

UNEP Global Mercury Partnership
Mercury Waste Management Partnership Area Meeting

13 March 2026

12:00 – 13:30 (CET) | 20:00 – 21:30 (JST)

Program

5 mins	Welcome address	MOEJ
20 mins	Status update	
	[10mins] Status update from the GMP Secretariat	GMP Secretariat
	[10 mins] Updates from the Minamata Convention secretariat	Eisaku Toda (Minamata Convention Secretariat)
15 mins	Activities of the WMA	
	[10 minutes] - Activities carried out in 2025 - Proposal for 2026	EXRI
	[5 mins] Q and A	
20 mins	Work on Factsheet	
	[15 mins] Update to the Oil and Gas factsheet	David Hunter (HgOps)
	[5 mins] Q and A	
20 mins	Update from WMA Partner	
	[15 mins] Presentation from econ industries	Econ industries
	[5 mins] Q and A	
10 mins	Update about ICMPG 2026.	Dr. Asif Qureshi
Closing		



UNEP GLOBAL MERCURY PARTNERSHIP

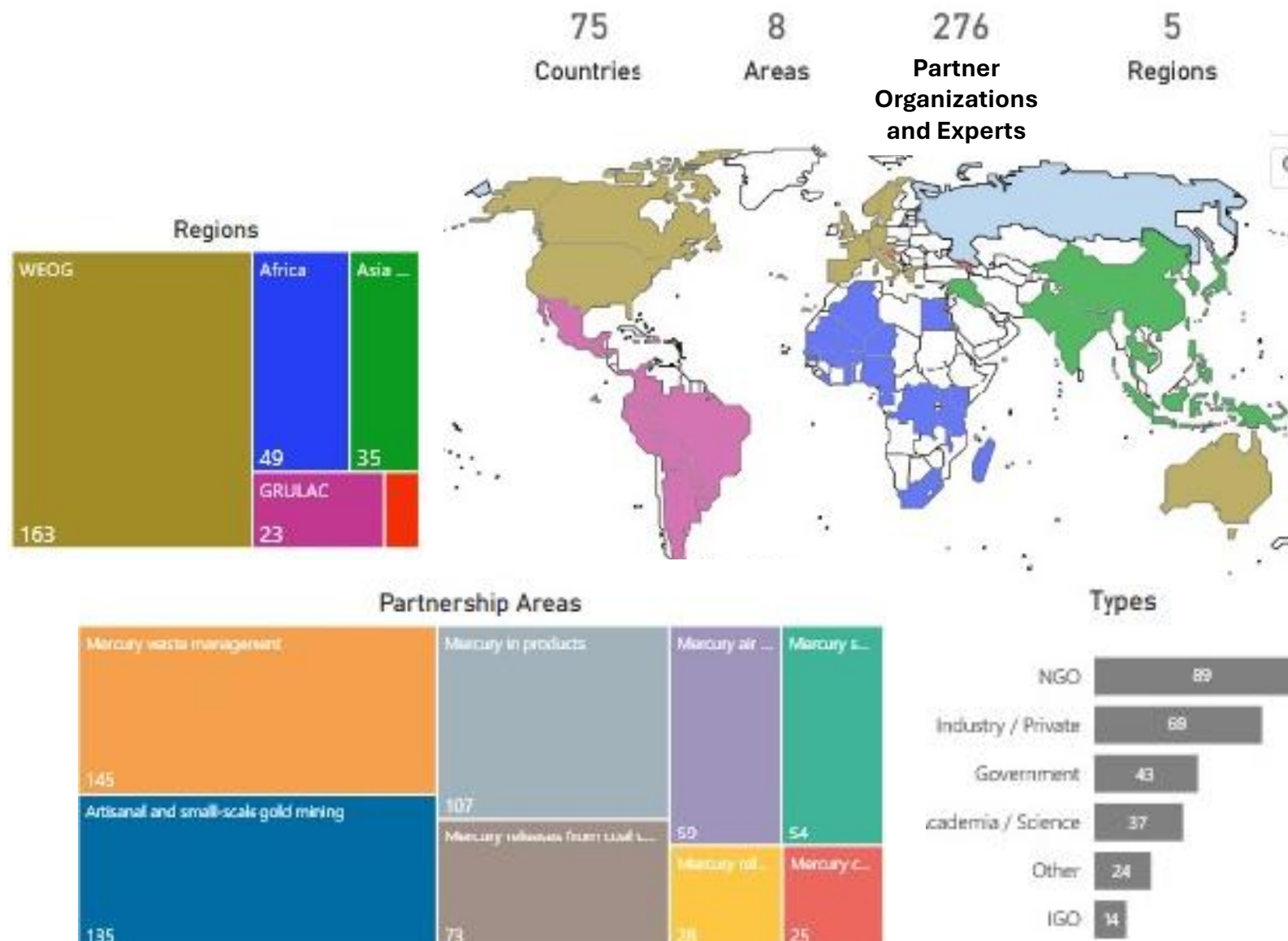
Waste Management Area
Annual meeting, 12 March 2026

Updates from the Secretariat of the Global Mercury Partnership

13 March 2026

Secretariat, Global Mercury Partnership

Who we are



Sectoral expertise

Extractive sector
Energy sector
Cosmetic sector
Industrial processes
Healthcare sector
Electronics



Transitioning toward soft membership

Objectives:

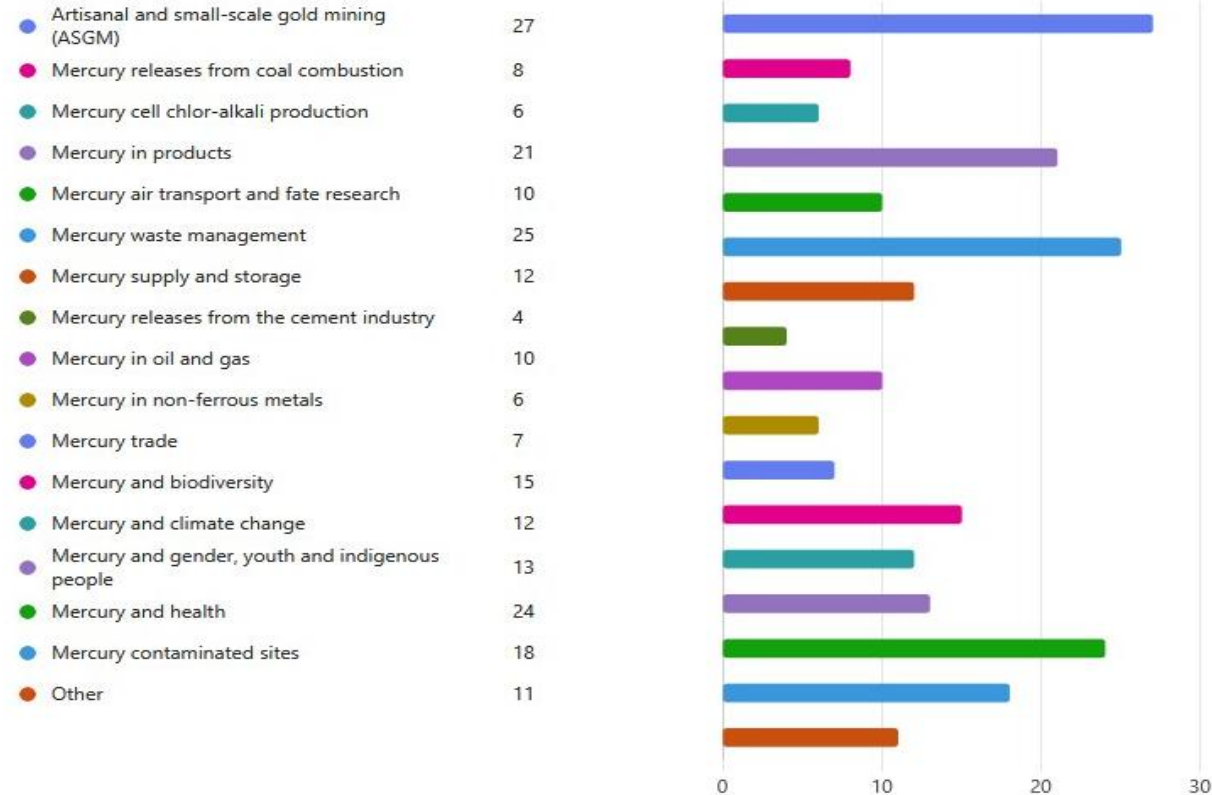
- Ease of registration process
- More **flexibility** to be involved in several PA
- Better understanding and mapping of the partner's profile for **enhanced coordination** from the Secretariat
- More **adaptability** of the Partnership and partners to tackle future emerging priorities and thematic

We have developed an **online registration form**

<https://www.unep.org/globalmercurypartnership/become-partner>

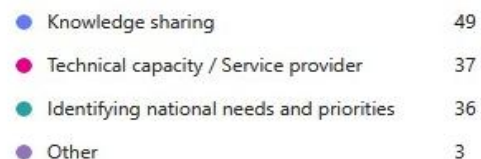
9. Your expertise

Please indicate knowledge, experience and skills that you can mobilise to support activities under the Partnership work plan or to get involved in any of the initiatives supported by the Partnership (please select all that apply)

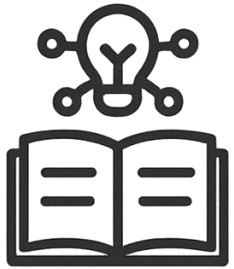


11. Your contribution

Please select activities to which you would like to actively participate (please select all that apply)



Driving expertise - core functions



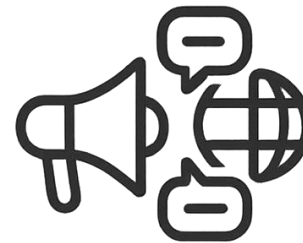
Knowledge
Management

→ Knowledge hubs, dashboards, webinars.



Multi-stakeholder
Platforms

→ e.g., Partnership Areas, and community of practice on skin lightening.



Global
Communication

→ e.g., Webinars, and communication campaigns.



Adaptability

→ To address emerging issues, e.g. oil and gas working group.

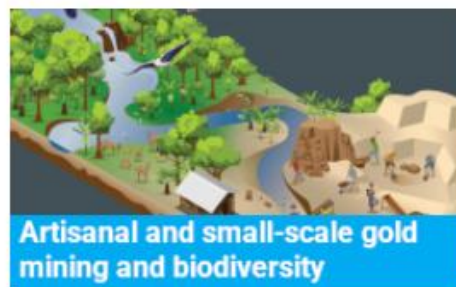
Knowledge management



→ Knowledge hubs
and Community of
Practice.

