

GEF - PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)

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UNEP GEF PIR Fiscal Year 2024
Reporting from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024

1 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Project Details

GEF ID: 10043	Umoja WBS: SB-010871
SMA IPMR ID: 38674	Grant ID: S1-32CBL-000001
Project Short Title: Azerbaijan CBIT	
Project Title: Capacity Building for Azerbaijan to Meet the Requirements of Enhanced Transparency Framework of the Paris Agreement	
Duration months planned:	36
Duration months age:	48
Project Type:	Medium Sized Project (MSP)
Parent Programme if child project:	
Project Scope:	National
Region:	Europe
Countries:	Azerbaijan
GEF Focal Area(s):	Climate Change Mitigation
GEF financing amount:	\$ 1,298,000.00
Co-financing amount:	\$ 350,000.00
Date of CEO Endorsement/Approval:	2020-01-29
UNEP Project Approval Date:	2020-07-07
Start of Implementation (PCA entering into force):	2020-07-13
Date of Inception Workshop, if available:	2021-06-04
Date of First Disbursement:	2020-09-10
Total disbursement as of 30 June 2024:	\$ 511,117.00
Total expenditure as of 30 June:	\$ 506,269.00

Midterm undertaken?:	n/a
Actual Mid-Term Date, if taken:	
Expected Mid-Term Date, if not taken:	
Completion Date Planned - Original PCA:	2023-07-31
Completion Date Revised - Current PCA:	2025-04-30
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date:	2025-10-31
Expected Financial Closure Date:	2026-04-30

1.2 Project Description

The Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (MENR) appointed the Azerbaijan branch of the Regional Environmental Centre for the Caucasus (RECC) as project Executing Agency.

Project Objective: To support government to strengthen Azerbaijan’s enabling environment and capacity to implement the Paris Agreement via establishment of a national Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) tracking system to record and monitor sectoral mitigation actions, climate finance tracking system and GHG database management system. This will be achieved through implementation of the following components:

Project Components:

Component 1: Strengthening Azerbaijan’s enabling environment and capacity for implementing the Paris Agreement’s transparency framework.

This component aims at enhancing institutional capacity to report and monitor progress of the implementation of the country’s Nationally Determined Contributions, by institutionalizing the arrangements for inter-ministerial cooperation for the data collection and processing for preparing GHG inventory and providing systems for GHG data management and NDC progress tracking.

Human capacities will be built through a training program targeting national experts and relevant stakeholders. Finally, regional and global cooperation and knowledge-sharing in the area of transparency will be strengthened through the CBIT Global Coordination Platform.

Component 2: Developing a strategy to secure financial resources for the implementation of the country’s Nationally Determined Contributions, including an implementation tracking system.

This component aims at enhancing institutional capacity to identify sources of funding and to track financial support through the following outputs:

- Financial strategy outlining means to identify sources of funding needed, and to track financial support received, developed.
- Capacity building and training programme on identifying sources of funding and tracking financial support processes provided.

1.3 Project Contacts

Division(s) Implementing the project	Climate Change Division
Name of co-implementing Agency	
Executing Agency (ies)	Regional Environmental Centre for the Caucasus (RECC)
names of Other Project Partners	
UNEP Portfolio Manager(s)	Asher Lessels
UNEP Task Manager(s)	Julien Lheureux
UNEP Budget/Finance Officer	Fatma Twahir
UNEP Support Assistants	Camilla Piviali
Manager/Representative	Rasim Sattarzada
Project Manager	Rasim Sattarzada
Finance Manager	Kamala Golac
Communications Lead, if relevant	Aslan Shikhaliyev

2 Overview of Project Status

2.1 UNEP PoW & UN

UNEP Current Subprogramme(s):	Thematic: Climate action subprogramme
UNEP previous Subprogramme(s):	N/A
PoW Indicator(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate: (iii) Number of national, subnational and private-sector actors reporting under the enhanced transparency arrangements of the Paris Agreement with UNEP support.
UNSDCF/UNDAF linkages	<p>Outcome 3.1 People including those left behind benefit from climate strategies and environment protection policies that ensure natural resources are sustainably managed, livelihoods are protected, and resilience strengthened.</p> <p>Output 3.1.1 Institutional capacities are enhanced to plan, track and report on climate change and to access climate finance and technologies, are strengthened.</p>
Link to relevant SDG Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
Link to relevant SDG Targets:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 and Sub Indicators

GEF core or sub indicators targeted by the project as defined at CEO Endorsement/Approval, as well as results

Indicators	Targets - Expected Value			Materialized to date
	Mid-term	End-of-project	Total Target	
11- People benefitting from GEF-financed investments		199 women 231 men	430	Total 210: 93 women and 117 men.

2.3. Implementation Status and Risks

	PIR#	Rating towards outcomes (section 3.1)	Rating towards outputs (section 3.2)	Risk rating (section 4.2)
FY 2024	3rd PIR	S	S	M
FY 2023	2nd PIR	S	MS	M
FY 2022	1st PIR	S	S	M
FY 2021				
FY 2020				
FY 2019				
FY 2018				
FY 2017				
FY 2016				
FY 2015				

Summary of status

Rating towards Outcomes: Satisfactory (S)

- Project Objective: Strengthen Institutional and Human Capacities in Azerbaijan to Meet the Reporting Requirements of the Enhanced Transparency Framework of the Paris Agreement

The project aims to strengthen institutional and human capacities in Azerbaijan to meet the reporting requirements of the enhanced transparency framework of the Paris Agreement by establishing a tracking system to support reliable domestic MRV arrangements. Currently, one ministry (MENR) has enhanced its capacities, to increase this to five by the project's end. Efforts include consultation workshops and training sessions organized by MENR, supported by the State Commission on Climate Change. These have engaged 93 women and 117 men from NGOs, academia, and the private sector. Although there are delays in establishing a designated transparency institution, the project remains on track with ongoing legislative support and technical expertise for drafting the necessary laws. The project activities create synergies with other transparency projects like BTR, BUR3, and NDC, fostering a collaborative environment.

- Outcome 1: Enhanced Institutional Capacity to Report and Monitor Progress of the Implementation of the Country's Nationally Determined Contributions

The project has made notable progress in enhancing Azerbaijan's capacity to report and monitor the implementation of its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The qualitative rating of the MRV system for tracking mitigation actions has improved from 2 to 3 on the GEF 1-10 scale, with a nationally adapted methodology and an

NDC tracking system being developed. Training sessions have better-equipped stakeholders, with 30% of participants, including 44% women, reporting improved readiness to implement the MRV system. However, the initial training sessions did not fully achieve their objectives, necessitating further training. Specific training sessions included in-person training for trainers (July 2023, 27 participants), online training for GHG inventory (November 2023, 25 participants), and workshops on NDC tracking and regional cooperation (May 2024, 125 participants). Additionally, the project is still working towards establishing a designated transparency institution to support and coordinate transparency activities under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. Despite these challenges, the project continues to progress, with the MRV system's qualitative rating improving and the legislative structure for the transparency institution being devised.

- **Outcome 2: Enhanced Institutional Capacity to Identify Sources of Funding and to Track Financial Support**

The project is enhancing Azerbaijan's capacity to identify sources of funding and track financial support. The qualitative rating of the MRV system for tracking financial support has improved from 1 to 2, with the design of the MRV system planned for completion in August 2024. Training on financial tracking and funding identification will follow the development of the climate finance system. While these activities are delayed, the project outcome and end-of-project targets remain unchanged. Efforts are ongoing to finalize the Climate Finance IT system and subsequently conduct the necessary training sessions. Despite the delays, the project team is focused on achieving the end-of-project target of raising the MRV system's rating to 6 and ensuring that 70% of training participants, disaggregated by gender, are better positioned to implement the MRV system. Training sessions for financial tracking will be scheduled following the completion of the Climate Finance IT system design, ensuring comprehensive capacity-building for financial support tracking.

