

# GEF - PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)

2025-09-04 11:46:27

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UNEP GEF PIR Fiscal Year 2025  
Reporting from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

## 1 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

### 1.1 Project Details

|                                                                                                                                                           |                          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| GEF ID: 10618                                                                                                                                             | Umoja WBS:SB-020352      |
| SMA IPMR ID:120872                                                                                                                                        | Grant ID:S1-32GFL-000785 |
| <b>Project Short Title:</b><br>GEF-CW.10618.GOLD+ Uganda                                                                                                  |                          |
| <b>Project Title:</b><br>Global Opportunities for Long-term Development of Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) Sector (GEF planetGOLD) in Uganda |                          |
| <b>Duration months planned:</b>                                                                                                                           | 60                       |
| <b>Duration months age:</b>                                                                                                                               | 38                       |
| <b>Project Type:</b>                                                                                                                                      | Full Sized Project (FSP) |
| <b>Parent Programme if child project:</b>                                                                                                                 | 10569                    |
| <b>Project Scope:</b>                                                                                                                                     | National                 |
| <b>Region:</b>                                                                                                                                            | Africa                   |
| <b>Countries:</b>                                                                                                                                         | Uganda                   |
| <b>GEF Focal Area(s):</b>                                                                                                                                 | Chemicals and Waste      |
| <b>GEF financing amount:</b>                                                                                                                              | \$ 5,500,000.00          |
| <b>Co-financing amount:</b>                                                                                                                               | \$ 13,016,000.00         |
| <b>Date of CEO Endorsement/Approval:</b>                                                                                                                  | 2022-04-18               |
| <b>UNEP Project Approval Date:</b>                                                                                                                        | 2022-05-10               |
| <b>Start of Implementation (PCA entering into force):</b>                                                                                                 | 2022-07-29               |
| <b>Date of Inception Workshop, if available:</b>                                                                                                          | 2023-01-16               |
| <b>Date of First Disbursement:</b>                                                                                                                        | 2022-09-02               |
| <b>Total disbursement as of 30 June 2025:</b>                                                                                                             | \$ 2,082,423.00          |
| <b>Total expenditure as of 30 June:</b>                                                                                                                   | \$ 1,917,827.00          |

|                                                |            |
|------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Midterm undertaken?:</b>                    | No         |
| <b>Actual Mid-Term Date, if taken:</b>         |            |
| <b>Expected Mid-Term Date, if not taken:</b>   | 2025-11-15 |
| <b>Completion Date Planned - Original PCA:</b> | 2027-06-30 |
| <b>Completion Date Revised - Current PCA:</b>  | 2027-06-30 |
| <b>Expected Terminal Evaluation Date:</b>      | 2028-06-30 |
| <b>Expected Financial Closure Date:</b>        | 2027-12-31 |

## 1.2 Project Description

The child project is part of the planetGOLD programme. The objective of the programme is to reduce the use of mercury in the ASGM sector in the participating countries through a holistic, multisectoral integrated formalization approach, and increase access to finance leading to adoption of sustainable mercury-free technologies and access to traceable gold supply chains. The Child project's theory of change and objectives are thus aligned with the overall programme and focus on 4 key pathways (components) to achieve the programmatic outcome. These include:

- (i) Strengthening governmental and national stakeholder capacity to formalize the ASGM sector through legislative, regulatory, and policy frameworks. This involves piloting jurisdictional and multistakeholder approaches at selected ASGM mine sites.
- (ii) Providing Ugandan miners with access to financial products to facilitate investment in mercury-free technologies.
- (iii) Encouraging the adoption of mercury-free processing technologies among artisanal miners in Uganda.
- (iv) Disseminating information and knowledge through developed tools and knowledge products to enhance the management of Uganda's ASGM sector.

## 1.3 Project Contacts

|                                             |                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Division(s) Implementing the project</b> | Industry and Economy Division                   |
| <b>Name of co-implementing Agency</b>       | N/A                                             |
| <b>Executing Agency (ies)</b>               | IMPACT Transforming Natural Resource Management |
| <b>names of Other Project Partners</b>      |                                                 |

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|                                         |                          |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>UNEP Portfolio Manager(s)</b>        | Kevin Helps              |
| <b>UNEP Task Manager(s)</b>             | Altanbagana Bayarsaikhan |
| <b>UNEP Budget/Finance Officer</b>      | Edward Aput              |
| <b>UNEP Support Assistants</b>          | Iñaki Rodríguez          |
| <b>Manager/Representative</b>           | Lynn Gitu                |
| <b>Project Manager</b>                  | Carmen Teichgraber       |
| <b>Finance Manager</b>                  | Souleman Kone            |
| <b>Communications Lead, if relevant</b> | Zuzia Danielski          |

