



T FOR CHEMICALS AND WASTES ENABLING ACTIVITY
L FOR FUNDING UNDER THE GEF TRUST FUND

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFIERS

Project Title:	Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland		
Country(ies):	Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland	GEF Project ID: ¹	9185
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP	GEF Agency Project ID:	01376
Other Executing Partner(s):	The Africa Institute of South Africa in close coordination with Governments of project participating countries	Resubmission Date:	August 18, 2015
GEF Focal Area (s):	Chemicals and Wastes	Project Duration (Months)	24 months
Type of Report:		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 participating countries				
Project Component	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	(in \$)	
			GEF Project Financing	Confirmed Co-financing ²
1. Establishment of Coordination Mechanism and organization of process	Participating countries make 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	85,000	0
2. Assessment of the national infrastructure and capacity for the	Full understanding of comprehensive information on current infrastructure	Assessment prepared of the national infrastructure and capacity for the	130,000	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.

management of mercury, including national legislation	and regulation for mercury management enables participating countries to develop a sound roadmap for the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention	management of mercury, including national legislation		
3. Development of a mercury inventory using the UNEP mercury tool kit and strategies to identify and assess mercury contaminated sites	Enhanced understanding on mercury sources and 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	230,000	0
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	80,000	0
5. Preparation and validation of National MIA reports and implementation of awareness raising activities and dissemination of results	Participating countries and 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	158,650	0
6. Information exchange, capacity building and knowledge generation	Enhanced cooperation by participating countries in order to foster both national and regional exchange of information for	Information exchange undertaken and capacity building and knowledge generation for mercury management provided	13,650	0

	Mercury management			
		Subtotal	697,300	
		Project Management Cost ³	72,700	61,000
		Monitoring and Evaluation	30,000	0
		Total Project Cost	800,000	61,000

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

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
Others	Africa Institute	In-kind	61,000
Total Co-financing			61,000

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country Name/Global	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
				GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee ^{a)} / (b) ²	Total c=a+b
UNEP	GEF TF	Regional Africa	NA	800,000	76,000	876,000
Total Grant Resources				800,000	76,000	876,000

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 countries in Africa are generally among the poorest in the world. This condition presents a fundamental challenge when it comes to environmental management as these countries are faced with making hard choices between the basic needs such as clean water, electrification, building schools, building roads, clinics, high unemployment rates, low literacy levels, high disease burden and many other primary social challenges that require urgent and concerted effort. Given these circumstances environmental issues, especially pollution control issues may not be perceived as urgent or may not receive the necessary attention in national resources allocation.

Regarding chemicals, most of the countries on the African continent are not manufacturing these chemicals but import them from abroad. These chemicals are essential to promote the development that is so badly needed. Yet unfortunately the lack of proper systems to ensure environmentally sound management including proper classification and labelling in a manner that is understandable to largely illiterate populations leads to negative impacts on both the human health and the environment. Lack of systematic analysis on environmental impacts and epidemiological studies to make a clear connection using local data is responsible for the lack of consideration of these challenges as major priority areas for the continent.

Some African Governments have, however, made meaningful efforts to quantify, prevent and control mercury pollution and promote alternative options for mercury-containing products, including improvements in the handling of mercury-containing waste, as well as transition to mercury-free products. This project aims at facilitating the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention by providing key national stakeholders in participating countries with the scientific and technical knowledge and tools needed for that purpose.

Participating countries to this project will benefit from new and updated information about the mercury situation in their country and from increased capacity in managing the risks of mercury. Through the development of the national mercury inventory, countries will be in a position to determine whether the emissions and releases of mercury from artisanal and small-scale gold mining activities are more than insignificant and if they are to notify to the Convention, as required in Article 7 of the Convention. Additionally, the sharing of experiences and lessons learned throughout the project is also expected to be an important contribution to other similar countries.

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

Botswana is a landlocked, semi-arid country of 582,000 km². It shares a border with Zimbabwe, South Africa, Namibia and Zambia. The country is relatively flat, at roughly 900 metres above sea level, with gentle undulations and occasional rocky outcrops. Botswana's physical environment of dry, mainly sandy and poor soils accounts for its varied population distribution. The population is concentrated in the eastern parts of the country.

Botswana plays a full role in the international community. The country is a member of various international organisations, such as the United Nations, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Trade Organisation (WTO), the African Union (AU) and regional bodies, such as

the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC). The headquarters of SADC is located in Gaborone.

The current UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for Botswana describes the United Nations' areas of collaboration with the Government for the period 2010-2016. It is aligned with the National Development Plan Ten (NDP10) period and outlines the expected results in five thematic areas drawn from key priorities of the NDP10:

- Governance and Human Rights Promotion
- Economic Diversification and Poverty Reduction
- Health and HIV/AIDS
- Environment and Climate Change
- Children, Youth and Women's Empowerment

Botswana's natural ecosystems require special attention to issues of land use, water resource management and, increasingly, to effectively mitigate the impacts of climate change on livelihoods and health. The UN strategic value-added is to strengthen the policy environment through increased access to data and information, greater inclusion of stakeholders and supporting the linkage and integration into governance mechanisms and the macro-economic policy and poverty reduction frameworks.

The UN country intervention also aims at supporting the development of specific mechanisms and processes at community level to improve natural resource management, conservation and adaptation. The likely effects of climate change in all sectors are not yet well known, and until this gap is filled the development of appropriate mitigation and adaptation measures is not possible. Assistance in this area is also being provided by the UN Agencies present in the country.

Botswana has not signed the Minamata Convention on Mercury. However, the country has addressed a request to the GEF Secretariat to access funding for the preparation of a Minamata Initial Assessment. In fact, Botswana has made efforts towards accessing the Convention through participation to the Intergovernmental Negotiation sessions, the regional workshop organized by the Minamata Convention, as well as through National Consultations to discuss the ratification instrument.

Botswana does not have primary mining of mercury, mining processes using mercury, or Artisanal Small scale Gold Mining (ASGM). All mining activities are regulated through policies and legislation. Main sources of mercury are equipment and articles containing mercury and mercury compounds and there is no regulation and control. Therefore there is no information on public exposure to mercury. There is very little understanding on the dangers of exposure to mercury even amongst the learned. Routes of exposure include mismanagement of articles containing mercury at domestic level such as Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs). Some cultural activities encourage the use of mercury such as in infants for administration of medicines containing mercury for treatment of ailments. There is need to understand the extent of mercury prevalence in the country in order to develop strategies for its management.

The objective of undertaking the project on identifying sources and quantifying mercury from those sources is to reduce public exposure, especially the local communities, due to their lack of resources to combat the burden of diseases emanating from mercury exposure. Stakeholders for the project include health sector, local authorities, communities, coal combustion industries, mining industry, cement production industry, institutions of higher learning, waste management and pollution control sector.

