



# The Minamata Convention and the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership

**Results workshop: Project on the reduction of  
demand of mercury in mercury containing  
products in Bangladesh**

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Desiree Raquel Montecillo - Narvaez

Programme Officer

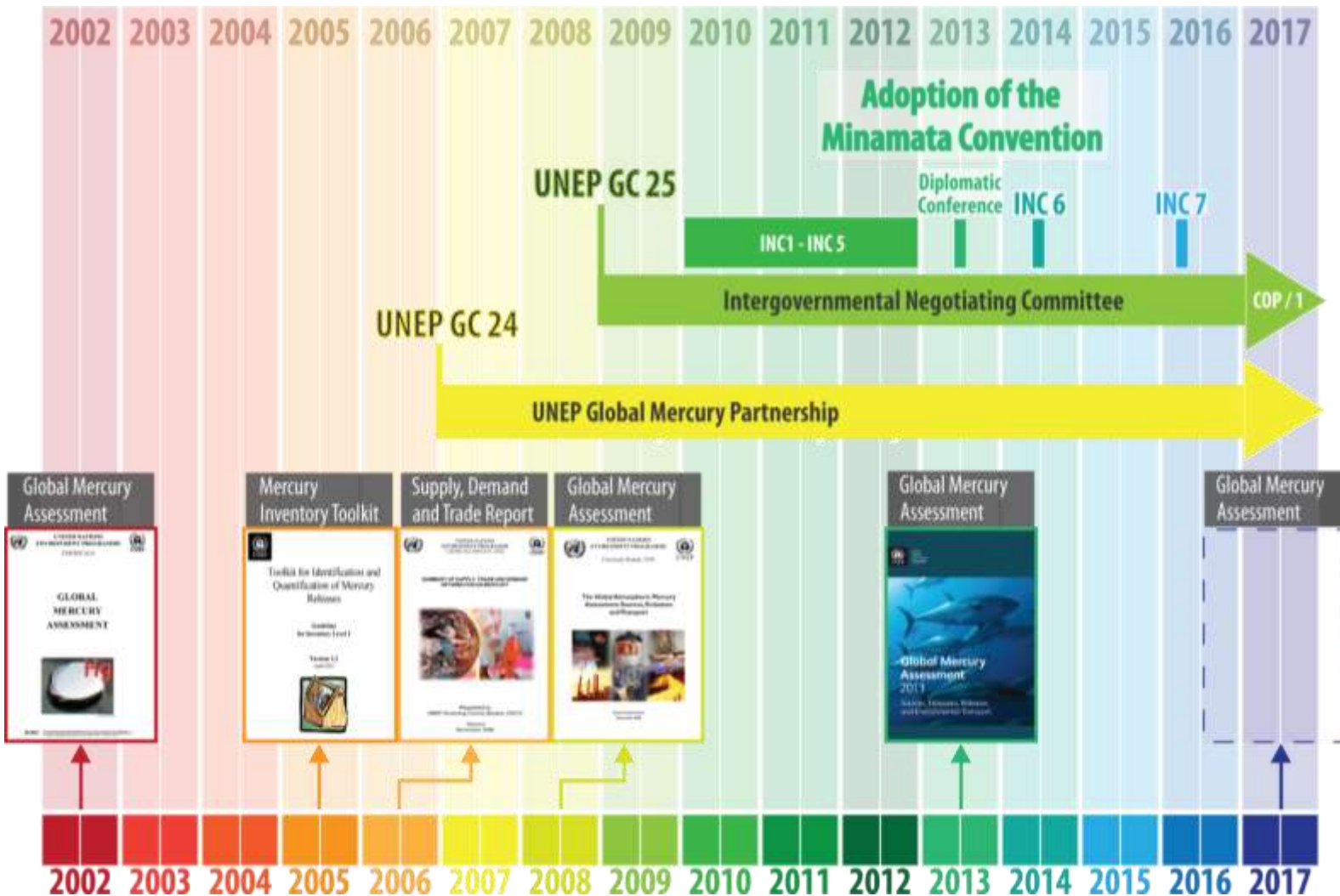
Chemicals and Waste Branch

Division of Technology, Industry, and Economics

United Nations Environment Programme



# ROAD TO MINAMATA AND BEYOND

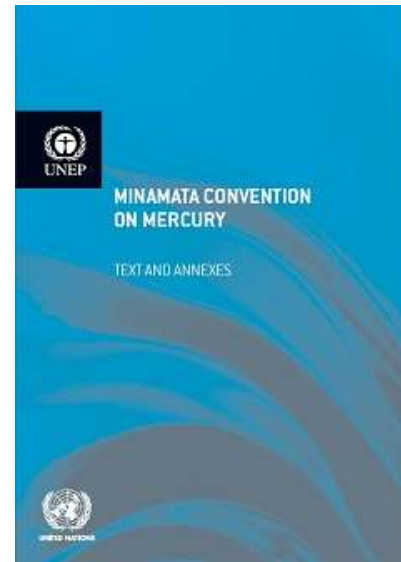


# Minamata Convention on Mercury

- Number of signatories: 128
- Number of ratifications: 19



Chad, Djibouti, Gabon, Guinea, Guyana, Jordan, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Panama, Samoa, Seychelles, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Uruguay





# UNEP Global Mercury Partnership

**Mandate:** to deliver immediate action

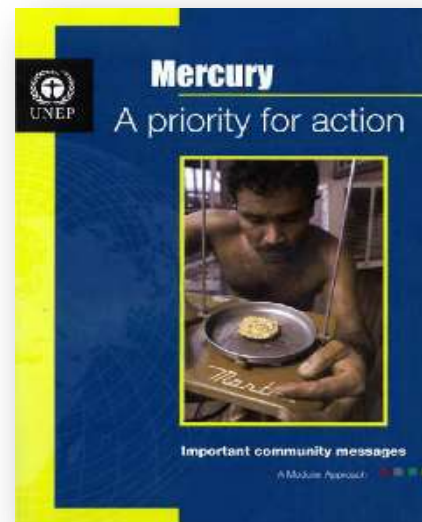
**Objective:** to protect human health and the global environment from the release of mercury

**Means:** minimizing and, where feasible, ultimately eliminating anthropogenic releases

## Activities

- Generation of baseline data and information
- Development of guidance materials/toolkits
- Information gathering + exchange ,advocacy, awareness raising
- Strengthening national capacities to identify problems and take strategic actions; national + regional planning
- Demonstration projects

**Support for early ratification and implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury**



# UNEP Global Mercury Partnership

## 8 Partnership areas and business plans

- ASGM
- Coal combustion
- Chlor-alkali
- Products
- Transport and fate
- Waste management
- Supply and storage
- Cement



142 partners – 27 governments, 8 intergovernmental agencies, 107 companies/institutions/individual experts





•Waste management



•Coal combustion



•Products



•Cement



•Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining



•Transport and fate



•Chlor-alkali



•Supply and storage