## 2 Overview of Project Status

### 2.1 UNEP PoW & UN

|                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| UNEP Current Subprogramme(s):  | Thematic: Chemicals and pollution action subprogramme                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| UNEP previous Subprogramme(s): | N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| PoW Indicator(s):              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pollution: (i) Number of Governments that, with UNEP support, are developing or implementing policies, strategies, legislation or action plans that promote sound chemicals and waste management and/or the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements and the existing framework on chemicals and waste</li> <li>• Pollution: (iii) Number of policy, regulatory, financial and technical measures developed with UNEP support to reduce pollution in air, water, soil and the ocean</li> <li>• Pollution: (iv) Reduction in releases of pollutants to the environment achieved with UNEP support</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| UNSDCF/UNDAF linkages          | <p><b><u>UNDAF linkages:</u></b></p> <p>The project will support the Government of Uganda to achieve the priorities outlined in Uganda's DAF (2016-2020) by supporting the collection of important baseline, midterm and final data and information that can inform strategic and programmatic development by the Government of Uganda and other stakeholders (e.g. local government, community actors, private sector, etc.) to tackle mercury usage in the ASGM sector. This will include important socioeconomic data pertaining to women and men living and working in ASGM communities. In particular, the project will reinforce the following areas of strategic intent outlined in Uganda's DAF: 1) Governance/Institutional Development: Particularly with respect to building the capacity of government in Uganda to support and regulate the ASGM sector, including in efforts to reduce mercury usage. 2) Human Capital/Health: Particularly, supporting Uganda's working in the ASGM sector to enjoy healthier lives by reducing the use of mercury. 3) Sustainable &amp; Inclusive Economic development/Natural Resource Management and Climate Change Resilience: Particularly, ensuring natural resource management is gender responsive, effective and efficient, reducing emissions, negating the impact of climate-induced disasters and environmental degradation on livelihoods and production systems, and strengthening community resilience.</p> <p><b><u>UNSDCF (2021-2025) linkages:</u></b></p> <p>OUTCOME 2.1: By 2025, people especially the marginalized and vulnerable, benefit from increased productivity, decent employment and equal rights to resources</p> <p>2.1.2c. Percentage of eligible population with access to formal financial services disaggregated by sex, age, disability and location (rural/urban)</p> <p>OUTCOME 2.2: By 2025, Uganda's natural resources and environment are sustainably managed and protected, and people, especially the</p> |

|                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                      | vulnerable and marginalized, have the capacity to mitigate and adapt to climate change and disaster risks<br>2.2.1.a. No. of Ha of Natural resources that are managed sustainably                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Link to relevant SDG Goals</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls</li> <li>• Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation</li> <li>• Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Link to relevant SDG Targets:</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5.c Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels</li> <li>• 9.3 Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets</li> <li>• 9.4 By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities</li> <li>• 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment</li> </ul> |

## 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

|                                                                           | Targets - Expected Value |                |              |                      |                                                                                                                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Indicators                                                                | Mid-term                 | End-of-project | Total Target | Materialized to date | Remarks                                                                                                                   |
| 4.1- Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity |                          | 4976           | 4976         | 4.2                  | This represents an area in Tiira, Busia where open cast mining had left huge open pits which filled with water and were a |

| Indicators                                                                                                    | Targets - Expected Value |                |              |                      | Remarks                                                                                                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                               | Mid-term                 | End-of-project | Total Target | Materialized to date |                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                                                                                               |                          |                |              |                      | hazard to people and animals. These were drained and the land refilled and levelled.                                                                                           |
| 9.2- Quantity of mercury reduced                                                                              |                          | 60             | 60           | 2.17                 | This number represents actual tons of mercury reduction (0.543 tons) realised so far in the project with a multiplier factor applied in keeping with the approved methodology. |
| 9.4- Countries with legislation and policy implemented to control chemicals and waste                         |                          | 1              | 1            | 1                    | One country-- Uganda                                                                                                                                                           |
| 9.5- Low-chemical/non-chemical systems implemented, particularly in food production, manufacturing and cities |                          | 2              | 2            |                      | The project has not yet set up any of the planned                                                                                                                              |

|              | Targets - Expected Value |                |              |                      |                                                                                                                                |
|--------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Indicators   | Mid-term                 | End-of-project | Total Target | Materialized to date | Remarks                                                                                                                        |
|              |                          |                |              |                      | two mercury free processing plants.                                                                                            |
| 11.2- Female |                          | 2250           | 2250         | 1000                 | Total number of female beneficiaries reached by the project through awareness raising, trainings and gender impact assessments |
| 11.1- Male   |                          | 2250           | 2250         | 1200                 | Total number of male beneficiaries reached by the project through awareness raising, trainings and gender impact assessments   |

### 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 2025 | 2nd PIR | S                                     | S                                    | L                         |
| FY 2024 | 1st PIR | S                                     | S                                    | L                         |
| FY 2023 |         |                                       |                                      |                           |
| FY 2022 |         |                                       |                                      |                           |
| FY 2021 |         |                                       |                                      |                           |
| FY 2020 |         |                                       |                                      |                           |
| FY 2019 |         |                                       |                                      |                           |
| FY 2018 |         |                                       |                                      |                           |
| FY 2017 |         |                                       |                                      |                           |
| FY 2016 |         |                                       |                                      |                           |
| FY 2015 |         |                                       |                                      |                           |

#### Progress: Information on progress outcomes of project implementation activities

Component 1: Government and other national stakeholders increased their capacity to formalise the ASGM sectorIn an effort to formalize the artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) sector, a series of key initiatives were rolled out. The National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), with support from the planetGOLD project, launched the National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024 on July 17, 2024. This significant event brought together 157 stakeholders from various government ministries, miners' groups, and private and civil society sectors to establish a framework for managing hazardous chemicals.Following this, the project supported a Gender Impact Assessment for new ASM Regulations, with workshops held in July 2024. These sessions included 55 government officers and were crucial for ensuring that the new rules would guide the implementation of the Mining and Minerals Act, 2022 in a way that considers gender equality.In September 2024, six mining cooperatives in the Karamoja region were officially registered. This formalization, which brought together 180 miners (80 women and 100 men), provided a pathway for these groups to operate legally and more safely. These cooperatives received their certificates during the project's Annual Stakeholders' Workshop in October 2024.To further promote sustainable practices, a training on jurisdictional and landscape approaches was held in Busia District in March 2025. This training, attended by 30 participants including district officials and miners, focused on helping miners reduce their use of mercury and transition to more environmentally friendly methods.Component 2: Miners in Uganda accessed financial products to invest in mercury free technologiesDuring the reporting period, the project focused on building financial literacy capacities of the beneficiary miners. In August 2024, 120 miners (45 women and 75 men) from the Karamoja region, who were working to establish cooperatives, attended a financial literacy training. The project engaged Artisanal Gold Council to pilot a finance course for

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20 (10 women and 10 men) miners from all 11 project sites, introducing them to new financial models. The project's efforts continued in March 2025 with specialized financial literacy training for the Kitumbi-Kayonza Women Miners Cooperative Society Ltd. This training was designed to empower the cooperative's 53 (31 women and 22 men) members and leaders to manage their finances more effectively, helping the organization become financially strong and sustainable. In a significant step toward practical support, the Uganda Microfinance Support Centre assessed five gold miners' cooperatives in December 2024. This assessment was a crucial step to determine the cooperatives' eligibility for financing to help them invest in their mining operations and move toward more sustainable practices. The focus on financial capacity continued into 2025.

