

GEF - PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)

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

1 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Project Details

GEF ID: 9697	Umoja WBS: SB-007342
SMA IPMR ID: 33420	Grant ID: S1-32GFL-000632/P1-33GFL-001622/P1-33GFL-001692
Project Short Title: GEF-CW.9697.planetGOLD Global	
Project Title: Global Knowledge Management and Exchange of Child Project Results Through Networking and Outreach Activities for the GEF GOLD Program	
Duration months planned:	60
Duration months age:	82
Project Type:	Full Sized Project (FSP)
Parent Programme if child project:	
Project Scope:	Global
Region:	
Countries:	Burkina Faso, Colombia, Guyana, Indonesia, Kenya, Mongolia, Peru, Philippines
GEF Focal Area(s):	Chemicals and Waste
GEF financing amount:	\$ 8,000,000.00
Co-financing amount:	\$ 17,767,604.00
Date of CEO Endorsement/Approval:	2018-08-07
UNEP Project Approval Date:	2018-08-27
Start of Implementation (PCA entering into force):	2018-11-05
Date of Inception Workshop, if available:	2019-02-18
Date of First Disbursement:	2018-11-21
Total disbursement as of 30 June 2024:	\$ 7,273,440.00
Total expenditure as of 30 June:	\$ 7,120,869.00

Midterm undertaken?:	Yes
Actual Mid-Term Date, if taken:	2022-10-01
Expected Mid-Term Date, if not taken:	
Completion Date Planned - Original PCA:	2023-09-30
Completion Date Revised - Current PCA:	2025-09-30
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date:	2026-09-30
Expected Financial Closure Date:	2027-03-31

1.2 Project Description

The planetGOLD programme works in partnership with governments, the private sector, and communities in eight countries to reduce mercury use and to significantly improve the production practices and work environment of artisanal and small-scale miners, thereby improving the lives of more than 100 million people who rely on this industry directly or indirectly for their livelihoods. The global project supports and coordinates efforts on formalization, access to finance and formal markets, as well as transfer of mercury free technology. Executed by the leaders of the Global Mercury Partnership (NRDC, UNEP and UNIDO), the planetGOLD global project has the three components: (1) outreach to the finance community and facilitating engagement of formal markets; (2) knowledge management; and (3) communications. Other stakeholders: UNDP, Global Mercury Partnership, Minamata Secretariat, OECD, WHO, US Department of State, Swiss Development Cooperation; Private sector: Refiners, Jewellers, Responsible Jewellery Council, Investors, ArrowHead Films; Natural Resources Defense Council, The Artisanal Gold Council (AGC), Conservation International, Dragonfly Initiative, Resolve, Levin Sources, Global Initiative, Solidaridad.

1.3 Project Contacts

Division(s) Implementing the project	Industry and Economy Division
Name of co-implementing Agency	
Executing Agency (ies)	Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), UNIDO and UNEP Chemicals and Health Branch
names of Other Project Partners	
UNEP Portfolio Manager(s)	Kevin Helps
UNEP Task Manager(s)	Grace Halla
UNEP Budget/Finance Officer	Edward Aput
UNEP Support Assistants	
Manager/Representative	Susan Keane
Project Manager	Susan Keane
Finance Manager	Tyrone Warren
Communications Lead, if relevant	Jennifer Wilmore Scroggins

2 Overview of Project Status

2.1 UNEP PoW & UN

UNEP Current Subprogramme(s):	Thematic: Chemicals and pollution action subprogramme
UNEP previous Subprogramme(s):	
PoW Indicator(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollution: (i) Number of Governments that, with UNEP support, are developing or implementing policies, strategies, legislation or action plans that promote sound chemicals and waste management and/or the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements and the existing framework on chemicals and waste • Pollution: (iii) Number of policy, regulatory, financial and technical measures developed with UNEP support to reduce pollution in air, water, soil and the ocean • Pollution: (iv) Reduction in releases of pollutants to the environment achieved with UNEP support • Pollution: Change in action by the private sector and civil society on pollution prevention and control as a result of UNEP action <p>Progress in the chemicals- and pollution-related aspects of the 2030 Agenda on which UNEP focuses its work</p>
UNSDCF/UNDAF linkages	N/A (global project)
Link to relevant SDG Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages • Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns • Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development
Link to relevant SDG Targets:	

2.2. GEF Core and Sub Indicators

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

Indicators	Targets - Expected Value			Materialized to date
	Mid-term	End-of-project	Total Target	
9.2-Quantity of mercury reduced	This is a global project so the reduction target is based on a replication factor from the child projects	123 metric tons	123 metric tons	31.4 metric tons

Implementation Status 2024: 5th PIR

2.3. Implementation Status and Risks

	PIR#	Rating towards outcomes (section 3.1)	Rating towards outputs (section 3.2)	Risk rating (section 4.2)
FY 2024	5th PIR	S	HS	L
FY 2023	4th PIR	S	HS	L
FY 2022	3rd PIR	S	HS	L
FY 2021	2nd PIR	S	HS	L
FY 2020	1st PIR	MS	HS	L
FY 2019				
FY 2018				
FY 2017				
FY 2016				
FY 2015				

Summary of status

During this fifth reporting period, the global project has continued to make progress on its components: (1) improving access to formal finance and formal markets for ASGM, (2) supporting knowledge exchange and (3) increasing communications that emphasize the positive development potential of the ASGM sector. **A memo listing**

outputs, activities and associated deliverables for the reporting period can be found at this link: https://nrdc1-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/g/personal/skeane_nrdc_org/EVRIEnFRDQpHkS6KtbeYC-cBCeX-zfwzKAbUDOVkkbvCLg?e=QxKe3o

Under **Component 1**, in previous reporting periods, the project piloted its innovative "technical report" template, as well as its business plan template, in six planetGOLD countries. Based on this experience, the project produced finalized templates that can serve as a toolkit for ASGM risk evaluation for investors. The project also completed an in-depth outreach campaign with a subset of interested Socially Responsible Investors (SRI) to change common views about the investment appeal of ASGM. The culmination of this outreach was an educational workshop where investors provided advice to ASGM operations in planetGOLD countries, about how to develop "pitches" (investment proposals) to appeal to investors. The project also created standard training materials to educate miners on basic business and financial skills, which will be piloted in the next reporting period. To support access to formal markets, the project further refined Free, Prior, Informed Consent (FPIC) procedures under the planetGOLD criteria, as well as updated the criteria to match updates to international guidelines. The team participated in ASM gold supply chain activities, including the London Bullion Market Association (LBMA) Task Force on ASM, a public-private workshop on systems to capture due diligence data from ASGM, and a steering committee for the development of a Gold Credits system for buyers of ASM gold.

Under **Component 2**, the project continued to encourage knowledge exchange through regular country project virtual gatherings, Project Advisory Group (PAG) meetings, external partner activities and virtual webinars. This included the first in-person planetGOLD Global Forum held in Batangas, Philippines from 3 to 5 June 2024, which was attended by more than 170 participants ranging from country project staff, miners, government representatives, and sector experts. This was followed by the second in-person Annual Programme Meeting which took place on 6 June, the last day of the event. The project continued to develop and share resources such as webinars offered by sector partners, tools, blogs and topic related events via the planetGOLD website, and via active dissemination to the global community. The publication, translation, and dissemination of the 2022-23 planetGOLD Annual Progress Report provided access to the public around the programme-wide progress and region-specific experiences.

