

UNEP GEF PIR Fiscal Year 2023

Reporting from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023

1. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

1.1. Project details

Identification Table	GEF ID.: 10002	Umoja no.: SB-011112.02
	SMA IPMR ID: 38890	Grant ID: S1-32CBL-000001
	Project Short Title: CBIT Eswatini	
Project Title	Capacity Building for Enhanced Transparency in Climate Change Monitoring, Reporting and Verification	
Duration	<i>Planned</i>	36 Months
months	<i>Age</i>	42 Months
Project Type	Medium Size Project	
Parent Programme if child project	N/A	
Project Scope	National	
Region	Africa	
Countries	Eswatini	
GEF Focal Area(s)	Climate Change Mitigation	
GEF financing amount	US\$ 1,000,000	
Co-financing amount	US\$ 270,000	
Date of CEO Endorsement/Approval	1 August 2019	
UNEP Project Approval Date (on Decision Sheet)	7 November 2019	
Start of Implementation (PCA entering into force)	23 December 2019	
Date of Inception Workshop, if available	19 November 2020	
Date of first disbursement	2 March 2020	
Total disbursement as of 30 June 2023	Total: US\$ 629,500 - MTEA: US\$ 185,000 - UNEP-CCC: US\$ 444,500	
Total expenditure as of 30 June 2023	Total: US\$ 100,724 - MTEA: US\$ 100,724 ¹ - UNEP-CCC: US\$ 0 ²	
Mid-Term undertaken?	N/A	
Actual Mid-Term Date, if taken	N/A	
Expected Mid-Term Date, if not taken	N/A	
Completion Date	<i>Planned-original PCA</i>	31 December 2022

¹ At the time of PIR submission, the expenditures for Q2 2023 were cleared by UNEP's Task Manager and Administrative Officer, but not yet recorded in UNEP's system (Umoja).

² UNEP-CCC January-June 2023 expenditure report not received at the time of PIR submission.

	<i>Revised- Current PCA</i>	30 June 2024
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date		31 December 2024
Expected Financial Closure Date		30 June 2025

1.2. Project description

Project Objective: Capacity Building for Enhanced Transparency in Climate Change Monitoring, Reporting and Verification

Component: Strengthen eSwatini's National Transparency & Monitoring, Reporting & Verification (MRV) framework for climate actions

This project will assist Eswatini in overcoming the barriers that prevent the country from meeting its international commitments as set out in Articles 4 and 13 of the Paris Agreement. The CBIT work will cover the establishment of an online MRV system, reporting tools, templates and training and capacity development of new and existing teams in transparency related activities. Effective engagement of data users and data suppliers in the MRV system will result in generation of good quality and timely climate reports. Continuous preparation of these reports using established institutions and engagement of stakeholders will increase ownership and uptake of report findings at all levels. This will lead to improved capacities of national teams to better meet the Paris Agreement MRV processes. Finally, improved quality of CC data and information will result in policy decisions that are better informed by available evidence, thereby informing policy actions on GHG emissions reduction and increasing eSwatini's resilience to adapt to climate change.

Executing Agency: Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs (MTEA)

Other Partners involved (targeted technical support): UNEP-CCC

1.3. Project Contacts

Division(s) Implementing the project	Industry and Economy Division, Energy and Climate Branch, Climate Change Mitigation unit
Executing Agency(ies)	Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs (MTEA)
Names of Other Project Partners	UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre (UNEP-CCC)
UNEP Portfolio Manager(s)	Geordie Colville
UNEP Task Manager(s)	Julien Lheureux
UNEP Budget/Finance Officer	Fatma Twahir
UNEP Support/Assistants	Kerubo Moseti
EA Climate Change Project Coordinator	Duduzile Nhlengethwa-Masina
EA Project Manager	Minky Groenewald
EA Project Assistant	Sandile Bhembe
EA Communications Lead, if relevant	N/A

2. OVERVIEW OF PROJECT STATUS

2.1 UNEP PoW and UN

UNEP Current Subprogramme(s)	Climate stability: Countries increasingly transition to low-emission economic development pathways and enhance their adaptation and resilience to climate change
PoW Indicator(s)	Indicator (iii) Number of national, subnational and private sector actors reporting under the enhanced transparency arrangements of the Paris Agreement with UNEP support
UNEP previous Subprogramme(s)	N/A
UNSDCF / UNDAF linkages	UNDAF (2016-2022) Priority Area 1: "Poverty and inequality reduction, inclusive growth and sustainable development", under Outcome 1.2 "Communities and national institutions resilience and management of natural resources improved by 2020"
Link to relevant SDG Goal(s)	SDG-13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
Link to relevant SDG Target(s)	13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising, and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction, and early warning

2.2. GEF Core Indicators:

Indicators	Targets – Expected Value			Materialized to date
	Mid-term	End-of-project	Total target	
Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment	207(129 male, 78 females)	60 (30 female, 30 male)	60 (30 female, 30 male)	The national stakeholders have benefitted from Project Steering Meetings, Inception workshops, technical working sessions, and national consultations workshops. A breakdown will be provided in the next PIR.

2.3. Implementation Status and Risk

	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
PIR #	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
Rating towards outcomes (section 3.1)	S	MS	MS		
Rating towards outputs (section 3.2)	MS	MS	U		
Risk rating (section 3.3)	M	M	S		

Rating towards outcome:

Due to the numerous administrative challenges faced by the MTEA and the UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre (UNEP-CCC), very few project activities have been implemented at this stage. It is therefore too early to measure progress against the achievement of the project's Outcome and its associated end-of-project targets.

