



Project for
**Promoting
Minamata
Convention
on Mercury**



by making the most of Japan's
knowledge and experiences

Latest update of the Minamata COP4 and outlines of Japan Mercury Project

United Nations Environment Programme
Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

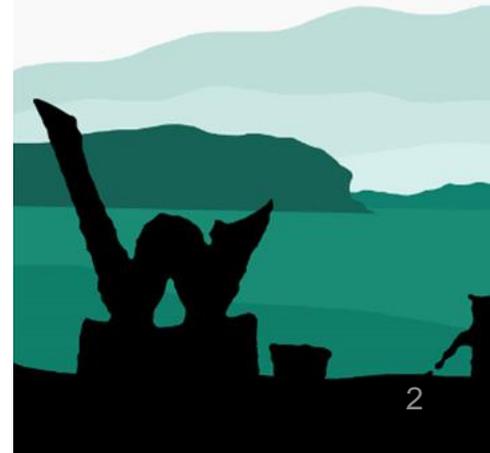
Minamata Convention on Mercury

- COP4:
 - Part I (virtual, 1-5 November 2021): Programme of work and budget, dates and venue of COP4 part II and COP5, (effectiveness evaluation, national reporting, financial resources and mechanisms, GEF).
 - Part II (face-to-face at Bali, Indonesia, Q1 2022)
- Intersessional works: Review of annexes A and B, dental amalgam, customs codes, releases of mercury, mercury waste thresholds, effectiveness evaluation, gender

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Mercury-added Product

- Established an ad hoc group of experts on the review of annexes A and B to the Convention.
- Compile information on the uses of mercury and on non-mercury alternatives.
 - Products **listed in Annex A**: batteries, lamps, Switched & relays, measuring devices
 - Products **not listed in Annex A**: other electronic devices, other non-electronic devices, satellite propulsion
 - Processes in **Annex B and others** (gold plating, etc.)

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Releases

- Technical experts to produce a report including:
 - draft guidance on the methodology for preparing **inventories** of releases,
 - the proposed categories of **point sources** of releases,
 - a road map for the development of guidance on **best available techniques** and **best environmental practices**.
- Draft guidance on methodology and draft report are posted.

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Waste

- Technical experts to work on
 - **thresholds** for mercury wastes, and
 - to improve the guidance on the preparation of national action plans for ASGM regarding management of **tailings** from such mining.
- Parties to encourage to contribute
 - to update **Basel guidelines** on the sound management of mercury waste, which will be discussed at Basel COP15 (face-to-face segment in 2022)

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Effectiveness Evaluation

- Parties invited to submit views on the **indicators**.
 - Secretariat to compile information submitted.
- Secretariat to advance the work
 - to support the effectiveness evaluation for drafting guidance on **monitoring** to maintain harmonized, comparable information on mercury levels in the environment.
 - To develop separate guidance on monitoring of mercury in and around **ASGM** sites.
- Secretariat to advance the work
 - for drafting a **trade, supply and demand** report, which includes mercury waste flows and stocks, and an **Article 21** synthesis report.



Japan Mercury Project



Contribution to the Minamata Convention

Project makes special focus in the area of information exchange (Article 17), awareness and education (Article 18), and research, development and monitoring (Article 19) to contribute the early implementation of the Convention.

Connecting Minamata and Minamata

A comprehensive programme is designed to strengthening enabling capacity, building on the resources in and around Minamata, and employing technologies held by institutions in Japan.



Networking analytical institutions

Project will establish a region-wide network of analytical institutions with mercury monitoring capabilities around Asia and the Pacific to bring their capacities to international standards.