Rating towards Outputs: Satisfactory (S)

The project faced implementation delays during the reporting period due to challenges related to COP29 preparations and delays in designing the Terms of Reference (TORs) for procuring IT services to develop the project platforms. However, the IT company has now been hired and is catching up with the project work plan. To mitigate these risks, measures such as a 7-month project extension, along with revisions to the work plan, budget, and procurement plan, have been undertaken. These steps are intended to ensure the timely execution of project activities and the successful achievement of planned outputs within the new project completion date of 30 April 2025.

- **Output 1.1** Institutional arrangements for inter-ministerial cooperation on systemizing data collection and processing for preparing GHG inventory are established. All deliverables for Output 1.1 were finalized and submitted to UNEP.

- **Output 1.2:** National GHG database management system for GHG data is developed

Draft templates and protocols for data collection and reporting (1.2.1), Sector specific spreadsheets and toolkits and guidelines (1.2.2), Deliverable 1.2.3 (Collection and automation of existing analogue data sources from relevant ministries (i.e. agriculture, energy, etc) and Deliverable 1.2.4. were finalized. Deliverable 1.2.4. (Adjusted and validated design of the GHG database management system + Manual & guidelines for the operation & use of the database management system (i.e. on data collection, reporting protocols and rules) was submitted to UNEP on February 14. Deliverables 1.2.1.,1.2.2.,1.2.3. were submitted to UNEP on 31 May 2024.

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- Output 1.3 National system for tracking progress of the implementation of Azerbaijan's Nationally Determined Contributions for mitigation actions established and operationalized

During the current reporting period, the Report on the assessment of current institutional arrangements and national policies (D 1.3.1) was submitted to UNEP. A report on the design options (D 1.3.2) was submitted to UNEP on 30 December 2024. Report of data harmonization standards and protocols (Deliverable 1.3.5). was submitted to UNEP on 8 May 2024. Deliverable 1.3.6. A set of guidelines for applying indicators at a decentralized level was finalized and is being discussed internally before submission. The Set of guidelines for applying indicators at the hybrid level has been updated 3 times. The decision on the best choice of the indicators needs to be made before submission to UNEP.

- Output 1.4 Training programme on enhanced transparency processes provided

Training sessions were conducted for representatives from various sectors. Reports detailing the training program and needs assessment were submitted to UNEP. Additional training sessions are planned, and training materials are being finalized. Representatives from the line ministries, governmental agencies, non-governmental organisations, academia and the private sector took part in trainings for trainers organized by the CBIT team and conducted by the International experts.

From the 11th to the 14th of July 2023, a three-day training for trainers covered essential aspects of climate change activities. The sessions included introductory training on institutional arrangements for NDC, BTR, and GHG inventory management, followed by training on historical and projected GHG inventories, including data collection, estimation, and QA/QC processes. Participants also received instructions on using templates and IPCC software for GHG inventory management. The training concluded with an introduction to MRV systems for climate change, covering action tracking, indicators, and climate finance management. Additionally, a GHG Inventory Training was held on November 6, 2023, dedicated to GHG inventory processes. A National NDC tracking workshop was organized jointly with the #Together4Transparency team from the UNFCCC Secretariat on May 6-7, 2024, to explain how to use the ETF NDC reporting tool and fill in the CTF tables. As a result of the conducted trainings, a document detailing the training programme in capacity needs assessment and workshop organized for trainers (1.4.2) and a Report on Training of Trainers activities (1.4.3) were submitted to UNEP.

Another round of workshops for trainers is scheduled for the coming months. The National Capacity Needs Assessment expert will continue organizing training sessions for government staff and transparency practitioners to enhance their skills. The agenda and materials for these training sessions have been drafted by international experts. Reports from workshops for staff from relevant ministries, such as energy, agriculture, and finance, will be submitted after the sessions. Additional training sessions are planned for the future, and the training materials for the GHG Inventory are being finalized with the help of international consultants.

- Output 1.5 Knowledge-sharing and coordination mechanism with the CBIT Global Coordination Platform established

The project team participated in various international conferences, including COP 28, SB60 - Bonn climate change conference and other ETF/BTR workshops focused on transparency, NDC tracking, and BTR (Biennial Transparency Report) preparation where side-events focused on transparency frameworks and country experiences (Del

1.5.1). Reports from these events and other regional activities (Del. 1.5.2.) were partially submitted to UNEP. Furthermore, the CBIT team took part in the online workshops organized by the CBIT-GSP initiative which has replaced the CBIT Global Coordination Platform.

- Output 2.1 Financial strategy outlining means to identify sources of funding needed, and to track financial support received, developed

The workshop dedicated to Climate Finance was organized to present and discuss the initial proposal considerations for the design options. As a result of the conducted workshop “Report of Initial Proposal Considerations for the Design Options” (D 2.1.3) and “Report of the Workshop dedicated to Climate Finance” (D 2.1.4) were submitted. The National Legal expert in collaboration with the National Climate Finance expert drafted the sample version of the climate finance legal framework. The Draft legal framework is 95% ready and is to be submitted soon. The work related to the rest of the deliverables under component 2 is going to start as soon as the decision on the design option for the IT system is made and the IT consultancy firm is procured. The deliverable 2.1.7. was finalized by the National Legal expert on January 15 and included the tracking of the climate finance flows. Deliverables 2.1.6. (Final proposal of institutional arrangements and flows of data needed for an optimal gathering of financial data) are being finalized by the joint efforts of National and International Climate Finance experts led by the National Climate Finance expert. The Deliverable 2.1.8. (One document with guidelines on the tagging system and the overall system to identify sources of funding needed and to track financial support received) was initially drafted by an International Climate Finance expert.

- Output 2.2: Capacity building and training programme on identifying sources of funding and tracking financial support processes provided.

Training on financial tracking and funding identification will follow the development of the climate finance system.

Risk Rating: Moderate (M)

The project has addressed several risks impacting its progress. Firstly, the risk due to the reduced timeline for executing project activities from 3 years to 2 years (Risk 12) was mitigated by extending the project by seven months, revising the budget and workplan, enhancing communication with government ministries, and organizing bi-weekly meetings between national and international experts to expedite deliverables. Although the execution timeline is shorter than originally planned, future actions include providing additional technical support for the climate finance component and regular expert consultations will be implemented to fast-track the remaining activities.

Regarding management structure (Risk 13), roles and responsibilities have been clearly defined, effectively mitigating the risk. For reporting challenges (Risk 14), while the quality of reports has improved, efforts continue to address submission delays to ensure compliance with donor and agency policies.

Lastly, the potential limited availability of experts due to COP29 preparations (Risk 15) is being managed by planning a detailed assessment of affected deliverables, such as trainings and consultations, and coordinating in advance to secure expert and stakeholder participation in project activities. Overall, despite the compressed project timeline, active management and strategic adjustments are in place to mitigate risks and ensure the project's successful completion.

2.4 Co Finance

Planned Co-finance:	\$ 350,000
Actual to date:	213,100
Progress	<p>Justify progress in terms of materialization of expected co-finance. State any relevant challenges:</p> <p>The committed co-finance is in-kind and amounts to 350,000 USD for the duration of the project, by the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources. Within the reporting period (From July 2023 to June 2024), and additional 100,000 USD of co-finance was materialized, making the total cumulative co-finance materialized to date 213,100, approximately 60 % of the total level committed at the CEO-Approval by the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources.</p> <p>The Ministry provided in-kind contributions in the forms of office space, administrative and technical support to the following deliverables:</p> <p>1.1.1 Institutional arrangements for inter-ministerial cooperation on systemizing data collection and processing for preparing GHG Inventory is established. (10.000)</p> <p>1.1.2 National GHG database management system for GHG data is developed. (15.000)</p> <p>1.1.3 National system for tracking progress of the implementation of Azerbaijan's National Determined Contributions for mitigation actions established and operationalized (15.000)</p> <p>1.1.4 Training programme on enhanced transparency processes provided. (15.000)</p> <p>1.1.5 Knowledge-sharing and coordination mechanism with the CBIT Global Coordination Platform established. (15.000)</p> <p>2.1.2 Capacity building and Training programme on identifying sources of funding and tracking financial support processes provided. (10.000)</p> <p>PMC Project management costs. (20.000)</p>

2.5. Stakeholder

Date of project steering committee meeting	2023-12-21
Stakeholder engagement (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)	<p>Project stakeholders were engaged in several ways:</p> <p>1. The Project Steering Committee (PSC) participated in the PSC meeting (December 2023). In the fourth PSC meeting, the members discussed the following:</p>

- the reasons for the delay in the CBIT project and the steps that need to be taken for the successful continuation of the project.
- second Workplan and budget revision, including a possible project extension.

