



Project Implementation Report

(1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024)

Project Title:	Accelerating cleantech innovation and entrepreneurship in SMEs to support the transition towards circular economy and create green jobs
GEF ID:	10456
UNIDO ID:	190144
GEF Replenishment Cycle:	GEF-7
Country(ies):	South Africa
Region:	AFR - Africa
GEF Focal Area:	Climate Change Adaptation (CCA)
Integrated Approach Pilot (IAP) Programs¹:	N.A.
Stand-alone / Child Project:	Child Project of Global Cleantech Innovation Programme (GCIP) to accelerate the uptake and investments in innovative cleantech solutions (10408)
Implementing Department/Division:	TCS/ECA/JET
Co-Implementing Agency:	N.A.
Executing Agency(ies):	Technology Innovation Agency, Impact Amplifier (in FY25)
Project Type:	Full-Sized Project (FSP)
Project Duration:	60 months
Extension(s):	None
GEF Project Financing:	\$ 3,236,525
Agency Fee:	\$ 291,287
Co-financing Amount:	\$18,086,000
Date of CEO Endorsement/Approval:	11/03/2021
UNIDO Approval Date:	11/19/2021
Actual Implementation Start:	12/31/2021
Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June 2024	USD 1,355,137.50
Mid-term Review (MTR) Date:	9/12/2024
Original Project Completion Date:	12/31/2026
Project Completion Date as reported in FY23:	12/31/2023
Current SAP Completion Date:	12/31/2023

¹ Only for GEF-6 projects, if applicable

Expected Project Completion Date:	12/31/2025
Expected Terminal Evaluation (TE) Date:	09/30/2025
Expected Financial Closure Date:	06/30/2026
UNIDO Project Manager²:	Ms Olga Rataj

I. Brief description of project and status overview

Project Objective
<p>The project entitled "<i>Accelerating cleantech innovation and entrepreneurship in SMEs to support the transition towards circular economy and create green jobs</i>" referred to as GCIP South Africa II, aims to support and nurture clean energy technology entrepreneurship and innovation. This project is developed as a child project of the GEF UNIDO Global Cleantech Innovation Programme (GCIP) Framework (GEF ID 10460).</p> <p>The objective of the project is to support sustainable and inclusive economic growth by strengthening regional innovation ecosystems that promote clean technology innovation and entrepreneurship in start-ups and SMEs. GCIP South Africa II has three components, in line with the GCIP Framework, which have been designed based on the current needs of developing countries, including South Africa, as well as recommendations from the GEF's independent evaluation of GCIP conducted in 2018, and with feedback from the previous nine GCIP country projects, that equally included South Africa, implemented between 2013 and 2019.</p> <p>As part of the GCIP Framework, the GCIP South Africa receives support from the GCIP global coordination child project (GEF ID: 10461), further referred to as GCIP Global. More specifically, the two designated Project Executing Entities, Technology Innovation Agency (TIA) and the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) are supported by global project executing entities (global PEEs), including the Network for Global Innovation (NGIN), the Cleantech Group (CTG), and UNIDO.</p> <p>In particular, the project will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) <u>Transform early-stage innovative cleantech solutions into scalable enterprises;</u> The focus is on early-stage innovative cleantech solutions and provision of acceleration support related to entrepreneurship and business skills training. In addition, targeted technical assistance will be offered to the start-ups/SMEs that were accelerated and have traction and sales evidence, but which still need specialized enterprise growth support. Furthermore, start-ups/SMEs in the expansion stage will receive tipping-point investment facilitation services to raise investment. 2) Strengthen the capacities of cleantech innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem (CIEE) stakeholders and connect them; Activities are designed to maximize the impact of GCIP by strengthening national cleantech ecosystems of GCIP partner countries, identifying synergies across national ecosystems, and connecting ecosystems for knowledge exchange and partnership building. At the national child project level, development of policies and regulations to promote cleantech innovation will be prioritized. 3) Engage with the GCIP global coordination child project to ensure programme coordination and coherence; In order to maintain coherence and standards of GCIP execution across multiple countries, GCIP guidelines will be developed under the GCIP Global and disseminated as a tool for national child projects for adaptation and adoption. <p>GCIP South Africa II core project indicators are presented in the table below:</p>

² Person responsible for report content

Project Indicators		Expected at Endorsement/Approval stage
1	Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated (metric tons of CO2e)	360,000 (directly) and at 1,800,000 (indirectly)
2	Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment	Female:812 Male: 1,508 Total: 2320

Baseline
<p>Building on the success and the lessons learned of South Africa's GCIP I (from 2014 to 2018, entitled Global Cleantech Innovation Programme for SMMEs in South Africa (GCIP-SA), and taking into account the increased need to accelerate the pace of cleantech innovation, UNIDO together with the Technology Innovation Agency developed the second phase (GCIP II) of this project. The project is in line with the GEF's Climate Change Mitigation Focal Area Strategy under the GEF-7 Programming Directions, the GEF Private Sector Strategy and is equally fully aligned with key national priorities of South Africa, as well as UNIDO's mandate to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID).</p> <p>The core baseline assumptions regarding critical barriers within South Africa are limited public awareness and knowledge of cleantech innovations and consequently lack of capacity of trained experts in clean-tech technology and limited support services for access to markets and finance for entrepreneurs from pre-concept to market-maturity. Regarding South Africa's ecosystem barriers encountered are underdeveloped supportive policies and regulatory frameworks especially with regards to intellectual property rights and a fragmented ecosystem with poor institutional coordination mechanism and weak linkages between stakeholders. Supporting South Africa's ambition to a low-carbon development trajectory requires targeted interventions by a) identifying, supporting, and empowering cleantech entrepreneurs through targeted technical assistance; b) harnessing national commitments towards clean tech through coordination support with policy-relevant recommendations and c) leveraging global networks and knowledge within South Africa's cleantech sector, such that South Africa can leapfrog past the lessons learned within other countries. The project is therefore designed to directly address the barriers described to create an enabling environment, promote clean energy technology innovations potentially resulting in advanced commercialization support with market and finance linkages, creating economic opportunities and to support a shift towards a national circular economy.</p>

Please refer to the explanatory note at the end of the document and select corresponding ratings for the current reporting period, i.e. FY23. Please also provide a short justification for the selected ratings for FY23.

In view of the GEF Secretariat's intent to start following the ability of projects to adopt the concept of adaptive management³, Agencies are expected to closely monitor changes that occur from year to year and demonstrate that they are not simply implementing plans but modifying them in response to developments and circumstances or understanding. In order to facilitate with this assessment, please introduce the ratings as reported in the previous reporting cycle, i.e. FY22, in the last column.

Overall Ratings ⁴	FY24	FY23
Global Environmental Objectives (GEOs) / Development Objectives (DOs) Rating	<i>Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)</i>	<i>Moderately Satisfactory (MS)</i>

³ Adaptive management in the context of an intentional approach to decision-making and adjustments in response to new available information, evidence gathered from monitoring, evaluation or research, and experience acquired from implementation, to ensure that the goals of the activity are being reached efficiently

⁴ Please refer to the explanatory note at the end of the document and assure that the indicated ratings correspond to the narrative of the report

<p>The previously reported lack of internal personnel resources to carry out all the project activities has been addressed by recruiting additional project personnel to help the project get back on track but the actual impacts of this still remains to be seen.</p> <p>As for the second NPEE, during the reporting period a new NPEE has been identified and the procedural processes for substituting the old NPEE initiated but not yet fully approved by the GEF.</p> <p>For this reason the rating will be downgraded to MU, since currently major shortcomings to achieve the overall development objectives are expected.</p>		
Implementation Progress (IP) Rating	<i>Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)</i>	<i>Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)</i>
<p>The rating of MU will be maintained as the project implementation progress is not in compliance with the original plan and the remedial actions of the newly introduced personnel changes still to take off.</p> <p>The second NPEE, the actual onboarding has not been materialized due to lengthy approval processes. The connected activities are therefore equally delayed and not in compliance with the original plan.</p>		
Overall Risk Rating	<i>Moderate Risk (M)</i>	<i>Moderate Risk (M)</i>
<p>The overall risk rating of moderate will be maintained as moderate Risk due to internal and external factors causing an implementation delay that may affect achievement of project objectives.</p>		

II. Targeted results and progress to-date

Please describe the progress made in achieving the outputs against key performance indicator's targets in the project's **M&E Plan/Log-Frame at the time of CEO Endorsement/Approval**. Please expand the table as needed.