However, given that the project is currently expected to be reach technical completion in June 2024, it appears unlikely the project expected outcome will have been achieved by then. The MTEA and UNEP-CCC will either

have to fast track the implementation of activities or will likely have to extend the project's duration to be in a position to meet the targets. The situation will be re-assessed by UNEP in December 2023, as part of the Half-Yearly Progress Report process. For this reason, the rating towards achieving the expected Outcome is **Moderately Satisfactory**.

Rating towards outputs:

The MTEA and UNEP-CCC have worked on a workplan and budget revision in 2022 to reflect the delays incurred and set new milestones for the different project activities. This workplan and budget revision (No. 2) was approved by UNEP in November 2022, along with the legal arrangements to ensure UNEP-CCC can provide the required technical support to the MTEA. Unfortunately, due to several administrative challenges, UNEP-CCC has not been able to start implementing project activities under its responsibility over the 1st semester of year 2023 and is still in the process of hiring the consultants to undertake the work. In addition, the UNEP-CCC focal point that was coordinating the work on this project has resigned in March 2023 and has handed over the responsibilities to a new focal point who needs some time to familiarize himself with the project. Finally, the MTEA has also faced administrative and HR challenges to conclude the recruitment process of the MRV Expert and the Data Analyst to constitute the core staff of the Climate Transparency Unit. All of the above has led to significant delays on most project activities compared to the milestones set in the approved workplan revision 2.

Output 1: Climate change coordination framework established for the Government of eSwatini and key stakeholders, with sectoral focal points to plan, track and report (internally) climate actions.

Project output delivery delayed due to the transition of UDP to UNEP-CCC. However, UNEP-CCC is in the process of finalising recruitment of national and international consultants. Expected output completion date is now 31 October 2023.

Output 2: Climate transparency unit institutionalized.

UNEP-CCC is in the process of re-engaging the consultants to support the institutionalisation of the Unit. As such, the recruitment of the Data Analyst is on hold until the IT Consultancy firm is on board. The MRV specialist technical support will be provided internally pending the finalization of the climate change bill currently under development which proposes new institutional arrangements by MTEA. New tentative completion date: 30 April 2025.

Output 3: National Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (NCCSAP) reviewed and updated to ensure that Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) implementation is mainstreamed.

The technical work under this output was initiated by the Project Management Unit in Q4 2022 despite the delays in the recruitment of the consultants for the Climate Transparency Unit. A series of consultative meetings have been held to support the review of the outdated national strategy and action plan by national stakeholders. The review process has been linked to the development of the NDC implementation plan. New Completion date: 30 April 2025.

Output 4: An online Monitoring, Reporting & Verification (MRV) platform established.

UNEP-CCC will hire an IT Firm to develop the online MRV platform while providing the necessary technical guidance to ensure compatibility with the context of Eswatini. It is expected that the IT firm will be procured in Q4 of 2023. Completion of project activities is expected in September 2024.

Output 5: Tools, templates and guidelines for MRV of climate change data developed.

UNEP-CCC is re-hiring the consultants for completing this output. Completion of project activities expected in March of 2024.

Output 6: Country-specific metrics, indicators, and methodologies developed for tracking NDC climate actions.

UNEP-CCC has started work on this output and currently undertaking a desktop review of available documents. Completion of project output expected in April of 2024.

Output 7: Capacity building delivered on the MRV system in Eswatini

The Project Management unit participated in a regional training workshop facilitated by CBIT-GSP. A peer exchange visit will be scheduled once the data analyst is on board, but potential countries have been identified. Planned training and capacity building under the project are dependent on other outputs awaiting

the re-hiring of the international and national consultants which are However, for the technical aspects under this component, UNEP-CCC is still in the process of re-engaging the consultants to start implementing the activities This is earmarked for completion by the second quarter of 2025.

Overall, the progress achieved by the project over the past 12 months has been extremely limited, due to administrative challenges described earlier. The project's implementation progress is therefore rated **Unsatisfactory**.

Overall risk rating:

The project faces several significant risks that could jeopardize its ability to reach the expected objective and targets by the time it reaches technical completion in June 2024 – only 12 months from now. Firstly, the MTEA is experiencing internal challenges associated with procurement and management approvals of the process to hire the Climate Transparency Unit staff, which is a key part of this project. Secondly, the operationalization of UNEP-CCC's technical support is taking much longer than planned due internal financial and administrative constraints, in particular with regards to the recruitment of external consultants. Finally, recent turnover within MTEA key staff (i.e. the resignation of the National Climate Change Programme Coordinator) is likely to further hinder the project's ability to properly coordinate with higher level management within the Ministry. UNEP in its role as Implementing Agency has been following up with MTEA and UNEP-CCC on the matter and this close engagements resulted into an agreed action plan. This action plan to mitigate these risks is provided in the section 4 of the PIR. The project implementation situation will be re-assessed by UNEP in December 2023 as part of the Half-Yearly Progress Report, but if the problems persists, the project will likely need to go through another extension to be able to achieve its expected outcome. As such, the project is currently rated at **Significant** risk.

[section will be uploaded into the GEF Portal]

2.4. Co-financing

Planned Co-finance Total: US\$ 270,000 Actual to date: US\$ 39,180 (≈15%)	During the period under review, the MTEA has mobilized US\$ 34,180 of in-kind co-financing. Adding to the US\$ 5,000 mobilized during previous reporting periods, this leads to a total of US\$ 39,180 mobilized since project start.
Progress	The co-finance contributions from MTEA went towards the following: office equipment, salaries (Accountant, Programme Coordinator, Director Meteorology), rent, telephone/internet, vehicle cost and other services / utilities (tel/fax, electricity/heating, maintenance).

