





# REPORT OF THE SUPPLY AND STORAGE PARTNERSHIP AREA

3rd Waste Management Partnership Area Meeting, Manila, Philippines, 9-11 December 2013

**UNEP GLOBAL MERCURY PARTNERSHIP** 

Ana García González

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Affairs

GOVERNMENT OF SPAIN

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Objective:** "Minimization and where feasible, elimination of mercury supply

considering a hierarchy of sources, and the retirement of mercury

from the market to environmentally sound management "

Current Partners: 14 support letters. Additional stakeholders participate

**Meetings**: 2 face to face meetings, at least 3 teleconferences, other bilaterals

Funding: Kirguiz mines Phase I: 500,000\$ (US, NO, CH, UNDP)

Phase II: 200,000\$ (**US**)

Storage activities (NO, US)

Workshops on mercury management: LAC region (Brasilia,

Brasil); Mediterranean countries (Almadén, Spain): (ES)

Waste storage pilot projects: (NO, US)

In kind support (UY, BR, CN, AR, etc.)

### **PRIORITIES**

- Reduce or eliminate production and export of Hg from primary mining;
- Determine Hg available from: chlor-alkali plants, non-ferrous metal mining and oil/gas production;
- Develop industry sector plans for the storage of Hg from chlor-alkali plants, non-ferrous metal processing, oil/gas production;
- Assess if the existing waste infrastructure is sufficient and if it could be used for the management of surplus Hg for the near term;
- Assess and facilitate availability of options and technologies for the ESM of excess Hg supply, including its storage or final disposal;

## **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

#### Kyrgyz Republic Mercury Mining Phase Out Project:

- 14 small projects funded: Training events aimed at improvement of skills and knowledge of the community to develop other activities or business different from mercury mining.

#### Mercury storage activities:

- Studies for the ESM and storage of surplus Hg were carried out in the LAC and AP regions.
- Workshops on Hg management: LAC region (May 2012, Brasilia, Brazil); Mediterranean countries (Dec 2012, Almaden, Spain)

#### Waste-Storage pilot projects:

- Awareness raising toolkit for managing Hg waste at household and community level (China)
- National Hg storage and disposal projects in Uruguay and Argentina.
- Workshop on global, regional and national situation of Hg (April 2011 Montevideo, Uruguay)

## **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

## WORKSHOP ON MERCURY MANAGEMENT IN THE LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN REGION, 21-22 May Brasilia (Brazil)

Participation: governments, UNEP, NGOs, research and technological centres of chemical conventions, key industrial sectors, (gold mining, chlor-alkali, lamps management).

- Assessed situation and existing challenges
- Explored environmentally sound solutions
- Provided a forum for knowledge sharing
- Informed mercury management authorities

## **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

#### Workshop main conclusions:

- Small scale projects allow to collect relevant information for decision-making enabling the dissemination of initiatives at regional level, facilitating their consideration at national level.
- It is crucial to have all the different perspectives in the discussions and involve all relevant stakeholders to find balanced and realistic solutions.
- Developing countries have difficulties identifying and funding the construction of appropriate facilities for the safe and environmentally sound storage of Hg wastes.
- It could be convenient to develop storage protocols regarding the different Hg wastes.
- Mercury waste management should be carried out at the place where it is generated: principles of self sufficiency and proximity.

## /Solidification Technologies

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the risks of Hg releases to the biosphere
feasibility, technically and economically
of reverting the process for mercury retrieval
a product safer and easier to handle

