

PROJECT COORDINATOR

Type: local

Approx. duration: The entire project

The Project

The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable development of Argentina has received funding from the Specific International Programme Trust Fund to implement the Project “Capacity Building Programme for the implementation of the Minamata Convention” (The Project).

Since February 2018 the Secretariat of Control and Monitoring is executing the Project PNUD ARG/17G25 “Initial assessment of the national capacity for the implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury in Argentina (MIA)” with funding from the Green Environmental Facility (GEF). The Project will build on the findings and lessons learned from Project PNUD ARG/17G25, which is currently under execution at its final stage.

The MIA developed important findings regarding the country priorities and main challenges to implement the Minamata Convention. In terms of priorities, mercury added products (MAP) are at the front of the list. This is due to the fact that Argentinian population overpasses the 45 million inhabitants and still a lot of MAP are part of daily life and industrial activities. As a consequence, the implementation of article 4 will imply a big challenge. In this regard, and in line with article 19 paragraph 1 f) and g), the Project will finance activities to develop information about mercury added products trade and to undertake technical and socio-economic studies in order to evaluate cost-effective measures to substitute the products reached by article 4. Besides, the Project will include measures to design a new set of norms with the associated incentives, administrative regulations and enforcement schemes. In accordance with Article 18, awareness campaigns for local governments and key stakeholders will be developed in order to accomplish sustainability of the proposed measures.

MIA also shed light on the fact that the sampling and monitoring capacity of mercury and mercury compounds in different matrixes is low and that national and subnational governments lack capacity to identify and evaluate potentially contaminated sites and exposed populations. MIA highlighted that fulfilment with articles 12 and 19 should be encouraged. To respond to that, this Project will develop and strengthen a laboratory network and its measuring capacities and will implement a Mercury surveillance unit, among other activities, in order to tackle the lack of monitoring capacity at the national and subnational level.

In order to respond to the mentioned challenges, the Project will implement the following measures:

1. Measure 1: Improve the capacity to implement obligations under Article 4 of the Minamata Convention. The objective of this measure is to carry on technical studies, to develop the necessary legal and administrative mechanisms and to implement awareness campaigns, in order to prevent the manufacture, import and export of mercury-added products (MAP).
2. Measure 2: Enhance capacities for research and mercury surveillance, in accordance with article 12 and 19 of the Minamata Convention. This measure aims to build the necessary basis for the country to generate local data and statistics on mercury emissions and releases, exposure and contaminated sites as well as to monitor mercury management activities. In this sense, the following activities will be developed: i) Strengthening technical capacity of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, local governmental entities,

Laboratories, Academia and research centres and ii) 2.2. Equip a local unit to support sampling, processing and other mercury surveillance activities

In order to execute the activities above mentioned, the Project Unit's team will include the following profiles: (i) Sr. technician; (ii) Lawyer; (iii). Socio-economic analyst, (iv) environmental specialist, (v) chemical engineer, (vi) communications specialist, and vii) Project Coordinator.

Role

The main role of the Project Coordinator is to monitor the compliance with project objectives and to develop and implement corrective actions in case of deviations or non-compliance. The role involves the supervision and coordination of the team consultants, the supervision of the hiring of consultancies and/or consultants as well as the acquisition of equipment, the validation of training and awareness-raising plans. The project coordinator will also ensure the delivery of necessary information and reports during project implementation. The Project Coordinator role also includes coordinating the consultation processes with the different stakeholders necessary to achieve the goals of the Project, mainly related with the development of a legal frameworks to comply with article 4 of the Minamata Convention. The project coordinator will also have to encourage efficient team work and flow of information between the different consultants fostering the development of the outputs of the Project with a multidisciplinary approach enriched by the presence of a lawyer, an economist, environmental specialists and communication specialist in the team.

Tasks to be Performed

- Collect, register and maintain all information on project activities.
- Monitor project activities, budgets and financial expenditures.
- Supervise and coordinate the production of the project outputs according to the project document.
- Mobilize all project information and report in accordance with the national and international applicable procedures.
- Prepare and revise project work and financial plans.
- Supervise and coordinate the work of the consultants and subcontractors.
- Liaise with the implementation agency, relevant government agencies and all project partners, including donor organizations and NGOs, for the effective coordination of all project activities.
- Facilitate the administrative backstopping to subcontractors and training activities supported by the project.
- Oversee and ensure timely submission of all reports as may be required by the implementation agency, the Ministry of the Environment and other oversight agencies.
- Disseminate project reports and respond to inquiries from concerned stakeholders.
- Report the progress of the project and ensure the fulfilment of corresponding directives.
- Supervise the design and implementation of the National Strategy to improve capacity to implement article 4 of the Minamata Convention.
- Supervise the development of the three technical and economic feasibility studies for substitute products, including barrier's identification and socio-economic impact of prohibitions.
- Supervise the Design of legal framework including administrative regulations, incentives and enforcement schemes to implement article 4. And coordinate the Meetings with Key stakeholders to validate the legal drafts.
- Supervise the design and implementation of a Training Plan for key stakeholders and for the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development.
- Supervise the design and implementation of raising awareness campaigns.

