

1- Identification

1.1 Project details

GEF ID	6978	Umoja No:	SB-000690.30				
Project Title	Continuing regional Support for the POPs Global Monitoring Plan under the Stockholm Convention in the Pacific Region						
Duration months	<table border="1"> <tr><td>Planned</td><td>48</td></tr> <tr><td>Extension</td><td>30-Jun-22</td></tr> </table>	Planned	48	Extension	30-Jun-22	GEF financing amount	USD 1,995,000
Planned	48						
Extension	30-Jun-22						
Division(s) Implementing the project	Economy Division, GEF Chemicals and Waste, Chemicals and Health Branch	Co-financing amount	USD 6,448,604				
Name of co-implementing Agency	-	Date of CEO Endorsement	1-Dec-14				
Executing Agency(ies)	UNEP Chemicals Branch, Knowledge & Risk Unit	Start of Implementation	7-Sep-15				
Names of Other Project Partners	MTM-Research Center School of Science and Technology, Oerebro University (MTM-Orebro), Department of Environment and Health, Vrije Universiteit (Netherlands), Chemisches und Veterinaeruntersuchungsamt Freiburg (CVUA, UN Environment/WHO Reference Laboratory for Human Milk), Research Centre for Toxic Compounds in the Environment (RECETOX, Czech Republic), Entox University of Queensland, Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), Basel Convention Coordinating Centre, Stockholm Convention Regional Centre, for Capacity Building and Transfer of Technology hosted by Uruguay (BCCC-SCRC-LATU), Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, World Health Organization (WHO)	Date of first disbursement	7-Sep-15				
		Total disbursement as of 30 June	USD 1,925,000				
Project Type	MSP	Total expenditure as of 30 June	USD 1,282,929				
Project Scope	Regional	Expected Mid-Term Date	31-Aug-18				
Region <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>	Asia Pacific	Completion Date	30-Jun-21				
Names of Beneficiary Countries	Regional(Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu)	Completion Date	30-Jun-22				
Programme of Work	PoW 5: Chemicals, waste and air quality	Expected Terminal Evaluation Date	31-Jul-22				
GEF Focal Area(s)	Chemicals and Waste	Expected Financial Closure Date	30-Jun-22				

EA: UNSDCF/UNDAF linkages

EA: Link to relevant SDG target(s) & indicator(s)

N/A
<p>Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages Target 3.9: By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination; Target 3.13: Strengthen the capacity of all countries for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks;</p> <p>Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all Target 6.3: By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally</p> <p>Goal 12: Responsible consumption and production Target 12.4: By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.</p> <p>Goal 17: Partnerships for the goals Target 17.6: Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism; Target 17.18: By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.</p>

1.2 Project description

The objective of the project is to strengthen the capacity for implementation of the updated POPs Global Monitoring Plan (GMP) and to create the conditions for sustainable monitoring of POPs in the Pacific Islands Region.

The project has five components: 1. Securing conditions for successful project implementation; 2. Capacity building and data generation on analysis of core abiotic matrices (air and water); 3. Capacity building and data generation on analysis of core biotic matrices (human milk); 4. Assessment of existing analytical capacities and reinforcement of national POPs monitoring; 5. Securing conditions for sustainable POPs monitoring.

The executing agency is UNEP Chemicals and Health Branch. Partners of this project include MTM-Research Center School of Science and Technology, Oerebro University (MTM-Oerebro); Department of Environment and Health, Vrije Universiteit (Netherlands); Chemisches und Veterinaeruntersuchungsamt Freiburg (CVUA, UN Environment/WHO Reference Laboratory for Human Milk); Research Centre for Toxic Compounds in the Environment (RECETOX, Czech Republic); Entox, University of Queensland, (Australia); Spanish National Research Council (CSIC); Basel Convention Coordinating Centre, Stockholm Convention Regional Centre, for Capacity Building and Transfer of Technology hosted by Uruguay (BCCC-SCRC-LATU); World Health Organization (WHO); Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions and 9 project countries in the Pacific Islands Region.

