

**1- Identification**
**1.1 Project details**

GEF ID	9695	Umoja No:	SB-007345.07																																				
Project Title	GEF GOLD Mongolia-Philippines: Contribution Toward the Elimination of Mercury in the Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) Sector: From Miners To Refiners																																						
Duration months	<div>Planned</div> <div>Extension</div>	<table><tr><td>60</td><td>GEF financing amount</td><td>USD 7,800,000</td></tr><tr><td>-</td><td>Co-financing amount</td><td>USD 48,208,145</td></tr><tr><td>Economy Division, GEF Chemicals and Waste, Chemicals and Health Branch</td><td>Date of CEO Endorsement</td><td>20-Aug-18</td></tr><tr><td>UNIDO</td><td>Start of Implementation</td><td>7-Dec-18</td></tr><tr><td>Artisanal Gold Council</td><td>Date of first disbursement</td><td>29-Dec-18</td></tr><tr><td>-</td><td>Total disbursement as of 30 June</td><td>USD 2,555,894</td></tr><tr><td>FSP - Child Project</td><td>Total expenditure as of 30 June</td><td>USD 2,119,223</td></tr><tr><td>Regional</td><td>Expected Mid-Term Date</td><td>31-May-22</td></tr><tr><td>Asia Pacific</td><td>Completion Date</td><td>31-May-24</td></tr><tr><td>Mongolia, Philippines</td><td></td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>PoW 5: Chemicals, waste and air quality</td><td>Expected Terminal Evaluation Date</td><td>1-Jun-24</td></tr><tr><td>Chemicals and Waste</td><td>Expected Financial Closure Date</td><td>1-Jun-24</td></tr></table>	60	GEF financing amount	USD 7,800,000	-	Co-financing amount	USD 48,208,145	Economy Division, GEF Chemicals and Waste, Chemicals and Health Branch	Date of CEO Endorsement	20-Aug-18	UNIDO	Start of Implementation	7-Dec-18	Artisanal Gold Council	Date of first disbursement	29-Dec-18	-	Total disbursement as of 30 June	USD 2,555,894	FSP - Child Project	Total expenditure as of 30 June	USD 2,119,223	Regional	Expected Mid-Term Date	31-May-22	Asia Pacific	Completion Date	31-May-24	Mongolia, Philippines		-	PoW 5: Chemicals, waste and air quality	Expected Terminal Evaluation Date	1-Jun-24	Chemicals and Waste	Expected Financial Closure Date	1-Jun-24	
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Division(s) Implementing the project																																							
Name of co-implementing Agency																																							
Executing Agency(ies)																																							
Names of Other Project Partners																																							
Project Type																																							
Project Scope																																							
Region <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>		<div>Planned</div> <div>Revised</div>																																					
Names of Beneficiary Countries																																							
Programme of Work																																							
GEF Focal Area(s)																																							
EA: UNSDCF/UNDAF linkages	Mongolia (MN): Outcome Area 1 – Promoting inclusive growth and sustainable management of natural resources. Philippines (PH): Outcome Area 1 – Universal access to quality social services, with focus on the MDGs. Outcome Area 2 – Decent and productive employment for sustained, greener growth.																																						
EA: Link to relevant SDG target(s) & indicator(s)	SDG 3.9: By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination  SDG 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.																																						

**1.2 Project description**

The planetGOLD Mongolia-Philippines 'child project,' is executed by the AGC in partnership with the Government of both countries; through the Ministry of Environment and Tourism for Mongolia and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) for the Philippines. The project seeks to contribute to the elimination of mercury in the Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining (ASGM) sector through the provision of support for the government to develop and implement policies to enhance formalization of the ASGM sector, facilitate miners' access to formal gold markets and capital to purchase mercury-free processing equipment as well as to introduce responsible mining, gender and environmental practices in targeted ASGM areas. Artisanal miners will get access to mercury-free processing technologies that are appropriate to the needs and conditions of the target mining sites.

The project has four components to be delivered over a period of five years: Formalization; Access to Finance; Mercury-free technology installment; and Information and knowledge dissemination. Component 1 aims to enhance formalization by reviewing the existing policies and regulations on ASGM and mercury use and strengthening the capacity of national and local governments to develop and implement respective plans while Component 2 improves miners' access to small capital to purchase mercury-free equipment and explores links to potential domestic and international markets in responsible gold. In addition, social enterprise business models and responsible gold sourcing criteria will be developed and adopted by miners in the project targeted areas. Through installing and piloting mercury-free gold processing technologies in the selected mining sites, Component 3 will contribute to reducing, and where feasible eliminating the use of mercury and mercury compounds. In addition, trainings will be conducted to help miners learn and adopt better mining practices in ASGM operations. Component 4 creates a multi-sided communications platform that will enable ASGM stakeholders and partners to learn and share the project news, experiences and success stories built under the project.

**1.3 History of project revisions**

Version	Date	Main changes introduced in this revision
NA	NA	NA

2- OVERVIEW OF PROJECT STATUS

2.1 UNEP PoW

UN Environment Subprogramme(s)	Subprogramme 5: Chemicals, waste and air quality	Specify the relevant Expected Accomplishment(s) & Indicator(s)	PoW 5: (a) (i)
TM: Progress towards delivering the stated PoW	The main objective of the project is related to mercury reduction, however, due to COVID19, related activities have been difficult to achieve. However, activities related to formalization and access to markets have been conducted and they are building blocks to reduce mercury use in the ASGM sector.		

2.2. GEF Core Indicators

GEF Core Indicators	Increase in phase-out, disposal and reduction of releases of POPs, ODS, mercury and other chemicals of global concern	-	
Indicative expected Results	40 metric tons of Hg	-	
TM: GEF core indicators targeted by	Indicators	Expected value at	
		Mid-term	End-of-project

TM		PIR #	Rating towards outcomes	Rating towards outputs	Risk rating
FY 2021		2nd	MS	MS	M
FY 2020		1st	MS	MS	L

Summary of status.

<p>Mongolia: The following is the summary of progress status under Table 3.2 (MN):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Outcome 1: Reasonable progress reached. Outputs under Component 1: 42% (cumulative progress)</li><li>- Outcome 2: Modest progress made. Outputs under Component 2: 27% (cumulative progress)</li><li>- Outcome 3: Reasonable progress achieved. Outputs under Component 3: 47% (cumulative progress)</li><li>- Outcome 4: Reasonable progress reached. Outputs under Component 4: 40% (cumulative progress)</li><li>- Component 5: No progress. No activities planned during the reporting period.</li></ul> <p>During the reporting period, reasonable progress was made towards meeting the objective of the Project. The Project invested significant efforts in acquiring land for establishing mercury-free processing systems (MFPS) in the project sites, designing MFPS technology and strengthening and extending collaboration with ASGM stakeholders. On 10 June 2021, the land has been obtained for MFPS in Bulgan soum, Khovd province, an emerging ASGM hotspot without any processing facility in the province so far. The project started preparatory works to construct MFPS, working on required documents and permits. With support from the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and local governments, capacity building and awareness-raising activities and events were successfully implemented, reaching 1,230 people in the project sites.</p> <p>The activities implemented within the project have been summarized and rated below against the respective outputs. Under Outcome 1, the Project made reasonable progress, reaching 42% cumulative progress rating towards the expected outputs. Trainings on Minamata Convention, National Action Plan on Reducing Mercury use in ASM and Environmental and Social Management System were organized in the project sites both in-person and online, adjusting to changing COVID-19 travel and meeting restrictions. In total, 167 local government officials and miners (96 M/71 F) attended the trainings. The project continued to provide support to the Government Taskforce working on amendments to the current ASM Regulation #151 and developed a proposal with key issues that need to be addressed to enhance ASGM formalization, ease land permission process, introduce responsible gold criteria and improve mining practices in ASGM. The results of the Combined Study on ASM Legal and Policy Framework and Illicit Financial Flows in ASGM in Mongolia were used in the proposal development. For Outcome 2, modest progress was made with 27% cumulative progress rating achieved on the responsible gold market. The project translated and adapted the key documents for the Mongolian context including the planetGOLD criteria and OECD Due Diligence, a financial assessment toolkit and a business plan toolkit for miners. Opportunities to attract investors were explored through various activities. The Cumulative progress rating has reached 47% under Outcome 3. The project put significant efforts and achieved reasonable progress in meeting all business and legal requirements to acquire land for establishing an MFPS. With the changes in local governments after the local election in October 2020, the project requests for the lands were denied in Tunkhel village and Altai soum. The Project immediately took actions and secured land in Bulgan soum, Khovd province. Design and layouts of MFPS have been developed and relevant equipment has been determined and ordered from China and Columbia. The Contextual Study incl. a gender mapping and policy recommendations to improve the ASGM sector was completed and disseminated among Mongolian stakeholders. A training plan has been developed for all training activities under Component 3, in collaboration with the training partner, the ASM National Federation (ASM NF), and further preparatory steps have been taken. A training module on Gender and Human Rights was developed and piloted through a Training of Trainers which involved 16 trainers from ASM NF and its branches in the project areas. With 40% cumulative progress rating within Outcome 4, the project regularly provided updates and information to stakeholders and the public through its website and social media accounts. During the reporting period, a total of 86 posts were shared and reached 20,315 people. A total of 3,180 copies of IEC materials were distributed to the national and local stakeholders. The overall risk rating of the project remains to be Low with 76% of the identified risks rated as Low and 24% of risks rated as Medium. There was no High risk identified during the reporting period.</p> <p>Philippines: Below is the summary of the progress status of PH under Table 3.2 (PH):</p> <p>Outcome 1: Modest Progress reached. Outputs under Component 1: 12% (cumulative progress)</p> <p>Outcome 2: Reasonable Progress achieved. Outputs under Component 2: 19% (cumulative progress)</p> <p>Outcome 3: Reasonable Progress achieved. Outputs under Component 3: 26% (cumulative progress)</p> <p>Outcome 4: Reasonable Progress achieved. Outputs under Component 4: 35% (cumulative progress)</p> <p>Component 5: No progress. No activities were planned within the reporting period.</p> <p>Overall, reasonable progress in project implementation has been achieved for this reporting period mainly on formalization. DENR – The lead government agency on the project – signed the Project Document (ProDoc) in September 2020, thus achieving the final pre-implementation requirement of the government. This enabled the team to begin conducting major project activities. However, due to the delays experienced in the finalization of the project sites, completion rates remain subdued. In January 2021, Sagada was added as an additional potential project site. Following that, the team conducted the required site assessment activities. In December of last year, the DENR Special Order which created the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and Project Management Unit (PMU) was revised to include a Project Management Committee (PMC), as requested by the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB).</p> <p>Below is a summary of the concerted actions undertaken under the four project outcomes to achieve target outputs:</p> <p>Outcome 1 - Modest progress (12% cumulative progress): This was mainly attributed to the collection of data relevant to the assessment of the legal frameworks and illicit financial flows linked to the ASGM sector in the Philippines. The data will be analyzed in order to support the conduct of the ASGM policy assessments.</p> <p>Outcome 2 - Reasonable progress (19% cumulative progress): The project identified local gold traders and developed IEC materials covering the planetGOLD Criteria for Environmentally and Socially Responsible Operations and formal gold trading based on the Philippine’s setting. The IEC materials will be distributed to the identified gold traders and association officers at the scheduled online orientation of formal gold trading with the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP).</p> <p>Outcome 3 - Reasonable progress (26% cumulative progress): The project finalized the site selection. Data collection activities and initial analysis reporting including gender mapping were conducted as part of the Contextual Study. Furthermore, a preliminary technical design of the MFPS was produced and the tailings Storage Facility (TSF) design is being finalized. A significant consideration in the development of MFPS technical design is the Minahang Bayan’s neighbouring residents reception to the use of leaching reagents. The MFPS design has the option to include an additional leaching circuit for improved gold recovery conditional upon the safekeeping of the communities’ health and environment.</p> <p>Outcome 4 - Reasonable Progress (35% cumulative progress): The project completed a social media plan. The social media accounts were regularly monitored and updated. Through the project’s online media, 3 engaging stories were shared in the reporting period. The planetGOLD Philippines Facebook account has 575 “likes” and 592 “followers”. Through the Facebook account, the project published 72 posts reaching approximately 77 thousand users and engaging more than 1,500 people. Furthermore, the project teams also distributed 400 COVID-19 IEC materials on COVID-19 symptoms and protective measures printed in both English and Filipino languages.</p> <p>Lastly, the project identified some implementation challenges to be: the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on field work and equipment sourcing amongst others, and the social acceptability of the project’s MFPS technical design by local stakeholders. The project team is currently focused on exploring strategies to address these issues. Based on the indicated project risks, the overall risk rating remains to be Low in reference to the previous year’s report, with 6 risk categories (29%) classified as Medium risk and 15 risks (71%) identified as Low risks. There were no High risks recorded for this reporting period.</p>
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\*section will be uploaded into the GEF Portal