Qualifications

- Postgraduate degree in a relevant field, such as Project management, waste or chemical management, or similar is desirable.
- Minimum 8 years of working experience in environmental law or management.
- Minimum 5 years of demonstrable experience in Project management.
- Working experience in the implementation of International Conventions on sound chemical management (Rotterdam, Basilea, Estocolmo or Minamata).
- Fluency in written and spoken English and Spanish.
- Working experience with or in international organizations.
- Working experience with GEF Projects is desirable.
- International experience in waste or chemical management is desirable.

TECHNICAL CONSULTANT – Chemical engineer

Type: local

Approx. duration: The entire project

The Project

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The MIA developed important findings regarding the country priorities and main challenges to implement the Minamata Convention. In terms of priorities, mercury added products (MAP) are at the front of the list. This is due to the fact that Argentinian population overpasses the 45 million inhabitants and still a lot of MAP are part of daily life and industrial activities. As a consequence, the implementation of article 4 will imply a big challenge. In this regard, and in line with article 19 paragraph 1 f) and g), the Project will finance activities to develop information about mercury added products trade and to undertake technical and socio-economic studies in order to evaluate cost-effective measures to substitute the products reached by article 4. Besides, the Project will include measures to design a new set of norms with the associated incentives, administrative regulations and enforcement schemes. In accordance with Article 18, awareness campaigns for local governments and key stakeholders will be developed in order to accomplish sustainability of the proposed measures.

MIA also shed light on the fact that the sampling and monitoring capacity of mercury and mercury compounds in different matrixes is low and that national and subnational governments lack capacity to identify and evaluate potentially contaminated sites and exposed populations. MIA highlighted that fulfilment with articles 12 and 19 should be encouraged. To respond to that, this Project will develop and strengthen a laboratory network and its measuring capacities and will implement a Mercury surveillance unit, among other activities, in order to tackle the lack of monitoring capacity at the national and subnational level.

In order to respond to the mentioned challenges, the Project will implement the following measures:

1. Measure 1: Improve the capacity to implement obligations under Article 4 of the Minamata Convention. The objective of this measure is to carry on technical studies, to develop the necessary legal and administrative mechanisms and to implement awareness campaigns, in order to prevent the manufacture, import and export of mercury-added products (MAP).
2. Measure 2: Enhance capacities for research and mercury surveillance, in accordance with article 12 and 19 of the Minamata Convention. This measure aims to build the necessary basis for the country to generate local data and statistics on mercury emissions and releases, exposure and contaminated sites as well as to monitor mercury management activities. In this sense, the following activities will be developed: i) Strengthening technical capacity of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, local governmental entities,

Laboratories, Academia and research centres and ii) 2.2. Equip a local unit to support sampling, processing and other mercury surveillance activities

In order to execute the activities above mentioned, the Project Unit's team will include the following profiles: (i) Sr. technician; (ii) Lawyer; (iii). Socio-economic analyst, (iv) environmental specialist, (v) chemical engineer, (vi) communications specialist, and vii) Project Coordinator.

Role

The Chemical engineer will work under the guidance of the Technical Coordinator as well as in direct coordination with the environmental specialist. (S)he needs proven experience with sound chemical management.

The Chemical engineer or chemical specialist will be in charge of the following outputs: i) Equip a local unit to support sampling, processing and other mercury surveillance activities and ii) Strengthening technical capacity of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, local governmental entities, Laboratories, Academia and research centres. (S)he will also support the rest of the team with technical knowledge as required and will participate in the design of the legal framework providing a technical point of view.

Tasks to be Performed

- Collect, register and maintain information on project activities.
- Contribute to the preparation and implementation of progress reports, as the Project Coordinator requires.
- Prepare reports, proposals and recommendations required by the Project Coordinator.
- Provide input to the draft legal framework and the norms, administrative procedures and regulations that will be designed by the legal environmental expert.
- Assess the necessities of the country to improve the monitoring capacity of mercury and its compounds.
- Assess installed capacity of local governmental entities, Laboratories, Academia and research centres in mercury monitoring and management.
- Propose necessary equipment for the lab-type space.
- Put into operation the equipment of the lab-type space.
- Train the officials of the Ministry of environment and sustainable development in the use of the equipment of the lab-type space.
- Develop the operations manual of the lab-type space.
- Design and validate the capacity building plan to Strengthen technical capacity of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, local governmental entities, Laboratories, Academia and research centres in mercury monitoring and management.
- Implement the capacity building plan to Strengthen technical capacity of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, local governmental entities, Laboratories, Academia and research centres in mercury monitoring and management.
- Support the environmental specialist and the communications specialist with technical inputs in the design and implementation of awareness campaigns.
- Design and implement, in coordination with the environmental specialist, monitoring activities within the lab-type space.

