ACPO, Associação de Combate aos POPs (Association of Combat Against the POPs) have been working with toxics contamination since 1994. In 2001 it started the work with mercury, giving support to contaminated former workers from Carbocloro, an chlor-alkalis plant in Cubatão, Sao Paulo State.

Nevertheless, ACPO have followed the discussions on the National Commission of Chemical Security regarding mercury, have participated at the discussions of the Mercury National Assessment, was present at the last UN Latin America meeting for mercury management strategy (2004) and was at the last UN Governing Council – Mercury Working Group - Nairobi, on February 2005.

With the project outlined above, ACPO aims to contribute with the public understanding and participation on the definitions of national policies for mercury management and future phase-out.

Project line – April to October 2005

I - Objectives:

- Develop public awareness on Mercury issues
- Identification of other partners that could be interested on the issues of mercury, as in gold mining regions, trade unions that work with chlor-alkalis plants.
- Creation of a network on toxics issues focusing towards mercury contamination and impacts
- Generate information on mercury trade for Brazil and within Brazilian borders
- Push for national better legislation regarding Hg
II - Strategy:

In Order to develop the objectives presented, the work will be divided in 3 different areas: Mapping and network formation on the chlor-alkali sector and the Gold mining sector, information generation and communication.

A - Mapping and Network formation:

Through some contacts that already exist, the ACPO will start to map partners that can be involved on mercury issues in two main areas: chlor-alkali plants and gold mining regions.

In order to do that in a best manner that is possible, the staff of ACPO will do an internal strategic and diagnosis evaluation of the mercury uses and users in Brazil.

A-1. Chlor Alkali Sector (C-A):

Regarding the chlor-alkali sector, there are 7 plants in Brazil that are still using Mercury cell process; they are located at the states of São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Bahia and Pernambuco. The main strategy is to identify the trade workers unions, the local NGOs and some government institutions who could be interested or are already working on the issue.

After this previous identification and mapping of the stakeholders who can be involved, decide on what kind of material (including language) could be developed to target this groups.

At the same time, we expect that these contacts will also generate information that can be included in the report on trade and uses of mercury.

A-2. Gold mining regions:

As the mainly gold mining regions in Brazil are situated at the Northern region, a mapping of the main important regional focus on gold mining is the first information to be gathered. It is known that there are at least two Institutional programs focusing in gold mining in Brazil, one from Brazilian government and other from UNIDO. Both of them have been working with governmental institutions such as labs, universities and so one.

Although some NGOs up north are recognized by having access to communities and to indigenous groups on grass roots basis, there is quite non-information on Non governmental organizations working with mercury issues in the North region.
The first steps then will be concentrated in identifying the non-governmental organizations working on gold mining areas and search if there is some interest on the issue of mercury and mercury contamination of communities.

It is worth highlighting that in May, the Treaty Council (US Indigenous Organization) will be running a seminar with indigenous people from around the globe regarding awareness of mercury issues, at the UN Indigenous People Meeting in New York. It may have some Brazilians representatives at this meeting and it could help in identifying the Indigenous representatives that already get interested on the issues.

Similar with the chlor-alkali sector, after the main identification of further stakeholders and partners, production of materials and language can start.

Further to the above contacts that will be developed, we also plan to develop a strategy and present it to the government and funding organizations targeting a seminar for mobilization and capacity building for the social movements and NGOs that can be involved and interested on Mercury Gold Mining issues.

The organizations mentioned above are an example of the first contacts that ACPO will be targeting as starting point: ISA (Instituto Sócio Ambiental, or Institute Environmental Partner), University of Para, University of Amazonas, Workers Ministry officers, NGO Saúde e Alegria and so on. At this moment it is difficult precise if a first travel to Amazon Region is needed, nevertheless the primary contact will be done by internet research and telephone calls.

As exposed before, there is the possibility of government funding for a seminar targeting mobilization at Northern region.

The gold mining is a complex issue, since it involves health, social and environmental impacts at short and long term basis within many different actors. There is the possibility of hostility from the gold miners against mobilization regarding this issue, but some kind of interest is expected to be found on the downstream river communities (ribeirinhos). Identify organizations or leadership communities will be the first steps expected.

Involving the government on the mobilization process is also intended, as an alternative, in case no organizations get involved or interested with the mercury contamination in short time. The federal government and some state governments are already involved with the gold mining. Previous contacts with the Environmental Ministry and Health Ministry staff had demonstrated willingness to have the civil society involved on this issue. Exploring what kind of support the government can provide to facilitate the process and straight relations with government can be very helpful to promote grass roots organizations, communities and miners’ associations’ involvement.
A-3. Network formation:

There is in Brazil an organization composed by several other Brazilians NGO’s and social movements called Forum Brasileiro de ONGs e Movimentos Sociais - Brazilian Forum of NGOs and Social Movements Organizations (FBOMS). The Forum was created in 1990 to facilitate the participation of Brazilian social movement at the World Summit in Rio de Janeiro, 1992. 545 different organizations compose the Forum and it is organized around working groups for several issues such as: water, energy, forest, agenda 21, climate, trade and environment, environmental law, environmental education and sustainable tourism. The FBOMS is based in Federal Capital Brasilia and ACPO is a member of it.

