

INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET
CONCEPT STAGE

Report No.: ISDS

Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: August 27, 2013

I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country:	Africa	Project ID:	P146477
Project Name:	Reducing environmental health impacts of harmful pollutants in Africa region		
Task Team Leader:	Sanjay Srivastava		
Estimated Appraisal Date:	11/28/2013	Estimated Board Date:	01/10/2014
Managing Unit:	AFTN3	Lending Instrument:	GEF Medium Size
Sector:	General Urban and forestry sector (100%)		
Theme:	Environment Pollution (100%)		
Financing (in USD Million)			
Financing Source			Amount
BORROWER/RECIPIENT			0.00
Global Environment Facility (GEF)			2.0
Development Grant Facility (DGF)			1.8
Total			3.00
Environmental Category	B		
Is this a Repeater project?	No		

B. Project Objectives

The PDO is ““to enhance a shared understanding of environmental health, economic and social risks associated with chemical waste management, particularly due to use of mercury in Artisanal Gold mining and disposal of PCBs and chemicals in unregulated waste dump sites in large cities””.

Major outcomes expected that would lead to achieving the PDO, include:

- Improved understanding of environmental health implications of harmful chemicals and waste in Africa and of options for risk management.
- Increased alliances with African countries to address the risks associated with chemical waste management.

- A regional collaborative program to address environmental health risks developed

C. Project Description

The recent global treaty on controlling the use of mercury (UN's Minamata Convention on Mercury) provides an opportunity to catalyze policy reforms on how a toxic compound can be used and managed in Africa. Unless the information on and understanding of the significant social, environmental health and economic consequences associated with mercury contamination is improved and communicated effectively to decision makers and translated into public policy and management plans, local communities that are facing some of the greatest health risks¹ from the substance, particularly small-scale gold miners in the African countries, such as Senegal, Burkina Faso, Tanzania and Ghana will not benefit from the global treaty. There is an urgent need to develop policy guidance for properly understanding the grave consequences of mercury use in ASGM, and minimizing and controlling the use of mercury (through the use of retorts, for example) so as to reduce its impact or to find acceptable alternatives to the use of mercury (such as Borax) without impacting the livelihood and huge employment opportunities ASGM creates. Environmental protection agencies and health authorities are struggling with the management of mercury and will greatly benefit from support to develop policy guidance. The following components are proposed:

Component 1: Support Analytical Studies and Regional Strategies to address the risks associated with chemical waste management (\$1,300,000): This component will support analytical studies, country level assessment and regional strategies to design a long-term program. The following studies and strategies are suggested but will be subject to consultation with key stakeholders:

- **Mapping key areas of exposure across the region (\$400,000).** This exercise will evaluate and map across the Africa region key health and environmental data, knowledge, risks and impacts, including identification and delineation of key hotspots based on environment and health risks. In addition, stock-taking exercise will be undertaken covering the regulatory framework and institutional mechanisms that are currently used to identify, regulate and monitor environmental health risks associated with harmful chemicals and substances, such as mercury and PCBs; including analyses of effectiveness of current system and identify entry points for immediate and long term interventions to address these risks. This will include review of current environmental policies and regulations and institutional capacity to monitor; screen and evaluate health and environmental risks associated with ASGM sector and urban sector. A review will be undertaken of current financial incentives; regulations regarding hot spots near sensitive habitat; safety and contamination of public resources; institutional capacity for pollution control; health and environmental assessments, monitoring and reporting.

¹ Present day anthropogenic emissions contribute to both current and future emissions to the air. Current anthropogenic sources are responsible for about 30% of annual emissions of mercury to air. Another 10% comes from natural geological sources, and the rest (60%) is from 're-emissions' of previously released mercury that has built up over decades and centuries in surface soils and oceans.

- **Analyzing the environmental health and socio-economic consequences of land degradation from toxic chemicals, and opportunity costs associated with management of chemical and hazardous wastes (\$700,000).** Building upon the previous tasks, this will involve assessing for few selected countries economics of available and innovative options for minimizing and controlling the use of hazardous chemicals, including impact on land degradation, for example in case of mercury (use of retorts, for example) to reduce its impacts or to discourage the use of mercury and promote acceptable alternatives (such as Borax) without impacting the livelihood and employment opportunities of ASGM. This component will also look into the ways to decrease in economic and socially acceptable manner the impact of chemical pollution emanating from unregulated landfills. While recognizing that the risks of exposure, scope of regulations and capacity of enforcement and environmental health consequences of poor management of chemicals may vary among countries and regions, it is important to develop a shared regional economic approaches and solutions for eliminating hazardous chemicals and waste, including contaminated sites.

