



**Conference of the Parties to the
Minamata Convention on Mercury
Sixth meeting**

Geneva, 3–7 November 2025

Item 4 (e) (i) of the provisional agenda*

**Matters for consideration or action by the
Conference of the Parties: financial resources and
mechanism: Global Environment Facility**

**Report of the Global Environment Facility to the sixth meeting of
the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on
Mercury****

Note by the secretariat

The report of the Global Environment Facility to the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury is set out in the annex to the present note. The report is reproduced as received, without formal editing.

* UNEP/MC/COP.6/1/Rev.1.

** The present document has not been formally edited.

Annex



From

**Report of the Global Environment Facility
to the Sixth Meeting of the Conference of the
Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury**

September 15, 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>List of Tables</i>	<i>iii</i>
<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>iii</i>
<i>Abbreviations and Acronyms</i>	<i>iv</i>
<i>Executive Summary</i>	<i>v</i>
<i>Introduction</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Part I: GEF's Work on Mercury in the Reporting Period</i>	<i>1</i>
1. Response to the Guidance from the COP to the Minamata Convention (MOU Paragraph 9(a))	<i>1</i>
2. Synthesis of the Projects Approved by the GEF Council in the Reporting Period (MOU Paragraph 9(b))	<i>3</i>
3. Project Proposals Not Approved by the GEF Council in a Work Program (MOU Paragraph 9(c))	<i>7</i>
4. Information on Other Matters Concerning the Discharge of Functions under Article 13, Paragraph 5 (MOU Paragraph 11)	<i>7</i>
5. Views of the GEF Council on the Guidance Provided by the COP (MOU Paragraph 12) .	<i>7</i>
6. Matters Arising from the Reports Received by the COP from the GEF Council (MOU Paragraph 13)	<i>7</i>
7. Cooperation with the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention and Reciprocal Representation (MOU Paragraphs 17-21)	<i>7</i>
<i>Part II: Other GEF Activities Related to the Minamata Convention</i>	<i>9</i>
1. Chemicals and Waste Portfolio in the Small Grants Programme	<i>9</i>
Illustrative Project	<i>10</i>
2. GEF Independent Evaluation Office Evaluation of GEF Enabling Activities	<i>10</i>
<i>Part III: GEF-7 Policies and Performance of the Minamata Portfolio with Regard to These Policies</i>	<i>13</i>
1. Gender and Stakeholder Engagement	<i>13</i>
2. Private Sector Engagement	<i>14</i>
<i>Part IV: Update on the Ninth Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Annex 1: GEF Response to Initial Guidance</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Annex 2: List of Mercury Projects Approved in the Reporting Period (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025)</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>Annex 3: List of Mercury Projects Supported by the Small Grants Programme in the Reporting</i>	

<i>Period (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025)</i>	32
<i>Annex 4: List of Countries that Received GEF Support for Enabling Activities</i>	33
<i>Annex 5: List of Mercury Projects Implemented in the Reporting Period (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025)</i>	35

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Response to the Guidance from the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention	1
Table 2: Resources Programmed for the Implementation of the Minamata Convention in the Reporting Period (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025)	4
Table 3: Number of Countries Receiving Support in the Reporting Period (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025)	4

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Thematic Distribution of Allocated GEF-8 Mercury Project Financing in the Reporting Period (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025)	6
Figure 2: Regional Distribution of Allocated GEF-8 Mercury Project Financing by Thematic Areas in the Reporting Period (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025).....	6

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ASGM	Artisanal and Small-scale Mining
CBO	Community-based Organization
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CI	Conservation International
COP	Conference of the Parties
CSO	Civil Society Organization
EA	Enabling Activity
FSP	Full-sized Project
GCMP	Global Chemicals Management Program
GEB	Global Environmental Benefit
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GGP	GEF Gender Partnership
IEO	Independent Evaluation Office
INC	Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee
IP	Integrated Program
ISLANDS	Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in Small Island Developing States
LDC	Least Developed Country
MIA	Minamata Initial Assessment
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSP	Medium-sized Project
NAP	National Action Plan
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
OFP	Operational Focal Point
PIF	Project Identification Form
PFD	Program Framework Document
POP	Persistent Organic Pollutant
PPG	Project Preparation Grant
PSES	Private Sector Engagement Strategy
SAICM	Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management
SGP	Small Grant Programme
SIDS	Small Island Developing State
SLP	Skin-lightening Product
TAG	Technical Advisory Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UPOP	Unintentional Persistent Organic Pollutant

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Article 13 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury includes the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in the Financial Mechanism to provide new, predictable, adequate, and timely financial resources to meet costs in support of implementation of this Convention as agreed by the Conference of the Parties (COP).
2. This report presents the work of the GEF in fulfilling its mandate under the Minamata Convention in the reporting period (from July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2025) and its updated response to the guidance received from the COP.
3. The eighth replenishment of the GEF commenced on July 1, 2022, to be completed on June 30, 2026. The replenishment allocated \$800 million to the chemicals and waste focal area, including \$269 million for the implementation of the Minamata Convention.
4. In the reporting period, the GEF has approved four programmatic approaches covering twenty-one countries, twelve full-sized projects (FSPs) covering thirty countries, two medium-sized projects (MSPs) covering two countries, and three single-country enabling activities (EAs).
5. Of the four programmatic approaches, two directly address priorities of the Convention including acting on the emissions of mercury from the non-ferrous metals sector through the Global elimination of mercury in non-ferrous metals initiative (GEMINI) and monitoring of mercury for effectiveness evaluation through the Global Chemicals Monitoring Program. The other two programs address mercury in electronics and in infrastructure in the tourism sector.
6. The projects in the reporting period address a broad range of key provisions of the Convention, including mercury in artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM), emissions of mercury from the cement industry and non-ferrous metals sector, mercury use in the chlor-alkali sector and in cosmetics, managing trade in mercury, global monitoring, primary production of mercury and management of mercury waste and products waste.
7. The GEF resources committed in the reporting period for the implementation of the Minamata Convention amounted to \$155.5 million.¹ Additionally project preparation grants (PPGs) amounted to \$4.0 million and Agency fees amounted to \$14.5 million, bringing the total GEF financing programmed in the reporting period to \$174.0 million, which represents sixty-five percent of the \$269.0 million allocated by the replenishment for GEF-8.
8. In the reporting period, GEF resources supported one Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA). Cumulatively, GEF resources have supported 120 countries to conduct MIAs, since GEF-5.

¹ Excluding project preparation grants (PPGs) and Agency fees.

To date, 82 MIAs have been submitted to the Minamata Convention Secretariat.² Two National Action Plans (NAPs) for ASGM have also been supported in the reporting period, bringing the total to 50 countries receiving support. To date, 37 NAPs have been submitted to the Minamata Convention Secretariat.³

9. In the reporting period, a total of 45 countries has received support, including sixteen least developed countries (LDCs) and three small island developing States (SIDS).
10. The portfolio leveraged \$13 in co-financing for each \$1 invested by the GEF in the reporting period.⁴
11. The GEF-8 results framework includes a core indicator to measure the results in the chemicals and waste focal area.⁵ This core indicator has a target of addressing 300,000 metric tons of chemicals and waste, including mercury. While there is no stand-alone target for mercury in GEF-8, the amount of mercury targeted by projects is reported through sub-indicator 9.2 of the GEF-8 results framework. With reference to this sub-indicator, the projects approved in the reporting period are expected to reduce 911 metric tons of mercury.
12. In addition to mercury reductions, projects approved in the reporting period included the benefits of reducing 8,097 metric tons of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and disposing of 1.6 million metric tons of POPs and mercury-containing material as well as addressing 1.1 million tons of plastics.
13. The portfolio also addressed core indicators on terrestrial protected areas, landscapes under better management, carbon sequestered, and emissions avoided.

² List of MIAs submitted to the Convention Secretariat can be found at: <https://mercuryconvention.org/en/parties/minamata-initial-assessments>

³ List of NAPs submitted to the Convention Secretariat can be found at: <https://mercuryconvention.org/en/parties/national-action-plans>

⁴ Co-financing amount is calculated based on GEF project financing of programs, FSPs and MSPs. EAs, PPGs and Agency fees are excluded.

⁵ GEF, 2023, [Report of the Eighth Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund](#), Assembly Document GEF/A.7/04.

INTRODUCTION

1. This report presents the work of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to support the implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2025 (the reporting period). The report is presented in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the COP of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Council of the GEF.⁶

PART I: GEF'S WORK ON MERCURY IN THE REPORTING PERIOD

1. Response to the Guidance from the COP to the Minamata Convention (MOU Paragraph 9(a))

2. The first COP to the Minamata Convention on Mercury was held from September 24 to 29, 2017. The COP provided guidance to the GEF on overall strategies, policies, program priorities and eligibility for, access to, and utilization of financial resources. The COP also provided guidance on an indicative list of categories of activities that could receive support from the GEF Trust Fund.⁷ Table 1 includes additional guidance provided by the COP. Annex 1 contains the GEF's response to the initial guidance from COP 1.

Table 1: Response to the Guidance from the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention

Decision	GEF Response
Decision MC-2/10 – Effectiveness Evaluation	
Paragraph 7: Invites the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, to consider, within the guidance given by the Conference of the Parties, supporting eligible parties in the collection of essential data and facilitating the sustainable input of monitoring information at the local, subregional, regional and global levels to contribute towards the effectiveness evaluation, in alignment with the Facility's guidance.	The GEF, providing funding for the third round of projects under the Stockholm Convention Global Monitoring Plan, will fund, as appropriate, activities to contribute to the effectiveness evaluation of the Minamata Convention.
Decision MC-5/2 – Mercury supply sources and trade	
Paragraph 6: Invites parties, the Global Environment	The GEF has supported a regional project in Latin America to manage trade in mercury as

⁶ GEF, 2019, [Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\) between the Conference of the Parties \(COP\) to the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Council of The Global Environment Facility](#), Council Document GEF/C.56/10/Rev.01.

⁷ In the annex to Decision MC-1/5.

Decision	GEF Response
<p>Facility, the Global Mercury Partnership and other stakeholders to support the activity set out in paragraph 5 (e) above. (5(e) Develop guidance to assist parties in identifying, managing and reducing mercury trade from primary mercury mining)</p>	<p>well as to address primary mercury mining in Mexico.</p>
<p>Decision MC-5/7 – Artisanal and small-scale gold mining</p>	
<p>Paragraph 3: Invites the Global Environment Facility to include support to parties undertaking their first such reviews as part of the Facility’s enabling activity support available to parties, and, within that activity, to support the development and piloting of review guidance, supplementing the information in the guidance document on developing a national action plan to reduce and, where feasible, eliminate mercury use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining, and of an online tool for parties to use when undertaking their reviews;</p>	<p>The 67th GEF Council, in June 2024, approved guidelines for the review of the implementation of Article 7. The guidelines are published in document GEF/C.67/11/Rev.01⁸. Piloting of review guidance will be done in consultation with the GEF agencies supporting enabling activities for this Convention and will be used to update the guidance document on developing ASGM National Action Plans.</p>
<p>Paragraph 4: Calls on parties and the Global Environment Facility to make further efforts to seek opportunities to advance implementation of article 7 in the context of projects relating to biodiversity, land degradation, international waters, and trade, and to continue to advance implementation of national action plans through projects and programmes;</p>	<p>The GEF supports parties to implement Article 7 through addressing mercury use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining. This work is ongoing.</p>

⁸ GEF, 2024, [Guidelines for the Preparations of Reviews of the Implementation of Article 7 of the Minamata Convention](#), Council Document GEF/C.67/11/Rev.1.

