Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

FAO-GEF Project Implementation Report

2022 – Revised Template

Period covered: 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022

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1. Basic Project Data

General Information

Region:	Region of Asia Pacific (RAP)
Country (ies):	Sri Lanka
Project Title:	Implementation of the National Biosafety Framework in accordance with the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CPB)
FAO Project Symbol:	GCP /SRL/066/GFF
GEF ID:	5720
GEF Focal Area(s):	Biodiversity
Project Executing Partners:	Ministry of Environment
Project Duration (years):	01/01/2017 – 30/06/2022
Project coordinates:	*°40'11.0"N 80°38'45.0"E*

Project Dates

GEF CEO Endorsement Date:	21/06/2016
Project Implementation Start Date/EOD :	01/01/2017
Project Implementation End Date/NTE[1]:	31/12/2020
Revised project implementation end date (if approved) [2]	30/09/2022

Funding

GEF Grant Amount (USD):	2,365,964
Total Co-financing amount as included in GEF CEO Endorsement Request/ProDoc[3]:	2,958,327
Total GEF grant disbursement as of June 30, 2022 (USD)[4]:	2,287,572
Total estimated co-financing materialized as of June 30, 2022[5]	5,152,881

[1] As per FPMIS
[2] If NTE extension has been requested and approved by the FAO-GEF CU.
[3] This is the total amount of co-financing as included in the CEO document/Project Document.
[4] For DEX projects, the GEF Coordination Unit will confirm the final amount with the Finance Division in HQ. For OPIM projects, the disbursement amount should be provided by Execution Partners.
[5] Please refer to the section 12 of this report where updated co-financing estimates are requested and indicate the total co-financing amount materialized.

M&E Milestones

Date of Most Recent Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting:	05/04/2022
Expected Mid-term Review date[6]:	Jan 2020
Actual Mid-term review date (when it is done):	July 2020
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date[7]:	May 2022
Tracking tools/Core indicators updated before MTR or TE stage (provide as Annex)	Yes (Annex 2)

Overall ratings

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

ESS risk classification

Current ESS Risk classification:	*Low*

Status

Implementation Status ***(1st PIR, 2nd PIR, etc. Final PIR):***	5th PIR (**Final PIR**)

Project Contacts

Contact	Name, Title, Division/Institution	E-mail
Project Manager / Coordinator	Shanaka Gunawardena, National Project Manager, FAOLK	Shanaka.Gunawardena@fao.org
Budget Holder	Vimlendra Sharan, FAO Representative	vimlendra.sharan@fao.org
Lead Technical Officer	Chikelu Mba, Senior Officer – Team Leader, Plant Production and Protection Division (AGPMG)	Chikelu.Mba@fao.org
GEF Funding Liaison Officer	Lianchawii Chhakchhuak, Technical Advisor - GEF , OCBD	Lianchawii.Chhakchhuak@fao.org

[6] The Mid-Term Review (MTR) should take place after the 2nd PIR, around half-point between EOD and NTE. The MTR report in English should be submitted to the GEF Secretariat within 4 years of the CEO Endorsement date.

[7] The Terminal Evaluation date should be discussed with OED 6 months before the project's NTE date.

2. Progress towards Achieving Project Objective(s) (Development Objective)

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

Please indicate the project's main progress towards achieving its objective(s) and the cumulative level of achievement of each outcome since the start of project implementation.

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators[8]	Baseline	Mid-term Target [9]	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress[10] since project start Level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating[11]
Objective(s): 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.	**Outcome 1.1:** 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	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);	i. The draft of the 'Biosafety Regulation of Sri Lanka for LMOs/GMOs' was submitted to the government of Sri Lanka for review and endorsement. i. The 'National Biosafety Master Plan for Sri Lanka' was endorsed by the government of Sri Lanka. i. The revised Biosafety Act for the country is being reviewed by the Legal Draftsman's Department based on the comments from the Attorney General's Department.	S

[8] This is taken from the approved results framework of the project.

[9] 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.

[10] Please report on results obtained in terms of Global Environmental Benefits and Socio-economic Co-benefits as well.

[11] Use GEF Secretariat required six-point scale system: **Highly Satisfactory** (HS), **Satisfactory** (S), **Moderately Satisfactory** (MS), **Moderately Unsatisfactory** (MU), **Unsatisfactory** (U), and **Highly Unsatisfactory** (HU).

		coordination mechanism;				v. Sundry guidelines and manuals (see annex 3) were also produced and guidelines are publicly available on the Sri Lanka Biosafety Clearing House. The manual and regulations will be available once the Biosafety Act is enacted. v. Additionally, the institutional and human capacities of the national competent authorities were strengthened through the training of personnel and the provision of laboratory equipment and supplies. However, there were no applications for the introduction into, or the release of LMOs in, Sri Lanka in the course of the project to enable the determination of the functioning of the National Biosafety Framework.	
	Outcome 1.2: Administrative systems for making biosafety fully functional	Number of implementation examples using fully functional administrative system	Administrative and operational procedures, which are consistent with the requirements of CPB do not exist;		At least 5 implementation examples using a fully functional administrative procedure mechanism as per provisions of the draft Biosafety Act;	The draft 'Manual on Administrative and Operational Procedures for Handling of Living Modified Organisms/ Genetically Modified Organisms in Sri Lanka' was submitted to the government of Sri Lanka for review and endorsement. However, there were no applications for the introduction into, or the release of LMOs in, Sri Lanka in the course of the project to demonstrate the utility of the National Biosafety	S

					Framework, which was strengthened through the project. Nonetheless, the administrative procedure for handing any such requests is contained in the Manual as per the provision of the draft Biosafety Act.	
	Outcome 1.3: National Biosafety Clearing House (BCH) operational	Number of visitors accessing the BCH; Satisfaction with level of information and knowledge available in the national BCH;	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;		At least 5,000 individual accesses to the BCH; At least 70% of satisfaction rate received from multiple stakeholders;	The Sri Lanka BCH was launched on 31 March 2021 http://lk.biosafetyclearinghouse.net/ From 31 March 2021 to 22 June 2022, 6,437 views were reported according Google Analytics (About 430 per month) The National Focal Points for Biosafety were trained on maintaining and uploading information to the Sri Lanka BCH.	S
	Outcome 2.1: National institutions strengthened for RA, RM and RC including monitoring and enforcement	Number of agencies that have institutionalized training on RA, RM and RC; Number of focal points for RA, RM and RC in each institution identified;	The capacity of national institutions is limited to enable formulation and implementation of integrated and coherent Biosafety regulatory mechanisms;		All members, bodies and relevant agencies received institutionalized training and they are capable to work with the RA, RM and RC framework; At least 3 focal points identified for institutional RA, RM and RC;	Officers of the relevant agencies (Dept. of Agriculture, Dept. of Health Services, Dept. of Animal Production and Health, Dept. of Fisheries and Aquatic Resource, and Dept. of Wildlife Conservation) were trained on the RA with the curricula drawn from the guidelines listed below, which were developed Under the auspices of the project: • Guidelines for safe use of living modified organisms (LMO) in the laboratory;	S

					1 institutional mechanism in place to deal with Biosafety issues in the country;	• Guidelines for the environmental risk assessment of LM plants; • Guidelines for conduct of confined field trials of LM plants; • Guidelines for the safety assessment foods derived from LM plants; • Guidelines for testing of genetically modified mosquitoes; • Guidelines for institutional biosafety committees; • Risk analysis framework; and • Formats for Risk Assessment and Decision Making Tools for Regulatory Authorities in Sri Lanka. Five focal points for Biosafety, one from each of the Departments of Agriculture, Health Services, Wildlife and Conservation, Animal Production and Health and Fisheries and Aquatic Resources were identified.	
	Outcome 3.1: Improved capacity for detection and identification of LMOs	Number of detection and identification processes of LMOs within a certain time period; Number of designated staff;	Capacities in LMO detection and the requirements for the accreditation of laboratories not met for implementation;		At least, 70% of trained staff capable to detect and identify LMOs using upgraded instruments and guidelines developed;	A workshop on detection and identification of LMOs was held for two participants from each of the three laboratories that were upgraded for the detection of LMOs, (i) Industrial Technology Institute, (ii) Agricultural Biotechnology Centre, and (iii) National Plant Quarantine Services.	S