Under **Component 3**, the communications work has been very robust, featuring production of high-quality video content that has driven higher levels of engagement among audiences on social media and on the programme website. The communications team also produced an innovative new interactive map project called the planetGOLD "360 Experience" featuring 360-degree images, photos, data and other information from all country projects in the programme. This interactive map is a key communication tool for use online and at in-person events including the GEF Assembly and Minamata Convention COP5. The team produced additional original content for the website and social media, provided critical support for key events including the Global Forum on ASGM, and led a community of practice among communications specialists in the country projects, including convening these communication officers alongside the Annual Programme Meeting in the Philippines. To support the goal of generating more balanced media coverage of the ASGM sector, the project successfully recruited an editor from Vogue magazine to attend the Global Forum and mine site visit in the Philippines, and at the end of the reporting period was actively making preparations to host a workshop for international journalists in Q3 2024.

In regards to financial management, the project is progressing well with expenditure of over 90% from planned forecast.

2.4 Co Finance

Planned Co-finance:	\$ 17,767,604
Actual to date:	14,504,013
Progress	<p>Justify progress in terms of materialization of expected co-finance. State any relevant challenges:</p> <p>The project continues to make progress in materialization of the expected co-finance. As of July 31, 2024, the amount of co-financing materialized is \$14,504,195. This represents about 80% of the total planned. We no longer expect any cofinance from AMDC or CIRDI, as these organizations are no longer active in this space. Further, in 2023 the OECD has informed us that they are no longer able to offer co-financing, due to rules changes within their organization. On the other hand, other partners have provided financing above the original amount promised.</p>

2.5. Stakeholder

Date of project steering committee meeting	2024-06-05
Stakeholder engagement (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)	<p>The planetGOLD Programme Advisory Group (PAG) consisting of representatives from academia, finance, gold buyers, governments and NGOs, continued to meet with the planetGOLD project staff. In this reporting period three meetings were held where 3-4 country projects per meeting reported on their progress and activities and selected PAG members (USDOS Mercury Program and Critical Minerals, LBMA, and OECD) shared their ASGM-related activities. In addition, the project continued to conduct outreach to the international financial community through its participation in PDAC 2024, SOCAP 2023 and PeruMin International Mining Summit (Nov. 2023). The global project also participated on the LBMA's ASM Task Force initiative, the CRAFT Code Advisory Committee, and attended the Public Private Alliance for Responsible Minerals Trade (PPA) meeting on data systems to support due diligence.</p> <p>The global project also conducted a survey among planetGOLD countries about their experience engaging with specific stakeholders. Most respondents reported having excellent or good relationships with government entities, NGOs, mining communities, and local communities. Successful engagements were often attributed to alignment of mission between stakeholders and NGOs, as well as effective strategies for policy setting with governments. One country linked success to avoiding conflicts and ensuring clarity in project goals through well-documented activities. This approach helped in preventing additional government requests and maintaining project focus.</p>

Participants shared experiences of challenging engagements, citing reasons such as high turnover in government positions, lack of interest from gold buyers and difficulty in establishing trust. When asked to share specific examples around experiences, there were comments around the difficulties stemming from (1) government staff/administrative turnover and negative perception of mining; (2) the requirements of formalization needed to operationalize finance mechanisms with certain banks and (3) working with buyers who are not keen on miners' independence, due to their reliance on the miners for income. Successful examples of stakeholder engagement were also reported, such as: good relationships with CSOs assisting with miner outreach; successful interagency collaboration; local authority support for activities in localities; commitment by financial institutions; successful MFPS installation around mining operations that helped build miners' skills; and positive discussions with large mining industries.

Another requirement of the global project and country projects is to create and make accessible a grievance mechanism. Following an inquiry of the country projects status, several countries (Mongolia, Peru, Philippines) reported using existing government complaint and grievance systems while others (Guyana, Kenya) had created project specific forms shared online. The global project has drafted a grievance mechanism that will be shared on the planetGOLD website in the next reporting period.

Another aspect of stakeholder engagement is co-finance. As a programme, some projects have raised concerns about co-financing partners, suggesting that some commitments may have been overly ambitious and difficult to fulfill, and raised fears of consequences if governments fail to meet their co-financing commitments. A few countries shared the perspective that some co-financing partners may expect something in return, while others view co-financing as demonstrating national commitment to the sector. Others faced difficulties in reporting on co-financing from state actors.

A decrease in engagement with the PAG has been noticeable in the last year and the project will conduct a survey asking the country projects and the PAG members for suggestions on how to improve and experiences related to the current arrangements.

2.6. Gender

Does the project have a gender action plan?	Yes
Gender mainstreaming (will be uploaded to GEF Portal):	The inclusion of sharing experiences of women in mining communities continues to be a priority for the global project. The project carried out an International Women’s Day campaign with testimonies from several projects, shared photo stories and social media posts, and hosted a virtual country project gender expert gathering to share their project activities and experiences. While developing the planetGOLD Global Forum agenda, gender aspects and experiences were incorporated throughout, such as the session on access to finance and innovative solutions by women for women. The global project recruited women miners as both participants and moderators of some sessions. The Forum also had gender balance for both speakers and panels. The project also ensured that gender aspects were included as part of a recent effort to document ASGM finance models (see “Cross-programme analysis of planetGOLD ASGM financial access interventions.”) Progress related to country gender-focused initiatives can be found in the 2022-23 Annual Progress Report. The program’s PAG continues to have an equal balance of women and men advisors.

2.7. ESSM

Moderate/High risk projects (in terms of Environmental and social safeguards)	Was the project classified as moderate/high risk CEO Endorsement/Approval Stage? No If yes, what specific safeguard risks were identified in the SRIF/ESERN? No
New social and/or environmental risks	Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during the reporting period? No If yes, describe the new risks or changes? \n
Complaints and grievances related to social and/or environmental impacts	Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential) during the reporting period? No If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail, including the status, significance, who was involved and what actions were taken?
Environmental and social	The planetGOLD Criteria are the primary vehicle by which the program ensures compliance with environmental and social safeguards.

safeguards management	The Criteria are largely based on the CRAFT code, and this year the project was asked to serve on the CRAFT Advisory Committee as part of an effort to align the Code with changes to the OECD Due Diligence. Changes that impacted the planetGOLD Criteria were flagged and the global project will revise Criteria once CRAFT 2.1 is published. Further, the project incorporated additional comments to the planetGOLD Criteria guidance document related to best practices for ASGM engagement with Indigenous Communities. The project also documented the development and implementation of responsible ASGM gold supply chains within the planetGOLD programme. Part of this work included creating and piloting training materials on (a) the planetGOLD Criteria and (b) creating access to responsible gold markets.
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2.8. KM/Learning

