Development of National Action Plans (NAPs) for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) is an obligation under Article 7 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury for each country that determines that ASGM in its territory is more than insignificant.

UNEP implemented NAP projects, funded by the Global Environmental Facility, contain a component entitled “National information exchange, capacity building and knowledge generation”. This is called the GLOBAL COMPONENT and is coordinated by the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership. In order to facilitate the development of NAPs, the Partnership is undertaking activities to ensure that all NAP projects receive support and information throughout the entire process. Specifically, the Partnership is developing tools and methodologies* that will guide the development of strategic sections of the NAPs. Moreover, the Partnership will assist with capacity building and training regarding the baseline estimates. This will help ensure consistency and quality among NAPs. In addition, as part of the Global Component, the Partnership facilitates communication between the projects and countries developing NAPs, promoting the regional cooperation and exchange of information and experience.

CORE ACTIVITIES OF THE GLOBAL COMPONENT

- Development of a roster of experts and development of tools and methodologies
- Capacity building and assistance with baseline estimates
- Knowledge management and information exchange through the Global Mercury Partnership website and Partners websites and tools
- Workshops to identify lessons learned and opportunities for future cooperation in the NAP implementation

* the developed materials will be publicly available
The UNEP Global Mercury Partnership has several priorities for action - or partnership areas - that are reflective of the major sources of mercury pollution. The Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Partnership Area, part of the broader UNEP Global Mercury Partnership, has several priorities for action, including supporting government efforts in setting national objectives and reduction targets for mercury use in ASGM, major sources of mercury pollution.

The expertise of the Global Mercury Partnership covers all the aspects that need to be included as part of the implementation strategies in the NAP, which are based on the requirements listed in Annex C of the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

**SUMMARY OF ASSISTANCE AND SERVICES**

- Provide access to and recommendations on available tools and methodology in the 8 areas of expertise
- Facilitate communication and regional cooperation between countries and executing agencies developing NAPs
- Provide assistance with methodology and strategy for the development of baseline estimates of mercury use in ASGM
- Provide recommendations on ASGM experts for trainings, national capacity building, review of NAP, consultations

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