



**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:	Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) National Action Plan (NAP) for Suriname		
Country(ies):	Suriname	GEF Project ID: <sup>1</sup>	
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP (select)	GEF Agency Project ID:	5725
Other Executing Partner(s):	NIMOS	Submission Date:	5/6/2016
GEF Focal Area (s):	Chemicals and Wastes	Project Duration (Months)	24
Type of Report:	National Action Plan (NAP)	Expected Report Submission to Convention	01/01/2019

**A. PROJECT FRAMEWORK\***

<b>Project Objective:</b>				
<b>Project Component</b>	<b>Project Outcomes</b>	<b>Project Outputs</b>	<b>(in \$)</b>	
			<b>GEF Project Financing</b>	<b>Confirmed Co-financing<sup>2</sup></b>
1. Develop a national overview of the artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM)	1.1 National capacity built to assess current practices and interventions in ASGM sector.	1.1.1. National coordination mechanism (NCM) and organizations process for NAP preparation established.  1.1.2. National overview of the ASGM sector undertaken, including analysis and characterization of the sector and the level of formalization of miners.  1.1.3. ASGM’s mercury baseline estimates, use and practices finalized in Suriname.	205,000	0
2. Prepare National Action Plan (NAP)	2.1. National stakeholders have the capacity to plan for the reduction and/or elimination of mercury use in ASGM sector.	2.1.1. Legal and regulatory status of ASGM in Suriname reviewed.  2.1.2. Goals, national objectives and Hg reduction targets set (incl. elimination/reduction of use in ASGM where possible)  2.1.3. NAP Implementation strategy formulated (incl. strategies and policies, work plan, outreach plan, timeline and budget for	250,000	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.



**A. ENABLING ACTIVITY BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT**

(Provide brief information about projects implemented since a country became party to the convention and results achieved):

Suriname is not a signatory to the Minamata Convention on Mercury yet, however the country is taking meaningful steps towards becoming a party to the Convention. The country has been participating in the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committees on Mercury, and is currently undertaking a series of national consultations and developing a policy roadmap to support the National Government in the accession process. The country has already notified the Interim Secretariat of the Minamata Convention that the *“use of mercury in the ASGM sector is more than insignificant”*.

In Suriname, mining is an important economic sector, which has grown significantly over the last decade, in particular the gold mining sector, contributed an estimated 1.62 billion USD in 2012 as compared to 34 million USD in 2000, being that, in 2012, the Gross Domestic Product of Surinam was 5.01 billion USD. In 2011, Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining (ASGM) was believed to provide 20,000 direct jobs in Suriname as well as a significant number of jobs in subsidiary services.

Unfortunately, the sector lacks a sound policy and regulatory framework as well as (institutional) capacity to support the reduction/phase-out of the use of Mercury. There is no comprehensive mercury (release) inventory available which can be used as a basis for informed decision-making.

However, the government, in partnership with WWF, has started the implementation of activities to encourage the phase-out of mercury from ASGM. For example, they are spreading awareness on the importance of the sector and obtaining data on the level of consumption (and impact) of mercury and training was provided to miners on mercury phase-out and best practices were introduced.

Unfortunately there was not sufficient specialized technical expertise to effectively implement a scaled-up and self-sustaining training programme with the several stakeholders involved in this area in Suriname (the Government institutions, miners and mining associations, ONGs and private sector in general).

While there have been initiatives to promote the use of mercury-free practices and technologies over the years, these have proven to be insufficient to achieve a tipping point towards the adoption of mercury-free technologies and practices.

Therefore, the Government of Suriname anticipates to develop a National Action Plan as part of this Enabling Activity, to support a significant reduction in the use of mercury in the ASGM sector.

**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):

The proposed National Action Plan (NAP) and the project framework, including envisaged activities, are entirely in line with the GEF Guidance for the development of the National Action Plans (NAPs) and the requirements of the Annex C of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, and finally, the GEF Initial Guidelines for Enabling Activities for the Minamata Convention on Mercury (GEF/C.45/Inf.05)

**Project Objective:**

The project’s objective is to “*Develop a National Action Plan to Reduce, and Where Feasible, Eliminate Mercury Use in Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining*”.