					At least 20 detection and identification cases processed using improved facilities at the end of the project; At least 3 designated staff in each institution identified;	Two designated staff of each the three laboratories for the detection of LMOs underwent international training on Detection of GMOs/LMOs This was conducted online due to the prevailing COVID-19 pandemic. This was followed by national level training on Strengthening Detection capacity of GMOs/LMOs at the Agricultural Biotechnology Centre of the University of Peradeniya.	
	Outcome 3.2: Laboratories fully operational with the necessary 8ccreditation 8 to carry out risk assessment, and detection of LMOs, which allow Sri Lanka to meet its obligations under the CPB	Number of identified laboratories operational with international standards; Number of facilities for contained testing operational; Annual budget allocated for operation and maintenance of laboratories;	The8ccreditation of laboratories and strengthening capacities of selected public sector laboratories are required;		2 public laboratories with improved infrastructure and facilities for LMO detection as per international norms and serve as central LMO research and detection labs; 1 upgraded analytical laboratory functional for compositional and nutritional analysis with state-of the-art analytical	The three laboratories for the detection of LMOs, National Plant Quarantine Services (NPQS), Industrial Technology Institute (ITI), and Agricultural Biotechnology Centre of the University of Peradeniya (AgBC) were provided with the necessary equipment and supplies for the foreseen laboratory assays for detection and identification of LMOs. The Government Analyst's Department (GAD) was provided with an ELISA (enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay) machine. Sri Lanka Customs was provided with kits for GM testing using lateral flow strips. All the laboratories were provided with copies of the laboratory manual	S

					services equipment; These laboratories are showcased as technically viable examples; Efficient accreditation process in place;	containing the Standard Operating Procedures for LMO testing. Nine (9) representatives from the laboratories were trained by the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB) on Internal Auditing of Laboratory Quality Management Systems As Per ISO/IEC 17025. Two staff members of the SLAB were trained through online international training on LMO testing. Eight (8) scientists from laboratories and 3 staff members from SLAB obtained hands-on training on detection of GMOs/LMOs at the Export Inspection Agency, Kochi, India from 13 to 16 June 2022. Four (4) officers from SLAB obtained training at the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories, India from 20 – 24 June 2022 on capacity development for GM testing.	
	Outcome 4.1: Enhanced awareness, education and public participation in decision-making on Biosafety	Number of awareness raising events/campaigns with positive feedback from various stakeholders across the country;	Awareness of Biosafety needs to be further enhanced to broader stakeholders strategically;		Over 20 events/campaigns organized with At least 70% of activities received positive feedback from participants;	i. Twenty seven (27) awareness raising events were organized with 100% of them receiving positive overall feedback from participants (Annex 4). i. The National Strategy for Biosafety Communication was developed and endorsed by the government.	S

		Annual budget allocated for continuous actions for Biosafety in the country;				The following biosafety-themed public awareness materials were published. [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 frameworks in countries globally; [v] Booklet containing academic articles related to biosafety; [vi] Booklet titled "What do experts say about GM food and GM plants?" [viii] Organizer with information and cartoon illustrations on biosafety; [ix] Flash cards titled “GM Crops – safety, benefits, risks and global status” [x] Short storyline with cartoon illustrations on genetically modified (GM) crops; [xi] Short storyline with cartoon illustration on GM Foods; [xii] Booklet with information on Biosafety containing cartoon illustrations; [xiii] Activity Book for kids; [xiv] Animated video on GM crops; [xv] Animated video on GM Food; [xvi] Documentary on Biosafety; [xvii] Glossary of terms; [xviii] Q&A; and	

						[xix] Ten (10) Short videos (animated and documentary) Seven (7) editions of the Biosafety Newsletter were published. The course outlines and resource books for 3 short courses in Biosafety for tertiary level education were developed. Resource books on Biosafety to be used at secondary level were developed and handed over to the National Institute of Education.	

Action Plan to address MS, MU, U and HU ratings

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
Enactment of the draft Biosafety Act	Get the Legal Draftsman's Department to make the Biosafety Act to be compatible with the new National Competent Authority. Expedite the enactment process with subsequent steps.	The Biodiversity Secretariat and the Central Environmental Authority (both under the Ministry of Environment)	To initiate from 01 July 2022

3. Implementation Progress (IP)

(Please indicate progress achieved during this FY as per the Implementation Plan/Annual Workplan)

Outcomes and Outputs[12]	Indicators (as per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (as per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements[13] (please avoid repeating results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance[14] in delivering outputs
Outcome 1.1: Enhanced capacity to develop, implement and coordinate biosafety legislations and regulations				
Output 1.1.1: National Biosafety Act enacted	Number of workshops for enactment process; Number of Biosafety Act enacted by the established decision-making process;		*Six consultative workshops with over 50 stakeholders were held to revise the draft Biosafety Act. The Biosafety Act was revised based on the inputs provided and a draft submitted to the Attorney General's Department.* *The Central Environmental Authority (CEA) assumed the role of the National Competent Authority (NCA) for Biosafety in the course of project implementation. CEA formed a committee, which is working with relevant government offices on the enactment of the Biosafety Act.*	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 Ministry of Environment, this was carried out. The Act was drafted in 2014 and so required updating in light of more recent developments.

[12] Outputs as described in the project Logframe or in any approved project revision.

[13] Please use the same unit of measurement of the project indicators as per the approved Implementation Plan or Annual Workplan. Please be concise (max one or two short sentence with main achievements)

[14] Variance refers to the difference between the expected and actual progress at the time of reporting.

Output 1.1.2: National Biosafety Master Plan (Strategy & Action Plan) elaborated and endorsed	Number of stakeholder consultative meetings; Number of legal documents prepared through the stakeholder consultation as per recommendation in the National Biosafety Framework (I.e. Master Plan);		*Five consultative meetings were held to articulate the Master Plan* *The National Biosafety Masterplan was endorsed by the government.*	
Output 1.1.3: Relevant regulations reviewed, drafted and endorsed	Number of regulations reviewed and set of regulations available to support Biosafety Act and Master Plan		*Draft regulations on the following six themes relevant to the implementation of the National Biosafety Framework were developed:* *a. Research and development involving the use of LMOs/GMOs under contained conditions.* *b. Research and development involving the use of LMOs/GMOs for experimental trials in confined conditions.* *c. Intentional introduction of LMOs/GMOs into the environment.* *d. Import of LMOs/GMOs for the purpose of research/ food / feed / processing / environmental release.* *e. Export of LMOs/GMOs* *f. Exchange of LMOs/GMOs among institutions for the purpose of research.* *These regulations will be finalized by CEA on the*	

			basis of the texts of the Biosafety Act when it is eventually enacted.	
Outcome 1.2: Administrative systems for making biosafety fully functional				
Output 1.2.1: Administrative and operational procedures for Biosafety reviewed and updated	Number of improved administrative and operational procedures in consistent with the requirements of CPB Number of committee meetings;		*Draft manual on administrative and operational procedures for the handling of living modified organisms in Sri Lanka was endorsed by the government.* *This manual will be finalized by CEA on the basis of the provisions of the Biosafety Act when it is eventually enacted .* *Five consultative meetings were held to develop the manual.*	
Output 1.2.2: Guidelines developed to support the tasks of National Competent Authority (NCA) and Sectoral Competent Authorities (SCAs)	Number of guidelines for handling applications and formats for application & communicating decisions in place		*The regulatory guidelines were included in the draft manual on administrative and operational procedures for the handling of living modified organisms in Sri Lanka.*	
Output 1.2.3 Staff of NCA, SCAs and related organizations trained	Number of members of regulatory committees and operational staff trained in administrative and operational procedures		*Forty-one (41) participants from 21 institutions including SCAs were trained.* *Further training on the regulatory system is contingent upon the enactment of the Biosafety Act and the availability of budgetary resources.* *A comprehensive curriculum for an online training course*	

			in the proposed administrative and operational procedure for handling LMO/GMO applications in Sri Lanka targeting the NCAs, was developed. It is expected that the training courses will be undertaken when the Biosafety Act, which is pertinent to some of the modules, is enacted. *The national counterpart, Biodiversity Secretariat under the Ministry of Environment, which took possession of the document, is in agreement with the contents.*	
Outcome 1.3: National Biosafety Clearing House (BCH) operational				
Output 1.3.1: An enhanced website established	Number of national biosafety web-based information infrastructure linked to the central portal of CBD that included a roster of biosafety experts in the country and has database of globally approved LMOs;		*The Sri Lanka BCH was launched. Website can be assessed at: http://lk.biosafetyclearinghouse.net/* *The website contains several useful information, including in particular:* • *National authorities for biosafety;* • *Laws, regulations and guidelines related to biosafety;* • *Awareness materials, including publications and audio-visual material.* • *One (1) roster of experts;*	

			• *Four (4) online databases of globally approved LMOs; and* • Who to contact for matters related to biosafety.	
Output 1.3.2: The BCH focal point trained to collect and manage information	Number of trainings for BCH organized; Number of individuals trained; Availability of manual;		*The BCH focal point, the Ministry of Environment, had 10 staff, including IT staff. All 10 were trained over four workshops on the collection and uploading of information and maintaining the Sri Lanka BCH portal.* *One (1) procedural manual, along with an instructional video, for collecting, uploading and managing information on the National BCH, was prepared.*	Due to restrictions on travel and in-person gatherings, which were imposed by the government in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, some training workshops were conducted online.
Output 1.3.3: Stakeholders trained to access and share information through BCH	Number of training modules; Number of training organized; Number of individuals trained;		*Five (5) training modules for accessing information on the national BCH for the different stakeholders were prepared.* *Ten (10) training workshops aimed at strengthening the capacities of the stakeholders to access and share information in the BCH were implemented. These were made up of five in-person training workshops, with 30 participants in each and five virtual training workshops*	

			with at least 30 participants in each. *Additionally, an online training module on accessing information through BCH was uploaded to the Sri Lanka BCH website.*	
Outcome 2.1: National institutions strengthened for RA, RM and RC including monitoring and enforcement				
Output 2.1.1: Methodologies for RA, RM and RC reviewed, refined and updated	Number of guidelines for contained use and Risk Analysis Framework developed;		*The following were prepared and have been endorsed by the government:* *Guidelines for the safe use of GMOs/LMOs in the laboratory; and* *Risk Analysis Framework.*	
Output 2.1.2: Technical guidelines and manuals on RA and RM developed	Number of technical guidelines in place covering various aspects of RARM		*The following guidelines were prepared and endorsed by the government:* • *Guidelines for the environmental risk assessment of LM plants;* • *Guidelines for the conduct of confined field trials of LM plants;* • *Guidelines for the safety assessment foods derived from LM plants;*	

