



**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: | Development of Minamata Initial Assessments (MIA) in the Caribbean (Belize) | | |
| Country(ies): | Belize | GEF Project ID: ¹ | 9991 |
| GEF Agency(ies): | UN Environment | GEF Agency Project ID: | 01626 |
| Other Executing Partner(s): | The Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Caribbean (BCRC-Caribbean) | Submission Date: | (date) |
| GEF Focal Area (s): | Chemicals and Wastes | Project Duration (Months) | 24 |
| Type of Report: | Minamata Initial Assessment | Expected Report Submission to Convention | 24 months after receipt of the first cash advance |

A. PROJECT FRAMEWORK*

Project Objective: Ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention contributes to the protection of human health and the environment from the risks posed by unintentional and intentional emissions and releases as well as unsound use and management of mercury

| Project Component | Project Outputs | (in \$) | |
|--|--|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | | GEF Project Financing | Confirmed Co-financing ² |
| 1. Global technical support and capacity building for MIAs development | 1.1 Technical assistance provided to Belize to develop the MIA while building sustainable foundations for its future implementation | 7,500 | N/A |
| 2. Development and validation of the Minamata Initial Assessment | 2.1 Identified and strengthened Project Steering Committee and National Coordination Mechanism dealing with mercury management that will guide the project implementation | 9,125 | N/A |
| | 2.2 National institutional and regulatory framework and national capacity on mercury management assessed | 25,750 | N/A |
| | 2.3 National inventory of mercury sources and releases developed using the UN Environment Mercury Toolkit Level II and strategy for the identification of mercury contaminated sites developed | 36,625 | N/A |
| | 2.4 Challenges, needs and opportunities to implement the Minamata Convention assessed and recommendations to ratify and implement the Minamata Convention developed | 10,728 | N/A |

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.

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|--|---------|-----|
| | 2.5 | MIA validated by national stakeholders | 21,636 | N/A |
| 3. Monitoring and Evaluation | 3.1 | Status of project implementation and probity of use of funds accessed on a regular basis and communicated to the GEF | 10,000 | N/A |
| | 3.2 | Independent terminal evaluation developed and made publicly available | 15,000 | N/A |
| Subtotal | | | 136,364 | N/A |
| Project Management Cost | | | 13,636 | N/A |
| Total Project Cost | | | 150,000 | N/A |

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

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

| Sources of Co-financing | Name of Co-financier | Type of Co-financing | Amount (\$) |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Total Co-financing | | | t |

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) ^{a)} | Total (c)=a+b |
| UN Environment | GEFTF | GRULAC Region – One Caribbean country | Chemicals and Wastes | Mercury | 150,000 | 14,250 | 164,250 |
| Total GEF Resources | | | | | 150,000 | 14,250 | 164,250 |

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

PART II: ENABLING ACTIVITY JUSTIFICATION

A. ENABLING ACTIVITY BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Minamata Convention on Mercury is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment that was adopted in January 2013 and entered into force on 16 August 2017. The Minamata Convention on Mercury identifies and describes in its Article 13 the financial mechanism to support Parties from developing countries and countries with economies in transition to implement the Convention. It identifies two entities that will function as the Financial Mechanism:

- a) The Global Environment Facility Trust Fund; and
- b) A specific international Programme to support capacity-building and technical assistance.

As such, the GEF Assembly, at its fifth meeting, held in May 2014, agreed to an allocation in its sixth replenishment of \$141 million for work under the Convention, out of which \$30 million is allocated to support enabling activities and promote their integration into national budgets and planning processes, national and sector policies and actions and global monitoring.

At its sixth session held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 3 to 7 November 2014 the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) applied a revised eligibility criterion in providing financial support to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for activities under the Minamata Convention on Mercury. It requested the eligibility for funding be extended for enabling activities to non-signatories to the Convention, provided that any such State is taking meaningful steps towards becoming a party. Such request was approved by the Council of the GEF in January 2015.

The revised GEF initial guidelines for enabling activities for the Minamata Convention on Mercury circulated to the GEF Council members in January 2014 presented in its Section 1 the initial guidelines for the development of “Minamata Initial Assessment activities” (MIA). These guidelines were revised by the INC 6 consistent with the resolution adopted by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury. This project follows these guidelines revised by the INC 6.

This project is aimed at facilitating the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention by providing key national stakeholders in Belize with the scientific and technical knowledge and tools needed for that purpose.

Belize will benefit from new and updated information about the mercury situation in the country and from increased capacity in managing the risks of mercury. The sharing of experiences and lessons learned throughout the project is also expected to be an important contribution to other similar countries.

The project also contributes to the achievement of the expected accomplishment A under the UN Environment biennial Programme of Work (PoW) 2016-2017 “countries increasingly have the necessary institutional capacity and policy instruments to manage chemicals and waste soundly, including the implementation of related provisions in the multilateral environmental agreements”. Through this project, UN Environment will provide national stakeholders with the policy and technical instruments needed to ratify the Minamata Convention and will strengthen the national institutional capacity to its early implementation.

BELIZE

Belize was not in a position to sign the Minamata Convention on Mercury before it was closed to signature on 09 October 2014. However, the Government supports the objective of the Minamata convention to protect human health and the environment from anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds and has taken a number of steps at the national level towards assessing its readiness to access the Minamata Convention. The main activities are summarized below:

- Belize participated in the Latin America and the Caribbean consultation in preparation for the second session of the INC to prepare a globally legally binding instrument on mercury on November 23-26, 2010;
- On October 31 to November 04, 2011- Belize attended the third session of the INC on Mercury;
- Belize participated in the Latin America and the Caribbean region in preparation for the fifth session of the intergovernmental negotiating committee to prepare a globally legally binding instrument on Mercury, on November 26-29, 2012;
- Belize attended the sixth session of the intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC6) which was held from 3 to 7 November 2014 at the premises of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in Bangkok, Thailand. The session was preceded by regional consultations on 2 November 2014;
- During October 27-31, 2014, Belize also attended the Technical and Practical training course on POPs and Mercury Analysis on Environmental and Biological Matrices;
- Belize also participated in the Sub-regional workshop for Central American Countries in support for the ratification and early implantation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, on November 26-28, 2014. A Road Map was developed for this process;
- In 2015 Belize developed a National Chemical Profile which is an update to Belize's National Profile for the Management of Chemicals and Waste, entitled "A Belize SAICM Initiative Mainstreaming into Development Plans of the Sound Management of Chemicals Priorities for Key Development Sectors in Belize and Associated Sound Management of Chemicals Governance Project". In this report mercury was flagged as a medium concern for the pollution of waterways and chemical residues in food. There was insufficient information available as it relates to mercury. Consequently, there is a need to assess the impact of mercury in the environment and facilitate the development of mechanisms to control negative effects on human health and the environment.

According to the Global Mercury Assessment 2013³, the four main sources of mercury emissions in Belize are linked to Waste and other losses due to breakage and disposal in landfill, Cremation, Incineration of waste (large incinerators) and Non-ferrous metal production – large scale gold production.

³ <http://www.amap.no/documents/doc/technical-background-report-for-the-global-mercury-assessment-2013/848>

Table 1: The three main sources of mercury emissions in Belize

| Sector/Activity | Estimate (min) | Emission estimate (Kg) | Estimate (max) |
|---|----------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Waste and other losses due to breakage and disposal in landfill, etc. | 1.226 | 4.717 | 15.565 |
| Cremation | 0.052 | 0.212 | 0.712 |
| Incineration of waste (large incinerators) | 0.004 | 0.015 | 0.048 |
| Non-ferrous metal production – large scale gold production | 0.001 | 0.198 | 0.515 |

National Priorities:

- Conduct a national inventory of mercury sources and releases developed using the UN Environment Mercury Toolkit Level II and strategy for the identification of mercury contaminated sites;
- Develop an action plan for effective implementation of the Minamata Convention into national development plans;
- Develop national institutional and regulatory framework and national capacity on mercury management;
- Development an effective and efficient monitoring plan to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

Coordination with other Relevant Activities:

- Medical Waste-Pilot – is a National Demonstration Project on Medical Waste Management which is a GEF funded project with the implementing agency being UNIDO and executed by BCRC-Caribbean. The aim is to reduce the release of unintentionally produced Persistent Organic Pollutant through the use of Best Available Technologies/Best Environmental Practices. A waste generation pattern assessment will be undertaken to identify medical waste disposal methods / technologies and likely quantities as well as develop medical waste projections. The initial mercury inventory will designed to complement this activity.

