

UNEP Global Mercury Partnership

WASTE MANAGEMENT AREA MEETING 2020



27th November 2020

Opening

- Opening remark from Area Leads
- Adoption of the agenda

Agenda

Session 1: Identification of needs for WMA technologies and services

Planning of a survey for needs identification

- Proposed format of questionnaire and method of the survey, will be presented
 - Comments and inputs from participants

Session 2: Needs and seeds matchmaking

Tools for supporting the matchmaking

- Options for facilitating matchmaking will be presented
 - Discussion on effective ways to encourage matchmaking

Session 3: Possible collaboration with other Partnership Areas and contribution to ongoing consultation under UNEP-GMP

Development of WMA activity plan

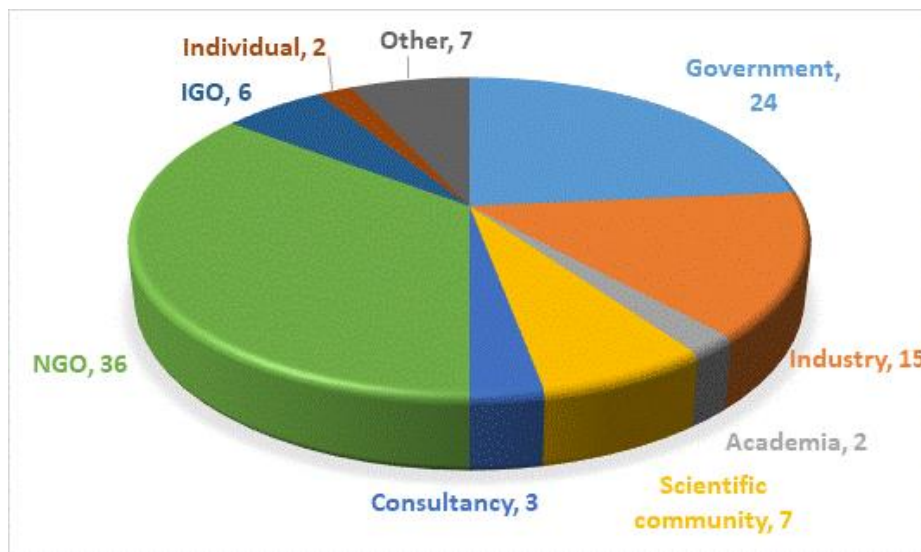
- Update and scope of the collaboration with other Partnership Areas
 - Views from participants on coming years' WMA activities including cooperation with other Areas to be reflected in the WMA activity plan



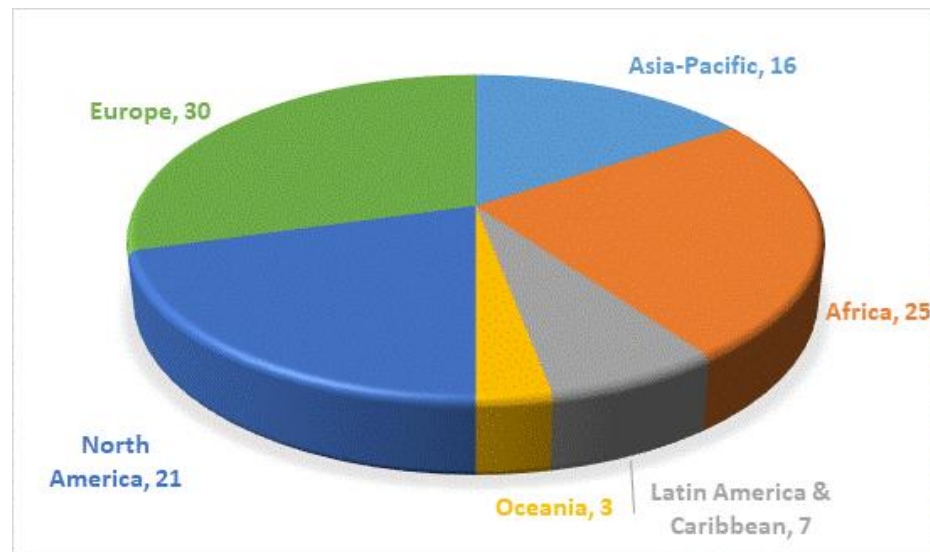
Overview of the 2020 Meeting

Waste Management Area (WMA)