The PSC agreed on the proposed changes and on requesting a project extension, including Workplan and Budget revision, given the delays compared to the one approved in 2023.

2. The Project Team also reached out to stakeholders from other international organizations engaged in climate-related projects through national events related to climate change to raise awareness of the CBIT project's activities and objectives. This resulted in additional synergies between CBIT and other Climate Change related national activities. The main synergy happens in synergy with BTR, NDC 3.0, and BUR3 projects. Active engagement within the BTR and BUR3 working groups took place, including the engagement within the BTR, NDC 3.0, and BUR3 working groups. The CBIT project team discussed the cooperation and possible synergies between other climate-related projects and initiatives.

3. Online and in-person workshops were conducted under the Training for Trainers activity (Deliverable 1.4.2).

3.1 Three-Day Trainings for Trainers (11th to 14th July 2023):

- Introductory training on institutional arrangements for effective climate change activities, covering NDC, BTR, and GHG inventory management.
- Training on historical and projected GHG inventory, including data collection, estimation, and QA/QC processes.
- Instruction on templates and IPCC software, focusing on GHG inventory.
- Introduction to MRV systems for climate change encompassing action tracking, indicators, and climate finance.

Representatives from non-governmental organizations, academia, and the private sector took part in all CBIT training workshops (Deliverables # 1.4.2.) and took an active role during the technical discussions.

3.2 GHG Inventory Training (November 6 2023):

- Specialized training dedicated to GHG inventory processes.
- NDC tracking workshop organized jointly with the #Together4Transparency team from the UNFCCC Secretariat (May 6-7 2024)
- How to use the ETF NDC reporting tool and how to fill in the CTF tables were explained.

3.3 On May 13-14, 2024, a regional BTR workshop dedicated to "Training Workshop on Building Confidence and Capacity in the

	<p>Preparation of Biennial Transparency Reports" took place in Baku. The event was organised by the joint efforts of the COP29 presidency, UNFCCC Secretariat and CBIT project team. (https://unfccc.int/event/training-workshop-on-building-confidence-and-capacity-in-the-preparation-of-biennial-transparency)</p> <p>The training workshop aimed to foster a conducive environment for building confidence and to encourage the timely submission of BTRs. Additionally, it sought to contribute to capacity building by familiarizing participants with relevant tools and techniques for the preparation of BTRs. Our specific objectives for the workshop include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Role of BTR in building confidence and trust;• Reaffirm that the preparation and submission of the BTRs is a learning process and that the quality will improve over the period;• Raise awareness on the key reporting provisions contained in the MPGs for the preparation of BTRs, including the specific flexibility provisions available to those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities;• Enhance, through peer exchange, the technical understanding of the MPGs (including the reporting tools) and their application to different thematic areas covered by the BTR;• Promote networking between countries that face challenges and entities that have the potential to provide support. <p>One representative from each developing country was invited to participate in the training workshop. Those directly involved in the preparation of their BTRs took part in the event. Further, the invitations were extended to representatives from developed countries and other bilateral and multilateral entities involved in supporting developing countries on the ETF.</p>
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2.6. Gender

Does the project have a gender action plan?	Yes
Gender mainstreaming (will be uploaded to GEF Portal):	<p>The Project Management Unit (PMU) implemented the Gender Action Plan through the following actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tracking progress on gender-sensitive indicators in the Project Result Framework. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fourth Steering Committee meeting (7 men; 6 women) • In-person training for trainers (11-13 July 2023 – 15 men, 12 women) • Training for trainers – GHG Inventory (Online) (6 November 2023 - 13 men, 12 women) • In-person NDC tracking workshop. (06-07 May 2024 – 20 men, 20 women) • Regional south-south cooperation workshop (13-14 May 2024 – 62 men, 43 women). <p>As a result of these meetings, it can be seen that 44% of the participants were female.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Project stakeholders were made aware of the project Gender Action Plan through the Workshops. 3. PMU has made an effort to ensure equal balance among the project beneficiaries and conduct gender analysis and surveys for all workshops and webinars: among all Workshop participants, women represent, on average, 44% of the attendants. PMU made an effort to ensure equal balance by inviting female representatives of the agencies.

2.7. ESSM

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>

	<p>If yes, describe the new risks or changes?</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Complaints and grievances related to social and/or environmental impacts</p>	<p>Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential) during the reporting period?</p> <p>No</p> <p>If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail, including the status, significance, who was involved and what actions were taken?</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Environmental and social safeguards management</p>	<p>This 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>

2.8. KM/Learning

<p>Knowledge activities and products</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. IT System Development: The Information Technology (IT) system development is progressing, with the system design available online. Training materials will be drafted after the testing phase is completed. Under Deliverable 1.3.4. "Design of the data hub website and a report on the maintenance and updating procedures of the website," the creation of the data hub website is planned. All training materials will be stored on the data hub website. 2. CBIT-GSP Initiative: The Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Azerbaijan team is actively involved with the CBIT-Global Support Programme (CBIT-GSP) initiative and has participated in various workshops and webinars focused on transparency: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 20, 2023: Regional Transparency Network Annual Meeting for Central Asia and the Caucasus. • November 21, 2023: Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) Roadmap Development Workshop for Central Asia and the Caucasus. • October 3, 2023: Mutual Learning Programme (MLP) Workshop on Mitigation Actions Reporting in the Energy Sector. • September 21, 2023: Virtual Webinar on Climate Transparency Platform Content. • August 23, 2023: Presentation of the Climate Transparency Platform. • July 5, 2023: MLP Kick-off Meeting on Mitigation Actions Reporting. • July 19, 2023: Hands-on Training on Long-range Energy Alternatives Planning (LEAP) Modeling. • July 6, 2023: Introductory Webinar on Tracking Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) Mitigation Commitments.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 18, 2024: MLP Follow-up Meeting on Mitigation Actions Reporting. • February 28, 2024: Closing Conversation with Georgia on the CBIT Project. • March 6, 2024: Webinar on Planning Countries' First Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) in the Anglophone Caribbean. • April 8, 2024: Webinar on National Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventories Reporting. • April 29, 2024: Webinar on NDC Tracking System. • April 30, 2024: Webinar on Enhancing Forest Data Transparency. • May 15-17, 2024: Regional Hands-on Training Workshop on Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) Reporting Tools. • CBIT-GSP Supported Meetings: CBIT-GSP supported the development of the enhanced BTR roadmap through three meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 9, 2024: Kick-off meeting. • February 26, 2024: Follow-up meeting. • May 6-7, 2024: Technical workshop in Baku. <p>Mutual Learning Programme (MLP) Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 30, 2024: Kick-off meeting on NDC Tracking and Reporting for Agriculture. • July 30, 2024: Main meeting in Baku to present findings on NDC tracking and mitigation actions for Agriculture. • September 2024: Follow-up virtual meeting. <p>Adaptation Reporting Workshop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 5-28, 2024: Series of webinars on adaptation reporting under the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF). <p>3. Collaboration with Ongoing Climate Change Projects: The CBIT team also collaborates with ongoing climate change projects such as the Third Biennial Update Report (BUR3), Biennial Transparency Report (BTR), and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) 3.0, contributing to data collection improvements.</p> <p>Training materials and the finalized system are still pending, so no materials have been shared on the national Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) platform yet.</p>
Main learning during the period	<p>With the help of participation in international conferences, peer-to-peer exchange of experiences and lessons learned, the gaps in data flows and new reporting requirements were identified. With the help of the CBIT-GSP initiative, the knowledge about Climate Finance, NDC tracking, and GHG Inventory was raised.</p>