# Global Mercury Partnership and the Minamata Convention on Mercury

- Article 14 of the Minamata Convention: Capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer



**How the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership contributes to the implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury**

UNEP Global Mercury Partnership Areas

Articles in the Minamata Convention on Mercury	UNEP Global Mercury Partnership Areas										
	Mercury supply and storage	Mercury reduction in chlor-alkali	Mercury reduction in products	Reducing mercury in Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining	Mercury release from the cement industry	Mercury Control from Coal Combustion	Mercury waste management	Mercury air transport and fate research	Global Mercury Assessment and national inventories		
3. Mercury supply sources and trade	✓	✓									
4 and Annex A. Mercury-added products			✓								
5 and Annex B. Manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used		✓									
6. Exemptions available to a Party upon request			✓								
7. Artisanal and small-scale gold mining Annex C. National action plans				✓						✓	
8. Emissions and Annex D. List of point sources of emitters of mercury and mercury compounds to the atmosphere					✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
9. Releases		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
10. Environmentally sound interim storage of mercury, other than waste mercury	✓										
11. Mercury wastes		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
12. Contaminated sites							✓	✓		✓	✓
16. Health aspects			✓	✓							
20. Implementation plan				✓						✓	✓
21. Reporting				✓						✓	✓
22. Effectiveness evaluation								✓		✓	✓
14. Capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
17. Information exchange	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
18. Public information, awareness and education	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
19. Research, development and monitoring	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



