



GEF-6 REQUEST FOR Chemicals and Wastes ENABLING ACTIVITY
PROPOSAL FOR FUNDING UNDER THE GEF TRUST FUND

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PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFIERS

Project Title:	Minamata Convention: Initial Assessment in Sri Lanka		
Country(ies):	Sri Lanka	GEF Project ID: ¹	
GEF Agency(ies):	UNIDO (select)	GEF Agency Project ID:	150099
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment, Biodiversity Research Institute (BRI)	Submission Date:	11/24/2015
GEF Focal Area (s):	Chemicals and Wastes	Project Duration (Months)	24
Type of Report:	Minamata Convention Initial Assessment (MIA)	Expected Report Submission to Convention	(date)

A. PROJECT FRAMEWORK*

Project Objective: Pre-ratification activities under the Minamata Convention completed to enable policy and strategic decision making and to prioritize areas for future interventions				
Project Component	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	(in \$)	
			GEF Project Financing	Confirmed Co-financing ²
1. Needs assessment of institutional and national capacity to implement the Minamata Convention	1. National capacity improved to ratify and prepare for implementation of the Minamata Convention	Output 1.1: Project coordination mechanism established and institutional gaps identified Output 1.2: Review of existing mercury related regulations and identification of needed policy reforms to prepare for implementation of the Minamata Convention completed Output 1.3: National mercury profile established based on the initial inventory and key sectors identified for intervention and investment to reduce, and where possible eliminate, mercury use, release, and emissions Output 1.4: Dissemination of information among relevant stakeholder groups (academia, public and private sectors, and civil society)	172,000	24,000

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

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

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 legally binding global instrument was agreed at the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee in Geneva, Switzerland, 19 January 2013. The treaty was formally adopted and opened for signature at the Conference of Plenipotentiaries held from 9 to 11 October 2013 in Minamata and Kumamoto, Japan. Up to January 2015, 128 countries have signed the treaty and ten ratified it. Sri Lanka became signatory on 8 October 2014.

Sri Lanka conducted a study on the socio-economic and environmental consequences of signing and ratifying the Minamata Convention on mercury. This study ultimately recommended the cabinet of Ministers to sign the Convention. Furthermore, two awareness programs and three national meetings on mercury were held during the negotiation phase of the Convention.

The Minamata Convention has a phased approach to reduce, and where possible, eliminate mercury use in key industrial sectors. Provisions of the Convention include phase out deadlines established for supply sources and trade, mercury added products, and manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used. Based on these targets, the Convention is designed to systematically reduce emissions and releases to land and water, and phase out the use of mercury where alternatives exist.

For Sri Lanka to meet obligations under the Convention and ratify the treaty, several barriers must be addressed. These include:

- (a) **Institutional barriers:** lack of institutional capacity to implement the Convention;
- (b) **Policy barriers:** gaps in political and legislative frameworks to support Convention provisions;
- (c) **Capacity barriers:** lack of data on sources of emissions and releases;
- (d) **Awareness barriers:** low awareness of health risks associated with mercury among the public and government officials, with limited occupational safety mechanisms in place to reduce community exposure to mercury; and
- (e) **Technological barriers:** lack of knowledge on non-mercury technologies.

In terms of previous mercury related studies, the following researches have been conducted:

Comparative Analysis of Mercury Content in Human Hair, Sri Lanka by Mr. BK Kolitha Kamal Jinadasa

Market survey of herbomineral preparations of Sri Lanka by Dr. (Mrs.) SKMB Herapathdeniya

Determination of mercury levels accumulated in the human tissues among dental health workers employed in state health sector by Dr. NT Gamage

Evaluation of Mercury contents in cosmetics: Especially in fairness cream, lipsticks and nail polish by Dr. SMC Himali

In regards to existing national regulation and strategies related to mercury management in Sri Lanka: 1) Ministry of Education issued a circular letter on the phasing out of mercury usage in education sector; 2) Ministry of Health issued guidelines on mercury usage; 3) Awareness programs on handling of mercury was conducted and 200 amalgam separators were purchased in dental sector; and 4) Central Environmental Authority assessed the mercury levels of industrial effluent discharges. The Central Environmental Authority is under the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment, acting as a regulatory authority in the matters related to environment.

