



**GEF-6 REQUEST FOR (select focal area) 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 Turkey		
Country(ies):	Turkey	GEF Project ID: <sup>1</sup>	
GEF Agency(ies):	UNIDO (select)	GEF Agency Project ID:	150007
Other Executing Partner(s):	The Ministry of Environment and Urbanization (MoEU);	Submission Date:	11/24/2015
GEF Focal Area (s):	Chemicals and Wastes	Project Duration (Months)	24
Type of Report:	Minamata Initial Assessment	Expected Report Submission to Convention	

**A. PROJECT FRAMEWORK\***

<b>Project Objective: Pre-ratification activities under the Minamata Convention completed to enable policy and strategic decision making and to prioritize areas for future interventions</b>				
Project Component	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	(in \$)	
			GEF Project Financing	Confirmed Co-financing <sup>2</sup>
1. Needs assessment of institutional and national capacity to implement the Minamata Convention	Outcome 1.National capacity improved to ratify and prepare for implementation of the Minamata Convention	Output 1.1: Institutional gaps identified and national coordination on mercury established  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) conducted	435,000	14,000
2. Monitoring and Evaluation	2. Project achieves objective on time through	2.1 Periodic monitoring and terminal evaluation of project	20,000	5,000

<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.



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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b) <sup>b)</sup>	Total (c)=a+b
UNIDO	GEFTF	Turkey	Chemical and Wastes	Mercury	500,000	47,500	547,500
(select)	(select)		(select)	(select as applicable)			0
(select)	(select)		(select)	(select as applicable)			0
(select)	(select)		(select)	(select as applicable)			0
(select)	(select)		(select)	(select as applicable)			0
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>					<b>500,000</b>	<b>47,500</b>	<b>547,500</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 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 June 2015, 128 countries had signed the treaty and twelve had ratified it. Turkey became a signatory on 24 September 2014.

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

- (a) Institutional barriers: Limited information flow 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.

With the adoption of the Convention, Turkey 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, Turkey 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.

In Turkey, a significant amount of mercury emission to the atmosphere is originated from the iron and steel industries using scrap metal. Energy production and waste incineration facilities also emit mercury in the country. In addition, amalgam dental fillings containing mercury are still in use under the authority of public hospitals.

Between 2013 and 2014 (first 5 months) the imported amount of mercury and mercury-added products was 6.968 kg and the export amount is 3.931 kg. In addition to pure mercury and mercury compounds, mercury-added products also enter the country with different Gümruk Tarife İstatistik Pozisyon (GTIP) custom numbers. Consequently, additional efforts to label, monitor and control of the mercury products are required.

There are several legislative actions enforced by Turkey about the chemicals, waste, air quality and water quality management targeting mercury. To restrict the use of mercury, the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization (MoEU) has published the following regulations:

-By-Law on Restriction of the Production, Placing on the Market and Use of Certain Dangerous Substances, Preparations and Articles was published December 2014 on restricting producing, supplying and using of certain hazardous materials, preparations and objects bans the use of mercury in manometer for public use, barometer, sphygmomanometers and other measurement devices like thermometer.

-By-Law on Control of Waste Batteries and Accumulators bans and restricts the use of mercury in batteries.

-By-Law on Control of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment and Control of Waste Vehicle restrict importing and producing vehicles, electrical and electronic equipment which contain mercury.

-By-Law on Control of Incineration Wastes limits the mercury content in incineration emissions.

-By-Law on Control of Medical Waste bans the use of mercury in the sterilization operations.

-By-Law on Registration of Plant Protection Product prohibits the use of mercury compounds as plants protection products, published in 1982 by the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock.

MoEU has been monitoring mercury in sediment, biota and the outlets of the rivers located in Aegean and Mediterranean Regions since 1999. According to monitoring studies, presence of mercury has been detected along the coastal areas of the regions.

Despite the efforts made by the government to address mercury pollution, an inventory has not been yet produced and no mercury-related projects have been implemented in Turkey. Under those circumstances, important baseline data remains largely unknown in Turkey, 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) the handling of waste mercury; and
- (d) the extent of mercury pollution.

An in-depth analysis is essential to provide information on future emissions and determining the potential target areas and actions for reduction.

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 Turkey.

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.

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>B. ENABLING ACTIVITY GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIVITIES</b> (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 Turkey 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 Turkey'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 Turkey 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 Turkey 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><b>UNIDO</b> 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 <b>Ministry of Environment and Urbanization</b> will act as the main executing agency, assisting with day-to-day management and providing technical expertise for the development of all mercury related activities.</p> <p><b>The Ministry of Environment and Urbanization (MoEU)</b> will serve as the main governmental counterpart providing national leadership. The Minamata Convention focal point in the Ministry will be responsible for the day-to-day compliance with the treaty and its provisions. MoEU will also act as the chair and secretariat of the <b>National Steering Committee (NSC)</b>.</p> <p>The NSC will be established as an inter-ministerial Steering Committee comprised of UNIDO representatives, technical and policy experts from MoEU, 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.03.</p> <p><b>Civil Society Organizations</b>, including industry associations, academia and NGOs, will act as a bridge to connect Government institutes, technical experts, and relevant industries to assist in the development and implementation of policies to fulfill obligations under the Convention. This network of associations will liaise with primary mercury extractors and users to increase awareness, share knowledge and promote technology transfer to reduce mercury use within the enabling activities framework.</p>
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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.