→ Link to **Minamata
Focus Areas Topic.**

- Artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM)



- Mercury releases from coal combustion



- Mercury in products



Update on Minamata Convention

Eisaku Toda, Secretariat of the Minamata Convention

Global Mercury Partnership Waste Management Area
Meeting, 13 March 2026



COP-6 took place from 3-7 November in Geneva

More than 800
in-person participants and
4,000 online viewers

Web
streaming in
6 UN
languages

22 decisions adopted -
phase out of dental
amalgam, accelerating
the elimination of
mercury-added
cosmetics, etc

135 Parties
represented

Special events and
knowledge labs bringing
together science, art and
advocacy.

Secretariat issued a [follow-up letter](#) on
11 Feb 2026.



COP-6 Decisions See [UNEP/MC/COP.6/25/Add.1](https://www.unep.org/minamata/cop6)



- ❖ Decision MC-6/1: Supply sources and trade
- ❖ Decision MC-6/2: Advancing work related to potential restrictions on the trade of mercury compounds
- ❖ Decision MC-6/3: Amendments to annex A
- ❖ Decision MC-6/4: Advancing work related to mercury added cosmetics
- ❖ Decision MC-6/5: Consideration of the feasibility of mercury-free alternatives for manufacturing vinyl chloride monomer
- ❖ Decision MC-6/6: Timeline for considering requests by Parties for extensions of exemptions
- ❖ Decision MC-6/7: Extensions of exemptions
- ❖ Decision MC-6/8: Artisanal and small-scale gold mining: review of the implementation of article 7
- ❖ **Decision MC-6/9: Advancing work related to mercury waste**
- ❖ Decision MC-6/10: Financial mechanism
- ❖ Decision MC-6/11: Third review of the financial mechanism
- ❖ Decision MC-6/12: Implementation of article 14 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, on capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer
- ❖ Decision MC-6/13: National reporting (article 21): second short national reports
- ❖ Decision MC-6/14: Progress in the first effectiveness evaluation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury
- ❖ Decision MC-6/15: Strengthening effective engagement with Indigenous Peoples, as well as local communities
- ❖ Decision MC-6/16: Addressing health concerns of women and children
- ❖ Decision MC-6/17: Knowledge management and implementation of the digital strategy
- ❖ Decision MC-6/18: Road map for enhancing co-benefits from implementation of the Minamata Convention and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework
- ❖ Decision MC-6/19: International cooperation and coordination
- ❖ Decision MC-6/20: Cooperation and coordination between the secretariats of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions
- ❖ Decision MC-6/21: Programme of work and budget for the biennium 2026–2027
- ❖ Decision MC-6/22: Venue and dates of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

COP-6 decision on mercury waste



Decision MC-6/9: Advancing work related to mercury waste

The Conference of the Parties:...

1. *Invites* Parties and relevant stakeholders to submit, as appropriate, any proposed updates to the lists in tables 1, 2 and 3 of the annex to decision MC-3/5 to the secretariat six months before the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties for the secretariat to, subject to the availability of resources, compile for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting;
2. *Requests* the parties and the secretariat to take the actions agreed on in decision MC 5/10 as soon as practicable or as required to facilitate the implementation of article 11;
3. *Requests* the secretariat to compile and summarize submissions from parties and relevant stakeholders of any scientific and regulatory data on the effectiveness of the threshold for waste falling under subparagraph 2 (c) of article 11, as well as on challenges and experiences related to its use, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting;
4. *Also requests* the secretariat to compile and summarize submissions from parties of any information on the implementation of the different approach referred to in paragraph 2 of decision MC-5/10, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting.

MC-6/9 Para. 1

Submit any proposed updates to the tables 1, 2 and 3 of the annex to decision MC-3/5 six months before COP-7



Table 1

List of mercury waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds^a (subparagraph 2 (a) of article 11)

<i>Type of waste</i>	<i>Waste source^b</i>
Recovered elemental mercury ^c	Mining activity: • Tailings from artisanal and small-scale gold mining Mercury captured from: • Non-ferrous metals roasting and smelting processes

Table 2

Non-exhaustive list of waste containing mercury or mercury compounds (subparagraph 2 (b) of article 11)^a

<i>Type of waste</i>	<i>Waste source^b</i>
Non-electronic measuring devices containing mercury (barometers, hygrometers, manometers, thermometers, sphygmomanometers)	Hospitals, clinics, healthcare facilities (human and animal), pharmacies, households, schools, laboratories, universities, industrial facilities, airports, meteorological stations, ship recycling facilities
Electrical and electronic switches, contacts, relays and rotating electrical	Dismantling facilities of waste electrical and electronic equipment (relays, connectors and switches), industrial facilities (attached to

Table 3

Indicative list of waste contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds (subparagraph 2 (c) of article 11)^a

<i>Type of waste</i>	<i>Waste source^b</i>
Waste from industrial pollution control devices or cleaning of industrial off-gases ^c	Flue gas from sources such as: Extraction and use of fuels/energy sources Smelting and roasting processes in the production of non-ferrous metals Production processes with mercury impurities Recovery of precious metals from waste electrical and electronic equipment Coal combustion Waste incineration and co-incineration

MC-6/9 Para. 2

Parties and Secretariat to take the actions agreed on in decision MC-5/10 as soon as practicable



MC-5/10 established **15 mg/kg total concentration of mercury** as the threshold for wastes contaminated with mercury, subject to the following:

- A Party may, as an alternative to the threshold above, use a **different approach** to determine whether a given waste is a waste contaminated with mercury, provided that that Party has **documented waste management measures**.
- A Party making use of this alternative approach is to submit to the secretariat its documented waste management measures.

Secretariat is to maintain a public register of the information submitted in accordance with above.

- *Submissions from Argentina and USA posted on the webpage on [“Notifications”](#)*

	Article 3.6 and 3.7	Article 3.8 and 3.9	Article 4.2	Article 5.5.c	Article 6	Article 7.3	Article 11.2	Article 17.4	Article 30.4	Article 30.5
Afghanistan										
Albania										
Algeria										
Angola non-Party										
Antigua and Barbuda										
Argentina										

Parties and stakeholders are invited to submit any **scientific and regulatory data and information** on the **effectiveness of the threshold** in protecting human health and the environment, as well as on **challenges and experiences** related to its use, for consideration at COP-7

MC-6/9

Para. 3&4



3. Secretariat to compile and summarize submissions of scientific and regulatory data on:

- the effectiveness of the threshold for waste contaminated with mercury
- challenges and experiences related to its use

4. Secretariat to compile and summarize submissions on the implementation of the different approach referred to in paragraph 2 of decision MC-5/10,

Basel Convention COP-17 decision



BC-17/7: Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds

- COP decided to **update the technical guidelines** in order to reflect adjustments consequential to the establishment of the threshold for mercury wastes, in accordance with decision MC-5/10.

BC-17/14 Annex: Work programme of the Committee Administering the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance

- The Committee is to review the information provided in the national reports, with a view to estimating:
 - (i) how many cases of **illegal traffic** there were;
 - (ii) which wastes those cases involved (including regionally based information and identifying wastes covered by the Montreal Protocol as well as mercury wastes)
 - (iii) in which regions those cases occurred
 - (iv) how they were resolved; and make recommendations based on the outcome of the review

MC-6/9 refers to these decisions in its preambular paragraphs. **MC-6/20** requests the Secretariat to cooperate with the Basel Convention Secretariat.

National reporting under Article 21

- Due by 31 Dec 2025
- Secretariat to analyze the reports by 15 May 2026 for the Effectiveness Evaluation Group
- Implementation and Compliance Committee is also to review the reports

Second full national reports - Reporting rate (11/3/2026)

81%



Question 11.1: Have measures outlined in article 11, paragraph 3, been implemented for the party's mercury waste?

- Yes/No – if yes:
 - taken measures so that mercury waste is managed in an environmentally sound manner
 - taken measures so that mercury waste is only recovered, recycled, reclaimed or directly re-used for an allowed use or for environmentally sound disposal
 - taken measures so that mercury waste is not transported across international boundaries except for the purpose of environmentally sound disposal
- Please describe measure and effectiveness of measures

Question 11.2: *Are there facilities for final disposal of waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds in the Party's territory?

- Yes/No/ Do not know (please explain)
- If yes, if available, how much waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds has been subjected to final disposal under the reporting period? Please specify the method of the final disposal operation/operations.

Thank you for your attention

Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

United Nations Environment Programme

11-13, Chemin des Anémones - 1219 Châtelaine, Switzerland

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MAIL: MEA-MinamataSecretariat@un.org

X: @minamataMEA

[#MakeMercuryHistory](https://twitter.com/MakeMercuryHistory)



MINAMATA
CONVENTION
ON MERCURY

Mercury project portfolio

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION



- Minamata Initial Assessments (MIAs) and National Action Plans (NAPs): Assistance with project implementation and review of reports.
- Compilation, analysis and dissemination of results: Dashboards [MIAs](#) et [NAPs](#).
- Implementing strategies: planetGOLD Programme
- GEF projects on Hg containing products: skin-lightening cosmetics, dental amalgam and medical devices
- Research and data production: artisanal gold mining and biodiversity.
- Contribution to various projects: chlor-alkali (Mexico), primary mercury extraction (Mexico).

