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### Latest news from the Global Mercury Partnership – May 2024

Through this second issue of the year, learn more about recent, current and future activities, as we move forward in addressing the latest decisions of the fifth Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention and implementing the ongoing GEF projects on mercury containing projects.

Find out more also about annual meetings of your Partnership Areas, as well as activities under the cross-cutting work of the Partnership.

Finally, join us in welcoming our new members, and have a look at recent publications.

With our greetings,  
The Secretariat of the Global Mercury Partnership

## HIGHLIGHTS

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As we are approaching **World Environment Day 2024** – UNEP is calling on all of multi-stakeholder partnerships to support the efforts and invite their members to join the communication campaign. We invite you to [register your WED events on the events map](#) where appropriate.

**APPLY FOR FUNDING UNTIL 31 JULY 2024**

Eligible Parties are invited to submit their applications for project funding by the Specific International Programme (SIP) of the Minamata Convention, to support capacity-building and technical assistance in the fight against toxic mercury between USD 50,000 and 250,000.

[bit.ly/4thSIP](https://bit.ly/4thSIP)



The SIP is supported by the generous contributions from Austria, Denmark, France, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom and United States.

UN environment programme

MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

The UN Environment Special Programme and the Specific International Programme (SIP) of the Minamata Convention launched their **call for funding**, coinciding with the International Day of Multilateralism. These initiatives aim to support eligible developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their efforts manage chemicals and waste, including mercury.

**MINAMATA ONLINE SEASON 4 - 2024**

The fourth season of Minamata Online will feature webinars on implementation review and support and mercury science from March to November 2024.


Join us again! registration is available at the Minamata Convention website. <http://www.minamataconvention.org>

<b>THURSDAY 7 MARCH</b> 1400-1500 Mainstreaming gender in capacity-building projects: practical approaches	<b>THURSDAY 2 MAY</b> 1400-1500 International Conference on Mercury as a Global Pollutant and the Minamata Convention	<b>WEDNESDAY 30 OCTOBER</b> 0900-1000 Mercury-add amendment and COP decision
<b>THURSDAY 11 JUNE</b> 1400-1400 Mercury-added products (English)	<b>THURSDAY 11 JUNE</b> 1400-1400 Mercury-added products (Spanish)	<b>WEDNESDAY 30 OCTOBER</b> 1000-1100 Mercury-added products
<b>WEDNESDAY 3 JULY</b> 1400-1500 Mercury-added products (Arabic)	<b>WEEK OF 9 SEPTEMBER</b> 1000-1100 Manufacturing processes using mercury	<b>WEEK OF 30 OCTOBER</b> 1000-1100 Indigenous local context and mercury

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MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

Tentative calendar. Geneva time. Last update: 24 April 2024



The **fourth season** of the **Minamata Online**, designed to further clarify the Convention's provisions, as well as policy and scientific aspects, has started. As previously, it features 1-1.5 hours sessions, some of which will be held twice to accommodate different time zones. Further information, including registration link, will be available on the **Convention website**.



The **fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury (COP-5)**, held from 30 October to 3 November 2023, adopted 21 decisions to keep protecting human health and the environment from the harmful effects of mercury. All decisions, including on Indigenous Peoples, mercury-added products and the effectiveness evaluation, are **available in the 6 UN languages**.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



On **16 May 2024**, the **Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development (IGF)** will hold a **webinar** on governments' action for responsible ASGM tailings management. The session will present **a new IGF report** designed to inform policy-makers about ASGM practices, including tailings generation, management and reprocessing, but also mercury recovery, management and disposal.



**Skin Lightening Products** project stakeholders group is scheduled to be hold on **21 May 2024**, in an online setting. The meeting intends to share updates on the ongoing project and continue the experience sharing on the topic. Further information will be made available on the [event page](#).



The **Mercury Releases from Coal Combustion** partnership area of the **UNEP Global Mercury Partnership** will hold its annual meeting on **13 June 2024** in New Delhi - India, in a hybrid setting. Kindly notify your interest in participating, in person or remotely, to Ms. Lesley Sloss ([lesley.sloss@mq.edu.au](mailto:lesley.sloss@mq.edu.au)).



The **16th International Conference on Mercury as a Global Pollutant, "from Minamata to Africa and beyond: Addressing mercury challenges in global environmental change"**, scheduled **from 21 to 26 July 2024** in Cape Town, South Africa, is approaching. Check the [draft programme](#) and [register](#) to join the meeting organized for the first time on the African continent.

