. Determination of mercury. The method of atomic absorption spectrometry (AAS) with and without enrichment": it establishes two methods for the determination of mercury in drinking, surface, underground, precipitation and waste water, one method with an enrichment content of 0.01 mg/dm³ and one without an enrichment content of 0.05 mg/dm³.
Article 10 on environmentally sound interim storage of mercury, other than waste mercury	<p>Regulations already mentioned above:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GOST 4658-73 "Mercury. Specifications", SanPiN #30 from April 12, 2013 "On Sanitary and epidemiologic requirements during the work with mercury, its compounds and devices filled with mercury", GOST 12.3.031-83 "Occupational safety standards system when working with mercury. Safety requirements".
Article 11 on mercury wastes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law No. 271-3 of the Republic of Belarus dating 20 July 2007 "On handling waste": The Law establishes general requirements to handling waste including mercury-containing waste. Regulations under the Law establish approaches to formation of a waste handling system and the development of the main documentation for organizations working in this sphere. Decree #450 dating 1 September 2010: Neutralization of mercury-containing waste is the only licensed admissible "final" mechanism of treatment. Objects are subject to the state environmental assessment according to requirements of the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On the State Environmental Assessment". The Republic of Belarus is party to the Basel Convention, which puts mercury-containing waste on the list of wastes forbidden to import. STB GOST P 51768-2003 "Efficient management of resources. Waste handling. Technique of mercury identification in mercury-containing waste": This standard contains the general requirements to the techniques for identification of the mass content of metallic mercury in mercury-containing slurries and during disposal of production wastes, including rejected production, and also products with expired operation term, including luminescent and mercury lamps and mercury-containing electric batteries.

Provision of the Minamata Convention	Relevant existing legislation in the country
	<p>According to this standard, the content of mercury and its compounds in waste is defined after de-mercurization.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GOST 1639-78 “Scrap and waste of non-ferrous metals and alloys. General specifications”. This standard extends to scrap and waste of non-ferrous metals and alloys intended for production of non-ferrous metals and alloys and other types of production. It describes mercury physical signs and mercury quality indicators, characteristics of mercury compounds and requirements to the content of mercury are provided as well as the content of moisture and pollutants. The standard also establishes, requirements to collecting mercury and its compounds and safety requirements are established regarding working with collected wastes and preparation of mercury and its compounds, requirements to packaging, acceptance, transportation and storage of mercury and its compounds.
Article 12 on contaminated sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No documents exist related to that topic. There is a law of the Republic of Belarus #141-Z dating 5 May 1998 “On protection of the population and territories against emergency situations of a natural and technogenic character”, but it establishes general requirements that do not assume a sequence of actions for identification of the contaminated sites. Technical requirements for waste handling, e.g. contaminated soil, etc., are established by TKP 17.11-04-2011 (02120) “On environmental protection and environmental management. Rules of handling waste which is formed after carrying out de-mercurization works”
Article 13 on financial resources and mechanism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will be clarified in the inception phase of the project.
Article 14 on capacity building, technical assistance and technology transfer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will be clarified in the inception phase of the project.
Article 16 on health aspects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law of the Republic of Belarus #2583-XII dating 23 November 1993 “On sanitary and epidemic well-being of the population”: It includes generalized documents regarding influence on health including mercury and mercury compounds. Occupational health protection is regulated by GOST 12.3.031-83 “Occupational safety standards system when working with mercury. Safety requirements”. SanPiN #30 dating 12 April 2013 “On Sanitary and epidemiologic requirements during the work with mercury, its compounds and devices filled with mercury”. Resolution of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Belarus #240 dating 31 December 2008 “On the approval of sanitary standards, rules and hygienic standards and the list of harmful substances regulated in air of a working zone” according to which mercury concentrations are determined.
Article 17 on information exchange	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will be clarified in the inception phase of the project.
Article 18 on public information, awareness and education.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will be clarified in the inception phase of the project.

Table 2: Institutional Policy

Provision of the Minamata Convention	Relevant existing institution in the country and role/responsibility
Article 3 on supply sources and trade	The Ministry of Emergency Situations and Department (responsibility: supervision of safe management of mercury-containing substances in industry), Ministry of Trade (issuing licences for sending mercury-containing wastes for disposal according to the provisions of the Basel Convention)
Article 4 on mercury-added products	Ministry of Health (regulation of amalgam for dental fillings and other equipment included in annex A), Ministry of Agriculture and Food Production (secure storage of mercury-containing pesticides), Ministry of Industry (regulation of management of lamps, accumulators, devices)
Article 5 on manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used	Ministry of Industry (note: mercury-containing processes are currently not undertaken in the Republic of Belarus)
Article 6 on exemptions available to a Party upon request	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus (note: there are no any exemptions for Belarus as a Party of the Minamata Convention at the moment)
Article 7 on artisanal and small-scale gold mining	No responsible ministry as ASGM is not existing in the country
Article 8 on emissions	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus (issuing of comprehensive environmental permits for all potential sources of atmospheric emissions; control of all sources of atmospheric emissions)
Article 9 on releases	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus (implementation of inventory of releases from national sources), Ministry of Industry (organisation of control over releases in the state industrial organisations), Ministry of Health (identifying the sources and taking measures to control releases)
Article 10 on environmentally sound interim storage of mercury, other than waste mercury	Ministry of Industry (organisation of safe storage of mercury and mercury compounds in industrial sector), Ministry of Health (regulation of organisation of the safe storage of mercury and mercury compounds to prevent impacts on human health); Ministry of Emergency Situations (supervision of safe storage of mercury and mercury compounds collected during disaster management activities); Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus (control of environmentally sound interim storage of mercury and mercury compounds),
Article 11 on mercury wastes	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection (regulation and control of environmentally sound mercury waste)

Provision of the Minamata Convention	Relevant existing institution in the country and role/responsibility
	management; regulation of movements of mercury waste under the Basel Convention); Ministry of Housing and Utilities (regulation and organization of the system of collection and disposal of mercury-containing wastes); Ministry of Industry (organization of the collection and disposal of mercury-containing wastes); State Customs Committee (control of transboundary movements of mercury-containing wastes under the Basel Convention)
Article 12 on contaminated sites	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection (Identification and, where possible, clean-up of sites contaminated by mercury or mercury compounds)
Article 13 on financial resources and mechanism	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection; Ministry of Health; Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Economy; (Development of financial activities aimed at implementation of the provisions of Minamata Convention); Ministry of Finance (approval of the activities proposed in the framework of the state budget resources allocated for a fiscal year)
Article 14 on capacity building, technical assistance and technology transfer	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection (Analysis of national needs and challenges, coordination of the stakeholders' activities aimed at technology transfer and strengthening of technical capacity in the area of Minamata Convention implementation)
Article 16 on health aspects	Ministry of Health (Promotion of the development and implementation of strategies and programmes aimed at identification and protection of population's categories at risk, and the establishment and strengthening of the institutional capacity for prevention, monitoring and treatment of health problems caused by exposure to mercury and mercury compounds)
Article 17 on information exchange	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection (Facilitating the exchange of information)
Article 18 on public information, awareness and education.	Ministry of Information, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health , NGOs. (Development and promotion of educational, training and public awareness programs related to impact of mercury and mercury compounds on human health and the environment)
EArticle 19 on research, development and monitoring.	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection (Implementation of inventories); Ministry of Health (assessments of the impact of mercury and mercury compounds on human health); National Academy of Sciences of Belarus