EA: Planned Co-finance (total only)	USD 4,000,000 (for 5 years)	EA: Actual to date:	USD 502,895.45 MN: USD 900,000 (45%) PH: USD 102,895.45 (5.14%)
EA: Justify progress in terms of materialization of expected co-finance. State any relevant challenges.	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> During the reporting period, the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) provided in-kind contributions, which worth USD 400.000, to the project in managing and coordinating the Project Steering Committee meeting and organizing meetings with local authorities and communities and ensuring their participation in discussions held during the field visits in Selenge, Khovd and Tuv provinces and conducting joint trainings in the project areas. MET has reported that a total of USD 900,000 (45%) as an in-kind contribution has been provided since the start of the Project, out of USD 2,000,000 planned for over 5 years.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> The Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Mines and Geosciences Bureau (DENR-MGB) has provided in-kind contributions for project implementation amounting to USD 44,896.32 within the reporting period. Currently, 5.14% (USD 102,895.45) of the committed in-kind contribution of USD 2,000,000 for five (5) years has already been reported. This amount covers office rentals, utilities, and man-hours of government officials who provided support to the project activities.</p>		

Instruction to EA: Add additional text	
EA: Stakeholder engagement (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> The project continues to strengthen collaboration with ASGM stakeholders at the national and local levels. Capacity-building activities and advocacy meetings have been carried out continuously with local authorities and leaders of artisanal mining partnerships virtually and in-person adjusting to the strict lockdown measures taken by the Government nationwide. At the national level, the project is closely working with the Ministry of Environment (MET), the project partner, by providing regular project updates, getting inputs on project implementation, co-organizing trainings and carrying out policy discussions on ASGM. Frequent communication with the Deputy Minister of Environment and Tourism resulted in getting support for project implementation. Mongolia project's PSC was organized on 26 February 2021 with extended representatives from Financial Regulatory Commission (FRC), and Mineral Resources and Petroleum Authority of Mongolia where the Project 2020 activities were reviewed, and the 2021 work plan was approved. The Project started cooperation with the ASM National Federation (ASM NF) of Mongolia with the purpose of developing training modules and organizing capacity-building activities for ASGM stakeholders as well as distribution of project updates and materials through the ASM Hub. The cooperation was formalized through an MoU, signed in July 2021.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> The project team has been working collaboratively with the MGB and the DENR, through Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects Service (FASPS), to implement project activities. AGC PH arranged and joined several PMC meetings to discuss matters and issues to raise at the PSC level. The first PSC meeting was held on 22 February 2021 where the 2021 workplan and two project sites were approved. The project team is also actively participating in the quarterly meeting with the DENR-FASPS and the MGB to discuss project's accomplishments and challenges. During these meetings, the MGB as the project focal point of the PH government also provides updates on action items on their end. Also within the reporting period, site assessment activities and data collection for the Contextual Study have been conducted in the two project sites wherein representatives from the local stakeholders including miners, local government agencies, regional offices, and the national government agencies have actively participated in the survey, key informant interviews (KIs), and focus group discussions (FGDs).</p>
EA: Gender mainstreaming (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)	<p><b>MN &amp; PH:</b> A gender mapping activity that intends to describe gender gaps in the project sites and identify challenges and opportunities for women in the ASGM community was conducted simultaneously with the Contextual Study in both countries. The project teams ensured that relevant gender-sensitive information was integrated into the quantitative survey conducted, and women miners were invited to participate in FGDs/KIs. In addition, the project team captured sex-disaggregated ASGM data in the Contextual Study to assess the situation of both men and women in the project sites and to develop appropriate and evidence-based interventions such as supporting the advancement of gender-sensitive policies for the ASGM sector.</p> <p><b>Mongolia:</b> Training module on Gender and Human Rights was developed for miners. It has been piloted and finalized through training of trainers (ToT) conducted with 16 (2 M/14 F) trainers from ASM NF and its branches in the project areas. Moreover, 46% (85) of all participants of training activities carried out under the project so far are women.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> The project developed a gender analysis report to identify knowledge and policy gaps on gender as well as implementation challenges on promoting gender equality in small-scale mining. The report also aims to explore relevant opportunities where the project can contribute to bridging existing gender gaps in the sector. Desk research, interviews with women miners, and interviews with the MGB Gender and Development (GAD) Focal Point System—an interacting group of people in all MGB offices tasked to catalyze gender mainstreaming—were conducted to support the analysis.</p>
EA: Environmental and social safeguards management (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)	<p><b>Environmental Safeguards:</b></p> <p><b>Mongolia:</b> The project is currently preparing to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment for the MFPS. The assessment will review existing environmental and social conditions pertaining to the MFPS location and surrounding area, identify and assess the potential environmental and social impacts and propose measures to mitigate any adverse environmental and social impacts. Results of the assessment will be shared and consulted with the local communities prior to the approval by National Government.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> A tailings storage facility (TSF) will be constructed in ASGM areas where the project will install MFPS. The conceptual design of the TSF is being finalized, and the project team is currently waiting for laboratory results that would support the design completion.</p> <p><b>Social Safeguard (MN&amp;PH):</b></p> <p>The Project has conducted a gender mapping in the project areas in both countries, assessing the roles and responsibilities of women and men, income levels, control over resources and leadership as well as barriers and opportunities of women miners in the sector. Based on the assessment, policy recommendations have been developed on ensuring gender equality and equity in ASGM. Furthermore, a Gender Action Plan (internal project document) has been developed to mainstream gender throughout all project activities.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> Since the residents in Sagada project area in the Philippines are all Indigenous People, the project team has secured approval from the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) to conduct the field activities in May 2021. Also, the Project has complied with the existing COVID-19 health and safety protocols of the national and local governments.</p>

**EA: Knowledge activities and products** (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

MN&PH: The project disseminated knowledge and information on all aspects of ASGM and sharing experiences on responsible and better mining. Information and news on latest international events, ASGM operation, responsible and ethical gold, occupational safety and health, formalization and technology were disseminated through the project websites and social media accounts. Following IEC materials have been produced during the reporting period:

