UNEP GEF PIR Fiscal Year 2021

Reporting from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021

# 1. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

# 1.1. Project details

1. IDENTIFICATION

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Identification Table | GEF ID.:10027  | Umoja no.: S1-32CBL-000001 / SB-010908.02 |
| Project Title | Building and strengthening Sierra Leone’s national capacity to implement the transparency elements of the Paris Agreement |
| Duration months | *Planned* | 36 |
| *Extension(s)* | N/A |  |
| Division(s) Implementing the project | Economy Division, Energy and Climate Branch, Climate Change Mitigation unit |
| Executing Agency(ies) | Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of Sierra Leone |
| Names of Other Project Partners | UNEP DTU Partnership (UDP) |
| Project Type | Medium Size Project |
| Project Scope | National  |
| Region | Africa |
| Countries | Sierra Leone |
| Programme of Work | PoW 2020-2021, Sub-programme 1 Climate Change |
| GEF Focal Area(s) | Climate Change Mitigation |
| UNSDCF / UNDAF linkages  | The CBIT project is aligned with Sierra Leone’s UNSDCF (2020-2023) expected Outcome 1: *By 2023, Sierra Leone**benefits from a more productive, commercialised and sustainable agriculture, improved food and nutrition security, and increased resilience to climate change and other shocks*, and particularly with the expected Result 1.6: *Preparedness systems in place and functional at community level to mitigate the impact of climate change*. |
| Link to relevant SDG target(s) and SDG indicator(s) | SDG 13, Indicators 13.3.2 Number of countries that have communicated the strengthening of institutional, systemic and individual capacity-building to implement adaptation, mitigation and technology transfer, and development actions. |
| GEF financing amount | US$ 1,344,495 |
| Co-financing amount | US$ 200,000 |
| Date of CEO Endorsement | 8 January 2020 |
| Start of Implementation | 5 June 2020 |
| Date of first disbursement | 13 July 2020 |
| Total disbursement as of 30 June 2021 | US$ 240,000 |
| Total expenditure as of 30 June 2021 | US$ 56,551 |
| Expected Mid-Term Review Date | N/A |
| Completion Date | *Planned* | 30 September 2023 |
| *Revised* | N/A |
| Expected Terminal Evaluation Date | 31 March 2024 |
| Expected Financial Closure Date | 30 September 2024 |

# 1.2. Project description

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| **Project Objective:** To build and strengthen Sierra Leone’s national capacity to implement the transparency elements of the Paris Climate Agreement.**Component 1:** National Capacity to track NDC implementation and sustain transparency efforts over timeThe project will build and strengthen Sierra Leone’s national capacity to implement the Paris Climate Agreement through the development of an effective transparency framework. The transparency framework will enable the government of Sierra Leone and other stakeholders to track impacts in prioritized sectors, namely the energy, IPPU and waste sectors, and provide a concrete basis for the country to meet its mitigation and adaptation targets and achieve a low carbon climate resilient development pathway.**Executing Agency:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of Sierra Leone, with targeted technical support from the UNEP DTU Partnership (UDP). |

# 1.3. History of project revisions

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Version** | **Date** | **Main changes introduced in this revision** |
| Rev0 (CEO ED) | N/A | N/A |
|  |  |  |

2. OVERVIEW OF PROJECT STATUS

* 1. 2.1. UNEP Subprogramme(s)

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| --- | --- |
| **Subprogramme(s) and biennia of the PoW to which the project contributes** | **Expected Accomplishment(s) and Indicator(s) to which the project contributes** |
| **Subprogramme**: 1 Climate Change: countries increasingly make the transition to low-emission economic development, and enhance their adaptation and resilience to climate change | **Expected Accomplishement:** (b) Countries increasingly adopt and/or implement low greenhouse gas emission development strategies and invest in clean technologies**Indicator**: (i) The number of countries supported by UNEP that make progress in adopting and/or implementing low greenhouse gas emission development plans, strategies and/or policies |
| The project has just started implementation during the 4th quarter of 2020. It is therefore too early to report on its progress / contributions to the Subprogramme and Expected Accomplishments. [Section to be shared with relevant Regional and Global SubProgramme Coordinators] |

* 1. 2.2. GEF Core Indicators (for all GEF 6 and later projects):

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| --- | --- |
| **GEF Core Indicators** | **Indicative expected Results** |
|