Provision of the Minamata Convention	Relevant existing institution in the country and role/responsibility
	(Development and implementation of scientific research programs)
Article 21 on reporting	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection (Development and coordination of performance of the National implementation plan's activities)

Table 3: National sector emissions: Main pollutants, particulate matter, heavy metals and persistent organic pollutants (in 2012 and 2014 respectively)

Sector	Activity	2012 (Kg)	2014 (Kg)
Cement production	Production of Portland cement	826	149
Production of iron and steel	Primary production of pig iron	55	25
Stationary fossil fuel combustion in (major) power plants:	Combustion of heavy fuel oil in (major)	27	18
Oil refining	Refining of crude oil in oil refineries	No statistics or emission factors	17
Stationary fossil fuel combustion in other uses (domestic/residential uses, transport, and use in fisheries, agriculture)	Commercial/institutional/ residential uses (coal and oil)	12	11
Waste	Incineration of waste (large incinerators)	4	4
Waste	Waste and other losses due to breakage and disposal in landfill, etc.	No statistics or emission factors	No statistics or emission factors

Data reflected in the above Table is provided by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection in accordance with the obligations under the Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution and its Protocols on air emissions.

Although no national Mercury related reports have been published officially⁵, the Ministry of Environment has put some effort into preparing a Mercury Emissions Inventory (Level 1), making use of the UNEP Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Mercury Releases⁶.⁷ That said, the Ministry expects to use the Level 2 approach for Mercury Release Inventory as part of a GEF Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA) project.

B. ENABLING ACTIVITY GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIVITIES:

Project objective: Ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention contributes to the protection of human health and the environment from the risks posed by unintentional and intentional emissions and releases as well as unsound use and management of mercury.

⁵ Information from national data monitoring pertaining to Mercury (which includes observation of Mercury content in some environmental media – soil, surface and ground water and dynamics of Hg releases to air for the years 2003-2012) is available.

⁶ <http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Metals/MercuryPublications/GuidanceTrainingMaterialToolkits/MercuryToolkit/tabid/4566/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

⁷ In its preparation though, the Ministry encountered challenges pertaining to the identification of the ratio of the import of Mercury containing products and devices versus those that are Mercury-free, as import code do not make a distinction between Mercury-containing or Mercury-free. Further data collection to determine these ratio is therefore anticipated as part of the Belarus MIA project.

Project Components and Activities: The development of the MIA provides support to ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention and has three components indicated below.

Component 1: Global technical support for MIA development

Belarus will benefit from and contribute to the work the Global Mercury Partnership is already accomplishing under other Minamata Initial Assessments. The technical expertise and tools provided will respond directly to country needs identified. With this additional support, Belarus will be able to obtain feedback and ensure rapid response to its queries on the development of the MIA and will also make full use of the existing capacities and expertise in the region and globally. It will identify opportunities for regional/global cooperation and synergies between countries working on their MIAs.

Expected outputs and planned activities:

1.1 Technical assistance provided to Belarus to develop the MIA while building sustainable foundations for its future implementation

1.1.1 *Quality check of mercury inventories developed;*

1.1.2 *Enhancement of the UNEP Hg toolkit, including translation to other UN languages;*

1.1.3 *Undertake knowledge management and information exchange through the Global Mercury Partnership website and/or Partners websites and tools;*

Component 2: Development and validation of the Minamata Initial Assessment

The Republic of Belarus will establish a National Coordination Mechanism for Mercury (NCM) making full use of existing structures dealing with chemicals management (e.g. National Coordination Group for POPs and/or for SAICM) to coordinate and guide the project implementation. The NCM for mercury, will seek for synergies and joint activities with existing and relevant planned chemical related activities. Additionally, it will identify existing competencies and roles of institutions and organization in chemicals management, particularly on mercury. Sectors to participate in the process as part of the Minamata National Committee will include representatives from emergencies, health, environment, labor, finance, economy, industry, mining and energy, external affairs and planning sectors, trade unions and civil society organizations.

During this project component implementation, the NCM for Mercury and its Terms of Reference will be formalized and reinforced in the Republic of Belarus. The Terms of Reference will include information on members, the frequency of meetings and the modality of work and roles in the project. The Terms of Reference for the NCM for Mercury will seek for a balanced structure, including representatives from the civil society and mercury affected communities. A gender specialist will be identified in the country to participate actively in the NCM for mercury. This project component also aims at enhancing stakeholders' involvement and commitment to the development of the MIA and gaining political support for the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury in the Republic of Belarus.

After the establishment of the NCM for mercury, this component will also review and assess the national capacities (technical, administrative, infrastructure and regulatory) on mercury management. This review and assessment will result in a preliminary identification of national needs and gaps for the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention. The assessments produced under this component will provide Ministries with strong arguments for the ratification of the Minamata Convention and prioritization of mercury management on the national agenda. Once the Convention is ratified, this component outputs will be essential to comply with the reporting obligations of the Convention and to monitor its implementation. This component will ensure that the gender issues and the interests of vulnerable populations are fully taken into account in the assessments.

The national assessment will be complemented by improved data on national mercury sources, emissions and releases. The UNEP Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Mercury Releases has been revised in 2013. The Republic of Belarus will apply the level II version, which is a comprehensive description of all mercury sources, as well as a quantitative analysis of mercury. More specifically, the mercury toolkit will assist the Republic of Belarus to address: a) Mercury supply sources

and trade (Article 3); (b) Mercury-added products (Article 4); (c) Manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used (Article 5); (d) Artisanal and small-scale gold mining (Article 7); (e) Emissions (Article 8); and (f) Releases (Article 9). It will also include a description of mercury storage conditions. An international expert will analyse the inventory data in a timely fashion and will train experts in the Republic of Belarus throughout the whole inventory process. The aim is to ensure the high quality and comparability of the final inventory with others produced by other countries and build national capacity to use the UNEP Toolkit. This project component will also analyse existing information on mercury contaminated sites and will formulate a strategy to identify and assess mercury contaminated sites, using internationally agreed or any existing criteria successfully used elsewhere.

Taking into consideration the assessment of national capacities, infrastructure and regulatory framework, and the mercury inventory, this project component will be completed by an assessment of the challenges, needs and opportunities to implement the Convention on priority sectors. The main output under this project component is a needs assessment and further recommendations to implement the Minamata Convention on Mercury, taking into consideration the role of all key players and their responsibilities, in particular gender concerns, and the special needs of vulnerable groups. The MIA will have a chapter with the main findings and recommendations to approach the social and gender aspects of mercury exposure.

