

GEF - PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)

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

1 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Project Details

GEF ID: 10618	Umoja WBS: SB-020352
SMA IPMR ID: 120872	Grant ID: S1-32GFL-000785
Project Short Title: GEF-CW.10618.GOLD+ Uganda	
Project Title: Global Opportunities for Long-term Development of Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) Sector (GEF planetGOLD) in Uganda	
Duration months planned:	60
Duration months age:	22
Project Type:	Full Sized Project (FSP)
Parent Programme if child project:	10569
Project Scope:	National
Region:	Africa
Countries:	Uganda
GEF Focal Area(s):	Chemicals and Waste
GEF financing amount:	\$ 5,500,000.00
Co-financing amount:	\$ 13,016,000.00
Date of CEO Endorsement/Approval:	2022-04-18
UNEP Project Approval Date:	2022-05-10
Start of Implementation (PCA entering into force):	2022-07-29
Date of Inception Workshop, if available:	2023-01-16
Date of First Disbursement:	2022-09-02
Total disbursement as of 30 June 2024:	\$ 910,000.00
Total expenditure as of 30 June:	\$ 1,096,366.00

Midterm undertaken?:	No
Actual Mid-Term Date, if taken:	
Expected Mid-Term Date, if not taken:	2025-02-28
Completion Date Planned - Original PCA:	2027-06-30
Completion Date Revised - Current PCA:	2027-06-30
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date:	2028-06-30
Expected Financial Closure Date:	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

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

UNEP Portfolio Manager(s)	Kevin Helps
UNEP Task Manager(s)	Neha Dharmshaktu
UNEP Budget/Finance Officer	Edward Aput
UNEP Support Assistants	Iñaki Rodríguez
Manager/Representative	Lynn Gitu
Project Manager	Carmen Teichgraber
Finance Manager	Soulemane Kone
Communications Lead, if relevant	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"> • 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 • Pollution: (iii) Number of policy, regulatory, financial and technical measures developed with UNEP support to reduce pollution in air, water, soil and the ocean • Pollution: (iv) Reduction in releases of pollutants to the environment achieved with UNEP support
UNSDCF/UNDAF linkages	<p>UNDAF linkages:</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 & 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>UNSDCF (2021-2025) linkages:</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 2.2.1.a. No. of Ha of Natural resources that are managed sustainably
Link to relevant SDG Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls • Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation • Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
Link to relevant SDG Targets:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • 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 • 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 • 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

2.2. GEF Core and Sub Indicators

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

Indicators	Targets - Expected Value			Materialized to date
	Mid-term	End-of-project	Total Target	
4.1- Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity		4976	4976	
9.2- Quantity of mercury reduced		60	60	
9.4- Countries with legislation and policy implemented to control chemicals and waste		1	1	1
9.5- Low-chemical/non-chemical systems implemented, particularly in food production, manufacturing and cities		2	2	
11.2- Female		2250	2250	450
11.1- Male		2250	2250	500

Indicators	Targets - Expected Value			Materialized to date
	Mid-term	End-of-project	Total Target	

Implementation Status 2024: 1st PIR

2.3. Implementation Status and Risks

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

Summary of status

This is the 1st PIR since the inception workshop and 1st project steering committee (PSC) meeting was held in hybrid format January, 2023. Since then, one PSC meeting has been convened in-person on Thursday, November 23, 2023 in Kampala, Uganda.

Following progress has been made under each project component during the report period:

Component 1: Government and other national stakeholders increased their capacity to formalize the ASGM sector

In September 2023, planetGOLD supported the organization of a national workshop to sensitize stakeholders and to disseminate information pertaining to the recent legal developments including new Mining and Minerals Act of 2022, the ICGLR Act of 2018, the ICGLR regulations of 2023, and the Mining and Minerals (Licensing) Regulations of 2023. This four-day workshop convened participants including miners, exploration entities, mineral dealers and exporters, relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies

(MDAs), Development Partners including GIZ, IMPACT, refiners and smelters, potential chain of custody service providers, potential auditing entities and Civil Society Organizations. This workshop involved a total of 135 participants attending in person, including 100 males and 35 females. About 60 participants attended virtually. However, this number was not disaggregated.

