

GEF - PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)

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At: 2026-09-10 07:43:04

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UNEP GEF PIR Fiscal Year 2026
Reporting from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026

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:	50
Project Type:	Full Sized Project (FSP)
Parent Programme if child project:	
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:	2022-11-23
Date of First Disbursement:	2022-08-30
Total disbursement as of 30 June 2026:	\$ 2,950,887.00
Total expenditure as of 30 June:	\$ 2,654,462.00
Midterm undertaken?:	No
Actual Mid-Term Date, if taken:	
Expected Mid-Term Date, if not taken:	2026-12-31

Completion Date Planned - Original PCA:	2027-06-30
Completion Date Revised - Current PCA:	2027-06-30
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date:	2027-09-30
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)	Ludovic Bernaudat
UNEP Task Manager(s)	Altanbagana Bayarsaikhan
UNEP Budget/Finance Officer	Anuradha Shenoy
UNEP Support Assistants	

Manager/Representative	Emilian Manishimwe
Project Manager	Carmen Teichgraber
Finance Manager	Ali Attab
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):	• 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	<u>UNDAF linkages:</u> 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. <u>UNSDCF (2021-2025) linkages:</u> OUTCOME 2.1: By 2025, people especially the marginalized and vulnerable, benefit from increased productivity, decent employment and equal rights to resources 2.1.2c. Percentage of eligible population with access to formal financial services disaggregated by sex, age, disability and location (rural/urban) OUTCOME 2.2: By 2025, Uganda's natural resources and environment are sustainably managed and protected, and people, especially the 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	• 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:	• 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

	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	No quantifiable areas under improved management to benefit biodiversity recorded as of this reporting period. The project had no interventions related to this as it experienced managerial transition as well as operational permit renewal concerns. The total from the previous report is 4.2.
9.2- Quantity of mercury reduced		60	60	2.43	0.607 tons reduction has so far been realized with a multiplier factor applied in keeping with the approved

	Targets - Expected Value				
Indicators	Mid-term	End-of-project	Total Target	Materialized to date	Remarks
					methodology. Confirmation of accurate figures will be updated following ongoing assessments the project is undertaking.
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		As of this reporting period, the project has not undertaken interventions on low-chemical or non-chemical systems.
11.2- Female		2250	2250	1083	1,083 females have cumulatively been reached through project interventions this reporting period from the last 1000, an increase of 83.
11.1- Male		2250	2250	1348	1,348 males have benefited from project interventions as of this reporting period compared to 1200 reported in the last i.e. an increase of 148 males.

Implementation Status 2026: 3rd 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 2026	3rd PIR	MS	MS	M
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 formalize

On 4 July 2025, the planetGOLD Uganda team participated in the International Day of Cooperatives Symposium organized by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives in Fort Portal. During the symposium, the project highlighted the significant investment opportunities within the ASGM sector and encouraged financial institutions to develop financing products tailored to responsible mining enterprises. The team also emphasized the importance of strengthening cooperative governance structures that integrate environmental sustainability, climate resilience, and responsible mining practices, enabling cooperatives to become viable recipients of green and climate finance.

On 29–30 September 2025, the planetGOLD Uganda team joined officials from the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development on a field mission to verify cooperative societies operating within mining communities. The exercise assessed the legal status, governance, and membership of two mining cooperatives: Kagaba Women Miners and Traders Cooperative Society and Kitumbi–Kayonza Women Miners Cooperative Society.

The verification established that the certificates of registration for both cooperatives expired in September 2025, limiting their legal standing and ability to access financial services and development opportunities. Consequently, the project committed to supporting the renewal of their registrations as part of its broader efforts to strengthen cooperative governance, promote formalization, and enhance access to financial and technical support for ASGM communities.

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

In July and September 2025, the project convened two high-level stakeholder meetings with key institutions to explore sustainable financing solutions for Uganda's artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) sector. Participants included representatives from the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED), through the Financial Inclusion Support Unit (FISU), the Uganda Central Cooperative Financial Services (UCCFS), and the Association of Microfinance Institutions of Uganda (AMFIU). FISU plays a leading role in promoting financial inclusion in Uganda, while UCCFS supports cooperative-based financial institutions and AMFIU strengthens the capacity and performance of microfinance institutions across the country.

