



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

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PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFIERS

Project Title:	Advanced Minamata Initial Assessment in Mongolia		
Country(ies):	Mongolia	GEF Project ID: ¹	
GEF Agency(ies):	UNIDO (select)	GEF Agency Project ID:	160016
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Environment, Green Development and Tourism	Submission Date:	11/11/2016
GEF Focal Area (s):	Chemicals and Wastes	Project Duration (Months)	24
Type of Report:	Minamata Convention Initial Assessment (MIA)	Expected Report Submission to Convention	n/a

A. PROJECT FRAMEWORK*

Project Objective: Post-ratification activities completed to enable policy and strategic decision making, and implementation of the Minamata Convention				
Project Component	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	(in \$)	
			GEF Project Financing	Confirmed Co-financing ²
I. Increase national capacity on policy and decision making to implement the Minamata Convention	Outcome 1: National capacity improved to prepare for implementation of the Minamata Convention	<p>Output 1.1: National capacity and coordination on mercury management improved through the preparation of a national mercury inventory (level 2) and intervention plans</p> <p>Output 1.2: A central database on mercury export, import, usage, emissions and registration is developed</p> <p>Output 1.3: Regulation drafted and forwarded to Government Cabinet for consideration on (i) the export, import, transboundary movement (of mercury and mercury compounds), collection, storage and disposal (of mercury, mercury compounds and mercury containing wastes), and (ii) list of banned mercury containing products</p> <p>Output 1.4: Information disseminated and awareness</p>	172,000	3,000

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

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

		raised to promote voluntary involvement of civil society members		
2. Monitoring and Evaluation	Outcome 2. Project achieves objective on time through effective monitoring and evaluation	Output 2.1 Periodic monitoring and terminal evaluation of project implementation completed	10,000	4,600
Subtotal			182,000	7,600
Project Management Cost ³			18,000	11,000
Total Project Cost			200,000	18,600

* 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 (\$)
GEF Agency	UNIDO	Grants	7,600
GEF Agency	UNIDO	In-kind	11,000
Total Co-financing			18,600

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
UNIDO	GEFTF	Mongolia	Chemicals and Wastes	Mercury	200,000	19,000	219,000
Total GEF Resources					200,000	19,000	219,000

a) Refer to the Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies

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

<p>A. ENABLING ACTIVITY BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT (Provide brief information about projects implemented since a country became party to the convention and results achieved):</p>	<p>The Minamata Convention on Mercury is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from the adverse effects of mercury. The legally binding global instrument was agreed at the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee in Geneva, Switzerland, 19 January 2013. The treaty was formally adopted and opened for signature at the Conference of Plenipotentiaries held from 9 to 11 October 2013 in Minamata and Kumamoto, Japan. Until May 2016, 128 countries had signed the treaty and 25 had ratified it. Mongolia became a signatory on 10 October 2013 and ratified the Convention on 28 September 2015.</p> <p>The Minamata Convention has a phased approach to reduce, and where possible, eliminate mercury use in key industrial sectors. Provisions of the Convention include phase out deadlines established for supply sources and trade, mercury added products, and manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used. Based on these targets, the Convention is designed to systematically reduce emissions and releases to land and water, and phase out the use of mercury where alternatives exist.</p> <p>For Mongolia to meet obligations under the Convention, several barriers must be addressed. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Policy barriers: gaps in political and legislative frameworks to support Convention provisions;(b) Capacity and information barriers: lack of detailed data on sources of emissions and releases, as well as flows of mercury within the country and through its borders; and,(c) Awareness barriers: low awareness of health risks associated with mercury among the public and government officials, with limited occupational safety mechanisms in place to reduce community exposure to mercury. <p>With the ratification of the Convention, Mongolia will require assistance to formulate and apply sector wide programs through cost effective approaches within the context of its national development efforts. Currently, Mongolia is experiencing rapid economic growth with one of the fastest emerging mineral based resource markets in the world. Gold, copper, coal and zinc reserves have attracted waves of foreign direct investment since 1990 following the transition from a centralized to market economy. As a result, the pressure at the local and national levels to manage growing reserves of hazardous chemicals and industrial wastes also rose over time, and in response, chemical management became a central component of Mongolia's policies on sustainable development. The Law on Hazardous and Toxic chemicals, approved by the Parliament in 2006, had a transformative effect on chemical management and procedures in Mongolia. This law gave the Ministry of Environment, Green Development and Tourism the authority to implement policy measures to enhance legal compliance, fully enforce relevant legislation on chemical management and coordinate activities related to toxic and hazardous chemicals.</p>
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In recent years, the use, transport and public health risks associated with mercury and mercury containing wastes have become increasingly controversial as it is a common byproduct of mineral extraction and ore processing. National mercury emissions are anticipated to increase in coming decades as the mineral sector expands. Unfortunately, mercury has been characterized by poor rather than good management practices in Mongolia, dating back to the early 1900s with a long usage history for hard rock gold amalgamation. In 1956, a big crack in an amalgamation tank released a large amount of mercury to the Boroo river basin and formed an anthropogenic deposit of mercury. As a consequence, samples of vegetables grown along the basin and fish from the river showed excessive amount of mercury. During the market economy transition period in the 1990s, Mongolia's industrial sector and community based entities faced significant difficulties which led to massive unemployment and increased the number of illegal small scale miners, also known as ninja miners. They operated in placer mines and hard rock deposits of gold and illegally used mercury and cyanide, extensively polluting the environment. Mercury used was either from illegal import or from the Boroo river basin.