			• *Guidelines for testing of genetically modified mosquitoes; and* • *Guidelines for institutional biosafety committees.*	
Output 2.1.3: Decision-making tools prepared for RA, RM and RC	Number of decision-making tools for RA, RM and RC		*One (1) decision-making tool kit: Formats for Risk Assessment and Decision Making for use by Regulatory Authorities in Sri Lanka, was prepared and has been endorsed by the government.*	
Output 2.1.4: Training strategy for RA, RM and RC developed	Number of training strategy/ manuals for RA, RM and RC in place		*Training need assessment was conducted and the report was produced.* *The following six (6) training manuals were prepared and has been endorsed by the government.* *Training Manual for the safe use of GMOs/LMOs in the laboratory* *Training Manual for the Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBSCs)* *Training Manual for the Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA) of Genetically Modified (GM) plants in Sri Lanka*	

			Training Manual on Confined Field Trials of GM Plants in Sri Lanka *Training Manual on Testing of GM Mosquitoes in Sri Lanka* *Training Manual on Safety Assessment of Foods derived from GM Plants in Sri Lanka* *One (1) Risk Communication strategy was prepared and integrated into the Biosafety Communication Strategy, which was endorsed by the government.*	
Output 2.1.5: **Staff of relevant institutions trained on RA, RM and RC**	Number of individuals trained; Number of staff designated for risk infrastructure in each institution identified;		*A total of 17 sessions of training on Risk Assessment, Risk Management and Risk Communication were conducted virtually based on the 7 risk assessment guidelines developed under the aegis of the project, with at least 25 participants in each – well above the target of 100 individuals to be trained.*	Due to restrictions on travel and in-person gatherings, which were imposed by the government in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the training workshops were conducted online.
Output 2.1.6: **National and regional institutional networks strengthened to implement National Biosafety System**	Number of international conference organized		*A Regional Conference on Biosafety was held on 10 & 11 March 2022 A total of 215 participants from Sri Lanka and other countries of the region, India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Malaysia, Philippines and Korea, took part in the event, which was*	Due to restrictions on travel and in-person gatherings, which were imposed by the government in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, this event was held online.

			implemented virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic. event. It was an opportunity for national stakeholders in biosafety to share experiences with counterparts in the neighbouring countries..	
Outcome 3.1: Improved capacity for detection and identification of LMOs				
Output 3.1.1: Testing needs and capacities for LMO detection assessed and key public laboratories identified for up-grading and accreditation	Number of assessment report completed; Number of laboratories and facilities identified;		*Six national laboratories were assessed and three of them, NPQS, ITI and AgBC, were identified to be upgraded as LMO detection laboratories. Two other laboratories, Government Analyst's Department [GAD] and Sri Lankan Customs), were identified to be supplied with tools for specific testing for the presence of LMOs.*	
Output 3.1.2: Inspection plan prepared and inspectors trained	Number of inspection plans/guidelines prepared; Number of staff of enforcement agencies trained Number of workshops/training modules provided;		*Ten training sessions on biosafety inspection were conducted. These were made up of five in-person sessions with 30 participants in each and 5 virtual sessions with at least 30 in each. The trainees consisted of: (i) Custom Officers, (ii) Officers from Plant Quarantine and Seed certification services, (iii) Officers from the Department of Agriculture, (iv) Food safety/Public Health Officers, (v) individuals from Universities and Research Institutions and (vi) Officers from the NCA and SCAs.*	Due to restrictions on travel and in-person gatherings, which were imposed by the government in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, some training workshops were conducted online.

Output 3.1.3: Personnel trained on LMO detection and	Number of individuals trained; Number of training modules developed;		*An international training workshop on LMO testing for twelve (12) representatives from the 3 selected labs and Sri Lanka Accreditation Board was held online.* The training programme included, (i) Virtual tour of the laboratories at Export Inspection Agency (EIA) in India, (ii) Pre-recorded videos to demonstrate the experimental protocols, (iii) live demonstrations of protocols by scientists of EIA, (iv) practical session by local scientists in the upgraded laboratories, and (iv) discussions of results and issues faced during the practical sessions. *This was followed by in-person national training for six (6) representatives from the 3 selected laboratories (the number was limited to abide by restrictions imposed by the government due to the COVID-19 pandemic).* *Since international travel was feasible for fully vaccinated travellers in 2022, 3 scientists from AgBC, 3 scientists from NPQS and 2 scientists from ITI obtained hands-on training on detection of GMOs/LMOs at the Export Inspection Agency, Kochi,*	Due to restrictions on travel and in-person gatherings, which were imposed by the government in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, this event was held online.

			India from 13 to 16 June 2022.	
Outcome 3.2: 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				
Output 3.2.1: Key government laboratories identified, established, strengthened and appropriately equipped for risk management and detection of LMOs	Number of laboratories and facilities assessed; Number of identified laboratories and facilities for contained testing equipped;		*All the equipment were delivered to the identified laboratories, NPQS, ITI, AgBC, GAD and SL Customs, and commissioned.* *The consumables, reagents and probes for testing of LMOs were delivered to the upgraded laboratories.* *Laboratory and SOP manuals (with international standards) were prepared for all the upgraded laboratories.*	
Output 3.2.2: Laboratories accredited by SLAB for risk assessment, LMO detection and identification based on ISO and ISTA standards	Number of laboratories accredited		*Nine (9) representatives from the 3 upgraded laboratories were trained by the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB) on Internal Auditing of Laboratory Quality Management Systems As Per ISO/IEC 17025.* *Two (2) staff members of the SLAB were trained on LMO testing by Export Inspection Agency, Kochi, India. They obtained hands-on training on detection of GMOs/LMOs at EIA from 13 to 16 June 2022.*	

			Four (4) officers from SLAB obtained training at the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories, India from 20 – 24 June 2022 on capacity development for GM testing.	
Outcome 4.1: Enhanced awareness, education and public participation in decision-making on Biosafety				
Output 4.1.1: Public awareness and participation strategy developed	Number of framework for public participation and database of stakeholders in place		*The Biosafety communication strategy, which was developed t6hrough the project, was endorsed by the government.*	
Output 4.1.2: Targeted awareness-raising activities implemented	Number of targeted activities accomplished;		*The following awareness raising activities were conducted:* *[i] Media Conference* *[ii] Training of Trainers of Biosafety resource persons* *[iii] Awareness for school children of 10 schools from Kandy* *[iv] For undergraduates from University of Peradeniya* *[v] For higher ranking officers at the Ministry of Health (MoH)* *[vi] For Public Health Officers and other field officers at MoH* *[vii] For officers at the National Focal Point for Biosafety (Ministry of Environment)* *[viii] For undergraduates from University of Colombo and University of Visual Arts* *[ix] For Prepare short-stories on Biosafety (posters and drama).*	

			[x] Six live radio discussions under various topics of biosafety were held in Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation. *[xi] For Officers at the Central Environmental Authority (National Competent Authority)* *[xii] For University of Ruhuna* *[xiii] Online ToT of Biosafety resource persons* *[xiv] For Wayamba University* *[xv] For South Eastern University* *[xvi] For University of Moratuwa* *[xvii] For Rajarata University* *[xviii] For Hillwood College, Kandy* *[xix] For University of Sri Jayawardenapura* *[xx] For NCA and SCAs* *[xxi] For Environmental NGOs* *[xxii] For University of Jaffna* *[xxiii] For private sector involved in biotechnology and agriculture* *[xxiv] For undergraduate and post-graduate students at the South Eastern University* *[xxv] For School teachers from the Oluvil area.* *[xxvi] For Agriculture Extension Officers and Farmers* *[xxvii] For Higher-ranking officer from the Department of Agriculture.*	

			The following public awareness raising materials were published and posted in the Sri Lanka BCH website; *[i] Short storyline with cartoon illustrations on 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 demonstrating …..;* *[v] Animated video on GM Crops;* *[vi] Animated video on GM Food;* *[vii] Documentary on Biosafety;* *[viii] Glossary of terms; and* *[ix] Questions and answers on Biotechnology and Biosafety.*	
Output 4.1.3: Curriculum, syllabus and course materials prepared for post-graduate course for Biosafety, and the gaps in primary (Ordinary Level), secondary and university level education for Biosafety filled through improvement of curricula.	Number of training courses developed;		*The course outlines for short courses in Biotechnology and Biosafety (tertiary level) were developed and handed over to the government.* *The three (3) resource books to facilitate teaching of short courses on biotechnology and biosafety in tertiary educational institutions were developed and handed over to the government.* *Two (2) resource books for the teaching of biotechnology/biosafety in*	

			secondary schools were developed and submitted to the National Institute of Education.	
Output 4.1.4: Information materials developed and disseminated through various media	Number of issues of the biosafety newsletter; Number of webpages with information sources;		*The seventh edition of the Biosafety Newsletter was published.*	

4. Summary on Progress and Ratings

Please provide a summary paragraph on progress, challenges and outcome of project implementation consistent with the information reported in sections 2 and 3 of the PIR.