The primary objective of these engagements was to establish a collaborative framework for identifying an appropriate financing model tailored to the unique needs of the ASGM sector. Discussions focused on addressing the financial barriers faced by miners and exploring innovative approaches to improving access to affordable and responsible financial services. To complement these discussions, the project organized a joint field visit to the Kagaba and Kayonza mining sites in Kassanda District. Representatives from FISU, UCCFS, and AMFIU participated in the visit, which provided them with first-hand exposure to mining operations and an opportunity to engage directly with miners and local stakeholders. The visit enabled participants to better understand the operational realities of the sector, including its financing needs, existing informal financial arrangements, and the challenges limiting miners' access to formal financial services. Building on the insights gained from the field visit and stakeholder consultations, the partners agreed to convene a multi-stakeholder retreat in the fourth quarter of 2025 to jointly develop a financial model for the ASGM sector.

The retreat was subsequently held in October 2025, bringing together representatives from the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, the Association of Microfinance Institutions of Uganda (AMFIU), Uganda Central Cooperative Financial Services Ltd (UCCFS), and the planetGOLD Uganda Project. The three-day workshop provided a collaborative platform for participants to share institutional experiences, assess financing gaps within the ASGM sector, and jointly design a blended financing model tailored to the needs of artisanal and small-scale miners.

The proposed blended financial model combines financial services, technical assistance, cooperative strengthening, and responsible mining principles to improve miners' access to affordable finance while supporting the adoption of mercury-free processing technologies and environmentally responsible mining practices. The model was recognized as a practical and scalable approach for promoting financial inclusion, improving productivity, and advancing the objectives of the planetGOLD Uganda Project.

To broaden engagement with financial institutions, the project team held a meeting with the management of FINCA Uganda in February 2026. The objective was to introduce the planetGOLD Uganda Project, explore opportunities for institutional collaboration, and initiate discussions on developing financial products suitable for the ASGM sector. Discussions focused on the financing requirements associated with mercury-free gold processing technologies, the prevalence of informal pre-financing arrangements, sector-specific investment risks, and potential target clients, including processing site owners, mining license holders, and mining cooperatives. FINCA expressed interest in exploring a potential partnership but emphasized the need for a deeper understanding of the sector through field visits, direct engagement with mining communities, and additional technical discussions before considering the development of dedicated financial products.

The meeting concluded with a shared commitment to continue technical engagement and organize joint field visits to assess the feasibility of a future partnership. To further strengthen this process, the project has engaged both a Financial Model Consultant and a Business Model Consultant to develop sustainable financial and business model strategies tailored to the needs of Uganda's artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) sector. The consultants' work will generate evidence-based recommendations and practical financing approaches that will inform subsequent discussions and partnerships with financial institutions, ultimately supporting the development of appropriate financial products for ASGM enterprises. These efforts represent important progress towards establishing sustainable financing mechanisms that promote responsible, inclusive, and environmentally sound development of Uganda's ASGM sector.

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

Metallurgical tests were conducted to characterize the ore from selected artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) sites and inform the selection and design of appropriate processing equipment for the pilot sites. Ore and tailings samples were collected from eight (8) mining sites across the districts of Moroto, Amudat, Busia, and

Kassanda and submitted to the African Mineral Laboratory for analysis. The laboratory analyses determined the gold content and assessed the presence of other metals and elements, including copper, Sulphur, and mercury, that could influence the efficiency of gold recovery processes. The findings provided a comprehensive mineralogical characterization of the ore and tailings from the selected sites, enabling the project to suggest the most suitable processing technologies and plant designs for each location. Additional metallurgical test work will be undertaken during the commissioning of the pilot plants, as required, to optimize processing performance.

Site Mapping and Community Engagement

During 3-4 November 2025, the Project Management Unit conducted site mapping and community engagement activities at three (3) selected pilot sites in the districts of Moroto and Amudat. The objective was to foster ownership and secure the support of miners, local community leaders, surrounding communities, District Local Governments, and other key stakeholders. These engagements also provided valuable information on site conditions, operational practices, stakeholder expectations, and logistical considerations. The information gathered has been instrumental in informing the planning, design, preparation, and implementation of the pilot processing facilities while ensuring that the interventions are responsive to local needs and have broad stakeholder support. However, during the site assessment process, the project experienced challenges in collecting accurate mercury use data as much of the information gathered was based on self-declarations that could not easily be validated, variations in mining and processing practices, and the informal nature of mercury transactions within ASGM communities. Recognizing these challenges, the project revised its implementation approach by engaging Devsol led by Patience Singo, who brings extensive technical expertise and practical experience from other planetGOLD projects. Devsol is providing specialized support in site assessments, mercury use estimation, metallurgical testing, equipment planning, and implementation. This enhanced technical approach is expected to improve the quality and reliability of site data, strengthen the design of pilot processing facilities, and ensure that project interventions are based on robust technical evidence and international best practice.

The project 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.

