



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 Macedonia		
Country(ies):	Republic of Macedonia	GEF Project ID: ¹	9196
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP	GEF Agency Project ID:	01372
Other Executing Partner(s):	The Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning of the Republic of Macedonia/POPs Unit	Submission Date:	27/08/2015
GEF Focal Area (s):	Chemicals and Wastes	Project Duration (Months)	24 months
Type of Report:	Minamata Initial Assessment	Expected Report Submission to Convention	30/06/2017

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 the Republic of Macedonia				
Project Component	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	(in \$)	
			GEF Project Financing	Confirmed Co-financing ²
1. Establishment of a Coordination Mechanism and organization of process	Macedonia 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 for the establishment of National Coordination Mechanisms and organization of process for the management of mercury	20,819	0
2. 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 Macedonia to develop a sound roadmap for the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention	Assessment prepared of the national infrastructure and capacity for the management of mercury, including national legislation	35,000	0
3. Development of a mercury inventory using the UNEP mercury tool kit and strategies to identify	Enhanced understanding on mercury sources and its releases facilitated the development of national priority actions	Mercury inventory developed using the UNEP mercury tool kit and strategies to identify and assess mercury contaminated sites	65,000	0

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.

and assess mercury contaminated sites				
4. Identification of challenges, needs and opportunities to implement the Minamata Convention on Mercury	Improved understanding on 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	13,500	0
5. Preparation and validation of National MIA reports and implementation of awareness raising activities and dissemination of results	Macedonia's key stakeholders made full use of the MIA and related assessments leading to the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury	Technical support provided for preparation and validation of National MIA reports and implementation of awareness raising activities and dissemination of results.	27,500	0
Subtotal			161,819	0
Project Management Cost ³			18,181	0
Monitoring and Evaluation			20,000	0
Total Project Cost			200,000	0

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

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

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

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 Macedonia <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	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

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.

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 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 Republic of Macedonia has signed the Minamata Convention on Mercury and became eligible to the Mercury Initial Assessment Programme under GEF funding to assist the country to accelerate the ratification of the convention by filling some information and data gaps and ensure extensive outreach to national stakeholders.

Brief description on Macedonia's background information, activities and current legislation and national capacities/ infrastructure for mercury management

Located in South-eastern Europe, in the heart of the Balkan peninsula, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) is one of the smallest countries among its neighbours covering an area of 25,714 km². The territory of Macedonia is surrounded by mountains punctuated by valleys and is landlocked between Serbia, Bulgaria, Greece, Albania and Kosovo. The river Vardar, the largest in the country, bisects the country. The population of the country is over 2 million with half commuting to the capital city, Skopje, during the week. There are diverse ethnic groups: Macedonian, Albanian, Turkish, Vlachs, Roma, Serbian etc. The largest among them are Macedonian (67%) and Albanian (22 %).

The Republic of Macedonia lacks an integrated approach to the monitoring of the fate of chemicals and to managing their risks throughout the life cycle. Regardless of the considered country's regulatory focus on the risks (the chemicals) or on the elements to be protected (consumers, air, waters, soil, etc.), there are responsibility barriers and information gaps related to organizational structures and regulatory boundaries. Nevertheless, the country actively works on implementation of the chemical treaties, such as Montreal Protocol on ODSs; Stockholm Convention on POPs; Rotterdam Convention (PIC procedure), Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal. During the year 2013 the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning made efforts to ensure synergies in their implementation.

The Montreal Protocol is implemented in the country since 1997. The intensive implementation of the Country Programme for ODSs has resulted in elimination of more than 98% of ODS consumption in the country. Regarding the Stockholm Convention, the NIP was developed in 2005 and updated in 2013. The strong system for POPs in the country is established.

With regard to mercury management, the country has made efforts through, inter alia, the adoption of the following legislation:

- Law on Chemicals (OG of the RM no. 145/10, 53/11, 164/13)
- List of Chemicals Bans and Restrictions (OG of the RM no. 31/14)

- Law on Waste Management (OG of the RM no. 68/04, 107/07, 102/08, 143/08, 124/10, 51/11, 123/12)
- Law on Electronic and Electric Equipment and Waste Electronic and Electric Equipment (OG of the RM no. 6/12)
- Law on Ambient Air Quality (OG of the RM no. 67/2004, 92/2007, 35/10, 47/11, 59/12)

In addition, some studies related to mercury use in the country were undertaken in the past. Most of the assessments and studies were related to the company OHIS AD Skopje. This company owns significant capacities for production and processing of chemical products. It is located in the industrial zone of Skopje, the capital of the Republic of Macedonia. The factory has access to road, railroad and gas pipeline and is located near the Vardar river. The production program of "OHIS" Ad – Skopje includes powder and liquid detergents, cosmetics and soap, pesticides, base chemistry, PVC pipes and compounds, PVC foils and artificial leather, PVC granulates rubber fillings, PVA and PA dispersions and processing.