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

Lesotho acceded to the Minamata Convention on Mercury on the 12th November 2014. It is currently implementing the Pilot Project on Early Implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, which will be completed in July 2015. The Division of Pollution Control, in collaboration with the Division of Outreach and Education, have embarked on several awareness raising campaigns on mercury and the effects of mercury to human health and the environment as part of the Department of Environment's education and outreach program.

Lesotho does not have legislation which is specific to the sound management of chemicals. Pieces of legislation either address only certain aspects of chemicals management e.g. the Environment Act 10 of 2008 and the Labour Code Order together with the Labour Code (Chemicals Safety) Regulations. A Draft Toxic and Hazardous Chemicals Legislation was developed in 2006. The Environment Act 10 of 2008 has scheduled Mercury compounds under the list of banned chemicals.

After ratifying the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Government of Lesotho embarked on the Enabling Activities to Facilitate Early action on the Implementation of the Stockholm Convention on POP's, where a NIP was developed in 2004. Currently, the country is in the process of updating the NIP to cater for the newly listed POPs. Both the projects were funded by GEF and implemented with the assistance of UNIDO.

Under the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) Quick Start Program Trust Fund, Lesotho undertook activities to strengthen its capacity for a national SAICM Implementation and promote synergies among the Stockholm, Basel and Rotterdam Conventions within the country. The project involved the update of Lesotho's national chemicals management profile, development of a national SAICM capacity assessment and a national SAICM priority setting workshop. The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) provided support for the project, completed in 2009.

Lesotho is currently participating in the full-sized GEF UNIDO/UNEP regional project "*Capacity Strengthening and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the Stockholm Convention National Implementation Plans in African Least Developed Countries (LDCs) of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Sub-region*". The project addresses the legislative and regulatory frameworks, enforcement and administrative capacities, BAT/BEP for industrial production processes, reductions to POPs exposures, identification of contaminated land and the dissemination and sharing of experiences and good practices for the sustainable, effective and comprehensive implementation of the NIPs and related chemicals management objectives in the SADC region. The project commenced in September 2010 and is expected to be fully implemented by August 2015.

With the assistance of UNITAR, the country also embarked in a nationwide collection of Obsolete Pesticides and Chemicals for proper processing and disposal in 2008.

Lesotho also participated in the Capacity building for sound management of chemicals project implemented through the Africa Institute and funded by KEMI. The project entailed a series of training workshops on various aspects of sound management of chemicals. Lesotho was able to undertake an assessment of the legal and institutional gaps and needs analysis in the management of chemicals through this project.

UNEP through the Minamata Convention Interim Secretariat, and the Africa Institute are also implementing a pilot project on early implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury. The project seeks to help countries development and build the necessary institutional capacity and policy instruments to manage chemicals and waste soundly, including the implementation of related provisions in the Minamata convention on Mercury.

The UN in Lesotho works in partnership with the Government and its partners to fight poverty, strengthen the rule of law, promote human rights and fundamental freedoms, protect the environment and advance economic and social progress for all Basotho.

The UN Country Team draws its inspiration from the United Nations Charter and supports the priorities outlined in Lesotho's National Strategic Development Plan and Vision 2020

The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Lesotho has made a decision to combine the UNDAF and its Action Plan into one operational document. This document has been named Lesotho United Nations Development Assistance Plan (LUNDAP) 2013 - 2017.

To this end, the LUNDAP is fully aligned with the national aspirations articulated in the five-year National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) of the Government of Lesotho and the Millennium Development Goals.

Cluster 5 of the LUNDAP on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change is in line with the strategic framework identified in the NSDP on Reversing Environmental Degradation and Adapting to climate change and in line with Ensuring Environmental Sustainability, Goal 7 of the MDGs.

Production, use and handling of chemicals, if not properly managed, can cause severe environmental degradation and disruption of ecosystems by chemical contamination of water, soil, air and flora and fauna. Sound management of chemicals can help prevent and/or minimize releases of harmful chemicals into the environment, ensure a healthier environment and reduce the need for difficult and costly environmental remediation. This project seeks to address sound management of chemicals as outlined in the Minamata Convention on Mercury and other related chemicals and waste conventions.

The LUNDAP also states that Lesotho will adopt environmental management practices that promote sustainable management of natural resources as will the project provide.

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

Namibia achieved her independence from South Africa on 21 March 1990 through the implementation of the United Nations Resolution 435. By this date, Namibia became a member of the United Nations family of independent states. To date, most of Namibia's legislation on chemicals like mercury, is scattered and outdated. Public awareness is low and most of the relevant institutions are not fairly coordinated. As a result, it is practically difficult to allocate and share any form responsibilities in the management of chemicals, particularly mercury.

In June 2004, Namibia participated in the sub-regional workshop on mercury awareness which took place at Burgers Park Hotel, in Pretoria - South Africa. The Namibian presented the status of mercury management in Namibia at that particular workshop. A number of countries shared their experience. Lessons learned were shared further with other national state agencies in the country. However, the lack of any comprehensive inventories on mercury made it difficult for Namibia to implement most of the key recommendations of the workshop. However, in 2007, Namibia promulgated the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007. This Act triggered the key issues of environmental management across various sectors of the economy, including the waste and pollution sector.

In 2011, the Government of Namibia launched a project to assess the impact of arsenic on human health and the environment following concerns from the local community. The project took into account the assessment of other heavy metals, including mercury. Samples collected were sent to an accredited laboratory in South Africa for analysis. It is important to mention that the preliminary assessment of mercury in human hair in the districts of Tsumeb and Grootfontein revealed elevated levels of mercury far beyond the World Health Organization limit levels. In fact, the levels of mercury showed to be much higher than those of other heavy metals. The research team was surprised by the results because mercury was not the primary candidate in the assessment. It was just included for the sake of completeness. Moreover, fish-eating is not common in both Tsumenb and Grootfontein districts. These findings remain strictly preliminary because no further assessment has been made to confirm them.

Namibia has missed the opportunity to sign the Minamata Convention on Mercury during the period it was open for signature. The country has submitted a request to the GEF Secretariat, to extend the eligibility for funding for enabling activities to allow Namibia submit a Minamata Initial Assessment project. Namibia has indeed taken meaningful steps towards becoming a Party to the Convention, in particular through:

- Participation in all the negotiations and related drafting of the Minamata Convention;
- Participation to the sub-regional UNEP workshop for African Countries in support for the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, held in Nairobi, Kenya from 23 to 27 March 2015;
- Discussions and further elaboration of the draft national roadmap with other ministries in regards to national priorities and plans for hazardous wastes, including mercury;
- Discussion on the Minamata Convention with other ministries and its relevance to the Development of Namibia's National Waste Management Bill;
- Engaging UN agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to discuss possible actions at the national level in support to the accession and early implementation of the Minamata Convention during INC2 to INC6;
- Conducting of a preliminary analysis of mercury samples in the district of Tsumeb in 2012;
- Organizing a national stakeholder consultation on the Minamata Convention in 2014 as part of the NIP development under the Stockholm Convention;
- National consultations on a draft Cabinet submission for accession to the Minamata Convention.