As part of efforts to promote mercury-free gold processing technologies that are practically efficient, effective, affordable, and locally available to improve gold recovery while reducing reliance of mercury among ASGMs, the project visited two sites in Namayingo and Busia Districts where these equipment and systems had been reported to be available for demonstration and sale for assessment. The project team benefited from direct observations and demonstrations done. The equipment used in mercury free gold processing included the gold kacha, shaker tables, magnetic separator etc., which the project team did appreciate. During the equipment assessment, the project team focused on aspects of equipment suitability, purchase price, installation requirements, previous applications & user experience, technical support, warranty. However, some limitations identified included; high cost of equipment that can't easily be afforded by most miners, easy availability of equipment & spare parts, and durability question especially for equipment coming in from some parts of the world. This shape informs project equipment choice & decision.

The project has focused on identifying potential sites to set up mercury free pilot plants across 8 mining sites. Pilot sites have been identified, pending stakeholder agreement on the final sites. The project developed an equipment list and flowsheet for the pilot sites and is working on an equipment procurement strategy in

preparation to installation for the mercury free processing plants. During the year, the project conducted multiple visits to different sites to evaluate potential and formulate a quick win strategy for mercury elimination. The project will focus on the main intervention sites and strengthen planning and site identification criteria. The site visits investigated type of processing methods, levels of mercury emission, type of mining, infrastructure, access and gender dynamics in mineral processing and mercury exposure. During the field visits, the project interacted with over 400 miners with a male to female ratio of 3:1.

The following sites were profiled as part of review on their potential as mercury free processing pilot sites; Kitumbi Kayonza and Kagaba Hills in Kassanda District, Tiira and Siyanyonja in Busia District, Buhere in Namayingo District, Rupa and Nakabat Hills in Moroto District and Cheptakol in Amudat District. The findings show an increase in mercury use due to fast adoption of whole ore amalgamation in wet pan mills; a very high Hg:Au ratio in communities near border communities; a willingness to explore mercury free technologies and improve gold recoveries and supportive stakeholders. These findings will inform unique intervention strategies for each site. The project is in a good position to roll out mercury free processing interventions during the year.

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

Facilitated planetGOLD stakeholders to participate in a Regional Workshop for the Validation of the revised Regional Guide on the Formalization of the Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining Sector during the period 21-22 August 2025 in Entebbe, Uganda. The workshop provided an important platform for stakeholders from participating countries to review, discuss and validate the revised Regional Guide, ensuring that it reflects the current realities, challenges and opportunities within the ASM sector. The engagement also promoted experience sharing among stakeholders and strengthened collaboration on approaches to formalization, responsible mining and improved governance of the sector.

Project Team participated in a sensitization event organized by the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) in the district of Busia (one of the project target sites) during the period 29-30 January 2026. The focus was on sustainable mining practices, with particular emphasis on the safe use and management of chemicals such as mercury, cyanide etc. at mining sites. The team was also able to undertake familiarization visits of selected ASGM sites hinting on the planned mercury free piloting by the project, for learning also visited Wagagai Mining Company – a large-scale mining Co, and later Kakoba Company Ltd to observe a demonstration of mercury-free gold processing technology.

The project convened its 3rd Annual Stakeholders' Meeting on 28 November 2025 under the theme, "The Future of Gold Mining: Healthier, Gender Inclusive and Mercury-Free." The meeting brought together a diverse group of more than 200 stakeholders, including government institutions, development partners, civil society organizations, the private sector, academia, and representatives of artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) communities. The forum provided an important platform to review project progress, share lessons learned, strengthen partnerships, and discuss strategic priorities for advancing responsible and sustainable gold mining in Uganda.

In addition to highlighting significant progress made during the year, discussions focused on promoting mercury-free gold processing technologies, strengthening formalization of the ASGM sector, enhancing responsible gold mining, improving occupational health and safety, and advancing gender equality and social inclusion within mining communities. Participants emphasized the importance of coordinated multi-stakeholder action, evidence-based decision-making, and stronger institutional collaboration to address environmental, social, and economic challenges facing the sector. Participants reaffirmed their commitment to supporting Uganda's transition towards a healthier, more inclusive, and mercury-free ASGM sector through strengthened partnerships, innovation, and policy implementation.

The planetGOLD Uganda project was represented at the 6th Meeting of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury held between 3-7 November 2026 in Geneva Switzerland. The progress of the planetGOLD Uganda project was showcased during a side event organized by the planetGOLD Global Programme during which countries that implemented the programme during its first phase and those in advanced stages of implementation in its second phase shared experiences and learnings one from another.