- **Started in 2008**
- **Lead:** Misuzu Asari (Associate Professor, Kyoto University)
Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ)
- **Number of Partners: 102** (as of August 2020)



Attribution of WMA Partners



Regional attribution of WMA Partners

Activities under the WMA

Activities by the Waste Management Area (WMA)

- Face-to-face Meetings (*on-going*)
- Resource Persons List (*on-going*)
- Collaboration with Chlor-alkali Area (*on-going*)
- Submission of Business Plan Report (*on-going*)
- Catalogue of Technologies and Services on Mercury Waste Management (*on-going*)
- Supporting UNEP-IETC to develop “Global Mercury Waste Assessment” (*implemented in 2017*)
- Compiling information of mercury wastes thresholds and requirements under Article 11 (*implemented in 2017*)
- Good Practice Document for Management of Mercury Release from Waste (*suspended*)

Projects by Partners of the WMA

- Mercury monitoring at open dumping sites under the project “Environmentally Sound Management of Mercury Waste” by UNEP-IETC (*on-going*)
- Mercury containing products collection programs in Panama by NGO (*on-going*)
- Environmentally Sound Implementation of Healthcare Waste Management Plan in Nigeria by the Government of Nigeria (*on-going*)

WMA Meeting 2019

WMA Meeting 2019 was held in Bilbao, Spain on 6 October 2019, back-to-back with the ISWA World Congress.

Objectives

- To review activities undertaken after the area meeting in 2018, and discuss ways to enhance those activities,
- To seek effective ways to collaborate with other frameworks relevant to chemicals & waste, and
- To identify ways to utilize existing fora and capacities and arrange additional tools and schemes that contribute to promoting activities of the WMA.



Attended by 10 participants including representatives from Governments, private companies, academia, and inter-governmental organizations (IGOs)

WMA Meeting 2019

The Meeting agreed:

1. To promote information sharing

- ◆ The WMA continues to utilize the mailing list (ML) as a main tool for information sharing among partners
- ◆ The leads/secretariat will continue to act as a clearinghouse and review relevant information
- ◆ The WMA will seek effective ways of using the ML as well as the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership website.
- ◆ The WMA will continue to hold meetings at appropriate occasions.

WMA Meeting 2019

2. To disseminate technical information

- ◆ The WMA will encourage partners, especially from NGOs, IGOs, individual experts, to provide information on their expertise/services on mercury waste management for inclusion in the Catalogue of Technologies and Services on Mercury Waste Management
- ◆ The Catalogue and the Resource Persons List (RPL) are to be updated. Greater detailed information is to be included in the RPL, which could possibly be integrated into the Catalogue.

WMA Meeting 2019

3. To promote Matchmaking technical knowledge and needs
 - ◆ The Strategic approaches to bridge technical knowledge of partners and needs in developing countries for mercury waste management should be explored.
 - ◆ Method of collecting information of such needs should be further considered. Mercury inventories developed in the context of Minamata Initial Assessments could also be a useful information source.
 - ◆ The WMA will seek possibilities to organize meetings during the COPs or other relevant events, and encourage partners, especially developing countries, to participate in to discuss matchmaking.

WMA Meeting 2019

4. To promote outreach activities:

- ◆ The partners are encouraged to conduct outreach activities to reach out stakeholders beyond the WMA.
- ◆ The WMA considers how to contribute to the sound management of different types of mercury waste which are outside of the scope of the Minamata Convention, as well as discuss for global agenda such as SDGs.
- ◆ The WMA will continue to discuss the possible linkage with other fora relevant to chemicals and waste, such as the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM).