2.9. Stories

Stories to be shared	Active participation in the transparency events organised by the UNFCCC Secretariat and COP29 presidency increased the transparency capacity of the team and all stakeholders. In the light of the COP29 planned in the country, the importance of Transparency has been raised and engagement with the national stakeholders has been improved. On the one hand, key CBIT experts were very busy in COP29 preparations. On the other hand, the COP29 preparations gave access to the CBIT team to bigger transparency events and platforms and as a result, facilitated the process of the BTR preparation.
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3 Performance

3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project outcomes

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
Strengthen institutional and human capacities in Azerbaijan to meet the reporting requirements of the enhanced transparency framework of the Paris Agreement by establishing a tracking system to support reliable domestic MRV arrangements.	Number of ministries with strengthened capacities (institutional and human) that provide information meeting the Paris Agreement ETF requirements to produce sectoral chapters of BURs, NCs and the updated NDC 2020	1 (MENR)	3 (=+2)	5 (=+4)	1	Project activities related to this indicator are on track, with the project objective and end-of-project target remaining unchanged. Efforts to strengthen the institutional and human capacities of relevant ministries are progressing through consultation workshops and training sessions organized by the MENR with the support of the State Commission on Climate Change. Staff of the Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, and the State Statistical Committee have received training on GHG Inventory, NDC Tracking and Finance Tracking. Additional trainings are planned during the next reporting period. The legal framework for collection and management of data for GHG Inventory, NDC Tracking and Finance Tracking was drafted. The Framework Draft will be submitted for consultation to the Ministries in September 2024 and	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
						is planned to be submitted to the Government Cabinet of Ministries for adoption in December 2024. The Project Team's outreach to stakeholders from other transparency projects has created synergies with BTR, BUR3, and NDC projects. Active engagement in BTR and BUR3 working groups is ongoing. Training for trainers activities, including online and in-person workshops, have enhanced institutional and human capacities. Representatives from NGOs, academia, and the private sector participated actively in all CBIT training workshops and technical discussions.	
1.1. Enhanced institutional capacity to report and monitor progress of the implementation of the country's Nationally Determined Contributions	Qualitative rating of the MRV system in its ability to track mitigation actions focusing on the energy sector Based on the GEF 1-10 rating scale, outlined in Annex III of the CBIT's Programming Directions	2	4 (=+2)	7 (=+5)	3 (+1)	Azerbaijan has improved the quality of the MRV of NDC implementation up to level 3 based on the GEF 1-10 rating scale, outlined in Annex III of the CBIT's Programming Directions. CBIT project has developed a nationally adapted methodology for assessing progress indicators and has established an NDC tracking system focused on progress in GHG inventory (Deliverable 1.3.5.) The NDC tracking tool is being developed. The Project Management Unit (PMU) undertook a comprehensive evaluation of Azerbaijan's national	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
						transparency framework, specifically focusing on the institutional capacity to report and monitor the progress of its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The assessment revealed that the originally designed end-of-project target was overly ambitious, given the national context and the scope of the CBIT project. Consequently, the PMU recognized that the target set during the project development phase were unrealistic, considering the country's specific circumstances. The PMU ultimately estimated that the project would achieve a final target rating of "5" by its conclusion.	
	Qualitative rating of Azerbaijan's institutional capacity for transparency-related activities Based on the GEF 1-4 rating scale outlined in Annex IV of the CBIT's Programming Directions	1	2 (=+1)	4 (=+3)	1	Project activities related to this indicator are delayed. Currently, there is no designated transparency institution to support and coordinate the planning and implementation of transparency activities under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. The training is planned to raise the capacity level of experts to report on transparency within the entities involved in the process. Under Deliverable 1.1.5. the legislative structure is being devised which will reflect the creation of the transparency institution. The project team provides	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
						its technical expertise in the creation of the draft law. The Project Management Unit (PMU) undertook a comprehensive evaluation of Azerbaijan's national transparency framework, specifically focusing on the institutional capacity for transparency-related activities. The assessment revealed that the originally designed end-of-project target was overly ambitious, given the national context and the scope of the CBIT project. Consequently, the PMU recognized that the target set during the project development phase were unrealistic, considering the country's specific circumstances. The PMU ultimately estimated that the project would achieve a final target rating of "2" by its conclusion.	
	% of training participants (Output 1.4) declaring to be in a better position to implement the MRV system to track mitigation actions (disaggregated by gender)	0%	At least 40%	At least 70%	30%, of which 44% are women.	Stakeholders are now better equipped to implement the MRV system for tracking mitigation actions following a series of trainings. Representatives from line ministries, governmental agencies, NGOs, academia, and the private sector participated in these sessions, organized by the CBIT team with international experts. The first round of trainings was conducted. However, it	MS

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
						hasn't achieved its objective, and not all stakeholders managed to understand how to track mitigation actions. A second round of training is planned with a different training methodology for the coming months to enhance the stakeholder's capacities. Tracking progress on gender-sensitive indicators in the Project Result Framework. In-person training for trainers (11-13 July 2023 – 15 men, 12 women) Training for trainers – GHG Inventory (Online) (6 November 2023 - 13 men, 12 women) In-person NDC tracking workshop. (06-07 May 2024 – 20 men, 20 women) Regional south-south cooperation workshop (13-14 May 2024 – 62 men, 43 women). As a result of these meetings, it can be seen that 44% of the participants were female.	
1.2. Enhanced institutional capacity to identify sources of funding and to track financial support	Qualitative rating of the MRV system in its ability to track financial support received Based on the GEF 1-10 rating scale outlined in Annex III of the CBIT Programming Directions	1	4 (=+3)	6 (=+5)	2(+1)	Azerbaijan has improved the quality of the MRV of tracking the financial support to level 2 based on Annex III of the CBIT's Programming Directions. The design of the MRV system, which can track financial support received, is being finalized (Deliverable 2.1.6.). The development of the design of the Climate Finance IT system is planned for August 2024. The Project Management	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
						Unit (PMU) undertook a comprehensive evaluation of Azerbaijan's national transparency framework, specifically focusing on the MRV system in its ability to track financial support received. The assessment revealed that the originally designed end-of-project target was overly ambitious, given the national context and the scope of the CBIT project. Consequently, the PMU recognized that the target set during the project development phase were unrealistic, considering the country's specific circumstances. The PMU ultimately estimated that the project would achieve a final target rating of "4" by its conclusion.	
	% of training participants (Output 2.2) declaring to be in a better position to implement the MRV system to track financial support received (disaggregated by gender)	0%	At least 40%	At least 70%	N/A	Project activities related to this indicator are delayed. However, the project outcome and end-of-project target have not changed. Training on financial tracking and funding identification will follow the development of the climate finance system.	0