The planetGOLD Uganda project commissioned a study to collate legal and regulatory frameworks affecting ASGM in Uganda. This is to identify gaps and opportunities within the sector, ultimately providing recommendations for the government to enhance its regulatory framework while enabling miners to align themselves with and benefit from existing laws. The study was validated by a set of stakeholders in Kampala on February 28th, 2024. The recommendations provided in the study were taken into consideration by the Government of Uganda, that subsequently upgraded the Mining and Minerals (Licensing) Regulations, 2023; which for the first time include provisions related to ASGM. Similarly, the project supported the updating of the National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024.

In a bid to gain firsthand insights into the operations of artisanal and small-scale gold miners (ASGM), Uganda government officials, alongside representatives from various stakeholder groups, embarked on a field visit to the Kayonza-Kitumbi Mine Site. Organized by the planetGOLD Uganda project on April 11th, 2024, this initiative aimed to highlight challenges faced by miners and explore potential policy interventions to promote responsible mining practices. Located in Central Uganda's Kassanda District, the Kayonza-Kitumbi Mine Site played host to this diverse group of stakeholders that included Members of Parliament, accompanied by officials from the local governments of all the mining districts targeted by the project, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development representatives, National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) officials, Ministry of Water and Environment representatives and miners from across the country.

Component 2: Miners in Uganda accessed financial products to invest in mercury free technologies

A study on financial inclusion which highlights information on the existing, new, and innovative initiatives in Uganda aimed at informing course of action for improving access to finance for the ASGM sector was started in Q2 2023 and completed by Q4. This study also aimed to collect information on existing gender-responsive initiatives: government and private sector programmes meant to support financial inclusion along with insights into financial institutions and credit facilities that have the potential to empower women and women's groups engaged in mining. A workshop to validate the study was held on February 28th, 2024. This study was well received by stakeholders and attracted the attention of the Central Bank of Uganda. The Central Bank of Uganda is currently exploring possibilities of buying ASM gold from miners producing in-country with a view to support their economic empowerment while building the nation's gold reserves.

In addition to activity in (a) above, the planetGOLD Uganda project team proactively identified financial institutions with experience in supporting SMEs in informal and emerging sectors to explore potential collaborations. A meeting was in September 2023 arranged with the Manager of Stanbic Bank Business Incubator where insights were shared about the possibility for Stanbic Bank to lend to women miners through the upcoming Women for Development digital financial inclusion project, funded by the Bill and Melinda Foundation. This proactive engagement of key stakeholders in the financial and banking industry will accelerate the formation of partnerships evidence generated by the scoping study.

In Q2 2024, initial meetings were held with the Uganda Central Cooperatives Finance Services (UCCFS) to explore entering into a memorandum of understanding with them as they are well placed to develop and adapt financial mechanisms targeted to the ASGM sector. Additionally, another meeting with the Central Bank of Uganda was held to begin the process of laying the foundation for a homegrown traceability system for ASGM gold.

Component 3: Artisanal miners in Uganda adopted mercury free processing technologies

Assessment of the two planned pilot mine sites; one in Kassanda and the other in Namayingo was begun in Q1 2024. This will allow the project management unit (PMU) to begin to develop technical assistance plans that will be relevant to the specific sites and thus give an indication of the type of mercury free equipment that will need to be procured for the sites. The assessment visits were held to achieve the following; a) A detailed site mapping assessment to provide an overview of the mining sites, potential pits, and key characteristics essential for piloting mercury free technologies. b) A baseline study to inform intervention on mercury reduction, reporting and abatement, focusing on aspects such as the grade of ore, type of ore, health, and environmental conditions, as well as gender considerations in the identified areas.

The development of a gender-sensitive strategy for securing buy-in from miners/operators for mercury-free equipment continued during Q2 2024. Additionally, the development of a Technical Assistance Plan for miners at pilot sites was begun with the help of technical consultant, Patience Singo.

Component 4: Information and knowledge shared led to improvement in the management of ASGM sector in Uganda

Two categories of activities were undertaken in Q3 2023 regarding awareness-raising. The first category of activities involved one on one engagement with stakeholders in project areas as well as miners from the different mining communities that the project team has visited. The team visited mining communities in Kassanda. During this field trip, the PMU was joined by a Mining Consultant to support in identifying key issues related to this planned pilot site for the planetGOLD project in Uganda. The consultant submitted his report highlighting preliminary findings from this mission activity. The report summarized key observations and provides essential recommendations for the preparation of Kayonza site in Kassanda to facilitate the implementation of mercury-free technologies and awareness-raising activities.

The Annual Stakeholders' Meeting held at the end of November 2023 that convened over 100 different stakeholders implicated by the planetGOLD served as an awareness raising event on the dangers of mercury use to human health and environment.