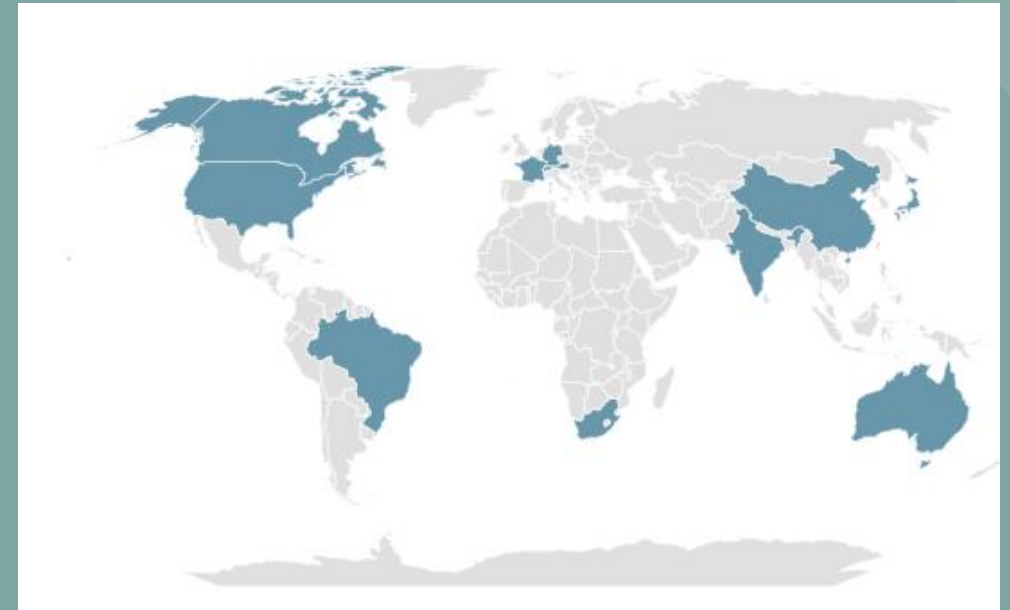


GEF funded project on Hg containing products GMP Targeted technical assistance

- **Support the Identification of Suitable Mercury Waste Management Facilities**
 - Support assessment of national capacity for mercury waste handling, including long-term storage options.
 - Review existing data, conduct stakeholder consultations, and **examine comparable international solutions**.
 - Evaluate **environmental, technical, economic, and legal feasibility** of available waste-management options at the national level.
 - **Conduct on-site assessments** in selected locations to verify infrastructure and operational capacity.
 - Synthesize findings into **concise country case studies** with recommended, viable mercury waste management solutions

Mapping the facilities

Major facilities in North America, Europe, and portions in Asia; in contrast, Africa and Latin America have little infrastructure specifically designed for mercury treatment



Dental amalgam project countries: Uruguay, Senegal, Thailand

Medical devices project countries: Albania, Burkina Faso, India, Montenegro, Uganda

Regional distribution of waste management facilities

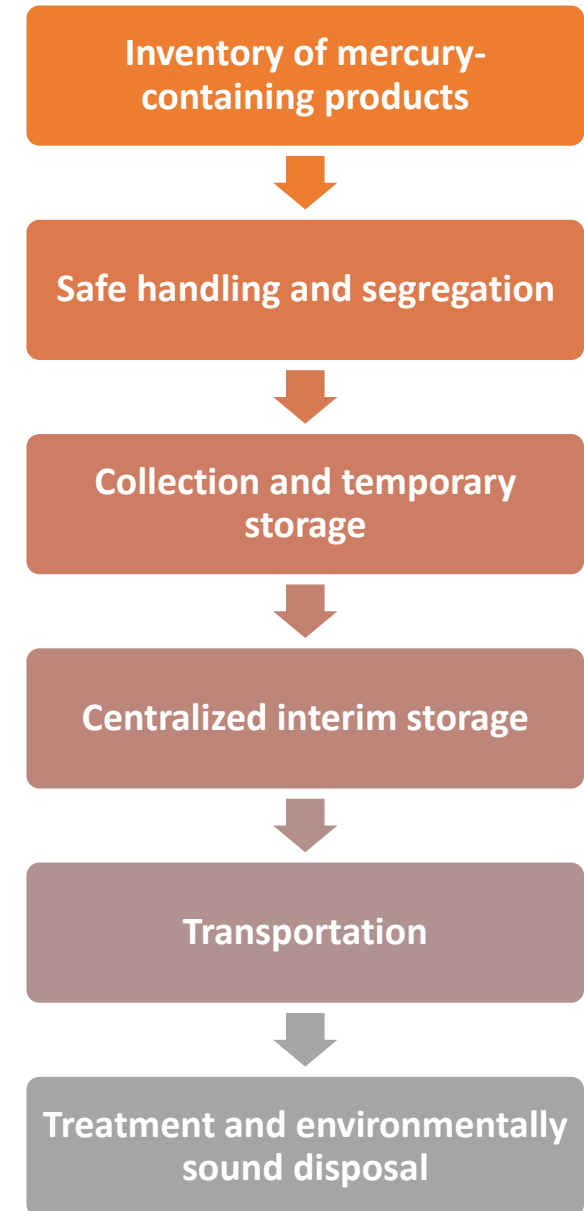
Region	Company / Organization	Country / Coverage	Industry / Service Type	Type of Mercury Waste Handled
North America	Veolia - North America	United States	Stabilization, Retorting, Secure Landfill	All mercury waste
	EAM Environmental, Inc.	United States	Hazardous waste treatment	Mercury-contaminated soils, sludge, industrial byproducts
	TerraCycle Regulated Waste LLC	United States	Regulated waste management	Fluorescent lamps, batteries, mercury-added products
Europe	BATREC Industrie AG	Switzerland	Hazardous waste treatment; battery & lamp recycling	Batteries, fluorescent lamps, mercury-containing products
	DELA GmbH	Germany	Distillation, Retorting, Secure Landfill	All mercury waste
	Econ industries services GmbH	Germany	Thermal treatment	Industrial waste, mining residues, chlor-alkali waste
	REMONDIS QR	Germany / Europe	Hazardous waste processing	Industrial mercury waste, lamps, batteries
Asia	Nomura Kohsan Co., Ltd.	Japan	Mercury treatment & disposal	Batteries, lamps, industrial residues
Latin America	Ecologic S.A.	Likely Costa Rica	Environmental engineering	Contaminated soils, industrial mercury waste
Global / Multi-Regional	APPELGLOBAL	Denmark / Global ASGM sites	ASGM remediation	Tailings, river sediments contaminated with mercury
	CURIUM	Global	Nuclear medicine & radiological services	Mercury-containing medical devices

The sound management of mercury wastes in the healthcare sector:

A practical approach

Content

- Mercury containing products usage in healthcare
- Considerations for a safe handling of mercury wastes in healthcare
- Practical step by step roadmap for in-country safe handling of mercury wastes in healthcare - with comparative analysis of disposal options
- Case studies with countries experiences



Side events

Mercury and healthcare/waste	UNEP , GMP
RIA - guide and projects	UNEP, Minamata Sec, GMP
Synergies - Biodiversity and Mercury	UNEP Law Division
Oil and gas	GMP
Engaging online platforms to detoxify SLPs supply chain	EEB/ZMWG, GMP,

<https://www.unep.org/globalmercurypartnership/events>

Knowledge lab proposals

Detoxifying Cosmetics and Beauty Ideals: Global voices and solutions to reduce demand for mercury and skin lightening	UNEP, GMP
Mercury Wastes Management	UNEP, BRS, GMP
Hg ASGM pollution and Biodiversity	GMP, Minamata Convention
Shared solutions for gender equity in ASGM	planetGOLD, World Bank

Other events: SPECIAL EVENT presenting cross-programme analysis of the first phase of the planetGOLD programme ; mercury in cosmetics: public movie screening, debate, and exhibition

Eliminating Mercury Skin Lightening Products **project stakeholder group**

Platform to exchange information between project and stakeholder on the topic

- **How often:** Semestral basis
- **Where:** Virtual
- **Secretariat:** UNEP GMP



Over 110 members on the mailing list of the group : mercury-in-cosmetics@googlegroups.com

Next meeting
Q2 2026

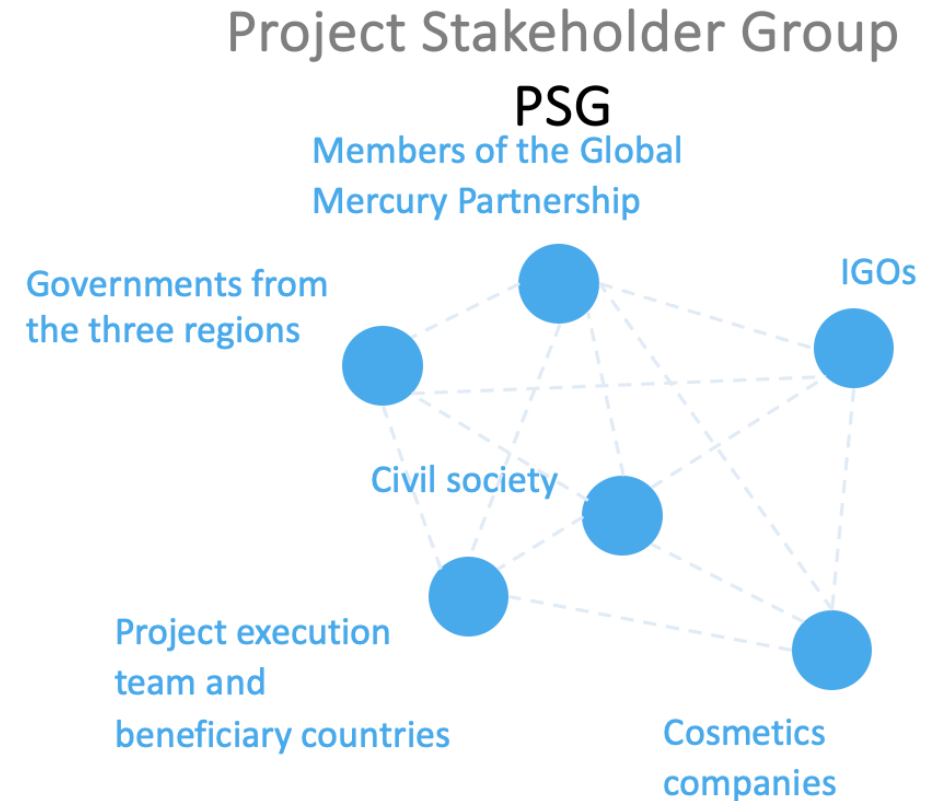
Community of Practice on Hg Waste Management in Healthcare

COMMUNITY OF STAKEHOLDERS

The CoP would aim at:

- Bringing together experts and those interested in the subject;
 - Share information about the project;
 - Share experiences and knowledge on the subject in general;
 - Collect suggestions, lessons learned and other ideas for effective implementation of the project.
 - Capacity building platform
-
- Frequency: Half-yearly
 - Where: Virtual
 - Secretariat: Joint coordination between UNEP Global Mercury Partnership and WMA **TBC**

Call for interest to be circulated



Communication - Website, Newsletter and E-mailings

In this new edition, learn more about recent and upcoming events, latest mercury-related publications and initiatives, including interactive tools and meet our new members. Good reading!