**Component 3: Artisanal miners in Uganda adopted mercury-free processing technologies** The project has focused on developing strategies and gathering data to transition miners to mercury-free practices. The project team reviewed a draft gender-sensitive strategy for securing buy-in from miners/operators for mercury-free equipment as well as a Technical Assistance Plan for miners at pilot sites. Research field visits to six project target mine sites were done to capture current data on mercury usage at these sites. During these field visits, 265 (103 female and 162 male) miners were interacted with. Additionally, site profiling was completed in the Amudat, Nakabaat, Buhweju, Kisoro, and Moroto districts to understand gold processing methods and mercury usage. The data collected will inform a new strategy for identifying and acquiring mercury-free processing equipment. Field assessment and sensitization meetings were held in Kassanda, Namayingo & Busia in November and December 2024. These meetings reached 165 miners (108 male and 57 female). The team also undertook retort use demonstrations at 10 of these sites to show miners how to eliminate open air burning of amalgam containing mercury. In early 2025, the project conducted a laboratory assessment for a small-scale miner's processing site laboratory to identify the items needed to optimize operations in the laboratory and support equipping since the laboratory is to be used together with other artisanal and small-scale miners in Kitumbi-Kayonza site, Kassanda district.

**Component 4: Information and knowledge shared led to improvement in the management of the ASGM sector in Uganda** The project held its second annual meeting in Kampala on October 4, 2024, bringing together a diverse group of 150 stakeholders (70 women and 80 men) including government officials, civil society organizations, development partners like NEMA and UNEP, and Members of Parliament. The theme for the year, "From mines to markets: Strengthening artisanal and small-scale gold mining through cooperative networks," emphasized the importance of collaboration for a more responsible artisanal gold mining sector. To further raise awareness and engage the public, the project conducted five radio talk shows across the project target areas featuring key figures from the Directorate of Geological Survey and Mines (DGSM), NEMA, planetGOLD project, local government, and artisanal gold miners, all discussing the project's initiatives. In March 2025, the project organized a training workshop for 22 (8 women, 14 men) participants from the Police Mineral Protection Unit focusing on mercury use, its effects, reasons for its use, sources, available alternatives, and the legal frameworks in place to curb its use. Regarding the financial progress during the reporting period, the project has reported expenditure of about 83% (1,738,017 out of the transferred 2,082,423).

#### **Challenges: Information on challenges of project implementation activities**

While the transition away from mercury use among artisanal miners is gradual, the project continues to make steady progress in promoting safer practices, even as it navigates the strict enforcement provisions of Uganda's Mining and Minerals Act. The continued importation of mercury presents challenges, but it also underscores the importance of the project's awareness-raising and capacity-building efforts, which are helping shift mindsets and behaviors on the ground. Furthermore, the government's policy prohibiting the export of unprocessed minerals—enforced has had a notable impact on achieving the project's financial inclusion and co-financing targets. While the policy aims to stimulate domestic value addition and industrial growth, it has inadvertently limited market access for project-certified gold. Despite these challenges, the project continues to adapt and innovate, working closely with the government, Central Bank, and partners to identify alternative pathways for market access and sustainable development within Uganda's evolving regulatory landscape.

## 2.4 Co Finance

|                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Planned Co-finance:</b> | \$ 13,016,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Actual to date:</b>     | 1,495,662                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Progress</b>            | <p><b>Justify progress in terms of materialization of expected co-finance. State any relevant challenges:</b></p> <p>During this reporting period, \$885,812 USD was raised. Actual to date is \$1,495,662 USD (11% total cofinance contributed).</p> <p>During the original project creation, Argor Heraeus pledged 10,000,000 in in-kind contributions through the purchasing of gold. However, since the development of the project Uganda has passed a law declaring all gold must be processed in-county. This means that it will be impossible to meet that co-financing goal. To help mitigate the impact of this, we have sought increased and additional sources of contributions including: Bank of Uganda; Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development; Uganda Association for ASM; and Global Rights Alert.</p> |

## 2.5. Stakeholder

|                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Date of project steering committee meeting</b>              | 2024-10-03                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Stakeholder engagement (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)</b> | <p>The planetGOLD Uganda project actively engaged with various stakeholders throughout the reporting period, guided by a comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan that prioritized inclusivity, knowledge sharing, and transparency.</p> <p>The project conducted a total of 25 field visits across seven target districts. These included five regional consultations led by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development on the new Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (ASM) Regulations, as well as Gender Impact Assessments of mercury-free gold processing techniques in six districts by the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development. At the national level, ten workshops were held, including the Annual Stakeholder's Meeting and a Project Steering Committee meeting, fostering broad participation and strategic discussions. The planetGOLD Uganda team also represented the project at the June 2024 planetGOLD Global Forum on ASGM in the Philippines, bringing back global insights. Further strengthening local engagement, two multi-stakeholder groups were established in early 2025 to ensure continuous collaboration on jurisdictional and landscape approaches in the pilot districts of Busia and Namayingo.</p> <p>The project's efforts resulted in significant participation: over 220 individuals attended national workshops, and more than 700</p> |