1.3 History of project revisions

Version	Date	Main changes introduced in this revision

Rev1	Jul-17	Revised budget and project workplan
Rev2	Jun-19	Revised budget and project workplan
Rev3	30-Jun-21	Due to COVID-19 pandemic, laboratory activities related to generation of data on levels of POPs could not be conducted as planned thus the following activities such as preparation of national and sectoral reports were delayed. The amendment was meant to facilitate the completion of planned activities and to further contribute to strengthen the conditions for sustainable monitoring of POPs and national, regional and global levels.

2- OVERVIEW OF PROJECT STATUS

2.1 UNEP PoW

UN Environment Subprogramme(s)

Subprogramme 5: Chemicals, waste and air quality

Specify the relevant Expected Accomplishment(s) & Indicator(s)

PoW 5: (a) (i)

TM: Progress towards delivering the stated PoW

The project is assisting countries in fulfilling their monitoring obligations under the Stockholm Convention

2.2 GEF Core Indicator

GEF Core Indicators

Indicative expected Results

TM: GEF core indicators targeted by the

	-	
	-	
Indicators	Expected value at	
	Mid-term	End-of-project

TM

	PIR #	Rating towards outcomes	Rating towards outputs	Risk rating
FY 2021		S	S	L
FY 2020	5th	S	S	M
FY 2019	4th	MS	MS	L
FY 2018	3rd	MS	MS	L
FY 2017	2nd	MS	MS	L
FY 2016	1st	S	S	M

2.3 Impl status & risk*

Summary of status.

Despite of the difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the consequential lockdown, the project has managed to implement most planned activities with delays in some cases towards delivering the remaining outputs, contributing to continuous successful implementation of the project. Most notable are the following activities:

1. Analysis of air and human milk samples from the 9 project countries has been completed. Results of 23 POPs mandatory under this project as well as the newly listed and some voluntary POPs have been generated. The data generated were validated and reported to the Stockholm Convention Data Warehouse.
2. Analysis of PFOSs in water samples from all the 9 countries has been completed, The data generated were validated and reported to the Stockholm Convention Data Warehouse.
3. Analysis of matrices of national interest in the expert laboratories has been completed, with results being communicated to relevant countries.
4. Due to COVID-19 lockdown, delays have occurred in the national laboratory in Fiji to complete the mirror analysis. Full results of mirror analysis are expected to be available by Q3/Q4 2021.
5. Consultation has been held with expert labs on communication of the analytical results of POPs to broader stakeholders. Accordingly, a book summarizing the 6 rounds of human milk survey and a special issue in a scientific journal on analytical chemistry—Chemosphere—covering the data generated on all core matrices, are being drafted. The publications are expected to be publicly available in Q1 2022.
6. Seven countries that have leftover funds from completed activities have proposed additional activities to further strengthen national POPs monitoring capacity, enhance awareness among key stakeholders and use POPs monitoring results for national policy making. UNEP has been in close communication with the partner countries to provide technical support.
7. The 4th interlaboratory assessment has concluded with 148 laboratories from all UN regions registered and 117 laboratories reported results. The final report of the 4th interlaboratory assessment has been published online <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/chemicals-waste/what-we-do/persistent-organic-pollutants/pops-interlaboratory>. The final workshop is planned to be held virtually on 21-22 July 2021. A review report has been developed on the results and outcomes of four rounds of interlaboratory assessment.
8. Due to the COVID-19 lockdown and the suspension of international travels, the training planned for Fiji has been partially delivered virtually. The on-site training is currently on hold.
9. Preparation of national, regional and sectoral reports are ongoing. One country has submitted the draft national report.
10. Administrative support has been provided to partners and countries for the implementation of the project. Extension of agreements has been granted to relevant partners and project countries to compensate the time loss due to COVID-19 pandemic.
11. Progress has been made on strategic branding and mainstreaming of the POPs projects to raise awareness and enhance stakeholder engagement. A dashboard has been prepared to show case the outputs of the project. Communication and outreaching activities are planned to raise broader awareness.
12. Progress has been made on finalizing the report on a framework and strategies for sustainable monitoring of POPs. Several other reports have also been developed in support of securing sustainable conditions, including among others, a review of contributions of the UNEP/GEF POPs GMP projects to the Stockholm Convention effectiveness evaluation, Achievements and key facts of global monitoring of POPs, cases of good practices etc.
13. A virtual meeting with all project countries and partner institutes was held on 8 October 2020 to discuss the POPs analytical results of air and water and share the workplan for 2020-2021.
14. Considering the possibility of relaxing restrictions on international travels in 2022, the final meeting of the project is tentatively planned to be held in Q2 2022.