Despite the previous assessments completed, additional assessment is necessary in order to obtain comprehensive picture on mercury presence in the country. Furthermore, data on mercury-added products are managed by several institutions (Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy), so the comprehensive assessment is also needed in this field.

This project is aimed at building national capacity to meet reporting and other obligations under the Convention. The Republic of Macedonia will benefit from new and updated information about the mercury release/emission sources and cycle in the country and building capacity in managing the risks of mercury. It is a unique opportunity for national stakeholders to have shared understanding of several aspects related to mercury in the country on the basis of the key items of the Minamata Convention on Mercury addressing the mercury life cycle from its generation, marketing, products and processes, storage and its final fate as waste, The sharing of experiences and lessons learned throughout the project is also expected to be an important contribution to other similar countries within the region.

National strategy documents and UNDAF in Macedonia

The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Macedonia, in accordance with its Mission Statement, and in close cooperation with the Government, civil society stakeholders, and the international community, has prepared the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for the period 2010-2015. The preparatory planning for the UNDAF was conducted in a comprehensive and consultative manner, involving all agencies and programmes present in the country (UNDP, UNICEF, WHO, UNIFEM, UNFPA, IOM, UNAIDS3, UNHCR, ILO and UNESCO) as well as non-resident agencies (UNEP and UNIDO). During the strategic priority-setting process, particular attention was made to identify the comparative advantages of the UN Country Team vis-à-vis the national development challenges and priorities as well as the programme focus of the country's major development partners such as the EU, the World Bank and other bilateral and multilateral organizations present in the country.

The UNDAF is designed along three programme pillars formulated as three UNDAF Outcomes:

Outcome 1- Social Inclusion

Outcome 2- Local Governance and Territorial Development

Outcome 3- Environmental Protection

Under Outcome 3 of the UNDAF, the United Nations Country Team aims to support national capacities necessary for meeting Macedonia's obligations under the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEA), which will lay the groundwork for its compliance with the more stringent EU environmental directives. This will be achieved through the integration of MEA requirements and other related priorities into the main national strategies thereby ensuring environmentally sound development. Interventions comprise a range of environment issues at both policy and practice levels, including climate change adaptation, transboundary water management, ecosystem and biodiversity

management, industrial waste and pollution mitigation and clean-up. Throughout its various activities, an integrated and multifaceted approach is being employed.

In order to ensure that this project contributes to the UNDAF areas of cooperation, representatives from the United Nations Country will be invited to attend the inception workshop in order to be an active observer in the National Coordination Mechanism development.

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 development is to protect human health and the environment from the risks posed by the unintentional and intentional emission and release, unsound use and management, 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 Macedonia

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

Component 1: Determination of Coordination Mechanism and organization of process

Macedonia will establish a **National Coordination Mechanism** for Mercury 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 National Coordination Mechanism for mercury, will seek for synergies and join 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 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 National Coordination Mechanism for Mercury and its Terms of Reference will be formalized and reinforced in Macedonia. 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 National Coordination Mechanism for Mercury will seek for a balanced structure, including representatives from of the civil society, mercury affected and interested communities.

This project component also aims at enhancing stakeholder's 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 Macedonia.

Activity 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 a strategy for awareness raising aimed at national stakeholders throughout the project
- b) Identify key stakeholders and assign roles

Activity 1.2: Conduct a national assessment on existing sources of information (studies), compile and make them publicly available

Expected Outcome: Macedonia 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 for the establishment of National Coordination for Mercury Mechanism and organization of process for the management of mercury

Component 2: Assessment of the national infrastructure and capacity for the management and monitoring of mercury, including the existing national regulatory and legal framework

This is a key step in the MIA development process. 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. This component will ensure that the gender issues and the interests of vulnerable populations are fully taken into account in the assessments. On this specific step, Macedonia will work on:

Activity 2.1: Assess key national stakeholders, their roles in mercury management and monitoring and institutional interest and capacities

Activity 2.2: Analyze the existing regulatory framework, identify gaps and identify the regulatory reforms needed for the sound management of mercury in Macedonia

Expected Outcome: Full understanding of comprehensive information on current infrastructure and regulation for mercury management enables Macedonia 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 3: Development of a mercury inventory using the UNEP mercury toolkit Level 2

This component will provide Macedonia with improved data on mercury sources, emissions and releases. The UNEP Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Mercury Releases has been revised in 2013. Macedonia 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 Macedonia 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 Macedonia throughout the whole inventory process. The aim is to ensure the high quality and comparability of the final inventory 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..