2. Synthesis of the Projects Approved by the GEF Council in the Reporting Period (MOU Paragraph 9(b))

3. The eighth replenishment period of the GEF (GEF-8) commenced on July 1, 2022.
4. The replenishment allocated \$800 million to the chemicals and waste focal area, including \$269 million for the implementation of the Minamata Convention.
5. In the reporting period, the GEF has approved four programmatic approaches covering twenty-one countries, twelve full-sized projects (FSPs) covering thirty countries, two medium-sized projects (MSPs) covering two countries, and three single-country enabling activities (EAs).
6. Of the four programmatic approaches, two directly address priorities of the Convention including acting on the emissions of mercury from the non-ferrous metals sector through the Global elimination of mercury in non-ferrous metals initiative (GEMINI) and monitoring of mercury for effectiveness evaluation through the Global Chemicals Monitoring Program. The other two programs address mercury in electronics and in infrastructure in the tourism sector.
7. The projects approved in the reporting period address a broad range of key provisions of the Convention, including mercury in artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM), emissions of mercury from the cement industry and non-ferrous metals sector, mercury use in the chlor-alkali sector and in cosmetics, managing trade in mercury, global monitoring, primary production of mercury and management of mercury waste and products waste.
8. The GEF resources committed in the reporting period for the implementation of the Minamata Convention amounted to \$155.5 million.⁹ Additionally, project preparation grants (PPGs) amounted to \$4.0 million and Agency fees amounted to \$14.5 million, bringing the total programmed in the reporting period to \$174.0 million, which represents sixty-five percent of the \$269.0 million allocated by the replenishment.
9. In the reporting period, GEF resources supported one Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA). Cumulatively, GEF resources have supported 120 countries to conduct MIAs.¹⁰ To date, 82 MIAs have been submitted to the Minamata Convention Secretariat.¹¹
10. Two National Action Plans (NAPs) for ASGM have also been supported in the reporting period, bringing the total to 50 countries receiving support. To date, 37 NAPs have been

⁹ Excluding project preparation grants (PPGs) and Agency fees.

¹⁰ The GEF started supporting MIAs in GEF-5.

¹¹ List of MIAs submitted to the Minamata Convention Secretariat can be found at:

<https://mercuryconvention.org/en/parties/minamata-initial-assessments>

submitted to the Minamata Convention Secretariat.¹²

11. In the reporting period, a total of 45 countries has received support, including sixteen least developed countries (LDCs) and three small island developing States (SIDS).
12. The portfolio leveraged \$13 in co-financing for each \$1 invested by the GEF in the reporting period.¹³ The full list of projects approved in the reporting period is presented in Annex 2.

Table 2: Resources Programmed for the Implementation of the Minamata Convention in the Reporting Period (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025)

Project Type	Child Projects (\$) ¹⁴	Standalone Projects (\$)	Total (\$) ¹⁵
Enabling activities (MIAs and NAPs)		1,700,000	1,700,000
Full-sized projects	68,110,000	68,257,891	136,367,891
Medium-sized projects	8,400,000	9,000,000	17,400,000
Grand Total	76,510,000	78,957,891	155,467,891

Table 3: Number of Countries Receiving Support in the Reporting Period (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025)

Project Type	Number of Countries ¹⁶
Enabling activities	3
Medium-sized projects	2
Full-sized projects	30
Programs	21

13. The implementation of the Minamata Convention is supported by the GEF's chemicals and waste focal area. There are several projects that combine resources for the implementation of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and other focal areas with mercury resources. In this regard, the co-financing ratio in combined projects is not calculated for mercury alone.
14. The projects approved in the reporting period supporting the Minamata Convention implementation are estimated to reduce 911 metric tons of mercury. In addition to mercury reductions, projects approved in the reporting period included the benefits of

¹² List of NAPs submitted to the Minamata Convention Secretariat can be found at:

<https://mercuryconvention.org/en/parties/national-action-plans>

¹³ Co-financing amount includes programs, FSPs and MSPs. EAs, PPGs and Agency fees are excluded

¹⁴ Child projects are either MSPs or FSPs that form part of a Programmatic Approach

¹⁵ Excludes PPGs and Agency Fees.

¹⁶ Several countries participated in multiple projects/programs

reducing 8,097 metric tons of POPs and disposing of 1.6 million metric tons of POPs and mercury-containing material as well as addressing 1.1 million tons of plastics.

15. The portfolio also addressed core indicators on terrestrial protected areas, landscapes under better management, carbon sequestered, and emissions avoided. These are shown in Table 4 below:

Table 4: Co-benefits from the Mercury Portfolio July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2025

Indicator	Value
Hectares of terrestrial protected areas created or under better management	113,000
Hectares of landscapes under better management	1,198,602
Tons of carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the AFOLU	3,054,217
Tons of CO ₂ emissions avoided outside AFOLU	14,026,262

16. Several industrial sectors are addressed by projects approved in the reporting period, including non-ferrous metals production, cement industry, and products. The ASGM sector continues to feature in the programming as an ongoing planetGOLD program continues to add new countries during this reporting period.
17. Figure 1 shows that non-ferrous metals production accounted for the largest single share of resources at 38 percent of resources. This is due to scaling up action in this sector through a dedicated global initiative, GEMINI.
18. Figure 2 shows the regional distribution of project financing by thematic areas. Latin America accounted for 41 percent of resources due to work on the cement, chlor-alkali sector and the non-ferrous metals sector. Africa, which focused on products, including skin lightening creams, and non-ferrous metals as well as ASGM had the second largest share of resources at 27 percent. This was followed by Asia at 20 percent. Europe and Central Asia, which has fewer Parties as less countries have ratified the convention received the least resources at over one percent. There are several global platforms and global monitoring which resulted in 10 percent of resources being programmed for the coordination among participating countries.

Figure 1: Thematic Distribution of Allocated GEF-8 Mercury Project Financing in the Reporting Period (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025)

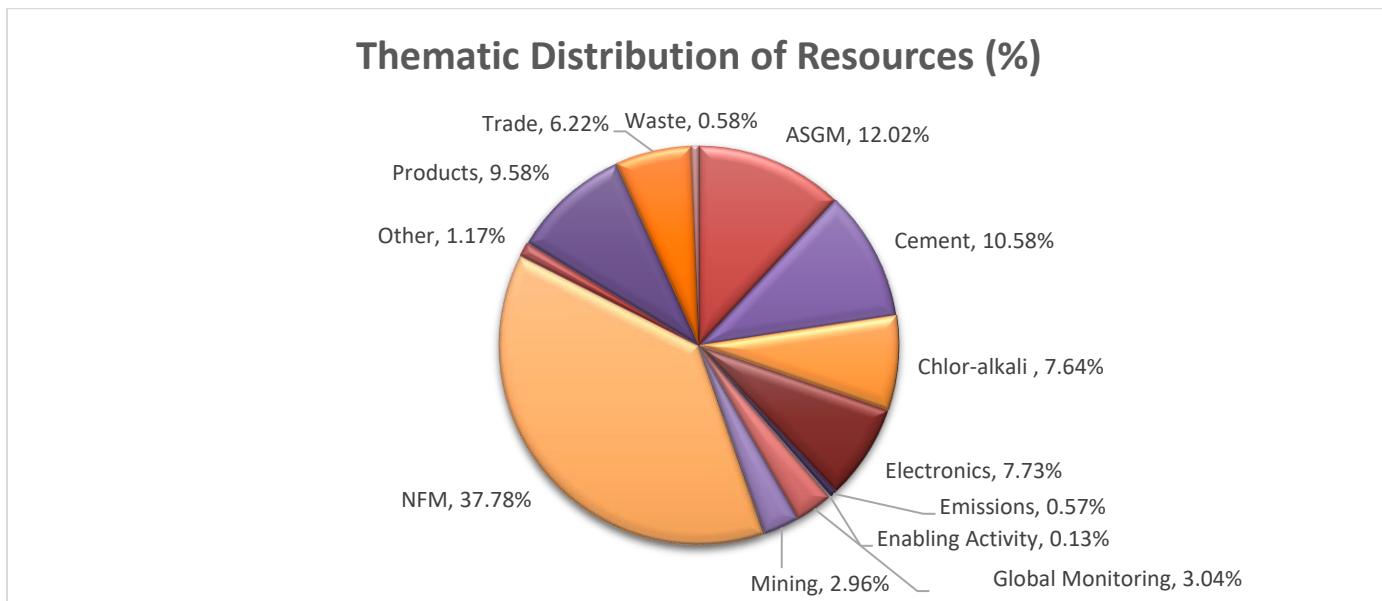
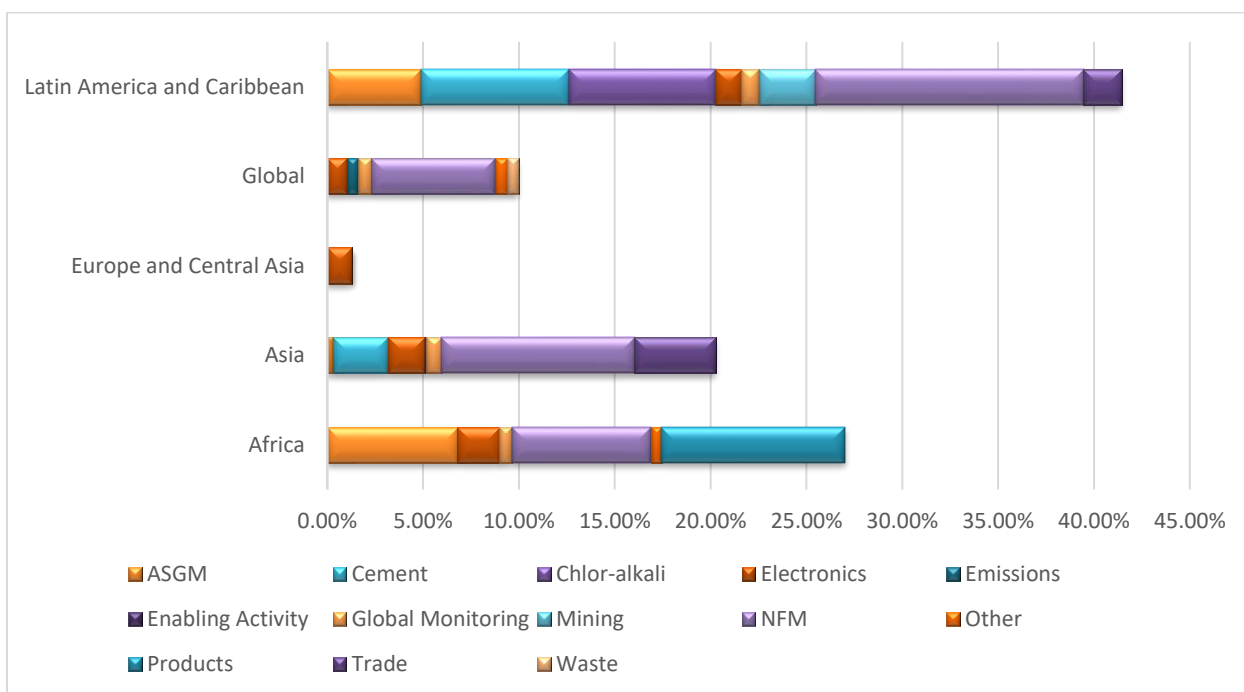


Figure 2: Regional Distribution of Allocated GEF-8 Mercury Project Financing by Thematic Areas in the Reporting Period (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025) (\$ million, excluding PPGs and Agency fees)



19. The GEF Council has approved all project proposals to support the implementation of the Minamata Convention included in the six Work Programs in the reporting period.

