



GEF-6 REQUEST FOR CHEMICALS AND WASTES ENABLING ACTIVITY PROPOSAL FOR FUNDING UNDER THE GEF TRUST FUND

For more information about GEF, visit TheGEF.org

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFIERS

Project Title:	Development of Minamata Initial Assessment and National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Honduras		
Country(ies):	Honduras	GEF Project ID: ¹	
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP	GEF Agency Project ID:	
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Environment of Honduras	Submission Date:	(date)
GEF Focal Area (s):	Chemicals and Wastes	Project Duration (Months)	24
Type of Report:	National Action Plan	Expected Report Submission to Convention	Mar 2018

A. PROJECT FRAMEWORK*

Project Objective: Ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention is facilitated by the use of scientific and technical knowledge and tools by national stakeholders in Honduras				
Project Component	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	(in \$)	
			GEF Project Financing	Confirmed Co-financing ²
1. National information exchange, capacity building and knowledge generation	Enhanced communication, support and training facilitate the development of the MIA and NAP and build the basis for future cooperation for the NAP implementation.	Technical support and global coordination provided ensuring capacity building, information exchange, consistent and comparable MIAs and NAPs and the identification of lessons learned and good practices at national level.	67,000	0
2. Strengthening of Coordination Mechanism and organization of process	Honduras makes full use of enhanced existing structures and information available dealing with mercury management to guide ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention.	Technical support provided to strengthen the National Coordination Mechanism (CNG) and organization of process for MIA and NAP development.	19,000	0
3. Assessment of the national infrastructure and capacity for the management of mercury, including national legislation	Full understanding of comprehensive information on current infrastructure and regulation for mercury management enables Honduras to develop a sound roadmap for the	Assessment prepared of the national infrastructure and capacity for the management of mercury, including national legislation.	27,500	

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.

	ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention.			
4. Development of a mercury inventory, a national overview of the ASGM sector, and strategies to identify and assess mercury-contaminated sites	Enhanced understanding of mercury sources and releases facilitated the development of national priority actions.	Mercury inventory developed and strategies to identify and assess mercury contaminated sites.	359,500	0
5. Identification of challenges, needs and opportunities to implement the Minamata Convention on Mercury	Improved understanding of national needs and gaps in mercury management and monitoring enabled a better identification of future activities.	Technical support provided for identification of challenges, needs and opportunities to implement the Minamata Convention on Mercury.	27,500	0
6. Preparation, validation and endorsement of MIA and NAP, implementation of awareness raising activities and dissemination of results at the national level	Honduras key stakeholders made full use of the MIA and related assessments and the NAP for the ASGM sector leading to the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury.	Technical support provided for preparation and validation of National MIA report, the NAP for the ASGM sector, and implementation of awareness raising activities and dissemination of results.	105,864	0
		Subtotal	606,364	0
		Project Management Cost ³	63,636	0
		Monitoring and Evaluation	30,000	0
		Total Project Cost	700,000	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 (\$)
NA		(select)	
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
UNEP	GEFTF	Honduras	Chemicals and Wastes	Mercury	700,000	66,500	766,500
Total GEF Resources					700,000	66,500	766,500

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 Mercury Convention was adopted in January 2013 and will come into force once the required number of countries ratifies the Convention. The Minamata Convention on Mercury identifies and describes in its Article 13 the financial mechanism to support Parties from developing countries and countries with economies in transition 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 assistance. As such, the GEF Assembly, at its fifth meeting, held in May 2014, agreed to an allocation in its sixth replenishment of \$141 million for work under the Convention, out of which \$30 million to support enabling activities and promote their integration into national budgets and planning processes, national and sector policies and actions and global monitoring.

The revised GEF initial guidelines for enabling activities for the Minamata Convention on Mercury circulated to the GEF Council members in January 2014 presented in its section 1 the initial guidelines for the development of “Minamata Initial Assessment activities” (MIA) and in its section 2 the guidelines for the preparations of Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) National Action Plans (NAPs) required under article 7. These guidelines were revised by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee 6 (INC 6) consistent with the resolution adopted by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury. This project follows these guidelines revised by the INC 6.

Mercury pollution is a serious concern in the Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) region. The 2013 UNEP Global Mercury Assessment indicates that the Central America and the Caribbean and the South American Regions account for 15% of the global emissions of mercury to the atmosphere while mercury use in Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining (ASGM) accounts for 37% of the total emission of mercury from anthropogenic sources⁴. ASGM is still widely practiced in Latin American countries but its real magnitude has not been determined in detail. Honduras has indicated that availability of data is a major challenge to design adequate strategies for mercury reduction.

This project is aimed at facilitating the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention by providing key national stakeholders in Honduras with the scientific and technical knowledge and tools needed for that purpose.

Honduras will benefit from new and updated information about the mercury situation in the country and from increased capacity in managing the risks of mercury, in particular from the ASGM sector. Honduras will also be in compliance with the article 7 of the Minamata Convention. 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 Honduras

The following section draws on the **UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF)** of Honduras. 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

⁴ <http://www.unep.org/PDF/PressReleases/GlobalMercuryAssessment2013.pdf>

in the respective National Coordination Mechanisms will result in a closer analysis and assessment of the progress made in terms of National Priorities.

UNDAF HONDURAS (2012-2016)⁵: The UNDAF strategic area 3 aims at ensuring economic rights and the implementation of environmental conventions in Honduras. The objective is to contribute to a productive Honduras that provides decent work to its population; use its natural resources in a sustainable and integrated way; and reduces its environmental vulnerability and related disaster risks. This project will contribute to achieving the goals outlined in the UNDAF-Honduras through the identification of the most vulnerable sectors in the country found with greater exposure to mercury. The project will also build national capacity to be in compliance with international commitments and protect the identified vulnerable populations through the NAP development.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Honduras signed the Minamata Convention on Mercury on 24 September 2014, in a special high-level event on the Minamata Convention on Mercury in New York as part of the event on UN Treaty. It is currently under the process of ratification of this important Convention.

There are no specific laws or regulations for the management of mercury in Honduras. There is a generalized framework for product/chemical, toxic and hazardous substances, which can include mercury.

Import/Export: The Code of Health has the power to regulate, authorize and record imports of products of health interest, including pharmaceuticals, drugs, devices and medical equipment and dental amalgams with mercury.