The Secretariat of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership

HIGHLIGHTS



The 12th meeting of the Partnership Advisory Group on 11 and 14 March 2022 saw attendance of close to 100 participants to exchange on recent activities by Partnership Areas, key findings and next steps of the work on mercury from oil and gas and non-ferrous metals, as well as future priorities, including with respect to mercury flows and its impacts on biodiversity. More info [here](#).



Minamata COP-4 (Bali, 21-25 March 2022) closed with global commitment on effectiveness evaluation, new products for phase-out and gender mainstreaming. COP-4.2 also adopted updated guidance on ASGM national action plans, now also covering tailings management. See [meeting report](#) and [call for information](#) in follow up to COP-4.2 decisions.



Basel Convention COP-15 (Geneva, June 2022) adopted updated Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds. [Read more about COP outcomes](#). The updated guidelines

Proposed in 2006, the U-180 Global Mercury Partnership aims to protect human health and the environment from the release of mercury to air, water and land.

With over 200 partners from governments, ODA, ODA, industry and academia, the Partnership focuses on supporting policy and capacity development of the voluntary Convention on mercury, strengthening areas of the art knowledge and expertise and making a valuable contribution to global action on mercury.

[Learn more](#)
[Become a Partner / Report to our newsletter](#)

Latest highlights



Mercury waste management Partnership Area - September 2022 Meeting



Study report on Mercury from Non-ferrous Metals Mining and Smelting



Mercury air transport and fate research



Minamata COP-4 (Bali, 21-25 March 2022)



The Mercury air transport and fate research Area will meet on **29 June 2022, from 9:00 - 11:00 AM (EST)** in an online setting. More information available on the [event page](#).



A webinar: **Strengthening mercury research capacity in developing countries for science-based policy making** organized by the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention will be held on **30 June from 2:00 to 3:00 pm CEST**. The event will introduce ongoing activities implemented by UNEP to assist scientists, researchers and policy makers.



The **15th International Conference on Mercury as a Global Pollutant (ICMGP)** "Reducing Mercury Emissions to achieve a Greener World" will be held virtually from **25 to 29 July 2022**. View programme for the [Conference](#) and [preceding workshops \(18 to 22 July\)](#).



OECD Global Forum on Environment dedicated to **Mercury on 7 and 8 November 2022** will focus on "Working towards the elimination of mercury while reducing its harmful impacts on human health and the environment". Event will be hybrid, with both in-person and online attendance options. Further details on the [event page](#).



Listen to **Monika Stankiewicz, Minamata Convention Executive Secretary**, on the occasion of the International Day for Biological Diversity on the importance of mercury pollution on global biodiversity loss, and read exploratory study on the interlinkages between the chemicals and waste MEAs and biodiversity.



Read WHO March 2022 first briefing note on oral health focusing on **Prevention and treatment of dental caries with mercury-free products and minimal intervention** and **2021 Report on the informal global WHO consultation with policymakers in dental public health**.



Check out **UNITAR's** latest tools, guidelines and online courses on **waste management and circular economy, sound management of chemicals and wastes and fundamentals on the Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm and Minamata conventions**.

[VIEW ALL PUBLICATIONS >>](#)

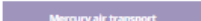
READ MORE ABOUT THE PARTNERSHIP AREAS



Artisanal and small-scale gold mining



Mercury releases from coal combustion



Mercury air transport and fate research



Minamata COP-4 (Bali, 21-25 March 2022)

Opportunity to raise awareness and feature highlights by Partnership areas and partners, events, resources, etc.

New website: [Home | Global Mercury Partnership \(unep.org\)](#)

Currently updating PAs webpages and Factsheets



Any question?

**For further information and
assistance:**

Metals@un.org

Thank you very much!

17th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
Mercury as a Global Pollutant



ICMGP 2026
HYDERABAD | INDIA

4th - 9th OCTOBER 2026
HYDERABAD | INDIA



HYDERABAD
CONVENTION VISITORS
BUREAU - INDIA

www.icmgp2026india.com

ICMGP – A **GLOBAL** JOURNEY

1990 – 2026

1990



Gavle, Sweden

1992



Monterey, California,
USA

1994



Whistler, Canada

1996



Hamburg, Germany

1999



Rio de Janeiro,
Brazil

2001



Minamata, Japan

2004



Ljubljana, Slovenia

2006



Madison, Wisconsin,
USA

2009



Guiyang, China

2011



Halifax, Nova Scotia,
Canada

2013



Edinburgh,
Scotland, UK

2015



Jeju, South Korea

2017



Rhode Island, USA

2019



Krakow, Poland

2022



Online, via
South Africa

2024



Cape Town,
South Africa

2026
Hyderabad,
India



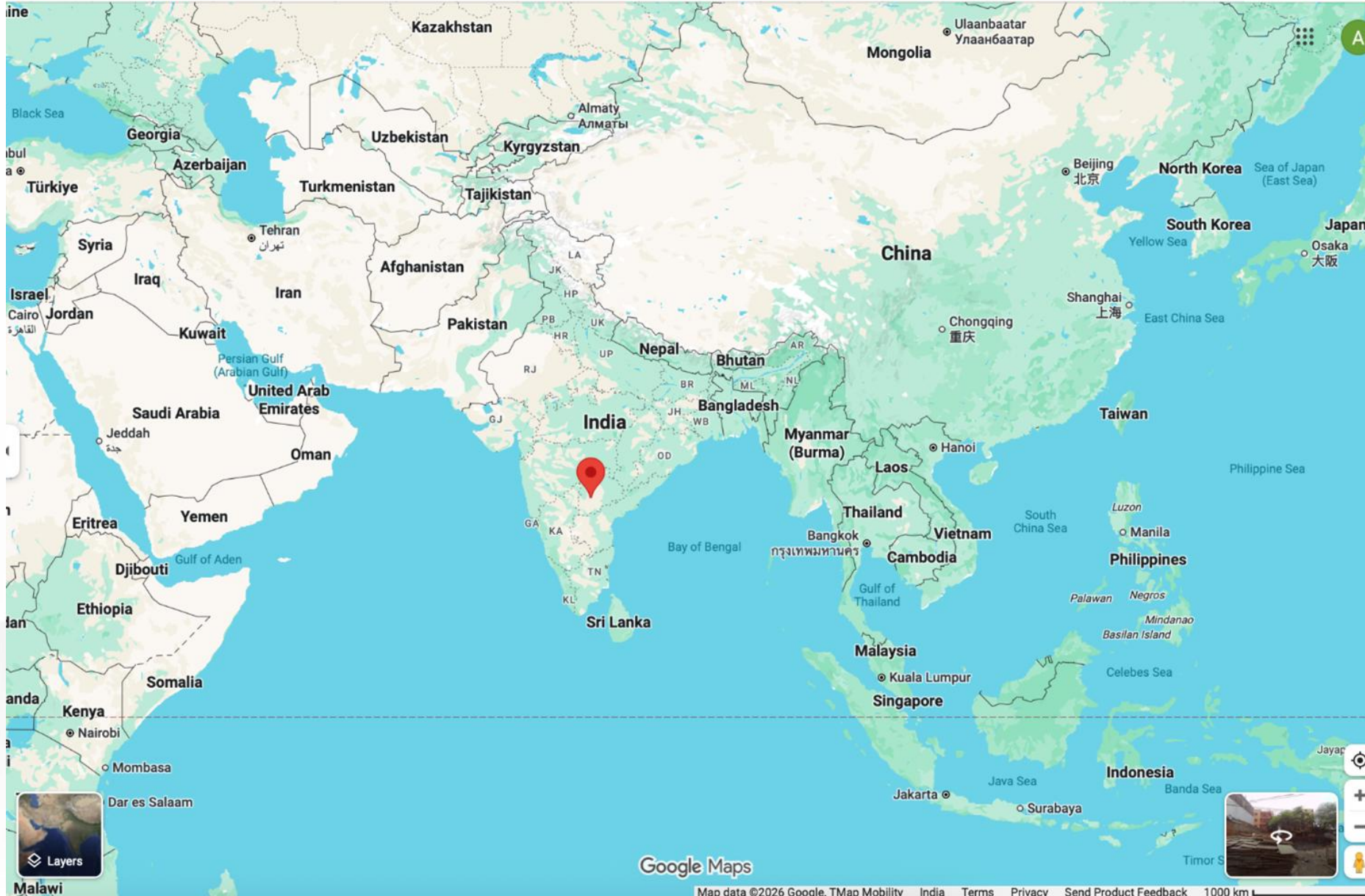
17th ICMGP

Conference Theme:

Nearing 10 years since the enforcement of the Minamata Convention: Achievements, challenges and future outlook

Venue City:

Hyderabad, India



www.icmgp2026india.com

Venue:



IIT-H Convention Centre

IIT-Hyderabad Campus, Kandi, Hyderabad

4th - 9th

October 2026



4th - 9th October 2026 | Convention Centre,
IIT Hyderabad



Executive Committee



Prof. Lesley Sloss
International Centre for
Sustainable Carbon,
Scotland, UK



Dr. Ashu Dastoor
Environment and
Climate Change
Canada, Canada



Prof. Shuxiao Wang
Tsinghua University, China



Prof. Guey-Rong Sheu
National Central University,
Taiwan



Dr. Teresa Mathews
Oak Ridge National
Laboratory, USA



**Dr. Jagannath
Biswakarma**
University of Bristol, UK
Conference Chair



Prof. Asif Qureshi
Indian Institute of
Technology-Hyderabad, India
Conference Chair



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MARÍA DIÉGUEZ

National Council for
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Ocean Sciences
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US



ARYEH FEINBERG

Instituto de Química
Física Blas Cabrera, CSIC
Madrid, Spain



AKANE YAMAKAWA

National Institute for
Environmental
Studies (NIES), Japan

Sessions

Special Sessions

General Sessions

Workshop

Any topic can be submitted if it fits the below Themes of the below noted General Sessions.