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| --- | --- |
| **Indicator** | **Expected values at** |
| **Mid-term** | **End-of-project** |
| Number of **direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender** as co-benefit of GEF investment | N/A | 140 (70 men, 70 women) |

The project has just started implementation during the 4th quarter of 2020. It is therefore too early to report on its progress in meeting the end-of-project target of the Core Indicator.  |

* 1. 2.3. Implementation status and risk

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | FY 2021 | FY 20\_\_ | FY 20\_\_ | FY 20\_\_ | FY 20\_\_ |
| PIR # | 1st  | 2nd  | 3rd  | 4th  | …. |
| Rating towards **outcomes** (section 3.1) | S |  |  |  |  |
| Rating towards **outputs** (section 3.2) | S |  |  |  |  |
| **Risk** rating (section 3.3) | M |  |  |  |  |

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| Rating towards outcomes: Since the project is only at the very beginning of its implementation (kicked off in October 2020), it is of course too early to measure progress against the achievement of the project’s Outcomes and its associated end-of-project targets. Regarding Outcome 1, the UNEP-DTU Partnership (UDP) is being contracted by the EPA to support in the improvement of the quality of the MRV tools to track NDC implementation. The different sectors to be involved in the institutional arrangements have already been identified and targeted. The NDC are under review, mainly to highlight and provide more details in the Tourism, Mining, Blue Economy and AFOLU sectors. As for Outcome 2, capacity building activities and the work on the MRV platform development are set to start in the next few months. Based on this, it is very likely the project will be able to achieve its targets by the time it reaches technical completion date, since no critical obstacles have been identified so far. For this reason, the rating towards the likelihood of achieving the expected Outcomes is “Satisfactory”.Rating towards outputs: Following the signature of the project cooperation agreement between UNEP and the EPA in June 2020, the Project Management Unit was established shortly after and the project was officially launched through the Inception Workshop held on 28 October 2020 and the 1st Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting on 3 November 2020. As of the end of June 2021, the procurement process for the International Data expert and the national Legal expert is almost completed. Additionally, the contract for the targeted technical support to be implemented by the UNEP-DTU Partnership (UDP) is nearly ready. Computers have been procured for data teams in prioritized sectors and regional and national NDC committees have been formed. Finally, stakeholders’ engagements have been initiated at regional and national levels on the review and update of the NDC. Although a few activities a slightly behind schedule due to lengthy procurement processes and the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, this does not have a critical impact on the project’s overall workplan, and activity implementation is expected to gain momentum during the 2nd half of year 2021. As such, the project’s progress towards delivering the expected Outputs is rated as “Satisfactory”.Overall risk rating:A few risks impacting the project’s implementation have been identified, such as (1) the lengthy national procurement processes which has impacted the timely mobilization of experts and consultants supposed to start certain activities as per the approved workplan ; (2) the impact of Covid-19 related restrictions, preventing the UDP international experts from traveling to Sierra Leone and limiting the ability to organize certain in-person events ; and (3) the frequent turnover of governmental personnel/staff at different levels in the Ministries, Departments and Agencies, which tends to undermine the proper implementation of the project. However, the project should be able to keep these risks under control by implementing the appropriate mitigation measures over the next few months. Based on the above, the risk level of this project is rated as “Medium”. [section will be uploaded into the GEF Portal] |

* 1. 2.4. Co-financing

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| **Planned Co-finance**Total: US$ 200,000 **Actual to date:** US$ 50,466(= 25%) | The Environment Protection Agency (EPA) of Sierra Leone has provided in-kind co-finance in the form of office space, vehicles (including wear and tear), electricity, and internet, conference room for project steering committee meetings, and use of procurement and other staff for technical support in the implementation of the project. Also, the EPA also supports in kind the payment of the Project Manager and the Administrative Officer who have been at the forefront of implementation. |

* 1. 2.5. Stakeholder engagement

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| **Stakeholder engagement** | The project held its Inception Workshop on 28th October 2020 and has this far held 2 Project Steering Committee meetings on 3rd November 2020 and 8th April 2021. The inception workshop initiated the project’s engagement with stakeholders drawn from ministries, Departments and Agencies, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs), the private sector, Local councils and local authorities and the media. Stakeholder engagement continues to be facilitated through the Project Steering Committee Meetings and the NDC technical committee meetings that are held at regional and national levels. These engagements continue to promote stakeholder participation and ownership of the Project as it progresses. However, over the past few months, representatives of stakeholders have been changing at different levels. This can hinder the project execution and slow down timelines because every time a new representative is sent, the Project Management Unit (PMU) must carry out some form of introductory session to make sure everyone is at the same level of knowledge and buys into project. [section will be uploaded into the GEF Portal] |

