

2019

Project Implementation Review (PIR)

**Uruguay Mercury Management**

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# Basic Data

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| **Project Information** | |
| UNDP PIMS ID | 5084 |
| GEF ID | 4998 |
| Title | Uruguay: Environmental Sound Life-Cycle Management of Mercury Containing Products and their Wastes |
| Country(ies) | Uruguay, Uruguay |
| UNDP-GEF Technical Team | Chemicals |
| Project Implementing Partner | Government |
| Joint Agencies | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Project Type | Medium Size |

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| **Project Description** |
| Protect human health and the environment from Mercury releases originating from the intentional use of mercury in products and the unsound management and disposal of such products, by i) Strengthening the regulatory and policy framework for the sound LCM of mercury containing products and their wastes; ii) Phasing-out and phasing-down mercury containing devices and products by introducing mercury-free alternatives or products with a lower Mercury content, iii) Improving national capacity (technical, financial, private sector) to make LCM of Mercury containing products technically and economically feasible. |

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| **Project Contacts** | |
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| Other Partners | *(not set or not applicable)* |

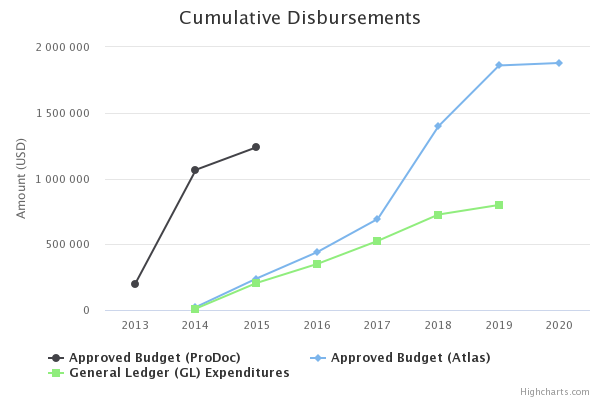
# Overall Ratings

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| Overall DO Rating | Satisfactory |
| Overall IP Rating | Satisfactory |
| Overall Risk Rating | Moderate |

