Specific International Programme – Third Round

Interim Progress Report

Project ID: 2021/03/AP/JOR
Country/Region: Jordan / Asia Pacific
Project Title: Environmentally Sound Management of Mercury-Containing Wastes and Reduce the Use of Mercury-Containing Products in Jordan
Organization/Institution delivering the project: Ministry of Environment of Jordan
Duration: 36 months
Total Amount: USD 240,000

PCA starting date: 20 October 2022
PCA ending date: 19 October 2025
Reporting period: 1 July 2024 – 31 December 2025

Amount of last instalment received: USD _____90,000_____

Amount of total instalments received: USD _____180,000_____

Project Focal Point Name[1]: Eng. Reema Al Hindi
Title/Position: Acting Director of the Hazardous substances and waste management directorate
Date: 31/12/2025

Signature:

[1] The Project Focal Point is the person who is responsible for the overall management of the implementation of the project as stated in the legal agreement.

1. **Summary of Project Implementation Status**

The project has made substantial progress toward achieving its objectives of raising public awareness on mercury-containing products, developing sustainable public procurement procedures, establishing a pilot collection system for household mercury wastes, and enhancing the storage and management of such wastes at the national hazardous waste treatment facility (Swaqa Centre).

Output 1: Public Awareness and Sustainable Procurement.
All planned activities under Output 1 have been successfully completed.

- A comprehensive public awareness campaign was implemented, including a video, media appearances, social media outreach, printed materials, and awareness sessions.
- Workshops were held with key stakeholders to discuss the hazards of mercury-containing products and to promote mercury-free alternatives.
- Two major analytical studies were finalized:
    1. A Cost-Benefit Analysis on mercury-free lamps, demonstrating their economic and environmental advantages.
    2. A Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) Study, assessing Jordan's SPP framework and providing recommendations for integrating mercury-free lamp procurement into public tenders.
- A final stakeholder workshop was held to discuss and promote the implementation of the SPP study findings as in output 2.

Output 1 has been fully attained, contributing to improved awareness and institutional readiness for adopting mercury-free products.

Output 2: Development and Implementation of Studies and Pilot Collection System.
All planned activities under Output 2 have been successfully completed:

- Baseline studies were conducted on household mercury-containing waste, market presence of mercury products, and dental amalgam usage, accompanied by an action plan to phase down dental amalgam by 2030.
- A pilot collection concept was developed, identifying collection points in Amman and other governorates, with detailed specifications for bins and equipment.
- Workshops were organized to discuss legal and regulatory frameworks and to gather stakeholder input on mercury-related standards and the Minamata Convention requirements.
- Legal analysis and recommendations for amending national legislation were completed.
- Procurement of collection equipment is finalized, and contracts with qualified waste transporters to the Swaqa treatment center have been signed.
- The pilot project implementation has been completed with a collection of 1 m^3 of Mercury containing waste from Zarqa governorate.

Output 2 has been fully attained.

Output 3: Enhancement of Storage Facility for Mercury-Containing Wastes (Swaqa Centre)
All planned activities under Output 3 have been successfully completed.

- An international expert assessment was conducted to review current mercury waste management practices at Swaqa Centre and to develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and recommendations for improvement.
- Training sessions were delivered to Swaqa staff and focal points from the environment protection directorates in all governorates and other representative from national institutions. The training was on best environmental practices for mercury waste management.
- Rehabilitation of Mercury storage site at the hazardous waste treatment center at Swaqa and installation of mercury waste storage units have been attained.

Output 3 has been fully attained.

Output 4: Monitoring, Evaluation, and Financial Audit
Monitoring and reporting activities are being implemented as planned.

- Regular progress and financial reports have been submitted, with the current report marking the fourth under the extended agreement period.
- Coordination for the Terminal Evaluation with the Minamata Convention Secretariat and UNEP Evaluation Office is pending and will be carried out in the next phase.
- The final financial audit will be conducted after project completion.

Output 4 is partially attained, with remaining tasks scheduled for completion during project closure.