Legislation:

Until the enactment of the Environmental Protection Act in 1992, Belize had no comprehensive environmental protection legislation. The Environmental Protection Act established the Department of the Environment (DOE), and entrusted it the responsibility to monitor the implementation of the Act and subsequent Regulations and to take necessary action to enforce the provisions of the Act and Regulations. The enabling legislation provides the Government with comprehensive environmental protection authority it needs in order to address modern environmental pollution problems. The Act grants the Department of the Environment broad regulatory and enforcement authority for the prevention and control of environmental pollution, conservation and management of natural resources, and environmental impact assessment.

The Act became effective January 1993 and has since been amended in 1998, but much remains to be done to ensure effective implementation, including the preparation of necessary implementation regulations. The Environmental Protection Act entrusted the Department of the Environment with a broad range of functions relating to the protection of the environment, including the assessment of water pollution, the coordination of activities relating to the discharge

of wastes, the licensing of activities that may cause water pollution, the registration of sources of pollution and the carrying out of research and investigations as to the causes, nature and extent of water pollution, and the necessary prevention and control measures.

The Department of the Environment is responsible for the enforcement of several Regulations made under the Environmental Protection Act. These include the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (S.I. 107 of 1995), the Environmental Protection (Effluent Limitations) Regulations (S.I. 94 of 1995) and the Pollution Regulations (S.I. 56 of 1996).

In April 2009, the Environmental Protection Act was amended primarily to provide for greater environmental control and management of the petroleum industry, to make improved provisions for the protection of the Belize Barrier Reef System, to establish an environmental management fund, to provide for out-of-court settlement in appropriate cases, and to provide for the issue of violation tickets for pollution offences.

The Effluent Limitations Regulations came into force in 1996, and were intended to control and monitor discharges of effluent into any inland waters or the marine environment of Belize. These Regulations prohibited the discharges of effluent from new and altered point sources. The Effluent Limitations Regulations established a licensing system for discharging effluents under specific conditions. The main objective of this licensing system was to have industries improve in their treatment of effluent before discharging into the environment. The Effluent Limitations Regulations also established the requirement for the treatment of effluent, as well as limitations or standards for physical and chemical parameters to be monitored for various industries.

In August 2009, the Effluent Limitations Regulations were amended to primarily include provisions for the treatment of domestic wastewater and the categorization of Class I and II Waters that differentiate waters with unique ecological characteristics that are sensitive to impacts of domestic wastewater. This amendment also made improvements for effluent standards for both industrial and domestic effluent.

The Department of the Environment, through the Pollution Regulations, has developed mechanisms to monitor and control air, noise, water, and land pollution. These Regulations establish the prohibition of releases into the environment of contaminants, unless done so with a permit issued by the Department of the Environment and at acceptable levels of contaminants from certain installations. The Pollution Regulations also establish the prohibition of industries operating and emitting contaminants into the environment, without a permit from the DOE. Powers of the DOE to control pollution includes the requirement that owners, occupiers and other agents clean up and abate pollution. In order to encourage voluntary compliance, the Department of the Environment is empowered to develop an environmental incentive programme, as well as a "facility environmental audit programme" as a comprehensive investigation and evaluation system designed for the detecting and preventing of violations of environmental requirements or the commission of pollution related offences.

In June 2002, the Pollution Regulations were amended to include, among other things, issues related to the commitments made under the Montreal Protocol on Ozone Depleting Substances. The major changes made were the prohibition on the imports of equipment using ozone depleting substances and the establishment of a licensing system for the importation of these substances.

Again, in August 2009, the Pollution Regulations were amended basically to allow Belize to strengthen a requirement of the Montreal Protocol related to the licensing system for the importation of refrigerants into the country for data gathering purposes only. This amendment also complements the Act in addressing the petroleum industry, including refining.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations describe in detail the processes involved in the preparation and evaluation of environmental impact assessments (EIA). Screening of projects, programmes or activities that could have significant negative impact on the environment is done through the Environmental Impact Assessment Process, as required by the Regulations. Projects are divided into three categories as a guideline to determine what types of projects require an EIA. The Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations establish the minimum content and the format required of an EIA report. A National Environmental Appraisal Committee (NEAC) is also established for the review of all EIA reports and its composition includes both Government and Non-Government representatives.

In March 2007, the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations were amended primarily to institute an Environmental Compliance Plan for approved projects, a Limited Level Environmental Study, reconstitute the membership of the NEAC, outline the Appeal Process with the establishment of a Tribunal, establish environmental application fees for projects, and to improve the Schedules with the different categories of projects.

The Hazardous Waste Regulations were developed in the light of concerns arising from the in-country and trans-boundary movement of hazardous wastes. These Regulations were passed in August 2009 to address the overall management of hazardous wastes including storage, transportation, treatment and disposal. Based on its characteristics, mercury can be considered to fall within the ambit of this regulation; however, recognizing the uniqueness of mercury, legislation would need to be promulgated to address issues related to the transportation, storage use and final disposal of mercury and mercury related products.

Research

Global levels of available methylmercury (MeHg) in aquatic ecosystems have increased dramatically over the past century. Recent findings in temperate North America have shown that biological mercury (Hg) hotspots exist, and these hotspots can be related to local emission and effluent sources. Life history traits of the goliath grouper *Epinephelus itajara* place it as a species at high risk of adverse effects from environmental Hg loads. Muscle Hg analyses for 57 goliath groupers sampled in southern Belize reveal that 40% exceed United States governmental advisory criteria for human health; all individual grouper exceeding these criteria were >55 cm total length. People, particularly from coastal areas in southern Belize, commonly consume goliath grouper. The regular consumption of goliath grouper by sensitive groups of people, such as pregnant women, should be closely monitored, particularly in biological Hg hotspots. Stable isotope analysis for $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ in goliath grouper indicates a broad prey base with a relatively high trophic status. Through bio-magnification and bioaccumulation of MeHg, older individuals are therefore at greatest risk of physiological impairment, particularly when performing complex and coordinated behaviors, such as those associated with spawning aggregations. Potential adverse effects of MeHg loads on goliath grouper, including predator avoidance, impaired growth rates, and lowered reproductive success, warrant investigation. This is particularly urgent for the critically endangered goliath grouper because of recent range-wide population declines, loss of spawning aggregations, and our findings, which present compelling evidence that tropical marine ecosystems are sensitive to Hg inputs *Mercury concentrations in the goliath grouper of Belize: an anthropogenic stressor of concern*. Available from:

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/315212796 Mercury concentrations in the goliath grouper of Belize an anthropogenic stressor of concern](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/315212796_Mercury_concentrations_in_the_goliath_grouper_of_Belize_an_anthropogenic_stressor_of_concern) [accessed Oct 4, 2017].

B. ENABLING ACTIVITY GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIVITIES

Project Objective: Ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention contributes to the protection of human health and the environment from the risks posed by unintentional and intentional emissions and releases of mercury, as well as the unsound use and management of mercury.

Project Components and Activities: The development of the MIA provides support to Belize for the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention and has three components indicated below.

Component 1: Global technical support for MIA development

Belize will benefit from and contribute to the work the Global Mercury Partnership is already accomplishing under other Minamata Initial Assessments. The technical expertise and tools provided will respond directly to country needs identified. With this additional support, Belize will be able to obtain feedback and ensure rapid response to its queries on the development of the MIA and will also make full use of the existing capacities and expertise in the region and globally.

Expected outputs and planned activities:

1.1 Technical assistance provided to Belize to develop the MIA while building sustainable foundations for its future implementation.

1.1.1 Quality check of final MIA developed;

1.1.2 Enhancement of the UN Environment Hg toolkit, including translation to other UN languages;

1.1.3 Undertake knowledge management and information exchange through the Global Mercury Partnership website.

Component 2: Development and validation of the Minamata Initial Assessment

This component seeks to complement an already established Project Steering Committee (PSC) which will facilitate oversight of the project. It is envisaged that the PSC will evaluate the overall progress of the project, provide technical backstopping and take the necessary measures to ensure that the project is achieving its objectives. The PSC already comprises of national focal points representatives from each of the participating countries in the Regional MIA Projects 1 and 2 (GEF ID 9865⁴ and 9455⁵) and the BCRC-Caribbean Project Management Unit. It will now also comprise of a focal point from Belize.

The PSC will meet on an as-needed basis throughout the course of the project. It is anticipated that the PSC meetings will utilize technology such as SKYPE or WebEx in order to facilitate remote meetings.

⁴ Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada and St. Vincent and Grenadines.

⁵ Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis and St. Lucia.