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|--|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <p>participants joined field meetings. These participants represented a wide array of groups, including government agencies, civil society organizations, academia, miners, mining communities, and the private sector from all 11 target districts. To disseminate information and raise awareness, the project utilized various communication tools, including five radio talk shows, two TV shows, and awareness campaigns across social media platforms and newspapers.</p> <p>While full support from government bodies and financial institutions for informal ASGM businesses is still evolving, the project's consistent engagement is fostering trust and opening up constructive dialogue. Formalization of artisanal miners is inherently a gradual process, requiring time, capacity-building, and sustained collaboration—but the project has made important strides in initiating this journey. Although mercury use remains prevalent, the widespread awareness campaigns have significantly increased understanding of its risks. This growing awareness opens a valuable opportunity for the project to introduce and scale up mercury-free gold processing technologies, further advancing its goals for safer and more sustainable mining practices.</p> |
|--|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## 2.6. Gender

|                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Does the project have a gender action plan?</b>            | Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Gender mainstreaming (will be uploaded to GEF Portal):</b> | <p>The project has made significant strides in implementing gender-responsive measures, aligning with its Gender Action Plan (GAP). "The Gender Impact Assessment of the gold ASM sector in Uganda" trainings conducted by the project for Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development and other ministries, departments and agencies have directly supported the GAP's objective of promoting gender equality and inclusion. Their involvement in the project implementation has strengthened inter-ministerial coordination. This has also expanded the reach and sustainability of gender-responsive practices in efforts targeting mining communities. Gender modules integrated into training sessions align with the GAP's emphasis on gender-sensitive sensitization and capacity building.</p> <p>Women's participation in project activities has been actively promoted through gender-balanced representation in the Project Steering Committee and tailored engagement strategies like appropriate timing, women-only sessions in form of Focused Group Discussions during gender monitoring exercises and data collection to ensure inclusivity. This has led to increased representation and active participation of women in project activities, decision-making forums, and training sessions.</p> <p>During the reporting period, a gender monitoring exercise was conducted, providing baseline and follow-up data on gender integration. Monitoring tools and indicators were aligned with the GAP and overall project objective. Gender Impact Assessment for mercury-free adoption, a risk identification approach, has been conducted in all the major project districts of Busia, Buhweju, Namayingo and Kassanda.</p> <p>Training and sensitization sessions on responsible ASGM practices and mercury-free technologies have been made accessible to women through working with women-only cooperative groups and women miners. Gender-sensitive financial inclusion scoping study has identified barriers for women, with recommendations to improve access to financing mechanisms and results have been useful in advocating for funding sources for miners especially women who have limited access. A financial literacy training conducted for miners had 50% representation of women participants.</p> |

## 2.7. ESSM

|                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Moderate/High risk projects (in terms of Environmental and social safeguards)</b> | <p><b>Was the project classified as moderate/high risk CEO Endorsement/Approval Stage?</b></p> <p>No</p> <p><b>If yes, what specific safeguard risks were identified in the SRIF/ESERN?</b></p> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>New social and/or environmental risks</b>                                    | <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>                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Complaints and grievances related to social and/or environmental impacts</b> | <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> |
| <b>Environmental and social safeguards management</b>                           | <p>The project has adopted the good practice approach to environmental and social safeguards management since its inception and has faced relatively low risk.</p>                                                                                                                                                  |

## 2.8. KM/Learning

|                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Knowledge activities and products</b> | <p>Knowledge products continue to be focused on awareness raising. In August 2024, the knowledge product "Access to finance-ASGM Finance Course" (see uploaded document) was piloted and the content of that knowledge product is being used by the project mining cooperatives. Additionally, two knowledge products, a result of desk reviews, were finalised during the reporting period namely; <i>A Baseline Analysis of Legal and Regulatory Frameworks Affecting Artisanal and Small-Scale Miners in Uganda</i> and <i>The Current Landscape and Context for Accessing Finance for the Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining Gold Mining Sector in Uganda</i>.</p> |
| <b>Main learning during the period</b>   | <p>The main learning during the period has been that illustrations are a better tool to carry out training in the communities and as such, a toolkit for training of mining communities and miners handling a broad range of issues is undergoing graphic design and will be rolled out in Q3 2025 across the 11 target mine sites of the project.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

## Reflows

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Reflows (for NGOs only)</b> |  |
|--------------------------------|--|

## 2.9. Stories

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|                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Stories to be shared</b> | <p>1. Sensitisation story - <a href="https://www.planetgold.org/sensitisation-ugandan-artisanal-gold-miners-embrace-safer-practices-amid-mercury-awareness-drive">https://www.planetgold.org/sensitisation-ugandan-artisanal-gold-miners-embrace-safer-practices-amid-mercury-awareness-drive</a></p> <p>2. Regional consultations on the ASM regulations - <a href="https://www.planetgold.org/empowering-artisanal-miners-planetgold-supports-nationwide-consultation-workshops-new-mining">https://www.planetgold.org/empowering-artisanal-miners-planetgold-supports-nationwide-consultation-workshops-new-mining</a></p> <p>3. Empowering women in ASGM - <a href="https://www.planetgold.org/empowering-women-artisanal-gold-mining-story-buhere-mine-site-uganda">https://www.planetgold.org/empowering-women-artisanal-gold-mining-story-buhere-mine-site-uganda</a></p> <p>4. Training police officers to support mercury use reduction in ASGM - <a href="https://www.planetgold.org/joining-efforts-training-police-officers-uganda-support-mercury-reduction-asgm">https://www.planetgold.org/joining-efforts-training-police-officers-uganda-support-mercury-reduction-asgm</a></p> <p>5. Strengthening collaboration with mining cooperatives - <a href="https://www.planetgold.org/strengthening-collaboration-kenya-delegation-visits-kitumbi-kayonza-mine-site">https://www.planetgold.org/strengthening-collaboration-kenya-delegation-visits-kitumbi-kayonza-mine-site</a></p> |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