# Development Progress

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| **Description** | | | | | | |
| **Objective**  **The objective of the project is protect human health and the environment from Mercury releases originating from the intentional use of mercury in products and the unsound management and disposal of such products** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| No. of Hg-containing medical devices and energy saving light sources decontaminated and disposed of within the project period (2014 – 2017). | In Uruguay there are no adequate storage, decontamination and disposal solutions in place for Mercury containing product waste. Most of such wastes are disposed of along with regular household waste. | *(not set or not applicable)* | In total the project expects to recover 330 kg of Mercury as a direct outcome of the project’s implementation. In addition, changed practices will also result in sustained Mercury reductions of approximately 72.5 kg Hg/year. | The reduction was achieved through the "Plan Junta Lámparas", that consists in a governmental plan to collect and treat Hg containing lamps, focused in domestic use. 40,000 discarded lamps were removed from the environment. It also includes a 2 kg collection of amalgams waste, stored in the University of the Republic's Dentistry School. In addition to that, thanks in part to the awareness rising activities of the project, 185.000 fewer lineal fluorescent lamps were imported, compared to the previous year. | In January 2019, the decree for the sound management of Hg-containing devices and Hg-wastes entered into force (see summary in File Library). As a consequence of this and due to awareness activities of the project, 885,000 lamps weren`t imported, and neither were 48,000 thermometers. Also, through "Plan Junta Lámparas" (governmental plan to collect and treat Hg-containing lamps, which was focused in the domestic sector) 65,000 discarded lamps were removed from the environment. In addition to that, the University of the Republic's Dentistry School collected and stored 2 kg of dental amalgams. |
| Quantity (kg) of elemental Hg safeguarded which has been recovered from the decontamination process. | If not disposed of, such wastes are kept in inappropriate interim storage locations. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Elemental Hg recovered from treatment/decontamination has been safely stored (at the Chlor-Alkali facility), exported to a long-term storage facility or immobilized using appropriate technologies | Not applicable to this reporting period (This activity is expected to take place once the treatment facility is in operation). | Not applicable to this reporting period (This activity is expected to take place once the treatment facility is in operation). |
| Safe decontamination options for Mercury containing products established. | n the whole of Uruguay there are no options for the sound decontamination, storage or disposal of Mercury containing products. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Treatment facility constructed (in-line with Basel Convention guidelines and in compliance with national regulations). | Due to changes in the general context and approach of the Project, the PCTP informed that it will not be able to address its commitment to host the treatment facility. Consequently, the Project board decided a change of strategy, The bidding process for the treatment facility started on June 2017 and finished on October 2017 (when the offers were open). On January 2018, the process was declared failed, due to problems with administrative aspects of the offers. A new approach to the process was defined, where the bidder will select the Operator which will provide the treatment facility. | In August 2016, due to changes in the general context and approach of the project, the Technological Pole of Pando (PCTP) informed that it woud not be able to address its commitment to host the treatment facility. Consequently, the Project board decided a change of strategy, The bidding process for the treatment facility started on June 2017 and finished on October 2017 (when the offers were open). On January 2018, the process was declared failed, due to problems with administrative aspects of the offers. A new approach to the process was defined, where the bidder will select the Operator which will provide the treatment facility. This second bidding process was published in December 2018 (see bidding documents in File Library) and finished on June 2019, when a local enterprise was awarded. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 1**  **Strengthen the regulatory and policy framework to allow for life-cycle management of mercury containing products and their wastes. (Equivalent to activity in ATLAS)** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| National Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) policy and regulations for mercury containing products adopted and introduced. | There are no financial mechanisms in place that promote the LCM of Hg containing lamps (CFLs and tubes). | *(not set or not applicable)* | EPR for Hg-containing lamps established as a tool to provide for the financial resources necessary to cover operational costs of the collection, interim storage, decontamination and disposal of Hg-containing lamps costs. | A decree for the sound management of Hg-containing devices and Hg- wastes was developed, it has already been signed by three ministers (environmental, finance and foreign affairs). Two signatures (health and industry) are still needed for its entrance into force.  The content of the decree was shared in a meeting with the Waste Management Chamber, on June, 12 2017, where waste Operator meets. | The decree for the sound management of Hg-containing devices and Hg- wastes entered into force on January 8,2019: Decree Nº15/2019 (see in File Library) (https://www.impo.com.uy/bases/decretos/15-2019). It was signed by the President and five Ministers: Environment, Health, Industry, Economy and External Affairs. During the decree elaboration process, a consultation workshop with the Waste Management Chamber was held on June, 12, 2017. Consultations with importers were also developed, 3 meetings during elaboration process (2016, 2017) and 1 meeting after its approval (65 attendants) in order to explain the decree implementation actions. |
| Strengthened policy and regulatory framework to enable the phase-out/down of mercury containing products and encourage Hg-free or lower level Hg products. | There are no restrictions on the importation of high Hg-content lamps (CFLs, tubes) or Hg-containing medical devices. | *(not set or not applicable)* | EU RoHS directives for lighting products transposed into national regulations through a degree (restricting importation of high Hg content lamps). MSP degree prescribing a phased approach/total phase-out for the use of Hg-containing devices at Health-care facility level developed. | The Hg-containing thermometers regulation was included in the Hg-devices and Hg-wastes decree.    A new custom code was developed to identify thermometers containing Hg since second quater of 2018 and one for lamps is being developed. | The article 4 of the Decree 15/2019 (sound management of Hg-containing devices and Hg- wastes), refers to the prohibition of mercury containing thermometers and the restriction of mercury containing lamps from July 2019 (six months before Minamata Convention deadline). To implement the import control of these articles, a new custom code (see File Library) has been applied since 2018 to identify mercury containing thermometers and lamps. |
| Improved adherence to the sound collection, (temp.) storage and treatment of products containing mercury (in particular project partners and model facilities) | Annexes of the BC have been transposed in the Hazardous Waste Law (law 17.220/1999), which refers in specific to hazardous waste streams including waste containing mercury and regulates storage, transportation and disposal of hazardous waste, including Hg containing products. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Guidelines and legal provisions with respect to the sound collection, (temp.) storage and treatment of products containing mercury (and the storage of elemental mercury), will be reviewed based on int. best practices (Basel Convention) and revised/developed if necessary. | Guidelines and legal provisions for thermometers, lamps and sphygmomanometers are included in the Hg-containing devices and Hg-wastes decree.  On November 2017, the Hg devices storage guidelines developed by the project were published. | On November 2017, the Hg devices storage guidelines developed by the project were published. This guidelines were included in the Decree 15/2019 (sound management of Hg-containing devices and Hg- wastes) refers specifically in articles 18 to 20 and 22 to the sound collection; article 21 refers specifically to temporal storage and articles 23 and 24 to mercury treatment and disposal. |
| - | In 2011, a guideline was developed on the management of mercury waste for implementation at hospital level. However, in most facilities, Hg management practices have not improved. | *(not set or not applicable)* | National plan(s) on the LCM of mercury containing products (CFLs/tubes; medical devices; dental amalgam) developed | A document with guidelines for a National Management Plan for Hg-containing products was drafted. The approval process has begun. | A document with guidelines for a National Management Plan for Hg-containing products was drafted and it is being updated according to the decree 15/2019.  In order to implement it, the National Environmental Directorate (DINAMA by its initial in Spanish) gave to the Budget and Planning Office (a central governement office) the guidelines to manage the mercury containing lamps that are being replaced in public lightening, according to a specific plan that is being developed.  (http://www.eficienciaenergetica.gub.uy/-/el-mercurio-en-las-lamparas-de-bajo-consumo) |
| - | Guidelines on the management of dental amalgam are not available. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Guidelines on the management of dental amalgam developed. | The guidelines for dental amalgam use were developed by the University of the Republic's Dentistry School and were presented in a regional meeting held in Montevideo on October 2017. Dental Association distributed the document among 6000 professionals.  The University of the Republic's Dentistry School and the NGO Rapal took park in the “Global Workshop on  Ending Dental Amalgam Use in Children and Promoting the Phase Down  Measures under the Minamata Convention on Mercury", held on May 14th and 15th 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand which was organized by United Nations and the International Association of Mercury Safe Dentists. | Guidelines on the management of dental amalgam were developed and published (see File Library). A document prepared by the University of the Republic's Dentistry School is used to support the political strategy of Uruguay about this topic.  The National Dental Association distributed the document among 6000 professionals.  The University of the Republic's Dentistry School and the NGO Rapal took part in the “Global Workshop on  Ending Dental Amalgam Use in Children and Promoting the Phase Down  Measures under the Minamata Convention on Mercury", held on May 14th and 15th 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand which was organized by United Nations and the International Association of Mercury Safe Dentists. |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | . | *(not set or not applicable)* | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| - | No norm is available that regulates the decontamination of Hg containing products | *(not set or not applicable)* | Norm is available | The Hg-containing devices and Hg-wastes decree were prepared and it has been already signed by three of five Authorities from different Ministries. | The Decree 15/2019 developed with the support of the project entered into force on January 8, 2019. The project developed the following tools and documents to support decree implementation (see File Library): (i) guidelines for post consumption plans presentation ; (ii) passives declaration template; (iii) treatment performance calculation.  In order to prohibit imports and start controlling mercury containing devices, procedures and a new digital template was developed in collaboration with the Customs Office and the External Commerce Office (External Affairs Ministry), that will be available to comply with the deadlines established in the Decree 15/2019. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 2**  **Development of environmentally sound schemes and business models for the collection, treatment and disposal of mercury wastes** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Mercury releases from priority sectors reduced and segregated Hg containing waste streams augmented. | Current “stockpiles” (underestimated) are described in the project’s baseline and on page 8 footnote 932. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Waste management committees operationalized in each model facility. | The Administration of State Health Services (ASSE) (the agency that administers the 10 model facilities) approved its own document for waste management including Hg-containing ones.  Three of the model facilities send to the project the Waste Committee approval and composition. | A new collaboration was developed with the Administration of State Health Services (ASSE) (the agency that administers the 10 model facilities), in order to update the number or waste committees that were put on place (in additon to the three that were created with the project support).  Specific work was done to identify new private institutions that could become " project model institutions". Twenty-two health institutions were contacted but just one accepted to join the project and become a model institution. This one is an institution that provides mobile emergency assistance. |