**Project Activities and Goals**

It will do so by implementing activities to achieve the goals specified in the GEF guidelines (GEF/C.45/Inf.05 Section 2) and Annex C of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

1. Assess the artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) sector

The goal is to assess the institutional capacity of governmental institutions and agencies to determine the capacity needs and gaps that exist for the undertaking of inventories and baseline assessments on Hg use, applications and technologies review, to strengthen these institutions and capacity. The assessment will also review the systems needed to report to the Convention under article 7. The assessment will be carried out following general guidelines settle under the Article 7 and the Annex C of the Convention.

2. Develop or strengthen institutions and further promote the reduction/phase-out of mercury use and releases

This activity will target the identification and development/improvement/strengthening of the institutional capacity gaps and regulatory framework, policies and strategies for the ASGM sector. Proposed actions will be discussed and agreed upon among the key stakeholders through several rounds of discussions.

The policy and legislative assessment will be undertaken through a review of existing legislation related to Hg use and management, as well as regulatory pieces applicable to ASGM, Mining in general and cross-cutting issues (such as land property where mines are located, licensing systems, gaps and challenges), and identification of the gaps prevalent in association to issues of mercury.

In addition the legislation review will assess the necessary steps for the establishment of a National Mercury Coordination/Consultation Mechanism for ASGM.

Strategies and policies will also be defined under this component to cope with:

- The steps to formalize and regulate the ASGM sector
- The assessment of methods and technologies to reduce/eliminate the use of Hg in ASGM and processing;
- The management of internal and international trade of Hg and its compounds used in ASGM and processing;
- The involvement of stakeholders and general public in different levels of consultation and awareness related to Hg use and its impacts into the environment and health of populations, particular most vulnerable ones (low income families, women and children);
- An appropriate public health strategy on the exposure of the above mentioned populations;

### 3. Develop the National Action Plan.

The ultimate goal of the project will demand the implementation of activities to a National Action Plan, which will be included in the NAP document.

The NAP will relate the objectives and targets prepared for Suriname (including proposed policy/regulatory interventions, capacity building and required investment plans and actions) and the roadmap on its implementation formulated, including the schedule and elements for monitoring the progress of implementation.

#### **Key Stakeholders**

The key stakeholder involved in the project are the following:

*Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR):* The Ministry of Natural Resources, and its Geological Mining Division (GMD), has the responsibility for the sound management and use of natural resources and also issues ASGM mining licenses.

*Presidential Commission to Regulate the Gold Sector (OGS):* established by the government in 2010, the OGS is leading the reform effort to develop sustainable and environmentally responsible gold mining practices and transform informal small-scale gold mining into a viable sub-sector of the mining and national economy of Suriname

*Ministry of Finance (MINFIN)* – Responsible for obtaining and allocating resources necessary for state institutions, in accordance with the priorities of the public policy. Pertaining to the area of customs, it is responsible for establishing regulation, controls and ensure the monitoring of all imports and exports of products.

*Ministry of Health (MV)* – Is responsible for the development and implementation of health policies, and assumes responsibilities related to monitoring, control, regulation and standardization of the health sector. In addition, the Ministry of Health registers medical devices and monitors companies that import, manufacture, distribute and / or store medical equipment and devices.

*World Wildlife Fund Guianas*: WWF has worked in Suriname, Guiana and French Guianas since the 1960s and has had a WWF Guianas office since 1999. Mining is one of the NGO's priority areas of action.

*Suriname Conservation Fund (SCF)*: SCF funds projects through earnings from an endowment fund that was originally established with funding from GEF, various governments, Conservation International, and others. Its focus area is to provide funding for projects that improve the protection or improve the sustainable use of the biodiversity of the Suriname rainforest

*Suriname Environmental and Mining Foundation (SEMIF)*: This Foundation was established in 2008 and receives 0.25% of the royalties of the operations of Rosebel Gold Mines N.V. (subsidiary of Iamgold corporation) in Suriname.

*Foundation Makamboa*: This is an Association of small scale miners from the village of Nieuw Koffiekamp, situated in the concession of IAMGOLD - Rosebel Gold Mines NV. This is the first time a group of small scale miners has organized itself in a foundation

*Private Sector (ASGM miners groups)*: Involved in various important aspects of the proposed project, consultations will be carried out with formally registered and informal small-scale mining groups, such as Godo Olo, MaLobi, Sela kreek, Pakira kondre, and upper Saramaccan area (Matuariers maroon group)

*Indigenous and Maroon tribes*: There are several indigenous and maroon tribes living in the interior of Suriname - including Trio, Wayana, Arowak, Caraib, Saramaccan, Aucaan, Matuarier, Paramacca, Kwinti and Aluku People – that are dependent on natural resources contaminated with Mercury, for their livelihoods.

