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Development of an Action Plan to Address Primary Mercury Mining in Kyrgyzstan

Mercury Waste Partnership Meeting for UNEP Global Mercury Partnership *Tokyo, 12 March 2009*

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Overview of presentation

- Nature of the project and project objectives
- Project activities and Implementation
- Consultations with government agencies in Bishkek/field visit to the Khaidarkan mining area

Indicative timeline

Future plans

Nature of the project

- Mercury in the international context
- Based on results of UNEP/GRID-Arendal within the Environment and Security Initiative to assess the environmental and health risks from Khaidarkan's Hg plant tailings (REHRA project) and Chemicals Management National Profile
- Project partners are UNEP, UNEP/GRID-Arendal and UNITAR with financial support of the Government of Switzerland and US EPA
- Guidance materials have been/are being developed

Project objectives (1)

- Assess the mercury mine and smelter, including environmental, technical and socioeconomic aspects
- Develop an action plan to address identified gaps and challenges including options to replace the present mercury mining operations in the area by environmentally less harmful initiatives

Project objectives (2)

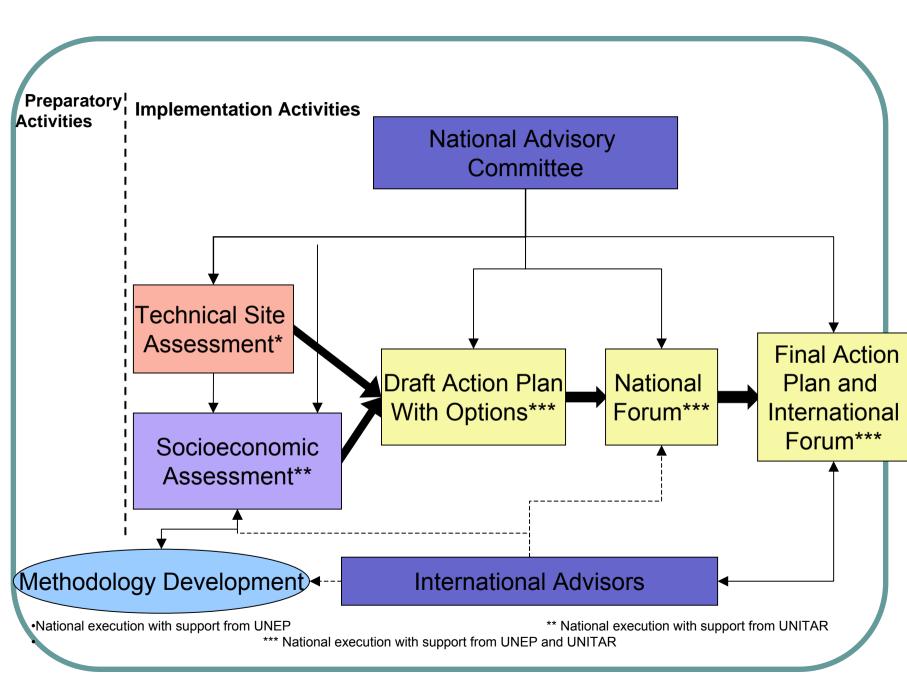
- Raise awareness of the local as well as donor community about currently ongoing primary mercury mining in the country
- Through its catalytic nature and approach, stimulate investments for possible follow-up

Project activities (1)

Technical assessment

Socio-economic assessment

Generation of an action plan with options



Implementation

I Lead Agency/National ator appointed

I Advisory Committee hed

of international advisers (USEPA, Sovernment, international ations and other interested Iders)