20. In accordance with paragraph 9(b) of the MOU, the GEF reports that there were 83 projects implemented in the reporting period in relation to mercury, with a total of \$368.2 million of GEF resources and \$2,948.2 million of co-financing. Annex 5 shows the complete list of projects, including their implementation status.

3. Project Proposals Not Approved by the GEF Council in a Work Program (MOU Paragraph 9(c))

21. All FSPs submitted to the GEF Council and MSPs and EAs submitted to the GEF Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to support the implementation of the Minamata Convention were approved in the reporting period.

4. Information on Other Matters Concerning the Discharge of Functions under Article 13, Paragraph 5 (MOU Paragraph 11)

22. No concerns regarding this MOU paragraph arose in the reporting period.

5. Views of the GEF Council on the Guidance Provided by the COP (MOU Paragraph 12)

23. The GEF Council approves GEF reports to the COP prior to their submission. It also considers the GEF's response to the guidance provided by the COP, summarized in the Council document on relations with the conventions, which is a document for decision at every Council meeting. Any views expressed by the Council are reflected in the Council highlights document. The Council's views on the guidance provided by the COP are reflected in the GEF's response to the guidance provided by the COP presented in Table 1.

6. Matters Arising from the Reports Received by the COP from the GEF Council (MOU Paragraph 13)

24. In the reporting period, the COP 5 provided guidance to the GEF. The Council, through this report, provides its response to the new guidance provided at COP 2 and COP 5.

7. Cooperation with the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention and Reciprocal Representation (MOU Paragraphs 17-21)

25. The Secretariat of the Minamata Convention participated online in a consultation in December 2022 to develop expressions of interest for the eliminating hazardous chemicals from supply chains Integrated Program. It also participated in a drafting workshop in March 2023 to develop the program document for same integrated program.

26. At the 66th GEF Council in February 2024, the Executive Secretary of the Minamata

Convention reported on outcomes of COP 5 and highlighted key decisions of the COP on Indigenous Peoples, accelerating the phase out of mercury in products and new guidance to the GEF including creation of a new enabling activity for the Minamata Convention.

27. At the 67th GEF Council in June 2024, the Executive Secretary shared her views on the level of programming for the chemicals and waste focal area, highlighted synergies with the biodiversity focal area and Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) mandates and invited the Council to consider the outcomes of Minamata COP-5 in the GEF-9 replenishment.
28. At the 68th GEF Council in December 2024, the Executive Secretary shared her perspectives on the partnership between the Convention and the GEF, appreciated the increased chemicals and waste programming, while noting remaining gaps in GEF-8.
29. At the 68th Council the GEF-9 Replenishment process was approved by the council in Decision 52/2024¹⁷. As part of the process a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meeting was held in February 2025 to convene academia, technical experts and the GEF partnership to inform the development of the programming directions.
30. The Minamata Secretariat participated in the TAG Meeting for the GEF-9 replenishment. The Executive Secretary addressed the opening plenary and expressed the need to scale up action on mercury and highlighted the linkages with the biodiversity convention.
31. In March 2025, the Minamata Secretariat participated in the GEF chemicals and waste task force.
32. In April 2025, at the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention (BC COP-17), the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention (RC COP-12) and the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention (SC COP-12) the Executive Secretary participated in a GEF MEA Dialogue, which was launched during the COPs.
33. The Executive Secretary participated in the first meeting for the ninth replenishment of the GEF trust fund in May 2025.
34. At the 69th GEF Council, the Executive Secretary participated in a dialogue during the Relations with Conventions Agenda item.

¹⁷ [GEF/C.68/13 - NINTH REPLENISHMENT OF THE GEF TRUST FUND](#)

PART II: OTHER GEF ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE MINAMATA CONVENTION

1. Chemicals and Waste Portfolio in the Small Grants Programme

35. The GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) has been a unique and essential financing window of the GEF supporting poor and vulnerable communities around the world, since its establishment in 1992. SGP provides financial and technical support to community-based organizations and civil society organizations (CSOs) to meet the overall objective of “global environmental benefits secured through community-based initiatives and actions”, while improving livelihoods and reducing poverty. The Program funds grants of up to \$75,000 directly to CSOs and community-based organizations (CBOs), with a strong focus on Indigenous Peoples, women and youth. SGP also provides a maximum of \$150,000 for strategic projects.
36. Since its inception, the program has supported over 29,000 community projects in all GEF focal areas in 136 countries. Since its inception, the cumulative total of SGP-supported projects has now reached close to 30,000 projects with GEF funding totaling \$1.5 billion. In GEF-8, 135 countries are participating in the SGP compared to 124 in GEF-7. Up until GEF-8, SGP was implemented by UNDP only; in GEF-8, FAO and CI were selected as the two additional implementing agencies of the global core program.
37. The SGP chemicals and waste management portfolio supports the control and reduction of the use of harmful chemicals. SGP’s efforts under this portfolio have focused on the sound management of hazardous chemicals and waste, including POPs and mercury, to minimize adverse effects on human health and the global environment. Specific to mercury management, the SGP tests and pilots’ community-based approaches to the prevention, reduction, and elimination of mercury use in ASGM, and promotes the safe collection and disposal of mercury-containing products and waste, such as those from health care and electronic waste.
38. The chemicals and waste portfolio, including mercury management, is a growing field of interest for many countries and partners. However, community demand for mercury management projects is still low in comparison with the management of other chemicals and waste, particularly plastic.
39. From July 2022 to June 2024¹⁸, SGP completed a total of 141 projects in the chemicals and waste portfolio. Of these, five addressed mercury management with a total of \$213,576 of GEF funding, which generated \$373,253 in co-financing. Additionally, 91 national coalitions and networks on chemicals and waste management were established

¹⁸ Data is based on the Annual Monitoring Reports (AMR) produced by UNDP from June 30th, 2022, to June 30th, 2024, the last available AMR at the time of reporting. This period corresponds mainly to GEF-7 projects, as GEF-8 SGP grantee projects have not yet started.

or strengthened. Annex 3 presents the list of these projects.

Illustrative Project

40. In Argentina, a project led by Fundacion Corriente Calida Humanistica (Corriente Calida Humanistic Foundation) focused on raising awareness and promoting actions to implement the Minamata Convention, a global treaty aimed at reducing mercury pollution. The project sensitized 306 beneficiaries, including 299 young students, teachers, and school directors, through a perception survey. This survey aimed to assess their knowledge of avoiding or reducing exposure to mercury to protect human health and the environment in line with the Minamata Convention. Besides, four workshops were conducted for directors, teachers, and students. The workshops emphasized the importance of avoiding exposure to hazardous waste, particularly mercury, discussed procedures for the identification, collection, and disposal of mercury-containing products, and highlighted the significance of conserving biodiversity and caring for the environment in the context of POPs exposure. In addition, mercury-containing lighting fixtures were identified and inventoried in educational institutions. The project purchased LED lamps to replace these fixtures, resulting in reduced electricity consumption and a more environmentally friendly lighting solution. As a result of the project, students were empowered to transfer their knowledge to their homes, creating a ripple effect in the community. The project promoted "mercury-free schools" and successfully eliminated mercury-containing sources in educational institutions, leading to a reduction in the associated risks.

2. GEF Independent Evaluation Office Evaluation of GEF Enabling Activities

41. The GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) has conducted two evaluations relevant to the Minamata Convention. The first, 'Evaluation of GEF Enabling Activities'¹⁹, was presented to the 62nd GEF Council in June 2022. More recently, the IEO submitted the 'Evaluation of GEF Interventions in Chemicals and Waste, GEF-5 to GEF-8'²⁰ to the 68th Council meeting in December 2024. Together, these evaluations provide insights into GEF support for capacity-building, institutional strengthening, and broader chemicals and waste management—including interventions related to mercury and implementation of the Minamata Convention.

42. The evaluations analyzed the role of GEF-financed activities in helping countries meet their convention obligations, their role in developing national policies as well as preparing national plans and strategies and the efficiency of the direct access mechanism. They addressed three main areas of enquiry: relevance, effectiveness and results, and

¹⁹ GEF, 2022, [Evaluation of GEF Enabling Activities, Council Document](#) GEF/E/C.62/Inf.01.

²⁰ GEF, 2024, [Evaluation of GEF Interventions in Chemicals and Waste GEF-5 to GEF-8](#), Council Document GEF/E/C.68/01.

efficiency.

43. The first evaluation on enabling activities found that countries have harnessed EAs to carry out two types of reports for the Minamata Convention: ASGM NAPs and MIAs. MIAs, although not a reporting requirement under the Convention, help fulfilment of the Convention's requirements. Funding for Minamata Convention-related EAs has increased since GEF-6 when the Convention entered into force, and now it is about \$25 million in GEF-8 grant funding. Although UNEP and UNDP tend to implement the most Convention-related enabling activities, UNIDO also plays a significant role for the Minamata Convention.
44. The second evaluation on GEF interventions in Chemicals and Waste found that the GEF plays a key role in supporting implementation of the Stockholm and Minamata Conventions, with recipient countries generally recognizing its alignment with convention guidance. Many countries report positive experiences. For example, in Uruguay, the Environmental Sound Life-Cycle Management of Mercury Containing Products and their Wastes (GEF ID 4998, UNDP) project provided capacity building for mercury analysis. One pilot laboratory institutionalized the initiative by hosting biennial training for other countries. Five years after project closure, project participants continue to engage through an informal learning network spanning six Latin American countries. In addition, the project provided legal expertise to help pass a decree banning mercury-containing medical products in Uruguay. The project supported both the ministries of environment and public health, however, while it successfully delivered mercury analysis equipment to the latter, that ministry lacked the infrastructure and human resources to make full use of it, highlighting the importance of sustained institutional capacity building for long-term impact.
45. Similar findings were confirmed by other projects and field verification missions. Investments in imported machinery designed to reduce or eliminate harmful chemicals have faced a problem of underutilization, due to insufficient training, lack of technical knowledge, inadequate budgets for maintenance, and supply chain constraints.
46. The effectiveness of GEF-supported chemicals and waste projects has varied based on how effectively they engaged with national legislation, both by aligning with existing laws and by supporting efforts to improve them. Strong legislative frameworks have been instrumental in the success of chemicals and waste management projects. However, enforcement and outcomes have shown significant variability across countries. Laws such as extended producer responsibility play a key role in securing private sector engagement, while setting adequate tariffs for waste collection companies helps maintain consistent service delivery. Legislation has played a crucial role in scaling up pollution prevention in some countries. Additionally, formalizing the role of informal waste pickers or banning their involvement in e-waste collection reduced health risks and environmental harm. However, inconsistent enforcement of these legal measures in some countries has posed significant challenges, ultimately affecting the effectiveness and sustainability of project

outcomes.