Activity 3.1: Develop a qualitative and quantitative inventory of all mercury sources, emissions and releases

Activity 3.2: Develop a national strategy to identify mercury contaminated sites

Expected Outcome: Enhanced understanding of mercury sources and releases facilitates the development of national priority actions

Expected Outputs: Mercury inventory developed using the UNEP mercury tool kit level 2 and strategies to identify and assess mercury contaminated sites

Component 4: Identification of challenges, needs and opportunities to implement the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Taking into consideration the preliminary research undertaken under project component 1, the assessment undertaken in component 2, and the mercury inventory under project component 3, 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 4.1: Conduct a national and sectoral assessment on challenges and opportunities to implement the Convention in key priority sectors

Activity 4.2: Develop a report on recommendations to implement the Minamata Convention on mercury

Expected Outcome: Improved understanding of national needs and gaps in mercury management and monitoring enables 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 5: Preparation, validation of National MIA report and implementation of awareness raising activities and dissemination of results

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 5.2.

Activity 5.1: Draft and validate MIA Report

Activity 5.2: Develop and implement a national MIA awareness raising and dissemination and outreach strategy

Expected Outcome: Macedonia's key stakeholders made full use of the MIA and related assessments leading to the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Expected Outputs: Information exchange undertaken and capacity building and knowledge generation for mercury management provided

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 section B

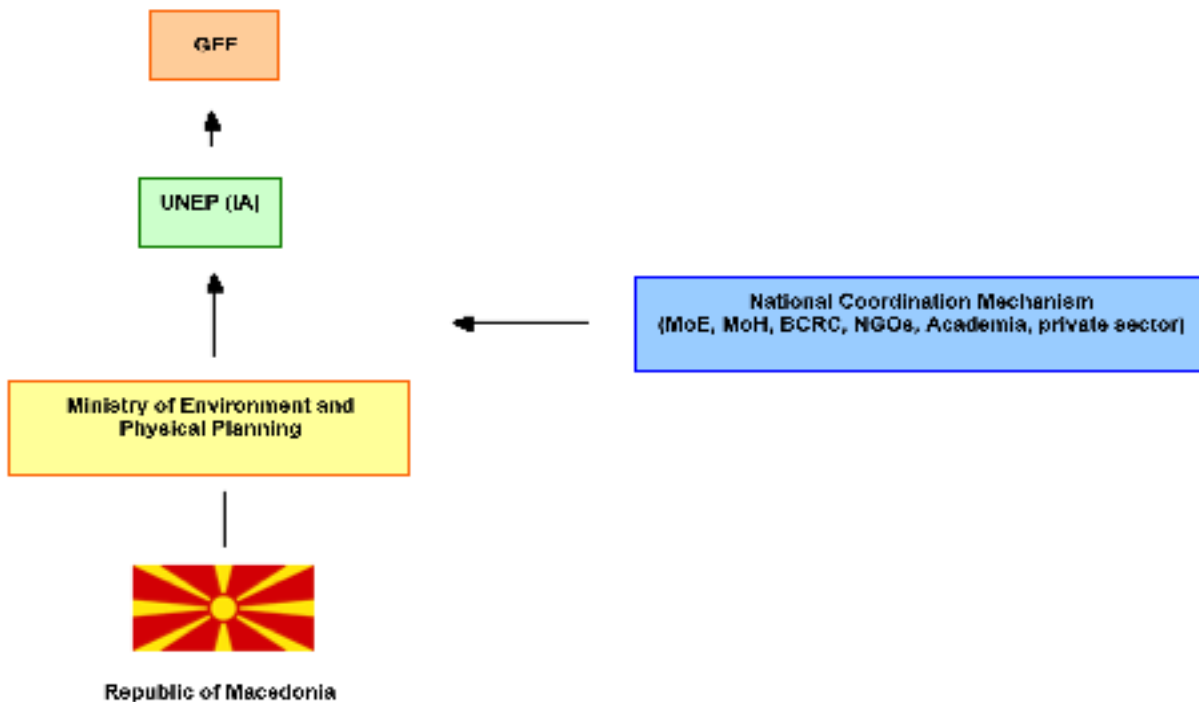
Implementing Agency (IA): This project will be implemented by UNEP and executed by the The Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning of the Republic of Macedonia/POPs Unit. As Implementing Agency, UNEP will be responsible for the overall project supervision, overseeing the project progress through 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 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): The Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning of the Republic of Macedonia/POPs Unit 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 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. The Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning of the Republic of Macedonia/POPs Unit 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

