



## FAO-GEF Project Implementation Report

### 2021 – Revised Template



Period covered: 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021

### 1. Basic Project Data

#### General Information

<b>Region:</b>	Region of Asia Pacific (RAP)
<b>Country (ies):</b>	Sri Lanka
<b>Project Title:</b>	Implementation of the National Biosafety Framework in accordance with the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CPB)
<b>FAO Project Symbol:</b>	GCP /SRL/066/GFF
<b>GEF ID:</b>	5720
<b>GEF Focal Area(s):</b>	Biodiversity
<b>Project Executing Partners:</b>	Ministry of Environment
<b>Project Duration:</b>	01/01/2017 – 31/12/2021
<b>Project coordinates:</b> ( <a href="#">Ctrl+Click here</a> )	°40'11.0"N 80°38'45.0"E

#### Milestone Dates:

<b>GEF CEO Endorsement Date:</b>	21/06/2016
<b>Project Implementation Start Date/EOD :</b>	01/01/2017
<b>Proposed Project Implementation End Date/NTE<sup>1</sup>:</b>	31/12/2020
<b>Revised project implementation end date (if applicable) <sup>2</sup></b>	31/12/2021
<b>Actual Implementation End Date<sup>3</sup>:</b>	

#### Funding

<b>GEF Grant Amount (USD):</b>	2,365,964
<b>Total Co-financing amount as included in GEF CEO Endorsement Request/ProDoc<sup>4</sup>:</b>	2,958,327

<sup>1</sup> As per FPMIS

<sup>2</sup> In case of a project extension.

<sup>3</sup> Actual date at which project implementation ends - only for projects that have ended.

<sup>4</sup> This is the total amount of co-financing as included in the CEO document/Project Document.

<b>Total GEF grant disbursement as of June 30, 2021 (USD m):</b>	1,803,343
<b>Total estimated co-financing materialized as of June 30, 2021<sup>5</sup></b>	Due to ongoing national lockdown/curfew in Sri Lanka, the project team could not update information on materialized co-financing as of 30 June 2021.

### Review and Evaluation

<b>Date of Most Recent Project Steering Committee Meeting:</b>	31/12/2020
<b>Expected Mid-term Review date<sup>6</sup>:</b>	Jan 2020
<b>Actual Mid-term review date:</b>	July 2020
<b>Mid-term review or evaluation due in coming fiscal year (July 2021 – June 2022)<sup>7</sup>:</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Expected Terminal Evaluation Date:</b>	Dec 2021
<b>Terminal evaluation due in coming fiscal year (July 2021 – June 2022):</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Tracking tools/ Core indicators required<sup>8</sup></b>	<b>No</b>

### Ratings

<b>Overall rating of progress towards achieving objectives/ outcomes (cumulative):</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>Overall implementation progress rating:</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>Overall risk rating:</b>	<b>L</b>

<sup>5</sup> Please see last section of this report where you are asked to provide updated co-financing estimates. Use the total from this Section and insert here.

<sup>6</sup> The MTR should take place about halfpoint between EOD and NTE – this is the expected date

<sup>7</sup> Please note that the FAO GEF Coordination Unit should be contacted six months prior to the expected MTR date

<sup>8</sup> Please note that the Tracking Tools are required at mid-term and closure for all GEF-4 and GEF-5 projects. Tracking tools are not mandatory for Medium Sized projects = < 2M USD at mid-term, but only at project completion. The new GEF-7 results indicators (core and sub-indicators) will be applied to all projects and programs approved on or after July 1, 2018. Also projects and programs approved from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2018 (GEF-6) must apply core indicators and sub-indicators at mid-term and/or completion

**Status**

<b>Implementation Status</b> <i>(1<sup>st</sup> PIR, 2<sup>nd</sup> PIR, etc. Final PIR):</i>	4 <sup>th</sup> PIR (Final PIR)
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**Project Contacts**

Contact	Name, Title, Division/Institution	E-mail
<b>Project Manager / Coordinator</b>	Shanaka Gunawardena, National Project Manager, FAOLK	<a href="mailto:Shanaka.Gunawardena@fao.org">Shanaka.Gunawardena@fao.org</a>
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## **2. Progress Towards Achieving Project Objectives and Outcome (DO)**

*(All inputs in this section should be cumulative from project start, not annual)*

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Project objective and Outcomes (as indicated at CEO Endorsement)	Description of indicator(s) <sup>9</sup>	Baseline level	Mid-term target <sup>10</sup>	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2021	Progress rating <sup>11</sup>
<b>Objective(s):</b> Strengthen Sri Lanka's regulatory, institutional and technical capacities for the effective implementation of the National Biosafety Framework in conformity with the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.						
<b>Outcome 1.1:</b> Enhanced capacity to develop, implement and coordinate biosafety legislations and regulations	Number of implementation examples (evaluation, management and monitoring of LMOs) in the National Biosafety Framework that is in compliance with the CPB;  Number of laws enforced by the enhanced high-level inter-ministerial coordination mechanism;	Gaps still remain in existing regulatory and institutional frameworks to implement the National Biosafety Framework (NBF);  Capacity for sound decision-making processes and law enforcement limited;		At least 5 implementation examples with enhanced framework of evaluation, management and monitoring of LMOs;  At least 3 laws enforced by the enhanced mechanism (including Act, Master plan, support regulations);	Sri Lanka did not receive any applications for LMOs since project inception. Thus, no implementation examples. However, the necessary system is outlined and relevant individuals are being trained.  Draft of Biosafety Regulations is complete and has been submitted to the government.  Biosafety Master Plan has been endorsed by the national counterpart.  Draft Act is being revised by the Legal Draftsman's Department based on the comments from the Attorney General's Department.	S

<sup>9</sup> This is taken from the approved results framework of the project. Please add cells when required in order to use one cell for each indicator and one rating for each indicator.

<sup>10</sup> Some indicators may not identify mid-term targets at the design stage (refer to approved results framework) therefore this column should only be filled when relevant.

<sup>11</sup> Use GEF Secretariat required six-point scale system: **Highly Satisfactory (HS)**, **Satisfactory (S)**, **Marginally Satisfactory (MS)**, **Marginally Unsatisfactory (MU)**, **Unsatisfactory (U)**, and **Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)**.

<p><b>Outcome 1.2:</b> Administrative systems for making biosafety fully functional</p>	<p>Number of implementation examples using fully functional administrative system</p>	<p>Administrative and operational procedures, which are consistent with the requirements of CPB do not exist;</p>		<p>At least 5 implementation examples using a fully functional administrative procedure mechanism as per provisions of the draft Biosafety Act;</p>	<p>Sri Lanka did not receive any applications for LMOs since project inception. Thus, no implementation examples. However, the administrative procedure is elaborated in the manual as per provision on the draft Biosafety Act.</p> <p>Draft manual on administrative and operational procedures for handling of living modified organisms in Sri Lanka is complete. This document is submitted to the government counterpart</p>	S
<p><b>Outcome 1.3:</b> National Biosafety Clearing House (BCH) operational</p>	<p>Number of visitors accessing the BCH;  Satisfaction with level of information and knowledge available in the national BCH;</p>	<p>There is a national BCH established but not operational due to the lack of capacity to collect, process and manage the information required to run it;</p>		<p>At least 500 individual accesses to the BCH;</p> <p>At least 70% of satisfaction rate received from multiple stakeholders;</p>	<p>The Sri Lanka BCH was launched on 31 March 2021</p> <p><a href="http://lk.biosafetyclearinghouse.net/">http://lk.biosafetyclearinghouse.net/</a></p> <p>Members of the National Focal Point for Biosafety were trained on maintaining and uploading information to the Sri Lanka BCH.</p>	S

<p><b>Outcome 2.1:</b> National institutions strengthened for RA, RM and RC including monitoring and enforcement</p>	<p>Number of agencies that have institutionalized training on RA, RM and RC;</p> <p>Number of focal points for RA, RM and RC in each institution identified;</p>	<p>The capacity of national institutions is limited to enable formulation and implementation of integrated and coherent Biosafety regulatory mechanisms;</p>		<p>All members, bodies and relevant agencies received institutionalized training and they are capable to work with the RA, RM and RC framework;</p> <p>At least 3 focal points identified for institutional RA, RM and RC;</p> <p>1 institutional mechanism in place to deal with Biosafety issues in the country;</p>	<p>Five focal points (Dept. of Agriculture, Dept. of Health Services, Dept. of Wildlife and Conservation, Dept. of Animal Production and Health, Dept. of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources) were identified for institutional RA, RM and RC. The draft Biosafety Act identifies an institutional mechanism to deal with Biosafety issues in the country. Officers of the relevant agencies were trained on the RA guidelines listed below, which were developed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guidelines for safe use of living modified organisms (LMO) in the lab</li> <li>• Guidelines for the environmental risk assessment of LM plants</li> <li>• Guidelines for conduct of confined field trials of LM plants</li> <li>• Guidelines for the safety assessment foods derived from LM plants</li> <li>• Guidelines for testing of genetically modified mosquitoes</li> <li>• Guidelines for institutional biosafety committees</li> <li>• Risk analysis framework</li> </ul> <p>The “Formats for Risk Assessment and Decision Making Tools for Regulatory Authorities in Sri Lanka” was developed</p>	S
<p><b>Outcome 3.1:</b> Improved capacity for</p>	<p>Number of detection and identification</p>	<p>Capacities in LMO detection and the</p>		<p>At least, 70% of trained staff capable to detect</p>	<p>A workshop on detection and identification of living modified organisms was held with two</p>	S