In 2005, in cooperation with the Ministry of Mining, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) initiated and funded the Sustainable Artisanal Mining Project (SAM) and after 11 years, it is currently in its 4th phase (2015-2018). The project has introduced non-mercury mining processes and focused on the formalization of the sector. The project also worked with the Alliance for Responsible Mining (ARM) to introduce the Fairmined standard to the country and resulted in the export of the first Fairmined ecological gold in early 2016.

In 2007, a mercury and cyanide accident in Khongor village of Darkhan-Uul province brought even greater national attention on chemical contaminated sites. In response to patterns of unregulated and irresponsible mercury use in mining and growing concerns with the numerous risks to human and environmental health associated with mercury exposure, the government revised the list of banned and limited use toxic and hazardous chemicals through Resolution 95 in 2007, to include mercury and its organic and inorganic compounds as chemicals with limited use.

In 2008, the government prohibited the use of mercury for mining and processing and announced a reward campaign for residents to report on illegal chemicals storage and usage. In addition, between 2007 and 2008, a nationwide inspection took place over 120 locations, covering territory of 10 provinces to uncover illegal uses of chemicals, especially for mercury and cyanide. 145 mills were discontinued in their operation due to usage of mercury for processing gold ore. For the purpose of protecting human health and the environment from harmful mercury, the government spent approximately US\$3 million in 2008-2009 to clean contaminated sites. For mercury pollution in the Boroo river basin, several site investigations and remediation occurred as well as the removal of 105 kg of mercury and 19,868 tons of contaminated soil and sediments were carried out until 2006. However, after nearly 60 years, mercury hot-spots along the river basin remain. Therefore, as part of an ongoing GEF-UNIDO (GEF5) project in Mongolia (USD\$600,000, 2013-2016), past investigations at the Boroo river basin were validated and appropriate remediation techniques are being demonstrated. In addition, the project will strengthen Mongolia's management capacity on mercury containing wastes, with the construction of an interim storage space for mercury wastes before construction of a national hazardous waste facility.

In terms of existing regulations, two specific regulations covering mercury were approved in 2009: “Regulation on Storage, Transportation, Use and Disposal of Toxic and Hazardous Chemicals” approved through the joint order 28/40/29 of Ministers of Environment, Health and Emergency, regulating the storage, transportation, use and disposal of mercury and its compounds; and the “Regulation on Export, Import, Transboundary Movement, Production and Trade of Toxic and Hazardous Chemicals” approved by the joint order of Ministers of Environment and Foreign Affairs, serving as a mechanism to control the regulation of mercury and mercury containing compounds. These two regulations cover only mercury and mercury compounds and do not include mercury added products, mercury containing wastes and monitoring of mercury emissions.

In addition to mineral extraction and contaminated sites, another source of mercury releases is the usage of mercury containing products in Mongolia (e.g. dental amalgam, thermostats, switches/relays, lamps, batteries, measuring devices, thermometers, paints, tire balancing products, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics). So far, no systematic survey or research has been done in mercury containing products in the health sector and there is no control at the custom as well. Only a one-time survey was conducted in Ulaanbaatar, Darkhan and Erdenet cities and Uvurkhanghai province covering 578 units and 32 hospitals and clinics in 2010. The results show that air inside the medical premises is contaminated with mercury and there is low awareness and no access to information and facilities on appropriate storage, handling, transporting and disposal of mercury containing equipment. Amalgam is used in 14.7% of dental clinics and wastes are discharged directly to the sewage system. No waste incineration for both household and hazardous wastes facility exist in Mongolia. Medical wastes are incinerated in hospitals small stoves and furnaces, however, these incinerators use primitive technology and they have no emission control or monitoring system.