Awareness raising about the dangers of mercury to health and the environment as well as of the existence of alternatives to mercury use in the processing of gold was continued during every activity implemented by the project in Q1 & Q2 2024. During the workshop held in Kampala to validate the two studies done on the ASGM legal framework and financial inclusion, the opportunity was taken to share information about the dangers of mercury. This same information was also shared during the JA/LA

meetings at the Kampala level and in Namayingo. Additionally, an article raising awareness about women in the artisanal and small-scale gold mining sector was written in the month of March 2024 and published in a national newspaper.

In Q2 2024, a specific awareness campaign was held in the Eastern region of Uganda with a focus on Namayingo and Busia districts. A rig truck playing videos and audios with messages in the local languages of the region drove through the communities and then parked at one spot to allow government officials to share information with the miners and also listen to their concerns.

Regarding the financial progress during reporting period, the project has reported expenditure of over 75% (\$674,815 out of available 897,816).

2.4 Co Finance

Planned Co-finance:	\$ 13,016,000
Actual to date:	609,850
Progress	<p>Justify progress in terms of materialization of expected co-finance. State any relevant challenges:</p> <p>Co-financing came from the following sources NEMA - 245,000 USD DGSM (MEMD) - 350,000 USD IMPACT - 14,850 USD</p>

2.5. Stakeholder

Date of project steering committee meeting	2023-11-23
Stakeholder engagement (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)	Stakeholders in the context of the project are defined as organizations, institutions, and groups which are directly or indirectly impacted by and/or which have a direct potential financial or administrative interest in project interventions. Thus, the engagement of stakeholders in the past year focused on those who have the most relevant and direct impact on project activities and outcomes, as well as those who are direct project beneficiaries.

	<p>The project beneficiaries specifically have been engaged throughout the year through a number of media including; FM radio talk shows, print media articles, awareness-raising meetings, sensitisation drives and field visits. The project management unit's experience has been that all members of artisanal and gold (ASG) mining communities - men, women and children are generally exposed to vulnerability related to access to ownership of land (under which the gold deposit exists), well-paying employment opportunities along the gold value chain, access to financial services both to invest in improvement of production as well as to invest in mercury-free technologies an access to skills required to apply responsible mining practices including those that prioritise environmental stewardship. However, this vulnerability is more pronounced amongst the female and the youth stakeholder groups. As such, particular attention has been given to engaging young people and women during the implementation of activities this year. Consultations on the changes in the mining legal and regulatory framework have so far been carried out in the project target gold mining regions of the country and the following have been the main outcomes of these consultations;</p> <p>Identification of unique issues and needs of the different gold mining communities has allowed the implementing partners - NEMA and the MEMD/Department of Mines to develop sensitisation and intervention action plans. In addition, the support provided by the project has allowed the Ministry of Mines to recently update the Mining Code, including new provisions on ASGM.</p> <p>The realisation of how widespread the need for access to affordable finance for ASGM miners especially for women and young people has been a key outcome of consulting project beneficiaries. Within the reporting period, the project has fortuitously begun to build a relationship with the Uganda Cooperative Credit Financial Services body which has experience supporting cooperatives in the agricultural sector to access finance after helping them build their corporate governance systems. Moreover, the project has established discussions with public financial institutions such as the Central Bank of Uganda and the Ministry of Finance to support and enhance the intervention related to the issue of financial access for ASGM actors.</p> <p>Some minor health and safety improvements at some mine sites have been observed as a result of interventions of the project which is a positive sign of beginnings of mindset change towards mercury use.</p> <p>The Inception Meeting and first PSC were held in hybrid format (Kampala for in-person participants and virtually for online participants) in January 2023, with the subsequent PSC being held in-person in Kampala, Uganda in November 2023, including the 2023 Annual Stakeholder Engagement Workshop.</p>
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2.6. Gender