- Summary Report on Philippine Project Site Assessment Activities (PH)
- Site Assessment Analytical Report (per assessed PH site)
- Contextual Study Report of the planetGOLD Mongolia: The Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Sector in Mongolia (MN)
- Article entitled "Artisanal Gold: Opportunities for Responsible Investment for Mongolia" (MN)
- ASGM and Gender Brochure (MN)
- Project Introduction Brochure and Briefer (MN&PH)
- Access to Finance Brochure (MN)
- Brochure on planetGOLD Criteria for Environmentally and Socially Responsible Operations (PH)
- Brochure on Formal Gold Trading with the Central Bank (PH)
- AGC brochure on Chemicals Hazards in the Artisanal Gold Sector (translation to Mongolian)
- Improving Access to Formal Finance in ASGM, Issue Brief (translation to Mongolian)
- Booklet on Introduction to Mercury-free Processing System (MN)
- E-posters on COVID-19 symptoms and preventive measures (MN&PH)

**EA: Stories to be shared**  
(will be shared with UNEP &GEF communication division)

During the reporting period, below articles reflecting lessons learned and insights from the project team were published on the planetGOLD website and social media pages:

1)Strengthening Local Government in Mongolia via the Minamata Convention on Mercury (15 March 2021)  
<https://www.planetgold.org/strengthening-local-government-mongolia-minamata-convention-mercury>

2)Changing impacts of COVID-19 on Mongolia's Artisanal Gold Mining Sector (20 May 2021)  
<https://www.planetgold.org/changing-impacts-covid-19-mongolias-artisanal-gold-mining-sector>

3)Recognizing Women's Contributions and Challenges in Philippines Small Scale Mining (17 March 2021)  
<https://www.planetgold.org/recognizing-womens-contributions-and-challenges-philippine-small-scale-mining>

4)Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Boosts Rural Programs and Infrastructure Development in the Philippines (12 November 2020)  
<https://www.planetgold.org/artisanal-and-small-scale-gold-mining-boosts-rural-programs-and-infrastructure-development>

\*section will be uploaded into the GEF Portal

### 3. RATING PROJECT PERFORMANCE

#### 3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project outcomes

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target	End of Project Target	EA: Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	TM: Progress rating
<b>Objective</b> Contributing to the elimination of mercury in ASGM by applying a value chain approach from the miners to the refiners.	# quantity of mercury reduced		7.5 and 4.5 tons of mercury reduced in Philippines and Mongolia, respectively	40 tons of mercury reduced	<p>Mongolia: The project requests for land permits for Mercury-Free Processing System (MFPS) in the two selected project areas, Tunkhel and Altai, have been denied by local governments (see Step 3). The Project took actions and was able to acquire land in Bulgan, Khovd province, a neighboring soum to Altai. The project is preparing documents for conducting a feasibility study and environmental assessments and getting other permits required to be completed before the MFPS construction. An initial design of MFPS technology and potential capacity has been determined.</p> <p>Training was held for local officials and miners of the project areas to increase their knowledge on the Minamata Convention and its objective and policies to reduce mercury use in the ASGM sector, the national commitment and action plan to support the implementation of the Convention and the local strategies that can be implemented in eliminating mercury use in ASGM at the provincial level.</p> <p>Along with the training "Silent Threat of Mercury, Minamata Convention", a photo exhibition was organized for the public to raise awareness on the history of the Minamata Convention, mercury use in ASGM and the negative impacts of mercury on human health and environment. IEC material was developed and distributed during trainings and the exhibition.</p> <p>Philippines: Data collection methods developed by the project team for the Contextual Study included tools to estimate gold production and mercury use. The AGC HQ also conducted training on mercury inventory to PH planetGOLD staff.</p> <p>The results of the Contextual Study provided the baseline data on mercury use, mining processes employed, gold production as well as training needs of small-scale miners. Initial quantitative data analysis was completed, and a draft of the quantitative analysis section of the Contextual Study report will be shared with the funders on 31 July 2021.</p> <p>The designs of both the MFPS and TSF have already been drafted and are currently being finalized using data from the Contextual Study.</p>	MS
	# of women and men miners that have access to capital to finance mercury-free technology and equipment		At least 50% of women and men accessed finance, are involved in responsible gold market supply chains, and sell directly to national institutions	100% of women and men accessed finance, are involved in responsible gold market supply chain and sell directly to national institutions	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> The Contextual Study showed that access to finance among surveyed miners is low (3% received capital from commercial banks, 3% from non-bank financial institutions, 9% from gold traders and 6% from processing plants). The Project had meetings with the commercial banks, which buy gold from miners, to learn their loan policy and financial opportunities for miners. The banks do not have a specific loan policy for miners, however, they shared what issues and risks need to be reduced to enable funding for miners in form of a loan.</p> <p>The Project held a discussion with ASM National Federation (ASM NF) on investment opportunities and approaches to ASGM. The key obstacle for ASM organizations to attract investment is the absence of information on the gold reserve and the cost to determine the reserve. It is impossible for miners to get finance from official banks and investors without verification of the reserve, thus the project plans to broaden its target group to include local gold mining companies, gold traders and other local community investors who know their local miners and lend money to miners or invest in ASGM on a trust basis.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> To achieve the desired impact, the project's approach is to build a Mercury-Free Processing Facility where the assets (equipment and other) are owned and managed through a social enterprise. This approach would serve a large number of men and women miners. The strategy is to reduce the financial and operational risk of the facility in a manner that would attract investments required to scale up the operation and/or provide the working capital. Formalized men and women miners who are members of the association will become partners in a joint venture (JV) with the investors, effectively, accessing capital and operational capacity for mercury-free processing of their ore.</p> <p>The team gathered relevant data on the gold supply chain and access to finance and markets in Sagada and Paracale during the Contextual Study.</p> <p>Discussions with AGC HQ concerning the social enterprise structure, ownership, and registration are still ongoing. The project team is currently working on the requirements for company registration.</p>	MS
	# of women and men miners that have access to responsible gold markets (from miners to refiners)	Sector is critically underexploited. Absence of financial resources is considerable barrier for the ability to adopt mercury-free technologies.			<p>Mongolia: The Bank of Mongolia (BoM) is currently not complying with international due diligence standards (e.g., traceability to the mine); hence, there is no responsible gold market in Mongolia.</p> <p>The planetGOLD criteria, a responsible ASGM sourcing tool, was translated into Mongolian and reviewed for adaptation to Mongolia's legal and ASM conditions. The tool is developed for ASM operations in downstream gold supply chains; as a result of its implementation, the project will link miners from the target areas with interested responsible gold buyers and banks and enable access to the international market. Preparatory steps for training activities commencing in the third quarter of 2021 have been taken.</p> <p>Philippines: Gold producer's compliance with the CRAFT code will facilitate their access to the responsible gold markets. A derivative standard "the planetGOLD criteria" is built on the CRAFT code for responsible gold sourcing. Capacity-building activities to enable access to responsible gold markets are an area of focus. The team developed IEC materials (in English and in Filipino) on the planetGOLD Criteria for Environmentally and Socially Responsible Operations, which was sent to AGC HQ for review. These materials contain the summary of modules based on the CRAFT Code and the planetGOLD-specific criteria as per the GEF Environment and Social Safeguards requirements. The planetGOLD verification tool, which will be used for small-scale mining (SSM) risks assessment, was also sent to AGC HQ for review.</p> <p>The PH team also has ongoing discussions with the MN team and experts from the AGC HQ on crafting the planetGOLD criteria workshop. The workshop will be attended by the MGB and BSP, as the primary government agencies overseeing small-scale mining operations and gold trading.</p>	S