## RECENT EVENTS

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The first webinar in French entitled **"EMAPE d'Or en Afrique : récents outils, connaissances et considérations pour une mise en œuvre effective des stratégies nationales"** was held on **23 April 2024**. The event was the occasion to discuss the recent COP-5 decisions on ASGM, as well as exchange on cross-cutting topics and collaboration with other MEAs. Resources will be made available on the [event page](#).



**chemicals and waste Conventions to Target 7 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework**” held on **18 April 2024** provided a platform to exchange on cross-cutting topics related to biodiversity and highly hazardous chemicals. Meeting resources are available on the [event page](#).



Held on **21 March 2024**, the webinar on **“Mercury from Non-Ferrous Metals Mining and Smelting: current knowledge and tools towards sustainable practices”** allowed to further exchange latest information and knowledge, including on best practices in managing mercury emissions, releases and waste in the sector. Check [meeting resources](#) for more details.



The [Mercury Waste Management Area](#) of the [UNEP Global Mercury Partnership](#) held its annual meeting on **11 March 2024** in an online setting. Participants discussed ongoing and future work of the Partnership, including within the working groups, and welcomed new partners. For more details, view the [event resources](#).

## LATEST RESOURCES

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Check out the [planetGOLD Annual Progress Report](#), which features key activities, milestones, and figures from 23 country projects across the programme for the **July 2022 - June 2023** reporting period.





**Management and Reprocessing Governance: Global Trends"**

which outlines important technical aspects of ASGM, including ore extraction, processing, tailings generation, management, and reprocessing. It also addresses mercury recovery, management, and disposal.

[VIEW ALL RESOURCES >>](#)

## WELCOME OUR NEW PARTNERS

The Partnership is most pleased to start the year with close to 260 members, including the following recent ones we warmly welcome.

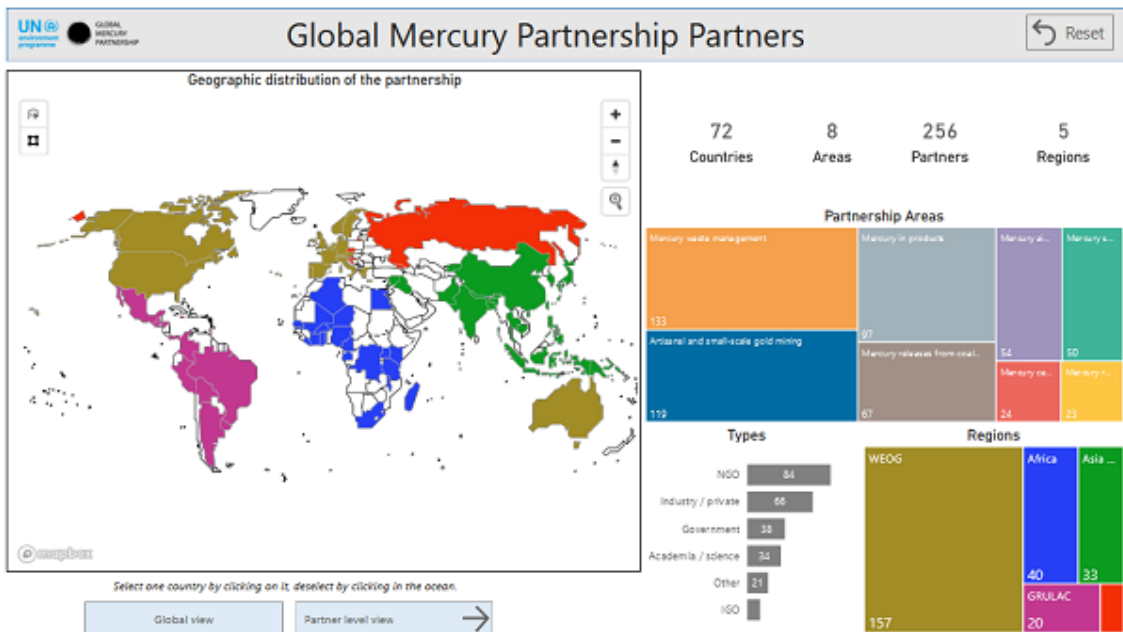
**AUYAN**

**Johnson Matthey**

**Ministry of the Environment, Water and Ecological Transition of Ecuador**

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

**Consult our dashboard to learn more about our partners**



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## ABOUT THE UNEP GLOBAL MERCURY PARTNERSHIP

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The [Global Mercury Partnership](#) aims to protect human health and the environment from the releases of mercury to air, water and land. With over 250 partners to date, from governments, IGOs, NGOs, industry and academia, the Partnership focuses on supporting timely and effective implementation of the Minamata Convention, providing state of the art knowledge and science and raising awareness towards global action on mercury.

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## READ MORE ABOUT THE PARTNERSHIP AREAS

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**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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