Overall, countries and other partners are in a good position to continue implementing the remaining activities of the project. Results of levels of POPs have been delivered. UNEP is in close cooperation with the Pacific Islands countries and other partners on the successful implementation of the project.

*section will be uploaded into the GEF Portal

2.4 Co-finance

EA: Planned Co-finance (total only)

USD 6,448,604

EA: Actual to date:

4,421,500

EA: Justify progress in terms of materialization of expected co-finance. State any relevant challenges.

Countries and partner institutes have contributed significant amount of co-finance towards implementation of the project, including investment in lab equipment and consumables, and personnel support such as technical staff and administrative support. University of Queensland also donated an instrument to the national lab in Fiji to support improving the local analytical capacity. However, a lack of regular financial support is reported frequently by partner countries and institutes, which may impact the sustainability of POPs monitoring.

Instruction to EA: Add additional text

EA: Stakeholder engagement
be uploaded to GEF Portal)

(will

All project stakeholders are committed to accomplish the project outcomes and outputs. So far, during the execution and implementation period:

- The expert laboratories, namely MTM-Research Center School of Science and Technology, Oerebro University (MTM-Oerebro), Department of Environment and Health, Vrije Universiteit (Netherlands) have organized training and mirror analysis of samples, and two rounds of inter-calibration studies. MTM Centre Örebro also serves as reference laboratory for PFOS in human milk.
- Chemisches und Veterinaeruntersuchungsamt Freiburg (CVUA, UN Environment/WHO Reference Laboratory for Human Milk) has undertaken the analysis of lipophilic POPs in human milk and assists in matters related to this core matrix
- Research Centre for Toxic Compounds in the Environment (RECETOX, Czech Republic) and Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) have provide trainings and assisted in matters related to air monitoring
- The Entox center of University of Queensland, Australia has supported the analysis of national samples and regional analytical capacity building.
- The Basel Convention Coordinating Centre, Stockholm Convention Regional Centre, for Capacity Building and Transfer of Technology hosted by Uruguay (BCCC-SCRC-LATU), the co-executing agency for the GMP GRULAC project, has provided support to the four GMP projects on the development of strategies for sustainable monitoring of POPs
- Participating countries from the Pacific Islands Region have provide significant inputs to the project through the establishment and maintenance of the air and water networks; collect/organize the collection of human milk samples for the GMP through the mothers donating the breast milk; provide human milk donors with results of the analysis and the interpretation of it, and will further contribute to Article 16 of the Stockholm Convention by providing sub-regional data to the effectiveness evaluation and the Global Monitoring Plan for POPs. Besides, the project countries also provided staff support on operating the networks together with other countries in the region, such as maintaining the sampling network for ambient air; receive training and consumables/spares; generate national data if applicable in a systematic and comparable way that will characterize their exposure to POPs.

EA: Gender mainstreaming
uploaded to GEF Portal)

(will be

The project is of a scientific nature and does not directly impact people's productive activities. However, the gender aspects are indirectly addressed through different dimensions such as contribution to POPs emissions reductions. The particular vulnerability to POPs exposure of women in childbearing age is taken into account in the design of the monitoring activities, notably by the incorporation of mother's milk as one of the core matrices of the POPs GMP. The collection of human milk samples will be conducted on the basis of the ethical clearance as required by WHO, and after signature of the statement of interest by both, health and environment sector.