In 1991 and 1999, the Government of Honduras issued two decisions by the Ministry of Natural Resources (now Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock) prohibiting the registration and marketing of extremely toxic pesticides, including those with mercurial compounds.

The General Environmental Law prevent the import into the country of products dangerous to the ecosystem and human health and can justify the adoption of administrative decisions to regulate products containing mercury such as: lamps or light bulbs, electrical equipment, equipment measurement, batteries. Fluorescent lamps and others also have imports regulated under the Replacement Act to Incandescent Bulbs Fluorescent. This instrument can be revised and updated to incorporate a holistic management approach that includes lamps with allowable concentration of mercury and lamps disposal with a focus on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR).

Transport: the Commercial Code provides that transport companies should give users the necessary facilities for safe transport of hazardous or toxic substances prior to the service and during it. Mercury and mercury containing products are not specified in this code. The Traffic Act and the Environment Act also refer to the transport of dangerous and toxic substances in general. These substances have labels or safety data sheets and required control measures.

Regulation on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and Hazardous Waste (currently at the proposal stage) regulates the transport of dangerous goods according to the "United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Goods and road Hazardous Waste."

Use: the Labour Code determines which farms are unhealthy and dangerous, also, what are the substances whose production is prohibited, restricted or subjected to conditional use. In general, activities and hygiene, health and safety measures in industrial facilities are subject to these rules. The Code also refers to professional or occupational diseases, as mercury poisoning, that affects particularly Miners working in mercury mines and other handlers of the same metal.

The Health Code covers the use of pharmaceuticals, drugs, devices and medical equipment and dental amalgams. This instrument defines the power to regulate, authorize and record the production, storage, handling and trade of dangerous substances and products of health interest, including mercury products. It also covers the monitoring of concentrations of hazardous or toxic substances in household products such as lamps or fluorescent bulbs, medicines sold without prescription as merthiolate and others.

Similarly, the Regulation of the National System of Environmental Impact Assessment (SINEIA, for its acronym in Spanish) regulates the environmental licensing process for the operations of the chemical industry, mining and production of medical equipment and pharmaceutical preparations.

⁵ <http://archive.undg.org/docs/12522/MANUD-2012-2016-Esp.pdf> 4

The General Law of the Environment controls the manufacturing, formulation, sale, storage and use, as well as final disposal of solid and liquid waste from any source (toxic), including mercury-containing products. ASGM regulation is contemplated in two laws, the Mining Law and the SINEIA Regulation. Both regulate the environmental licensing process for mining operations.

Finally the exclusive use of lamps and fluorescent bulbs is supported and promoted by the Act to Replace Incandescent Fluorescent Bulbs.

Final Disposal: various laws and/or regulations regulate the final disposal of solid waste, mercury and mercury-containing products. Among them: General Environmental Law, Health Code, the Regulations for the Sanitary Control of Products, Services and Establishments of Health Interest, the General Environmental Law, the Municipalities Law and the Regulations for Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous Chemicals in Honduras.

Mercury Anthropogenic Emissions and Releases to the atmosphere and water bodies are regulated by the Regulations for the Control of emissions from fixed sources (for certain emission sources) and the Technical Standard of Water Discharge in residual bodies and Sewerage.

The destruction by burning or packaging of pesticides remnants containing metals such as mercury is also prohibited.

In 15 April 2015, it was published in the Official Gazette the Regulations for the Pollution Release and Transfer Registry (PRTR), which has a list of 114 national priority substances. The report on releases and transfer of waste mercury is included.

MANAGEMENT OF MERCURY IN HONDURAS

The Ministry of Economic Development and the Executive Directorate of Revenue registers data on the volumes of mercury and mercury-containing products imported in Honduras. The purpose is to identify the source, imported volumes, user industries and other data of interest.

The Executive Directorate of Revenue statistics reports based on import tariff headings of products, established by the World Customs Organization (WCO). According to data provided by this institution in the years 2009-2010 it was recorded only one importing of 1 kilogram of mercury (1kg). However, in recent years the import of mercury has increased dramatically. In 2013 the import of 2,225.3 kg of mercury was recorded.

Regarding the use of mercury, it is known that in Honduras mercury is still used in the health and dental sectors. In particular, the public sector still uses dental amalgam with mercury and also medical equipment in hospitals; laboratories and other facilities have considerable amounts of mercury. Furthermore, mercury is used as a preservative in vaccines.

In Honduras there is also ASGM activities in different parts of the country. Also, mining activity has been reported in the border area with Nicaragua, especially in the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor. Hence, on 5 August 2015 Honduras notified the Minamata Secretariat that there the country has more than insignificant mercury emissions from the ASGM sector. It is of utmost importance to evaluate the magnitude of the problem associated with mercury use in the ASGM sector and develop a National Action Plan according to the requirements of article 7 of the Minamata Convention.

Honduras doesn't have chlor-alkali production or use mercury catalysts to produce chemical substances (MCV or PVC). On the other hand, it is recognized that there are sources of unintentional release of mercury from the industrial, particularly from cement production, mineral extraction and refining, power generation from coal and fossil fuels or biomass.

It is also recognized that in Honduras mercury is used for cultural purposes, such as to bring good luck.

As for the final disposal of mercury products, municipal solid waste are dumped uncontrollably, sometimes in depressions or streams near residential areas, or removed by outdoor burning. Toxic emissions and effluents reach groundwater and other water bodies located nearby the burning area.

In some places periodic cleaning of waste accumulated in piles of garbage outdoors, using backhoes and open trucks, create a serious risk of exposure to mercury emissions. Elsewhere the waste is burned outdoors; emitting toxic fumes with this element and other volatile compounds.

During the years 2008-2009 and 2011, the Minister of Environment developed a project named "Reducing Mercury in the San Felipe General Hospital and Hospital Cardiopulmonary chest", with the support of the Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD, for its acronym in Spanish) and US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). This project's main objective was to develop a pilot for the management and handling of mercury in two public hospitals in the city of Tegucigalpa, Central District, through the implementation of strategic plans aimed at identifying, handling and disposing mercury and training to sensitize the health sector on the impacts caused by mercury contamination. The project used the Hospitals for a Healthy Environment Program as a model. Among the main achievements obtained through this project was the evaluation of the sources and uses of mercury in these facilities; training of hospital staff on mercury inventory development and management; management of mercury spills and final disposal of mercury equipment. The project also promoted the gradual replacement of the mercury containing devices in hospitals.