In Sri Lanka, mercury is used in the various industrial facilities (cement, coal fired power plants), education (university and research institute laboratories), medical and dental sectors (e.g. vaccines, measuring devices and dental plaque), and cosmetic products (e.g. skin depigmentation, soap and ointment). As sound mercury management is not yet integrated into sustainable development planning, insufficient mechanisms to handle hazardous wastes may weaken the basis for effective environmental management in Sri Lanka. The situation tends to aggravate, as the country does not have the resources or the capacity needed to address mercury-related problems and promote the uptake of low mercury or mercury free technologies.

Despite the efforts made until now, the country has not produced a national mercury inventory and important baseline data remains largely unknown in Sri Lanka, such as:

- a) the quantity and distribution of mercury stocks, supplies, trade and trans-boundary movement;
- b) the amount of mercury being used and disposed from various sectors;
- c) extent of mercury pollution.

With the adoption of the Convention, Sri Lanka will require assistance to formulate and apply sector wide programs through cost effective approaches within the context of its national development efforts. In the last years, Sri Lanka has promoted initiatives to tackle the negative impacts of chemicals on human health and the environment. The country is party to the Stockholm and Basel Conventions, and has updated its National Profile on chemicals and waste management projects.

The development of the Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA) will address these issues by providing the basic and essential information to enable policy and strategic decision to be made and by assisting the development of plans to identify priority sectors and activities within the country.

<p>B. ENABLING ACTIVITY GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIVITIES (The proposal should briefly justify and describe the project framework. Identify also key stakeholders involved in the project including the private sector, civil society organizations, local and indigenous communities, and their respective roles, as applicable. Describe also how the gender equality and women's empowerment are considered in project design and implementation):</p>	<p>The request of financial support from the Chemicals and Wastes focal area of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) is justified through investment in enabling activities to assist nations to fulfill essential communication requirements related to the Convention, make informed policy decisions and assist in prioritizing activities.</p> <p>Enabling activities have already been developed in Sri Lanka with GEF's resources in order to assist the country in the implementation of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). The MIA enabling activities will complement the country efforts to reduce significantly the exposure of harmful chemicals and wastes of global importance to humans and the environment.</p> <p>The project will strengthen Sri Lanka's national capacity to fulfill obligations under the Minamata Convention and promote effective implementation of its provisions. In order to reach that, the activities proposed will assist the Government and industrial partners to better understand the national operations on mercury, as well as its emissions, and to increase awareness of risks to human and ecosystem health.</p> <p>With the support of GEF, pollution sources can be identified systematically to select areas for future intervention, while institutional and capacity needs assessment, as well as policy analysis, can assist Sri Lanka to identify potential barriers to implement and ratify the Convention. GEF resources will also assist the country to disseminate project achievements in the national level and help to leverage international support, as well as investments for additional projects in Sri Lanka to promote sound chemicals management as a key component of inclusive and sustainable industrial development.</p> <p>The key stakeholders involved in the project are as follows:</p> <p>UNIDO will act as the GEF Implementing Agency (IA) for the project. The UNIDO project manager will provide technical advice, as well as coordinate and monitor the project activities.</p> <p>The Biodiversity Research Institute (BRI) will act as the executing agency for Output 1.3, providing technical expertise for the development of a national mercury inventory. BRI is a nonprofit organization dedicated towards supporting global health through collaborative ecological research, assessment of ecosystem health, improving environmental awareness, and informing science based decision making.</p> <p>The Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment (MMDE) of Sri Lanka will serve as the national executing agency and the main governmental counterpart providing national leadership (responsible for Outputs 1.1, 1.2 and 1.4). The Minamata Convention focal point in the Ministry will be responsible for the day-to-day compliance with the treaty and its provisions. MMDE will also act as the chair and secretariat of the National Steering Group (NSG).</p> <p>The NSG will be established as an inter-ministerial Steering Group comprised of UNIDO representatives, technical and policy experts from MMDE, relevant ministries and industrial associations to provide overall guidance and coordination for the execution of activities, providing strategic inputs and contributions to project management as needed. All project amendments will be done in accordance with UNIDO rules and regulations and GEF policy GEF/C.39/Inf.3.</p>
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Industry associations (Civil Society Organizations), including academia and NGOs, will act as a bridge to connect Government institutes, technical experts, and relevant industries to assist in the development and implementation of policies to fulfill obligations under the Convention. This network of associations will liaise with primary mercury extractors and users to increase awareness, share knowledge and promote technology transfer to reduce mercury use within the enabling activities framework.