detection and identification of LMOs	<p>processes of LMOs within a certain time period;</p> <p>Number of designated staff;</p>	requirements for the accreditation of laboratories not met for implementation;		<p>and identify LMOs using upgraded instruments and guidelines developed;</p> <p>At least 20 detection and identification cases processed using improved facilities at the end of the project;</p> <p>At least 3 designated staff in each institution identified;</p>	<p>participants from each of the three labs selected for upgrading.</p> <p>Two designated staff in each institution identified for international training. More will be training locally after the international training. Detection and identification will take place once the laboratories are upgraded and staff trained.</p>	
<p><b>Outcome 3.2:</b> Laboratories fully operational with the necessary infrastructures to carry out risk assessment, and detection of LMOs, which allow Sri Lanka to meet its obligations under the CPB</p>	<p>Number of identified laboratories operational with international standards;</p> <p>Number of facilities for contained testing operational;</p> <p>Annual budget allocated for operation and maintenance of laboratories;</p>	The accreditation of laboratories and strengthening capacities of selected public sector laboratories are required;		<p>2 public laboratories with improved infrastructure and facilities for LMO detection as per international norms and serve as central LMO research and detection labs;</p> <p>1 upgraded analytical laboratory functional for compositional and nutritional analysis with</p>	<p>Significant progress being made in the procurement action for the purchases of equipment and sundry supplies which were identified for the upgrade of the three (3) identified laboratories for the detection of LMOs, National Plant Quarantine Services (NPQS), Industrial Technology Institute (ITI), and Agriculture Biotechnology Centre (AgBC). Further significant progress being made in the procurement action for the refurbishing of the AgBC.</p> <p>The Government Analyst's Department (GAD) will be provided with the capacity to conduct protein based-testing.</p>	S



				<p>state-of-the-art analytical services equipment;</p> <p>These laboratories are showcased as technically viable examples;</p> <p>Efficient accreditation process in place;</p>	<p>Sri Lanka Customs will be provided with the capacity to conduct quick testing using lateral flow strips.</p> <p>Discussions were initiated on Standard Operating Procedures for LMO testing labs.</p> <p>Also, discussions were initiated with the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board on Accreditation of LMO testing labs.</p>	
<p><b>Outcome 4.1:</b> Enhanced awareness, education and public participation in decision-making on Biosafety</p>	<p>Number of awareness raising events/campaigns with positive feedback from various stakeholders across the country;</p> <p>Annual budget allocated for continuous actions for Biosafety in the country;</p>	<p>Awareness of Biosafety needs to be further enhanced to broader stakeholders strategically;</p>		<p>Over 20 events/campaigns organized with At least 70% of activities received positive feedback from participants;</p>	<p>Sixteen (16) main events were organized with 100% of activities receiving positive overall feedback from participants.</p> <p>The National Communication Strategy for Biosafety was developed.</p> <p>The following awareness material were published.</p> <p>[i] Brochure on basic information related to biosafety in Sri Lanka and the project          [ii] Booklet containing information about GM food          [iii] Cartoon depicting regulatory process outlined in the draft Biosafety Act          [iv] List of LMOs approved within regulatory framework in countries globally          [v] Booklet containing articles related to biosafety by individuals from academia</p>	S

					<p>[vi] Booklet titled "What do experts say about GM food and GM plants"</p> <p>[viii] Organizer with information and cartoon illustrations on biosafety</p> <p>The following material are at an advanced stage of development</p> <p>[i] Short storyline with cartoon illustrations on genetically modified (GM) crops</p> <p>[ii] Short storyline with cartoon illustration on GM Foods</p> <p>[iii] Booklet with information on Biosafety containing cartoon illustrations</p> <p>[iv] Activity Book for kids</p> <p>[v] Animated videos on GM crops</p> <p>[vi] Documentary on Biosafety</p> <p>[vii] Glossary of terms</p> <p>Plans are underway to develop the following material for biosafety awareness via digital media including social media.</p> <p>[i] 10 Cartoon illustrations</p> <p>[ii] 10 Short videos (animated and documentary)</p> <p>[iii] 1 E-learning tool</p> <p>Five publications of the Biosafety Newsletter were release.</p> <p>The course outlines for 3 short courses in Biosafety are complete.</p> <p>Resource books on Biosafety to be used at secondary level were drafted</p>	
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					and being reviewed by the National Institute of Education.  Resource books on Biosafety to be used for 3 short courses at tertiary level education are being prepared.	
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Action plan to address MS, MU, U and HU ratings

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?



### 3. Progress in Generating Project Outputs (Implementation Progress, IP)

*(Please indicate progress achieved during this FY as planned in the Annual Work Plan)*

Outputs <sup>12</sup>	Expected completion date <sup>13</sup>	Achievements at each PIR <sup>14</sup>					Implement. status (cumulative)	Comments Describe any variance <sup>15</sup> or any challenge in delivering outputs
		1 <sup>st</sup> PIR	2 <sup>nd</sup> PIR	3 <sup>rd</sup> PIR	4 <sup>th</sup> PIR	5 <sup>th</sup> PIR		
Output 1.1.1: National Biosafety Act enacted		<i>Draft Act was revised with stakeholder input</i>	<i>Comments on the revised draft Act were received from the Attorney General's Department (AGD). These comments are being addressed by the national counterpart.</i>	<i>The secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources proposed the Central Environment Authority to host the Biosafety Act. However, the first meeting to discuss this matter further was cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic.</i>	<i>The Central Environmental Authority (CEA) accepted the roles as the National Competent Authority (NCA) for Biosafety. CEA formulated a committee and started working on the enactment process of the draft Biosafety Act.</i>		100 %	Revision of the draft Biosafety Act was not a planned activity under this output. However, at the request of the national counterpart, through the Secretary of the implementing ministry, this was carried out. The Act was drafted 4 years ago and so required updating in light of more recent developments.  The government counterpart indicated that they don't need technical support anymore from FAO with the remaining steps in the process. Therefore, this activity is complete in terms of technical support from FAO.
Output 1.1.2: National Biosafety Master Plan (Strategy & Action Plan)		<i>Draft of the National Biosafety Master Plan is being developed</i>	<i>The National Biosafety Master Plan is under development.</i>	<i>The revision of the National Biosafety Master is nearly complete.</i>	<i>The National Biosafety Masterplan was endorsed by the government counterpart.</i>		100 %	

elaborated and endorsed								
Output 1.1.3: Relevant regulations reviewed, drafted and endorsed		<i>Draft of the Biosafety Regulations is complete</i>	<i>Draft of the Biosafety Regulations is complete</i>	<i>Draft of the Biosafety Regulations is complete and accepted by the government.</i>  <i>However, they are not endorsed yet since the Biosafety Act is not enacted.</i>	<i>Draft of the Biosafety Regulations is complete and accepted by the government.</i>		100 %	This activity is complete in terms of technical support from FAO.
Output 1.2.1: Administrative and operational procedures for Biosafety reviewed and updated		<i>Draft documents related to the Administrative and Operational System of Biosafety is complete</i>	<i>Draft manual on administrative and operational procedures for handling of living modified organisms in Sri Lanka is complete</i>	<i>Draft manual on administrative and operational procedures for handling of living modified organisms in Sri Lanka is complete and accepted by the government.</i>  <i>However, it is not endorsed yet since the Biosafety Act is not enacted.</i>	<i>Draft manual on administrative and operational procedures for handling of living modified organisms in Sri Lanka is complete and accepted by the government.</i>		100 %	This activity is complete in terms of technical support from FAO.

<sup>12</sup> Outputs as described in the project logframe or in any updated project revision. In case of project revision resulted from a mid-term review please modify the output accordingly or leave the cells in blank and add the new outputs in the table explaining the variance in the comments section.

<sup>13</sup> As per latest work plan (latest project revision); for example: Quarter 1, Year 3 (Q1 y3)

<sup>14</sup> Please use the same unity of measures of the project indicators, as much as possible. Please be extremely synthetic (max one or two short sentence with main achievements)

<sup>15</sup> Variance refers to the difference between the expected and actual progress at the time of reporting.