Other relevant stakeholders are as follows:

**The Ministry of Science, Industry and Technology; the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources; the Ministry of Customs and Trade and the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestocks and the Ministry of Health** will contribute to the component related to the review of regulations and in the identification of policy reforms under their respective areas of expertise.

**General Directorate of Mineral Research and Exploration and General Directorate for ETI Mines Enterprise** will provide data related to the mining sector, including number of reserves, mercury use, production and import/export. **Confederation of Turkish Tradesmen and Craftsmen** will be an umbrella organization representing small-scale gold miners. **Petkim Petrokimya Holding A.Ş** will advise on petro-chemicals production in Turkey, especially in the field of chlor-alkali, acetaldehyde, vinyl chloride monomer, and sodium and potassium methylate or ethylate polyurethane.

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 Committee 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 subcontract to the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization at approximately USD\$448,351. 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 10.

<p><b>C. DESCRIBE THE ENABLING ACTIVITY AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION</b> (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 Turkey 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><b>Output 1.1:</b> Institutional gaps identified and national coordination on mercury established  <b>Activity 1.1.1</b> Establish project coordination mechanism and conduct national project coordination meetings  <b>Activity 1.1.2</b> Establish an inter-ministerial Steering Group (National Steering Group)  <b>Activity 1.1.3</b> Identify institutional capacity gaps and barriers  <b>Activity 1.1.4</b> Organize capacity development workshops and trainings</p> <p><b>Output 1.2:</b> Review of existing mercury related regulations and identification of needed policy reforms to prepare for implementation of the Minamata Convention completed  <b>Activity 1.2.1</b> Evaluate existing structures, policies, strategies, laws and regulations  <b>Activity 1.2.2</b> Translate text and annexes of convention and related guidance documents  <b>Activity 1.2.3</b> Sensitize policy makers regarding policy gaps  <b>Activity 1.2.4</b> Prepare a list of needed mercury related regulations while considering the vulnerabilities of different gender groups  <b>Activity 1.2.5</b> Prepare national draft legislation to implement the Minamata Convention</p> <p><b>Output 1.3:</b> 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  <b>Activity 1.3.1</b> Conduct national mercury inventory training  <b>Activity 1.3.2</b> Establish a web-based inventory tool for centralized data collection and reporting  <b>Activity 1.3.3</b> Collect data for the initial national mercury inventory  <b>Activity 1.3.4</b> Draft initial national mercury inventory  <b>Activity 1.3.5</b> Identify key sectors for intervention  <b>Activity 1.3.6</b> Develop national mercury implementation plan (MIP) including action plans</p> <p><b>Output 1.4:</b> Dissemination of information among relevant stakeholder groups (academia, public and private sectors, and civil society) conducted  <b>Activity 1.4.1</b> Develop communication materials taking into account the impacts of mercury on and vulnerability of different gender groups  <b>Activity 1.4.2</b> 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><b>D. DESCRIBE, IF POSSIBLE, THE EXPECTED COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT:</b></p>	<p>The project is expected to be highly cost effective as it is fully in line with the goals of Turkey 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 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>
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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 Turkey 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 executing partner, MoEU, 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 Republic of Turkey agrees to apply to the present project, mutatis mutandis, the provisions of the Revised Standard Technical Assistance Agreement concluded between the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies and the Government on 21 October 1965."

**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
<b>Terminal evaluation</b>	At project closure	20,000	5,000
<b>Total M&amp;E cost</b>		<b>20,000</b>	<b>5,000</b>
*Funded by Project Management Costs			

<b>F. EXPLAIN THE DEVIATIONS FROM TYPICAL COST RANGES (WHERE APPLICABLE):</b>	Per GEF guidelines, each MIA should not exceed USD\$200,000, however, based on the fact that a) mercury is widely used in industrial applications in Turkey and has not been managed systematically, and b) Turkey has not formally conducted any mercury related inventory work, additional resources of USD\$300,000 is justified to ensure that national and local stakeholders, industries included, are fully engaged and cooperative to yield accurate and meaningful results.
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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)
Prof. Dr. Mr. Lutfi AKCA	Undersecretary	MINISTRY OF FORESTRY AND WATER AFFAIRS	AUGUST 10 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	09/24/2014	THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND URBANIZATION (MOEU)	

**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 Chemicals and Waste Enabling Activity approval in GEF 6.**

Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	E-mail Address
Philippe R. Scholtès, Managing Director Programme Development and Technical Cooperation Division (PTC), UNIDO GEF Focal Point		11/23/2015	Ms. Rodica- Ella Ivan, Industrial Development Officer, Environment Branch	+43 126026 5085	<a href="mailto:R.Ivan@unido.org">R.Ivan@unido.org</a>
					

<sup>4</sup> GEF policies encompass all managed trust funds, namely: GEFTF, IBCF, and SCCF