### 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 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Contribute to the reduction of mercury use in the ASGM sector in Uganda. | Quantity of mercury reduced and avoided         | 15,233 kg of mercury used                      | 0                             | 210 kg of mercury reduced; 15 tonnes of mercury avoided                                                                                              | 361 kg of mercury reduced; 181.58 kg of mercury avoided                  | Although, a target for fulfillment is not set for the mid term for this objective; work with miners has actively been done over the reporting period including interacting with a mine site using vat leaching in small plastic tanks and achieving some mercury free gold processing using cyanide on raw ore and tailings obtained from sluicing as well as intense work across the project mine sites introducing retorts which has led to mercury capture and avoidance from evaporating into the atmosphere. | MS              |
| Contribute to the reduction of mercury use in the ASGM sector in Uganda. | Quantity of gold produced without mercury       | 1930 kg of mercury is produced without mercury | 0                             | 67kg of gold produced without mercury in project areas; 5 tonns of gold produced without mercury through other ASGM sites, by replication and uptake | 4 kg                                                                     | This 4 kg of gold statistic is from the vat leaching site where raw ore is milled and sluiced and fresh tailings piled for a period before cyanide is used on them to extract gold.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | MS              |
| Contribute to the reduction of mercury use in the ASGM sector in         | Quantity of gold produced fulfilling planetGOLD | 0                                              | 0                             | 15 kg                                                                                                                                                | 4kg                                                                      | This 4kg is the amount of mercury free gold so far reportedly produced by the micro leaching process                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 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 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Uganda.                                                                  | environment and social criteria         |                |                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                              | being used by miners in one site in Kassnda, Central Uganda who have been trained on planetGOLD criteria and OECD DDG and have begun to adhere to these standards even before the introduction of planetGOLD Uganda purchased equipment.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                 |
| Contribute to the reduction of mercury use in the ASGM sector in Uganda. | Number of miners formalized (women/men) | 0              | 0                             | 95% of miners formalized within targeted miner associations (in conformance with Mining Bill) (of which at least 50% are women); Number of miners formalized at other ASGM sites in Uganda, by replication and uptake, to be determined during baseline study;At least 4,976 acres of land are protected and/or improved in | 50% miners formalised/30% women/ 2.2 Hectares/ 1200men and 1000women so far benefiting from project interventions of land restored in Busia/ | 50% miners formalised 30% of whom are women- this figure is computed from consideration of the number of legal miners' entities formed under the auspices of the project. So far, this number comes to 16 cooperatives and 1 company limited by shares. The membership of each cooperative is minimum 30 miners and of the 16 cooperatives, 3 are women only which computes to an assured 90 women from these cooperatives alone. This is 19% women in formalised entities from the women only cooperatives alone. The 13 mixed gender cooperatives all have a healthy number of women members. | 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 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
|                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                |                |                               | Uganda through project interventions;At least 2,250 men and 2,250 women in Uganda are benefitting from project interventions; |                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                 |
| Contribute to the reduction of mercury use in the ASGM sector in Uganda.                                    | \$ amount of investments from new or existing financial inclusion mechanisms or responsible supply chain mechanisms made supporting mercury-free technologies. | 0              | 0                             | \$245,000                                                                                                                     | \$15,000                                                                 | The \$15,000 documented here, represents miners' personal investment in purchase of mercury free equipment in Karamoja region by using land as collateral.It is still a challenge to garner specific financing for ASGM. However, a Central Bank domestic gold purchase programme is underway. The Central Bank intends to make a move to prevail upon commercial banks in country to develop a specialised financing model for the ASM sector as they have previously done for sectors like agriculture and IT. This is expected to support miners to invest in better mining equipment as well as mercury free processing equipment. | MS              |
| Outcome 1: Government and other national stakeholders increased their capacity to formalize the ASGM sector | # of new regulations or legal initiatives implemented, that target the formalization of the ASGM sector and reduction of mercury                               | 0              | 2                             | 4                                                                                                                             | 3                                                                        | Up to this point in the project's implementation, three laws and regulations targeting ASGM formalisation and reduction of mercury have been passed by government of Uganda and their implementation began with the support of the planetGOLD project. These include:1. The Mining and Minerals Act, 2022;2. The Mining and Minerals                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | HS              |