Output 1.2.2: Guidelines developed to support the tasks of National Competent Authority (NCA) and Sectoral Competent Authorities (SCAs)		<i>Draft documents to support the tasks of NCA and SCAs are complete</i>	<i>The regulatory guidelines are included in the draft manual on administrative and operational procedures for handling of living modified organisms in Sri Lanka.</i>	<i>The regulatory guidelines are included in the draft manual on administrative and operational procedures for handling of living modified organisms in Sri Lanka.</i>	<i>The regulatory guidelines are included in the draft manual on administrative and operational procedures for handling of living modified organisms in Sri Lanka.</i>	100 %	This activity is complete in terms of technical support from FAO.
Output 1.2.3 Staff of NCA, SCAs and related organizations trained		<i>To be initiated after the 1st PIR period following the work plan.</i>	<i>Forty-one (41) participants from 21 institutions including SCAs were trained.</i>	<i>Forty-one (41) participants from 21 institutions including SCAs were trained.</i>  <i>However, further training on the regulatory system is contingent upon enactment of the Biosafety Act.</i>	<i>Comprehensive curriculum with supportive material was prepared for online training of NCA once the Act is enacted.</i>  <i>This was handed over to the government counterpart.</i>	100 %	This activity is complete in terms of technical support from FAO.
Output 1.3.1: An enhanced website established		<i>Not initiated yet. However, PMU is progressing with the procedure towards partnering with technically capable entities to</i>	<i>Recruitment process of the IT service provider is almost complete.</i>  <i>Compiling information to be uploaded into the website was initiated.</i>	<i>The development of the Sri Lanka BCH is at an advanced stage. The text of the English version has been developed. Plans for the translation into Sinhalese and Tamil have commenced. The formal launch is foreseen in the next 6 Months.</i>	<i>The Sri Lanka BCH was launched.</i>  <i>Website can be assessed at: <a href="http://lk.biosafetyclearinghouse.net/">http://lk.biosafetyclearinghouse.net/</a></i>	100 %	

		<i>conduct the activities related to this output</i>		<i><a href="http://lk.biosafetyclearinghouse.net/">http://lk.biosafetyclearinghouse.net/</a></i>				
Output 1.3.2: The BCH focal point trained to collect and manage information		<i>Not initiated yet. However, PMU is progressing with the procedure towards partnering with technically capable entities to conduct the activities related to this output</i>	<i>Training is not initiated yet.</i>	<i>First training of NCA officers to upload information and maintain Sri Lanka BCH was implemented.</i>	<i>All the trainings of NCA officers to upload information and maintain Sri Lanka BCH was implemented.  One (1) procedural manual, along with an instructional videos, for collecting, uploading and managing information on the national BCH, was prepared.</i>		100 %	<i>Due to traveling and gathering restrictions imposed by the government to prevent the spread of COVID-19, some training workshops were conducted online.</i>
Output 1.3.3: Stakeholders trained to access and share information through BCH		<i>Not initiated yet. However, PMU is progressing with the procedure towards partnering with technically capable entities to conduct the activities related to this output</i>	<i>Training is not initiated yet.</i>	<i>Training of stakeholders to access and share information in BCH was implemented</i>	<i>Training of stakeholders to access and share information in BCH was implemented.</i>		100 %	



Output 2.1.1: Methodologies for RA, RM and RC reviewed, refined and updated		<i>Not initiated yet. However, PMU is progressing with the procedure towards partnering with technically capable entities to conduct the activities related to this output</i>	<i>Working committee is formed.</i>	<i>The draft of Risk Analysis Framework is being revised</i>	<p><i>One (1) comprehensive guidelines for GMOs/LMOs in contained conditions was prepared.</i></p> <p><i>One (1) Risk Analysis Framework was prepared.</i></p>		100 %	
Output 2.1.2: Technical guidelines and manuals on RA and RM developed		<i>Not initiated yet. However, PMU is progressing with the procedure towards partnering with technically capable entities to conduct the activities related to this output</i>	<i>Working committee is formed.</i>	<p><i>Following draft documents are being revised</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Guidelines for safe use of living modified organisms (LMO) in the lab</i></li> <li>• <i>Guidelines for the environmental risk assessment of LM plants</i></li> <li>• <i>Guidelines for conduct of confined field trials of LM plants</i></li> <li>• <i>Guidelines for the safety assessment foods derived from LM plants</i></li> </ul>	<p><i>The following guidelines were prepared:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Guidelines for safe use of living modified organisms (LMO) in the lab</i></li> <li>• <i>Guidelines for the environmental risk assessment of LM plants</i></li> <li>• <i>Guidelines for conduct of confined field trials of LM plants</i></li> <li>• <i>Guidelines for the safety assessment foods derived from LM plants</i></li> <li>• <i>Guidelines for testing of genetically modified mosquitoes</i></li> <li>• <i>Guidelines for institutional biosafety committees</i></li> </ul>		100 %	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guidelines for testing of genetically modified mosquitoes</li> <li>Guidelines for institutional biosafety committees</li> </ul>			
Output 2.1.3: Decision-making tools prepared for RA, RM and RC		Not initiated yet. However, PMU is progressing with the procedure towards partnering with technically capable entities to conduct the activities related to this output	Working committee is formed.	This is being prepared.	One (1) decision-making tool kit for regulatory agencies was prepared.		100 %
Output 2.1.4: Training strategy for RA, RM and RC developed	Q3 Y4	Not initiated yet. However, PMU is progressing with the procedure towards partnering with technically capable entities to conduct the activities related to this output	Working committee is formed.	Training need assessment is complete and the report is being prepared.	<p>Training need assessment was conducted and the report is complete.</p> <p>Six (6) draft training manuals were prepared</p> <p>The preparation of one (1) Risk Communication strategy is underway.</p>		90%

Output 2.1.5: Staff of relevant institutions trained on RA, RM and RC		<i>Not initiated yet. However, PMU is progressing with the procedure towards partnering with technically capable entities to conduct the activities related to this output</i>	<i>Working committee is formed.</i>	<i>Not completed yet. These training courses were scheduled to be initiated during the week of 16-20 March 2020. They were postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic</i>	<i>A total of 17 virtual training sessions were conducted on RA, RM and RC based on the 7 risk assessment guidelines.</i>	100 %	Trainings were virtual due to the same reason mentioned under the Output 1.3.2 (above).
Output 2.1.6: National and regional institutional networks strengthened to implement National Biosafety System	Q4 Y4	<i>Not initiated yet. However, PMU is progressing with the procedure towards partnering with technically capable entities to conduct the activities related to this output</i>	<i>PMU is discussing to host the South Asia Biosafety Conference of 2020 in Sri Lanka.</i>	<i>Not completed yet.</i>	<i>Not completed yet.</i>	0%	Discussions are underway to plan for an e-conference on Biosafety since the traveling and gathering restrictions got tightened after the 3 <sup>rd</sup> wave of the COVID-10 pandemic. This activity will be conducted prior to November 2021.
Output 3.1.1: Testing needs and capacities		<i>Not initiated yet. However, PMU is progressing with the procedure</i>	<i>Short-listed labs were physically assessed.</i>	<i>Six national laboratories were assessed and 3 of them (NPQS, ITI and AgBC) were identified to be upgraded as</i>	<i>Six national laboratories were assessed and 3 of them (NPQS, ITI and AgBC) were identified to be upgraded as LMO detection labs. Two other</i>	100 %	

for LMO detection assessed and key public laboratories identified for up-grading and accreditation		<i>towards partnering with technically capable entities to conduct the activities related to this output</i>		<i>LMO detection labs. Two other labs (GAD and SL Customs) will be supplied with tools for specific testing.</i>	<i>labs (GAD and SL Customs) will be supplied with tools for specific testing.</i>			
Output 3.1.2: Inspection plan prepared and inspectors trained	Q2 Y4	<i>Not initiated yet. However, PMU is progressing with the procedure towards partnering with technically capable entities to conduct the activities related to this output</i>	<i>Not initiated yet.</i>	<i>Training on inspection and monitoring was conducted for 150 officers from national plant quarantine services, Sri Lanka Customs, Seed Certification Services and other from the department of Agriculture.</i>	<i>Completed all the training on inspection and monitoring to the stakeholder groups; (i) Custom Officers, (ii) Officers from Plant Quarantine and Seed certification services, (iii) Agriculture Officers (iv) Food safety/Public Health Officers, (v) individuals from Universities and Research Institutions and (vi) Officers from the NCA and SCAs</i>		100 %	Although 5 of the 10 training sessions were in-person (before the COVID-19 pandemic), the remainder were virtual (after the pandemic).
Output 3.1.3: Personnel trained on LMO detection and identification	Q4 Y4	<i>Not initiated yet. However, PMU is progressing with the procedure towards partnering with technically capable entities to</i>	<i>A workshop on detection and identification of living modified organisms was held by AgBC and BCIL with 2 participants from each short-listed lab.</i>	<i>The first workshop on LMO testing was held. Nine (9) representatives from the 3 selected labs and Sri Lanka Accreditation Board were scheduled for international training at Export Inspection Agency, Kochi, India</i>	<i>The first workshop on LMO testing was held. Nine (9) representatives from the 3 selected labs and Sri Lanka Accreditation Board were scheduled for international training at Export Inspection Agency, Kochi, India from 20 to 24 April 2020. However, this</i>		25%	If international travel is not allowed to the pandemic, international training will be simulated in Sri Lanka once the labs are fully functional (target: October and November 2021).

		<i>conduct the activities related to this output</i>		<i>from 20 to 24 April 2020. However, this was post-poned due to the COVID-19 pandemic.</i>	<i>was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.</i>			
Output 3.2.1: Key government laboratories identified, established, strengthened and appropriately equipped for risk management and detection of LMOs	Q4 Y4	<i>Not initiated yet. However, PMU is progressing with the procedure towards partnering with technically capable entities to conduct the activities related to this output</i>	<i>Quotations for the equipment are being called to determine the cost to upgrade each lab.</i>	<i>The procurement action has been initiated for the purchases of equipment and sundry supplies which were identified for the upgrade of the three identified laboratories for the detection of LMOs, National Plant Quarantine Services (NPQS), Industrial Technology Institute (ITI), and Agriculture Biotechnology Centre (AgBC). The procurement action for the refurbishing of the AgBC has also been initiated</i>  <i>The Government Analyst's Department (GAD) will be provided with the capacity to conduct protein based-testing.</i>  <i>Sri Lanka Customs will be provided with the capacity to conduct</i>	<i>The procurement action is at an advanced stage with some equipment delivered and commissioned to the three identified laboratories, NPQS, ITI, and AgBC, for the detection of LMOs. The refurbishing of the AgBC was commenced with significant progress being made.</i>  <i>The GAD will be provided with an ELISA machine to conduct protein based-testing for the detection of LMOs.</i>  <i>Sri Lanka Customs will be provided with kits of lateral flow strips and micropipettes for the detection of LMOs.</i>		70%	Expected timeline to complete upgrading of the laboratories is September 2021.