	# of women and men miners selling directly to their national institutions.				<p><b>Mongolia:</b> As stated in the Contextual Study, 94% of the surveyed miners (n=371) never sell their gold to BoM due to geographical distance (42%), not meeting the BOM's requirement on the gold amount (27%) and bureaucratic process (24%).</p> <p>In 2020, the Project assisted and provided recommendations to the development of the Financial Regulatory Commission (FRC) Regulation "Issuing and registering licenses to dealers of precious metals, precious stones and items made of them" which has become the first initiative to formalize gold trade in ASGM. Following the approval of this regulation, a total of 19 gold traders and processing plant owners from the project areas received gold trading licenses. As a result, 48% of total miners in the project areas are now able to sell their gold to legitimate buyers, an important step towards formalized and responsible supply chains.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> Local gold traders and miners who are interested in getting accredited by the BSP were initially identified and were invited to attend BSP's webinar on the accreditation process. Furthermore, the project team developed an IEC material on formal gold trading, which highlights the importance of selling gold to BSP as well as the gold-buying program and its requirements. The material also includes an introduction to BSP and the location and contact details of existing gold-buying stations.</p>	S
Outcome 1						
Government incentives to formalize the ASGM sector in Mongolia and the Philippines are increasingly adopted by miners	# of women and men miners adopting government incentives aimed at formalizing the ASGM sector.	The Governments are undertaking steps to formalize operations with the help of legislative efforts for regulation, but additional supporting activities are needed to expedite and reinforce efforts.	50% of expected women and men in mining sector making use of government incentives	100% of expected women and men in mining sector making use of government incentives	<p>Mongolia: The internal report "Combined Study on legal and policy framework and illicit financial flows in the ASGM sector" was developed, indicating gaps and overlaps in the laws, regulations, policies and standards, assessing all forms of illicit financial flows in artisanal mining, and recommending suggestions for improvements on ASGM formalization. The main findings will be summarized, shared with stakeholders for validation and published in August/September. The recommendations of the report to formalize and professionalize the sector, covered among others traceability and recording of ore extraction and gold trade as well as land permit issues; the recommendations were shared with the Taskforce on the revision of ASM Regulation. The project is an active member of the Taskforce; the ASM Regulation is not approved yet.</p> <p>Philippines: The Terms of Reference (TOR) for the engagement of a consultant was updated and posted in the project website and Facebook page to invite qualified individuals to apply and send a proposal.</p> <p>To reduce the workload of the consultant, relevant data for the combined assessment were already collected from the project areas as part of the Contextual Study. The project team ensured that the research tools developed for the Contextual Study would also capture some of the data needs of this assessment.</p>	S
	# of women and men miners who have been formalized in all target project areas.				<p><b>Mongolia:</b> The project has been working as a member of the Taskforce established to revise the ASM regulation #151, key legislation regulating ASM. The project provided the following comments (in short): i) to promote the ASM formalization and accountability, the organizational forms of any ASM community group must be a legal entity, also to mandate ASM organizations to submit their rehabilitation reports to MET through local environmental departments, ii) to prevent other non-ASM individuals and companies from distorting the regulation, the equipment capacity in the regulation must be revised, and the process of obtaining permits for artisanal mining must be shortened, iii) to upgrade and introduce ASM better practices in ASM, the mineral origin must be transparent, and working templates must be applied along the supply chain to enforce traceability. The Regulation is expected to be approved in 2021; the Covid-19 pandemic and the presidential election in July 2021 have caused delays.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> Based on information gathered from ASGM communities, the project team provided input into drafting of the bill amending People's Small Scale Mining Act of 1991 (RA7076) led by the DENR. The team is in constant coordination with the MGB regarding updates on government efforts related to ASGM policy amendments.</p> <p>The project team also drafted a policy brief on gender mainstreaming in ASGM and updated the gender analysis report based on data collected during site assessment activities. Interviews with the Gender Focal Points within the MGB for the assessment of the legal framework in the context of gender mainstreaming have also been conducted.</p>	MS
Outcome 2						
National governments guide the creation of ASGM fund to allow miners to invest in mercury free technologies and access responsible gold markets	Overall amount of money made available by investors or financial institutions		30% disbursed money from investors to miners	100% disbursed money from investors to miners	<p>Mongolia: To extend linkages with potential investors in ASGM, the project has become a member of the Business Council of Mongolia (BCM), one of the biggest business chambers, and the Ulaanbaatar Chamber of Commerce. Both organizations have over 300 member organizations combined.</p> <p>The article on "Opportunities for responsible investment in ASM in Mongolia" was developed by the project to advocate for investment in the sector; it was shared through BCM weekly newsletter, local daily newspaper, Mongolian Mining Journal and planetGOLD website. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, national investment forums, in which the project plans to participate, have not been organized since September 2020.</p> <p>Philippines: In collaboration with the MGB and mining associations, the project will be creating a social enterprise as an investment vehicle to fund the construction and operation of a MFPS. The investment funds therefore will not be directly disbursed to the miners, but rather the miners will be part owners of the MFPS after the creation of JV with future investors. To increase opportunities to connect with potential investors, the project team is planning on applying for membership in the Philippine Chamber of Commerce Industry (PCCI), a non-government association of private businesses, on behalf of the social enterprise. During the reporting period, the team had already touched base with PCCI officers and discussed membership details. The necessary documents will be submitted once the social enterprise is registered as per government regulations.</p> <p>The project's investment specialist is actively participating in the meetings of the Finance Access Network Group led by planetGOLD Global, where challenges and plans for the investment component of the project are discussed.</p>	MS

	Overall amount of money accessed by miners.	There is restricted access to legitimate funding and/or no specially designed fund	At least 1/3 miners have access to responsible gold markets	100% of miners have access to responsible gold markets	<b>Mongolia/Philippines:</b> Once commissioned, the social enterprise (SoE) will provide mercury-free processing for miners. Having responsibly produced gold that complies with the planetGOLD criteria and the CRAFT code will enable the miners to access the responsible gold market.  <b>Mongolia:</b> Relevant activities have started. The Project had meetings with the commercial banks, which buy gold from miners, to assess the potential for having them as funding partners. Furthermore, the project is exploring other sources to fund the capital requirements of the social enterprise including local gold traders.  <b>Philippines:</b> The buyer of ASGM gold in the Philippines will be the BSP. A webinar on “Improving Access to Finance” was attended by BSP representatives and small-scale miners in the project areas. More activities relating to access to markets will be conducting over the remaining project life.	MS
	# of miners that have access to responsible gold markets		*No quantitative targets are mentioned in the logframe	*No quantitative targets are mentioned in the logframe	<b>Mongolia:</b> The planetGOLD criteria was translated into Mongolian and is being adapted to Mongolia’s legal and ASM conditions. The project is working to build awareness about the importance of responsible supply chains and the planetGOLD Criteria amongst the government officials as well as the miners. This activity will then be followed by the implementation of the Criteria in the project areas which will link interested responsible gold buyers and banks with miners.  <b>Philippines:</b> As mentioned in the previous section, the access to responsible gold markets is expected to be achieved once the MFPS is commissioned.  In preparation for the implementation of the planetGOLD Criteria on Due Diligence, the PH team already has ongoing discussions with the MN team and experts from the AGC HQ on crafting the planetGOLD criteria workshop. AGC HQ also conducted an internal training for the Philippines team on the OECD Supply Chain Due Diligence, focusing on the CRAFT Code Implementation and the CRAFT Code Verification Tool. In addition, a planetGOLD verification tool was already sent to AGC HQ for review.  The project has also developed IEC materials on BSP Formal Gold Trading and planetGOLD Criteria. The former outlines the importance of selling gold to BSP as well as the gold-buying program and its requirements. The material also includes an introduction to BSP and the location and contact details of existing gold-buying stations. On the other hand, the latter presents the planetGOLD Criteria for Environmentally and Socially Responsible Operations and the four (4) modules of Craft Code for ASGM entities' compliance.  Furthermore, a meeting was conducted on 15 October 2020 with the PSC representative of the BSP to discuss opportunities for collaboration within the project scope. Discussions with BSP were utilized to build on raising awareness of miners on the BSP Gold Buying Guidelines. Through the meeting, selected miners from the proposed project areas were invited to attend the BSP webinar on Gold Buying Guidelines conducted on 26 November 2020.	S
	Volume of responsible gold from project areas sold into a transparent supply chain		At 250 kg of expected responsible gold sold in a transparent supply chain.	1000 kg of expected responsible gold sold in a transparent supply chain.	<b>Mongolia and Philippines:</b> Relevant activities have started: The project is working toward creating awareness and advocating for the formalization of miners and gold traders, implementing due diligence and responsible supply chain standards, and building MFPS in selected project areas as a basic requirement for producing responsible gold.	MS
	# of miners that sell their gold into a transparent supply chain		*No quantitative targets are mentioned in the logframe	*No quantitative targets are mentioned in the logframe	<b>Mongolia and Philippines:</b> (see input on access to responsible gold market above)	MS
Outcome 3						
Reduced mercury releases by the ASGM sector in both countries	Quantity of mercury reduced	Mercury continues to be traded and used in the ASGM sector.	At least 7.5 and 4.5 tons of mercury reduced in the Philippines and Mongolia, respectively	25 and 15 tons of mercury reduced in the Philippines and Mongolia, respectively	<b>Mongolia and Philippines:</b> Please refer to Objective # above (row 11)	MS
	# of miners/ community members in project areas who adopted better mining practices		At least 50% of miners/communities at targeted sites adopted better mining practices.	100% of miners/communities adopted better mining practices.	<b>Mongolia:</b> A training partner, the ASM National Federation, has been selected, the collaboration has been formalized in an MoU and a training plan has been developed. A gender and human rights training module has been developed and a Training of Trainers of ASM NF trainers has been conducted. The plant design for the MFPS 1 has been finalized, equipment is currently being shipped to Mongolia.  <b>Philippines:</b> The technical design of the mercury-free processing plant to be proposed in the project areas is being finalized. The project team sent sample ores from the two project areas to Clean Earth Technologies in Australia for leaching tests, and several other laboratory tests are currently being conducted to support the finalization of the design. In addition, small-scale miners’ training needs related to better mining practices have also been assessed as part of the Contextual Study.	S
Outcome 4						
Project ASGM communities and government agreed on an approach to reach all ASGM communities in each country. Information on the project is available globally through the GEF GOLD programme	# of ASGM stakeholders who adopted and utilized multi-sided platform/ knowledge hub	Information is scattered among different locations and not properly organized in a useful manner to GEF GOLD stakeholders	No mid-term target	1 multi-sided platform/knowledge hub developed; 2 partnerships established through platform/knowledge hub (1 per country)	<b>Mongolia:</b> Mongolia has an existing ASM multi-sided platform/knowledge hub, created during the Sustainable Artisanal Mining (SAM) project. The planetGOLD project has been discussing with ASM NF, who recently took over the platform from the Ministry of Mining and Heavy Industry, a possibility of using it as a multi-sided platform for ASGM knowledge sharing and dissemination in the future. While the Hub is currently not well known among miners (see CS report), the ASM NF and the Project have agreed on an approach how to increase visibility, user-friendliness (e.g., mobile phone app) and relevance (through high-quality content). At the same time, the Project is using Facebook to reach out to various stakeholders. During the reporting period, the number of followers reached 459.  <b>Philippines:</b> Presently, the established platforms are the planetGOLD website and Facebook page. During the reporting period, 72 posts were published in the projects’ Facebook page reaching 77,560 people and engaging 1,508 people. The Philippines page in the planetGOLD website was also updated upon the finalization of the project areas. In the succeeding quarters, the project team will start coordination with the Mineral Economics, Information, and Publication Division of MGB to update and improve the agency’s existing data portal on mining by adding relevant ASGM information, data, and resource documents.	S