Atmosphere

Oceans

Cryosphere / Poles

Land and Vegetation

Bioaccumulation

Environmental Health

Science & Policy

New lab analysis or modelling techniques

Freshwater Ecosystems

Human Health

Special Sessions

- The Toxic Trail of Beauty: Unpacking Mercury in Cosmetics through Data and Action
- Mercury (and lead) in the Ayurvedic tradition
- Advances in Machine Learning and Process - Based Models for Global Hg Cycling
- Mercury Biogeochemical Cycling in Forest
- Science - Policy Interface
- Mercury in the Oil and Gas industry
- Mercury and Biodiversity: Connecting Science with Global Policy
- Illegal Gold Mining and Mercury Pollution: A Global Crisis for Environmental, Human and Social Health
- Measuring What Matters: Evidence-Based Approaches for Tracking Mercury Reduction in ASGM under Article 7 and National Action Plans

Special Sessions

- ➔ Mercury and Selenium in Living Organisms: Insights from Marine to Amazonian Studies.
- ➔ Environmental Modelling of Mercury to Inform International Policy
- ➔ Mercury Monitoring for Effectiveness Evaluation
- ➔ Mercury in Geological Processes
- ➔ Marine Mercury Research in the GEOTRACES Era
- ➔ Mercury in the Southern Hemisphere: Networking the Global South
- ➔ Mercury Transformation and Mobilization from Wetlands: New Tools for an Old Question with New Urgency
- ➔ Human Biomonitoring of Mercury: A Global Tool for Health and Policy

India hosts ICMGP 2026

The mercury
community unites in
the Incredible India – a
land of tradition,
innovation, and global
dialogue



Hyderabad Awaits!

Where Heritage Meets Innovation

JOIN US AT

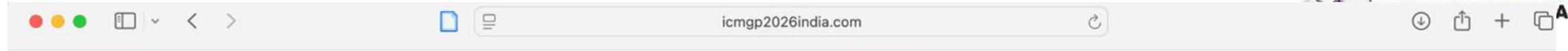
ICMGP 2026

ICMGPINDIA2026.COM

www.icmgp2026india.com 

Explore Hyderabad

Website



Hurry Up!

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17th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON

Mercury as a Global Pollutant

THEME

Reaching Ten Years of Enforcement of the Minamata Convention:
Achievements, Challenges and Roadmap for the Future



4th - 9th OCTOBER 2026

CONVENTION CENTRE, IIT HYDERABAD

Promotional Video



Thank you!

Activities of the WMA for 2025 and plans for 2026

**1st WMA meeting 2026
13 March
(WMA secretariat)**

Summary of Business plan for 2025

- **General principles**

- Focuses on voluntary, collaborative activities where partners contribute based on their individual capacities and interests
- Activities are aligned with three core WMA objectives

- **(1) Develop & Disseminate Materials**

- New factsheet on the ESM of mercury waste from the oil and gas sector
- Develop case studies on the transboundary movement (TBM) of mercury waste
- Update the Catalogue of Technologies

- **(2) Enhance Capacities & Awareness**

- Seek opportunities to collaborate with relevant international organizations (UNEP, WHO, UNIDO, Minamata Convention secretariat etc.) and financial mechanisms (GEF, Specific International Programme, Special Programme) to contribute to projects that include mercury waste management as a project component.

- **(3) Provide specific solutions**

- Operationalize an online consultation desk to connect stakeholders seeking assistance with WMA partners for expert advice and match-making

Work carried out last year

- **(1) Develop & Disseminate Materials**

- New factsheet on the ESM of mercury waste from the oil and gas sector
- Develop case studies on the transboundary movement (TBM) of mercury waste
- Update the Catalogue of Technologies and services

Factsheet

Finalized Fact Sheet for “Non-Electronic Measuring Devices”

Fact sheet on mercury waste from the “Oil and Gas sector” revised with input from the WMA members and stakeholders. Revised version to be presented today.

Compilation of Case studies on TBM

Coordinated with multiple stakeholders including the Basel Convention secretariat. Work is ongoing

Catalogue

Updated the catalogue with new entries and revision of old entries (see the next slide)

Work carried out last year (Update of the catalogue)

- (1) Develop & Disseminate Materials

New entries

- Augean
- BMT EUROPE BV
- BMT ASIA CO. LTD.
- Picoyune
- Hg Ops
- GMR
- ZETTL

Revision of existing entries

- econ industries
- Remondis QR

Webinar on new entries organized

WEBINAR

New Entries to the "Catalogue of Technologies and Services on Mercury Waste Management"

27 January 2026

Online, 12:00 - 14:00 CET



Work carried out last year

- Enhance Capacities & Awareness

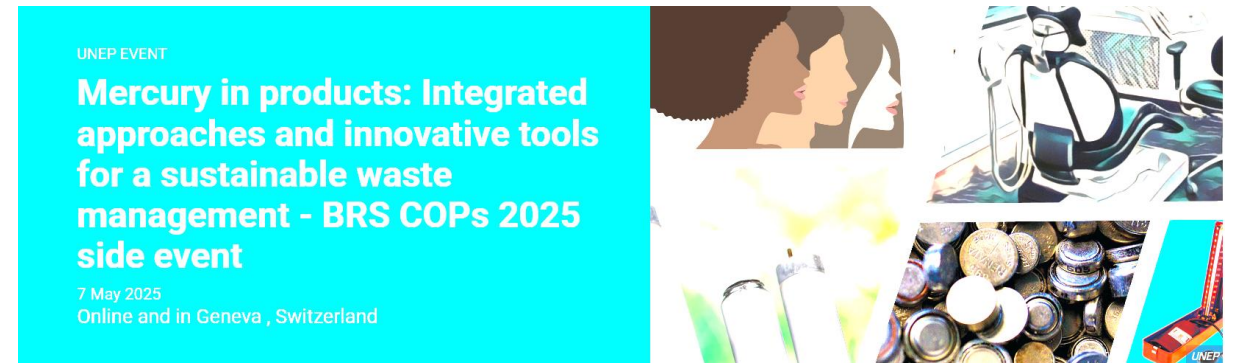
Coordination with the GMP secretariat

Working with GMP secretariat to contribute to the proposed “Community of Practice (CoP)” focusing on mercury waste from the healthcare sector. The proposed project includes the formation of a “knowledge hub”

Presented at BRS COP side event on WMA activities (7 May 2025)

Webinar

“Sound management of mercury waste: inclusive approach in developing recent and upcoming tools”



<https://www.unep.org/globalmercurypartnership/events/unep-event/mercury-products-integrated-approaches-and-innovative-tools-sustainable-waste>

Side event

WMA Organized a side event ahead of COP6 of the Minamata Convention (13 October 2025)

“Advancing Mercury Waste Management: Solutions and Actions”



<https://www.unep.org/globalmercurypartnership/events/unep-event/advancing-mercury-waste-management-solutions-and-actions-minamata-cop6-side-event>

Work carried out last year

- (3) Provide specific solutions

The online consultation desk to operationalize before April 2026. The GMP website will be updated with details

What is the “Online Consultation desk” ?

- A system to handle inquiries where WMA partners may be able to offer support, facilitating potential match-making opportunities.
- Relevant stakeholders can request any assistance to the WMA’s email address. The WMA secretariat will share such requests with relevant WMA partners to identify potential approaches to address them.
- Biodata of interested WMA partners compiled and interested stakeholders will be continually added.



Inquiry

Stakeholders needing assistance sends an email to the WMA secretariat to request assistance.



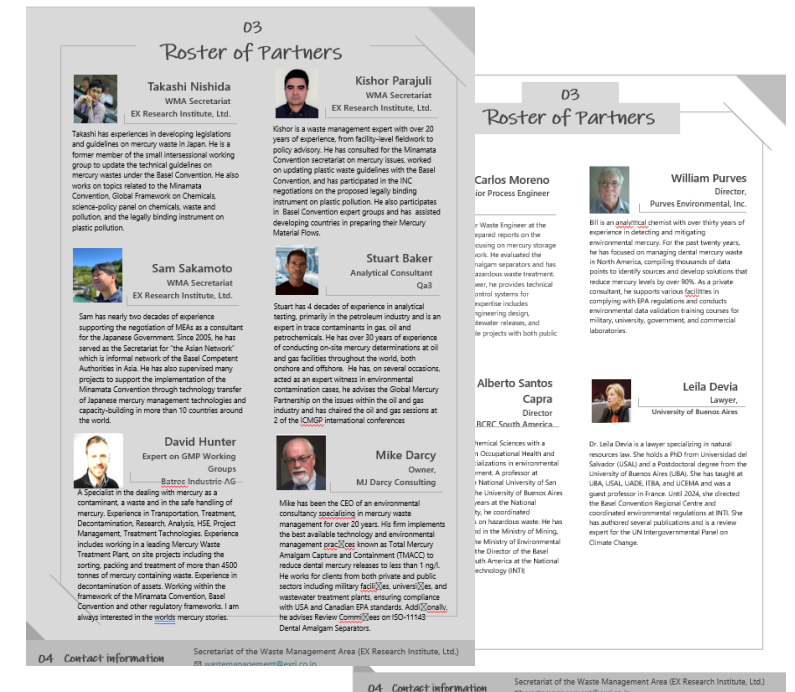
Consultation

After reviewing the inquiry, the WMA secretariat will contact relevant WMA partners (roster of partners) and organizations to seek advice.



Match-making for action

If partners are interested in assisting stakeholders, further actions may include B-B initiatives, G-G cooperations and involvement in funded projects



Plan for the upcoming year

We plan to continue the activities outlined in the 2025 Business plan

- **(1) Develop & Disseminate Materials**
 - Work on a factsheet for a new waste stream (lamps). Welcome suggestions and contributions
 - Continue development of case studies on the transboundary movement (TBM) of mercury waste
 - Continue updating the Catalogue of Technologies with new entries
- **(2) Enhance Capacities & Awareness**
 - Continue to seek opportunities to collaborate with relevant international organizations
 - Organize webinars and other mercury waste specific online events, in partnership with other partnership areas as needed
 - Strengthen efforts to publicize and raise awareness of the various tools developed by the WMA.
 - organizing webinars inviting partners to present their services and technologies.
 - Explore possibilities of engaging with ICMGP on waste related matters
- **(3) Provide specific solutions**
 - Operationalize the online consultation desk (OCD) on a pilot basis and make improvements as needed
 - Add to the "roster of expert partners"



wastemanagement@exri.co.jp

Annual Meeting of the Global Mercury Partnership

Waste Management Area

FACT SHEET: MERCURY WASTE FROM OIL & GAS

Friday, 13 March 2026

David Hunter

David.Hunter@HgOps.com

HgOps



About these factsheets



Developed by the Waste Management Area (WMA) of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership.

Aim:

Support environmentally sound management (ESM) of mercury wastes.

Target audience:

Countries, entities or individuals facing challenges in managing mercury waste, especially developing nations.

Purpose:

Complement Basel Convention technical guidelines.

Provide practical, general information across mercury waste streams and management stages.