Knowledge activities and products	<p>The planetGOLD website continues to grow, with additional resources and pages as new country projects join the programme. The Resource Library now has over 800 (and growing) relevant publications from the global literature and ASGM projects around the world. The site has: (1) fifteen curated collections on key ASGM topics, which collectively highlight around 70 of the most relevant resources in the Library; (2) 69 News and Voices posts and Events pages were created in the reporting period; and (3) country project reports and other knowledge products were added to their appropriate country pages. The project also compiled key programme results in the 2023-2024 Annual Progress Report. To adopt a practice of common documentation of programme activities and results, the global project commissioned and published, “Cross-programme analysis of planetGOLD ASGM financial access interventions” (May 2024) and “Documenting planetGOLD Programme Experiences with ASGM Supply-Chain Mechanisms (May 2024). The project also published (1) “Agreements and Engagement with Rightsholders in ASGM,” (2) the information document for COP5 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, “Technology Transfer Experiences in the planetGOLD Programme,” (3) “Taxes, Fees, Royalties and the Formalization of ASGM Producers and Exporters,” and (4) finalized the course materials and training guide for ASGM finance course and planned for pilot delivery in Uganda in Q3.</p> <p>In June the project hosted the first in-person Global Forum in Batangas, Philippines, attended by over 170 participants. The event offered: (1) thirteen sessions ranging from finance, biodiversity, criminality and human rights issues in ASGM, women’s livelihoods, formalization and technology and the need to communicate effectively on the complex topic of ASGM; (2) interactive practicum workshops where participants applied their learnings from the week to specific regional scenarios which resulted in collaboration among the projects; (3) a photo contest highlighting ASGM best practices; and (4) opportunities to network. The project also organized the second in-person Annual Programme Meeting where project staff discussed (1) key challenges for phase one and phase two countries; (2) documenting programme indicators (project and iGOLD System); (3) stakeholder engagement, including discussion of grievance mechanisms; (4) key synthesis reports and guidance documents; and (5) updates from the country project communication network</p>
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	meeting.
Main learning during the period	<p>Component 1: The work under Component 1 to attract international investors to ASGM revealed several key learnings. First, efforts to attract investment must align with financiers' existing mandates rather than attempting to push for changes in these mandates. Investment committees typically approve mandates, and capital is allocated to the fund based on these, rendering it difficult to introduce mandate changes without risking the withdrawal of capital. Fund managers are understandably extremely unlikely to initiate this process. We also found that mining presents a steep learning curve for portfolio managers (PMs), emphasizing that "one size does not fit all." Moreover, the types of investments are often dictated by permitting processes, and poorly designed permitting regimes can inadvertently cut off the formal market and force miners into the grey market. Citizen ownership requirements also can block or complicate foreign investment. This underscores the need for regulations that are carefully designed to meet the needs of both investors and miners. We also found that a significant barrier to investment is the clear ownership of mineral rights. If ASGM groups do not own these rights, any investment could inadvertently support illegal mining activities. Additionally, short tenure lengths and uncertainty about mineral right extensions limit the potential returns on investment. The scale of operations within the ASGM sector often poses a challenge for investment. Most traditional investment funds require investments in the millions of dollars to be viable and most ASGM projects are too small to be suitable for these funds. ASGM projects need to be aggregated to meet the scale requirements, and the effort required for due diligence remains high regardless of the project size, posing a significant barrier to investment. Finally, due to the complexities and risks associated with ASGM investments, it is often necessary to involve an intermediary or partner investor to make investment feasible. These intermediaries can bridge the gap between small-scale operations and large investment requirements; however, achieving financial viability will be difficult for these intermediaries without assistance from the public sector.</p> <p>Component 2: We have learned that it is important to create a knowledge sharing environment that does not feel transactional. Country projects are reminded about the importance and benefits (and requirement) of sharing knowledge products and results. We have learned that each project has unique protocols regarding disseminating products (e.g., in some cases, approval from a government agency is required before posting on the website), or they require consultant approval to share their finished products (an IP issue). As much of our KM activities focused on gender, main learnings reinforced that traditional gender roles often confine women to domestic responsibilities, limiting their participation in ASGM, so customized programs are needed to address women's needs, including flexible scheduling, technical training, and business skills development. Efforts to advance women's roles in the mining sector must be communicated in a way to avoid possible negative reaction from men; more efforts are needed to encourage women's participation in program events; and women's livelihoods should be a main room session and not a side session. Regarding reporting, this reporting period was the first time the projects use the online iGOLD System to report their 2022-23 annual results specific to programme indicators and to submit supporting documents. Because some reporting was not clear, improvements to the process were needed, and</p>

the global project modified certain aspects, simplifying the areas where challenges were noted. To improve knowledge sharing events (in-person or webinar), we surveyed all Global Forum participants, regarding Forum content. The main takeaway was that participants would like more time for personal interactions/discussion opportunities. Other suggestions including extending the event to accommodate more time for topics and networking; creating more structure; adding networking events and having the site visit nearby. Additional topical requests included environmental management., market access for responsibly sourced gold, barriers for international buyers, controlling undeclared gold trade, and techniques for gold extraction; more topics can be found in the survey results accessible by the archive. Participants who attended the regional networking sessions found them engaging, and great opportunities for comparative studies of strategies in other regions and suggested a more structured approach. We also surveyed attendees of the APM. Respondents noted that one day for the APM was not sufficient and suggested to have smaller sessions focusing on the pillars of the programme, specifically the topics of strategies for post planetGOLD project evaluations and how to develop strategies by neighboring countries. Regarding takeaways from the organization of the global forum it was suggested that: (1) the planning time be extended to better secure cost-effective suitable venues; (2) prioritize major metropolitan areas as host locations to improve accessibility; (3) consider excluding site visits to save on cost and logistical challenges; (4) engage a qualified event management company; and (5) conduct extensive technical rehearsals. A detailed explanation of the lessons regarding logistics can be found in the memo provided by UNIDO in the activities archive.

Component 3: Regarding communication, awareness raising campaigns targeting children and youth have been increasingly seen as an effective communication and outreach strategy in ASGM communities. The objective is to empower the children of miners to protect themselves from mercury exposure and to help break cycles of mercury use. Through campaigns such as story contests and art contests, the aim is to enable the children to help inform their parents and other adults about the dangers of mercury and better alternatives, and if they later follow their parents into mining work, they will already be equipped with knowledge on ways to mine in a responsible, mercury-free way. In discussion with communication officers, they have noted that using virtual reality or interactive tools to demonstrate and teach miners about mercury-free technologies is an increasingly effective way to deliver this information to miners and even to do some initial training about the equipment. In-person events and demonstrations of mercury-free processing technologies are still seen as a very effective tool, but transporting miners from one region to another is often costly and logistically complicated, so interactive digital tools are increasingly seen as a way to supplement in-person demonstrations of these equipment. Contextual studies carried out in ASGM project areas and discussion with communication officers have also shown that in local communities, information is usually best received when it is presented visually or in easily digestible formats, such as through video, infographics, or posters—and that miners are more influenced by messages on better productivity and profit than by health-related messages alone. When project staff are unable to be physically present in mining communities, merchandise, murals and other physical materials conveying responsible mining information and themes help reinforce these messages in between in-person engagements.