EA: Environmental and social safeguards management (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

Environmental impacts:

- Analysis of samples (including biological samples and chemicals used in the analysis) are considered as wastes after analysis. As all laboratories have established waste management standards and routines, the project is able to ensure that an appropriate waste treatment system is in place at the laboratories to avoid unintentional contamination of soil, water or air.

Social Impacts:

- The project has prepared a variety of communication materials including brochures, dashboard, etc. for stakeholders and the general public to raise awareness. Progress is being made on strategic branding and mainstreaming of POPs projects to further enhance information uptaking.
- Analysis requires usage of chemicals. To ensure a safe working environment, all laboratories are following international safety standards and quality control while conducting lab analysis, which includes the laboratory management of human resources, data reporting and storage, operation of equipment, and disposal of waste.
- UN Rules and standard procedures are followed throughout the implementation of the project to ensure that GEF resources are used for legitimate purposes, to the extent, feasible. The project received midterm review in 2018, and will have its final review and audit after completion of remaining activities.

In addition, the periodic analyses of POPs in the environment and biota to be undertaken during project execution and after will contribute to assessments of the presence of POPs, understanding their national and regional impacts and defining needed interventions. This will contribute to avoiding negative environmental and social impacts of POPs in the long run.

EA: Knowledge activities and products (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

The main activities of the POPs GMP projects are to generate data on the presences of POPs at global level, and to strengthen capacity for the sampling and analysis of POPs. Sampling activities under the GMP Pacific project include sampling of abiotic air and water, biotic human milk, and matrices of national interest. Samples collected are analyzed in expert laboratories and in national laboratories with existing capacity. Results generated will eventually contribute to the POPs GMP data warehouse and further support the Stockholm Convention Effectiveness Evaluation.

Besides, various capacity building activities have been delivered under the GMP Pacific project. Standard operating procedures and guidelines for the sampling and analysis of POPs are developed and published online at <https://www.unenvironment.org/explore-topics/chemicals-waste/what-we-do/persistent-organic-pollutants/guidance-and-standard>. A hands-on training has been provided to project countries and a training on the analysis of POPs is planned for the national laboratory of Fiji. In addition, as a tool for quality control/quality assurance (QA/QC), two rounds of international inter-laboratory assessments of POPs laboratories have been conducted. A databank of POPs laboratories have been established and is publicly available online at <http://informea.pops.int/HgPOPLabs/index.html>.

In addition, following the conclusions of the midterm workshop and stakeholder consultations, some countries expressed interest in using unutilized funds to facilitate consideration of the POPs monitoring results to guide national policy making prioritizing actions on sound management of POPs. Reallocation of budget and amendment of agreement have been granted to facilitate these activities and to allow further strengthening of national capacity.

EA: Stories to be shared (will be shared with UNEP & GEF communication division)