Challenges: Information on challenges of project implementation activities

The challenges encountered in project implementation include the continued accessibility and use of mercury attributed to porous border points and informal supply chains, weak enforcement of regulations governing mercury use and importation, limited awareness among miners of the health and environmental risks associated with mercury, and inadequate routine inspections and monitoring by relevant government agencies due to resource and capacity constraints. In addition, some miner cooperatives operate outside recommended governance and operational standards, with weak institutional structures and limited adherence to formalization requirements. Variations in mining practices further complicate the adoption of responsible and mercury-free mining practices.

Implementation was also affected by delays in renewing IMPACT Uganda's operating permit with the NGO Bureau, disruptions associated with the national election period, and the transition to a new Program Manager. In response, the project will continue to strengthen awareness-raising and capacity-building initiatives, support the enforcement of relevant regulations, and provide targeted technical assistance to standardize, formalize, and strengthen the governance and operations of miner cooperatives, thereby promoting responsible and mercury-free artisanal and small-scale gold mining.

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 to 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

Planned Co-finance:	\$ 13,016,000
Actual to date:	2,389,812
Progress	Justify progress in terms of materialization of expected co-finance. State any relevant challenges: During this reporting period, USD 885,812 was contributed. Actual to date is USD 2,389,812 (18% total co-finance contributed). 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.
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2.5 Stakeholder

Date of project steering committee meeting	2025-11-28
Stakeholder engagement (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)	As part of stakeholder engagement, the project held a series of interventions i.e. at the national level, the project held a Project Steering Committee meeting and the Annual Stakeholder's Meeting on 28 November 2025 under the theme “The Future of Gold Mining: Healthier, Gender Inclusive and Mercury Free”, fostering broad participation and strategic discussions. The 2025 Annual Stakeholders’ Meeting convened more than 150 diverse partners, including government institutions, development partners, civil society organizations, the private sector, academia, and representatives of ASGM communities, to evaluate progress, exchange strategic insights, and reaffirm collective priorities. Deliberations focused on advancing gender equality, promoting inclusive practices, and reinforcing collaborative frameworks to achieve sustainable development outcomes. Notable accomplishments included the institutionalization of gender-responsive policies across core programs, the implementation of targeted capacity-building initiatives, and demonstrable improvements in community engagement metrics. Participants underscored the imperative of evidence-based decision-making, strengthened accountability mechanisms, and the integration of technological innovations to address systemic gaps in service delivery. Forward-looking commitments emphasized deepening strategic partnerships, scaling innovative solutions, and ensuring equitable participation at all governance levels. The meeting reaffirmed a unified vision: fostering inclusive growth and driving structural transformation for enduring impact in ASGM. In addition, the project also held the following stakeholder engagements: As part of efforts to strengthen coordination, collaboration, and effective implementation of the project, monthly update and planning meetings were held with the Mines Department and National Environment Management Authority. The meetings provided an opportunity for the project team and the Mines Department & NEMA to review progress, discuss emerging challenges, assess planned activities, and agree on priority actions for the next implementation period. A meeting was held with Bank of Uganda on the 22 May 2026, to discuss about the viability of formulating mineral markets (local gold purchase program) and how IMPACT would be involved. The intended Bank of Uganda support to miners would be drawing the mineral markets closer to the miners while also providing fair mineral price and introduced BoU to the existing Responsible Certification

	Mechanism-based of chain of custody guidelines for gold. In attendance was the Ministry of Energy & Mineral Development representatives, NEMA that discussed issues of miner licensing & Environment Social Impact Assessment certificate issuances to miners. It was agreed that the miners would be engaged to further elaborate on the issues discussed. Site visit was conducted to Kitumbi Kayonza Women Miners cooperative association. The project organized a joint field visit to the Kagaba and Kayonza mining sites in Kassanda District. Representatives from FISU, UCCFS, and AMFIU participated in the visit, which provided them with first-hand exposure to mining operations and an opportunity to engage directly with miners and local stakeholders. The visit enabled participants to better understand the operational realities of the sector, including its financing needs, existing informal financial arrangements, and the challenges limiting miners' access to formal financial services. As part of ensuring traceability of mercury free gold production and sale, the project supported a sensitization workshop with the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development on the proposed establishment of mineral markets and buying centers enlighten miners and gold dealers of the set guidelines for planned government gold purchases. Several stakeholders were engaged including selected miners, gold dealers, District Local Government Representatives from mining districts, government officials, CSOs & Development partners, 150 participants were in attendance including 103 men and 47 women.
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2.6 Gender