* 1. 2.6. Gender

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| **Gender mainstreaming** | The project actively takes into consideration gender responsive measure through continuous assessment of gender participation in its activities where possible. The provision of gender disaggregated participant lists is one of the tools used to track gender responsiveness in workshops and meetings held so far. As an illustration to this, the Inception Workshop drew the attendance of 56 participants out of which 66% were male and 34% were female. The first Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting had 14 participants out of which 9 were male (71%) and 5 were female (29%). The second PSC meeting had 16 participants out of which 9 were female (56%) and 7 were male (44%). It is noteworthy to mention that the Project Manager and the Administrative Assistant are both women, thereby bridging the gap at the PMU level.Since project launch, for every meeting or engagement organized as part of the CBIT project there is a session dedicated to having discussions on a gender balanced project implementation. In addition, a representative of the Ministry of Gender and Children’s Affairs sits at the PSC to ensure a gender-balance implementation. Finally. the civil society representative sitting in the PSC is also an environmental, climate change and gender equality advocacy organization. The main challenge with regards to gender mainstreaming lies in the fact that the project does not have the authority to ensure partner institutions have a balanced approached in appointing female and male representatives, although the country has made commitments and developed policies to promote gender equality. At the best, the project team can only encourage the partner institutions to do so. [section will be uploaded into the GEF Portal] |

* 1. 2.7. Environmental and social safeguards management

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| **Environmental and social safeguards management** | The is 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.[section will be uploaded into the GEF Portal] |

* 1. 2.8. Knowledge management

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| **Knowledge activities and products** | Since the Project only began its implementation in the last quarter of 2020, it has not delivered any knowledge products yet. These should be reported for in the next PIR. Knowledge management for the past 1 year has mainly been based on stakeholder consultations and meetings held with NDC committees. The project team also attended virtual meetings on transparency and GHG emissions. Finally, the Project Manager has just been selected to attend a training on GHG emission and transparency organized by the UNFCCC GIR CASTT, which is scheduled from August to October 2021.[section will be uploaded into the GEF Portal] |

* 1. 2.9. Stories to be shared

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| **Stories to be shared** | The project has just started implementation during the 4th quarter of 2020 and has not achieved sufficient progress at this stage. If relevant, stories will be shared in the 2022 PIR. [section to be shared with communication division/ GEF communication] |
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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:*

1. *Progress towards achieving the project Results(s)- see section 3.1*
2. *Implementation progress – see section 3.2*

*Section 3.3 on Risk should be first completed by the Project Manager. The UNEP Task Manager will subsequently enter his/her own ratings in the appropriate column.*

* 1. 3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project outcomes

| **Project objective and Outcomes** | **Indicator** | **Baseline level** | **End-of-project target** | **Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June 2021** | **Progress rating[[1]](#footnote-2)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Objective:**To build and strengthen Sierra Leone’s national capacity to implement the transparency elements of the Paris Climate Agreement. | Improvement in the quality of Institutional capacity for transparency based on GEF score 1 to 4 as per Annex IV of CBIT programming directions[[2]](#footnote-3) | 1 | +1 (=2) | 1 (no increase in the rating yet)The project was launched in October 2020 and since 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 during year 2023. The EPA established the Climate Change secretariat that handles climate change issues in the country. The EPA, on behalf of the country, has developed its first, second and third National Communications. The country’s INDC was developed in 2015 and is presently in the process of reviewing and updating the NDC. The EPA is also currently developing the country’s first Biennial Update report. The project was launched in October 2020 and the implementation has been slowed down by the COVID-19 pandemic. Nonetheless, the agency is in the process of recruiting consultants to develop and improve institutional capacity on GHG data collection and transparency.  | S |
| **Outcome 1:**Sierra Leone adopts upgraded institutional arrangements and tools to track NDC implementation in accordance with the UNFCCC modalities, procedures and guidelines | Indicator 1.1: Improvement in the quality of MRV of NDC Implementation based on GEF score 1 to 10 as per Annex III of CBIT programming directions[[3]](#footnote-4) | 1 | +3 (=4) | 1 (no increase in the rating yet)The project has only been kicked off in the last quarter of 2020, so the implementation of the activities that are expected to contribute towards the achievement of this end-of-project target is still underway. The UNEP-DTU Partnership (UDP) is being contracted by the EPA to support in the improvement of the quality of the MRV of NDC implementation. | S |
| **Outcome 2:**Key Ministries, Agencies, Departments and other stakeholders use the NDC transparency system | Indicator 2.1: % of specialized trained staff who declares to be in a better position to implement MRV systems (gender-disaggregated) | N/A | 70% | 0%The capacity building activities on MRV (Output 2.1) are planned to be undertaken mostly during the first half of year 2022. The project will therefore be able to start reporting on the progress in the achievement of this end-of-project target during the 2022 PIR. | S |
| Indicator 2.2: Number of government staff using the platform in their day-to-day work  | 0 | 30 | 0The NDC online platform (Output 2.3) is planned to be developed in year 2022 and government staff training on the platform is planned for the 2nd half of year 2022. The project will therefore be able to report on the progress in the achievement of this end-of-project target during the 2023 PIR. | S |