During the period under review, significant progress was made towards the actualization of the project's deliverables, especially with regard to the strengthening of institutional and human capacities needed for the implementation of the biosafety framework in Sri Lanka. Of note, the Central Environmental Authorization (CEA) assumed the statutory responsibility of National Competent Authority for Biosafety in Sri Lanka and promptly initiated action on the remaining steps to the enactment of the Biosafety Act. In furtherance of the aim to keep the public informed and engaged in biosafety issues in the country, the Risk Communication Strategy was finalized and integrated into the Biosafety Communication Strategy. Also, a Regional Conference on Biosafety was held as a means for the biosafety stakeholders in Sri Lanka to share experiences with counterparts in the neighboring countries of the region. All the equipment that were earmarked for making the designated LMO testing laboratories in the country fit for purpose were procured, delivered and commissioned. Similarly, the associated consumables, chemicals and reagents were procured and delivered to these laboratories. The staff of these laboratories also benefitted from three cohorts of training on the detection and identification of LMOs. The first one, which involved international resource person was held online; this was followed by an in-person training for all the scientists who had undergone the prior online one in order to obtain hands-on experience with the procedures using the recently provided equipment and sundry supplies. The same scientist obtained hands-on training at the Export Inspection Agency in India. The personnel of these designated laboratories were also trained on the accreditation process by the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board. As a means to 'institutionalize' a biosafety mindset in the country, the curriculum and contents of short courses in biosafety were prepared while a three-volume resource book for biotechnology and biosafety for secondary schools were prepared and handed over to the National Institute of Education. Finally, workshops aimed at enhanced public awareness for biosafety were conducted for different segments of the society. These were buttressed with the production of biosafety public awareness materials, especially for digital media, and the publication of the edition of the 7th biosafety newsletter. A major constraint to project implementation was the restrictions on travel and in-person gatherings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This was mitigated as much as practicable by conducting events online and through the extension of the duration of the project. Similarly, the economic crisis during the second quarter of 2022, which manifested in insufficient supply of fuel and other essential items, resulted in the inability to hold in-person events. Again this was mitigated by organizing virtual rather than in-person events.

The total budget of the project USD 5,324,291 is consisted of USD 2,958,327 from co-financing and USD 2,365,964 from GEF allocation. As of 21 June 2022, the co-financing institutions have contributed a cumulative amount of USD 5,152,880.87, which is more than the committed amount. The delivery as of 21 June 2022 from the GEF allocation is USD 2,051,207.

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.

	FY2022 Development Objective rating[15]	FY2022 Implementation Progress rating[16]	Comments/reasons[17] justifying the ratings for FY2022 and any changes (positive or negative) in the ratings since the previous reporting period
Project Manager / Coordinator	**S**	**S**	*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 could be implemented virtually were undertaken. All the outstanding activities, which could not be implemented virtually were undertaken during the extended period of project implementation.*
Budget Holder	**S**	**S**	*Concur with the Project Manager's assessment. Most of the planned activities have been completed and the project has received a very positive response from all stakeholders.*
GEF Operational Focal Point[18]			
Lead Technical Officer[19]	**S**	**S**	*I concur with Project Manager's positive assessment of project implementation and the improvisations adopted to mitigate constraints.*
FAO-GEF Funding Liaison Officer	**S**	**S**	*This is the last year of project implementation and the final PIR for this project. Overall, the project has completed most of the planned activities and met expected outcomes and objectives of the project, despite major challenges posed by COVID-19 and the more recent economic crisis that severely restricted project activities, movement, and travel. The Mid-term Review recommendations were followed*

[15] **Development Objectives Rating** – A rating of the extent to which a project is expected to achieve or exceed its major objectives.
For more information on ratings and definitions, please refer to Annex 1.
[16] **Implementation Progress Rating** – A rating of the extent to which the implementation of a project's components and activities is in compliance with the projects approved implementation plan. For more information on ratings and definitions, please refer to Annex 1.
[17] Please ensure that the ratings are based on evidence
[18] In case the GEF OFP didn't provide his/her comments, please explain the reason.
[19] The LTO will consult the HQ technical officer and all other supporting technical Units.

			through and adjustments made, as needed. During this reporting period, a number of trainings were conducted for a range of stakeholders, including relevant govt departments, private sector, CBOs, NGOs, universities, etc. Key laboratories are better equipped and staff well-trained to test, assess and manage risks related to LMOs. Further, communication and media campaigns for different audience, incl. the public, contributed to increased awareness about LMOs for better preparedness when introduced in the country. The Terminal Evaluation, to conclude in July 2022, is expected to further provide recommendations for sustaining the initiatives under the project.

5. Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

Under the responsibility of the LTO (PMU to draft)

Please describe the progress made complying with the approved ESM plan. 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. Add new ESS risks if any risks have emerged during this FY.

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

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

Initial ESS Risk classification (At project submission)	**Current ESS risk classification** Please indicate if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid[20]. 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.

[20] **Important:** please note that if the Environmental and Social Risk classification has changed, the ESM Unit should be contacted and an updated Social and Environmental Management Plan addressing new risks should be prepared.

6. Risks

The following table summarizes risks identified in the Project Document and reflects also any new risks identified in the course of project implementation (including COVID-19 related risks). The last column should be used to provide additional details concerning manifestation of the risk in the project, as relevant.

	Type of risk	Risk rating[21]	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
1	Delay to the enactment of the Biosafety Act;	S	Y	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).	Engagement between the Biodiversity Secretariat and the CEA was facilitated, resulting in the agreement of the latter to take on the role of the National Competent Authority (NCA) and take charge of the steps to the enactment of the Biosafety Act. Unfortunately, the Act was not enacted at the time of this filing this PIR	

[21] Risk ratings means a rating of accesses the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risk of projects should be rated on the following scale: Low, Moderate, Substantial or High. For more information on ratings and definitions please refer to Annex 1.

	Type of risk	Risk rating[21]	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
2	Lack of effective linkages between Sectoral Competent Authorities to effectively implement the project due to the different levels of capacities and involvement;	L	Y	Make all the Sectoral Competent Authorities to participate in all the meetings, workshops and trainings relevant to them and facilitate cross-sectoral interactions.	Successful.	
3	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	Y	Involvement of senior governmental officials and policy makers in project related meetings and workshops as means to assist them to understand the need for Biosafety in Sri Lanka. Further, conduct of biosafety awareness raising workshops for high-ranking officers at the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Environment (focal point for biosafety) and the CEA (NCA).	Successful.	

	Type of risk	Risk rating[21]	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
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	Y	Involving relevant stakeholders in the drafting and reviewing of the risk assessment guidelines. Also, conducting awareness and training workshops on detection of LMO for the relevant stakeholders. Strengthening of institutional capacities through the upgrade of laboratories and the procurement of equipment and sundry supplies	Successful.	
5	Climate change threatens biodiversity and impacts ecosystem functions of Sri Lanka. Potential harm arising from LMOs may worsen those vulnerabilities.	L	Y	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):

FY2021 rating	FY2022 rating	Comments/reason for the rating for FY2022 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 design enables continued stakeholder engagement.

7. Follow-up on Mid-term review or supervision mission (only for projects that have conducted an MTR)

If the project had an MTR or a supervision mission, please report on how the recommendations were implemented during this fiscal year as indicated in the Management Response or in the supervision mission report.

MTR or supervision mission recommendations	Measures implemented during this Fiscal Year
Recommendation 1: 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.	As contribution towards the enactment of the Biosafety Act, engagement between the Biodiversity Secretariat of the Ministry of Environment, the project Executing Agency and the NCA, i.e. CEA, was facilitated as means to work pool resources and efforts for advocating for the enactment of the Act. CEA set up a committee mandated with driving the process, in concert with the other stakeholders and statutory bodies, for the enactment of the Act.
Recommendation 2: A 1-year, no cost extension – which would move the date of project conclusion to 31 December 2021 – is highly recommended.	Project was extended by one year to 31 December 2021. The NTE was subsequently further extended for an additional six months, i.e. until 30 June 2022.
Recommendation 3: 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.	As outlined in the Communication Strategy, public awareness activities on biosafety were 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 were designed to target the general public while the vast majority were specific to particular focus groups of stakeholders, in particular 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 was placed on above activities that could be conducted remotely and products that could be disseminated electronically via digital media platforms. In this regard, webinars with live debates and poster presentations were conducted. Further, animation and documentary style short

	videos were prepared and uploaded to the internet streaming platform, Youtube for sharing via digital media platforms (e.g. Whatsapp).
Recommendation 4: 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.	During travel-restrictions, all the trainings were conducted online and awareness raising activities were webinars. Public awareness materials were customized to be compatible with digital media, including social media, using cartoons, illustrations and short videos (motion graphic and documentary style).
Recommendation 5: 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.	This matter was discussed during the project steering committee (PSC) meeting that was held on 31 December 2020. It was decided that CEA should, as the national competent authority for biosafety in Sri Lanka, establish a committee to conduct the relevant activities, including leading the efforts towards the enactment of the Biosafety Act for the country. 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 that a FAO consultant was not needed. However, the CEA was provided with the relevant information pertaining to biosafety in Sri Lanka.
Recommendation 6: 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).	The Sinhalese and Tamil languages versions of the Biosafety Newsletter and material listed under output 4.1.2 were published .
Recommendation 7: The project should support integration of existing Sri Lankan scientific expertise on biotechnology and biosafety for enhanced sustainability of project outcomes.	National subject matter specialists, e.g. scientists from the local universities, served as resource persons for project activities, including public awareness and training programs.
Recommendation 8: The project should more proactively collect gender disaggregated data, by means of activity assessments and surveys, to better understand its beneficiaries'	The disaggregation of participants in all project activities by gender was implemented. This included the indication of gender for the entries in the database of stakeholders. This information is reported in the 6-months Project Progress Reports.

gender-specific needs and to be able to conduct analysis of the project's gendered impacts.	
Recommendation 9: 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.	The project log frame was not reformulated since this change was explained in all the reports.

Has the project developed an Exit Strategy? If yes, please describe	**No**

8. Minor project amendments

Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5% as described in Annex 9 of the GEF Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines[22]. Please describe any minor changes that the project has made under the relevant category or categories. And, provide supporting documents as an annex to this report if available.