**Gender Dimensions**

Generally, two population groups are more sensitive to the effects of mercury. The unborn child, small children and people (adults as well as children) who are regularly exposed (chronic exposure) to high levels of mercury (such as populations that rely on subsistence fishing or people who are occupationally exposed).

Almost 3 million women and children are involved in ASGM activities. In several ASGM areas, women perform the most toxic jobs, which include pouring the mercury into the ball-mills or mixing the mercury in panning, and burning the amalgam, often with their children or babies nearby.

The NAP will pay particular attention to assessing national capacity to keep such risk groups safe. Recommendations on how to improve gender dimensions and gender mainstreaming related to Mercury, and priorities actions in this area will be highlighted in the NAP report.

**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 ).

The project will be implemented through National Implementation Modality (NIM) with the National Institute for the Environment (NIMOS) – under the MNR - as the execution agency. NIMOS coordinates the work on Environmental Management (including Chemicals Management), through the Inter-Ministerial Advice Commission (IMAC) which includes relevant ministry bodies and representatives from civil society and the private sector.

The proposed EA project has been organized into three components composed by its outcomes as follows:

**Component 1. Develop Mercury Profile in artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM).**

Outcome 1.1. National Capacity built to assess current practices and interventions in the ASGM sector

Output 1.1.1. National Coordination Mechanism (NCM) and organizations process for NAP preparation established.

National capacity to undertake the detailed ASGM sector assessment and the baseline profile on ASGM will be strengthened first through the establishment of a national coordination mechanism to be built from experiences from the stakeholders in the ASGM sector. This mechanism will enable the country to undertake the national overview on the ASGM sector. Training targeted towards a group of national technical experts and government officials will be provided on data collection methodologies, reliability, credibility, data analysis, etc.

Output 1.1.2. National overview of ASGM sector undertaken.

Analysis and characterization of the ASGM sector will include the main mining areas, the miners/association/private sector entities involved in this activity (including level of formalization and supply chain), economic relevant data of the sector (sector profile), review of policies and legislation surrounding the ASGM sector and data related to gold extraction (practices and techniques applied), processing and selling in order to compose the national baseline profile of the sector with estimates of Hg releases and emissions.

Output 1.1.3. ASGM’s mercury baseline estimates, use and practices assessed in Suriname.

The national baseline profile is likely to make use of the UNEP *"Toolkit for identification and quantification of mercury releases"*<sup>4</sup>, which is intended to assist countries to develop a national mercury releases inventory, in order to support the NAP preparation process in obtain the estimates on Hg releases and emissions. By also including:

- Identification and assessment of the amounts of emission sources of mercury and release sources of mercury to land and water.
- Identification of old, historical sources of mercury contamination (such as abandoned mining sites) and known information about impacts and exposure to mercury.
- Identification of key sectors, municipalities, communities and other stakeholders affected by or involved with important Mercury sources and/or emissions.

## **Component 2. Prepare National Action Plan (NAP)**

Outcome 2.1. National stakeholders have the capacity to plan for the reduction and/or elimination of mercury use in ASGM sector.

2.1.1. Legal and regulatory status of ASGM in Suriname reviewed.

The work will begin with a review of the structures, institutions and policies and regulations already in place:

- Legislation on the governance of ASGM in general and the capacities of the key institutions will be the initial focus.
- Legislation on the use of Hg in general and specifically related to the mining sector.
- Review of existing legislation and policies, identification of gaps for meeting the Minamata Convention requirements for the ASGM sector and the elimination/reduction of Hg in this sector.
- Roles of other ministries and institutions related to the ASGM sector. Capacities of these institutions will be reviewed and the gaps/barriers that block the mercury reduction/elimination will be identified.

2.1.2. Goals, national objectives and Hg reduction targets set.

The NAP will include the establishment of the goals, the national objectives and the Hg reduction targets for the ASGM sector where possible, including the formalization process and the actions to eliminate worst practices.

