

STRENGTHENING CAPACITY
TO PROMOTE PHASING-OUT
OF MERCURY-ADDED
PRODUCTS (LAMPS) IN
ARMENIA

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AWHHE	Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment
EMIC SNCO	Environmental Monitoring and Information Center State Non-Commercial Organization
EAEU	Eurasian Economic Union
EECCA	Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IPEN	International POPs Elimination Network
LED	Light Emitting Diodes
MAP	Mercury Added Products
MIA	Minamata Initial Assessment
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
PCA	Project Cooperation Agreement
PRF	Project Results Framework
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SIP	Specific International Programme
SSF	Small Scale Funding
SMART	Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Time Bound
ToC	Theory of Change
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme

1. Table 1. Project identification

Project ID:	2018/01/CEE/ARM
Implementing Agencies:	Environmental Monitoring and Information Center State Non-Commercial Organization (EMIC SNCO) of the Ministry of Nature Protection of the Republic of Armenia.
Project Focal Point: Functional Title, Address, Telephone, E-mail	Ms. Anahit Aleksandryan, Head of Hazardous Substances and Wastes Policy Division, +(374) 11 818 519 anahit.aleksandrԿan@մոն.ամ
Project Title as per PCA:	Strengthening capacity to promote phasing-out of mercury-added products (lamps) in Armenia
Budget USD Specific Trust Fund;	USD 162,000
In-Kind Contribution	USD 70,000
Trust Fund	SSF/SIP
Expected start date:	June 1, 2019
Planned completion date:	May 31, 2021
Planned project budget at approval:	USD 232,000
Cost to the SIP:	USD 162,000
Terminal Evaluation (planned date):	December 15, 2022 – May 1, 2023

2. Summary of Key Achievements

- i) The Republic of Armenia ratified the Minamata Convention on Mercury on October 6, 2017. Through ratification Armenia undertook to implement obligations imposed by the convention. With funding support from the Specific International Programme (SIP), a project designed to strengthen national capacity in order to overcome the barriers to the implementation of the requirements of the Convention was developed. The objective of the project was “to strengthen capacity to promote phasing-out of mercury-added products (lamps) in Armenia”. The total project budget was USD 232,000 of which SSF/SIP funding amounted to USD 162,000 and the remaining USD 70,000 was proposed in-kind contribution from the Republic of Armenia.
- ii) At the end of project implementation, this evaluation concludes that the planned project outputs were produced in spite of the disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result of the work undertaken by the project, government machinery was reorganized to take on the new challenges of regulating issues relevant to mercury and mercury contamination. A number of ministries and agencies were reorganized

and merged in order to improve their legislative and operational capacity for chemical and waste management.

- iii) A National Strategy to implement the Minamata Convention was prepared. This is a key output of the effort to strengthen national capacity. The evidence from the final reports and evaluation interviews further suggests that project participants have found the project outputs including information received at workshops, seminars, and through videos and information pamphlets useful and are, indeed, using some of the knowledge and tools acquired. In particular, information on mercury added products and the laws and regulations developed have been in use since their promulgation.
- iv) The project was able to mobilize government agencies, NGOs and the private sector to support the process of developing capacity to manage the problem of mercury in products and in the environment. With a strong regulatory and institutional framework in place, the project working with government institutions has, indeed, developed the enabling environment for the effective management of mercury and mercury added products in the Republic of Armenia.
- v) The project has created awareness among various institutions and the public through the dissemination of information materials on public health risks of mercury added products, mercury management and the Minamata Convention in general. The evidence shows that progress is being made in developing monitoring, research and analytical capacity for mercury and mercury added products.
- vi) Progress has been made towards increasing stakeholder and the general public's knowledge of the risks posed by using mercury-added products. Through knowledge and awareness, progress is being made towards the strengthening of capacity for phasing-out mercury-containing products and developing a strategy for environmentally sound collection, interim storage, processing, and disposal of mercury-containing wastes.
- vii) The evaluation found that efficiencies were either built into project design or have been realized through the use of proven paradigms which allowed the project to roll-out activities such as training courses, meetings and awareness raising events to a wider stakeholder group mostly through workshops and training programmes. The project organized several remote events which resulted in substantial savings. Efficiency gains were also realized through the use of partnerships. Collaboration among partners was relatively efficient and effective in delivering training activities and, in general, the SIP project. Effective communication within the project team also facilitated the sharing of knowledge and expertise between project partners.
- viii) Gender considerations were discussed in some detail at project design. The "Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment" (AWHHE) NGO was a key project Partner and served on the project Steering Committee. The AWHHE research to determine the quantity and types of mercury-containing products imported into the country was presented at the second Steering Committee meeting. Besides research, AWHHE was involved in the implementation of other project activities including presentations at workshops, arranging and conducting on-line workshops/seminars remotely in lieu of planned events as

a result of COVID-19 disruptions. Evaluation of products was presented as part of the seminars, in part, to create a greater understanding and awareness of the potential impacts of mercury and its compounds on women and children. Specific attention was devoted to the differential roles played by men and women (such as doctors, nurses, cleaning staff, etc.) and their relative exposure to emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds.

3. Introduction

1. The Republic of Armenia ratified the Minamata Convention on Mercury on October 6, 2017. Through ratification Armenia undertook to implement obligations imposed by the convention. In order to do so, the country has to overcome the following barriers identified through a pre-ratification, GEF funded “Minamata Convention Initial Assessment (MIA) in the Republic of Armenia”. They include: 1) Lack of institutional capacity; 2) gaps in appropriate legislative framework to support provisions of the Minamata Convention; 3) low awareness among the public and government officials of health risks associated with mercury; and 4) limited occupational safety mechanisms and other measures in place to reduce community exposure to mercury.
2. With funding support from the Specific International Programme (SIP), Armenia developed a project to strengthen national capacity in order to overcome the barriers to the implementation of the requirements of the Convention. The specific objective of the project as stated in the cooperative agreement was “strengthening capacity to promote phasing-out of mercury-added products (lamps) in Armenia”. The project budget included a total of USD 232,000 of which SIP funding amounted to USD 162,000 and the remaining USD 70,000 was proposed in-kind contribution from the Government of Armenia.
3. The project was executed through a Small-Scale Funding Agreement between the UN Environment Programme represented by the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury in Geneva and the Environmental Monitoring and Information Center, State Non-Commercial Organization (EMIC SNCO) of the Ministry of Nature Protection of the Republic of Armenia.
4. The project sought to contribute to the implementation of the Law “On Waste” and more than 40 bye-laws which were approved by the Government of the Republic of Armenia. Among these bye-laws is a decision of the Government “On the approval of the List of the Republic of Armenia hazardous wastes” (No. 874-N of May 20, 2004). The List comprises of “(i) wastes containing mercury, mercury compounds as a component or pollutant”, “(ii) scrap (wastes), electrical equipment or electro-technical nodes, involving galvanic elements, batteries, mercury switches, glass of cathode ray tubes, and other types of glass with the active covering or polluted by cadmium, mercury, lead, polychlorinated biphenyls at the concentration level from 50 mg/kg and above”, and “(iii) worked-out mercury lamps and luminescent tubes”.

4. The Evaluation

5. This Terminal Evaluation was conducted by one evaluation consultant between December 15, 2022 and May 1, 2023. The timeline and schedule of the evaluation are provided in Annex A of this report. The evaluation has two purposes: (i) to provide evidence of results that meet accountability requirements, and (ii) to promote operational improvement, learning and knowledge sharing through results and lessons learned among the Convention Secretariat, UNEP, and project partners and other participating agencies. Therefore, the evaluation identified lessons of operational relevance for future project formulation and implementation especially for any follow-up interventions that may be anticipated.

4.1. Evaluation Methods

6. The Terms of Reference for this evaluation requires that the exercise be carried out as an in-depth desk study. The approach involved mostly qualitative methods to determine project achievements within the context of the outputs, outcomes and impacts expected. Both primary and secondary data were collected and analysed for the preparation of this evaluation. Secondary data were obtained mainly from the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention as well as relevant partners and other organizations. Primary data was gathered through semi-structured interviews. Findings from the inception review further informed the methods used and enabled refinement of the evaluation framework by filling information gaps and helping to identify further data collection needs.
7. Discussions with the project team were informal and focused on information gaps, however, subsequent interviews during the data collection phase with project stakeholders were semi-structured based on the evaluation matrix developed during the inception phase. Interviews conducted included the Convention Secretariat, project managers and key persons in the project management team, and selected representatives from beneficiary groups. As a detailed desk study, no travel was involved in conducting this evaluation.
8. Since face-to-face interviews with project participants were not possible, the evaluation conducted remote interviews using zoom calls to assess how beneficiaries perceived the support received from the project. The respondents interviewed were selected randomly with the help of the project manager from among participants who attended project workshops.

Data collection and analysis

9. The Logical framework Matrix formed the basis for assessing the extent to which immediate and medium-term outcomes have been achieved. The evaluation has assessed the extent to which outcomes have been achieved and the key factors, both positive and negative, that affected achievement of outcomes. This includes: internal issues of intervention design, capacity or resources required to execute certain tasks, as well as factors beyond the control of the project such as extreme events or political conditions.

10. A limited number of zoom discussions were conducted with the Minamata Convention Secretariat and country project staff. Interviews conducted during the data collection phase were semi-structured, based on the evaluation matrix presented in the inception report, and were conducted with project team members and other stakeholders. Interviewees included: Convention Secretariat staff, Project focal points, Project Partners, and Minamata Convention national focal points. All of the interviewees for this evaluation were female. Table 2 presents key staff interviewed from the listed agencies.
11. Other sources of information for the evaluation were primarily interim project reports, project financial data including expenditure reports, audit report, end-of-project report, (grant application, Cooperation Agreement, and the Minamata Convention web and related portals).