	<p><u>Project delays:</u> Due to the pandemic, which created significant delays during the early years of the programme, many country projects are approaching their end dates just as results are starting to be achieved, particularly technical transfer results that rely on a field work that was not possible until recently. As well, constant changes in government leadership, and changes in regulatory postures toward ASGM in these countries, have added delay to the execution of some projects, notably Mongolia. Generally, the lesson learned is that much more time is needed to realize major changes in this complex sector.</p>
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2.9. Stories

<p>Stories to be shared</p>	<p>Notable stories and original content published on the programme website, YouTube, social media, and online photo story platform include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A photo story and video commemorating International Women’s Day with perspectives from project staff and stakeholders on the importance of advancing gender equity in ASGM: https://planetgold.exposure.co/working-to-inspire-inclusion-of-women-in-responsible-small-scale-gold-mining • Video featuring Alfredo Somebang, an elder of the Pidlisian Indigenous tribe in the Philippines who’s working with planetGOLD and other miners to design a mercury-free gold processing plant that is fully accepted and approved by all local Indigenous communities: https://youtu.be/6k0GaRNNmrc?si=xMwC0ePAHy2ctEy5 • Video on how a Savings and Credit group program in Colombia has helped women miners achieve a new level of financial autonomy: https://youtu.be/NOMcVzr4kDI?si=eOcm_nvEOTaKh32i • Video featuring Angèle Delo, one of 116 miners in Burkina Faso newly equipped with skills to process ore mercury-free thanks to a new vocational training program developed by planetGOLD: https://youtu.be/2AM5G7bY3hE?si=RARzjk06VAf5GQue • Video demonstrating the construction of a new facility in Mongolia that will allow miners to use a centralized mercury-free service rather than processing ore themselves in secret with mercury: https://youtu.be/3cb89sXZgvA?si=PpCib3xurJ9SffHI • 360-degree interactive global map called “360 Experience” featuring interactive images, video, and information on all countries in the programme: https://www.planetgold.org/360-Experience
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3 Performance

3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project outcomes

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
Objective: Financial resources for the ASGM sector are secured to transition to mercury-free mining techniques	Number of financial mechanisms for the ASGM sector created by investors or financial institutions with support from planetGOLD projects; of the amount of finance made available through those mechanisms, the percentage deployed/mobilized to miners/mining operations	Sector is severely undercapitalized with miners unable to access funding; Lack of capital is a major barrier for the ability to adopt mercury free technology.	5 Mechanisms; 50% of the amount made available through financial mechanisms in country-level is deployed	8 mechanisms; 75% of the amount made available through financial mechanisms in country-level is deployed	# of financial mechanisms: 9; Amount of finance made available through mechanisms deployed: Varies by country	9 new mechanisms have been created in five countries (Burkina Faso, Ecuador, Indonesia, 2 in Colombia, 4 in Peru). Development of new mechanisms in Mongolia (developing a miner-run savings and loan cooperative that will provide small loans to its members; this is now in the process of getting a license to operate.) and Philippines (a mechanism with the Central Bank to provide pre-purchase agreements for ASGM operations that meet the planetGOLD criteria, which can then be used as collateral at local banks) are underway. The percent of funding disbursed varies widely across countries. In Colombia, as of February 2024, 49 loans totalling USD 307,229 were disbursed. Notably the original amount allocated for this mechanism was reported as USD 216,430 but as repayments have been made, more money has become available through the mechanism (>100% initial amount disbursed). In Burkina Faso, USD	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
						<p>135,239 has been disbursed from the USD150,000 set aside for their revolving fund (~90% disbursed). In Peru, a total of USD 258,681 has been disbursed through the mechanisms developed. This includes USD 215,200 disbursed through 28 loans by Caja Municipal Ica. However, the amount loaned to date represents only about 2% of the nearly USD 11 million that Caja Ica has committed, but that amount is envisioned to be provided through this mechanism over the long term (not necessarily during project life). In addition, the collaboration among Caja Los Andes (a microfinance institution), Solidaridad (an international NGO supporting artisanal mining in the country), and Minera OREX (a local processing plant) resulted in loans to eight small-scale miners supplying the processing plant with ore, which in turn makes loan repayments on behalf of the miners, deducting loan payments amounts directly from their ore payment. The value of the loans was USD 43,681, which represents around 9% of the approximately USD 500,000 set aside by Caja Los Andes for this mechanism. In Ecuador, the mechanism</p>	

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
						has disbursed two loans to miners' associations, worth USD 170,000 (with another USD 40,000 disbursed from an existing finance mechanism). In Colombia, under the VITAL savings and credit initiative, 80 groups were formed, who managed to save over \$55,000. As of Q1 2024, 100 members have accessed loans worth around \$100 on average. For Indonesia, the low value grant agreement mechanisms provided \$531,461 in capital for 7 cooperatives as the basis of providing loans to their members.	
	Percentage of miners/communities/associations targeted by country level projects (disaggregated by gender) accessing finance for improvement of their operations	Sector is severely undercapitalized with miners unable to access funding; Lack of capital is a major barrier for the ability to adopt mercury free technology.	50% of the miners/communities/associations targeted by the country level projects access finance; At least 50% of miners are women	75% of the miners/communities/associations targeted by the country level projects access finance;At least 50% of miners are women	% of miners/communities/associations targeted by the country level projects access finance: >75% of country-defined targets; % of miners accessing finance are women: Varies by country	Burkina Faso, Colombia, and Peru each targeted 50% of submitted loan applications supported by the project to receive approval by project end, while Indonesia had a 60% target. For Burkina Faso, three of the seven cooperatives targeted for assistance have received loans (42%). For Colombia, the project target was to support 100 loan applications; so far 49 have been approved by CFA (49%). These projects therefore, have reached greater than 75% of their initial targeted percentages. Peru had a target to assist at least 12 mining organizations with loan	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
						<p>applications; this target has been exceeded through the 28 loans made by Caja Los Andes and the eight made by Caja Los Andes (> 100% of their target). Indonesia targeted support to 10 loan applications; in practice, the project reported supporting 38 loan applications, all of which were approved (>100%). Ecuador did not set a target for the number of loan applications to assist. In Burkina Faso, the initial cohort of loan applicants of 7 cooperatives consisted of 264 members, of which 23% are women. In Colombia, of the 49 loans made by CFA, 34 were for mining operations for which gender disaggregation is not known, while 15 were loans made to individual workers, of which 13 were men and 2 women (13%). Of the 1193 people who participated in the VITAL savings and credit initiative 948 were women (around 80%). In Peru, of the 28 loans made by Caja Ica, 67% were granted to men, 17% to women, and 14% to mining companies. Gender disaggregated information for Caja Los Andes in Peru, and for the Ecuador and Indonesia mechanisms is not known, since these generally supported mining</p>	