Finally, during this project component the draft MIA is reviewed and validated by national stakeholders. This process of wide consultation will likely include National Coordination meetings, workshops with key sectors and stakeholders, written communications and discussions leading to a final MIA document that will allow the Government to ratify the Convention based on a sound national assessment of the mercury situation. Awareness raising and dissemination of key MIA outputs will also be performed under this project component under activity 2.5.2.

Expected outputs and planned activities:

- 2.1 Identified and strengthened national coordination mechanism dealing with mercury management that will guide the project implementation.
 - 2.1.1 *Organize a National Inception Workshop to raise awareness and to define the scope and objective and to have common understanding of the MIA process, including:*
 - a) *Develop ToR for the National Coordination Mechanism;*
 - b) *Develop a strategy for awareness raising aimed at national stakeholders throughout the project;*
 - c) *Identify key stakeholders and assign roles.*
 - 2.1.2 *Conduct a national assessment on existing sources of information (studies), compile and make them publicly available.*
- 2.2 National institutional and regulatory framework and national capacities on mercury management assessed.
 - 2.2.1 *Assess key national stakeholders, their roles in mercury management and monitoring and institutional interest and capacities;*
 - 2.2.2 *Analyze the existing regulatory framework, identify gaps and identify the regulatory reforms needed for the sound management of mercury in the Republic of Belarus.*
- 2.3 National inventories of mercury sources and releases developed using the UNEP Mercury Toolkit Level II and strategy for the identification of mercury contaminated sites developed.
 - 2.3.1 *Develop a qualitative and quantitative inventory of all mercury sources, emissions and releases;*
 - 2.3.2 *Develop a national strategy to identify mercury-contaminated sites.*
- 2.4 Challenges, needs and opportunities to implement the Minamata Convention assessed and recommendations to ratify and implement the Minamata Convention developed.
 - 2.4.1 *Conduct a national and sectoral assessment on challenges, needs and opportunities to implement the Convention in key priority sectors;*

2.4.2 *Develop a report on recommendations to ratify and implement the Minamata Convention on Mercury.*

2.5 MIA validated by national and international stakeholders.

2.5.1 *Draft and validate MIA Report;*

2.5.2 *Develop and implement a national MIA awareness raising and dissemination and outreach strategy.*

Component 3: Monitoring and Evaluation

Day-to-day project management and monitoring will be the responsibility of the Executing Agency. The project monitoring will start with the inception workshop and the development of a detailed workplan, budget and detailed monitoring and evaluation plan with key stakeholders. The Executing Agency will develop and submit to UNEP technical and financial reports every quarter describing the progress according to the workplan and budget, identifying obstacles occurred during implementation and the remediation actions to be taken.

UNEP will monitor the project progress according to the workplan on a regular basis and provide guidance to the Executing Agency to progress according to the workplan. Yearly during the GEF PIR UNEP will provide information about the status of the project implementation and the disbursements made.

The terminal report and final statement of accounts developed by the Executing Agency at the end of the project closes the Executing Agency monitoring activities for this project. The final financial audit will review the use of project funds against budget and assess probity of expenditure and transactions. The final audit is to be developed by an independent audit authority (a recognized firm of public accountants or, for governments, a government auditor). The final audit is to be sent to UNEP up to six months after the technical completion of the project.

Templates for the quarterly progress and financial report, terminal report and final statement of accounts will be provided by UNEP. There is no template for the final financial audit.

An independent terminal evaluation (TE) will take place at the end of project implementation, latest 6 months after completion of the project. The Evaluation Office of UNEP will be responsible for the TE and liaise with the UNEP Task Manager at DTIE Chemicals Branch throughout the process. The TE will provide an independent assessment of project performance (in terms of relevance, effectiveness and efficiency), and determine the likelihood of impact and sustainability. It will have two primary purposes: (i) to provide evidence of results to meet accountability requirements, and (ii) to promote learning, feedback, and knowledge sharing through results and lessons learned among UNEP and executing partners – Green Cross Switzerland in particular. The direct costs of the evaluation will be charged against the project evaluation budget. The TE report will be sent to project stakeholders for comments. Formal comments on the report will be shared by the Evaluation Office in an open and transparent manner. Project performance will be assessed against standard evaluation criteria using a six point rating scheme. The final determination of project ratings will be made by the Evaluation Office when the evaluation report is finalised. The evaluation report will be publically disclosed and will be followed by a recommendation compliance process.

Expected outputs and planned activities:

3.1 Status of project implementation and probity of use of funds accessed on a regular basis and communicated to the GEF.

3.1.1 *EA develops and submit technical and financial reports quarterly to UNEP using UNEP's templates;*

3.1.2 *UNEP communicate project progress to the GEF yearly during the PIR using GEF's template;*

3.1.3 *Develop and submit terminal report and final statement of accounts to UNEP at project end;*

3.1.4 *Submit final financial audit to UNEP.*

3.2 Independent terminal evaluation developed and made publicly available.

3.2.1 *UNEP EO carry out the terminal evaluation upon the request of the UNEP Task Manager and make it publicly available in the UNEP website.*

Table 4: Monitoring and Evaluation

M&E activity	Purpose	Responsible Party	Budget (US\$)* ¹	Time-frame
Inception workshop*	Awareness raising, building stakeholder engagement, detailed work planning with key groups	Ecological Initiative	0	Within two months of project start
Inception report	Provides implementation plan for progress monitoring	Project coordinator (Green Cross Switzerland)	0	Immediately following Inception Workshop
Project Supervision and Monitoring	Technical and Administrative support provided on a regular basis ensuring that the project is being carried out according to the agreed work plan and budget	UNEP	0	Regularly
Technical Progress reports	Describes progress against annual work plan for the reporting period and provides activities planned for the next period	Project Coordinator (Green Cross Switzerland)	0	Every six months
Financial Progress Reports	Documents project expenditure according to established project budget and allocations	Project Coordinator (Green Cross Switzerland)	0	Every three months
Terminal report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reviews effectiveness against implementation plan; ✓ Highlights technical outputs; ✓ Identifies lessons learned and likely design approaches for future projects, assess the likelihood of achieving design outcomes. 	Project Coordinator (Green Cross Switzerland)		At the end of project implementation
Terminal evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Single report that reviews effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness of project implementation, coordination mechanisms and outputs; ✓ Identifies lessons learnt and likely remedial actions for future projects; ✓ Highlights technical achievements and assesses against prevailing benchmarks. 	UNEP EO appointed Independent external consultant	10,000	At the end of project implementation
Independent Financial Audit	Reviews use of project funds against budget and assesses probity of expenditure and transactions	Green Cross Switzerland	8,000	At the end of project implementation

Total indicative M&E cost**1	18,000	
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*Project steering committee meetings (3) inception workshop and mid-term review will be carried out back to back with other technical meetings, such as the lessons learned (2) and planning meeting (1), therefore cost will be considered as “zero.