Does the project have a gender action plan?	Yes
Gender mainstreaming (will be uploaded to GEF Portal):	In October 2025, the project, in collaboration with financial institutions and sector stakeholders, including the Financial Inclusion Support Unit (FISU), Uganda Central Cooperative Financial Services (UCCFS), and the Association of Microfinance Institutions of Uganda (AMFIU), visited the Kitumbi Kayonza Women Miners Cooperative Society in Kassanda District. Particular attention was given to issues that affect women miners' ability to participate effectively in the formal gold economy, including access to financial services, bankability, gold traceability, and access to reliable and formal gold markets. The project made deliberate efforts to profile women participation in the ASGM sector. During the 3rd Annual Stakeholders' Meeting on 28 November 2025 under the theme, "The Future of Gold Mining: Healthier, Gender Inclusive and Mercury-Free," provided a platform to recognize the works of women miners and share experiences. E.g. Aisha from Kayonza shared her experience on how she's making strides to transit from mercury use to mercury free gold processing – micro leaching. All project meetings, consultations, trainings, workshops, stakeholder engagements, and community dialogues are designed and conducted in a gender-inclusive manner, ensuring that women, men, and other relevant groups have equal opportunities to

	participate, contribute, and influence project decisions. Gender considerations are integrated throughout the project implementation cycle rather than being treated as a stand-alone activity. During the reporting period, the project developed gender-inclusive sensitization toolkits to support the mainstreaming of gender considerations across planetGOLD Uganda interventions. The toolkits provide practical and user-friendly materials for sensitizing ASGM stakeholders on gender equality, women's participation and leadership, equitable access to resources and opportunities, prevention of gender-based discrimination, and the importance of involving both women and men in decision-making processes. The toolkits were designed to be inclusive of different groups within the ASGM value chain, including women miners, processors, traders, cooperative members, mine owners and other community stakeholders. They will support consistent and gender-responsive messaging during community engagements, trainings, cooperative strengthening, formalization activities, access-to-finance interventions and promotion of mercury-free technologies. During this reporting period, the project developed gender-sensitive communication messages for dissemination through blogs, YouTube videos, radio talk shows and other communication platforms to promote awareness and dialogue on gender equality and women's participation in the artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) sector. The messages are designed to challenge negative gender norms and stereotypes that limit women's participation, leadership and access to resources within the sector, while highlighting the important economic and social contributions made by women across the ASGM value chain. During the site assessment and mercury measurements, the project engaged women groups, reviewed gender roles and engagements in ASGM operations. This information will inform mercury free processing plants planning and intervention design to ensure they are inclusive and gender sensitive.
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2.7 ESSM

Moderate/High risk projects (in terms of Environmental and social safeguards)	Was the project classified as moderate/high risk CEO Endorsement/Approval Stage? No If yes, what specific safeguard risks were identified in the SRIF/ESERN?
New social and/or environmental risks	Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during the reporting period? No If yes, describe the new risks or changes?
Complaints and grievances	Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential) during the reporting

related to social and/or environmental impacts	period? No If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail, including the status, significance, who was involved and what actions were taken?
Environmental and social safeguards management	All mine sites are required to have an Environmental Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) certificate issued by NEMA. This is a crucial mine site planning tool as it helps secure legal/ formality, prevents severe environmental damage, protects local livelihoods and enhances community trust which are key pillars in the planetGOLD Environment and Social Criteria. Two of the project target sites i.e. Tiira and Kagaba have secured ESIA's which is a legally binding commitment to environmental and social safeguards. Compliance is reviewed annually and punitive actions like site closures, arrests etc. can be enforced for non-conformity. IMPACT Uganda Office set up a grievance mechanism in which allows individuals to report to send safe and confidential reports to our global office either through emails or an on-line form. IMPACT has a clear protocol in place to manage any complaints that may be received in a professional and confidential manner if needed. All staff at the IMPACT Uganda office have completed the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) training. The PSEA is an organizational tool that enforces zero-tolerance policies, addresses power imbalances in vulnerable resource-dependent regions, and safeguards local communities where field operations take place. The project team is now able to prevent, detect, report and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse using clear internal controls, victim referral practices and accountable case handling. All contractors/ consultants executing IMPACT assignments are obliged to sign the code of conduct. This code of conduct enforces strict professional, ethical, and data privacy standards. It prevents conflicts of interest, protects confidential information, ensures regulatory compliance, and establishes clear grounds for contract termination if fraud, bribery, or misconduct occurs.