Project Strategy	KPIs/Indicators	Baseline	Project Target level	Progress in FY24
Output 1.1.1 GCIP methodologies and guidelines for accelerator, advanced accelerator and post acceleration adapted for SA	#Analysis reports on potential entrepreneurs, mentors, trainers and judges	Little analysis carried out	2 Analysis reports per province (1 on entrepreneurs, 1 on mentors, trainers and judges)	No progress to report.
	#Reports on recommended interventions to address weaknesses	No interventions proposed	1 Report on recommended interventions to address weaknesses in each province	No progress to report
	# methodology and guidelines (Guidebooks) for GCIP South Africa competition established (including training)	Guidebook from GCIP supported under GEF5	2 GCIP South Africa Accelerator Guidebooks (for accelerator, and advanced and post-accelerator) - including training	Pre-accelerator & main accelerator guidebooks have been reviewed by TIA internal departments.
	#internal training within TIA and hub partners	Training carried out under previous GCIP	At least 2 internal training sessions on GCIP guidebooks to all hub partners	No progress to report
	#staff trained in each training session (gender responsive)	n/a	>10 staff trained in each training session (>35% women, gender-disaggregated)	No progress to report
	# dedicated training on gender awareness	None	At least 2 internal training sessions to all hub partners	No progress to report

	# of gender experts involved to promote GEEW, e.g., gender- responsive GCIP SA guidebook	n/a		No progress to report
Output 1.1.2. 120 business innovation and entrepreneurship experts (women and men trainers, mentors and judges) trained and certified to support cleantech innovation	#customised GCIP South Africa expert training material	Existing GCIP material	Localized training material for GCIP South Africa – updated	No progress to report
	# training received by TIA from NGIN	Under GEF 5 funding	1 training session delivered	No progress to report
	# tailor-made mentor course developed incorporating the GCIP specific material into their existing mentor course	None	1 tailor-made mentor course developed by an accredited organization incorporating GCIP specific material	No progress to report
	GCIP certification integrated into South African system Recognition of the GCIP trainer material within the small business trainers' ecosystem	Certification system not integrated into SA system GCIP training not nationally recognized	GCIP certification integrated into South African system SEDA endorses GCIP Training material	Expert training & certification system received, SEDA still to endorse.
	# trained and certified national trainers/mentors/judges (gender-disaggregated)	49 experts	120 new trained and certified additional national trainers/mentors/judges (35% women)	19 Mentors have been trained. 4 Existing expert consultants have been trained Trainers are still undergoing training by NGIN.
	# of experts attending the UN "I know gender1-2-3" training and Gender lens investing training	None	100%	100%
	# training sessions	None under GEF7	10 training sessions (5 for trainers/mentors and 5 for judges)	6 (5 online sessions for mentors/trainers 1 for judges)
	# national cleantech online mentorship platform	0	1	No progress to report
	# users of mentorship platform (gender-disaggregated)	0	120 (>35% women)	No progress to report
	# of women that received dedicated mentoring	0		No progress to report
Output 1.1.3 Ideation and concept validation support provided to at least 100 entrepreneurs	# pre-accelerator courses held	None held	4 pre-accelerator courses held	No progress to report
	Regional Hubs to provide from year 2 training prior to the Accelerator application deadline	None	4 cycles	No progress to report
	GCIP Clinics and workshops	None	4 cycles	1 GCIP clinics & workshop/webinars took place for the 2023 accelerator cohort
	# pre-accelerator participants per course (gender-disaggregated)	None	15 pre-accelerator participants per course (at least 35% women target)	No progress to report
	# entrepreneurs receiving ideation and concept validation support (gender-disaggregated)	None (not registered)	100 (at least 35% women)	No progress to report
	# of pre-accelerator courses held that address specific women barriers	None		No progress to report
Output 1.1.4 Four cycles of the annual GCIP South	# GCIP South Africa multi-track accelerators and challenges held	n/a	4 GCIP South Africa multi-track accelerators, advanced accelerators	2 Accelerators held (2023 and 2024)

Africa competition-based multi-track accelerators supported through provincial hubs (accelerators, advanced accelerators and national industrial innovation challenges) conducted, in alignment with international GCIP Accelerator cycle			and national challenges held (one annually) 4 national accelerators 4 advanced accelerators in GP, WC, EC and 3 in MP and NC 3 national innovation challenges	
	# private and public sector partnerships providing support to national challenges	0	>4	No progress to report
	At least one partnership with a national institution, agency and university with a focus to promote women's entrepreneurship	0		No progress to report
	# targeted gender- responsive outreach activities promoting GCIP SA	limited to 1 university roadshow and 5 media articles	>20	No progress to report
	# partners involved that promote gender equality and women and youth empowerment	individuals not institutions	>5	No progress to report
	# special awards that promote youth and/or women	4	>6	No progress to report
	# competition entries per year (gender-disaggregated)	n/a	At least 10 entrants per category competition in Year 1 (at least 35% women participants)	No progress to report
		n/a	At least 20 entrants per category competition in Year 2 onwards (at least 35% women participants)	No progress to report
		n/a	Total of 100 SMEs/startups invited to participate in each annual competition (at least 35% women-led SMEs/startups)	No progress to report
	# semi-finalists and finalists per cycle (gender- disaggregated)	n/a	50 Semi-finalists (at least 35% women-led target)	No progress to report
		n/a	12 Finalists (at least 35% women-led target)	No progress to report
	# entrepreneurs identified, coached and promoted during GCIP (gender disaggregated)	0	At least 50 entrepreneurs and SMEs identified, coached and promoted per year (at least 35 % women led)	No progress to report
	# focused training, mentoring and support for women entrepreneurs	0	1 per year	No progress to report
	#national GCIP forum (gender disaggregated data on participants and speakers)	Annually held under GEF 5	>4 national GCIP forum (at least target 35% women speakers and participants)	1 National Forum held in March 2024
# panels at fora that focus on women entrepreneurship	None	At least 1 panel focusing on women entrepreneurship per forum	No progress to report	
Output 1.2.1 Targeted support services delivered (technology verification, product development,	# gender-responsive virtual training modules/webinars for alumni community	None	>3 virtual training modules/webinars for alumni community	No progress to report
	Call for Alumni & advanced technologies/innovations	None	TIA to facilitate	No progress to report

advanced business support, connecting to markets etc.) to more than/at least 80 selected cleantech enterprises towards commercialization	Selection of Accelerator participants for the Advanced Accelerator support; facilitate innovator support	None	TIA to select from previous accelerator participants and issue a call	No progress to report
	Selection of innovators for GCIP Post-Accelerator focused on advanced business growth and commercialisation support, investment readiness, market readiness, and technology readiness	None	TIA to select from previous accelerator participants and issue a call	No progress to report
	#enterprises participating in each webinar (gender- disaggregated)	None	>15 enterprises participating in each webinar (at least 35% led by women)	No progress to report
	# entrepreneurs receiving needs-based support (gender- disaggregated)	No training	80 entrepreneurs receiving needs-based support (at least 35% led by women)	No progress to report
Output 1.2.2 Investment facilitation and market expansion support is provided for 30 selected GCIP alumni enterprises (gender responsive)	# half-day investor connects events	None	>8 half-day investor connects events	No progress to report
	# participants in investor connect events (gender disaggregated)	None	80 participants in investor connect events (at least 35% women)	No progress to report
	# cleantech GCIP alumni connected with funding and partnership opportunities (gender- disaggregated)	0	At least 30 GCIP alumni (at least 35% led by women) connected with funding and partnership opportunities at least 1 Partnership with impact investor that uses gender lens established.	3 entrepreneurs were connected
	# USD raised for cleantech entrepreneurs (gender- disaggregated)	0	Approximately US\$7 million additional finance invested in clean technology innovations (at least 35% for women-led SMEs)	No progress to report
	# impact investors investing in South Africa cleantech	0	3 new impact investors investing in South African cleantech	No progress to report
	# awareness raising and training session for investors	0	>3 training session for investors (one provided by PFAN)	No progress to report
	# investors trained (gender responsive)	0	20 impact investors trained (at least 25% women of women investors)	No progress to report
	# training on gender- lens investment or gender sensitization for investors	0	20 impact investors trained (at least 35% women)	No progress to report
	# GCIP SA alumni supported by PFAN (gender-disaggregated)	0	8 GCIP SA alumni supported by PFAN	No progress to report
Output 1.2.3 Mentorship and partnership support provided to 40 GCIP alumni with innovations that can grow into other countries, regions and globally	# forums held	No similar forums held	6 forums held	1 Forum (in March 2024) held
	# participants attending (gender disaggregated)	0	100 participants attending forums (at least 35% women)	No progress to report
	# GCIP alumni receiving mentoring and partnership support (networking, introductions etc.) (gender-disaggregated)	0	>40 GCIP alumni receiving mentoring and partnership support (networking, introductions etc.) (>35% of women)	No progress to report
	#GCIP SA alumni successfully accessing TIA programmes (e.g., LIF, SWISS and GAP) (gender disaggregated)	0	20	GCIP Alumni (4) have taken part in other programmes such as LIF and SAIA
Output 1.2.3 Mentorship and	# forums held	No similar forums held	6 forums held	No progress to report

