

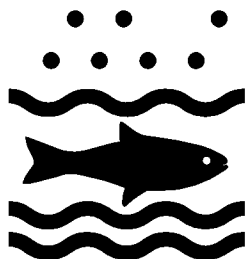
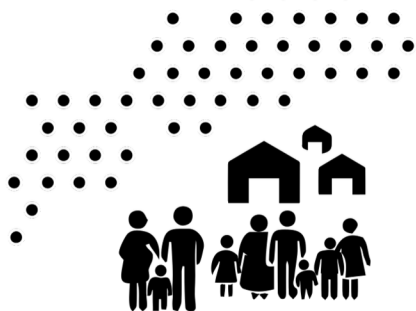
MERCURY IS DANGEROUS



Mercury gives off toxic vapours at normal temperatures and when heated.



You can get sick from mercury when you are exposed to mercury vapours, touch it, or eat contaminated food.



The planetGOLD Zimbabwe project works together with local communities to reduce the use of mercury in artisanal and small-scale gold mining while improving the health and lives of local mining communities. The project is part of the global planetGOLD program currently implemented in 25 countries.

In Zimbabwe, the project aims to support 7,500 men and women in 11 districts. It aims to reduce mercury use by 4.85 tonnes.

Scan to see the latest project news and results.

www.planetgold.org/zimbabwe



BEWARE OF MERCURY

CHENJERA MERCURY

QAPHELA IMERCURY



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Ministry of Mines
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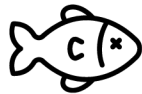


MERCURY MAKES YOU AND YOUR COMMUNITY SICK

Mercury travels through the air, spreading pollution over long distances.



Mercury pollutes nearby water sources, harming those who drink it and poisoning fish.



Mercury releases invisible poisonous vapours that enter your body and can make you sick.



Mercury lowers your body's defenses against infection and diseases.



Mercury can make it hard for men and women to have babies by causing infertility and impotence.



Mercury affects your mind causing mental health problems. It can affect your vision and hearing.



MERCURY IS DANGEROUS FOR PREGNANT WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Mercury is very dangerous for pregnant women, affecting a child even before they are born.



Mercury can affect the baby's brain leading to lower intelligence, memory issues and difficulties with vision, hearing and speech.

Mercury can also cause birth defects in newborns such as cleft palate, missing fingers and toes, or abnormally small heads.

Children should not be allowed near mercury. It damages their growing brains.



SYMPTOMS OF MERCURY POISONING



- Shaking or body tremors
- Headaches, tiredness, and mood swings
- Breathing problems and coughing
- Difficulty in remembering things
- Vision and hearing problems
- Numbness in hands and feet

HANDLE MERCURY WITH CARE

Never use mercury near children or if pregnant.



Store mercury in a mercury labelled bottle or jar with a tight-fitting lid.



Use gloves, masks, and other safety equipment when handling mercury.



Work in a dedicated area for mercury so that mercury does not contaminate local water sources.



Never openly burn mercury. This is extremely dangerous.



If you are burning mercury, always wear a mask and use a retort to capture the fumes.