2.8 KM/Learning

Knowledge activities and products	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>.
Main learning during the period	Involvement of all key project partners in activity planning and implementation enhances a better understanding of the project and its intended outcomes. This also helps create a better understanding of the required support mechanisms for efficient and effective

	project implementation. Frequent interactions with the project beneficiaries and stakeholders is very critical in appreciation of the intended project outcomes and buy-in. Miners have a better understanding, appreciation of mercury free gold processing interventions when they are able to physically see and practically have hands on experiments with proposed technologies and equipment. Promotion of mercury free gold mining without alternative efficient and effective solutions hinders sensitization efforts on negative effects of mercury use in the gold value chain. Another learning during this reporting 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 has been designed and published on planetGOLD and IMPACT websites on 1 July 2026. On World Environment Day, 5 June 2026 in Kitumbi-Kayonza Mine Site, the project distributed messages from the toolkit printed on boards that will be pinned across the mine site for sensitization. This exercise will be done in the remaining 10 mine sites.
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Reflows

Reflows (for NGIs only)	
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2.9 Stories

Stories to be shared	• Towards Mercury-Free Gold Mining in Uganda - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f8p_AuRW25E • Breaking Gender Barriers in Uganda's ASGM Sector - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0e3RUm_Bpr8 • Meet Monica: A miner breaking gender stereotypes in artisanal gold mining in Uganda - https://www.planetgold.org/meet-monica-miner-breaking-gender-stereotypes-artisanal-gold-mining-uganda • Building a Mercury-Free Future in Uganda: Reflections from the 2025 Annual Stakeholders' Meeting - https://www.planetgold.org/building-mercury-free-future-uganda-reflections-2025-annual-stakeholders-meeting
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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
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	3 legislative initiatives were implemented from previous reporting. As for this reporting period no new regulations/ legal initiatives were implemented.	S
1: Government and other national stakeholders increased their capacity to formalize the ASGM sector	# of actions implemented under JA/LA	0	0	2	1	2 multistakeholder groups were formulated as of the previous reporting period. As of this current report, no additional JA/LA related actions were implemented.	MS
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	\$25,000 investment has been realized to date. The \$10,000 increment on \$15,000 recorded in the last reporting window is a finding made with the ongoing pilot site assessment. In Moroto District, miners at some sites (Rupa site), have invested funds to procure & set up vat leaching tanks to process gold from mercury free tailings.	MU
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	\$25,000 investment has been realized to date. The \$10,000 increment on \$15,000 recorded in the last reporting window is a finding made with the ongoing pilot site assessment. In Moroto District, miners at some sites (Rupa site), have invested funds to procure & set up vat leaching tanks to process gold from mercury free tailings.	MU
3: Artisanal miners in Uganda adopted mercury free	% of miners in targeted ASGM associations adopted	0	0	50% of miners in targeted	0	No Hg free equipment purchase has been made up to this reporting by the project. The project	U

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	mercury-free technologies via the project (men/women)			ASGM associations adopted mercury free technologies via the project (of which at least 50% are women)		has engaged a consultant to conduct site assessments that will inform the equipment strategy.	
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	18%	At least 2 sites (Kitumbi Kayonza and Kagaba Hills) are implementing sections of the planetGOLD Criteria. The 2 sites have acquired Environmental Social Impact Assessment certificates issued by NEMA. Notable overlaps between ESIA & planetGOLD Criteria include; • Stakeholder consultation • Gender equality & Social inclusion • Human rights • No child labour • Occupational Health & safety	MS
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	0	The project has not yet set up mercury free equipment and hence gold productivity increase cannot be ascertained & attributed to project equipment.	U

