



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

**PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFIERS**

Project Title:	Development of Minamata Convention Mercury Initial Assessment in Pacific		
Country(ies):	Cook Islands, Kiribati, Palau, Tonga and Vanuatu	GEF Project ID: <sup>1</sup>	
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP	GEF Agency Project ID:	01371
Other Executing Partner(s):	The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)	Submission Date:	25/06/2015
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\***

<b>Project Objective:</b> 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 <sup>2</sup>
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	60,000	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	60,000	0

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

<sup>2</sup> 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	180,000	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	100,000	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	90,000	0
6. Assessment of levels of mercury in human hair and fish in the participating countries	Enhanced understanding of the level of mercury contamination in humans in the region facilitating the development of national priority actions to reduce this	Assessment report of a Pacific regional hair project for mercury and strategies on how to reduce these levels developed	15,000	0

	in the long term			
		Subtotal	445,000	0
		Project Management Cost <sup>3</sup>	60,000	20,000
		Monitoring and Evaluation	35,000	0
		<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>600,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>

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

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
NA			
<b>Total Co-financing</b>			

#### 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 <sup>a)</sup> / (b) <sup>2</sup>	Total c=a+b
UNEP	GEF TF	Regional Pacific	na	600,000	57,000	657,000
<b>Total Grant Resources</b>				<b>600,000</b>	<b>57,000</b>	<b>657,000</b>

a) Refer to the [Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies](#)

## PART II: ENABLING ACTIVITY JUSTIFICATION

**A. ENABLING ACTIVITY BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT** (Provide brief information about projects implemented since a country became party to the convention and results achieved):

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

At its sixth session held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 3 to 7 November 2014, the Intergovernmental Negotiations Committee to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury requested the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to apply revised eligibility criteria in providing financial support to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for activities under the Minamata Convention on Mercury. In particular, it requested the eligibility for funding be extended for enabling activities to non-signatories to the Convention, provided that any such State is taking meaningful steps towards becoming a Party. Such request was approved by the GEF Council in January 2015.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

***Brief description on Cook Islands background information, activities and current legislation and national capacities/ infrastructure for mercury management***

Cook Islands has been active in the Pacific group during the Intergovernmental Negotiation Committee meetings. However, the country was not in a position to sign the Minamata Convention during the period it was open for signature. Nevertheless, meaningful action have been taken by the country towards becoming a Party to the Convention and allow for the deposit of the instrument of accession. In particular, Cook Islands had:

- Participated in the sub-regional workshop for Pacific Countries in Support for the Ratification and Early Implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury organized by UNEP in Apia, Samoa from 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> January 2015, and submitted its national roadmap for the ratification of the Convention;
- Discussed and further elaborated the draft national roadmap with other ministries in regards to national priorities and plans for hazardous wastes, including mercury;
- Discussed the Minamata Convention on mercury with other ministries in regards to national priorities and plans for hazardous wastes, including mercury;
- Discussed the Minamata Convention on Mercury with other ministries and its relevance to the development of the Cook Islands National Lamp Waste Strategy;
- Engaged UN Agencies, intergovernmental and NGOs to discuss possible actions at the national level in support for the accession and early implementation of the Minamata Convention during INC2 through INC5;
- Organized a national inter-ministerial stakeholders consultation on the Minamata Convention in 2012 at the National Environment Service;
- Identified the national process for accession to international instruments.

In consideration of these steps, in line with the requirements to become eligible to financial support for enabling activities from the GEF, Cook Islands has requested to take part to this regional MIA project for the Pacific to adequately prepare for acceding to and effectively implementing the Minamata Convention.