2.1.3. NAP implementation strategy formulated.

The NAP will formulate a implementation strategy with the ultimate goal to reduce/eliminate the use of Hg in the ASGM sector including:

- Promotion of Hg-free methods;
- Reduction/elimination of Hg releases and/or emissions;
- Management of trade;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prevention against the diversion of Hg from ASGM to other sectors;</li> <li>- Involvement of stakeholders in the activities related to Hg reduction/elimination;</li> <li>- Public health strategy on exposure and prevention of miners and vulnerable populations (specially women and children);</li> <li>- Dissemination of information and training to miners.</li> </ul> <p><u>2.1.4. Evaluation process for the NAP established.</u></p> <p>The draft proposals for actions to be included in the NAP document on how to address the pertinent gaps and barriers. These proposals will also include an overview of the costs to the Government in meeting its obligations under the Article 7 of the Minamata Convention.</p> <p>After the development of the draft NAP Report, thi will be prepared for review, approval and adoption by the national stakeholders.</p> <p><u>2.1.5. NAP drafted, finalized, endorsed and submitted.</u></p> <p>Following the finalization of the project activities as envisaged The NAP draft document is expected to be put at review and endorsed by the stakeholders, and subsequently submitted to the Minamata Convention Secretariat, enabling the country to comply with the Article 7 of the Convention and setting the actions required for the reduction/elimination of Hg in the ASGM sector, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Workplan;</li> <li>- Outreach Plan;</li> <li>- Timeframe for implementation; and</li> </ul> <p>Overall estimated budget.</p>
<p><b><u>D. DESCRIBE, IF POSSIBLE, THE EXPECTED COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT:</u></b></p>	<p>The cost-effectiveness of the project will be assured through the management of the project with synergies from other Mercury-related and chemicals-related projects in Suriname in a complementary and evolving manner. UNDP has also received approval for the Minamata Initial Assessment so synergies between the two processes will be ensured.</p> <p>The project will involve national experts as much as possible to facilitate the collection of accurate information and to establish a high-responsiveness of the project to keep a steady momentum in project implementation with an international technical advisor providing succinct, specific input where local expertise gaps exist. Information dissemination with the general public and specific local communities will be more effective through integrating the work through existing activities</p>
<p><b><u>E. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M&amp;E PLAN:</u></b></p>	<p>Project monitoring and evaluation will be conducted in accordance with established UNDP and GEF procedures and will be provided by the project team and the UNDP Country Office (UNDP-CO) with support from the UNDP/MPU Chemicals team. This will be done through project implementation reviews,</p>

	quarterly review reports and a final evaluation (the latter conducted at least 3 months before project closure).
<b>F. EXPLAIN THE DEVIATIONS FROM TYPICAL COST RANGES (WHERE APPLICABLE):</b>	Not applicable

**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)
Mr. Cedric Nelom	Acting Director of the NIMOS	<b>OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAME</b>	<b>08/25/2016</b>

**B. CONVENTION PARTICIPATION**

CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION (mm/dd/yyyy)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	
UNCBD	<b>JANUARY 12, 1996</b>	<b>OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT (OTP)</b>	
UNFCCC	<b>OCTOBER 14, 1997</b>	<b>OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT (OTP)</b>	
UNCCD	<b>JUNE 01, 2000</b>	<b>OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT (OTP)</b>	
STOCKHOLM CONVENTION	<b>SEPTEMBER 20, 2011</b>	<b>MINISTRY OF LABOR (WILL BE CHANGED TO OTP)</b>	
	DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	DATE OF NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 7 TO THE MINAMATA CONVENTION SECRETARIAT
MINAMATA CONVENTION			<b>02/22/2016</b>

**C. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION**

<b>This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies<sup>5</sup> and procedures and meets the standards of the GEF Project Review Criteria for (select) Enabling Activity approval in GEF 6.</b>					
Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	E-mail Address
Adriana Dinu, Executive Coordinator, UNDP-Global Environmental Finance		5/6/2016	Mr. Jacques Van Engel, Director UNDP MPU/Chemicals	212-906-5782	<a href="mailto:Jacques.van.engel@undp.org">Jacques.van.engel@undp.org</a>

<sup>5</sup> GEF policies encompass all managed trust funds, namely: GEFTF, LDCF, and SCCF