2.5. Stakeholder engagement

Date of project steering committee meeting (during reporting period)	2 February 2023
Stakeholder engagement	<p>The second Project Steering Committee meeting was held on the 2nd of February 2023 with 15 members in attendance. A representative of UNEP participated physically in the meeting. The meeting provided a project progress update and reported on the challenges and administrative delays of the project and sought technical guidance to enable project progress.</p> <p>The project also held a stocktaking assessment exercise to evaluate the outdated National Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan and assess its key successes, challenges in implementation, and other crosscutting issues. This workshop was held on the 31st of January 2023 of the 1st of February 2023 for both mitigation and adaptation sectors.</p> <p>[section will be uploaded into the GEF Portal]</p>

2.6. Gender

Does the project have a gender action plan?	Yes
Gender mainstreaming	<p>The workshop for the Update of the National Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (2016-2020) held on 21 October 2022 was attended by members of the MTEA-Climate Change Unit, members of the CBIT project management unit and national stakeholders from ministries, academic institutions, non-government departments and the private sector. In total, the workshop was attended by 11 participants with a representation percentage ratio of 64% of men and 36% of women.</p> <p>The Project conducted stakeholder consultation meetings from 31 January -1 February 2023 for the review of the National Strategy and action plan for the adaptation and mitigation sectors. A total number of 96 participants attended the meeting with 44% females and 54% males. Also, the project steering committee held on 2 February 2023 was attended by 15 members with 33% females and 77% males.</p> <p>[section will be uploaded into the GEF Portal]</p>

2.7. Environmental and social safeguards management

Moderate/High risk projects (in terms of Environmental and social safeguards)	<p>Was the project classified as moderate/high risk CEO Endorsement/Approval Stage?</p> <p>No</p> <p>If yes, what specific safeguard risks were identified in the SRIF/ESERN?</p> <p>N/A</p>
New social and/or environmental risks	<p>Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during the reporting period?</p> <p>No</p>
Complaints and grievances related to social and/or environmental impacts (to be filled in by TM and EA)	<p>Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential) during the reporting period?</p> <p>No</p>
Environmental and social safeguards management	<p>The project was rated at "Low" safeguard risk category as it mainly focuses on normative issues, i.e., institutional capacity building toward improved reporting on NDC so the government meets the transparency requirements on the climate change commitments and reports the progress in a reliable manner.</p> <p>[section will be uploaded into the GEF Portal]</p>

2.8. Knowledge management

Knowledge activities and products	<p>The CBIT-GSP team conducted the virtual inception meeting for the Regional Transparency Network for Anglophone Africa. The main objective of the inception workshop was to introduce the CBIT-GSP project to the members of the Regional Transparency Network for Anglophone Africa and kick off the project work plan with proposed activities for 2023. The virtual inception meeting was held on Tuesday, 21 February 2023.</p> <p>The Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency - Global Support Programme (CBIT-GSP) together with the Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement (PATPA) and the Ministry of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment of South Africa organised a training workshop on "Deep-dive into tracking NDC mitigation commitments under the Paris Agreement" for the Anglophone Africa</p>
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	<p>Regional Transparency Network under the CBIT-GSP project held from 16 to 18 May 2023. The build up to the workshop included an introductory webinar and in country data collection, followed by an in-person hands on training aimed at supporting country teams in charge of reporting NDC mitigation commitments under the Paris Agreement in technical understanding of the goals, principles, and actions associated with the reporting process for NDC mitigation commitments under the Paris Agreement</p> <p>[section will be uploaded into the GEF Portal]</p>
Main learning during the period	<p>The Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency - Global Support Programme (CBIT-GSP) platform provided a peer learning from other countries that are also implementing CBIT projects on the development of indicators and the various templates available for tracking NDCs and strengthening of MRV systems in-country</p>

2.9. Stories to be shared

Stories to be shared	<p>N/A</p> <p>[section to be shared with communication division/ GEF communication]</p>
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3. PROJECT PERFORMANCE AND RISK

Based on inputs by the Project Manager, the **UNEP Task Manager** will make an overall assessment and provide ratings of:

- (i) Progress towards achieving the project Results(s)- see section 3.1
- (ii) Implementation progress – see section 3.2

3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project outcomes (Development Objectives)

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	End-of-project target	Progress as of current period ³	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June 2023	Progress rating ⁴
Objective: Capacity Building for Enhanced Transparency in Climate Change Monitoring, Reporting and Verification	Indicator 1: Number of sectoral development plans integrating NDC implementation targets	0	1	0	The attainment of this target depends on implementation of most of activities of the project, progress towards achieving this end-of-project target will likely only be measurable as the project progresses.	MS
Outcome: Institutional Framework and technical capacities for planning, monitoring, reporting NDC strengthened	Indicator 1.1: Number of visits per month to the public MRV platform	0	30	0	Same comment as above	MS
	Indicator 1.2: Number of sectoral focal points for NDC implementation tracking providing data concurrently to the established platform as per guidelines	0	4	0	Though the appointment of focal points is yet to be finalised, the different focal institutions have been identified.	MS
	Indicator 1.3: Climate Transparency Unit annual workplan is approved	Unit not yet established	Yes	No	Recruitment of consultants to support this activity not yet completed.	MS

³ Numeric, percentage, or binary entry only

⁴ Use GEF Secretariat required six-point scale system: Highly Satisfactory (HS), Satisfactory (S), Marginally Satisfactory (MS), Marginally Unsatisfactory (MU), Unsatisfactory (U), and Highly Unsatisfactory (HU).