Does the project have a gender action plan?	Yes
Gender mainstreaming (will be uploaded to GEF Portal):	<p>Gender inequality has been well documented in Uganda’s artisanal mining sector. Women’s participation and experience in the sector is shaped by this inequality, and results in limiting women’s access to land, capital, and higher-paying positions. Cultural taboos related to women’s role in society can also hinder women’s participation, as many are stigmatized for their involvement in the sector. Also, women are mostly involved in processing of gold, and thus often have higher exposure to mercury. Despite this, research has revealed that participation in the ASGM sector can prove to be economically beneficial for women –and they can often earn a higher income compared to other livelihoods (e.g. agriculture, tailoring, small business, etc.). As such, the sector can be a source of economic and social empowerment, as women often use their earnings to either further their position in the sector or to invest in other livelihood sources.</p> <p>Over the year in review, overall progress has been made in implementing the Gender Action Plan as per targets and indicators outlined. So far, focus has been on the optimisation of formalisation and as a result, efforts of supporting/ encouraging miners to set up cooperatives has yielded most among female miners. At this point, four out of nine mining cooperatives formed in the last 18 months have all female membership.</p> <p>Also, in as far as bringing the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development on board, the project has excelled. Officials from this key ministry that have ordinarily not participated in the ASGM sector have been part of field visits to all the project target mine sites, have supported awareness raising on the dangers of mercury as well as legal and regulatory development processes.</p>

2.7. ESSM

Moderate/High risk projects (in terms of Environmental and social safeguards)	<p>Was the project classified as moderate/high risk CEO Endorsement/Approval Stage?</p> <p>No</p> <p>If yes, what specific safeguard risks were identified in the SRIF/ESERN?</p>
New social and/or environmental risks	<p>Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during the reporting period?</p> <p>No</p> <p>If yes, describe the new risks or changes?</p>

Complaints and grievances related to social and/or environmental impacts	<p>Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential) during the reporting period?</p> <p>No</p> <p>If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail, including the status, significance, who was involved and what actions were taken?</p> <p>N/A</p>
Environmental and social safeguards management	<p>The project has adopted the good practice approach to environmental and social safeguards management since its inception and has faced relatively low risk. In this sense, the project has assessed the status of OSH in mine sites and provided support to ASGM miners in the improvement of their mining practices and daily operations.</p>

2.8. KM/Learning

Knowledge activities and products	<p>Most knowledge products produced in the reporting period have been related to awareness on the dangers of mercury to human health and environment. In addition, the project participated in global knowledge opportunities through the planetGOLD programme such as the Global Forum (July 2024) and the Annual Programme Meeting (July 2024). Besides, the PMU regularly participated in online meetings and trainings provided by the global planetGOLD project.</p>
Main learning during the period	<p>A key learning during the period has been that women miners thrive best when they collaborate with each other instead of being part of a bigger/broader mixed gender cooperative society. As such, one women miners' cooperative has begun to save gold instead of money, in order that they may sell bigger quantities of gold for a more favourable price.</p>

2.9. Stories

Stories to be shared	<p>1. Sylvia Nankusu story</p> <p>https://www.planetgold.org/braving-hurdles-get-gold-sylvias-story</p> <p>2. Kayonza-Kitumbi women miners news paper feature story</p>
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	(see attachments or https://impacttransform.box.com/s/yyg9928a9cmafh0kmfyq15gv2l1plf1z)
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3 Performance