During the years 2011-2012, a research project called "National Assessment of the Use of Mercury in Honduras, Report for the year 2011" in collaboration with the Minister of Environment and the National Autonomous University of Honduras was developed. The sectors involved in the management of mercury in Honduras, the life cycle of mercury in Honduras, the legal framework, and other important aspects were identified in the research.

In 2014, a GEF project entitled "Environmentally Sound Management of Mercury and Mercury Containing Products and Waste from ASGM, industry and the health sector" was approved. This project with a GEF budget of 1,300,000 USD will be implemented over a period of 36 months (2015-2017) through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Ministry of Environment.

ASGM

ASGM is among the main sectors releasing mercury in Honduras, and is also an important source of income, especially in rural communities, where alternative livelihoods are limited. Commonly, large amounts of mercury are used to extract gold, often in very unsafe conditions. Despite low levels of gold production at the individual level, the large number of miners involved makes its total production significant in a national scale. As the demand for gold continues to rise due to its high price in the market, it is expected that the use of mercury will continue to increase, as it is the dominant and preferred method among miners (easy to use, inexpensive and easily available). The Government of Honduras has recognized that the application of Mercury in this sector represents considerable risks to human health and the environment.

The use of mercury for the extraction of gold in ASGM in Honduras is currently not prohibited. Moreover, artisanal miners don't receive support to adopt better practices aimed at reducing or eliminating mercury use in this activity. In Honduras, several challenges impede national Environmentally Sound Management of Mercury: lack of reliable data on imports of mercury and lack of legislation allowing the elimination of mercury use in the ASGM sector, among other important aspects that must be addressed.

The Minamata Convention is in agreement with the Constitution of the Republic of Honduras when it states that the State has an obligation to protect the health and the environment for its residents. The General Environmental Law stipulates that the State has the responsibility to take all measures necessary to prevent or correct environmental pollution.

In view of the above, the Secretary of State in the Ministry of Energy, Natural Resources, Environment and Mining recognizes the importance of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, due to the high use of mercury in mining processes, and the resulting exposure to Hondurans and the national environment

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 goal of the MIA and NAP development is to protect human health and the environment from the risks posed by the unsound use, management and releases of mercury.

Project objective: Ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention is facilitated by the use of

scientific and technical knowledge and tools by national stakeholders in Honduras.

Project Components and Activities: The national MIA and NAP development has six components, which consists of the activities indicated below. Each component includes information on project activities, outcomes and outputs.

Component 1: National information exchange, capacity building and knowledge generation

This project component has been included in other regional and national projects that have currently been submitted to the GEF Sec by UNEP. It will foster information exchange, South-to-South cooperation and capacity building. As part of this, Honduras will have access to additional training, technical expertise and tools to facilitate the NAP development. The UNEP Global Mercury Partnership will respond directly to the needs identified by Honduras by giving feedback and rapid response to its queries and facilitating the access to existing expertise in the region. This project component will also identify opportunities for regional cooperation and synergies to ensure reduced transaction costs and more efficient use of project resources. Lessons learned identified through this project will also be made available.

Activity 1.1: Development of a roster of experts and collection of tools and methodologies for NAP development;

Activity 1.2: Capacity building trainings and assistance with baseline inventories;

Activity 1.3: Knowledge management and information exchange through the Global Mercury Partnership website and/or Partners websites and tools;

Activity 1.4: Final national workshop to identify lessons learned and opportunities for future cooperation in the NAP implementation.

Expected Outcome:

Enhanced communication, support and training facilitate the development of the MIA and NAP and build the basis for future cooperation for the NAP implementation.

Expected Outputs:

Technical support and global coordination provided ensuring capacity building, information exchange, consistent and comparable MIAs and NAPs and the identification of lessons learned and good practices at national level.

The training sessions, lessons learned will be open to other countries that are willing to take advantage of these activities, however their participation will be covered by their own NAP projects.

Component 2: Strengthening of Coordination Mechanism and organisation of process

Honduras has a national coordination mechanism called "National Commission for Environmentally Sound Management of Chemicals (CNG, for its acronym in Spanish)". This coordination mechanism does the intersectoral coordination among the sectors involved in the ESM of chemicals and recommends actions to be taken by decision makers at the political level to ensure success in this area.

CNG will coordinate and guide the implementation of the project while strengthening the synergies between institutions on management of chemicals, including mercury. Sectors that will participate in this process as part of the Committee of Minamata of CNG include representatives from health, environment, labor, finance, economy, industry, mining and energy sectors.

During this project component the National Coordination Mechanisms will be strengthened and terms of reference related to this project will be established. The terms of reference include information about members, frequency of meetings and the type of work and roles in the project.

In addition, the National Coordination Mechanism will identify a stakeholder advisory group, composed of stakeholders who possess relevant knowledge and information, and whose collaboration and cooperation will be needed for the successful formulation of the MIA and NAP and also for the implementation NAP. The stakeholder advisory group will include relevant members of civil society with experience and knowledge in the national mercury uses and releases, particularly from the ASGM sector. The National Coordination Mechanism will engage with the advisory group at

regular intervals and during all phases of the MIA and NAP development and direct feedback on these documents will be provided through a mechanism to be agreed upon by the National Coordination Mechanisms. A list of suggested members of the National Coordination Mechanism and of the stakeholders' advisory group can be found at page 9-10 to the guidance document⁶ for NAP development.

The project coordinator of the GEF project entitled "Environmentally Sound Management of Mercury and Mercury Containing Products and Waste from ASGM, industry and the health sector" will also be invited to participate in the stakeholder advisory group to ensure synergies and avoid duplications in the implementation of the projects.

This project component also aims at enhancing stakeholder's commitment to the development of the MIA and the NAP and gaining political support for the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

Activity 2.1: Organize a National Inception Workshop to raise awareness and to define the scope and objective of the MIA and NAP processes, including:

- a) Develop a strategy for awareness raising aimed at national stakeholders throughout the project;
- b) Identify key stakeholders and assign roles;
- c) Strengthen the National Coordination Mechanism for mercury management.

Activity 2.2: Conduct a national assessment on existing sources of information (studies), compile and make them available.

Expected Outcome:

Honduras makes full use of enhanced existing structures and information available dealing with mercury management to guide ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention.

Expected Outputs:

Technical support provided to strengthen the National Coordination Mechanism (CNG) and organization of process for MIA and NAP development.

