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# UNEP GLOBAL MERCURY PARTNERSHIP

26 August 2020  
9:00 – 10:30 a.m. UTC/GMT-5

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## ASGM and National Action Plans in the LAC region: lessons learned, tools and implementation

### Webinar for the Spanish speaking countries in Latin America and Caribbean region

#### Audience

Spanish speaking Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries, with artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM), Global Mercury Partnership (GMP) partners, other interested stakeholders

*Note on language: the webinar will be conducted in Spanish.*

#### Content

Development of National Action Plans (NAPs) for ASGM is an obligation under Article 7 of the Minamata Convention for each Party that determines that mercury use in ASGM in its territory is “more than insignificant”. Recognizing that the ASGM sector is closely linked to complex economic, social and environmental issues, the Convention allows flexible, country-specific solutions through the development of NAP to reduce and where feasible eliminate mercury use in the ASGM sector. To date, 39 countries have embarked on the development of a NAP, including 7 Spanish speaking countries in the LAC region.

The NAP guidance document, adopted by the Minamata Conference of the Parties, is the result of collaborative work of the experts from the Global Mercury Partnership. The Partnership further assists countries in preparing NAPs, through the ASGM Partnership Area.

Within the framework of the Forum of Ministers of Environment for Latin America and the Caribbean, a Regional Action Plan 2019-2020 on cooperation on chemicals and waste was adopted, which includes mercury and ASGM as one of the priority areas for information exchange and capacity building.

The webinar will present the global status and progress made on NAP development and review the available tools and assistance from the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership and others. Honduras and Ecuador will share the challenges that national teams have encountered during NAP development process or related projects (e.g. planetGOLD). Finally, all the participants will be invited to share their experiences and discuss possible solutions, including with respect to the future NAP implementation and sector transformation.

#### AGENDA

- 9:00** **Opening remarks and setting the scene**  
*Sandra Averous-Monnery y Ludovic Bernaudat – UNEP Global Mercury Partnership*  
*Jordi Pon – UNEP Latin America and Caribbean office*  
*Marianne Bailey - Minamata Convention Secretariat*
- 9:15** **Presentation of the global progress**  
*Malgorzata Stylo - UNEP*
- 9:30** **Sharing national experience and lessons learned**  
*Ecuador – Berenice Alexandra Quiroz Yanez, Minamata Focal Point*  
*Honduras – Pablo Ricardo Rodríguez Rubio, Coordinador Nacional Proyecto GAR de Mercurio*
- 10:00** **Questions and sharing experiences**  
*All participants*

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Yellowfin Tuna, Courtesy NOAA Fisheries, © Photo by Jeff Muir