Category of change	Provide a description of the change	Indicate the timing of the change	Approved by
Results framework	None		
Components and cost	None		
Institutional and implementation arrangements	None		
Financial management	None		
Implementation schedule	None		
Executing Entity	None		
Executing Entity Category	None		
Minor project objective change	None		
Safeguards	None		
Risk analysis	None		
Increase of GEF project financing up to 5%	None		
Co-financing	None		
Location of project activity	None		
Other			

22 Source: https://www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/guidelines-project-and-program-cycle-policy-2020-update

9. Stakeholders' Engagement

Please report on progress and results and challenges on stakeholder engagement (based on the description of the Stakeholder engagement plan) included at CEO Endorsement/Approval during this reporting period.

Stakeholder name	Role in project execution	Progress and results on Stakeholders' Engagement	Challenges on stakeholder engagement
Government Institutions			
Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources through Biodiversity Secretariat, Central Environment Authority	• The Secretary of the ministry to chair the PSC that will coordinate and supervise the project as nodal ministry of CPB; • The Biodiversity Secretariat as the NEA for implementation of the project; • Ensure administrative processing for the Biosafety Act, rules and regulations; • Implement the administrative procedures and technical guidelines developed as part of the project; • Ensure enhanced public awareness through regular information dissemination about the project activities; • Ensure setting up of information portal and managing nBCH; • The Central Environment Authority as the new NCA for implementation of the Biosafety Act	The Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, the Biodiversity Secretariat and, later in project implementation, the CEA were all involved actively in the relevant activities. For instance, the NCA and NEA participated actively in the preparations for, and hosting of the following meetings: • Project inception workshop, 29-30 August 2017; • 1st Project Steering Committee meeting, 31 October 2017; • Consultative meeting for the draft Biosafety Act,13 November 2017; • 1st National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting, 26 January 2018; • 1st Technical Expert Group meeting, 23 February 2018; • 1st Working Group meeting, 21 March 2018; • Media Conference, 29 March 2018; • 2nd Working Group meeting, 25 June 2018; • Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with Sectoral Competent Authorities, 25 July 2018; • FGD with decision-makers and enforcement authorities, 20 August 2018; • 2nd Technical Expert Group meeting, 26 October 2018; • 2nd Project Steering Committee meeting, 08 November 2018; • Component 1 workshop, 26-27 February 2019; • 1st Training for component 1, 28 February 2019; • 1st Meeting for Component 3, 28 March 2019;	Difficulties in obtaining dates for meetings due to other meetings in the Ministry.

		• 2nd National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting, 5 April 2019; • 1st Workshop for LMO detection, 27 May 2019; • Workshop on Risk assessment guidelines ,3-4 July 2019; • Meeting on Biosafety Clearing House (BCH) with the consultants and IT company, 5 July 2019; • Meeting on biosafety education with the international consultant ,29 July 2019; • Consultative workshop for the biosafety communication strategy, 31 July 2019; • Meeting on BCH with the consultants and IT company, 9 August 2019; • Consultative workshop on integrating biosafety into tertiary education, 22 August 2019; • Meeting on BCH, 24 September 2019; • Stakeholder consultative workshop for risk assessment guidelines, 25-26 September 2019; • Training workshop on monitoring and inspection of LMOs, 27 September 2019; • 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;. • Training workshop on access and sharing information through BCH, 16-20 December 2019;. • Biosafety awareness workshop to the focal point, 23 January 2020; • Training of focal point to maintain and upload information to BCH, 29 January 2020; • 3rd Project steering committee meeting, 20 February 2020; • 2nd Training of focal point to maintain and upload information to BCH, 30 June 2020; • Awareness on Biosafety for the new NCA – Central environment authority, 07 July 2020; • Meeting on awareness material with NSF, 15 August 2021; • 2nd Monitoring & inspection workshop on GMOs, 21-25 September 2020;	

		• Training on Guidelines for contained use, 22-24 September 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBCs), 30 September 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Food and Feed, 6-8 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for GM mosquitoes, 12-14 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for confined field trials (CFTs), 20-22 October 2020); • Meeting with the Ministry of Environment on the Communication strategy, 23 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk assessment, 27-29 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk analysis framework, 03 November 2020; • 3nd training on uploading information to BCH to the focal point,18 November 2020; • 4th Project steering committee meeting, 31 December 2020; • Consultative meeting on the communication strategy, 18 February 2021; • 4th training on uploading information to BCH to the focal point, 23 March 2021; • Launch of the BCH website, 31 March 2021; • Seminar on IBCs, 10 June 2021; • Biosafety awareness for Sectoral competent authorities (SCAs) , 06 August 2021; • Biosafety awareness for NGOs, 20 August 2021; • Meeting for Regional Biosafety Conference, 29 October 2021; • Regional biosafety conference, 10 March 2022 – 11 March 2022; • 5th Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting, 05 April 2022; and • Biosafety awareness for Department of Agriculture officers, 05 May 2022	
Parliamentarians and Legal experts from Legal Draftsmen Department	• Facilitate the process of examination, adopting and enactment of the proposed Biosafety Act; • Ensure consultative process for finalizing guidelines, administrative procedures, SOPs etc.	Although parliamentarians didn't get involved in any of the activities yet, Legal Draftsmen Department contributed towards the revision of the Biosafety Act and took part in the following meetings:	N/A

		• 1st National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting, 26 January 2018; • 1st Working Group meeting, 21 March 2018; • Media Conference, 29 March 2018; • 2nd Working Group meeting , 25 June 2018; • FGD with decision-makers and enforcement authorities , 20 August 2018; • 2nd Technical Expert Group meeting , 26 October 2018; • Component 1 workshop, 26-27 February 2019; • 1st Training for component 1, 28 February 2019; • 2nd National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting, 5 April 2019; • 1st Workshop for LMO detection, 27 May 2019; and • Regional biosafety conference, 10 March 2022 – 11 March 2022	
Department of Agriculture, Department of Animal Production and Health, Department of Health, Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Department of Wildlife Conservation and Ministry of Industry.	• Provide inputs on the development of regulatory and other relevant documents as SCAs; • Participate in training programmes on RA, RM and RC; • Participate in national and international events during the project; • Provide technical inputs to awareness raising workshops; • Ensure institutional mechanism for Biosafety; • Provide inputs as food safety inspectorate for the enforcement of Biosafety regulations; • Participate in trainings on biosafety guidelines	The Sectoral competent authorities supported the NCA and participated and provided input during the following events: • Inception workshop, 29-30 August 2017; • 1st Project Steering Committee meeting, 31 October 2017; • Consultative meeting for the draft Biosafety Act, 13 November 2017; • 1st National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting, 26 January 2018; • 1st Technical Expert Group meeting, 23 February 2018 • 1st Working Group meeting, 21 March 2018; • Media Conference, 29 March 2018; • 2nd Working Group meeting, 25 June 2018; • Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with Sectoral Competent Authorities, 25 July 2018; • 2nd Technical Expert Group meeting, 26 October 2018; • 2nd Project Steering Committee meeting, 08 November 2018; • Component 1 workshop, 26-27 February 2019; • 1st Training for component 1, 28 February 2019 • 1st Meeting for Component 3, 28 March 2019; • 2nd National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting, 5 April 2019;	Difficulties in obtainining complete attendance of participants at meetings

		• 1st Workshop for LMO detection, 27 May 2019; • Workshop on risk assessment guidelines , 3-4 July 2019; • Consultative workshop for the biosafety communication strategy, 31 July 2019; • Consultative workshop on integrating biosafety into tertiary education, 22 August 2019; • Stakeholder consultative workshop for risk assessment guidelines, 25-26 September 2019; • Biosafety awareness workshop, 24-25 October 2019; • 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. • Training workshop on access and sharing information through BCH, 16-20 December 2019. • 3rd Project steering committee meeting, 20 February 2020; • 2nd Monitoring & inspection workshop on GMOs, 21-25 September 2020; • Training on Guidelines for contained use, 22-24 September 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBCs), 30 September 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Food and Feed, 6-8 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for GM mosquitoes,12-14 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for confines field trials (CFTs), 20-22 October 2020; • Meeting with the Ministry of Environment on the Communication strategy, 23 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk assessment, 27-29 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk analysis framework, 03 November 2020; • 4th Project steering committee meeting, 31 December 2020; • Consultative meeting on the communication strategy, 18 February 2021;	