	# of approaches agreed upon by ASGM communities and government		4 engagements of stakeholders with ASGM sector (2 per country)	6 engagements of stakeholders with ASGM sector (3 per country)	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> The social media strategy was developed, based on the results of the Contextual study which indicated that 44% of the total 371 respondents prefer to get their mining-related information from Facebook, while 46% prefer to get them through mobile phones. The strategy outlines the planned use of different social media platforms, the kind/type of content that will be produced, and the key messages imparted to engage target audiences.</p> <p>The project has been discussing with ASM NF, who recently took over the ASM Knowledge Hub from the MMHI, about the possibility of using it as a multi-sided platform and exploring the mobile application of the platform for easy access; the hub will facilitate outreach to and dialogue with various stakeholder groups.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> A social media plan was developed to increase participation and engagement of men and women miners in the project areas. However, this will be updated and possible alternative communication channels will be identified based on the results of the Contextual Study.</p>	S
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### 3.2 Rating of progress implementation towards delivery of outputs

Output	EA: Expected completion date	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020 (%)	EA: Implementation status as of 30 June 2021 (%)	EA: Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	TM: Progress rating
<b>Under Comp 1</b>					
1.1. Tools for national and provincial governments to implement policies and regulations related to ASGM developed	MN: 31-Mar-23 PH: 31-Dec-23	MN: 35% PH: 3%	MN: 50% PH: 6%	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> The Combined Study was conducted, and the report has been finalized with the main findings to be summarized and published in August/September. Trainings on Minamata Convention (Article 7) and ASGM and Environmental and Social Management System have been conducted for local government officials and miners in all project areas involving a total of 167 people (96 M/71 F). The project took an active part in the Taskforce on the revision of ASM Regulation and provided recommendations to improve the regulation. ASM Regulation is not approved yet. Preparatory steps for the due diligence training for government officials have been taken, the training has been postponed due to national and international travel restrictions, tentatively to August 2021.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> Progress made related to output 1.1 was the initial collection of data that can be used for the joint assessment of the legal framework governing ASGM and illicit financial flows. But, the majority of the activities are yet to be conducted.</p> <p>The PSC has just approved the project areas on 22 February 2021, and the team is still drafting the Contextual Study, which has been delayed because of travel restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	MS
1.2 Women, men and youth stakeholders involved in the ASGM sector have access to government incentives and support services	MN: 31-Mar-23 PH: 30-June-23	MN: 20% PH: 3%	MN: 35% PH: 6%	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> To achieve this output, the assessment of Illicit financial flows has been finalized (combined study with 1.1.1) with the main findings to be summarized and published in August/September. The ASM forum and other activities to promote formalization among miners and government officials in the target provinces have been delayed due to the pending approval of the revised ASM regulation, but are scheduled for Q3/Q4 2021 after approval.</p> <p>In addition, the Project has developed and is currently discussing an MoU on cooperation with the governments of Khovd province and Bulgan soum in the same province, to collaborate and coordinate the project activities with local government officials and to support local initiatives on ASGM formalization. It is expected to be finalized and signed in the third quarter of 2021. In terms of the web-based platform, the Project has signed an MoU with the ASM NF to populate and regularly update the existing ASM Knowledge Hub with ASGM IEC materials.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> Progress made under output 1.2 were the initial data gathering for the combined assessment of legal framework governing ASGM and illicit financial flows and the development of a social media plan to increase participation and engagement of the men and women miners in the project areas.</p> <p>Other activities under 1.1.2, such as the conduct of fora on the ASGM sector and the creation of a web-based platform for women and men involved in ASGM, are scheduled in the 3rd quarter of 2021 onwards.</p>	MS
<b>Under Comp 2</b>					
2.1 Gold produced from the project sites is sold to national institutions and formal markets, and support is provided to women and men stakeholders involved in the ASGM sector.	30-Jun-23	MN: 26% PH: 2%	MN: 20% PH: 8%	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> Activities carried out under the output were the modification of Financial and Business toolkits to Mongolian legal, taxation and ASGM context, which help the ASGM partnerships assess their business operation and get finance from investors, and translation of planetGOLD criteria and adaptation to Mongolian ASGM condition. These toolkits and criteria will be introduced and discussed among central and local policymakers and miners for further adjustment and implementation. In addition, the Project had meetings with commercial banks, donor organizations and private entities, and the ASM NF to explore investment opportunities in ASGM. The main obstacles for ASGM in attracting investment from potential investors were the absence of information on and the cost to determine the gold reserve despite other risks such as the informal, unstable, and risky operation of ASGM. Miners have informal and trust-based financial relationship with local gold traders or other acquaintances in their community. Therefore, the project is planning to broaden its target group from official finance and banking organizations to local gold mining companies, gold traders and other local community investors. A supply chain mapping in Khovd province has started; the information gathered will be used to finetune the social business model which is currently under development.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> Under output 2.1, the relevant progress made were the initial identification of local gold traders who can potentially be formalized and the development of the general concept of the social enterprise to be established in the project areas. Thus, the series of activities related to this output are yet to be conducted.</p>	MS
2.2 Social investment and private sector enabled to support the sector.	31-Dec-23	MN: 3% PH: 0%	MN: 35% PH: 25%	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> To extend linkages with potential investors, the Project became a member of Business Council of Mongolia (BCM) and Ulaanbaatar Chamber of Commerce with over 300 members as potential investors. An article on ASGM and responsible investment was developed and shared through BSM weekly newspaper to advocate for investment in the sector. IEC materials on Access to Finance and Improving Access to Formal Finance in ASGM for investors, financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders have been developed and disseminated. The training content and documents on the planetGOLD criteria are being developed and translated into Mongolian as preparation.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> For this reporting period, significant progress under output 2.2 included crafting IEC materials on planetGOLD criteria and formal gold trading as well as the development of the planetGOLD verification tool. There were postponements in the conduct of related activities in the ASGM communities because of the delayed finalization of the project areas and Contextual Study.</p>	MS

### Under Comp 3

3.1. Better mining practices (including environmental, health, and gender equitable aspects) adopted and implemented by women and men involved in ASGM in the targeted areas/provinces	MN: 31-March-23 PH: 31-Dec-23	17%	MN: 47% PH: 24%	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> Significant progress made to achieve this output were the completion of Contextual Study and its validation through PSC meeting, successful land acquisition/permit for MFPS, development of initial design and layout of MFPS and identification of required equipment. ASM NF has been identified as the partner institute for the development and implementation of training modules and to help introduce better mining standards. The Project signed an MoU with ASM NF in July 2021 to formalize this work relationship. A training module on Gender and Human Rights has been developed and finalized. Training of Trainers was organized for 16 trainers from ASM NF for piloting on 28 and 30 June. Preparatory steps for training activities that will be conducted in the third quarter of 2021 have been taken.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> Relevant progress made related to output 3.1 were completion of site assessment activities and selection of project areas, development of a technical design of the MFPS and TSF, and conduct of data collection activities and initial data analysis for the Contextual Study.</p>	MS
<b>Under Comp 4</b>					
4.1 ASGM stakeholders at local, national and international levels are informed and educated about their engagement in the sector.	30-Jun-23	MN: 37% PH: 20%	MN: 45% PH: 36%	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> Notable progress made to produce the output were development and implementation of social media strategy, development and dissemination of IEC materials, and organization of awareness-raising events and regular updates through the project's social media accounts. The planetGOLD Mongolia Facebook posts have reached a total of 20,315 people over 86 posts published from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021. 2,870 IEC materials were distributed during trainings, meetings, studies, assessments, exhibitions, and other field trips. Moreover, four blogs and one animation video were developed and posted to the planetGOLD website and planetGOLD Mongolia Facebook page. "Silent Threat of Mercury, Minamata Convention" photo exhibition was co-organized with the Fresh Water Resource, Nature Conservancy Center in Selenge and Khovd provinces respectively and reached 1,230 people.</p> <p>The existing ASM Knowledge Hub (created by SAM project) has been transferred from the Ministry of Mining and Heavy Industry (MMHI) to the ASM NF. An MoU with ASM NF has been signed in July 2021 to populate and regularly update the existing ASM Knowledge Hub with ASGM IEC materials.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> Significant progress made under output 4.1 included crafting a social media plan and developing and disseminating IEC materials and other awareness-raising tools in the project areas. Pipelined activities for 2021 Q3 are the finalization of the strategic communications plan incorporating Contextual Study findings, the establishment of partnerships with the SSM associations in project areas, and the conduct of media/ press briefing.</p>	5
4.2 Improved outreach activities across diversity of ASGM stakeholders at the international level	31-Dec-23	MN: 12% PH: 13%	MN: 35% PH: 25%	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> The Project made considerable progress under this output by providing updates to the planetGOLD website, attending two international events virtually and developing and publishing articles in the leading Mongolia newspaper and journal. The project participated in the 14th OECD Forum on Responsible Mineral Supply Chains which was organized virtually on 26-30 April 2021. The article on "Opportunities for responsible investment in ASM in Mongolia" was developed and published in Mongolian Mining Journal in English and Daily Newspaper in Mongolian.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> The significant progress made under output 4.2 was updating the project's website and the regular publication of articles on the country's ASGM sector.</p>	5
<b>Under Comp 5</b>					
5.1 Evaluation of project impacts		0%	0%	Mid-term review (MTR) is expected in 2021.	

