

## Global Opportunities for Long-term Development of artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) Sector Plus - GEF GOLD + (addendum)

### Part I: Program Information

**GEF ID**  
10802

**Program Type**  
PFD

**Type of Trust Fund**  
GET

**CBIT/NGI**  
CBIT No  
NGI No

**Program Title**  
Global Opportunities for Long-term Development of artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) Sector Plus - GEF GOLD + (addendum)

**Countries**  
Global, Cote d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Guinea, Mali, Nicaragua, Sierra Leone, Zambia

**Agency(ies)**  
CI, UNEP, UNDP, UNIDO

**Other Executing Partner(s)**

**Executing Partner Type**

**GEF Focal Area**

Chemicals and Waste

**Taxonomy**

Focal Areas, Chemicals and Waste, Mercury, Artisanal and Scale Gold Mining, Stakeholders, Gender Equality

**Rio Markers****Climate Change Mitigation**

Climate Change Mitigation 0

**Climate Change Adaptation**

Climate Change Adaptation 0

**Duration**

60 In Months

**Agency Fee(\$)**

2,743,714.00

**Program Commitment DeadlineSubmission Date**

12/6/2022

3/24/2021

**Impact Program**

IP-Food-Land-Restoration **No**

IP-Sustainable Cities **No**

IP-Sustainable Forest Management Amazon **No**

IP-Sustainable Forest Management Congo **No**

IP-Sustainable Forest Management Drylands **No**

Other Program **Yes**

A. Indicative Focal/Non-Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Expected Outcomes	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
CW-1-1	Reduction of anthropogenic releases/emissions of mercury from Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold mining into the environment.	GET	30,485,696.00	139,654,570.00
<b>Total Program Cost (\$)</b>			<b>30,485,696.00</b>	<b>139,654,570.00</b>

## B. Indicative Project description summary

### Program Objective

To reduce the use of mercury in the ASGM sector in the participating countries through a holistic, multisectoral integrated formalization approach, and increasing access to finance leading to adoption of sustainable mercury free technologies and access to traceable gold supply chains.

Program Component	Financing Type	Program Outcomes	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
1. Enhancing formalization in the ASGM Sector	Technical Assistance	Increased formalization in the sector through multisectoral, integrated approaches and capacity building of actors engaged in ASGM formalization.	GET	7,730,000.00	35,136,000.00
2. Access to finance enhanced by financial inclusion and responsible supply chains	Investment	Increase in finance options for miners through the attainment of better gold prices facilitated by transparent and responsible supply chains	GET	8,025,000.00	48,143,570.00
3. Enhancing uptake of mercury-free technologies	Technical Assistance	Reduced mercury use in ASGM enabled by the increased uptake of mercury-free technologies by miners	GET	6,649,524.00	32,680,000.00
4. Knowledge sharing, communication and local capacity building support	Technical Assistance	Knowledge sharing and communication strategies targeted at all ASGM stakeholders to support and increase formalization and mercury reduction efforts	GET	2,799,762.00	14,320,000.00
5. Monitoring and evaluation of country-level child projects	Technical Assistance	Country-level M&E plans inform management, implementation, and adaptive management	GET	679,048.00	1,675,000.00

6. Global coordination, knowledge management and outreach	Technical Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Project-participating countries and the wider ASGM community increasingly share, access and apply knowledge.</li> <li>· Governments, mining communities and the general public have a shared understanding of the ASGM sector</li> <li>· GOLD+ program participating countries and communities understand successes and lessons learned from the Program</li> </ul> <p>Program results are monitored and evaluated</p>	GET	3,151,138.00	
			<b>Sub Total (\$)</b>	<b>29,034,472.00</b>	<b>131,954,570.00</b>
<b>Program Management Cost (PMC)</b>					
			GET	1,451,224.00	7,700,000.00
			<b>Sub Total(\$)</b>	<b>1,451,224.00</b>	<b>7,700,000.00</b>
			<b>Total Program Cost(\$)</b>	<b>30,485,696.00</b>	<b>139,654,570.00</b>