Currently, Namibia's mercury's status is not clearly defined. Nevertheless, the main sources include coal fired power plants; industrial boilers; municipal waste disposal sites; medical waste incinerators; metal processing facilities; etc. Unfortunately, there is no reliable data regarding the quantities of mercury generated in various processes in Namibia.

The following preliminary list of national priorities in the implementation of a mercury programme has been identified and is subject to further review and update:

- Development of a comprehensive national inventory on mercury;
- Development of a national implementation plan for mercury;
- Assessment of existing legislation and institutional frameworks with respect to mercury management;
- Identification of national sources of mercury;
- Capacity building in the management of mercury;
- Mobilization of human and financial resources; and
- Public awareness on environmental and human health risks associated with mercury poisoning

Regarding legal and institutional concerns, the Government of Namibia's Ministry of Environment and Tourism conducted a study on *Assessment of Legal and institutional Gaps in the Management of Chemicals* conducted in 2013. This was successfully realized with financial support from the Africa Institute on Sound Management of Hazardous Waste based in Pretoria, South Africa. Other recent assessments conducted in collaboration with the Africa Institute during the period 2010 and 2014 include the following:

- Inventory on Electronic and hazardous Waste;
- Waste Tyre Management;
- Use of Economic Instruments in the Management of Used Oil and Tyres; and
- Hazardous Waste Management Documentary.

In view of the above mentioned assessments, Namibia's Ministry of Environment and Tourism is currently capacitating the Waste and Pollution Control subdivision with additional personnel.

Moreover, Namibia has actively participated in the negotiations and drafting of the Minamata Convention. This enabled the country to be familiar with the current global issues on the implementation of the Minamata Convention at both national and international levels. *Above all, it is believed that the implementation of the proposed mercury project will certainly enable Namibia to comply with some of its obligations in handling and management of mercury products and related wastes in a sustainable manner.*

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

Swaziland is a small, landlocked country of 17,364 square kilometres, surrounded by South Africa and Mozambique. Its population of just over 1 million live mainly in rural areas. The Swazi system of governance has a traditional system that co-exists with a modern system of a parliament, an executive (Cabinet), and documented Roman Dutch Law and English Common Law. The country operates as a monarchy with constitutional powers vested in the King. The Constitution passed in 2005 provides for

the separation of powers between the executive, legislative and judicial arms of Government. The Constitution also makes provision for various individual rights. Swaziland has a considerable way to go in meeting its Constitutional obligations and realising the rights set out in the Constitution. The term of the current Administration ended in September 2013 when elections were held.

Swaziland has a strong national obligation to ensure that natural resources and environment are used sustainably for future generations to strive in a healthy environment. The country, which is Party to the main MEAs, has not signed the Minamata Convention on Mercury. However, a letter of commitment was sent to the GEF Secretariat and UNEP Executive Director to request eligibility for Enabling Activities funds under the GEF 6.

There are a number of laws and regulations relating to environmental issues in Swaziland. Since the establishment of the Authority the following pieces of legal tools have been produced:

The Swaziland Environment Act, 1992: The main purpose of the Act was to establish the Swaziland Environment Authority and confer general powers and functions of environmental protection to it. It also vested to the Minister, power to make regulations under it, hence the Environmental Audit, Assessment and Review Regulations and the Waste Regulations, 2000 were developed. With new developments it has since become evident that the SEA Act had adopted a narrower approach in the field of environmental protection. A new Act which establishes a more comprehensive legal framework for environmental protection has been enacted. With its broader environmental objectives the Act creates an appropriate legal basis for achieving the general specific objectives set out in the National Environmental Policy. The SEA Act is therefore being repealed by this new Act (Environment Management Act, 2002).

The Environmental Management Act, 2002: This Act came into operations of 1st September 2003. It transforms the Swaziland Environment Authority into a body corporate with powers to sue and be sued. It is intended to promote the integrated management of the environment and natural resources. As a method to ensure appropriate enforcement the Act allows both public and private prosecutions. It further empowers the Authority with powers to issue certain orders and automatic fines in cases of environmental damage. Upgraded fines are attached to discourage pollution.

The Environmental Audit, Assessment and Review Regulations, 2000: Made in terms of Section 18 of the Swaziland Environment Authority Act 1992, the objectives of these Regulations is to avoid and mitigate adverse effects of proposed projects and existing undertakings. It provides a method of certifying project proponents who comply with both preliminary procedures for their activities. It also arms the Authority with sanctionary measures in times of non-compliance. Most of all, it is the only piece of legislation that provides for public participation in environmental matters, one of the most important components of the Rio 10 Principles.

The Waste Regulations, 2000: These Regulations are also made in terms of section 18 of the SEA Act. The objectives of these regulations are to ensure appropriate waste management in the country. In fact, this piece of legislation is a landmark frame work to the problem of solid waste in Swaziland. The legislation imposes a string of stringent sanctions in cases of poor management of waste. Although the new Act repeals the SEA Act it does not however, repeals these Regulations, hence they are applicable as long as they are not in consistent with the EMA.

The Ozone Regulations, 2003: The purpose these regulations is to control the licensing system on the

import and export of ozone depleting substances as a means of regulating the transfer of such substances which can leave the country with adverse impacts. This will in turn help the SEA to improve its monitoring exercises to end users of such substances

This project is compatible with the UNDAF and the vision 2022 and National Development Strategy (NDS) of the Government of Swaziland, revised in 2013. The NDS, focuses on improved standard of living in the country particularly poverty eradication, employment creation, gender equality and environment protection. The project will assist Swaziland building national capacity to meet reporting and other obligations under the Convention.

This Regional Minamata Initial Assessment Project will be executed by the Africa Institute. The Africa Institute for the Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous and Other Wastes commonly known as the Africa Institute is both a Basel Convention Regional Centre (BCRC) and a Stockholm Convention Regional Centre (SCRC) for English speaking African countries. It has been established as an Intergovernmental Organization (IGO) based in Pretoria, South Africa. It is housed within the premises of the Department of Environmental Affairs of the Government of South Africa. It began operating in October 2009. The supreme governing body of the Institute is called Council. It is composed of the representatives of all the member countries that have completed the process of ratifying its founding Agreement. There are altogether 23 countries that comprise the English speaking region in Africa. These include Angola and Mozambique that are commonly known as Portuguese speaking African countries.

The Africa Institute believes that by coming together within the umbrella of the Institute, the countries in the region have provided a vehicle that development partners may channel their assistance so that they could have a regional foot print. The Institute is essentially a regional entity and its focus is on the regional approach to the challenges that the region is facing regarding issues that are covered by Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm and Minamata conventions.

The Africa institute has staff within its home office in Pretoria South Africa. The staff of the Institute act on behalf of member countries to mobilize resources and to represent the region and coordinate most regional projects and programs.