A national mercury emissions inventory (level 1) using the UNEP Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Mercury Releases Guidelines was developed in 2011 in cooperation with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) through financial support from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The estimated mercury releases in Mongolia is 577 tons and 94.3% of which are emitted from primary metal production, excluding gold production by amalgamation. The main source was identified as gold extraction by methods other than mercury amalgamation. This sources counts for 99.6% (574 tons) of total releases. The next significant sources are production of copper from concentrate, informal dumping of general wastes, coal combustion of large power plants, controlled landfills/deposits, waste water system/treatment as 0.54%, 0.50%, 0.25%, 0.19% and 0.13% of total releases respectively. Of the emissions, 88.66% is estimated to be discharged to land, 4.39% to air, 4.15% with by-products and impurities, 2.07% to water, 0.11% is with household wastes and 0.15% discharged with waste treatment/disposal.

Based on the Level 1 inventory results and the situational and capacity assessment, a Mercury Risk Management Plan was developed to identify strength and needs towards sounds management of mercury at the national level. Recommended actions were: a) improve legislation for controlling releases from primary anthropogenic sources of mercury, b) develop information exchanged system, c) establish monitoring system for mercury releases, d) introduce BAT/BEP, e) establish an incentive scheme to encourage and support the reduction on mercury releases, f) develop regulations for import, usage, disposal and monitoring of mercury containing products, g) establish a system for collecting, storing and disposing mercury containing wastes, and h) organize training and awareness raising for target groups.

Based on the recommendations in the Risk Management Plan, a national inventory of obsolete chemicals for disposal was conducted. 297 organizations in 137 soums of 21 provinces and the Ulaanbaatar city were involved. A total of 369 tons and 69,000 liters of outdated chemicals were inventoried out of which 230 kg were mercury and mercury salts. Those obsolete mercury, mercury salts and outdated mercury containing medical devices from hospitals were collected and shipped to the mercury interim storage facility, established under the GEF5 UNIDO project. Currently, there are 239 kg elemental mercury, 18.26 kg of mercury salts, 15 sphygmomanometers and 32 thermometers stored in the storage. Elemental mercury is stored in 1 ton special stainless steel containers.

In 2015, the Ministry of Environment, Green Development and Tourism implemented the project “Ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury in Mongolia” in cooperation with UNITAR through the assistance of the Swiss government (USD\$50,000). Under this project, a multi-stakeholder workshop was organized on 21 December 2015 for priority setting for implementation of the Convention at the national level. The priority areas were identified as: (1) establish monitoring system for mercury releases to the environment, training and awareness raising; (2) reduction of mercury emissions from primary anthropogenic sources; (3) reduction of usage of mercury containing products; (4) reduction of mercury emission from ASGM.

The challenges to implement the Convention in Mongolia are similar compared to the ones identified in the 2011 Risk Management Plan, which illustrates the urgent need to address the identified issues immediately through this project. The following required actions were identified:

Towards improving legislation

- Create a legal environment for limiting import and usage of mercury containing products and equipment
- Create a legal environment for regulating collection, storage and disposal of mercury containing wastes
- Develop a National Program on Mercury Management and reflect step by step actions for gradual reduction of mercury usage
- Take measures for the reduction of mercury emissions and introduce a promotion mechanism for industries and businesses that achieved good results

Towards sources and emissions calculation

- Make a list of mercury emitting sources and build capacity for calculating emissions from these sources
- Establish a monitoring system for mercury emissions
- Implement BET/BEP in mercury releasing sources

Towards improving mercury management

- Build a designated place for storing and disposing mercury and mercury containing wastes (accomplished by current GEF5 UNIDO project)
- Create a management system for collection, storage and disposal of mercury containing wastes
- Develop a central database at the Ministry Environment, Green Development & Tourism on mercury usage, emissions and registration and create an information exchange system.
- Incentivize voluntary activities for replacing mercury containing devices and equipment, which are being kept under disposal of households and organizations, with mercury-free alternatives
- Make a list of mercury containing equipment and products and disseminate to public and border and customs workers
- Strengthen border control over mercury and mercury containing products
- Make a health risk assessment among the workers and people who work with mercury-containing equipment and handle mercury-containing materials and products
- Improve laboratory capacity