Project Stakeholders:

At the international level, the project will include:

- a) **UNEP DTIE Chemicals:** as a GEF Implementing Agency. UNEP will provide technical oversight and administrative support to the National Coordinating agency and the National Coordinator. UNEP will also provide the global perspective and experience from other countries;
- b) **UNEP Regional Office for Europe:** will identify opportunities for regional synergies and areas of cooperation. Some examples may include: coordination of regional information exchange and provision of documents and inventories from other countries in the region, identification of regional experts, etc;
- c) The **Minamata Convention Secretariat** will provide guidance materials and opportunities to exchange information and to understand the Minamata Convention from a regional and global perspective;
- d) The **Global Mercury Partnership** the partnership works closely with stakeholders to assist in the timely ratification and effective implementation of the Minamata Convention. It will support the implementation of the project through knowledge management, quality check and access to the technical tools needed for the mercury assessment;
- e) **UNITAR** will build national capacity in Belarus for the development of the national mercury inventory;
- f) **BRS Secretariat** will provide areas of cooperation and synergies with POPs related activities. The project will also consider using the existing resources at the BRS Secretariat level, such as facilities to provide technical support (webinars) organization of training workshops, etc;
- g) **Others:** such as the national/regional representation of WHO, to provide the human health dimension to the project such as the identification of the impacts to human health of mercury exposure. It will also provide opportunities for cooperation by making available its mercury programme and suitable expertise on mercury and humans. Green Cross Switzerland will be participating as a Co-Executing Agency and will provide expertise and support for the project implementation. Green Cross Belarus will provide support with national awareness raising activities.

Table 5: Other stakeholders participating in the project at the national level

Name of stakeholder/Organization	Responsibility/expertise
Ministries and government agencies	
Green Cross Switzerland	Executing Agency
Ecological Initiative	Focal point for national implementation
Ministry of Environment	Environmentally sound management of chemicals Analysis of chemicals for environmental and biological-environmental licensing Emissions and releases of mercury Management of household and hazardous waste
Ministry of Health	Risk assessments Poisoning Hospital waste management
Ministry of Emergencies	Identify individual stocks of mercury or mercury compounds Disposal and storage of mercury in emergencies
Ministry of Trade	Identify sources of mercury supply
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Negotiation processes for legally binding instruments Signature and ratification monitoring of legally binding instruments
Ministry of Economy	Regulates commercial and economic activities in the country Development of financial mechanism
Ministry of Labor and Social Protection	Inspections of chemical storage and work safety
General Secretariat for coordinating government bodies	Planning measures at central government level
NGOs, scientific organisations and civil society	
National Academy of Science of Belarus	Consulting and expertise on topics of interest.
Green Cross Belarus	Support to the development and implementation of a national MIA awareness raising and dissemination and outreach strategy.
Council of Private Enterprise	Encourages and promotes joint actions of the National Private Enterprise

Socioeconomic benefits including consideration of gender dimensions

Reduction of mercury use will have an especially positive impact in poor populations. The financially disadvantaged (and specifically women and children) are often those most affected by these adverse impacts. Addressing the environmental and health hazards associated with mercury is therefore crucial to ensure that hard won development gains are not compromised.

Through the inventory process, and the mapping of key mercury pollution sources, the project will define at-risk populations across participating countries, together with the development of national priority actions to address such risks. Project activities will also involve consultation with at risk communities with the aim of increasing their understanding about the dangers of mercury exposure and providing communities at risk with clear, practical information to protect themselves. This is likely to involve, but not be limited to poor communities living in close proximity to gold mines and non-ferrous metal production facilities.

Regarding gender, the project will ensure there are opportunities for women to contribute to, and benefit from, the project outcomes. A gender specialist will be identified to advise on the project implementation and the MIA will have a chapter with the main findings and recommendations to approach the gender aspects of mercury exposure.

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).

For project activities, please consult section B

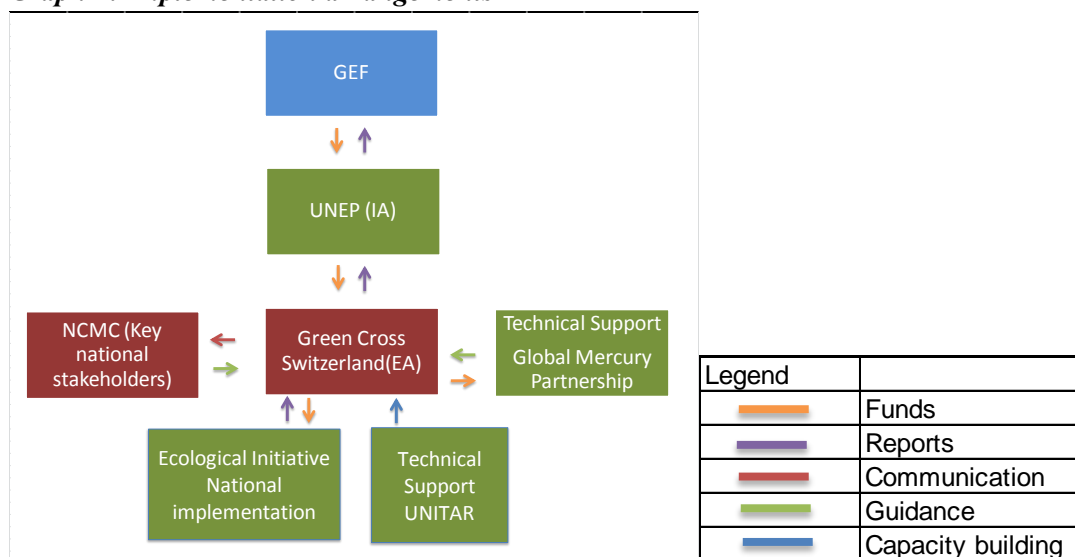
Implementing Agency (IA): This project will be implemented by UNEP and jointly executed by Green Cross Switzerland as international partner and the Belarusian Public Association (NGO) “Ecological Initiative” as national partner (EA). As Implementing Agency, UNEP will be responsible for the overall project supervision, overseeing the project progress through the monitoring and evaluation of project activities and progress reports, including on technical issues. In close collaboration with its Regional Office for Europe, UNEP will provide administrative support to the Executing Agency.

UNEP will support the execution of this project, as part of the Mercury Partnership Programme, and will provide assistance to signatories to the Minamata Convention or countries taking meaningful steps to ratify the Convention such as organizing regional/global awareness raising/training workshops, reviewing technical products, sending technical experts to key meetings, etc. Furthermore, through its Programme of work, UNEP will identify suitable Divisions and Branches that can provide additional support to participating countries and complement project activities.

Executing Agency (EA): Green Cross Switzerland will execute the project in close cooperation with the Ecological Initiative. Ecological Initiative will manage and be responsible for the project and its activities on a day-to-day basis. It will establish the necessary managerial and technical teams to execute the project. It will search for and hire any consultants necessary for technical activities and supervise their work. It will acquire equipment and monitor the project. The EA will organize an independent audit in order to guarantee the proper use of GEF funds. Financial transactions and audit will be carried out in accordance with national regulations. Green Cross Switzerland will provide regular administrative, progress and financial reports to the IA.