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

Kiribati has requested technical and financial support to develop a Minamata Initial Assessment. The country is not signatory of the Minamata Convention, however, pursuant to the approval from the GEF Council to extend financial support to non-signatories of the Minamata Convention that have taken meaningful steps towards becoming a Party to the Convention, Kiribati became eligible to take part to this Regional proposal. The country has undergone the following activities to access the Convention:

- Took part to the sub-regional workshop for Pacific Countries in Support for the Ratification and Early Implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury organized by UNEP in Apia, Samoa from 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> January 2015, and submitted its national roadmap for the ratification of the Convention;

- Collected 1,700 computer units, which believed to contain heavy metals including mercury for recycling purposes overseas;
- Ceased the importation of thermometers containing mercury in January 2014 for use at its main health care facilities;
- Engaged with UN Agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to discuss possible actions at the national level in support for the accession to an early implementation of the Minamata Convention;
- Identified the national process for accession to the international instruments.

In addition, Kiribati has undertaken a preliminary analysis of key mercury-related issues at the national level. The analysis shows the following:

- There is no existing legislation in the country targeted directly at addressing mercury;
- All broken mercury thermometers in hospital are mixed up with clinical wastes in non-labelled containers;
- There is no existing system for recording broken thermometers;
- Clinical wastes are transported in bins by orderlies disposed off by incineration in the hospital compound;

With regard to the mercury levels found in Kiribati, the University of the South Pacific Institute of Applied Science has conducted, for WHO, a study on levels of mercury in fish. The results were used to determine whether there might be significant health risks involved with fish consumption. The study showed a level of 2.06 mg/kg in shark, which was roughly twice the FAO/WHO Codex guidelines of 1 mg/kg set for predatory fish.

Furthermore, a preliminary investigation on marine sediments in Tarawa, the capital island, showed a concentration of mercury to exceed the Small Quantity Generators (SQGs) indicating potential adverse ecological effects on the local benthic communities.

Kiribati is looking forward to developing an inventory on mercury sources, as well as a quantitative analysis of mercury. The country wishes also to develop a national health-care waste management and implement appropriate BAT/BEP and awareness raising activities.

***Brief description on Palau background information, activities and current legislation and national capacities/ infrastructure for mercury management***

The Republic of Palau signed the Minamata Convention on Mercury on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2014. Following the signing of the Convention, the country has participated in regional workshops and bilateral meetings to ascertain the requirements of the Convention as necessary to facilitate the rapid ratification of the Convention by the Palau National Congress. Overall, the Convention on Mercury is in line with Palau's goals and endeavors to protect its fragile marine and terrestrial ecosystems and biodiversity as well as the health of the citizens as they are reliant on their environment for their livelihood.

Since the signing of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the Republic of Palau has conducted some tabletop assessment of the needs and gaps in country pertaining to mercury.

1. In terms of uses and emissions: Major uses are mercury-added imported products for essential use (energy sector, automobile, healthcare, research/lab reference equipment, household products) which are potentially released to the environment after use.
2. National priority is to protect the subsistence livelihood by preventing contamination of water, air, land and marine ecosystems. It is therefore important to develop a mechanism for Tracking and Management of Mercury Imported, Produced and Used; Worker Health and Safety; Storage, Transport and disposal; Waste Disposal; Marine, Fresh and Ground Water Pollution
3. Rallying for Community Support – Public Outreach and Public Awareness Activities to enable the community from the Government to the Private, from the Politicians who makes the laws to the general public who will be benefitting as well as gaining the support of existing users, i.e. dentistry.
4. Legislation Review and Making Necessary Amendments: Existing legislations do not prescribe mercury added products and does not address it as required by the Convention. It is necessary to develop/enhance existing regulation to comprehensively address Mercury management (importation, exportation, storage, transporting, spill reporting and cleanup, waste disposal) and worker health and safety. Legislation include Mercury management tracking system be developed for all mercury and mercury added compounds/products imported, used, and disposed in Palau and a provision of proper disposal facility.
5. Identification of Potential projects to address Palau’s priorities:
  - a. Inventory/assessment of mercury and mercury-added products, legal framework in country
  - b. Environmental monitoring/inventory to establish ecosystem (marine water and people’s health) baseline, particularly for migratory fish
  - c. Public Outreach and Awareness Programs to include as well some alternatives and best practices for existing mercury products/use with public
  - d. Develop management tracking system with institutional capacity building
  - e. Support enactment of comprehensive chemical management system legislation with implementation assistance
  - f. Develop country’s capability to conduct mercury monitoring in our water, fish, people to evaluate the efficiency of our environmental regulatory oversight.

