# Eliminating Worst Practices and Reducing Exposures to Mercury from ASGM

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# Convention Connections – Article 7

#### Paragraph 3.

- (a) Develop and Implement a national action plan in accordance with Annex C;
- (c) Provide a **review** every three years of the progress made in meeting its obligations... pursuant to article 21

#### Paragraph 4.

Parties may **cooperate** with each other and with relevant intergovernmental organizations and other entities, as appropriate, to achieve the objectives of this article...

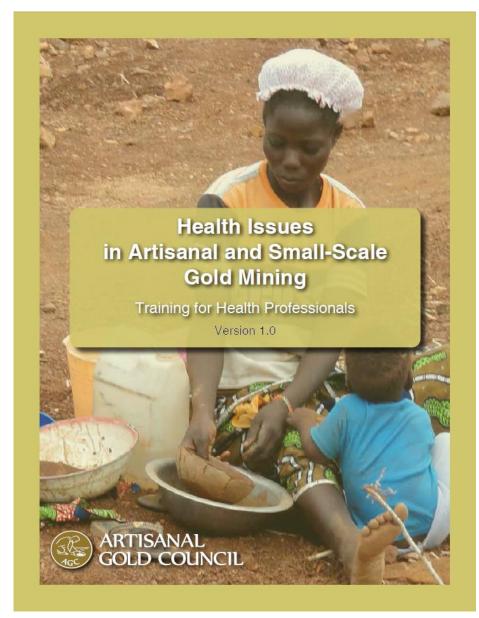
# NAP Obligations – Annex C

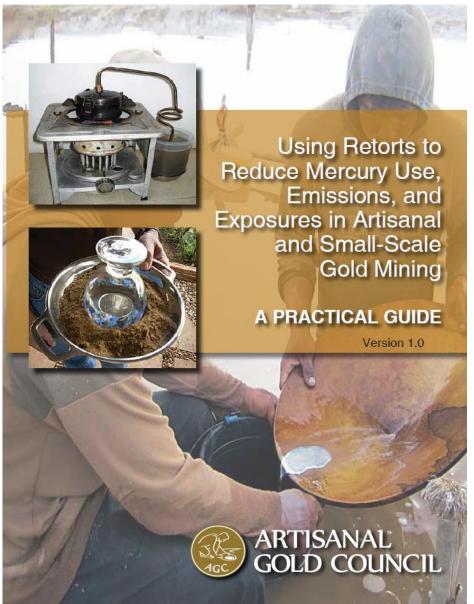
- (b) Actions to eliminate: (Worst Practices)
  - (i) Whole ore amalgamation;
  - (ii) Open burning of amalgam or processed amalgam;
  - (iii) burning of Amalgam in residential areas; and
  - (iv) Cyanide leaching in sediment, ore or tailings to which mercury has been added without first removing the mercury;
- (e) Strategies for promoting the reduction of emissions and releases of emissions and releases of, and **exposure** to, mercury in artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing, including mercury-free methods;