*section will be uploaded into the GEF Portal

3. RATING PROJECT PERFORMANCE

3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project outcomes

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target	End of Project Target	EA: Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	TM: Progress rating
Objective						
National capacities for implementing the updated POPs Global Monitoring Plan (GMP) are strengthened, high quality data on the presence and transport of POPs are generated, and conditions for sustainable monitoring of POPs are in place in the Pacific Islands Region	# of countries capable to undertake sampling in the core and other matrices for POPs analysis	0	NA	9	All the 9 project countries have completed the sampling activities.	S
	# of countries with reported data on 23 POPs;	0	NA	8	Samples from 9 countries have been analyzed with results on 23 POPs generated by the expert labs.	HS
	# of regional roadmap for sustainable POPs monitoring published.	0	NA	1	By 30 June 2021, the plan for sustainable monitoring of POPs has been discussed in regional midterm workshop and several consultation meetings. A framework and strategies for sustainable monitoring of POPs are being developed.	S
Outcome 1						
Technical and administrative support provided for the implementation of the project and organization of process established in the Pacific Islands Region	# of national project implementation agreements signed	0	NA	9	9 countries have signed legal agreements with UNEP	S
	# of laboratories submitted information to UNEP for updating information in the databank	0	NA	5	The databank has been updated with 116 labs registered from all UN regions including those from the Pacific Region	HS
Outcome 2						
Training reports and sectoral reports on POPs analysis undertaken on two abiotic core matrices (i.e., air and water) in the Pacific Islands Region	# of countries that carried out sampling in abiotic matrices	0	NA	At least 8	9 countries have completed sampling of abiotic matrices	HS
	# of training report for analysis of abiotic matrices	0	NA	1	The trainings were provided based on the existing capacities in national laboratories to analyze different matrices e.g. biotic and/or abiotic. One training was conducted to all project countries on the sampling of matrices. The training scheduled for Fiji on analysis of POPs was conducted virtually due to COVID-19.	S
	# of sectoral reports developed in abiotic matrices	0	NA	2	Sectoral reports are being prepared	S
Outcome 3						
3. Training reports and sec-toral report on POPs analysis undertaken on one biotic core matrix (6th round of human milk survey) in the Asian Region	# of countries that carried out sampling in biotic matrices	0	NA	At least 8	All the 9 countries have completed the sampling of biota matrices. Due to COVID-19, the samples from Tuvalu could not be shipped to the expert labs for analysis.	HS
	# of training report for analysis of biotic matrices	0	NA	1	The trainings were provided based on the existing capacities in national laboratories to analyze different matrices e.g. biotic and/or abiotic. One training was conducted to all project countries on the sampling of matrices. The training scheduled for Fiji on analysis of POPs was conducted virtually due to COVID-19.	S
	# of sectoral reports developed in biotic matrices	0	NA	1	A report is being developed to summarize the results and outcomes of analysis of biotic matrices	S
Outcome 4						
4. Assessment report of existing analytical capacities prepared and report on POPs analysis undertaken in samples of national priority (other than core matrices) in the Pacific Islands Region	# of rounds for interlaboratory assessments held	0	NA	2	Two rounds of interlaboratory assessments have been held with final reports published online	S
	# of countries having high quality data reported for samples of major national interest.	0	NA	At least 7	Standard Operation Procedures were developed and support were provided to all project countries to identify the list of matrices of national interest. Analysis is almost completed with initial results generated by expert labs and the national lab in Fiji. Remaining analysis in Fiji is expected to be completed in Q3/Q4 2021.	S
Outcome 5						
5. Assessment reports contributing to regional report for the GMP undertaken, and a roadmap for sustainable POPs monitoring developed for the Pacific Islands region	# of assessments on POPs presence in the region and its capacity to analyse them	0	NA	2	Activities have been undertaken to develop the reports	S
	# of regional roadmap for sustainable POPs monitoring in the region, with strategy for implementation, milestones and timetable in a regional roadmap	0	NA	1	By 30 June 2021, the plan for sustainable monitoring of POPs has been discussed in regional midterm workshop and several consultation meetings. A framework and strategies for sustainable monitoring of POPs are being developed.	S
	#of countries providing inputs to develop conclusions and lessons learned on GMP phase 2, as well as recommendations and future plans	0	NA	At least 8	1 country has submitted draft national reports including a chapter on future plans. Reports are being prepared in the other 8 countries.	MS