3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project outcomes

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period(numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
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	0	Foundational work impacting this indicator is in the preliminary stages, results are unable to be measured at this point in time.	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 tonnes of gold produced without mercury through other ASGM sites, by replication and uptake	0	Foundational work impacting this indicator is in the preliminary stages, results are unable to be measured at this point in time.	MS
Contribute to the reduction of mercury use in the ASGM sector in Uganda.	Quantity of gold produced fulfilling planetGOLD environment and social criteria	0	0	15	0	Foundational work impacting this indicator is in the preliminary stages, results are unable to be measured at this point in time.	MS
Contribute to the reduction of mercury use in the ASGM sector in Uganda.	# of miners formalized (women/men)	0		2250 men & 2250 women	500 men & 450 women		S
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	0	0	\$245,000	0	Foundational work impacting this indicator is in the preliminary stages, results are unable to be measured at this point in time.	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
	mechanisms made supporting mercury-free technologies.						
Outcome 1: Government and other national stakeholders increased their capacity to formalize the ASGM sector	# of actions implemented under JA/LA	0		2	1	A couple of workshops to introduce the JA/LA approach to formalisation of ASGM have been held and there is commitment to take on the approach at the local government level of the mining regions through multistakeholder platforms.	S
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	2	- The Mining and Minerals (Licensing) Regulations, 2023 provide clearly for formalisation of the ASGM sector with sections that for the first time in Uganda recognise the Artisanal and the Small-Scale mining sector independently as key players in the mining sector.- The National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024 provides for the prohibition of mercury import, sell and distribution in keeping with the Mining and Minerals Act, 2022	HS
Outcome 2: Miners in Uganda accessed financial products to invest in mercury free technologies	12. Amount of investment used from all sources	0	5000	45000	0	Research and engagement on the issue of financial inclusion for ASGMs has led to zeroing down on the most appropriate entity to support said financial inclusion as being the Uganda Central Cooperative Financial Services Ltd. An MoU between this entity and planetGOLD Uganda is underway.	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
Outcome 2: Miners in Uganda accessed financial products to invest in mercury free technologies	12. Amount of investment mobilized from all sources	0	50000	200000	0	Research and engagement on the issue of financial inclusion for ASGMs has led to zeroing down on the most appropriate entity to support said financial inclusion as being the Uganda Central Cooperative Financial Services Ltd. An MoU between this entity and planetGOLD Uganda is underway.	MS
Outcome 3: Artisanal miners in Uganda adopted mercury free processing technologies	3. No. of beneficiaries adopting best practices/technologies	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	0	Leading up to adoption of mercury free technology is formalisation optimisation and awareness raising about the dangers of mercury to human health and the environment. Formalisation of miners is in high gear with 9 cooperatives already formed. Also, awareness raising has picked up gear and a number of miners express willingness to uptake mercury free technology.	S
Outcome 3: Artisanal miners in Uganda adopted mercury free processing technologies	% increase of average monthly gold productivity with the use of mercury-free technologies (equals uptake)(impact class 3)	0		2% increase on average monthly gold productivity with the use of mercury-free technologies (equals uptake)	0	Leading up to adoption of mercury free technology is formalisation optimisation and awareness raising about the dangers of mercury to human health and the environment. Formalisation of miners is in high gear with 9 cooperatives already formed. Also, awareness raising has picked up gear and a number of miners express willingness to uptake mercury free technology.	S
Outcome 3: Artisanal miners in Uganda adopted mercury free	3. No. of beneficiaries adopting best	0		50% of miners in targeted	0	Leading up to adoption of mercury free technology is formalisation optimisation	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
processing technologies	practices/technologies			ASGM associations adopted mercury free technologies via the project (of which at least 50% are women)		and awareness raising about the dangers of mercury to human health and the environment. Formalisation of miners is in high gear with 9 cooperatives already formed. Also, awareness raising has picked up gear and a number of miners express willingness to uptake mercury free technology.	
Outcome 4: Information and knowledge shared led to improvement in the management of ASGM sector in Uganda	8. No. of beneficiaries changing practices as a result of improved awareness;	0	0	2000	480	At one mine site intended to have pilot mercury free equipment installed, an estimated 480 miners mostly women have reportedly switched to use of sluice boxes and cyanidation to process ore and tailings in order to get gold. This change can be attributed to increased awareness of the dangers of mercury.	S

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	0	70%	The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development and the National Environment Management Authority under the Ministry of Water and Environment are engaged and commitment to legislating for the ASGM sector. Only the ASM regulations remain for development completion and gazetting	HS

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
					for implementation.	
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	0	50%	Local government leaders, opinion leaders, land owners, fisher folk, agriculturalists, traditional leaders and miners in the target pilot districts of Busia and Namayingo are enthusiastic and welcoming to the idea of piloting JA/LA approaches to formalisation and look forward to the set up of the multistakeholder platforms.	S
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	0	15%	An initial mapping of key actors in the national gold supply chain was elaborated. Moreover, discussions with key actors along the supply chain have improved the understanding about the needs of the sector. Further work is expected as per workplan in upcoming reporting periods.	MS
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	0	15%	The initial target for financial inclusion was commercial banks but with more understanding about the ASGM sector players and the financial system in Uganda, clarity has been gained that microfinance type institutions as well as government led financial initiatives are the best bet for miners' financial inclusion.	MS
3 Enhancing uptake of	Output 3.1: ASGM stakeholders increased their awareness about mercury and the importance of its reduction	2027-03-31	0	10%	The project has only just begun to raise awareness about the dangers of mercury	MS