| 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 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
|                                                                                                             |                                                                                                         |                |                               |                                                                                                                                 |                                                                          | (Licensing) Regulations, 20233. The Hazardous Chemicals Regulations, 2024.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                 |
| Outcome 1: Government and other national stakeholders increased their capacity to formalize the ASGM sector | # of actions implemented under JA/LA                                                                    | 0              | 0                             | 2                                                                                                                               | 2                                                                        | The project has engaged local government officials, other economic activity actors and miners in the districts of Busia and Namayingo as well as at the national level with diverse central government officials on JA/LA. Multistakeholder groups in Busia and Namayingo have been formed and are working toward development of action plans.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | S               |
| Outcome 2: Miners in Uganda accessed financial products to invest in mercury free technologies              | 12. Amount of investment mobilized from all sources                                                     | 0              | 50,000                        | 200,000                                                                                                                         | 15,000                                                                   | Following project awareness-raising activities, a mining group in the Karamoja region mobilized funds - securing a loan from Equity Bank (U) Ltd - to purchase mercury-free gold processing equipment.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | MS              |
| Outcome 2: Miners in Uganda accessed financial products to invest in mercury free technologies              | 12. Amount of investment used from all sources                                                          | 0              | 5,000                         | 45,000                                                                                                                          | 15,000                                                                   | Reference is made to the same funds mobilised by the Karamoja region mining group mentioned in the indicator above                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | MS              |
| Outcome 3: Artisanal miners in Uganda adopted mercury free processing technologies                          | % of miners in targeted ASGM associations adopted mercury-free technologies via the project (men/women) | 0              | 0                             | 50% of miners in targeted ASGM associations adopted mercury free technologies via the project (of which at least 50% are women) | 20%                                                                      | Although the project has not purchased mercury free technology for miners, because of the awareness raising activities of the project, two associations have invested in mercury free processing techniques on their own. A couple of women miners in Kassanda (Central region) who own processing sites have begun to use small vat leaching (1-3 tonnes max capacity) to recover gold. In the Karamoja region, the Harambe Development Agencies Ltd has bought two gold kachas and sluices and uses direct smelting to obtain gold. Although the project has not purchased mercury free technology for miners because of the | 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 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
|                                                                                    |                                                                                                              |                |                                                                                                         |                                                                                                            |                                                                          | awareness raising activities of the project, two associations have invested in mercury free processing techniques on their own. A couple of women miners in Kassanda (Central region) who own processing sites have begun to use small vat leaching (1-3 tonnes max capacity) to recover gold. In the Karamoja region, the Harambe Development Agencies Ltd has bought two gold kachas and sluices and uses direct smelting to obtain gold.                                                                                                                             |                 |
| Outcome 3: Artisanal miners in Uganda adopted mercury free processing technologies | Number of targeted ASGM associations that have implemented the planetGOLD environmental and social standard  | 0              | At least 50% of targeted ASGM associations implemented the planetGOLD environmental and social standard | 100% of targeted ASGM associations have implemented the planetGOLD environmental and social standard       | 50%                                                                      | One targeted association in Kassanda (Kayonza-Kitumbi Miners Association) has been assessed for compliance to planetGOLD environmental and social standards and is in the process of updating their systems to fully comply with planetGOLD criteria.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | MS              |
| Outcome 3: Artisanal miners in Uganda adopted mercury free processing technologies | 3. % increase of average monthly gold productivity with the use of mercury-free technologies (equals uptake) | 0              | 0                                                                                                       | 2% increase on average monthly gold productivity with the use of mercury-free technologies (equals uptake) | 0%                                                                       | No mercury free technology set up by the project so the percentage increase of monthly gold productivity has not been calculated yet.However, it is important to note that miners have been rapidly transitioning away from mercury use. This shift is driven by stringent regulations that impose heavy penalties for mercury use, as well as heightened awareness of its dangers—raised not only through the planetGOLD project but also through initiatives by other development partners. Therefore, the project strategy is to support miners' existing efforts to | MU              |

| 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 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
|                                                                                                           |                                                                               |                |                               |                       |                                                                          | improve efficiency e.g. by adding concentrate upgraders to gravity systems as well as improving direct smelting processes for gold recovery. Optimisation of micro leaching is also a strategy to be adopted for some hard rock ore areas.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                 |
| Outcome 4: Information and knowledge shared led to improvement in the management of ASGM sector in Uganda | # of beneficiaries changing their practices as a result of improved awareness | 0              | 0                             | 2000                  | 820                                                                      | The number of 820 represents both male and female beneficiaries who have positively changed their mining and processing practices as a result of the project's awareness raising campaigns, trainings and small technical interventions like retorts' introduction at mine sites. One women miners' cooperative, for example, with 30 members, 3 of whom own processing sites and employ up to 160 people between them has changed their practice to micro leaching for gold recovery and these are leaching ore sourced from known mine sites and doing gravity separation and then leaching mercury free tailings to recover gold. | MS              |

### 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 Formalization Optimization | Output 1.1: Legislative, regulatory and policy frameworks for formalizing the ASGM sector are adopted and implemented by government | 2024-12-31               | 70%                                                       | 118%                                                     | The project is intended to support the development and implementation of 4 legislations by project end. Three have been completed by midterm. The expected completion was set as end of 2024 so in that regard | 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 |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
|                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                          |                                                           |                                                          | implementation is delayed by 1 legislation (the ASM regulations that is yet to be passed by the Minister of Energy and Mineral Development)                                                                                                                               |                 |
| 1 Formalization Optimization                        | Output 1.2: The jurisdictional and multi-stakeholder approach is piloted at selected ASGM mine sites at the local level                                                                         | 2025-03-31               | 50%                                                       | 56%                                                      | Local government leaders, opinion leaders, land owners, fisher folk, agriculturalists, traditional leaders and miners in the target pilot districts of Busia and Namayingo formed multistakeholder groups and are working towards developing action plans.                | MS              |
| 2 Financial Inclusion and Responsible Supply Chains | Output 2.1: Increased access to finance through responsible supply chain mechanisms are made available to artisanal miners                                                                      | 2026-06-30               | 15%                                                       | 11%                                                      | The initial target for financial inclusion was commercial banks but with more understanding about the ASGM sector, the project is looking to microfinance and government led financial initiatives for financial inclusion.                                               | MU              |
| 2 Financial Inclusion and Responsible Supply Chains | Output 2.2: Increased access to finance through existing or new financial inclusion initiatives are made available to artisanal miners                                                          | 2026-06-30               | 15%                                                       | 15%                                                      | The project is currently collaborating with the Central Bank of Uganda to develop a domestic purchase programme for ASM gold which would provide an opportunity for ASM gold actors to interact with commercial banks and other financiers to invest in their businesses. | MU              |
| 3 Enhancing uptake of Mercury-free technologies     | Output 3.1: ASGM stakeholders increased their awareness about mercury and the importance of its reduction                                                                                       | 2027-03-31               | 10%                                                       | 103%                                                     | The project has invested in awareness raising campaigns all over the targeted districts and miners are interested in alternatives.                                                                                                                                        | S               |
| 3 Enhancing uptake of Mercury-free technologies     | Output 3.2: Artisanal miners are capacitated with better ASGM practices (including environmental and gender equitable aspects) for both women and men involved in gold mining at targeted sites | 2027-03-31               | 10%                                                       | 7%                                                       | The project has invested in awareness raising campaigns all over the targeted districts and miners are interested in alternatives.                                                                                                                                        | MS              |
| 4 Knowledge                                         | Output 4.1: Knowledge products and tools developed through the                                                                                                                                  | 2027-06-30               | 25%                                                       | 80%                                                      | Knowledge products have been produced in the                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 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 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| sharing, communication and local capacity building support             | project are made available nationally to all GEF planetGOLD project stakeholders in Uganda                                         |                          |                                                           |                                                          | reporting period related to awareness on the dangers of mercury to human health and environment, women's participation in the gold mining sector, abolition of child labour in the mining sector as well as better mining methods.                                              |                 |
| 4 Knowledge sharing, communication and local capacity building support | Output 4.2: Knowledge products and tools developed through the project are available globally through the GEF planetGOLD programme | 2027-06-30               | 25%                                                       | 89%                                                      | Knowledge products have been produced in the reporting period related to awareness on the dangers of mercury to human health and environment, women's participation in the gold mining sector, abolition of child labour in the mining sector as well as better mining methods. | S               |