3.2 Rating of progress implementation towards delivery of outputs (Implementation Progress)

Outputs/Activities ⁵	Expected completion date ⁶	Implementation status as of 30 June 2022 (%)	Implementation status as of 30 June 2023 (%)	Progress rating justification ⁷ , description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress rating ⁸
COMPONENT 1: Strengthen Eswatini's National Transparency & MRV framework for climate actions					
Output 1: Climate change coordination framework established for the Government of eSwatini and key stakeholders, with sectoral focal points to plan, track and report (internally) climate actions.	30 June 2023	0%	5%	Project output delivery delayed due to the transition of UDP to UNEP-CCC. However, UNEP-CCC is in the process of finalising recruitment of national and international consultants. Expected output completion date is now 31 October 2023	U
Activity 1.1: Conduct a gap and needs analysis for existing institutional arrangements for planning and implementing climate actions	31 Mar 2023	0%	10%	A technical workshop was conducted in Q1 of 2021(while we were UDP), and UNOPS are in the process of rehiring the consultants after the change from UDP to UNEP-CCC. A skeleton report was produced from the earlier technical workshop, however, it might be necessary to conduct a second inception workshop to restart the project by re-engaging the key stakeholders. New tentative completion date: 30 September 2023	U
Activity 1.2: Review the outputs from activities 9.1.2 and 9.1.3 of the proposed FNC/BUR project with regards to potential efficiency increases of existing institutional arrangements relating to the MRV System	31 Mar 2023	0%	10%	A technical workshop was conducted in Q1 of 2021(while we were UDP), and UNOPS are in the process of rehiring the consultants after the change from UDP to UNEP-CCC. A skeleton report was produced from the earlier technical workshop, however, it might be necessary to conduct a second inception workshop to restart the project by re-engaging the key stakeholders. New tentative completion date: 30 September 2023	U
Activity 1.3: Provide technical support to develop a legal and regulatory framework to implement proposed institutional arrangements	30 June 2023	0%	0%	UNEP-CCC (through UNOPS) is in the process of rehiring the consultants that will be in charge of this activity. A new deadline for the deliverable has been set to October 2023 New tentative completion date: 31 October 2023	U
Activity 1.4: Establish communication plan, including the potential use of planned engagement activities to promulgate the outputs of this component	30 June 2023	0%	0%	UNEP-CCC (through UNOPS) is in the process of rehiring the consultant that will be in charge of this activity. A new deadline for the deliverable has been set to October 2023 New tentative completion date: 31 October 2023	U
Output 2: Climate transparency unit institutionalized	30 Jun 2024	0%	3%	The recruitment of national consultants and Climate Transparency Unit Staff to support the completion of project activities have not been completed yet by UNEP-CCC and MTEA. New completion date: 30 April 2025	U
Activity 2.1: Analyse constraints and barriers in establishing the proposed Transparency Unit	31 Mar 2023	0%	0%	UNEP-CCC (through UNOPS) is in the process of re-engaging the consultants for conducting this activity. A new deadline for the deliverable has been set to September 2023 New tentative completion date: 30 September 2023	U

⁵ Outputs and activities (or deliverables) as described in the project logframe (and workplan) or in any updated project revision.

⁶ The completion dates should be as per latest workplan (rev 2).

⁷ As much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.

⁸ To be provided by the UNEP Task Manager

Outputs/Activities ⁵	Expected completion date ⁶	Implementation status as of 30 June 2022 (%)	Implementation status as of 30 June 2023 (%)	Progress rating justification ⁷ , description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress rating ⁸
Activity 2.2: Engage two consultants to operationalize the Transparency Unit	31 Dec 2022	0%	20%	The recruitment of the Data Analyst is on hold until the IT Consultancy firm is on board. The MRV specialist technical support will be provided internally pending the finalization of the climate change bill currently under development which proposes new institutional arrangements by MTEA. New tentative completion date: 30 November 2023	U
Activity 2.3: Coordinate and maintain the MRV online system within the Transparency Unit	30 June 2024	0%	0%	The recruitment of the Data Analyst is on hold until the IT Consultancy firm is on board. The MRV specialist technical support will be provided internally pending the finalization of the climate change bill currently under development which proposes new institutional arrangements by MTEA. New tentative completion date: 30 April 2025	MS
Activity 2.4: Regularly engage the Transparency Unit and the National Climate Change Committee to ensure coordination of secretariat functions	31 March 2024	0%	0%	The recruitment of the Data Analyst is on hold until the IT Consultancy firm is on board. The MRV specialist technical support will be provided internally pending the finalization of the climate change bill currently under development which proposes new institutional arrangements by MTEA. New tentative completion date: 31 January 2025	MU
Activity 2.5: Advise the Transparency Unit on technical aspects of proposed institutional arrangements and supporting legal and regulatory framework	30 Jun 2023	0%	0%	The completion of this activity is dependent on other activities being completed first, therefore, it may run until the end of 2023. UNEP CCC will support the MTEA in putting the pieces in place so that this activity can be successfully conducted. The MTEA conducted a stock-taking analysis which has produced a report that will help the UNEP-CCC consultants quickly catch up with what has been done and what needs to be completed. New tentative completion date: 31 January 2024	U
Activity 2.6: Prepare handover materials and conduct training to ensure that the consultant roles will be replaced by government staff	31 Mar 2024	0%	0%	The recruitment of the Data Analyst is on hold until the IT Consultancy firm is on board. The MRV specialist technical support will be provided internally pending the finalization of the climate change bill currently under development which proposes new institutional arrangements by MTEA. New Tentative Completion Date: 28 February 2025	MS
Activity 2.7: Provide project information to the CBIT Global Coordination Platform	30 Jun 2024	0%	0%	The recruitment of the Data Analyst is on hold until the IT Consultancy firm is on board. The MRV specialist technical support will be provided internally pending the finalization of the climate change bill currently under development which proposes new institutional arrangements by MTEA. New Technical Completion Date: 30 April 2025	MS
Output 3: National Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (NCCSAP) reviewed and updated to ensure that Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) implementation is mainstreamed	31 Mar 2024	0%	10%	The technical work under this output was initiated by the Project Management Unit in Q4 2022 despite the delays in the recruitment of the consultants for the Climate Transparency Unit. A series of consultative meetings have been held to support the review of the national strategy and action plan by national stakeholders. The review process has been linked to the development of the NDC implementation plan. New Completion date: 30 April 2025	U