		• Training of trainers in biosafety communication, 19 February 2021; • Launch of the BCH website, 31 March 2021; • Seminar on IBCs, 10 June 2021; • Biosafety awareness for SCAs, 06 August 2021; • Meeting for Regional Biosafety Conference, 29 October 2021; • Regional biosafety conference, 10 March 2022 – 11 March 2022; • 5th Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting, 05 April 2022; and • Biosafety awareness for Department of Agriculture officers, 05 May 2022	
Enforcement officials including Customs, National Plant Quarantine Services, Seed Inspectors, scientists/technical experts from research laboratories involved in detection and monitoring	• Support strengthening of infrastructure and capacities for detection of LMOs; • Provide inputs on the transboundary movement of GMOs/ LMOs and procedures/ guidelines for sampling, field trials inspection and monitoring etc.; • Participate in training programs on procedures for sampling, detection, inspection and monitoring, and BCH; • Provide inputs on training modules for BCH access; • Participate in consultations on documents and training modules related to sampling, detection, inspection and monitoring; • Assist in strengthening enforcement systems for effective Biosafety regulations related to transgenic animals and animal feed; Participate in trainings on biosafety guidelines	These stakeholders participated in, and provided inputs to, project implementation, in particular during the following events: • Inception workshop, 29-30 August 2017; • 1st Project Steering Committee meeting, 31 October 2017; • Consultative meeting for the draft Biosafety Act, 13 November 2017; • 1st National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting, 26 January 2018; • 1st Working Group meeting, 21 March 2018; • Media Conference , 29 March 2018; • 2nd Working Group meeting, 25 June 2018; • Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with Sectoral Competent Authorities, 25 July 2018; • FGD with decision-makers and enforcement authorities, 20 August 2018; • 2nd Project Steering Committee meeting, 08 November 2018; • Component 1 workshop, 26-27 February 2019; • 1st Training for component 1, 28 February 2019; • 1st Meeting for Component 3, 28 March 2019; • 2nd National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting, 5 April 2019; • 1st Workshop for LMO detection, 27 May 2019; • Workshop on risk assessment guidelines, 3-4 July 2019; • Consultative workshop on integrating biosafety into	Delays in upgrading selected laboratories with equipment for GMO/LMO detection before training

		tertiary education, 22 August 2019; • Stakeholder consultative workshop for risk assessment guidelines, 25-26 September 2019; • Training workshop on monitoring and inspection of LMOs, 27 September 2019; • 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; . • Training workshop on access and sharing information through BCH, 16-20 December 2019; . • 3rd Project steering committee meeting, 20 February 2020; • 2nd Monitoring & inspection workshop on GMOs, 21-25 September 2020; • Training on Guidelines for contained use, 22-24 September 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBCs), 30 September 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Food and Feed, 6-8 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for GM mosquitoes, 12-14 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for confines field trials (CFTs), 20-22 October 2020; • Meeting with the Ministry of Environment on the Communication strategy, 23 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk assessment, 27-29 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk analysis framework, 03 November 2020; • 4th Project steering committee meeting, 31 December 2020; • Meeting on lab accreditation, 07 April 2021; • Meeting on GMO detection and lab accreditation-I, 20 April 2021; • Meeting on GMO detection and lab accreditation-ii, 22 April 2021; • Seminar on IBCs, 10 June 2021; • International Training on GMO Detection, 04 October 2021-08 October 2021;	

		• Training by SLAB, 12 October 2021-14 October 2021; • Lab workshop on GMO detection, 13 December 2021-14 December 2021; • Regional biosafety conference, 10 March 2022 – 11 March 2022; and • 5th Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting, 05 April 2022	
Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment (SLAB)	• Assist in the process for accreditation of identified laboratories • Participate in training programs/information exchange with other accreditation bodies at international level	SLAB participated in project implementation and, in particular, provided inputs during the following events: • Inception workshop, 29-30 August 2017; • FGD with decision-makers and enforcement authorities, 20 August 2018; • Component 1 workshop, 26-27 February 2019; • 1st Meeting for Component 3, 28 March 2019; • Meeting on lab accreditation, 07 April 2021; • Meeting on GMO detection and lab accreditation-I, 20 April 2021; • Meeting on GMO detection and lab accreditation-ii, 22 April 2021; • Training by SLAB, 12 October 2021-14 October 2021; and • Regional biosafety conference, 10 March 2022 – 11 March 2022	N/A
Scientific Agencies including NSF, CARP, National Research Council, COSTI	• Review and draft guidelines for RA, RM and RC on Biosafety; • Develop outreach materials for different target groups;	Scientific Agencies, in particular the NSF, CARP, National Research Council and COSTI, participated in project implementation, and, in particular provided inputs during the following events: • Inception workshop, 29-30 August 2017; • 1st Project Steering Committee meeting, 31 October 2017; • Consultative meeting for the draft Biosafety Act, 13 November 2017; • 1st National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting, 26 January 2018; • 1st Working Group meeting, 21 March 2018; • Media Conference, 29 March 2018; • 2nd Working Group meeting, 25 June 2018; • 2nd Project Steering Committee meeting, 08 November 2018;	N/A

		• Component 1 workshop, 26-27 February 2019; • 1st Training for component 1, 28 February 2019; • 1st Meeting for Component 3, 28 March 2019; • 2nd National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting, 5 April 2019; • 1st Workshop for LMO detection, 27 May 2019; • Meeting on awareness material, 18 June 2019; • Workshop on risk assessment guidelines, 3-4 July 2019; • Consultative workshop for the biosafety communication strategy, 31 July 2019; • Workshop for awareness material with the international consultant, 1 August 2019; • Consultative workshop on integrating biosafety into tertiary education, 22 August 2019; • Stakeholder consultative workshop for risk assessment guidelines, 25-26 September 2019; • 3rd Project steering committee meeting, 20 February 2020; • Meeting on awareness material with NSF, 15 August 2020; • 2nd Monitoring & inspection workshop on GMOs, 21-25 September 2020; • Training on Guidelines for contained use, 22-24 September 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBCs), 30 September 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Food and Feed, 6-8 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for GM mosquitoes, 12-14 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for confines field trials (CFTs), 20-22 October 2020; • Meeting with the Ministry of Environment on the Communication strategy, 23 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk assessment, 27-29 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk analysis framework, 03 November 2020; • 4th Project steering committee meeting, 31 December 2020;	

		• Launch of the BCH website, 31 March 2021; • Seminar on IBCs, 10 June 2021; • Regional biosafety conference, 10 March 2022 – 11 March 2022; and • 5th Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting , 05 April 2022	
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 Other universities University of Ruhuna, South Eastern University, Wayamba University, University of Moratuwa, University of Jaffna, University of Sri Jayawardenapura, Rajarata University	• Provide technical support in enhancing capacity for RA and LMO detection; • 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; • Provide technical inputs on the national biosafety masterplan, website, E-learning tools on Biosafety regulations etc.; • Support consultative meetings for finalizing various Biosafety regulations and guidelines; • Provide technical inputs to training workshops; • Coordinate post graduate diploma and integrate Biosafety with other courses; • Ensure upgrade and accreditation of laboratory for LMOs/GMOs detection; • Provide technical support to regulatory authorities for risk assessment and management, and enforcement officials for detection of LMOs/GMOs; • Develop capacities, curriculum and a post graduate course on Biosafety; • Ensure the establishment of a post graduate course in consultation with Ministry of Education; Participate in trainings on biosafety guidelines	Universities and research institutes participated in project implementation, in particular through their staff being resource persons and providing inputs during the following events: • Inception workshop, 29-30 August 2017; • Consultative meeting for the draft Biosafety Act, 13 November 2017; • 1st National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting, 26 January 2018; • 1st Technical Expert Group meeting, 23 February 2018; • 1st Working Group meeting, 21 March 2018; • Media Conference, 29 March 2018; • 2nd Working Group meeting, 25 June 2018; • Component 1 workshop, 26-27 February 2019; • 1st Training for component 1, 28 February 2019; • 1st Meeting for Component 3, 28 March 2019; • 2nd National Coordinating Committee on Biosafety meeting, 5 April 2019; • 1st Workshop for LMO detection, 27 May 2019; • Workshop on risk assessment guidelines , 3-4 July 2019; • Meeting on biosafety education with the international consultant ,29 July 2019; • Training of trainers as biosafety communicators, 30 July 2019; • Consultative workshop for the biosafety communication strategy, 31 July 2019; • Consultative workshop on integrating biosafety into tertiary education, 22 August 2019; • Biosafety awareness workshop to university students and school children, 11-12 September 2019; • Stakeholder consultative workshop for risk assessment	N/A

		guidelines, 25-26 September 2019; • Biosafety awareness workshop to university students in science and non-science streams, 10-11 March 2020; • Meeting on awareness material with NSF, 15 August 2021; • Training on Guidelines for contained use, 22-24 September 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBCs), 30 September 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Food and Feed, 6-8 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for GM mosquitoes, 12-14 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for confines field trials (CFTs), 20-22 October 2020; • Meeting with the Ministry of Environment on the Communication strategy, 23 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk assessment, 27-29 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk analysis framework, 03 November 2020; • Biosafety awareness workshop for University of Ruhuna students, 27 January 2021; • Training of trainers in biosafety communication, 19 February 2021; • Biosafety awareness workshop for South eastern university students, 10 March 2021; • Launch of the BCH website, 31 March 2021; • Meeting on lab accreditation, 07 April 2021; • Biosafety awareness workshop for Wayamba University, 09 April 2021; • Meeting on GMO detection and lab accreditation-I, 20 April 2021; • Meeting on GMO detection and lab accreditation-ii, 22 April 2021; • Meeting on biosafety education material by the AgBC, University of Peradeniya with National institute of education, 23 April 2021;	

		• Biosafety awareness workshop for University of Moratuwa, 20 May 2021; • Biosafety awareness workshop for Rajarata University, 18 June 2021; • Biosafety awareness workshop for Sri Jayawardenapura University, 28 June 2021; • Biosafety awareness for University of Jaffna, 31 August 2021; • International Training on GMO Detection, 04 October 2021-08 October 2021; • Training by SLAB, 12 October 2021-14 October 2021; • Lab workshop on GMO detection, 13 December 2021-14 December 2021; • Awareness workshop for South Eastern university students and School teachers , 25 January 2022 - 26 January 2022; and • Regional biosafety conference, 10 March 2022 – 11 March 2022	
Non-Government organizations (NGOs)			
NGOs, CSOs and local communities	• Support awareness activities to incorporate views and perspectives into the planning and implementation of the project; • Support knowledge management on Biosafety; • Support and participate in workshops, particularly those related to communication and dissemination; • Consensus building for the national Biosafety issues;	NGOs, CSOs and local communities were active participants in project implementation, in particular through their involvement in the following: • Media workshop, 29 March 2018; • Training of trainers as biosafety communicators, 30 July 2019; • Consultative workshop for the biosafety communication strategy, 31 July 2019; • Meeting on awareness material with NSF, 15 August 2021; • Meeting with the Ministry of Environment on the Communication strategy, 23 October 2020; • Consultative meeting on the communication strategy, 18 February 2021; • Training of trainers in biosafety communication, 19 February 2021; • Launch of the BCH website, 31 March 2021; • Biosafety awareness workshop for Hillwood College, 21 June 2021; • Biosafety awareness for NGOs, 20 August 2021; and	N/A