Component 3: Assessment of the national infrastructure and capacity for the management of mercury, including national legislation

This is a key step in the MIA And NAP development processes. One of the first activities suggested before embarking on the establishment of inventories is to review and assess the national capacities (technical, administrative, infrastructure and regulatory). 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. Gender issues and the interests of vulnerable populations will be fully taken into account in the assessments.

On this specific step, Honduras will:

Activity 3.1: Assess key national stakeholders, their roles in mercury management and institutional interest and capacities;

Activity 3.2: Analyse the regulatory framework, identify gaps and assess the regulatory reforms needed for the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention in Honduras.

Expected Outcome:

Full understanding of comprehensive information on current infrastructure and regulation for mercury management

⁶ www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/NationalStrategicPlan/tabid/53985/Default.aspx.

enables Honduras to develop a sound roadmap for the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention.

Expected Outputs:

Assessment prepared of the national infrastructure and capacity for the management of mercury, including national legislation.

Component 4: Development of a mercury inventory, a national overview of the ASGM sector, and strategies to identify and assess mercury-contaminated sites

The assessment developed by the Minister of Environment and the National Autonomous University of Honduras in 2011 entitled "National Assessment of the Use of Mercury in Honduras, Report for the year 2011" will be the baseline for this project component. This document will be updated and Honduras will have access to improved data on mercury sources and releases. Honduras will apply the level II version of the UNEP Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Mercury Releases that was revised in 2013. More specifically, the mercury toolkit will assist Honduras 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) Emissions (Article 8); and (f) Releases (Article 9). It will also include a description of mercury storage conditions. Honduras will apply the Artisanal Gold Council methodology to develop the inventory of mercury releases from the Artisanal and small-scale gold mining sector (Article 7). 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 a nationally agreed criteria.

This project component will also collect further information on the ASGM activity in Honduras. The national overview will include information on the following topics:

- Baseline estimates of mercury emissions and releases from the ASGM sector;
- Structure of the ASGM sector (i.e., single family miners, community mines, etc.);
- Policies surrounding ASGM at regional/local levels;
- Geographic distribution of ASGM;
- Economics, such mercury supply, use and demand. The project will search in particular for information about gender and children aspects of the ASGM economics;
- Size of the formal and informal ASGM economy;
- Information on mining practices, including information on ore bodies exploited, processes used, the amount of mercury used, the number of people directly involved in ASGM and indirectly exposed to mercury (disaggregated by sex and age);
- Information on gold processing practices/burn off of mercury in gold processing shops or community retorts;
- Known information on overall environmental impacts, contaminated sites, mercury releases in soil, air and water;
- Studies and other information on mercury exposure, through various media, and studies on impacts in ASGM communities and downstream communities. The project will search for known information desegregated by sex and age;
- Information about access to technical assistance for miners;
- Leadership and organization of ASGM at national and local levels;
- Experiences in addressing ASGM;
- Information gaps at the local and national scale that can be addressed.

The project will search for known information desegregated by sex and age.

Activity 4.1: Develop a qualitative and quantitative inventory of all mercury sources and releases;

Activity 4.2: Desk study to compile information available about the ASGM activity. The desk study will be complemented by field visits and interviews with stakeholders. The working group and the stakeholder's advisory group can consider additional methods in order to better reflect the current state of knowledge;

Activity 4.3: Develop a national strategy to identify and assess mercury-contaminated sites.

Expected Outcome:

Enhanced understanding of mercury sources and releases facilitated the development of national priority actions.

Expected Outputs:

Mercury inventory developed and strategies to identify and assess mercury contaminated sites.

Component 5: Identification of challenges, needs and opportunities to implement the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Taking into consideration the preliminary research undertaken under project component 2, the assessment undertaken in component 3, and the mercury inventory under project component 4, this project component will assess 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.

Activity 5.1: Conduct a national and sectoral assessment on challenges and opportunities to implement the Convention in key priority sectors;

Activity 5.2: Develop a report on recommendations to implement the Convention.

Expected Outcome:

Improved understanding of national needs and gaps in mercury management and monitoring enabled a better identification of future activities.

Expected Outputs:

Technical support provided for identification of challenges, needs and opportunities to implement the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

Component 6: Preparation, validation and endorsement of MIA and NAP, implementation of awareness raising activities and dissemination of results at the national level

During this project component the draft MIA is reviewed and validated by national stakeholders. The NAP is also developed according to Annex C of the Minamata Convention. This process of wide consultation will likely include National Coordination meetings, workshops with key sectors, written communications and discussions leading to a final MIA and NAP documents that will allow the National Government to ratify and early implement the Convention based on a sound national assessment of the mercury situation. Awareness raising and dissemination of key MIA outputs and the NAP for the ASGM sector will also be performed under this project component under activity 5.2.

Activity 6.1: Draft and validate MIA Report;

Activity 6.2: Draft and validate final NAP through public consultation before endorsement. Representatives of vulnerable groups and miners are particularly targeted;

Activity 6.3: NAP endorsement and official submission to the Minamata Secretariat;

Activity 6.4: Develop a national MIA and NAP dissemination and outreach strategy.

Expected Outcome:

Honduras key stakeholders made full use of the MIA and related assessments and the NAP for the ASGM sector leading to the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

Expected Outputs:

Technical support provided for preparation and validation of ¹⁰ National MIA report, the NAP for the ASGM sector,

and implementation of awareness raising activities and dissemination of results.

Project Stakeholders:

At the international level, the project will include:

- a) **UNEP DTIE Chemicals:** as an 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 Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC),** which 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) **Joint Secretariats BRS** 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.
- e) Others: such as the regional/national representation of **WHO (PAHO)**, to provide the human health dimension to the project, such as the identification of mercury related activities and human risk. It will also provide opportunities for cooperation by making available its mercury programme and suitable expertise on mercury and humans.

The international partners will provide ongoing support to the project.