Outputs/Activities ⁵	Expected completion date ⁶	Implementation status as of 30 June 2022 (%)	Implementation status as of 30 June 2023 (%)	Progress rating justification ⁷ , description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress rating ⁸
Activity 3.1: Update the National Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (NCCSAP) and develop an M&E framework for the NCCSAP to align with the NDC	31 Mar 2023	0%	30%	The project conducted a stakeholder consultation on 21 October 2022 facilitated by the Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs with the NDC Task Team for the Development of the NDC Implementation with national experts to conduct a preliminary review of the outdated National Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan. The meeting also discussed the roadmap for linking the development of the NDC implementation Plan with the NCCSAP. Stocktaking assessment was conducted to review the outdated strategy and action plan and to discuss with national institutions the status of its implementation, key achievements, and barriers to its implementation. Workshop reports and assessment reports produced from the activity. New tentative completion date: 30 April 2024	U
Activity 3.2: Hold consultations with climate change framework focal points and technical working groups, as identified in output 1, to develop sectoral strategies as part of the updated NCCSAP	31 Mar 2023	0%	5%	Activity not yet completed. Focal institutions were identified but focal persons were not finalized. A meeting with Principal Secretaries to get their buy-in for the sectoral focal points, however the meeting was postponed as the country term of the current government has lapsed and there is preparation for elections for the new government. As such all meeting with policy makers is on hold until the new government is in office. The update of the NCCSAP is still yet to be completed. New tentative completion date: 30 April 2024	U
Activity 3.3: Undertake public consultation process to finalize the updated NCCSAP and present to Parliament	30 Jun 2023	0%	5%	Preliminary stakeholder consultations on the update of the NCCSAP have been conducted. New tentative completion date: 30 June 2024	U
Activity 3.4 Produce annual NCCSAP implementation reports in close coordination with the Transparency Unit	31 Dec 2023	0%	0%	Activity has not yet started. New completion date: 30 April 2025	MU
Output 4: An online Monitoring, Reporting & Verification (MRV) platform established	31 Dec 2023	0%	0%	UNEP-CCC will hire an IT Firm to develop the online MRV platform, while providing the necessary technical guidance to ensure compatibility with the context of Eswatini. It is expected that the IT firm will be procured in Q4 of 2023. Completion of project activities expected in September 2024.	MU
Activity 4.1: Conduct a needs assessment of existing technological and institutional capacity for the development of an online data management platform	31 Dec 2022	0%	0%	Work on this activity will begin in Q3 of 2023 with the review of available documents. This should conclude in the 4 th quarter of 2023. New tentative completion date: 31 December 2023	U
Activity 4.2: Establish an online portal to support MRV system reporting and policy planning	31 Dec 2023	0%	0%	Work on this activity will be based on the results of activity 4.1. This will be conducted in the 2024. New tentative completion date: 31 July 2024	MU
Activity 4.3: Engage stakeholders to provide input on the structure of the online platform including other relevant reporting requirements (e.g., SDG data)	31 Mar 2023	0%	0%	Work on this activity will be based on the results of activity 4.2. This will be conducted in the 3 rd quarter of 2024. New tentative completion date: 31 July 2024	U