				<i>quick testing using lateral flow strips.</i>			
Output 3.2.2: Laboratories accredited by SLAB for risk assessment, LMO detection and identification based on ISO and ISTA standards	Q4 Y4	<i>Not initiated yet. However, PMU is progressing with the procedure towards partnering with technically capable entities to conduct the activities related to this output</i>	<i>Not initiated yet..</i>	<i>Not initiated yet.</i>	<i>Discussions were initiated with Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB) and the 3 participating labs with regards to accreditation.</i>		25% Project is planning to facilitate the accreditation process till November 2021.
Output 4.1.1: Public awareness and participation strategy developed		<i>Not initiated yet. ToR of the consultant to conduct the activities under this output was technically cleared.</i>	<i>Development of the strategy was initiated. .</i>	<i>The draft of the communication strategy is being revised</i>	<i>The Biosafety communication strategy was endorsed by the government counterpart.</i>		100% 
Output 4.1.2: Targeted awareness-raising activities implemented	Q4 Y4	<i>Press conference was held to make the media and public aware about the project and Biosafety in</i>	<i>A survey was conducted to collect baseline data on the level of understanding of the stakeholders on Biosafety in Sri</i>	<i>Awareness raising activities were conducted for the following stakeholders, [i] officers at the national competent authority</i>	<i>Following awareness raising activities were conducted; [i] Media Conference [ii] ToT of Biosafety resource persons [iii] Awareness to school children of 10 schools from Kandy</i>		75% Remaining awareness activities and awareness material that will be completed prior to November 2021 will complete this output.

		<p><i>general. Several awareness material were produced.</i></p>	<p><i>Lanka in order to inform the development of public awareness campaigns.</i></p> <p><i>A working committee to develop awareness material was formed.</i></p>	<p><i>[ii] higher ranking officers at the Ministry of Health (MoH)</i>  <i>[iii] Public Health Officers and other field officers at MoH</i>  <i>[iv] School Children (Secondary level)</i>  <i>[v] Undergraduate students in science and non-science streams</i>  <i>[vi] Media</i></p> <p><i>Additionally, over 70 officers were trained as science communicators.</i></p> <p><i>The following awareness material were prepared,</i>  <i>[i] Brochure on basic information related to biosafety in Sri Lanka and the project</i> <i>[ii] Booklet containing information about GM food by world health organization</i>  <i>[iii] Cartoon depicting regulatory process outlined in the draft Biosafety Act</i>  <i>[iv] List of LMOs approved within regulatory framework in countries globally</i></p>	<p><i>[iv] Awareness to undergraduates from University of Peradeniya</i>  <i>[v] Awareness to higher ranking officers at the Ministry of Health (MoH)</i>  <i>[vi] Awareness to Public Health Officers and other field officers at MoH</i>  <i>[vii] Awareness to officers at the National Focal Point for Biosafety (Ministry of Environment)</i>  <i>[viii] Awareness to undergraduates from University of Colombo and University of Visual Arts</i>  <i>[ix] Workshop to Prepare short-stories on Biosafety (posters and drama).</i>  <i>[x] Six live radio discussion under various topic of biosafety.</i>  <i>[xi] Awareness to Officers at the Central Environmental Authority (National Competent Authority)</i>  <i>[xii] Webinar to University of Ruhuna</i>  <i>[xiii] Online ToT of Biosafety resource persons</i>  <i>[xiv] Webinar to Wayamba University</i>  <i>[xv] Webinar to South Eastern University</i></p>			
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				<p>[v] Booklet containing articles related to biosafety by individuals from academia [vi] Booklet titled "What do experts say about GM food and GM plants" [viii] Organizer with information and cartoon illustrations on biosafety [ix] Four publications of the Biosafety Newsletter</p>	<p>[xvi] Webinar to University of Moratuwa</p> <p>In addition to the awareness material already developed (reported in the previous PIR), the development of the following are at an advanced stage:</p> <p>[i] Short storyline with cartoon illustrations on genetically modified (GM) crops          [ii] Short storyline with cartoon illustration on GM Foods          [iii] Booklet with information on Biosafety with cartoon illustrations          [iv] Activity Book for kids          [v] Animated videos on Biosafety          [vi] Documentary on Biosafety          [vii] Glossary of terms</p>			
Output 4.1.3: Curriculum, syllabus and course materials prepared for post-graduate course for	Q4 Y4	Not initiated yet. However, PMU is progressing with the procedure towards partnering with technically capable	A team to draft the course material for different levels of education in biosafety is being formulated.	The course outlines for short courses in Biosafety (tertiary level) have been agreed. The resource books for these courses and for secondary level education are being prepared.	The course outlines for short courses in Biotechnology and Biosafety (tertiary level) were developed.	60%	The course material for 3 short courses in Biosafety for tertiary level education will be completed by November 2021.	



<p>Biosafety, and the gaps in primary (Ordinary Level), secondary and university level education for Biosafety filled through improvement of curricula.</p>		<p><i>entities to conduct the activities related to this output</i></p>			<p><i>educational institutions are being prepared by the AgBC.</i></p> <p><i>Two (2) resource books for the teaching of biotechnology/biosafety in secondary schools were developed and being reviewed by the National Institute of Education.</i></p>			
<p>Output 4.1.4: Information materials developed and disseminated through various media</p>	<p>Q4 Y4</p>	<p><i>First issue of the Biosafety newsletter was released</i></p>	<p><i>Two issues of the Biosafety newsletter were released in addition to two special publications in lieu of the two issues missed in 2017. The third issue of the Biosafety newsletter is close to be released.</i></p>	<p><i>The Fourth issue of the Biosafety newsletter was released.</i></p>	<p><i>The Fifth issue of the Biosafety newsletter was released.</i></p> <p><i>Development of the sixth issue is at an advanced stage.</i></p>		<p>85%</p>	

#### 4. Information on Progress, Outcomes and Challenges on Project Implementation

**Please briefly summarize main progress achieving the outcomes (cumulative) and outputs (during this fiscal year):**

Under component 1, [i] The training curriculum on the biosafety regulatory process was completed, [ii] The Biosafety Master Plan was developed, [iii] the national website for Biosafety, Sri Lanka Biosafety Clearing House was launched and [iv] The focal point was trained to maintain the Sri Lanka BCH website with the necessary tools.

Under component 2, [i] Seven guidelines for risk assessment were prepared, [ii] training of relevant stakeholders on these guidelines were completed, [iii] The training need assessment was conducted and the report was prepared and [iv] The decision-making tool kit for regulatory agencies was prepared.

Under component 3, [i] Some of the equipment for upgrading LMO testing labs were delivered and commissioned, [ii] All the workshops for monitoring and inspection of LMOs were completed, [iii] Discussion were initiated on the preparation of standard operating protocols (SOPs) for LMO testing labs and [iv] Discussions were initiated with the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB) and the 3 participating labs with regards to accreditation.

Under component 4, [i] The biosafety communication strategy was prepared, [ii] The course outlines for short courses in biosafety were prepared, [iii] The resource books in Biotechnology/Biosafety for secondary level education were drafted and submitted for review by the National Institute of Education, [iv] more targeted-awareness workshops were conducted and [v] The 5th biosafety newsletter was published.

**What are the major challenges the project has experienced during this reporting period?**

The biggest challenge was the COVID-19 pandemic and the restrictions imposed by the government to prevent the spread of it. The travel and gathering restrictions crippled project implementation delaying and in some cases completely hindering implementation.

Further, because of the pandemic, the project will not be able to send the stakeholders for international training during the project period. This is a big problem since the relevant stakeholders cannot be given international training on LMO testing, which is essential for capacity building of LMO testing.

### Development Objective (DO) Ratings, Implementation Progress (IP) Ratings and Overall Assessment

Please note that the overall DO and IP ratings should be substantiated by evidence and progress reported in the Section 2 and Section 3 of the PIR.

For DO, the ratings and comments should reflect the overall progress of project results.

	<b>FY2021 Development Objective rating<sup>16</sup></b>	<b>FY2021 Implementation Progress rating<sup>17</sup></b>	<b>Comments/reasons<sup>18</sup> justifying the ratings for FY2021 and any changes (positive or negative) in the ratings since the previous reporting period</b>
<b>Project Manager / Coordinator</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<i>Except for international training and few outputs that got delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, other outputs have progressed successfully. During the lockdown period, all the activities that are virtually feasible were taking place.</i>
<b>Budget Holder</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<i>The project has achieved most of the deliverables, some which are yet in the pipeline have suffered on account of delays due to the pandemic. The project made good use of the virtual platform to conduct many of the activities including e learning courses. The project on completion will enhance the country's capacity on Biosafety issues.</i>
<b>GEF Operational Focal Point</b>			<i>Optional Ratings/comments</i>
<b>Lead Technical Officer<sup>19</sup></b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<i>Project's expected deliverables, except those requiring international travels, have been either fully achieved or on track to being fully achieved by project NTE. The expected outputs requiring international travel which cannot be implemented on account of travel restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic are overseas training and study tours. In lieu of these activities, some online activities – including virtual training activities and e-learning courses – are being implemented.</i>

<sup>16</sup> **Development/Global Environment Objectives Rating** – Assess how well the project is meeting its development objective/s or the global environment objective/s it set out to meet.

