

CEGGI TELECONFERENCE REPORT ON MERCURY TRADE WITH IPEN ON THE 22ND OF MAY 2018.

Topic:

MERCURY TRADE

Lead speaker:

MS. YUYUN ISMAWATI

Global Mercury Trade: Overview by Lee Bell

General Objectives:

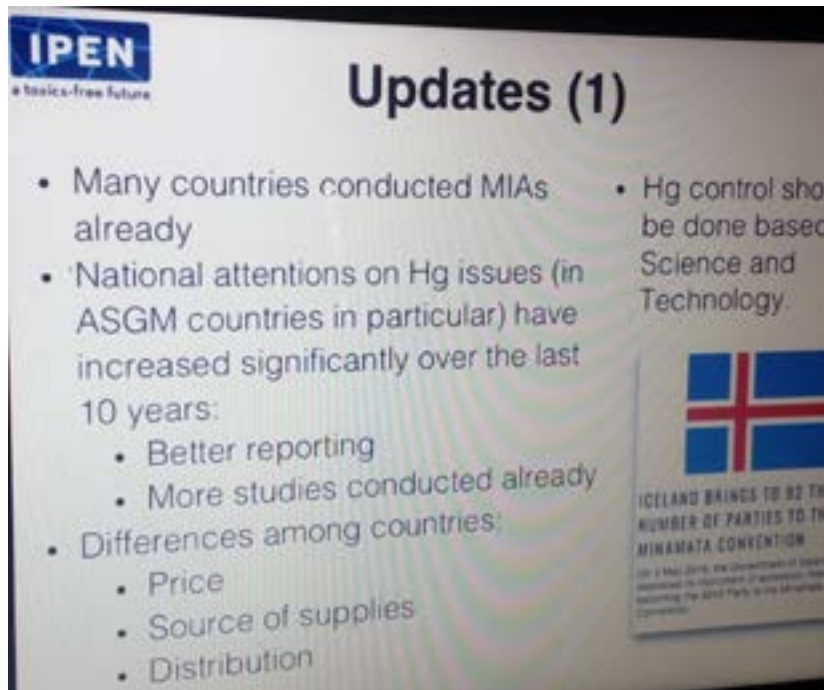
To allow NGOs perform projects that contribute to enhanced national ratification of Minamata convention by countries of all regions:

Specific Objectives

- To explore the Mercury Supply and Trade dynamics including the trade export-import situation using comtrade platform.
- To explore the gender aspect of mercury trade use in ASGM hotspots.

The subject was based on Mercury Convention Article 3.

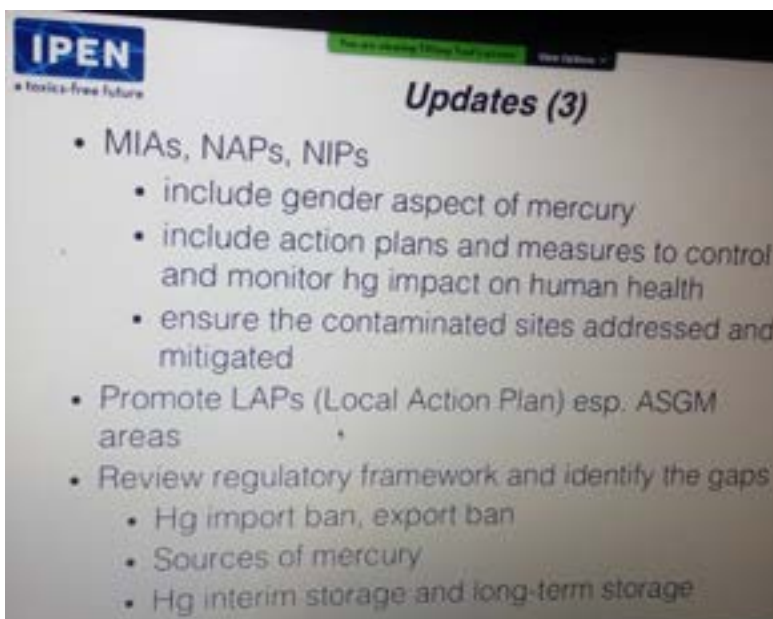
Updates: Global Mercury Trade: Speaker Lee Bell