47. In the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Protect Human Health and the Environment from Unintentional Releases of POPs (GEF ID 4392, UNDP) project met its e-waste collection targets through a pioneering initiative led by multinational mobile phone companies, with an online platform for household e-waste collection; it laid the groundwork for national waste electrical and electronic equipment facilities. Legislation banning informal e-waste collection and dismantling addressed pollution risks, reduced unintentional POPs emissions, and enabled the formalization of the sector through licensed waste managers. This shift fostered safer, more sustainable e-waste management, while creating formal employment opportunities and improving public health.
48. Private sector involvement has been vital for the sustainability of GEF chemicals and waste outcomes. The GEF's market-oriented strategies, combined with local business participation and technology transfer, have laid the groundwork for transformational change. In some instances, sustainability was supported through a combination of GEF financing, government legislation or subsidies, certification schemes, or partnerships with international firms. For instance, in Viet Nam, the introduction of Eco industrial park legislation facilitated the nationwide adoption of a resource-sharing model, which encourages interconnected industries to optimize resource efficiency by sharing resources, implementing recycling systems, and collectively reducing carbon dioxide emissions.
49. Findings suggest that recent GEF efforts to address mercury pollution, particularly in sectors such as dental amalgam and skin-lightening products, highlight the importance of tackling both supply-side measures and behavior change. Dental amalgam, a significant source of mercury pollution, particularly through improper waste disposal, requires both technical solutions, such as safe disposal facilities, and education for dentists on proper disposal techniques. The GEF is collaborating with customs authorities to prevent illegal imports of mercury, funds educational campaigns, and is supporting assessments of amalgam use in dentistry. Similarly, skin-lightening products remain a persistent source of mercury contamination, despite bans imposed by the Minamata Convention. In this area, the GEF is working on building awareness with smaller family-owned enterprises producing such products. However, success in reducing mercury use in dental amalgams and skin lightening products will ultimately depend on both driving behavior change through awareness raising and supply chain interventions such as better labeling, supporting import bans.
50. GEF-funded projects show progress in gender awareness but need stronger support for women's health and safety. There has been an increase in gender-aware GEF projects that recognize distinct roles and address gender inequalities, but progress in fully gender-mainstreamed projects remains limited. Gender-disaggregated data highlight the heightened vulnerability of women, especially pregnant women, to chemical pollution. While women's participation in workshops and training is noted, there is a need for

stronger measures, including health checkups, safety equipment, and stricter regulatory enforcement, particularly for informal female workers.

51. Efforts to prevent and remediate chemical pollution in GEF projects are likely to generate socioeconomic and health co-benefits. However, these benefits remain underappreciated, due to the absence of systematic tracking. Quantifying health co-benefits is challenging, due to the lack of standardized indicators and the long-term nature of health impacts, which often extend beyond project timelines. Socioeconomic indicators are inconsistently integrated into project design and monitoring, making it difficult to capture the full extent of these benefits. A case in point is the Indonesia's Reducing Environmental and Health Risks to Vulnerable Communities from Lead Contamination from Lead Paint and Recycling of Used Lead Acid Batteries (GEF ID 5701, UNDP) project, which successfully remediated a contaminated site where local communities had been dismantling electronic waste and batteries, unaware of the associated health risks. Despite these significant interventions, no formal assessment of health outcomes was conducted, leaving potential long-term benefits undocumented.

PART III: GEF-7 POLICIES AND PERFORMANCE OF THE MINAMATA PORTFOLIO WITH REGARD TO THESE POLICIES

1. Gender and Stakeholder Engagement

52. Across the portfolio, gender considerations are embedded from the design through to implementation. Each project begins with a gender-differentiated needs assessment to identify disparities and inform design. For example, SIRENE in Indonesia and planetGOLD in Costa Rica undertook sex-disaggregated censuses to map inequalities in decision-making power, access to finance, and exposure to harmful substances. All projects include dedicated Gender Action Plans (GAPs) or Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) frameworks that are fully costed and scheduled within the project documents. To ensure accountability, many projects establish numeric targets for participation. Brazil Cement, for instance, mandates at least 40 percent female attendance at technical trainings, while the LAC Mercury-Trade project commits to gender-balanced representation on panels at regional forums. Importantly, projects go beyond meeting quotas. The planetGOLD project in Costa Rica also addresses gender-based violence, and the NGI Textiles initiative ties supplier loan access to measurable progress in advancing women's managerial careers.
53. All projects prepared a Stakeholder Engagement Plan prior to GEF CEO endorsement, and these plans are supported by grievance redress mechanisms. Several initiatives have made formal commitments to free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC). For example, planetGOLD in Senegal requires the agreement of the Bassari, Fula, and Bedik communities before beginning fieldwork, while Costa Rica consulted the Guaymí de Osa on the selection of pilot sites. Youth engagement is also emphasized, with Global Chemicals Monitoring Program (GCMP) funding laboratory fellowships for young scientists and SWAP hosting annual zero-waste webinars in schools across five pilot cities.

The informal sector is not overlooked: SWAP supports women waste-pickers in building their businesses, while NGI Textiles targets small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in supplier networks with concessional finance packages.

54. Several projects incorporate structured multi-stakeholder platforms to drive co-creation and accountability. In the Philippines, the Cement project brings together ministries, local governments, trade unions, and investors through a collaborative roadmap process. LAC Mercury-Trade includes civil society organizations on its regional advisory board and requires all workplans to be vetted through a gender lens. Projects in the industrial sector use co-financing conditions to promote inclusion. Brazil Cement and the Chlor-alkali initiative, for example, require suppliers to meet female participation thresholds, while NGI Textiles adjusts loan pricing based on uptake of the IFC's Gender Equality Action Recognition (GEAR) framework.
55. Gender and inclusion activities are supported by ring-fenced budgets, and their indicators are integrated into the GEF corporate results framework. All projects apply social and environmental safeguards aligned with the standards of UNDP, UNEP, and UNIDO, including dedicated project-level grievance mechanisms. In Costa Rica, the planetGOLD project applies its own standardized grievance channel. On the learning side, initiatives such as GCMP and GEMINI have launched global knowledge platforms that share gender-responsive tools and youth-friendly materials to support replication and continuous improvement.

2. Private Sector Engagement

56. The Roles of the Private Sector: Across the GEF chemicals and waste portfolio, four recurring roles emerge for private-sector partners. First, many act as industrial co-investors and demonstration hosts. These are typically facility operators, smelters, or mine owners who offer their facilities as pilot sites. While grants cover the cost of targeted technical assistance, the companies themselves finance the major capital investments. Second, some private actors serve as supply-chain champions, traders, brand owners, or refiners that commit to buying cleaner, mercury-free, or POP-free commodities. In many cases, they even pre-pay for offtake to help stabilize demand. A third group comprises technology and service providers, including equipment manufacturers, waste management firms, and logistics SMEs. These actors typically offer their services on a fee-for-service basis, although some deploy their own capital to support operations. Finally, capital providers and deal enablers, such as commercial banks and blended-finance facilities, step in to finance scale-up once a model's viability is proven, supplying loans or equity to drive adoption.
57. Leveraging Private Resources: Collectively, private-sector partners have committed well over \$1 billion in co-financing to the portfolio. These contributions span several key areas. One major category is hard assets, including kiln retrofits, membrane cell installations, autoclaves, scrubbers, and mercury-free processing circuits. Projects also benefit from

working capital and concessional loan facilities, such as the NGI Textiles initiative, which established a supplier finance facility worth more than \$50 million. Market-based instruments like offtake agreements play a central role in de-risking operations for small miners in planetGOLD and for electronics recyclers in GEM. In addition, private partners contribute process data and open their plants for peer learning under initiatives like GEM and GEMINI. Many companies also provide in-kind engineering expertise, offering up their design teams, environmental health and safety staff, and logistics networks to support implementation.

58. **Project-Specific Examples:** Several child projects illustrate how the private sector is contributing both financially and operationally. In Brazil, companies such as Chlorum, Katrium, and Unipar Carbocloro are investing \$344 million, 96 percent of the project's total envelope—for the conversion to membrane technology and the safe disposal of 240 tonnes of mercury. The GEMINI initiative involves copper, zinc, lead, and aluminum smelters across six countries, committing \$233 million for off-gas capture, mercury-free fluxes, and secure by-product storage, while also opening their facilities for knowledge exchange. In Costa Rica, the planetGOLD project benefits from \$13.3 million in support from certified gold buyers and mining cooperatives for mercury-free processing hubs and environmental, social, and governance (ESG)-compliant offtake agreements. Healthcare waste operators in Eswatini are investing \$28.4 million in non-burn treatment models, including autoclaves and shredders. The NGI Textiles Fund brings together global banks and apparel buyers to capitalize a loan facility exceeding \$50 million, with loan terms linked to participation in the IFC-GEAR gender equality program. In the electronics sector, brands, OEMs, and recyclers involved in the GEM project have pledged \$256 million to support cleaner production and circular pilots, in combination with a \$60 million grant.
59. **Emerging Patterns:** Several themes emerge from these partnerships. The first is the importance of the scale of large industrial retrofits, such as those in the chlor-alkali and smelting sectors, which far exceed grant contributions, underscoring meaningful private-sector risk sharing. Second, investments are most robust when aligned with core business interests, especially when assets remain on companies' books after project closure, locking in environmental and financial gains. The third pattern reflects the logic of blended finance: GEF resources help de-risk early investments, allowing private capital to scale up proven models. Another trend is the value of knowledge spillovers, with many agreements requiring open access to technical documentation and peer learning opportunities. Finally, there's a notable emphasis on inclusion. Projects like NGI Textiles incorporate gender and SME-related criteria directly into financial term sheets, reinforcing social impact alongside environmental goals.
60. The GEF chemicals and waste portfolio demonstrates that ambitious environmental objectives become achievable when the private sector is engaged as a genuine partner with tangible stakes in the outcome. Companies are contributing not just capital, but also the infrastructure, expertise, and market mechanisms that translate policy into practical, long-lasting results on the ground.

PART IV: UPDATE ON THE NINTH REPLENISHMENT OF THE GEF TRUST FUND

61. The GEF-9 replenishment process was launched at the 68th Council in December 2024. The replenishment was started with convening the Technical Advisory Group to gather input from leading scientists and practitioners. Four replenishment meetings are planned²¹ in May 2024, October 2025, January 2026 and March 2026. The 71st Council meeting in June 2026 will formally decide on the outcome of the replenishment and will convey for approval to the eighth GEF Assembly in June 2026. The GEF-9 period will commence on July 1, 2026.
62. The first meeting of the ninth replenishment, that was held in May 2025 and considered the draft programming directions²² and draft policy directions²³. The meeting was attended by the Executive Secretary of the Minamata Convention, along with other MEA Secretariat representatives.
63. COP 6 will likely provide guidance to the GEF, and this will be taken into consideration for the programming directions draft to be presented to the third replenishment meeting in January 2026.