Table 2. Key agencies interviewed

Institution & Staff	Location
Minamata Convention Secretariat Team	Geneva
Armenia Project Manager	Yerevan
Representatives from project participants Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment (AWHHE)	Yerevan
Representatives from project partners (AWHHE)	Yerevan

12. An inception conference call by zoom with the Convention Secretariat was conducted on January 24, 2023. The conference call provided the opportunity for the evaluator to gain a better understanding of the project and the current status of its implementation. It also allowed the evaluator to discuss the boundaries and limitations of the evaluation and the modalities for accessing project information.
13. In soliciting the views and perspectives of project beneficiaries, the evaluator was keenly aware of the poor response rate of online surveys to governments after project completion where project participants may have moved on to other assignments. Given the duration of this evaluation, the evaluator opted for zoom interviews of project participants who were able to communicate in English.

4.2 Limitations

14. This evaluation was conducted primarily as a desk study. The evaluator relied substantially on the five project interim reports prepared between December 2019 and December 2021, the final project report, and stakeholder interviews conducted remotely. Gaining access to project participants remotely to seek their views on the project activities and the extent to which the outputs are useful and are being used has been problematic as a result of language difficulties and, therefore, the number of interviews conducted was limited.

4.3 Ethical considerations

15. In reporting the findings of the interviews and discussions with project participants, care was taken to not attribute comments made by individuals to them by name in the document.

5. The Project

a. Context of the Project

16. The Convention was established to protect human health and the environment from anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds from a variety of sources. This was to be achieved by addressing the full lifecycle of mercury, starting with the supply of, and trade in, mercury. Limitations were placed on specific sources of mercury including primary mining, mercury-added products, manufacturing processes and artisanal and small-scale gold mining.
17. The Republic of Armenia ratified the Minamata Convention on Mercury on October 6, 2017. By ratification, the Republic of Armenia accepted to undertake obligations imposed by the Convention. To do so, it identified several barriers. These include: lack of institutional capacity; gaps in appropriate legislative framework to facilitate the implementation of the provisions of the Convention; low awareness of the health risks associated with mercury among the public and government officials, limited occupational safety mechanisms, and other measures that would reduce community exposure to mercury.
18. To assist parties to fulfill their obligations under the convention, a financial mechanism was set up by Article 13 of the Convention.¹ The Specific International Programme (SIP) was designed to support capacity-building and technical assistance to developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition. The SIP is one of the components of the financial mechanism under the Convention, the second being the Global Environment Facility. The project under review was funded by the SIP.

b. Project Results Framework

19. With the support of the SIP, Armenia sought to strengthen national capacity for the implementation of its obligations under the Convention. The specific objective of the proposed project was to promote the phasing-out of mercury-added products (lamps) in Armenia by reviewing and analyzing legislation relevant to mercury and subsequently preparing new legislation for avoiding the use of mercury-added products. This was to be achieved through the determination of mercury-containing lamps streams, including import, distribution, use and amounts of wastes generated per annum in order to develop a strategy for the sound collection, storage, transportation, and processing of mercury-containing products. Also, calculation of costs required to phase-out mercury-containing waste lamps were to be undertaken.

¹ Minamata Convention on Mercury: Texts and Annexes, September 2019, www.mercuryconvention.org

Table 3: Project outcomes, outputs and activities - Armenia

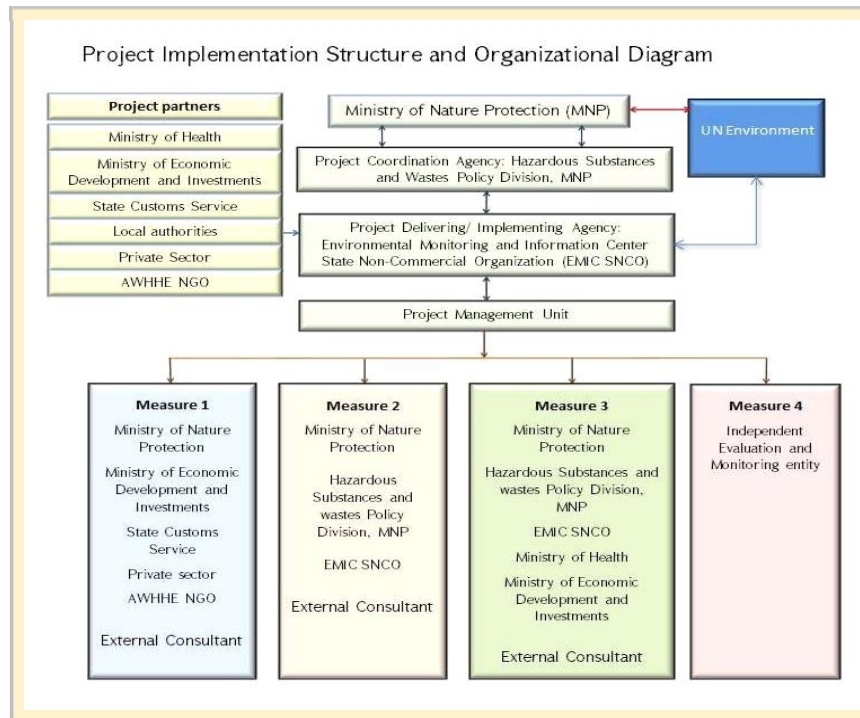
Outcomes	Outputs	Activities
Project Objective: Strengthening capacity to promote phasing-out of mercury- added products (lamps) in Armenia		
1 Strengthening capacity for phasing-out mercury-containing products (light sources) and develop strategy for environmentally sound collection, interim storage, processing, and disposal of mercury-containing wastes (lamps)	National Strategy agreed at National Level	
	1.1. Report on mercury-containing lamps streams in use/circulation in the Republic of Armenia	1.1.1. Determination of mercury-containing lamps streams through identifying type and quantity of mercury-containing lamps currently in use in Armenia, the quantity of expected waste lamps per year and mercury freight in these expected lamps per year
	1.2. Law or by-law for banning the use, import, export of mercury-containing lamps developed and submitted to the Government of the Republic of Armenia for approval	1.2.1. Review of existing legislation is done and legislation for banning the use, import, export of mercury-containing lamps developed
	1.3. National Strategy for environmentally sound collection, interim storage, processing, and disposal of mercury-containing wastes (lamps) submitted to stakeholders for consideration	1.3.1. Strategy for environmentally sound collection, interim storage, and disposal of mercury-containing lamps wastes developed

c. Project Implementation Structure.

20. The Department of Hazardous Substances and Waste Policy of the Ministry of Nature Protection (now Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Armenia) coordinated the project. The Environmental Monitoring and Information Centre, State Non-Commercial Organization (EMIC SNCO) of the Ministry of Nature Protection (Now Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Centre SNCO of the Ministry of Environment) executed the project. The Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment (AWHHE), an NGO was project partner.

21. A Steering Committee (See organigram in Figure 1 below) for the Minamata Convention was established on December 25, 2014 according to Order (No. 410-A) of the Minister of Nature Protection of the Republic of Armenia. This Steering Committee which comprised of representatives from all relevant Ministries, Agencies, NGOs and National Academy was the strategic decision-making body of the project. It provided guidance on the technical aspects of project implementation. A detailed list of members of the Steering Committee is included in Annex B.

Figure 1: Project Implementation Structure



Source: Minamata Convention on Mercury, Specific International Programme Trust Fund, Application Form 1A

d. Adaptive Management

22. During project implementation a key amendment involving a no-cost extension to the Cooperation Agreement for Project ID 2018/01/CEE/ARM was signed on 18 August 2020 between the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention and the Ministry of Nature Protection of the Republic of Armenia. The purpose was to extend the duration of the agreement from June 1, 2019 to November 30, 2021. The total cost to the SIP however remained unchanged. As a result of the disruptions caused by COVID-19, many activities related to training, workshops and seminars had to be postponed, combined with other events or undertaken virtually.

e. Gender

23. Section 5.6 of the project application discussed in some detail gender considerations in project design. The “Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment” (AWHHE) NGO became the project Partner and served on the project Steering Committee. The AWHHE conducted research in nine provinces², to determine the quantity and types of mercury-containing products (lamps, medical equipment) imported into the country targeting large cities with large shopping centers and specialized stores. This research was presented at the second Steering Committee meeting. Besides research, AWHHE was involved in the implementation of other project activities including presentations at workshops, arranging and conducting on-line workshops/seminars on ZOOM, Facebook Messenger or Viber platforms in lieu of planned events as a result of COVID-19 disruptions. Evaluation of products listed in Annex A was presented, in part, to create greater awareness of the potential effects of mercury and its compounds on women and children. Specific attention was devoted to the different roles men and women often play (such as doctors, nurses, cleaning staff, etc.) and their relative exposure to emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds.

6.0 Evaluation Findings

6.1 Strategic Relevance/Coherence

24. The project explicitly addressed Article 4 of the Convention which states: “Each Party shall not allow, by taking appropriate measures, the manufacture, import or export of mercury-added products listed in Part I of Annex A after the phase-out date specified for those products, except where an exclusion is specified in Annex A or the Party has a registered exemption pursuant to Article 6.”³ In line with article 19 paragraphs 1g and 1f of the Convention, the project financed activities to develop information on trade in mercury added products. In accordance with article 18 of the Convention, awareness campaigns for local governments were developed and implemented. The project undertook analysis of the existing institutional and regulatory framework not only for mercury but also for chemicals and waste management in general. Project related activities also fall under Article 11 on mercury wastes.
25. The project is consistent with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3.9 which requires a substantial reduction in deaths associated with hazardous chemicals including air, soil, and water pollution. It is also consistent with SDG 9.4 which requires an upgrade and retrofit of industries and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, SDG 12 on sustainable production and consumption among other relevant SDGs.