# Summary and Sources

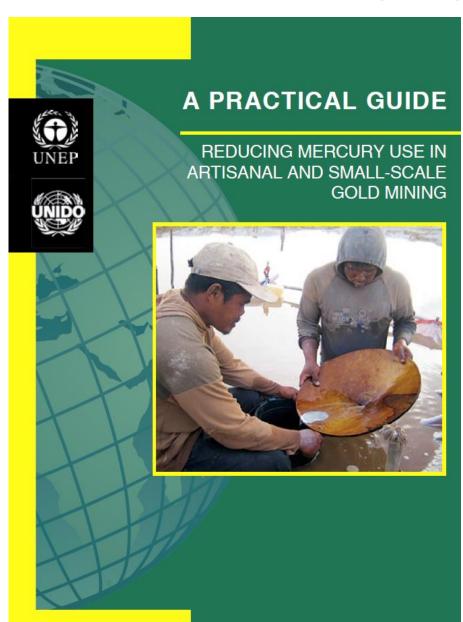
- Video, pictures and graphics to explain technical interventions to eliminate worst practices and reduce mercury exposures
- Sources all publically available
  - Telmer K. and Stapper D. (2012) Reducing Mercury Use in Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining: A Practical Guide - A UNEP Global Mercury Partnership document produced in conjunction with Artisanal Gold Council; ISBN 978-92-807-3282-5
  - Richard M., Moher P., and Telmer K. (2014) Health Issues in Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining: Training for health professionals, (Version 1.0), Artisanal Gold Council. Victoria, BC. ISBN: 978-0-9939459-0-8
  - Richard M., Moher P., Rossin R., and Telmer K. (2014) Using Retorts to Reduce Mercury Use, Emissions and Exposures in Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining: A Practical Guide, (Version 1.0), Artisanal Gold Council. Victoria, BC. ISBN 978-0-9939459-2-2
  - Artisanal Gold Council videos
  - Materials available at <u>www.artisanalgold.org</u>; youtube: Artisanal Gold Council channel; UNEP: <u>www.unep.org</u>

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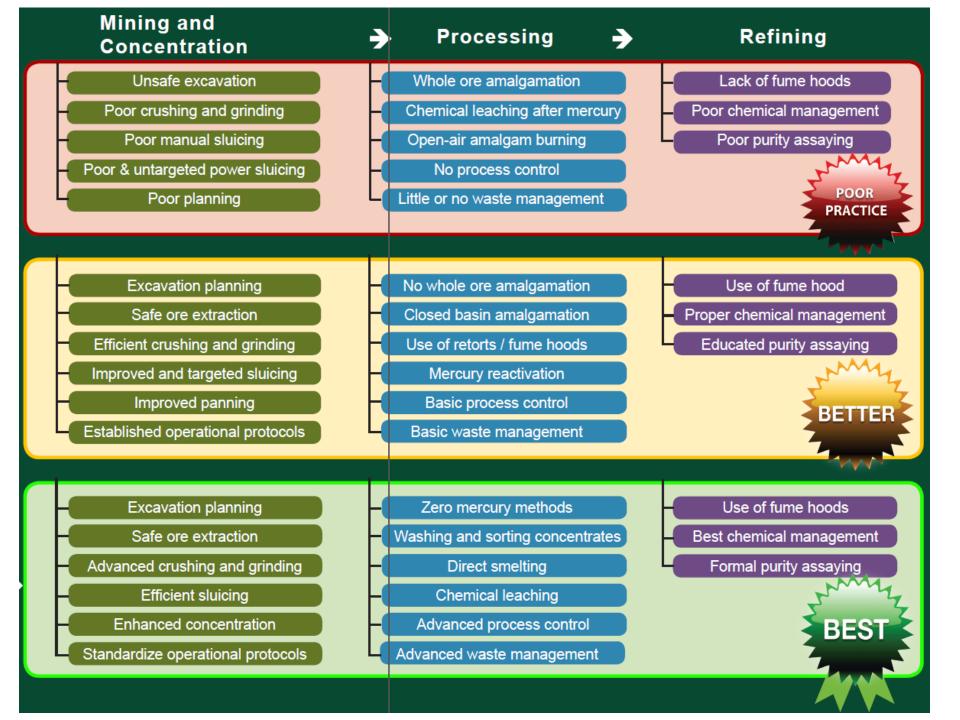
Helping artisanal and small-scale gold miners to derive the greatest benefit from this development opportunity, while minimizing the environmental and social consequences is absolutely possible. All that is needed is understanding, innovation and will.

For more information, contact: UNEP DTIE Chemicals Branch 11-13 Chemin des Anémones CH- 1219 Châtelaine, Geneva Switzerland

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# Instant mercury reduction

 Collect the coarse gold before amalgamation – reduces at least 10-20% of mercury use



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