Belize will also establish a National Coordination Mechanism for Mercury in the form of a National Working Group (NWG) (such as the mechanisms already in existence for current chemicals management like the National Coordination Group for POPs and/or for SAICM) to coordinate and guide the project implementation. The NWG will seek synergies and join activities with existing and relevant planned chemical related activities. Additionally, it will identify existing competencies and roles of institutions and organizations in chemicals management, particularly on mercury. Sectors to participate in the process as part of the Minamata NWG will include representatives from emergencies, health, environment, labor, finance, economy, industry, mining and energy, external affairs and planning sectors, trade unions and civil society organizations.

During this project component implementation, the MIA NWG and its Terms of Reference will be formalized and reinforced in Belize. The Terms of Reference will include information on members, the frequency of meetings and the modality of work and roles in the project. The Terms of Reference for the NWG will seek for a balanced structure, including representatives from the civil society and mercury affected communities. A gender specialist will be identified in the country to participate actively in the NWG. This project component also aims at enhancing stakeholders' involvement and commitment to the development of the MIA and gaining political support for the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury in Belize.

After the establishment of the NWG, this component will also review and assess the national capacities (technical, administrative, infrastructure and regulatory) on mercury management. This will be aided by a legal consultant who will analyze the policy, legislative and regulatory framework related to mercury management. This review and assessment will result in a preliminary identification of national needs and gaps for the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention. The assessments produced under this component will provide Belize with strong arguments for the ratification of the Minamata Convention and prioritization of mercury management on the national agenda. Once the Convention is ratified, this component's outputs will be essential to comply with the reporting obligations of the Convention and to monitor its implementation. This component will ensure that the gender issues and the interests of vulnerable populations are fully taken into account in the assessments. The Natural Resources Defence Council (NRDC) Checklist of legal authorities to implement the Minamata Convention on Mercury is to be used to support the institutional assessment.

The national assessment will be complemented by improved data on national mercury sources, emissions and releases. The UN Environment Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Mercury Releases has been revised in 2013. Belize will apply the Level II version, which is a comprehensive description of all mercury sources, as well as a quantitative analysis of mercury. More specifically, the mercury toolkit will assist Belize to address: a) Mercury supply sources and trade (Article 3); (b) Mercury-added products (Article 4); (c) Manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used (Article 5); (d) Artisanal and small-scale gold mining (Article 7); (e) Emissions (Article 8); and (f) Releases (Article 9). It will also include a description of mercury storage conditions.

An international/regional consultant will analyse the inventory data in a timely fashion and will train the National Project Coordinator (Inventory) (NPC) in Belize throughout the whole inventory process. The NPC's main role will be to carry out the on-the-ground daily activities involved in the collection and input of data into the inventory. The NPC's Terms of Reference will be formalized and reinforced in Belize. The aim is to ensure the high quality and comparability of the final inventory with others produced by other countries and build national capacity to use the UN Environment Toolkit. This

project component will also analyse existing information on mercury contaminated sites and will formulate a strategy to identify and assess mercury contaminated sites, using internationally agreed or any existing criteria successfully used elsewhere.

Taking into consideration the assessment of national capacities, infrastructure and regulatory framework, and the mercury inventory, this project component will be completed by an assessment of the challenges, needs and opportunities to implement the Convention on priority sectors. The main output under this project component is a needs assessment and further recommendations to implement the Minamata Convention on Mercury, taking into consideration the role of all key players and their responsibilities, in particular gender concerns, and the special needs of vulnerable groups. The MIAs will have a chapter with a socio-economic assessment and recommendations to approach the social and gender aspects of mercury exposure.

Finally, during this project component the draft MIA will be reviewed and validated by national stakeholders. This process of wide consultation will likely include NWG meetings, workshops with key sectors and stakeholders, written communications and discussions leading to a final MIA document that will allow the Government to ratify the Convention based on a sound national assessment of the mercury situation. Awareness raising and dissemination of key MIA outputs will also be performed under this project component under activity 2.6. Lessons learned identified throughout this project and, in particular in the final results/lessons learned workshops, will also be made available and will assist in identifying opportunities for regional/global cooperation and synergies between countries working on their MIAs.

Expected outputs and planned activities:

2.1 Identified and strengthened Project Steering Committee and National Coordination Mechanism dealing with mercury management that will guide the project implementation.

2.1.1 Organize one (1) National Training and Inception workshop to raise awareness and to define the scope and objective and to have common understanding of the MIA process, including:

- a) Develop Terms of References for the National Coordination Mechanism;*
- b) Develop and implement national awareness-raising and outreach strategies to enhance understanding of the need for sound mercury management and for dissemination of the validated results of the MIA Report;*
- c) Identify key stakeholders and assign roles.*

2.1.2 Conduct a national assessment on existing sources of information (studies), compile and make them publicly available;

2.1.3 Organize one (1) regional lessons learned workshop and identify regional priorities for the early implementation of the Minamata Convention.

2.2 National institutional and regulatory framework and national capacities on mercury management assessed.

2.2.1 Assess key national stakeholders, their roles in mercury management and monitoring and institutional interest and capacities;

2.2.2 Analyze the existing regulatory framework, identify gaps and identify the regulatory reforms needed for the sound management of mercury in Belize.

2.3 National inventories of mercury sources and releases developed using the UN Environment Mercury Toolkit Level II and strategy for the identification of mercury contaminated sites developed.

2.3.1 Develop a qualitative and quantitative inventory of all mercury sources, emissions and releases;

2.3.2 Develop a national strategy to identify mercury-contaminated sites.

2.4 Challenges, needs and opportunities to implement the Minamata Convention assessed and recommendations to ratify and implement the Minamata Convention developed.

2.4.1 Conduct a national and sectoral assessment on challenges, needs and opportunities to implement the Convention in key priority sectors;

2.4.2 Develop a report on recommendations to ratify and implement the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

2.5 MIA validated by national stakeholders.

2.5.1 Draft and validate MIA Report;

- a. Draft National MIA Reports following the suggested structure and contents approved in 2016 by the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) agencies⁶;*
- b. Organize one (1) National Results Workshops for dissemination of results to relevant stakeholders for validation;*
- c. Validate National MIA Report.*

Component 3: Monitoring and Evaluation

Day-to-day project management and monitoring will be the responsibility of the Executing Agency. The project monitoring will start with the national inception workshop and the development of a detailed work-plan, budget and detailed monitoring and evaluation plan with key stakeholders. The Executing Agency will develop and submit to UN Environment technical and financial reports every quarter describing the progress according to the work-plan and budget, identifying obstacles that occurred during implementation and the remediation actions to be taken.

UN Environment will monitor the project progress according to the work-plan on a regular basis and provide guidance to the Executing Agency to progress according to the work-plan. Yearly during the GEF Project Implementation Review (PIR), UN Environment will provide information about the status of the project implementation and the disbursements made.

The terminal report and final statement of accounts developed by the Executing Agency at the end of the project closes the Executing Agency monitoring activities for this project. The final financial audit will review the use of project funds against budget and assess probity of expenditure and transactions. The final audit is to be developed by an independent audit authority (a recognized firm of public accountants or, for governments, a government auditor). The final audit is to be sent to UN Environment up to six months after the technical completion of the project.

Templates for the quarterly progress and financial report, terminal report and final statement of accounts will be provided by UN Environment. There is no template for the final financial audit.

⁶ IOMC agencies include: FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO, UNITAR, WHO, World Bank, and OECD

An independent terminal review (TE) will take place at the end of project implementation, latest 6 months after completion of the project. The TE will provide an independent assessment of project performance (in terms of relevance, effectiveness and efficiency), and determine the likelihood of impact and sustainability. It will have two primary purposes: (i) to provide evidence of results to meet accountability requirements, and (ii) to promote learning, feedback, and knowledge sharing through results and lessons learned among UN Environment and executing partners – BCRC-Caribbean in particular. The direct costs of the evaluation will be charged against the project evaluation budget. The TE report will be sent to project stakeholders for comments. Formal comments on the report will be shared by the independent external consultant in an open and transparent manner. Project performance will be assessed against standard evaluation criteria using a six-point rating scheme. The final determination of project ratings will be made by the independent external consultant when the evaluation report is finalised. The evaluation report will be publicly disclosed and will be followed by a recommendation compliance process.

Expected outputs and planned activities:

3.1 Status of project implementation and probity of use of funds accessed on a regular basis and communicated to the GEF.

