MINAMATA INITIAL ASSESSMENT SAMOA
MAIN FINDINGS OF THE MIA-SAMOA
Samoa signed the Minamata Convention on Mercury on October 10th, 2013 and ratified it on 24 September 2015

- No legislation on mercury management
- Ban to mercury products as of 2020
- Inclusion of mercury priorities in the National plans to ensure the compliance of the Convention
Mercury inventory

- Most emissions and releases come from waste management
- 50 kg of mercury per year
  - Use and disposal of other products;
  - the application, use and disposal of dental amalgam fillings.
Action plans!

- Replacement of all mercury containing instruments from the health system
- Comprehensive plan to improve dental health and incorporating a phasedown in the use of dental amalgam
- Combining mercury reduction and energy efficiency objectives to accelerate the phase-out of mercury added lighting in particular from public services and institutions
Way forward

- Ongoing financing local Research into deleterious effects of Mercury on Environment and Health;
- Finalize the legislative process and ensure implementation;
- Integrated Inter-Agency database providing data and Information on the use of Mercury Products throughout its life cycle.
CHALLENGES

- Lack of national data
- The MIA template was officially issued after the consultants started to work on the deliverables which lead to additional work from both sides
- Inter-ministerial communication
- Lack of human resources
What can we learn from the MIA in Samoa?

- Ratification accelerates the compliance process
- Partnerships are key on the implementation of the Convention
- Commitment to further research and development is fundamental
- Make mercury part of the national priorities