| Number of private sector operators, model healthcare facilities and PCTP staff capacitated in best practices related to collection, storage, treatment of Hg containing products and long-term safe storage of elemental Mercury, as well as the use of cost-effective Hg-free or low-Mercury content alternatives (if applicable) | Some model facilities have waste management committees in place (a few of the HCFs), but most do not. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Hg baseline assessments (procurement, use, management, disposal, storage, etc) completed for each model facility. | A baseline of Hg-containing devices in model facilities was estimated. Stockpiles were found to be non-significant.  An arrangement with the University of the Republic's Dentistry School is being pursued for the collection of hg-amalgams and its wastes management.    The Ministry of Health's National Program of Oral Health collected 2kg of Hg from dentists offices. | 10 model institutions, 9 health institutions, 22 health unit providers from ASSE, 2 waste operators, PCTP staff and 15 other institutions were beneficiaries of the project training activities on best practices related to collection, storage and treatment of Hg-containing products.  In addition, the Environmental National Director, sent a letter with the published guidelines to 13 Ministries, the 19 local governments and 29 other institutions (banks, public services, educational institutes). Two of the local governments asked for additional support, so the project staff went to two departments, Artigas and Flores, to share information in a specific workshop with local staff. |
| Business models and cost recovery arrangements (CRA) for the collection, transport, temporary storage and treatment of different types of Hg wastes operational and financially sustainable. | There are no financial mechanisms in place to cover the costs for the LCM of Hg containing lamps (CFLs and tubes). | *(not set or not applicable)* | Business plan for the collection, transport, temporary storage and treatment of different types of Hg wastes finalized. | According to the Hg-containing devices and Hg-waste management decree, the collection, transportation, interim storage and treatment will be financed by importers through the implementation of post-consumption plans. | The business plan for the collection, transport, temporary storage and treatment of Hg containing devices was developed by the project staff in 2016. That allowed to identify the main risks for implementation in a scenario of reduce importation of Hg-containing devices. Due to changes in the general context and approach of the Project and that the PCTP informed that it will not be able to address its commitment to host the treatment facility, so a new strategy was developped where all the steps for the sound management of Hg containing waste , were considered in the post consumption plans which have to be developed by importers, according to article Nº 6 of the decree 15/2019. In addition to that, a waste- Operator for treatment of HG waste containing was identified by the MVOTMA international bidding 04/004/2018, wich included in its proposal the financial viability and a business plan. |
| - | None of the model facilities have Hg management or phase-out plans in place, waste is either improperly stored or disposed of. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Mercury management and phase-out plans developed and implemented at each model facilities. | Phase-out plans are being developed by each of the 10 model facility, which count with their own technical resources according to decree number 586/09. | The update of the phase-out plans implemented by ASSE isunder elaboration. |
| - | Cost-effective Hg-free alternatives for medical devices and low Hg content CFLs and tubes are available in the country. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Study on staff preferences on cost-effective Hg-free alternatives conducted at the model HCFs | As a result of the clinical study that compares Hg thermometers with digital ones, a strategy was defined and the Ministry of Health will develop guidelines to standardize this kind of studies for digital thermometers imports. The Ministry of Industry will draft a decree to implement these guidelines. | The Ministry of Health started internal actions in order to draft guidelines to standardize clinical studies for the importation of digital thermometers imports. The Ministry of Industry will draft a decree to implement these guidelines. During this process, the Ministry of Health proposed to focus in the Minamata Convention, and how to manage the lack of the gold standard for clinical temperature, when clinical studies should be made with other technologies. This issue will be faced by each country that wants to standardize clinical studies. |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | 500 personnel of model facilities trained in LCM of Hg containing wastes and waste products. | 367 people were trained in LCM of Hg containing wastes and waste products. 62% of them were trained during the population study "Mercury levels in pregnant women and newborns, Uruguay 2016-2018", in the facilities from were samples are being extracted.  Others are being trained in project progress workshops. | 434 people were trained in LCM of Hg containing wastes and waste products at the workshops held for the Population Study "Mercury levels in pregnant women and newborns, Uruguay 2016-2018"activities and for model institutions. |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | Mercury-free alternatives introduced at the project's model HCFs through adaptation of procurement practices. | A guideline for purchasing Hg-free devices is available from the Project. It was offered to the Ministry of Health to develop a recommendation for health facilities. | The Health Ministry is developing recomendations for mercury-free alternatives devices to health institutions. |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | Collection systems for Hg containing products operational. | There are two companies with capacities to process Hg-containing lamps, but just one is authorized to operate, according to Environmental Authority.  During two meetings held by the Project with the private sector, five local companies expressed their interest in developing capacities to process Hg-contaning devices. | One waste operator is authorized by the Environmental Authority to treat Hg containing lamps. As a result of the MVOTMA international bidding LPI 04/004/2018, a new waste operator was identified, that will install the Hg treatment facility for lamps and will develop local capacity for the treatment of Hg thermometers, sphygmomanometers and amalgams. |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | Assessment of potential Cost-Recovery Mechanisms including recommendations for tax tariffs, tax modalities and channeling of funds, completed (to inform drafting of EPR degree). | The Hg-containing devices and Hg-waste management decree include post-consumption plans. Importers and major consumers will be required to implement a Hg-waste management plant. | The articles 6, 7 and 8 of the decree 15/2019 describes the obligations of importers and major consumers of Hg-containing products. By this way, the cost of collection, temporal storage, transport and treatment is their responsibility. The Environmental Authority made information available in the website of DINAMA, and direct communication is taking place with each group of stakeholders. |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | 30 personnel of private sector entities trained in LCM of Hg containing wastes and waste products. | Not applicable to this reporting period. | Not applicable to this reporting period. |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | Bidding process for private sector operators completed.    Business operations launched (collection, transportation, interim storage and treatment). | A bidding for the selection of a Hg waste treatment facility was launch on June 2017.    The bidding was opened on October 5th 2017 and was declared a failure on January 2018. A new strategy was designed to purchase the technology and identify an Operator, at the same time. The terms of reference are still under the approval process by the Environmental Authority. | Through MVOTMA international bidding LPI 04/004/2018, the waste operator for the treatment facility was selected. Bidding process is completed. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 3**  **Strengthening technical capacity and infrastructure for the treatment and storage (medium – and long- term) of Mercury containing wastes.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Technology to treat collected Hg containing product waste operational. | In the whole of Uruguay there are no options for the treatment of Mercury containing products. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Technical specifications for the treatment facility, (in-line with Basel Convention guidelines and in compliance with national regulations), developed. | Due to the failed result of the international bidding for technology purchase, a new process has began. | Through MVOTMA international bidding LPI 04/004/2018, the waste operator for the treatment facility was selected. |