2. Performance with regard to Outputs, Activities, Milestone

	Name of activity planned for this reporting period	Planned timeframe for activity completion per project logframe	Updated Status – Attained, Partially Attained, Not Attained?	comments	If not attained, please describe why and what mitigation actions already taken or being taken. Continue text below chart as needed.
Output 1: The level of public awareness about the mercury-containing products is raised and Sustainable Public Procurement Procedures for mercury free lamps are developed.					
Activity 1.1	Conduct public awareness campaigns about the hazardousness of the mercury including (awareness video, periodic meetings on TV and radio, social media, brochures, awareness sessions…etc.) to enhance the local community to reduce the use of the mercury-containing products	*Feb. 2023 – August 2025*	*Attained*	Video Link https://www.facebook.com/share/v/19ezCjCqp2/ Attachment 1: awareness activities related documents.	
Activity 1.2	Hold a workshop for all stakeholders to raise awareness	*July 2023- August 2023*	*Attained*	Attachment 2: workshop Agenda and attendance sheet	

	about the negative impact of the household mercury containing products (25 people)				
Activity 1.3	Carry out an analysis study to support baseline information regarding cost-benefit analysis of the impact (especially energy efficiency and environmental positive impacts) of mercury free lamps	*July 2025*	*Attained*	Attachment 3: Analysis report of Cost-Benefit Analysis of Mercury-Free Lamps.	
Activity 1.4	Conduct a study regarding the sustainable public procurement practices (SPP) for mercury free lamps, that should include at least SPP status assessment in Jordan, SPP legal review and market analysis	*July 2025*	*Attained*	Attachment 4: Assessment report of Public Procurement Practices in Jordan.	
Activity 1.5	Hold a workshop for all stakeholders to discuss the outputs of the SPP study for mercury free lamps and how to promote the implementation	*October 2025*	*Attained*	One workshop was conducted to discuss all report under the project as in output 2 activity 2.3.	

	of this study (25 people)				
Output 2: Studies and a pilot collection system for household mercury-containing wastes are developed and implemented to enhance the phase-out of mercury-containing products					
Activity 2.1	Carry out an analysis study to support baseline information regarding the amounts of generated household mercury-containing wastes and the amounts and types of mercury-containing products that exist in the market and used in the practical life in Jordan including the dental amalgam	*September 2025*	*Attained*	Attachment 5: Analysis Report; Conduct a Survey on Mercury-Containing Waste from Households and Implement a Pilot Collection Program in Three Governorates. Attachment 6: Dental Amalgam survey report. Attachment 7: Dental Amalgam draft action plan to phasing down the dental amalgam by 2030.	
Activity 2.2	Develop a concept for implementing the measures of the pilot project and identifying the pilot areas in Amman, in addition to all environmental directorates in Jordan as collection points	*September 2025*	*Attained*	Attachment 8: Implementation Strategy of the Pilot Collection Project including bins specifications and distribution.	
Activity 2.3	Hold one workshop over three consecutive days for all stakeholders to	*October 2025*	*Attained*	Attachment 9: workshop Agenda and attendance sheet and workshop report.	

	discuss the revision of the current legislation and standard specifications related the mercury content in products, including dental amalgam (25 people)				
Activity 2.4	Carry out an analysis study to support baseline information regarding the legislation and standard specifications that should be amended or prepared to comply with Minamata Convention and suggest the amended or new versions for each of them.	*August 2025*	*Attained*	Attachment 10: Legal analysis report.	
Activity 2.5	Procure necessary equipment and secure collection containers for each type of the targeted household mercury-containing products.	*October 2025*	*Attained*	Attachment 11: Bins specifications and distribution plan.	
Activity 2.6	Sign contracts with qualified transporters for hazardous wastes to transport the	*October 2025*	*Attained*		

	collected wastes to Swaqa.				
Activity 2.7	Implement the pilot project in the selected areas in Amman and in the other governorates, where the collected items will be transferred to the hazardous waste treatment centre (Swaqa).		*Attained*	Attachment 16: Pilot project final report	
Output 3 Storage facility for mercury-containing wastes (Hazardous waste treatment Centre/Swaqa) is enhanced					
Activity 3.1	Develop administrative processes and a personnel concept for Swaqa Centre's staff regarding the mercury containing wastes and prepare job descriptions and necessary personnel profiles. Assess the status of the handling processes of mercury-containing wastes in Swaqa and suggest the measures needed to enhance the storing facility of these wastes (all these tasks will be	*May 2025*	*Attained*	Attachment 12: Assessment report on the status of mercury-containing waste and recommendations. Attachment 13: Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for sound management of Mercury waste at Swaqa Center in Jordan.	