Towards training and awareness raising

- Improve trainings and raise awareness on hazards of mercury, handling mercury containing equipment and devices, and mercury response guidelines.
- Encourage and promote voluntary involvement of businesses, organizations and NGOs in awareness raising activities on mercury hazards and prevention
- Prepare medical workers through special trainings for diagnosis and treatment of mercury poisoning
- Organize trainings and workshops

Towards artisanal and small scale gold mining

- Raise awareness of hazards of mercury
- Stop illegal use of mercury
- Reclamation of the former contaminated sites
- Reduce the number of ASGM miners by promoting the move to other economic sectors

In sum, Mongolia has executed a number of initiatives to tackle the negative impacts of mercury on human health and the environment. The country is also a party to the Stockholm, Rotterdam and Basel Conventions. However, despite the efforts made until to-date, the country still needs assistance on legislative, data, awareness and management improvements in order to implement the Minamata Convention. Therefore, the development of this Advanced Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA) will address some of these issues by providing the essential information for the government to enable the passing of policy and strategic decisions, to enhance coordination at the national level, to obtain detailed data on mercury emissions and releases, and to increase awareness on mercury management with various target groups.

<p>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 equality and women's empowerment are considered in project design and implementation):</p>	<p>The request of financial support from the Chemicals and Wastes focal area of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) is justified through investment in enabling activities to assist nations to fulfill essential communication requirements related to the Convention, make informed policy decisions and assist in prioritizing activities.</p> <p>Enabling activities have already been developed in Mongolia with GEF's resources in order to assist the country in the implementation of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). The MIA enabling activities will complement the country efforts to reduce significantly the exposure of harmful chemicals and wastes of global importance to humans and the environment.</p> <p>The project will strengthen Mongolia's national capacity to fulfill obligations under the Minamata Convention and promote effective implementation of its provisions. In order to reach that, the activities proposed will assist the Government and industrial partners to better understand the national operations on mercury, as well as its emissions, and to increase awareness of risks to human and ecosystem health.</p> <p>With the support of GEF, pollution sources can be identified systematically to select areas for future intervention, while policy/regulation analysis and development, can assist Mongolia to identify potential barriers to implement the Convention. GEF resources will also assist the country to disseminate project achievements in the national level and help to leverage international support, as well as investments for additional projects in Mongolia to promote sound chemicals management as a key component of inclusive and sustainable industrial development.</p> <p>The key stakeholders involved in the project are as follows:</p> <p>UNIDO will act as the GEF Implementing Agency (IA) for the project. The UNIDO project manager will provide technical advice, as well as coordinate and monitor the project activities.</p> <p>The Ministry of Environment, Green Development and Tourism of Mongolia will serve as the national executing agency and main governmental counterpart providing national leadership. The Minamata Convention focal point in the Ministry will be responsible for the day-to-day compliance with the treaty and its provisions. The Ministry will also act as the chair and secretariat of the National Steering Group (NSG).</p> <p>Please refer to Annex A for a total estimation of the GEF grant and co-financing budget breakdown. Budget for the final evaluation is included as part of the monitoring and evaluation table on page 12. At the request of the Ministry of Environment, Green Development and Tourism, UNIDO will be responsible for administration of the grant to execute the project through a project team to be hosted within the premises of the Ministry.</p> <p>The NSG will be established as an inter-ministerial Steering Group comprised of UNIDO representatives, technical and policy experts from the Ministry, other relevant ministries (listed below) and industrial associations to provide overall guidance and coordination for the execution of activities, providing strategic inputs and contributions to project management as needed. All project amendments will be done in accordance with UNIDO rules and regulations and GEF policy GEF/C.39/Inf.3.</p>
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Ministry of Health and Sports is responsible to develop and implement national policy on the protection of human health from chemical risks; study and make assessment of chemicals effects on human health; study occupational diseases and take measures for the prevention; list classifications and amount of disinfection hygienic substances to be used in Mongolia and coordinate use and import, and organize trainings and awareness raising activities. **Ministry of Energy** is responsible to develop and implement national policy on energy sector; energy and heat production, transmission and distribution. **Ministry of Mining** is responsible to develop and implement national policy on mining sector. **General Customs Authority** is in charge of inspection on chemicals and chemicals containing products; report on import information of products to related bodies; border control over illegal import and export of chemicals; and sharing experience with counterparts in other countries on border monitoring of chemicals. **State Specialized Inspection Agency** is the realization of international and national legislation and acts on chemicals; implement the border control over chemicals and chemical products; inspect and monitor security and quality of the environment, food and workplace; and inspect and monitor the releases and wastes from sources.