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 unsound use, management and release 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 participating countries

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

Component 1: Establishment of Coordination Mechanism and organisation of process

This component will imply working at two different levels: international and national. At the international level, the project will identify and establish a **Project Steering Committee** and carry out the project inception workshop (regional launching of the project) and the first project steering committee (please see details on functions/role and how decisions are made in the Implementation arrangements section). At the national level, countries will establish a **National Coordination Mechanism** making full use of existing structures dealing with chemicals management (e.g. National Coordination Group for POPs) to coordinate and guide the project implementation. The national agency in charge of the MIA implementation will identify institutional needs and strengths and will reinforce the existing National Coordination Mechanism on POPs management with key stakeholders involved in mercury management. The aim is to have one National Coordination Mechanism for mercury and POPs related issues and not two parallel structures. Sectors to participate in the process as part of the National Coordination Mechanism will include representatives from health, environment, labor, finance, economy, industry, mining and energy and planning sectors, trade unions and civil society organizations.

During this project component the National Coordination Mechanism and its Terms of Reference will be formalized in each country. 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 will seek for a balanced structure, including representatives from of the civil society, affected and interested communities.

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

Activity 1.1: Organize a Regional and four National Inception Workshops to raise awareness and to define the scope and objective of the MIA process, including:

- a) Develop a regional strategy for outreach and awareness raising aimed at national/ international Stakeholders throughout the project;
- b) Identify key stakeholders and assign roles;
- c) Establish and adopt a National Coordination Mechanism for mercury management.

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

Expected Outcome:

Participating countries make 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 Mechanisms and organization of process for the management of mercury

Component 2: Assessment of the national infrastructure and capacity for the management of mercury, including national legislation

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, participating countries will work on:

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

Activity 2.2: Analyse the regulatory framework, identify gaps and assess the regulatory reforms needed for the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention in participating countries

Expected Outcome:

Full understanding of comprehensive information on current infrastructure and regulation for mercury management enables participating countries 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 and strategies to identify and assess mercury contaminated sites

This component will provide participating countries with improved data on mercury sources and releases. The UNEP Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Mercury Releases has been revised in 2013. Participating countries 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 participating countries 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 and guide participating countries 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 a nationally agreed criteria.

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

Activity 3.2: Develop a national strategy to identify and assess 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 toolkit 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 Convention.

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, written communications and discussions leading to a final MIA document that will allow the National Governments to ratify the Convention based on a sound national assessment of the mercury situation. Regional lessons learned workshops are foreseen under this component. The objective is to share information and experiences on the project implementation and to promote South-to-South cooperation. The regional lessons learned workshop will also be the opportunity to draft a strategy for regional MIA dissemination to be adapted by participating countries in the national level under activity

5.2. 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 a national MIA dissemination and outreach strategy

Activity 5.3: Organize at least two regional lessons learned workshops

Expected Outcome:

Participating countries and 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

Component 6: Information exchange, capacity building and knowledge generation

This project component will focus on strengthening information exchange and South-to-South cooperation. As part of this, countries will receive additional training and support to design their MIAs. UNEP had assisted more than 50 countries to develop their initial National Implementation Plans (NIPs) for the Stockholm Convention and the initial NIPs development flagged few challenging issues, such as the need for harmonized approaches, the need for suitable experts that can deliver the same message and core expertise to countries, and more information exchange among countries in the region. Empowered by this experience UNEP in partnership with Africa Institute have developed this project component. Participating countries will have access to technical expertise and tools to facilitate the development of the Minamata Initial Assessment and information exchange. The technical expertise and tools provided will respond directly to countries needs as identified. Lessons learned identified through this project, in particular during the final lessons learned will be documented into a regional report outlining the Mercury scenario in the region.

Activity 6.1: Collect and integrate the data on the Mercury sources and quantities in the participating countries and produce a regional database

Activity 6.2: Provide regional training on Mercury to support regional cooperation and information exchange.

Activity 6.3: Draft a regional Mercury scenario report based on the regional database developed.

Expected Outcome:

Enhanced cooperation by participating countries in order to foster both national and regional exchange of information for Mercury management

Expected Outputs:

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

At the international level, the project will include:

- a) UNEP DTIE Chemicals: as an implementing Agency, UNEP will provide technical oversight and administrative support to the National Coordinating agency and the National Coordinator. UNEP will also provide the global perspective and experience from other countries.
- b) UNEP Regional Office for Africa (ROA) and the Africa Institute which will identify opportunities for regional synergies and areas of cooperation. Some examples may include: coordination of regional information exchange and provision of documents and inventories from other countries in the region, identification of regional experts, etc
- c) The Minamata Convention Secretariat will provide guidance materials and opportunities to exchange information and to understand the Minamata Convention from a regional and global perspective.
- d) Joint Secretariats BRS will provide areas of cooperation and synergies with POPs related activities. The project will also consider using the existing resources at the BRS Secretariat level, such as facilities to provide technical support (webinars) organization of training workshops, etc.
- e) Others: such as the regional representation of WHO, to provide the human health dimension to the project, such as the identification of mercury related activities and human risk. It will also provide opportunities for cooperation by making available its mercury programme and suitable expertise on mercury and humans.
- f) The Africa Institute is planning to organize training workshops with an expert on the UNEP mercury toolkit. Joint training sessions may be considered if this allows a more cost efficient use of project funds.

The international partners will provide on-going support to the project.

At the national level, the project will include:

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

Table 1: STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION

Name of stakeholder /Organization	Responsibility/ expertise
Ministries and government agencies	
Department of Environmental Affairs of Botswana, The National Environment Secretariat of Lesotho, Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Namibia, Swaziland Environment Authority	<p>These ministries are responsible for the implementation of the national environmental policy and the negotiation of international environmental agreements and conventions working together with the ministries of foreign affairs.</p> <p>They will execute the Minamata Initial Assessment project and identify and lead the National Coordination Mechanism for mercury management in the participating countries.</p>
Ministries of Foreign Affairs of participating countries	<p>These ministries are in charge of negotiating international agreements and conventions. They will provide information on the challenges and opportunities of ratifying and early implementing the Minamata Convention. This includes for example the identification of the need to notify exemptions to the Secretariat according to Article 6 of the Convention.</p>
Ministries of Industry and Commerce of participating countries	<p>These ministries create strategies to develop the national industries by increasing the value of natural and human resources in the participating countries. They are also in charge of managing natural and industrial risks.</p> <p>They will contribute to the project by providing information or facilitating the access to information related to the use, emissions and releases of mercury in the national industries. They will also provide information on the challenges, needs and opportunities of ratifying and early implementing the Minamata Convention for the industrial sector.</p> <p>These ministries will provide information about the import of mercury added products in the country. They will also provide information on the challenges and opportunities of ratifying and early implementing the Minamata Convention related to the requirements of Annex A part 1 of the Minamata Convention.</p>
Ministries of Finance of participating countries	<p>These ministries negotiate international funding for national sustainable development within the countries. They harness both the national budget and the international funding</p> <p>They will contribute to the project by providing information on the financial challenges and opportunities of implementing the Minamata Convention in the participating countries.</p>
Ministries of Agriculture of participating countries	<p>These ministries develop strategies to improve rural livelihoods and the agricultural sector in the participating countries.</p> <p>They will contribute to the project by providing information on the use of mercury particularly in the pesticides in the farming operations in the participating countries. They will also provide information on the challenges and opportunities of ratifying and early implementing the Minamata Convention related to the agriculture and food production.</p> <p>These ministries are also responsible for monitoring any pollution that may happen to food such as fish including such pollution as may be caused by Mercury.</p>
Ministries of Labor of participating countries	<p>These ministries are in charge of developing policies to improve the national occupational health of the workers.</p> <p>They will provide information and facilitate the access to information about the impacts of mercury pollution and contamination on the working environment. They will also provide information on the challenges, opportunities of ratifying and early implementing the Minamata Convention concerning the occupational health in the participating countries.</p>
Ministries of Energy of participating countries	<p>Develop and implement State policy for the production, transport and distribution of energy and water.</p> <p>These ministries will provide information or facilitate the access to information about the use of mercury to produce energy and its related health and environmental impacts. They will also</p>