This MIA Regional project is in line with the national priorities of Palau and will assist the country to the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention.

***Brief description on Tonga background information, activities and current legislation and national capacities/ infrastructure for mercury management***

Tonga is not signatory of the Minamata Convention. The country has however taken meaningful steps towards the accession to the Convention, this involved:

- Participation to the sub-regional workshop for Pacific Countries in Support for the Ratification and Early Implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury organized by UNEP in Apia, Samoa from 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> January 2015, and submitted its national roadmap for the ratification of the Convention;
- Participation to the Sixth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiations Committee to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury, held in Bangkok, Thailand from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> November 2014;
- Participation to the Asia and the Pacific Regional Workshop in support for the Ratification and effective Implementation of the Minamata Convention on mercury, and the Regional Preparatory meeting for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions 2015 COPs that was held in Jakarta, Indonesia from 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

The country has requested support through the Enabling Activities funded under the GEF as this will allow the identification of the domestic mercury challenges and the extent to which existing legal and regulatory frameworks enable to implement future obligations under the Minamata Convention.

***Brief description on Vanuatu background information, activities and current legislation and national capacities/ infrastructure for mercury management***

Vanuatu was not in a position to sign the Minamata Convention on mercury before it was closed to signature on 09 October 2014. However, the Government of Vanuatu has taken a number of steps at the national level towards becoming a Party and allow for the deposit of instrument for accession to the Convention. In particular, Vanuatu has:

- Discussed and further elaborated the draft national roadmap with other ministries/stakeholders;
- Engages with the UN Agencies, intergovernmental and NGOs to discuss possible actions at the national level in support for the accession to and early implementation of the Minamata Convention;
- Undertaken a preliminary analysis of key mercury-related issues and stakeholders at the national level;
- Organized a national inter-ministerial consultation on the Minamata Convention on 14/05/2014;
- Identified the national process for accession to the international instruments.

This MIA project will help Vanuatu to adequately prepare for acceding to and effectively implement the Minamata Convention. It will allow also the identification of domestic mercury challenges and the extent to which the existing legal and regulatory frameworks enable to implement future obligations under the Minamata Convention.

**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 national and regional Coordination Mechanism and organization 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 Coordination Committee** and carry out the project inception workshop (regional launching of the project). 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 five 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 a regional lessons learned workshop

*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: Regional assessment of mercury levels in human hair and fish***

In the Pacific region, the consumption of fish constitutes the biggest part of peoples' diets. UNEP, in partnership with SPREP, have developed this component that will focus on carrying out biomonitoring exercises on determining levels of mercury in humans and fish in the region. The technical expertise and tools provided will respond directly to countries needs as identified. The results will then be used to develop and monitor effective mercury exposure reduction strategies such as national fish consumption advisories as well as the restrictions on the production, use, trade and environmental release of mercury.

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: Draft a regional assessment on mercury levels in human hair and fish

*Expected Outcome:*

Enhanced understanding of the level of mercury contamination in humans in the region facilitating the development of national priority actions to reduce this in the long term

*Expected Outputs:*

Assessment report of a Pacific regional hair project for mercury and strategies on how to reduce these levels developed