Outputs/Activities ⁵	Expected completion date ⁶	Implementation status as of 30 June 2022 (%)	Implementation status as of 30 June 2023 (%)	Progress rating justification ⁷ , description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress rating ⁸
Activity 4.4: Populate the portal with data on challenges and vulnerabilities, sectoral climate actions, action indicators, investment, the wider impacts of actions, and supporting data such as stakeholder contact information, key datasets, etc. (continuous activity)	31 Dec 2023	0%	0%	Work on this activity will be based on the results of activity 4.2. This will be conducted in the 3rd quarter of 2024. New tentative completion date: 30 September 2024.	MU
Output 5: Tools, templates and guidelines for MRV of climate change data developed	31 Dec 2023	0%	0%	UNEP-CCC (through UNOPS) is re-hiring the consultants for completing this output. Completion of project activities expected in March 2024.	U
Activity 5.1: Conduct gap analysis of current tools, templates and guidelines used in eSwatini's MRV system	31 Dec 2022	0%	0%	Work on this activity will commence as soon as the consultants are on-boarded by UNOPS. This should conclude in the 4 th quarter of 2023. New tentative completion date: 30 November 2023	U
Activity 5.2: Review international good practice tools, templates and guidelines and evaluate their applicability in eSwatini's MRV system	31 Mar 2023	0%	0%	Work on this activity will commence as soon as the consultants are on-boarded by UNOPS. This should conclude in the 4 th quarter of 2023. New tentative completion date: 30 November 2023	U
Activity 5.3: Develop country-specific templates to streamline data collection and reporting for government and data providers	30 Sept 2023	0%	0%	Work on this activity will commence as soon as the consultants are onboarded by UNOPS. This should conclude in the 1 st quarter of 2024. New tentative completion date: 31 March 2024	U
Activity 5.4: Develop material including a national GHG manual to support the development of long-term institutional memory	30 Sept 2023	0%	0%	Work on this activity will commence as soon as the consultants are onboarded by UNOPS. This should conclude in the 1 st quarter of 2024. New tentative completion date: 31 March 2024	U
Output 6: Country-specific metrics, indicators and methodologies developed for tracking NDC climate actions	31 Dec 2023	0%	1%	UNEP-CCC has started work on this output and currently undertaking a desktop review of available documents. Completion of project output expected in April 2024.	MU
Activity 6.1: Conduct scoping exercise to identify existing data sources and monitoring mechanisms for NDC climate actions	31 Dec 2022	0%	5%	Work has started on this activity, with the review of available documents. This should conclude in the 4 th quarter of 2023. New tentative completion date: 13 October 2023	U
Activity 6.2: Develop indicators for country-specific NDC mitigation and adaptation actions	30 Sept 2023	0%	0%	Work on this activity will be conducted during Q3 and Q4 of 2023. This should conclude in the 4 th quarter of 2023 New tentative completion date: 20 October 2023	MU
Activity 6.3: Develop methodologies for data collection activities associated with NDC action indicators	30 Sept 2023	0%	0%	Work on this activity will commence in the 4 th quarter of 2023 when activities 6.1 and 6.2 are more advanced. New tentative completion date: 31 December 2023	MU
Activity 6.4: Conduct stakeholder engagements to collect updated baseline data for developed indicators	30 Sept 2023	0%	0%	Work on this activity will commence in the 4 th quarter of 2023 when activities 6.1 and 6.2 are more advanced. New tentative completion date: 16 February 2024	MU
Activity 6.5: Update the NDC as needed to ensure alignment with NCCSAP	30 Sept 2023	0%	0%	Work on this activity will commence in the 4 th quarter of 2023 when activities 6.1 and 6.2 are more advanced. The results of activities 6.3 and 6.4 will also feed into this activity. New tentative completion date: 30 April 2024	MU

Outputs/Activities ⁵	Expected completion date ⁶	Implementation status as of 30 June 2022 (%)	Implementation status as of 30 June 2023 (%)	Progress rating justification ⁷ , description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress rating ⁸
Output 7: Capacity building delivered on the MRV system in Eswatini	30 June 2024	1%	2%	UNEP-CCC has started work on this activity and currently undertaking a desktop review of available documents. Completion of project activities expected in Q2 of 2025.	MU
Activity 7.1: Conduct needs assessment for capacity building exercises within relevant institutions such as government departments responsible for tracking NDC implementation	31 Dec 2022	0%	3%	UNEP-CCC is in the process of re-engaging the consultants for continuing this activity. A new deadline for the deliverable has been set to Q4 of 2023 New tentative completion date: 30 November 2023	U
Activity 7.2: Build capacity among national experts in improved GHG inventory processes such as IPCC inventory methodologies, QA/QC tools, inventory management and reporting templates	31 Mar 2023	0%	0%	UNEP-CCC is in the process of re-engaging the consultants for carrying out this activity. A new deadline for the deliverable has been set to 2 nd quarter of 2024. New tentative completion date: 30 June 2024	U
Activity 7.3: Develop and implement a capacity building program for focal points, technical working groups and stakeholders involved in NDC indicator tracking and reporting	31 Mar 2023	0%	0%	UNEP-CCC is in the process of re-engaging the consultants for continuing this activity. A new deadline for the deliverable has been set to 3 rd quarter of 2024. New tentative completion date: 31 July 2024	U
Activity 7.4: Build capacity for stakeholders on data supply and data quality	30 Sept 2023	0%	0%	UNEP-CCC is in the process of re-engaging the consultants for continuing this activity. A new deadline for the deliverable has been set to 2 nd quarter of 2024. New tentative completion date: 30 May 2024	MU
Activity 7.5: Develop a 'train the trainers' scheme by providing support and materials that will enable capacity building exercises to be continued post-project	30 Sept 2023	0%	0%	UNEP-CCC is in the process of re-engaging the consultants for continuing this activity. A new deadline for the deliverable has been set to 3 rd quarter of 2024. New tentative completion date: 31 October 2024	MU
Activity 7.6 Engage decision makers on how to integrate climate information into national policy	31 Mar 2024	0%	5%	Through the NDC Revision process, the Project Manager presented to sectorial planners from the Ministry of Economic Planning and Development on the importance of integrating climate change into the national development processes. Furthermore, the Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs has supported the development of the country's National Development Plan in line with the NDC Implementation Plan where the Project Manager provides technical support as a member of the National Task Team. The current term of government has lapsed and there are preparation for elections for the new government. As such all meetings with policy makers are on hold until the new government is in office. New Tentative Completion Date: 30 April 2025	MS
Activity 7.7: Conduct peer exchange at the regional and international level	31 Dec 2023	0%	5%	The Project Management Unit participated in a regional training workshop facilitated by CBIT- GSP and other webinars. The project manager participated on platforms by ICAT and PAPTA where she shared experiences with other countries on the adaption reporting. New Tentative Completion Date: 30 April 2025	MU

4. Risk Rating

4.1 Table A. Project management Risk

Please refer to the **Risk Help Sheet** for more details on rating.

Risk Factor	EA's Rating	TM's Rating
1. Management structure – Roles and responsibilities	S	S
2. Governance structure – Oversight	L	L
3. Implementation schedule	S	S
4. Budget	L	L
5. Financial Management	L	L
6. Reporting	L	L
7. Capacity to deliver	L	L

If any of the risk factors is rated a Moderate or higher, please include it in table B below.