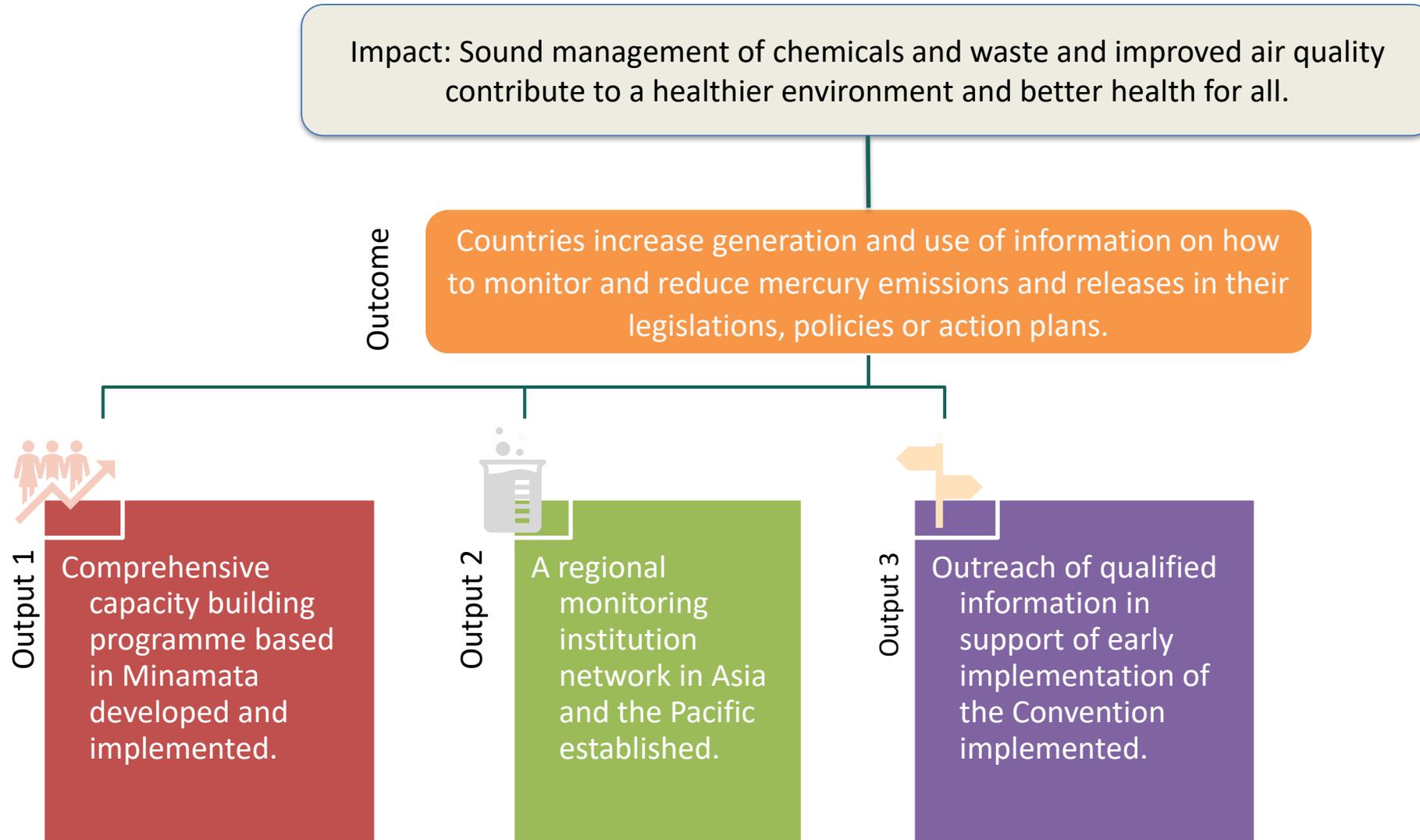
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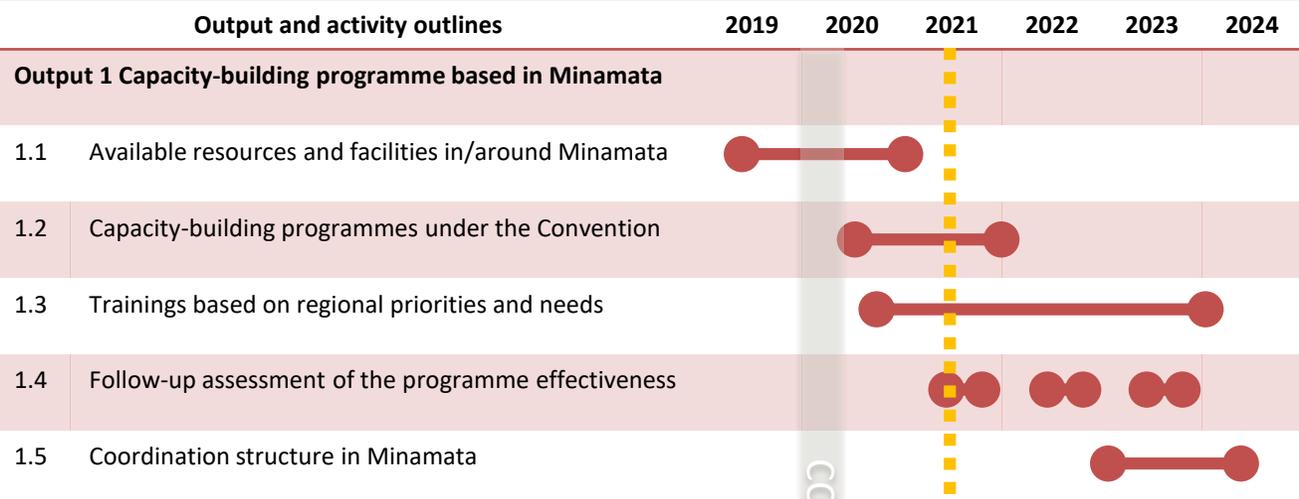