3.2 Rating of progress implementation towards delivery of outputs

Output	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020 (%)	Implementation status as of 30 June 2021 (%)	EA: Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	TM: Progress rating
Under Comp 1					
1.1 Technical and administrative support provided for the implementation of the project and organization of process established in the Pacific Islands Region					
Activity 1.1: Key stakeholders sign legal documents to carry out activities.	30.04.2020	100%	100%	All partners have signed legal agreements with UNEP. Extension of Agreement has been granted to partner countries to compensate the time loss due to COVID-19.	S
Activity 1.2: Organise inception workshop, with project workplan and budget assigned	31.05.2016	100%	100%	Inception workshop took place in 2016, with project launched and workplan and budget assigned.	S
Activity 1.3: Update POPs laboratory databank	30.04.2020	100%	100%	The POPs laboratory databank has been updated, with new registered labs included. It is available online at http://informea.pops.int/HgPOPLabs/index.html	S
Under Comp 2					
2.1 Training reports and sectoral reports on POPs analysis undertaken on two abiotic core matrices (i.e., air and water) in the Pacific Islands Region					
Activity 2.1: Identify sampling sites for air monitoring and make them operational.	30.11.2017	100%	100%	With guidance document provided by UNEP, sampling sites for air monitoring have been identified in all project countries. Air monitoring has been undertaken in all project countries	S
Activity 2.2: Identify sampling sites for water monitoring and make them operational.	30.11.2018	100%	100%	With guidance document provided by UNEP, sampling sites for water monitoring have been identified in all project countries. Monitoring activities have been undertaken.	S
Activity 2.3: Make national laboratories operational for undertaking analysis of abiotic matrices.	30.08.2018	100%	100%	National analytical capacity screening has been conducted at the beginning of the project. National labs with existing capacity have been assigned to analyse certain POPs according to their capacity. Mirror analysis was conducted in reference labs to ensure the generation of high quality international comparable data. Trainings have been provided to selected national laboratories, and two rounds of interlaboratory assessment have been organized for quality assurance/quality control.	S
Activity 2.4: Analyse national samples for air and water, and report high quality data.	30.08.2019	95%	100%	Air and water samples have been analyzed and results have been validated and reported to the Stockholm Convention Data Warehouse	S
Activity 2.5: Summarize results of analysis in two distinctive sectoral reports.	30.09.2021	0%	30%	Sectoral reports are being prepared	S
Under Comp 3					
3.1 Training reports and sectoral report on POPs analysis undertaken on one biotic core matrix (6th round of human milk survey) in the Pacific Islands Region					
Activity 3.1: Make countries in the region capable to undertake sampling of human milk for the 6th round of UNEP/WHO survey	30.11.2017	100%	100%	Standard Operating Procedures and video tutorials have been provided to guide the implantation of human milk survey. National coordinator for human milk survey were nominated by each project country. Additional support have been provided to countries to obtain ethical clearance	S
Activity 3.2: Make national laboratories operational for undertaking analysis of human milk samples.	28.02.2018	NA	NA	No laboratory in the Pacific Islands Region has the capacity to analyze milk samples.	
Activity 3.3: Implement the 6th round of human milk survey.	28.02.2018	95%	100%	All project countries have received sampling materials and have completed the human milk survey. Due to COVID-19, the samples collected in Tuvalu could not be shipped to the expert labs for analysis.	S
Activity 3.4: Compare results from earlier rounds, and report them to the GMP.	31.03.2021	50%	100%	Analytical results of 23 mandatory POPs, as well as newly listed POPs and some candidate POPs, have been generated, shared with project countries, and reported to the Stockholm Convention Data Warehouse.	S
Under Comp 4					
4.1 Assessment report of existing analytical capacities prepared and report on POPs analysis undertaken in samples of national priority (other than core matrices) in the Pacific Islands Region					

Activity 4.1: Undertake two rounds of the global interlaboratory assessment	31.08.2020	100% and 90%	100%	Two rounds of interlaboratory assessment were held in 2016-2017 with 175 registrations and in 2018-2019 with 147 registrations. Final reports were prepared and published online.	S
Activity 4.2: Identify and analyse samples of major national interest	30.06.2021	90%	95%	Standard Operation Procedures were developed and support were provided to all project countries to identify the list of matrices of national interest. Analysis is almost completed with initial results generated by expert labs and the national lab in Fiji. Remaining analysis in Fiji is expected to be completed in Q3/Q4 2021.	S