| Intermediate Hg storage options established and long-term storage options identified. | In the whole of Uruguay there are no safe options for the sound interim storage of Mercury containing products/wastes or the long-term storage of elemental Mercury. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Assessment for short-term, interim and long-term storage and disposal options completed | Each assessment is considered in the post-consumption plan included in the Hg devices and waste management decree. | Short-term and interim storage are considered in the post consumption plans that should be presented by importers, according to decree 15/2019. In the "Plan Junta Lamparas" Short-term and interim storage is implemented at the offices/facilities of payment networks ("Abitab" and "Red Pagos") and in the public courier that transport waste lamps stockpiled at this Plan Juntalamaparasoffices/facilities (see brochure in File Library).  Long-term storage of mercury will only be able to be considered by the treatment facility, that will be disposed in a securitycell, used in another permitted use for mercury or exported. |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | Operational procedures for the treatment technology developed and implemented. | Not applicable to this reporting period. | As per the the LPI 04/004/2018, the treatment facility provider, should be responsible developing and providing the operational procedures. |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | 2 - 3 private sector operators and 30 PCTP staff trained in the safe operation of the treatment facility/technology | Not applicable to this reporting period. | Not applicable to this reporting period. |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | Operation of decontamination facility officially launched. | Not applicable to this reporting period. | Not applicable to this reporting period. |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | Operational procedures developed and implemented for the management of storage facilities/spaces. | Not applicable to this reporting period. | Not applicable to this reporting period. |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | Safe interim storage spaces for Mercury containing products available/established at model facilities and PCTP and staff trained in the safe management of storage spaces. | Not applicable to this reporting period. | The larger interim storage of mercury containing thermometers is located in LATU with 230.000 units. Those are thermometers that failed the quality test, and where stored in LATU to avoid their sale in the local market. LATU has presented an action plan for its management, attending the request of the Envirnomental Authority. |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | Safe long-term storage of recovered elemental Mercury established (in-line with BC guidelines and in compliance with national regulations) . | Not applicable to this reporting period. | Not applicable to this reporting period. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 4**  **Strengthening national and regional awareness on the Sound Life-Cycle Management of Mercury containing products as well as associated health hazards resulting from mismanagement** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| National capacity to monitor Mercury levels in populations strengthened. | As part of a CIAT/USAID pilot project (2006) bio-monitoring of Mercury levels in healthcare staff was undertaken by CIAT’s poison control center at a model facility. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Technical specifications for PCTP/CIAT bio-monitoring laboratory equipment prepared. | Two equipment for mercury analysis in environmental and biological samples were purchased. One of them is operational in the Technological Pole of Pando and it is being used for the population study "Average level of mercury for pregnant women and new born, Uruguay 2016-2018". The other one is in the Ministry of Health's Laboratory. | Two equipment for mercury analysis in environmental and biological samples were purchased. One of them is operational in the Technological Pole of Pando and it is being used for the population study "Average level of mercury for pregnant women and newborn, Uruguay 2016-2018". The other one was in the Ministry of Health's Laboratory, until June 2019, when it was relocated in the Environmental Authority Laboratory, due to the difficulty of the health institution to implement a metal detection laboratory, as planned. The re allocation of the Milestone DMA-80 will contribute to institutional strengthening. Nevertheless, this relocation is temporal, and when the Health institution have the conditions to install it, the equipment will return back, and training for its use will be held. |
| Awareness on LCM of Mercury containing products increased among project stakeholders, the general public and countries at regional and global level. | BCCC LAC has a website which it uses for information dissemination. BCCC LAC also leads a network of national Basel Convention Centers through which information on hazardous waste management can be disseminated. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Website and Facebook page developed and regularly updated (English and Spanish). | The website of the project, located in the Environmental Authority site, is updated by the Communication Department of the institution. There is a link to the project site in the Basel Center website . | The website of the project, located in the Environmental Authority site, is updated by the Communication Department of the institution and includes all the documents related to the decree Nº15/2019 implementation. There is a link to the project site in the Basel Center website, in order to support project communication. |
| - | PCTP is currently capable of monitoring Hg in environmental media, and have at their disposal a Jerome analyzer for air monitoring. | *(not set or not applicable)* | International procurement process successfully completed. | The project purchased 2 set of laboratory equipment, MILESTONE DMA-80. One is located in the PCTP and other in the Central Laboratory of the Ministry of Public Health.    The equipment installed in the Technological Hub of the city of Pando is operational. The project purchased reference materials to process biological samples. | The project purchased 2 set of laboratory equipment, MILESTONE DMA-80. The one that is located in the PCTP, processed 1000 samples for the "Average level of mercury for pregnant women and new born, Uruguay 2016-2018" ; the other one that was just relocated (June 2019) in the Environmental Authority Laboratory, will be used for environmental monitoring in specific areas. |
| - | The country has no continuous/frequent monitoring system in place for Hg levels. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Protocol for sampling and analysis of Hg in water, soils, air and biological samples developed and CIAT/PCTP personnel/staff trained in sampling and conducting analysis. | Protocols for biological sampling were developed by the Poison Information and Advice Center (CIAT) and the Administration of State Health Services (ASSE). It includes samples of hair, blood, urine and blood from umbilical cord. The Technological Hub of the city of Pando developed the procedures for it analysis in the laboratory equipment. | Protocols for sampling and processing biological samples were developed by CIAT, ASSE and PCTP, that are being used in the "Average level of mercury for pregnant women and new born, Uruguay 2016-2018 . |
| - | The country has no capacity for analyzing Hg levels in biological samples. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Population-at-risk study completed (samples analyzed and results interpreted by CIAT/PCTP) and results published. | The field work of the population-at-risk-study "Average mercury level in pregnant women and new born, Uruguay 2016-2017" was launched on the 28 July 2017. A workshop was done with three people from each of the 28 health facilities from the  Administration of State Health Services (ASSE) where samples would be taken. The materials for sampling were purchased by the project and were distributed in the workshop.  The first sampling was done the 16 August 2017, when Minamata Convention entered in force.  At this time 780 samples of 1400 were extracted. First results were presented in the PPTOX Conference (focused on environmental hazards in fetal and early postnatal development), Faroe´s Islands, May 2018.  The Ministry of Health developed a study of mercury in urine in working people, nearby the Clhorine-alkali industry: “Evaluation of mercury exposure in people from CIudad del Plata, San José department". | 1000 samples for the "Average mercury level in pregnant women and new born, Uruguay 2016-2017" were processded (see posters in File Library). First results were obtained and presented in a local activity organized by the Republic University´s Medicine School, and in international workshops of toxicology.  The Ministry of Health developed a study of mercury in urine in working people, nearby the Clhorine-alkali industry: “Evaluation of mercury exposure in people from Ciudad del Plata, San José department".  On March 2019 in the GEF South America and the Caribbean constituency meeting that took place in Montevideo, a hair sampling campaign for mercury measuring was developed. 72 attendants were sampled. Results will be sent, one by one, by email, because of ethics human samples management. |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | Continuous environmental and bio-monitoring programme developed for project model facilities (treatment facility, storage facilities and maintenance/storage staff) to analyze Hg levels in air, soil, water as well as in biological samples frequently and beyond project duration. | A campaign for measuring Hg levels in air was developed with the state-owned energy distribution company (UTE). The air in four locations of containers for discarded lamps collection from "Plan Junta Lámparas" in payment services providers ABITAB and RED PAGOS, were measured. | A campaign for measuring Hg levels in air was developed with the state-owned energy distribution company (UTE). The air in four locations of containers for discarded lamps collection from "Plan Junta Lámparas" in payment services providers ABITAB and RED PAGOS, were measured.    Reference values for facility implementation were asked in the LPI 04/004/2018. |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | Project related documentation (legislation, guidelines, national plans, model facility plans, operational and testing protocols, Hg monitoring studies, etc.) all published on the project website and disseminated among regional and int. partners. | The website of the project is updated by the Communication Department of the Environmental Authority. News and documents are included. | Public information developed by the project (as implementation decree documents) is being included in the website that is managed by the Communication Department of the Environmental Authority. Some of these documents are also available in English (see File Library).  A south-south cooperation is being developed by video-conference (five until June 30th 2019), with a project team from Argentina, that have to implement similar actions. Experiences and information are shared in order to discuss and eventually solve specific situations. In May 2019, the project coordinator attended a workshop in Colombia, organized by UNDP: this was another opportunity to share experiences and develop new instances for south-south cooperation. As a consequence of this, a cooperation with a project team of Ecuador is being drafted |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | . | *(not set or not applicable)* | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | Side event organized at a chemicals-related COP (Basel, Minamata) to present project results and lessons-learned. | Not applicable to this reporting period. | Not applicable to this reporting period. |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | Video on the LCM of Mercury management produced at the end of project implementation to share lessons-learned. | A draft of the video was developed to use in workshops and diffusion activities. | Communicating Department of the Environmental Authority is developing two videos: one about the population study developed (in coordination with ASSE) and other one about de LCM mercury management. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 5**  **Monitoring, adaptive feedback, outreach and evaluation.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Number of high quality monitoring and evaluation documents prepared during project implementation | No documents in baseline situation. | *(not set or not applicable)* | 4 Quarterly Operational Reports submitted to UNDP each year | 6 bimonthly reports were prepared during this reporting period. Also, an Annual Work Programme (AWP) for 2018 was prepared.  2 Steering Committee meetings were held, on July 2017 and January 2018.    Considering that the mercury containing devices and its wastes management decree was in approval process and the technology bidding was on going, an informative meeting for Operators was held on November 2017 and March 2018. | Quarterly Reports are prepared by the project staff.    2 Steering Committee meetings were held, on July 2018 and January 2019. |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | 1 annual APR/PIR submitted to UNDP each year. | The draft 2017/2018 PIR has been prepared.  The UNDP annual report was submitted to the UNDP Country Office on December 2017. | The annual PIR has been submitted as expected.  The UNDP annual report was submitted to the UNDP Country Office on December 2018. |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | 1 Mid-term project review. | The Mid Term Review was held on June 2018. The main recommendation is to extend the execution period of the project one additional year. | The Mid Term review took place on June 2018. |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | 1 Final evaluation. | Not applicable yet. | Not applicable yet. |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | MTE and FE must include a lessons learned section and a strategy for dissemination of project results. | Not applicable yet. | Not applicable yet. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |

# Implementation Progress



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| --- | --- |
| Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc): | 64.53% |
| Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year: | 64.53% |
| Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June (note: amount to be updated in late August): | 798,793 |

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| **Key Financing Amounts** | |
| PPG Amount | 35,000 |
| GEF Grant Amount | 1,237,800 |
| Co-financing | 2,947,760 |

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| --- | --- |
| **Key Project Dates** | |
| PIF Approval Date | Jun 14, 2012 |
| CEO Endorsement Date | Sep 10, 2013 |
| Project Document Signature Date (project start date): | Feb 26, 2014 |
| Date of Inception Workshop | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Expected Date of Mid-term Review | Feb 28, 2015 |
| Actual Date of Mid-term Review | Aug 1, 2018 |
| Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation | Jun 30, 2020 |
| Original Planned Closing Date | Dec 31, 2018 |
| Revised Planned Closing Date | Jun 30, 2020 |

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| **Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2018 to 1 July 2019)** |
| 2018-07-20 |
| 2019-01-29 |

# Critical Risk Management

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| --- | --- |
| Current Types of Critical Risks | Critical risk management measures undertaken this reporting period |
| Operational | Critical Risk:  Environmental permits to the enterprise that was awarded the mercury treatment technnology bidding could delay the operational starting of the plant.    Management Measures: Coordinations are being carried out with the authorities responsible for permits in order to minimize the time required for authorizations and expedite the permits issuance. |

# Adjustments

**Comments on delays in key project milestones**

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| --- |
| **Project Manager: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| In this period there is no delay, since the extension was approved and the closing date is June 2020. The terminal evaluation is planned for March 2020. |

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| **Country Office: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| Not applicable. |

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| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| Not applicable. |