A National Coordination Mechanism (NCM), namely the Minamata National Committee, will meet regularly during project implementation. The Committee will include Key National Stakeholders and will evaluate the progress of the project and will take the necessary measures to guarantee the fulfillment of its goals and objectives. The NCM will take decisions on the project in line with the project objectives and these decisions will be implemented by the Executing Agency.

Graph 1: Implementation arrangements



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

The project will use the current capacity for chemicals management present in the Republic of Belarus, such as the existing infrastructure and coordination mechanisms. The project will also consider any previous efforts to collect information on national mercury sources and releases to improve the sound management of mercury and mercury waste.

The project will also take into account the expertise gathered by some countries in previous projects related to mercury waste management, and in turn, share the experiences and lessons learned with those countries that are at an early stage of strengthening capacities for mercury management. The project will coordinate closely with the Chemicals Division at UNEP and with the different mercury programmes and projects in place.

The integration of outcomes and deliverables of this project is also expected to provide significant input to the existing national framework for chemicals management in the Republic of Belarus. In this respect, enhanced capacities and knowledge on mercury and mercury waste will facilitate the development and/or update of current policies and enforcement practices in a more efficient and resource saving approach.

E.DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M&E PLAN:

More detailed information about project monitoring and evaluation can be consulted in the project component 3 monitoring and evaluation.

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

NA

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
Ms. Iya Malkina	First Deputy Minister	MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	11/11/2016

B. Convention Participation

CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION (mm/dd/yyyy)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	
UNCBD	06/11/1992	MR. IGAR KACHANOVSKY, DEPUTY MINISTER	
UNFCCC	06/14/1992	MS. IYA MALKINA, FIRST DEPUTY MINISTER	
UNCCD	11/27/2001	MR. IGAR KACHANOVSKY, DEPUTY MINISTER	
STOCKHOLM CONVENTION	12/26/2003	MR. IGAR KACHANOVSKY, DEPUTY MINISTER	
	DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	DATE OF NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 7 TO THE MINAMATA CONVENTION SECRETARIAT
MINAMATA CONVENTION	23/09/2014	-	NA

C. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies ⁸ 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	Project Contact Person	Telephone	E-mail Address
Brennan Van Dyke Director, UNEP GEF Coordination Office		January 23, 2017	Kevin Helps Senior Programme Officer, Chemicals Branch / GEF Operations DTIE, UNEP	+254-20- 762-3140	Kevin.Helps@unep.org

ANNEXES:

- A. CONSULTANTS TO BE HIRED FOR THE ENABLING ACTIVITY WITH GEF FUNDING
- B. OFP ENDORSEMENT/CO-FINANCE LETTERS
- C. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS CHECKLIST
- D. ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS
- E. PROJECT SUPERVISION PLAN
- F. GEF APPROVED BUDGET
- G. DETAILED ALLOCATIONS FOR NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION IN BELARUS
- H. CO-FINANCING BUDGET

ANNEX A: CONSULTANTS TO BE HIRED FOR THE ENABLING ACTIVITY WITH GEF FUNDING

<i>Position Titles</i>	<i>\$/ Person Week*</i>	<i>Estimated Person Weeks**</i>	<i>GEF (USD)</i>	<i>Tasks To Be Performed</i>
For Project Management				
Local				
Project Coordinator	151	120	18,120	Project management on a 25% basis.
For Technical Assistance				
Local				
Consultant to assist with the preparation of the MIA	500	204	102,000	Overall guidance on the MIA development and provide assessment reports to assist national teams to prepare the MIA assessment and
International				
Consultant to assist developing the mercury inventory using the UNEP toolkit	2500	0	0	Technical support to national project teams to develop a mercury inventory
Justification for travel, if any: Consultants and project coordinator will travel throughout the country to develop the mercury inventory and conduct the national assessments.				

ANNEX B: OFP ENDORSEMENT/CO-FINANCE LETTERS

ANNEX C : ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS CHECKLIST

As part of the GEFs evolving Fiduciary Standards that Implementing Agencies have to address 'Environmental and Social Safeguards'. To fill this checklist:

- STEP 1: Initially assess E&S Safeguards as part of PIF development. The checklist is to be submitted for the CRC.
- STEP 2 : Check list is reviewed during PPG project preparation phase and updated as required
- STEP 3 : Final check list submitted for PRC showing what activities are being undertaken to address issues identified

UNEP/GEF Environmental and Social Safeguards Checklist

Project Title:	Development of Minamata Convention on Mercury Initial Assessment in the Republic of Belarus		
GEF project ID and UNEP ID/IMIS Number		Version of checklist	
Project status (preparation, implementation, MTE/MTR, TE)	Preparation/ Submission	Date of this version:	25.10.2016
Checklist prepared by (Name, Title, and Institution)	Kevin Helps – Senior Programme Officer GEF Operations - UNEP DTIE Chemicals		

In completing the checklist both short- and long-term impact shall be considered.

Section A: Project location

If negative impact is identified or anticipated, the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	<i>Yes/No/N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Is the project area in or close to -		The project will assess the situation with regard to mercury in the Republic of Belarus. It will not take direct action on the ground but inventories prepared to address priority issues will take socio-economic and environmental considerations into account.
- densely populated area	N.A:	
- cultural heritage site	N.A:	
- protected area	N.A;	
- wetland	N.A;	
- mangrove	N.A:	
- estuarine	N.A:	
- buffer zone of protected area	N.A:	
- special area for protection of biodiversity	N.A:	
-will project require temporary or permanent support facilities?	N.A:	
<i>If the project is anticipated to impact any of the above areas an Environmental Survey will be needed to determine if the project is in conflict with the protection of the area or if it will cause significant disturbance to the area.</i>		

Section B: Environmental impacts

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	Yes/No/N.A.	Comment/explanation
- Are ecosystems related to project fragile or degraded?	N.A.	

- Will project cause any loss of precious ecology, ecological, and economic functions due to construction of infrastructure?	No	The project will assess the situation with regard to mercury in the Republic of Belarus. It will not take direct action on the ground but assessments and mercury inventories will assist the country to identify priority issues in relation to human health and the environment, where socio-economic and environmental considerations will be identified.
- Will project cause impairment of ecological opportunities?	No	
- Will project cause increase in peak and flood flows? (including from temporary or permanent waste waters)	No	
- Will project cause air, soil or water pollution?	No	
- Will project cause soil erosion and siltation?	No	
- Will project cause increased waste production?	No	
- Will project cause Hazardous Waste production?	No	
- Will project cause threat to local ecosystems due to invasive species?	No	
- Will project cause Greenhouse Gas Emissions?	No	
- Other environmental issues, e.g. noise and traffic	No	
Only if it can be carefully justified that any negative impact from the project can be avoided or mitigated satisfactorily both in the short and long-term, can the project go ahead.		