For more information on ratings, definitions please refer to Annex 1.

<sup>17</sup> **Implementation Progress Rating** – Assess the progress of project implementation. For more information on ratings definitions please refer to Annex 1.

<sup>18</sup> Please ensure that the ratings are based on evidence

<sup>19</sup> The LTO will consult the HQ technical officer and all other supporting technical Units.

<b>FAO-GEF Funding Liaison Officer</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<p><i>This is the final PIR of the project. The project has achieved most of its deliverables to meet the objective of the project. Due to COVID-19 related restrictions on movement and travel, other approaches were applied to complete planned activities, such as online meetings, virtual trainings, courses, etc. The MTR conducted in end 2020 acknowledged the achievements of the project and recommended an extension of one year (till 31 Dec2021) to complete the pending activities delayed due to the pandemic. Though Sri Lanka has not received applications for living modified organisms (LMO) since the project's inception, the country is better placed to deal with such a situation as a result of the project's contribution which helped to strengthen capacities of various institutions, incl. laboratories, research institutions, departments, general public etc .to identify LMO and conduct risk analyses.</i></p>
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### 5. Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

**Under the responsibility of the LTO (PMU to draft)**

This section of the PIR describes the progress made towards complying with the approved ESM plan, when appropriate. Note that only projects with **moderate** or **high** Environmental and Social Risk, approved from June 2015 should have submitted an ESM plan/table at CEO endorsement. This does not apply to **low** risk projects. Please add recommendations to improve the implementation of the ESM plan, when needed.

Social & Environmental Risk Impacts identified at CEO Endorsement	Expected mitigation measures	Actions taken during this FY	Remaining measures to be taken	Responsibility
<b>ESS 1: Natural Resource Management</b>				
<b>ESS 2: Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Natural Habitats</b>				
<b>ESS 3: Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture</b>				
<b>ESS 4: Animal - Livestock and Aquatic - Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture</b>				
<b>ESS 5: Pest and Pesticide Management</b>				
<b>ESS 6: Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement</b>				
<b>ESS 7: Decent Work</b>				
<b>ESS 8: Gender Equality</b>				
<b>ESS 9: Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage</b>				
<b>New ESS risks that have emerged during this FY</b>				

In case the project did not include an ESM Plan at CEO endorsement stage, please indicate if the initial Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid; if not, what is the new classification and explain.

Overall Project Risk classification (at project submission)	Please indicate if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid <sup>20</sup> . If not, what is the new classification and explain.
Low	No change in risk

*Please report if any grievance was received as per FAO and GEF ESS policies. If yes, please indicate how it is being/has been addressed.*

## 6. Risks

### Risk ratings

RISK TABLE
<p><i>The following table summarizes risks identified in the <b>Project Document</b> and reflects also <b>any new risks</b> identified in the course of project implementation. Please make sure that the table also includes the Environmental and Social Management Risks captured by the Environmental and social Management Risk Mitigations plans. The <u>Notes</u> column should be used to provide additional details concerning manifestation of the risk in your specific project, <b>as relevant</b>.</i></p>

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<sup>20</sup> **Important:** please note that if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is changing, the ESM Unit should be contacted and an updated Social and Environmental Management Plan addressing new risks should be prepared.

	<b>Risk</b>	<b>Risk rating<sup>21</sup></b>	<b>Mitigation Actions</b>	<b>Progress on mitigation actions<sup>22</sup></b>	<b>Notes from the Project Task Force</b>
<b>1</b>	Delay in approval of the Draft Biosafety Act due to the lack of decision-making and coordination capacity but also the lack of active involvement of concerned ministries/ departments/ agencies;	S	Facilitate and encourage coordination between the implementing centre for Biosafety (Biodiversity Secretariat) and other relevant stakeholders like Legal Draftsman's Department, Attorney General's Department and the Central Environmental Authority (CEA).	The project liaised the Biodiversity Secretariat with the CEA, which agreed to take the role as the National Competent Authority (NCA) and take the Biosafety Act forward.	
<b>2</b>	Lack of effective linkages between Sectoral Competent Authorities to effectively implement the project due to the different level of capacities and involvement;	L	Make all the Sectoral Competent Authorities to participate in all the meetings, workshops and trainings relevant to them. And facilitate cross-talk/interaction.	Successful.	
<b>3</b>	Low level of awareness on biosafety may make it difficult to gain support, especially from senior government officials and policy makers for the project;	L	Involvement of senior governmental officials and policy makers in project related meetings and workshops helping them to understand the need for Biosafety in Sri Lanka. Further, conduct of biosafety awareness workshops to high-ranking officers at the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Environment (focal point for biosafety) and the CEA (NCA).	Successful.	

<sup>21</sup> GEF Risk ratings: Low, Moderate, Substantial or High

<sup>22</sup> If a risk mitigation plan had been presented as part of the Environmental and Social management Plan or in previous PIR please report here on progress or results of its implementation. For moderate and high risk projects, please Include a description of the ESMP monitoring activities undertaken in the relevant period".

	Risk	Risk rating <sup>21</sup>	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions <sup>22</sup>	Notes from the Project Task Force
4	The capacity of stakeholders to conduct risk analysis and detection of LMOs is weak and therefore cannot support the full operationalization of the NBF;	L	Involving relevant stakeholders in drafting and reviewing of the risk assessment guidelines. Also, conducting awareness and training workshops on detection of LMO to relevant stakeholders.	Successful.	
5	Climate change threatens biodiversity and impacts ecosystem functions of Sri Lanka. Potential harm arising from LMOs may worsen those vulnerabilities.	L	Currently, there are no known LMOs in Sri Lanka to have an impact on the biodiversity. Therefore, no mitigation action is needed.	Not applicable	

**Project overall risk rating** (Low, Moderate, Substantial or High):

FY2020 rating	FY2021 rating	Comments/reason for the rating for FY2021 and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
Low	Low	This project builds capacity of Sri Lanka for the eventual safe release of GMOs into the environment or use as feeds and/or food. The involvement of the widest possible stakeholder base is required for every stage of the project development and implementation. Though an extremely sensitive undertaking, the project designs enables the continued stakeholder engagement.



## 7. Adjustments to Project Strategy – Only for projects that had the Mid-term review (or supervision mission)

If the project had a MTR review or a supervision mission, please report on how the MTR recommendations were implemented as indicated in the Management Response or in the supervision mission report.

MTR or supervision mission recommendations	Measures implemented
<p><b>Recommendation 1:</b> The Project Management Unit should either consider specific activities to support enactment of the National Biosafety Act or revise this output such that it can credibly be attained in the remaining project term.</p>	<p>Liaised the implementing center for biosafety (Biodiversity secretariat) with the national competent authority (NCA), which is the central environmental authority (CEA). CEA agreed to take the role as the NCA and formulated a committee to take forward the enactment process of the draft Biosafety Act.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 2:</b> A 1-year, no cost extension – which would move the date of project conclusion to 31 December 2021 – is highly recommended.</p>	<p>Project was extended by one year and changed the NTE to 31 December 2021.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 3:</b> A more targeted and integrated implementation of the projects' communication and knowledge management strategy is recommended to more effectively accomplish public outreach, awareness, education, participation and general interaction with existing knowledge products.</p>	<p>As outlined in the Communication Strategy, public awareness activities on biosafety are planned to be conducted through electronic (i.e. television, radio, websites) and print (i.e. newspapers, magazines, brochures, policy papers and briefs, booklets, comic books) media; social media (e.g. Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube); and face-to-face (i.e. seminars, focus group dialogues, meetings, visits, hands-on engagements, conferences, roadshows, school visits, school competitions, public forum); and public materials (e.g. stickers, for instance on Tuk Tuk, T-shirts, caps, umbrella etc.). Some products will target the general public while the vast majority will be specific to particular focus groups of stakeholders, especially scientists; policymakers and regulators; politicians; the mass media; farmers; medical practitioners; religious scholars and leaders; industry (traders, millers, enterprises); and civil society. Considering the limitations on the movements of people and large gatherings due to the evolving COVID-19 pandemic, a greater emphasis will now be placed on above activities that can be conducted remotely and products that can be disseminated electronically.</p>

<p><b>Recommendation 4:</b> The project should retain, for those activities to which it is conducive, online trainings, to continue leveraging the enhanced reach and cost-efficiency of this modality over the remaining project term.</p>	<p>During travel-restrictions, all the trainings were conducted online and awareness activities were webinars. Awareness material were customized to be compatible with digital media including social media using cartoons, illustrations and short videos (motion graphic and documentary style).</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 5:</b> As the Central Environmental Authority is set to replace the BDD as National Competent Authority; the project should conduct scenario forecasting, to determine what actions steps and adjustments to project implementation may be needed to facilitate capacitation and support to the Central Environmental Authority to ensure the continued successful attainment of project outcomes over the remaining project term.</p>	<p>This matter was discussed during the project steering committee (PSC) that was held on 31 December 2020. It was decided that CEA should formulate a committee to conduct the activities as the national competent authority for biosafety in Sri Lanka. This includes the enactment of the draft Biosafety Act.</p> <p>Although it was decided during the PSC for FAO to hire a full-time consultant to technically support the CEA, the project director informed later that the CEA has indicated of not needing the consultant from FAO.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 6:</b> The project should leverage existing local expertise to translate technical jargon into lay-accessible language and ensure the availability of accurate translations in the most widely spoken local languages (Sinhalese and Tamil).</p>	<p>A media company was hired to prepare the digital awareness material and the responsibility was given to the company to do the translations. The translations will be reviewed by the MoE prior to publication.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 7:</b> The project should support integration of existing Sri Lankan scientific expertise on biotechnology and biosafety for enhanced sustainability of project outcomes.</p>	<p>The project is getting national experts involved in project activities, especially for discussions during awareness and training program on biosafety.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 8:</b> The project should more proactively collect gender disaggregated data, by means of activity assessments and surveys, to better understand its beneficiaries'</p>	<p>The project included gender in the registration form for project activities. Also, updated the existing database of stakeholders with gender information. This information is reported in the PPR and this PIR.</p>

gender-specific needs and to be able to conduct analysis of the project's gendered impacts.	
<b>Recommendation 9:</b> The project log frame should be reformulated because Output 1.2.2 (Guidelines developed to support the tasks of NCA and SCAs is reflected in Output 1.2.1 (Administrative and operational procedures for biosafety reviewed and updated) rendering the former obsolete.	It is mentioned in all reports that biosafety guidelines are covered in the administrative and operational procedure for biosafety, which is a comprehensive document including key information on the biosafety regulatory system of Sri Lanka and all the application forms with necessary information guiding to fill them.