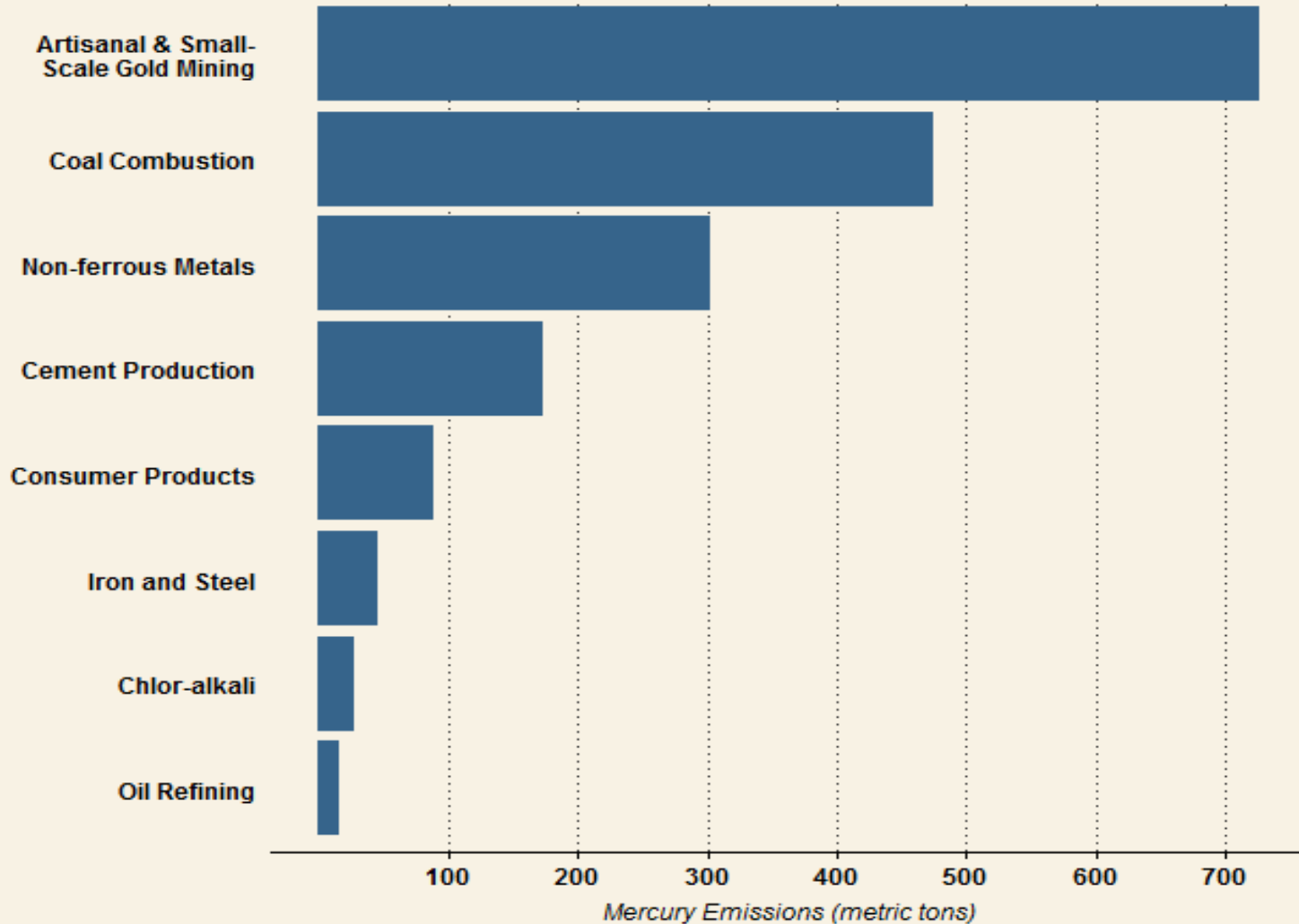


# Partnership activities can in general support Governments in implementing the Minamata Convention by providing:

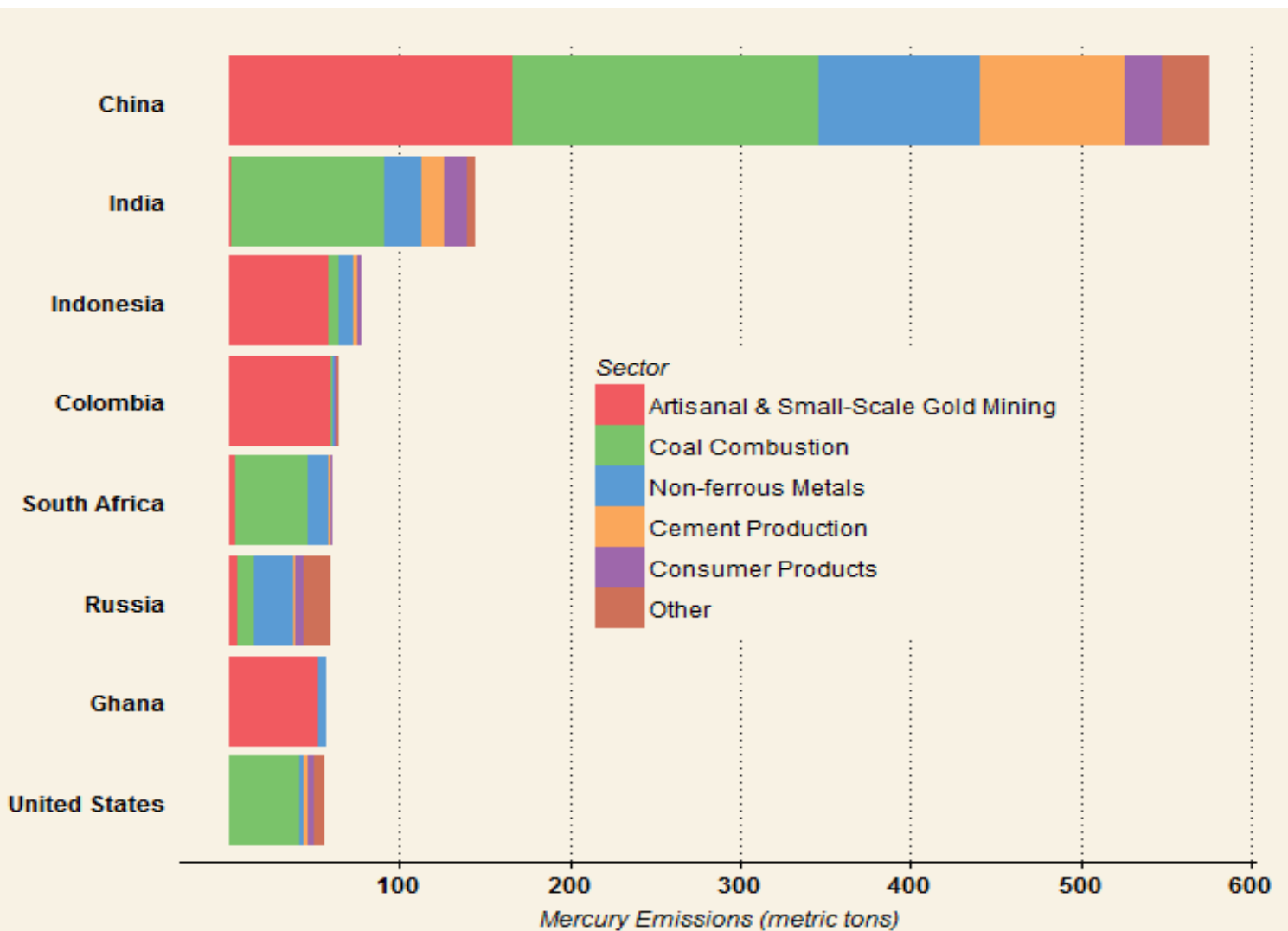
- Information necessary for prioritizing actions in sectors
- Technical guidance, capacity building and awareness raising relevant to the Articles of the Minamata Convention on Mercury
- Expertise in providing guidance as requested by the INC and COP



# Global Anthropogenic Atmospheric Emissions (UNEP, Global Mercury Assessment, 2013)



# Country and source specific emissions



# Mercury Control from Coal Combustion partnership can assist countries to:

- Characterize and assess the coal-fired power sector
- Analyze mercury content of coals used
- Measure emissions of mercury from selected power plants
- Develop proposals for possible measures on how to reduce Hg emissions/releases (action plans)
- Develop emissions inventories based on collected information
- Demonstrate mercury reductions



# Mercury partnership in Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining area can assist countries by providing:

- A draft guidance document for the development of National Action Plan on ASGM under the Minamata Convention
- A platform for partners to share information and jointly develop interventions to reduce mercury use in ASGM
- Technical solutions and monitoring of the success of the Convention