² Ararat, Armavir, Aragatsotn, Shirak, Gegharkunik, Kotayk, Tavush, Vayots Dzor and Yerevan.

³ Minamata Convention on Mercury: Texts and Annexes, page 19

26. The project, as implemented, is also in line with national priorities specifically, decisions of the Government of the Republic of Armenia on: the approval of the List of the Republic of Armenia hazardous wastes (No. 874-N of May 20, 2004); approval of the List of banned hazardous wastes (No. 1093-N of July 8, 2004); approval of the List of actions on implementation of the Republic of Armenia obligations under international environmental agreements (No. 1594-N; dated November 11, 2011); among many other decisions⁴.

6.2 Quality of Project Design

27. An assessment of the initial design of the project was undertaken as part of the inception phase. It helped to refine the questions and issues defined in the evaluation matrix for the project by identifying causal links, assumptions and drivers. The primary information sources for project design quality assessment included the project application, signed Cooperation Agreement, interim reports, and other documentation which reflected amendments to the project.
28. The Cooperation Agreement which constituted the project document, together with components from the revised project application presented a clear description of the existing situation with respect to the problem of mercury in Armenia. Opportunities and constraints to project implementation were identified and documented in the project application. In general, barriers identified include: 1) Lack of institutional capacity; 2) gaps in appropriate legislation to support provisions of the Minamata Convention; 3) low awareness among the public and government officials of health risks associated with mercury; and 4) limited occupational safety mechanisms and other measures in place to reduce community exposure to mercury. Stakeholders were identified at both national and international levels and their roles in relation to the project and potential contributions to the project [See sections 5.0 and 6.5 of the grant applications] described. Baselines, outcomes, outputs, indicators, targets and assumptions defined in the Logical Framework Matrix provided a good means by which the monitoring of project implementation would be undertaken. However, outputs and activities were mixed up making it difficult to identify clearly the intervention logic in the Results Framework. The objective of the project as stated in the narrative was stated as the project outcome in the logical Framework Matrix. Indicators, targets and assumptions were defined, providing a means by which the monitoring of project implementation could be undertaken. Risks and assumptions were defined. Assumptions were often stated as mitigation measures for the Risks.
29. The logframe matrix design combined outputs and activities and, therefore, outputs for the most part, were stated as activities. The consequence is that some indicators were not SMART. For example, all the output indicators in the logical framework matrix were stated exactly the same as the outputs themselves. Indicator for output A was stated as “Determination of mercury-containing lamps streams through identifying type and quantity of mercury-containing lamps currently in use in Armenia, the quantity of expected waste lamps per year and mercury freight in these expected lamps per year”, the same

⁴ Strengthening capacity to promote phasing-out of mercury-added products (lamps) in Armenia” FINAL REPORT

formulation as the output. Again, the project objective was stated as the outcome in the logframe. All this indicates a confusion in the understanding of the approach to project design and needs to be remedied in future project designs.

6.3 Efficiency

30. Efficiency is a performance measure regarding the timeliness and cost-effectiveness of project implementation. These could include positive contributions to performance such as: cost and time saving measures; use of existing systems to support project design/activity; and fullest use of human and financial inputs; as well as negative contributions to performance such as administrative delays and management delays.
31. With regards to this project, efficiencies were either built into project design or have been realized through the use of proven models which allowed the project to roll-out activities to a wider stakeholder group, mostly through workshops and training programmes. The project organized several training courses, meetings and awareness raising activities using remote methods which resulted in substantial savings. Indeed, the bulk of the capacity building activities and networking with the project partners were conducted remotely (see section 6.4 of this report).
32. Efficiency and effectiveness gains were realized through the use of partnerships. The close involvement of the relevant Ministries and NGOs increased efficiency as project implementation benefited from better institutional knowledge and memory, contacts, and experience. For example, Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment (AWHHE), the project partner, is a member of both the International POPs Elimination Network (IPEN) the Coordination Team of the Zero Mercury Working Group (ZMWG) for the Eastern Europe, Caucasus and central Asia (EECCA). Through IAEA, new analytical equipment (Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer) for mercury determination in different environmental media (air, water, land) was obtained and training arranged for young researchers and specialists in Monaco University. Training includes all stages of mercury analyses beginning with sampling, because proper sampling is a prerequisite for appropriate analyses. Working with a multilateral agency such as the IAEA was an efficient approach in developing analytical capacity especially where SIP funding for this project was rather limited. Efficiencies were also gained from collaboration among partner agencies in organizing training activities. For example, collaboration with AWHHE resulted in on-line workshops/seminars on ZOOM, Facebook Messenger or Viber platforms in different Marzes (Provinces) for various groups. Approximately 170 concerned individuals: school teachers, representatives of various public organizations, medical doctors, representatives of municipalities, NGOs, as well as housewives, farmers schoolchildren, students and lecturers of educational institutions (Yerevan State University, State Engineering University of Armenia / Polytechnic, Armenian National Agrarian University). Seminars, in some instances, were facilitated by local communities and Aarhus Center representatives.

6.4 Effectiveness

a) Delivery of Outputs

33. Evaluation of the delivery of results at the output level is based on the Results Framework developed for this project. Three (3) main outputs were defined. They are: determination of mercury-containing lamps streams; review and up-date of mercury relevant legislation; and a strategy for the sound collection, storage, transportation and processing of mercury-containing products/lamps. The evaluation finds that, at the end of project implementation, the key indicators of project performance at the output level have been fulfilled. This section presents a detailed description of the outputs delivered.
34. **Overall Outcome:** Strengthening capacity for phasing-out mercury-containing products (light sources) and develop strategy for environmentally sound collection, interim storage, processing, and disposal of mercury-containing wastes (lamps).

6.4.1. Determination of mercury-containing lamps streams through identifying type and quantity of mercury-containing lamps currently in use in Armenia, the quantity of expected waste lamps per year and mercury freight in these expected lamps per year

35. According to project reporting, a survey on mercury-containing lamps streams in marzes (provinces) of the Republic of Armenia was conducted to determine the quantity and type of mercury-containing lamps. The survey was conducted by the Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment (AWHHE) NGO as partners. The survey was conducted in nine marzes⁵. The survey was conducted at supermarkets, shops, pavilions where lamps were sold and interviews were conducted in Yerevan, Masis and Artashat in the Ararat marz; Armavir and Etchmiadzin in Armavir Marz; Aparan and Talin in Aragatsotn marz; Gyumri and Artik in Shirak marz; Gavar and Sevan in Gegharkunik marz; Abovyan and Hrazdan in Kotayk marz; Dilijan and Ijevan in Tavush Marz; Yeghegnadzor and Vayk in the Vayots Dzor marz.
36. The survey revealed that about 137 types of lamps (including mercury-containing lamps, and mercury-free incandescent and LED lamps) were imported into Armenia. The luminescent lamps containing mercury numbered 40 from all brands surveyed representing some 29% of the survey population. LED lamps numbering 86 made up 63% of all lamps surveyed, were manufactured with the latest technology. The incandescent lamp brands did not contain any mercury and were the least common. A collection of mercury-containing and mercury-free lamps was studied. Also examined was their labeling after which a thorough analysis was done on mercury-containing lamps labeling.
37. The questionnaire for survey on the types of lamps in shops in the thirteen cities and towns surveyed included: the number of types of lamps in the shop; types of mercury-containing lamps; how broken lamps were dealt with; if the shops took back broken mercury lamps from the buyers; and if the shops could sell mercury-free lamps in place of the mercury-containing lamps. The survey found that most of the stores

⁵ Ararat, Armavir, Aragatsotn, Shirak, Gegharkunik, Kotayk, Tavush, Vayots Dzor and Yerevan

and distribution facilities stocked and sold mercury-containing lamps and also mercury free lamps, most of which were manufactured in China.

38. The survey produced a report describing all lamp types, including mercury-containing lamps. Photos and images, technical inserts on user instructions, with clear indication of the mercury content in all the lamps examined were carefully documented as reference material. The survey report also contained a lineup and comparison of advantages and disadvantages of three classes of lamps: incandescent lamps; luminescent/fluorescent or energy-saving lamps; light emitting diodes (LED). The parameters for comparison were light flux (Lumen), power consumed (Watt) and price. Incandescent lamp (IL) is cheaper but high in energy consumption. A luminescent/fluorescent or energy-saving lamp is low on energy consumption but contains mercury vapors and sells more expensively than the incandescent lamps.

6.4.2. Awareness Raising Campaigns

39. In an attempt to raise awareness of lamp-importing companies about phase-out of mercury-containing lamps the Ministry of Environment organized, on July 19, 2019, an awareness-raising event for selected representatives of the private sector with a focus on those engaged in trade/sales and/or use of lamps.
40. Awareness-raising workshops for different population groups concerning negative exposure of mercury, its releases and emissions, production, import/export, as well as legislation prohibiting mercury-added products were conducted and the report prepared. The Armenian Women for Health and a Healthy Environment (AWHHE) held online workshops to educate and raise awareness on the hazards of the use of mercury containing lamps and other products. Awareness-raising workshops scheduled for the period between March 2 to June 30, 2020 for different segments of the population, including underprivileged groups, were postponed at the onset of the coronavirus pandemic.
41. Materials in the form of leaflets containing information on mercury-containing lamps, the risks posed and actions to be taken if lamps are broken, were produced and disseminated among certain sections of the population. This was done before the visits to the regions to carry out the survey on mercury contamination. Information leaflets were also produced and disseminated on the types of mercury-free lamps available in the market. All respondents to the survey were given copies of the information leaflets.
42. AWHHE organized online seminars in the different marzes for school teachers, staff of public organizations, municipal authorities, medical doctors, and NGOs. Also, a selection of housewives, farmers schoolchildren, students and lecturers of institutions of higher learning were targeted. Some seminars were facilitated by local communities and public environmental information centres. The Aarhus Centre facilitated eight online seminars.