**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

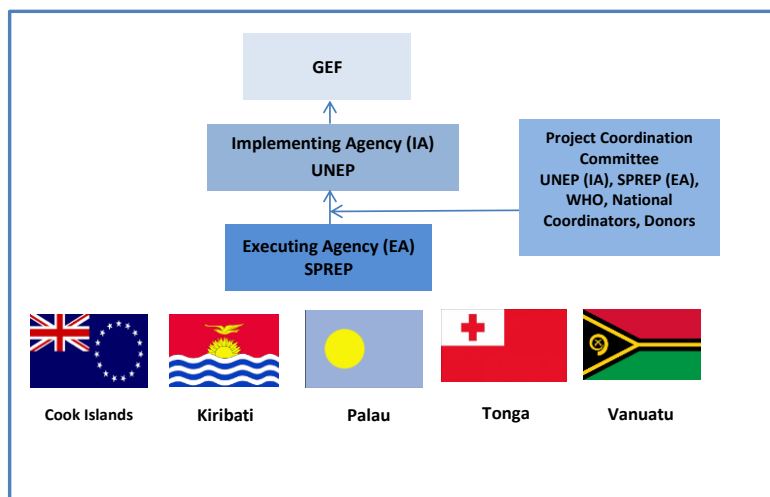
**Implementing Agency (IA):** This project will be implemented by UNEP and executed by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). As Implementing Agency, UNEP will be responsible for the overall project supervision, overseeing the project progress through the monitoring and 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 Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) will execute, manage and be responsible for the project and its activities on a day-to-day basis. It will establish the necessary managerial and technical teams to execute the project. It will search for and hire any consultants necessary for technical activities and supervise their work. It will acquire equipment and monitor the project; in addition, it will organize independent audits in order to guarantee the proper use of GEF funds. Financial transactions audits will be carried out in accordance with the SPREP regulations. The SPREP will provide regular administrative, progress and financial reports to UNEP.

**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

### Institutional 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 throughout the project cycle.

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.

Five 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.

**E. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M&E PLAN:**

Day-to-day management and monitoring of the project activities will be the responsibility of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme. The SPREP will coordinate among the various Ministries of Environment of the 5 participating Pacific 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 5 participating Pacific 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 SPREP, UNEP, the national project coordinators of the 5 participating Pacific 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., and the 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 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 the executing partner (SPREP). The direct costs of the evaluation will be charged against the project evaluation budget. The TE report will be sent to project stakeholders for comments. Formal comments on the report will be shared by the Evaluation Office in an open and transparent manner. Project performance will be assessed against standard evaluation criteria using a six point rating scheme. The final determination of project ratings will be made by the Evaluation Office when the evaluation report is finalised. The evaluation report will be publically disclosed and will be followed by a recommendation compliance process.

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. VAITOTI TUPA	DIRECTOR	NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT SERVICE OF COOK ISLANDS	25/03/2015
MRS. TAQUEA TITAAKE-REIHER	GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, LANDS AND AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT OF KIRIBATI	09/04/2015
MRS. CHARLENE MERSAI	NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT PLANNER AND GEF OFP	OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENT RESPONSE AND COORDINATION OF PALAU	02/04/2015
MS. LU'ISA TU'IAFITU MALOLO	ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	MINISTRY OF METEROLOGY, ENERGY, INFORMATION, DISASTER MANAGEMENT, ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND COMMUNICATION OF TONGA	23/02/2015
MR. TRINISON TARI	ACTING DIRECTOR	DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF VANUATU	10/02/2015

**B. CONVENTION PARTICIPATION**

**COOK ISLANDS**

CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION (mm/dd/yyyy)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	
UNCBD	20.04.1993	MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION	
UNFCCC	20.04.1993	-	
UNCCD	21.08.1998	MR. VAILOTI TUPA	
STOCKHOLM CONVENTION	29.06.2004 (A)	MS. MYRA PATAI	
	DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	DATE OF NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 7 TO THE MINAMATA CONVENTION SECRETARIAT
MINAMATA CONVENTION	-	-	-



**KIRIBATI**

CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION (mm/dd/yyyy)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	
UNCBD	16.08.1994	MR. TIMI KAIEKIEKI	
UNFCCC	07.02.1995	MR. ANDREW TEEM	
UNCCD	08.09.1998	MR. TIMI KAIEKIEKI	
STOCKHOLM CONVENTION	07.09.2004	MR. TIMI KAIEKIEKI	
	DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	DATE OF NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 7 TO THE MINAMATA CONVENTION SECRETARIAT
MINAMATA CONVENTION	-	-	-

**PALAU**

CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION (mm/dd/yyyy)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	
UNCBD	06.01.1999	MR. KING SAM	
UNFCCC	10.12.1999	MR. XAVIER MATSUTARO	
UNCCD	15.06.1999	MS. CHARLENE MERSAI	
STOCKHOLM CONVENTION	08.09.2011	-	
	DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	DATE OF NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 7 TO THE MINAMATA CONVENTION SECRETARIAT
MINAMATA CONVENTION	09.10.2014	-	-