		• Regional biosafety conference, 10 March 2022 – 11 March 2022	
Private sector entities			
Private sector, Media	• Support awareness activities to incorporate views and perspectives into the planning and implementation of the project; • Support knowledge management on Biosafety; • Support and participate in workshops, particularly those related to communication and dissemination; • Consensus building for the national Biosafety issues;	The private sector and mass media entities were active participants in project implementation, in particular through their involvement in the following: • Media workshop, 29 March 2018); • Workshop on risk assessment guidelines, 3-4 July 2019; • Training of trainers as biosafety communicators, 30 July 2019; • Consultative workshop for the biosafety communication strategy, 31 July 2019; • Consultative workshop on integrating biosafety into tertiary education, 22 August 2019; • Stakeholder consultative workshop for risk assessment guidelines, 25-26 September 2019; • Meeting on awareness material with NSF, 15 August 2021; • Meeting with the Ministry of Environment on the Communication strategy, 23 October 2020; • Consultative meeting on the communication strategy, 18 February 2021; • Training of trainers in biosafety communication, 19 February 2021; • Launch of the BCH website, 31 March 2021; • Seminar on IBCs, 10 June 2021; • Biosafety awareness for Private sector, 29 October 2021; and • Regional biosafety conference, 10 March 2022 – 11 March 2022	N/A
Others[1]			
N/A			
New stakeholders identified/engaged			
Central Environment Authority (CEA)	As the new NCA, support the National Focal Point the	Although the CEA has been involved with the National biosafety project from the beginning of the	Delays in enacting the draft Biosafety Act

[1] They can include, among others, community-based organizations (CBOs), Indigenous Peoples organizations, women's groups, private sector companies, farmers, universities, research institutions, and all major groups as identified, for example, in Agenda 21 of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit and many times again since then.

	Biodiversity Secretariat of the Ministry of Environment	project the role has changed to become the NCA in biosafety CEA, in particular participated in, and provided inputs during the following events: • Inception workshop, 29-30 August 2017; • Component 1 workshop, 26-27 February 2019; • 1st Training for component 1, 28 February 2019; • Consultative workshop for the biosafety communication strategy, 31 July 2019; • Stakeholder consultative workshop for risk assessment guidelines, 25-26 September 2019; • Biosafety awareness workshop to the focal point, 23 January 2020; . • 3rd Project steering committee meeting, 20 February 2020; • Awareness on Biosafety for the new NCA – Central environment authority, 07 July 2020; • 2nd Monitoring & inspection workshop on GMOs, 21-25 September 2020; • Meeting with the Ministry of Environment on the Communication strategy, 23 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk assessment, 27-29 October 2020; • Training on Guidelines for Environmental risk analysis framework, 03 November 2020; • Biosafety awareness for Sectoral competent authorities (SCAs), 06 August 2021; • Meeting for Regional Biosafety Conference, 29 October 2021; • Regional biosafety conference, 10 March 2022 – 11 March 2022; and • 5th Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting, 05 April 2022	

10. Gender Mainstreaming

Information on Progress on Gender-responsive measures as documented at CEO Endorsement/Approval in the gender action plan or equivalent (when applicable) during this reporting period.

Category	Yes/No	Briefly describe progress and results achieved during this reporting period
Gender analysis or an equivalent socio-economic assessment made at formulation or during execution stages.	No	
Any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women's empowerment?	No	
Indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality (as identified at project design stage):	Not applicable	
a) closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources		
b) improving women's participation and decision making		
c) generating socio-economic benefits or services for women		
M&E system with gender-disaggregated data?	No	
Staff with gender expertise	Yes	FAO-LK has a gender focal point, who provided guidance on matters related to gender.
Any other good practices on gender		This project does not apply a gender sensitive approach. However, gender disaggregation was was implemented in the registration for project activities as means to evidence-based gender mainstreaming in the project activities. Based on the collected information on gender, the proportion of female participants in project events ranged 30 to 72 percent. This information is reported in the 6-months Project Progress Reports.

11. Knowledge Management Activities

Knowledge activities / products (when applicable), as outlined in Knowledge Management Approach approved at CEO Endorsement / Approval during this reporting period.

Does the project have a knowledge management strategy? If not, how does the project collect and document good practices? Please list relevant good practices that can be learned and shared from the project thus far.	All the project activities are reported in the Biosafety Newsletter, which was initiated by the project. This is an FAO publication. All the newsletters can be accessed via the Sri Lanka Biosafety Clearing House (SL BCH) website, which is also an output of the project. http://lk.biosafetyclearinghouse.net/Publications2.shtml Additionally, all the project activities are published with photographs and other details in the SL BCH website. lk.biosafetyclearinghouse.net/project.shtml Gender mainstreaming was institutionalized.
Does the project have a communication strategy? Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this year.	Yes, a communication strategy for biosafety was developed under the auspices of the project. During the latter part of 2021, the travel and gatherings were restricted to prevent the spread of COVID-19. This was a challenge for in-person awareness workshops. However, this challenge was overcome by online activities (e.g. online workshops and webinars). The webinars, which included online debates and digital poster presentations by the participants, were a successful means for engaging a wide stakeholder base.
Please share a human-interest story from your project, focusing on how the project has helped to improve people's livelihoods while contributing to achieving the expected Global Environmental Benefits. Please indicate any Socio-economic Co-benefits that were generated by the project. Include at least one beneficiary quote and perspective, and please also include related photos and photo credits.	The benefits of the biosafety project are mainly towards preventing the damage to the environment, biodiversity and human health from potential adverse effects of genetically modified organisms. Therefore, there is no one particular human-interest story from the project – more so as framework was never tested in a real-life situation involving the handling and/or transport of LMOs.
Please provide links to related website, social media account	http://lk.biosafetyclearinghouse.net/default.shtml https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WnwmXe7x8UY
Please provide a list of publications, leaflets, video materials, newsletters, or other communications assets published on the web.	[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 frameworks in countries globally; [v] Booklet containing academic 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] Flash cards titled “GM Crops – safety, benefits, risks and global status” [x] Short storyline with cartoon illustrations on genetically modified (GM) crops; [xi] Short storyline with cartoon illustration on GM Foods; [xii] Booklet with information on Biosafety containing cartoon illustrations; [xiii] Activity Book for kids; [xiv] Animated video on GM crops; [xv] Animated video on GM Food; [xvi] Documentary on Biosafety; [xvii] Glossary of terms; [xviii] Questions and Answers on Biotechnology and Biosafety; [xix] Ten (10) Short videos (animated and documentary); and [xx] Seven (7) editions of the Biosafety Newsletter.
Please indicate the Communication and/or knowledge management focal point’s Name and contact details	FAO-LK communication focal point Name: Mahina Hussain Email: mahina.hussain@fao.org Biosafety Project communication focal point Name: Mihiri Kandanaarachchi Email: Mihiri.Kandanaarachchi@fao.org

12. Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Involvement

Are Indigenous Peoples and local communities involved in the project (as per the approved Project Document)? If yes, please briefly explain.
Indigenous people are not involved in this project.

13. Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co-financing[23]	Name of Co-financer	Type of Co-financing	Amount Confirmed at CEO endorsement / approval	Actual Amount Materialized at 30 June 2022	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	56,439.06		
National Government	Ministry of Health Nutrition and Indigenous	In-Kind	8,571	337,266.49		
National Government	Department of Animal Production and Health	In-Kind	357,143	216,641.19*		
National Government	Department of Agriculture	In-Kind	405,714	264,630.44*		
National Government	National Plant Quarantine Services	In-Kind	291,143	770,489.15 **		
National Government	Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources	In-Kind	36,143	22,094.60*		
National Government	Department of Wildlife Conservation	In-Kind	285,714	400,251.07		
National Government	Sri Lanka Customs	In-Kind	382,471	903,098.11		

[23] 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 Colombo	In-Kind	300,000	565,116.65*		
National Government	University of Peradeniya	In-Kind	300,000	546,921.58*		
National Government	National Science Foundation	In-Kind	105,714	669,932.52		
	Food and Agriculture Organization	In-Kind	400,000	400,000.00		
		TOTAL	2,958,327	5,152,880.87		

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

* Excluding form 01 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 contributions (pending)

** Excluding form 01 July 2019 to 30 June 2021 contributions (pending)

Annex 1. – GEF Performance Ratings Definitions

Development Objectives Rating. A rating of the extent to which a project is expected to achieve or exceed its major objectives.	
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. A rating of the extent to which the implementation of a project's components and activities is in compliance with the project's approved implementation plan.	
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.

Risk rating. It should access the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risk of projects should be rated on the following scale:	
High Risk (H)	There is a probability of greater than **75%** that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.
Substantial Risk (S)	There is a probability of between **51%** and **75%** that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face substantial risks
Moderate Risk (M)	There is a probability of between **26%** and **50%** that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only moderate risk.
Low Risk (L)	There is a probability of up to **25%** that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only low risks.