Snap shot of slide: update 1 of global mercury trade



Snap shot of slide: update 2 of global Mercury trade



Snap shot of slide: update 3 of global Hg trade

Mercury Inventory in Indonesia

Speaker: Ms. Yuyun Ismawati

Although the use of mercury has been banned since 2014 In Indonesia, there is still an extensive use by small-scale mining operations throughout the country, says Yuyun Smawati. Mercury is largely used in Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining (ASGEM) in Indonesia and in more than 70 countries, she said.

She reported the recent updates of mercury supply and trade in Indonesia and its partner countries.

Until 2014, Indonesia was one of the largest importers of mercury in the region. But since 2015, Indonesia became one of the world's major exporters of mercury. Most of it came from the illegal cinnabar mining sites. In 2016 for example, Indonesia exported 1300 metric ton of mercury to various countries.

With Minamata Convention in place and mercury export ban issued by the EU (in 2012) and by the US (in 2013), Indonesia, Mexico, China and India are becoming the global player.

Mercury Stakeholders in Indonesia

Stakeholders of mercury in Indonesia consisted of various institutions at different level, that is national, sub-national, and local level to enforce and regulate laws governing the importation of mercury for mining sector and exportation ban. They included government institutions, private sectors etc.

Global Mercury Trade Flows:

Yuyun Ismawati said that with regard to mercury exported to Indonesia In 2013, UNEP released a famous mercury trade route map showing the traffic of mercury trade from one country to another country based on the database available at the UN Comtrade portal (<https://comtrade.un.org/data/>).

Figure below shows the mercury trade map. After 2012, the map changed as the EU and US' mercury export ban was already enforced. The blue/green band from Singapore to Indonesia represented mercury exported from Singapore to Indonesia based on the export notification of Singapore with Indonesia as their trading partner. Indonesian statistics showed that in the same year, Indonesia only imported 1.7 tonnes of mercury.



Global mercury trade in 2011 (Source: Zoinet, 2011, data from UN Comtrade). Snap shot slide by ceggi during

Using the UN Comtrade database platform, one can browse commodity transaction (export, import, re-export, re-import) between countries for a specific commodity. For elemental (liquid) mercury, the HS code is 280540. Figure below shows the screen capture of the UN Comtrade database search. The picture shows the query for the desired data within the period of 2012-2016 reported by all (countries) who imported mercury from Indonesia (as partner).

The screenshot displays the UN Comtrade search interface with the following settings:

- 1. Type of product & Frequency:**
 - Type of product: Goods Services
 - Frequency: Annual Monthly
- 2. Classification:**
 - HS (Harmonized System): As reported 02 06 00 07 12
 - SITC (Standard International Trade Classification): As reported * (May few datasets submitted as SITC after 1993. Use revision 1 or check data availability if no data is returned) Rev. 1 Rev. 2 Rev. 3 Rev. 4
 - BEC (Broad Economic Categories): BEC
- 3. Select desired data:**
 - Periods (year):

All or a valid period. Up to 5 may be selected.
 - Reporters:

All or a valid reporter. Up to 5 may be selected. All may only be used if a partner is selected.
 - Partners:

World, All, or a valid reporter. Up to 5 may be selected. All may only be used if a reporter is selected.
 - Trade flows:

All or select multiple trade flows.
 - HS (as reported) commodity codes:

Mercury import notifications query on the UN Comtrade database platform as reported by all countries as the trade partners of Indonesia.

The notifications of mercury (HS code 280540) imported from Indonesia released by various countries as the trade partner of Indonesia. Source: UN Comtrade database. Snap shot of slide by ceggi during the conference

Data obtained from UN Comtrade show an increased number of mercury exported to Indonesia as reported by various countries between 1998 until 2014.