*Mercury use in Tanzania*



# Mercury in Products partnership can assist countries by providing

- A list of product alternatives (batteries, lamps, measuring devices in health care, dental amalgam)
- Prioritized project proposals on mercury added products and seeking appropriate funding
- Incorporating a lifecycle management approach to manufacturing, use and disposal of mercury added products
- Information on case studies and best practices on use of alternatives



# Mercury Reduction in Chlor alkali partnership can assist countries by providing:

- Information on the current global inventory and plans of conversion to mercury-free technology
- Technical assistance to chlor alkali plants that plan to convert (assistance to be provided in collaboration with the World Chlorine Council)



# Mercury Supply and Storage Partnership can assist countries to

- Identify and characterize possible new primary mercury mining
- Collaborate with industry plans for the ESM and storage of mercury; sectors: chlor-alkali, non-ferrous, gas production
- Assess options of availability of infrastructure and techniques for the management, storage and final disposal of surplus mercury
- Review regulation and strengthen collaboration to facilitate the implementation of export bans
- Promote transparency and traceability throughout the whole lifecycle of mercury to address potential illegal sources



Container for safe storage (EU project MERSADE)

## **Kyrgyz Republic:**

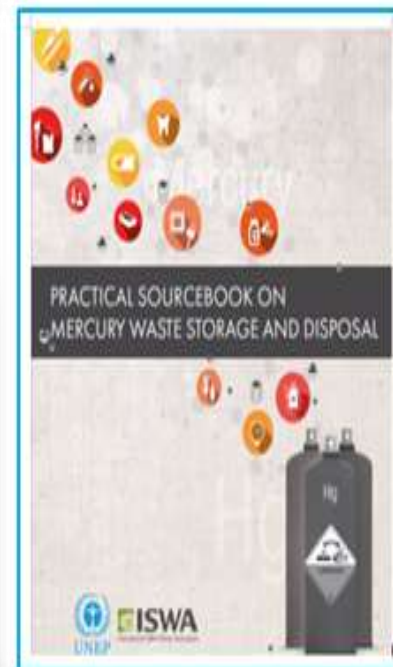
- Assist in the transition
- Provide alternative livelihood to mercury mining





# Mercury Waste Management partnership can assist countries by:

- Reviewing existing regulation and waste management infrastructure to meet the requirement
- Providing information on technologies and costs to implement ESM of mercury waste
- Providing information on successful stories and case studies on the above item in developed and developing countries



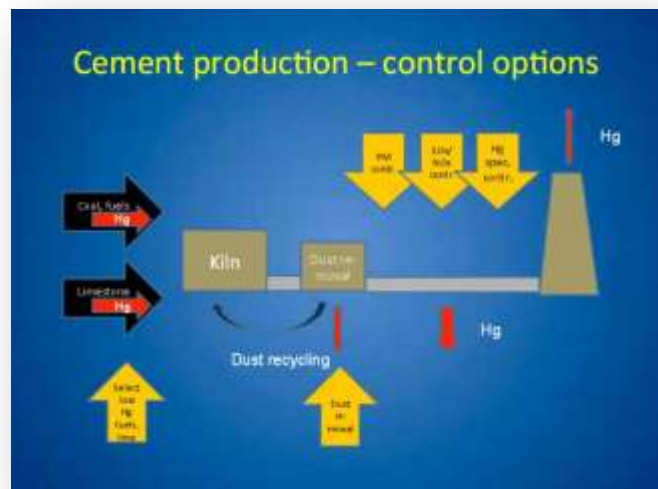
# Fate and Transport partnership can assist countries by :

- Accelerating the development of sound scientific information in global mercury cycling;
- Enhancing compilation and sharing of such information among stakeholders;
- Providing technical assistance and training;
- Enhancing the development of a globally-coordinated mercury observation system, including air and water ecosystems.
- Enhancing the exchange of information and cooperation with relevant International Organizations, Groups and Programmes.



# Mercury Reduction from Cement Industry partnership can assist countries to:

- Establish sectoral mercury inventories and baseline scenarios for the industry.
- Encourage use of most appropriate technique to reduce or minimize mercury releases into the environment.
- Increase the awareness of the cement industry to mercury as a pollutant through increased outreach efforts.



# Thank you for your attention

For more information contact:

**Division of Technology, Industry and Economics**  
**Chemicals Branch**

International Environment House I  
11-13 Chemin des Anémones  
CH 1219 Châtelaine  
Geneva, Switzerland

Or visit:

<http://www.unep.org/hazardoussubstances/Mercury/tabid/434/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