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                           | Low       | Low       |
| 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                                                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Covid-19 restrictions (movement. large gatherings. travel. etc.) | All outputs                       | M      | L     | L     |       |       |       |             | = | With the increase in access to vaccination. CoVID-19 is no longer a high risk factor. |
| Shifting priorities due to Covid-19 pandemic                     | All outputs                       | M      | L     | L     |       |       |       |             | = | The effect of the pandemic was to                                                     |

| Risks                                                                                                                                                              | Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs | CEO ED | PIR 1 | PIR 2 | PIR 3 | PIR 4 | PIR 5 | Current PIR | Δ | Justification                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                    |                                   |        |       |       |       |       |       |             |   | increase interest in the ASGM sector as returns from this sector seem better than other 'informal' sectors.                                                                                                                  |
| Delayed legislative / regulatory processes for the Mining and Minerals Bill (2020)                                                                                 | All outputs                       | L      | L     | L     |       |       |       |             | = | Government interest in the mining sector as a whole has led to prioritising of laws on the sector. The delays have been minimal.                                                                                             |
| Elections in Year 3 of the project result in delays and changes in priorities. etc.                                                                                | All outputs                       | M      | L     | L     |       |       |       |             | = | The campaigns for the presidential and parliamentary elections slated for next year 2026 have the mining sector front and centre as a potential for economic development so the risk is low as regards change of priorities. |
| Staff turnover at NEMA, DGSM, and other government ministries / departments                                                                                        | All outputs                       | L      | L     | L     |       |       |       |             | = | Focal point staff are in senior positions that are not likely to be vacated.                                                                                                                                                 |
| Miners do not trust or buy-in to mercury-free technologies                                                                                                         | All outputs                       | M      | L     | L     |       |       |       |             | = | The new law prohibiting use of mercury in mining means that miners are frantically looking for alternatives to avoid getting on the wrong side of the law                                                                    |
| Lack of prioritization of reducing mercury usage by miners including when financing is available (or miners simply do not endorse mercury-free processing methods) | All outputs                       | M      | L     | L     |       |       |       |             | = | The new law prohibiting use of mercury in mining means that miners are frantically looking for alternatives to avoid getting on the wrong side of the law                                                                    |
| Risk-aversion of gold refiners                                                                                                                                     | All outputs                       | M      | L     | L     |       |       |       |             | = | Prohibition of mercury use by law as well as government interest to buy gold from the ASGM means that                                                                                                                        |

| Risks                                                                                                                            | Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs | CEO ED | PIR 1 | PIR 2 | PIR 3 | PIR 4 | PIR 5 | Current PIR | Δ | Justification                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                  |                                   |        |       |       |       |       |       |             |   | refiners need to comply with international standards                                                                                                                                                      |
| Supply chain partners are unable to establish commercial terms (or competitive commercial terms compared to the informal market) | All outputs                       | M      | H     | H     |       |       |       |             | = | The Uganda law banning export of unprocessed minerals means that all gold produced in Uganda must be refined in Uganda. This certainly affects partnership with international refiners by the project     |
| Low risk threshold by financial institutions / other potential providers of access to credit                                     | All outputs                       | M      | L     | L     |       |       |       |             | = | The existence of an established body that provides financing purely to cooperatives in whichever sector they choose to cooperate means that financing is available as long as miners formalise operations |
| Land conflict                                                                                                                    | All outputs                       | L      | L     | L     |       |       |       |             | = | The national land tenure system allows for land owners to lease land to mining lease holders. This system has always worked well.                                                                         |
| Efficient and lucrative alternative mercury-free gold processing techniques are not appropriate (or not available) for ASM       | All outputs                       | M      | M     | L     |       |       |       |             | ↓ | This risk has lowered a bit because miners are motivated to transition and some have even began to buy their own technology and fabricate some in-country                                                 |
| Interference by mercury traders                                                                                                  | All outputs                       | M      | L     | L     |       |       |       |             | = | Mercury traders are often gold traders at the same time. With the new law, they are averse to having mercury in the open.                                                                                 |
| Inability to identify a gold exporter that meets minimum due diligence expectations                                              | All outputs                       | M      | H     | H     |       |       |       |             | = | With the regulation banning export of unprocessed minerals in full force.                                                                                                                                 |

| Risks                                                                                   | Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs | CEO ED | PIR 1 | PIR 2 | PIR 3 | PIR 4 | PIR 5 | Current PIR | Δ | Justification                                                                                                                          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| of refiners                                                                             |                                   |        |       |       |       |       |       |             |   | This becomes a high risk factor.                                                                                                       |
| ASGM associations and miners are unable to meet the standards established by planetGOLD | All outputs                       | H      | L     | L     |       |       |       |             | = | ASGMs in Uganda are currently engaged and progressive/ willing to comply with standards that could allow them access to better prices. |
|                                                                                         |                                   |        |       |       |       |       |       |             |   |                                                                                                                                        |
|                                                                                         | All outputs                       | L      | L     | L     |       |       |       |             | = |                                                                                                                                        |