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
						organizations/cooperatives rather than individuals and the gender composition of the organizations was not reported.	
Outcome 1: New financial providers and investors offer their services to the ASGM sector using information and guidance developed/provided by the planetGOLD programme	# of new investors/service providers who consider new investment opportunities in the ASGM sector that have been identified and facilitated through the GEF planetGOLD programme	Lack of investors is one of the main barriers to the development of non-mercury ASGM operations	3 new investors/providers consider new ASGM investment opportunities that have been identified and facilitated through the programme	8 new investors/providers consider ASGM investment opportunities that have been identified and facilitated through the programme	# of new investors/providers consider ASGM investment opportunities that have been identified and facilitated through the programme: 21 (minimum)	To date, the project has used the "technical report" tool and business plan template to create reports for six countries covering 10 ASGM areas that are promising for investment (two reports, Kenya and Burkina Faso, cover more than one area). The technical reports were promoted to all booth visitors at PDAC 2023 and 2024, where approximately 60 visitors were sufficiently engaged to leave contact information requesting further information. In 2023 the documents were also made available via QR code for download, where 19 investors downloaded the information. To further help miners hone their investment pitches, an educational workshop was held in November 2023, where ASGM operations presented their business opportunities to two SRI investors, who then gave general tips and advice of how to improve their materials. At PERUMIN, a major mining investment conference in Peru, the team supported two small-scale miners to host a booth where they	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
						presented the technical report and business plan for their operations in Peru. Hundreds of visitors, including banks and investors, visited this booth over the week and were made aware of these operations and investment opportunities.	
	#SRI funds sensitized/demonstrate understanding of the opportunities presented by the ASGM sector	Lack of investors is one of the main barriers to the development of non-mercury ASGM operations	2 SRI funds demonstrate understanding of opportunities presented by in the ASGM sector	8 SRI funds demonstrate awareness of opportunities presented by ASGM sector	# of SRI funds that demonstrate awareness of opportunities presented by ASGM sector: 28	Project has conducted outreach to SRI fund managers and other investors to increase their knowledge on ASGM as an investment opportunity. During this reporting period, the project completed an in-depth initiative to have one-on-one contacts with 24 SRI investors previously identified as potentially interested in ASGM. Of these, three impact investors were already active in the ASGM sector. Another two were aware of the ASGM sector and already considering investment, while another 10 were aware of ASGM, but became open to considering investment after the outreach made by the project. Three others were completely unaware but were willing to learn more after engagement from the project. Two were aware but declined further engagement (did not say why), while two others were unaware but	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
						declined further discussion due to lack of expertise in the sector or because the fund explicitly does not invest in mining. Two investors declined further discussion at this time, as they only discuss investment when there are actual project deals to discuss. Further, at the SOCAP conferences in 2022 and 2023, the team held one-on-one meetings with 15 SRI investors, who indicated that they had not previously considered ASGM as an investment prior to engagement with the project.	
Outcome 2: Project-participating countries and the wider ASGM community increasingly share, access and apply knowledge on global experiences to assist the development and implementation in formalisation, access to finance and technology transfer	# of No of targeted audience individuals engaging/accessing/using awareness materials	Information is currently widely scattered, often not available electronically, and not yet synthesized in a manner useful to Parties developing a NAP	100 individual visitors (by country) download materials	200 individual visitors by country who download materials	# of individual visitors who download materials: 3,006 visitors total (1,062 GEF GOLD country visitors)	planetgold.org website analytics reported 109,900 user sessions, a 115% increase from the 2022-2023 reporting period. This might be partially because new project countries have joined the programme, as well as the flagship programme event – Global Forum – which took place in the reporting period. The communications team also ran new social media campaigns during the reporting period promoting Dispatches from the Field videos, which drove significant new web traffic to the landing page for that series. The most visited pages include Homepage (13,500 views), Dispatches from the Field (8,600	HS

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
						<p>views), Resources (4,200 views), as well as country project pages from Philippines (3,800 views), Burkina Faso (3,400 views), Kenya (3,200 views) and Ecuador (3,200 views). 174 resources were added to the resource library and 69 News and Voices posts and Events pages were created in the reporting period. New curated collections on health, geospatial data, tailings, and jurisdictional approach (JA) were also added. Total downloads from the website accounted for 7,238 PDF documents – translating to an 8% increase from the previous reporting period. From the launch of the website in 2019 to June 30, 2024, the total number of unique web visitors who downloaded PDF materials on the website was 3,006. Of these, 1,062 were located in the 8 GEF GOLD countries. The majority of web sessions were connected from USA, Philippines, India and Peru. The top planetGOLD project countries from where the website visitors connect include Philippines (10,000 sessions), Peru (7,800 sessions), Mongolia (5,400 sessions), Burkina Faso (4,200 sessions) Colombia (3,700 sessions), Ecuador (3,600</p>	

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
	# of beneficiaries reporting (through surveys) application of the knowledge gained	Information is currently widely scattered, often not available electronically, and not yet synthesized in a manner useful to Parties developing a NAP	75% report application of knowledge	90% report application of knowledge	% reporting application of knowledge: 77.5%	sessions) and Kenya (3,100 sessions). The project widely disseminated a survey inviting planetGOLD.org web users to share their experiences using the website (40 responses received). When asked if able to apply any of the knowledge gained, of the 40 responses 77.5% reported yes. Responders pointed out the lack of financial means to support the technology transfer or no applicability of the knowledge to the mining reality of the respondent (alluvial mining). When asked how useful they find the information on planetGOLD.org, 90% of respondents indicated they found it useful. When asked how easy it is to use the web site 85% of respondents noted that it was easy. Commonly visited areas are the Resource library (65%), Knowledge area pages (62.5%) and the Country pages (57.5%). When asked what they would like to see more of, a majority of respondents said, "more country-specific resources" (60%) and "more resources and curated collections" (55%). In terms of topics, they would like to see more of, respondents highlighted resources on	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
						protecting biodiversity (70%), engagement with indigenous and other vulnerable groups (70%), and on LSM and ASM relationship (57.5%). 50% of the respondents highlighted that they were not aware of the training resources page. When asked how can the planetGOLD.org be improved, some of the suggestions included featuring online forums, adding more infographics, highlighting further the programme impacts, and featuring more blogs and news.	
Outcome 3: Support among the governments, stakeholders, mining communities or financial sector and international media for reduced mercury use in ASGM is increased	# of government agencies and financial sector institutions in GEF GOLD countries that issue more balanced public policy statements on ASGM	ASGM is misunderstood in many countries. Many people have not heard of ASGM.	Government agencies or financial institutions in 3 GEF GOLD countries issue new policy statements	Government agencies or financial institutions in 7 GEF GOLD countries issue new policy statements	# of GEF GOLD countries where government agencies or financial institutions issue new policy statements: 6	New public policies or policy statements made in project countries during this reporting period include the approval in Peru of The Gender Plan for Small-Scale and Artisanal Mining 2023-2025. Notably, on June 2024, the Central Banks in Colombia, Ecuador, Mongolia, and the Philippines all became the inaugural signatories to 'The London Principles,' a set of operating principles to help structure and formalize Central Bank ASGM Domestic Purchase Programmes. The aim of this initiative is to benefit the livelihoods of responsible small-scale miners and improve regulation of ASGM and integrity	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
						of the gold market while Central Banks simultaneously build their gold reserves. In addition, this year the Mongolia project drafted and delivered the soum ASM policy document for Mandal Soum, which will help improve local implementation of the recently revised national ASM Regulation. The local governor will soon submit this policy for approval. The project in Kenya carried out public participation for a draft guideline on health, safety and environment in ASM and a national guideline on sound management of chemicals and waste in gold mining.	
	# of media publishing balanced media stories in international press		One balanced media story in international press	Three balanced media stories in international press	# of balanced media stories in international press: 2	The project secured the inclusion of a planetGOLD country partner from Ecuador in Deutsche Welle's "Living Planet" podcast (https://www.dw.com/en/deep-dive-mercury-s-tantalizing-promise-of-endless-gold-in-south-america/audio-68856349), which highlighted the success the project has had thus far promoting its ore sales strategy as a way to prevent miners' mercury use. The communications manager also successfully recruited the sustainability editor at Vogue Business to attend the planetGOLD Global Forum	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
						<p>and subsequent mine site visit in the Philippines, accompanying her on the trip and providing several materials and interview opportunities in-person and by email. The editor plans to publish a story on the role of the jewelry industry in advancing responsible ASGM in September 2024. The project successfully arranged a background interview between an Associated Press reporter and planetGOLD's global coordinator in late 2023 related to a story they are continuing to develop on ASGM and mercury trade issues in Latin America, and prior to the relocation of the Global Forum from Ecuador to the Philippines, the communications manager had confirmed participation of a Guardian journalist covering the Andes region, who remains a media contact. In addition, the project shared a great deal of information and story ideas on women in ASGM to an editor at CNN International, who has indicated strong interest in developing a story on this topic, and provided several materials and ideas to a team at The Economist on mercury-free ASGM alternatives for a story they were developing on the topic</p>	