Snapshot of 3 slides:

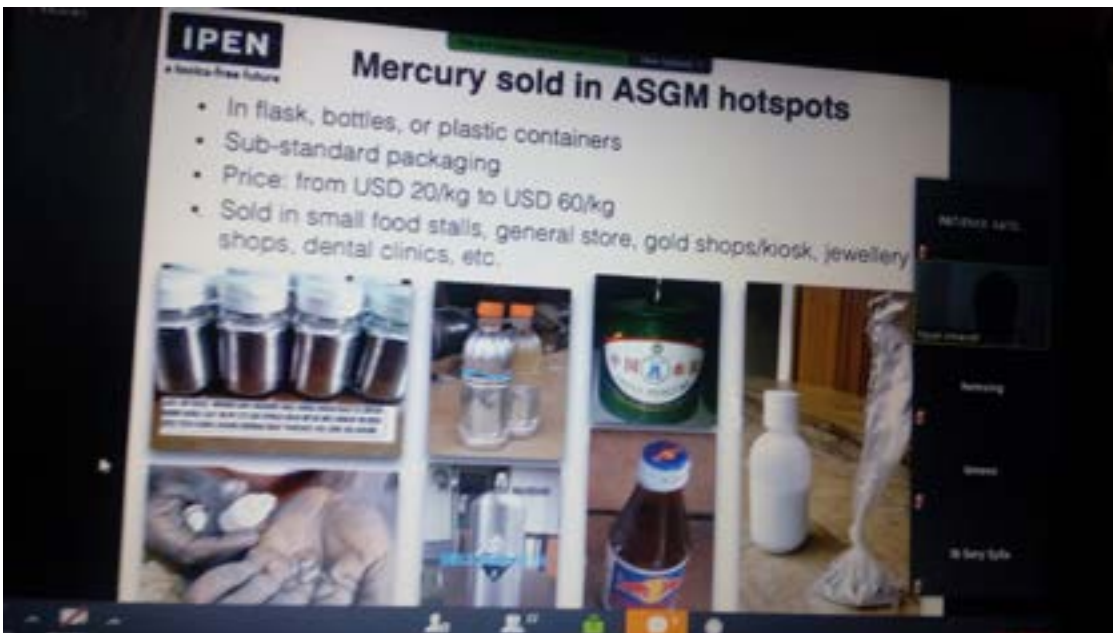
Show using the UN Comtrade database platform to browse commodity transaction (export, import, re-export, re-import) between countries for a specific commodity.



Period	Trade Flow	Reporter	Partner	Commodity Code	Trade Value (\$M)	Netweight (kg)	Qty (Unit)	Qty	Flag
2012	Export	India	Uganda	2842	\$13,790	6,284	Weight in kilograms	6,284	
2012	Export	Kenya	Uganda	2842	\$1,878	8	Weight in kilograms	8	
2012	Export	Spain	Uganda	2842	\$750	1	Weight in kilograms	1	
2012	Export	United Kingdom	Uganda	2842	\$4,871	2	Weight in kilograms	2	
2012	Export	France	Uganda	2842	\$63,868	100	Weight in kilograms	100	
2012	Export	Netherlands	Uganda	2842	\$827	10	Weight in kilograms	10	
2012	Export	Romania	Uganda	2842	\$504	2	Weight in kilograms	2	
2012	Export	India	Uganda	2842	\$1,864	110	Weight in kilograms	110	
2012	Export	Spain	Uganda	2842	\$881	1	Weight in kilograms	1	
2012	Export	United Kingdom	Uganda	2842	\$24,207	288	Weight in kilograms	288	
2014	Export	Colombia	Uganda	2842	\$1,125	8	Weight in kilograms	8	
2014	Export	France	Uganda	2842	\$9,988	18	Weight in kilograms	18	
2014	Export	Germany	Uganda	2842	\$42,791	44	Weight in kilograms	44	
2014	Export	Netherlands	Uganda	2842	\$467	2	Weight in kilograms	2	
2014	Export	India	Uganda	2842	\$2,812	28	Weight in kilograms	28	
2014	Export	South Africa	Uganda	2842	\$2,272	84	Weight in kilograms	84	
2014	Export	Spain	Uganda	2842	\$68	2	Weight in kilograms	2	
2014	Export	United Kingdom	Uganda	2842	\$20,216	249	Weight in kilograms	249	
2014	Export	USA	Uganda	2842	\$21,800	2	Weight in kilograms	2	
2015	Export	Colombia	Uganda	2842	\$2,291	20	Weight in kilograms	20	
2015	Export	Netherlands	Uganda	2842	\$247	2	Weight in kilograms	2	
2015	Export	India	Uganda	2842	\$12,207	270	Weight in kilograms	270	
2015	Export	United Kingdom	Uganda	2842	\$8,217	71	Weight in kilograms	71	
2015	Export	USA	Uganda	2842	\$7,200	1	Weight in kilograms	1	
2016	Export	Colombia	Uganda	2842	\$1,128	10	Weight in kilograms	10	