WMA Meeting 2020

Mercury Waste Management Area Meeting 2020:

- is organized in two separate meetings
 - 1st meeting - 12:00-14:30 on 27th November 2020 (Geneva Time)
 - 2nd meeting – tbd.
- is held **online** considering COVID-19 pandemic
- WMA Partners and related stakeholders are invited

Objectives:

- To review ongoing WMA activities and consider activities to be further developed
- To identify (1) technologies and services for mercury waste management that Partners can provide (Seeds) and (2) challenges on mercury waste management that countries have faced with (Needs), and consider ways for matchmaking
- To develop WMA activity plan

WMA Meeting 2020

Expected outputs:

1. Discussed questionnaires and strategies for the survey
2. Identified tools and activities for matchmaking of needs and seeds
3. Agreed scope and joint activities with other Area Partners
4. Developed the WMA Activity Plan

WMA Activity Plan

- ❑ Mid-, long-term work plan for the WMA
- ❑ Will be developed based on the objectives and strategies of the WMA and by incorporating the discussion at the WMA meeting together with inputs from other Partnership Areas.

Schedule

- Inputs from partners and other Partnership Areas (Nov '20, 1st meeting)
- Draft by WMA Leads and invite comments (Between 1st and 2nd meeting)
- Discussion on the draft (2nd meeting)
- Finalization of the WMA Activity Plan (March '21)

Updates by the UNEP Global
Mercury Partnership Secretariat

UNEP Global Mercury Partnership - Snapshot of recent developments

Mercury Waste Management Partnership Area 2020 Meeting
27 November 2020

UNEP Global Mercury Partnership



Voluntary multi-stakeholder network initiated in 2005

Over 200 partners from Governments, IGOs, NGOs, industry, academia

Priority focus:

- Support timely and effective implementation of the Convention
- Provide knowledge and science on mercury
- Deliver outreach and awareness raising towards global action

Selection of outcomes from PAG-10 (Geneva, 23 November 2019)

- Rodges Ankrah (US) & Teeraporn Wiriwutikorn (Thailand) designated co-chairs
- Revision of the Partnership Overarching Framework
- Request to initiate work on mercury from oil and gas as well as from non-ferrous metals mining and smelting
- Other topics identified as possible future priority actions: further refinement of emission factors, establishment of a framework for a centralized database on mercury assessments, development of guidance to address mercury-added products and of tools to make information on waste technologies accessible, and the organization of webinars to facilitate information sharing
- Interest raised by several Partnership Areas for joint actions

Information-sharing sessions

- Series of webinars organized by the Partnership



- Contributions to « Minamata Online » and joint events



Outreach – Launch of Partnership Newsletter



Latest news from the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership - November 2020 (Newsletter #2)

As the world is facing the current Covid-19 pandemic, the Global Mercury Partnership is taking its activities online a step further: following the expert consultations on mercury from non-ferrous metals mining and smelting and from oil and gas earlier this year, the Partnership is rolling out a series of information-sharing webinars, currently on mercury-added products, with an upcoming event on mercury skin lightening products organized in cooperation with the World Health Organization.

In this new edition, you will also learn more about the upcoming eleventh Partnership Advisory Group and Partnership Areas meetings, as well as useful resources, and discover our new members.

With our warm wishes,

The Secretariat of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership

HIGHLIGHTS



The Partnership Advisory Group will hold its **eleventh meeting on 15 and 16 December**. Participants will exchange on recent activities and future priorities, discuss progress and next steps for the work on mercury from non-ferrous mining and smelting and from oil and gas, as well as contributions to CDP4 and ICMGP15. Partners are welcome to attend as observers.



The Mercury Waste Management Partnership Area will meet on 27 November to review activities and future plans, discuss challenges in the management of mercury waste, technologies and services provided by partners as well as opportunities for matchmaking. Participants will also explore collaboration with other areas and contribution to ongoing consultations.