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

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
1 Strengthening Azerbaijan's enabling environment and capacity for implementing the Paris Agreement's transparency framework	Output 1.1: Institutional arrangements for inter-ministerial cooperation on systemizing data collection and processing for preparing GHG inventory are established	2023-11-13	98%	100%	Completed.	S
	Deliverable 1.1.1: Report of stock taking exercise of institutional arrangement	2023-10-13	95%	100%	Completed. The institutional arrangement structure was finalised.	
	Deliverable 1.1.2. Consultation workshop report (including attendance list)	2023-06-13	100%	100%	Completed.	
	Deliverable 1.1.3. National institutional arrangement report	2023-11-13	95%	100%	Completed. The institutional arrangement structure was finalised.	
	Deliverable 1.1.4. Report which explains in detail the proposed permanent structure for GHG inventory, technical and regulatory elements needed for its implementation	2023-06-13	100%	100%	Completed.	
	Deliverable 1.1.5 Draft regulation and other legal documents which explains responsibilities of relevant ministries and stakeholders	2023-06-13	100%	100%	Completed.	
	Deliverable 1.1.6. Report of workshop regarding cooperation mechanism (1 workshop with involvement of 70 participants representing related stakeholders)	2023-06-13	100%	100%	Completed.	
	Deliverable 1.1.7 Report on gender mainstreaming in NDC implementation	2023-01-13	100%	100%	Completed.	
	Deliverable 1.1.8 Gender mainstreaming Workshop report (including attendance list)	2023-07-13	95%	100%	Completed.	
	Output 1.2: National GHG database management system for GHG data is developed	2025-04-01	15%	66%	On track.	S
Deliverable 1.2.1 Draft templates and protocols for data collection and reporting	2024-03-13	90%	100%	Completed. Draft templates were updated and submitted to UNEP on May 31. The data collection templates, developed as a part of deliverable 1.2.1, cover all		

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					sectors of GHG inventory and have been developed taking into account data requirements identified for each tier approach outlined in the 2006 IPCC Guidelines.	
	Deliverable 1.2.2 Sector specific spreadsheets and toolkits and guidelines	2024-03-13	0%	100%	Completed. The Deliverable was finalised and submitted to UNEP on May 31. As part of the current deliverable 1.2.2. Sector-specific Spreadsheets and Toolkits and Guidelines were developed. International Transparency expert conducted a comprehensive review, analysis, and annotation of the compilation files submitted by Azerbaijani experts.	
	Deliverable 1.2.3 Collection and automation of existing analogue data sources from relevant ministries (i.e., agriculture, energy, etc).	2024-06-13	0%	100%	Completed. The Deliverable was finalised and submitted to UNEP on May 31. The deliverable 1.2.3. represents five steps related to the collection, automation, and archiving of large datasets, as well as analogue and bulk data. Additionally, the report describes the advantages and disadvantages of using various platforms for data collection (e.g., spreadsheets, web-based platforms). The report was produced with joint efforts of national and international experts.	
	Deliverable 1.2.4 Adjusted and validated design of the GHG database management system + Manual & guidelines for the operation & use of the database management system (i.e., on data collection,	2024-07-13	0%	100%	Completed. The Deliverable was finalised and submitted to UNEP on February 14. This deliverable presents the	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
	reporting protocols and rules)				adjusted and validated design of the greenhouse gas (GHG) database management system. The material identified in deliverable 1.1.4 has been integrated into an operational NIMS and inter-ministerial National Database Management System (NDMS). This includes under the GHG inventory tools section the design of the GHG database management system which will be used to aggregate (from the sectoral and category-specific calculation tools), check and report the GHG inventory estimates. The report was produced with joint efforts of national and international experts.	
	Deliverable 1.2.5 Report of the first 6 months of operation of data management system	2025-02-01	0%	0%	On track. The test version of the GHG Inventory database management system is soon to be released. After the test version is released, the link to the testing version will be circulated around all stakeholders and the system will be tested by all users. No challenges are foreseen for the current deliverable.	
	Deliverable 1.2.6 Report on feedback from the users / working group units	2025-04-01	0%	0%	On track. After the test period of the GHG Inventory database management system is completed, the report on feedback from the users / working group units will be drafted. No challenges are	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					foreseen for the current deliverable.	
	Output 1.3: National system for tracking progress of the implementation of Azerbaijan's Nationally Determined Contributions for mitigation actions established and operationalized	2025-04-01	23%	66%	On track.	S
	Deliverable 1.3.1 Report on assessment of current institutional arrangement and national policies	2023-09-13	90%	100%	Completed. The existing institutional arrangements and national policy for the implementation of NDC are analyzed in this report in detail. The report consists of 4 subsequent sections that complement each other: (i) Brief summary on NDC; (ii) Institutional arrangements for implementation and tracking of NDC; (iii) SWOT analyses; (iv) Suggestions and recommendations. The report was drafted by National Climate Change expert.	
	Deliverable 1.3.2 Report on the design options	2024-01-13	0%	100%	Completed. Report on the design options (D 1.3.2) was submitted to UNEP on December 30. This report details a Climate Transparency and MRV Management System for Azerbaijan and addresses deliverable 1.3.2 "Report on the design options for NDC tracking". Furthermore, the system proposed in this document addresses GHG inventory management, NDC tracking, and climate finance tracking, thereby also addressing deliverables 1.2.1 to 1.2.4 and 2.1.3. The report was drafted with joint efforts of National and International experts.	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
	Deliverable 1.3.3 Report on workshop result (1 workshop with participation of 40 participants), including attendance list	2023-06-13	100%	100%	Completed.	
	Deliverable 1.3.4 Design of the data hub website and a report on the maintenance and updating procedures of the website	2024-07-13	0%	50%	On track. The draft data hub design option was submitted by the International Expert to IT consultancy firm for their review. IT consultancy firm will study the proposed design and will provide a final version.	
	Deliverable 1.3.5 Report of data harmonization standards and protocols	2024-07-13	0%	100%	Completed. Report of data harmonization standards and protocols (Deliverable 1.3.5). was submitted to UNEP on May 8. This report sets the standards and protocols for data held in the proposed MRV system by defining the structure for data input into each part of the Climate Transparency and MRV Management System and the proposed tables can be used as templates for data collection if required. The report was drafted with joint efforts of national and international experts.	
	Deliverable 1.3.6 Set of guidelines for applying indicators at decentralized level	2024-07-13	0%	80%	On track. Set of guidelines for applying indicators at hybrid level was finalized and is being discussed internally before submission. The Set of guidelines for applying indicators at hybrid level has been updated 3 times. The decision on the best choice of the indicators need to be made among experts before submission to UNEP. No challenges are	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					foreseen for the current deliverable.	
	Deliverable 1.3.7 Report of a pilot on-site of operation of the monitoring equipment	2025-04-01	0%	20%	On track. The team is exploring what type of monitoring equipment was considered during the project development stage. The type of monitoring equipment is being internally discussed.	
	Deliverable 1.3.8 Report on the first 6 months of data hub operation (feedback / recommendations from users / working group unit)	2025-04-01	0%	0%	On track. The data hub hasn't been developed yet. It will be developed after the finalisation of 3 other systems. After the test version of the data hub is released, the link to the testing version will be circulated around all stakeholders and the system will be tested by all users. After the test period of the data hub is completed, the report on recommendations from the users / working group units will be drafted. No challenges are foreseen for the current deliverable.	
	Output 1.4: Training programme on enhanced transparency processes provided	2025-03-31	11%	31%	On track.	S
	Deliverable 1.4.1 Report of Capacity needs assessment in terms of training activities useful for the country stakeholders	2023-07-13	100%	100%	Completed.	
	Deliverable 1.4.2 Document detailing the training programme in capacity needs assessment and workshop organized for trainers	2023-11-13	30%	90%	Delayed. Document detailing the training programme in capacity needs assessment for the first round of trainings has been finalised and submitted to UNEP. Another round of workshops organized for	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					trainers is planned to be conducted in the coming months. The first report was submitted to UNEP on 28.11.2023. The second report will submitted after a new round of training is conducted. The first round of trainings was not efficient. For this reason, the second round of training is planned.	
	Deliverable 1.4.3 Report on Training of Trainers activities (including training attendance list)	2023-11-13	0%	80%	Delayed. The first report on Training of Trainers activities was submitted to UNEP on 28.11.2023. The second will be submitted after a new round of training is conducted. The object of deliverable 1.4.3 is to design and deliver a training programme and workshop that would train knowledgeable members of ministries of Azerbaijan in Transparency to be able to train their colleagues. To fulfil deliverable 1.4.3 a three-day workshop was held between the 11th and 14th of July 2023. Across the three days, participants engaged well with the training provided and steered the focus of discussions to topics that are presently critical for Azerbaijan, such as identifying key dataset needs and which organizations will provide the data to track progress with climate actions and compiling the GHG inventory.	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
	Deliverable 1.4.4 Training programme agenda and materials and reports of workshop held for staffs from relevant ministries including energy, agriculture and finance	2024-07-13	0%	50%	On track. The training program agenda and materials have been drafted by international experts. The reports of the workshop held for staff from relevant ministries, including energy, agriculture, and finance, will be submitted after the training sessions are conducted. The training sessions are indicatively planned for August-September.	
	Deliverable 1.4.5 Report on Training of staffs from relevant ministries activities (including training attendance list)	2024-07-13	0%	0%	On track. Report on Training of staffs will be issued after the training activities are conducted.	
	Deliverable 1.4.6 Training materials ready to be reproduced in hard and digital presentations, ready to be made available to users through web online platforms hosted by Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resource	2025-04-01	0%	0%	On track. Awaiting the training to be conducted and the system to be developed. No challenges are foreseen.	
	Deliverable 1.4.7 Report of key feedback from stakeholders on the Capacity needs assessment exercise and outlook	2025-04-01	0%	30%	On track. After the first round of the trainings the questionnaires were circulated among the participants of the training sessions. Currently the team awaits all capacity building activities to complete before finalising the report with feedback from stakeholders. No challenges are foreseen.	
	Deliverable 1.4.8 Database management system Training materials	2025-04-01	0%	0%	It's on track. After the testing period of the Database management system is completed, the IT consultancy firm will develop the training materials. No	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					challenges are foreseen.	
	Deliverable 1.4.9 Document detailing the database management system training programme for stakeholders	2025-04-01	0%	0%	On track. Training activities on using the database management system are planned to be organized after the IT consultancy firm develops the MRV system. No challenges are foreseen.	
	Deliverable 1.4.10 Report of database management system training activities implemented (including training attendance list	2025-04-01	0%	0%	On track. Training activities on the use of the GHG Inventory Database management system are planned to be organised after the MRV system is developed by the IT consultancy firm. No challenges are foreseen.	
	Deliverable 1.4.11 Training materials on the use of the online tracking system ready to be reproduced (hard & digital) and available to users on web platforms	2025-04-01	0%	0%	On track. After the testing period of the online tracking system is completed the Training materials will be developed by the IT consultancy firm and will be reproduced and uploaded to the online data hub with access given to the registered users. No challenges are foreseen.	
	Deliverable 1.4.12 Report of the online tracking system training activities (including training attendance list)	2025-04-01	0%	0%	On track. Training activities on the use of the online tracking system is planned to be organised after the MRV system is developed by the IT consultancy firm. No challenges are foreseen.	
	Output 1.5: Knowledge-sharing and coordination mechanism with the CBIT Global Coordination Platform established	2024-05-31	33%	66%	On track.The PMU consistently seeks opportunities to share project knowledge with the CBIT Global Coordination Platform as they arise.	S