4.2 Table B. Risk-Log

Risk	Risk affecting:	Risk Rating				Variation with respect to the last rating	
	Outcome/outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	Δ	Justification
Risks identified at CEO Endorsement							
Lack of data availability. These impacts on the completeness and accuracy of the analyses that we perform (GHG inventories and policy analysis).	All	H	M	M	M	=	The justification as highlighted in the PIR 2021 still suffices for the PIR 2022 since progress on climate change coordination and implementation have been delayed in the climate change program. The Fourth National Communications, the initial Biennial Update Report project, and the NDC project which are intrinsically linked to the CBIT project, have covered considerable groundwork in improving data collection and working to improve its completeness. However, there are still problems in certain sectors that are poorly organized. This is a gap rather than a risk. As such, addressing this gap will be one of the goals of this CBIT project.
Staff turnaround at the national level. This provides inconsistent pool of experts throughout the project.	All	M	/	/	M	=	The National Programme coordinator resigned from government service, which is likely to impact the project administration further as it transitions to new management. The NPC plays a critical role in the operational and technical guidance on transparency issues to the project and acted as the liaison between the Project Management Unit and the Government.

Limited sustainability of project impact due to reliance on external experts.	All	M	L	L	L	=	The Ministry continuously avails various trainings at national level to capacitate local experts so as to build their self-sufficiency. To date the GHG inventory and mitigation assessment is now equipped with quite a number of experts.
Data confidentiality. This could mean that useful data are not available to the project team.	All	M	M	M	M	=	There has been no significant change in this risk. It has been observed that national stakeholders still show reluctance in sharing data under the guise of confidentiality. The implementation of project activities is expected to help overcome this challenge.
Lack of buy-in from Government/Ministries. This does not ensure that activities are given the support and prioritization required to create a sustainable system.	All	M	/	/	/	=	Since the implementation of project activities has not started yet, it is not possible to assess governments'/ministries' buy-in on the project's activities. The level of buy-in/collaboration from ministries will therefore be re-assessed in the 2024 PIR.
Risks identified in the Environmental and Social Safeguards screening							
N/A – No Medium, Substantial or High risks identified in the E&S safeguards screening.							
Risks identified in the 2021 PIR							
Restrictions related to the COVID 19 pandemic (i.e. in-person meetings, travel, etc.) in Eswatini	All		M	L	L	=	All COVID-19 restrictions in relation to in-person meetings lifted.
Lengthy administrative, financial and procurement processes within the MTEA	All		S	M	M	=	Procurement policy has been developed and financial accounts created, however, since not all administrative issues are not resolved the risk to the project is still there.
The current civil unrest that Eswatini is experiencing is impacting the implementation of project activities	All		M	L	L	=	The uprisings are sporadic and more organized than before and there has been a gradual decrease in highly threatening situations caused by the protests.
Delay in starting the implementation of project activities will impact the project's overall technical completion date	All		M	M	S	↑	Delays to the project start are still a threat to the project's progress. The disbandment of the UNEP DTU Partnership ("UDP"), giving rise to the new UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre ("UNEP-CCC") caused delays to the project since the CBIT project contract between the MTEA and UDP needed to be terminated which also lead to the termination of the international and local consultants contracted by UDP which stalled the project progress. UNEP-CCC is still in the process of hiring different consultants, which has significantly delayed the project's implementation.
Risks identified in the 2022 PIR							
The administrative / legal transition of UDP to UNEP-CCC caused significant delays to the implementation of the majority of the project's activities.	All			M	S	↑	As per the PCA, the project implementation was originally planned to start in January 2020, but due to delays in setting up the Project Management Unit and also because of the Covid-19 pandemic, the MTEA was only able to kick off the project in November 2020. The UDP-supported project activities were then planned to start in Q1 2021, however, due to the administrative/legal transition of UDP to UNEP-CCC and the associated termination of UDP's contract, the

							activities to be supported by UNEP-CCC under Outputs 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7 will likely only be starting in Q3 2023, further delaying the project.
Delayed engagement of the MTEA's Project Management Unit staff to support project activities.	All			M	L	↓	Project Management Unit recruitment finalized in August 2022.
New risks identified in the current 2023 PIR							
Lack of progress in the recruitment of Climate Transparency Unit Staff	Output 2				M		The recruitment of the Data Analyst is on hold until the IT Consultancy firm is on board. The MRV specialist technical support will be provided internally pending the finalization of the climate change bill currently under development which proposes new institutional arrangements by MTEA
Turnover of UNEP-CCC coordination staff and delayed hiring of international and national consultants by UNEP-CCC	All outputs				S		The main focal point from UNEP-CCC overseeing the CBIT Eswatini project left in Q2 2023, and the UNEP-CCC has experienced delays in hiring the consultants under their supervision. While UNEP-CCC activities were intended to start in Q4 2023, as of the end of June 2023 they still have not started.
Staff turnover within the MTEA	All				M		The National Climate Change Programme Coordinator plays a critical role in the operations of the project, provides transparent technical guidance of the project, and is the liaison between the Project Management Unit and the Government.
Consolidated project risk		n.a	M	M	S	↑	<i>This section focuses on the variation. The overall rating is discussed in section 2.3.</i>