3.1.1 Executing Agency develops and submits technical and financial reports quarterly to UN Environment using UN Environment’s templates;

3.1.2 UN Environment communicates project progress to the GEF yearly during the PIR using GEF’s template;

3.1.3 Develop and submit terminal report and final statement of accounts to UN Environment at project end;

3.1.4 Submit final financial audit to UN Environment.

3.2 Independent terminal evaluation developed and made publicly available.

3.2.1 Terminal evaluation is carried out and made publicly available in the UN Environment website

The Monitoring and Evaluation Plan is detailed below:

Table 2: Monitoring and Evaluation Budget

| M&E activity | Purpose | Responsible Party | Budget (US\$)*1 | Time-frame |
|-----------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| National inception workshop | Awareness raising, building stakeholder engagement, detailed work planning with key groups, defining key sectors in Belize | UN Environment Economy Division Chemicals and Health, BCRC-Caribbean | 0 | Within two (2) months of project start |
| Inception report | Provides implementation plan for progress monitoring | BCRC-Caribbean PMU | Included in budget for Inception Workshop | Within four weeks of the Inception Workshop |
| Technical Progress reports | Describes progress against annual work plan for the reporting period and provides activities planned for the next period | BCRC-Caribbean | 0 | Bi-annually |
| Financial Progress | Documents project expenditure according to | BCRC-Caribbean | 0 | Bi-annually |

| | | | | |
|---|---|--|---------------|---|
| reports | established project budget and allocations | | | |
| Project Review by Project Steering Committee | Assesses progress, effectiveness of operations and technical outputs; Recommends adaptation where necessary and confirms implementation plan. | BCRC-Caribbean | 0 | Month 1 or 2, 12 (TC) and 24 |
| Terminal report | Reviews effectiveness against implementation plan highlights technical outputs identifies lessons learned and likely design approaches for future projects, assesses likelihood of achieving design outcomes | BCRC-Caribbean | 0 | At the end of project implementation (Month 24) |
| Independent Terminal evaluation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviews effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness of project implementation, coordination mechanism and outputs; • Identifies lessons learned and likely remedial actions for future projects; • Highlights technical achievements and assesses against prevailing benchmarks. | UN Environment – Economy Division, Independent external consultant | 15,000 | At the end of project implementation (Month 24) |
| Independent Financial Audit | Reviews use of project funds against budget and assesses probity of expenditure and transactions. | BCRC-Caribbean | 10,000 | At the end of project implementation (Month 24) |
| Total indicative Monitoring & Evaluation cost*¹ | | | 25,000 | |

*Project steering committee meetings (3) and inception workshop (1) will be carried out back to back with other technical meetings, such as the regional initial training and inception workshop (1) and through teleconference, therefore cost will be considered as “zero”.

Project Stakeholders:

This project will involve stakeholders at two levels: international and national. At the international level and through its Project Steering Committee, the project will involve donors to this project, countries participating in the Regional MIA projects in the Caribbean, Belize, and relevant stakeholders.

At the national level, relevant national stakeholders, international intergovernmental agencies, as well as donors, private sectors, national representations of WHO and UN organizations NGOs, etc., will be invited to participate in the project (e.g. as part of the National Coordination Mechanism). In addition, participating ministries with responsibility for the environment will be regularly briefed on the progress made on the project and will also be requested to take action on key project activities (e.g. validation of MIA). All these measures will ensure adequate and effective coordination as well as continuous information exchange among the Implementing Agency (IA), the Executing Agency (EA) and the National co-Executing Partner, donors, and domestic stakeholders in Belize to link to the broader national chemicals management agenda. Table 3 below shows a preliminary list of domestic stakeholders in Belize.

Other key stakeholders, in particular civil society and industry representatives will be identified in the national inception workshop.

Table 3: Preliminary list of stakeholders

| KEY STAKEHOLDERS | ROLE IN THE PROJECT |
|--|--|
| Government Level | |
| Ministry of Natural Resources | Lead agency at the national level for the project implementation |
| Ministry of Health | Regulate dental clinics and mercury related medical equipment |
| Solid Waste Management Authority | Manage and dispose of all solid waste in Belize; provide data on the different types of materials being disposed |
| Mining Unit, Ministry of Natural Resources | Regulate the mining industry, specifically gold mining |
| Geology and Petroleum Department | Regulate petroleum exploration and exploitation activities |
| Customs and Excise Department | Regulate the importation of mercury related medical equipment |
| Private Sector | |
| Importers of Medical equipment | Stakeholder and source of information |
| Gold Mining Companies (e.g. Bioton) | Stakeholder and source of information |
| Private medical facilities | Stakeholder and source of information |
| Belize Chamber of Commerce | Stakeholder and source of information |
| NGOs | |
| Friends for Conservation and Development | Stakeholder, assist in monitoring and data collection |
| Academia | |
| University of Belize | Provide academic knowledge and experience |
| University of West Indies | Provide academic knowledge and experience |

Socioeconomic benefits including consideration of gender dimensions

In most of the countries the reduction of mercury has a special positive impact in poor populations. The financially disadvantaged (and specifically women and children) are often those most affected by the adverse impacts of mercury exposure. Addressing the environmental and health hazards associated with mercury is therefore crucial to ensure that hard won development gains are not compromised.

In coastal countries such as Belize, contaminated seafood is most likely the major pathway of human mercury exposure. The human exposure to mercury in Belize has not yet been assessed, and more detailed studies are still needed⁷. Through the inventory process, and the mapping of key mercury pollution sources, the project will start defining at-risk populations across Belize, together with the development of national priority actions to address such risks. Project activities will also involve consultation with at risk communities with the aim of increasing their understanding about the dangers of mercury exposure and providing communities at risk with clear, practical information to protect themselves.

Regarding gender, the project will ensure there are opportunities for women to contribute to, and benefit from, the project outcomes. A gender specialist will be identified to advise on the project implementation. The final MIA will have a socio economic assessment of the implementation of the Minamata Convention in Belize and the socio economic assessment will include a chapter with the main findings and recommendations to approach the gender dimension of mercury exposure. For instance, it is well known that mercury exposure is particularly concerning for women of childbearing age. Developing organ systems, such as the foetal nervous system, are the most sensitive to the toxic effects of mercury, although nearly all organs are vulnerable.

⁷ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4070745/>

C. DESCRIBE THE ENABLING ACTIVITY AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

The institutional framework for this project is as follows:

Implementing Agency – This project will be implemented by the UN Environment and executed by the BCRC-Caribbean. As the implementing agency UN Environment will be responsible for the overall project supervision, overseeing the project progress through the monitoring and evaluation of project activities and progress reports, including backstopping on technical issues. In close collaboration with the Executing Agency the UN Environment will provide administrative support to the Executing Agency.

UN Environment will support the execution of this project as part of the Mercury Partnership Programme and will provide assistance to signatories to the Minamata Convention and countries taking significant measure to become parties to the Minamata Convention, such as organizing regional/global awareness raising and training workshops and attendance at key meetings. Furthermore, through its programme of work, UN Environment will identify suitable divisions and branches that can provide additional support to Belize which will complement their activities.

Executing Agency – The BCRC- Caribbean will execute and manage the project. The BCRC – Caribbean will be responsible for the day to day activities of the project. The Project Management Unit (PMU) has been established as of April 2016 to deal with the management of all projects undertaken by the BCRC-Caribbean. The BCRC-Caribbean will also be responsible for the recruitment of consultants and facilitate audits of the project. All financial transactions will be carried out in accordance with UN Environment procedures and the BCRC – Caribbean will provide regular administrative, progress and financial reports to the UN Environment. The Project Management Unit will be based at the BCRC – Caribbean office located in Port of Spain, Trinidad. The staff of the BCRC Caribbean includes the Senior Technical Officer, Project Executing Officer and Associate Professionals (2).

Project Steering Committee – This committee will be established and meet during the course of the project and will comprise members from the BCRC- Caribbean, the National Project Coordinators (Inventory) from Belize and the other countries participating in the Regional Caribbean MIAs. The Project Steering Committee will evaluate the progress of the project, providing advice, assessing progress and taking the necessary measures in order to ensure the achievement of the objectives of this project. A National Coordinating Mechanism will be established by Belize to facilitate work in the individual country.

National Coordination Mechanism (National Working Groups) will meet regularly during project implementation. The NWG will include key national stakeholders and will evaluate the progress of the project and will take the necessary measures to guarantee the fulfillment of its goals and objectives. The NWG will take decisions on the project in line with the project objectives and these decisions will be implemented by the Executing Agency.

Global Mercury Partnership (GMP): the partnership works closely with stakeholders to assist in the timely ratification and effective implementation of the Minamata Convention. Reducing mercury use in products and processes and raising awareness of mercury-free alternatives is one of the partnership areas and it supports countries by providing information on best available techniques and best environmental practices and on the conversion of mercury-based processes to non-mercury based processes, among other initiatives. The partnership will ensure Belize has access to all the expertise and experience of its members to implement the project.