Section C: Social impacts

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	Yes/No/N.A.	Comment/explanation
- Does the project respect internationally proclaimed human rights including dignity, cultural property and uniqueness and rights of indigenous people?	Yes	It will respect cultural aspects in the Republic of Belarus
- Are property rights on resources such as land tenure recognized by the existing laws in affected countries?	N.A.	
- Will the project cause social problems and conflicts related to land tenure and access to resources?	N.A.	
- Does the project incorporate measures to allow affected stakeholders' information and consultation?	Yes	The project will form a National Coordinating Committee including all relevant stakeholders. This group will assess project progress at the national level and will propose if necessary corrective actions. Additionally, the Project Implementing Agency will provide technical feedback and assistance to countries
- Will the project affect the state of the targeted country's (-ies') institutional context?	Yes	A Mercury Management team will be established to deal with mercury within national chemicals efforts. In the medium to long-term it is expected that the national regulatory system will be revised to include provisions in compliance with the Minamata Convention.
- Will the project cause change to beneficial uses of land or resources? (incl. loss of downstream beneficial uses (water supply or fisheries)?	No	
- Will the project cause technology or land use modification that may change present social and economic activities?	No	The project might identify actions to change current practices towards the sound management of mercury
- Will the project cause dislocation or involuntary resettlement of people?	No	

- Will the project cause uncontrolled in-migration (short- and long-term) with opening of roads to areas and possible overloading of social infrastructure?	No	
- Will the project cause increased local or regional unemployment?	No	
- Does the project include measures to avoid forced or child labour?	No	
- Does the project include measures to ensure a safe and healthy working environment for workers employed as part of the project?	Yes	Those doing the inventory on the field will use protective equipment to avoid contamination with those chemicals
- Will the project cause impairment of recreational opportunities?	No	
- Will the project cause impairment of indigenous people's livelihoods or belief systems?	No	
- Will the project cause disproportionate impact to women or other disadvantaged or vulnerable groups?	No	
- Will the project involve and or be complicit in the alteration, damage or removal of any critical cultural heritage?	No	
- Does the project include measures to avoid corruption?	Yes	Close supervision of the expenditures will be done at the national level by the EA and overall by UNEP as IA. Cash advances will be related to outputs and held until proper justification of the expenditures and budget plans are provided.
<i>Only if it can be carefully justified that any negative impact from the project can be avoided or mitigated satisfactorily both in the short and long-term, can the project go ahead.</i>		

Section D: Other considerations

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.
























	<i>Yes/No/N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Does national regulation in affected country (-ies) require EIA and/or ESIA for this type of activity?	No	
- Is there national capacity to ensure a sound implementation of EIA and/or SIA requirements present in affected country (-ies)?	N.A.	
- Is the project addressing issues, which are already addressed by other alternative approaches and projects?	No	
- Will the project components generate or contribute to cumulative or long-term environmental or social impacts?	No	No negative impacts
- Is it possible to isolate the impact from this project to monitor E&S impact?	N.A.	

ANNEX D: ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AAS	Atomic Absorption Spectrometry
ASGM	Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining
BRS	Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions
CEM	Cement production
CO-OR	Refining of crude oil in oil refineries
DTIE	Division of Technology Industry and Economics
EA	Executing Agency
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEF SEC	Global Environment Facility Secretariat
GEF TF	Global Environment facility Trust Fund
GOST	National Standards of Belarus
IA	Implementing Agency
INC	Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MIA	Minamata Initial Assessment
NA	Not applicable
NCCM	National Chemical Management Committee
NGOs	Non-governmental Organizations
Oil CO-HF-PP	Combustion of heavy fuel oil
PIP	Primary Production of Pig Iron
PISP	Production of Iron and Steel
PMC	Project Management Cost
PPG	Project Preparation Grant
PSC	Project Steering Committee
ROE	Regional Office for Europe
SAICM	Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management
SanPIN	National Medical Standard
SC-DR	Stationary fossil fuel combustion in other uses (domestic/residential uses, transport, and use in fisheries, agriculture)
STB	National Standards
TE	Terminal Evaluation
TKP	Technical Code of Established Practice
TR	Technical regulations
UN	United Nations
UNCBD	United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

WAS	Waste
WASOTH	Waste and other losses due to breakage and disposal in landfill, etc.
WHO	World Health Organization
WI	Incineration of waste

ANNEX E: PROJECT SUPERVISION PLAN

Annex E: PROJECT SUPERVISION PLAN																																	
Project Title: Development of Minamata Convention on Mercury Initial Assessment in Belarus																																	
Project executing partner: Green Cross Switzerland																																	
Project implementation period (add additional years as required):																																	
		Year 1												Years 2												Year 3							
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
Executing partner																																	
UNEP/DTIE Chemicals (Implementing)																																	
Output																																	
Activity/Task/Output																																	
Output 1.1 Technical assistance provided to Belarus to develop the MIA while building sustainable foundations for its future implementation																																	
1.1.1 Quality check of mercury inventories developed																																	
1.1.2 Enhancement of the UNEP Hg toolkit, including translation to other UN languages																																	
1.1.3 Undertake knowledge management and information exchange through the Global Mercury Partnership website and/or Partners websites and tools																																	
Output 2.1 Identified and strengthened national coordination mechanism dealing with mercury management that will guide the project implementation.																																	
2.1.1 Organize a National Inception Workshop to raise awareness and to define the scope and objective and to have common understanding of the MIA process																																	
2.1.2 Conduct a national assessment on existing sources of information (studies), compile and make them publicly available																																	
Output 2.2 National institutional and regulatory framework and national capacities on mercury management assessed																																	
2.2.1 Assess key national stakeholders, their roles in mercury management and monitoring and institutional interest and capacities																																	
2.2.2 Analyze the existing regulatory framework, identify gaps and identify the regulatory reforms needed for the sound management of mercury in the Republic of Belarus																																	
Output 2.3 National inventories of mercury sources and releases developed using the UNEP Mercury Toolkit Level II and strategy for the identification of mercury contaminated sites developed																																	
2.3.1 Develop a qualitative and quantitative inventory of all mercury sources, emissions and releases																																	
2.3.2 Develop a national strategy to identify mercury-contaminated sites																																	
Output 2.4 Challenges, needs and opportunities to implement the Minamata Convention assessed and recommendations to ratify and implement the Minamata Convention developed																																	
2.4.1 Conduct a national and sectoral assessment on challenges, needs and opportunities to implement the Convention in key priority sectors																																	
2.4.2 Develop a report on recommendations to ratify and implement the Minamata Convention on Mercury																																	
Output 2.5 MIA validated by national and international stakeholders																																	
2.5.1 Draft and validate MIA Report																																	
2.5.2 Develop and implement a national MIA awareness raising and dissemination and outreach strategy																																	
Output 3.1 Status of project implementation and probity of use of funds accessed on a regular basis and communicated to the GEF																																	
3.1.1 EA develops and submit technical and financial reports quarterly to UNEP using UNEP's templates		      																															
3.1.2 UNEP communicate project progress to the GEF yearly during the PIR using GEF's template		 																															
3.1.3 Develop and submit terminal report and final statement of accounts to UNEP at project end																																	
3.1.4 Submit final financial audit to UNEP																																	
Output 3.2 Independent terminal evaluation developed and made publicly available.																																	
3.2.1 UNEP EO carry out the terminal evaluation upon the request of the UNEP Task Manager and make it publicly available in the UNEP website																																	