<p>Ministries of Local Government of participating countries</p>	<p>These ministries are in charge of developing and implementing activities related to local government issues including the municipalities and councils. These structures deal with local development, including the treatment of household wastes.</p> <p>The ministries will provide information and facilitate the access to information about the management of mercury containing wastes in municipalities and the local government councils. This may include information on possible interim storage of mercury other than mercury waste. They will also provide information on the challenges and opportunities of ratifying and early implementing the Minamata Convention related to the management of hazardous wastes.</p>
<p>Ministries of Research, Science and technology of participating countries</p>	<p>These ministries lead research in the countries including international cooperation related to scientific research and innovation in liaison with other relevant departments.</p> <p>The ministries will assist in collecting information on the national need for capacity building, technical assistance and technology transfer.</p>
<p>International Organizations</p>	
<p>The Minamata Convention Secretariat</p>	<p>Will provide guidance materials and opportunities to exchange information and to understand the Minamata Convention from a regional and global perspective</p>
<p>Joint BRS Secretariat</p>	<p>Will provide areas of cooperation and synergies with POPs related activities. The project will also consider using the existing resources at the BRS Secretariat level, such as facilities to provide technical support (webinars) organization of training workshops, etc.</p>
<p>Africa Institute</p>	<p>Will provide coordination and guidance of the project with the region. It will also provide a platform for regional exchange of experiences in order to harness existing opportunities. It will also provide a platform for synergy with other related chemicals MEAs. It will provide support to the project by organizing and hosting regional events of the project.</p>
<p>Representatives of other sectors, such as industry and industrial associations</p>	
<p>Industry Associations</p>	<p>These will provide support to the project by providing insight into the industrial activities in mercury related activities. They will also be consulted concerning the challenges and opportunities of the Minamata Convention for the business sector. They will also be expected to provide co-financing for the early implementation of the Minamata Convention.</p>
<p>NGOs and civil society including Academia</p>	
<p>National NGOs</p>	<p>National NGOs working on the environmental field, particularly on chemicals and waste, will be identified in the during the inception of the project and invited to contribute to the project implementation. National NGOs will be particularly important on activities related to public awareness and education and the identification of challenges and opportunities related to the ratification of the Minamata Convention.</p>

Gender dimensions and socioeconomic benefits

This project aims at strengthened national capacity to manage mercury and chemicals in general. Therefore it is anticipated that the project will positively impact poor populations, who are disproportionately affected by the impacts of environmental and health hazards.

Through the inventory process, and the mapping of key mercury pollution sources, the project will define at-risk populations across participating countries. Project activities will also involve consultation with at-risk communities with the aim of increasing understanding about the risks of mercury exposure, including one of the main issues related to depositing of the mercury containing light bulbs at waste storages. Project activities will ensure communities at risk with clear and accurate information to protect themselves. This is likely to involve, but not be limited to employees potentially at risk of mercury exposure and poor communities living in close proximity to industry facilities and contaminated sites. Regarding gender, the project will ensure that there are opportunities for women to contribute to, and benefit from, the project outcomes. Specifically the project executor will work with national coordinators to ensure women are well represented on national coordinating committees, and that consultation with at-risk communities targets both women and men.

Pregnant women and children are also more susceptible to mercury and heavy metals in general. Communities using mercury sources are more vulnerable to contamination, the project will advocate for a national regulatory framework targeting the protection of these two vulnerable groups. Workers are also a vulnerable group; the project will include the active participation of workers associations and medical associations where they exist. Through these two important groups, the project will sensitize the general population and targets groups about the risks of mercury.

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

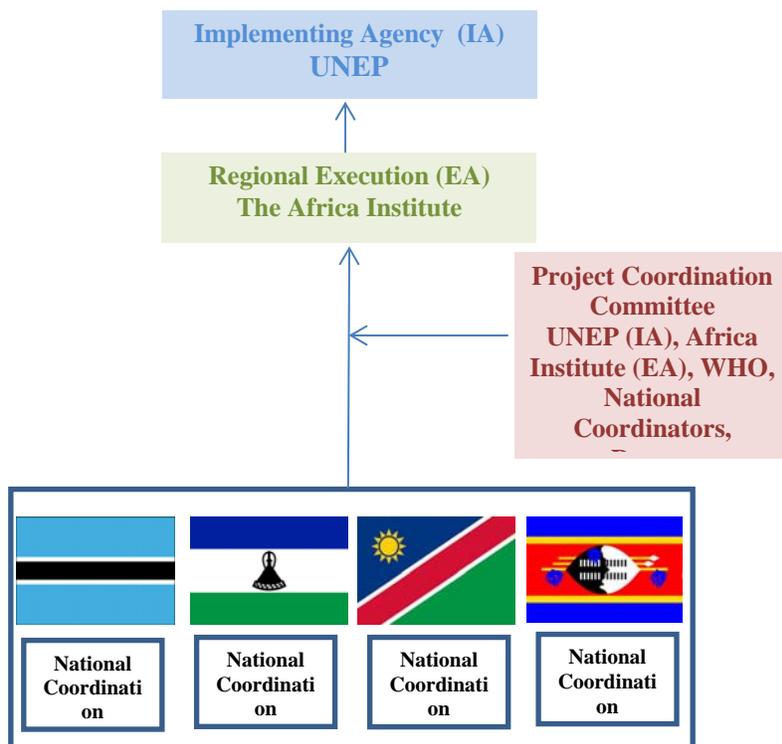
Implementing Agency (IA): This project will be implemented by UNEP and executed by the The Africa Institute for the Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous and Other Wastes. As Implementing Agency, UNEP will be responsible for the overall project supervision, overseeing the project progress through the monitoring and evaluation of project activities and progress reports, including on technical issues, In close collaboration with the Executing Agency, UNEP will provide administrative support to the Executing Agency.

