

**ADAPTATION OF THE BRS REPORTING TEMPLATE AS PART OF THE  
COLLECTION OF INFORMATION UNDER DECISION MC-1/21**

Information on the work of Regional Centres in delivering capacity-building and technical assistance to support parties in implementing their obligations under the Minamata Convention was requested, inter alia, by the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention in its First meeting in 2017 through decision MC-1/21.

The Minamata Convention Secretariat has adapted the “template for reporting requirements and the performance evaluation of regional centres under the Basel and Stockholm Conventions.” This adapted template is being circulated to Regional Centres as part of the collection of information under such decision.

Regional Centres are requested to kindly update this template by **Tuesday, 13 November 2018** for the reporting period between 01/01/2017 and 31/12/2018. Should the Regional Centre wish to include activities from 2016 or earlier, this should be clearly indicated in the submission.

**PART 1: THE ACTIVITY REPORTS**

Name of the Regional Centre submitting the report	Basel Convention Coordinating Centre and Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean Region in Uruguay (BCCC-SCRC Uruguay)	
Name of the person submitting the report	Gabriela Medina	
Date of submission:	12/11/2018	
Reporting period	From: 01/01/2017	To: 31/12/2018

The Regional Centre activities in delivering capacity-building and technical assistance to support parties in implementing their obligations under the Minamata Convention from 2016 or earlier was reporting in the BRS activity report 2015-2016, 2013-2014, 2011-2012, 2009-2010.

**List of the capacity building projects/activities undertaken (completed and/or ongoing)**

Activity/ Project No.	Name of the project/activity	Planned for the Year	Implemented in the Year
1.	Development of Mercury Risk Management Approaches in Latin America (regional project – Argentina, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Peru y Uruguay).	2014-2018	

2.	Development of Minamata Initial Assessments (MIAs) in Latin America and the Caribbean. (Regional project – Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay y Dominican Republic).	2014-2018
3.	Global Mercury Assessment 2018 - Workshops on emissions and release inventory. First workshop was held in November 2016, Copenhagen and the second workshop was held in 15-16 May, Oslo, Norway.	2016-2017
4.	Training on contaminated sites with mercury was carried out at the Center for Energy, Environmental and Technological Research (CIEMAT), Madrid, Spain.	2017
5.	Training in monitoring and analysis of mercury in different biotic and abiotic matrices was conducted at the Department of Environmental Sciences, Jozef Stefan Institute, in the City of Ljubljana, Slovenia.	2017
6.	Environmentally Sound Management (ESM) of mercury wastes under the Basel Convention (4 pilot project)	2018
7.	Webinar on Communication of Mercury risks was organized by UNITAR and the BCCC-SCRC, the general objective was the different ways to deal with the communication obligations of mercury risks and the stages to follow in order to develop an information campaign. This webinar, part 1 was held on December 7th, 2017 and the part 2 was held on January 25th, 2018.	2017-2018

8.	Develop a scientific article to the “Cement and Concrete of Iberoamerica y Caribe” magazine (edition 5) about Minamata Convention implementation in the GRULAC Region cement plants.	2017-2018
9.	Mercury Passive air monitoring for 5 weeks in 8 countries, the samples will be analyzed at the Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR), Rome, Italy.	2018
10.	A training course on environmental matrices and <b>speciation of mercury</b> will be conducted at the Department of Environmental Sciences, Jozef Stefan Institute, in the City of Ljubljana, Slovenia. This course will be 10 days long, July 9th to 20th, 2018.	2018
11.	Mercury laboratory Inter-comparison exercise in different matrices (standard solutions, biota and/or human hair) with the Research Centre for Toxic Compounds in the Environment (RECETOX), Brno, Check Republic.	2018
12.	Logistic arrangements to the Latin America and the Caribbean regional consultations in preparation for the second meeting of the conference of the parties to the Minamata Convention on mercury. Lima, Peru, 30 to 31 October 2018.	2018

**List of the technology transfer activities undertaken and or facilitated by the centre  
(completed and/or ongoing)<sup>1</sup>**