Civil Society Organizations, including industry associations, academia and NGOs, will act as a bridge to connect Government institutes, technical experts, and relevant industries to assist in the development and implementation of policies to fulfill obligations under the Convention. This network of associations will liaise with mercury users to increase awareness, share knowledge and promote technology transfer to reduce mercury use within the enabling activities framework.

An **expert team** comprised of national and international consultants and technical specialists will be recruited to provide technical support. The team will be selected based on technical expertise to support appropriate policy and legal gap analysis, assist in development of the national mercury profile and plan activities for institutional capacity development.

The project will not have an impact on **indigenous people** groups as they are not present in the region where the project will be executed.

Please refer to Annex B for a flow chart of various stakeholders.

Recognizing that the level of exposure to mercury and its related impacts on human health are determined by social and biological factors, women, children and men might be exposed to different kinds, levels and frequency of mercury. Therefore, gender mainstreaming will be included as part of the project. This will be addressed based on UNIDO's gender policy, among others by involving women and vulnerable groups at the stakeholder level, in the information sharing and dissemination events.

The involvement and participation of women and vulnerable groups will be summarized in the semi-annual report from the Ministry of Environment, Green Development and Tourism to UNIDO and gender disaggregated data collected to provide a basis for prioritization, development of sectoral intervention plans and future projects.

Special attention will be paid to gender equality when evaluating and inviting members to participate to the National Steering Group and when inviting stakeholders to awareness raising workshops. Women and gender focused groups will be invited and consulted throughout project execution and also to play a key role in Output 1.4 on awareness raising activities to identify and minimize awareness barriers. In addition, specific sessions focused on gender equality will be planned as part of the inception and all steering group meetings.

During recruitment process, female candidates will be encouraged to apply. For candidates with similar technical qualifications, preference will be given to women.

<p>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).</p>	<p>This project sets out the activities necessary to prepare an Advanced MIA to support efficient implementation of the Minamata Convention within the national context. The project will assist Mongolia to plan these post-ratification activities while mainstreaming sound mercury management into legal and institutional structures that are fully in line with national priorities.</p> <p>The initiative will also help the country to collect baseline information on mercury use, emissions and releases that will serve as input to the design of future interventions required by the treaty, such as the development of a National Implementation Plan that may be required by the Conference of Parties within a few years of its entry into force. The treaty is expected to enter into force in 2017.</p> <p>The planned activities per output are listed below:</p> <p>Output 1.1: National capacity and coordination on mercury management improved through the preparation of a national mercury inventory (level 2) and intervention plans</p> <p>Activity 1.1.1 Conduct national project coordination meetings Activity 1.1.2 Establish an inter-ministerial Steering Group (National Steering Group) Activity 1.1.3 Conduct national mercury inventory training (level 2) Activity 1.1.4 Data collection for the national mercury intervention Activity 1.1.5 Draft national mercury inventory Activity 1.1.6 Identify key sectors for intervention Activity 1.1.7 Develop intervention plans</p> <p>Output 1.2: A central database on mercury export, import, usage, emissions and registration is developed</p> <p>Activity 1.2.1 Identify experts and stakeholder that will be developing and using the central database, respectively Activity 1.2.2 Conduct target group meetings on database development, including ownership, responsibilities, data upload and security Activity 1.2.3 Central mercury database developed Activity 1.2.4 Trainings for central mercury database are provided to users</p> <p>Output 1.3: Regulation drafted and forwarded to Government Cabinet for consideration on (i) the export, import, transboundary movement (of mercury and mercury compounds), collection, storage and disposal (of mercury, mercury compounds and mercury containing wastes), and (ii) list of banned mercury containing products</p> <p>Activity 1.3.1 Identify stakeholders that need to be involved in drafting mercury regulations Activity 1.3.2 Conduct regular meetings to discuss the content of the draft regulation on the export, import, transboundary movement, collection, storage and disposal of mercury, mercury compounds and mercury containing wastes Activity 1.3.3 Conduct regular meetings to discuss the revised list of banned mercury containing products Activity 1.3.4 Submit draft regulations to the Government Cabinet for consideration</p>
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<p>D. DESCRIBE, IF POSSIBLE, THE EXPECTED COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT:</p>	<p>Output 1.4: Information disseminated and awareness raised to promote voluntary involvement of civil society members</p> <p>Activity 1.4.1 Develop communication materials taking into account the impacts of mercury on and vulnerability of different gender groups</p> <p>Activity 1.4.2 Organize and conduct awareness raising campaigns and workshops adapting time and location of the events to different gender groups' needs</p> <p>Please refer to the attached logical framework in Annex C for specific outputs and their associated indicators, verifications and assumptions.</p> <hr/> <p>The project is expected to be highly cost effective as it is fully in line with the goals of Mongolia to fulfill the full range of obligations under the Convention, as well as regulate anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury in order to protect human health and the environment. With the GEF support, patterns of mercury consumption and release will be assessed to facilitate the design of targeted interventions, which in turn provide global and local benefits through reduced emissions to the environment. Through institutional capacity development and enhancement at the national level, potential contamination risks from the use of mercury-added products will also be minimized.</p> <p>To ensure cost effectiveness, infrastructure and human resources of the governmental counterpart involved in the project will be efficiently utilized. Most project activities will be carried out by national experts and capacities strengthened under previous GEF supported projects (under Stockholm or Minamata Convention) will be used. This will foster an increase in local and national capacity to manage mercury and will contribute to the cost effectiveness of the project through reduced consultancy fees and travel expenses. This initiative will also serve as a model for other MIA projects under the GEF-6 replenishment period.</p> <p>Project implementation and execution is expected to remain at low risk. UNIDO has solid experience in promoting environmentally sound management of mercury and plays an important role as co-lead of the ASGM sector under the Global Mercury Partnership – the main mechanism and technical advisory group of the Minamata Convention. UNIDO has also extensive experience with enabling activities through the Stockholm Convention National Implementation Plans (NIPs) and NIP updates.</p> <p>Lessons learned and experience gained by UNIDO in the development of mercury-related projects, as well as capacity building initiatives on POPs, are comparative advantages to the implementation of the project. The local and regional presence of UNIDO in the field will also help to ensure the smooth development of project activities.</p> <p>In addition, Ministry of Environment, Green Development and Tourism has experience working with UNIDO-GEF projects. Currently, the Ministry is leading, with success, the execution of the UNIDO-project entitled “Reduce exposure of mercury to human health and the environment by promoting sound chemical management in Mongolia”, showing capability and competence to take over the execution of the MIA.</p>
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E. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M&E PLAN:

Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) for this project will rely on several levels of review, quality control and feedback. Overall M&E will be conducted by UNIDO through annual supervision visits to the country. The National Steering Group, including the main project stakeholders, will meet annually to: (a) review annual work plan, (b) assess progress against M&E targets as indicated in the Project Results Framework, (c) review interim and final reports, and (d) assess any gaps or weakness and make appropriate adaptive management decisions based on progress and achievements. Work plan for year two will be based on the results achieved in the first year, including associated budget allocations, in agreement with the GEF and UNIDO's rules and guidelines and GEF Council Documents GEF/C.39/09 and GEF/C.39/Inf.03.

UNIDO's office in Beijing (covering Mongolia) will assist and participate in monitoring and evaluation visits as needed. In order to reinforce oversight over this project, a monthly meeting will be promoted between UNIDO and representatives of the national governments through teleconference to discuss about the status of the project, the next steps to be taken and issues that can be faced in the field. The final evaluation, to be conducted by an independent evaluator, will be arranged by the UNIDO project manager with support from UNIDO's Independent Evaluation Division and reports submitted to the donor within 90 days of project end. Please see below for a summary of the monitoring and evaluation plan, as well as the related budget breakdown.

Programmatic M&E: the main executing partner, Ministry of Environment, Green Development and Tourism, will be responsible for day-to-day management and execution of the project, reporting semi-annually to UNIDO. Progress of activities and outputs against the targets and desired outcomes will be assessed bi-annually by the executing partners using the means of verification and impact indicators for measurement explained in the Project Results Framework.

Financial Monitoring: All project costs will be accounted for and documented. Financial reports will be required from the executing agency according to UNIDO standard accounting procedures.

According to the Monitoring and Evaluation policy of the GEF and UNIDO, follow-up studies like Country Portfolio Evaluations and Thematic Evaluations can be initiated and conducted. All project partners and contractors are obliged to (a) make available studies, reports and other documentation related to the project and (b) facilitate interviews with staff involved in the project activities.

Legal context clause: The Government of Mongolia agrees to apply to the present project, mutatis mutandis, the provisions of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the United Nations Development Programme and the Government, signed and entered into force on 28 September 1976.