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
	Deliverable 1.5.1 International conferences and workshops reports (including attendance lists)	2024-01-13	33%	66%	<p>Delayed. Under Deliverable 1.5.1, the team participated in COP 28 and organized two side events with UNEP CCC on CBIT and ETF, focusing on lessons learned and country efforts in transitioning towards ETF. These events aimed to share experiences from Eurasia, Central Asia, and the Caucasus, and to explore collaboration opportunities. Key Activities: International Conferences and Workshops Reports: Participation in COP 28 with UNEP CCC, organizing side events focused on CBIT and ETF, including: Lessons Learned from Reporting on Article 13 in Eurasia, Central Asia, and the Caucasus Country Efforts in Transitioning towards ETF Workshops and Training Sessions: GHG Inventory workshop in Tbilisi (April 23-25, 2024) Global BTR Dialogue in Brussels (April 29 - May 3, 2024) Global Transparency Forum in Tokyo (May 20-21, 2024) Bonn Climate Change Conference - SB60 (June 2-14, 2024), participating in transparency-related negotiations and events. Outcomes: Strengthened capacities of relevant ministries and stakeholders. Increased synergies</p>	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					between CBIT and other national climate transparency activities. Enhanced collaboration and knowledge sharing among transparency practitioners.	
	Deliverable 1.5.2 Report of participation in regional activities (including attendance list)	2024-05-13	33%	66%	On track. Under Deliverable 1.5.2 "Report of participation in regional activities" the project team took part in the workshop dedicated to "Deep-dive into Tracking NDC Mitigation Commitments under the Paris Agreement". The workshop held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, from July 25 to July 27, 2023, was a part of a comprehensive project aimed at supporting countries in the Eurasian and Central Asian regions in their efforts to track and report on NDC (Nationally Determined Contributions) mitigation commitments under the Paris Agreement. In May 13-14 2024, a regional BTR workshop dedicated to "Training Workshop on Building confidence and capacity in the preparation of Biennial Transparency Reports" took place in Baku.	
	Deliverable 1.5.3 Report of results from experience sharing of early ideas and solving of questions among a group of peers through the CBIT Global Coordination Platform. Additionally, reports of participation in exchange activities under the CBIT Global Coordination Platform	2024-05-13	33%	66%	On track. Under Deliverable 1.5.3, the project team actively participated in UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre workshops focused on Transparency as part of the CBIT-GSP initiative. They prepared a report on sharing experiences and	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					<p>solving questions through the CBIT Global Coordination Platform and presented participation reports in exchange activities under the CBIT Global Coordination and GSP platforms.CBIT-GSP Workshops Participation:December 20, 2023: Annual Meeting of the Regional Transparency Network for Central Asia and the Caucasus.November 21, 2023: Developing the BTR roadmap for Central Asia and the Caucasus.October 3, 2023: Mutual Learning Program for Enhanced Transparency (Azerbaijan – Japan – Uzbekistan).September 21, 2023: Virtual Webinar on Editing and Updating Content in the Climate Transparency Platform.August 23, 2023: Presentation of the Climate Transparency Platform for Central Asia and the Caucasus.July 5, 2023: Kick-off Meeting for MLP on Mitigation Actions Reporting under Art. 13 (Azerbaijan – Uzbekistan – Japan).July 19, 2023: Hands-on training on LEAP Modeling in Azerbaijan.July 6, 2023: Introductory webinar on tracking NDC mitigation commitments for Eurasia, Central Asia, and the Caucasus.January 18, 2024: Follow-up meeting for MLP on Reporting of mitigation actions in the</p>	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					<p>energy sector (Azerbaijan – Georgia – Japan – Moldova – Uzbekistan).Other Participation:February 28, 2024: Webinar on reflections on Georgia's CBIT Project.March 6, 2024: Webinar on the planning and development of the first BTR in the Anglophone Caribbean Transparency Network.April 8, 2024: Webinar on national GHG inventories under the ETF of the Paris Agreement.April 29, 2024: Webinar on Georgia's NDC Tracking System.April 30, 2024: Webinar on enhancing forest data transparency for climate action.May 15-17, 2024: Regional hands-on training workshop on ETF Reporting Tools for Central Asia.Additional Support:February 9, 2024: Kick-off meeting for BTR roadmap development.February 26, 2024: Follow-up meeting on BTR roadmap.May 6-7, 2024: Technical Workshop on ETF of the Paris Agreement in Baku, Azerbaijan.MLP Phase 2 on Agriculture:May 30, 2024: Kick-off virtual meeting.July 30, 2024: Main meeting in Baku, Azerbaijan.September 2024: Follow-up virtual meeting.Adaptation Reporting</p>	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					Webinars: June 5-28, 2024: Series of webinars on adaptation reporting under the ETF for Central Asia and the Caucasus.	
2 Developing a strategy to secure financial resources for the implementation of the country's Nationally Determined Contributions, including an implementation tracking system	Output 2.1. Financial strategy outlining means to identify sources of funding needed, and to track financial support received, developed	2025-03-31	28%	50%	On track.	S
	Deliverable 2.1.1 Report of gap analysis for the operation of the existing Climate Finance system	2023-06-13	100%	100%	Completed. The report was completed on 14.06.23. In order to prepare the Deliverable a gap analysis for the operation of the existing Climate Finance system and a stocktaking of present institutional arrangements for MRV of climate finance and mapping relevant stakeholders was conducted. Interviews with donor parties/agencies were arranged to assess the current situation and challenges. These interviews aimed to understand what type of information they have and how it can be of use for the reporting/quality control.	
	Deliverable 2.1.2 Report of MRV of climate finance stocktaking exercise and stakeholder mapping	2023-06-13	100%	100%	Completed. The report was completed on 14.06.23. The first step taken by the Climate finance expert was to conduct a stocktaking of present institutional arrangements for MRV of climate finance and mapping relevant stakeholders. Interviews with donor parties/agencies were conducted to assess the current situation and challenges. These	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					interviews aimed to understand what type of information they have and how it can be of use for reporting/quality control. Interview results and some additional research provided inputs about the existing gaps and barrier on tracking climate finance data.	
	Deliverable 2.1.3 Report of initial proposal considerations for the design options	2023-11-13	90%	100%	Completed. The report was completed on 17.11.23. The national Climate Finance expert described the importance of gathering and tracking financial data on climate change, highlighting its role in risk assessment, investment decision-making, regulatory compliance, corporate transparency, policy evaluation, market stability, collaboration, and innovation. The report also presents key considerations for designing an effective institutional arrangement, including the establishment of a dedicated authority, collaborative governance structures, and international cooperation.	
	Deliverable 2.1.4 Report of the workshop to validate the initial proposal (including attendance list)	2023-10-13	10%	100%	Completed. The report was completed on 25.10.23. The workshop on institutional arrangements and data flows for the optimal gathering of financial data on climate change in Azerbaijan was organized in recognition of the critical role that financial data plays in	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					addressing climate change challenges and promoting sustainable development. Azerbaijan, like many other countries, is grappling with the need to align its financial systems with climate goals and transition towards a low-carbon economy. To achieve this, accurate, reliable, and comprehensive financial data related to climate change is essential.	
	Deliverable 2.1.5 Report of results of the pilot Testing	2024-07-31	0%	0%	On track. Testing of the Climate Finance tagging system is planned after the system is developed. After the test version is released, the link to the testing version will be circulated to all stakeholders and the system will be tested by all users. No challenges are foreseen for the current deliverable.	
	Deliverable 2.1.6 Final proposal of institutional arrangements and flows of data needed for an optimal gathering of financial data	2024-07-13	0%	80%	Delayed. Final proposal of institutional arrangements and flows of data needed for an optimal gathering of financial data is being finalised. In addition the optimal flows of data needed for an optimal gathering of financial data is being discussed with PATPA. Challenge: Prolonged discussion on the final proposal of institutional arrangements and flows of data needed for an optimal gathering of data.	
	Deliverable 2.1.7 Draft legal framework	2023-12-13	0%	100%	Completed. The table samples for the climate finance flows were developed and	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					added to the Deliverable.	
	Deliverable 2.1.8 One document with guidelines on tagging system and the overall system to identify sources of funding needed and to track financial support received	2025-03-31	0%	20%	On track. The current deliverable is linked with Deliverable 2.1.6. Awaiting the Deliverable 2.1.6. to be finalised. The initial draft "document with guidelines on the tagging system and the overall system to identify sources of funding needed and to track financial support received" was prepared by the International Climate Finance expert. It will be updated when the final design option for climate finance is agreed.	
	Deliverable 2.1.9 Workshop reports (including attendance list) and stakeholder feedbacks	2025-03-31	0%	0%	Not started. On track. Deliverables 2.1.6. and 2.1.8 need to be finalised before conducting workshops to receive feedback from the stakeholders and validate the final proposal.	
	Deliverable 2.1.10 Report of a Pilot on-site of operation of the improved MRV of climate finance system	2025-03-31	0%	0%	On track. Testing of the Climate Finance tagging system is planned after the system is developed. After the test version is released, the link to the testing version will be circulated to all stakeholders and the system will be tested by all users. After receiving the feedback from the stakeholders, the recommendations will be applied, after which the report on the Pilot on-site operation of the improved MRV of the climate finance system will be released. No challenges are foreseen for the	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					current deliverable.	
	Output 2.2. Capacity building and training programme on identifying sources of funding and tracking financial support processes provided	2025-03-31	0%	0%	This output will follow from the climate finance workshop, which will be arranged as promptly as possible, following the full development of the system.	S
	Deliverable 2.2.1 Document detailing the training programme and material for training of the Trainers including a training Manual	2025-03-31	0%	0%	No started. On track.	
	Deliverable 2.2.2 Document detailing training programme and material for national stakeholders	2025-03-31	0%	0%	No started. On track.	
	Deliverable 2.2.3 Reports of the three (3) training sessions to the stakeholders (with a minimum of 10 participants each) on using the methodologies for identifying and reporting climate finance, and understanding the process and procedures of reporting (including training reports and attendance lists)	2025-03-31	0%	0%	No started. On track.	
	Deliverable 2.2.4 Assessment report with summary of results of the training activities	2025-04-01	0%	0%	No started. On track.	