partnership support provided to 40 GCIP alumni with innovations that can grow into other countries, regions and globally	# participants attending (gender disaggregated)	0	100 participants attending forums (at least 35% women)	No progress to report
	# GCIP alumni receiving mentoring and partnership support (networking, introductions etc.) (gender-disaggregated)	0	>40 GCIP alumni receiving mentoring and partnership support (networking, introductions etc.) (>35% of women)	No progress to report
	#GCIP SA alumni successfully accessing TIA programmes (e.g., LIF, SWISS and GAP) (gender-disaggregated)	0	20	GCIP Alumni (4) have taken part in other programmes such as LIF and SAIA
	Membership of NGIN	None	Membership of NGIN	No progress to report
	# GCIP SA alumni nominated for support by the GCIP Global Accelerator (gender- disaggregated)	None	>20 (at least 35% women)	No progress to report
Output 1.2.4 Innovative early-stage financing mechanisms established and operationalised to support the deployment and scale-up of cleantech solutions in 40 companies	# dedicated cleantech early-stage financing facilities established	None	1 set up within new PEE	No progress to report as Major Amendment for new NPEE currently ongoing.
	# applications to financing facility (gender-disaggregated)	None	200 (at least 35% women-led)	No progress to report as Major Amendment for new NPEE currently ongoing.
	# enterprises going through selection process (gender- disaggregated)	None	120 (at least 35% women-led)	No progress to report as Major Amendment for new NPEE currently ongoing.
	# enterprises receiving financing (gender- disaggregated)	None	40 enterprises (35% women-led)	No progress to report as Major Amendment for new NPEE currently ongoing.
	# GEF funds disbursed	None	USD 1,000,000	No progress to report as Major Amendment for new NPEE currently ongoing.
	# co-finance leveraged/dispursed	None	USD 6,000,000	No progress to report as Major Amendment for new NPEE currently ongoing.
	# enterprises that took the gender-lens investing training course	None	At least 50%	No progress to report as Major Amendment for new NPEE currently ongoing.
Output 2.1.1 National level platform and coordinating mechanisms for ecosystem	# hubs focusing on support for cleantech innovators (forming the national platform)	1 (TIA)	5 new provincial hubs providing support for cleantech innovators	Potential hubs have been identified with 1 being already contracted.
	1 Cycle of the Entrepreneurship Train-the-Trainer programme	0	1 cycle	The Training by NGIN attended. TIA trainers to be trained yet.
	#Manuals on GCIP platform coordination and communication mechanisms	0	1	No progress to report
Output 2.1.2 Capacity building for national cleantech innovation and entrepreneurship support institutions (i.e., industry	#Assessment of the cleantech innovation ecosystem using CIEE	0	1	No progress to report.
	# Engagement of key role players and stakeholders and alumni on policies etc. – development of roadmap guiding implementation of policy recommendations	0	30-90 (>35% women)	6 Stakeholders were engaged in the Capacity Building Workshop in July 2023; 9 attendees

associations and business platforms, etc.) based on the results of the GCIP cleantech innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem (CIEE) assessment				were present in the Stakeholder Engagement Workshop in October 2023; at least 2 stakeholders participated in the Cluster Development Workshop during the Cleantech Days 2023 in Vienna in October-November 2023. Moreover, the Policy Localization module is scheduled to kick off in July 2024, planning to engage 20-30+ policymakers, alumni, and stakeholders in the development of policy recommendations for cleantech.
# GCIP capacity building strategy and action plan (gender- responsive)	0	1		No progress to report
#training materials for entrepreneurship support institutions	0	2 (targeted at different audiences – one more technical, one more financial)		No progress to report
# (gender-responsive) training sessions for institutions	0	5		No progress to report
# attendees at training sessions (gender- disaggregated)	0	15 per session (>35% women)		No progress to report
# partners involved that promote GEEW	0	3		No progress to report
# targeted interventions to promote gender equality and to enhance participation of women and youth in the cleantech sector designed and implemented	0	5		No progress to report
# hub and spoke institutions' staff trained (gender-responsive) to be able to support cleantech innovation entrepreneurs	0	20 staff from hub and spoke institutions receive training to be able support cleantech innovation entrepreneurs (with at least 35% women)		No progress to report
# training sessions delivered	0	2 training sessions delivered		No progress to report
# trainers trained	0	10 trainers trained (at least 35% women)		No progress to report
#on-the-job training for PMU	0	>1-month on-the-job training for PMU		No progress to report
#global GCIP workshops attended by PMU	0	4 global workshops attended by PMU		The PMU personell attended at least 4 global workshops: Capacity Building Workshop – July 2023; Stakeholder Engagement Workshop – October 2023; Cluster Development – October-November 2023 (Cleantech

				Days 2023); Ecosystem Building Workshop – June 2024.
	# government staff with enhanced skills in policy implementation	0	10 (from experiential learning on development of action plan, and MEL framework on circular economy)	No progress to report
	# short cleantech innovation awareness course developed and endorsed for government staff	0	1	No progress to report
	# government staff attending the short course (gender-disaggregated)	0	>40	No progress to report
	% of involved government staff that attended basic gender training or took the I-know gender course, and gender-lens investing training course	0	At least 50%	No progress to report
Output 2.1.3 Policy support provided to strengthen cleantech innovation entrepreneurship ecosystem and promote a circular economy	# cleantech policy implementation framework developed	0	1	No progress to report
	# cleantech innovation policy workshop	0	1	No progress to report
	# attendees at policy workshop (gender- disaggregated)	0	30 (target >35% women)	No progress to report
	# youth and gender mainstreaming strategy	0	1	No progress to report
	Support provided to the implementation plan for the DSI's Science, technology and innovation (STI) framework for the transition to a circular economy (10- year plan) #action plans #MEL framework	0	1 action plan 1 MEL framework	No progress to report
	# documents mappings regulatory sectors to support SMMES to navigate the regulations	0	At least two sectors mapped (eg. Energy storage, e-vehicles, waste to energy)	No progress to report
	# evidence of awareness raising of green (and gender- responsive) procurement (e.g., Press releases, policy briefings)	0	3	No progress to report
	#IP policy development recommendations	0	1	No progress to report
# regulations proposed for inclusion in Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act (PPPFA)	0	>1	No progress to report	