#### Adjustments to the project strategy.

Please note that changes to outputs, baselines, indicators or targets cannot be made without official approval from PSC and PTF members, including the FLO. These changes will follow the recommendations of the MTR or the supervision mission.

Change Made to	Yes/No	Describe the Change and Reason for Change
<b>Project Outputs</b>	No	
<b>Project Indicators/Targets</b>	No	

#### Adjustments to Project Time Frame

If the duration of the project, the project work schedule, or the timing of any key events such as project start up, mid-term review, final evaluation or closing date, have been adjusted since project approval, please explain the changes and the reasons for these changes. The Budget Holder may decide, in consultation with the PTF, to request the adjustment of the EOD-NTE in FPMIS to the actual start of operations providing a sound justification.

Change	Describe the Change and Reason for Change
<p><b>Project extension</b></p>	<p>Original NTE: 31 December 2020      Revised NTE: 31 December 2021</p> <p>Justification: Many project activities, missions of international consultants, international trainings and procurement of equipment for LMO testing labs were delayed due to curfew and other restrictions imposed by the government to prevent the spread of COVID-19.</p>

## 8. Stakeholders Engagement

Please report on progress, challenges, and outcomes on stakeholder engagement (based on the description of the Stakeholder engagement plan included at CEO Endorsement/Approval (when applicable))

Over 140 entities representing all stakeholder groups except parliamentarians were actively involved in meetings, workshops and trainings conducted under the project. These entities represented almost all the stakeholder groups planned to get engaged in this project including private sector. The table below, indicate those events (with the date held) and the stakeholder groups which participated.

Stakeholders	Type of involvement identified	Stakeholder's engagement
Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources through Biodiversity Secretariat Central Environment Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Secretary of the ministry to chair the PSC that will coordinate and supervise the project as nodal ministry of CPB;</li> <li>The Biodiversity Secretariat as the NEA for implementation of the project;</li> <li>Ensure administrative processing for the Biosafety Act, rules and regulations;</li> <li>Implement the administrative procedures and technical guidelines developed as part of the project;</li> <li>Ensure enhanced public awareness through regular information dissemination about the project activities;</li> <li>Ensure setting up of information portal and managing nBCH;</li> <li>The Central Environment</li> </ul>	<p>Involved actively in the identified activities contributing towards project implementation. Key meetings that were held with the involvement of the NCA are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inception workshop (29-30 August 2018)</li> <li>1<sup>st</sup> Project Steering Committee meeting (31 October 2018)</li> <li>Consultative meeting for the draft Biosafety Act (13 November 2018)</li> <li>1<sup>st</sup> National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting (26 January 2018)</li> <li>1<sup>st</sup> Technical Expert Group meeting (23 February 2018)</li> <li>1<sup>st</sup> Working Group meeting (21 March 2018)</li> <li>Media Conference (29 March 2018)</li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting (25 June 2018)</li> <li>Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with Sectoral Competent Authorities (25 July 2018)</li> <li>FGD with decision-makers and enforcement authorities (20 August 2018)</li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> Technical Expert Group meeting (26 October 2018)</li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> Project Steering Committee meeting (08 November 2018)</li> <li>Component 1 workshop (26-27 February 2019)</li> <li>1<sup>st</sup> Training for component 1 (28 February 2019)</li> <li>1<sup>st</sup> Meeting for Component 3 (28 March 2019)</li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting (5 April 2019)</li> <li>1<sup>st</sup> Workshop for LMO detection (27 May 2019)</li> <li>Workshop on risk assessment guidelines (3-4 July 2019)</li> </ul>

	<p>Authority as the new NCA for implementation of the Biosafety Act</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting on BCH with the consultants and IT company (5 July 2019)</li> <li>• Meeting on biosafety education with the international consultant (29 July 2019)</li> <li>• Consultative workshop for the biosafety communication strategy (31 July 2019)</li> <li>• Meeting on BCH with the consultants and IT company (9 August 2019)</li> <li>• Consultative workshop on integrating biosafety into tertiary education (22 August 2019)</li> <li>• Meeting on BCH (24 September 2019)</li> <li>• Stakeholder consultative workshop for risk assessment guidelines (25-26 September 2019)</li> <li>• Training workshop on monitoring and inspection of LMOs (27 September 2019)</li> <li>• Workshop on monitoring and inspection of LMOs to Custom officers and officers from the department of agriculture including plant quarantine services (16-20 December 2019).</li> <li>• Training workshop on access and sharing information through BCH (16-20 December 2019).</li> <li>• Biosafety awareness workshop to the focal point (24 January 2020).</li> <li>• Training of focal point to maintain and upload information to BCH (29 January 2020)</li> <li>• 3<sup>rd</sup> Project steering committee meeting (20 February 2020)</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Training of focal point to maintain and upload information to BCH (30 June 2020)</li> <li>• Awareness on Biosafety for the new NCA – Central environment authority (07 July 2020)</li> <li>• Meeting on awareness material with NSF (15 August 2021)</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Monitoring &amp; inspection workshop on GMOs (21-25 September 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for contained use (22-24 September 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBSCs) (30 September 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for Food and Feed (6-8 October 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for GM mosquitoes (12-14 October 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for confines field trials (CFTs) (20-22 October 2020)</li> </ul>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting with the Ministry of Environment on the Communication strategy (23 October 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk assessment (27-29 October 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk analysis framework (03 November 2020)</li> <li>• 3rd training on uploading information to BCH to the focal point (18 November 2020)</li> <li>• 4<sup>th</sup> Project steering committee meeting (31 December 2020)</li> <li>• Consultative meeting on the communication strategy (18 February 2021)</li> <li>• 4th training on uploading information to BCH to the focal point (23 March 2021)</li> <li>• Launch of the BCH website (31 March 2021)</li> </ul>
Parliamentarians and Legal experts from Legal Draftsmen Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate the process of examination, adopting and enactment of the proposed Biosafety Act;</li> <li>• Ensure consultative process for finalizing guidelines, administrative procedures, SOPs etc.</li> </ul>	<p>Although parliamentarians didn't get involved in any of the activities yet, Legal Draftsmen Department contributed towards the revision of the Biosafety act and was taking part in the following meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting (26 January 2018)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Working Group meeting (21 March 2018)</li> <li>• Media Conference (29 March 2018)</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting (25 June 2018)</li> <li>• FGD with decision-makers and enforcement authorities (20 August 2018)</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Technical Expert Group meeting (26 October 2018)</li> <li>• Component 1 workshop (26-27 February 2019)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Training for component 1 (28 February 2019)</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting (5 April 2019)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Workshop for LMO detection (27 May 2019)</li> </ul>
Department of Agriculture, Department of Animal Production and Health, Department of Health, Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Department of Wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide inputs on the development of regulatory and other relevant documents as SCAs;</li> <li>• Participate in training programmes on RA, RM and RC;</li> <li>• Participate in national and international events during the project;</li> </ul>	<p>Participated and provided input during the following events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inception workshop (29-30 August 2018)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Project Steering Committee meeting (31 October 2018)</li> <li>• Consultative meeting for the draft Biosafety Act (13 November 2018)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting (26 January 2018)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Technical Expert Group meeting (23 February 2018)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Working Group meeting (21 March 2018)</li> </ul>

