

Valcambi new partner of the Global Mercury Partnership – August 2016

Valcambi has joined the Global Mercury Partnership, the UNEP's multi-stakeholder initiative on mercury. This initiative has been established with the overall goal of supporting the ratification and effective implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from the adverse effects of mercury, agreed in 2013.

The Partnership identifies eight priorities for action - or partnership areas - that are reflective of the major source of mercury releases categories. One of them is related to the reduction of the use of mercury in artisanal and small-scale mines (ASM). Despite its proved deadly effects on human health and the devastating outcomes of its release into the environment, mercury is still widely used in gold processing by small miners in less developed countries. Figures are worrisome as the United Nations Industrial Development Organization estimates that 1,000 tons of mercury are released into the air, soil, and water each year by this sector.

By joining the partnership Valcambi is eager to support ASM counterparties suppliers in improving mercury use practices and to implement mercury management and mitigation actions.