UNEP will support 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 Africa Institute for the Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous and Other Wastes 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 a final 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 EA will provide regular administrative, progress and financial reports to 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

Institutionnel Arrangements Graph



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

The design of this project is based around country specific activities, complemented by regional activities. The approach of using regional consultants for key sectors, is considered cost-effective, as it reduces transaction costs, and will ensure unified application of the Level 2 Toolkit. The approach will also provide a valuable-addition in the opportunities provided for cooperation among participating countries under component 6.

The project will use the current capacity for chemicals management present in the participating countries, 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.

It 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 Branch at UNEP and with the different mercury programmes and projects in place.

The integration of outcomes and deliverables of this project is also expected to provide significant input to the existing national framework for chemicals management in the four participating countries. 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.

Four countries undertaking similar activities offers ground for common learning, networking and cooperation. This results in the identification of common solutions to common problems. It also increases opportunities for Convention's ratification and successful early implementation of the Minamata Convention i.e. through peer to peer support as considered in the design -instead hiring international consultants.

E. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M&E PLAN:

Day-to-day management and monitoring of the project activities will be the responsibility of the executing agencies, the Africa Institute of South Africa, and the various Ministries of Environment of the 4 participating African countries. The Africa Institute will coordinate among the various Ministries of Environment of the 4 participating African countries to submit quarterly reports to UNEP. The various Ministries of Environment of the project participating countries will be responsible for the recruitment of local staff and consultants and the execution of the activities in according with 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. When necessary, it will discuss the obstacles that occurred during the implementation period and the steps taken to overcome them.

The 4 participating African countries National Coordination Mechanism (National level) will be kept small but efficient and include the directly concerned stakeholders at the national level. They will meet regularly and will coordinate national activities. The Project Coordination Committee (international level) will comprise the Africa Institute, UNEP DTIE Chemicals, the national project coordinators of the 4 participating African countries, relevant IGOs (UNDP, UNIDO, WHO) and the Minamata Secretariat. The Project Coordination Committee will meet back-to-back with the technical meetings, i.e., inception workshop and final regional workshop or lessons learned workshop. The Project Coordination Committee will monitor the progress of the project, identify areas of cooperation with related initiatives, propose corrective actions and give advice and steers project implementation.

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 Africa Institute of South Africa 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. The Evaluation Office will share formal comments on the report in an open and transparent manner. Project performance will be assessed against standard evaluation criteria using a six point rating scheme. The Evaluation Office will make the final determination of project ratings when the evaluation report is finalised. The evaluation report will be publically disclosed and will be followed by a recommendation compliance process.

The ToR for the Terminal Evaluation will include specific questions on issues such as: stakeholder management in project countries; anchor of project results in UNDAF; knowledge sharing and management among project countries; assessment of vulnerable group and gender and synergies with ongoing projects

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
Mr. Khulekani MPOFU	GEF Operational Focal Point for Botswana	Department of Environmental Affairs	23/07/2015
Mr. Stanley M. DAMANE	GEF Operational Focal Point for Lesotho	Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Culture	20/07/2015
Mr. Teofilus M. NGHITILA	GEF Operational Focal Point for Namibia	Ministry of Environment and Tourism	31/07/2015
Mr. Stephen M. ZUKE	GEF Operational Focal Point for Swaziland	Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs	20/07/2015

B. CONVENTION PARTICIPATION

BOTSWANA

CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION (mm/dd/yyyy)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	
UNCBD	10/01/1996	MR. BOTSHABELO OTHUSITSE	
UNFCCC	27/01/1994	MR. THABANG LESLIE BOTSHOMA	
UNCCD	11/09/1996	DR. MMASERA MANTHE-TSUANENG	
STOCKHOLM CONVENTION	28/10/2002 (A)	MS. ORABILE SERUMOLA	
	DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	DATE OF NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 7 TO THE MINAMATA CONVENTION SECRETARIAT
MINAMATA CONVENTION	-	-	-

LESOTHO

CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION (mm/dd/yyyy)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	
UNCBD	10/04/2003	MR. STANLEY MOTSAMAI DAMANE	
UNFCCC	07/02/1995	MS. MABAFOKENG FELESIAH MAHAHABISA	
UNCCD	12/09/1995	DR. REFUOE BOOSE	
STOCKHOLM CONVENTION	23/01/2002	MR. THABO VINCENT KOBELI TSASANYANE	
	DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	DATE OF NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 7 TO THE MINAMATA CONVENTION SECRETARIAT
MINAMATA CONVENTION	11/12/2014 (A)	-	-

NAMIBIA

CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION (mm/dd/yyyy)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	
UNCBD	16/05/ 1997	MR. TEOFILUS NGHITILA	
UNFCCC	16/05/ 1997	MR. PETRUS MUTEYAU LI	
UNCCD	16/05/ 1997	MR. TEOFILUS NGHITILA	
STOCKHOLM CONVENTION	24/06/2005	MR. FREDERICK MUPOTI SIKABONGO	
	DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	DATE OF NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 7 TO THE MINAMATA CONVENTION SECRETARIAT
MINAMATA CONVENTION	-	-	-

SWAZILAND

CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION (mm/dd/yyyy)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	
UNCBD	07/02 1995	MR. S. ZUKE	
UNFCCC	07/10/ 1996	MS. D. MASINA	
UNCCD	07/10/1996	MR B. MASUKU	
STOCKHOLM CONVENTION	13/01/ 2006	MR V. F. SIMELANE	
	DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	DATE OF NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 7 TO THE MINAMATA CONVENTION SECRETARIAT
MINAMATA CONVENTION	-	-	-

C. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies ⁴ and procedures and meets the standards of the GEF Project Review Criteria for Enabling Activity approval in GEF 6.					
Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date	Project Contact Person	Telephone	E-mail Address
J. Christophe Bouvier Director, Office for Operations and Corporate Services, UNEP GEF Coordination Office		August 18, 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
6. BUDGETS

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>Co-finance</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Tasks To Be Performed</i>
For Technical Assistance						
Local						
Consultant to assist with the preparation of the MIA						Overall guidance on the MIA development and provide assessment reports to assist national teams to prepare the MIA assessment and inventory
International						
Technical support and advice to develop a legal assessment	5,000	2	10,000	0	10,000	Technical support to develop national legal assessments
Consultant to assist developing the mercury inventory using the UNEP toolkit	12,500	2	25,000	0	25,000	Technical support to national project teams to develop a mercury inventory
Subtotal			35,000	0	35,000	
Total			35,000	0	35,000	
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 LETTERS



National Environmental Laboratory Building
Plot 20576 Magochinyane Road, Block 8 Industrial,
Gaborone, Botswana
Private Bag 101 (52), Gaborone, Botswana
Tel: +267 30 11800 / 30 44 470
Fax: +267 30 44 456 / 30 00 553
Email: sempc@gov.bw



ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO BE ADDRESSED TO THE DIRECTOR

REF: DWMPc 1/8/21 (91)

23rd July 2015

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

SUBJECT: ENDORSEMENT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF MINAMATA INITIAL ASSESSMENT IN BOTSWANA, LESOTHO, NAMIBIA AND SWAZILAND

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

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

The total financing (from GEFTF, LDCF, or SCCF) being requested for this project is US\$876,000, 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 Botswana is detailed in the table below.