Table C. Outstanding Moderate, Significant, and High risks

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIR _{t-1} , MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	Additional mitigation measures for the next period		
			What	When	By whom
Risk and actions from the 2022 PIR					
The administrative / legal transition of UDP to UNEP-CCC caused significant delays to the implementation of the majority of the project's activities.	Action 1 [2022]: UNEP-CCC to engage with MTEA on the preparation of a workplan and budget revision and share a 1 st draft with UNEP for review. <i>(By 15 August 2022)</i>	Action completed. UNEP-CCC prepared and submitted its budget and work plan revisions	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Action 2 [2022]: UNEP to review budget / workplan revision and provide its clearance / green light. <i>(By 31 August 2022)</i>	Action completed. UNEP reviewed and approved the updated work plan and budget	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Action 3 [2022]: MTEA to send a formal letter to UNEP requesting for support from UNEP-CCC, outlining the related activities and associated budget. <i>(By 15 September 2022)</i>	Action completed. The MTEA prepared the requisition letter for UNEP CCC support.	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Action 4 [2022]: UNEP to prepare an amendment to the PCA with MTEA and an agreement with UNEP-CCC to reflect the new execution arrangements. <i>(By 30 September 2022)</i>	Action completed. UNEP prepared the PCA amendment which was approved end of 2022.	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Action 5 [2022]: once the agreements are signed, UNEP to transfer the funds to UNEP-CCC to allow them to start implementing the assigned activities. <i>(After signature of the agreements)</i>	Action completed. UNEP has transferred the funds to UNEP-CCC in December 2022.	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Action 6 [2022]: MTEA to present the new execution arrangements to PSC members during the next PSC meeting. <i>(During the next PSC meeting, before end of the year 2022)</i>	Action completed. MTEA presented the project progress update to the PSC on 2 February 2023.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Delayed engagement of the MTEA's Project Management Unit staff to support project activities.	Action 7 [2022]: The National Project Director (NPD) will ensure that the project staff have the new contracts issued and signed by 15 August 2022	Action completed. Project staff received and signed a contractual agreement from the NPD.	N/A	N/A	N/A

New risk and actions from the 2023 PIR					
Lack of progress in the recruitment of Climate Transparency Unit Staff	N/A	N/A	Action 1 [2023]: PMU to organize an online meeting between the UNEP, the PMU, and MTEA management to discuss the status of the Climate Transparency Unit staff recruitment.	Before 15 September 2023	PMU, MTEA
Turnover of UNEP-CCC coordination staff and delayed hiring of the consultants by UNEP-CCC	N/A	N/A	Action 2 [2023]: Once recruitments are completed, UNEP-CCC to prepare a revised work plan with updated completion dates for all of its activities and share it with MTEA / UNEP Action 3 [2023]: Implementation progress is to be assessed in January 2024 as part of the July-December 2023 Half-Yearly Progress Report, to determine the length of the extension MTEA would need to complete the project	By end of September 2023 15 January 2024	UNEP-CCC UNEP, MTEA, UNEP-CCC
Staff turnover within the MTEA	N/A	N/A	Action 4 [2023] National Project Director to arrange for an online meeting with the UNEP Task Manager to discuss project coordination implications following the resignation of the National Climate Change Programme Coordinator.	Before 15 September 2023	MTEA, UNEP

High Risk (H): There is a probability of greater than 75% that **assumptions** may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.

Significant Risk (S): There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that **assumptions** may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks.

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 modest risks.

Low Risk (L): There is a probability of up to 25% that **assumptions** may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.

5. Project Minor 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 Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines.

5.1 Table A: Listing of all Minor Amendment

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Results framework | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor project objective change |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Components and cost | <input type="checkbox"/> Safeguards |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Institutional and implementation arrangements | <input type="checkbox"/> Risk analysis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial management | <input type="checkbox"/> Increase of GEF project financing up to 5% |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Implementation schedule | <input type="checkbox"/> Co-financing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Executing Entity | <input type="checkbox"/> Location of project activity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Executing Entity Category | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Minor amendments	<u>Institutional and implementation arrangements</u> : The targeted technical support that was supposed to be undertaken by UDP was transferred to UNEP-CCC. This was incorporated as part of project revision 2, approved in December 2022.
	<u>Implementation Schedule</u> : the planned technical completion date of the project was extended to 30 June 2024 as part of workplan revision 2, instead of 30 June 2023 as per the previous workplan revision 1.

5.2 Table B: History of project revisions and/or extensions

Version	Type	Signed/Approved by UNEP	Entry into Force (last signature Date)	Agreement Expiry Date	Main changes introduced in this revision
Original legal instrument		6 November 2019	23 December 2019	31 December 2022	N/A
Revision 1	Amendment & Extension	31 March 2022	9 May 2022	30 June 2024	Project was planned to start in January 2020, but due to delays faced by MTEA in setting up the PMU and related to Covid-19, project was only kicked off in November 2020.
Revision 2	Amendment & Extension	25 November 2022	5 December 2022	30 June 2025	Given administrative and legal challenges associated with UDP's transition to UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre (UNEP-CCC), the project workplan required an extension of the technical completion date to 30 June 2024.

6. GEO Location Information:

The Location Name, Latitude and Longitude are required fields insofar as an Agency chooses to enter a project location under the set format. The Geo Name ID is required in instances where the location is not exact, such as in the case of a city, as opposed to the exact site of a physical infrastructure. The Location & Activity Description fields are optional. Project longitude and latitude must follow the Decimal Degrees WGS84 format and Agencies are encouraged to use at least four decimal points for greater accuracy. Users may add as many locations as appropriate. Web mapping applications such as [OpenStreetMap](#) or [GeoNames](#) use this format. Consider using a conversion tool as needed, such as: <https://coordinates-converter.com> Please see the Geocoding User Guide by clicking [here](#)

Location Name Required field	Latitude Required field	Longitude Required field	Geo Name ID Required field <u>if</u> the location is not an exact site	Location Description Optional text field	Activity Description Optional text field
Mbabane, Eswatini	-26.325745	31.144663	934985		

Please provide any further geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions is taking place as appropriate. *

N/A