At the national level, the project will include:

- Ministries and government agencies in charge of chemicals management, human health and safety. Active participation from other key agencies is expected, including trade and customs, industry and economy, being those mostly responsible for the commercial movement of mercury containing products. They will benefit with new and/or updated legislation, management and enforcement strategies. Health and safety groups can find useful information related to workplace exposure that can be applied to minimize risks at the occupational level.
- Representatives of industry and industrial associations, which can provide with data and information related to processes and products that use and contain mercury. This will include technological aspects regarding current practices, as well as technology transfer and changes underway to reduce the uses and emissions of mercury. Coordination and communication between industry groups and government agencies is an important aspect that will look into options to improve the environmental performance of those sectors. In this respect, it is essential to promote effective coordination among the whole range of those who have responsibility for or a stake in mercury issues. The scientific community will also benefit from this project and will be able to generate new and reliable data through well-designed and targeted measurements to identify mercury sources and quantify mercury releases.
- The support and engagement of NGOs and civil society is critical for the successful implementation of chemicals management strategies and initiatives. The general public will gain access to environmental information through effective channels of communication and a dedicated information system, allowing a more and better-informed participation in consultations in this area. For instance, community representatives will ensure that their concerns are taken into account in a decision-making process.

The following table outlines key stakeholders in Honduras, together with their proposed respective roles within the project. The following list of stakeholders, prepared in consultation with the national government, will be expanded during project implementation.

Table 1: Stakeholder Participation

Name of stakeholder/Organization	Responsibility/expertise
Ministries and government agencies	
Ministry of Energy, Natural Resources, Environment and Mining MIAMBIENTE	Environmentally sound management of chemicals; Analysis of chemicals in environmental and biological environmental licensing; Management of household and hazardous waste;
Ministry of Health	Responsible for regulations and governance related to public health; In charge of public health centers; Responsible authority for health surveillance and mercury waste management in health centers; Risk assessments and mercury poisoning.
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Negotiation processes for legally binding instruments; Signature and ratification monitoring of legally binding instruments.
Honduran Institute of Geology and Mines (INHGEOMIN)	Regulates mining in Honduras.
Ministry of Economic Development	Regulates commercial and economic activities in the country.
Executive Directorate of Revenue	Records the entry and exit of goods to Honduras through automated customs revenue.
Ministry of Labor	Inspections of chemical storage and work safety.
General Secretariat for coordinating government	Planning measures at central government level
Academy	Consulting and expertise on topics of interest.
Honduran Council of Private Enterprise (COHEP)	Encourages and promotes joint actions of the National Private Enterprise.
CEHDES (Honduran Business Council for Sustainable Development).	Contribute to economic and social development of Honduras through responsible business that promotes the development and competitiveness of Honduras within the framework of the market economy, the rational and sustainable use of natural resources and efficiency and probity exercise of democratic institutions.
CNP+L (National Cleaner Production Center)	Promotion and implementation of Cleaner Production and management systems based on international standards.
Miners/miner representatives	Provide realistic view of current practices and barriers to change.
Community leaders and local government from ASGM areas	Assist with development and implementation of the NAP within ASGM communities.
Indigenous groups	Represent the interests of indigenous populations in ASGM areas.
Technical expert in gold mining	Understanding of technical alternatives to mercury use; provide training opportunities.
Environmental and human health organizations	Activities aimed at reducing environmental impacts of ASGM and the risks of human exposure.

Representatives from large scale mining	Contribute to finding innovative solutions and providing insights on mining regulatory issues; Potential partner with small-scale miners on technical improvements to mining practice.
Other relevant land holders	Represent interest in land conflicts and in reclaiming impacted lands; Risk of mercury exposure.
Police and Customs officials	Enforcement.
Gold buying agents, gold traders, mercury traders	Understanding of gold market dynamics, and barriers to formalization.
Waste management specialists	Expertise related to available mechanisms to handle mercury wastes generated by ASGM and how to clean/restore contaminated sites-
Private sector partner (e.g., large-scale mining company or equipment provider)	Technical capacity; Potential public/private partnership.
Financial/banking sector	Small and commercial-sized loans to miners to assist with financing transition towards better practices.

Socioeconomic benefits including consideration of gender dimensions

This project aims at strengthened national capacity to manage mercury and chemicals in general. Therefore it is anticipated that the project will positively impact poor populations, who are disproportionately affected by the impacts of environmental and health hazards. This is particularly true in ASGM communities that are not only directly exposed to mercury from amalgamation processes but also indirectly through the air breathed and from the polluted water and food consumed in a daily basis. Although to date no biomonitoring has been undertaken in the ASGM community in Honduras, bio-monitoring results from several ASGM countries worldwide have shown alarming concentrations of Mercury in hair, urine, mother's milk, and blood of children, women and men⁷.

This project can assist Honduras to clearly identify areas of improvement, starting at the local, and community levels and complemented with national policies. For example, through the inventory process, and the mapping of key mercury pollution sources, the project will define at-risk populations across Honduras. Project activities will also involve consultation with at-risk communities with the aim of increasing understanding about the risks of mercury exposure. Project activities will ensure communities at risk with clear and accurate information to protect themselves. This is likely to involve, but not be limited to employees potentially at risk of mercury exposure, workers associations and medical associations, and poor communities living in close proximity to industry facilities and contaminated sites.

Regarding gender, in many ASGM areas women perform tasks where toxic exposure occurs since they do not require strength. These jobs include pouring the mercury into the ball-mills or mixing the mercury in panning, and burning the amalgam, often with their children or babies nearby. In some countries, women also carry the rocks from the mining sites to the processing plants.⁸ Moreover, with an estimated 4.5 million women working in artisanal mining, many of childbearing age, low-level exposure to infants during gestation and breast-feeding is a risk.⁹ As a potent neurological toxicant that interferes with brain functions and the nervous system, mercury has been shown to be particularly harmful to neurological development of babies and young children.¹⁰

The project will ensure that there are opportunities for women to contribute to, and benefit from, the project outcomes. Specifically the project executor will work with national coordinators to ensure women are well represented on national coordinating committees, and that consultation with at-risk communities targets both women and men. The project coordinator will also ensure that always when possible, data collected in the framework of this project will be disaggregated by sex and age. The NAP for the ASGM sector will fully incorporate the gender dimensions identified in the national overview of the ASGM sector and foster gender equality.

⁷ http://www.who.int/ipcs/assessment/public_health/mercury_asgm.pdf

⁸ <http://www.wecf.eu/english/articles/2013/10/minamata-sideevent.php>

⁹See Telmer and Veiga (2009)

¹⁰See United States EPA (1997); Bose-O'Reilly et al. (2010)

Pregnant women, children and communities nearby mercury sources are more vulnerable to mercury exposure. Therefore this project will advocate for a national regulatory framework targeting the protection of these vulnerable groups. Through these vulnerable groups, the project will also sensitize the general population about the risks of mercury.