Output 2.1.4 Networking, knowledge generation, exchange and dissemination at national and global levels to promote linkages, collaboration and synergies across cleantech ecosystems of GCIP countries	# knowledge products and promotional materials (eg. policy briefs, impact reports, brochures, webinars) disseminated through events and social media channels	None on GCIP SA II	3 policy briefs 4 impact reports 5 brochures 5 webinars At least 5 stories or videos on GCIP women entrepreneurs, mentors and judges published 1 webinar with a focus on women entrepreneurs in cleantech 1 policy brief on the relevance of gender equality in cleantech	2 agreements signed / Promote cooperation (bilateral cooperation) and facilitate its formalisation between the GCIP South Africa on the one hand, and a) other GCIP CIEEs (e.g., GCIP Nigeria and GCIP Namibia) in the region and b) European countries (e.g., Portugal, Ireland, Finland and Switzerland) on the other hand
	#GCIP SA alumni participating in GCIP global forum (gender- disaggregated)	0	8 35 % of women	1
	# international events attended by PMU	0	5	6 3 PMU staff for Cleantech Days 2023 and 3 PMU staff 2024
	# GCIP SA alumni attending international cleantech events (gender-disaggregated)	0	10 Target 35% of women	2
	% of knowledge products and promotional materials that is gender-responsive i.e., includes gender-disaggregated data in the reports/policy briefs/etc.	0	100%	No progress to report
Output 3.1.1: GCIP guidelines adapted and implemented for programmatic coherence with all GCIP child projects	#Global GCIP methodologies, tools and standards adapted and followed	First phase of GCIP methodologies in place	Operational GCIP methodologies, tools and standards adapted and followed for South Africa.	No progress to report
	#PMU training sessions attended (gender-disaggregated)	0	3 PMU training sessions attended	3 PMU trainings attended
	#GCIP South Africa sustainability and exit strategy	0	#GCIP South Africa sustainability and exit strategy	Strategy is under development.
	Formal and informal links to Global GCIP established	0	At least quarterly formal and informal links to Global GCIP established	No progress to report
Output 3.1.2 Programme level knowledge management communication and advocacy strategy adapted and implemented for GCIP South Africa	#Knowledge management, communication and advocacy strategy and action plan for GCIP South Africa	No strategy	A (gender-responsive) knowledge management, communication and advocacy strategy and action plan for GCIP South Africa	Strategy received from GCIP Global (UNIDO) and was adapted to South Africa.
	(gender-responsive) Awareness raising and marketing material available for entrepreneurs and officials	Shortage of effective and good quality public awareness raising and marketing material on cleantech	Public awareness raising, marketing and training material developed and adapted for South Africa and made available in printed and electronic format	No progress to report
	Awareness raising and marketing material available for the public:		N.A.	No progress to report
	# briefing sessions		>5 briefing sessions	No progress to report
	# press releases,		>10 press releases	No progress to report

	# social media activity	Shortage of effective and good quality public awareness raising and marketing material on cleantech	Monthly social media activity	No progress to report
Output 3.1.3 GCIP South Africa web platform operated to maintain GCIP community and network, coordinate and consolidate project operations under the GCIP global platform	GCIP South Africa website developed as part of global GCIP web platform	No clear GCIP SA website	GCIP South Africa website developed as part of global GCIP web platform	No progress to report
	# frequent platform users (if possible, gender-disaggregated)	0	100 frequent platform users	No progress to report
	Establishment of the alumni network	No formal network established	Alumni network established	No progress to report
	# active alumni in network (gender-disaggregated)	0	150 alumni active in the network (at least 35% women)	No progress to report
	# entrepreneurs attending regional and global events (gender-disaggregated)	0	>9 entrepreneurs attending regional and global events (at least x% women)	No progress to report
	# sharing of best practice/experience between GCIP countries and South Africa		>10 examples of sharing of best practice between GCIP Countries and South Africa (at least 35% of examples should showcase women entrepreneurs)	Collaboration with Brazil (IJEXs, Embassy's include of Brazil. Switzerland, Finland and Ireland in process. Portugal on renewable energy. Namibia and Lesotho and Nigeria
	# press releases,	Shortage of effective and good quality public awareness raising and marketing material on cleantech	>10 press releases	No progress to report
	# social media activity		Monthly social media activity	No progress to report
	Establishment of the alumni sub-chapter for women in the network			No progress to report
Output 3.2.1 Environmental impact of GCIP South Africa estimated, tracked and reported in line with established GCIP methodologies	GCIP Impact monitoring established in South Africa	None	GCIP Impact monitoring established Clear methodologies established for South Africa	No progress to report
	# impact monitoring training sessions to all GCIP South Africa accelerator semi-finalists	0	At least one training session per cycle to all GCIP South Africa accelerator semi-finalists	1 Training on impact assessment provided by GCIP Global (Impact Forecast)
	# annual GCIP South Africa impact reports	0	5 annual GCIP South Africa impact reports	No progress to report
Output 3.2.2 Project effectively monitored -	M&E plan for GCIP South Africa	None	M&E plan for South Africa	No progress to report

Regular monitoring exercises conducted, PIRs prepared; tracking tools prepared according to UNIDO and GEF requirements	# Progress reports (including monitoring of ESMP, GAP, risks & SEP)		9 Progress reports (including monitoring of ESMP, GAP, risks & SEP)	2 Progress reports submitted to UNIDO
Output 3.2.3 Mid-term review and independent final evaluation conducted	Independent mid-term review	None	Mid-term review	NA
	Independent terminal evaluation report	None	Terminal evaluation report	NA

III. Project Risk Management

1. Please indicate the overall project-level risks and the related risk management measures: (i) as identified in the CEO Endorsement document, and (ii) progress to-date. Please expand the table as needed.

	(i) Risks at CEO stage	(i) Risk level FY 23 (previous)	(i) Risk level FY 24 (current)	(i) Mitigation measures	(ii) Progress to-date	New defined risk ⁵
1	Institutional risk. Lack of absorptive capacity by the national counterpart	low	low	Capacity building of TIA will be an ongoing process throughout the project implementation period to ensure that staff are comprehensively trained, and sustainability of the programme is ensured. TIA has been running a GCIP Accelerator since GCIP supported under GEF 5 and so has demonstrated capacity.	Same as reported in the last PIR, the dedicated PMU staff attended all GCIP related PMU trainings that were provided during the reporting period from GCIP Global and NGIN (as listed in Section VIII).	
2	Institutional Risk. Insufficient administrative and organizational capacity of the supporting PEE (TIA and IDC) for successful execution of the project.	low	moderate	As a risk mitigation measure, an organizational assessment (a micro assessment under the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers framework) was conducted during PPG phase to evaluate potential execution risks. The results showed the risk assessment to be "low" in all tested subject areas. Project audits will be carried out by independent auditors.	There has been a lack of personnel resources in the first NPEE, TIA, to carry out all the project activities. TIA has in the end of Q2 2023 recruited additional required personnel to help the project get back on track. During the reporting period, leave of absence from two core PMU staff working on GCIP have caused a further capacity vacuum on the TIA side. The PM and GCIP Global is monitoring this situation closely. Impact Amplifier has been selected as the second NPEE and the procedural processes for substituting the old NPEE were initiated but not yet fully approved by the GEF.	

3	Institutional Risk. Insufficient technical capacity of the PEE for successful execution of the project.	low	moderate	TIA was nominated by the GEF OFF in consultation with key stakeholders as the most appropriate national agency to execute the project. In addition, it has already accumulated relevant experience and expertise through GEF-6 GCIP 1 and therefore it is assumed that it has the pertinent mandate and technical capacity for successful achievement of the project objective and associated outputs and activities.	There has been a lack of personnel resources in the first NPEE, TIA, to carry out all the project activities. TIA has in the end of Q2 2023 recruited additional required personnel to help the project get back on track. During the reporting period, leave of absence from two core PMU staff working on GCIP have caused a further capacity vacuum on the TIA side. The PM and GCIP Global is monitoring this situation closely.	
4	Institutional Risk. Lack of effective coordination between various project partners.	low	low	Proper coordination will be ensured through the establishment of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and ad-hoc working groups will be formed if necessary. TIA already has formal and informal links with the proposed project partners.	During the reporting period one PSC meeting has been held to coordinate between key project stakeholders.	
5	Operational Risk. On-going global restrictions due to global shocks (e.g., COVID-19)	low	low	Some of the support is intended to be face to face. However, if this is not possible due to travel and/or group meeting restrictions then the training/events will be organized on-line with the aim of providing an experience as close as possible to the physical events, with side events and one to one meetings are also possible.	No progress to report for FY24 as all COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted in South Africa.	
6	Sustainability Risk. Lack of ownership of project results and inability to source funding to continue the activities in the medium and long term.	low	low	TIA has already shown its ability to commit to and continue GCIP after the GEF funded project. The same approach will be used again for TIA and its hub partners. Sustainability is mainstreamed through the project with exit strategies developed early on which will identify the management and financing of the accelerator and ecosystem more generally. TIA is in a good position to access further private and public sector support.	The PEE has provided pre-seed fund through in March 2024 to all finalists (4 teams) to bootstrap their venture and validate their cleantech innovation.	
7	Market risk. Lack of interest by entrepreneurs and other stakeholders to	moderate	low	Outreach activities will be a key component of the project, in the lead-up to the opening of applications and throughout the programme to attract	Lack of responses/few responses to the application call was identified as a substantial risk during last FY. TIA	