6.4.3. Determination of quantity of expected waste lamps per year and mercury freight in these expected lamps per year done and the report prepared

43. As input into the development of a Strategy for sound collection, storage, transportation and processing of mercury-containing products/lamps, data was collected to be used as the basis for developing a robust strategy. To determine the quantity of mercury containing devices in hospitals, an inventory was taken. The devices included medical thermometers, tonometers, room thermometers, cabinet dryer thermometers, refrigerator thermometers, barometers, water thermometers, and autoclave thermometers. Mercury-containing medical thermometers and other devices were inventoried in medical facilities in the Municipality of Yerevan and those under the regional administration of provinces of Aragatsotn, Ararat, Armavir, Gegharkunik, Kotayk, Lori, Shirak, Syunik, Tavush using 2020 data. This exercise was carried out to collect information and raise awareness on the phasing-out of mercury-added medical and other measuring devices covering their manufacture, import and export.

6.4.3.1. Inventory of mercury-containing equipment in Hydrometeorological service of the Republic of Armenia

44. Inventory was also conducted on mercury-containing thermometers and barometers deployed in hydrometeorological service stations. Data was also collected on their technical characteristics based on information at the hydrometeorological service stations. This data was collected from 93 hydrological observatories and 48 meteorological stations of the Republic of Armenia (RoA). The data collected included, among others, the spatial distribution of the hydrometeorological service stations and the number of devices. The volume of mercury in each of them was calculated and analyzed with classification of results done by marzes.

6.4.4. Workshop on Data Analysis and Validation

45. An Awareness Raising and Data Validation Workshop which was organized by the Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center of the Ministry of Environment was held at the ANI Grand Hotel Yerevan on June 3, 2021 under the direction of Ms. Anahit Aleksandryan. The Workshop dwelt on in part on raising the awareness of all stakeholders on the negative effects of mercury and mercury-containing products particularly lamps, on human health and the environment. It also sought to validate the data obtained by experts through observations, surveys, examinations, audits and analysis conducted during the period of project implementation. Some of the data to be validated included data on mercury-containing lamps streams, type and quantity of mercury-containing lamps found and in use in Armenia; quantity of expected waste lamps and amount of mercury carried in the lamps per year; and other relevant data.

6.4.5. Review of existing legislation and legislation for banning the use, import, export of mercury-containing lamps developed

46. To prepare government machinery to take on the new challenges of regulating issues relevant to mercury and mercury contamination, a number of Ministries and Agencies were reorganized and merged in order

to improve their legislative and operational capacity for chemical and waste management. The review also carried out gaps analysis of National legislation related to mercury.

6.4.5.1. Legislative review workshop

47. A pre-planned workshop on the review of legislation at which stakeholders had to assess and approve the preparation of legislations including Acts and By-laws for comprehensive implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury had to be postponed as a result of the disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and its associated restrictions. The workshop which was finally organized and held in June 2021 covered the 2020 ban on import, export and production of mercury and mercury-containing products. Representatives of all relevant inspectorate bodies were invited to the workshop. The workshop covered all legislative Acts on the use, storage and handling of mercury and other hazardous chemicals and wastes. All the laws on mercury and other hazardous chemicals were reviewed and a new concept law on Mercury was drafted. The workshop also sensitized stakeholders and inspectorates on the legislations related to hazardous chemicals and waste including mercury-regulating legislation and the negative effects of mercury and mercury-containing products on human health and the environment. Workshop participants were drawn from the Environmental Protection and Mining Inspection Body (EPMIB) and its regional divisions from the provinces of Yerevan, Aragatsotn, Ararat, Armavir, Gegharkunik, Kotayk, Lori, Shirak, Syunik, Tavush and Vayots Dzor.

6.4.5.2. Development of appropriate legislation for banning import/ export of mercury-added products

48. The draft law on mercury was prepared to give legal backing to the banning of import, export, and production of mercury containing products among other things. It was prepared by the Hazardous Substances and Wastes Policy Department of the Ministry of Environment and submitted to the Government of the Republic of Armenia for consideration. The draft law was finalized and submitted to the Standing Commission on Territorial Administration, Local Self-Government, Agriculture and Environmental Protection of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia and approved in its 1st reading on November 12, 2021. The Law will be followed by the promulgation of subsidiary legislation which will help to operationalize it. It is worth noting though that this law was not funded specifically by the project.

6.4.5.3. Strategy for environmentally sound collection, interim storage, and processing of mercury-containing waste lamps developed

49. The Strategy for sound collection, storage, transportation and processing of mercury-containing products/lamps was drafted and circulated to solicit comments from Project Steering Committee members. The draft Strategy was presented to the Final Workshop for discussion and adoption by stakeholders. The draft contained, among other things, legislation, sources of mercury pollution and hazardous properties, general information about mercury-containing lamps; strategy; and evaluated status of mercury-containing lamps.

6.4.5.3.1. Preparation of Instruction for handling mercury lamps, mercury-containing fluorescent tubes (burned-out and discarded)

50. It was necessary to put together a document which will guide the process of handling mercury lamps, mercury-containing fluorescent tubes (spent and discarded). This document became known as the “Instruction for handling mercury lamps, mercury-containing fluorescent tubes (worked-out and discarded)”. The Instruction covered the following issues: waste generation and collection; conditions for temporary storage and accumulation of waste; accounting for generation and movement of waste; transfer of waste to specialized enterprises for treatment; transportation of waste, including requirements for carrying out loading and unloading operations; emergency response measures; and elimination of consequences of an emergency situation in case of mechanical destruction of more than 1 mercury-containing lamp and/or mercury spill.

6.4.5.3.2. Preparation of Governmental Decision on movement of hazardous wastes (including mercury).

51. The Government of Armenia prepared a document named “Decision of the Government of Armenia on the Order of permission for transboundary movement of hazardous wastes (including mercury) on mutual trade between member countries of Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU)”. The preparation of this document was guided by a clause of Part 1 of Article 7 of the Law “On Waste” which guarantees the operationalization of Article 6 of the “Agreement on transboundary movement of hazardous waste through the customs territory of the Eurasian Economic Union”. The Republic of Armenia government decided to:
 1. Approve the procedure for issuing a conclusion (permission document) on the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes in mutual trade between the Member States of the Eurasian Economic Union.
 2. Have the decision enter into force on the 10th day following the day of its official publication with the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia N. Pashinyan’s assent.

6.4.5.3.3. Workshop on adoption of Strategy for sound collection, storage, transportation and processing of mercury-containing products/lamps held and report prepared

52. The final workshop on Adoption of Strategy for Sound Collection, Storage, Transportation and Processing of Mercury-Containing Products/Lamps dwelt on sensitizing stakeholders on the mercury-regulating legislation drafted and adopted by the government of Armenia and presented the “Instruction for handling mercury lamps, mercury-containing fluorescent tubes (worked-out and discarded)” and “Strategy for Sound Collection, Storage, Transportation and Processing of Mercury-Containing Products/Lamps” for assessment and adoption by stakeholders.

b) Achievement of Direct Outcomes

Direct Outcome 1: Strengthening capacity for phasing-out mercury-containing products (light sources) and develop strategy for environmentally sound collection, interim storage, processing, and disposal of mercury-containing wastes (lamps).

53. The Project Results Framework (PRF) as described in the legal agreement defines the direct project outcome as stated above. Incidentally that is the same formulation as the project objective which is an anomaly. This evaluation further considers that the real objective of the project is to phase-out mercury-added products (lamps) in Armenia and the means by which that phase-out will be achieved is by strengthening institutional, regulatory and individual capacities which, is a lower result level than objectives. While the results levels are mixed up, the evaluation believes that strengthened institutional and regulatory and individual capacity is an appropriate direct outcome of the project.
54. As noted in the discussions in the sections above, the project encountered challenges mostly related to complications caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the pandemic provided opportunities that were explored to good effect by the project. The project used virtual meetings and training events making it possible for education on mercury to be delivered to a large number of participants. As a result, online seminars organized by the project in the different provinces for example reached 170 participants. A National Strategy to implement the Minamata Convention was prepared and this is a key outcome of the effort to strengthen national capacity.
55. The project's contributions to strengthening national capacity has been confirmed by the country representatives interviewed for this terminal evaluation. The final project report notes that, through IAEA funding an amount of 250,000 USD has been approved and new analytical equipment (Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer) has been purchased for mercury analysis in different environmental media (air, water, land). As a follow-up young researchers and specialists are being trained through IAEA in Monaco University as a measure to further strengthen national capacity for mercury analyses.
56. Government machinery was reorganized to take on the new challenges of regulating issues relevant to mercury and mercury contamination. A number of ministries and agencies were reorganized and merged in order to improve their legislative and operational capacity for chemical and waste management. This followed an institutional review which also identified gaps in national legislation related to mercury.
57. Progress has been made towards the strengthening of institutional and technical capacity as a result of the delivery of the project activities. The evidence from the final reports and interviews suggest that project participants have found the project outputs including information received at workshops and seminars and through videos and information pamphlets useful and, are indeed, using some of the knowledge and tools acquired. In particular, the laws and regulations developed have been in use since their promulgation and hospitals are now using mercury-free nanometres, thermometers and LED lamps. In order to achieve the outcome, results of the implementation of the project activities must move beyond the direct support received through this project to tangible evidence of government institutions, private

sector institutions and individuals using the capacities developed. While this is the case, as gleaned from evidence in the final project report, the information available to this evaluation so far is not sufficient to support a conclusion that such tangible actions are occurring in a critical mass of participants trained in the various seminars, workshops and awareness raising campaigns. Neither is there evidence that the government will provide the necessary resources to fund future workshops, seminars and awareness-raising campaigns.