Qualifications

- Graduate degree in chemical engineering or similar.
- Working experience in the implementation of International Conventions on sound chemical management (Rotterdam, Basilea, Estocolmo or Minamata) is desirable.
- Fluency in written and spoken English and Spanish.

TECHNICAL CONSULTANT – Environmental specialist

Type: local

Approx. duration: The entire project

The Project

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Laboratories, Academia and research centres and ii) 2.2. Equip a local unit to support sampling, processing and other mercury surveillance activities

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Role

The environmental specialist will work under the guidance of the technical Coordinator as well as in direct coordination with the chemical engineer. (S)he needs proven experience with environmental management and monitoring.

The environmental specialist will be in charge of the output Awareness campaigns for local governments and other stakeholders and will collaborate with the output "Strengthening technical capacity of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, local governmental entities, Laboratories, Academia and research centres". Also, the environmental specialist will support the environmental economist and the lawyer with technical input and will participate in the design and operation of the lab-type space, mainly, leading mercury monitoring activities.

Tasks to be Performed

- Strengthen the social and environmental outcomes of the Project.
- Avoid adverse impacts to people and the environment. Minimize, mitigate, and manage adverse impacts where avoidance is not possible.
- Ensure full and effective stakeholder engagement.
- Collect, register and maintain information on project activities.
- Contribute to the preparation and implementation of progress reports, as the Project Coordinator requires.
- Prepare reports, proposals and recommendations required by the Project Coordinator.
- Provide input to the draft legal framework and the norms, administrative procedures and regulations that will be designed by the legal environmental expert.
- Propose necessary equipment for the lab-type space.
- Collaborate with the chemical engineer in the training of the officials of the Ministry of environment and sustainable development in the use of the equipment of the lab-type space.
- Collaborate with the chemical engineer in the development of the operations manual of the lab-type space.
- Provide feedback to the capacity building plan to Strengthen technical capacity of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, local governmental entities, Laboratories, Academia and research centres in mercury monitoring and management.
- Help implementing the capacity building plan to Strengthen technical capacity of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, local governmental entities, Laboratories, Academia and research centres in mercury monitoring and management.
- Work with the communications specialist in the design and implementation of awareness campaigns.
- Design and implement, in coordination with the chemical engineer, monitoring activities within the lab-type space.
- Provide input to the technical and economic feasibility studies undertaken by the environmental economist.

Qualifications

- Graduate degree in environmental engineering, environmental management or similar.
- Working experience in environmental education and environmental awareness campaigns.
- Working experience in environmental monitoring.
- Working experience in the implementation of International Conventions on sound chemical management (Rotterdam, Basilea, Estocolmo or Minamata) is desirable.
- Fluency in written and spoken English and Spanish.

ENVIRONMENTAL LEGAL EXPERT

Type: local

Approx. duration: 9 months

The Project

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Role

The legal expert will be in charge of the output "Design of legal framework including administrative regulations, incentives and enforcement schemes". (S)he will have to take into consideration the learnings from the normative and institutional analysis undertaken within MIA that are summarized in Chapter III from the MIA report. Besides, the legal expert will have to interact with the rest of the team to have the necessary multidisciplinary inputs and points of view to consider in the design of the legal framework. Also, the legal experts will have to interact with different stakeholders from government, academia and civil society so as to achieve the necessary validation of the normative proposals.

Tasks to be Performed

- Development of a detailed review of regulatory framework and identification of gaps in legislation.
- Development of a detailed review of institutional framework at national and subnational level and identification of opportunities for improvement.
- Development of specific recommendations on adjustments or amendments required in existing legislation.
- Development of specific recommendations on new legislation or administrative procedures.
- Liaise with Ministry of Environment and relevant government agencies for development of effective proposals for regulatory framework development.
- Provide feedback to the environmental economist in the socio-economic analysis.
- Undertake additional institutional or normative analysis at request of the team if necessary.
- Provide feedback to the capacity building plan to Strengthen technical capacity of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, local governmental entities, Laboratories, Academia and research centres in mercury monitoring and management.
- Give trainings in institutional or normative aspects as part of the capacity building plan to Strengthen technical capacity of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, local governmental entities, Laboratories, Academia and research centres in mercury monitoring and management.
- Provide feedback to the communications and environmental specialists in the design and implementation of awareness campaigns.

Qualifications

- Postgraduate degree in Environmental law or policy, Public Policy or Public Administration is desirable.
- Graduate degree in law and minimum 5 years of working experience.
- Minimum 3 years of working experience in environmental law or policy.
- Working experience in the implementation of International Conventions on sound chemical management (Rotterdam, Basilea, Estocolmo or Minamata) is desirable.
- Fluency in written and spoken English and Spanish.