Acti vity ID if any	Name of the technology transfer activity	Planne d for the Year	Impleme nted in the Year
	Activity/Project No.1 to 11 listed before		

**List of contributions made to countries in support of submissions under the first round  
of applications under the Specific international programme in accordance with  
paragraph 7 of Annex 1 to decision MC-1/6**

Name of the project	Relevant date (mm/yyyy)
“Strengthening the identification of sources of emissions and releases of mercury other than mining activities and evaluation on the management of mercury compounds and mercury products in Ecuador”	August 2018

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<sup>1</sup> See Article 14 on Capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer of the Minamata Convention.

**PART 2**

**ACTIVITIES (PROJECTS) REPORTS SUMMARY**

(Please provide a summary (max. 1 page) for each of the completed projects/activities)

<b>Project no. and Project name</b>	<b>(1) Development of Mercury Risk Management Approaches in Latin America.</b>	
<b>Project duration</b>	52 months	<b>Start and end dates:</b> August /2014 to 31 /12 /2018
<b>Beneficiary countries:</b>	<b>Argentina, Ecuador, Peru and Uruguay, Nicaragua left the project</b>	
<b>Areas of technical assistance</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (i) Strengthening of national and regional environmental or environment-related institutions (government institutions, judiciary, enforcement);</li> <li>• (ii) Development of national environmental law;</li> <li>• (iv) Assistance for facilitating compliance with and enforcement of obligations under multilateral environmental agreements and implementation of environmental commitments;</li> <li>• (v) Preparation, integration and implementation of environmental aspects of national sustainable development plans;</li> <li>• (vii) Development of national research, monitoring and assessment capacity, including training in assessment and early warning;</li> <li>• (viii) Support to national and regional institutions in data collection, analysis and monitoring of environmental trends;</li> </ul>		
<b>Total project budget (in US\$):</b>		
Funding sources and corresponding amounts:	1. GEF	US\$ 916.000
Collaborating agencies, if any:	PNUMA	
<b>BCCC – SCRC</b>	<b>Implementing agency</b>	

*Please provide a brief narrative summary on the project activities and the outcomes (as much as possible in quantifiable terms) in the space given below:*

Narrative Summary of the activity including the outcomes (in quantifiable terms as much as possible):

- Full inventory of Mercury (levels 1 and 2) in each participating country. 4 complete Inventories which are in review process by UNITAR.
- Development of national plans for the future monitoring of mercury levels in human beings and the environment. This tool will be used to study mercury reduction over time.
- Development of action plans for mercury reduction (use and emissions), including short-, medium- and long-term measures.

- The BCCC-SCRC manages the funds of Ecuador and Peru, because they have not mechanism to manage them.

- It was organizing the 3th Face to Face meeting. The BCCC-SCRC was also in charge of organizing the hold meeting: hotel, video, lunches, etc., arrange and pay for air tickets and DSA to the participants as agreed by UNEP, and enter into other such administrative and/or contractual arrangements as may be required for the effective completion of the responsibilities as agreed with UNEP.

*Please indicate if there is any possibility to find the detailed information on this project elsewhere e.g., submitted reports/websites, etc*

Weblink: <http://www.ccbasileacrestocolmo.org.uy/es/mercurio/desarrollo-de-inventarios-y-planes-de-manejo-de-mercurio-en-america-latina-y-la-region-delcaribe> -