**TONGA**

CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION (mm/dd/yyyy)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	
UNCBD	19.05.1998	MR. PAULA POUVALU MA'U	
UNFCCC	20.07.1998	MR. PAULA POUVALU MA'U	
UNCCD	25.09.1998	MS. ATELAITE LUPE MATOTO	
STOCKHOLM CONVENTION	23.10.2009	MR. PAULA POUVALU MA'U	
	DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	DATE OF NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 7 TO THE MINAMATA CONVENTION SECRETARIAT
MINAMATA CONVENTION	-	-	-


**VANUATU**

CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION (mm/dd/yyyy)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	
UNCBD	25.03.1993	MR. ALBERT ABEL WILLIAMS	
UNFCCC	25.03.1993	MR. BRIAN PHILIPS	
UNCCD	28.09.1995	MR. ALBERT ABEL WILLIAMS	

STOCKHOLM CONVENTION	16.09.2005	MR. ALBERT ABEL WILLIAMS	
	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<sup>4</sup> 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		June 25, 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

<sup>4</sup> GEF policies encompass all managed trust funds, namely: GEFTF, UNCF, 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>
<b>For Technical Assistance</b>						
<b>Regional/ International</b>						
Regional consultant to draft a regional assessment on mercury levels in fish and human hair	7,500	2	15,000	0	15,000	Collect and integrate the data on the Mercury sources and quantities in the participating countries and produce a regional database and draft a regional assessment on mercury levels in fish and human hair
Consultant to assist developing the mercury inventory using the UNEP toolkit	15,000	2	30,000	0	30,000	Technical support to national project teams to develop a mercury inventory
Subtotal			45,000	0	45,000	
<b>Total</b>			45,000	0	45,000	
Justification for travel, if any: Consultants will travel throughout the country to develop the mercury inventory and conduct the national assessments.						

**ANNEX 2: ENDORSEMENT / CO-FINANCE LETTERS**

25<sup>th</sup> March 2015



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](mailto:unepgef@unep.org)

Dear Mr Van Dyke,

**Subject: Endorsement for the project entitled: “Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in 6 Pacific Countries”**

In my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point for Cook Islands, 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.

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 Cook Islands National Environment Service. I request the GEF Agency to provide a copy of the project document before it is submitted to the GEF Secretariat for CEO endorsement.

I am also pleased to inform that Cook Islands has provided a co-finance of USD \$20,000 for this project, of which USD \$20,000 is considered as “in-kind”.

The total financing (from GEFTF) being requested for this project is USD \$600,000, inclusive of 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	-	547'945	52'055	600'000
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>			0	547'945	52'055	600'000

Sincerely,

Vaitoti Tupa  
 Director  
 GEF Operational Focal Point

Copy to: UNEP DTIE Chemicals; Fatoumata Ouane-Keita, Jacob Duer, Kevin Helps



GOVERNMENT OF KIRIBATI  
 MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, LANDS AND AGRICULTURAL  
 DEVELOPMENT

P.O BOX 234, BIKENIBEU TARAWA  
 Telephone Number: (686) 28647, 28211 Fax Number (686) 28334,  
 e-mail: [information@environment.gov.ki](mailto:information@environment.gov.ki)

**File:** MELAD 3/126

**Date:** 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2015

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](mailto:unepgef@unep.org)

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Subject: Endorsement for the project entitled: "Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in 6 Pacific Countries"**

In my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point for Kiribatu, 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.

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 Environment and Conservation Division established within the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Agriculture Development. 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, LDCF and/or SCCF) being requested for this project is USD 600'000, inclusive of 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	-	547'945	52'055	600'000
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>			0	547'945	52'055	600'000

Sincerely,



Taouea. Titaake-Reiher(Mrs)  
Kiribati GEF Operational Focal Point

Copy to: UNEP DTIE Chemicals: Fatoumata Ouane-Keita, Jacob Duer, Kevin Helps



**Office of Environmental Response & Coordination**  
Republic of Palau  
Office of the President

P.O Box 6051, Palau, PW 96940  
Tel. (680) 767-8681  
Fax. (680) 767-1006  
Email: rop.oerc@palau.gov.org

April 2, 2015  
oerc/12/2015

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 project entitled: *“Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in 6 Pacific Countries”*

In my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point for Palau, 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.