* 1. 3.2 Rating of progress implementation towards delivery of outputs

| **Outputs/Activities[[4]](#footnote-5)** | **Expected completion date[[5]](#footnote-6)** | **Implementation status as of 30 June 2020 (%)** | **Implementation status as of 30 June 2021 (%)** | **Progress rating justification[[6]](#footnote-7), description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay** | **Progress rating[[7]](#footnote-8)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **COMPONENT:** **National Capacity to track NDC implementation and sustain transparency efforts over time** |
| **Outcome 1: Sierra Leone adopts upgraded institutional arrangements and tools to track NDC implementation in accordance with the UNFCCC modalities, procedures and guidelines** |
| **Output 1.1: Institutional arrangements for data collection and management established under EPA's coordination and operationalized in key ministries, agencies, departments and other stakeholders** | **30 Sept 2022** | N/A | 7% | Although procurement of experts has taken much more time than initially planned, there has recently been major progress towards the recruitment of experts that will spearhead activities under this output. As such, upon their recruitment and commencement of work the rating of progress is expected to improve. | MS |
| Activity 1.1.1:Assess available climate change data and data generation systems and identify data sources needed to comply with the 2006 IPCC Guidelines and the Modalities, Procedures and Guidelines (MPGs) for the ETF | 30 June 2021 | N/A | 15% | Recruitment of the experts is being finalize.New tentative completion date: 31 March 2022. | MS |
| Activity 1.1.2: Develop recommendations on how to most effectively establish institutional arrangements and regulatory frameworks for data collection, sharing and management | 30 June 2021 | N/A | 0% | Recruitment of the experts is being finalized.New tentative completion date: 31 December 2021 | MS |
| Activity 1.1.3: Implement the recommendations from activity 1.1.2 through the development and implementation of formal agreements/MOUs for data collection, sharing and management | 30 Sept 2022 | N/A | 0% | Activity planned to start in the last quarter of 2021 | S |
| Activity 1.1.4: Conduct a series of stakeholder consultations throughout the implementation of activities 1.1.2. and 1.1.3 | 31 Dec 2021 | N/A | 0% | Activity planned to start within the second half of 2021. Recruitment of the experts is being finalized.  | S |
| Activity 1.1.5: Establish the ministerial NDC Implementation Committee by defining its role and scope, its legal mandate and vision | 31 Mar 2021 | N/A | 20% | ToRs for the committee have been developed. The Minister of Environment has been briefed on setting up the Ministerial NDC Committee. A position paper on the need for the NDC review and update was presented to the Cabinet by the Minister of the Environment who directly supervises the EPA-SL.New tentative completion date: 30 September 2021 | MS |
| **Output 1.2: Sectoral transparency guidelines, methodologies and indicators for mitigation and adaptation developed and distributed** | **30 Sept 2023** | N/A | 0% | The UNEP DTU Partnership (UDP) was contracted to implement some elements of output 1.2. The dynamics of implementation has changed because of travel restriction due to the COVID 19 pandemic. After several virtual meetings, the PMU has now decided to allow UDP to award portions of the work to local consultants for execution, while they monitor virtually. | S |
| Activity 1.2.1: Develop technical data management guidelines/methodologies aligned with 2006 IPCC Guidelines for all prioritized sectors | 30 June 2021 | N/A | 0% | Activity not yet started due to procurement delays. New tentative completion date: 31 December 2021 | MS |
| Activity 1.2.2: Update the NDC reflecting the MPGs from COP24  | 31 Mar 2021 | N/A | 0% | Activity not yet started due to procurement delays. New tentative completion date: 31 December 2021 | MS |
| Activity 1.2.3: Develop NDC Implementation Plan including gender sensitive indicators to enable progress tracking | 31 Dec 2021 | N/A | 0% | Activity not yet started. Consultant recruitment to be finalized in September 2021 as contract is being reviewed by the Agency’s legal team. New tentative completion date: 31 March 2021 | S |
| Activity 1.2.4: Conduct a series of stakeholder consultations throughout the implementation of Output 1.2 | 30 Sept 2023 | N/A | 0% | Activity planned to start in the last quarter of 2021Not yet implemented | S |