The Task Manager will decide on the relevant level of disaggregation (i.e. either at the output or activity level).

4 Risks

4.1 Table A. Project management Risk

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

Risk Factor	EA Rating	TM Rating
1 Management structure - Roles and responsibilities	Low	Low
2 Governance structure - Oversight	Low	Low
3 Implementation schedule	Moderate	Moderate
4 Budget	Low	Low
5 Financial Management	Low	Low
6 Reporting	Low	Low
7 Capacity to deliver	Low	Low

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

Implementation Status (Current PIR)

Insert ALL the risks identified either at CEO endorsement (inc. safeguards screening), previous/current PIRs, and MTRs. Use the last line to propose a suggested consolidated rating.

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
1. Poor institutional coordination	Outcome 1 / Outputs 1.1-1.3	M	L	L	L			L	=	
2. Some sectoral institutions do not show interest to participate in project interventions	Outcome 1 / Outputs 1.1-1.3	M	L	M	L			L	↓	In anticipation of COP29. all institutions have shown a heightened interest in participating in climate-

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
										related initiatives.
3. Staff turnaround at the national level. which results in lost institutional memory and the need to constantly build capacities.	Outcomes 1-2 / Output 1.4 and 2.2	M	L	L	L			L	=	
4. Lack of political buy-in and therefore lack of willingness to allocate budget to transparency related activities.	Outcomes 1-2 / Outputs 1.1-1.3 and 2.1	H	L	L	L			L	=	
5. Lack of political buy-in on the importance of transparency and long-term planning tools	Outcomes 1-2 / Outputs 1.1-1.3 and 2.1	M	L	L	L			L	=	
6. Lack of passage of regulations drafted under the project	All outcomes & outputs	M	M	L	L			L	=	
7. Lack of skill and capacities within key sectoral institutions	Outcomes 1-2 / Output 1.4 and 2.2	M	M	M	L			L	↓	The design of the IT Firm's Terms of Reference (TOR) took longer than anticipated due to the MRV System being the first of its kind in the country. resulting in design challenges. However. the IT consultancy firm has now been hired and is rapidly catching up with plans to complete the MRV system before COP29.
8. Data confidentiality. This could mean that useful data are not available to the project team.	Outputs 1.1-1.3 and 2.1	M	L	L	L			L	=	
9. Limited access to necessary data and/or information.	Outcomes 1-2 / Outputs 1.1-1.3 and 2.1	M	L	L	L			L	=	
10. Inability for the government to secure funding for ETF related activities beyond the	All outcomes & outputs	M	L	L	L			L	=	