- **Develop and support awareness raising program on Environmental health and socio-economic consequence of unregulated hazardous chemicals and waste (\$200,000).** Awareness building workshops and other communications tools will be developed to increase awareness about health risks and impacts on communities and surrounding environment. An effective awareness program could be based on the innovative use of ICT and disclosure. The goal being to complement efficiently any on-going awareness raising programs. Based on research, discussions and external input from many partners, a road map for an awareness raising program under the GEF 6 program within Africa and outside Africa will be proposed.

Component 2: Building Partnership within the Africa region for elimination and reduction of harmful chemicals and waste in Africa (\$250,000): Building on the mapping and exercise involving detailed analyses, this component will support the building of partnership with selected countries in Africa (*Senegal, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Tanzania*) to identify risks and develop approaches for reduction of harmful chemicals, including national governments and ministries such as environment, health, urban, energy; international and national NGOs, other development agencies (African and International), financial institutions. This component will support dialogues, workshops and pilot interventions to build constituencies for the larger program. Additional partnerships and pilot interventions to be identified during preparation would also be supported.

Component 3: Regional Program Development (\$450,000). This component will integrate the results of Component 1 and 2, carry out consultations with additional counterpart countries, stakeholders and donors to design a large global program for the Africa region to address risks associated with management of harmful chemicals and hazardous waste. Countries that face serious environmental health and socio-economic risks associated with management of harmful chemicals and hazardous waste will be invited to form part of the program using various sources of funding such as IDA funding, GEF, other donors funding and commitments.

D. Project location and salient physical characteristics relevant to the safeguard analysis (if known)

The proposed TA does not have a specific location. The TA would include a number of analytical studies, training programs and assessment focusing on analyzing environmental and social implications of chemicals in the region. The main output of the TA will cover major safeguards aspects of proposed program of intervention. Under the TA, there will be no investments on the ground, nor will it have any civil works and purchase of goods. The project output will include reports, consultations and capacity building.

E. Borrowers Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies

The GEF MSP will be executed by the Bank who will issue several contracts to consultants and national and international institutions that will carry out the different components. A core Bank team with staff from the Africa Region and the Anchor unit in close consultation with the GEF secretariat and other UN agencies will coordinate these scoping, training and consultation activities. The project will be implemented by the Africa Environment, Natural Resources, Water and Disaster Risk Management (AFTN3) unit of the Sustainable Development Department of the Africa Region.

F. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Paula Lytle (AFTCS) – To be confirmed

Ruma Tavorath (SASDI)

II. SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

Safeguard Policies	Triggered ?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	The TA does not involve any direct interventions on the ground or investments in civil works that are likely to cause any adverse environmental or social affect. However, as part of analytical work in selected countries (that would be identified during the course of TA in a consultative manner), a screening procedures will be developed as an Environment and Social Framework (ESMF) that would identify critical environment and social risks and impacts; consultation and disclosure procedures, including appropriate environment and social assessment procedures to be followed before finalizing any site specific intervention in future.
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	No	There is no expectation of any physical work on the ground
Forests OP/BP 4.36	No	Not relevant
Pest Management OP 4.09	No	Not relevant

Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	No	There is no expectation of any physical work on the ground
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	There is no expectation of any physical work on the ground
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	No	There is no expectation of any physical work on the ground
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	Not relevant
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	Not relevant
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	Not relevant

III. SAFEGUARD PREPARATION PLAN

Tentative target date for preparing the PAD Stage ISDS:

- A. 10/15/2013

Time frame for launching and completing the safeguard-related studies that may be needed.

- B. **The specific studies and their timing should be specified in the PAD-stage ISDS.**

The team is proposing a category B for this project given the fact this project is a Technical Assistance grant to conduct studies, workshops and capacity building activities with no physical location where the investments will be done. There are no civil works. This is a grant that can be considered like a preparation facility for a larger GEF program. The site (s) in countries (to be identified later) for anticipated investment program will be assessed during the course of this TA. Therefore, the team will prepare an Environment and Social management Framework (ESMF) as an output of the TA that would define the procedures and system for screening of key environmental and social risks in planning site specific investments to mitigate environment and social concerns resulting from replacing/reducing the use of mercury in artesanal gold mining and environmental health risks of chemicals in urban waste dump sites. At the stage of appraisal of this TA, Terms of Reference for the analytical work and to prepare an Environment and Social management Framework (ESMF) will be submitted and disclosed.

IV. APPROVALS – Not yet obtained

Task Team Leader:	Name: Sanjay Srivastava	
<i>Approved By:</i>		
Regional Safeguards Coordinator:	Name: Alexandra Bezeredi, Regional Safeguards Advisor (AFTSG)	Date: August , 2013
Sector Manager:	Name: Magda Lovei, Sector Manager - AFTN3	Date August 27, 2013

¹ Reminder: The Bank's Disclosure Policy requires that safeguard-related documents be disclosed before appraisal (i) at the InfoShop and (ii) in country, at publicly accessible locations and in a form and language that are accessible to potentially affected persons.