<b>Project no. and Project name</b>	<b>(2) Development of Minamata Initial Assessments (MIAs) in Latin America and the Caribbean.</b>	
<b>Project duration</b>	50 months	<b>Start and end dates:</b> October /2014 to 31 /12 /2018
<b>Beneficiary countries:</b>	<b>Bolivia, Chile, Dominican Republic and Paraguay</b>	
<b>Areas of technical assistance</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (i) Strengthening of national and regional environmental or environment-related institutions (government institutions, judiciary, enforcement);</li> <li>• (ii) Development of national environmental law;</li> <li>• (iv) Assistance for facilitating compliance with and enforcement of obligations under multilateral environmental agreements and implementation of environmental commitments;</li> <li>• (v) Preparation, integration and implementation of environmental aspects of national sustainable development plans;</li> <li>• (vii) Development of national research, monitoring and assessment capacity, including training in assessment and early warning;</li> <li>• (viii) Support to national and regional institutions in data collection, analysis and monitoring of environmental trends;</li> </ul>		
<b>Total project budget (in US\$):</b>		
Funding sources and corresponding amounts:	1. GEF	US\$ 731.000
Collaborating agencies, if any:	PNUMA	
<b>BCCC – SCRC</b>	<b>Implementing agency</b>	

*Please provide a brief narrative summary on the project activities and the outcomes (as much as possible in quantifiable terms) in the space given below:*

Narrative Summary of the activity including the outcomes (in quantifiable terms as much as possible):

- Full inventory of Mercury (levels 1 and 2) in each participating country. 4 complete Inventories which are in review process by UNITAR.

- Development of national plans for the future monitoring of mercury levels in human beings and the environment. This tool will be used to study mercury reduction over time.
- Development of action plans for mercury reduction (use and emissions), including short-, medium- and long-term measures.

- The BCCC-SCRC manages the funds of Paraguay; due to this country has not mechanism to manage them.

- It was organizing the two Face to Face meeting. The BCCC-SCRC was also in charge of organizing the hold meeting: hotel, video, lunches, etc., arrange and pay for air tickets and DSA to the participants as agreed by UNEP, and enter into other such administrative and/or contractual arrangements as may be required for the effective completion of the responsibilities as agreed with UNEP.

Please indicate if there is any possibility to find the detailed information on this project elsewhere e.g., submitted reports/websites, etc

Weblink: <http://www.ccbasileacrestocolmo.org.uy/mercurio/evaluacion-inicial-del-convenio-de-minamata-en-america-latina-y-la-region-del-caribe>

<b>Project no. and Project name</b>	<b>(6) Environmentally Sound Management (ESM) of mercury wastes under the Basel Convention</b>	
<b>Project duration</b>	12 months	<b>Start and end dates:</b> January to 31 /12 /2018
<b>Beneficiary countries:</b>	<b>Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela</b>	
<b>Areas of technical assistance</b>		
<b>Total project budget (in US\$):</b>		
Funding sources and corresponding amounts:		US\$. 136.982
Collaborating agencies, if any:	<b>SBC/UNEP</b>	
<b>BCCC – SCRC</b>	<b>Implementing agency</b>	

*Please provide a brief narrative summary on the project activities and the outcomes (as much as possible in quantifiable terms) in the space given below:*

In Panama:

1. Conduct a survey in health care centres under the authority of the Ministry of Health on the environmentally sound management of mercury wastes.
2. Train the personnel of regional and national hospitals, which will be prioritized, on the environmentally sound management of mercury wastes.
3. Elaborate technical norms, standards related to the environmentally sound management of mercury wastes in health care centres.

In Paraguay

1. Develop an inventory of medical devices and products containing mercury in five health care centres in Paraguay;
2. Build a database on mercury supply and mercury waste generation in the five health centres;
3. Provide training on mercury waste management in selected health centres.
4. Elaborate a plan for the substitution of medical devices and products containing mercury.

In Peru: Identify an end-of-life management system for mercury containing lamps in the districts of Los Olivos, Breña, San Juan de Miraflores and Ate.

In Venezuela: Carry out chemical analysis to quantify the total mercury levels in urines of a representative population sample of personnel working directly on the collection, repair and management of medical equipment containing mercury in the Miranda State hospitals to quantify the exposure and the risk in this health sector.