# Ratings and Overall Assessments

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Manager/Coordinator** | Satisfactory | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | The overerall assessment for this period is SATISFACTORY. This is because main activities of each component were developed, and the project progress is on track. To do it, adaptative management was needed.    In the first component, the regulation framework was achieved, with the approval of the Decree 15/2019 on 8 of January 2019. This result means that, with the project support, the guidelines for an adequate sound mercury containing device and waste management were established in the country. This is the basis for the environmental politics related to mercury containing devices. In the decree 15/2019, were included all the aspects about collection, storage, transportation and treatment requirements, according to Minamata Convention. In particular is the first time that the regulation includes an acceptable performance level of a waste treatment.    In the second component a progress was registered since the post consumption plans are included in the Decree 15/2019. An obligation for importers and major consumers is established, in order to implement the sound management of mercury containing devices and waste. A new health model institution was identified, from the private sector, and a common workplan was drafted. In addition of that an update of the status of the 10 model institution from ASSE is being done, in order to know about the mercury phase-out plans and waste committees put on place. Since June 2019, 434 were trained in mercury sound management. Almost 80 institutions (health, local government, public services) were directly involved with this topic, through project staff trainings or information provided directly by the Environmental Authority. As a result of this, awareness about mercury containing devices and its wastes, increased.    In the third component the main goal was that a new waste Operator could be finally identified, as the bidding LPI 04/004/2019 result. This was possible after a very complex process were two international bidding were developed; the first one failed and the second one should be designed once again. In this situation, some devices that didn´t have treatment solution in the country, will have it as thermometers, esfigmomanometers and amalagams. A contract between the entreprise and the Environmental Minister will be signed; there will be a support of USD 280.000 for the technology acquision and USD 35.000 in addition destinated to mercury passive treatment.    In the fourth component, the "Average level of mercury for pregnant women and newborn, Uruguay 2016-2018" is almost being finalized and have 1000 samples (blood, urine and hair) processed by now. First results were shared. The scientific team discussed each implementation aspect and organized the field work in order to achieve the main goal. The analysis capacity building was strengthen by the project since a Milestone DMA-80 were relocated in the Environmental Authority Laboratory after reaching an agreement with the Health Authority that recognized that they were not ready to put in place a metal detection laboratory for human samples, in order to develop the sanitation survey. A hair sampling campaign for mercury measuring was developed. More than 50% of the attendants of the GEF workshop that took place in Montevideo on March 2019, were sampled.    The monitoring and governance that considers the fifth component is ongoing, since steering committees meeting took place, regular reports are made and the Mid Term Review recommendations were implemented. The work, side by side, with the Environmental Authority Department, brought the possibility to develop the website of the project were main public documents related are available and the implementation process of the Decree 15/2019 is possible. A south-south cooperation is being developed by video-conference (five until June 30th), with a project team from Argentina, that have to implement similar actions. Experiences and information are shared in order to discuss and eventually solve specific situations. In May 2019, th project coordinator attended a workshop in Colombia, organized by UNDP: this was another opportunity to share experiences and develop new instances for south-south cooperation. As a consequence of this, a cooperation with a project team of Ecuador is being drafted.    The implementation of the previous annual working plan was mainly not achieved because of the delay of the LPI 04/004/2019 resolution. This delay was caused due to the deadline was modified in two times, according to bidders requests and due to administrative times.    The main risks of the project implementation in the las year were that: (i) the legal framework for mercury containing devices and its wastes was not approved by the President; (ii) a waste Operator was not identified; (iii) it was not possible to implement the mercury treatment acquisition; (iv) the mercury direct analyzer Milestone DMA -80 was not relocated. All of them were managed and solved. The risk that remains from this period, in a low level, is the implementation of the communication plan with the Environmental Authority Communication Department.    As a result of the work developed during this reporting period and the results obtained, considering the adaptative management needed, the overall assessment toward the development objective is SATISFACTORY. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP Country Office Programme Officer** | Satisfactory | Satisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | The Development Objective rating of the Project is Satisfactory. The project has made progress in each of its components while taking adaptive measures to overcome changes and difficulties encountered, and appropriately managing risks.    Related to the regulatory framework (outcome 1), the Hg-containing devices and Hg- wastes management Decree 15/2019 was approved and entered into force in January 2019. Under this decree, Hg-containing devices importers should implement post consumption plans, as a tool to provide for the collection, interim storage, decontamination and adequate disposal of Hg-containing lamps, thermometers and sphygmomanometers. The decree includes provisions for Hg containing products to comply with all Minamata Convention requirements.    Regarding outcome 2 (Development of environmentally sound schemes and business models for the collection, treatment and disposal of mercury wastes), advances were made because the Decree 15/2019 established the obligation for importers and major consumers of implementing sound management of mercury wastes. The 10 model facilities belonging to the Public Health Institution ASSE started the updating process of their mercury phase-out plans. 434 staff from relevant institutions were trained in mercury management and an awareness campaign on the technical guidelines was developed by the Environmental Authority with the project support.    Related to outcome 3 (Strengthening technical capacity and infrastructure for the treatment and storage of Mercury containing wastes), through a second international bidding process (MVOTMA LPI 04/004/2019), a waste operator was identified and selected. This was the result of a very complex process comprising of 2 different bidding processes, and with the application of adaptive measures to change the strategy for the second bidding in which the operator will also provide the treatment facility, which seemed to be a more attractive approach to the private sector. The bidding has been awarded and the contract is ready to be signed with the company, which will have to start all the environmental applications to initiate operations.    Regarding Outcome 4 (Strengthening national and regional awareness on the Sound LCM of Mercury containing products), 1000 of 1400 samples (urine, blood and hair) have been processed in the framework of the "Average level of mercury for pregnant women and new born, Uruguay 2016-2018", and the preliminary results were presented and shared with relevant partners. One of the 2 mercury analyzers purchased by the project was relocated from the Ministry of Health to the Ministry of Environment for the analysis of environmental samples. The project contributed to increase the Awareness on the sound management of Hg among project stakeholders, by developing a new renovated website that is updated on a regular basis, and developing and publishing technical papers, guidelines and documents.    Regarding outcome 5 (Monitoring, adaptive feedback, outreach and evaluation), the project has adopted good adaptive measures, considering all the changes and difficulties encountered. The mid-term review was completed, where a set of recommendations were given and management actions were planned and implemented. The first recommendation was the project extension in order to allow for a successful completion of the new bidding process for the operator and treatment facility. The Project was granted an 18 months extension until June 2020. It is also important to note that the project produces regular progress reports to the Project Board, organize meetings of the Project Board twice a year and workshops are regularly organized to share project progress among stakeholders. A south-south cooperation initiative is being developed with UNDP Mercury Project from Argentina, mainly through videoconferences (5 during the reporting period) where lessons learned, and challenges encountered were shared among project teams. This experience has been very highly valuated till now from both Uruguay and Argentina Mercury projects.    Considering the progress made towards meeting the objectives and outcomes of the project and the measures undertaken to address the difficulties and risks identified, the Rating of Progress toward Development Objectives has been considered SATISFACTORY.    The 2019 delivery as of June 30 is USD 74.806, which represents 16% of the approved annual budget for 2019 (USD 462.500). The reason for this low delivery rate is that most of the funds are budgeted for the funding of the treatment facility. The cumulative project disbursement is also below than expected for this same reason. As the bidding process has successfully finished last month and a waste operator was awarded, most of the remaining funds are now committed to fund the treatment facility. Considering the moderately satisfactory efficiency in the delivery but taking into account the highly satisfactory quality of project governance, project management, risk and adaptive management and project monitoring and evaluation, the overall implementation progress rating for this reporting period is considered SATISFACTORY. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **GEF Operational Focal point** | Highly Satisfactory | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | The project team has successfully overcome the different phases of the Project regarding the initial proposal and the concretion of the activities.  The activity plan was detailed and accurate, having different levels of implementation due to administrative government processes. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Implementing Partner** | Highly Satisfactory | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | The annual work plan was carefully followed and adapted as needed in the different activities of every component.  This project interacts with different stakeholders who require a proper and unique focus. This aspect was efficiently tackled.  The main achievement of the decree on mercury products as well as the procurement of the technology for treating mercury waste is key issues to improve the mercury management at national level | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Other Partners** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser** | Satisfactory | Satisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | The rating for the progress towards the Development Objective of the project is satisfactory, which is in line with the rating given by the project coordinator and the local UNDP office; In last reporting period, the development objective rating was also satisfactory. The project has advanced in all its components and has generated positive changes for the environmentally sound management of mercury and mercury-containing products and their wastes, while adapting to the different changes and challenges that has arisen during its implementation. The project is on track of achieving its objective and outcomes.    The objective of the project is protect human health and the environment from Mercury releases originating from the intentional use of mercury in products and the unsound management and disposal of such products, the project’s activities have contributed towards the development objective in multiple aspects in a satisfactory way, as described below.    Regarding the outcome 1 (Strengthen the regulatory and policy framework to allow for life-cycle management of mercury containing products and their wastes), the project supported and promoted the expedition of the Decree Nº15/2019, which entered into force on January 8,2019. This decree establishes the legal framework for the environmentally sound management of mercury and mercury-containing products and their waste, covering collection, storage, transportation and treatment requirements, according to Minamata Convention. It is important to highlight the work of the project in conducting an inclusive approach in the preparation of the decree, which involved several consultation meetings with different stakeholders (such as importers, waste management providers), ministries (five ministries signed the decree) and the general public. The decree is a key element for the accomplishment of the project’s objective and a valuable tool for Uruguay for the fulfillment of the Minamata Convention.    Regarding the outcome 2 (Development of environmentally sound schemes and business models for the collection, treatment and disposal of mercury wastes), although the initial business plan concept for the collection and management of mercury-containing products developed by the project could not be implemented due changes in the national context, the project explored other options for the establishment of schemes for the sound management of mercury; For instance, in the Decree Nº15/2019 it is required that importers of mercury-containing products establish post consuming plans, also with the agreements with the Administration of State Health Services (ASSE), which promotes the sound management of mercury-containing products in 10 model health institutions. Likewise, the project has done an appropriate technical training through workshops and seminars, it has been part of its strategy to increase the awareness and technical knowledge of stakeholders (namely health sector workers, importers of mercury-containing products, environmental authorities, the general public) for the sound management of mercury and mercury-containing products and their wastes.    Regarding the outcome 3 (Strengthening technical capacity and infrastructure for the treatment and storage (medium – and long-term) of Mercury containing wastes.), the establishment of a treatment facility for mercury and mercury-containing products is one of the goals of the project, it will be achieved shortly, as the selection process was done, but it certainly has caused a lot of work to the project team, the Ministry of Housing, Land Development and Environment (MVOTMA), and UNDP. The project conducted several meetings with waste management companies and local authorities to prepare the international bidding process for awarding the contracts for the establishment of the treatment facility; Twice the bidding process could not be completed, due to technical and administrative issues, but the project looked for alternatives and solutions; finally, MVOTMA with support of the project, concluded the selection process for the adjudication of the contract for the treatment facility, which will be operational beginning of 2020.    Regarding the outcome 4 (Strengthening national and regional awareness on the Sound Life-Cycle Management of Mercury containing products as well as associated health hazards resulting from mismanagement), the project has done a remarkable work increasing the awareness on the sound environmental management of mercury and mercury-containing products; it is important to highlight the populational study "Average mercury level in pregnant women and new born, Uruguay 2016-2017", the project did a huge job training the personal and institutions in charge of the study, while stablishing communication and information management protocols. Also, to strength the national capabilities for the sound management of mercury, one of the mercury direct analyzer was relocate from the Ministry of Health’s laboratory to the Environmental Authority’s laboratory, where it will more widely used.    Regarding the outcome 5 (Monitoring, adaptive feedback, outreach and evaluation.), the project could be considered a good example of management, has adopted good adaptive measures when needed, and has proposed solutions to all the changes and difficulties encountered. It has already completed the mid-term review and responded the recommendations given, for instance, the extension of the project, which was requested and approved until June 2020. The project conducted its regular meetings with the steering committee and with technical committees and carried out workshops to keep stakeholders informed about the advances of the project. Also, it is worth noting the south-south cooperation activities of the project, the project exchanged information and experiences with similar projects in Argentina, Colombia and Ecuador, and participated in a workshop in Colombia and teleconferences with a similar project in Argentina (5 during the reporting period).    The implementation of the work plan for the last reporting period was not completely achieved, mainly due the delays in the bidding process for the procurement of the treatment facility, which also impacted its financial execution, as most of the planned disbursements were associated to this activity. As June 30, 2019 expenditures are USD $74.806, which is 16% of the approved annual budget for 2019 (USD $462.500). As the selection process was completed at the end of the reporting period, it is expected that the next work plan could be completed, and the disbursement rate increased. It is recommended that the project closely follows the implementation of the contract with the selected operator.    Regarding the risk management, there were different risks that could have affected the implementation of the project, such as political (the legal framework for mercury-containing products and its wastes was not approved) or operational (a waste operator was not identified, the bidding process for the treatment facility could not); the project appropriately dealt with them, taking early actions and involving different people and organizations to minimizing them.    Considering, that the project has satisfactory advances in all its outcomes while applying good adaptative management to solve the challenges and changes faced during its implementation, that the project governance and involvement and management of stakeholders is highly satisfactory and could be considered an example for other projects, that the delivery rate is moderately satisfactory as it is below of the expected level at this time of the project life due to delays in the contracting of the treatment facility, the overall implementation rating is satisfactory. | |