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 Environmental Quality Protection Board (EQPB). 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 and/or SCCF) being requested for this project is USD 600’000, inclusive of 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	-	547’945	52’055	600’000
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>			0	547’945	52’055	600’000



Date: April 2, 2015

Charlene Mersai  
National Environment Planner and  
GEF Operational Focal Point  
Office of Environmental Response and Coordination, Office of the President

CC: UNEP DTIE Chemicals: Fatoumata Ouane-Keita, Jacob Duer, Kevin Helps





**Government of Tonga**  
**MINISTRY OF METEOROLOGY, ENERGY, INFORMATION, DISASTER**  
**MANAGEMENT, ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND**  
**COMMUNICATIONS**  
P.O. Box 917, Nuku'alofa, Tonga

Telephone: General Office + (676) 28 170

Fax: + (676) 24 861  
E-mail: paulm@mic.gov.to

23<sup>rd</sup> February 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: uncpgecf@unep.org

Subject: Endorsement for the project entitled: *"Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in 6 Pacific Countries"*

In my capacity as Acting Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communications (MEIDECC) of the Government of Tonga, 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.

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 Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communications. 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 and/or SCCF) being requested for this project is USD 600'000, inclusive of 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	-	547'945	52'055	600'000
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>547'945</b>	<b>52'055</b>	<b>600'000</b>

Sincerely,



Lu'isa Tu'iafitu Malolo

*Acting Chief Executive Officer*

**Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment,  
Climate Change and Communications**

Cc: UNEP DTIE Chemicals: Fatoumata Quane-Keita, Jacob Duer and Kevin Hclps

DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
AND CONSERVATION  
Private Mail Bag 9063  
Port Vila  
REPUBLIC OF VANUATU



BUREAU DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT  
Sac Postage Privé 9063  
Port Vila  
REPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU

Tel: (678) 25302

Email: [environment@vanuatu.gov.vu](mailto:environment@vanuatu.gov.vu)

ENV.313/007/15/TT/tt

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> February 2015

To: Ms Mehdia Siari  
United Nation Environment Programme

Dear Ms Siari,

Subject: Vanuatu endorsement to the regional project to undertake the Minamata Initial Assessments (MIA)

The Director Mr Albert Williams is the national focal point for GEF in Vanuatu however, he is currently on leave. As the Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation (DEPC) is the organizational focal point for GEF in Vanuatu, and acting in my capacity as Acting Director of DEPC, I write this short letter to endorse Vanuatu's support towards this regional project to undertake the Minamata Initial Assessments (MIA).

I hope this endorsement letter will be considered and approved accordingly.

We look forward to be part of this important regional project.

King regards,

Trinison Tari

**Acting Director**

Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation



### 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

<b>Project Title:</b>	Development of Minamata Convention on Mercury Initial Assessment in Pacific (Cook Islands, Kiribati, Palau, Tonga and Vanuatu)		
<b>GEF project ID and UNEP ID/IMIS Number</b>		<b>Version of checklist</b>	
<b>Project status (preparation, implementation, MTE/MTR, TE)</b>	Preparation/ Submission	<b>Date of this version:</b>	15.05.2015
<b>Checklist prepared by (Name, Title, and Institution)</b>	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.

	Yes/No/N.A.	Comment/explanation
- Are ecosystems related to project fragile or degraded?	N.A.	The project will assess the situation with regard to mercury in 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.

