



Republic of Palau



9th Annual Asia-Pacific Mercury Monitoring Network
Partners Meeting



An aerial photograph of a tropical island. The island is lush with green vegetation and has a small town with buildings and a road. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, and there are several small boats in the bay. The sky is blue with some light clouds.

**COVID
FREE!!**

FOR NOW...

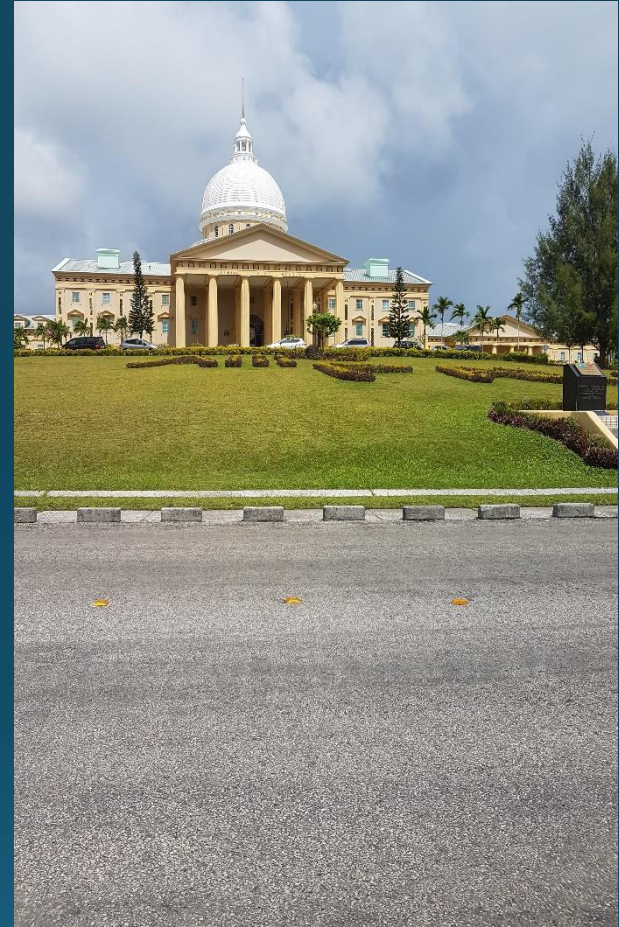
National Outlook on Mercury

- **Major uses and emissions:** Major uses are mercury-added imported products for essential use (energy sector, automobile, healthcare, research/lab reference equipment, household products) which are potentially released to the environment after use.
- **National Priority:** To protect the subsistence livelihood by preventing contamination of water, air, land and marine ecosystems.
 - Increase monitoring of mercury presence in water, air and land as well as marine ecosystem (fish)
 - Tracking and Management of Mercury Imported, Produced and Used
 - Worker Health and Safety;
 - Storage, Transport and Disposal of mercury waste
 - Contamination of Marine, Fresh and Ground Water



National Plans

- **Legislation** : Develop/Enhance existing regulation to comprehensively address Mercury management (importation, exportation, storage, transporting, spill reporting and cleanup, waste disposal) and worker's health and safety.
- Build capacity to include Mercury Management tracking system for all mercury and mercury added compounds/products imported, used and disposed in Palau and a provision of proper disposal facility.
- Acquire equipment to monitor presence of mercury in the land, air and water.



Monitoring Capabilities

- Limited monitoring capabilities (usually project based)
 - We are currently doing our Minamata Initial Assessment with assistance from SPREP
- We currently have a Water Quality Laboratory that is US EPA certified, we would like to increase the lab capacity in terms of funding, staff training and equipment to be able to test and monitor mercury and other chemicals of concern in land, air, and water on the island.
- We currently have a gold amalgamation trap for atmospheric mercury monitoring given to us by Mr. Watanabe Yoshinobu from the Institute of Environmental Ecology in Japan.
- We have received a mercury wet deposition sampler from the Republic of Taiwan, a very special thanks to Professor Guey –Rong Sheu and Mr. Da-Wei Lin from Department of Atmospheric Sciences National Central University and the Republic of Taiwan.

THANK YOU

Any Questions?

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