RECENT EVENTS



Discover guidance and tools shared at the **mercury-containing medical devices webinar** organized on 13 October by the Products Partnership Area together with WHO. The event exchanged knowledge on sphygmomanometers and thermometers and discussed challenges in meeting the 2020 phase out deadline as well as best practices towards sustainable replacement.



See presentations and recordings of the session on **Multimedia modelling of global mercury movement** co-organized on 17 November by the Fate and Transport Partnership Area together with the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention, the International Conference on Mercury as a Global Pollutant and the Geneva Environment Network as part of the **MINAMATA ONLINE**.



See presentations and recordings of the webinar on **ASGM and National Action Plans in the Latin America and Caribbean region: lessons learned, tools and implementation** organized on 26 August by the ASGM Partnership Area to share global status and progress made on NAP development and review tools and assistance available from the Partnership and its partners.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW PARTNERS

- 3S Group Inc
- Centre for Mineral Technology
- "Clínica de Direitos Humanos e Direito Ambiental e Mestrado em Direito Ambiental", University of the State of Amazonas
- Conservation International
- Great Lakes Center for Occupational & Environmental Health, University of Illinois
- Laboratory of the Environment and Occupational Health, University of West Attica
- National Energy Technology Laboratory
- Picoyune
- Professor Satoshi Murao (Daiichi Institute of Technology)
- X-PLO Services géologiques

[VIEW ALL PARTNERS](#)

[INFORMATION ON BECOMING A PARTNER >>](#)

LATEST PUBLICATIONS / RESOURCES



The **Overarching Framework Document** of the Global Mercury Partnership has been revised pursuant to PAG-10 decision and is published in the 6 UN languages.

Arabic
Chinese
English
French
Russian
Spanish



A **Curriculum for the Health Sector** has been

designed by the **Great Lakes Center for Occupational & Environmental Safety and Health**, University of Illinois Chicago, WHO Collaborating Centre and new partner, to train healthcare workers to

recognize, diagnose, treat, and prevent mercury toxicity among ASGM miners, their families and communities. Instructor and student manuals may be downloaded from the Partnership website.

[VIEW ALL PUBLICATIONS >>](#)

READ MORE ABOUT THE PARTNERSHIP AREAS

Artisanal and small-scale gold mining

Mercury releases from coal combustion

Mercury air transport and fate research

Mercury waste management

Mercury cell chlor-alkali production

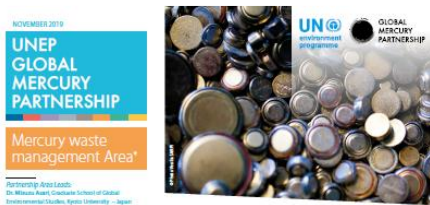
Mercury supply and storage

Mercury in products

Mercury releases from the cement industry

Opportunity to raise awareness and feature highlights by Partnership areas and partners, events, resources, etc.

Outreach – Partnership Area factsheets



ISSUE

Mercury waste is generated from different sources as mercury is used in several types of products (e.g. batteries, lamps, medical devices) and possibly (e.g. mercury cell chlor-alkali facilities) and is also contained in materials such as cook. The phase-out of mercury in products and processes along with strict controls on mercury emissions and releases is expected to generate large amount of mercury wastes, for which the Minamata Convention requires the environmentally sound management (ESM). While ESM is a common challenge in many countries, especially developing ones, a number of key players, including government, industry, civil society and academia, can provide useful techniques, support and guidance. The establishment of networks of stakeholders who can collaborate in managing mercury waste will be key to managing ESM.

STRATEGY

The Partnership Area has identified the following priority actions to meet its objective:

- Identify and disseminate information on environmentally sound collection, transportation, treatment and disposal techniques and practices for different types of mercury wastes to reduce mercury releases from waste by following a Life Cycle Management approach.
- Assess environmental impacts of current waste management practices and processes, including providing support to countries to assess their national situation and needs, and
- Promote public awareness of the issues associated with mercury wastes and their management and support community engagement to the activities of the Partnership Area.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MINAMATA CONVENTION

The Partnership Area identified a number of specific needs of countries, namely with respect to the review of existing laws and regulations as well as waste management infrastructure to meet the obligations of the Convention, and to information on technologies and costs associated with the environmentally sound management of mercury wastes. The Partnership Area aims at meeting such needs by providing information on good practice and case studies in both developed and developing countries.