1

Our Vision: *To protect the environment; Conserve the country's renewable and natural resources; Derive value out of environment for the benefit of Botswana*





National Environmental Laboratory Building
 Plot 20576, Magothonyama Road, Block 8, Industrial
 Gaborone, Botswana
 Private Bag BR 132, Gaborone, Botswana
 Tel: +267 39118012 / 3934479
 Fax: +267 39344486 / 3909053
 email: wmpc@gov.bw



ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO BE ADDRESSED TO THE DIRECTOR

Source of Funds	GEF Agency	Focal Area	Amount (in US\$)			
			Project Preparation	Project	Fee	Total
GEFTF	UNEP	Chemicals and Wastes	0	800,000	76,000	876,000
Total GEF Resources			0	800,000	76,000	876,000

Yours faithfully

Khulekani Mpofo

GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT-BOTSWANA

Copy to : Convention Focal Point for Minamata Convention, [UNEP DTIE](#)
 Chemicals : Achim Haalpap, Jacob Duer, Kevin Helps.

Our Vision: *To protect the environment; Conserve the country's renewable and natural resources; Derive value out of environment for the benefit of Botswana*





LESOTHO

Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Culture
Department of Environment
P.O. Box 10993
Maseru 100
Lesotho

TEL: 22 311767

MTEC/NES/CONV/26

Fax: 22 311139

20th July 2015

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

Subject: Endorsement for the Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland

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

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

The total financing from GEFTF being requested for this project is US\$876,000, 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 project is detailed in the table below.

Source of Funds	GEF Agency	Focal Area	Amount (in US\$)			
			Project Preparation	Project	Fee (9.5%)	Total
GEF TF	UNEP	Chemicals and Wastes	0	800,000	76,000	876,000
Total GEF Resources			0	800,000	76,000	876,000

Yours Sincerely,



S.M. Damane

GEF Operational Focal Point - Lesotho

Director - Environment

Copy to: Convention Focal Point for Minamata Convention

UNEP DTIE Chemicals: Achim Haalpap, Jacob Duer, Kevin Helps



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

Tel.: +264 61 249015
Fax: +264 61 240339
freddy_sikabongo@yahoo.co.uk

Cnr of Dr. Kenneth David Kaunda St
& Robert Mugabe Avenue
Private Bag 13346
Windhoek

Enquiries: FM Sikabongo

Date: 31 July 2015

Ms Brennan van Dyke
Director, GEF Coordinator Office
P.O. Box 30522
00100, Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: 252-20-7624165
Fax: 245-20-7624041/42
Email: unepgef@unep.org

Dear Ms van Dyk

Subject: Endorsement for the Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland

In my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point for Namibia, I confirm that the above project proposal is in accordance with my government's national priorities and our commitment to the relevant global environmental conventions.

I am pleased to endorse the preparation of the above project proposal with the support of the GEF Agency (ies) listed below. If approved, the proposal will be prepared and implemented by the Namibian Ministry of Environment's Department of Environmental Affairs in collaboration with key stakeholders. I request the GEF Agency (ies) to provide a copy of the project document before it's submitted to the GEF Secretariat for CEO endorsement.

The total financing (from GEFTF, LDCF, or SCCF) being requested for this project is US\$876,000, 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 Namibia is detailed in the table below.

All official correspondence must be addressed to the Permanent Secretary

Source of Funds	GEF Agency	Focal Area	Amount (in US\$)			
			Project Preparation	Project	Fee	Total
GEFTF	UNEP	Chemicals and Wastes	0	800,000	76,000	876,000
Total GEF Resources			0	800,000	76,000	876,000

Sincerely,



Teofilus .M.Nghitila
 GEF Operational Focal Point, and
 Environmental Commissioner
 Namibia



Copy to: Convention Focal Point for Minamata Convention, UNEP DTIE Chemicals : Achim Haalpap, Jacob Duer, Kevin Helps.



MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Tel: + 268 404 6420/3 +268 404 1714/8
Fax: +268 404-5415/404-1719/404-6438
e-mail: ps_tourism@gov.sz

**P.O. Box2652
Mbabane H100
Swaziland.**

20 July 2015

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

**Subject: Endorsement for the Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Botswana,
Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland**

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

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

The total financing (from GEFTF, LDCF, or SCCF) being requested for this project is US\$876,000, 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 Swaziland 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	800,000	76,000	876,000
Total GEF Resources			0	800,000	76,000	876,000

Sincerely,



STEPHEN MFANA ZUKE
GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT-SWAZILAND

Copy to :

Mr. Emmanuel Dumisani Dlamini
 Permanent Secretary
 Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs

UNEP DTIE Chemicals : Achim Haalpap, Jacob Duer, Kevin Helps.



BASEL CONVENTION

Africa Institute for Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous and Other Wastes

Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road; Private Bag X447, Pretoria 0001, South Africa.,
Office GF A3 East Tel. 27- 12 -399 9862 Fax. 27-12-320 5540
www.africainstitute.info

15 April 2015

Brennan Van Dyke
Director
UNEP GEF Coordination Office
P. O. Box 30552-00100, Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: 254-20-7624165
Fax: 245-20-7624041/42
Email: unepgef@unep.org

Dear Mr. Van Dyke

SUBJECT: LETTER OF COMMITMENT TO CO- FINANCE FOR THE PROJECT ENTITLED:"DEVELOPMENT OF MINAMATA INITIAL ASSESSMENT IN AFRICA (BOTSWANA, LESOTHO, NAMIBIA AND SWAZILAND)"

As the executing agency of the above project the Africa Institute commits to co- funding amounting to \$61,000.00 in the execution of its commitments to this project.

This amount will be made up of:

Office space and facilities	\$10,000.00
Financial administration & reporting	\$8,000.00
Administrative assistance	\$8,000.00
Executive Director's input	\$10,000.00
Communication	\$5,000.00
Associated projects	\$20,000.00
Total	\$ 61,000.00

Yours Sincerely

Taelo Letsela (Dr.)
Executive Director
Africa Institute



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 Africa (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland)		
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 across the participating countries. It will not take direct action on the ground but inventories and prepared to address priority issues will take socio-economic and environmental considerations into account
- cultural heritage site	N.A:	
- protected area	N.A:	
- wetland	N.A:	
- mangrove	N.A:	
- estuarine	N.A:	
- buffer zone of protected area	N.A:	
- special area for protection of biodiversity	N.A:	
-will project require temporary or permanent support facilities?	N.A:	
<i>If the project is anticipated to impact any of the above areas an Environmental Survey will be needed to determine if the project is in conflict with the protection of the area or if it will cause significant disturbance to the area.</i>		

Section B: Environmental impacts

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

	<i>Yes/No/N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Are ecosystems related to project fragile or degraded?	N.A.	The project will assess the situation with regard to mercury in participating countries It will not take direct action on the ground but assessments and mercury inventories will assist countries 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.