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
Mercury-free technologies					to human health and the environment. This awareness has been embraced, however, and the passing of a law prohibiting the use of mercury has helped pique miners' interest in alternatives.	
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	0	10%	The project has only just begun to raise awareness about the dangers of mercury to human health and the environment. This awareness has been embraced, however, and the passing of a law prohibiting the use of mercury has helped pique miners' interest in alternatives.	MS
4 Knowledge sharing, communication and local capacity building support	Output 4.1: Knowledge products and tools developed through the project are made available nationally to all GEF planetGOLD project stakeholders in Uganda	2027-06-30	0	25%	Knowledge products have been produced in the reporting period related to awareness on the dangers of mercury to human health and environment	S
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	0	25%	Knowledge products have been produced in the reporting period related to awareness on the dangers of mercury to human health and environment	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. largegatherings. 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 toCovid-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 there 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. Delays have been minimal.
Elections in Year 3 of the project result in delays, changes in priorities, etc.	All outputs	M	L					L	↓	Government interest in the potential of the mining sector to contribute to the economy means that there is likely to be even more prioritisation of the sector in the new government come 2026
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					M	=	This remains a moderate risk as the appropriate mercury free technology has to be imported.
Interference by mercury traders	All outputs	M	L					L	↓	Mercury traders are often gold traders at the same time. With new law, they are averse to having mercury in the open.
Inability to identify a gold exporter that meets minimum due diligence expectations of refiners	All outputs	M	H					H	↑	With the regulation banning export of unprocessed minerals in full force, this becomes a high risk factor.
ASGM associations and miners are unable	All outputs	H	L					L	↓	ASGMs in Uganda are currently

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
to meet the standards established by planetGOLD										engaged and progressive. willing to comply with standards that could allow them access to better prices.
		N/A								
		N/A								
	All outputs	L	L					L	=	The overall risk remains at same level as CEO Endorsement

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	N/A	Review and assessment of recent changes in the legal framework for the export of minerals in Uganda	Liaison with government entities to better understand the extent of the newly passed law and request insights for the particular case of the project	by 31 December 2025	Executing Agency
Supply chain partners are unable to establish commercial terms (or competitive commercial terms compared to their informal market)	N/A	Review and assessment of recent changes in the legal framework for the export of minerals in Uganda	Liaison with government entities to better understand the extent of the newly passed law and request insights for the particular case of the project	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
Efficient and lucrative alternative mercury-free gold processing techniques are not appropriate (or not available) for ASM	N/A	Commenced the development of a technical assistance plan which will analyse what kind of equipment is most appropriate at which site as the project plans two pilot sites	Liaison with government entities to secure clearances and waivers if any to enable easier importation of the mercury free technology	by 31 December 2025	Executing Agency
Inability to identify a gold exporter that meets minimum due diligence expectations of refiners	N/A	Review and assessment of recent changes in the legal framework for the export of minerals in Uganda	Liaison with government entities to better understand the extent of the newly passed law and request insights for the particular case of the project	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 between 26% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks. Low Risk (L): There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.



5 Amendment - GeoSpatial

Project Minor Amendments

Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5% as described in Annex 9 of the Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines. Please tick each category for which a change occurred in the fiscal year of reporting and provide a description of the change that occurred in the textbox. You may attach supporting document as appropriate

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

Minor Amendments	Changes
Results Framework:	
Components and Cost:	
Institutional and implementation arrangements:	
Financial Management:	
Implementation Schedule:	
Executing Entity:	
Executing Entity Category:	
Minor project objective change:	
Safeguards:	
Risk analysis:	
Increase of GEF financing up to 5%:	
Location of project activity:	
Other:	

Minor amendments

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

Version	Type	Signed/Approved by UNEP	Entry Into Force (last signature Date)	Agreement Expiry Date	Main changes introduced in this revision

Version	Type	Signed/Approved by UNEP	Entry Into Force (last signature Date)	Agreement Expiry Date	Main changes introduced in this revision
Version 0	Revision	2022-07-29	2022-07-29	2027-06-30	N/A (Original PCA in place)

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		
Tira	0.5132	34.0775	226137		
Buhere	0.1666	33.8166			
Kabaga Hills	0.4204	32.5616	11356954		
Nakabat	2.6667	34.7500			
Kapiyosa	1.46573	34.8020			
Cheptakol	1.44919	34.78881			
Kayonza	-0.92447	29.64198	8657797		
Katenga	-0.58333	32.2	231937		
Nyabiremura	-1.110797	29.669110			
Rushaga	-1.127500	29.69226			

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	
10618_planetGOLD Uganda_Annex 13_Co-finance Report-PIR1.xlsx	CW TM	2024-09-03 15:09:29	<u>Download</u>
10618_2024 PIR_Stories.docx	CW TM	2024-08-02 08:10:30	<u>Download</u>
planetGOLD New Vision article.pdf	Executing Agency	2024-07-26 19:41:17	<u>Download</u>