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
						<p>in Latin America. In addition to these individual media pitches, the global project also hired a media consultant and began preparations for a workshop for 5-7 international journalists that will center on techniques and opportunities to shift media narratives on ASGM by incorporating solutions being piloted in the sector. The workshop will be held in the 3rd quarter of 2024, and journalist participants will be expected to pitch a solutions-oriented story on ASGM following completion of the workshop.</p>	

3.2 Rating of progress implementation towards delivery of outputs (Implementation Progress)

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
1 Improving access to financial resources in the ASGM sector	1.1. Sensitisation of potential financial institutions and investors to invest in the ASGM sector.	2025-06-30	65% of budget for 1.1 and 1.3 expended (based on revised budget); all targets met except for number of investment opportunities identified, which is 62%	87% of budget for 1.1 and 1.3 expended (based on revised budget); Target of 5 outreach documents created: 100%; Target of 6 investors meetings attended: >100% (9 major conferences); Target of 100 investors sensitized on ASGM: >100% (160 minimum); Target of 8 investment opportunities from GEF GOLD countries identified and information disseminated:	The project produced a training course for financiers to educate them on ASGM; this course was delivered to a financial audience in Kenya in this reporting period. The project also finalized the technical report writing guide and business plan writing guide based on experience piloting these tools; these products joining the existing ASGM financial assessment tool to form a “toolkit” for investors interested in ASGM and for those interested in creating investment pitch packages. The project also produced a guide to SDGs and ASGM distributed at PDAC and SOCAP. Thus, a total of 5 outreach products were created to date. The team attended the PDAC conference in March 2024 as well as SOCAP in October 2023. The team has attended PDAC each year since 2019 (including a virtual event in 2021) and SOCAP in 2019 and 2022, making nine major investment conferences. The team has attended several smaller social impact investor conferences and webinars as well. Through PDAC, the team has engaged with/sensitized ~60 investors and others in a position to finance	S

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
				>100% (10 opportunities)	<p>ASGM, to a sufficient extent that they shared contact information for further engagement, as recorded in our Master ASGM Investor List 2024. Further we sensitized over 100 socially responsible investors and others related to funding ASGM, through SOCAP, other professional meetings, networking, and one on one meetings, also recorded in our Master ASGM Investor List 2024. As discussed above the global project has assisted six country projects (Burkina Faso, Guyana, Kenya, Mongolia, Peru and the Philippines) to apply the "technical report" template, a tool tailored for ASGM that mimics standard technical investment documents mandated for large scale miners, as a means of identifying promising investment opportunities in ASGM areas in their countries. Two reports covered more than one area, leading to 10 investment areas identified. The team also completed a standard set of training modules to improve financial literacy of ASGM actors, to build their capacity to interact with investors and financiers. In addition, the team continued to hold "Financial Advocacy Network" meetings among programme financial specialists to</p>	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					discuss the investment evaluation toolkit material and the development of pitches for the November workshop and prepared two finance-oriented sessions for the planetGOLD Global Forum, held in June.	
	1.2 Unlock capital flows to the ASGM sector through financing specific opportunities for improvement.				REMOVED based on MTR recommendation and PSC decision	
	1.3 Socially responsible investment (SRI) Community members sensitized to remove barriers in their charters and/or other governing rules that are or may have been preventing them from investing in small scale gold mining.	2025-06-30	65% of budget for 1.1 and 1.3 expended (based on revised budget); Target of 8 SRI rethink principles: 62%; Target of 10 SRIs aware of opportunities: 50%	87% of budget for 1.1 and 1.3 expended (based on revised budget); Target of 10 SRIs aware of opportunities: >100% (28 SRI funds)	Throughout the project we have conducted outreach to representatives of SRI funds and related stakeholders, through attendance at PDAC, SOCAP and other outreach activities, to increase their knowledge on ASGM as an investment opportunity, as reported in our contacts databases mentioned above. During the reporting period, we also conducted an in-depth outreach campaign with SRI investors to learn in detail about their awareness on ASGM and their views on potential investments. We reached out to 24 individual SRI investors to sensitize them to ASGM issues as well as to gauge their interest in ASGM before and after discussions. Among these, 5 were already aware/active with ASGM prior to discussions and continued to show interest, while 13 others were either unaware or somewhat aware but became open to engaging in more discussion	S

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					about opportunities after engagement by the project team. Further at the SOCAP conferences in 2022 and 2023, the team held one-on-one meetings with 15 SRI investors, who indicated that they had not previously considered ASGM as an investment prior to engagement with the project. Thus, altogether 28 SRI funds have been sensitized.	
2 Provide access to information and opportunities for exchange among Parties and other ASGM Practitioner	2.1 Knowledge from global experience, as well as from GEF-GOLD programme experiences in key ASGM topics (formalisation, financing, market access and technology transfer), is collated and synthesized.	2025-06-30	~64% of budget for component 2 expended (based on revised budget); Target of 5 products: 100%	76% of budget for component 2 expended (based on revised budget); Target of 5 major synthesis products produced: >100% (11 products)	The project has exceeded its target of producing five major synthesis products with a total of eleven products. In previous years, the project produced: Overcoming Barriers to Establishing Responsible ASGM Supply Chains (Sept. 2022); Best Management Practices for Cyanide Use in the Small Scale Gold Mining Sector (Dec. 2021); Supply Chain Technology Solutions for planetGOLD projects (Sept. 2021); Improving Access to Formal Finance for in ASGM (Aug, 2020); Access to Finance Options for ASGM (May 2020); Unlocking Finance for ASGM (March 2020); and Communicating about ASGM Issue Brief (2020) and its associated webpage "Good Communications Practices in the ASGM Sector." This reporting year the project published five new knowledge products on: (1) "Agreements and Engagement with	HS

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					<p>Rightsholders in ASGM,” (2) the information document for COP5 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, “Technology Transfer Experiences in the planetGOLD Programme,” (3) “Taxes, Fees, Royalties and the Formalisation of ASGM Producers and Exporters.” To adopt a practice of common reporting, the project commissioned and published “Cross-programme Analysis of planetGOLD ASGM Financial Access Interventions” (May 2024) and “Documenting planetGOLD Programme Experiences with ASGM Supply-Chain Mechanisms (May 2024). The project continues to research, collect and curate literature on ASGM topics such as formalization, technology solutions, access to finance, gender, supply chain and awareness raising. The library currently holds over 800 resources, and the curated collection continues to grow, highlighting planetGOLD-produced resources.</p>	
	2.2 Information is disseminated and shared among relevant stakeholders.	2025-06-30	~64% of budget for component 2 expended (based on revised budget);	76% of budget for component 2 expended (based on revised budget);	To date the project has met its target with the creation and production of one website (planetGOLD.org); 15 curated collections out of 15 planned, and two global forums completed; one virtual	HS