	participate to GCIP SA			<p>applicant entrepreneurs, potential sponsors and partners, and mentors and judges. To ensure a high quality of publicity, a clear and concise communication strategy will be developed and implemented.</p> <p>Mentors and judges will be identified through a properly prepared process and their roles, responsibilities and benefits will be determined and made widely known at an early stage of project implementation. GCIP alumni will be recruited where appropriate and a stipend is proposed, following feedback from the first phase, to ensure active engagement. Close cooperation with the executing agency and project counterparts will also be sought to help mitigate this risk, allowing the project to make use of existing communication channels and relationships.</p> <p>The proposed project will also make use of the success of GCIP funded under GEF 5 to promote the benefits of the programme and raise awareness.</p>	<p>continues engaging low visibility provinces through radio interviews.</p> <p>In addition, social media has been utilised extensively to increase awareness. TIA also plans utilizing the hubs as marketing for GCIP.</p>	
8	Political Risk. Lack of political support to mainstream innovative cleantech.	low	low	The project has strong support from the South African government and different departments have been involved in the design of the project.	No additional progress for FY24 to report.	
9	Market Risk. Failure of businesses supported by GCIP SA	moderate	low	<p>Selection of participants will be based on eligibility criteria included in the GCIP South Africa guidebooks which will include criteria on market potential and likelihood to succeed. Using the GCIP methodology will also provide innovators and entrepreneurs with the skills required to develop and commercialize their innovations. GCIP support provides intensive training, mentoring as well as technology and business model validation to ensure adequate understanding of customer segment and the market to increase commercial success rates. High-impact innovations are selected, validated, and provided with advanced</p>	GCIP South Africa II has been completed the second Accelerator cycle by March 2024. 4 teams were identified as the winners, and became GCIP Alums, thus eligible for GCIP's post acceleration support.	

				business growth support to access funding as well as organisational capacity for scaling-up.	
10	Financing Risks. Incentive and financial support system are insufficient.	low	moderate	<p>The promotion and outreach activities will include financing institutions, venture capitalists and angel investors as a key target group. The transfer of a branded and recognized model such as GCIP, and the direct involvement of renowned global project execution entities in the national execution of the project, aims to build stronger confidence of national and international venture capitalists and investors in the clean energy technology innovation investments proposed by GCIP South Africa. A key part of the project is the establishment of a financing facility for innovative cleantech. The facility will be managed by IDC and GCIP alumni will be mentored to make successful applications to this facility. The project will facilitate access for GCIP South Africa alumni enterprises to financial mechanisms and government grant programmes for SME development and technology modernization and innovation (e.g., TIA's Seed Finance or Technology Development Fund, SEDA finance and other IDC mechanisms). The PSC will include at least 1 representative of financing institutions and investors.</p>	<p>A new PEE, responsible for the execution of Output 1.2.4, namely "Innovative early-stage financing mechanisms established and operationalized to support the deployment and scale-up of cleantech solutions in 40 companies "under Outcome 1.2 Cleantech innovation and businesses are supported through advanced and gender responsive business growth and investment facilitation services, is currently going through the formal approval processes.</p> <p>This new PEE will establish and host a new cleantech commercialization support financing facility (Fund Account), which will provide catalytic development capital for high-impact cleantech enterprises (including GCIP alumni) to address the identified early-stage financing gap between pure grants and venture capital. The facility will use a blended finance model and will typically include technical assistance, with a grant component, a repayable grant component, concessional finance, subordinated debt or quasi-equity, as is appropriate.</p> <p>In addition, a strategic partnership will be established between GCIP and the REEEP, under which selected GCIP alumni companies will be systematically connected to the REEEP network for specialized project development, business coaching and investment facilitation services, and introduction to investors.</p>
11	Social and Gender Risks.	low	low	To ensure gender inclusiveness of all project activities, UNIDO methodology for gender	The implementation of the gender responsive communication strategy has been delayed and will

				assessment and gender responsive communication showing the benefits of gender equality for both women and men will be applied. To mainstream women and youth entrepreneurship, adequate and gender responsive communication strategy will be implemented, and sensitization workshops will be organized. A full gender analysis was carried out and its recommendations were incorporated into the project design.	be carried out during the next FY.	
12	Climate Change Risks.	low	low	There is no climate change risk foreseen for the achievement of the project's objectives: South Africa is vulnerable to climate variability and change because of its rural dependency on agriculture. Future climate changes are likely to see temperature increases, an increase in the number of extreme weather events such as droughts and floods and severe storms. These effects are not likely to have an impact on this project which aims to support cleantech innovation. The extent to which climate change affects the outputs and outcomes of the project will depend on the cleantech innovations supported as part of the project. Possible impacts of climate change could relate to cleantech innovation dependent on biomass or water supplies whose raw material is affected. There are also climate change impacts that could affect any SME such as through logistic disturbances, disruptions to production, effects to working conditions or to the market, increased utility prices and costs for insurance, finance, or imports. To safeguard against climate change risks the screening of technologies for selection for GCIP support will include an assessment of the climate risks, over the next 30 years, and where a risk is identified it will be necessary for the SME/entrepreneur to propose suitable adaptation or management measures.	An impact hypothesis has been conducted by all the entrepreneurs applying to the 2024 Accelerator to screen and select the solutions that address and mitigate the current and future impacts of climate change.	

				Climate risk will be included in the E&S criteria. GIZ's Climate Expert could be used as one tool available to entrepreneurs. Once selected the alignment of proposed technologies will continue to be reviewed against local climate risks, as part of the support provided within the accelerator.		
13	Environmental Risks	low	low	It is recognized that some technologies that could potentially be supported by the GCIP SA, such as the use of block chain, could lead to major GHG emissions, unless powered entirely by renewable energy. Similarly, technologies related to energy storage can have harmful environmental impacts if not managed effectively. Therefore, any cleantech innovation supported by the GCIP SA will need to meet strict environmental screening criteria. In addition, an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) was prepared to mitigate the environmental (and social) risks.	An impact hypothesis has been conducted by all the entrepreneurs applying to the 2024 Accelerator to screen and select the solutions that address and mitigate the current and future impacts of climate change.	

2. If the project received a sub-optimal risk rating (H, S) in the previous reporting period, please state the actions taken since then to mitigate the relevant risks and improve the related risk rating. Please also elaborate on reasons that may have impeded any of the sub-optimal risk ratings from improving in the current reporting cycle; please indicate actions planned for the next reporting cycle to remediate this.

N.A.

3. Please clarify if the project is facing delays and is expected to request an **extension**.

Both NPEEs are behind schedule and not in compliance with the original implementation plan for the project. Therefore in line with the ongoing Mid Term Review, it is expected that within the next FY a no cost extension of the project will be requested

4. Please provide the **main findings and recommendations of completed MTR and** elaborate on any actions taken towards the recommendations included in the report.

N.A.

IV. Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

1. As part of the requirements for **projects from GEF-6 onwards**, and based on the screening as per the UNIDO Environmental and Social Safeguards Policies and Procedures (ESSPP), which category is the project?

Category A project

Category B project

Category C project

(By selecting Category C, I confirm that the E&S risks of the project have not escalated to Category A or B).