c) Likelihood of impact

58. The evaluation finds that the project performance indicators have been met for the most part. While there were disruptions involving postponements of project activities caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the project has successfully developed a national strategy for the management of mercury and mercury added products. There was effective participation in the national training activities even though they were mostly through remote modalities.
59. The evidence shows that the project was able to mobilize government agencies, NGOs and the private sector to support the process of developing capacity to manage the problem of mercury in products and in the environment. For example, while not specifically an activity funded by the project, a Draft Law on mercury was prepared by the Hazardous Substances and Wastes Policy Department of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Armenia. The Law which regulates the handling/use of mercury, mercury compounds, mercury waste and mercury-added products was finalized and submitted to the Standing Commission on Territorial Administration, Local Self-Government, Agriculture and Environmental Protection of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia and approved at its 1st reading on November 12, 2021. The Law will be followed by the development of regulations which will help to operationalize it. With a strong regulatory and institutional framework in place the project has, indeed, developed the enabling environment for the effective management of mercury and mercury added products in the Republic of Armenia.
60. The project has created awareness among various institutions and the public through the dissemination of information material on public health risks of mercury added products, mercury management, the regulatory framework for managing mercury and the Minamata Convention in general.
61. Leveraged by the SIP project, an IAEA funded initiative to improve environmental monitoring of mercury in Armenia in accordance with the obligations under Articles 12 and 19 of the Minamata Convention will help develop surveillance capacity through laboratory analytical equipment and the development of human capacity through the training of young researchers.
62. The outputs produced including training and knowledge as well as research and mercury surveillance combine to produce the direct outcome of strengthening capacity for phasing-out mercury-containing products (light sources) and developing a strategy for environmentally sound management of mercury-

containing wastes. Ongoing activities undertaken by government in the form of legislation which was not funded by the project further strengthened the regulatory capacity to control import, export and disposal of mercury added products. Under the assumption that the government of Armenia will continue to support the Minamata process including implementation of the legislation and training initiatives, as well as research and mercury surveillance activities with internal resources and/or from external resources, this evaluation believes that progress will be made along the causal pathway toward phasing out mercury added products and reducing human exposure to mercury in products. The key driver is that the government of Armenia is committed to sustaining technical and institutional capacity and will engage around the issue of mercury phase-out. The final project report and interviews conducted during this terminal evaluation has confirmed that the Government of Armenia effectively supported and facilitated access to resources from the SIP for capacity building activities. This evaluation has further confirmed through interviews that the national government has continued to support continuing project activities including training, awareness raising and mercury research and surveillance capacity development with the expectations that internal resources will be allocated to support the Minamata process. There was some scepticism though that such resources will be made available in a timely manner to continue the momentum gained from the implementation of project activities.

d) Sustainability of Project Outcomes

63. The extent to which outcomes and impacts derived from project implementation are likely to continue after external funding and assistance ends is a measure of sustainability. Factors and conditions that affect sustainability have been considered in three areas: (i) socio-political factors, (ii) financial conditions, and (iii) institutional conditions. The SIP project presented explicit strategies to sustain project outcomes in the project design through institutional strengthening, training, awareness raising, research, monitoring and surveillance. Indeed, the strengthening of capacity has in-built sustainability elements.

Socio-political sustainability

64. The development of a strategic and legal framework for the management of mercury containing products, the creation of awareness, knowledge and skills as well as the development of research and surveillance capacity are necessary for Armenia to meet its obligations under the convention beyond the duration of the project. These are the principal means by which the project attempted to ensure sustainability. The evidence of government commitment is the readiness of the various government institutions and universities to participate in the various aspects of the project and shows its willingness to transition to a mercury-free economy. By creating partnerships with high level support and the participation of appropriate government institutions, the project has ensured that implementation and monitoring of project activities can continue into the future.

Financial sustainability

65. The project reports discussed an IAEA funded initiative to improve environmental monitoring of mercury in Armenia in accordance with the obligations under Articles 12 and 19. This initiative assisted in developing surveillance capacity by providing laboratory analytical equipment and the development of human capacity through the training of young researchers and constitutes a measure of sustainability. While the final project report did not discuss the potential for allocation of resources from the national budget for the continuation of the capacity building efforts after project completion, discussions with the country project team confirmed that the government has already supported continuing activities and the various government departments will continue to support awareness raising and training activities. Reporting was not done on in-kind contributions; therefore, it is not clear if the pledged in-kind contribution can be a predictor of government commitment to further invest internal resources into building additional capacity to manage the problem of mercury in products. The positive indication from the project team though is that some of the project activities are continuing even after the project came to an end.

Institutional sustainability

66. Factors associated with the processes, policies, legal and regulatory frameworks and governance structures address the dimension of institutional sustainability of results. The direct outcomes of this project discussed above in Section 6.4b of this report has a direct bearing on institutional sustainability.

67. The assessment of effectiveness in section 6 shows that the workshops on laws and regulations conducted as a part of this project have been helpful in creating knowledge and awareness. The partnerships built and the capacity building activities undertaken especially for government institutions were instrumental in developing institutional capacity which would enable Armenia to transition to mercury-free products. The training of staff in the various ministries and government departments who were provided with the tools and guidelines developed during this project will ensure that the necessary capacity exists within these institutions to monitor, regulate and manage mercury control activities and the policy processes within government. The evaluation recognizes that staff turnover in the various institutions at the national level represents a major risk to sustainability. However, this evaluation has not undertaken any study, this soon after project completion, to determine if the built capacity still exists. This could be a subject matter of an impact study a few years into the future.

6.5 Factors Affecting Project Performance

a) Financial Management

68. The total project budget was USD 232,000 with SIP funding amounting to 162,000 USD and in-kind contributions worth 70,000 USD. As shown in Table 4 the total amount of in-kind contributions pledged, was 30.2% of the total project budget. While there is evidence that in-kind resources had been used to implement project activities, full tracking of co-financing was not done.

69. The budget planning and expenditure sheets look adequate. Project revisions are well documented and fully transparent. Table 4 presents financial costs of the project by “measures” undertaken including proposed in-kind contributions by the Government of Armenia. Table 5 represents costs and expenditures by project output as presented in the final report by the Project Team.

Table 4: SIP Project Costs- Armenia

Measures	SIP Funding	In-kind Contribution	Total
Measure 1: Determination of mercury-containing lamps streams, including import, distribution, use and amounts of wastes generated per year	\$67,500	\$43,000 (in-kind)	\$110,500
Measure 2: Review and Up-date of Mercury Relevant Legislation	\$22,500	\$22,000 (in-kind)	\$ 44,500
Measure 3: Strategy Development for Sound Collection, Storage, Transportation, and Processing of Mercury-Containing Waste Lamps	\$62, 000	\$ 5,000 (in-kind)	\$ 67,000
Measure 4: Monitoring, review/evaluation & financial audit	\$10, 000		\$ 10,000
Total	162,000	70,000	\$232,000

Source: Project Cooperation Agreement, Annex A

Table 5: Final Expenditure Report

Output		Staff and Other Personnel Costs (FT30_010)		Contractual Services (FT30_120)		Travel (FT30_160)		Equipment (FT30_135)		Total (USD)		
		Budget	Expenditure	Budget	Expenditure	Budget	Expenditure	Budget	Expenditure	Budget	Expenditure	
M1. Determination of mercury-containing lamps streams through identifying type and quantity of mercury-containing lamps currently in use in Armenia, the quantity of expected waste lamps per year and mercury freight in these expected lamps per year.	1	Staff	9,000.00	9,000.00						9,000.00	9,000.00	
	1	Consultants for inventory and report preparation	28,000.00	28,000.00							28,000.00	28,000.00
	1	Inception Workshop			4,000.00	1,069.00					4,000.00	1,069.00
	1	Awareness-raising Workshop			4,000.00	2,628.00					4,000.00	2,628.00
	2	Workshop on Data Validation			4,000.00	1,628.00					4,000.00	1,628.00
	2	Simultaneous Interpreter	6,000.00	5,983.00							6,000.00	5,983.00
	2	Translator	2,500.00	2,080.00							2,500.00	2,080.00
	2	Travel					8,000.00	3,160.00			8,000.00	3,160.00
	2	Printing/Publication contracts, Miscellaneous			2,000.00	2,000.00					2,000.00	2,000.00
	M2. Review of existing legislation is done and legislation for banning the use, import, export of mercury-containing lamps developed.	1	Contingency			2,000.00	-				2,000.00	-
2		Consultants for review of legislation	10,000.00	19,678.00							10,000.00	19,678.00
2		Simultaneous Interpreter	2,000.00	2,000.00							2,000.00	2,000.00
2		Workshop on legislative review and new legislation			4,000.00	3,645.00					4,000.00	3,645.00
3		Translator	2,500.00	1,995.00							2,500.00	1,995.00
3		Travel					4,000.00				4,000.00	-
M3. Strategy for environmentally sound collection, interim storage and disposal of mercury-containing lamps wastes developed.	3	Equipment						5,000.00	4,833.00	5,000.00	4,833.00	
	3	Travel					4,000.00	363.00		4,000.00	363.00	
	3	Consultant for Strategy development	24,000.00	38,542.00							24,000.00	38,542.00
	3	Staff	9,000.00	13,254.00							9,000.00	13,254.00
	4	Workshop on Strategy adoption			4,000.00	667.00					4,000.00	667.00
	4	Final Workshop			4,000.00	500.00					4,000.00	500.00
	4	Translator	5,000.00	5,975.00							5,000.00	5,975.00
	4	Simultaneous Interpreter	4,000.00	4,000.00							4,000.00	4,000.00
	4	Printing/Publication Contracts, Miscellaneous			1,000.00	1,000.00					1,000.00	1,000.00
	3	Contingency			2,000.00	2,000.00					2,000.00	2,000.00
M4. Monitoring, review/evaluation & financial audit	4	Terminal Evaluation	8,000.00							8,000.00	-	
Total Cost		110,000.00	130,507.00	31,000.00	15,137.00	16,000.00	3,523.00	5,000.00	4,833.00	162,000.00	154,000.00	

Source: Progress Report, June1, 2019 – December 15, 2021

b) Monitoring

70. As a part of the project application, a monitoring plan was developed. The plan included activities/outputs, and milestones for each reporting period. The milestones appeared adequate for measuring implementation progress. Over the duration of the project, 5 interim reports (December 2019 to December 2021) were prepared reflecting changes in the status of the project over time. The project interim reports reviewed for this evaluation were found to be adequate. A comprehensive final project narrative was also prepared. A substantial portion of the information used in this evaluation report on the achievement of planned project outputs and outcomes were derived from these sources of information on project monitoring.