<p>Conservation and Ministry of Industry.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide technical inputs to awareness raising workshops;</li> <li>• Ensure institutional mechanism for Biosafety;</li> <li>• Provide inputs as food safety inspectorate for the enforcement of Biosafety regulations;</li> <li>• Participate in trainings on biosafety guidelines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Media Conference (29 March 2018)</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting (25 June 2018)</li> <li>• Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with Sectoral Competent Authorities (25 July 2018)</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Technical Expert Group meeting (26 October 2018)</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Project Steering Committee meeting (08 November 2018)</li> <li>• Component 1 workshop (26-27 February 2019)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Training for component 1 (28 February 2019)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting for Component 3 (28 March 2019)</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting (5 April 2019)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Workshop for LMO detection (27 May 2019)</li> <li>• Workshop on risk assessment guidelines (3-4 July 2019)</li> <li>• Consultative workshop for the biosafety communication strategy (31 July 2019)</li> <li>• Consultative workshop on integrating biosafety into tertiary education (22 August 2019)</li> <li>• Stakeholder consultative workshop for risk assessment guidelines (25-26 September 2019)</li> <li>• Biosafety awareness workshop (24-25 October 2019)</li> <li>• Workshop on monitoring and inspection of LMOs to Custom officers and officers from the department of agriculture including plant quarantine services (16-20 December 2019).</li> <li>• Training workshop on access and sharing information through BCH (16-20 December 2019).</li> <li>• 3<sup>rd</sup> Project steering committee meeting (20 February 2020)</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Monitoring &amp; inspection workshop on GMOs (21-25 September 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for contained use (22-24 September 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBSCs) (30 September 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for Food and Feed (6-8 October 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for GM mosquitoes (12-14 October 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for confines field trials (CFTs) (20-22 October 2020)</li> </ul>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting with the Ministry of Environment on the Communication strategy (23 October 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk assessment (27-29 October 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk analysis framework (03 November 2020)</li> <li>• 4<sup>th</sup> Project steering committee meeting (31 December 2020)</li> <li>• Consultative meeting on the communication strategy (18 February 2021)</li> <li>• Training of trainers in biosafety communication (19 February 2021)</li> <li>• Launch of the BCH website (31 March 2021)</li> </ul>
Enforcement officials including Customs, National Plant Quarantine Services, Seed Inspectors, scientists/technical experts from research laboratories involved in detection and monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support strengthening of infrastructure and capacities for detection of LMOs;</li> <li>• Provide inputs on the transboundary movement of GMOs/ LMOs and procedures/ guidelines for sampling, field trials inspection and monitoring etc.;</li> <li>• Participate in training programs on procedures for sampling, detection, inspection and monitoring, and BCH;</li> <li>• Provide inputs on training modules for BCH access;</li> <li>• Participate in consultations on documents and training modules related to sampling, detection, inspection and monitoring;</li> <li>• Assist in strengthening enforcement systems for effective</li> </ul>	<p>Participated and provided input during the following events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inception workshop (29-30 August 2018)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Project Steering Committee meeting (31 October 2018)</li> <li>• Consultative meeting for the draft Biosafety Act (13 November 2018)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting (26 January 2018)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Working Group meeting (21 March 2018)</li> <li>• Media Conference (29 March 2018)</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting (25 June 2018)</li> <li>• Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with Sectoral Competent Authorities (25 July 2018)</li> <li>• FGD with decision-makers and enforcement authorities (20 August 2018)</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Project Steering Committee meeting (08 November 2018)</li> <li>• Component 1 workshop (26-27 February 2019)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Training for component 1 (28 February 2019)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting for Component 3 (28 March 2019)</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting (5 April 2019)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Workshop for LMO detection (27 May 2019)</li> <li>• Workshop on risk assessment guidelines (3-4 July 2019)</li> <li>• Consultative workshop on integrating biosafety into tertiary education (22 August 2019)</li> <li>• Stakeholder consultative workshop for risk assessment guidelines (25-26 September 2019)</li> <li>• Training workshop on monitoring and inspection of LMOs (27 September 2019)</li> </ul>

	<p>Biosafety regulations related to transgenic animals and animal feed;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in trainings on biosafety guidelines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Workshop on monitoring and inspection of LMOs to Custom officers and officers from the department of agriculture including plant quarantine services (16-20 December 2019).</li> <li>Training workshop on access and sharing information through BCH (16-20 December 2019).</li> <li>3<sup>rd</sup> Project steering committee meeting (20 February 2020)</li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> Monitoring &amp; inspection workshop on GMOs (21-25 September 2020)</li> <li>Training on Guidelines for contained use (22-24 September 2020)</li> <li>Training on Guidelines for Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBSCs) (30 September 2020)</li> <li>Training on Guidelines for Food and Feed (6-8 October 2020)</li> <li>Training on Guidelines for GM mosquitoes (12-14 October 2020)</li> <li>Training on Guidelines for confined field trials (CFTs) (20-22 October 2020)</li> <li>Meeting with the Ministry of Environment on the Communication strategy (23 October 2020)</li> <li>Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk assessment (27-29 October 2020)</li> <li>Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk analysis framework (03 November 2020)</li> <li>4<sup>th</sup> Project steering committee meeting (31 December 2020)</li> <li>Meeting on lab accreditation (07 April 2021)</li> <li>Meeting on GMO detection and lab accreditation-I (20 April 2021)</li> <li>Meeting on GMO detection and lab accreditation-ii (22 April 2021)</li> </ul>
Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist in the process for accreditation of identified laboratories</li> <li>Participate in training programs/information exchange with other accreditation bodies at international level</li> </ul>	<p>Participated and provided input during the following events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inception workshop (29-30 August 2018)</li> <li>FGD with decision-makers and enforcement authorities (20 August 2018)</li> <li>Component 1 workshop (26-27 February 2019)</li> <li>1<sup>st</sup> Meeting for Component 3 (28 March 2019)</li> <li>Meeting on lab accreditation (07 April 2021)</li> <li>Meeting on GMO detection and lab accreditation-I (20 April 2021)</li> <li>Meeting on GMO detection and lab accreditation-ii (22 April 2021)</li> </ul>

<p>Scientific Agencies including NSF, CARP, National Research Council, COSTI</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and draft guidelines for RA, RM and RC on Biosafety;</li> <li>• Develop outreach materials for different target groups;</li> </ul>	<p>Participated and provided input during the following events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inception workshop (29-30 August 2018)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Project Steering Committee meeting (31 October 2018)</li> <li>• Consultative meeting for the draft Biosafety Act (13 November 2018)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting (26 January 2018)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Working Group meeting (21 March 2018)</li> <li>• Media Conference (29 March 2018)</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting (25 June 2018)</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Project Steering Committee meeting (08 November 2018)</li> <li>• Component 1 workshop (26-27 February 2019)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Training for component 1 (28 February 2019)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting for Component 3 (28 March 2019)</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting (5 April 2019)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Workshop for LMO detection (27 May 2019)</li> <li>• Meeting on awareness material (18 June 2019)</li> <li>• Workshop on risk assessment guidelines (3-4 July 2019)</li> <li>• Consultative workshop for the biosafety communication strategy (31 July 2019)</li> <li>• Workshop for awareness material with the international consultant (1 August 2019)</li> <li>• Consultative workshop on integrating biosafety into tertiary education (22 August 2019)</li> <li>• Stakeholder consultative workshop for risk assessment guidelines (25-26 September 2019)</li> <li>• 3<sup>rd</sup> Project steering committee meeting (20 February 2020)</li> <li>• Meeting on awareness material with NSF (15 August 2020)</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Monitoring &amp; inspection workshop on GMOs (21-25 September 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for contained use (22-24 September 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBSCs) (30 September 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for Food and Feed (6-8 October 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for GM mosquitoes (12-14 October 2020)</li> </ul>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training on Guidelines for confines field trials (CFTs) (20-22 October 2020)</li> <li>• Meeting with the Ministry of Environment on the Communication strategy (23 October 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk assessment (27-29 October 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk analysis framework (03 November 2020)</li> <li>• 4<sup>th</sup> Project steering committee meeting (31 December 2020)</li> <li>• Launch of the BCH website (31 March 2021)</li> </ul>
<p>University and research institutions such as University of Peradeniya and University of Colombo, Tea Research Institute, Rubber Research Institute, Coconut Research Institute and Rice Research and Development Institute and Horticultural Crop Research and Development Institute</p> <p>Other universities University of Ruhuna, South Eastern University, Wayamba University, University of Moratuwa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide technical support in enhancing capacity for RA and LMO detection;</li> <li>• Provide technical inputs for the development of safety assessment guidelines and manuals for RA and RM of GMOs/LMOs, formats for RA summaries and conduct trainings;</li> <li>• Provide technical inputs on the national biosafety masterplan, website, E-learning tools on Biosafety regulations etc.;</li> <li>• Support consultative meetings for finalizing various Biosafety regulations and guidelines;</li> <li>• Provide technical inputs to training workshops;</li> <li>• Coordinate post graduate diploma and integrate Biosafety with other courses;</li> <li>• Ensure upgrade and accreditation of laboratory for</li> </ul>	<p>Participated and provided input during the following events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inception workshop (29-30 August 2018)</li> <li>• Consultative meeting for the draft Biosafety Act (13 November 2018)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting (26 January 2018)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Technical Expert Group meeting (23 February 2018)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Working Group meeting (21 March 2018)</li> <li>• Media Conference (29 March 2018)</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting (25 June 2018)</li> <li>• Component 1 workshop (26-27 February 2019)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Training for component 1 (28 February 2019)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting for Component 3 (28 March 2019)</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting (5 April 2019)</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Workshop for LMO detection (27 May 2019)</li> <li>• Workshop on risk assessment guidelines (3-4 July 2019)</li> <li>• Meeting on biosafety education with the international consultant (29 July 2019)</li> <li>• Training of trainers as biosafety communicators (30 July 2019)</li> <li>• Consultative workshop for the biosafety communication strategy (31 July 2019)</li> <li>• Consultative workshop on integrating biosafety into tertiary education (22 August 2019)</li> <li>• Biosafety awareness workshop to university students and school children (11-12 September 2019)</li> <li>• Stakeholder consultative workshop for risk assessment guidelines (25-26 September 2019)</li> </ul>