ANNEX F: BUDGET BY PROJECT COMPONENT AND UNEP BUDGET LINES											
RECONCILIATION BETWEEN GEF ACTIVITY BASED BUDGET AND UNEP BUDGET BY EXPENDITURE CODE (GEF FINANCE ONLY)											
Project No:							Total GEF funding:	219,000			
Project Name:					Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Belarus			IA fee (9.5%):	19,000		
Executing Agency:					Green Cross Switzerland			Project funding:	200,000		
Source of funding (noting whether cash or in-kind):					GEF Trust Fund Cash						
				BUDGET ALLOCATION BY PROJECT COMPONENT/ACTIVITY					ALLOCATION BY CALENDAR YEAR		
				Component 1	Component 2	Component 3					
				Global technical support for MIA development	Development and validation of the Minamata Initial Assessment	Monitoring and Evaluation	Project Management	Total	Year 1	Year 2	Total
				US\$	US\$		US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$
10	UMOJA CODES	UNEP BUDGET LINE/OBJECT OF EXPENDITURE									
		1100	PROJECT PERSONNEL COMPONENT								
	1161	1101	Project Personnel					0	0	0	0
	1161	1102	Project coordinator					0			
		1199	Sub-Total		0		0	0	0	0	0
		1200	Consultants w/m								
	1161	1201	Nat'l consultants for national activities					0	0	0	0
	1161	1202	International consultant					0	0	0	0
		1299	Sub-Total		0		0	0	0	0	0
		1300	Administrative Support								
	1161	1301	Admin support					0	0	0	0
		1600	Travel on official business (above staff)								
	1561	1601	Travel Project coordinator/project staff					0	0	0	0
		1699	Sub-Total		0		0	0	0	0	0
		1999	Component Total		0		0	0	0	0	0
20		SUB CONTRACT COMPONENT									
		2100	Sub contracts (UN Organizations)								
	2261	2101	UN Sub-contract	10,000				10,000	10,000		10,000
		2199	Sub-Total	10,000	0			10,000	10,000	0	10,000
		2200	Sub contracts (SSFA, PCAs, non UN)								
		2201	Sub-contract for national implementation in Belarus		172,000			172,000	86,000	86,000	172,000
		2299	Sub-Total		172,000		0	172,000	86,000	86,000	172,000
		2999	Component Total	10,000	172,000		0	182,000	96,000	86,000	182,000
30		TRAINING COMPONENT									
		3200	Group training (field trips, WS, etc.)								
	3302 and 3303	3201	Training on national inventory development					0	0		0
		3299	Sub-Total		0		0	0	0	0	0
		3300	Meetings/conferences								
	3302 and 3303	3301	National project inception workshop					0	0		0
	3302 and 3303	3302	Final MIA validation workshop					0		0	0
	3302 and 3303	3303	National Coordination meetings					0	0	0	0
		3399	Sub-Total		0		0	0	0	0	0
		3999	Component Total		0		0	0	0	0	0
40		EQUIPMENT and PREMISES COMPONENT									
		4100	Expendable equipment (under 1,500 \$)								
	4261	4101	Operational costs					0	0	0	0
		4102	Office premises					0	0	0	0
		4199	Sub-Total		0		0	0	0	0	0
		4200	Non expendable equipment								
	4261	4201	Computer, fax, photocopier, projector					0	0	0	0
	4261	4202	Software					0			0
		4299	Sub-Total		0			0	0	0	0
		4999	Component Total		0		0	0	0	0	0
50		MISCELLANEOUS COMPONENT									
		5200	Reporting costs (publications, maps, NL)								
	5161	5201	Summary reports, visualization and diffusion of results					0	0	0	0
	5161	5202	Preparation of final report					0		0	0
	5161	5203	Translation					0		0	0
		5299	Sub-Total		0		0	0	0	0	0
		5300	Sundry (communications, postages)								
	5161	5301	Communications (postage, bank transfers, etc)					0	0	0	0
		5399	Sub-total		0		0	0	0	0	0
		5500	Evaluation								
	5581	5501	Independent Terminal Evaluation			10,000		10,000		10,000	10,000
	5161	5502	Independent Financial Audit			8,000		8,000		8,000	8,000
		5599	Sub-Total		0	18,000	0	18,000	0	18,000	18,000
		5999	Component Total		0	18,000	0	18,000	0	18,000	18,000
		TOTAL		10,000	172,000	18,000	0	200,000	96,000	104,000	200,000