	Yes/No/N.A.	Comment/explanation
- Does the project respect internationally proclaimed human rights including dignity, cultural property and uniqueness and rights of indigenous people?	Yes	It will respect cultural aspects 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

ASGM	Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining
BAT/BEP	Best Available Techniques/ Best Environmental Practices
BRS	Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions
CFLs	Compact Fluorescent Lamps
DTIE	Division of Technology, Industry and Economics (UNEP)
EA	Executing Agency
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IA	Implementing Agency
INC	Intergovernmental Negotiations Committee
MIA	Minamata Initial Assessment
NGOs	Non-governmental Organizations
POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants
SAICM	Strategic Approach for International Chemicals Management
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
SQGs	Small Quantity Generators
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
WHO	World Health Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization



## ANNEX 5: PROJECT SUPERVISION PLAN

Project Title:	Development of Minamata Convention on Mercury Initial Assessment in Pacific (Cook Islands, Kiribati, Palau, Tonga and Vanuatu)																							
Project executing partner:	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)																							
Project implementation period (add additional years as required):	Year 1												Years 2											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Executing partner	UNEP/DTIE Chemicals (Implementing)																							
Output	Regional Inception workshop and report of meeting																							
Activity/Task/Output	Five national inception meetings and report of meetings																							
Project Management, Coordination & Sustainability	Progress report - (March 31, June 30, September 30 and Dec 31) + 30 days																							
Regional Inception workshop and report of meeting	Annual co-financing report - June																							
Five national inception meetings and report of meetings	Establish M&E system																							
Progress report - (March 31, June 30, September 30 and Dec 31) + 30 days	Quarterly expenditure report - (March 31, June 30, Sep 30, and Dec 31) + 30 days																							
Annual co-financing report - June	Hiring of consultants																							
Establish M&E system	GEFSEC communications																							
Quarterly expenditure report - (March 31, June 30, Sep 30, and Dec 31) + 30 days	Terminal report																							
Hiring of consultants	Training workshops/seminars																							
GEFSEC communications	Terminal evaluation																							
Terminal report	Final audit report for project																							
Training workshops/seminars	NA																							
Terminal evaluation																								
Final audit report for project																								
Outcome 1: Institutional strengthening and enhanced national coordination																								
1.1 Organize a Regional and five National Inception Workshop to raise awareness and to define the scope and objective of the MIA process																								
Milestone: Key stakeholders and their roles identified, coordination mechanism for mercury management in place																								
1.2 Conduct a national assessment on existing sources of information (studies), compile and make them available																								
Milestone: Related mercury studies and reports on key sectors gathered and available to all national stakeholders																								
1.3 Customize existing guidelines to serve national needs																								
Milestone: Existing guidelines and toolkit customized to serve national needs																								
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																								
Milestone: National capacities for mercury management and monitoring assessed and national needs identified																								
2.2 Analyse the regulatory framework, identify gaps and assess the regulatory reforms needed for the sound management of mercury in participating countries																								
Milestone: Existing national regulatory framework and regulatory reforms assessed																								
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																								
Milestone: Qualitative and quantitative inventory of all mercury sources and releases developed																								
3.2 Develop a national strategy to identify mercury contaminated sites																								
Milestone: Strategies to identify and assess mercury contaminated sites developed																								
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																								
Milestone: Challenges and opportunities to implement the Convention identified, including legal and technical aspects																								
4.2 Develop a report on recommendations to implement the Convention																								
Milestone: Recommendations to implement the Convention proposed including impacts of proposed regulatory reform																								
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																								
Milestone: MIA Report validated and available to key stakeholders																								
5.2 Develop and implement a national MIA dissemination and outreach strategy																								
Milestone: MIA initial dissemination strategy developed and outreach implemented																								
5.3 Organize at least two lessons learned workshops																								
Milestone: Final report on lessons learned																								
Outcome 6: Enhanced communication, support and training facilitate the development of the Minamata Initial Assessment by participating countries and build the basis for future cooperation and regional approaches for mercury management																								
6.1: Collect and integrate the data on the Mercury sources and quantities in the participating countries and produce a regional database																								
Milestone: Regional database on mercury sources and quantities in participating countries developed and accessible																								
6.2: Draft a regional assessment on mercury levels in human hair and fish																								
Milestone: Regional Assessment on mercury levels in human hair and fish developed and delivered																								