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

For project activities, please section B

Implementing Agency (IA): this project will be implemented by UNEP and executed by the Ministry of Environment of Honduras. 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 the Executing Agency, UNEP will provide administrative support to the Executing Agency.

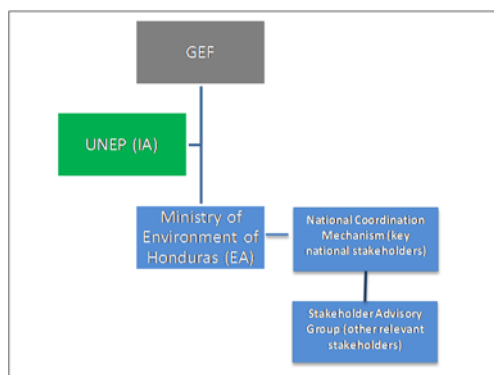
UNEP will support Execution of this project, as part of the Mercury Partnership Programme, and will provide assistance to signatories to the Minamata Convention such as organizing regional awareness raising/training workshops, reviewing technical products, sending technical experts to key meetings, etc.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

Executing Agency (EA): The Ministry of Environment of Honduras will execute, 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; in addition, it will organize independent audits in order to guarantee the proper use of GEF funds. Financial transactions, audits and reports will be carried out in accordance with national regulations and UNEP procedures. The Ministry of Environment of Honduras will provide regular administrative, progress and financial reports to UNEP Chemicals.

A National Coordination Mechanism (NCM) namely the Minamata Committee under the CNG 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. The National Coordination Mechanism will consult the stakeholder advisory group on a regular basis.

Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG): This Group will include relevant stakeholders who possess relevant knowledge and information, and whose collaboration and cooperation will be needed for the successful formulation of the MIA and NAP and also for the implementation NAP. The National Coordination Mechanism will engage with the advisory group at regular intervals and during all phases of the MIA and NAP development and direct feedback on these documents will be provided through a mechanism to be agreed upon by the National Coordination Mechanisms.

Figure 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 Honduras, such as the existing infrastructure and coordination mechanism. The project will also consider any previous efforts to collect information on national mercury sources and releases and 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 Honduras. 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:

Day-to-day management and monitoring of the project activities will be the responsibility of the executing agency. **The Ministry of Environment of Honduras** will submit half-yearly progress reports to the implementing agency at UNEP Chemicals. **The Ministry of Environment of Honduras** will also be responsible for the issuing of legal documents such as agreements with the government and other institutions including recruitment of local staff or consultants and the execution of the activities according to the work plan and expected outcomes.

The half-yearly reports will include progress in implementation of the project, financial report, a work plan and expected expenditures for the next reporting period. It will also identify obstacles occurred during implementation period.

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 – Ministry of Environment of Honduras 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.

Table 2. Monitoring and Evaluation Budget

M&E activity	Purpose	Responsible Party	Budget (US\$)*1	Time-frame
Inception workshop	Awareness raising, building stakeholder engagement, detailed work planning with key groups	Ministry of Environment	0	Within two months of project start
Inception report	Provides implementation plan for progress monitoring	Ministry of Environment	0	Immediately following Inception Workshop
Technical Progress reports	Describes progress against annual work plan for the reporting period and provides activities planned for the next period	Ministry of Environment	0	Half-yearly

Financial Progress reports	Documents project expenditure according to established project budget and allocations	Ministry of Environment	0	Quarterly
Project Review by National Coordination Committee	Assesses progress, effectiveness of operations and technical outputs; Recommends adaptation where necessary and confirms implementation plan.	Ministry of Environment	0	Month 2, 12 and 23
Terminal report	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.	Ministry of Environment	0	At the end of project implementation
Independent Terminal evaluation	Reviews effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness of project implementation, coordination mechanisms and outputs. Identifies lessons learned and likely remedial actions for future projects. Highlights technical achievements and assesses against prevailing benchmarks	UNEP, Independent external consultant	20,000	At the end of project implementation
Independent Financial Audit	Reviews use of project funds against budget and assesses probity of expenditure and transactions	Ministry of Environment	10,000	At the end of project implementation
Total indicative M&E cost^{*1}			30,000	

*The inception workshop is one activity of the project component 2. Monitoring and evaluation activities will be done back to back with the inception workshop and therefore the cost is zero. The project Review by the National Coordination Committee will be held back to back with technical meetings that will take place throughout the project implementation. Therefore the additional cost is zero.

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

PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S):
(Please attach the [*Operational Focal Point endorsement letter\(s\)*](#) with this template).


NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (Month, day, year)
Dra. Rosibel Martinez	Director of External Cooperation and Resource Management	SECRETARIA DE ENERGIA, RECURSOS NATURALES, AMBIENTE Y MINAS	06/24/2015 (MIA) 07/23/2015 (NAP)

B. CONVENTION PARTICIPATION

CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION (mm/dd/yyyy)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT

UNCBD			
UNFCCC			
UNCCD			
STOCKHOLM CONVENTION			
MINAMATA CONVENTION	DATE SIGNED (09/24/2014)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT: SECRETARIAT OF ENERGY, NATURAL RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENT, AND MINING. MIAMBIENTE	DATE OF NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 7 TO THE MINAMATA CONVENTION SECRETARIAT (05/08/2015)

C. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies¹¹ and procedures and meets the standards of the GEF Project Review Criteria for Chemicals and Wastes Enabling Activity approval in GEF 6.					
Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	E-mail Address
Brennan Van Dyke Director, UNEP GEF Coordination Office		30.11.2015	Kevin Helps Senior Programme Officer 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 LETTERS**
- C. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS**
- D. ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**
- E. SUPERVISION PLAN**
- F. GEF APPROVED BUDGET**

¹¹ GEF policies encompass all managed trust funds, namely: GEFTE, LDCF, and SCCF

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>Total</i>	<i>Tasks To Be Performed</i>
For Project Management				
<i>Local</i>				
Project facilitator	300	137.88	41,363	Day to day supervision and coordination of the project
Project Assistant		0.00	0	Financial management of the project and preparation of financial reports
Technical advisor		0.00	0	Advising the project team on specific technical issues and will review technical outputs
Subtotal		137.88	41,363	
For Technical Assistance				
<i>Local</i>				
Consultant to assist with the preparation of the MIA and NAP	300	1311.21	393,364	Overall guidance on the MIA and NAP development and provide assessment reports to assist national teams to prepare the MIA assessment and inventory and NAP development
<i>International</i>				
Technical support and advice throughout the project	2500	0.00	0	Technical support to develop national assessments and to identify and assess contaminated sites
Consultant to develop the mercury inventory using the UNEP toolkit	2500	0.00	0	Technical support to national project teams to develop a mercury inventory
Subtotal		0.00	0	
Total		1,449	434,727	
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 LETTERS



