



Yayasan Tambuhak Sinta

The Chief

PSM / OOS /PRC

UNIDO

Wagramer Strasse 5,

A-1220 Vienna, Austria

Monday, November 13th, 2006

Attention: Svetlana Adler

Re: GEF/ UNDP/UNIDO Global Mercury Project, in Central Kalimantan.
Removal of barriers to the introduction of cleaner gold mining and extraction technologies

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES FOR OCTOBER 2006

Dear Ms Adler,

During the past month of October, the project continued to implement the six-week field education and training program commenced in September, until its completion at the traditional 'Eid' holiday period at the end of the month of Ramadan. As all mining operations were to cease, fieldwork was also scheduled to cease for a fortnight. Fieldwork has now recommenced, with follow-up at the same locations.

In the township, field trainers are making individual approaches to gold shops and seeking to promote the use of a locally-made stainless steel retort. Trainers from the Departments of Environment and Health have been consulting gold-shop operators individually in an effort to raise their level of concern for their own health and safety.

To this end, the high levels of contamination are being proven to the operators by conducting Lumex-testing inside their shops. As speed of operation is the primary concern of these operators, the project has also commissioned the manufacture of another type of retort which may provide them with a faster processing time. The prototype is now built and will be tested in gold shops next week.

Community awareness-raising continued, with films screened to 200 senior high school students, together with question-and-answer sessions to improve understanding. Including September, a total of **650 brochures** on Mercury-related issues were distributed **in the township of Kereng Pangi**. Furthermore, informational brochures were distributed to women living near gold-shops (produced by the local clinic) together with advice from trainers from the clinic. The brochure on mercury produced by the clinic is now part of the district health media set.

The Transportable Demonstration Unit completed a further two weeks of fieldwork in October, at two more locations. Although many miners were leaving the field due to the heavy smoke and drought conditions, the locations chosen still had a large number of operators. All in all, the field campaign was conducted throughout the survey area, but with a focus on five specific camp locations.

The TDU traveled to distant settlements and operational units throughout the field, in addition to meeting the mine workers and women in the five fixed camp locations. Teams provided health and technical advice in the form of equipment demonstrations and delivery of mercury-awareness brochures and films, to all residents in the camps.

An approximate total of **445 miners and women** were thus contacted in the goldfields and provided with information during the course of the campaign. A total of **650 brochures** were distributed throughout the goldfields, together with explanation of the contents of each. Thus, around **370 men** have so far had direct technical and health consultations both in the campsite and through visits to their worksites, and **75 women** (camp residents) have so far been provided with direct consultation as to the dangers of mercury for family health and how best to avoid mercury contamination.

At this time, there is a high turnover in the workforce with many new itinerant miners arriving in the field. As a result, the field activities will be extended beyond the existing follow-up schedule so that more of these newly arrived miners may have contact with the TDU. One further location will be added to the schedule making a total of six camp locations to be visited and revisited.

Fieldwork shall thus be ongoing during the months of November and the project anticipates that visits by UNIDO experts this month will assist trainers in the field to improve the quality of training delivered to the miners and overcome any of the technical shortcomings of the equipment. We anticipate that the follow-up work will be an opportunity not only to build upon the understanding gained by the mining groups already encountered, but also to build new relationships with new arrivals.

The project will therefore be reprinting brochure materials to target the greater numbers of miners due to arrive. The intention is thus to distribute a total of 3,000 training brochures directly to target audiences in the field by the close of the year. Delivery of brochures is accompanied by elucidation by trainers, who simultaneously provide technical and health advice. Target audiences include the wives of miners who sometimes accompany miners to the field, and other women working in informal shops such as gold shops.

The October edition of our newsletter is due to be printed and will again be distributed to local government, schools, non-governmental organizations, gold shops and other local stakeholders. This issue contains a technical focus on the various types of retort technologies available for burning amalgam and promotes safer burning practices.

The following is a summary of expenses for the month of October in local currency and US dollars, shown with a fixed conversion rate of Rp. 9,200 to one US dollar, in line with the conversion rate in our original submission. Please note that the actual conversion values are subject to fluctuations.

OCTOBER 2006	Rupiah	US \$
Income	Nil	Nil
Expenses		
Project Management	Rp. 56,772,875	\$ 6,171
Implementation	Rp. 6,927,200	\$ 753
Other Project Costs	Rp. 1,056,500	\$ 115
Equipment, Materials, Supplies	Rp. 10,842,060	\$ 1,178
Total Income for September	Nil	Nil
Total Expenses for September	Rp. 75,598,635	\$ 8,217

We hope that this

Fifth Monthly Report meets with your approval.

Yours sincerely,



Bardolf Paul
Project Supervisor