Technical supplement alongside official guidelines.

Audience is **strongly encouraged** to consult:

- Basel Convention technical guidelines.
- WMA's *Catalogue of Technologies and Services on Mercury Waste Management* (for identifying technologies and partners)

Content is **subject to updates**.



What is it not



The factsheet is not meant to be:

- A scientific paper
- A legally binding document
- A definitive instruction for waste management
- An advertisement for any particular treatment solution (WMA Catalogue provides this)

Information deliberately not included:

- Brand names or technologies that favour a particular vendor
- Technical information which was collected but only apply to specific cases
- Waste codes, H and HP codes, UN numbers and other technical information which is the responsibility of the exporter and should be based on the specific waste characteristics



How was the factsheet created

Scope: Defined by GMP Waste Management Area

1st Draft - 2024

- Input and writing from technical experts who are partnership members

2nd Draft - 2025

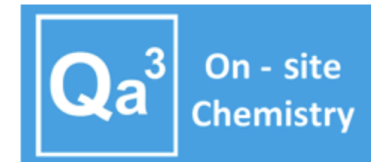
- 1st Draft circulated to global experts and ESM mercury waste treatment providers
- Provided experiences and information about processes used for treatment of specific waste types
- Factsheet re-written based on input and focus on practical experiences and ESM mercury waste treatment capacities currently available and/or operating

3rd Final Draft – 2026

- 2nd Draft sent to GMP WMA network for comments and evaluation
- Feedback collated and checked
 - Fact checked
 - Inclusion of input prioritised
 - Changes checked against the initial brief
- Incorporated into latest draft

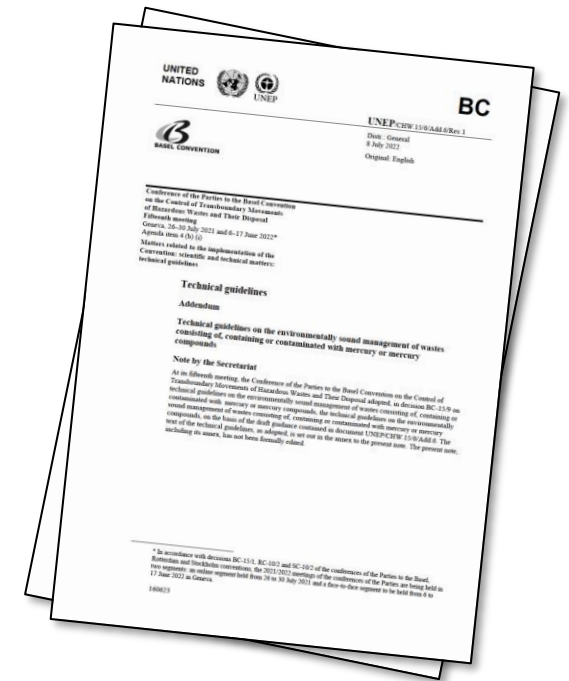
Next steps

- WMA to develop the content into a usable document



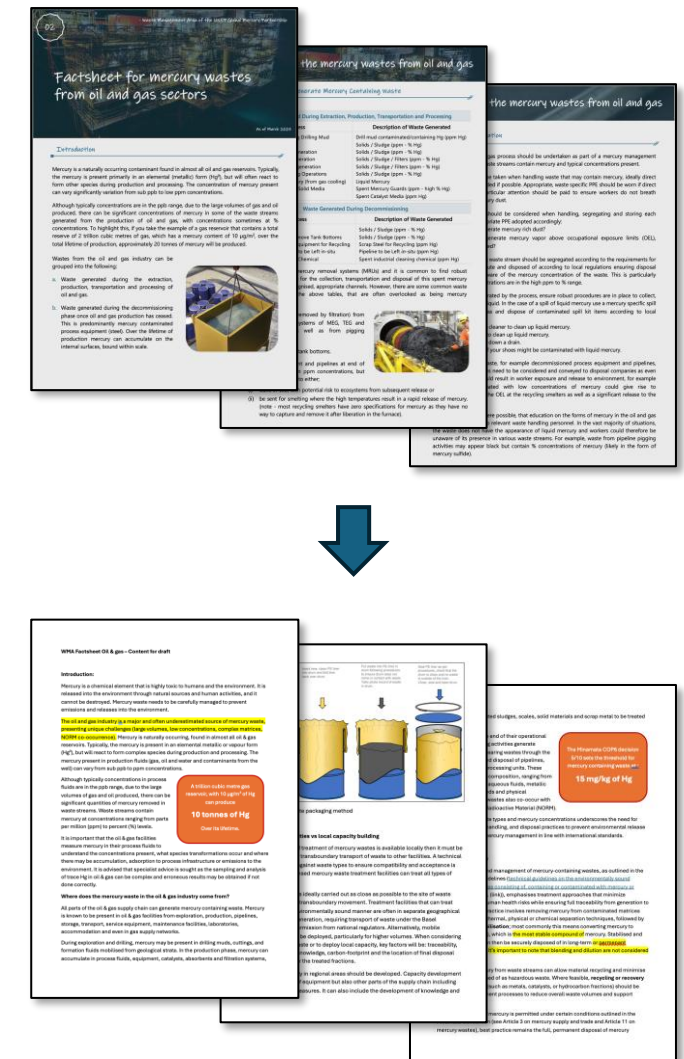
Other sources of information

- Minamata Convention on Mercury
- The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal
- Basel Convention technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds.
- Consolidated text: Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on mercury, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1102/2008 (Text with EEA relevance)
- UN Recommendations on the Transportation of Dangerous Goods
- UNEP GMP report - Mercury from Oil and Gas



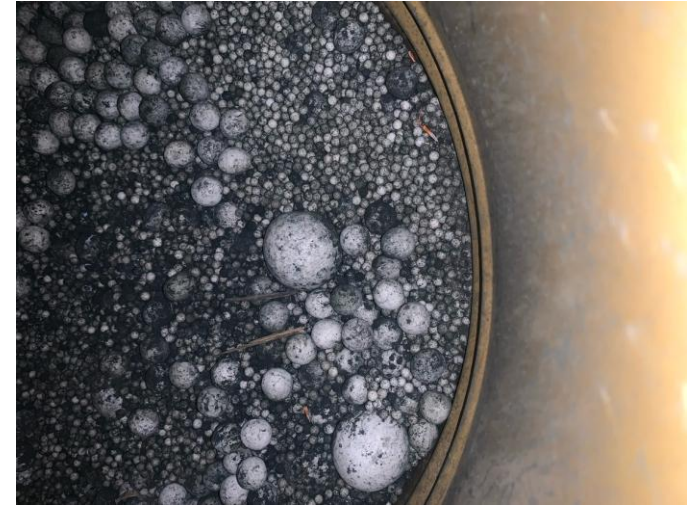
Changes since last presentation of the factsheet

- The format was changed to a word document for ease of content editing.
- The formatting would be done upon agreement of the content
- Original factsheet focused on a few topical and high volume wastes
- New version gives equal space for a more complete set of wastes
- Addition of detail on the wastes, normally achieved through specific waste characterisation and not equal for all wastes of that type were removed
- Table of waste details was removed and replaced with more general and inclusive statements
- Reference to international rules and guidelines were emphasised throughout
- More space for inclusion of capacity development and not only pre-existing facilities



Mercury in the oil and gas industry

- Mercury is a naturally occurring & found in all oil and gas.
- From sub-ppb (parts per billion) to low ppm (parts per million).
- Despite low concentrations, the large volumes of oil and gas produced can result in significant mercury quantities in waste streams.
- Hg concentrations in wastes can reach % levels
- In some cases liquid Hg is produced
- For example, a gas reservoir with 2 trillion m³ of gas and 10 µg/m³ mercury can generate about 20 tonnes of mercury over its lifetime.
- Mercury Wastes generated during exploration, production and decommissioning
- Many wastes not managed or treated in accordance with best practice



Mercury waste quick facts

- Quick facts have been included throughout the factsheet:

A trillion cubic metre gas
reservoir, with $10 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ of Hg
can produce

10 tonnes of Hg

Over its lifetime.

The Minamata COP6 decision
5/10 sets the threshold for
mercury containing waste at:

15 mg/kg of Hg

Just 1 mg of Hg

If heated can create a cloud of
toxic vapour over the
exposure limit

50m³

Storage of mercury wastes

//

Facility	• Locate storage facilities in areas less prone to natural disasters. • Provide signage at storage facilities. • Minimize the risk of theft of mercury by storing in secured locations accessible only to authorised personnel. • Should be accessible for fire-fighting and other emergency procedures. • Drains should be closed to avoid leakage into other systems. • All equipment and containers should be accessible for inspection. • Measurement of mercury vapour should be considered.
Container	• Use appropriate containers to prevent damage and spillage. • UN approved packaging in accordance with ADR and IMDG (regulations for transport of dangerous goods by road and sea) is recommended (and mandatory for transport by road and sea).
Storage	• Should be stored in a manner that protects from weather. • Should be stored in such a manner that prevents contact with any chemically incompatible materials (e.g. strong acids and bases).



//

Personal safety around mercury wastes

It was considered important to emphasise safety along with environmental considerations

- Assess the risks
- Mitigate risks including mercury exposure
- Correct storage and handling
- Train Personnel – including mercury awareness training
- Monitor mercury vapour – including personal exposure
- Correct PPE
- Biomonitoring of Hg (Urine)



Traceability and chain of custody

As Traceability of mercury is key to ESM it was included in the factsheet

Representative Sampling & Analysis

Conduct statistically robust sampling before any waste movement or treatment, using inert, contamination-free equipment and procedures that prevent mercury loss or volatilisation.

Laboratory Characterisation

Analyse samples for total mercury concentrations and where relevant, mercury speciation using quality-controlled laboratories, with third-party verification where appropriate.

Full Lifecycle Traceability

Maintain traceability from waste generation and storage through transport, treatment, and final disposal, supported by Basel Convention documentation and, where possible, electronic tracking systems.

Monitoring of Treatment Processes

Record treatment parameters, emissions control performance, residual characterisation, and final disposal routes; report results through a mercury mass balance.

Compliance, Verification & Record Keeping

Verify stabilised mercury meets leachability and stability criteria before disposal, and retain complete records to support regulatory audits, reporting obligations, and long-term accountability.