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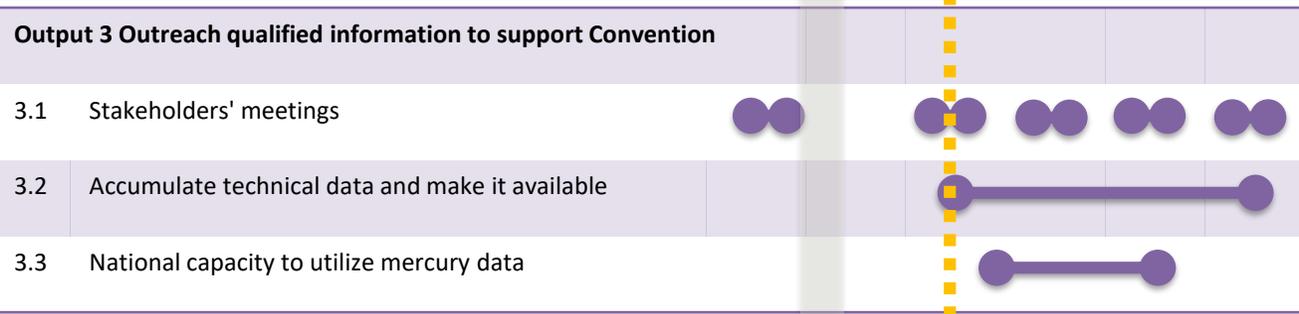
Theory of Changes