After the identification of the main possible stakeholders, ACPO will articulate together with the Brazilian Environmental Justice Network the initiation/establishment of a working group (WG) at the FBOMS (Brazilian Forum of NGOs and Social Movements Organizations) using for that FBOMS infrastructure for network articulation. The WG will have as theme, toxics issues and will target mercury as the first hot issue. A first plan of action will be developed.

Brazilian National Government already recognizes the FBOMS as an actor for discussions between government structures and social and environmental movements. In the light of these facts, ACPO believes that a creation of a Working Group within FBOMS structure can strength the civil society mobilization and recognition by the government of public participation. The mobilization of National Organizations around mercury issues also can provide a opportunity to help the International Campaigns, letters can be sent upon request for European Governments, support letters to other developing countries NGOs activities and promote a exchange of information within organizations of other countries and Brazilian’s ones.

A-4 - Deliverables:

D1. Report on networking – contacts made, backgrounds, list of persons – also per sector (chlor-alkali, gold mining)
D2. Proposal to get funding from Government and/or funding institutions for the organization of seminar targeting the gold mining.
D3. Establishment of the working group on chemicals/mercury within FBOMS and plan of action.
D4. Material to be decided to target Chlor-alkali and Gold mining related contacts.
D5. Letters, reports to be sent to contribute to the European and international debate – upon request.

B - Information Generation

There are two main areas to generate information: the mercury market to and within Brazilian boarders and the C-A sector environmental risks.
B-1. Report on Mercury Market in Brazil

In the light of information gathered during the stakeholder’s identification and with research on official commerce database, Mercury Assessment documents produced by industry and government, also some information on gold production, we aim to put together a report on Mercury trade to and within Brazilian borders. That will be a hard information report that can help on the building up of ACPO capacity and also as a provider of reliable information to others, including government, ngos, workers unions and media.

Data Information Gathering

The data can come from several different places:

- Government documents from different institutions, like Environmental Ministry, Health Ministry, Fiocruz Foundation, etc…
- Interviews and document research with Industry Associations, such as ABICLOR and FIESP
- Commerce and Trade National Data Bank
- Information from Programs from International Organizations such as UNIDO
- State governments and local NGOs

Within the report, these areas are expected to be covered:

- National market
- Main uses
- Imports – official numbers
- Main discrepancies
- Legal registered uses
- Illegal uses
- National Consumption
- National recycling
- Main problematic areas: Gold mining, Products Chloral Alkali
- National Regulations and infrastructure

B-2. Environmental sampling at Chlor alkali plants:

In order to contribute with a further action regarding C-A sector, ACPO will start a process of identifying methodologies for environmental sampling at the C-A plants. We are opting for environmental samplings as it can indicate where are the areas affected and what kind of risk communities are exposed to. Generating this kind of environmental information can provide good tools for ACPO to promote communities’ involvement and request concrete actions from regional and national governments.
Although ACPO knows that in order to make environmental sampling at the Chlor Alkali plants, resources are necessary, we would like to start defining methodology to do so. As first step, try to put together the places and methodology of sampling to be adopted for each one, also start to contact institutions that can be able to work together with ACPO such as Laboratories and Universities. Following these steps, we aim to develop a further (next year) sampling and report in the status quo of the chlor alkali environmental situation, regarding mercury, in Brazil. The main aim of this report should be demonstrate how fragile and inefficient is the concept of “environmental soundly” management of mercury in Chloral Alkali plants, push an national reform on regulations and legislation regarding environment and health and a further reform in the national law that allows Chloral Alkali plants to continue their operation without a phase- out plan.

B-3- Deliverables

D6. Report on mercury market in Brazil
D7. Plan for Environmental sampling at Chlor-alkali plants

C- Communication

As part of the strategy to spread information on mercury, a new part of the ACPO website will be designed and updated, mainly containing:

- Background information on mercury, main uses, main damages, etc
- Map of Brazilian hotspots of mercury usages
- Information on global wide actions targeting mercury
- On line library, with (when it is possible) scientific articles, news, reports on mercury in Brazil
- Links with the principal websites of mercury in Brazil (projects of UNIDO, etc…) and worldwide.

The website design will be done by a professional and in a way of easy-update, where it can be done by ACPO staff.

After the stakeholders identification we plan to develop materials such as leaflets/brochure and newsletter on mercury, focusing on the stakeholder gaps. This material will be used for communication with a general public as well.