Annex 2. – Tracking tools updated during the TE

Issue	Please select your score from drop down menu	Scoring Criteria	Comment	Next Steps
Biosafety Policy				
1) Has a biosafety policy been developed and is it being fully implemented?	4	**0:** A stand alone biosafety policy does not exist **1:** A stand alone biosafety policy has been produced **2:** A stand alone biosafety policy has been produced and has been formally adopted by the government **3:** A legally approved biosafety strategy has been incorporated into broader sectoral policies (e.g. agriculture, biotechnology, science and technology, health, etc) and is being enforced **4:** A biosafety policy is implemented through a multi-year Action Plan that involves more than one sector of Government or society.	**Comment:** National Policy on Biosafety has been proposed in 2005 and formally adopted by Government	**Next Steps:** The implementation of National Policy on Biosafety will be facilitated through the National Biosafety Master Plan, , which was developed through the project.
Biosafety Regulatory Regime				

2) Has a regulatory regime been developed and does it have full legal force?	2	**0:** A regulatory regime has not been developed **1:** Interim measures for biosafety decision making, including some modification of existing regulations, have been put in place. **2:** A regulatory regime has been developed and adopted but does not yet have full legal force **3:** The regulatory regime has full legal force, is operational and linked to the administrative system -i.e. used for decisions **4:** The regulatory regime covers all the types of LMOs and transboundary movements referred to in the Cartagena Protocol, including agreements with Non-Parties	**Comment:** The Food (Control of Import, Labelling and Sale of GM Foods) Regulation, 2006 are being used presently to regulate GM food items. The regulatory committees for biosafety related issues and for conducting risk assessments viz., National Coordination Committee on Biosafety, Sectoral Competent Authorities exist. The institutions carrying out modern biotechnology research are yet to inform the National Competent Authority on their Institutional Biosafety Committees. The national biosafety framework has been prepared and adopted in 2005. The draft Biosafety Act has been prepared and is presently with legal draftsmen department.	**Next Steps:** CEA to set up the advisory committee as per draft Biosafety Act CEA to facilitate public awareness raising and advocacy for the enactment of Biosafety Act and preparing biosafety regulations.
Administrative System				

3) Is an administrative system in place and fully operational?	1	**0:** Focal Points and National Competent Authorities not appointed nor available via BCH **1:** All Focal Points and National Competent Authorities appointed, and roles & responsibilities stated and available on BCH **2:** Procedures for handling requests have been designed, legally adopted, and made available to the public. **3:** Requests have been received, processed, and decisions communicated to the BCH. Appeal procedures designed and operational. **4:** Administrative system fully supported by national budget allocation or alternative (non-donor) system of revenue generation	**Comment:** The administrative and operational procedures for a fully functional biosafety management system have been put in place. However, the Biosafety Act is not enacted yet. Once the Biosafety Act is enacted, the established biosafety administrative system will be legally recognized	**Next Steps:** CEA to prepare a manual on biosafety administration and operational procedures for assisting in the functioning of the focal points and national competent authorities ; Trained manpower
Risk Assessment and Decision-making				

4) Are risk assessment procedures employed and contributing to decision-making?	3	**0:** No risk assessment is applied to LMOs **1:** Sectoral risk assessment dossiers are required to accompany LMO requests **2:** Risk assessment/risk management system involves case-by-case analyses by scientific experts that provide recommendations to decision-making bodies. Composition and responsibilities of the decision-making bodies clearly stated and publicized. **3:** Decisions on LMOs are integrated across sectors (e.g. take into account risks to human health) **4:** Decision-making system allows for socio-economic considerations and for review of decisions based on new evidence	**Comment:** There exist Sectoral Competent Authorities for conduct of risk assessment. However application for risk assessment of LMO have not been received so far; Guidelines for the conduct of safety assessment of various types of LMOs and formats for risk assessment and for communicating decision are existing.	**Next Steps:** The government of Sri Lanka to leverage the strengthened institutional and human capacities, enabled by the tools developed through the project, to implement the framework as the needs arise.
Follow-up and Monitoring				

5) Does an operational follow-up and monitoring system exist?	2	**0:** No system for follow-up and monitoring exists **1:** Institutional and human capacity in place to follow-up and monitor, including Risk Management for field-trials and post-release **2:** Compliance mechanisms for Risk Management established **3:** Liability and redress mechanisms in place **4:** Decisions, risk management plans, and reports on compliance and liability have been posted to the BCH	**Comment:** The system is consisting of skilled personnel of regulatory and enforcement authorities, equipped laboratories for detection and identification of GMOs, guidelines/ manuals for regulatory functions, risk assessment, monitoring and inspection of activities related to GMOs.	**Next Steps:** NCA to conduct regular inspection of possible GM products in the market.
Public awareness, education and participation awareness				

6) Is information on LMOs made available to public?	4	**0:** Little or no official information on LMOs available to the general public **1:** Information on LMOs generally available in at least one national language **2:** Information on LMOs generally available in at least one national language and is kept updated **3:** Information on LMOs is used for awareness-raising campaigns **4:** Survey results on levels of public awareness available	**Comment:** A trilingual (English/ Sinhalese/Tamil) website, the Sri Lanka BCH (biosafetyclearinghouse.net) was established. This website contains several biosafety awareness materials (publications and audio/visual) and biosafety newsletters. Several awareness workshops were conducted to disseminate information on GMOs/LMOs and biosafety.	**Next Steps:** Continue to make the public aware about GMOs/LMOs and biosafety through the dissemination of the developed materials, conducting more workshops in the future and continuing the publication of the biosafety newsletter
Education				

7) Has coursework and training on biosafety been integrated into higher education?	2	**0:** Modern biotechnology and biosafety available in the formal (i.e. technical, academic, extramural) education system. **1:** Basic modern biotechnology and biosafety information included in the curricula at technical and college levels. **2:** Dedicated short-term courses on biosafety available for government staff at technical schools and higher education institutions. **3:** National association for biosafety established **4:** Undergraduate and graduate degree programs offering concentrations and/or degree programs on modern biotechnology, including biosafety	**Comment:** Topics related to modern biotechnology is a part of both the GCE (Ordinary Level) and the GCE (Advanced level) curricula. Course materials on biosafety were developed for secondary level education and handed over to the National Institute of Education (NIE). Three short courses on biosafety were developed for tertiary level education.	**Next Steps:** Integrate biosafety (key issues) in curriculum at various levels of education Integrate biosafety during the next round of revision of the O/level and A/level syllabi by NIE National universities to offer the 3 short courses and advertise them for wider publicity.
Participation				

8) Has the public been engaged in LMO decision-making?	2	**0:** Little or no direct involvement of public in LMO decision-making **1:** Access to information includes other mechanisms in addition to the BCH (i.e. radio and television programs, newspapers columns, blogs, etc.). **2:** Mechanism for public involvement in LMO decision-making established **3:** Evidence of level of public involvement in LMO decision-making available via BCH or other means **4:** Regular open consultation meetings held on biosafety	**Comment:** So far no decision have been taken	**Next Steps:** Implement the communication strategy, which foresees; [i] Development of a roster of 20 to 25 science communicators per year; [ii] Development of more awareness materials suitable for target audience groups; [iii] Setting up of a public awareness committee comprising the trained science communicators for content development and outreach programmes; [iv] Conducting outreach programmes and events targeting specific target audience group at least two programmes per year [v] Consultations and focus group meetings on risk communication
	20	**TOTAL SCORE**		
	32	**TOTAL POSSIBLE**		

Annex 3. – Technical documents for strengthening the regulatory framework

- Draft manual on administrative and operational procedure for handling of genetically modified organisms (GMOs)
- Draft Biosafety Regulations
- Guidelines for safe use of GMOs in the lab
- Guidelines for the environmental risk assessment of GM plants
- Guidelines for conduct of confined field trials of GM plants
- Guidelines for the safety assessment foods derived from GM plants
- Guidelines for testing of genetically modified mosquitoes
- Guidelines for institutional biosafety committees
- Risk analysis framework

Annex 4. – Biosafety Awareness events that were organized

[i] Media Conference

[ii] Training of Trainers of Biosafety resource persons

[iii] Awareness event for school children of 10 schools from Kandy

[iv] Awareness event for undergraduates from University of Peradeniya

[v] Awareness event for higher ranking officers at the Ministry of Health (MoH)

[vi] Awareness event for Public Health Officers and other field officers at MoH

[vii] Awareness event for officers at the National Focal Point for Biosafety (Ministry of Environment)

[viii] Awareness event for undergraduates from University of Colombo and University of Visual Arts

[ix] Workshop to Prepare short-stories on Biosafety (posters and drama).

[x] Six live radio discussions under various topics of biosafety were held in …...

[xi] Awareness event for Officers at the Central Environmental Authority (National Competent Authroity)

[xii] Webinar for University of Ruhuna

[xiii] Online ToT of Biosafety resource persons

[xiv] Webinar for Wayamba University

[xv] Webinar for South Eastern University

[xvi] Webinar for University of Moratuwa

[xvii] Webinar for Rajarata University

[xviii] Webinar for Hillwood College, Kandy

[xix] Webinar for University of Sri Jayawardenapura

[xx] Webinar for NCA and SCAs

[xxi] Webinar for Environmental NGOs

[xxii] Webinar for University of Jaffna

[xxiii] Webinar for private sector involved in biotechnology and agriculture

[xxiv] In-person workshop at the South Eastern University for undergraduate and post-graduate students

[xxv] In-person workshop at the South Eastern University for School teachers from the Oluvil area.

[xxvi] Webinar for Agriculture Extension Officers and Farmers

[xxvii] Webinar for Higher-ranking officers at the Department of Agriculture