Overall Workplan



COVID-19 pandemic



Deliverables

- Local resource survey
- Training packages
- Online trainings
- Follow up assessment
- Laboratory assessment
- Monitoring planning
- Lab proficiency testing
- Links to other networks
- Annual webinar
- Project website

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Partner Countries and Organizations



Minamata Environmental Academia, Minamata City

National Institute for Minamata Diseases (NIMD), MOEJ.



Asia Pacific Mercury Monitoring Network (APMMN)

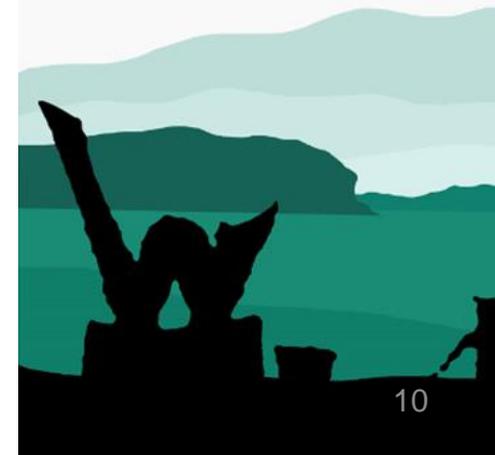
Note: Countries participated in the project inception workshop in Minamata in September 2019.

*: Partner until Feb. 2021, currently suspended

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Key activities

- Laboratory proficiency testing (PT)
- Laboratory assessment
- Annual webinar 2021

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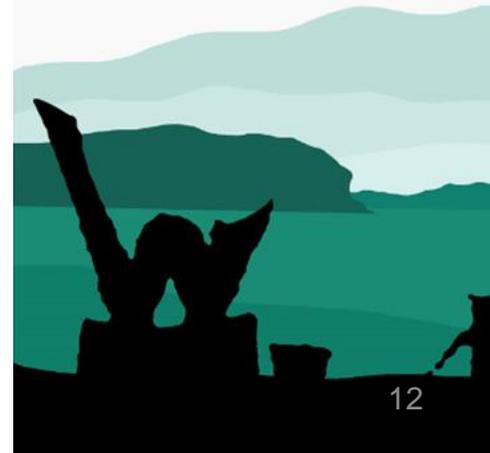
Activity: Lab Proficiency Testing (1/2)

- Objective: Aiming at evaluating the performance of mercury analyses conducted by the laboratories.
- Overall design: National Institute for Minamata Disease
- Laboratories subject to PT: **Public laboratories** and laboratories in **universities** that undertake mercury analysis (or will undertake it in near future.
- Schedule:
 - September 2021: Participate in a **questionnaire** survey
 - November 2021: Online **training** opportunity
 - January 2022: Receive **specimen** containing mercury
 - March 2022: **Submission** due
 - Q3 of 2022: Results **reporting**