Using the UN Comtrade database platform, we tried to browse the mercury trade flow in Uganda. Snap shot of slide by ceggi during teleconference.

Mercury use in ASGM hot spots



Snap shot of slide: Mercury packaging from Indonesia's online traders and the field. Photo credit: BaliFokus.



*Mercury packaging from Indonesia's online traders and the field. Mercury sold in small food stalls, general store, gold shops/kiosk, dental clinics, etc. Both women and men are involved in Mercury trade.
Photo credit: BaliFokus*

SOME NAMES AND EXPRESSIONS EXPLAINED:

CEGGI:

Centre for Ecological Governance and Gender Initiatives (CEGGI) is an Indigenous Non-Profit-making Organization that was founded with a focus to improve on the livelihoods of communities, through advocating for equitable and sustainable use of natural endowments to attain a healthy environment.

IPEN:

IPEN is a global network of public interest NGOs working together for a world in which toxic chemicals are no longer produced or used in ways that harm human health and the environment.

UN Comtrade:

is the publicly accessible commodity trade database of the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD). UNSD maintains a detailed merchandise trade statistics database as mandated by the United Nations Statistical Commission. This database contains annual trade data (imports, re-imports, exports and re-exports) as submitted by reporting country or area, by commodity and by trading partner country, for most countries of the world (Comtrade 2016). https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/21725/global_mercury.pdf?sequence=1&

Yuyun Ismawati Drwiega:

she is a leading international expert for mercury and Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining (ASGM). A co-founder and Senior Advisor of BaliFokus Foundation, a Bali-based environmental NGO and the co-founder of the Indonesia Toxics-Free Network who has conducted extensive research on small-scale mining. Also a Goldman Environmental Prize winner, IPEN Lead for ASGM / Mining.

Hg:

is the chemical symbol of Mercury

ASGM:

Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining

The Minamata Convention on Mercury:

is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from the adverse effects of mercury. It is named after a city in Japan where inhabitants were poisoned by the release of mercury in wastewater from a chemical factory in the mid-20th century. It highlights that actions must be taken to reduce further anthropogenic mercury releases. These actions should be guided by reliable information on sources of mercury emissions and releases. Therefore, developing robust national mercury inventories is critical in identifying and addressing the issue of mercury releases. <http://ask.un.org/faq/192079>

Exposure to high levels of mercury can permanently damage the brain and kidneys and has been shown to affect a developing fetus, even months after the mother's exposure. In the aquatic environment, mercury can be transformed into methylmercury, a compound that is more toxic at low doses than pure mercury, absorbed by sea life, and then ingested by humans and other animals that eat seafood. <http://www.ipen.org/toxic-priorities/mercury>