	E&S risk	Mitigation measures undertaken during the reporting period	Monitoring methods and procedures used in the reporting period
(i) Risks identified in ESMP at time of CEO Endorsement	Increasing GHG emissions from cleantech supported	Strict E&S screening criteria for cleantech supported	Same as last year, every application for support for the 2024 Accelerator and Post-Accelerator will be assessed against strict E&S screening criteria. In this regard, all applicants are required to fill out the mandatory Impact Hypothesis section. The E&S and impact assessment will be conducted by an E&S expert, the PMU and the Round one Jury. Where necessary, the entrepreneurs will be offered guidance on how to maximize the net positive impacts of their cleantech (i.e. to minimize the negative impacts and maximize the positive impacts). In the case of negative impacts, mitigation measures will need to be proposed by the entrepreneurs. If the mitigation measures are assessed as insufficient by the Impact assessment and E&S expert, the entrepreneur team will not be supported by GCIP.
	Unintended harmful environmental impacts from hazardous materials used in cleantech	Strict E&S screening criteria for cleantech supported	
	Unintended pollution / waste disposal from cleantech supported	Strict E&S screening criteria for cleantech supported	
	SMEs/Entrepreneurs lack the capacity/awareness to properly identify and mitigate the E&S risks related to their cleantech	E&S impact assessment training	Judges and mentors were trained by Impact Forecast and E&S experts to identify potential E&S risks and training on mitigation of the proposed solutions. If necessary additional E&S expertise will be called upon.
	Cleantech innovations do not deliver the pledged impacts	Impact monitoring	The judges and mentors will be comprised of technical experts in the relevant field. During the reporting period a dedicated "jury" training on impact calculations were provided by GCIP Global. Stringent monitoring of innovations will be carried out post-GCIP support. There will be an ongoing monitoring of impacts by entrepreneurs, and the monitoring results will be verified by GCIP experts
	SMEs/Entrepreneurs do not comply with national regulations on product safety, working conditions, and health and safety at workplace	Strict Compliance E&S screening criteria	As part of the National Academy a compliance check and E&S screening was conducted. This is supplemented by mentors with expertise on national regulation requirements to support SMEs/entrepreneurs in quality/safety standards. Stringent monitoring of

			innovations will be carried out post-GCIP support
	Low participation rates of women and youth	Gender mainstreaming and social safeguarding	Gender mainstreaming was included thorough and gender responsive communication and to ensure stakeholder involvement at all levels, with special regard to involving women and men, as well as civil society and non-governmental organizations promoting gender equality. Targets will be reported sex-aggregated and a specific women only prize was awarded. These measures shall mitigate social and gender related risks, promote gender equality, and maximize the potential contribution of the project to improving gender equality in the cleantech field.
	Increase in carbon emissions due to travel, meetings, training and events	Advice and training Alternative solutions	Advice and training was provided to all stakeholders involved in the project on how to minimize their carbon footprints. Also, the use of public transport will be promoted, and environmentally friendly venues will be selected. Where possible, physical meetings will be replaced with webinars.
	Climate change risks that may affect the entrepreneurs supported	Strict E&S screening criteria and assessment of climate risks with long term effects	Same as last year, every application for support for the 2024 Accelerator and Post-Accelerator will be assessed against strict E&S screening criteria. In this regard, all applicants are required to fill out the mandatory Impact Hypothesis section. The E&S and impact assessment will be conducted by an E&S expert, the PMU and the Round one Jury. Where necessary, expertise will be used to help the entrepreneurs to develop adaptation or management strategies. The alignment of proposed technologies will be regularly reviewed against local climate change risks, as part of the support provided within the accelerator.
	COVID-19 related health risks	None.	All COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted in South Africa. Nevertheless, there will be a continuous monitoring of Covid-19 and possibility of new outbreak in the country will be
(ii) New risks identified during project implementation	NA	NA	NA

V. Stakeholder Engagement

1. Using the previous reporting period as a basis, please provide information on **progress, challenges and outcomes** regarding engagement of stakeholders in the project (based on the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent document submitted at CEO Endorsement/Approval).

The main project stakeholders and executing partners, as outlined in the Stakeholder Section of the CEO document, include the Technology Innovation Agency (TIA), the Industrial Development Cooperation (IDC), the Department of Trade and Industry and Competition (DTIC), the Department of Science and Innovation (DSI), the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE), the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE), the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), the Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA), the Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs), the Nelson Mandela Bay Development Agency, the Department of Economic Development, Department of Transport, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), the National Cleaner Production Centre of South Africa (NCPC-SA), the South African Venture Capital and Private Equity Association (SAVCA), several Industrial/Commercial Partners (Eskom, Sasol, Growth-point), Universities and Incubators, national finance Institutions such as DBSA, SEFA and Standard Bank, identified civil society organisations and as well as relevant women and gender associations like Future Females, Young women in Business Network and/or the Association of South African Women in Science and Engineering (SA WISE).

The Project Steering Committee was established in October 2022 and comprises multiple key stakeholders and co-financiers of the project including the Department of Science and Innovation (DSI) as the PSC Chair, the National Business Initiative (NBI), the National Cleaner Production Centre (NCPC), the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), the Technology Stations Programmes (TSP), the Technology Innovation Agency (TIA) the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (DTIC) the Trade & Industrial Policy Strategies (TIPS), UNIDO HQ and the PMU as the secretariat.

Progress, challenges and outcomes regarding engagement of project stakeholders during the reporting period:

1) During the reporting period, one PSC meeting was held in October 2023, to track the progress of the project implementation, and to provide strategic oversight and advisory inputs on the way forward. The meeting discussed progress made, hindrances and how to proceed. Due to internal personnel challenges that TIA had been experiencing, the PSC approved the workplan (delayed) to be submitted to UNIDO.

Another PSC meeting was supposed to convene in December 2023 to present progress and approval of the progress report to be submitted to UNIDO however the meeting did not materialize as the PSC Chair had resigned and was awaiting a replacement. During the reporting period another PS chair was identified, and future meetings will be chaired by Ms. Alinah Mthembu from the Department of Science and Innovation.

2) With regards to other stakeholders, and the previously reported potential implementing partners in the regions (hubs) have been identified through a call for applications and several more Letters of intent have been received by potential partners which are currently in the process of being onboarded with 1 out of the 9 hubs already being contracted. One particular challenge in this regard was to attract hubs with expertise in marginalized regions.

3) During the reporting period the second NPEE, Impact Amplifier, in charge for the execution of Output 1.2.4, namely "Innovative early-stage financing mechanisms established and operationalized to support the deployment and scale-up of cleantech solutions in 40 companies "under Outcome 1.2 was identified and is currently going through the formal GEF approval (Major Amendment) processes.

This new PEE will establish and host a new cleantech commercialization support financing facility (Fund Account), which will provide catalytic development capital for high-impact cleantech enterprises (including GCIP alumni) to address the identified early-stage financing gap between pure grants and venture capital.

2. Please provide any feedback submitted by national counterparts, GEF OFF, co-financiers, and other partners/stakeholders of the project (e.g. private sector, CSOs, NGOs, etc.).

N.A.

3. Please provide any **relevant stakeholder consultation** documents.

10456_2024_PIR_UNIDO_South Africa_GCIP Hubs & Spokes

10456_2024_PIR_UNIDO_South Africa_PSC Minutes 6 October 2023

10456_2024_PIR_UNIDO_South Africa_ROUND ROBIN Approval - GCIP PSC Minutes 06 oct23

VI. Gender Mainstreaming

1. Using the previous reporting period as a basis, please report on the **progress** achieved on implementing **gender-responsive measures** and **using gender-sensitive indicators**, as documented at CEO Endorsement/Approval (in the project results framework, gender action plan or equivalent).

During the reporting period, the following progress has been made in implementing gender-responsive measures and utilizing gender-sensitive indicators and targets: Recruitment of all GCIP consultants/experts:

- The PMU makes continues efforts to increase the female share within the pool of experts, mentors and judges: In FY24, 3 new Female experts & mentors were recruited and are undergoing mentoring training. The workshops, trainings & other relevant GCIP material is being shared on a continuous basis, in conjunction with NGIN.

Application stage for Accelerator:

- The 2023/24 Accelerator's semi-finalists consisted of 10 females out of 23 candidates. The overall winner of the 2023/24 was a female.