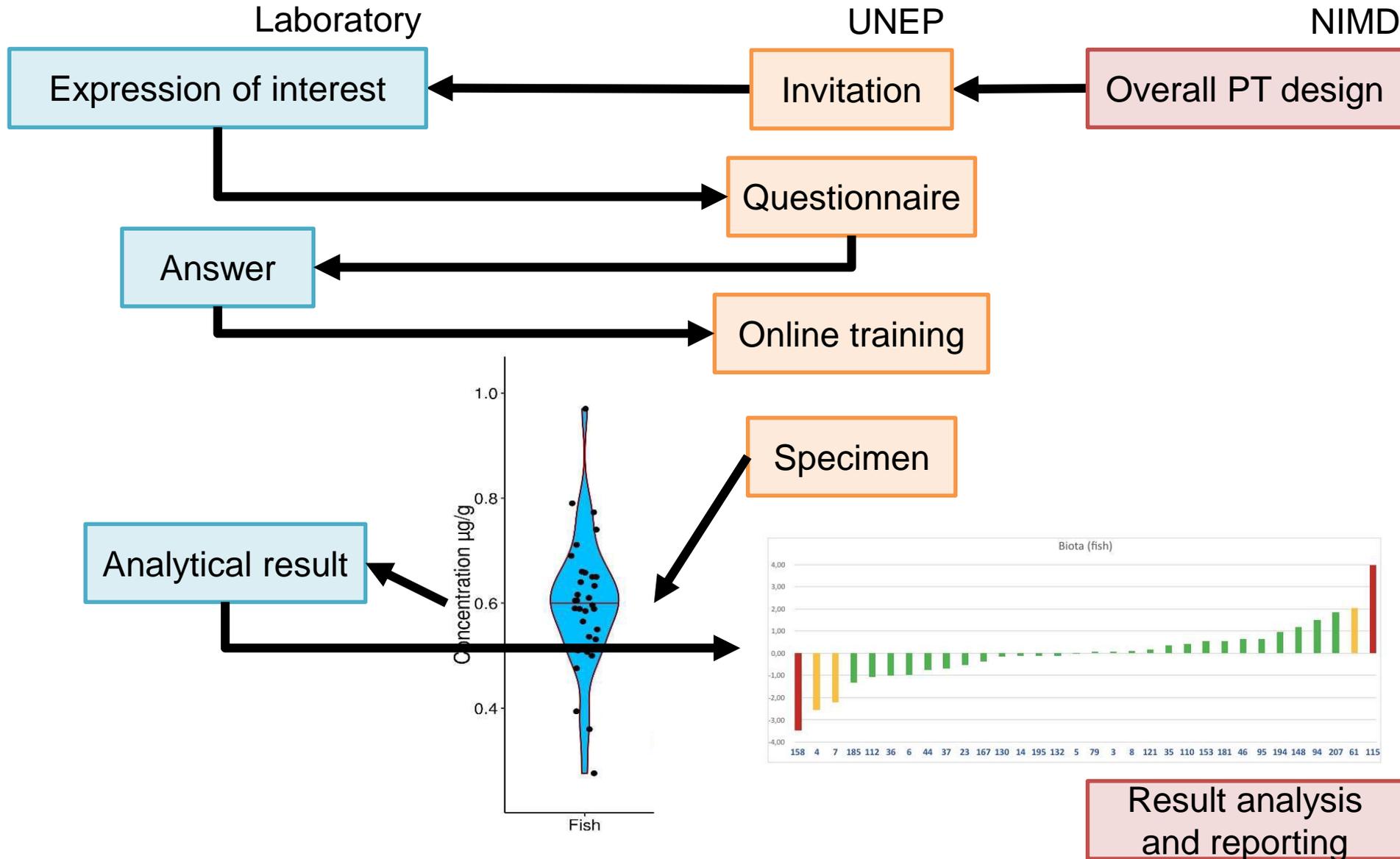
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Activity: Lab Proficiency Testing (2/2)



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Activity: Laboratory Assessment (1/2)

- Objective: Evaluating the current mercury monitoring capacity of the analytical institutions in order to clarify the areas in need and to set clear direction for future assistance.
- Countries: **Nepal** (1st round), **Philippines** (2nd round).
- Laboratories: National public laboratories.

Survey team
Team Leader
Project management
Assessment of lab quality management
Assessment of lab instrumental analysis
Local coordinator



Activity: Laboratory Assessment (2/2)

- Workplan and schedule:

	Activity		
1	<u>Questionnaire</u> for the status of laboratory		
2	(Response from laboratory)		
3	Request for the document of laboratory (e.g., rules, manuals, SOPs and records)		
4	<u>Online interview</u> for laboratory staff		
5	Acquisition of the image of laboratory (by <u>filming</u> , <u>photographing</u> or <u>video calling</u>)		
6	Drafting the assessment report of laboratory		
7	Q & A (via e-mail)		
8	Assessment report of the laboratory situation, capturing the issues and challenges and including suggestions for the laboratory advancement and its support		

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Activity: Annual Webinar

- Objective: Disseminate project results and data to wider audiences on annual basis.
- Date: October 2021 (date TBD), virtual.
- Tentative agenda

Topic
Opening remarks
Project profile and progress
(Key result) Virtual survey for mercury analytical laboratories
(Key result) Comprehensive training package for mercury inventory including UNEP Toolkit
(Key result) Laboratory proficiency testing on mercury analysis
(Key result) Strategic partnership with Minamata City
Way forward and closing





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