The Partnership Area also aims at contributing to transnational processes mandated by the Convention of the Parties to the Minamata Convention.

RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF THE MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

Article 11 (Mercury Waste) addresses the issue of mercury wastes, their management in an environmentally sound manner as well as transboundary movement. It aims to: It recognizes the relationship between the Minamata Convention and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal.

FEATURED ACTIVITIES

"Catalogue of Technologies and Services on Mercury Waste Management": This tool was developed to disseminate in an effective manner information on mercury waste management technologies, products, and services of partners. The Catalogue in its 2019 version is now available on the Partnership website and will be updated continuously.

Resource Persons List: A list of resource persons who could provide technical advice in relation to mercury waste management has been prepared and is regularly updated.

Knowledge sharing at relevant international meetings: Experts from the Partnership Area attend relevant meetings, such as, recently the 14th International Conference on Mercury as Global Pollutant, (September 2019, Katowice, Poland) and the 2019 OMM Congress (October 2019, Bilbao, Spain), to gain latest knowledge from the waste management sector and subsequently share technical information with other partners.



COLLABORATION WITH OTHER PARTNERSHIP AREAS AND RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

The Mercury Waste Management Partnership Area collaborates with other partnership areas through information sharing, as well as joint activities and projects.

Mercury waste generated from the decommissioning of chlor-alkali plants is one of the major concerns in waste management as the re-use of such mercury is discouraged under the Minamata Convention. The Partnership Area hence conducted with the Mercury Cell Chlor-alkali Production Partnership Area, in March 2018, in Uruguay, a joint mission to identify the needs and challenges faced by the Chlor-alkali producer and the Uruguayan government, both in the framing of the convention process, and in addressing the management and disposal of mercury waste. A second joint study is now under planning.

FUTURE PLANNED ACTIVITIES

Key future planned activities include:

- Promoting information sharing among partners and other stakeholders.
- Compiling and disseminating technical information on mercury waste management, in light of identified needs and challenges,
- Implementing project based activities, and
- Contributing to international work under the Basel and Minamata Conventions.



Read more about the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership and how to become a Partner: <http://www.unep.org/globalmercurypartnership>
Contact the Partnership Area leads: waste@mercurymgmt.net or www.mercurymgmt.net

- Available for the 8 Partnership Areas to share information about their work
- Provide a snapshot on the objective, strategy, contribution to the implementation of the Minamata Convention, future planned activities, featured work of each Area

Eleventh meeting of the Global Mercury Partnership

EVENT

Partnership Advisory Group Meeting 11

15 - 16 December 2020
Online



Session 1:

Identification of the needs for mercury waste management technologies and services

Session 1:

Identification of the needs for mercury waste management technologies and services

□ Background

- According to the Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA), several countries have identified mercury waste management as their top priority in implementing the Minamata Convention.
- Although challenges or needs related to mercury waste management have been widely understood at both national and regional level, specific types or treatment processes of mercury waste which needs further improvement remain uncertain.
- The needs of developing countries should be more clearly understood and analyzed in depth in order to provide corresponding solutions.

Session 1: Identification of the needs for mercury waste management technologies and services

- **A questionnaire survey** will be conducted to understand needs on mercury waste management in developing countries.
- The objective of the questionnaire is threefold:
 - I. identifying stakeholders, regions and countries whose have challenges on the management of mercury waste;
 - II. identifying specific types or treatment processes of mercury waste which require enhanced actions for the ESM;
 - III. identifying needs on information and services that the WMA can provide.
- The information will be used to exploit WMA's future activities.