Table A. Risk-log

Implementation Status 2nd						
Risk	Risk affecting:	Risk Rating			Variation respect to last rating	
	Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	Δ	Justification
Change in the political and economic situation during the lifetime of the programme impacts its implementation	Outcome 1.1: Government incentives to formalize the ASGM sector in Mongolia and the Philippines are increasingly adopted by miners Output 1.1.1: Tools for of national and provincial governments to implement policies and regulations related to ASGM developed. Outcome 3.1: Reduced mercury releases by the ASGM sector in both countries Output 3.1.1: Better mining practices (including environmental, and gender equitable aspects) adopted and implemented by women and men involved in ASGM in the targeted areas/provinces	I: H, L: H	M	M	=	<b>Mongolia:</b> PIR1=M; PIR2=M Changes made in local governments after the Local Election in October 2020 affected the land acquisition efforts for the MFPS, made by the project in the selected areas. All the documents related to land acquisition were prepared and submitted to the respective local agencies of Tunkhel village of Mandal soum, Selenge province and Altai soum, Khovd province respectively. However, the project requests were denied by the newly elected members of the Citizen's Representative Khurals (CRKh) who did not support the project application for land for the MFPS.  <b>Philippines:</b> PIR1=M; PIR2=M Change in political leadership at the national and local levels is expected in 2022. This may cause implementation delays because of possible changes in agencies' representatives to the PSC and local government partners.
National Governments sideline the issue of ASGM and fail to put it forward as an agenda for policy change and support	Outcome 1: Government incentives to formalize the ASGM sector in Mongolia and the Philippines are increasingly adopted by miners Output 1.1.1: Tools for of national and provincial governments to implement policies and regulations related to ASGM developed.	I: M, L: L	L	L	=	<b>Mongolia:</b> PIR1=L; PIR2=L Though the Government supports responsible and formalized ASM, the ASM regulation, which is the key policy regulating ASM activities, has been under revision since September 2019. This might result in suspension of approval for new ASGM lands and the agreements to be concluded with respective local governors, based on land approval. The revision is expected to be approved in the next few months.  <b>Philippines:</b> PIR1=L; PIR2=L Efforts to amend RA 7076 or the People's Small-Scale Mining Act started in 2018. However, different versions of the bill are still in the Lower House and Senate for review and approval at the committee level. If none of the bills will be passed before the election and the proponents get replaced, this will further delay the process. Nevertheless, this issue can be discussed within the PSC as the main strategic and decision-making body for the project. The PSC can focus on improving agency-level issuances and policies related to ASGM while waiting to pass the bill into law.
Disconnect between national, provincial and district governments make implementing policy change difficult	Outcome 1.1: Government incentives to formalize the ASGM sector in Mongolia and the Philippines are increasingly adopted by miners Output 1.1.1: Tools for national and provincial governments to implement policies and regulations related to ASGM developed. Output 1.1.2: Women, men, and youth stakeholders involved in the ASGM sector have access to Government incentives and support services Outcome 3.1: Reduced mercury releases by the ASGM sector in both countries Output 3.1.1: Better mining practices (including environmental, and gender equitable aspects) adopted and implemented by women and men involved in ASGM in the targeted areas/provinces	I: M, L: M	M	M	=	<b>Mongolia:</b> PIR1=M; PIR2=M Uncertainty of the Government policy (the ASM regulation has been under revision since September 2019) and political support for ASGM activities has been diminishing at various levels of government and various provinces, affecting genuine miners. In addition, lack of policy coordination and guidance from national to provincial governments affect the project efforts on installment of mercury-free technology in the selected soums.  <b>Philippines:</b> PIR1=M; PIR2= M Poor coordination amongst the government agencies as well as unclear and conflicting policies have led to confusion in terms of the delineation of roles and responsibilities of the different local and national government agencies. Having PSC representatives from the project areas LGUs will help to ensure better coordination of project activities to both local and national government partners. Challenges in ASGM formalization and the development of practical solutions can also be discussed during PSC meetings.
High institutional turnover and short institutional memory may result in loss of information	Outcome 1.1: Government incentives to formalize the ASGM sector in Mongolia and the Philippines are increasingly adopted by miners Output 1.1.1: Tools for of national and provincial governments to implement policies and regulations related to ASGM developed.	I: M, L: L	L	L	=	<b>Mongolia:</b> PIR1=L; PIR2=L Dependent knowledge management practices and low employee turnover rates.  <b>Philippines:</b> PIR1=L; PIR2=L The DENR Special Order creating the PSC, PMC, and PMU identified the agencies and departments to be represented in the body instead of specifying government officials. This will help ensure that relevant offices will still be represented in the PSC regardless of internal changes in officials or staff composition. Moreover, each agency or office was asked to designate three representatives (permanent, alternate, and co-alternate) to the PSC to guarantee institutional memory. The project team also ensures that meetings with government agencies are properly documented, and regular reports submitted to the government partners are organized.
Inability or lack of capacity for governments to provide adequate support services	Outcome 1.1: Government incentives to formalize the ASGM sector in Mongolia and the Philippines are increasingly adopted by miners Output 1.1.1: Tools for of national and provincial governments to implement policies and regulations related to ASGM developed. Output 1.1.2: Women, men, and youth stakeholders involved in the ASGM sector have access to Government incentives and support services	I: H, L: L	L	L	=	<b>Mongolia:</b> PIR1=M; PIR2=L The project organized trainings and meetings for local government officials to increase capacity on ASGM legislation and practices and worked with the Taskforce on revising ASM Regulation. These activities helped to increase ASM knowledge among the government stakeholders and its capacity to provide adequate support services.  <b>Philippines:</b> PIR1=L; PIR2=L The project will be conducting various training for government partners to increase their capacity to provide adequate support services to ASGM stakeholders. Additional personnel for the MGB will also be hired under the project's subcontracted funds to help with project implementation.

Finding the right business model for investors and ensuring sustainability once the intervention is over	Outcome 2.1. National governments guide the creation of ASGM fund to allow miners to invest in mercury free technologies and access responsible gold markets Output 2.1.1: Gold produced from the project sites is sold to national institutions and formal markets, and support is provided to women and men stakeholders involved in the ASGM sector. Output 2.1.2: Social investment and private sector enabled to support the sector	I: M, L: L	L	M	↑	<p><b>Mongolia/Philippines:</b> In order to meet the projects' mercury elimination targets, the projects in MN and PH are constructing mercury-free processing systems to responsibly process a higher level of ore throughput. These systems are planned to be managed and operated through a sustainable business model to ensure consistency and efficiency. The success of the social business model relies on many factors including the availability of legal ore supply, stakeholder's process adoption, and running the operation in a cost effective manner. The project will be conducting several de-risking activities including agreements with the mining associations, obtaining the social and environmental permits, establishing effective partnership with the governments, constructing of the MFPS and capacity building. While mining is generally a complex industry, the de-risking activities should encourage investments, hence the M rating.</p> <p><b>Mongolia:</b> PIR1=L; PIR2=M Current ASM legal environment is not conducive to attracting investment in mining operations as well as mineral processing mainly due to inability to collateralize mining concessions, and high cost of establishing processing centers.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> PIR1=L ; PIR2= M Attracting investments will be a challenge because investor/s will require legitimacy or formalization of the operations, working system, and proof of profitability, among others. Currently, these requirements are also the same issues faced by the miners.</p> <p>Risks will be further assessed identified after relevant activities are conducted.</p>
Revolving Fund will not be easy to set up and not reach the intended audience	Outcome 2.1. National governments guide the creation of ASGM fund to allow miners to invest in mercury free technologies and access responsible gold markets. Output 2.1.1 Gold produced from the project sites is sold to national institutions and formal markets, and support is provided to women and men stakeholders involved in the ASGM sector. Output 2.1.2: Social investment and private sector enabled to support the sector.	I: M, L: L	L	L	=	<p><b>Mongolia/Philippines:</b> To achieve the projects' mercury-elimination targets, a social enterprise model was identified as the funding mechanism. In this model, investors providing the funds will partner with the mining associations to create a joint venture social enterprise that will manage and operate the MFPS. The projects will not be creating a revolving fund.</p> <p><b>Mongolia:</b> PIR1=L; PIR2=L Not applicable. A revolving fund will not be implemented due to high interest rates in Mongolia, lack of funding appetite and the high cost of the MFPS permission and operation. The existing mining revolving fund managed by the BoM is for LSM only, requiring a mining license and geological data to provide guarantee for repayment. Unfortunately, this is not possible for ASGM operations.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> PIR1=L ; PIR2= L The team plans to introduce the concept of social enterprise and consult the miners in July 2021.</p>
Project areas are unable to reach responsible artisanal gold standards	Outcome 2.1 National governments guide the creation of ASGM fund to allow miners to invest in mercury free technologies and access responsible gold markets. Output 2.1.1: Gold produced from project sites is sold to national institutions, and support is provided to women and men stakeholders involved in the ASGM sector	I: L, L: L	L	M	↑	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> PIR1=L; PIR2=M Compliance with the Fairmined Standard have already been achieved at two mining sites located in the project area before the project start. The planetGOLD criteria have been adapted to Mongolian legal, tax and ASGM conditions. However, the bottleneck created by the BoM as the sole buyer and exporter of the gold produced in the country and its preference to purchasing gold over implementing due diligence makes it challenging to implement a responsible supply chain standard.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> PIR1=L; PIR2=M Relevant risks identified based on previous field visits include the sale of gold to the black market, mercury use, formalization issues, child labor, and bribery, among others. Currently, miners in Sagada are not following any standards on due diligence since most SSM gold is sold to the black market. On the other hand, miners in Paracale are selling to accredited gold traders of the BSP, thus conforming with the London Bullion Market Association (LBMA) standards. Other risks to due diligence may be identified based on the results of the Contextual</p>
Downstream actors perceive the ASGM sector as too high risk to begin sourcing gold from it	Outcome 2.1 National governments guide the creation of ASGM fund to allow miners to invest in mercury free technologies and access responsible gold markets. Output 2.1.1: Gold produced from project sites is sold to national institutions, and support is provided to women and men stakeholders involved in the ASGM sector	I: L, L: L	L	L	=	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> PIR1=L; PIR2=L Current ASM regulation does not require traceability; planetGOLD criteria, which have been adapted to Mongolian conditions, will be presented to government officials and miners for introduction into ASGM mining practices.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> PIR1=L; PIR2=L Communications with the BSP, which is the only formal gold market in the country, have indicated that the institution plans to increase its purchase of gold from small-scale miners. They even incentivize miners to sell gold to BSP by exempting them from taxes. The challenge for the project is to encourage miners and assist them in selling their gold to the BSP instead of the black market. The project will provide support in complying with the BSP requirements and the planetGOLD criteria.</p>
ASGM/ SME's are unable/unwilling to break their existing informal contractual arrangements and are unwilling to pay taxes; Barriers exist that prevent ASGM producers from meeting legal producer requirements	Outcome 2.1 National governments guide the creation of ASGM fund to allow miners to invest in mercury free technologies and access responsible gold markets. Output 2.1.1: Gold produced from project sites is sold to national institutions, and support is provided to women and men stakeholders involved in the ASGM sector	I: M, L: M	M	L	↓	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> PIR1=M; PIR2=L Taxation scheme on gold sale is favorable. Thus, miners prefer to have an official agreement with their respective governors to ensure stability of their ASGM operation.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> PIR1=M ; PIR2=L The country's regulation on gold trade was amended in 2019 to exempt from taxes the small-scale miners' gold sale to BSP. However, some miners and gold traders are still not aware that the tax imposition has been lifted. Aside from taxes, miners from Sagada are not selling to BSP due to lack of awareness, misconceptions about gold buying guidelines, and dissatisfaction with some of its conditions. On the other hand, miners from Paracale are mostly selling gold to accredited gold traders of the BSP.</p>
Miners are unwilling to take up better practices; better practices are adopted during the project and then abandoned by miner groups once the project support stops	Outcome 3.1. Reduced mercury releases by the ASGM sector in both countries Output 3.1.1: Better mining practices (including environmental, and gender equitable aspects) adopted and implemented by women and men involved in ASGM in the targeted areas/provinces	I: M, L: L	L	L	=	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> PIR1=L; PIR2=L Mongolia: The project collaborates with ASM NF as training partner to ensure sustainability of training efforts; as miners in Khovd province are looking forward to receive access to the project MFPS (no existing processing plant in Khovd), compliance with the planetGOLD Criteria as prerequisite to process ore will be easier to achieve.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> PIR1=L; PIR2=L The project team is focused on obtaining social acceptability of the MFPS by the local stakeholders to establish sustainability of project interventions.</p>
Men and women are not interested in or are unable to participate in training or in taking up better practices; Varying levels of education and literacy amongst mineworkers causing differences in the ability to enhance knowledge and capacity	Outcome 3.1. Reduced mercury releases by the ASGM sector in both countries Output 3.1.1: Better mining practices (including environmental, and gender equitable aspects) adopted and implemented by women and men involved in ASGM in the targeted areas/provinces	I: M, L: L	L	L	=	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> PIR1=L; PIR2=L To enable more effective and efficient training, the training delivery methods will be changed based on the miner's needs. During the Contextual Study, miners voiced interest in trainings with a practical hands-on approach.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> PIR1=L; PIR2=L Based on the initial results of the Contextual Study, majority of both men (77%) and women (76%) respondents in the two study areas are interested in participating to training activities that the project will conduct.</p>