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
			Target of one website: 100%; Target of 15 curated collections: 53%; Target of 2 global forums: 50%	Target of one website: 100%; Target of 15 curated collections: 100%; Target of 2 global forums: 100%	(April, 2022) and one in-person Global Forum (May, 2024). The planetGOLD website continues to serve as a resource hub and platform for country project updates, experiences, blogs, reports, etc. Throughout the year we continue to update the site with new programme/news, events, blogs, etc. including amplifying information from the global ASGM stakeholders and partners. Information was disseminated via social media accounts, planetGOLD listserv, announcements during events, emails and/or during meetings attended by PAG, and project staff. We also published a new Countries landing page on the website where users can access all country project landing pages. We hosted an internal webinar on Occupational Safety & Health webinar with Dr. Linda Forst. The project also attended COP5(Geneva, Nov. 2023) and displayed the planetGOLD booth which offered an interactive 360 experience for participants. We also attended the annual US DOS Mercury Program workshop (Nov. 2023) hosted by the USDOS to learn about other ASGM related projects. In this period, we planned, promoted and carried out the in-person Global Forum	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					on ASGM held in June 2024 in Batangas, Philippines, and published new event page that gathers the key resources linked to and presented at the Forum. Hosting over 170 participants, the Forum provided multiple sessions covering an array of ASGM related topics, as well as practicum workshops asking participants to provide possible solutions to scenarios based off their learnings from the week. UNIDO also organized a site visit to Paracale, Camarines Norte where about 15 representatives from different agencies were invited to tour the mercury-free processing system.	
	2.3 Results among country-level projects of the programme collected and analysed to provide program-level results	2025-06-30	~64% of budget for component 2 expended (based on revised budget); Target of 5 APMs: 80%; Target of 15 quarterly reports and 4 annual reports: 75%. End of programme comparative analysis rpt: 0%	76% of budget for component 2 expended (based on revised budget); Target of 5 Annual Programme Meetings: 100%; Target of 15 quarterly reports and 4 annual reports: 100%; Target of one end of	The project has carried out five of five annual programme meetings (Geneva-2019; Virtual-2020, 2021; Kenya-2022; Philippines-2024), 18 quarterly narratives (four each quarter since 2020 and two in 2024), and published 4 annual progress reports. This reporting period the global project held two ad hoc PSC meetings in Geneva (Oct, 2023) and Philippines (June, 2024). The global project organized the second in-person APM since the inception of the Programme in June 2024 in Batangas, Philippines. The meeting was attended by planetGOLD country staff and communication experts.	HS

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
			(to be completed end of program)	programme comparative analysis report: 0% (to be completed at end of project)	Discussion focused on reporting of indicators, including changes to the iGOLD System to create a more seamless experience, the requirement for projects to share a grievance mechanism on their country pages, country project stakeholder experience with range of stakeholders and co-finance partners, and concluded with update from on communication highlights/challenges to all participants. Throughout the year project managers reported on activities and project results during bi-monthly project manager calls, PAG meetings, required quarterly updates and presentations during various project events. Country projects continued to share key project updates/reports on the website via news, events and to Voices (blog site).	
3 Educating the General Public about ASGM as a global issue	3.1 Global branding of GEF GOLD programme identity established	2020-06-30	100% budget spent down, Target of branding 100% complete	100% budget spent down, Target of branding 100% complete	Activity completed in year 1. Target met.	S
	3.2 Proactive PR/media strategy executed, targeting general public, financial institutions and government agencies, to create more balance perception of impacts of ASGM.	2025-06-30	~69% of budget expended (based on revised budget);	90% of budget expended (based on revised budget);	The end of project target of producing 10 public information materials has been far exceeded in the past year alone. The end of project target of 7 country projects using materials in the global	HS

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
			Target of 10 general public information materials produced and broadcasted: 100%; Target of 7 GEF GOLD country level projects use material in asset library: 100%	Target of 10 general public information materials produced and broadcasted: 100%; Target of 7 GEF GOLD country level projects use material in asset library: 100%	asset library has also been exceeded, with all projects using some assets produced and disseminated by the global project. During the reporting period a significant new media tool the global project created was a new interactive map project called "360 Experience" which was premiered at planetGOLD's branded pop up exhibit at the GEF Assembly in August 2023. This booth was also showcased at the Minamata Convention COP5 in Geneva and at the 2024 Global Forum on ASGM in the Philippines, and is available for web visitors to explore on planetgold.org. As part of its regular video series called "Dispatches from the Field," spotlighting unique stories about project work or miners that are working to demonstrate a path to more responsible, mercury-free mining, 5 new episodes were released. These videos shared positive stories including the Mongolia project's construction of a mercury-free processing facility, the Philippines project's engagement with Indigenous Peoples at one of its project sites, successful experiences with financial inclusion in Colombia, and a promising training program in Burkina	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					<p>Faso on mercury-free processing and responsible mining. This, combined with additional original video content published on YouTube, garnered 225,552 views (a 107% increase over last reporting period), 1,133,744 impressions (a 21% increase), and 1,841 new subscribers (a 121% increase). Original content created by the global project on its social media accounts and/or shared from the programme website garnered a total of 1,191 new followers (an increase of 4% over last reporting period) and a total of 1,559,550 impressions (an increase of 392%) across LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook during the reporting period. The project disseminated 4 quarterly email newsletters and 3 additional email announcements to the programme email list, which had accrued 1,432 subscribers as of June 30. The project also maintained a Google Drive for sharing media assets across projects in planetGOLD, which has assembled 2.42 terabytes of media assets to use in communications products promoting more positive perceptions of ASGM—1.27 terabytes of which were uploaded since the last reporting period.</p>	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
	3.3 Communication efforts by all GEF GOLD projects are supported and reinforced.	2025-06-30	~69% of budget for 3.2 and 3.3 expended (based on revised budget); Target of all of GEF GOLD products benefit from assistance or assets created by global component: 100%; Target of all GEF GOLD countries adhere to comm. strategy: 100%	90% of budget for 3.2 and 3.3 expended (based on revised budget); Target of all of GEF GOLD products benefit from assistance or assets created by global component: 100%; Target of all GEF GOLD countries adhere to comm. strategy: 100%	The end of project targets for this output have been met; all projects' communication products have benefited from assistance or assets created by the global project, and thus far all projects have adhered to the overall communications strategy. In this reporting period to support and reinforce projects' communications outreach, the global project convened an in-person meeting of all communication officers from country project teams in June 2024 alongside the Annual Programme Meeting and Global Forum event in the Philippines. The project also hosted 3 quarterly calls with all project communications officers to exchange updates, lessons learned, and to identify potential story leads. The project also offered in partnership with planetGOLD Colombia an online training session for communications officers on iSpring, a virtual learning platform available for projects to use in creating virtual trainings or interactive courses. The global project also gave all communications officers access to a Canva online design tool to facilitate their creation of branded graphic designs for project outreach,	HS