On the Mercury Market report we aim to produce 100 copies in CD roms in Portuguese/English versions, targeting a specific public such as deputies, governmental representatives and organizations.

C-1 Deliverables

D8. Website in Portuguese
D9. Leaflets/brochures on Mercury Trade, Gold Mining and Chlorol Alkali
III - Time line framework:

April:
Start contacts with NGO’s and Trade Unions Associations - mapping
Start Bibliography review in mercury in Brazil
Bibliography review – research in mercury market
(Governmental information, trade institutions information, business representative’s information), interviews and database analysis
Contacts development focusing in: (development of D1)
  • NGO’s of the cities where plants are located, workers unions and class representatives (Chemistries workers, etc…)
  • Brazilian indigenous groups that are going to May Meeting of UN
  • Contacts and research within the UNIDO and others institutional program regarding mercury in Brazil
Participation/presentation at EEB conference in Madrid. (separate budget)

May:
Report writing and revision on trade
Web design and preparation

June:
5th - Environmental Day - Release of the report: Mercury Market in Brazil (D6 and D7)
Web page release including database on mercury publications in Brazil for download (all that would be possible – copyright restrictions) (D7)
Network formation at the FBOMS (D3)

July:
Follow-up of the report – report’s presentation at the National Commission of Chemical Security – CONASQ –
Development of the public materials (D4 and D8)
Contribution to the EU campaign in view of the Environment Council, 24/6/2005 (D5)

August:
Visit to the National Congress - talks with specific deputies and senators, visit to the Environmental Ministry.

September:
Present the proposal for the environmental sampling at the Chlor Alkali sector (D6)

October:
Present a proposal to the government and Funding institutions for a development of an “articulation seminar” targeting the Gold mining sector and the stakeholders that we had already identified. (D2)
Completion of report on networking (D1)
Evaluation of this project together with EEB.

IV- Budgeting:

In Euros (E$)

- Salary of one position part time (April to October 2005) E$ 3500,00 - without taxes
  - Main activities covered: network creation, the reports and the plan for the sampling.
- Web design – E$ 400,00
  - External professional design
- Telephone bills – E$ 300,00
- Private Information Requests – E$150,00
  - National Commerce and Trade data bank – we need to pay to access information
- Mercury Market Report Production – E$ 250,00
  - External English and Portuguese revision and Publication in CD ROOM (100 copies) and printed versions (100 copies),
- General Public Materials (Briefings and Newsletters) E$ 500,00
- Travel expenses to Brasilia National Capital (two trips) E$ 1000,00
- Taxes and administrative costs – unknown yet – we are checking - believe around 10%

Total without salary taxes and administrative costs: **E$ 6.100,00**
Salary taxes: 6% of salary - E$ 105,00 (to be paid directly from ACPO – not include on this budget)
Administrative cost: 5% - E$ 305,00

Total: E$ 6.405,00

NOTE: ACPO will cover as counterpart the payment of salary taxes.

[Signature]

Jeffer Castelo Branco
Diretor de Saúde Ambiental

Bank Info below
**ACPO**  
**Associação de Combate aos POPs**  
**Associação de Consciência à Prevenção Ocupacional**  
CGC: 00.034.558/0001-98

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### BANK INFO

**Contact & Bank Information**

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<tr>
<th>Contact details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Name of Contact Person</strong></td>
<td>Jeffer Castelo Branco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Name of Organization</strong></td>
<td>ACPO – Associação de Combate aos POPs</td>
</tr>
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| **Mailing Address** | Rua Júlio de Mesquita, 148 conjunto 203 – V. Mathias  
CEP: 0075-220 – Santos – SP - Brasil |
| **Telephone** | (55 13) 3234 6679 |
| **Fax** | (55 13) 3234 6679 |
| **e-mail** | acpo94@uol.com.br |

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| **Name of Bank** | Brazil  
Banco ITAÚ S/A - n.º 341 |
| **Name of account/beneficiary** | Associação de Consciência à Prevenção Ocupacional |
| **Account number** | 52022-2 |
| **Bank address/location** | Agency: 0447  
Av. Pedro Lessa 1907 – Embaré  
CEP: 11024-003 - Santos - SP – Brasil |
| **Telephone** | (55 13) 32275777 |
| **Fax** | (55 11) 32310646 |
| **Swift code or ABBA #** | ITAUBRSP |

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| **Name of Bank** | BANK OF NEW YORK  
New York Branch |
| **Name of account/beneficiary** | BANCO ITAÚ S/A |
| **Account number** | 8033034521 |
| **Bank address/location** | 540 Madison Avenue, 24th Floor  
New York City, NY 10022, U.S.A |
| **Telephone** | +1 212 4861280 |
| **Fax** | +1 212 8889342 |
| **Swift code or ABBA #** | ITAUS33 |

*Bank Itaú in Brazil (Exchange) 55 11 3385 3212*