Women are unable to participate in training because of other obligations or due to cultural biases against them receiving training	Outcome 3.1. Reduced mercury releases by the ASGM sector in both countries Output 3.1.1: Better mining practices (including environmental, and gender equitable aspects) adopted and implemented by women and men involved in ASGM in the targeted areas/provinces	I: M, L: M	L	L	=	<b>Mongolia:</b> PIR1=L; PIR2=L The Contextual Study showed that women miners are more active in their participation in trainings compared to men miners (47% versus 35%). Conflicting obligations will be considered when scheduling trainings.  <b>Philippines:</b> PIR1=L ; PIR2= L Initial contextual study results showed that women are interested in attending training. However, findings also show that they are burdened with domestic chores and other responsibilities at home which may hinder their participation in capacity-building activities. Women's work schedules should be considered in the planning of training activities.  Risk will be further assessed after completing the Contextual Study.
Delays in importation of equipment	Outcome 3.1. Reduced mercury releases by the ASGM sector in both countries Output 3.1.1: Better mining practices (including environmental, and gender equitable aspects) adopted and implemented by women and men involved in ASGM in the targeted areas/provinces Outcome 2.1 National governments guide the creation of ASGM fund to allow miners to invest in mercury free technologies and access responsible gold markets. Output 2.1.1: Gold produced from project sites is sold to national institutions, and support is provided to women and men stakeholders involved in the ASGM sector	I: L, L: L	L	M	↑	<b>Mongolia:</b> PIR1=L; PIR2=M Importation of the MFPS equipment has been delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions imposed by China and continuous strikes in Columbia since May 2021.  <b>Philippines:</b> PIR1=L ; PIR2= L Almost all equipment needed for the processing facility can be sourced locally. In addition, some of the needed equipment based on the current MFPSF design were included in the list of equipment that MGB will donate to the project.
Nearby ASGM activities that continue to use adverse environmental practices may continue to jeopardize the environment.	Outcome 3.1. Reduced mercury releases by the ASGM sector in both countries Output 3.1.1: Better mining practices (including environmental, and gender equitable aspects) adopted and implemented by women and men involved in ASGM in the targeted areas/provinces	I: L, L: L	M	L	↓	<b>Mongolia:</b> PIR1=M; PIR2=L The project is supporting the improvement of better environmental practices through various activities, such as trainings and better collaboration between miners and local governments, for example developing better environmental management plan and utilizing rehabilitation funds. The ecological police is currently also actively prosecuting environmentally harmful practices, esp. in Khovd province.  <b>Philippines:</b> PIR1=M ; PIR2= L Miners from adjacent ASGM communities will also be invited to attend some of the capacity-building activities on better mining practices. Relevant IEC materials will be also shared to them.
Loss of jobs for intermediaries could lead to threats and/or criminal activities	NA	I: L, L: H	M	L	↓	<b>Mongolia:</b> PIR1=M; PIR2=L Impact of the project is minimal to loss of jobs of any intermediaries and miners in Khovd province. Formalization and access to ASM land in Khovd province are expected to improve income opportunities.  <b>Philippines:</b> PIR1=M ; PIR2= L The project team identified the following business groups that may be affected by the project interventions: (1) existing cyanidation plants and/or ball mill plants in both sites and (2) tailings haulers and buyers in Sagada who helped the SSM association with their formalization requirements. During meetings with the miners in Sagada, they mentioned that the tailings buyer and haulers might oppose the project since they anticipate losing income once the processing facility is installed. However, risk will be further assessed after the Contextual Study when the project team has identified all possible supply chain actors who will be
Coordination between various ASGM initiatives on the ground	Outcome 1.1: Government incentives to formalize the ASGM sector in Mongolia and the Philippines are increasingly adopted by miners Output 1.1.1: Tools for of national and provincial governments to implement policies and regulations related to ASGM developed. Output 1.1.2: Women, men, and youth stakeholders involved in the ASGM sector have access to Government incentives and support services	I: H, L: L	L	L	=	<b>Mongolia:</b> PIR1=L; PIR2=L The project will ensure regular communication between the various actors through meetings, establishment of a Local Council on ASM in the project areas, and working closely with both the local and national ASM NF as well as ASM partnerships.  <b>Philippines:</b> PIR1=L ; PIR2= L The project will ensure regular communication between the various actors through meetings and working closely with both the local and national SSM associations.
Armed conflict, armed groups, and/or tax-seeking behavior impeding the programme's planned interventions	NA	I: M, L: M	M	L	↓	<b>Mongolia:</b> PIR1=M; PIR2=L There are no armed conflicts, armed groups and tax seeking behavior impeding the ASGM operation.  <b>Philippines:</b> PIR1=M ; PIR2= L Based on the initial results of the Contextual Study, non-state armed group is not an issue in both of the project areas.
Climate variability	Outcome 3.1. Reduced mercury releases by the ASGM sector in both countries Output 3.1.1: Better mining practices (including environmental, and gender equitable aspects) adopted and implemented by women and men involved in ASGM in the targeted areas/provinces	I: L, L: H	M	M	=	<b>Mongolia:</b> PIR1=M; PIR2=L Cold winter climate increases the cost of establishing the MFPS with additional insulation and heating costs and not being able to construct during winter period.  <b>Philippines:</b> PIR1=M ; PIR2= M Sagada is prone to landslides, while Paracale is susceptible to flooding. Given the site characteristics, the project will not be able to construct the MFPS during rainy seasons.
Prevailing cultural norms and practices (negative views on outsiders, resistance to change)	Outcome 3.1. Reduced mercury releases by the ASGM sector in both countries. Output 3.1.1: Better mining practices (including environmental, and gender equitable aspects) adopted and implemented by women and men involved in ASGM in the targeted areas/provinces.	I: L, L: L	L	L	=	<b>Mongolia:</b> PIR1=L; PIR2=L Negative view towards mining amongst local communities in the project areas is low as mining provides an important livelihood source.  <b>Philippines:</b> PIR1=L ; PIR2= L Local stakeholders and key government officials, both at the local and national levels, expressed their support to the ASGM industry and the planetGOLD project. They view the sector as a significant source of livelihood.
Accessibility	Outcome 3.1. Reduced mercury releases by the ASGM sector in both countries. Output 3.1.1: Better mining practices (including environmental, and gender equitable aspects) adopted and implemented by women and men involved in ASGM in the targeted areas/provinces.	I: M, L: L	L	M	↑	<b>Mongolia:</b> PIR1=L; PIR2=L While the project areas are far from each other, decent local transportation system makes the accessibility easy. The country also has high level of cellphone coverage and social media penetration.  <b>Philippines:</b> PIR1=L; PIR2=M Both project areas are difficult to access during and after heavy rains. Also, the Minahang Bayan in Sagada is only accessible by feet from the nearest barangay.
Consolidated project risk		I: M , L: L	L	L	=	