	<p>LMOs/GMOs detection;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide technical support to regulatory authorities for risk assessment and management, and enforcement officials for detection of LMOs/GMOs;</li> <li>• Develop capacities, curriculum and a post graduate course on Biosafety;</li> <li>• Ensure the establishment of a post graduate course in consultation with Ministry of Education;</li> <li>• Participate in trainings on biosafety guidelines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biosafety awareness workshop to university students in science and non-science streams (10-11 March 2020)</li> <li>• Meeting on awareness material with NSF (15 August 2021)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for contained use (22-24 September 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBSCs) (30 September 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for Food and Feed (6-8 October 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for GM mosquitoes (12-14 October 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for confines field trials (CFTs) (20-22 October 2020)</li> <li>• Meeting with the Ministry of Environment on the Communication strategy (23 October 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk assessment (27-29 October 2020)</li> <li>• Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk analysis framework (03 November 2020)</li> <li>• Biosafety awareness workshop for University of Ruhuna students (27 January 2021)</li> <li>• Training of trainers in biosafety communication (19 February 2021)</li> <li>• Biosafety awareness workshop for South eastern university students (10 March 2021)</li> <li>• Launch of the BCH website (31 March 2021)</li> <li>• Meeting on lab accreditation (07 April 2021)</li> <li>• Biosafety awareness workshop for Wayamba University (09 April 2021)</li> <li>• Meeting on GMO detection and lab accreditation-i (20 April 2021)</li> <li>• Meeting on GMO detection and lab accreditation-ii (22 April 2021)</li> <li>• Meeting on biosafety education material by the AgBC, University of Peradeniya with National institute of education (23 April 2021)</li> <li>• Biosafety awareness workshop for University of Moratuwa (20 May 2021)</li> </ul>
<p>Private sector, NGOs, CSOs, mass media and local communities,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support awareness activities to incorporate views and perspectives into the planning and implementation of the project;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Media workshop (29 March 2018).</li> <li>• Workshop on risk assessment guidelines (3-4 July 2019)</li> <li>• Training of trainers as biosafety communicators (30 July 2019)</li> <li>• Consultative workshop for the biosafety communication strategy (31 July 2019)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support knowledge management on Biosafety;</li> <li>• Support and participate in workshops, particularly those related to communication and dissemination;</li> <li>• Consensus building for the national Biosafety issues;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultative workshop on integrating biosafety into tertiary education (22 August 2019)</li> <li>• Stakeholder consultative workshop for risk assessment guidelines (25-26 September 2019)</li> <li>• Meeting on awareness material with NSF (15 August 2021)</li> <li>• Meeting with the Ministry of Environment on the Communication strategy (23 October 2020)</li> <li>• Consultative meeting on the communication strategy (18 February 2021)</li> <li>• Training of trainers in biosafety communication (19 February 2021)</li> <li>• Launch of the BCH website (31 March 2021)</li> </ul>
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### 9. Gender Mainstreaming

**Information on Progress on gender-responsive measures as documented at CEO Endorsement/Approval in the gender action plan or equivalent (when applicable)**

This project does not apply a gender sensitive approach.

### 10. Knowledge Management Activities

**Knowledge activities / products (when applicable), as outlined in knowledge management approved at CEO Endorsement / Approval**

The baseline data collection on the level of understanding of the stakeholders on Biosafety in Sri Lanka, which was held through focus group discussions, key informant interviews and questionnaires, was the initial activity conducted to strategize knowledge activities by the project. The outcome of this activity contributed to the Biosafety Communication Strategy developed by the project as well as all the other knowledge activities conducted by the project to various stakeholder groups. Details of the awareness activities including photos are available at: [http://lk.biosafetyclearinghouse.net/knowledge\\_development\\_publics.shtml](http://lk.biosafetyclearinghouse.net/knowledge_development_publics.shtml)

Government restrictions for gatherings due to the COVID-19 pandemic, impeded in-person activities in the last fiscal year. This was definitely a challenge for interactive communication since virtual communication does not allow the same level of interaction. While virtual communication is advantageous for certain activities (e.g. stakeholder consultation of reviewing documents), it was definitely a challenge for awareness activities.

Considering the amount and duration of attention for online engagement, we had to limit the length of our activities and had to make them more interactive. One approach was to include online live debates allowing the participants to actively get engaged. Also, we obtained informative and attractive infographics from participants (posters in PowerPoint slides) and presented them with music as a short video during webinars.

All our publications including the Biosafety Newsletter launched by the project can be assessed at: <http://lk.biosafetyclearinghouse.net/Publications2.shtml>

This project has a communication focal point (details are listed below)  
 Name: Mihiri Kandanaarachchi  
 Email: [Mihiri.Kandanaarachchi@fao.org](mailto:Mihiri.Kandanaarachchi@fao.org)

## 11. Indigenous Peoples Involvement

**Are Indigenous Peoples involved in the project? How? Please briefly explain.**

Indigenous people are not involved in this project.

## 12. Innovative Approaches

**Please provide a brief description of an innovative<sup>23</sup> approach in the project / programme, describe the type (e.g. technological, financial, institutional, policy, business model) and explain why it stands out as an innovation.**

None

<sup>23</sup> Innovation is defined as *doing something new or different in a specific context that adds value*

### 13. Possible impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the project

**Please indicate any implication of the Covid-19 pandemic on the activities and progress of the project. Highlight the adaptative measures taken to continue with the project implementation.**

Almost all the project activities were delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This includes delays in the local activities requiring gatherings, international travel of consultants, international training of stakeholders, and procurement of equipment for upgrading LMO testing laboratories.

The timing to conduct the MTR was delayed from the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic in Sri Lanka. The timing to conduct the TE will be affected by the third wave, which is worse than the first two.

Since the pandemic had an impact on project implementation, it was delayed for the beneficiaries to receive what the project intended to offer them.

Although online interaction is not the same as in-person, in some cases it was advantageous. For instance, stakeholder consultation to review documents was easier online. Also, usual delays due to travel (e.g. traffic) can be avoided with online interaction.

The project strategized certain activities and awareness material to adapt to online implementation. For instance, all our awareness workshops during the lock-down were conducted as webinars. Also, we designed biosafety awareness material to be compatible with digital media including social media.

However, if the situation is not favorable for international travel, international training of stakeholders under the project will not be possible.



### Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co-financing <sup>24</sup>	Name of Co-financer	Type of Co-financing	Amount Confirmed at CEO endorsement / approval	Actual Amount Materialized at 30 June 2021	Actual Amount Materialized at Midterm or closure (confirmed by the review/evaluation team)	Expected total disbursement by the end of the project
National Government	Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment	In-kind	85,714	Pending*	38,759	
National Government	Ministry of Health Nutrition and Indigenous	In-kind	8,571	Pending*	308,779	
National Government	Department of Animal Production and Health	In-kind	357,143	Pending*	215,181	
National Government	Department of Agriculture	In-kind	405,714	Pending*	239,037	
National Government	National Plant Quarantine Services	In-kind	291,143	Pending*	538,128	
National Government	Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources	In-kind	36,143	Pending*	20,294	
National Government	Department of Wildlife Conservation	In-kind	285,714	Pending*	369,190 **	
National Government	Sri Lanka Customs	In-kind	382,471	Pending*	710,026	
National Government	University of Colombo	In-kind	300,000	Pending*	519,928	

<sup>24</sup> Sources of Co-financing may include: Bilateral Aid Agency(ies), Foundation, GEF Agency, Local Government, National Government, Civil Society Organization, Other Multi-lateral Agency(ies), Private Sector, Beneficiaries, Other.

National Government	University of Peradeniya	In-kind	300,000	Pending*	493,875	
National Government	National Science Foundation	In-kind	105,714	Pending*	540,106	
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,958,327</b>		<b>3,993,303</b>	

\*This information is currently being collected by PMU.

\*\* Excluding commitments made for the period from 01 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 (the entity did not report that yet)

**Please explain any significant changes in project co-financing since Project Document signature, or differences between the anticipated and actual rates of disbursement**

## Annex 1. – GEF Performance Ratings Definitions

**Development/Global Environment Objectives Rating** – Assess how well the project is meeting its development objective/s or the global environment objective/s it set out to meet. **DO Ratings definitions:** **Highly Satisfactory (HS)** - Project is expected to achieve or exceed **all** its major global environmental objectives, and yield substantial global environmental benefits, without major shortcomings. The project can be presented as “good practice”); **Satisfactory (S)** - Project is expected to achieve **most** of its major global environmental objectives, and yield satisfactory global environmental benefits, with only minor shortcomings); **Moderately Satisfactory (MS)** - Project is expected to achieve **most** of its major relevant objectives but with either significant shortcomings or modest overall relevance. Project is expected not to achieve **some** of its major global environmental objectives or yield some of the expected global environment benefits); **Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)** - Project is expected to achieve of its major global environmental objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to achieve only **some** of its major global environmental objectives); **Unsatisfactory (U)** - Project is expected **not** to achieve **most** of its major global environment objectives or to yield any satisfactory global environmental benefits); **Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)** - The project has failed to achieve, and is not expected to achieve, **any** of its major global environment objectives with no worthwhile benefits.)

**Implementation Progress Rating** – Assess the progress of project implementation. **IP Ratings definitions:** **Highly Satisfactory (HS):** Implementation of all components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised implementation plan for the project. The project can be resented as “good practice”. **Satisfactory (S):** Implementation of most components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan except for only a few that are subject to remedial action. **Moderately Satisfactory (MS):** Implementation of some components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with some components requiring remedial action. **Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU):** Implementation of some components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with most components requiring remedial action. **Unsatisfactory (U):** Implementation of most components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan. **Highly Unsatisfactory (HU):** Implementation of none of the components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.