Implementation arrangements graph



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

The project will use the current capacity for chemicals management present in Macedonia, 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 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 Macedonia. 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 and Physical Planning of the Republic of Macedonia/POPs Unit** will submit quarterly progress reports to the implementing agency at UNEP Chemicals. **The Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning of the Republic of Macedonia/POPs Unit** will also be responsible for the issuing of legal documents such as agreements with participating governments and other institutions including recruitment of local/regional staff or consultants and the execution of the activities according to the work plan and expected outcomes.

The quarterly 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.

In consultation with UNEP Chemicals, the **The Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning of the Republic of Macedonia/POPs Unit** will identify suitable local consultants to assist in the development of the national inventory.

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 – The Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning of the Republic of Macedonia/POPs Unit 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.

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
Vesna Indova	GEF Operational Focal Point	The Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning of the Republic of Macedonia	27.07.2015

B. CONVENTION PARTICIPATION

CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ACCESSION (mm/dd/yyyy)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	
UNCBD	02/12/1997	Ms. Daniela Rendevska	
UNFCCC	28/01/ 1998 a	Ms. Teodora Obradovic-Grnarovska	
UNCCD	06/03/2002	Mrs. Vesna Indova	
STOCKHOLM CONVENTION	27/05/2007	Ms. Teodora Obradovic-Grnarovska	
	DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	DATE OF NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 7 TO THE MINAMATA CONVENTION SECRETARIAT
MINAMATA CONVENTION	25/07/2014	-	NA

C. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies⁴ 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		August 27, 2015	Kevin Helps Senior Programme Officer, Chemicals Branch / GEF Operations DTIE, UNEP	+254-20- 762-3140	Kevin.Helps@unep.org

ANNEXES:

1. CONSULTANTS TO BE HIRED FOR THE ENABLING ACTIVITY WITH GEF FUNDING
2. OFP ENDORSEMENT/CO-FINANCE LETTERS
3. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS CHECKLIST
4. ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS
5. PROJECT SUPERVISION PLAN

⁴ GEF policies encompass all managed trust funds, namely: GEFTF, LDCF, and SCCF

ANNEX 1: 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>Total</i>	<i>Tasks To Be Performed</i>
For Technical Assistance					
Local					
Consultant to assist with the preparation of the MIA	750	76.67	57'500	57'500	Overall guidance on the MIA development and provide assessment reports to assist national teams to prepare the MIA assessment and inventory
Subtotal			57'500	57'500	
International					
Technical support and advice throughout the project	2500	4.80	12'000	12'000	Technical support to develop national assessments and to identify and assess contaminated sites
Consultant to assist developing the mercury inventory using the UNFP toolkit	2500	8.80	22'000	22'000	Technical support to national project teams to develop a mercury inventory
Subtotal		13.60	34'000	34'000	
Total			91'500	91'500	
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 2: OFP ENDORSEMENT/CO-FINANCE LETTERS



Republic of Macedonia
Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning



Our. No. 17- 6379/1

Date: 27.07.2015

Ms. Brennan Van Dyke
Director, GEF Coordination Office
Nairobi, Kenya

Republic of Macedonia
Ministry of Environment
and Physical Planning

Bul. Goce Delcev no. 18
1000 Skopje.
Republic of Macedonia
Tel. (02) 3251 400
Fax. (02) 3220 165
E-mail: infoeko@moepp.gov.mk
Site: www. moepp.gov.mk

Subject: Endorsement for the Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in the Republic of Macedonia

Dear Ms. Van Dyke,

In our capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point and GEF Political Focal Point for the Republic of Macedonia we confirm that the above project proposal is in accordance with the government's national priorities and the commitments made by the Republic of Macedonia under the relevant global environmental treaty(s). National consultations have been made with all relevant stakeholders, including national institutions involved in mercury management and the global environmental convention focal points.

Accordingly, we are pleased to endorse the above project proposal with the support of the GEF Agency listed below. If approved, the proposal will be implemented by the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning/POPs Unit. We request the GEF Agency 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 the Republic of Macedonia 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

Please accept the assurances of our highest consideration.

