Development of an Action Plan to Address Primary Mercury Mining in Kyrgyzstan

Mercury Waste Partnership Meeting for UNEP Global Mercury Partnership

Tokyo, 12 March 2009

Craig Boljkovac, UNITAR
Overview of presentation

- Nature of the project and project objectives
- Project activities and Implementation
- Consultations with government agencies in Bishkek/field visit to the Khaidarkan mining area
- Indicative timeline
- Future plans
Nature of the project

- Mercury in the international context

- Based on results of UNEP/GRID-Arendal within the Environment and Security Initiative to assess the environmental and health risks from Khaidarkan's Hg plant tailings (REHRA project) and Chemicals Management National Profile

- Project partners are UNEP, UNEP/GRID-Arendal and UNITAR with financial support of the Government of Switzerland and US EPA

- Guidance materials have been/are being developed
Project objectives (1)

- Assess the mercury mine and smelter, including environmental, technical and socio-economic aspects

- Develop an action plan to address identified gaps and challenges including options to replace the present mercury mining operations in the area by environmentally less harmful initiatives
Project objectives (2)

- Raise awareness of the local as well as donor community about currently ongoing primary mercury mining in the country

- Through its catalytic nature and approach, stimulate investments for possible follow-up
Project activities (1)

- Technical assessment
- Socio-economic assessment
- Generation of an action plan with options
**National Advisory Committee**

- **Technical Site Assessment***
  - **National execution with support from UNEP**

- **Socioeconomic Assessment**
  - **National execution with support from UNITAR**

- **Draft Action Plan With Options***
  - **National execution with support from UNEP and UNITAR**

- **International Advisors**

- **Final Action Plan and International Forum***
Project Implementation

- National Lead Agency/National Coordinator appointed
- National Advisory Committee established
- Group of international advisers (USEPA, Swiss Government, international organizations and other interested stakeholders)
Consultations with government agencies in Bishkek (1)

- State Agency on Environmental Protection and Forestry
- State Agency on Geology and Mineral Resources
- Management of Khaidarkan Mining
- Ministry of Industry, Energy and Fuel Resources
Consultations with government agencies in Bishkek (2)

- Fund of State Property
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Government Office
- Institute of Chemistry (National Academy of Sciences)
Consultations with government agencies in Bishkek (3)

- State Inspection of Industrial Security and Mountain Control (Ministry of Emergencies)
- Ministry of Labour and Social Development
- State Sanitary- Epidemiological Surveillance (Ministry of Health)
- Ministry of Finance
Report on the field visit to Osh and the Khaidarkan mining area (1)

- Osh-Batken Regional Environmental Department
- Osh Department of State Inspection of Industrial Security and Mountain Control
- Batken District Environmental Department
- South Geological Expedition
Report on the field visit to Osh and the Khaidarkan mining area (2)

- Khaidarkan Smelter
- Khaidarkan Refining Factory
- Khaidarkan Mining
- Tailings
### Indicative Timeline (1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Missions</th>
<th>UNITAR (SEA)</th>
<th>October 2008</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>UNEP-GRID-Arendal (TA)</td>
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<td><strong>Desk Assessment</strong></td>
<td>UNEP-GRID-Arendal</td>
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<td><strong>Socio-Economic Methodology</strong></td>
<td>UNITAR</td>
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## Indicative Timeline (2)

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<td>Socio-Economic Assessment</td>
<td>Kyrgyzstan</td>
<td>Early 2009</td>
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<td>Action Plan Training</td>
<td>UNITAR/Kyrgyzstan</td>
<td>October 2008</td>
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<tr>
<td>Action Plan Draft</td>
<td>Kyrgyzstan</td>
<td>Mid 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Awareness Workshop and National Consultations</td>
<td>UNITAR/Kyrgyzstan</td>
<td>Mid 2009</td>
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<td>Informal Donor Consultations</td>
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<td>National Forum</td>
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<td>International Forum</td>
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Формирование Национального Комитета

Кoordинация проекта

Социально-экономическая оценка
Key issues for discussion

- Outcomes of last mission to Kyrgyzstan
- “Pending” issues (formation of the National Committee; status of Government Office decree, socio-economic assessment (SEA); project coordination)