| **Output 1.3: Continuous quality control and assurance program for Sierra Leone’s transparency instruments designed and operationalized**  | **30 June 2022** | N/A | 0% | Implementation of the activities under this output will start in the next few months. | S |
| Activity 1.3.1: Develop and operationalize a QA/QC Plan for UNFCCC reporting including Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) based on IPCC 2006 guidelines | 31 Mar 2022 | N/A | 0% | Activity planned to start during Q3 2021. | S |
| Activity 1.3.2: Implement the recommendations from activity 1.3.1 through the development of formal agreements and ToRs  | 31 Mar 2022 | N/A | 0% | Activity planned to start in the last quarter of 2021 | S |
| **Outcome 2: Key Ministries, Agencies, Departments and other stakeholders use the NDC transparency system** |
| **Output 2.1: Data teams from the three prioritized sectors trained in collection, processing and management of data**  | **30 June 2022** | N/A | 1% | The implementation of the activities is just starting. | S |
| Activity 2.1.1: Develop capacity of data providers identified in 1.1.1 through a 'Training of trainers' approach  | 31 Mar 2022 | N/A | 0% | Activity planned to start in the last quarter of 2021 | S |
| Activity 2.1.2: Develop capacity of institutions responsible for data collection and management identified in 1.1.3 through a 'Training of trainers' approach  | 30 June *2022* | N/A | 5% | Institutions responsible for data collection and management have been identified and initial engagements conducted. The training of trainers will start shortly after the consultant starts his work. | S |
| Activity 2.1.3: Develop capacity on QA/QC of institutions identified in 1.3.1  | 30 June 2022 | N/A | 0% | Activity planned to start in the first quarter of 2022 | S |
| Activity 2.1.4: Develop the capacity of EPA and key sectors to project GHG scenarios and climate vulnerability in all prioritized sectors  | 30 June 2022 | N/A | 0% | Activity to be started shortly. The EPA staff (including the CBIT Project Manager) have been enrolled into the UNFCCC GIT CASTT training on GHG emission, scheduled to take place from August to October 2021. | S |
| **Output 2.2: Peer-to-peer learning activities in the region for key stakeholders undertaken and through participation in the CBIT Global Coordination Platform** | **30 June 2023** | N/A | 10% | Refer to details below on the progress related to this output. | MS |
| Activity 2.2.1: Actively engage actively in the West Africa South-South Network on MRV | 30 June 2021 | N/A | 30% | EPA staff attended Global Support program (jointly organized by UNEP and UNDP) webinars and the West Africa MRV-South south network meetings and workshops virtually. The project will prepare reports on these peer learning events. | MS |
| Activity 2.2.2: Populate and update Sierra Leone's country profile at the CBIT Global Coordination Platform, including annual completion of the transparency self-assessment | 30 Sept 2021 | N/A | 0% | Activity not yet started New tentative completion date: 31 December 2021 | S |
| Activity 2.2.3: Strengthen existing regional climate networks in Sierra Leone and include gender considerations | 30 Sept 2021 | N/A | 0% | Activity not yet started. New tentative completion date: 31 December 2021 | MS |
| **Output 2.3: NDC online platform for collecting and managing all NDC information, including data about climate finance, developed and hosted by EPA**  | **31 Dec 2022** | N/A | 0% | Implementation of the activities under this output have not started.  | S |
| Activity 2.3.1: Analyze potential IT solutions for setting up an NDC online platform, taking into account existing data systems and national circumstances | 30 Sept 2021 | N/A | 0% | Activity not yet started.New tentative completion date: 30 June 2022 | MS |
| Activity 2.3.2: Design and programme the NDC online platform and related data management and sharing systems | 31 Mar 2022 | N/A | 0% | Activity not yet started  | S |
| Activity 2.3.3: Populate the NDC online platform with relevant climate and NDC data, making it a one-stop shop for climate transparency matters in Sierra Leone  | 31 Mar 2022 | N/A | 0% | Activity not yet started  | S |
| Activity 2.3.4: Train stakeholders in using the online platform | 31 Dec 2022 | N/A | 0% | Activity planned to start in the second quarter of 2022 | S |
| Activity 2.3.5: Publish annual NDC implementation climate reports including annual recommendations for policymakers to implement the NDC | 31 Dec 2022 | N/A | 0% | Activity planned to start in the second quarter of 2022 | S |