²¹ [GEF/R.9/01. Rev01 - Planning Note for the Ninth Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund](#)

²² [GEF/R.9/05 - Ninth GEF Replenishment: Draft Gef-9 Strategic Positioning and Programming Directions](#)

²³ [GEF/R.9/06 - Draft Policy Directions For GEF-9](#)

ANNEX 1: GEF RESPONSE TO INITIAL GUIDANCE

COP Guidance	GEF's Response
I. Eligibility for access to and utilization of financial resources	
<p>2 To be eligible for funding from GEF as one of the entities comprising the financial mechanism of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, a country must be a Party to the Convention and must be a developing country or a country with an economy in transition.</p>	<p>The GEF's eligibility policy for mercury incorporates the criteria for funding enabling activities (EAs). The guidelines for EAs are found in the information document of the 45th GEF Council meeting held in November 2013.²⁴</p> <p>In GEF-5 and GEF-6, prior to the first COP, both signatory countries and Parties were eligible to receive funding from the GEF. In GEF-7, only Parties were eligible to access GEF resources, except for EAs. According to the COP guidance, signatories to the Convention are eligible for GEF funding for EAs, provided that any such signatory is taking meaningful steps towards becoming a Party.</p>
<p>3 Activities that are eligible for funding from the GEF trust fund are those that seek to meet the objectives of the Convention and are consistent with the present guidance.</p>	<p>According to the GEF Instrument, paragraph 6 (e), the GEF shall: Operate as one of the entities comprising the financial mechanism of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, pursuant to its Article 13, paragraphs 5, 6, and 8. In such respects, the GEF shall operate under the guidance of, and be accountable to, the COP, which shall provide guidance on overall strategies, policies, program priorities and eligibility for access to, and utilization of, financial resources. In addition, the GEF shall receive guidance from the COP on an indicative list of categories of activities that could receive support; and shall provide resources to meet the agreed incremental costs of global environmental benefits (GEBs) and the agreed full costs of some EAs, pursuant to Article 13, paragraph 7, of the Minamata Convention on Mercury.</p>
<p>4 Signatories to the Convention are eligible for</p>	<p>Up to June 30, 2018, the GEF supported a</p>

²⁴ GEF, 2014, [Initial Guidelines for Enabling Activities for the Minamata Convention on Mercury](#), Council Document GEF/C.45/Inf.05/Rev.01.

COP Guidance	GEF's Response
<p>funding from GEF for enabling activities, provided that any such signatory is taking meaningful steps towards becoming a Party as evidenced by a letter from the relevant minister to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and to the Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility.</p>	<p>total of 110 countries in GEF-5 and GEF-6 to implement their Minamata Initial Assessments (MIAs) and 32 countries to develop their Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining (ASGM) National Action Plans (NAPs). Seventy-eight out of 89 signatories received funding for these EAs. Of the remaining eleven countries, six have become Parties as at June 30, 2018.</p> <p>Twenty-three countries that were non-signatory and non-Party States accessed EA resources. At the request of the sixth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Mercury (INC 6) to allow non-signatory, non-Party States to access GEF resources for EAs, the GEF Council varied the eligibility criteria through a decision by mail on January 14, 2015. This variation of the eligibility for non-signatories, non-Parties is no longer applicable, as the COP 1 guidance with respect to access of funding of EAs only applies to signatories and Parties.</p> <p>Update for COP 3: Up to June 30, 2019, the GEF supported a total of 111 countries to implement MIAs and 35 countries to conduct their ASGM NAPs.</p> <p>Update for COP 4: Up to June 30, 2021, the GEF supported a total of 117 countries to implement MIAs and 43 countries to conduct their ASGM NAPs.</p> <p>Update for COP 5: Up to June 30, 2022, the GEF supported a total of 119 countries to implement MIAs and 48 countries to conduct their ASGM NAPs. Data from the MIAs are used to populate the global database on mercury.</p>

COP Guidance		GEF's Response
		<p>Update for COP 6:</p> <p>Up to June 30, 2025, the GEF supported one additional MIA bringing the number of supported countries to 120. The GEF also supported two additional NAPs bringing the total to 50.</p>
II. Overall strategies and policies		
5	<p>In accordance with Article 13, paragraph 7, of the Convention, the GEF trust fund shall provide new, predictable, adequate, and timely financial resources to meet costs in support of implementation of the Convention as agreed by the Conference of the Parties, including costs arising from activities that:</p> <p>(a) Are country-driven;</p> <p>(b) Are in conformity with programme priorities as reflected in relevant guidance provided by the Conference of the Parties;</p> <p>(c) Build capacity and promote the utilization of local and regional expertise, if applicable;</p> <p>(d) Promote synergies with other focal areas;</p> <p>(e) Continue to enhance synergies and co-benefits within the chemicals and wastes focal area;</p> <p>(f) Promote multiple-source funding approaches, mechanisms and arrangements, including from the private sector, if applicable; and</p> <p>(g) Promote sustainable national socioeconomic development, poverty reduction and activities consistent with existing national sound environmental management programmes geared towards the protection of human health and the environment.</p>	<p>This guidance was used to inform the GEF-6 and GEF-7 programming and was addressed in the GEF-7 replenishment negotiations, which were concluded in April 2018. The new strategy was included in the summary of negotiations of GEF-7.²⁵</p> <p>Update for COP 4:</p> <p>The projects approved in the reporting period followed this guidance. Throughout GEF-7, there was a focus on synergies within the chemicals and waste focal area and with other focal areas. Private sector engagement was also a priority. In the reporting period, the 59th GEF Council meeting in December 2020 approved GEF's Private Sector Engagement Strategy (PSES).²⁶ The PSES is supported by an Implementation Plan that sets out actions and deliverables up to the end of the GEF-7 period. The <i>Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in SIDS (ISLANDS) Program</i> achieved synergies across the chemicals and waste focal area, while the project <i>Integrated Watershed Management of the Putumayo-Içá River Basin</i> combined mercury and international water resources as a multi-focal area project in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru.</p> <p>Update for COP 6:</p> <p>Project approved in the reporting period</p>

²⁵ GEF, 2018, [Report on the Seventh Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund](#), Council Document GEF/A.6/05/Rev.01.

²⁶ GEF, 2020, [GEF's Private Sector Engagement Strategy](#), Council Document GEF/C.59/07/Rev.01.

COP Guidance		GEF's Response
		were aligned to the priorities of countries including in ASGM, cement, skin lightening products among others. Projects and programs such as the GCMP and GEM addressed both the Stockholm and Minamata Conventions.
III. Programme priorities		
6	In accordance with Article 13, paragraph 7, of the Convention, the GEF trust fund shall provide resources to meet the agreed incremental costs of global environmental benefits and the agreed full costs of some enabling activities.	<p>This is reflected in the GEF strategies. In GEF-7, \$206 million was allocated for the implementation of the Minamata Convention. The GEF programmed resources to meet the full cost of the MIAs and ASGM NAPs, as well as for several projects that were aimed at early implementation, particularly in the ASGM sector.</p> <p>Update for COP 4:</p> <p>In the reporting period, the GEF programmed resources to meet the full cost of the MIAs and ASGM NAPs. Other programmed resources for projects that were aimed at early implementation addressed several priority areas of the Minamata Convention that meet the agreed incremental costs of mercury reduction, such as chlor alkali, mercury products including medical devices and ASGM.</p>
7	<p>In particular, it should give priority to the following activities when providing financial resources to developing-country Parties and Parties with economies in transition:</p> <p>(a) Enabling activities, particularly Minamata Convention initial assessment activities and national action plans for artisanal and small-scale gold mining;</p> <p>(b) Activities to implement the provisions of the Convention, affording priority to those that:</p> <p>(i) Relate to legally binding obligations;</p> <p>(ii) Facilitate early implementation on entry into force of the Convention for a Party;</p> <p>(iii) Allow for reduction in mercury emissions and releases and address the health and environmental impacts of mercury.</p>	<p>This guidance was used in the GEF-6 and GEF-7 programming and was addressed in the priorities of the GEF-7 chemicals and waste focal area Programming Strategy. All projects and programs in GEF-7 that sought to implement the Minamata Convention were designed consistently with this guidance.</p> <p>Update for COP 3:</p> <p>In the reporting period, four EAs, including one MIA and three ASGM NAPs, were approved in accordance with (a). All approved full-sized projects (FSPs) met the guidance under (b).</p>

COP Guidance		GEF's Response
		<p>Update for COP 4:</p> <p>In the reporting period, 13 EAs, including 6 MIA and 8 ASGM NAPs²⁷ were approved in accordance with (a). All approved medium-sized projects (MSPs) and FSPs met the guidance under (b). For example, the project to address chlor alkali in Mexico, the <i>GOLD+</i> Program addressing ASGM in 15 countries, and the projects addressing mercury products, all supported legally binding obligations that facilitate early implementation and addressed health and environmental impacts.</p>
8	In providing resources for an activity, GEF should take into account the potential mercury reductions of a proposed activity relative to its costs in accordance with paragraph 8 of Article 13 of the Convention.	In GEF-7, projects with potential for significant mercury reductions were approved. The GEF has continued to work with countries and Agencies to look at the potential mercury reductions of a proposed activity relative to its costs.
IV. Indicative list of categories of activities that could receive support		
A. Enabling activities		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minamata Convention initial assessments 2. Preparation of national action plans for artisanal and small-scale gold mining in accordance with paragraph 3 of Article 7 and Annex C 3. Other types of enabling activities as agreed by the Conference of the Parties 	<p>This guidance was used to inform the GEF-6 and GEF-7 programming and was addressed in the priorities of the GEF-7 chemicals and waste focal area Programming Strategy. In GEF-6 and GEF-7, all eligible EAs that were submitted to the GEF received funding.</p> <p>Update for COP 3: The GEF-7 notional allocation for Minamata Convention EAs was \$14 million.</p> <p>Update for COP 4: In the reporting period, all eligible EAs that were submitted to the GEF received funding.</p>
B. Activities to implement the provisions of the Convention		
1. Activities to implement the provisions of the Convention that relate to legally binding obligations		
9	When providing financial resources to eligible Parties for activities to implement the provisions	These activities were included in the GEF-7 chemicals and waste focal area

²⁷ One country opted to combine MIA and NAP under one EA.

	COP Guidance	GEF's Response
	<p>of the Convention, GEF should afford priority to those activities that relate to legally binding obligations of Parties under the Convention and should take into account the potential mercury reductions of a proposed activity relative to its costs. Such activities could include those related to the following areas, listed in no particular order:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mercury supply sources and trade; • Mercury-added products; • Manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used; • Artisanal and small-scale gold mining; • Emissions; • Releases; • Environmentally sound interim storage of mercury, other than waste mercury; • Mercury wastes; • Reporting; • Relevant capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer in relation to the above. 	<p>Programming Strategy. This guidance was used to inform the GEF-6 and GEF-7 programming.</p> <p>Update for COP 3: Projects approved in the reporting period followed this guidance. One project addressed mercury sources and trade. All projects included capacity building, and other projects, including the <i>ISLANDS</i> Program and the <i>Scaling-up Investment and Technology Transfer to Facilitate Capacity Strengthening and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the Stockholm and Minamata Conventions in African LDCs</i> project, addressed mercury waste and mercury-containing products.</p> <p>Update for COP 4: Projects approved in the reporting period followed this guidance. All MSPs and FSPs included capacity building. There were projects on mercury-added products, manufacturing processes, ASGM, emissions, releases, environmentally sound storage, and mercury waste. The chlor alkali project in Mexico was the first addressing the sector and has the potential to serve as a model for other projects in the region and globally.</p> <p>Update for COP 5: Projects approved in the reporting period followed this guidance. All MSPs and FSPs included capacity building. In the reporting period, two projects on mercury in products were approved, one on industrial processes and one on waste.</p>
2. Activities to implement the provisions of the Convention that facilitate early implementation on entry into force of the Convention for a Party		
10	When considering activities to implement the provisions of the Convention that facilitate early implementation on entry into force, GEF should also consider providing support for activities that,	This was addressed during the GEF-7 programming, to be reported on at subsequent COPs.