Mass Balance

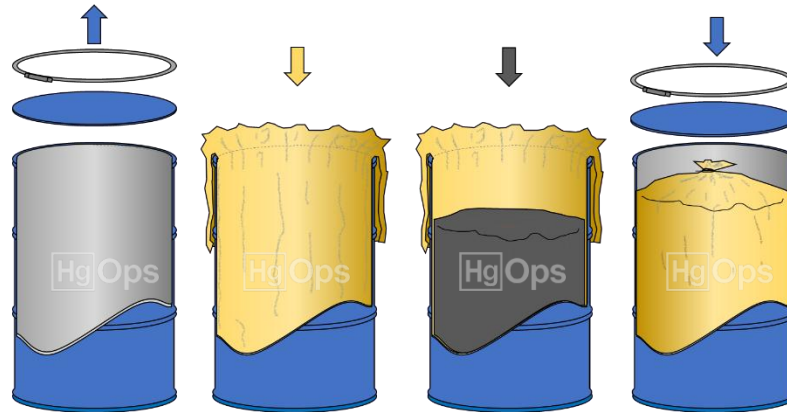


Packaging and Transport of mercury wastes

Check what requirements are needed:

- Leak proof, good condition packaging
- ADR and IMDG?
- Labelling requirements
- Packaging requirements of treatment facility
- Licensed transporters
- Regional regulations
- International shipments must be with Basel Notification Documents (TFS)

There are experts who can manage the process door to door and advise on these aspects



Types of mercury waste from the oil and gas industry

Process	Description of Waste Generated
Drilling Operations Using Drilling Mud	Drill mud contaminated/containing Hg (ppm Hg)
Pigging of Pipelines	Solids / Sludge (ppm - % Hg)
MEG Recovery and Regeneration	Solids / Sludge (ppm - % Hg)
TEG Recovery and Regeneration	Solids / Sludge / Filters (ppm - % Hg)
Amine Recovery and Regeneration	Solids / Sludge / Filters (ppm - % Hg)
Tank and Vessel Cleaning Operations	Solids / Sludge (ppm - % Hg)
Removal of Liquid Mercury (from gas cooling)	Liquid Mercury
Mercury Removal Using Solid Media	Spent Mercury Guards (ppm - high % Hg)
Refinery Catalysis	Spent Catalyst Media (ppm Hg)
Pigging of Pipelines	Solids / Sludge (ppm - % Hg)
Cleaning of Tanks to Remove Tank Bottoms	Solids / Sludge (ppm - % Hg)
Contaminated Process Equipment for Recycling	Scrap Steel for Recycling (ppm Hg)
Contaminated Pipelines to be Left in-situ	Pipeline to be Left in-situ (ppm Hg)
Decontamination Chemical Cleaning	Spent Industrial Cleaning Chemical (ppm Hg)
Scale Removal	Mercury and NORM scale
Steel from decommissioning	Mercury and NORM scale

Solid waste
containing mercury

Liquid waste
containing mercury

Hydrocarbon sludge
containing mercury

Spent mercury
absorbants

Mercury waste
containing NORM

Liquid mercury

Permanent Storage of mercury as mercury sulphide - example



Acceptance
criteria



Shaft
transport



Underground
transport



Storage
chambers



Sealing of
by walls

**STRICT Restricted acceptance
criteria**

e.g.

Not biodegradable

Not releasing gases (inc Hg)

Non-liquid (inc Hg)

Not radioactive

No insufficient stability of
geomechanical conditions



Natural barriers

Salt

Clay

Bunter stone

Artificial barriers

Waste packaging

Brick walls...

Now using the content to create the factsheet in the WMA format



Thank you - Any questions?

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Waste Management Partnership Area
Global Mercury Partnership



David Hunter
Mercury Waste Management and Consultancy
David.Hunter@HgOps.com



The background image shows a large industrial facility for mercury waste management. In the center, a large cylindrical stainless steel vessel is mounted on an orange metal frame. It has two large, polished, spherical vessels on top. The "econ INDUSTRIES" logo is visible on the side of the main vessel. To the right, more industrial equipment, including pipes and another cylindrical tank, is visible. The foreground shows a reddish-brown ground surface.

Decentralized Mercury Waste Management Solutions



Overview



- 1 Who we are - econ industries
- 2 Introduction & motives
- 2 VacuDry® for mercury waste treatment
- 3 Mercury Conversion
- 4 Q&A

Who we are

Record of Success & Our Portfolio

20+ years experience dealing with hundreds of different pasty and solids hazardous wastes	1,000 Tons per day toxic waste throughput	Industries: Oil & Gas Metal Processing Chemicals Mining		Pollutants: 
30 + Turn-key facilities across 3 continents	0 Accidents recorded	Wastes we handle: Oily Waste Mercury Waste Mill scale & grinding swarf Contaminated Soils NORM & TENORM waste Spent catalyst & Act. Carbon Filter cake Drill Cuttings Tank bottom sludges + many more		
200+ Completed engineering, consulting and R&D projects	100+ Mio EURO projects completed			

Who we are

Highlights of the past few years



France

Remediation of mercury contaminated industrial site

VacuDry® recycles 70,000 tons of mercury contaminated soils and building rubble in France.



Europe

Mobile Mercury Conversion Unit

World's first mobile solution for the on-site stabilization of mercury.

Since then more than 500 t of mercury were stabilized to mercury sulfide on-site.



Australia

1st mercury recovery facility of the southern hemisphere

Treatment of 3,000 tonnes of mercury waste per year.
Previously: export.



India

VacuDry® at +2000m above sea level

Commissioning of a VacuDry® plant at over 2000 m above sea level.

For the clean up of a mercury contaminated area in India.



Qatar

VacuDry® for oily waste

15,000 tonnes p.a. of oily waste from QatarEnergy are separated into water, oil, and solids. Recovered oil is sent to the refinery. Solids with an oil content < 0.1% are disposed of at an existing landfill.



Adaptation to client's requirements following in-country standards & regulations



Overview

1

Who We Are - econ industries

2

Introduction & motives

2

VacuDry® for mercury waste treatment

3

Mercury Conversion

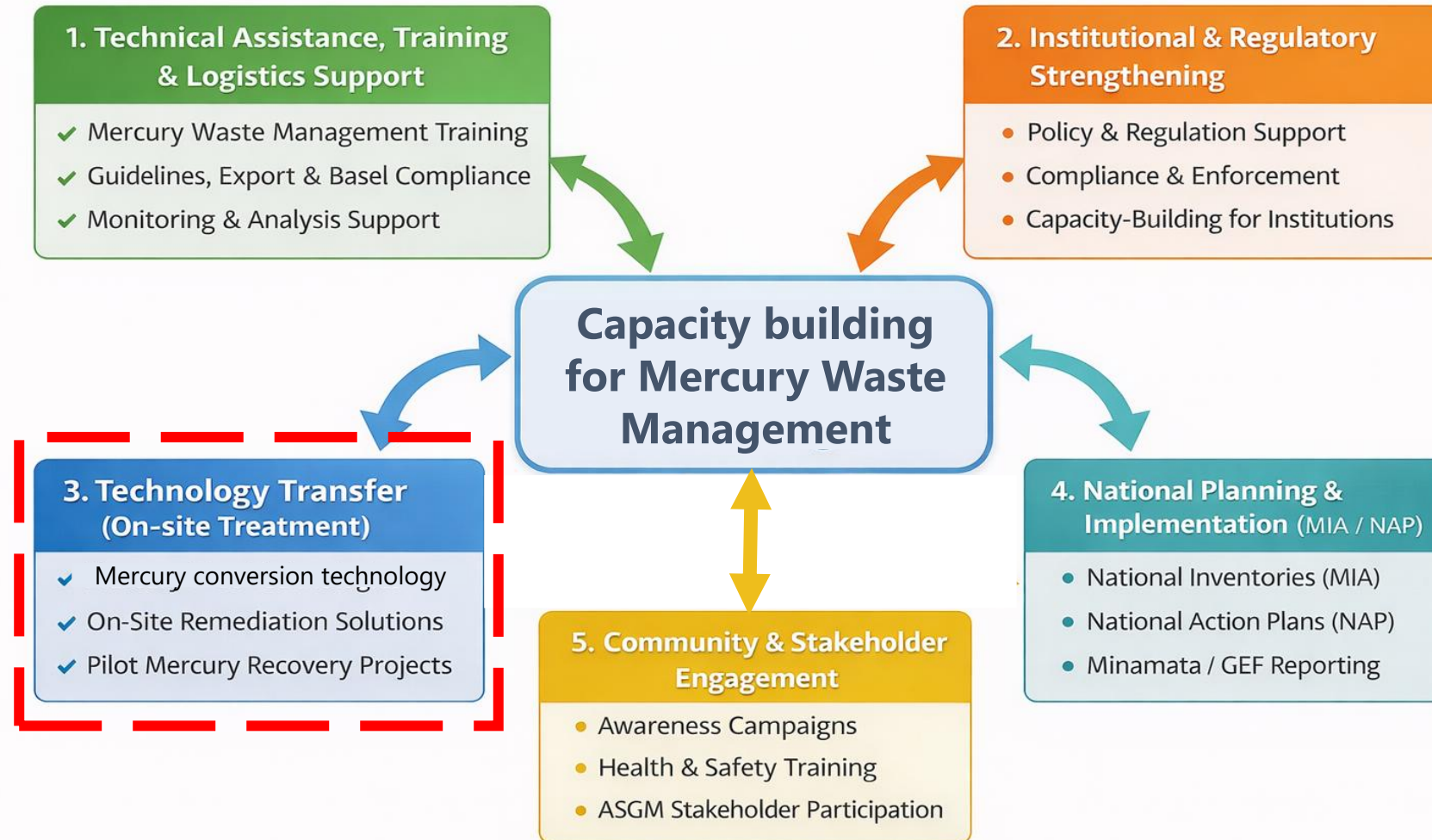
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Q&A