	<i>Yes/No/N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Does the project respect internationally proclaimed human rights including dignity, cultural property and uniqueness and rights of indigenous people?	Yes	It will respect cultural aspects of participating countries
- 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 National Coordinating Committees including all relevant stakeholders. This group will assess project progress at the national level and will propose if necessary corrective actions. Additionally, the Project Executing 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, including ratification of the 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

AI	Africa Institute
ASGM	Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining
AU	African Union
BAT/BEP	Best Available Techniques/ Best Environmental Practices
BRS	Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions
CEM	Cement Production
CFLs	Compact Fluorescent Lamps
DTIE	Division of Technology, Industry and Economics (UNEP)
EA	Executing Agency
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
E-waste	Electronic Waste
GEF	Global Environment Facility
HFO	Heavy Fuel Oil
HIV/AIDS	Human immunodeficiency virus/ Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
IA	Implementing Agency
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
IDA	International Development Association
IMF	International Monetary Fund
KEMI	Swedish Chemicals Agency
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
LUNDAP	Lesotho United Nations Development Assistance Plan
MIA	Minamata Initial Assessment
NCPC	National Cleaner Production Centre
NDP10	National Development Plan Ten
NFMP-AU	Non-ferrous metal production – aluminium
NGOs	Non-governmental Organizations
NPT	National project Team
PIR	Project Implementation Review
POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants
PSC	Project Steering Committee
SACU	Southern African Customs Union
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SAICM	Strategic Approach for International Chemicals Management
SEA	Swaziland Environmental Act
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
UN	United Nations
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
WDF	World Dental Federation
WHO	World Health Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization

ANNEX 5: PROJECT SUPERVISION PLAN (INCLUDING PROJECT WORKPLAN)

Project Title:		Development of Minamata Convention on Mercury Initial Assessment in Africa (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland)																							
Project executing partner:		The Africa Institute																							
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		[Green bar from start to end]																							
UNEP/DTIE Chemicals (Implementing)		[Green bar from start to end]																							
Output		[Green bar from start to end]																							
Activity/Task/Output																									
Project Management, Coordination & Sustainability																									
Regional Inception workshop and report of meeting		[Green bar from month 2 to 4]																							
Four national inception meetings and report of meetings		[Green bar from month 2 to 4]																							
Progress report - (March 31, June 30, September 30 and Dec 31) + 30 days		[Green bar from month 2 to 12]																							
Annual co-financing report - June		[Green bar from month 6 to 7]																							
Establish M&E system		[Green bar from month 2 to 4]																							
Quarterly expenditure report - (March 31, June 30, Sep 30, and Dec 31) + 30 days		[Green bar from month 2 to 12]																							
Procurement of equipment & hiring of consultants		[Green bar from month 2 to 12]																							
Progress reports to co-financiers		NA																							
Project Implementation Review		[Green bar from month 11 to 12]																							
GEFSEC communications		[Green bar from month 11 to 12]																							
Terminal report		[Green bar from month 11 to 12]																							
Training workshops/seminars		NA																							
Terminal evaluation		[Green bar from month 11 to 12]																							
Final audit report for project		[Green bar from month 11 to 12]																							
Outcome 1: Institutional strengthening and enhanced national coordination																									
1.1 Organize a Regional and four National Inception Workshop to raise awareness and to define the scope and objective of the MIA process		[Green bar from month 2 to 4]																							
Milestone: Key stakeholders and their roles identified, coordination mechanism for mercury management in place		[Green bar from month 2 to 4]																							
1.2 Conduct a national assessment on existing sources of information (studies), compile and make them available		[Green bar from month 2 to 6]																							
Milestone: Related mercury studies and reports on key sectors gathered and available to all national stakeholders		[Green bar from month 2 to 6]																							
1.3 Customize existing guidelines to serve national needs		[Green bar from month 2 to 6]																							
Milestone: Existing guidelines and toolkit customized to serve national needs		[Green bar from month 2 to 6]																							
Outcome 2: Comprehensive information on current infrastructure and regulation for mercury management and monitoring enables a better understanding and sound planning for mercury management and monitoring																									
2.1 Assess key national stakeholders, their roles in mercury management and institutional interest and capacities		[Green bar from month 6 to 8]																							
Milestone: National capacities for mercury management and monitoring assessed and national needs identified		[Green bar from month 6 to 8]																							
2.2 Analyse the regulatory framework, identify gaps and assess the regulatory reforms needed for the sound management of mercury in participating countries		[Green bar from month 8 to 12]																							
Milestone: Existing national regulatory framework and regulatory reforms assessed		[Green bar from month 8 to 12]																							
Outcome 3: Enhanced understanding of mercury sources and releases facilitates the development of national priority actions																									
3.1 Develop a qualitative and quantitative inventory of all mercury sources and releases		[Green bar from month 10 to 12]																							
Milestone: Qualitative and quantitative inventory of all mercury sources and releases developed		[Green bar from month 10 to 12]																							
3.2 Develop a national strategy to identify mercury contaminated sites		[Green bar from month 10 to 12]																							
Milestone: Strategies to identify and assess mercury contaminated sites developed		[Green bar from month 10 to 12]																							
Outcome 4: Improved understanding of national needs and gaps in mercury management and monitoring enables 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		[Green bar from month 2 to 6]																							
Milestone: Challenges and opportunities to implement the Convention identified, including legal and technical aspects		[Green bar from month 2 to 6]																							
4.2 Develop a report on recommendations to implement the Convention		[Green bar from month 6 to 8]																							
Milestone: Recommendations to implement the Convention proposed including impacts of proposed regulatory reform		[Green bar from month 6 to 8]																							
Outcome 5: Validated and widely distributed MIA enhances national understanding of mercury management and the next steps needed towards the ratification and implementation of the Convention																									
5.1 Draft and validate MIA Report		[Green bar from month 8 to 12]																							
Milestone: MIA Report validated and available to key stakeholders		[Green bar from month 8 to 12]																							
5.2 Develop and implement a national MIA dissemination and outreach strategy		[Green bar from month 10 to 12]																							
Milestone: MIA initial dissemination strategy developed and outreach implemented		[Green bar from month 10 to 12]																							
5.3 Organize at least two lessons learned workshops		[Green bar from month 11 to 12]																							
Milestone: Final report on lessons learned		[Green bar from month 11 to 12]																							