	done by an international expert).				
Activity 3.2	Training measures and training on the job for Swaqa's staff regarding the best environmental practices for mercury containing waste management (this activity will be conducted by an international expert).	*May 2025*	*Attained*	Attachment 14: In person training on best environmental practices for Mercury -containing waste management & mission report.	
Activity 3.3	Install the suitable units for the storage (based on the results from 3.1) for mercury-containing wastes.		*Attained*	Attachment 15: design of the required civil and architectural works and BoQs. Attachment 17: pictures of the site	
Output 4: The monitoring and reporting, evaluation, and financial audit are conducted					
Activity 4.1	Monitor the project activities and progress according to indicators or targets, and six-monthly progress and financial reporting by the focal point of the project during the implementation phase (in June and December of each year) and an-end-of		*Attained*	This activity is attained. The current progress report is the Fourth report, prepared in alignment with the extension of the agreement. Regular monitoring continues, and the next scheduled report will be the TE report.	

	project progress and financial report will also need to be submitted.				
Activity 4.2	Cooperate with the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention and UNEP Evaluation Office for the purpose of conducting the terminal evaluation of the project.		*Not attained*	Will be coordinated with the secretariate	
Activity 4.3	Make the auditing report of project expenditures after the completion of the project.		*Not Attained*	*Will be coordinated after project completion.*	

3. Challenges, management actions and risk mitigation plans

Challenge:

Despite outreach and reminders, only one supplier responded to the procurement call for certain project components (e.g., storage unit installation, collection bins). This limited competition and delayed final contracting.

Management Actions:

- Followed transparent procurement procedures and documented all communication attempts with potential suppliers.
- Proceeded with the only compliant and cost-appropriate offer received to avoid further delays.

Challenge:

Some activities (e.g., installation of storage units at Swaqa Centre) were delayed due to the late release of funds.

Management Actions:

- Adjusted the implementation schedule and prioritized preparatory and non-cost activities.
- Coordinated closely with the secretariate to expedite disbursement

Indicate any adjustments which were made to the project and the rationale behind project adaptation over the reporting period. Adjustments could include the following: i) Logframe revised; ii) Planned activities/work plan adjusted; iii) Budget realigned etc. Note that such changes require prior communication with, and in most cases prior approval by, the Secretariat. Please list lessons learned, if any.

Minor amendments were made and subsequently approved during the project extension process to ensure the alignment of project activities with emerging needs and timelines. Amendments were only for the time frame of the activities to realignment it with the extension period**.**

Please provide (i) a narrative description of financial implementation during the reporting period and (ii) explanation of any delays in spending the funds, any other remarks on the overall project budget.

During the reporting period, the project demonstrated steady financial implementation across all major outputs, with expenditures closely aligned with planned activities. As of the current reporting period, approximately USD 87,690.17 was expended, bringing cumulative expenditures to USD 190,968.00, inclusive of Ministry of Environment expenditures related to awareness-raising activities, against a total received budget of USD 180,000. This level of expenditure reflects strong progress in technical implementation, particularly under Outputs 1, 2, and 3.

4. Communication-related material

Please provide information on any project documents that can be shared publicly (including on websites, newsletters, and interested parties) and outcomes that could be used as a basis for the Minamata Secretariat to develop communication materials. Information on any practices

and innovations used in the project that can be showed-cased or highlighted is welcome. Any human-interest story would also be welcome. Please also enclose links, pictures, videos, publications, etc. in the attachments section.

Link for the video provided in output 1

5. Looking forward

Please inform us of (i) any possible changes you foresee in the approved workplan/log frame in the upcoming reporting period, and (ii) any possible challenges that are already anticipated in implementation.

At this stage, no major structural changes to the approved logframe are anticipated. However, minor adjustments to the workplan and timelines may be necessary to ensure the timely completion of the remaining activities during the next reporting period. These include:

1. Extension of Implementation Period for fine tuning activities:
2. Scheduling of Terminal Evaluation and Audit:

The Terminal Evaluation (Activity 4.2) and final financial audit (Activity 4.3) will be carried out during the project's final quarter, once implementation is fully completed. Coordination with the Minamata Convention Secretariat and UNEP Evaluation Office will define the exact timing.

6. List of Attachments, if any

As provided in the table above

Specific International Programme – Third Round

Interim/Final Expenditure Report

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Cumulative amount already transferred from UNEP to the Partner as of this reporting date: USD _____180,000

As in the attached excel sheet.

***if the expenditures were different from what was originally planned, please provide a short explanation. Continue below as needed.**

Signature of a duly authorized administration/finance officer[2]:

Name: Eng. Reema Mustafa/ Head of haz. Substances Management division- administration officer
Signature:
Date: 31/12/2025

Name:
Signature:
Date:

[2] The duly authorized administration/finance officer is the person authorized to sign expenditure reports. This is not the same person as the Project Focal Point.