A schematic of the proposed implementation arrangements is illustrated below:

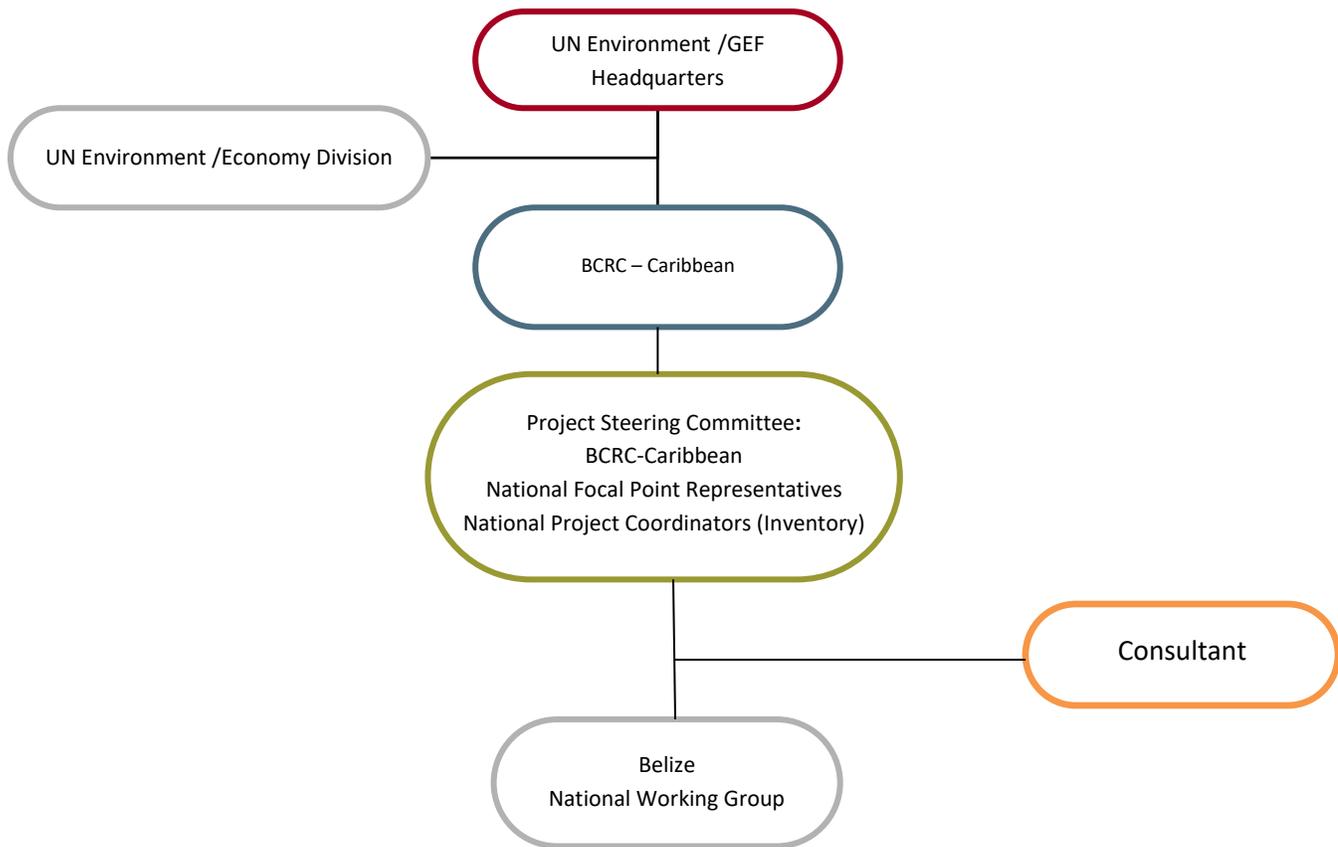


FIGURE 1: Implementation Arrangements

D. DESCRIBE, IF POSSIBLE, THE EXPECTED COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT:

This proposal for funding is a replication of a previously approved project being developed in the Caribbean Region. This project seeks to cover Belize and the previous projects covered eight (8) countries and will therefore position the region to ratify the Minamata Convention and ultimately meet the objectives.

The development of this proposal for funding will draw upon the previous experiences of the already approved project.

By increasing the regions ability to inventory its mercury sources and quantities, the requested funding will be applied in a cost-effective way. A key element to increase the cost effectiveness of this project capitalization on institutional networks built during the development of the previous project and through other waste and chemical projects.

The project will partner with and build on the projects detailed below:

1. Development and Implementation of a Sustainable Management Mechanism for Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in the Caribbean – GEF ID 5558;

2. Mercury Storage and Disposal in the Caribbean: Jamaica, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago – (SSFA/2016/DTIE/Chemicals Branch/BCRC Caribbean);

3. Minamata Initial Assessments for Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago (GEF ID 9865 and GEF ID 9455).

E. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M&E PLAN:

More detailed information about project monitoring and evaluation can be consulted in the project component 3 monitoring and evaluation.

F. EXPLAIN THE DEVIATIONS FROM TYPICAL COST RANGES (WHERE APPLICABLE): N/A

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) |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sharon Ramclam-Young | Chief Executive Officer | MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES | DECEMBER 13, 2018 |

B. CONVENTION PARTICIPATION

| CONVENTION | DATE OF RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION (mm/dd/yyyy) | NATIONAL FOCAL POINT | |
|----------------------|--|--------------------------|---|
| BELIZE | | | |
| UNCBD | 1994-03-30 | MR. WILBER SABIDO | |
| UNFCCC | 29/01/1995 | MS. ANN JOSEPHINE GORDON | |
| UNCCD | 21/10/1998 | MR. PAUL FLOWERS | |
| BASEL CONVENTION | 23/05/1997 | MR. MARTIN ALEGRIA | |
| ROTTERDAM CONVENTION | 20/04/2005 | MR. MARTIN ALEGRIA | DATE OF NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 7 TO THE MINAMATA CONVENTION SECRETARIAT |
| STOCKHOLM CONVENTION | 25/01/2010 | MR. MARTIN ALEGRIA | |

C. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies⁸ 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 |
|---|-----------|----------------------------|--|----------------------|--|
| Kelly West Director, UN Environment GEF Coordination Office | | | Kevin Helps Senior Programme Officer, Chemicals and Health Branch / GEF Operations Economy Division, UN Environment | +254-20- 762-3140 | Kevin.Helps@unep.org |

ANNEXES:

1. CONSULTANTS TO BE HIRED FOR THE ENABLING ACTIVITY WITH GEF FUNDING
2. OFP ENDORSEMENT/CO-FINANCE LETTERS
3. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS CHECKLIST
4. ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS
5. PROJECT SUPERVISION PLAN
6. GEF APPROVED BUDGET
7. MINAMATA INITIAL ASSESSMENT REPORT SUGGESTED STRUCTURE AND CONTENTS MAY 2016)

⁸ GEF policies encompass all managed trust funds, namely: GEFTF, LDCF, and SCCF

Annex 1: Consultants to be hired for the enabling activity with GEF funding

| <i>Position Titles</i> | <i>\$/</i> | <i>Estimated Person Weeks**</i> | <i>GEF (USD)</i> | <i>Tasks To Be Performed</i> |
|---|---------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|--|
| | <i>Person Week*</i> | | | |
| For Project Management | | | | |
| <i>Local</i> | | | | |
| Project Coordinator | 275 | 48 | 13,200 | Project Supervision and Management (position paid 20%) |
| Project financial officer | | | | Assistance with financial project management |
| For Technical Assistance | | | | |
| <i>Local</i> | | | | |
| National consultants for Hg inventories | 375 | 27 | 10,125 | Collect national information needed for the Level 2 inventory |
| National consultant to work on the assessment of national capacity | 375 | 56 | 21,000 | 1. Organization of the national inception workshop; 2. Assessment of the national institutional and regulatory capacity for mercury management; 3. development of gap analysis; and 4; write the final MIA report. |
| Regional/International | | | | |
| International consultant support on Hg inventory | 2500 | 8 | 20,000 | Conduct initial regional workshop and training on the UNEP Toolkit. Provide technical support to national project teams to develop a mercury inventory |
| Justification for travel, if any: Consultants and project coordinator will travel throughout the country to develop the mercury inventory and conduct the national assessments. | | | | |

Annex 2: OFP Endorsement/ Co-finance letter



Ministry of Natural Resources
H.M. Queen Elizabeth II Boulevard, Belmopan, Belize C.A.