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

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

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

Recognizing that the level of exposure to mercury and its related impacts on human health are determined by social and biological factors, women, children and men might be exposed to different kinds, levels and frequency of mercury. Therefore, gender mainstreaming will be included as part of the project. This will be addressed based on UNIDO's gender policy, among others by involving women and vulnerable groups at the stakeholder level, in the information sharing and dissemination events. The involvement and participation of women and vulnerable groups will be summarized in the initial inventory report and gender disaggregated data collected to provide a basis for prioritization, development of sectoral intervention plans and future projects.

Special attention will be paid to gender equality when evaluating and inviting members to participate to the National Steering Group and when inviting stakeholders to awareness raising workshops. During recruitment process, female candidates will be encouraged to apply. For candidates with similar technical qualifications, preference will be given to women.

The majority of socio-economic benefits associated with this project will manifest when the interventions required under the Convention are implemented, contributing to the achievement of MDG 7 (Sustainable development), MDG 4 (Reduce child mortality) and MDG 6 (Combat diseases).

The project will be executed via subcontracts to MMDE at approximately USD\$79,000 and BRI at approximately USD\$93,000. Please refer to Annex A for a total estimation of the GEF grant and co-financing budget breakdown. Budget for the final evaluation is included as part of the monitoring and evaluation table on page 9.

<p>C. DESCRIBE THE ENABLING ACTIVITY AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION (discuss the work intended to be undertaken and the output expected from each activity as outlined in Table A).</p>	<p>This project sets out the activities necessary to prepare an MIA to support efficient implementation of the Minamata Convention within the national context. The project will assist Sri Lanka to plan these pre-ratification activities while mainstreaming sound mercury management into legal and institutional structures that are fully in line with national priorities.</p> <p>The initiative will also help the country to collect baseline information on mercury use, emissions and releases that will serve as input to the design of future interventions required by the treaty, such as the development of a National Implementation Plan that may be required by the Conference of Parties within a few years of its entry into force. The treaty is expected to enter into force in two to three years.</p> <p>The planned activities per output are listed below:</p> <p>Output 1.1: Institutional gaps identified and national coordination on mercury established</p> <p>Activity 1.1.1 Conduct national project coordination meetings Activity 1.1.2 Establish an inter-ministerial Steering Group (National Steering Group) Activity 1.1.3 Identify institutional capacity gaps and barriers Activity 1.1.4 Organize capacity development workshops and trainings</p> <p>Output 1.2: Review of existing mercury related regulations and identification of needed policy reforms to prepare for implementation of the Minamata Convention completed</p> <p>Activity 1.2.1 Evaluate existing structures, policies, strategies, laws and regulations Activity 1.2.2 Sensitize policy makers regarding policy gaps Activity 1.2.3 Prepare a list of needed mercury related regulations while considering the vulnerabilities of different gender groups</p> <p>Output 1.3: National mercury profile established based on the initial inventory and key sectors identified for intervention and investment to reduce, and where possible eliminate, mercury use, release, and emissions</p> <p>Activity 1.3.1 Conduct national mercury inventory training Activity 1.3.2 Collection data for the initial national mercury inventory Activity 1.3.3 Draft initial national mercury inventory Activity 1.3.4 Identified key sectors for intervention Activity 1.3.5 Develop intervention plans</p> <p>Output 1.4: Dissemination of information among relevant stakeholder groups (academia, public and private sectors, and civil society) conducted</p> <p>Activity 1.4.1 Develop communication materials taking into account the impacts of mercury on and vulnerability of different gender groups Activity 1.4.2 Organize and conduct awareness raising campaigns and workshops adapting time and location of the events to different gender groups' needs</p> <p>Please refer to the attached logical framework in Annex C for specific outputs and their associated indicators, verifications and assumptions.</p>
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<p>D. DESCRIBE, IF POSSIBLE, THE EXPECTED COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT:</p>	<p>The project is expected to be highly cost effective as it is fully in line with the goals of Sri Lanka to fulfill the full range of obligations under the Convention, as well as regulate anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury in order to protect human health and the environment. With the GEF support, patterns of mercury consumption and release will be assessed to facilitate the design of targeted interventions, which in turn provide global and local benefits through reduced emissions to the environment. Through institutional capacity development and enhancement at the national level, potential contamination risks from the use of mercury-added products will also be minimized.</p> <p>To ensure cost effectiveness, infrastructure and human resources of the governmental counterpart and executing agency involved in the project will be efficiently utilized. Most project activities will be carried out by national experts. This will foster an increase in local and national capacity to manage mercury and will contribute to the cost effectiveness of the project through reduced consultancy fees and travel expenses. This initiative will also serve as a model for other MIA projects under the GEF-6 replenishment period.</p> <p>Project implementation and execution is expected to remain at low risk. UNIDO has solid experience in promoting environmentally sound management of mercury and plays an important role as co-lead of the ASGM sector under the Global Mercury Partnership – the main mechanism and technical advisory group of the Minamata Convention. UNIDO has also extensive experience with enabling activities through the Stockholm Convention National Implementation Plans (NIPs) and NIP updates.</p> <p>Lessons learned and experience gained by UNIDO in the Asian region through the development of mercury-related projects, as well as capacity building initiatives on POPs, are comparative advantages to the implementation of the project. The local and regional presence of UNIDO in the field will also help to ensure the smooth development of project activities.</p> <p>In addition, BRI has broad experience providing guidance, training, and technical support to assist countries in assessing their existing legal, institutional, administrative, and technical infrastructures for sound chemicals management. Through its Tropical Programme, BRI has supported over 40 countries to (a) identify 'hotspots' of mercury accumulation where mercury concentrations represent a risk to human and ecosystem; (b) develop strategies and national action plans for reducing the use of mercury by small-scale miners; and (c) identify species and ecosystems at risk of mercury exposure.</p> <p>BRI has been actively involved in the negotiations of the Minamata Convention by creating a mercury database clearinghouse and helping countries to meet the requirements of the treaty. And they are a member of the Mercury Air Transport and Fate Research, and of the Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining areas of the Global Mercury Partnership.</p>
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E. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M&E PLAN:

Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) for this project will rely on several levels of review, quality control and feedback. Overall M&E will be conducted by UNIDO through annual supervision visits to the country. The National Steering Group, including the main project stakeholders, will meet annually to: (a) review annual work plan, (b) assess progress against M&E targets as indicated in the Project Results Framework, (c) review interim and final reports, and (d) assess any gaps or weakness and make appropriate adaptive management decisions based on progress and achievements. Work plan for year two will be based on the results achieved in the first year, including associated budget allocations, in agreement with the GEF and UNIDO's rules and guidelines and GEF Council Documents GEF/C.39/09 and GEF/C.39/Inf.03. UNIDO's office in New Delhi (covering Sri Lanka) will assist and participate in monitoring and evaluation visits as needed. The final evaluation, to be conducted by an independent evaluator, will be arranged by the UNIDO project manager with support from UNIDO's Evaluation Group and reports submitted to the donor within 90 days of project end. Please see below for a summary of the monitoring and evaluation plan, as well as the related budget breakdown.

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

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

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

Legal context clause: The Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka agrees to apply to the present project, mutatis mutandis, the provisions of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the United Nations Development Programme and the Government, signed and entered into force on 20 March 1990.

Monitoring and Evaluation table

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

F. EXPLAIN THE DEVIATIONS FROM TYPICAL COST RANGES (WHERE APPLICABLE):	Not applicable
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PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)

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

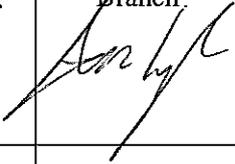
NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (Month, day, year)
Eng. Mr. Nihal RUPASINGHE	Secretary	MINISTRY OF MAHAWELI DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT	AUGUST 19, 2015

B. CONVENTION PARTICIPATION

CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION (mm/dd/yyyy)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	
UNCBD			
UNFCCC			
UNCCD			
STOCKHOLM CONVENTION			
	DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	DATE OF NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 7 TO THE MINAMATA CONVENTION SECRETARIAT
MINAMATA CONVENTION	10/08/2014	MR. N RUPASINGHE	

C. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies⁴ and procedures and meets the standards of the GEF Project Review Criteria for (select) Enabling Activity approval in GEF 6.

Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	E-mail Address
Philippe R. Scholtès, Managing Director Programme Development and Technical Cooperation Division (PTC), UNIDO GEF Focal Point		11/23/2015	Riccardo Savigliano, Environment Branch 	+43 126026 5082	R.Savigliano@unido.org

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

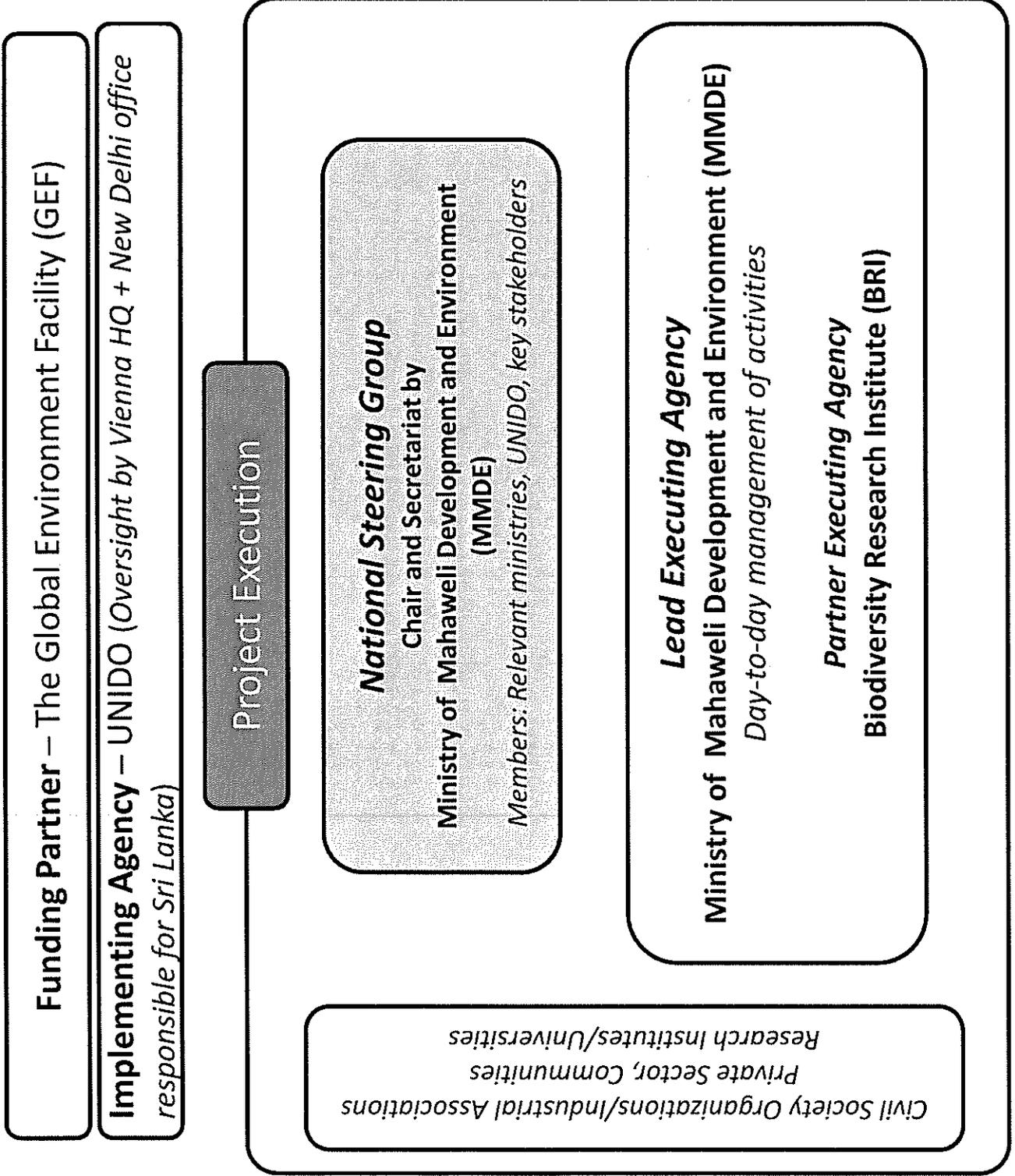
ANNEX A - GEF GRANT and CO-FINANCING TABLE by OUTPUT

