

National Program on the Elimination of Mercury

State of Qatar



The State of Qatar

Population :1.4 million Capital city :Doha Area :11,437 sq km Major language :Arabic Main exports :Oil, gas















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Introduction

The Ministry of Environment started to introduce and improve the national strategy for chemical management. **Q-SAICM** Through this strategy, the Ministry made an international program prepared with United Nation for Environment Program (UNEP).

The program tries to reduce the risks of mercury and its effects for human health and environment. This is further introduced and implemented because Qatar has a rapid growth of development particularly in industry and technology. The national program wants also to protect and preserve the human health and environment.











Mercury Cycle in Environment



The Effects of Mercury in Human Health

The Methyl Mercury Effects :

- > Tremors
- Human Nervous System & Pregnancy.
- Changes in vision or hearing
- Insomnia
- Weakness
- Difficulty with memory
- Headaches







Figure 4. Mercury (Hg) biomagnifies from the pottom to the top of the food chain. Even at very ow input rates to aquatic ecosystems that are emote from point sources, biomagnification

Geographical Scope of the Plan

The geographical scope of the program is the whole of the State, especially the industrial and health zones.

The goal of the national program on Elimination of Mercury

Reduce the mercury and it compounds releases to the environment.

- •Find the best alternatives of its products.
- Find ways to eliminate and control its level.

Methodology of the work and Phases of the Program

The ministry of Environment has designated a project coordinator (PC), who is the mercury program focal point and formed a Project Coordinating Team (PCT) from the relevant ministries and organizations in Qatar:

Ministry of Environment.

•Ministry of Health.

Hamad Medical Corporation.

Ministry of Agriculture and Municipality.

- •The Industry (heavy, medium and light industry)
- •Ministry of Defence (Environment Security Unit).

•Qatar University.

•Ministry of Education.



Functions of the National Coordination Team

Maintain and control the inventory of mercury sources

•Facilitate access to information and data on mercury.

•Support the implementation of the plan in their ministries and organizations by raising the awareness of the mercury .

 pacts on the environment and public health among the segments of society by using all the available means.





Second Phase: Literature review, samples collection and processing

- studies and researches.
- samples from the environment especially from the sea water and the sediments.
- Analyzing samples

Third Phase: Drafting the National Action Plan of the State of Qatar

Awareness plan



Seminars & Workshops **Training Courses Issuance of brochures** / pamphlets Publication of news articles MOE web site information Media information

Qatar Mercury Management Information System QMMIS

Information technology to manage the mercury emissions in the state of Qatar in education, medicine, and industrial fields.

This information system can be used for managing different minerals or substances impacts on the environment having similar management approaches.

Making this information system available and accessible for other agencies.



Objectives of QMMIS

- Assists in gathering the information for the mercury usage and emissions in different fields.
- Saving time and effort spent on mercury assessment for both technical staff and decision makers.
- Reduce human mistakes.
- Building data inventory for mercury in Qatar.

Feasibility Study of QMMIS

 The idea is to substitute the usage of the UNEP toolkit to user friendly application interfaces.

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6 5.1.1 Coal combustion in large																			0.00
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24 5.1.3 refining and use																			#VALUE!
25 /Extraction													?	?	•	?	?		? #VALUE!
28 /Use of crude oil:																			
27 5.1.3.1 Uses (other than combustion)		10 - 300	mg Hg/t	300	mg Hg/		t oil/y	0.00	Kg Hg/y			-	1						0.00
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29 5.1.3.3 Other oil combustion facilities		10 - 300	mg Hg/t		mg Hg/		t oil/y		Kg Hg/y	Oil Combustion Facility with no emissions controls			1						0.00
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	Administration Sheet					

ت الإلكترونية Electronic Services

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	Air		ater	Land	Product	General waste	Disposal
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Final Reports

 Mercury final report according to the source category.

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Date 06/11/2008

Finally Inventory Report

No	Name	Air	Water	Land	Product	Waste	Disposal
5.5.3.1	Fluorescent tubes (double end)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.5.3.1	Fluorescent tubes (double end)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.5.3.4	High-pressure sodium lamps	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.5.3.5	UV light for tanning	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.5.3.6	Metal halide lamps	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.5.4.2	Zinc-air button cells	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.5.5.1	Production	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.5.5.2	Use+Disposal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.6.2.1	Medical blood pressure gauges	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.6.2.6	Barometers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.6.2.6	Barometers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.6.3.9	Thermostats	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.6.3.10	Thermometers, manometers, and other measuring equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.6.3.11	Mercury lamps for atomic absorption spectrophotometers and other equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.6.5.3	Educational uses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.6.5.17	Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total :	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

QMMIS - Future Plan

- Add the initial tasks to the information systems like the surveys and preliminary assessments.
 - Telecommunications means for technical staff to connect and feed the system with data in the field.
- QMMIS shall host global Mercury Management programs.
- QMMIS can be provided as a stand alone version for interested world wide agencies.

Future Plan







Lessons learned Positive points

- Creating a good cooperative
- Designing the inventory forms according to the sectors
- The ministry of Environment could collect and obtain a lot of information and data.
- The ministry of environment in coordination and cooperation with
- ministry of health,
- ministry of education
- Identify the gaps in the environmental legislation regarding the use of mercury and compounds.
- Create a good public awareness

difficulties

- The inventory groups faced some difficulties to collect information and data from the light and medium industries due to the lack of knowledge.
- Facing some difficulties to obtain copies of some studies due to rights of confidential.

Future activities

- Completion of the second phase, especially the second stage concerning the collection and analyzing of the environmental samples (air and soil samples).
- Drafting the national action plan .
- approval of the national action plan by the ministers.
- Submitting the plan to the secretariat of the United Nation Environment Program.
- Investigating the possible options to establish a special mercury storehouse.

Thank You