Email: minister@naturalresources.gov.bz, ceo@naturalresources.gov.bz,

info@naturalresources.gov.bz

Ph: (501) 802-2711, (501) 802-2630

Fax: (501) 802-2333, (501) 802-2083

My Ref: CEO/MNR/29/17(9)

To : Kelly West
GEF Portfolio Manager
Office for Operations
United Nations Environment Programme
P.O. Box 30552-00100 Nairobi, Kenya
Phone : +254207624147
Email: unepgef@unep.org / Kelly.west@unep.org

Subject: Endorsement for the Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Belize.

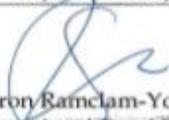
In my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point for Belize, I confirm that the above project proposal (a) is in accordance with my government's national priorities, and our commitment to the relevant global environmental conventions; and (b) was discussed with relevant stakeholders.

I am pleased to endorse the preparation of the above project proposal with the support of the UN Environment. If approved, the proposal will be prepared and implemented by BCRC- Caribbean. I request UN Environment to provide a copy of the project document before it is submitted to the GEF Secretariat for CEO endorsement.

The total financing from GEFTF being requested for this project is US\$164,250, inclusive of project preparation grant (PPG), if any, and Agency fees for project cycle management services associated with the total GEF grant. The financing requested for Belize is detailed in the table below.

| Source of Funds | GEF Agency | Focal Area | Amount (in US\$) | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------|--------|---------|
| | | | Project Preparation | Project | Fee | Total |
| GEFTF | UN Environment | Chemicals and Health | 0 | 150,000 | 14,250 | 164,250 |
| Total GEF Resources | | | 0 | 150,000 | 14,250 | 164,250 |

Sincerely,


Sharon Ramclam-Young
Operational Focal Point
Ministry of Natural Resources

Copy to : Convention Focal Point for Minamata Convention, UN Environment - Economy Division - Chemicals and Health Branch : Jacob Duer, Kevin Helps, Ludovic Bernaudat.

Annex 3: Environmental and Social Safeguards Checklist

I. Project Overview

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Identification | Project ID# |
| Project Title | Development of Minamata Initial Assessments (MIA) in the Caribbean (Belize) |
| Managing Division | Economy Division |
| Type/Location | National, Belize |
| Region | Latin American and Caribbean |
| List Countries | Belize |
| Project Description | The project main objective is to enable Belize in the process of ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention through the assessment of the national regulatory framework for mercury management and national inventory of mercury sources of emissions and releases. |
| Estimated duration of project: | 1 year |
| Estimated cost of the project : | 150,000 USD |

II. Environmental Social and Economic Screening Determination

| A. Summary of the Safeguard Risks Triggered | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Safeguard Standard Triggered by the Project | Impact of Risk ⁹ (1-5) | Probability of Risk (1-5) | Significance of Risk (L, M, H) |
| SS 1: Biodiversity, natural habitat and Sustainable Management of Living Resources | 1 | 1 | L |
| SS 2: Resource Efficiency, Pollution Prevention and Management of Chemicals and Wastes | 1 | 1 | L |
| SS 3: Safety of Dams | 1 | 1 | L |
| SS 4: Involuntary resettlement | 1 | 1 | L |

⁹ Refer to UNEP Environment, Social and Economic Sustainability (ESES): Implementation Guidance Note to assign values to the Impact of Risk and the Probability of Risk to determine the overall significance of Risk (Low, Moderate or High).

III. ESES Principle and Safeguard checklist

(Section III and IV should be retained in UNEP)

Precautionary Approach

The project will take precautionary measures even if some cause and effect relationships are not fully established scientifically and there is risk of causing harm to the people or to the environment.

Human Rights Principle

The project will make an effort to include any potentially affected stakeholders, in particular vulnerable and marginalized groups; from the decision making process that may affect them.

The project will respond to any significant concerns or disputes raised during the stakeholder engagement process.

The project will make an effort to avoid inequitable or discriminatory negative impacts on the quality of and access to resources or basic services, on affected populations, particularly people living in poverty or marginalized or excluded individuals or groups.¹¹

| Screening checklist | Y/N/ Maybe | Comment |
|---|---------------|--|
| Safeguard Standard 1: Biodiversity, natural habitat and Sustainable Management of Living Resources | | |
| Will the proposed project support directly or indirectly any activities that significantly convert or degrade biodiversity and habitat including modified habitat, natural habitat and critical natural habitat? | N | The project will assess the situation with regard to mercury in Belize. It will not take direct action on the ground and therefore it will not have impacts in the biodiversity, natural habitat and management of living resources. |
| Will the proposed project likely convert or degrade habitats that are legally protected? | N | |
| Will the proposed project likely convert or degrade habitats that are officially proposed for protection? (e.g.; National Park, Nature Conservancy, Indigenous Community Conserved Area, (ICCA); etc.) | N | |
| Will the proposed project likely convert or degrade habitats that are identified by authoritative sources for their high conservation and biodiversity value? | N | |
| Will the proposed project likely convert or degrade habitats that are recognized- including by authoritative sources and /or the national and local government entity, as protected and conserved by traditional local communities? | N | |
| Will the proposed project approach possibly not be legally permitted or inconsistent with any officially recognized management plans for the area? | N | |
| Will the proposed project activities result in soils deterioration and land degradation? | N | |
| Will the proposed project interventions cause any changes to the quality or quantity of water in rivers, ponds, lakes or other wetlands? | N | |
| Will the proposed project possibly introduce or utilize any invasive | N | |

¹¹ Prohibited grounds of discrimination include race, ethnicity, gender, age, language, disability, sexual orientation, religion, political or other opinion, national or social or geographical origin, property, birth or other status including as an indigenous person or as a member of a minority. References to “women and men” or similar is understood to include women and men, boys and girls, and other groups discriminated against based on their gender identities, such as transgender people and transsexuals.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| alien species of flora and fauna, whether accidental or intentional? | | |
| Safeguard Standard 2: Resource Efficiency, Pollution Prevention and Management of Chemicals and Wastes | | |
| Will the proposed project likely result in the significant release of pollutants to air, water or soil? | N | The project will assess the situation with regard to mercury in Belize. It will not take direct action on the ground and therefore it will not cause pollution. |
| Will the proposed project likely consume or cause significant consumption of water, energy or other resources through its own footprint or through the boundary of influence of the activity? | N | |
| Will the proposed project likely cause significant generation of Green House Gas (GHG) emissions during and/or after the project? | N | |
| Will the proposed project likely generate wastes, including hazardous waste that cannot be reused, recycled or disposed in an environmentally sound and safe manner? | N | |
| Will the proposed project use, cause the use of, or manage the use of, storage and disposal of hazardous chemicals, including pesticides? | N | |
| Will the proposed project involve the manufacturing, trade, release and/or use of hazardous materials subject to international action bans or phase-outs, such as DDT, PCBs and other chemicals listed in international conventions such as the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants or the Montreal Protocol? | N | |
| Will the proposed project require the procurement of chemical pesticides that is not a component of integrated pest management (IPM) ¹² or integrated vector management (IVM) ¹³ approaches? | N | |
| Will the proposed project require inclusion of chemical pesticides that are included in IPM or IVM but high in human toxicity? | N | |
| Will the proposed project have difficulty in abiding to FAO's International Code of Conduct ¹⁴ in terms of handling, storage, application and disposal of pesticides? | N | |
| Will the proposed project potentially expose the public to hazardous materials and substances and pose potentially serious risk to human health and the environment? | N | |
| Safeguard Standard 3: Safety of Dams | | |
| Will the proposed project involve constructing a new dam(s)? | N | The project will assess the situation with regard to mercury in Belize. It will not take direct action on the ground, which includes the construction |
| Will the proposed project involve rehabilitating an existing dam(s)? | N | |
| Will the proposed project activities involve dam safety operations? | N | |

¹² "Integrated Pest Management (IPM) means the careful consideration of all available pest control techniques and subsequent integration of appropriate measures that discourage the development of pest populations and keep pesticides and other interventions to levels that are economically justified and reduce or minimize risks to human health and the environment. IPM emphasizes the growth of a healthy crop with the least possible disruption to agro-ecosystems and encourages natural pest control mechanisms <http://www.fao.org/agriculture/crops/thematic-sitemap/theme/pests/ipm/en/>

¹³ "IVM is a rational decision-making process for the optimal use of resources for vector control. The approach seeks to improve the efficacy, cost-effectiveness, ecological soundness and sustainability of disease-vector control. The ultimate goal is to prevent the transmission of vector-borne diseases such as malaria, dengue, Japanese encephalitis, leishmaniasis, schistosomiasis and Chagas disease." (http://www.who.int/neglected_diseases/vector_ecology/ivm_concept/en/)

¹⁴ Find more information from http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/agphome/documents/Pests_Pesticides/Code/CODE_2014Sep_ENG.pdf