Tegucigalpa, M.D.C., June 24, 2015

To: Brennan Van Dyke
 Director, GEF Coordination Office
 P.O. Box 30552 - 00100,
 Nairobi, Kenya

Subject: Endorsement for the Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Honduras


In my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point for Honduras, I confirm that the above project proposal (a) is in accordance with my government's national priorities and our commitment to the relevant global environmental conventions; and (b) was discussed with relevant stakeholders, including the global environmental convention focal points.

I am pleased to endorse the preparation of the above project proposal with the support of the GEF Agency (ies) listed below. If approved, the proposal will be prepared and implemented by (national or local executing organization). I request the GEF Agency (ies) to provide a copy of the project document before it is submitted to the GEF Secretariat for CEO endorsement.

The total financing (from GEFTF, LDCF, or SCCF) being requested for this project is US\$219,000, inclusive of project preparation grant (PPG), if any, and Agency fees for project cycle management services associated with the total GEF grant. The financing requested for Honduras is detailed in the table below.

Source of Funds	GEF Agency	Focal Area	Amount (in US\$)			
			Project Preparation	Project	Fee	Total
GEFTF	UNEP	Chemicals and Wastes	0	200,000	19,000	219,000
Total GEF Resources			0	200,000	19,000	219,000

Sincerely,


 Dra. Rosibel Martínez
 Director of External Cooperation and Resource Management
 GEF Operational Focal Point



Copy to: Convention Focal Point for Minamata Convention, UNEP DTIE Chemicals: Timothy J. Kasten, Jacob Duer, Kevin Helps.



Tegucigalpa, M.D.C., July 23, 2015

UCEMR-0021-2015

To: Brennan Van Dyke
 Director, GEF Coordination Office
 P.O. Box 30552 - 00100, Nairobi, Kenya
 Tel: 254-20-7624165
 Fax: 245-20-7624041/42


Subject: Endorsement for the project entitled: "Development of ASGM National Action Plan in Honduras"


In my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point for Honduras, I confirm that the above National project proposal (a) is in accordance with my government's national priorities and our commitment to the relevant global environmental conventions; and (b) was discussed with relevant stakeholders.

I am pleased to endorse the preparation of the above project proposal with the support of the GEF Agency listed below. If approved, the proposal will be prepared and implemented by the Secretary of Environment. I request the GEF Agency to provide a copy of the project document before it is submitted to the GEF Secretariat for CEO endorsement.

The financing (from GEFTE, LDCF and/or SCCF) being requested for Honduras is USD 500,000. The financing requested for the project is detailed in the table below.

Source of Funds	GEF Agency	Focal Area	Amount (in US\$)			
			Project Preparation	Project	Fee (9.5%)	Total
GEF TF	UNEP	Chemicals	-	500,000	47,500	547,500
Total GEF Resources			0	500,000	47,000	547,500

Sincerely,

 Dra. Rosibel Martínez Arriaga
 GEF Operational Focal Point Honduras



Copy to: UNEP DTIE Chemicals: Tim Kasten,
 Kevin Helps, Jacob duer

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 Initial Assessment and National Action Plan for the Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Honduras		
GEF project ID and UNEP ID/IMIS Number		Version of checklist	
Project status (preparation, implementation, MTE/MTR, TE)	Preparation/submission	Date of this version:	14/07/2015
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.

	Yes/No/N.A.	Comment/explanation
- Is the project area in or close to -		The project will assess the situation with regard to mercury in Honduras. 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.

	<i>Yes/ No/ N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Are ecosystems related to project fragile or degraded?	<i>N.A.</i>	The project will assess the situation with regard to mercury in Honduras. 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 any loss of precious ecology, ecological, and economic functions due to construction of infrastructure?	<i>No</i>	
- Will project cause impairment of ecological opportunities?	<i>No</i>	
- Will project cause increase in peak and flood flows? (including from temporary or permanent waste waters)	<i>No</i>	
- Will project cause air, soil or water pollution?	<i>No</i>	
- Will project cause soil erosion and siltation?	<i>No</i>	
- Will project cause increase waste production?	<i>No</i>	
- Will project cause Hazardous Waste production?	<i>No</i>	
- Will project cause threat to local ecosystems due to invasive species?	<i>No</i>	
- Will project cause Greenhouse Gas Emissions?	<i>No</i>	
- Other environmental issues, e.g. noise and traffic	<i>No</i>	
<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 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.

	<i>Yes/No/N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Does the project respect internationally proclaimed human rights including dignity, cultural property and uniqueness and rights of indigenous people?	<i>Yes</i>	It will respect cultural aspects in Honduras
- Are property rights on resources such as land tenure recognized by the existing laws in affected countries?	<i>N.A.</i>	
- Will the project cause social problems and conflicts related to land tenure and access to resources?	<i>N.A.</i>	
- Does the project incorporate measures to allow affected stakeholders' information and consultation?	<i>Yes</i>	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 as 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?	No	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?	<i>No</i>	
- Is there national capacity to ensure a sound implementation of EIA and/or SIA requirements present in affected country (-ies)?	<i>N.A.</i>	
- Is the project addressing issues, which are already addressed by other alternative approaches and projects?	<i>No</i>	
- Will the project components generate or contribute to cumulative or long-term environmental or social impacts?	<i>No</i>	No negative impacts
- Is it possible to isolate the impact from this project to monitor E&S impact?	<i>N.A.</i>	

