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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 COP4 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.



products will be organized on 30 November by the Partnership and its Area of work on Mercury in Products, in cooperation with WHO. The event will look into the adverse effects of these cosmetics, share information and discuss some of the practices and challenges in meeting the 2020 deadline for phase-out.



Building on the expert consultations launched by the Partnership in April 2020 on mercury from **non-ferrous metals mining and smelting** and **from oil and gas**, reports are under preparation to further advance the work on these two cross cutting topics initiated in follow up to PAG-10 decisions. Progress and next steps will be shared and discussed at PAG-11.



The ASGM Partnership Area contributes to the ongoing **efforts to update the ASGM National Action Plan guidance document** for possible adoption at Minamata COP4. Partners have provided technical input on ASGM tailings management, shared views on aspects that could be strengthened and suggested how to reference available tools to support implementation.



MINAMATA ONLINE weekly sessions on the Convention's provisions, as well as policy and scientific aspects are being run by the Secretariat of the Convention. The Partnership contributed to some of these events and co-hosted a session on **Multimedia modelling on global mercury movement** co-organized by the Fate and Transport Partnership Area.



New member of the Partnership, **PicoYune**, won Artisanal Mining Grand Challenge Gold-level award worth \$200,000 for their innovation "Plasmonic" mercury analyzers for artisanal scale gold mining. **Read more about Plasmonic and the ASM Grand Challenge.**



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 >>](#)



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

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