* 1. 3.3. Risk Rating

**Table A.** Risk-log

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Risk** | **Risk affecting:** | **Risk Rating** | **Variation respect to last rating** |
| Outcome / outputs | **CEO ED** | **PIR 1** | **Δ** | **Justification** |
| **Risks identified at CEO Endorsement** |
| Lack of data availability | Outputs 1.2, 2.1 and 2.3 | H | / | / | This is a gap that the CBIT project is designed to address. Since no data has been collected yet as part of project activities, it is not possible to assess whether this is posing a risk to the project yet. This will be re-assessed during the next reporting period  |
| Archiving of data and inability to compile GHG emission data | Outputs 2.3 | M | / | / | This is also another gap supposed to be addressed by the CBIT project. The risk related to archiving of data and inability to compile GHG emissions data cannot be assessed yet, since data collection platform is yet to be developed. This potential risk will be assessed at a later stage of the project.  |
| Political commitment without financial resources will slow implementation | All | L | L | = | Political commitments have improved and financial resources are available. With the creation of the Ministry of Environment, the government has demonstrated its commitments to environmental protection. Also, Sierra Leone now has a Minister who sits at cabinet and makes decisions at that level. |
| Staff turnaround at the national level, including the possibility of another outbreak of the Ebola Virus Disease.  | All | M | M | = | The country has in place preparedness plan for Ebola Virus Disease or haemorrhagic diseases. However, WHO recently confirmed case of Marburg virus disease (MVD) in Guéckédou Prefecture, Nzérékoré Region, south-western Guinea, the same region where we had the first case of Ebola and share boundary on east end of Sierra Leone. There has not been much staff turnaround in the different line ministries since the beginning of the project. However, as per the civil service codes of conduct, staff rotation has been a critical challenge, which leaves vacuum in the relevant sector ministries.  |
| **Risks identified in the Environmental and Social Safeguards screening** |
| N/A – no risks identified in the E&S safeguards screening. |  |  |  |  |  |
| **New risks identified in the current PIR** |
| The restrictions related to COVID-19 pandemic are preventing traveling of international experts and limiting in-person meetings. | All |  | **M** |  | Because of the Covid-19 related restriction, the International experts that were supposed to be mobilized by UDP will not be able to travel to Sierra Leone in the next few months.Due to restrictions such as public gathering, inter-districts lockdown and ban on travels, fewer stakeholders were consulted. Implementation pace was slow because staff were working from home. Some staff of the Agency tested positive up to three times during the COVID period, subjecting other members of staff members to quarantine periods. We tried to engage the relevant stakeholders through online meetings, but that has not been very effective. |
| Lengthy national procurement processes have delayed the implementation of some of the project activities. | All |  | **M** |  | The national procurement processes take a lot of time, which has impacted the ability to hire the different consultants and experts on time. This has delayed the implementation of several project activities.  |
| **Consolidated project risk** |  | **n.a** | **M** |  | **This section focuses on the variation. The overall rating is discussed in section 2.3.** |