Sri Lanka

Hierarchy of Objectives	GEF Grant			Co-financing			Total
	MMDE	BRI	UNIDO	Subtotal	UNIDO	BRI	
NATIONAL CAPACITY							
Outcome 1.1. National capacity improved to ratify and prepare for implementation of the Minamata Convention	71,890	84,630	15,480	172,000	4,000	20,000	196,000
Output 1.1. Institutional gaps identified and national coordination mechanism established	39,440		2,480	41,920	1,000	1,000	42,920
Output 1.2. Review of existing mercury related regulations and identification of needed policy reforms to prepare for implementation of the Minamata Convention completed	12,450		8,000	20,450			20,450
Output 1.3. National mercury profile established based on the initial inventory and key sectors identified for intervention and investment to reduce, and where possible		79,630	5,000	84,630	3,000	20,000	107,630
Output 1.4. Dissemination of information among relevant stakeholder groups (academia, public and private sectors, and civil society)	20,000	5,000		25,000			25,000
MONITORING AND EVALUATION							
Periodic monitoring and terminal evaluation of project implementation completed			10,000	10,000	4,600		14,600
PROJECT MANAGEMENT COSTS							

Project management costs	7,110	8,370	2,520	18,000	10,000		10,000	28,000
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	79,000	93,000	28,000	200,000	18,600	20,000	38,600	238,600

Annex B: Project Execution Arrangement



ANNEX C: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Results*	Indicators	Means of verification	Assumptions/Risks
<p>Outcome: National capacity improved to ratify and prepare for implementation of the Minamata Convention</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Either functional National Mercury Unit or capable Mercury Focal Point (including sufficient resources and capacity) - Planned resources for the implementation of sector intervention plans (human and financial resources) - Pool of trained female and male national experts on mercury related issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Terminal evaluation - Communication from the National Mercury Unit or Mercury Focal Point 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National counterparts and relevant stakeholders remain engaged and cooperative
<p>Output 1.1: Institutional gaps identified and national coordination on mercury established</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Start-up workshop conducted and project coordination mechanism in place, with female and male participants from stakeholders - Assessment report of institutional capacity gaps and barriers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Steering Group meeting minutes - Terms of reference for the project coordination mechanism (i.e. function, budget, expertise) - Project progress report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The ministries will promote all the working group's activities - The National Steering Group will be comprised of members from various sectors - Sufficient resources to maintain the project coordination mechanism
<p>Output 1.2: Review of existing mercury related regulations and identification of needed policy reforms to prepare for implementation of the Minamata Convention completed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment report of mercury related policies, strategies, laws and regulations - Recommendations of needed mercury related regulations with attention paid to women's and men's needs, rights and roles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gap analysis report - List of the needed mercury related regulations - Project progress report 	

<p>Output 1.3: National mercury profile established based on the initial inventory and key sectors identified for intervention and investment to reduce, and where possible eliminate, mercury use, release, and emissions</p>	<p>- Number of inventory experts trained (gender disaggregated)</p> <p>- Availability of the inventory report on emissions sources</p>	<p>- National mercury profile report</p> <p>- Project progress reports</p>	<p>- Academia, public and private sector as well as civil society will contribute to the inventory activities.</p>
<p>Output 1.4: Dissemination of information among relevant stakeholder groups (academia, public and private sectors, and civil society) conducted</p>	<p>- Number of participatory workshops/information sharing events (i.e. study tours, lectures, educational workshops, media brief) conducted with female and male participants</p>	<p>- Training/events/workshop reports including health related issues also providing sex-disaggregated data on participants</p> <p>- Project progress reports</p>	
<p>Main activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Under output 1.1:</u> Conduct national project coordination meetings, establish National Steering Group, identify institutional capacity gaps and barriers, organize capacity development workshops and trainings ▪ <u>Under output 1.2:</u> Evaluate policies, strategies, laws and regulations, sensitize policy makers regarding policy gaps, list needed mercury related regulations ▪ <u>Under output 1.3:</u> Conduct national mercury inventory training, collect data for the national mercury inventory, draft national mercury inventory, identify sectors for intervention, develop intervention plans ▪ <u>Under output 1.4:</u> Organize and conduct information sharing and dissemination events and workshops, ensuring women's and men's needs are properly addressed 			

* Note: - Enabling Activity (EA) projects focus on capacity building and thus no impact statements are required; and

- Component 2 of the EA project (Monitoring and evaluation) presented under section A is not reported in the logical framework.