71. The project results framework presented in the application included verifiable indicators, targets and means of verification for the project objectives and outcomes. The project design shortcomings have been discussed in section 6.2 above and are not presented here. Day-to-day monitoring of implementation progress was undertaken by the Project Team based on the project's annual work plan. Besides the disruptions caused by COVID 19 there was little discussion of the problems encountered. Meetings of the Project Advisory Committee were carefully described and decisions taken were clearly stated.

c) Project Reporting

72. Monitoring of project implementation was reported in interim reports. All reporting was duly done against indicators and milestones. The interim reports provided a good description of implementation progress for each “measure.” Financial reports were provided with progress reporting. No reports were provided for in-kind contributions. While that is the case, compliance with reporting requirements at the project level would be deemed to be adequate.

7.0. Conclusions, Lessons and Recommendations

7.1. Conclusions

73. Based on the final progress and narrative reports submitted for this project, as well as interviews conducted for this evaluation, the planned project outputs were produced in spite of the disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result of the work undertaken by the project, government machinery was reorganized to take on the new challenges of regulating issues relevant to mercury and mercury contamination. A number of ministries and agencies were reorganized and merged in order to improve their legislative and operational capacity for chemical and waste management.

74. A National Strategy to implement the Minamata Convention was prepared. This is a key outcome of the effort to strengthen national capacity. The evidence from the final reports and interviews conducted for this evaluation further suggest that project participants have found the project outputs including information received at workshops, seminars, and through videos and information pamphlets useful and are, indeed, using some of the knowledge and tools acquired. In particular, the laws and regulations developed have been in use since their promulgation.

75. The project was able to mobilize government agencies, NGOs and the private sector to support the process of developing capacity to manage the problem of mercury in products and in the environment. With a strong regulatory and institutional framework in place, the project has, indeed, developed the enabling environment for the effective management of mercury and mercury added products in the Republic of Armenia.

76. The project has created awareness among various institutions and the public through the dissemination of information material on public health risks of mercury added products, mercury management and the Minamata Convention in general. The evidence shows that progress is being made in developing monitoring, research and analytical capacity for mercury and mercury added products.
77. Progress has been made towards increasing stakeholder and the general public's knowledge of the risks posed by using mercury-added products. Through knowledge and awareness, progress is being made towards the strengthening of capacity for phasing-out mercury-containing products and developing a strategy for environmentally sound collection, interim storage, processing, and disposal of mercury-containing wastes.
78. The evaluation found that efficiencies were either built into project design or have been realized through the use of proven methods which allowed the project to roll-out activities such as training courses, meetings and awareness raising events using remote methods to a wider stakeholder group mostly through workshops and training programmes. The project organized several remote events which resulted in substantial savings. Efficiency gains were also realized through the use of partnerships. Collaboration among partners was relatively efficient and effective in delivering training activities and, in general, the SIP project. Effective communication within the project team also facilitated the sharing of knowledge and expertise between project partners.
79. Gender considerations were discussed in some detail at project design. The "Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment" (AWHHE) NGO was a key project Partner and served on the project Steering Committee. The AWHHE research to determine the quantity and types of mercury-containing products imported into the country was presented at the second Steering Committee meeting. Besides research, AWHHE was involved in the implementation of other project activities including presentations at workshops, arranging and conducting on-line workshops/seminars remotely in lieu of planned events as a result of COVID-19 disruptions. Evaluation of products was presented as part of the seminars, in part, to create greater understanding and awareness of the potential impacts of mercury and its compounds on women and children. The different roles men and women often play (such as doctors, nurses, cleaning staff, etc.) and their relative exposure to emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compound was considered.

7.2. Lessons

- a) **Lesson 1:** The SIP Project confronted many challenges mostly produced by the problems caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Unexpectedly, the pandemic presented the opportunity to the project team to explore alternative means to deliver training, awareness raising and communication activities. Virtual meetings and remote training activities became an important part of program delivery. This made it possible for larger-than-planned audiences to be reached. **In this regard, the SIP project represents a relevant lesson for the delivery of capacity building projects where workshops, meetings, and awareness raising events, could be conducted remotely not only to reduce costs but to reach a wider audience.**

- b) **Lesson 2:** The final project report and interviews indicate that effective communication with the different actors and stakeholders on the subject of mercury in products was vital to the success of the delivery of planned activities. **This evaluation observes that a careful and fairly detailed identification of stakeholders at the project design stage may have contributed to effective collaboration in addressing issues related to the management of the problem of mercury in products. To that effect, engagement of a wide cross-section of stakeholders at all levels is important in projects where the achievement of expected long-term impacts is highly dependent on their actions.**

7.3. Recommendations

- a) This evaluation recommends that as a result of the disruptions caused by the COVID 19 pandemic, the dissemination of information generated through the implementation of project activities should continue through the support of the Ministry of Environment. **Where necessary, additional information should be developed with regards to the use of added mercury products and their relationship to the risks of exposure.**
- b) The project identified a major challenge related to the lack of capacity for mercury wastes processing in Armenia. The options considered for waste removal/transportation to other countries, where such wastes are treated/processed in an environmentally sound manner is not feasible because there is a ban on transit of these wastes through the territory of neighboring countries. This means that mercury wastes processing should be done in Armenia. On the other hand, construction of a mercury waste processing plant, would require large financial investments and time. **The evaluation recommends that because of the nature of the problem and the importance placed on this issue by the steering committee of the project, options for the infrastructure and procedures for environmentally sound management of mercury wastes including feasibility studies for the construction of a warehouse and processing plant should be considered by the Ministry of Environment.**
- c) This evaluation found that given the level of confusion in the PRF at various results levels identified in section 6.2, it would seem that **some level of training in developing a Theory of Change as the basis for preparing the logical framework matrix is required for future projects. A properly developed and documented TOC will likely provide a closer and more coherent intervention logic that describes the causal relationships between the various results levels and a better representation of the project.**

Annex A: Proposed schedule and deliverables

Phase	Activities & Deliverables	Proposed timeline (2023)
Inception	Start-up teleconference	January 25, 2023
	Initial documentation review	January 7-30, 2023
	Draft Inception report	February 3, 2023
	(Internally) Finalized Inception report	February 15, 2023
Data Collection and Analysis	In-depth documentation review	February 2023
	Survey Launch (if needed)	February 15
	Interviews with Project Teams	February – March 2023
	Other Telephone Interviews (where needed)	March 15 – 30, 2023
	Data analysis	February – March, 2023
	Preliminary Findings Argentina	March 3, 2023
	Draft Report for Argentina	March 15, 2023
	Preliminary Findings Armenia	March 17, 2023
	Draft Report for Armenia	March 23, 2023
	Preliminary Findings Lesotho	March 25, 2023
	Draft Report for Lesotho	March 30, 2023
	Convention Secretariat comment due	April 15, 2023*
	Final Reports	April 30, 2023

Annex B: List of Participants in the Project Steering Committee

- Ministry of Emergency Situations, RoA
- Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure, RoA
- Ministry of Economy, RoA
- National Center for Disease Control and Prevention SNCO, Ministry of Health, RoA
- Inspectorate for Nature Protection and Mineral Resources, RoA
- Health and Labor Inspectorate, RoA
- State Customs Committee of Revenue Committee, RoA
- Urban Development, Technical Standards and Fire Safety Inspectorate
- Yerevan Municipality, RoA
- National Academy of Science, RoA
- NGOs.