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
				uptake)			
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	1102	In addition to the 1060 beneficiaries last reported in the previous reporting period, current progression is 1102 miners practicing improved mining practices that can be attributed to awareness efforts from the project across the targeted 11 sites.	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	2027-06-30	118	23/60 participants reached in national consultation workshop on drafted regulations (women/men); 3/5 governmental institutions that have received technical support for the implementation of new regulation related to mercury reduction in ASGM sector; 163/1400 miners sensitized on existing laws, regulations and policies; 3/3 of drafts finalized by the Regulations working group	The project is making good progress in strengthening the regulatory framework, with all three planned drafts finalized; however, additional efforts are required to expand stakeholder consultations, provide technical support to the remaining institutions, and significantly increase sensitization of ASGM miners on existing laws, regulations, and policies.	S
1 Formalization Optimization	Output 1.2: The jurisdictional and multi-stakeholder approach is piloted at selected ASGM mine sites at the local	2027-06-30	56	25/20 of relevant stakeholders that have participated in workshops introducing JA; 20/10 relevant stakeholders participating in multi-stakeholder group for JA; 0/1 knowledge products/guidance document	The project has made strong progress in advancing the JA approach, exceeding targets for stakeholder participation and successfully launching two multi-stakeholder groups; however, the JA/LA	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
	level			produced on JA/LA to strengthen formalization in ASGM sector; 2/1 multi-stakeholder groups for JA to support ASGM formalization launched	knowledge product remains outstanding due to delays in completing the JA/LA assessment and incorporating the required technical inputs.	
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.	2027-06-30	11	3/45 kg of gold sold through formal market (originating from the project areas); 0/1 buyers/refiners offered inventory financing; 12/30 of ASGM actors (ASGM associations, traders, refiners) sensitized on OECD Due Diligence Guidance implementation and responsible sourcing (women/men)	Progress toward strengthening responsible and formal gold markets remains limited. Only 3 of the targeted 45 kg of gold (6.7%) has been sold through the formal market, indicating that the transition of gold from project areas into formal supply chains is still at an early stage.	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.	2027-06-30	15	1/1 financial inclusion mechanisms identified and/or implemented; 60/650 miners sensitized on new financial inclusion mechanisms; 32/450 miners using new financial inclusion mechanisms (e.g. through organisation in savings groups, cooperatives etc.) (women/men); 4/5 institutional partners reached with the aim of creating a financial inclusion mechanism for ASGM	The low uptake of new financial mechanisms is attributed to limited awareness of the available blended financial mechanisms, low trust in formal financial services and inadequate access to appropriate financial products.	MS
3 Enhancing uptake of Mercury-free technologies	Output 3.1. ASGM stakeholders increased their awareness about mercury and the importance of its reduction.	2027-06-30	103	0/4 institutions identified/trained to carry out training on mercury sensitization; 1/1 sensitization and training tools developed; 1300/2000 miners in project areas sensitized on harmful effects of mercury (women/men)	The project has achieved a reasonable level of direct miner sensitization and established the necessary training tools, but greater effort is needed to build institutional capacity and reach the remaining miners to ensure sustained and wider mercury awareness.	MS
3 Enhancing uptake of Mercury-free technologies	Output 3.2 Artisanal miners are capacitated	2027-06-30	7	2 completed planetGOLD Environmental and Social Risk Assessment Reports and	The project has made good progress, with 2 Environmental and Social Risk	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
free technologies	with better ASGM practices (including environmental and gender equitable aspects) for both women and men at selected ASGM mine sites at the local level.			Mitigation Reports; 237/300 miners in targeted ASGM associations trained on planetGOLD Environmentally and Socially responsible criteria, including mercury-free technologies; 0/2 Hg-free processing systems in ASGM target associations installed; 2.43 tons/60 tons quantity of mercury reduced and avoided	Assessment and Mitigation Reports completed and 237 of 300 targeted miners trained on responsible ASGM practices, including mercury-free technologies. However, no mercury-free processing systems have been installed yet, which explains the low mercury reduction of 2.43 tons against the 60-ton target. Procurement, site assessment, and installation preparations are ongoing and are expected to accelerate progress toward the mercury reduction target.	
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	80%	5/8 communications materials produced and disseminated that follow planetGOLD branding, style guide and messaging guide; 12/20 Ugandan project institutional / corporate stakeholders reached with information, education, and communication (IEC) materials; 05/10 blogs, news articles, events, photo essays, videos, etc. published on planetgold.org or on other planetGOLD digital communication platforms; 70+/50 hits on website; 3300/4500 beneficiaries accessing published/available knowledge generated from components 1, 2, and 3	The project has made good progress in communication and knowledge dissemination, with 5 communication materials produced, 12 stakeholders reached, and 5 knowledge products published. Website engagement has exceeded the target, with 70+ hits against 50, while 3,300+ beneficiaries have accessed project knowledge products. Further outreach and dissemination activities are planned to achieve the remaining targets.	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	89%	3/2 project representatives participated in each planetGOLD global forum and annual programme meeting; 4/3 project experts that participate in regular (~quarterly) knowledge exchange meetings to share relevant approaches	The project has exceeded all targets, with 3 representatives participating in global forums, 4 experts engaging in regular knowledge exchange meetings, and 5 knowledge products produced and disseminated against targets of 2, 3, and 3	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
				and information with other country projects; 5/3 knowledge products produced and disseminated (in relation to components 1, 2 and 3)	respectively. This reflects strong engagement in global learning, collaboration, and knowledge sharing.	

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

4 Risks

4.1 Table A. Project management Risk

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

Risk Factor	EA Rating	TM Rating
1 Management structure - Roles and responsibilities	Low	Low
2 Governance structure - Oversight	Low	Low
3 Implementation schedule	Moderate	Moderate
4 Budget	Moderate	Moderate
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	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	L			L	=	The effect of the pandemic was to 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	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	All outputs	M	L	L	L			L	=	The elections limited staff movements to

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
result in delays and changes in priorities. etc.										the field and gatherings were restricted. As the elections concluded on 15 January 2026, project operations resumed across the country.
Miners do not trust or buy-in to mercury-free technologies	All outputs	M	L	L	L			L	=	The Enforcement of the new mining and Minerals Act 2022 is weak.
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	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	L			L	=	Prohibition of mercury use by law as well as government interest to buy gold from the ASGM means that 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	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	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	L			L	=	The national land tenure system allows for land owners to lease land to mining lease holders. This system has always worked well.