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| | | or rehabilitation of dams. |
| Safeguard Standard 4: Involuntary resettlement | | |
| Will the proposed project likely involve full or partial physical displacement or relocation of people? | N | The project will assess the situation with regard to mercury in Belize. It will not take direct action on the ground and therefore it will not cause involuntary settlement. |
| Will the proposed project involve involuntary restrictions on land use that deny a community the use of resources to which they have traditional or recognizable use rights? | N | |
| Will the proposed project likely cause restrictions on access to land or use of resources that are sources of livelihood? | N | |
| Will the proposed project likely cause or involve temporary/permanent loss of land? | N | |
| Will the proposed project likely cause or involve economic displacements affecting their crops, businesses, income generation sources and assets? | N | |
| Will the proposed project likely cause or involve forced eviction? | N | |
| Will the proposed project likely affect land tenure arrangements, including communal and/or customary/traditional land tenure patterns negatively? | N | |
| Safeguard Standard 5: Indigenous peoples¹⁵ | | |
| Will indigenous peoples be present in the proposed project area or area of influence? | N | The project will assess the situation with regard to mercury in Belize. It will not take direct action on the ground. If the desk study involve consultation with indigenous peoples, the Executing Agency will ensure their representatives are previously informed and agree to provide information on mercury contamination and exposure. |
| Will the proposed project be located on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples? | N | |
| Will the proposed project likely affect livelihoods of indigenous peoples negatively through affecting the rights, lands and territories claimed by them? | N | |
| Will the proposed project involve the utilization and/or commercial development of natural resources on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples? | N | |
| Will the project negatively affect the development priorities of indigenous peoples defined by them? | N | |
| Will the project potentially affect the traditional livelihoods, physical and cultural survival of indigenous peoples? | N | |
| Will the project potentially affect the Cultural Heritage of indigenous peoples, including through the commercialization or use of their traditional knowledge and practices? | N | |
| Safeguard Standard 6: Labor and working conditions | | |
| Will the proposed project involve the use of forced labor and child labor? | N | No |
| Will the proposed project cause the increase of local or regional unemployment? | N | |
| Safeguard Standard 7: Cultural Heritage | | |
| Will the proposed project potentially have negative impact on objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values and archaeological sites that are internationally recognized or legally protected? | N | The project will assess the situation with regard to mercury in Belize. It will not take direct action on the ground and therefore it will not impact the national cultural heritage. |
| Will the proposed project rely on or profit from tangible cultural heritage (e.g., tourism)? | N | |
| Will the proposed project involve land clearing or excavation with the possibility of encountering previously undetected tangible cultural heritage? | N | |

¹⁵ Refer to the Toolkit for the application of the UNEP Indigenous Peoples Policy Guidance for further information.

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Will the proposed project involve in land clearing or excavation? | N | |
| Safeguard Standard 8: Gender equity | | |
| Will the proposed project likely have inequitable negative impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls? | N | The Executing Agency will ensure there is equal opportunity for participation in capacity building activities and awareness raising activities. |
| Will the proposed project potentially discriminate against women or other groups based on gender, especially regarding participation in the design and implementation or access to opportunities and benefits? | N | |
| Will the proposed project have impacts that could negatively affect women's and men's ability to use, develop and protect natural resources, taking into account different roles and positions of women and men in accessing environmental goods and services? | N | |
| Safeguard Standard 9: Economic Sustainability | | |
| Will the proposed project likely bring immediate or short-term net gain to the local communities or countries at the risk of generating long-term economic burden (e.g., agriculture for food vs. biofuel; mangrove vs. commercial shrimp farm in terms of fishing, forest products and protection, etc.)? | N | The project will assess the situation with regard to mercury in Belize. It will not take direct action on the ground and therefore it will not have economic impacts. |
| Will the proposed project likely bring unequal economic benefits to a limited subset of the target group? | N | |

Annex 4. Acronyms and Abbreviations

| | |
|-------------|---|
| BCRC | Basel Convention Regional Centre |
| BRS | Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm |
| CFLs | Compact Fluorescent Lights |
| COP | Conference of the Parties |
| DOE | Department of the Environment |
| DTIE | Economy Division of UN Environment |
| EA | Executing Agency |
| EEE | Electrical and Electronic Equipment |
| EIA | Environmental Impact Assessment |
| EPD | Environmental protection Department |
| ESCAP | Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization |
| GEF | The Global Environment Facility |
| GEF SEC | Global Environment Facility Secretariat |
| GEFTF | GEF Trust Fund |
| GMP | Global Mercury Partnership |
| Hg | Mercury |
| IA | Implementing Agency |
| IGO | Intergovernmental Organisation |
| ILO | International Labour Organization |
| IOMC | Inter Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals |
| INC | Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee |
| M&E | Monitoring and Evaluation |
| MeHg | Methylmercury |
| MIA | Minamata Initial Assessment |
| MPCA | Marine Pollution Control Act |
| NA | Not applicable |
| NEAC | National Environmental Appraisal Committee |
| NCM | National Coordination Mechanism |
| NGO | Non-governmental Organisation |
| NPC | National project Coordinator |
| NRDC | Natural Resources Defense Council |
| NWG | National Working Group |
| OECD | Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development |
| PBDE | Polybrominated Diphenyl Ether |
| PIR | Project Implementation Review |
| PMC | Project Management Cost |
| PMU | Project Management Unit |
| POPs | Persistent Organic Pollutants |
| PoW | Programme of Work |
| PPG | Project Preparation Grant |
| PSC | Project Steering Committee |
| SAICM | Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management |
| SSFA | Small-Scale Funding Agreement |
| TE | Terminal Evaluation |
| ToR | Terms of Reference |
| UNCBD | United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity |
| UNCCD | United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification |
| UNDAF | United Nations Development Assistance Framework |
| UNDP | United Nations Development Programme |
| UNEP | United Nations Environment Programme |
| UNEP - DTIE | United Nations Environment Programme - Division on Technology, Industry and Economics |
| UNFCCC | United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change |
| UNIDO | United Nations Industrial Development Organisation |
| UNITAR | United Nations Training and Research Institute |
| WEEE | Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment |
| WHO | World Health Organization |

Annex 5. Project Supervision Plan (amended 2018 version)

| Project Title: | Development of Minamata Initial Assessments (MIA) in the Caribbean (Belize) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Project Executing Agency: The Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Caribbean (BCRC-Caribbean) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 2018 | | | | | | | 2019 | | | | | | | 2020 | | | | | | | 2021 | | | | | | | | | |
| Project Implementation Period (add additional years as required): | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb |
| Executing Agency | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| UNEP/DTIE Chemicals (Implementing) | o | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Output | • | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Activity/Task/Output | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Output 1 Technical assistance provided to participating countries to develop the MIAs while building sustainable foundations for their future implementation of the Minamata Convention. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1.1 Quality check of final MIA developed | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1.2 Enhancement of the UN Environment Hg toolkit, including translation to other UN languages | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1.3 Undertake knowledge management and information exchange through the Global Mercury Partnership website | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Output 2.1 Identified and strengthened National Coordination Mechanisms dealing with mercury management that will guide the project implementation | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.1.1 Organize a National Inception Workshop to raise awareness and to define the scope and objective and to have common understanding of the MIA process | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.1.2 Conduct a national assessment on existing sources of information (studies), compile and make them available | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Output 2.2 National institutional and regulatory framework and national capacities on mercury management assessed | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.2.1 Assess key national stakeholders, their roles in mercury management and monitoring and institutional interest and capacities | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.2.2 Analyze the existing regulatory framework, identify gaps and identify the regulatory reforms needed for the sound management of mercury in | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.2.3 Develop a socio-economic assessment including a gender dimension of mercury exposure in Belize | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Output 2.3 National inventories of mercury sources and releases developed using the UN Environment Mercury Toolkit Level II and strategy for the identification of mercury contaminated sites developed | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.3.1 Develop a qualitative and quantitative inventory of all mercury sources, emissions and releases | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.3.2 Develop a national strategy to identify mercury contaminated sites | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Output 2.4 Challenges, needs and opportunities to implement the Minamata Convention assessed and recommendations to ratify and implement the Minamata Convention developed | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.4.1 Conduct a national and sectoral assessment on challenges, needs and opportunities to implement the Convention in key priority sectors | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.4.2 Develop a report on recommendations to ratify and implement the Minamata Convention on Mercury | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Output 2.5 MIA validated by national stakeholders | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.5.1 Draft and validate MIA reports, including hosting national validation workshops in each country | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.5.2 Develop and implement a national MIA awareness raising and dissemination and outreach strategy | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Output 3.1 Status of project implementation and probity of use of funds accessed on a regular basis and communicated to the GEF | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.1.1 Executing Agency develops and submit technical and financial reports | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.1.2 UN Environment communicate project progress to the GEF yearly during the PIR using GEF's template; | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.1.3 Develop and submit terminal report and final statement of accounts to UN Environment at project end; | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.1.4 Submit final financial audit to UN Environment. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Output 3.2 Independent terminal evaluation developed and made publicly available | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.2.1 Terminal evaluation is carried out and made publicly available in the UN Environment website | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Annex 6. GEF Approved Budget