In response to Letters, official nominations were obtained from Ministries, National Academy of Science, NGO and the Project Steering Committee was established with the following membership:

NN	Name, surname	Affiliation
1.	Ms. Irina Ghaplanyan	Deputy Minister of Environment, RA
2.	Ms. Anahit Aleksandryan	Head, Hazardous Substances and Wastes Policy Division, Ministry of Environment, RoA National Project Coordinator
3.	Mr. Afanasi Lazarev	Acting Director, “Environmental Monitoring and Information Center” State Non-Commercial Organization (EMIC SNCO), Ministry of Environment, RA
4.	Ms. Ruzanna Grigoryan	Head, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Environment, RoA
5.	Mr. Karapet Karapetyan	Head, Division of Technogenic Accidents, Department of Arranging Population Protection and Elimination of Disasters Consequences, Rescue Service, Ministry of Emergency Situations, RoA
6.	Ms. Marianna Shakhkryan	Chief specialist, regional energy markets development Division, Energy Department, Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure, RoA
7.	Mr. Samvel Paranyan	Chief Specialist, Department of Industrial Policy, Ministry of Economy, RoA
8.	Ms. Nune Bakunts	Deputy General Director, National Center for Disease Control and Prevention SNCO, Ministry of Health, RoA

NN	Name, surname	Affiliation
9.	Mr. Arayik Mirzoyan	Head, Division of Land, Waste and Hazardous Substances Supervision, Department of Water, Atmosphere, Land, Wastes, and Hazardous Substances Supervision, Inspectorate for Nature Protection and Mineral Resources, RoA
10.	Ms. Armenuhi Arustamyan	Chief Specialist, Department of Hygienic, Sanitary-hygienic and Anti-epidemic Supervision, Health and Labor Inspectorate, RoA
11.	Mr. Armenak Melkonyan	Chief Customs Inspector, Classification and Non-Tariff Regulation Division, Customs Control Department, State Revenue Committee, RoA
12.	Mr. Bagrat Muradyan	Assistant to Head of Urban Development, Technical Standards and Fire Safety Inspectorate
13.	Mr. Gorik Avetisyan	Chief Specialist-Ecologist, Department of Nature Protection, Yerevan Municipality, RoA
14.	Ms. Lilit Sahakyan	Acting Head, Center for Ecological-Noosphere Studies, National Academy of Science, RoA
15.	Ms. Elena Manvelyan	President, "Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment" NGO, RoA

Annex C: List of Documents Consulted

1. Strengthening capacity to promote phasing-out of mercury added products (lamps) in Armenia”: SMALL SCALE FUNDING AGREEMENT (SSFA) Between United Nations Environment Programme and The Environmental Monitoring and Information Center State Non-Commercial Organization (EMIC SNCO) of the Ministry of Nature Protection of the Republic of Armenia (May 2019)
2. Strengthening capacity to promote phasing-out of mercury added products (lamps) in Armenia”: Amendment No. 1 SMALL SCALE FUNDING AGREEMENT (SSFA) Between United Nations Environment Programme and The Environmental Monitoring and Information Center State Non-Commercial Organization (EMIC SNCO) of the Ministry of Nature Protection of the Republic of Armenia (October, 2020)
3. Minamata Convention on Mercury, Specific International Program, Application form 1AB & II, Armenia, August 2018
4. First Interim Report, December 2019, Progress Report and Annexes
5. Second Interim Report, June 2020, Progress Report and Annexes
6. Third Interim Report, December 2020, Progress Report and Annexes
7. Fourth Interim Report, June 2021, Progress Report and Annexes
8. Fifth Interim Report. December 2021, Progress Report and Annexes
9. Final Project Report, December, 2021
10. Evaluation Terms of Reference
11. Expenditure reports, co-financing records, budget revisions
12. Technical reports on project Outputs, studies, publications, outreach material, etc.;
13. Terms of Reference for SIP Consultants
14. Co-Financing Letters
15. Letters from Partnering Organizations
16. Minamata Convention on Mercury: Text and Annexes, September 2019 www.mercuryconvention.org
17. Specific International Programme to support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance, <https://mercuryconvention.org/en/implementation/specific-international-programme>

Annex D: Terms of Reference (ToR)

Organizational Unit - UNEP/Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

1. Purpose

1.1 Explain the requirement for a consultant / individual contractor including the reference to the work programme (*corresponds to box 1 of P.104/A*):

Article 13 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury defines a mechanism for the provision of adequate, predictable and timely financial resources to support developing-country parties and parties with economies in transition in implementing their obligations under the Convention. The mechanism is comprised of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) trust fund and the Specific International Programme (SIP) to support capacity-building and technical assistance. The SIP is administered by UNEP through the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury under the oversight of the SIP Governing Board which implements its guidance, including decision-making on projects and project management.

In decision MC-1/6, the Conference of the Parties established guidance on the operations of and duration of the SIP and establishment of its Terms of Reference and Governing Board. Its Rules of Procedure were adopted by the Governing Board at its first meeting in 2018 and completed at its third meeting.

The SIP is mandated to ensure complementarity and avoid duplication with other existing arrangements to provide capacity-building and technical support, in particular GEF and the Special Programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level for implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Minamata Convention and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, as well as other existing assistance frameworks, and be consistent with the integrated approach to financing the sound management of chemicals and waste.

The purpose of this consultancy is to undertake terminal evaluations of three SIP projects. Project logical frameworks and reporting provide key information from which to assess the effectiveness and impacts of individual projects and provide important information for reviewing the overall programme.

1.2 Ultimate result of services (*corresponds to box 1 of P.104/A*):

3 terminal evaluation reports, one for each of three completed SIP projects, namely, the projects in Argentina, Armenia, and Lesotho.

1.3 Legislative authority reference (*corresponds to box 1 of P.104/A*)

- Minamata Convention Article 13

1.4 Title and identification number of programme / project (*corresponds to box 1 of P.104/A*)

- Programme of work and budget of the Minamata Convention, 2022-2023 biennium, Activity 13

1.5 Source of Funds Regular Budget Extra-budgetary

(corresponds to box 4 of P.104/A)

Specific Trust Fund First Round

1.6 Allotment Account / Budget Line

Total: USD 26,000

2. Qualifications / special skills or knowledge

(Indicate what expertise and experience, i.e. special skills or knowledge are required / essential to perform the specific tasks and responsibilities stipulated above and the level of expertise required) Corresponds to box 1 of P.104/A

Advanced university degree in environmental sciences, international development or other relevant political or social sciences area; a minimum of 10 years of technical / evaluation experience, including of evaluating large, regional or global programmes and using a Theory of Change approach; a broad understanding of issues relating to international chemicals management; proficiency in English, along with excellent writing skills in English. Knowledge of the UN system, specifically of the work of UN Environment Programme, is helpful.

The consultant certifies that he/she has not been associated with the design and implementation of the SIP in any way which may jeopardize their independence and impartiality towards achievements and performance. In addition, he/she will not have any future interests (within six months after completion of the contract) with the work of the SIP.

The consultant agrees not to disclose information from non-public applications and reports to third parties beyond information required for, and included in, the evaluations and review.

3. Objectives, output expectations and performance indicators

(Include the final and intermediate results and outputs of services which should be measurable; performance indicators should allow for the evaluation of the results; include details as to how the work must be delivered (e.g. electronic submission, hard copy, etc.))

In line with the UN Environment Evaluation Policy and the SIP Application Guidelines, all projects with funding from the SIP of over USD 150,000 are required to undergo a terminal evaluation. The UN has Evaluation Norms and Standards to which contracted evaluators are bound. UNEP evaluations and reviews consider nine specific evaluation criteria: relevance; quality of project design; nature of external context; effectiveness, which comprises assessments of the provision of outputs, achievement of outcomes and likelihood of impact; financial management; efficiency; monitoring and reporting; sustainability; and factors and processes affecting project performance and cross-cutting issues.

Three projects from the First Round of applications to the SIP have completed their activities and will be evaluated. They are:

- a. Argentina: Capacity Building Programme for the implementation of the Minamata Convention
Budget: USD 250,000 Duration: 31 July 2019 – 31 December 2021
- b. Armenia: Strengthening capacity to promote phasing-out of mercury-added products (lamps)
Budget: USD 162,000 Duration: 1 June 2019 – 30 November 2021
- c. Lesotho: Budget: USD 200,550 Duration: 10 May 2019 - 09 November 2022

Terminal Evaluations Arrangements, Approach and Methods: Each of the terminal evaluations should assess the quality of the project and its implementation against the UNEP evaluation criteria and specific questions as outlined below, and provide recommendations for addressing any programming challenges, scaling up, and for ensuring sustainability of achieved results or any other recommendations within the context of the Minamata Convention's capacity building and technical assistance support towards implementing the mandates of the Convention.

The terminal evaluations will use a participatory evaluation approach to consult key stakeholders and keep them informed throughout the evaluation process. Both quantitative and qualitative evaluation methods will be used, as appropriate, to determine achievements against the expected outputs, outcomes and impacts.

The consultant will maintain close communication with the Minamata Convention Secretariat and promote information exchange with key stakeholders throughout the evaluations to increase their (and other stakeholder) ownership of the findings.

The findings of the evaluations will be based on the following:

A desk review of:

- Relevant background documentation, including legal agreements, amendments or changes thereto, and application guidelines and forms, amongst others;
- Appraisal documentation and Governing Board comments on applications, if any;
- Project interim progress and financial reports;
- Project final reports;
- Supplemental materials provided by project partner to the Secretariat and/or the consultant.

Interviews (individual or in groups, undertaken virtually) with:

- Project focal points and Minamata Convention national focal points of each country;
- Secretariat staff;
- Relevant resource persons.

If the consultant considers **surveys** of relevant partners and/or stakeholders of each country to be useful and within the resources available for the evaluations, the consultant will submit draft survey instruments to the Secretariat for review, comment, and, if needed, revision.

4. Specific tasks and responsibilities

(Cover all aspects of the work to be carried out)

The consultant will prepare:

- **Inception Reports:** for each of the three terminal evaluations, these may be in the form of a PowerPoint presentation and supporting documentation, to be presented to the Secretariat. They will contain the review framework, procedures, and tentative review schedule for the evaluation.
- **Preliminary Findings Notes:** these will be in the form of either a PowerPoint presentation or a one- to two-page memo, for each of the three terminal evaluations, presented to the Secretariat, in draft form. It provides an opportunity for early comments and feedback with respect to preliminary findings before preparation of a formal draft report.