Selection of both men and women semi-finalists, and mentors and judges:

- The 2023/24 Accelerator cohort judges consisted of 4 female judges out of 7 judges.

Special recognition awards:

- Smart View Technology was presented with the best woman led award of the 2023/24 cohort and the award was presented in March 2024.
- One GCIP Alum was awarded the GCIP Legacy and Impact Award during the Cleantech Days in June 2024.

Forums:

- One of the female GCIP alumni was invited to serve on the GCIP Global Advisory board and equally participated in both Cleantech Days (2023 and 2024) events.

VII. Knowledge Management and Communication

1. Using the previous reporting period as a basis, please report on the **progress** achieved on implementing **gender-responsive measures** and **using gender-sensitive indicators**, as documented at CEO Endorsement/Approval (in the project results framework, gender action plan or equivalent),.

As per the Global strategy developed, the PMU intends on utilising one of the hubs to benchmark against the existing strategy and adopt what's relevant to the SA market. The hub earmarked for this activity is currently in the contracting phase with TIA.

Link to GCIP South Africa General site: <https://www.tia.org.za/gcip/> & <https://gcip.tech/country/south-africa/>

Link to 2023/2024 Cohort Award ceremony: <https://youtube.com/live/DAzjRT4M7gg?feature=share>

2. Please list any **relevant knowledge management and communication mechanisms / tools** that the project has generated.

No relevant knowledge management and communication tools to share during FY24.

VIII. Implementation progress

1. Using the previous reporting period as a basis, please provide information on **progress, challenges and outcomes achieved/observed** with regards to project implementation.

The Project Executing Agreement (PEA) was duly countersigned in June 2022, and the PEE had prepared the Inception Report for Year 1, including annual work plan, budget, and procurement plan after the signed PEA.

During the reporting period, the following progress and outcomes have been achieved with regards to project implementation:

Component 1:

- Guidebooks: Pre-accelerator and main accelerator guidebooks have been reviewed by experts within TIA's database.
- Mentors: Mentors have been coming forth from the previous GCIP accelerator cycle and they have been invited to attend the training sessions during the reporting session as offered by NGIN which commenced on 15 August 2023. Mentor and trainer certification workshop is scheduled to take place in FY25.
- Activities with regards to South Africa's 2nd acceleration cycle:
 - Applications call & Shortlisting: Both activities were held during the previous FY (FY23).
 - NA 23: The National Academy of 2nd cycle took a different approach and was jointly organized with GCIP Lesotho together and held in Maseru, Lesotho from 13-16th of August 2023. While GCIP South Africa enrolled 26 semi-finalists into the cleantech accelerator program, 10 of the entrepreneur teams could not attend the NA due to logistical issues and therefore was attended by 16 entrepreneur teams and 4 Mentors that, together with the GCIP Lesotho entrepreneur teams, mentors and trainers, offered intensive training sessions and practical workshops.
 - For the remaining 10 entrepreneur teams, another National Academy was organized at the end of August in TIA's premises in Pretoria and attended by 7 entrepreneur teams and 4 mentors.
 - Webinars: A total of 20 GCIP webinars were organised between July and November 2023 for a cohort of 22 semi-finalists.
 - Business clinics: 1 specialized training session was held in October 2023.
 - Mock Judging: 16 semi-finalist teams participated, engaging in a simulated evaluation process to refine their presentations and enhance their performance ahead of the final Judging in November 2023. Out of the 16 teams, 10 teams qualified for the final judging.
 - Final Judging was conducted on 4th to 6th December 2023 in Pretoria.
 - The Awards ceremony took place in March 2024 by announcing 4 winning teams with Smartview Technology as the overall winner and Tyrec, Green Coffee and the Chemistry Solutions Company as runner up winners.
 - All four winner teams attended the Cleantech Days in June 2024.
- Activities with regards to South Africa's 3rd acceleration cycle:
 - Applications call & Shortlisting: The Call was opened in April 2024 and closed in May 2024 with the application screening and preliminary shortlisting of semi-finalists completed by the end of June 2024.
 - Round 1 Judges training was conducted in April 2024.

Component 2:

- Participation in dedicated Ecosystem Strengthening Workshops:
 - Capacity Building for Cleantech Innovation Entrepreneurship Ecosystems in July 2023. One key take away of this workshop was that South Africa has potential to develop a proper and functional ecosystem for Cleantech Innovation. It was also determined that although South Africa counts has various initiatives across different clusters and programs aimed at developing talent and innovation, there seems to be a lack of coordination among role players and that could lead to low visibility for startups.

- Policy Strategy for Cleantech Innovation Entrepreneurship Ecosystems in August 2023.
- Cleantech Ecosystem Actor Engagement Workshop in October 2023.
- Cluster Development Workshop in October 2023.
- National Policy Localisation Workshops are scheduled for FY25.

Component 3:

- 2 Monitoring & Evaluation reports submitted to UNIDO
- South Africa's MTR process has been initiated during the reporting period with an Vacancy Announcement for the National Evaluation consultant being published in June 2024.
- Capacity building activities for the PEE on sustainability, collaboration and strengthening of skills, through attending the following initiatives:
 - Applying Gender Lens for the Accelerator Program in August 2023, provided by UNIDO (GCIP Global).
 - A four-member team consisting of representatives of the national executing entity TIA represented South Africa at the Cleantech Days 2023 in Vienna and attended the operational trainings on Advanced and Post acceleration and Impact data interpretation, provided by NGIN and Impact Forecast in October 2023.
 - Sustainability webinar on the Impact Calculation Tool, provided by UNIDO (GCIP Global) and Impact Forecast in November 2023.
 - PMU Recap 2023 Feedback session on what went well and wrong, provided by UNIDO (GCIP Global) in February 2024.
 - GCIP Accelerator Training: Branding, Communication & Outreach Planning, provided by UNIDO (GCIP Global) in February 2024
 - GCIP Accelerator Training Session: Applicant & Mentor Engagement, Recruitment and Selection provided by NGIN in February 2024
 - GCIP Accelerator Training Session: Mentor Roles, Training & Management by NGIN in February 2024
 - GCIP Training Session: National Academies, Training Webinars and Business Clinics provided by NGIN in February 2024
 - GCIP Training Session: Judging (Mock, Rounds 2&3), National Awards and Alumni Support provided by NGIN in February 2024
 - GCIP Training Session: Post Accelerator Support Activities provided by NGIN in March 2024
 - GCIP Training Session: The Advanced Acceleration provided by NGIN in March 2024
 - GCIP Train-the-Trainer Session provided by NGIN in March 2024
 - GCIP Impact Hypothesis Webinar provided by Impact Forecast in May 2024
 - A four-member team consisting of representatives of the national executing entity TIA represented South Africa at the Cleantech Days 2024 in Vienna and participated in the GCIP evaluation process workshop for PMU Teams as well as the Operational Meeting on Post Acceleration Support provided by Caprese SRL and NGIN in June 2024
 - GCIP PMU and Jury Training on Impact Hypothesis applicant screening process by Impact Forecast in June 2024.

During the reporting period, the following **challenge** has been encountered with regards to project implementation: Low capacity within the NPEE TIA for GCIP-SA has been previously identified and flagged in the previous PIR as a major risk. Although additional project personnel has been recruited to help the project get back on track, the actual impacts of this still remains to be seen. The Implementing Agency has been closely monitoring the situation and as an immediate mitigation measure introduced bi-monthly in person or online coordination calls with TIA to support and give guidance on ongoing issues and to turn around performance. It should be noted here that significant more guidance from the Implementing Agency with the NPEE is required as originally anticipated.

2. Please briefly elaborate on any **minor amendments** to the approved project that may have been introduced during the implementation period or indicate as not applicable (NA).

Please tick each category for which a change has occurred and provide a description of the change in the related textbox. You may attach supporting documentation, as appropriate.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Framework	N.A.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Components and Cost	N.A.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Institutional and Implementation Arrangements	The changing of the second NPEE is currently pending approval by the GEF as a Major Amendment.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Financial Management	N.A.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Implementation Schedule	Due to overall delay in the execution of the project's activities, the implementation schedule has been amended and a no cost extension will be requested during FY25.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Executing Entity	N.A.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Executing Entity Category	N.A.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor Project Objective Change	N.A.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Safeguards	N.A.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Risk Analysis	N.A.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Increase of GEF Project Financing Up to 5%	N.A.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Co-Financing	With the second and new NPEE coming in, the co-financing amounts will be slightly changed and exact amounts to be reported in the next PIR.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Location of Project Activities	N.A.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Others	N.A.