**C. Co-Financing for the Program by Source, by Name and by Type**

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
GEF Agency	World Bank ZMERIP	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	7,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministère des Mines, de l'Energie et de l'Eau	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	10,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministère des Mines, de l'Energie et de l'Eau	Grant	Investment mobilized	9,400,000.00
Civil Society Organization	FEMIMA	Grant	Investment mobilized	36,000.00
Private Sector	Refinery	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	10,000,000.00
Donor Agency	USDoS	Grant	Investment mobilized	540,000.00
Donor Agency	Govt of Switzerland	Grant	Investment mobilized	107,991.00
Other	OECD	Grant	Investment mobilized	95,579.00
GEF Agency	UNIDO	Grant	Investment mobilized	100,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministerio del Ambiente y los Recursos Naturales	Grant	Investment mobilized	16,600,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministerio de Energía y Minas	Grant	Recurrent expenditures	7,000,000.00

Private Sector	Refinery	Grant	Investment mobilized	10,000,000.00
GEF Agency	UNIDO	Grant	Investment mobilized	75,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Environment Protection Agency, Sierra Leone	Public Investment	Recurrent expenditures	5,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Mines and Mineral Resources, Sierra Leone	Public Investment	Recurrent expenditures	5,300,000.00
Recipient Country Government	EPA and Ministry of Environment, Sierra Leone	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	4,500,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Government of Cote d' Ivoire	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	4,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Government of Guinea	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	3,000,000.00
Other	Impact (Cote d'Ivoire)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	3,350,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Zambia Environmental Management Agency	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	5,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Mines (Zambia)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	3,000,000.00
GEF Agency	CI	Grant	Investment mobilized	50,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment and Water of Ecuador	Grant	Investment mobilized	300,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment and Water of Ecuador	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	2,500,000.00

Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Energy and Non-Renewable Natural Resources	Grant	Investment mobilized	500,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Energy and Non-Renewable Natural Resources	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	3,500,000.00
Recipient Country Government	IIGE	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	2,750,000.00
Recipient Country Government	IIGE	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	250,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Small Mining Chamber	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,500,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Small Mining Chamber	Grant	Investment mobilized	275,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Health	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,500,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Local governments of the prioritized areas	Grant	Investment mobilized	400,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Local governments of the prioritized areas	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	2,200,000.00
Civil Society Organization	TBD	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,000,000.00
Private Sector	Associations of small miners in the prioritized areas	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	600,000.00
Private Sector	Associations of small miners in the prioritized areas	Grant	Investment mobilized	100,000.00
Donor Agency	Environmental Governance Programme (Swedish EPA)	Grant	Investment mobilized	165,000.00

Other	Universities and Research Centers (3 universities, 2 research centers)	Grant	Investment mobilized	300,000.00
Other	Universities and Research Centers (3 universities, 2 research centers)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	2,200,000.00
Other	Public and private banks	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	3,000,000.00
Private Sector	Refiner (Argor) - Gold buying (Cote d'Ivoire)	Grant	Investment mobilized	7,000,000.00
Private Sector	Refiner (Argor) - Gold buying	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,000,000.00
Private Sector	Refiner (Argor) - Gold buying (Guinea)	Grant	Recurrent expenditures	7,000,000.00
Private Sector	Ashanti Gold	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	4,000,000.00
Private Sector	Refiner (Argor) - Setting up agreements with miners	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,000,000.00
GEF Agency	CI (contribution to Mali child project)	Grant	Investment mobilized	50,000.00
GEF Agency	CI	Grant	Investment mobilized	50,000.00
Other	Impact (Guinea)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	2,350,000.00
<b>Total Program Cost(\$)</b>				<b>139,654,570.00</b>

**Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified**

Investment Mobilized is defined as new funds, which have a clear scope of work and are time-bound. In addition, each Agency has worked with governments, and its respective partners and donors to identify investment mobilized. The identification of investment mobilized will be further defined during the full ProDoc development.

**D. Indicative Trust Fund Resources Requested by Agency(ies), Country(ies), Focal Area and the Programming of Funds**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Trust Fund</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Focal Area</b>	<b>Programming of Funds</b>	<b>Amount(\$)</b>	<b>Fee(\$)</b>	<b>Total(\$)</b>
CI	GET	Global	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	2,812,393	253,115	3,065,508.00
UNEP	GET	Global	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	496,304	44,667	540,971.00
UNEP	GET	Cote d'Ivoire	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	3,937,500	354,375	4,291,875.00
UNEP	GET	Guinea	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	5,302,000	477,180	5,779,180.00
CI	GET	Mali	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	2,026,250	182,363	2,208,613.00
UNIDO	GET	Mali	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	3,123,750	281,138	3,404,888.00
CI	GET	Sierra Leone	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	2,703,749	243,338	2,947,087.00
CI	GET	Zambia	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	2,703,750	243,338	2,947,088.00
UNIDO	GET	Nicaragua	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	3,380,000	304,200	3,684,200.00
UNDP	GET	Ecuador	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	4,000,000	360,000	4,360,000.00
<b>Total GEF Resources(\$)</b>					<b>30,485,696.00</b>	<b>2,743,714.00</b>	<b>33,229,410.00</b>