- **Draft and Final Evaluation Reports:** one report for each of the three terminal evaluations, containing executive summaries that can act as stand-alone documents; synthesized analyses of the review findings organized by evaluation criteria and supported with evidence; lessons learned and recommendations. The reports will each be no longer than 15 pages, excluding the executive summaries and annexes, and will be to the point and written in plain English. They will explain the purpose of the evaluations, the methodology used, and evidence-based and balanced findings covering the evaluation criteria set forth in “Objectives and Scope” above and the additional review questions set forth in the outline below, conclusions, lessons learned and recommendations.
 - The consultant will submit initial draft reports to the Secretariat and revise the drafts in response to Secretariat comments with respect to factual errors and other suggestions, as appropriate. The consultant will then provide revised drafts on which the Secretariat will provide substantive comments. The Secretariat may also, at its discretion, provide the drafts to additional stakeholders, such as specific project partners, for comment. The consultant will provide the final report. The consultant will be available for brief interaction with the Secretariat as the latter develops relevant documentation for the SIP Governing Board and the Conference of the Parties for a period of four weeks following submission of the final report.
 - The consultant will ensure that the evaluation reports are complete, coherent and presented in a way that makes the information accessible and comprehensible.
 - The consultant will liaise with the Programme Management Officer on comments received, will finalize the evaluation reports, ensuring that comments are taken into account, and will prepare Response to Comments documents for the Secretariat, listing those comments not accepted by the consultant and indicating the reason for the rejection.
 - The consultant will maintain a positive relationship with evaluation stakeholders, ensuring that the evaluation process is as participatory as possible but at the same time maintains its independence.
 - **The proposed structure of the terminal evaluation reports is as follows:**

1. PROJECT KEY INFORMATION

1.1. Implementing Government and Implementing Government Institution

Project Focal Point: Functional Title, Address, Telephone, E-mail

1.2. Project Title as per PCA

1.3. Budget USD Specific Trust Fund; Applicant Government Contribution [if any]

1.4. Start Date

1.5. End Date

1.6. Evaluation Date

2. SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND OVERVIEW OF REPORT

2.1. Project summary

2.2. About this Evaluation [objectives, duration]

3. INTRODUCTION

3.1. Institutional context of the project [Division/Branch/Unit, regions/countries]

3.2. Minamata Convention Articles to which the project contributed

3.3. Overall project outcome

3.4. Summary of Project Outputs [planned and achieved]

4. REVIEW METHODOLOGY

4.1. Data collection: Describe the evaluation methods and information sources used. These will include indicators and means of verification from the log frame, periodic progress and expenditure reports of the project, interviews including the number and type of respondents, and observations. It will be useful to include justification for methods used (e.g. qualitative/quantitative/mixed methods; electronic/face-to-face); any selection criteria used to identify respondents, sites visited; strategies used to increase stakeholder consultation; details of how the data was verified (e.g. triangulation, review by stakeholders, etc.) and data analysis method(s) used.

4.2. Addressing Limitations: Describe the strategies employed to address any potential or actual limitations in the evaluation process, such as strategies used to include the feedback of potentially marginalized groups (e.g. women, indigenous peoples, people with disabilities and youths). Describe strategies used to include divergent views while taking care not to violate human rights and ethical considerations during the review process.

5. THE PROJECT CONTEXT AND RESULTS MONITORING FRAMEWORK

5.1. Project Context: Describe the rationale of the project intervention clearly stating the problem(s) the project intended to address.

5.2. Geographic coverage [country or countries in the case of a regional project]

5.3. Results monitoring framework: Present the project results monitoring framework (i.e. the results hierarchy as presented in the logical framework including the corresponding data sources/verification methods). It may be useful to attach the full project logframe including its indicators and means of verification as an annex.

5.4. Project implementation structure and stakeholder engagement: Present the implementing institutions and supporting implementing partners and their respective roles in ensuring successful project delivery. Define how different stakeholder groups were involved in the project and the roles they played and the resultant benefits to the project in achieving desired results. Comment on the value of collaborations if any.

5.5. Project change management: Describe any changes made to project plans to adapt to evolving needs, including approved budget revisions, if any.

5.6. Gender Strategies: Describe how the project implemented its gender strategies.

6. REVIEW FINDINGS

6.1. Project design quality: Discuss the strength and weakness of the project design in relation to the project context (i.e. both a project specific situational analysis and in relation to the broader mandates of the Minamata Convention).

6.2. Relevance: How aligned is the project with the broader environmental/chemical mandates within the region/country/sector? How is the intervention aligned with the mandates of the Minamata Convention and other global environmental and sustainable development blueprints such as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals?

6.3. Coherence: How well does the intervention fit in the country, sector etc? How does the project complement other ongoing or completed efforts within the country/sector? How did the project optimize through synergizing and avoiding duplication of effort with such efforts?

6.4. Efficiency: How well did the project deliver in relation to the available resources? Comment on timeliness and cost effectiveness, the delivery process, and the quality of results. How well did the project conduct timely tracking of results and progress towards project objectives and how well was the quality of data and information presented?

6.5. Effectiveness: Did the intervention achieve its objectives? How well did the project achieve its desired outcomes (Assess both the quality and quantity of achievements as they apply)? Comment on any project revisions and their effect on achieving results.

6.6. Impact: What difference does the intervention make? Discuss the potential and achieved long lasting positive benefits of the project. If not already attained, assess the likelihood of the intended, positive impacts becoming a reality. Assess the likelihood that the intervention may lead, or contribute to, unintended negative effects (e.g. effect on livelihood of vulnerable groups).

6.7. Sustainability of outcomes: To what extent will the net benefits of the intervention continue? Describe the socio-political, financial and institutional sustainability achievements. Assess the plans for project continuity following project closure through any commitments made including legal and policy enforcement. Comment on the nature of any relationships and collaborative partnerships that were developed through SIP support and how their continuity will be sustained.

6.8. Factors and processes affecting project performance and cross-cutting issues: including nature of external context; financial management; monitoring and reporting.

7. CONCLUSIONS, LESSONS LEARNED AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Tentative schedules for consultant deliverables for the evaluations and reviews

Terminal Evaluation of SIP Armenia Project

Inception meeting with Secretariat and project partner: October 2022

Inception report to the Secretariat: October 2022

Preliminary Findings Note: November 2022

Draft evaluation report: November 2022

Final report: December 2022

Terminal Evaluation of SIP Argentina Project

Inception meeting with Secretariat and project partner: November 2022

Inception report to the Secretariat: December 2022

Preliminary Findings Note: January 2023

Draft evaluation report: January 2023

Final report: February 2023

Terminal Evaluation of SIP Lesotho Project

Inception meeting with Secretariat and project partner: December 2022
 Inception report to the Secretariat: January 2023
 Preliminary Findings Note: January 2023
 Draft evaluation report: February 2023
 Final report: March 2023

5. Reporting lines

(Indicate whom the consultant / individual contractor is reporting to and who will evaluate the outputs of the consultant / individual contractor)

The consultant will work under the overall responsibility of the Programme Management Officer for Capacity Building and Technical Assistance of the Minamata Convention Secretariat, Ms. Marianne Bailey.

6. Duration

(The timeframe, including the delivery dates, should be clear and realistic; the planned starting date is considered realistic if the ToR are finalized at least four weeks before the intended starting date) Corresponds to box 1 of P.104/A

1 October 2022 to 14 April 2023

7. Travel involved

(Indicate the required travel itinerary, if applicable – please tick box 7 of P.104/A)

Travel will be organized by Substantive Office Selected candidate

8. Indicative level of remuneration

(Include the terms of payment (lump-sum, instalments) – corresponds to box 1 of P.104/A - as well as any cost of travel and any DSA payable – corresponds to box 5 of P.104/A and the indicative level of remuneration. Please note that the total remuneration budgeted for this purpose which is indicated in box 1 of P.104/A may be different)

Fees will be paid on an instalment basis, paid on acceptance by the Secretariat of expected key deliverables. The schedule of payment is as follows:

Deliverable	Percentage Payment
Approved Inception Reports for Armenia and Argentina	30%
Approved Final Terminal Evaluations for Armenia and Argentina	40%
Approved Final Terminal Evaluation for Lesotho	30%

In case the consultant is not able to provide the deliverables in accordance with these guidelines, and in line with the expected UNEP quality standards, payment may be withheld until the consultant has improved the deliverables to meet UNEP quality standards.

If the consultant fails to submit satisfactory final products to the Secretariat in a timely manner, i.e. before the end date of his/her contract, the Secretariat reserves the right to employ additional human resources to finalize the reports, and to reduce the consultants’ fees by an amount equal to the additional costs borne by the Secretariat to bring the reports up to standard.

Annex E: Project results framework

Project objective:	Outcomes	Outputs	Indicator	Baseline	Mid-term target	End-of-project target	Source of verification	Risks/ Assumptions
Strengthening capacity to promote phasing-out of mercury-added products (lamps) in Armenia								
	The project outcome is to strength capacity for phasing-out mercury-containing products (light sources) and develop strategy for environmentally sound collection, interim storage, processing, and disposal of mercury-containing wastes (lamps)	Outcome level indicator						
		Output 1.1 Determination of mercury-containing lamps streams, including import, distribution, use, and amounts of wastes generated per year	Baseline: 1 Target: 3		Determination of mercury-containing lamps streams performed through identifying the type and quantity of mercury-containing lamps currently in use in Armenia and the report prepared	Determination of quantity of expected waste lamps per year and mercury freight in these expected lamps per year done and the report prepared		
		Output 1.2 Review and Up-date of Mercury Relevant Legislation in Armenia	Baseline: 1 Target: 3	Minimal Legal Framework	Develop appropriate legislation for avoiding manufacture of mercury-added products listed in Annex A, Article 4, point 1.	Develop appropriate legislation for banning import/ export of mercury-added products (in compliance with provisions of Article 4 of Minamata Convention)		
		Output 1.3 Strategy for environmentally sound collection, interim storage, and processing of mercury-containing waste lamps developed	Baseline: 0 Target: 1	No Strategy Developed	Strategy for sound collection, storage, transportation and processing of mercury-containing products/lamps developed	Final Workshop (with the participation of representative (s) of UN Environment) held and report prepared	Representatives of UN Environment, Strategy documents developed	