**Table B.** Outstanding medium & high risks

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Risk**   | **Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)** | **Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period** | **Additional mitigation measures for the next periods** |
| What | When | By whom |
| The restrictions related to COVID-19 pandemic are preventing traveling of international experts and limiting in-person meetings. | N/A | N/A | **Action 1:** Since the International experts from UDP will not be able to travel to Sierra Leone in the next few months the Project Manager will adjust the execution strategy to ensure that UDP will recruit local consultants instead, and monitor their work remotely. The ToRs for the local consultants will be finalized and advertised, with the target of recruiting them by the end of January 2022. **Action 2:** If Covid-19 restrictions in Sierra Leone restrict in-person meetings, the EPA will need to consider the use of ICT tools (and acquiring the necessary licenses) to conduct meetings / workshops / trainings virtually and to coordinate with UDP counterparts based outside of Sierra Leone. | UDP local consultants:- Advertized by: 31 October 2021 - Recruited by: 31 January 2022 As required, over the next 12 months (July 2021 to June 2022) | Project Manager and UDP EPA |
| Staff turnaround at the national level.  | N/A | N/A  | **Action 3:** To address this risk, refresher trainings will be conducted for the new staff in relevant sectors.  | July 2021 to June 2022 | EPA with the support of relevant experts |
| Lengthy national procurement processes have delayed the implementation of some of the project activities. |  N/A | N/A | **Action 4:** Once the project will have more clarity on the procurement of the key expert, consultants and contract with UDP, the Project Manager will prepare a revised workplan and budget to reflect the delays incurred and set updated completion milestones for the different Project activities and outputs. A draft of the revised workplan and Budget Will be shared with UNEP for review and clearance. **Action 5:** Once the revised workplan is cleared by UNEP, the PM will share the revised workplan to PSC member 2 weeks before the next PSC meeting for their review and non-objection.   | By end of November 20212 weeks before next PSC meeting (to be determined) | Project Manager (with the support of UDP)Project Manager |

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

1. 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). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Institutional capacity qualitative rating levels:

*1: No designated transparency institution to support and coordinate the planning and implementation of transparency activities under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement exists.*

*2: Designated transparency institution exists, but with limited staff and capacity to support and coordinate implementation of transparency activities under Article 13 of Paris Agreement. Institution lacks authority or mandate to coordinate transparency activities under Article 13.*

*3. Designated transparency institution has an organizational unit with standing staff with some capacity to coordinate and implement transparency activities under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. Institution has authority or mandate to coordinate transparency activities under Article 13. Activities are not integrated into national planning or budgeting activities.*

*4. Designated transparency institution(s) has an organizational unit with standing staff with some capacity to coordinate and implement transparency activities. Institution(s) has clear mandate or authority to coordinate activities under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement, and activities are integrated into national planning and budgeting activities* [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. MRV systems qualitative rating levels:

*1. Very little measurement is done; reporting is partial and irregular, and verification is not there*

*2. Measurement systems are in place, but data is of poor quality and/or methodologies are not very robust; reporting is done only on request or to limited audience or partially; verification is not there*

*3. Measurement systems are in place for a few activities, improved data quality and methodologies, but not cost or time efficient; wider access to reporting is still limited and information is partial; verification is rudimentary/non-standardized*

*4. Measurement systems are strong in a limited set of activities however, analyses still need improvement; periodic monitoring and reporting although not yet cost/time efficient; verification is only upon specific request and limited*

*5. Measurement systems are strong for a limited set of activities and periodically report on key GHG related indicators i.e. mainstreamed into the activity implementation; reporting is improved through few pathways but limited audience and formats; verification limited*

*6. Measurement systems are strong and cover a greater percentage of activities – feedback loops exist even if they are not fully functioning; reporting is available through multiple pathways and formats but may not be complete/transparent; verification is done through standard methodologies but only partially (i.e. not all data is verifiable)*

*7. Measurement regarding GHG is broadly done (with widely acceptable methodologies), need for more sophisticated analyses to improve policy; Reporting is periodic with improvements in transparency; verification is done through more sophisticated methods even if partially*

*8. Strong standardized measurements processes established for key indicators and mainstreamed into institutional policy implementation; reporting is widely available in multiple formats; verification is done for a larger set of information*

*9. Strong Monitoring and Reporting systems – robust methodologies, cost effective and efficient, periodic; verification done to a significant degree*

*10. Strong MRV systems that provide quality GHG related information in a transparent, accurate and accessible to a wide audience, with feedback of information from MRV flowing into policy design and implementation* [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Outputs and activities (or deliverables) as described in the project logframe (and workplan) or in any updated project revision. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. The completion dates should be as per latest workplan (latest project revision). [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. 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. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. To be provided by the UNEP Task Manager [↑](#footnote-ref-8)