Monitoring and Evaluation table

M&E activity	Time	Budget [USD]	
		Cash [USD]	In-Kind
Start-up workshop report*	Within 3 months of project start	0	0
Project review by NSG at the end of year 1*	Month 12	0	0
Project review by NSG at the end of the project*	Month 24	0	0
Terminal evaluation	At project closure	10,000	4,600
Total M&E cost		10,000	4,600
*Funded by Project Management Costs			

F. EXPLAIN THE DEVIATIONS FROM TYPICAL COST RANGES (WHERE APPLICABLE):	Not applicable.
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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).


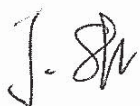
NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (Month, day, year)
Mrs. Barkhaa UNDARMAA	Director of International Cooperation Division	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, GREEN DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM	September 12 2016

B. CONVENTION PARTICIPATION

	DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	DATE OF NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 7 TO THE MINAMATA CONVENTION SECRETARIAT
MINAMATA CONVENTION	10/10/2013 (RATIFIED ON 28 SEPTEMBER 2015)	MRS. T. BULGAN, DIRECTOR OF GREEN DEVELOPMENT AND STRATEGY PLANNING DEPARTMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, GREEN DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM	

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.

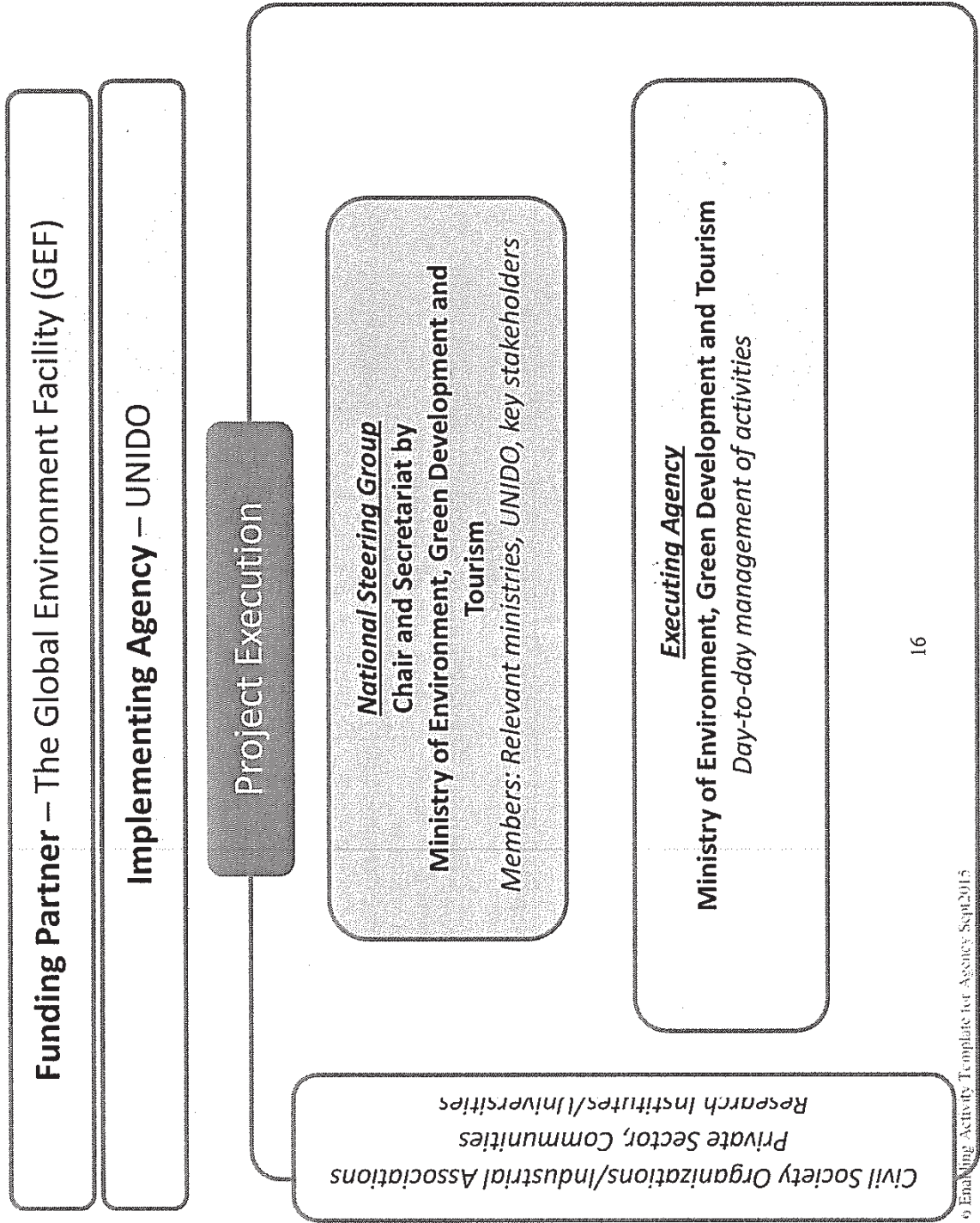
Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	E-mail Address
Mr. Philippe R. Scholtès, Managing Director Programme Development and Technical Cooperation (PTC), UNIDO GEF Focal Point		11/11/2016	Mr. Jerome Stucki, Industrial Development Officer, Environment Department	+43 1 26026 3559	j.stucki@unido.org 

