

# Human Exposure to and Environment Concentration of Mercury

## Outcomes and lessons learnt

### Global Environment Facility Project

17 November 2018, Geneva, Switzerland  
International Conference Centre Geneva (CICG), Meeting-Room 15  
Geneva, Switzerland

## Concept Note

### 1. Background and Context

The Chemicals and Health Branch of the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) in close collaboration with the National Research Council of Italy - Institute of Atmospheric Pollution Research and the European Centre for Environment and Health, Regional Office for Europe of the World Health Organization, implemented a project on mercury monitoring funded by the Global Environment Facility.

The project aimed at identifying approaches, existing monitoring networks and worldwide capacities to analyse mercury. It developed, among others, elements to consider when designing monitoring plans, in particular on presence of mercury in ambient air and on human exposure to mercury.

“The project provided the opportunity to strengthen links with strong on-going regional and international programs all over the world. It paid particular attention to provide globally comparable data, set protocols governing measurements and sampling techniques and harmonization while pilots in selected countries were taking place.”

*Participant at the Final workshop, Rome, Italy*

*February 2018*

### 2. Overall Goal and Objectives

The meeting on Human Exposure to and Environmental Concentration of Mercury: outcomes and lessons learnt will take place 17 November 2018 from 9:30 to 12:00 in Geneva, Switzerland. The venue is International Conference Centre Geneva (CICG), Meeting-Room 15.

Key scientific information gathered will be shared and the meeting will discuss the outcomes, results, conclusion and lessons learned of the project. It aims at sharing information generated and experiences gained by different stakeholders' beneficiaries of the project.

The main objectives of the meeting are to:

1. Present the outcomes of the project and lesson learnt;
2. Increase knowledge on the capacities and networks to undertake monitoring including analytical aspects of mercury.
3. Discuss the importance of monitoring mercury in air, biota and Human biomonitoring

### **3. Participants**

The workshop will bring together the partners of the Global Environment Facility project entitled “Develop a plan for Global Monitoring of Mercury” (UN Environment, CRN-IIA, WHO, and GEF), as well as interested regional and national experts and other stakeholders.

The tentative list of funded participants is attached to the note as Annex iii.

### **4. Programme and Methods**

The meeting will have brief introduction to the agenda items followed by an interactive sessions

The provisional agenda is attached as Annex II.

### **5. Partners**

This meeting will be organized by the UN Environment in joint effort with National Research Council of Italy - Institute of Atmospheric Pollution Research and the World Health Organization, Regional Office for Europe – European Centre for Environment and Health.

### **6. Evaluation**

At the end of the meeting, UN Environment will promote discussion on the extent to which the project and the meeting has achieved its objectives, the next steps will be identified, and feedbacks obtained.

#### **Relevant documents:**

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**UNEP/MC/COP.1/INF 15**

(<http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/meetings/COP1/English/UNEP-MC-COP.1-INF-15.pdf>)