	COP Guidance	GEF's Response
	<p>although they are not the subject of a legal obligation under the Convention, may significantly contribute to a Party's preparedness to implement the Convention upon its entry into force for that country.</p>	<p>Update for COP 3: GEF projects primarily focused on implementing obligations of the Convention that reduce mercury. Other activities were considered on a case-by-case basis. Projects typically included technical assistance and capacity building that addressed a legally binding obligation. For example, training of customs officers in the <i>ISLANDS</i> Program supported the countries in meeting the phase-out date in Annex A for mercury-containing products and devices.</p> <p>Update for COP 4: GEF-funded projects in the reporting period primarily focused on implementing obligations of the Convention that reduce mercury. Others were considered on a case-by-case basis. Projects typically included technical assistance and capacity building that addressed a legally binding obligation. For example, the knowledge-sharing and communication component of the <i>GOLD+</i> Program supported formalization, access to financing, and technology transfer within the sector leading to mercury reductions.</p>
11	<p>Within the context of the GEF mandate, such activities could include, inter alia, support for:</p> <p>(a) With regard to emissions, the development by Parties with relevant sources of emissions of national plans setting out the measures to be taken to control emissions and their expected targets, goals and outcomes;</p> <p>(b) With regard to releases, the development by Parties with relevant sources of releases of national plans setting out the measures to be taken to control releases and their expected targets, goals and outcomes;</p> <p>(c) With regard to contaminated sites, capacity-building for the development of strategies for identifying and assessing sites contaminated by mercury or mercury compounds and, as appropriate, the remediation of those sites;</p> <p>(d) Information exchange;</p>	<p>This was addressed during the GEF-7 programming, to be reported on at subsequent COPs.</p> <p>Update for COP 3: GEF projects primarily focused on implementing legal obligations of the Convention and reducing mercury. Other activities were considered on a case-by-case basis. Activities that are not subject to legal obligations under the Convention were considered in projects funded in the reporting period, such as information exchange, public awareness, and development of implementation plans.</p> <p>Update for COP 4:</p>

COP Guidance		GEF's Response
	<p>(e) Public information, awareness and education;</p> <p>(f) Cooperation in the development and improvement of research, development and monitoring;</p> <p>(g) Development of implementation plans following initial assessments.</p>	<p>GEF projects primarily focused on implementing legal obligations of the Convention and reducing mercury. Other activities were considered on a case-by-case basis. Activities that are not subject to legal obligation under the Convention were considered in projects funded in the reporting period, such as information exchange, public awareness, and capacity building for the development of strategies for identifying and assessing sites contaminated by mercury and, as appropriate, their remediation. For example, the chlor alkali project in Mexico included an assessment of the site contaminated with mercury and a plan for remediation.</p>
3. Activities to implement the provisions of the Convention that allow for the reduction of mercury emissions and releases and address both the health and environmental impacts of mercury		
12	<p>Activities to implement the provisions of the Convention that allow for the reduction of mercury emissions and releases and address both the health and environmental impacts of mercury may encompass activities relating to both binding and non-binding provisions, with priority to the legally binding provisions discussed above, that accord with the GEF mandate to deliver global environmental benefits and reflect the GEF chemicals and wastes focal area strategy.</p>	<p>This was addressed during the GEF-7 programming, to be reported on at subsequent COPs.</p> <p>Update for COP 3: The projects approved in the reporting period contributed to the reduction of 1,163 metric tons of mercury.</p> <p>Update for COP 4: The projects approved in the reporting period contributed to the reduction of 793 metric tons of mercury.</p> <p>Update for COP 5: The projects approved in the reporting period were expected to contribute to the reduction of 113.3 metric tons of mercury. This brings the cumulative GEF-7 total to 1,629 metric tons of addressed mercury.</p>
V. Review by the Conference of the Parties		
13	<p>In accordance with paragraph 11 of Article 13, the Conference of the Parties will review, no later than at its third meeting, and thereafter on a regular basis, the level of funding, the guidance</p>	<p>At the request of the COP, the GEF provided information that relates to the review described in paragraph 11 of Article 13 of the Minamata Convention.</p>

COP Guidance	GEF's Response
<p>provided by the Conference of the Parties to GEF as one of the entities entrusted with operationalizing the mechanism established under this Article and the mechanism's effectiveness and ability to address the changing needs of developing-country Parties and Parties with economies in transition. On the basis of such review, the Conference of the Parties will take appropriate action to improve the effectiveness of the financial mechanism, including by updating and prioritizing as necessary its guidance to GEF.</p>	<p>Update for COP 5: The GEF provided detailed information for the second review of the financial mechanism. The report of the second review will be considered at COP 5.</p>

ANNEX 2: LIST OF MERCURY PROJECTS APPROVED IN THE REPORTING PERIOD (JULY 1, 2022 TO JUNE 30, 2025)

GEF project financing includes the amount allocated to mercury component only, excluding PPGs and Agency fees.

Project Title	Project Type Code	Country Short Name	Project Financing Amount (\$)	Agency Fee (\$)	PPG Agency Fee Amount (\$)	PPG Project Financing Amount (\$)
Development of a National Action Plan for the Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining (ASGM) Sector in the Philippines	EA	Philippines	500,000	47,500		
Development of Minamata Convention Initial Assessment (MIA) for the Kingdom of Bahrain	EA	Bahrain	200,000	19,000		
National Action Plan for the Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining (ASGM) Sector in South Africa	EA	South Africa	1,000,000	95,000		
Global Coordination Project for iCOAST	FSP	Global	1,000,000	90,000	2,250	25,000
Environmentally sound management and disposal of excess mercury and mercury waste from removing mercury electrolytic cells in Brazil's chlor-alkali sector (Chlor-alkali Brazil)	FSP	Brazil	12,000,000	1,080,000	18,000	200,000
Control and reduction of mercury emissions from the cement industry in Brazil	FSP	Brazil	12,000,000	1,080,000	27,000	300,000
GEM Program Global Child Project: Coordination and Knowledge Management	FSP	Global	1,600,000	144,000	3,600	40,000
Promoting circularity and resource efficiency in the electronics value chain across southern African countries	FSP	Lesotho	112,000	10,080	302	3,360
Promoting circularity and resource efficiency in the electronics value chain across southern African countries	FSP	Namibia	220,000	19,800	594	6,600
Promoting circularity and resource efficiency in the electronics value chain across southern African countries	FSP	Mozambique	334,000	30,060	902	10,020

Project Title	Project Type Code	Country Short Name	Project Financing Amount (\$)	Agency Fee (\$)	PPG Agency Fee Amount (\$)	PPG Project Financing Amount (\$)
Promoting circularity and resource efficiency in the electronics value chain across southern African countries	FSP	Botswana	334,000	30,060	902	10,020
Promoting circularity and resource efficiency in the electronics value chain across southern African countries	FSP	Eswatini	112,000	10,080	302	3,360
Promoting circularity and resource efficiency in the electronics value chain across southern African countries	FSP	South Africa	888,000	79,920	2,398	26,640
Electronics management for sustainable ICT solutions in the Horn of Africa (HoA)	FSP	Ethiopia	700,000	63,000	1,430	15,897
Electronics management for sustainable ICT solutions in the Horn of Africa (HoA)	FSP	Somalia	420,000	37,800	1,080	12,000
Electronics management for sustainable ICT solutions in the Horn of Africa (HoA)	FSP	Djibouti	280,000	25,200	792	8,800
Reduce waste and chemicals of concerns through promoting circularity in electric and electronic management in Viet Nam	FSP	Viet Nam	1,100,000	99,000	2,700	30,000
Strengthening the value chain for WEEE management in Colombia.	FSP	Colombia	1,100,000	99,000	2,700	30,000
Strengthening Indonesia's Reduction and Elimination in the Distribution and Supply Chain of Mercury from National Health (SIRENE)	FSP	Indonesia	6,590,000	626,050	14,250	150,000
Global coordination of the Chemicals Monitoring Programme to support implementation of Stockholm and Minamata Conventions	FSP	Global	1,100,000	99,000	2,700	30,000
Integrated Management for Sustainable Reduction (IMSRed) of POPs, Highly Hazardous Pesticides, and industrial chemicals in Argentina	FSP	Argentina	4,620,000	415,800	9,000	100,000

Project Title	Project Type Code	Country Short Name	Project Financing Amount (\$)	Agency Fee (\$)	PPG Agency Fee Amount (\$)	PPG Project Financing Amount (\$)
IFC/GEF Green Global Supply Chain Decarbonization Platform	FSP	Global	917,431	82,569		
Reduced risks on human health & the environment through reduction of POPs & U-POPs in Eswatini	FSP	Eswatini	808,500	76,808	2,335	24,574
Shifting to Zero Waste Against Pollution (SWAP) Initiative	FSP	Tunisia			180	2,000
Shifting to Zero Waste Against Pollution (SWAP) Initiative	FSP	Sierra Leone	233,000	20,970	180	2,000
Shifting to Zero Waste Against Pollution (SWAP) Initiative	FSP	Uruguay	248,000	22,320	180	2,000
Shifting to Zero Waste Against Pollution (SWAP) Initiative	FSP	China	248,000	22,320		
Shifting to Zero Waste Against Pollution (SWAP) Initiative	FSP	Türkiye			180	2,000
Shifting to Zero Waste Against Pollution (SWAP) Initiative	FSP	Global	176,750	15,908	630	7,000
Global Opportunities for the Long-Term Development of the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Sector in Paraguay - planetGOLD Paraguay	FSP	Paraguay	3,000,000	285,000	14,250	150,000
Global Opportunities for Long-Term Development of the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Sector in Zimbabwe- GEF planetGOLD Zimbabwe	FSP	Zimbabwe	5,000,000	475,000	14,250	150,000
Accelerate Minamata Convention compliance through improved understanding and control of mercury trade in Latin America	FSP	Ecuador	500,000	47,500		
Accelerate Minamata Convention compliance through improved understanding and control of mercury trade in Latin America	FSP	Peru	500,000	47,500		
Accelerate Minamata Convention compliance through improved understanding and control of mercury trade in Latin America	FSP	Colombia	500,000	47,500		

Project Title	Project Type Code	Country Short Name	Project Financing Amount (\$)	Agency Fee (\$)	PPG Agency Fee Amount (\$)	PPG Project Financing Amount (\$)
Accelerate Minamata Convention compliance through improved understanding and control of mercury trade in Latin America	FSP	Mexico	500,000	47,500		
Accelerate Minamata Convention compliance through improved understanding and control of mercury trade in Latin America	FSP	Honduras	500,000	47,500		
Accelerate Minamata Convention compliance through improved understanding and control of mercury trade in Latin America	FSP	Bolivia	500,000	47,500		
Accelerate Minamata Convention compliance through improved understanding and control of mercury trade in Latin America	FSP	Regional			14,250	150,000
Global elimination of mercury in non-ferrous metals initiative, global. GEMINI Global	FSP	Global	10,000,000	900,000	27,000	300,000
Global elimination of mercury in non-ferrous metals initiative, India. GEMINI in India	FSP	India	15,740,000	1,416,600	27,000	300,000
Global elimination of mercury in non-ferrous metals initiative, South Africa. GEMINI in South Africa	FSP	South Africa	6,210,000	558,900	18,000	200,000
Global elimination of mercury in non-ferrous metals initiative, Mexico. GEMINI in Mexico	FSP	Mexico	9,750,000	877,500	18,000	200,000
Global elimination of mercury in non-ferrous metals initiative, Zambia. GEMINI in Zambia	FSP	Zambia	5,060,000	455,400	13,500	150,000
Global elimination of mercury in non-ferrous metals initiative, Peru. GEMINI in Peru	FSP	Peru	5,650,000	508,500	13,500	150,000