<b>Project no. and Project name</b>	<b>(3) Training on contaminated sites with mercury - CIEMAT</b>	
<b>Project duration</b>	3 months	<b>Start and end dates:</b> August -October 2017
<b>Beneficiary countries:</b>	<b>Argentina, Ecuador, Peru and Uruguay, Nicaragua, Bolivia, Chile, Dominican Republic and Paraguay</b>	
<b>Areas of technical assistance</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (i) Strengthening of national and regional environmental or environment-related institutions (government institutions, judiciary, enforcement);</li> <li>• (vii) Development of national research, monitoring and assessment capacity, including training in assessment and early warning;</li> <li>• (viii) Support to national and regional institutions in data collection, analysis and monitoring of environmental trends;</li> </ul>		
Collaborating agencies, if any:	<b>PNUMA, CIEMAT, CTM – MAYASA</b>	
<b>BCCC – SCRC</b>	<b>Implementing agency</b>	

*Please provide a brief narrative summary on the project activities and the outcomes (as much as possible in quantifiable terms) in the space given below:*

The BCCC-SCRC and the CIEMAT organizing the training in base of the country's needs.

The training course was 5 days long, October 23rd to 27th, 2017. 15 people attended the training.

The BCCC-SCRC was also in charge of organizing the hold meeting: hotel, video, lunches, etc., arrange and pay for air tickets and DSA to the participants as agreed by UNEP, and enter into other such administrative and/or contractual arrangements as may be required for the effective completion of the responsibilities as agreed with UNEP.

*Programme:*



- *The soil and processes of degradation and contamination*
- *site and floor recovery techniques*
- *Sampling and monitoring techniques*
- *ecotoxicology: terminology, testing and application to legislation*
- *environmental risk assessment of pollutants*
- *environmental impact assessment including the concepts included in the legislation*
- *quality in testing laboratories, according to the UNE-EN ISO / IEC 17025: 2005 Standard*
- *experience of CIEMAT in Almadén and in areas of artisanal gold mining*
- *Techniques and real cases of aquatic system monitoring*
- *Uses of soil in areas with mercury: safe crops and consumption*

*Please indicate if there is any possibility to find the detailed information on this project elsewhere e.g., submitted reports/websites, etc*

<http://www.ciemat.es/cargarFichaNoticias.do?jsessionid=3C1E2463FA85754635AD1BC48DE652CE?idArea=-1&identificador=1443>

<b>Project no. and Project name</b>	<b>(4) Training in monitoring and analysis of mercury in different biotic and abiotic matrices was conducted at the Department of Environmental Sciences, Jozef Stefan Institute, in the City of Ljubljana, Slovenia.</b>	
<b>Project duration</b>	3 months	<b>Start and end dates:</b> September – November 2017
<b>Beneficiary countries:</b>	<b>Argentina, Ecuador, Peru and Uruguay, Nicaragua, Bolivia, Chile, Dominican Republic and Paraguay</b>	
<b>Areas of technical assistance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (i) Strengthening of national and regional environmental or environment-related institutions (government institutions, judiciary, enforcement);</li> <li>• (vii) Development of national research, monitoring and assessment capacity, including training in assessment and early warning;</li> <li>• (viii) Support to national and regional institutions in data collection, analysis and monitoring of environmental trends;</li> </ul>	
Collaborating agencies, if any:	<b>PNUMA, Jozef Stefan Institute</b>	
<b>BCCC – SCRC</b>	<b>Implementing agency</b>	

*Please provide a brief narrative summary on the project activities and the outcomes (as much as possible in quantifiable terms) in the space given below:*

The BCCC-SCRC and the Jozef Stefan Institute organizing the training in base of the country's needs.

The training course was 10 days long, November 8th to 18th, 2017.

The BCCC-SCRC was also in charge of organizing the hold meeting: hotel, video, lunches, etc., arrange and pay for air tickets and DSA to the participants as agreed by UNEP, and enter into other such administrative and/or contractual arrangements as

may be required for the effective completion of the responsibilities as agreed with UNEP.

*Some of the principal item of the Programme:*

- Mercury in the environment and human health; Monitoring in the context of the Minamata Convention
- Uncertainty evaluation in the measurement process
- Sampling, sample storage and handling
- Laboratory work – determination of total Hg; calibration, CRMs analysis