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மகாவலி அபிவிருத்தி மற்றும் சுற்றுடல் அமைச்சு
Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment

"සම්පත්පාය", අංක 82, රජමල්වත්ත පාර, බත්තරමුල්ල, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව
 "සම්පත්පාය", இல: 82, ரஜமல்வத்த வீதி, பத்தரமுல்லை, ஸ்ரீ லங்கா.
 "Sampathpaya", No 82, Rajamalwatta Road, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.
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 எனது இல
 My No

04/03/06/910 Vol.VIII

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 உமது இல
 Your No

දිනය
 திகதி
 Date

2015.08.19

Dear Mr. Philippe

Subject: Endorsement and Financial Commitment for the pre-ratification activities under the Minamata Convention completed to enable policy and strategic decision making and to prioritize areas for future interventions

In my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point for Sri Lanka, 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 environment convention focal points.

I am pleased to endorse the preparation of the above project proposal with the support of UNIDO. If approved, the proposal will be implemented by the State Ministry of Environment that comes under the Ministry of Mahaweli Development of Environment.

The total financing from the GEF being requested for this project is US\$ 200,000 which includes

- a payment for Bio-diversity Research Institute (BRI) to make inventory of Mercury of US\$ 93,000
- GEF Grant of US\$ 79,000 for the other activities implemented within Sri Lanka and
- a payment of US\$ 28,000 for UNIDO for project management, monitoring and evaluation

The agency fee to be paid to UNIDO for project cycle management service of the project is US\$ 19,000.

Sincerely

Eng. Nihal Rupasinghe

Secretary

GEF Operational Focal Point in Sri Lanka

Mr. Philippe R. Scholtes
 Managing Director
 Programme Development and Technical
 Cooperation Division -- PTC
 UNIDO, Vienna International Centre

"මේ මහාපොළොව හමු කෙසෙසුද මිනිසාට සමානව අනෙක් සියලුම ජීවීන්ට ද මිනිසාට සමාන වටිනාකමක් ද සියලු ජීවීන්ට ද පිලායක් හරිවිය"
 "நம் மீதுள்ள கீழ்க்க உயர் பிறப்பை மட்டுமே கருதுகின்ற மனிதனுக்குள் உள்ள வேண்டிய உயர்ந்த நினைவு புலனாகும் பிறப்பை மீட்டுகின்ற
 விவிலிப்பொருள், அனைவர அனைத்து விவிலிப்பொருள்களும் சேர்ந்துள்ளது."
 "This great earth and the flora on it equally belong to the man and the birds flying in the sky, the quadrupeds and all creatures living on earth"



Mr. Juergen Hierold
GEF Coordinator
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
P.O. Box 300
1400 Vienna
Austria

May 14, 2015

Subject: Co-financing for Minamata Convention Initial Assessment in Sri Lanka

Dear Mr. Hierold,

With this letter the Biodiversity Research Institute (BRI) would like to express its support for the GEF-funded enabling activities for the Minamata Convention in the country of Sri Lanka. The Minamata Convention Initial Assessment (MIA) will be implemented by the Environment Branch of UNIDO and BRI will serve as an executing agency on the project.

BRI is a member of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership, serving as a co-lead of the Mercury Air Transport and Fate Research Partnership Area Group (PAG). BRI is also an active participant in the Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining PAG.

BRI has extensive experience coordinating and facilitating multi-party workshops and producing communication pieces that provide information related to mercury and the environment to decision makers and the general public. The Institute will leverage this expertise to conduct the MIA to assist the country of Sri Lanka with pre-ratification activities.

BRI will provide \$20,000 as an in-kind co-financing contribution to the MIA activities in Sri Lanka. These monies include personnel time associated with the development of a national mercury profile for the country. In addition, co-financing will be used to assist with the development and distribution of communication materials related to the Convention in Sri Lanka.

BRI is pleased to be collaborating with the GEF Secretariat, UNIDO, and Sri Lanka towards the ratification and entry into force of the Minamata Convention.

Sincerely, ~

David C. Evers, PhD
Executive Director and Chief Scientist
Biodiversity Research Institute