# Gender

**Progress in Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

This information is used in the UNDP-GEF Annual Performance Report, UNDP-GEF Annual Gender Report, reporting to the UNDP Gender Steering and Implementation Committee and for other internal and external communications and learning.  The Project Manager and/or Project Gender Officer should complete this section with support from the UNDP Country Office.

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| **Gender Analysis and Action Plan:** *not available* |
| **Please review the project's Gender Analysis and Action Plan. If the document is not attached or an updated Gender Analysis and/or Gender Action Plan is available please upload the document below or send to the Regional Programme Associate to upload in PIMS+. Please note that all projects approved since 1 July 2014 are required to carry out a gender analysis and all projects approved since 1 July 2018 are required to have a gender analysis and action plan.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **Please indicate in which results areas the project is contributing to gender equality (you may select more than one results area, or select not applicable):** |
| Contributing to closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources: No |
| Improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance: No |
| Targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women: Yes |
| Not applicable: No |

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| **Atlas Gender Marker Rating** |
| **GEN1:** some contribution to gender equality |

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| **Please describe any experiences or linkages (direct or indirect) between project activities and gender-based violence (GBV). This information is for UNDP use only and will not be shared with GEF Secretariat.** |
| Not applicable |

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| **Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women.**    **Please explain how the results reported addressed the different needs of men or women, changed norms, values, and power structures, and/or contributed to transforming or challenging gender inequalities and discrimination.** |
| Since the project design did not include gender considerations, and in response to the mid term reviw recommendations, a gender consultant was hired to perform a gender analysis.    The main objetives of the consultancy were:    (i) identify the main gender aspects involved in the project ;  (ii) describe how the project avtivities considered a gender approach even without an action plan;  (iii) propose actions to have a gender approach in mercury devices and waste management, from the Project or from institutions involved.      Find attached in the File Library the 2 documents containing the first results of the gender analysis. |

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| **Please describe how work to advance gender equality and women's empowerment enhanced the project's environmental and/or resilience outcomes.** |
| Not applicable |

# Social and Environmental Standards

**Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)**

The Project Manager and/or the project’s Safeguards Officer should complete this section of the PIR with support from the UNDP Country Office. The UNDP-GEF RTA should review to ensure it is complete and accurate.

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| --- |
| **1) Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during project implementation?** |
| No |

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| **If any new social and/or environmental risks have been identified during project implementation please describe the new risk(s) and the response to it.** |
| N/A |

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| **2) Have any existing social and/or environmental risks been escalated during the reporting period? For example, when a low risk increased to moderate, or a moderate risk increased to high.** |
| No |

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| **If any existing social and/or environmental risks have been escalated during implementation please describe the change(s) and the response to it.** |
| N/A |

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| **SESP:** *not available*  **Environmental and Social Management Plan/Framework:** *not available* |
| **For reference, please find below the project's safeguards screening (Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) or the old ESSP tool); management plans (if any); and its SESP categorization above. Please note that the SESP categorization might have been corrected during a centralized review.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **3) Have any required social and environmental assessments and/or management plans been prepared in the reporting period? For example, an updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) or Indigenous Peoples Plan.** |
| No |

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| **If yes, please upload the document(s) above. If no, please explain when the required documents will be prepared.** |
| N/A |

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| **4) Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential )?** |
| No |

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| **If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail including the status, significance, who was involved and what action was taken.** |
| N/A |

# Communicating Impact

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| **Tell us the story of the project focusing on how the project has helped to improve people’s lives.**  **(This text will be used for UNDP corporate communications, the UNDP-GEF website, and/or other internal and external knowledge and learning efforts.)** |
| The main objective of the project is to take care of human health and environment from mercury emissions caused by the handling of products containing mercury and the inadequate management of its wastes.    The beneficiaries of this Project are Uruguayan population exposed to low energy consumption lights, amalgams, workersthathandle waste and health workers and people who use medical devices with mercury.    The project is helping to increase awareness about mercury containing devices, through communication activities to institutions, public and private sector. The population-at-risk study is an activity that helps to show a specific impact of mercury in human health. As a consequence, use of Hg-free alternatives are more common. The project focused on developing guidelines, with simple clues to manage Hg- devices and its wastes: it can be used at home or through the supply chains. The Dentistry School involvement improved information of amalgam use, and helped the project to implement policies according to the Minamata´s Convention.    The decree for mercury containing devices and its wastes is the main product of the project that will govern Minamata´s guidelines and commitments in Uruguay, that will generate several benefits to all the population. |