ANNEX G: DETAILED ALLOCATIONS FOR GEF APPROVED BUDGET LINE 2201

Project No:											
Project Name:				Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Belarus				Total:	172,000		
Executing Agency:				Green Cross Switzerland							
Source of funding (noting whether cash or in-kind):				GEF Trust Fund Cash							
				BUDGET ALLOCATION BY PROJECT COMPONENT/ACTIVITY				ALLOCATION BY CALENDAR YEAR			
				Component 1	Component 2	Component 3					
				Global technical support for MIA development	Development and validation of the Minamata Initial Assessment	Monitoring and Evaluation	Project Management	Total	Year 1	Year 2	Total
				US\$	US\$		US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$
10	UMOJA CODES	UNEP BUDGET LINE/OBJECT OF EXPENDITURE									
		PROJECT PERSONNEL COMPONENT									
	1100	Project Personnel									
	1161	1101	Project coordinator				18,120	18,120	9,060	9,060	18,120
	1161	1102	Project assistant					0			
		1199	Sub-Total		0		18,120	18,120	9,060	9,060	18,120
		1200	Consultants w/m								
	1161	1201	Nat'l consultants for national activities		102,000			102,000	51,000	51,000	102,000
	1161	1202	International consultant					0	0	0	0
		1299	Sub-Total		102,000		0	102,000	51,000	51,000	102,000
		1300	Administrative Support								
	1161	1301	Admin support					0	0	0	0
		1600	Travel on official business (above staff)								
	1561	1601	Travel Project coordinator/project staff		11,880			11,880	5,940	5,940	11,880
		1699	Sub-Total		11,880		0	11,880	5,940	5,940	11,880
		1999	Component Total		113,880		18,120	132,000	66,000	66,000	132,000
20		SUB CONTRACT COMPONENT									
		2100	Sub contracts (UN Organizations)								
	2261	2101	UN Sub-contract					0	0		0
		2199	Sub-Total	0	0			0	0	0	0
		2200	Sub contracts (SSFA, PCAs, non UN)								
		2201	Sub-contract for national implementation in Belarus					0	0	0	0
		2299	Sub-Total		0		0	0	0	0	0
		2999	Component Total	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
30		TRAINING COMPONENT									
		3200	Group training (field trips, WS, etc.)								
	3302 and 3303	3201	Training on national inventory development		15,000			15,000	15,000		15,000
		3299	Sub-Total		15,000		0	15,000	15,000	0	15,000
		3300	Meetings/conferences								
	3302 and 3303	3301	National project inception workshop					0	0		0
	3302 and 3303	3302	Final MIA validation workshop					0		0	0
	3302 and 3303	3303	Steering Committee meetings			5,000		5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000
		3399	Sub-Total		0		0	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000
		3999	Component Total		15,000		0	20,000	17,500	2,500	20,000
40		EQUIPMENT and PREMISES COMPONENT									
		4100	Expendable equipment (under 1,500 \$)								
	4261	4101	Operational costs					0	0	0	0
		4102	Office premises					0	0	0	0
		4199	Sub-Total		0		0	0	0	0	0
		4200	Non expendable equipment								
	4261	4201	Computer, fax, photocopier, projector		2,000			2,000	1,000	1,000	2,000
	4261	4202	Software					0			0
		4299	Sub-Total		2,000			2,000	1,000	1,000	2,000
		4999	Component Total		2,000		0	2,000	1,000	1,000	2,000
50		MISCELLANEOUS COMPONENT									
		5200	Reporting costs (publications, maps, NL)								
	5161	5201	Summary reports, visualization and diffusion of results		5,000			5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000
	5161	5202	Preparation of final report		3,000			3,000		3,000	3,000
	5161	5203	Translation		9,000			9,000		9,000	9,000
		5299	Sub-Total		17,000		0	17,000	2,500	14,500	17,000
		5300	Sundry (communications, postages)								
	5161	5301	Communications (postage, bank transfers, etc)		1,000			1,000	500	500	1,000
		5399	Sub-total		1,000		0	1,000	500	500	1,000
		5500	Evaluation								
	5581	5501	Independent Terminal Evaluation					0		0	0
	5161	5502	Independent Financial Audit					0		0	0
		5599	Sub-Total		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		5999	Component Total	0	18,000	0	0	18,000	3,000	15,000	18,000
		TOTAL		0	148,880	0	18,120	172,000	87,500	84,500	172,000

Project No:				
Project Name:			Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Belarus	
Executing Agency:			Green Cross Switzerland	Co-financing funding: 62,000
Source of funding (noting whether cash or in-kind):			GEF Trust Fund Cash	

		BUDGET ALLOCATION BY PROJECT COMPONENT/ACTIVITY																		ALLOCATION BY CALENDAR YEAR			
		Component 1		Component 2						Component 3						Project Management		Total	Year 1	Year 2	Total		
		Global technical support for MIA development		Development and validation of the Minamata Initial Assessment						Monitoring and Evaluation													
		In-Kind	Cash	Green Cross Switzerland		UNITAR		Ecological Initiative		Green Cross Switzerland		UNITAR		Ecological Initiative		Ecological Initiative	Ecological Initiative						
UNED BUDGET LINE/OBJECT OF EXPENDITURE		US\$	US\$	In-Kind	Cash	In-Kind	Cash	In-Kind	Cash	In-Kind	Cash	In-Kind	Cash	In-Kind	Cash	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$				
10	UJMOIA CODES	PROJECT PERSONNEL COMPONENT																					
	1100 Project Personnel																						
	1161 1101 Project coordinator																0	0	0				
	1161 1102 Project assistant																0						
	1199 Sub-Total				0												0	0	0				
	1200 Consultants w/m																						
	1161 1201 Nat'l consultants for national activities																0	0	0				
	1161 1202 International consultant				15,000				10,000								25,000	8,333	16,667				
	1299 Sub-Total				15,000	0			10,000		0					0	25,000	8,333	16,667				
	1300 Administrative Support																						
	1161 1301 Admin support														2,000		2,000	1,000	2,000				
	1561 1600 Travel on official business (above staff)																						
	1561 1601 Travel Project coordinator/project staff																0	0	0				
	1699 Sub-Total				0			0									2,000	0	2,000				
	1999 Component Total				15,000	0			10,000	0	0						2,000	0	27,000				
20	SUB CONTRACT COMPONENT																						
	2100 Sub contracts (UN Organizations)																						
2261	2101 UN Sub-contract																0	0	0				
	2199 Sub-Total				0		0										0	0	0				
	2200 Sub contracts (SSFA, PCAs, non UN)																						
	2201 Sub-contract for national implementation in Belarus																0	0	0				
	2299 Sub-Total				0		0										0	0	0				
	2999 Component Total				0		0										0	0	0				
30	TRAINING COMPONENT																						
	3200 Group training (field trips, WS, etc.)																						
3302 and 3361	3201 Training on national inventory development																0	0	0				
	3299 Sub-Total				0												0	0	0				
	3300 Meetings/conferences																0	0	0				
3302 and 3361	3301 National project inception workshop				5,000	10,000											15,000	15,000	15,000				
3302 and 3361	3302 Final MIA validationand lessons learned workshop					10,000											10,000	10,000	10,000				
3302 and 3361	3303 National Coordination meetings																0	0	0				
	3399 Sub-Total				5,000	10,000	10,000										0	25,000	15,000	25,000			
	3999 Component Total				5,000	10,000	10,000										0	25,000	15,000	25,000			
40	EQUIPMENT AND PREMISES COMPONENT																						
	4100 Expendable equipment (under 1,500 \$)																						
4261	4101 Operational costs															1,000	1,000	500	1,000				
	4102 Office premises																7,000	3,500	7,000				
	4299 Sub-Total				0			0	0								1,000	8,000	8,000				
	4200 Non expendable equipment																1,000	7,000					
4261	4201 Computer, fax, photocopier, projector																2,000	1,000	2,000				
4261	4202 Software																2,000	1,000	1,000				
	4299 Sub-Total				0		0										0		0				
	4999 Component Total				0		0										2,000	1,000	2,000				
	5000 Evaluation																3,000	7,000	10,000				
50	MISCELLANEOUS COMPONENT																						
	5200 Reporting costs (publications, maps, NI)																						
5161	5201 Summary reports, visualization and diffusion of results																0	0	0				
5161	5202 Preparation of final report																0		0				
5161	5203 Translation																0		0				
	5299 Sub-Total				0												0	0	0				
	5300 Sundry (communications, postages)																						
5161	5301 Communications (postage, bank transfers, etc)																0	0	0				
	5399 Sub-Total				0												0	0	0				
	5500 Evaluation																						
5581	5501 Independent Terminal Evaluation																0		0				
5161	5502 Independent Financial Audit																0		0				
	5599 Sub-Total				0		0										0	0	0				
	5999 Component Total				0		0										0	0	0				
	TOTAL			0	15,000	5,000	10,000	20,000	0								5,000	7,000	29,333				