Date	Proposed actions
Early Nov	The lead developed very early draft
Nov 27	1 st WMA meeting (discuss formats etc.)
Dec	The lead will revise and finalize
Jan-Feb	Information collection through online questionnaire
Mar	2 nd WMA meeting (result will be shared)

Session 1:

Identification of the needs for mercury waste management technologies and services

□ Discussion

- What are efficient and practical ways to collect information on needs of developing countries? (Questionnaire is good way?)
- We need your inputs on
 - Format of questionnaire
 - Question items
 - Who should be targeted
 - How to distribute



Session 2: Needs and seeds matchmaking

Session 2:

Needs and seeds matchmaking

□ Objectives

- To discuss possible actions taken by WMA to promote “Needs” & “Seeds” matchmaking in the field of mercury waste management
- Ideas for future WMA activities (but not limited to) :
 - Updates & upgrade of the information dissemination tools
 - Organizing online technical sessions
 - Organizing a face-to-face training/workshop for capacity building

Session 2:

Needs and seeds matchmaking

- Updates & upgrade of the information dissemination
 - WMA developed “Catalogue of Technologies and Services on Mercury Waste Management” in 2018 and has updated annually.
<https://web.unep.org/globalmercurypartnership/catalogue-technologies-and-services-mercury-waste-management-2020-version>
 - Some comments provided by Partners:
 - Current version of the Catalogue contains information on technologies and services mainly provided by private sector.
 - Developing countries may need more information and knowledge of non-industry Partners, such as NGOs, research institutes and/or IGO
 - Information contained in the Resource Person List (RPL) could be merged with the Catalogue so that users can find all the necessary information with a single tool.
 - The results of the questionnaire should also be considered.

Session 2:

Needs and seeds matchmaking

- Organizing online technical sessions
 - A series of webinars focusing on the ESM of different types of mercury waste
 - Online platform to exchange information on “Needs” and “Seeds” and to discuss matchmaking strategies
 - Possible joint-webinar with other Partnership Areas (such as Chlor Alkali or Product, Storage)

- Organizing training/workshop for capacity building
 - Face-to-face trainings or workshops with an aim to build capacity of stakeholders in developing countries involved in the ESM of mercury waste
 - Such trainings or workshops could be organized at the occasion of related meetings/conferences such as the COP4 (November 2021 in Indonesia) and the ICMGP15 (July 2022 in South Africa).

Session 2:

Needs and seeds matchmaking

□ Discussion

- How should we modify WMA's information dissemination tools (catalogue & RPL) to make them more beneficial and user-friendly ?
- What kind of online & face-to-face event could be organized by the WMA and how it can contribute to the ESM of mercury waste in developing countries?
- What are other possible activities to be carried out for promoting Needs-Seeds matchmaking?

Session 3:

Possible collaboration with other Partnership Areas and contribution to the ongoing consultations under UNEP-GMP

Session 3:

Possible collaboration and contribution

- Collaboration with other Partnership Areas
 - With Chlor-Alkali Partnership:
 - A joint survey on technical needs assessment of chlor-alkali conversion & Hg waste management in South America.
 - With Product Partnership:
 - Planned to jointly participated in the inception workshop of the “Project on ESM of the Mercury Medical Device” held in Indonesia and to provide technical inputs

**The workshop was finally held only for Indonesian local stakeholders due to COVID-19.*

UNEP Global Mercury Partnership - Expert consultations

Mercury Waste Management Partnership Area 2020 Meeting
27 November 2020

Consultations on mercury in oil and gas and in non-ferrous metals mining and smelting



Follow up to PAG-10 decision

First expert consultations in April 2020

Reports under preparation – comments will be invited from experts and relevant stakeholders on annotated outlines and draft reports

Final reports expected in April 2021

Session 3:

Possible collaboration and contribution

□ Discussion

- Which GMP area is closely related to the WMA activities?
- What kind of joint activities can be implemented and how can we contribute to the implementation of the Minamata Convention?



Closing