**Knowledge Management, Project Links and Social Media**

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| --- |
| **Please describe knowledge activities / products as outlined in knowledge management approved at CEO Endorsement /Approval.**    **Please also include: project's website, project page on the UNDP website, blogs, photos stories (e.g. Exposure), Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, as well as hyperlinks to any media coverage of the project, for example, stories written by an outside source. Please upload any supporting files, including photos, videos, stories, and other documents using the 'file lirbary' button in the top right of the PIR.** |
| Project website:  http://www.mvotma.gub.uy/portal/ambiente-territorio-y-agua/conoce/sustancias-quimicas/itemlist/category/485-mercurio.html    Minamata Convention:  http://mvotma.gub.uy/portal/ambiente-territorio-y-agua/conoce/sustancias-quimicas/item/10009211-entro-en-vigor-el-convenio-de-minamata.html    Hg waste management decree:  https://www.presidencia.gub.uy/comunicacion/comunicacionnoticias/mvotma-participa-conferencia-partes-ginebra-cop-1-convenio-minamata-mercurio    Odontological mercury:  http://www.ipsnoticias.net/2018/06/mercurio-dental-los-dias-contados/    Mercury containing lamps  https://www.opp.gub.uy/es/noticias/evolucion-del-alumbrado-publico-en-uruguay    Mercuy related:  https://rioabierto.ladiaria.com.uy/articulo/2018/5/historia-del-cloro-sin-mercurio-en-uruguay/  http://radiouruguay.uy/informe-de-la-universidad-confirma-contaminacion-por-mercurio-en-ciudad-del-plata/  http://radiouruguay.uy/instalo-plantas-en-fortaleza-islas-canarias/  http://www.montevideo.com.uy/Empresariales/Alliance-Uruguay-inauguro-la-primera-planta-de-cloro-producido-sin-mercurio-del-pais-uc682164  https://www.elobservador.com.uy/empresa-inauguro-planta-cloro-mercurio-y-apunta-romper-monopolio-el-sector-n1227678  https://www.sudestada.com.uy/articleId\_\_26e3c463-1ef4-44a1-9a0b-36cd0d5158c2/10981/Detalle-de-Investigacion  https://www.busqueda.com.uy/nota/gobierno-disena-politica-de-retiro-adecuada-del-mercurio-mientras-las-interrogantes-rodean-un  http://www.efice.uy/es/politicas-de-retiro-adecuada-del-mercurio/  http://www.observatoriodelaguaenuruguay.com/tag/mercurio/    june 2018- june 2019    Mercury issues in Uruguay    http://www.rapaluruguay.org/agrotoxicos/COPs/Informe\_sobre\_la\_situacion\_del\_mercurio\_en\_Uruguay.pdf  https://www.sudestada.com.uy/articleId\_\_9017c103-7191-4cc1-a05d-7ee75c563a41/10893/Detalle-de-Noticia  https://www.elobservador.com.uy/nota/la-unica-planta-uruguaya-de-cloro-soda-con-produccion-libre-de-mercurio-2018121221512  https://www.visionmaritima.com.uy/noticias/actualidad-noticias/uruguay-avanza-la-produccion-cloro-soda-libre-mercurio/  https://twitter.com/auciuruguay/status/1071165090244780032  http://www.uy.undp.org/content/uruguay/es/home/projects/Proyecto\_gestion\_adecuada\_mercurio.html    Decree 15/2019 impact    https://www.presidencia.gub.uy/comunicacion/comunicacionnoticias/decreto-gestion-medioambiental-adecuada-mercurio-reglamentacion-uso-disposicion-final  http://www.lr21.com.uy/comunidad/1390472-gobierno-controlara-uso-y-desecho-de-lamparas-y-otros-residuos-con-mercurio  https://www.sudestada.com.uy/articleId\_\_778b9ff1-6141-4a32-8daa-90007736272e/10893/Detalle-de-Noticia  http://www.eficienciaenergetica.gub.uy/-/el-mercurio-en-las-lamparas-de-bajo-consumo  https://www.montevideo.com.uy/Ciencia-y-Tecnologia/Comenzaran-a-multar-a-los-responsables-del-mal-manejo-de-productos-con-mercurio-uc707681 |

# Partnerships

**Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagment**

Please select yes or no whether the project is working with any of the following partners. Please also provide an update on stakeholder engagement. This information is used by the GEF and UNDP for reporting and is therefore very important!  All sections must be completed by the Project Manager and reviewed by the CO and RTA.

|  |
| --- |
| **Does the project work with any Civil Society Organisations and/or NGOs?** |
| Yes |

|  |
| --- |
| **Does the project work with any Indigenous Peoples?** |
| No |

|  |
| --- |
| **Does the project work with the Private Sector?** |
| Yes |

|  |
| --- |
| **Does the project work with the GEF Small Grants Programme?** |
| No |

|  |
| --- |
| **Does the project work with UN Volunteers?** |
| No |

|  |
| --- |
| **Did the project support South-South Cooperation and/or Triangular Cooperation efforts in the reporting year?** |
| Yes |

|  |
| --- |
| **Request for MSP Approval:** [GEF\_ID 4998 GEF5 CEO Approval PIMS 5084 Mercury Chemical Sept 5 2013\_BB revised-with signature.doc](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/5084/213780/1710943/1679904/GEF_ID%204998%20GEF5%20CEO%20Approval%20PIMS%205084%20Mercury%20Chemical%20Sept%205%202013_BB%20revised-with%20signature.doc) |
| **Provide an update on progress, challenges and outcomes related to stakeholder engagement based on the description of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan as documented at CEO endorsement/approval (see document below). If any surveys have been conducted please upload all survey documents to the PIR file library.** |
| The Environmental Authority as the implementation partner, maintained the engagement, since the authorities followed each step of the Minamata Convention and the decree Nº15/2019 elaboration, and participated of the First COP, in 2017. The Health Ministry also kept involved, even their implementation times are larger than the project ones.  CIAT, ASSE and the TEchnological Pole of Pando, maintain their involvement and the population study could be developed. UTE, launched and kept on going the Junta Lamparas Plan, but the goal wasn`t achieved yet, because the collection lamp system didn´t reach the number planned.  Amalgams topics were followed by the Odontological Association, that supported with information diffusion and the NGO Rapal, is always updated about the project activities. A new stakeholder was identified, the Republic University `Dentistry School, that supported the country vision on this topic.  AECI get involved in particular when institutional coordination is needed.  The only stakeholder that didn`t remain involved is the PCTP, that due to changes in the general context and approach of the Project, the PCTP informed that it will not be able to address its commitment to host the treatment facility. This change, had an important impact in the project implementation and in the treatment facility put in place. As a consequence of this, the bidding process became more complexe, because a new operator should be identified. |

# Annex - Ratings Definitions

**Development Objective Progress Ratings Definitions**

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Project is on track to exceed its end-of-project targets, and is likely to achieve transformational change by project closure. The project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Project is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with minor shortcomings only.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is expected to partially achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with significant shortcomings. Project results might be fully achieved by project closure if adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. Project results might be partially achieved by project closure if major adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets without major restructuring.

**Implementation Progress Ratings Definitions**

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Implementation is exceeding expectations. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are fully on track. The project is managed extremely efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are on track. The project is managed efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned with minor deviations. Cumulative financial delivery and management of risks are mostly on track, with minor delays. The project is managed well.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces significant implementation issues. Implementation progress could be improved if adaptive management is undertaken immediately. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are significantly off track. The project is not fully or well supported.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces major implementation issues and restructuring may be necessary. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are off track with major issues and/or concerns. The project is not fully or well supported.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Implementation is seriously under performing and major restructuring is required. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones (e.g. start of activities), and management of critical risks are severely off track with severe issues and/or concerns. The project is not effectively or efficiently supported.