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

Annex A: GEF grant and co-financing table by output

Hierarchy of Objectives	GEF Grant		Co-financing		Total
	Ministry of Environment, Green Development and Tourism/ UNIDO	Subtotal	UNIDO	Subtotal	
NATIONAL CAPACITY					
Outcome 1. National capacity improved to prepare for implementation of the Minamata Convention	172,000	172,000	3,000	3,000	175,000
Output 1.1. National capacity and coordination on mercury management improved through the preparation of a national mercury inventory (level 2) and intervention plans	80,000	80,000			80,000
Output 1.2. A central database on mercury export, import, usage, emissions and registration is developed	35,000	35,000	0		35,000
Output 1.3. Regulation drafted and forwarded to Government Cabinet for consideration on (i) the export, import, transboundary movement (of mercury and mercury compounds), collection, storage and disposal (of mercury, mercury compounds and mercury containing waste), and (ii) list of banned mercury containing products	37,000	37,000	3,000	3,000	40,000
Output 1.4. Information disseminated and awareness raised to promote voluntary involvement of civil society members	20,000	20,000	0		20,000
MONITORING AND EVALUATION					
Outcome 2. Periodic monitoring and terminal evaluation of project implementation completed	10,000	10,000	4,600	4,600	14,600
Output 2.1 Periodic monitoring and terminal evaluation of project implementation completed	10,000	10,000	4,600	4,600	14,600
PROJECT MANAGEMENT COSTS					
Project management costs	18,000	18,000	11,000		29,000
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	200,000	200,000	18,600		218,600

Annex B: Project execution arrangement



Annex C: Project result framework

Results*	Indicators	Means of verification	Assumptions/Risks
<p>Outcome 1: National capacity improved to prepare for implementation of the Minamata Convention</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Either functional National Mercury Unit or capable Mercury Focal Point (including sufficient resources and capacity) - Planned resources for the implementation of sector intervention plans (human and financial resources) - Pool of trained female and male national experts on mercury related issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Terminal evaluation - Communication from the National Mercury Unit or Mercury Focal Point 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National counterparts and relevant stakeholders remain engaged and cooperative
<p>Output 1.1: National capacity and coordination on mercury management improved through the preparation of a national mercury inventory (level 2) and intervention plans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Start-up national workshop conducted and project coordination mechanism in place, with female and male participants from stakeholders - Project coordination mechanism established - Number of inventory experts trained (sex disaggregated) - Availability of the inventory report on emissions sources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Steering Group meeting minutes - Terms of reference for the project coordination mechanism (i.e. function, budget, expertise) - National mercury profile report - Project progress report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sufficient resources to maintain the project coordination mechanism - Academia, public and private sector as well as civil society will contribute to the inventory activities.
<p>Output 1.2: A central database on mercury export, import, usage, emissions and registration is developed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Functional central mercury database (trained users, easy registration and data uploading, secured site) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Central mercury database - Project progress report 	

<p>Output 1.3: Regulation drafted and forwarded to Government Cabinet for consideration on (i) the export, import, transboundary movement (of mercury and mercury compounds), collection, storage and disposal (of mercury, mercury compounds and mercury containing wastes), and (ii) list of banned mercury containing products</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Availability of drafted regulation - List of banned mercury containing products revised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evidence of submission on draft regulations to Government Cabinet -Evidence of submission on list of banned mercury containing products - Project progress reports 	
<p>Output 1.4: Information disseminated and awareness raised to promote voluntary involvement of civil society members</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of participatory workshops/information sharing events (i.e. study tours, lectures, educational workshops, media brief) conducted with female and male participants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training/events/workshop reports including health related issues also providing sex-disaggregated data on participants - Project progress reports 	