Vesna Indova
GEF Operational
Focal Point

MINISTER
Nurhan Izairi
GEF Political Focal Point

ANNEX 3 : 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 Macedonia		
GEF project ID and UNEP ID/IMIS Number		Version of checklist	
Project status (preparation, implementation, MTE/MTR, TE)	Preparation/ Submission	Date of this version:	30.04.2015
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 -		
- densely populated area	N.A:	The project will assess the situation with regard to mercury in Macedonia. 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
- cultural heritage site	N.A:	
- protected area	NA	
- wetland	NA	
- 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.	The project will assess the situation with regard to mercury in Macedonia. 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?	No	
- 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	
<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.

	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 Macedonia
- 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 an 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 4: ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ASGM	Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining
BRS	Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions
CBD	Convention on Biodiversity
CEM	Cement Production
CREM	Cremation
EA	Executing Agency
EDRF	Environmental and Disaster Relief Fund
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
E-waste	Electronic Waste
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHS	Green House Gases
HFO	Heavy Fuel Oil
HIV/AIDS	Human immunodeficiency virus/ Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
IA	Implementing Agency
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
MIA	Minamata Initial Assessment
NCM	National Coordination Mechanism
NCPC	National Cleaner Production Centre
NFMP-AU	Non-ferrous metal production – aluminium
NGOs	Non-governmental Organizations
NPT	National project Team
PPG	Project Preparation Grant
PIR	Project Implementation Review
POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants
PSC	Project Steering Committee
SAICM	Strategic Approach for International Chemicals Management
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
UN	United Nations
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
WDF	World Dental Federation
WHO	World Health Organization

ANNEX 5: PROJECT SUPREVISION PLAN

Project Title: Development of Minamata Convention on Mercury Initial Assessment in Macedonia																								
Project executing partner: Ministry of Environment of Macedonia																								
Project implementation period (add additional years as required):	Year 1												Years 2											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Executing partner	█																							
UNEP/DTIE Chemicals (Implementing)	◆																							
Output	✦																							
Activity/Task/Output																								
Project Management, Coordination & Sustainability																								
Inception meeting and report of meeting	█																							
Progress report - (March 30, Jun 30, Sep 30 and Dec 31) + 30 days	█																							
Annual co-financing report - June	█																							
Establish M&E system	█																							
Expenditure report - (Mar, June, Sep and Dec 31) + 30 days	█																							
Procurement of equipment & hiring of consultants	█																							
Progress reports to co-financiers	NA																							
Project Implementation Review	█																							
PSC/PMC meetings + minutes of meetings	█																							
GEFSEC communications (Inception, midterm & completion)	◆																							
Terminal report	█																							
Training workshops/seminars	NA																							
Terminal evaluation	█																							
Outcome 1: Macedonia makes full use of enhanced existing structures and information available dealing with mercury management to guide ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention																								
1.1 Organize a National Inception Workshop to raise awareness and to define the scope and objective of the MIA process	█																							
1.2 Conduct a national assessment on existing sources of information (studies), compile and make them available	█																							
Milestone: National Coordination Mechanism operational and launches the project	✦																							
Outcome 2: Full understanding of comprehensive information on current infrastructure and regulation for mercury management enables Macedonia to develop a sound roadmap for the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention																								
2.1 Assess key national stakeholders, their roles in mercury management and institutional interest and capacities	█																							
Milestone: final national report on national capacities for mercury management (assessed) and national needs developed	✦																							
the regulatory reforms needed for the sound management of mercury	█																							
Milestone: final national report on existing national regulatory framework applicable to mercury and impact of regulatory framework assessed	✦																							
Outcome 3: Enhanced understanding on mercury sources and releases facilitated the development of national priority actions																								
3.1 Develop a qualitative and quantitative inventory of all mercury sources and releases	█																							
Milestone: Qualitative and quantitative inventory of all mercury sources and releases developed	✦																							
3.2 Develop a national strategy to identify mercury contaminated sites	█																							
Milestone: final report with strategy to identify and assess mercury contaminated sites developed	✦																							
Outcome 4: Improved understanding on national needs and gaps in mercury management and monitoring enabled a better identification of future activities																								
4.1 Conduct a national and sectoral assessment on challenges and opportunities to implement the Convention in key priority sectors	█																							
4.2 Develop a report on recommendations to implement the Convention	█																							
Milestone: report on challenges, needs, opportunities and recommendations to implement the convention developed, including legal and technical aspects	✦																							
Outcome 5: Macedonia's key stakeholders made full use of the MIA and related assessments leading to the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury																								
5.1 Draft and validate MIA Report	█																							
Milestone: Final MIA report validated and available to key stakeholders	✦																							
5.2 Develop and implement a national MIA dissemination and outreach strategy	█																							
Milestone: MIA dissemination strategy and awareness raising activities developed and implemented	✦																							