#### 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          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Lack of possibility to mobilize co-financing support due to changes in the country's legal framework                             | Review and assessment of recent changes in the legal framework for the export of minerals in Uganda | Co-financing has actively been sought from other in-country partners and there is hope that at least half of the initially committed co-financing will be realised from in-country actors like refiners and gold traders. | Seek more co-financiers in the sector                                                                  | by 31 December 2025 | Executing Agency |
| Supply chain partners are unable to establish commercial terms (or competitive commercial terms compared to the informal market) | Review and assessment of recent changes in the legal framework for the export of minerals in Uganda | Engagement with the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development as well as the Central Bank of Uganda with a view to develop a domestic gold purchase programme that                                                       | Continue to engage MEMD and BoU to actualise this domestic purchase programme to the benefit of miners | by 31 December 2025 | Executing Agency |

| Risk                                                                                            | Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)                          | Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | What                                                                          | When                | By Whom          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
|                                                                                                 |                                                                                                     | would adhere to national laws and international due diligence standards. Commercial terms will then be established with miners directly encouraging formalisation of operations and move away from informal financing                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                               |                     |                  |
| Inability to identify a gold exporter that meets minimum due diligence expectations of refiners | Review and assessment of recent changes in the legal framework for the export of minerals in Uganda | Research and engagement during the reporting period on this revealed that the bulk of locally produced gold is envisioned to be absorbed by the Central bank for the sake of stabilising the Uganda shilling. This makes need for a gold exporter moot. At any rate, if any gold is exported, it would be in refined form by a BoU certified refiner/exporter which would have to meet minimum DD standards | Continue to engage MEMD and BoU to actualise this domestic purchase programme | by 31 December 2025 | Executing Agency |

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

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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.

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## 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

Budget revision: Certain personal and consultant lines were re-aligned to account for changes in project implementation. No budget lines relating to activities were affected.

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

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| Version                   | Type     | Signed/Approved by UNEP | Entry Into Force (last signature Date) | Agreement Expiry Date | Main changes introduced in this revision  |
|---------------------------|----------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Original Legal Instrument |          | 2022-07-27              | 2022-07-29                             | 2027-12-31            | Project Cooperation Agreement with IMPACT |
| Budget Revision           | Revision | 2025-01-09              | 2025-01-09                             | 2027-12-31            | Budget revision to Project                |

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                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|---------------|----------|-----------|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SAMA          | 0.0712   | 32.2177   | 226412      | Mine sites are in trading centres close to residential areas. Close to the UG-KE border point. In Eastern Uganda. | Small-scale gold mining operations on rock ore using a combination of gravity separation with sometimes mercury amalgamation and other times direct smelting and concrete tanks' cyanidation to recover gold |
| Tira          | 0.5132   | 34.0775   | 226137      | Mine sites are in trading centres close to residential areas. Close to the UG-KE border point. In Eastern Uganda. | Small-scale gold mining operations on rock ore using a combination of gravity separation with sometimes mercury amalgamation and other times direct smelting and concrete tanks'                             |

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GEO Name ID | Location Description                                                                                           | Activity Description                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|---------------|----------|-----------|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|               |          |           |             |                                                                                                                | cyanidation to recover gold                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Buhere        | 0.1666   | 33.8166   |             | Mine site is close to Lake Victoria and this is the main water source for mining activities. In Eastern Uganda | Artisanal mining operations with use of gravity separation/amalgamation and cyanidation occasionally                                                                                                         |
| Kabaga Hills  | 0.4204   | 32.5616   | 11356954    | Hilly mining area in a trading centre in Central Uganda that has become bustling in recent years               | Small-scale gold mining operations on rock ore using a combination of gravity separation with sometimes mercury amalgamation and other times direct smelting and concrete tanks' cyanidation to recover gold |
| Nakabat       | 2.6667   | 34.7500   |             | Hilly mining area with seasonal river and streams in Karamoja region                                           | Artisanal mining operations handling alluvial gold. Very limited use of mercury often in dry seasons when water for panning is scarce.                                                                       |
| Kapiyosa      | 1.46573  | 34.8020   |             | Rocky mining area in Karamoja region                                                                           | Artisanal mining operations with use of gravity separation/amalgamation and cyanidation occasionally                                                                                                         |
| Cheptakol     | 1.44919  | 34.78881  |             | Rocky mining area in Karamoja region                                                                           | Artisanal mining operations with use of gravity separation/amalgamation and cyanidation occasionally                                                                                                         |
| Kayonza       | -0.92447 | 29.64198  | 8657797     | Hilly mining area in busy semi-urban area in Central Uganda                                                    | Small-scale gold mining operations on rock ore using a combination of gravity separation with sometimes                                                                                                      |

| Location Name | Latitude  | Longitude | GEO Name ID | Location Description                                                   | Activity Description                                                                                                     |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|               |           |           |             |                                                                        | mercury amalgamation and concrete tanks' cyanidation as well as micro-leaching in 3ton max plastic tanks to recover gold |
| Katenga       | -0.58333  | 32.2      | 231937      | Hilly mining area in Western Uganda                                    | Small-scale mining operations on rock ore. Method of gold recovery mostly heap leaching.                                 |
| Nyabiremura   | -1.110797 | 29.669110 |             | Mountainous mining area close to forest reserve in Southwestern Uganda | Artisanal mining operations on alluvial gold. No mercury use                                                             |
| Rushaga       | -1.127500 | 29.69226  |             | Mountainous mining area close to forest reserve in Southwestern Uganda | Artisanal mining operations on alluvial gold. No mercury use                                                             |

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

[Annex any linked geospatial file]

**Additional Supporting Documents:**

| Filename                                                       | File Uploaded By | File Uploaded At    |                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
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| Baseline Analysis Report - planetGOLD Uganda.pdf               | CW TM            | 2025-08-08 14:52:31 | <a href="#">Download</a> |
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