Quick start guide to preparing an Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining National Action Plan to fulfill obligations under Article 7 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

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Establish Coordinating Body

Set Goals and Objectives

Formulate Evaluation Strategy

Endorse and Submit

Develop a National ASGM Overview

Develop Implementation Strategies
Establish Coordinating Body
To guide the entire process of NAP development

WORKING GROUP
- Governmental ministries
- Local government representatives
- ASGM community representatives

TIPS: Define roles and responsibilities clearly; ensure cohesion of NAP with overall governmental environmental, development and economic agendas; reflect the voice of ASGM community

Interact at regular intervals

ADVISORY GROUP
Crucial stakeholders at national, regional and local level
E.g. gold processors, community leaders, technical experts, environmental organizations

See NAP Guide Table 4.1
See NAP Guide Table 4.2

Note: References marked with ⇨ refer to UNEP's draft guidance document: “Developing a National Action Plan to Reduce, and Where Feasible, Eliminate Mercury Use in Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining”.
STEP 2

Develop a National ASGM Overview
To identify mercury use and practices in ASGM communities

COMPONENTS OF THE OVERVIEW
and source of information

Environment and health aspects
- Ministries of Environment, Health, NGOs

Legal and regulatory status, policies, formalization
- Ministries of Mining, Environment

ASGM community statistics and baseline inventories
- Demographic statistics, Ministries of Mining, Environment, Health

Economics, mercury supply, use, demand, trade
- Trade statistics, miners associations

Options for technical and financial support
- Technical experts, Ministry of Finance, private investors

Mining and gold processing practices
- ASGM community survey, Ministries of Mining, Environment

See NAP Guide
Chapter 4.2, Annex 3

Consult as well
ASGM baseline estimates toolkit
STEP 3

Set Goals and Objectives
To identify targets that are quantitative and time-bound

Problem
Mercury use in ASGM

Goal
Reduction, and where feasible, elimination of mercury

Objective
Set specific, measurable realistic and time-bound targets

Examples
- By 2018 all ASGM communities trained about alternative mercury free methods
- By 2019 new equipment provided to pilot locations
- By 2020 whole ore amalgamation eliminated

See NAP Guide Chapter 5.1
Develop Implementation Strategies
To identify concrete actions to reach objectives

1. Identify authorities responsible for implementing each task
   national, regional, and local government
2. Define scope and logistics
   national, or phased regionally
3. Secure resources
   financial, technical, human, political, social
4. Identify partners
   NGOs, private sector, academia, IGOs, IOs
5. Identify required actions, including, among others:

   - Actions to eliminate worst practices
     Chapter 5.2
   - Steps to facilitate formalization
     Chapter 5.3
   - Strategies to promote mercury-free methods
     Chapter 5.5
   - Strategies to manage trade and prevent diversion
     Chapter 5.6
   - Strategies for public health and vulnerable populations
     Chapter 5.8 and 5.9
   - Strategies to disseminate information to ASGM community
     Chapter 5.10

Implementation strategy
See NAP Guide
Chapter 4.4
Formulate Evaluation Strategy
To measure and report on progress made

**OPTIONS**
(or combination of)

- Internal review by each ministry
- External review by independent evaluator
- Ongoing evaluation of individual projects
- Update inventory and compare with baseline

**EXAMPLE INDICATORS**

- Number of workshop conducted
- Number and effectiveness of the communication tools
- Kilograms of mercury use reduced

**TIP:** Establish a platform, e.g. website to share information, comments and reviews

Evaluation mechanism should facilitate the verification of the foreseen activities against expected results and milestones agreed upon in action plan

See NAP Guide Chapter 4.5
As required by article 7, Paragraph 3(b), each country must submit its NAP to the Secretariat no later than 3 years after the Convention enters into force for it, or 3 years after notifying the Secretariat that it has “more than insignificant ASGM”, whichever is later.

Before submission, the NAP should be endorsed (approved) by the appropriate decision makers.
The document was developed by Malgorzata Stylo and reviewed by Kenneth Davis, Susan Keane and Ludovic Bernaudat.