**Table B. Outstanding medium & high risks**  
List here only risks from Table A above that have a risk rating of **M or worse** in the **current PIR**

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	Additional mitigation measures for the next periods		
			What	When	By whom



<p><b>Mongolia/Philippines:</b> Change in the political and economic situation during the lifetime of the program impacts its implementation</p>	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> The project will organize advocacy meetings with newly elected political officials and policy makers of Ministry of Environment and Tourism and Ministry of Mining and Heavy Industry and Local Governors to provide precise information on project activities and future plan on contribution to Government policy on reducing mercury use in ASGM and development of responsible mining.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> NA</p>	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> The project regularly organized meetings with Ministry of Environment officials and joint field visits to project targeted sites and provided project updates. However, the newly elected members of the Citizen's Representative Khural (CRKh) formed after the Local Election in October 2020, denied the project land applications for the MFPS. The project took the immediate actions exploring other possible lands in neighboring soums. As a result and with the support from the Deputy Minister of Environment and Tourism, the project was able to secure the land in Bulgan soum, Khovd province.</p> <p>The project joined the ASM Taskforce on the revision of the ASM Regulation to provide recommendations and to ensure continued political support for the ASGM sector.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> The project team regularly attended the quarterly Project Managers' meeting with the DENR-MGB and FASPS to update them on the project accomplishments, planned activities, and implementation challenges. Ways forward and each government agency's action points were also discussed and agreed upon during these meetings. The team had also conducted separate project briefings and meetings with the key member agencies of the PSC such as the Department of Health, BSP, FASPS, and MGB to also further discuss opportunities for cooperation.</p>	<p>Mongolia: Continue a permanent communication with the project areas and provide technical support to Local Councils; work relationship will be formalized in an MoU with local governments.</p> <p>Philippines: Conduct of project re-orientation to new members of the PSC to inform them about the planetGOLD project, present activities in the pipeline, and explore collaboration opportunities. The team will also strengthen partnership with LGUs through regular coordination and signing of a MoU or statement of commitment.</p>	<p>Mongolia: Throughout a year</p> <p>Philippines: Throughout the project life</p>	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> The Project team</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> Project team</p>
<p><b>Mongolia/Philippines:</b> Disconnect between national, provincial and district governments make implementing policy change difficult</p>	<p><b>Mongolia/Philippines:</b> The project will work with various government agencies at the national, provincial/aimag, and municipal/soum levels to understand gaps and challenges in formalization and develop common ground in the project areas to help miners formalize, including the development of proposed changes to policy or regulation.</p>	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> Lack of coordination and collaboration between central and local governments affected the project efforts put into the land acquisition for the MFPS. While the national and provincial governments have been supportive to the MFPS, the newly elected soum governments (Tunkhel and Altai soums) were not. The Project mobilized the assistance and conducted field visits together with the national and provincial governments which helped to secure the land for the MFPS in Bulgan soum.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> The project team ensured that relevant data on policy and legal framework assessments were captured in the Contextual Study research tools. Initial analysis of these data will support the full-blown assessment of ASGM policies and legal framework. A focal person in each of the partner local government units has been identified for project updating and coordination.</p>	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> Continue organizing regular field visits with MET and PSC members to the project areas to provide policy updates and guidance to local governments</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> Share with key LGU officials the results the ASGM policy and legal framework assessment, which can serve as inputs to policy amendments that they plan to implement. In addition, the project team will organize briefings/seminars for LGUs on ASGM-related national laws such as RA7076 and its IRR.</p>	<p>Mongolia: Throughout a year</p> <p>Philippines: Throughout the project life</p>	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> The Project team and PSC members</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> Project team</p>
<p><b>Mongolia/Philippines:</b> Finding the right business model for investors and ensuring sustainability once the intervention is over</p>	<p>Mongolia/Philippines: The project will facilitate communication and ensure continuous dialogue between mining association representatives, miners, and social investors to arrive at clear assessment of expectations and requirements of a suitable business model.</p>	<p>Mongolia: The project has been working to develop and implement a social enterprise model for the MFPS in Bulgan (Khovd province). The project is currently conducting a risk assessment of legal ore supply in Khovd province to mitigate the risk of low investment by ensuring sufficient legal ore supply to sustain the MFPS's operations and smaller capital investments.</p> <p>Philippines: The social enterprise model for the MFPS to be established in the project areas was developed. The MFPS design updated during the reporting period is also being finalized. The project team collected ore samples from the two project areas for several testing to ensure that the MFPS can achieve the highest possible gold recovery. Furthermore, the design of the TSF is in progress to ensure that proper waste management and environmental standards are being followed by the SSM operations.</p>	<p>Mongolia: Promote social enterprise model amongst the key stakeholders in Bulgan including the miners and potential investors and seek investment. Finalize the risk assessment to ensure legal ore flow to sustain operational costs.</p> <p>Philippines: Resource estimation activity will be conducted in the project areas to convince interested investors that there is sufficient ore supply. To attract investments, the project team will de-risk the SSM sector through the following: 1) implementation of the planetGOLD criteria as the SSM sector's due diligence standard, 2) connecting miners to BSP, 3) capacity development of miners' to improve their technical, financial, and management skills, and 4) installation of a TSF towards environmentally and socially responsible operations.</p>	<p>Mongolia: Throughout a year</p> <p>Philippines: Throughout the project life</p>	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> The Project team</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> Exploration Geologist/ Investment Specialist/ Project team</p>
<p><b>Mongolia/Philippines:</b> Project areas are unable to reach responsible artisanal gold standards</p>	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> The project will have a meeting with Bank of Mongolia (BoM) and Financial Regulatory Commission (FRC), which are the key agencies in gold policy and trade at national level, and discuss about a possibility of introducing due diligence in ASGM. In addition, according to the project workplan, the project will assess legal environment and gold supply chain in ASGM to identify key challenges and barriers to introduce responsible gold standards and will propose measures to address key issues central to responsible gold standards.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> The Project is exploring international practice related with responsible gold standards and due diligence and working on developing the standard that would fit with local mining operations.</p>	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> Organized a meeting with BoM and FRC and provided information on importance of implementing due diligence and establishing responsible gold market in Mongolia (as the BoM is the only agency selling to international markets, their commitment is required to establish a responsible supply chain reaching international markets). Cooperation established with FRC and held discussions on formalizing gold trade and registering of gold traceability. Assessments on gold trade (as part of the Contextual Study) and Illicit financial flow in ASGM sector has been conducted to identify challenges and barriers on formal gold trade market and measures to create responsible gold market. The preliminary results of the assessments were presented to respective agencies, namely BoM, FRC and MMHI for sensitization and discussion.</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> AGC PH has an ongoing discussion with the MN team and AGC HQ regarding content and format of the CRAFT code training that the project will conduct. The team also developed IEC materials (in English and in Filipino) on the planetGOLD Criteria for Environmentally and Socially Responsible Operations, as well as on formal gold trading. The project team initially identified the local gold traders in the project areas who are interested to apply for the BSP's accreditation process. The project team will assist these</p>	<p>Mongolia: Work with BoM and FRC on introducing the planetGOLD criteria into supply chain.</p> <p>Philippines: Assessments of the project areas and SSM organizations based on the planetGOLD criteria. Using the assessment results, the project will support the associations in mitigating the identified risks. Moreover, CRAFT code training for key government officials and SSM officers will be conducted. IEC materials on planetGOLD criteria and formal gold trading will be distributed in the project areas.</p>	<p>Mongolia: Throughout a year</p> <p>Philippines: Throughout the project life</p>	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> The Project team with support from BoM and FRC</p> <p><b>Philippines:</b> Investment Specialist/Project team</p>
<p><b>Mongolia:</b> Delays in importation of equipment</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> MFPS equipment has been ordered from China and Columbia in April. Shipment of the equipment is delayed due to congestion at border of China caused by COVID-19 restrictions and strikes in Columbia. The Government of Mongolia has taken measures in July to expedite the importation from China.</p>	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> Consider risk factors and plan for logistics of companies. The project seeks weekly updates with logistics firms to check status and consider alternative options.</p>	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> Throughout a year</p>	<p><b>Mongolia:</b> The Project team</p>
<p><b>Philippines:</b> Climate Variability</p>	<p><b>Philippines:</b> ASGM sites are generally vulnerable to severe weather events, and only temporarily pause mining operations during such disturbances.</p>	<p>Philippines: During site assessment activities conducted, site characteristics including accessibility of the SSM community were considered. The project team also started to gather information and consult with the miners regarding possible strategies in transporting the MFPS materials to the project areas.</p>	<p><b>Philippines:</b> Before proceeding with the MFPS installation, the team will conduct pre-implementation meeting and planning with the community stakeholders which will include mapping of potential issues and developing strategies to address these issues.</p>	<p><b>Philippines:</b> Throughout the project life</p>	<p><b>Philippines:</b> Project Technical Expert/ Project team</p>
<p>Philippines: Accessibility</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Philippines: During site assessments activities conducted, site characteristic including accessibility of the SSM community were considered. The project team also started to gather information and consult with the miners regarding possible strategies in transporting the MFPS materials to project the areas.</p>	<p><b>Philippines:</b> Regular coordination and consultation with local stakeholders regarding conditions on the ground. Weather conditions and seasons will be considered in planning transportation schedules of MFPS equipment.</p>	<p><b>Philippines:</b> Throughout the project life</p>	<p><b>Philippines:</b> Project Technical Expert/ Project team</p>

**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.

**Medium 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.