| ANNEX 6: GEF APPROVED BUDGET | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|---|---------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| RECONCILIATION BETWEEN GEF ACTIVITY BASED BUDGET AND UNEP BUDGET BY EXPENDITURE CODE (GEF FINANCE ONLY) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Project No: | | | | | | Total GEF funding: | 164,250 | | | | | | | |
| Project Name: | | | | | | Development of Minamata Initial Assessments in the Caribbean (Belize) | IA fee (9.5%): | 14,250 | | | | | | |
| Executing Agency: | | | | | | The Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Caribbean (BCRC-Caribbean) | Project funding: | 150,000 | | 150,000 | 7500 | | | |
| Source of funding (noting whether cash or in-kind): | | | | | | GEF Trust Fund Cash | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | BUDGET ALLOCATION BY PROJECT COMPONENT/ACTIVITY | | | | ALLOCATION BY CALENDAR YEAR | | | | |
| | | | | | | Component 1 | Component 2 | Component 3 | Project Management | Total | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | Total |
| | | | | | | Global technical support for MIA development | Development and validation of the Minamata Initial Assessment | Monitoring and Evaluation | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | US\$ | US\$ | | US\$ | US\$ | US\$ | US\$ | US\$ | US\$ |
| 10 | UNEP BUDGET LINE/OBJECT OF EXPENDITURE | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | UMOJA CODES | PROJECT PERSONNEL COMPONENT | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1100 | Project Personnel | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1161 | 1101 | Project coordinator | | | | | | 13,200 | 13,200 | 1,444 | 8,867 | 2,889 | 13,200 |
| | 1161 | 1102 | Project assistant | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 1199 | Sub-Total | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 13,200 | 13,200 | 1,444 | 8,867 | 2,889 | 13,200 |
| | | 1200 | Consultants w/m | | | | | | | 0 | | | | |
| | 1161 | 1201 | National consultants for Hg inventories (output 2, 3) | | | | | | | 10,125 | | 10,125 | | 10,125 |
| | 1161 | 1202 | National consultant to work on the assessment of national capacity (outputs 2.1, 2.2, 2.4 and 2.5) | | | | | 21,000 | | 21,000 | | 21,000 | | 21,000 |
| | 1161 | 1203 | International consultant support on Hg inventory (output 2, 3) | | | | | 20,000 | | 20,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | | 20,000 |
| | 1161 | 1204 | International consultant support on national assessments | | | | | 12,500 | | 12,500 | | 12,500 | | 12,500 |
| | | 1299 | Sub-Total | | | 0 | 63,625 | 0 | 0 | 63,625 | 10,000 | 53,625 | 0 | 63,625 |
| | | 1300 | Administrative Support | | | | | | | 0 | | | | |
| | 1161 | 1301 | Project financial officer | | | | | | | 0 | | | | 0 |
| | | 1600 | Travel on official business (above staff) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1561 | 1601 | Travel Project coordinator/National project staff | | | | | 4,875 | | 4,875 | 1,500 | 3,375 | | 4,875 |
| | | 1699 | Sub-Total | | | 0 | 4,875 | 0 | 0 | 4,875 | 1,500 | 3,375 | 0 | 4,875 |
| | | 1999 | Component Total | | | 0 | 68,500 | 0 | 13,200 | 81,700 | 12,944 | 65,867 | 2,889 | 81,700 |
| 20 | SUB CONTRACT COMPONENT | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 2100 | Sub contracts (UN Organizations) | | | | | | | 0 | | | | |
| | 2261 | 2101 | Sub-contract Global Mercury Partnership | | | 7,500 | | | | 7,500 | 7,500 | | | 7,500 |
| | | 2199 | Sub-Total | | | 7,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7,500 | 7,500 | 0 | 0 | 7,500 |
| | | 2200 | Sub contracts (SSFA, PCAs, non UN) | | | | | | | 0 | | | | |
| | | 2201 | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 |
| | | 2299 | Sub-Total | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2999 | Component Total | | | 7,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7,500 | 7,500 | 0 | 0 | 7,500 |
| 30 | TRAINING COMPONENT | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 3200 | Group training (field trips, WS, etc.) | | | | | | | 0 | | | | |
| | 3302 and 3303 | 3201 | National Training and Inception Workshop | | | | | 12,978 | | 12,978 | 12,978 | | | 12,978 |
| | | 3299 | Sub-Total | | | 0 | 12,978 | 0 | 0 | 12,978 | 12,978 | 0 | 0 | 12,978 |
| | | 3300 | Meetings/conferences | | | | | | | 0 | | | | |
| | | 3301 | National coordination meetings | | | | | 4,000 | | 4,000 | 1,000 | 2,000 | 1,000 | 4,000 |
| | 3302 and 3303 | 3302 | National MIA Results Workshops | | | | | 8,000 | | 8,000 | | | 8,000 | 8,000 |
| | | 3399 | Sub-Total | | | 0 | 12,000 | 0 | 0 | 12,000 | 1,000 | 2,000 | 9,000 | 12,000 |
| | | 3999 | Component Total | | | 0 | 24,978 | 0 | 0 | 24,978 | 13,978 | 2,000 | 9,000 | 24,978 |
| 40 | EQUIPMENT and PREMISES COMPONENT | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 4100 | Expendable equipment (under 1,500 \$) | | | | | | | 0 | | | | |
| | 4261 | 4101 | Operational costs | | | | | 2,000 | 436 | 2,436 | 500 | 1,500 | 436 | 2,436 |
| | | 4102 | Office premises | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 |
| | | 4199 | Sub-Total | | | 0 | 2,000 | 0 | 436 | 2,436 | 500 | 1,500 | 436 | 2,436 |
| | | 4200 | Non expendable equipment | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 4261 | 4201 | Computer, fax, photocopier, projector | | | | | 2,386 | | 2,386 | 2,386 | | | 2,386 |
| | 4261 | 4202 | Software | | | | | | | 0 | | | | 0 |
| | | 4299 | Sub-Total | | | 0 | 2,386 | 0 | 0 | 2,386 | 2,386 | 0 | 0 | 2,386 |
| | | 4999 | Component Total | | | 0 | 4,386 | 0 | 436 | 4,822 | 2,886 | 1,500 | 436 | 4,822 |
| 50 | MISCELLANEOUS COMPONENT | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 5200 | Reporting costs (publications, maps, NL) | | | | | | | 0 | | | | |
| | 5161 | 5201 | Summary reports, visualization and diffusion of results | | | | | 4,000 | | 4,000 | | 4,000 | | 4,000 |
| | 5161 | 5202 | Preparation of final report | | | | | 2,000 | | 2,000 | | 2,000 | | 2,000 |
| | | 5299 | Sub-Total | | | 0 | 6,000 | 0 | 0 | 6,000 | 0 | 6,000 | 0 | 6,000 |
| | | 5300 | Sundry (communications, postages) | | | | | | | 0 | | | | 0 |
| | 5161 | 5301 | Communications (postage, bank transfers, etc) | | | | | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 5399 | Sub-total | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 5500 | Evaluation | | | | | | | 0 | | | | 0 |
| | 5581 | 5501 | Independent Terminal Evaluation | | | | | 15,000 | | 15,000 | | | 15,000 | 15,000 |
| | 5161 | 5502 | Independent Financial Audit | | | | | 10,000 | | 10,000 | | | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| | | 5599 | Sub-Total | | | 0 | 0 | 25,000 | 0 | 25,000 | 0 | 0 | 25,000 | 25,000 |
| | | 5999 | Component Total | | | 0 | 6,000 | 25,000 | 0 | 31,000 | 0 | 6,000 | 25,000 | 31,000 |
| | | TOTAL | | | | 7,500 | 103,864 | 25,000 | 13,636 | 150,000 | 37,308 | 75,367 | 37,325 | 150,000 |

Annex 7. Minamata initial assessment report suggested structure and contents (February 2017)

Available at:

<http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/Environment%20and%20Energy/Chemicals%20and%20Waste%20Management/undp-ee-wastemgt-Minamata-Initial-Assessment-Report-Guidance-Feb2017.pdf>