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
end of the project.										
11. COVID -19 pandemic restrictions to in-person events.COVID-19 pandemic restrictions might affect access to the office to project team.COVID-19 pandemic restrictions to movement might delay procurement of international expertise and jeopardize their work.	All outcomes & outputs	N/A	L	L	L			L	=	
12. Contraction of project Workplan due to project activities start delay might hinder the timely and successful completion of all activities. (Implementation schedule)	All outcomes & outputs	N/A	M	H	M			M	↓	The project was extended by seven months. with corresponding revisions to the budget and workplan to address delays. However. the overall timeline remains shorter than initially planned.
13. Management structure – Roles and responsibilities: The unclear definition of management roles might hinder the effective project monitoring and provision of strategic guidance by the IA and jeopardize the achievement of the project objective	All outcomes & outputs	N/A	N/A	M	L	N/A		L	↓	Roles and responsibilities were clearly identified.
14. Reporting: limited reports quality and delay in report submissions might lead to lack of compliance with the IA and donors policy for financial and project management and jeopardize the achievement of the project objective.	All outcomes & outputs	N/A	N/A	M	L	N/A		L	↓	The quality of reports has improved. Some delays persist in the submission of the reports as per planned deadlines.
Risks identified in PIR 2024		N/A	N/A							
Risk 15. The focus of transparency experts and stakeholders on COP29 preparations	All outcomes & outputs	N/A	N/A	N/A	M			M		The involvement of technical experts and stakeholders in the project who

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
may limit their engagement in the project over the next semester. potentially delaying project activities.										are also engaged in COP29 preparations may reduce their availability to participate in project activities such as trainings. This could potentially lead to delays in the implementation of these activities.
		N/A	M	M	M			M	=	

4.3 Table C. Outstanding Moderate, Significant, and High risks

Additional mitigation measures for the next periods

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
Risks identified in 2023 PIR					
12. Contraction of project Workplan due to project activities start delay might hinder the timely and successful completion of all activities. (Implementation schedule)	1) Workplan and Budget revision to reschedule activities in alignment with current delays to ensure timely and effective completion within the planned timeline.	1) The project was extended. The workplan. budget and procurement plan revision were undertaken to ensure the timely execution of the Project activities and achieve the planned outputs and outcomes effectively and successfully	1) Additional ad-hoc technical support for the climate finance component was secured by the PMU. Climate finance experts will receive ad-hoc technical guidance from PATPA on identified issues - which is expected to fast-track progress on Component 2.	1) July to September 2024	1) Project Coordinator

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
		within the new planned project completion date (30 April 2025).	RECC will report to UNEP on the additional ad hoc technical support in the July-December 2024 HYPR.		
	<p>2) Regular dialogues and communication with relevant government ministries through:</p> <p>a. The Climate Change commission and its working groups. as the PC and CTA are member of its Secretary. b. The Project Steering Committee which will help ensuring high relevance of the draft regulations in accordance with country's unique needs and subsequent buy-in by the government to secure the regulations are adopted and implemented.c. The Lead Ministry (Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (MENR)), which will ensure inter-ministerial communication and coordination.</p>	<p>2) Regular dialogues and communication with relevant government ministries through:</p> <p>a. The Project Steering Committee which helped ensuring high relevance of the draft regulations in accordance with country's unique needs and subsequent buy-in by the government to secure the regulations are to be adopted and implemented.b. The Lead Ministry (Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (MENR)) ensured inter-ministerial communication and coordination.</p>	<p>2) The National Climate Finance expert will hold regular meetings with the relevant Climate Finance expert from PATPA to expedite the finalization of deliverables. During these sessions. any pending matters and unresolved issues will be addressed and appropriate solutions will be identified - with stakeholder consultations planned as necessary.</p>	<p>2) Every week from July 2024 to April 2025.</p>	<p>2) Project Coordinator and Climate Finance expert</p>

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
	<p>3) More structured supervision of national experts' work. Meeting with the National team will be organized on a bi-weekly basis. The experts will be able to communicate their challenges to seek support of the Ministry in inter-ministerial cooperation for data collection or to identify the needed support from the international expert. which will expedite the deliverable completion and will decrease the project delay.</p>	<p>3) More structured workflow between national and international experts took place. Meetings between National and International Experts were organized on a bi-weekly basis. The regular meetings between national and international expert groups gave national experts a chance to identify the gaps which can be covered by the international expert. Successful cooperation between expert groups expedited the completion of the deliverables and decreased the project delay.</p>	N/A		
	<p>4) More structured workflow between national and international experts. Meetings between National and International Experts will be organized on a bi-weekly basis. The regular meetings between national</p>	<p>4) More structured supervision of national experts' work. Meeting with the National team were organized on a bi-weekly basis. The experts were able to communicate their challenges to seek support</p>	N/A		

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
	and international expert groups will give national experts a chance to identify the gaps which can be covered by the international expert. Successful cooperation between expert groups will expedite the completion of the deliverables and will decrease the project delay.	of the Ministry in inter-ministerial cooperation for data collection or to identify the needed support from the international expert. which expedited the deliverable completion and decreased the project delay.			
Risks identified in 2024 PIR					
Risk 15. The focus of transparency experts and stakeholders on COP29 preparations may limit their engagement in the project over the next semester. potentially delaying project activities.	N/A	N/A	1) A detailed assessment of outputs and deliverables that could potentially be affected by COP29 will be prepared by RECC and submitted to UNEP. along with a risk mitigation plan.	1) By 31 August 2024	1) Project Coordinator
	N/A	N/A	2) The availability of project experts and stakeholders between now and December 2024 will be analyzed by RECC. to ensure their participation in remaining project activities (such as the trainings). If	2) By 15 September 2024	2) CTA and Project Coordinator

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
			stakeholder availability affects the way activities / deliverables are scheduled according to workplan rev 2 RECC will notify UNEP in writing by email.		

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 Amendment - GeoSpatial

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. Please tick each category for which a change occurred in the fiscal year of reporting and provide a description of the change that occurred in the textbox. You may attach supporting document as appropriate

5.1 Table A: Listing of all Minor Amendment (TM)

Minor Amendments	Changes
Results Framework:	No
Components and Cost:	Yes
Institutional and implementation arrangements:	No
Financial Management:	No
Implementation Schedule:	
Executing Entity:	No
Executing Entity Category:	No
Minor project objective change:	No
Safeguards:	No
Risk analysis:	No
Increase of GEF financing up to 5%:	No
Location of project activity:	No
Other:	No

Minor amendments

To accommodate for delays in the implementation of the project due to lengthy procurement processes and to future impact anticipated concerning snap presidential elections (February 2024) and COP 29 taking place in the country (November 2024), the project has undergone a revision (rev 2) to extend the technical completion date to 30 April 2024. This revision was approved by UNEP in February 2024.

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

Version	Type	Signed/Approved by UNEP	Entry Into Force (last signature Date)	Agreement Expiry Date	Main changes introduced in this revision
Original legal instrument		2020-07-07	2020-07-13	2024-07-31	Original project cooperation agreement.
Revision 1	Extension	2022-08-12	2022-08-22	2025-07-31	The project timeline was revised and extended by 12 months. as the challenges described in section 2.3 of PIR 2022 led to a consistent delay in the activities' implementation start. The project budget was also revised to accommodate the changes in the Executing Agency (RECC)'s international organization and in the national availability of technical experts.
Revision 2	Extension	2024-02-27	2024-03-04	2026-04-30	The project timeline was revised and extended by 7 months. as the challenges described in section 2.3 of PIR 2023 led to a delay in the activities'

Version	Type	Signed/Approved by UNEP	Entry Into Force (last signature Date)	Agreement Expiry Date	Main changes introduced in this revision
					implementation. The revised technical completion date is now 30 April 2025.

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	Latitude	Longitude	GEO Name ID	Location Description	Activity Description
Baku. Azerbaijan	40.37767	49.89201	587084		

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

N/A

[Annex any linked geospatial file]