**ANNEX A**  
**CONSULTANTS TO BE HIRED FOR THE ENABLING ACTIVITY**

<i>Position Titles</i>	<i>\$/ Person Week</i>	<i>Estimated Person Weeks</i>	<i>Tasks to be Performed</i>
<b>For EA Management</b>			
Local			
Project Manager	200	50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Supervise and coordinate the production of project outputs, as per the project document;</li> <li>- Mobilize all project inputs in accordance with procedures for nationally implemented projects;</li> <li>- Supervise and coordinate the work of project staff, consultants and sub-contractors;</li> <li>- Prepare and revise project work and financial plans;</li> <li>- Liaise with UNDP, relevant government agencies, and all project partners, including donor organizations and NGOs for effective coordination of all project activities;</li> <li>- Facilitate administrative backstopping to subcontractors and training activities supported by the Project;</li> <li>- Oversee and ensure timely submission of all reports as may be required by UNDP, GEF, the Office of the President, NIMOS and other oversight agencies;</li> <li>- Disseminate project reports and respond to queries from concerned stakeholders;</li> <li>- Report progress of project to the PEB, and ensure the fulfilment of PEB directives.</li> </ul>

Administrative Assistant	200	50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Collect, register and maintain all information on project activities;</li> <li>- Contribute to the preparation and implementation of progress reports;</li> <li>- Monitor project activities, budgets and financial expenditures;</li> <li>- Advise all project counterparts on applicable administrative procedures and ensures their proper implementation;</li> <li>- Maintain project correspondence and communication;</li> <li>- Support the preparations of project work-plans and operational and financial planning processes;</li> <li>- Assist in procurement and recruitment processes;</li> <li>- Assist in the preparation of payments requests for operational expenses, salaries, insurance, etc. against project budgets and work plans;</li> <li>- Follow-up on timely disbursements by UNDP CO;</li> <li>- Receive, screen and distribute correspondence and attach necessary background information;</li> <li>- Prepare routine correspondence and memoranda for Project Managers signature;</li> <li>- Assist in logistical organization of meetings, training and workshops;</li> <li>- Prepare agendas and arrange field visits, appointments and meetings both internal and external related to the project activities and write minutes from the meetings;</li> <li>- Maintain project filing system;</li> <li>- Maintain records over project equipment inventory.</li> </ul>
International			
<b>For Technical Assistance</b>			
Local			

National experts on data collection, organization and analysis	500	25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identification of main target areas (sites) and sources for collection of data in accordance with the rapid assessment on mining and other metallurgical activities; mercury mining; small-scale gold and silver mining; and mercury waste (incineration);</li> <li>- Selection of methodology for the collection and analysis of data under each mercury source identified;</li> <li>- Collection of data and analysis;</li> <li>- Review of the rapid assessment of sources and validation (or expansion) of the list in accordance with collected data.</li> </ul>
Environmental Legal expert	500	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Detailed review of regulatory framework and identification of gaps in management of mercury;</li> <li>- Development of specific recommendations on adjustments, amendments required in existing legislation;</li> <li>- Liaise with Office of the President, NIMOS, Minamata focal point and relevant government agencies for development of effective proposals for regulatory framework development.</li> </ul>
Technical Coordinator (75%)	600	50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review of assessments generated under regulatory analysis and inventory;</li> <li>- Assessment of the impact of project outputs on specific stakeholders and general public;</li> <li>- Development of documentation to support stakeholder consultations as well as public awareness activities.</li> </ul>
Environmental Economist	800	30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conduct the Cost-Benefit analysis for the mainstreaming activity</li> <li>- Develop the Socio-Economic Study on ASGM</li> <li>- Coordinate the mainstreaming activities between the involved institutions.</li> <li>- Develop the final report on Mainstreaming.</li> </ul>
International			

International technical expert	3,500	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- UNEP "Toolkit for identification and quantification of mercury releases"</li> <li>- Provision of technical advisory support (with missions) to the local team on the Minamata convention as the new MEA instrument, sources, data organization, collection and validation process in each related sector/sub-sector;</li> <li>- Support to the national level consultations on the data analysis, national mercury profile formulation and priority setting processes for decision-making;</li> <li>- Provision of regulatory advisory support where needed with respect existing international benchmarks</li> <li>- Provision of support to develop and analyze cost related to the implementation of the Convention and description of potential sources of funds, including existing bilateral sources</li> </ul>
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