3. Please provide progress related to the **financial implementation** of the project.

Project		Country	Region	Project Manager	Project Validity	
190144	ACCELERATING CLEANTECH INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN SMES TO SUPPORT TRANSITION TOWARDS A CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND CREATE GREEN JOBS IN SOUTH AFRICA	South Africa	Africa	Olga Rataj	01.01.2020	03.11.2026

Description	Released Budget Current Year (a)	Obligations Current Year (b)	Disbursements Current Year (c)	Expenditures Current Year (d=(b+c))	Total Agreement Budget (e)	Released Budget (f)	Obligations + Disbursements (g)	Funds Available* (h=(f-g))	Support Cost (i)	Total Expenditures (j=(g+i))	
190144											
190144-1-01-01	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	
2100	Contractual Services	18,072.19	186,114.00	0.00	186,114.00	4,589.00	4,589.00	186,114.00	(181,525.00)	0.00	186,114.00
9300	Support Cost IDC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16,750.26	16,750.26
190144-1-01-01	Total	18,072.19	186,114.00	0.00	186,114.00	4,589.00	4,589.00	186,114.00	(181,525.00)	16,750.26	202,864.26
190144-1-01-02	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	
2100	Contractual Services	895,534.53	119,550.00	0.00	119,550.00	(7,647.99)	(7,647.99)	151,654.48	(159,302.47)	0.00	151,654.48
9300	Support Cost IDC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,648.90	13,648.90
190144-1-01-02	Total	895,534.53	119,550.00	0.00	119,550.00	(7,647.99)	(7,647.99)	151,654.48	(159,302.47)	13,648.90	165,303.38
190144-1-04-01	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	
2100	Contractual Services	61,755.00	28,695.00	0.00	28,695.00	3,059.00	3,059.00	28,695.00	(25,636.00)	0.00	28,695.00
9300	Support Cost IDC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,582.55	2,582.55
190144-1-04-01	Total	61,755.00	28,695.00	0.00	28,695.00	3,059.00	3,059.00	28,695.00	(25,636.00)	2,582.55	31,277.55
190144-1-53-01	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	
1100	Staff & Intern Consultants	0.00	5,757.91	1,489.30	7,247.21	0.00	0.00	7,247.21	(7,247.21)	0.00	7,247.21
2100	Contractual Services	126,768.52	50,451.00	0.00	50,451.00	(0.01)	(0.01)	50,451.00	(50,451.01)	0.00	50,451.00
9300	Support Cost IDC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,192.81	5,192.81
190144-1-53-01	Total	126,768.52	56,208.91	1,489.30	57,698.21	(0.01)	(0.01)	57,698.21	(57,698.22)	5,192.81	62,891.02
190144	Total	1,102,130.24	390,567.91	1,489.30	392,057.21	0.00	0.00	424,161.69	(424,161.69)	38,174.52	462,336.21
2000004681	USD Total	1,102,130.24	390,567.91	1,489.30	392,057.21	0.00	0.00	424,161.69	(424,161.69)	38,174.52	462,336.21

* Does not include Unapproved Obligations

The above statement has been certified electronically by the designated officials in UNIDO's Financial Services.

Regarding further supporting documents related to the financial implementation of the project, a financial Report budget, detailing the annual expenditures plan has been attached.

Attachment: 10456_2024_PIR_South Africa_Attachment 1

As for the status of funds mobilization activities there will be an update provided in the next PIR. The Project is foreseen to undergo a MTR in FY25 to review and adjust project implementation and to provide all project stakeholders assurance of progress and proper use of funds.

IX. Work Plan and Budget

1. Please provide **an updated project work plan and budget** for the remaining duration of the project, as per last approved project extension. Please expand/modify the table as needed.

Regarding an updated project work plan and budget, kindly find a project workplan, an annual workplan 2024 and budget is attached.

Attachment: 10456_2024_PIR_South Africa_Attachment 1

X. Synergies

1. **Synergies** achieved:

During the reporting period, the PMU sought out synergies with potential partners in order to create linkages and connections with existing players within the ecosystem.

- GCIP South Africa and GCIP Lesotho have developed a working relationship which was formed during the planning & preparations of the joint National Academy.
- There is an interest from GCIP Nigeria to form similar working relationship with GCIP South Africa.

3. **Stories to be shared** (Optional)

During both Cleantech Days events, in November 2023 and June 2024, the South African entrepreneurs have achieved significant success with regards to the global competitive pitching events:

Cleantech Days 2023:

- 1 South African entrepreneur, E-Waste Africa, was among the Top 6 Performers.

Cleantech Days 2024:

- 1 South African entrepreneur, Smart-view Technology, was under the Top 6 Performers and the overall winner of the global competitive pitching event.
- 1 South African entrepreneur, Green Coffee, received the Gender – Inclusive Business Award.
- 1 South African GCIP Alum received the GCIP Legacy and Impact Award.

Local News article about the overall winner of the UNIDO Cleantech Days Awards 2024: Smart-View Technology, based in South Africa, was named overall winner of the Cleantech Days 2024 event held in Vienna, Austria, this week. Media coverage can be accessed through the link: <https://itweb.africa/content/lwrKx73YdxQqmg1o>

XI. GEO LOCATION INFORMATION

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	Geo Name ID	Location and Activity Description
Pretoria, South Africa	-25.74486	28.18783	964137	The project will include the entire South Africa. The project is targeted at beneficiaries (entrepreneurs and all relevant CIEE stakeholders, such as universities, policy makers, financiers, and R&D institutions) from all over the country.



EXPLANATORY NOTE

1. **Timing & duration:** Each report covers a twelve-month period, i.e. 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024.
2. **Responsibility:** The responsibility for preparing the report lies with the project manager in consultation with the Division Chief and Director.
3. **Evaluation:** For the report to be used effectively as a tool for annual self-evaluation, project counterparts need to be fully involved. The (main) counterpart can provide any additional information considered essential, including a simple rating of project progress.
4. **Results-based management:** The annual project/programme progress reports are required by the RBM programme component focal points to obtain information on outcomes observed.

Global Environmental Objectives (GEOs) / Development Objectives (DOs) ratings	
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	Project is expected to achieve or exceed <u>all</u> its major global environmental objectives, and yield substantial global environmental benefits, without major shortcomings. The project can be presented as “good practice”.
Satisfactory (S)	Project is expected to <u>achieve most</u> of its <u>major</u> global environmental objectives, and yields satisfactory global environmental benefits, with only minor shortcomings.
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	Project is expected to <u>achieve most</u> of its major <u>relevant</u> objectives but with either significant shortcomings or modes overall relevance. Project is expected not to achieve some of its major global environmental objectives or yield some of the expected global environmental benefits.
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	Project is expected to achieve <u>some</u> of its major global environmental objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to <u>achieve only some</u> of its major global environmental objectives.
Unsatisfactory (U)	Project is expected <u>not</u> to achieve <u>most</u> of its major global environmental objectives or to yield any satisfactory global environmental benefits.
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	The project has failed to achieve, and is not expected to achieve, <u>any</u> of its major global environmental objectives with no worthwhile benefits.

Implementation Progress (IP)	
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	Implementation of <u>all</u> components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised implementation plan for the project. The project can be presented as “good practice”.
Satisfactory (S)	Implementation of <u>most</u> components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan except for only few that are subject to remedial action.
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	Implementation of <u>some</u> components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with some components requiring remedial action.
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	Implementation of <u>some</u> components is <u>not</u> in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with most components requiring remedial action.
Unsatisfactory (U)	Implementation of <u>most</u> components in <u>not</u> in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	Implementation of <u>none</u> of the components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.

Risk ratings	
Risk ratings will assess the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risk of projects should be rated on the following scale:	
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.
Substantial Risk (S)	There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, 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 moderate risk.
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 low risks.