Project Title	Project Type Code	Country Short Name	Project Financing Amount (\$)	Agency Fee (\$)	PPG Agency Fee Amount (\$)	PPG Project Financing Amount (\$)
Global elimination of mercury in non-ferrous metals initiative, Chile. GEMINI in Chile	FSP	Chile	6,400,000	576,000	18,000	200,000
Elimination of Mercury-Added Skin Lightening Products (SLPs) in Africa	FSP	Regional	15,000,000	1,350,000	27,000	300,000
Greening of the Philippines cement and construction industry	FSP	Philippines	4,416,210	419,540	14,250	150,000
Global Opportunities for the Long-Term Development of the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Sector in Senegal – planetGOLD Senegal	MSP	Senegal	4,500,000	427,500	14,250	150,000
Global Opportunities for the Long-Term Development of the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Sector in Costa Rica - planetGOLD Costa Rica	MSP	Costa Rica	4,500,000	427,500	14,250	150,000
Promoting circularity and resource efficiency in the electronic value chain in Kazakhstan	MSP	Kazakhstan	1,000,000	90,000	2,700	30,000
Global Electronics Management (GEM) Program Child Project in Cambodia	MSP	Cambodia	800,000	72,000	2,700	30,000
Sustainable electronics management in Peru	MSP	Peru	1,000,000	90,000	2,700	30,000
Sustainable electronics management in the Republic of Türkiye	MSP	Türkiye	1,000,000	90,000	2,700	30,000
Sustainable electronics management in the Philippines	MSP	Philippines	1,000,000	90,000	2,700	30,000
Monitoring of POPs and mercury under the Stockholm and Minamata Conventions in the Latin American Region	MSP	Latin America and Caribbean	800,000	72,000	2,700	30,000
Monitoring of POPs and mercury under the Stockholm and Minamata Conventions in the Pacific Region	MSP	Asia/Pacific	400,000	36,000	1,800	20,000

Project Title	Project Type Code	Country Short Name	Project Financing Amount (\$)	Agency Fee (\$)	PPG Agency Fee Amount (\$)	PPG Project Financing Amount (\$)
Monitoring of POPs and mercury under the Stockholm and Minamata Conventions in the Caribbean Region	MSP	Latin America and Caribbean	600,000	54,000	1,800	20,000
Monitoring of POPs and mercury under the Stockholm and Minamata Conventions in the Asia Region	MSP	Asia/Pacific	800,000	72,000	2,700	30,000
Monitoring of POPs and mercury under the Stockholm and Minamata Conventions in the Africa Region	MSP	Africa	1,000,000	90,000	2,700	30,000

**ANNEX 3: LIST OF MERCURY PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME IN THE REPORTING PERIOD
(JULY 1, 2022 TO JUNE 30, 2025)**

**Source: Annual Monitoring Reports 2022-2023 and 2023-2024)*

Country	Grantee Name	Project Title	Duration	SGP Grant (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
Madagascar	Groupe de Communauté Paysanne (GCP)	Appui à la responsabilisation de fokonolona dans la reduction des produits polluants dans le fleuve de Mananjary et amélioration de la technique d'Exploitation aurifère à Ambohimirina I, commune Tsiatosika, district Mananjary, region Vatovavy Fitovinany	1/2019 - 12/2023	25,000.00	27,765.60
Albania	Milieukontakt Albania	Monitoring of mercury background levels in the Vjosa National Park	7/2023 - 9/2024	18,576.00	7,400.00
Argentina	Fundacion Corriente Calida Humanistica	Los jóvenes cuentan en la implementación del Convenio de Minamata	9/2021 - 2/2023	18,292.69	18,409.00
Zimbabwe	Gingie West Mining Syndicate (GWMS)	Awareness, knowledge sharing and implementation of alternatives to mercury use through onsite demonstrations and documentation of mercury free technology	12/2020 - 12/2023	50,000.00	25,020.00
North Macedonia	Regionalen Centar za Zastapuvanje/ Regional Advocacy Center	Sustainable electronic waste management - repair service and proper disposal of WEEE in the micro region Pijanec-Malesh	2/2022 - 8/2023	31,000.00	24,396.00
Uganda	Support for Women in Agriculture and Environment	SWAGEN Safe Artisanal Gold Mining	9/2021 - 8/2023	45,000.00	65,000.00

ANNEX 4: LIST OF COUNTRIES THAT RECEIVED GEF SUPPORT FOR ENABLING ACTIVITIES

To support the ratification of the Minamata Convention, the GEF prioritized funding EAs. As of June 30, 2025, the GEF has funded MIAs for 120 countries and 50 ASGM NAPs.²⁸ They are presented in the following table.

Minamata Initial Assessment		ASGM National Action Plan	
Parties	Non-Parties ²⁹	Parties	Non-Parties ³⁶
Afghanistan	Albania*	Afghanistan	Angola
Antigua and Barbuda*	Angola	Brazil	Burundi*
Argentina*	Azerbaijan*	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Central African Republic*
Armenia*	Bangladesh*	Burkina Faso*	Congo*
Bahamas*	Belarus	Cambodia	Democratic Republic of the Congo*
Bahrain			
Benin*	Belize*	Cameroon	Eritrea
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)*	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Chad*	Kenya*
Botswana*	Burundi	Costa Rica	Kyrgyzstan*
Brazil	Cabo Verde*	Côte D'Ivoire	Liberia
Burkina Faso*	Cambodia	Ecuador*	Mozambique
Chad*	Cameroon*	Eswatini*	Myanmar
Chile*	Central African Republic*	Gabon	United Republic of Tanzania*
China	Colombia*	Ghana*	Uganda*
Costa Rica*	Comoros*	Guinea*	Zimbabwe*
Cuba	Congo*	Guyana*	
Djibouti	Cook Islands	Honduras	
Dominican Republic*	Côte D'Ivoire*	Indonesia*	
El Salvador	Dominica	Lao People's Democratic Republic*	
Eswatini	Eritrea	Madagascar*	
Gabon	Ethiopia*	Mali*	
Gambia (Republic of The)*	Georgia*	Mexico	
Ghana*	Grenada	Mongolia*	
Guinea*	Guatemala*	Nicaragua	
Guyana*	Guinea Bissau*	Niger	
Honduras	Iraq	Nigeria*	
India	Kazakhstan*	Pakistan	
Indonesia*	Kenya	Paraguay*	
Jamaica*	Kyrgyzstan	Peru	
Jordan*	Liberia	Philippines	
Kiribati	Malawi	Rwanda	

²⁸ This is the total number of countries receiving EA support, including GEF-5, GEF-6, GEF-7 and GEF-8.

²⁹ Highlighted countries were non-Parties at the time of approval of EA support but have since become Parties.

Minamata Initial Assessment		ASGM National Action Plan	
Parties	Non-Parties ²⁹	Parties	Non-Parties ³⁶
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Malaysia*	Senegal*	
Lesotho*	Maldives	Sierra Leone*	
Madagascar*	Marshall Islands	South Africa	
Mali*	Micronesia (Federated States of)	Suriname	
Mauritania	Montenegro*	Togo	
Mauritius*	Morocco	Zambia*	
Mexico*	Mozambique		
Mongolia*	Myanmar		
Namibia	Nepal*		
Nicaragua	Niue		
Niger*	North Macedonia*		
Nigeria*	Pakistan		
Oman	Papua New Guinea		
Palau	Philippines		
Panama*	Saint Lucia*		
Qatar	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		
Paraguay*	Serbia*		
Republic of Moldova*	South Africa*		
Rwanda	Sudan		
Saint Kitts and Nevis*	Tonga		
Samoa*	Trinidad and Tobago*		
Sao Tome and Principe*	Turkey		
Senegal*	Uganda*		
Seychelles*	United Republic of Tanzania*		
Sierra Leone*	Vanuatu		
Sri Lanka*	Yemen*		
Suriname*	Zimbabwe		
Togo*			
Thailand			
Tuvalu			
Viet Nam*			
Zambia*			

* Indicates that the report has been submitted to the Minamata Convention Secretariat. The MIAs and NAPs not yet submitted are under implementation. MIAs and NAPs have a two year duration and projects are submitted and approved on a rolling basis. The final product of the project, which is the MIA or NAP is only submitted once the project is completed. The GEF has been funding MIAs and NAPs since the end of GEF-5 and from GEF-6, respectively. In addition, the GEF with the help of the global mercury partnership of UNEP has developed a database that complies with the MIAs and the NIPs which is populated with the submitted projects:

MIA:

https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/mark.burton.bri/viz/MIAMercuryInventoryDashboard20220308/Main_Dashboard?publish=yes

NAPs:

<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/ken5550/viz/NAPsexample/Story1>

ANNEX 5: LIST OF MERCURY PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED IN THE REPORTING PERIOD (JULY 1, 2022 TO JUNE 30, 2025)

Project Title	GEF Phase	Country Name List	Project Type	Project Financing (\$) ³⁰	CEO Co-Financing (\$)
Development of Minamata Convention on Mercury Initial Assessment in Brazil	GEF - 5	Brazil	EA	821,918	1,690,000
Development of A Minamata Initial Assessment in Marshall Islands	GEF - 6	Marshall Islands	EA	125,000	
Development of a Minamata Initial Assessment in the Federated States of Micronesia	GEF - 6	Micronesia	EA	125,000	
Development of A Minamata Initial Assessment in Niue	GEF - 6	Niue	EA	125,000	
Development of a Minamata Initial Assessment in El Salvador	GEF - 6	El Salvador	EA	200,000	
Development of Minamata Initial Assessment and National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining in Honduras	GEF - 6	Honduras	EA	700,000	
Development of Minamata Convention Mercury Initial Assessment in Pacific	GEF - 6	Cook Islands, Kiribati, Palau, Tonga, Vanuatu	EA	500,000	20,000
Development of a Minamata Initial Assessment in Djibouti	GEF - 6	Djibouti	EA	200,000	
Knowledge Exchange And Institutional Partnerships to Reduce Environmental Health Risks from Exposure to Harmful Chemicals and Waste	GEF - 6	Africa, Regional	FSP	4,311,926	10,850,000
Africa Environmental Health and Pollution Management Project - Ghana	GEF - 6	Ghana	FSP	8,715,596	50,600,000
Africa Environmental Health and Pollution Management Project – Tanzania	GEF - 6	Tanzania	FSP	7,339,450	150,300,000

