

Botswana Plan on Mercury

Team Members

V.T.C. Matsoga (Health) Oabile Kealotswe (Health), Andrew
Magashula (John Snow), Luke. M. Motlhatlheddi (Southern
District Council) (Local Government), Ivan MakatiBontle
Mbongwe (University of Botswana

)

- To intensify education and awareness on mercury and its hazards to human health
- To create baseline data on mercury uses and emissions in health care facilities and schools
- To develop a mercury phase-out policy
- To phase out mercury

Short-term -2007

- November 2007- Present a report of the conference to the National district Health management teams
- November 2007, Disseminate the findings of the Mini mercury study to the Ministries of Health, Environment, Education and Local Government
- Strengthen waste management structures
- To intensify awareness education on mercury and its hazards through the existing health care waste management education program
- Advocate for provision of mercury spill kits
- Advocate for thorough cleanup

Medium term- 2008-2010

- Carry out an in-depth study on mercury uses and emissions in health care facilities and schools
- Develop a policy on mercury phase out
- Develop a strategy and implementation plan for the phase out of mercury
- Identify mercury-free pilot facilities

Long-term- Phase out period 2010-2016

- Implement pilot areas
- Intensify campaign for a mercury free Botswana in other sectors
- Roll-out the mercury phase out plan to the entire country concurrently with the implementation of the 10th National development Plan
- 2016 Mercury free Botswana

NB 2016 is the nation vision year for an informed and healthy nation

Collaboration with Ground work

- Co-organize a national awareness workshop on mercury (technical support)
- Collaboration in research
- Information exchange/sharing
- Lobbying and campaigning for political support