Under Comp 5

5.1 Assessment reports contributing to regional report for the GMP undertaken, and a roadmap for sustainable POPs monitoring developed for the Pacific Islands region					
Activity 5.1: Develop conclusions, lessons learned and recommendations from GMP2 for future monitoring plan.	31.12.2021	70%	80%	Steering committee meetings and expert and stakeholder consultation meetings have been organized to discuss lessons learned and recommendations for future monitoring of POPs. Several reports have been developed, including among others, overview of four rounds of interlaboratory assessments, overview of six rounds of human milk survey, review of contributions of the UNEP/GEF POPs GMP projects to the Stockholm Convention effectiveness evaluation, Achievements and key facts of global monitoring of POPs, cases of good practices etc.	S
Activity 5.2: Prepare a state-of-the-art report to picture the present situation of POPs in the region's environment and humans.	31.12.2021	37%	50%	Preparation of national and regional reports are ongoing	S
Activity 5.3: Develop a roadmap for sustainable POPs monitoring.	31.12.2021	50%	55%	Progress has been made on finalizing the report on framework and strategies for sustainable monitoring of POPs.	S

Table A. Risk-log

Implementation Status: 6th												
Risk	Risk affecting:	Risk Rating								Variation respect to last rating		
	Outcome / outputs	CEO	ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	MTR	PIR 4	PIR 5	PIR 6	Δ	Justification
Logistical risks inherent to a pro-gramme involving nine countries		N/A							M	L	↓	Sampling activities have completed
Inability to conduct laboratory work		N/A							M	M	=	There is still some analytical work to be completed in one country.
Delays on the approval of ethical clearance for the human milk survey		-							M	L	↓	Sampling activities have completed
COVID-19 pandemic impacts: Significant delays have occurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as analysis of samples in the expert and national laboratories, which consequently caused delays on reporting data to the Stockholm Convention Data Warehouse, and on the preparation of national, regional and sectoral reports. Delays also occurred on administrative work including issuing financial report and shipment of samples. In addition, due to the high risk and strict regulations on international travels, planned meetings, namely the final result workshop of the 4th interlaboratory assessment and the project final meeting, cannot be held face-to-face in 2020.		-							M	M	=	COVID-19 measures are not relaxed in most countries, which may cause further difficulties or delays for the implementation of the remaining activities.
5. Due to uncertainty for international travel, the final meeting of the project may not be able to be held in person		-							M	M	=	Restrictions for international travel
Consolidated project risk		-							M	L		This section focuses on the variation. The overall rating is discussed in section 2.3.

Table B. Outstanding medium & high risks

List here only risks from Table A above that have a risk rating of **M or worse** in the **current PIR**

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	Additional mitigation measures for the next periods		
			What	When	By whom
Inability to conduct satisfactory laboratory work.	A capacity screening was conducted at the beginning of the project. Project countries with	UNEP was in close contact with relevant partners on their analysis of samples and the provision of technical support from University of Queensland, and amended the legal agreements as needed to grant more time for	Continue keeping in close contact with relevant partners to facilitate providing technical support as needed.	2021-2022	UNEP
COVID-19 pandemic impacts: Significant delays have occurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as analysis of samples in the expert and national laboratories, which consequently caused delays on reporting data to the Stockholm Convention Data Warehouse, and on the preparation of national, regional and sectoral reports. Delays also occurred on administrative work including issuing financial report and shipment of samples. In addition, due to the high risk and strict regulations on international travels, planned meetings, namely the final result workshop of the 4th interlaboratory assessment and the project final meeting, cannot be held face-to-face in 2020.	UNEP was in close contact with partners on the feasible deadlines for the submission of results and final reports, and to grant extensions to legal agreements to compensate the time loss.	Extension of legal agreements have been granted to related partners.	Extension of legal agreement as needed.	2021-2022	UNEP
Due to uncertainty for international travel, the final meeting of the project may not be able to be held in person			Preparing for virtual meeting as a back-up plan	2022	UNEP

High Risk (H): There is a probability of greater than 75% that **assumptions** may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.
Significant Risk (S): There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that **assumptions** may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks.
Medium Risk (M): There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that **assumptions** may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.
Low Risk (L): There is a probability of up to 25% that **assumptions** may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.