Introduction & motives



Capacity Building Pathways for Mercury Treatment Projects



Introduction & motives



Capacity Building through Local On-site Treatment

Project Name	Lead Agency / Partners	Countries / Scope	Type	Capacity-Building Potential	On-Site Technology / Local Treatment Potential
OHIS Remediation Project (North Macedonia)	UNOPS / Government of North Macedonia, partners	North Macedonia	Industrial site remediation (incl. legacy Hg contamination)	High – local workforce & institutional training	High – on-site remediation technology & hazardous waste handling
Mercury Emission Control in Cement Industry (Brazil)	UNIDO / GEF / Brazil	Brazil	Cement emissions control	High – industry & regulatory training	Medium – on-site emission reduction technology & operator training
Chlor-Alkali Mercury Waste Management (Brazil)	UNEP / GEF / Brazil	Brazil	Mercury waste phase-out	High – technical & institutional capacity	High – on-site mercury recovery & safe disposal technology
Elimination of Mercury-Added Skin Lightening Products in Africa (GEF ID 11877)	UNEP	13 African countries	Regulatory phase-out	Medium – regulatory & awareness training	Low – no on-site technology provision
Greening of the Cement and Construction Industry (GEF ID 11707)	UNIDO	Philippines	Mercury & GHG emissions control	High – industrial policy & technical capacity	Medium – installation & operation of emission control technology
Eliminate Mercury Use & Manage Mercury Waste in Chlor-Alkali Sector (Mexico)	UNEP / UNIDO	Mexico	Industrial phase-out & waste mgmt	High – technical & policy capacity	High – on-site mercury recovery & disposal technologies
Mercury NAP for ASGM (Philippines)	UNEP / DENR / AGC	Philippines	National Action Plan for ASGM mercury reduction	High – government & community capacity building	Medium – pilot on-site mercury-free technology demonstration
Mercury Platform – MIA & NAP Projects	UNITAR / UNEP	Bangladesh, Mozambique, Samoa, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania	Minamata assessments	High – national planning skills	Low – mainly planning & assessment
Mercury Platform – MIA & NAP Projects	UNITAR / UNEP	DRC, Eritrea, Sierra Leone	ASGM NAP development	High – local & regulatory capacity	Medium – guidance & small-scale on-site treatment tech training
GEF GOLD+ – Advancing Formalization & Mercury-Free Gold	UNDP / GEF	Suriname	ASGM mercury reduction	High – community & technical skills	Medium – on-site mercury-free processing technology & training
Global Elimination of Mercury in Non-Ferrous Metals Initiative (GEMINI) (GEF ID 11892)	UNIDO / UNDP / UNEP	Chile, India, Mexico, Peru, South Africa, Zambia	Industrial mercury reduction	High – industry & regulatory training	High – hands-on mercury-free technology for on-site use

Potential for technology transfer in UN projects

Introduction & motives



Benefits of Local On-site Treatment:

Why transport the hazard if you can transport the solution?

Technical advantages

Material treatment

- Easy-to-handle, safe, fully capsuled process design
- Acknowledged and proven technology
- Treatment as close to its source possible complying with Basel Convention (Article 4)

Health safety environment

- 100% traceability from cradle to grave guaranteed
- No trans-boundary movement of mercury wastes, no interim transport

Social advantages

Operation

- Transparency - Conversion of mercury directly on-site
- Minimal staff required
- Lowest price - due to reduced requirements for logistics, transport and short disposal path.

Capacity Building

- Jobs created locally
- Training and local knowledge / know-how transfer
- Community and stakeholder engagement

Allowing countries to be independent in terms of mercury waste treatment



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Technologies for Mercury Wastes

3 technology options available

Recovery of mercury

VacuDry®



Evaporable contaminants
(e.g. Hg, Hydrocarbons, PFAS, etc.)

- Max. 400 °C
- Low vacuum < 50 mbar(abs)
- For soils & sludges cont. with elemental mercury

HTTU



Mercury compounds & hydrocarbons

- Max. 1000 °C
- Atmospheric pressure
- For activated carbon & catalyst cont. with mercury compounds

Conversion of mercury

MMCU



Elemental Mercury

- max. 180 °C
- Atmospheric pressure
- Conversion of pure elemental Hg to HgS (cinnabar)

VacuDry® for Mercury Wastes

Material variety

Mercury containing
wastes and soils



NORM waste containing
Mercury



Refinery wastes, tank
bottoms



Filter Cake conta. With Hg



Spent catalyst



Activated carbon



Oil



Mercury



Clean solids

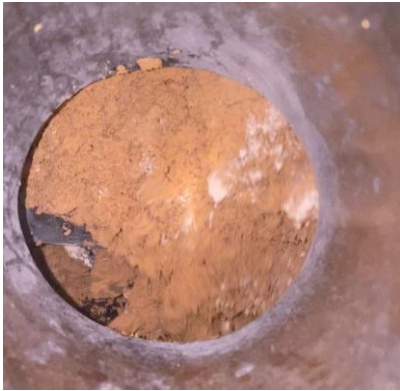


Water



VacuDry® for Mercury Wastes

What is possible?



Contam. clay



Contam. soil



Contam. Sand



Filtercake



Tank bottom sludges & centrifuged oil sludges



We separate substances having a boiling point of up to ~ 450 °C.

VacuDry® for Mercury Wastes

Successfully operated VacuDry® 3 000 in India



4 years old VacuDry® 3 000

- Plant built in: 2020 / 2021
- Commissioned: 2021
- Start of operation: Q3 - 2021
- End of operation : Q2/Q3 - 2025

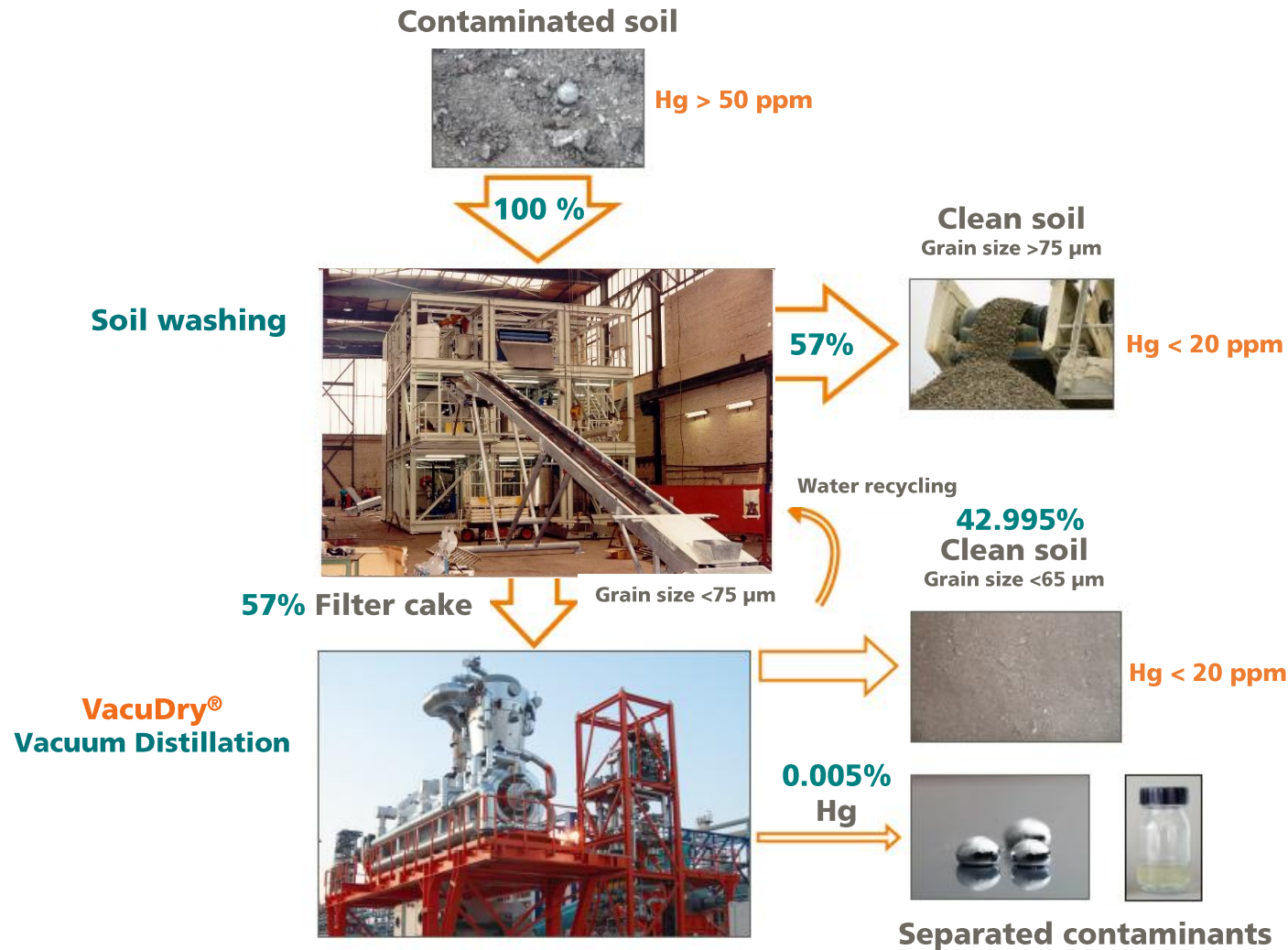
- **Project:** A temporary soil remediation project in India, using a soil washing plant and a VacuDry® 3 000
- **Input material:** filter cakes from soil washing contaminated with mercury
- **Total Batches:** ~ 2,000 batches
- **Support:** continuous support by econ industries through the soil remediation project

VacuDry® 3 000 has successfully treated > 10,000 tons of mercury filter cakes

VacuDry® for Mercury Wastes



Working principle of soil washing + VacuDry®



- Soil washing for low contaminated soils
- Highly contaminated filter cake from soil washing for VacuDry® treatment
- High throughputs
- 100 % Recycling

VacuDry® for Mercury Wastes



Input material



VacuDry® 3 000



VacuDry® 3 000



**Condensation unit
and clean soil discharge**



Clean Soil



Clean Soil Re-used on-site



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Mercury Conversion

MMCU 150 in Australia



- Commissioning of **MMCU 150** for a client in Western Australia has been completed
- Capacity of 200 kg of elemental mercury per batch
- Turn-key solution
- Stabilization of elemental for safe final disposal

“With the new encapsulation plant in Western Australia, we’ll have a permanent, best-practice solution for the retirement of mercury. It’s an investment in national capacity, designed to reduce risk, ensure compliance, and support Australia’s obligations under international conventions.”

- Nick Dodd, General Manager at EcoCycle – [Article Link](#)

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Mercury Conversion

Installation of MMCU 150 at Client's Facility



Installation of MMCU 150 in Western Australia

Mercury Conversion

MMCU 150 rendering



Small 20-ft Skid – allows fast erection everywhere



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**econ industries provides
the most efficient and cleanest
solutions ...**



**... to recover resources
from special wastes worldwide.**



Zero industrial waste ...!

Feel free to reach out!



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