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
Efficient and lucrative alternative mercury-free gold processing techniques are not appropriate (or not available) for ASM	All outputs	M	M	L	L			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	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 of refiners	All outputs	M	H	H	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 to meet the standards established by planetGOLD	All outputs	H	L	L	L			L	=	ASGMs in Uganda are currently engaged and progressive/ willing to comply with standards that could allow them access to better prices.
Managerial transition	All outputs	N/A			M			M		The temporary absence of the Project Manager resulted in some challenges in maintaining the desired level of project implementation momentum. To strengthen coordination and ensure continuity, a Program Lead for the IMPACT Uganda Office was recruited and assumed duty on 27 April 2026.
Delayed acquisition of the renewed operational permit	All outputs	N/A			M			M		Delayed acquisition of the permit led to limited activity implementation. As of 15 May 2026, IMPACT Uganda Office secured renewal of operational certificate that permits project operations across all its locations.
Implementation schedule	All outputs	N/A			M			M		The delay in the implementation schedule

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
										was primarily due to a change in the Project Lead position. However, an accelerated implementation plan has been put in place to fast-track the delivery of outstanding activities.
Budget	All outputs	N/A			M			M		Limited implementation of activities resulted in a lower-than-planned burn rate. However, an accelerated implementation plan is now in place to fast-track activities and improve the burn rate in the coming period
	All outputs	L	L	L	M			M	↑	

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

Additional mitigation measures for the next periods

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
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	The project has engaged relevant government institutions and stakeholders to assess the implications of changes in the legal framework on co-financing opportunities.	Seek more co-financiers in the sector	by 30 June 2027	Executing Agency
Supply chain partners are unable to establish	Review and assessment of recent changes in the legal	The project is exploring business and financial	Continue to engage MEMD and BoU to	by 30 June 2027	Executing Agency

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
commercial terms (or competitive commercial terms compared to the informal market)	framework for the export of minerals in Uganda	models that can support transparent, commercially viable, and competitive gold supply chain arrangements.	actualise this domestic purchase programme to the benefit of miners		
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	The project is assessing responsible sourcing and traceability requirements to guide the identification and selection of suitable exporters.	Continue to engage MEMD and BoU to actualise this domestic purchase programme	by 30 June 2027	Executing Agency
Delayed acquisition of the renewed operational permit	Follow up closely with the NGO Bureau and relevant authorities to expedite the renewal process and ensure timely acquisition of the operational permit.	As of 15 May 2026, the permit has been renewed, authorizing IMPACT to operate across the country for the next 60 months.	Continue to engage the NGO Bureau to fast-track any changes in permit acquisition processes	By 30 June 2027	Executing Agency
Implementation schedule	Develop and implement an accelerated implementation schedule to fast-track delayed activities and ensure the project remains on track to meet its planned targets and timelines.	An accelerated implementation plan has been put in place to fast-track the implementation of activities and ensure timely delivery of planned activities	Regularly monitor the implementation plan against agreed timelines and deliverables.	By 30 June 2027	Executing Agency
Budget	Review and accelerate the implementation of planned activities to improve budget absorption	A budget tracking tool has been put in place to fast-track budget implementation	Align expenditure with the accelerated implementation plan to ensure timely budget	By 30 June 2027	Executing Agency

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
			utilization.		
Managerial transition	Conduct recruitment for the new Country Lead for the Uganda Country office.	Develop a management transition plan for the Uganda Country office	An orientation and mentorship plan put in place	By 30 June 2027	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:	No
Components and Cost:	No
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

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

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

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

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GEO Name ID	Location Description	Activity Description
					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 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	
10618_planetGOLD Uganda_Co-finance Report-PIR2_July_2026.xlsx	Executing Agency	2026-08-26 14:24:50	Download
Report On Results from Sample Analysis.pdf	Executing Agency	2026-08-24 07:50:46	Download
Report - Annual stakeholders' meeting 2025.pdf	Executing Agency	2026-08-24 07:50:46	Download
PlanetGOLD Uganda project laboratory sample analysis report.pdf	Executing Agency	2026-08-24 07:50:45	Download
Certificate of Analysis-Sulphur Analysis.pdf	Executing Agency	2026-08-24 07:50:45	Download
Activity Report for Three-Day Retreat with Three Financial Institutions.pdf	Executing Agency	2026-08-24 07:50:45	Download