³⁰ Not including Agency Fees and PPG

Project Title	GEF Phase	Country Name List	Project Type	Project Financing (\$) ³⁰	CEO Co-Financing (\$)
Mediterranean Pollution Hot Spots Investment Project	GEF - 6	Algeria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Albania, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco, Tunisia	FSP	5,000,000	546,451,400
GEF GOLD Peru - Integrated Sound Management of Mercury in Peru's Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining (ASGM)	GEF - 6	Peru	FSP	3,990,000	35,233,512
GEF GOLD Colombia: Integrated Sound Management of Mercury in Colombia's ASGM sector	GEF - 6	Colombia	FSP	6,000,000	23,444,511
Integrated Sound Management of Mercury in Kenya's Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining (ASGM) or IMKA	GEF - 6	Kenya	FSP	4,200,000	17,819,711
Global Knowledge Management and Exchange of Child Project Results Through Networking and Outreach Activities for the GEF GOLD Program	GEF - 6	Burkina Faso, Colombia, Guyana, Indonesia, Kenya, Mongolia, Philippines, Peru	FSP	8,000,000	17,767,604
GEF GOLD Mongolia-Philippines: Contribution Towards the Elimination of Mercury in the ASGM sector From Miners to Refiners	GEF - 6	Mongolia, Philippines	FSP	11,700,000	48,208,145
Mediterranean Sea Basin Environment and Climate Regional Support Project	GEF - 6	Algeria, Albania, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Tunisia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon	FSP	2,500,000	6,623,920
Reducing Pollution from Harmful Chemicals and Wastes in Mediterranean Hot Spots and Measuring Progress to Impacts	GEF - 6	Türkiye, Albania, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco, Tunisia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Algeria,	FSP	14,250,000	53,146,727
Strengthening the Enabling Framework for Biodiversity Mainstreaming and Mercury Reduction in Small and Medium-scale Gold Mining Operations	GEF - 6	Guyana	FSP	4,543,352	29,662,745

Project Title	GEF Phase	Country Name List	Project Type	Project Financing (\$) ³⁰	CEO Co-Financing (\$)
Impact Investment and Capacity Building in Support of Sustainable Waste Management to Reduce Emissions of Unintentional POPs (UPOPs) and Mercury in West Africa	GEF - 6	Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo	FSP	15,924,771	130,797,229
Demonstration of Mercury Reduction and Minimization in the Production of Vinyl Chloride Monomer in China	GEF - 6	China	FSP	16,200,000	100,400,000
GEF GOLD: Contribution Towards the Elimination of Mercury and Improvement of the Gold Value Chain in the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Sector	GEF - 6	Burkina Faso	MSP	2,000,000	7,310,819
Advanced Minamata Assessment in Thailand	GEF - 7	Thailand	EA	500,000	41,250
Development of National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan	GEF - 7	Pakistan	EA	500,000	
Development of National Action Plan for the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Sector in Cambodia	GEF - 7	Cambodia	EA	500,000	
Development of Minamata Convention Initial Assessment (MIA) For the State of Qatar	GEF - 7	Qatar	EA	200,000	
Development of National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining in Brazil	GEF - 7	Brazil	EA	1,000,000	
Development of Minamata Convention Initial Assessment (MIA) for Sultanate of Oman	GEF - 7	Oman	EA	200,000	
Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Cuba	GEF - 7	Cuba	EA	210,000	
Minamata initial assessment and national action plan for the artisanal and small-scale gold mining sector in Afghanistan	GEF - 7	Afghanistan	EA	700,000	30,000
Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Tuvalu	GEF - 7	Tuvalu	EA	125,000	

Project Title	GEF Phase	Country Name List	Project Type	Project Financing (\$) ³⁰	CEO Co-Financing (\$)
Development of National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining in Togo	GEF - 7	Togo	EA	500,000	
National action plan on mercury in the artisanal and small-scale gold mining sector in Cameroon	GEF - 7	Cameroon	EA	500,000	46,500
Development of National Action Plan for the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining in Costa Rica	GEF - 7	Costa Rica	EA	500,000	
Development of National Action Plan for the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining in Mexico	GEF - 7	Mexico	EA	500,000	
Development of National Action Plan for the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining in Cote d'Ivoire	GEF - 7	Cote d'Ivoire	EA	500,000	
National action plan in the artisanal and small-scale gold mining sector in the Plurinational State of Bolivia	GEF - 7	Bolivia	EA	500,000	31,000
Minamata initial assessment and national action plan on the artisanal and small-scale gold mining sector in Nicaragua	GEF - 7	Nicaragua	EA	700,000	30,000
National action plan on mercury in the artisanal and small-scale gold mining sector in Rwanda	GEF - 7	Rwanda	EA	500,000	58,500
National action plan on mercury in the artisanal and small-scale gold mining sector in Angola	GEF - 7	Angola	EA	500,000	58,500
National action plan on mercury in the artisanal and small-scale gold mining sector in Liberia	GEF - 7	Liberia	EA	500,000	
Minamata Initial Assessment in Liberia	GEF - 7	Liberia	EA	200,000	18,400
Minamata Convention: Initial assessment for Rwanda	GEF - 7	Rwanda	EA	200,000	18,400
Minamata Initial Assessment in Lebanon	GEF - 7	Lebanon	EA	200,000	18,600

Project Title	GEF Phase	Country Name List	Project Type	Project Financing (\$) ³⁰	CEO Co-Financing (\$)
Integrated Management and Environmentally Sound Disposal of POPs Pesticides and Mercury in Healthcare and Agricultural Sectors in Sri Lanka	GEF - 7	Sri Lanka	FSP	5,040,000	33,157,800
ISLANDS - Atlantic Regional Project	GEF - 7	Cabo Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Sao Tome and Principe	FSP	9,000,000	39,827,200
GEF GOLD+ Nicaragua: Enhancing the formalization and mercury reduction in the artisanal and small-scale gold mining in Nicaragua	GEF - 7	Nicaragua	FSP	3,380,000	45,507,000
Global Opportunities for Long-term Development of ASGM in Côte d'Ivoire	GEF - 7	Cote d'Ivoire	FSP	3,937,500	13,451,000
Global Opportunities for Long-term Development of ASGM in Guinea	GEF - 7	Guinea	FSP	5,302,000	11,997,141
Global Opportunities for Long-term Development of ASGM in Sierra Leone	GEF - 7	Sierra Leone	FSP	2,703,750	15,546,671
Global Opportunities for Long-term Development of ASGM in Zambia	GEF - 7	Zambia	FSP	2,703,750	22,356,864
GEF GOLD+: Advancing formalization and mercury-free gold in Ecuador	GEF - 7	Ecuador	FSP	4,000,000	33,200,176
Reduction of unintentionally produced persistent organic pollutants and mercury through an environmentally-sound approach on health care wastes management in the Philippines with a special focus on the pandemic	GEF - 7	Philippines	FSP	4,880,000	71,843,454
Environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes containing POPs and Mercury	GEF - 7	Panama	FSP	2,730,000	26,050,020
Phasing out mercury measuring devices in healthcare	GEF - 7	Burkina Faso, India, Montenegro, Uganda, Albania	FSP	7,980,000	126,341,676

Project Title	GEF Phase	Country Name List	Project Type	Project Financing (\$) ³⁰	CEO Co-Financing (\$)
POPs and mercury-free solutions for environmentally sound waste management in Paraguay	GEF - 7	Paraguay	FSP	4,000,000	70,098,373
Global Opportunities for the Long-term Development of ASGM (GOLD+) in the Republic of the Congo	GEF - 7	Congo	FSP	2,700,000	7,821,922
Global Opportunities for the Long-term Development of ASGM (GOLD+) in Uganda	GEF - 7	Uganda	FSP	5,500,000	13,016,000
GEF GOLD+ in Ghana: Advancing formalization and mercury-free gold in Ghana	GEF - 7	Ghana	FSP	6,350,000	44,668,371
GEF GOLD+: Advancing formalization and mercury-free gold in Suriname	GEF - 7	Suriname	FSP	5,250,000	19,650,118
GEF GOLD+: Advancing formalization and mercury-free gold in Honduras	GEF - 7	Honduras	FSP	4,000,000	19,055,151
GEF GOLD+: Global coordination, knowledge management and outreach	GEF - 7	Global	FSP	7,936,276	1,099,757
GEF GOLD+ in Madagascar: Enhancing the formalization and mercury reduction in artisanal and small-scale gold mining in Madagascar	GEF - 7	Madagascar	FSP	4,971,750	31,296,986
GEF GOLD+ Bolivia: Enhancing the formalization and mercury reduction in artisanal and small-scale gold mining in the Plurinational State of Bolivia	GEF - 7	Bolivia	FSP	6,583,500	21,774,981
Integrated watershed management of the Putumayo-Içá River basin	GEF - 7	Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru	FSP	12,844,037	89,722,967
Eliminate mercury use and adequately manage mercury and mercury wastes in the chlor alkali sector in Mexico	GEF - 7	Mexico	FSP	12,000,000	128,162,215
Environmentally sound management of PCBs, Mercury and other toxic chemicals in Peru	GEF - 7	Peru	FSP	4,725,000	34,019,215

Project Title	GEF Phase	Country Name List	Project Type	Project Financing (\$) ³⁰	CEO Co-Financing (\$)
Supporting a Green Economy - Decoupling Hazardous Waste Generation from Economic Growth in Rwanda	GEF - 7	Rwanda	FSP	6,300,000	34,133,931
The Global Greenchem Innovation and Network Programme	GEF - 7	Indonesia, Ukraine, Serbia, Peru, Uganda, Jordan	FSP	12,600,000	127,556,441
Demonstration of production phase-out of mercury-containing medical thermometers and sphygmomanometers and promoting the application of mercury-free alternatives in medical facilities in China	GEF - 7	China	FSP	16,000,000	112,000,000
ISLANDS - Caribbean Child Project	GEF - 7	Latin America and Caribbean, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Suriname, St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago	FSP	11,000,000	47,041,860
ISLANDS - Pacific Child Project	GEF - 7	Pacific, Regional	FSP	20,000,000	94,178,246
ISLANDS - Indian Ocean Child Project	GEF - 7	Comoros, Maldives, Mauritius, Seychelles	FSP	13,000,000	187,609,184
Environmentally Sound Management of POPs, Mercury and other Hazardous Chemicals in Argentina	GEF - 7	Argentina	FSP	8,930,250	46,625,509
Reducing global environmental risks through the monitoring and development of alternative livelihood for the primary mercury mining sector in Mexico	GEF - 7	Mexico	FSP	7,035,000	51,068,844
Accelerate implementation of dental amalgam provisions and strengthen country capacities in the environmental sound management of associated wastes under the Minamata Convention	GEF - 7	Senegal, Thailand, Uruguay	MSP	2,000,000	11,334,280
Eliminating mercury skin lightening products	GEF - 7	Gabon, Jamaica, Sri Lanka	MSP	2,000,000	14,953,401

Project Title	GEF Phase	Country Name List	Project Type	Project Financing (\$) ³⁰	CEO Co-Financing (\$)
Assessment of existing and future emissions reduction from the coal sector toward the implementation of the Minamata and Stockholm Conventions	GEF - 7	Global	MSP	594,000	652,000
Communications, Coordination and Knowledge Management Project	GEF - 7	Global	MSP	2,000,000	10,921,550
Global Opportunities for the Long-Term Development of the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Sector in Paraguay - planetGOLD Paraguay	GEF - 8	Paraguay	FSP	3,000,000	25,204,000
Global Opportunities for Long-Term Development of the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Sector in Zimbabwe- GEF planetGOLD Zimbabwe	GEF - 8	Zimbabwe	FSP	5,000,000	18,799,000
Accelerate Minamata Convention compliance through improved understanding and control of mercury trade in Latin America	GEF - 8	Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Peru	FSP	3,000,000	15,808,104