ANNEX D: ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ASGM	Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining
BRS	Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions
CCAD	Central American Commission on Environment and Development
CNG	National Commission for Environmentally Sound Management of Chemicals
CEHDES	Honduran Business Council for Sustainable Development
DTIE	Division of Technology Industry and Economics
EA	Executing Agency
EPR	Extended Producer Responsibility
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEF SEC	Global Environment Facility Secretariat
GEF TF	Global Environment facility Trust Fund
IA	Implementing Agency
INC	Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee
INGHGEOMIN	Honduran Institute of Geology and Mines
LAC	Latin America and Caribbean
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MIA	Minamata Initial Assessment
NAP	National Action Plan
NCM	National Coordination Mechanism
NCPC (CNP+L)	National Cleaner Production Centre
NGOs	Non-governmental Organizations
NPT	National project Team
PMC	Project Management Cost
PPG	Project Preparation Grant
PIR	Project Implementation Review
PRTR	Pollution Release and Transfer Registry
PSC	Project Steering Committee
PVC	Poly Vinyl Chloride
ROLAC	Regional Office for Latin America and Caribbean
SINEIA	National System of Environment Impact Assessment
TE	Terminal Evaluation
UN	United Nations
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
USEPA	United States Environment Protection Agency
VCM	Vinyl Chloride Monomer
WCO	World Customs Organization
WHO-PAHO	World Health Organization

**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: IA fee (Q 596): Project	766,500				
Project Name:		Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Honduras							66,500					
Executing Agency:		Ministry of Environment of Honduras							700,000					
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	Component 4	Component 5	Component 6	Project Management	Monitoring and Evaluation	Total	Year 1	Year 2	Total	
		National information exchange, capacity building and knowledge generation	Strengthening of Coordination Mechanism and organization of process	Assessment of the national infrastructure and capacity for the management of mercury, including national legislation	Development of a mercury inventory, a national overview of the ASGM sector, and strategies to identify and assess mercury-contaminated sites	Identification of challenges, needs and opportunities to implement the Minamata Convention on Mercury	Preparation, validation and endorsement of MIA and NAP, implementation of awareness raising activities and dissemination of results at the national level							
UNEP BUDGET LINE/OBJECT OF EXPENDITURE		US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	
10	UNEP BUDGET LINE/OBJECT OF EXPENDITURE													
	PROJECT PERSONNEL COMPONENT													
	1100 Project Personnel													
	1161 1101 Project facilitator							41,363		41,363	20,682	20,682	41,363	
	1161 1102 Project assistant							22,273		22,273	11,137	11,137	22,273	
	1199 Sub-Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	63,636		63,636	31,818	31,818	63,636	
	1200 Consultants w/m													
	1161 1201 Nat'l consultants for national activities		2,000	15,000	270,000	20,000	86,364			393,364	17,000	376,364	393,364	
	1161 1202 Int'l consultant for inventory training and development or review	0			50,000					50,000		50,000	50,000	
	1299 Sub-Total	0	2,000	15,000	320,000	20,000	86,364	0		443,364	17,000	426,364	443,364	
	1300 Administrative Support													
	1161 1301 Project Financial Officer								0	0	0	0	0	
	1600 Travel on official business (above staff)													
	1561 1601 Travel Project coordinator/project staff			5,000	10,000		5,000			20,000	5,000	15,000	20,000	
	1699 Sub-Total	0	0	5,000	10,000	0	5,000	0		20,000	5,000	15,000	20,000	
	1999 Component Total	0	2,000	20,000	330,000	20,000	91,364	63,636		527,000	53,818	473,182	527,000	
20	SUB CONTRACT COMPONENT													
	2100 Sub-contracts (UN Organizations)													
	2261 2101 UN Sub-contract	50,000								50,000	50,000	0	50,000	
	2199 Sub-Total	50,000								50,000	50,000	0	50,000	
	2999 Component Total	50,000								50,000	50,000	0	50,000	
30	TRAINING COMPONENT													
	3200 Group training (field trip, WS, etc.)													
	3302 and 3303 3201 Training on national inventory development (incl. Provision of materials)				20,000					20,000		20,000	20,000	
	3299 Sub-Total	0	0	0	20,000					20,000	0	20,000	20,000	
	3300 Meetings/conferences													
	3302 and 3303 3301 National project inception workshop		12,500							12,500	12,500		12,500	
	3302 and 3303 3302 Final national lessons learned workshop	12,500								12,500		12,500	12,500	
	3302 and 3303 3303 National Coordination Committee meetings	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000			12,000	6,000	6,000	12,000	
	3399 Sub-Total	14,500	14,500	2,000	22,000	2,000	2,000	0	0	37,000	18,500	18,500	37,000	
	3999 Component Total	14,500	14,500	2,000	22,000	2,000	2,000	0		57,000	18,500	38,500	57,000	
40	EQUIPMENT and PREMISES COMPONENT													
	4100 Expendible equipment (under 1,500 \$)													
	4261 4101 Operational costs	500	500	500	500	500	500			3,000	1,500	1,500	3,000	
	4199 Sub-Total	500	500	500	500	500	500	0		3,000	1,500	1,500	3,000	
	4200 Non expendible equipment													
	4261 4201 Computer, fax, photocopier, projector	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000			6,000	3,000	3,000	6,000	
	4261 4202 Software	500	500	500	500	500	500			3,000	1,500	1,500	3,000	
	4299 Sub-Total	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	0		9,000	4,500	4,500	9,000	
	4999 Component Total	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	0		12,000	6,000	6,000	12,000	
50	MISCELLANEOUS COMPONENT													
	5200 Reporting costs (publications, maps, NL)													
	5161 5201 Summary reports, visualization and diffusion of results			3,000	5,000	3,000	5,000			16,000	3,000	13,000	16,000	
	5161 5202 Preparation of final report						5,000			5,000		5,000	5,000	
	5299 Sub-Total	0	0	3,000	5,000	3,000	10,000	0		21,000	3,000	18,000	21,000	
	5300 Sundry (communications, postages)													
	5161 5301 Communications (postage, bank transfers, etc)	500	500	500	500	500	500			3,000	1,500	1,500	3,000	
	5399 Sub-Total	500	500	500	500	500	500	0		3,000	1,500	1,500	3,000	
	5500 Evaluation													
	5581 5501 Independent Terminal Evaluation								20,000	20,000		20,000	20,000	
	5161 5502 Independent Financial Audit								10,000	10,000		10,000	10,000	
	5599 Sub-Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30,000	30,000	0	30,000	30,000	
	5999 Component Total	500	500	3,500	5,500	3,500	10,500	0	30,000	54,000	4,500	49,500	54,000	
	TOTAL	67,000	19,000	27,500	359,500	27,500	105,864	63,636	30,000	700,000	132,818	567,182	700,000	