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					<p>maintained an online Basecamp project and a Whatsapp group, for regular information sharing among the communications officers. The project published or facilitated publication of more than 80 news articles and more than 30 videos, publishing and sharing this content on the programme website, social media, YouTube and email newsletter, as well as with all programme partner agencies, the GEF, and the Minamata Convention Secretariat for promotion on their communication channels.</p> <p>Compiling assets from across all active projects in the programme, the global project produced a video and photo story commemorating International Women's Day with perspectives from project staff and stakeholders on the importance of advancing gender equity in ASGM. The project also collected assets from projects to produce an introductory video for the Global Forum on ASGM event, organized a programme-wide photo contest, and provided several other web-based, digital and print communication materials for the event.</p> <p>Following the event, the team produced and disseminated a video featuring highlights from the event. The global</p>	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					<p>communications team additionally supported the publication and dissemination of: a new report on supply chain mechanisms; a report on taxation policy; a report and 8 case studies documenting projects' financial inclusion efforts; and the 2022-2023 planetGOLD Annual Progress Report in 3 languages: English, French and Spanish. To support outreach to the investment community, the project produced a banner, flyers, and a promotional video for a planetGOLD exhibit at the PDAC 2024 conference, and produced display materials for an exhibit at the 2023 PERUMIN event.</p>	

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

4 Risks

4.1 Table A. Project management Risk

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

Risk Factor	EA Rating	TM Rating
1 Management structure - Roles and responsibilities	Low	Low
2 Governance structure - Oversight	Low	Low
3 Implementation schedule	Low	Low
4 Budget	Low	Low
5 Financial Management	Low	Low
6 Reporting	Low	Low
7 Capacity to deliver	Low	Low

If any of the risk factors is rated a Moderate or higher, please include it in Table B below

4.2 Table B. Risk-log

Implementation Status (Current PIR)

Insert ALL the risks identified either at CEO endorsement (inc. safeguards screening), previous/current PIRs, and MTRs. Use the last line to propose a suggested consolidated rating.

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
Change in the political and economic situation during the life time of the Programme impacts the implementation	May affect all outcomes and outputs. which all rely on inputs from country project implementation	L	L	M	M	M	M		=	This remains as a moderate risk in case it happens in child projects. However, so far, it has not been a major obstacle other than in

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
										Mongolia where the mining laws have changed. This will be dealt at the country level.
Failure to identify an appropriate investment model. and assurance of post-intervention sustainability	May affect outcome 1. Output 1.1	L	L	L	L	L	L		=	Investment models in each child project will be different as it will only function with appropriate country context. So far, all the child projects have either identified a mechanism that works or have tried several that could potential work.
Amend conflict. armed groups and/or tax-seeking behaviour impeding the Programme's planned interventions	May affect all outcomes and outputs. which all rely on inputs from country project implementation	M	L	L	L	L	L		=	So far, this has not been a major risk in the programme.
Prevailing cultural norms and practices (negative views on outsider. resistance to change). prevent project activities	May affect Outcome 3. Output 3.2	L	L	L	L	L	L		=	This has been minimised through global and national communication related to the sector.
Language barrier communication/low education in the mining communities when the training workshops take place	May affect primarily Outcomes 2 and 3. Outputs 2.2 and 3.2	L	L	L	L	L	L		=	So far, it has not been a major issue in the programme as national/local partners are engaged
Lack of coordination between various ASGM initiatives on the ground	May affect Outcome 2. Outputs 2.2 and 2.3	L	L	L	L	L	L		=	So far, it has not been a major issue in the programme as the project continues to engage co-financing partners.
Low tonnes of mercury reduction as compared to original planned	May affect Outcome 3						M			This is a new risk added to this PIR as 2 out of the 8 child projects are operationally completed. The mercury reduction anticipated at project design have not been

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
										materialised in all countries. as the mercury free processing plants and speed of uptake are difficult to control and measure at all times. In addition. the target includes a replication factor which can only be checked. measured. verified after project closure.
								L		Since all of the first phase child projects are scheduled to conclude by September 2025, collection and analysis of project results should not encounter major issues

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

Additional mitigation measures for the next periods

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
Change in the political and economic situation during the life time of the Programme impacts the implementation	Continue to focus on creating and sharing knowledge among all programme countries to minimise programme-wide impacts of upheaval in any one country	The project continued to share knowledge through regular internal programme meetings (e.g. APM). participation in global events and very active communications. When political events caused a change in programming (eg Global Forum) project was able to pivot quickly.	Continued monitoring of country political situations that may affect closure and knowledge sharing from country projects.	Ongoing	Global and country project manager; communication coordinators; knowledge management coordinator

High Risk (H): There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks. Significant Risk (S): There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks. Moderate Risk (M): There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks. Low Risk (L): There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.

5 Amendment - GeoSpatial

Project Minor Amendments

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

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

Minor Amendments	Changes
Results Framework:	No
Components and Cost:	No
Institutional and implementation arrangements:	No
Financial Management:	No
Implementation Schedule:	
Executing Entity:	No
Executing Entity Category:	No
Minor project objective change:	No
Safeguards:	No
Risk analysis:	No
Increase of GEF financing up to 5%:	No
Location of project activity:	No
Other:	No

Minor amendments

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

Version	Type	Signed/Approved by UNEP	Entry Into Force (last signature Date)	Agreement Expiry Date	Main changes introduced in this revision
Original Legal Instrument		2018-10-30	2018-05-11	2024-09-30	Programme Cooperation Agreement with NRDC
Amendment 1	Revision	2021-12-09	2021-10-01	2024-09-30	Reduction in budget
Amendment 2	Revision	2023-06-02	2023-06-14	2024-09-30	Increase in budget and budget revision
Original Legal Instrument		2019-03-04	2019-04-30	2024-03-30	UN to UN Agreement with UNIDO
Amendment 1	Revision	2023-08-10	2023-09-01	2024-09-30	Amended UN to UN agreement with UNIDO to extend end date to 30 Sept 2024
Amendment 3	Extension	2024-03-07	2024-03-21	2025-09-30	Extension on NRDC contract. An extension was requested and approved based on the end dates of all child projects in the first phase of the programme. This is done to ensure that the global project can capture all project results to ensure no knowledge and experience are lost.
Budget revision	Revision	2022-12-02		2024-03-30	Budget revision on the UN to UN agreement with UNIDO

GEO Location Information:

The Location Name, Latitude and Longitude are required fields insofar as an Agency chooses to enter a project location under the set format. The Geo Name ID is required in instances where the location is not exact, such as in the case of a city, as opposed to the exact site of a physical infrastructure. The Location & Activity Description fields are optional. Project longitude and latitude must follow the Decimal Degrees WGS84 format and Agencies are encouraged to use at least four decimal points for greater accuracy. Users may add as many locations as appropriate. Web mapping applications such as OpenStreetMap or GeoNames use this format. Consider using a conversion tool as needed, such as: <https://coordinates-converter.com> Please see the Geocoding User Guide by clicking here

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GEO Name ID	Location Description	Activity Description
Mongolia	46	105	2029969		
Philippines	13.40882	122.56155	1694008		
Indonesia	-5	120	1643084		
Peru	-10	-75.25	3932488		
Colombia	4	-73.25	3686110		
Guyana	5	-59	3378535		
Kenya	1	38	192950		
Burkina Faso	12.5	-1.66667	2361809		

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

[Annex any linked geospatial file]

Additional Supporting Documents:

Filename	File Uploaded By	File Uploaded At	
July 2023-June 2024 Activities_for final.docx	Executing Agency	2024-07-31 15:53:34	Download
GEFID_9697_planetGOLD Global_PIR 2023_final.pdf	CW TM	2024-06-26 05:35:42	Download