## Core Indicators

Indicator 9 Reduction, disposal/destruction, phase out, elimination and avoidance of chemicals of global concern and their waste in the environment and in processes, materials and products (metric tons of toxic chemicals reduced)

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
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237.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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Indicator 9.1 Solid and liquid Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) removed or disposed (POPs type)

POPs type	Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 9.2 Quantity of mercury reduced (metric tons)

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
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237.00			
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Indicator 9.3 Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFC) Reduced/Phased out (metric tons)

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
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**Indicator 9.4 Number of countries with legislation and policy implemented to control chemicals and waste (Use this sub-indicator in addition to one of the sub-indicators 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3 if applicable)**

<b>Number (Expected at PIF)</b>	<b>Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)</b>	<b>Number (Achieved at MTR)</b>	<b>Number (Achieved at TE)</b>
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**Indicator 9.5 Number of low-chemical/non-chemical systems implemented, particularly in food production, manufacturing and cities (Use this sub-indicator in addition to one of the sub-indicators 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3 if applicable)**

<b>Number (Expected at PIF)</b>	<b>Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)</b>	<b>Number (Achieved at MTR)</b>	<b>Number (Achieved at TE)</b>
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**Indicator 9.6 Quantity of POPs/Mercury containing materials and products directly avoided**

<b>Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)</b>	<b>Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)</b>	<b>Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)</b>	<b>Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)</b>
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**Indicator 11 Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment**

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
<b>Female</b>	126,050			
<b>Male</b>	126,050			
<b>Total</b>	252100	0	0	0

## Part II. Programmatic Justification

### 1a. Program Description

#### **Programmatic Justification for in the inclusion of new child projects in the GEF GOLD+ Program**

**Addendum Context:** Submission of an Addendum to the GEF GOLD+ PFD (GEF ID 10569) for Council approval prior to the end of the Replenishment period.

This addendum updates the information provided in the GEF GOLD+ Program Framework Document (PFD) approved by the GEF Council in June 2020. The supplemental PFD is requesting approval for seven additional Child Projects in Latin America and Africa including – Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Nicaragua, Sierra Leone, Ecuador, and Zambia. The addendum reflects the increase in GEF-7 resources to be programmed and reports on incremental information (financial and core indicator targets) in the context of the new participating countries. Additional resources are also being requested for the Global Child project. The design, component structure, and the objective of GOLD+ in this addendum remains the same as that of the approved PFD. The objective is “to reduce the use of mercury in the ASGM sector in the participating countries through a holistic, multisectoral integrated formalization approach, and increasing access to finance leading to adoption of sustainable mercury free technologies and access to traceable gold supply chains.”

#### **New Countries added to the Program:**

The original GOLD+ submission (GEF ID 10569) that was approved during the June 2020 GEF Council meeting, included eight countries: Bolivia, Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Honduras, Nigeria, Madagascar, Suriname and Uganda. The new proposed countries below will expand the GEF GOLD+ Program in Latin America and West Africa, mobilizing regional coordination and knowledge management opportunities.

#### **Côte d'Ivoire**

Although the ASGM sector in Côte d'Ivoire has remained marginal in the last century (20,000 miners reported in 1999), the combined effect of the rise in the global price of gold and crisis in the other main export for the country (coffee and cocoa), saw the number of workers grow to over 100,000 by 2011. Currently more than 500,000 people work in ASGM in Côte d'Ivoire and the country is currently the 22<sup>nd</sup> largest producer of gold (40 MT/year) in the world and the 7<sup>th</sup> largest in Africa. Côte d'Ivoire initial baseline estimates undertaken during the NAP indicate an annual use of 13 tons of mercury which is expected to rise as more and more people move to this sector.

The GOLD+ Côte d'Ivoire project will aim at reducing mercury by 8 tons by project completion. Taking into account a replication factor of 3, the total mercury reduction target is thus estimated at 32 tons.

The number of beneficiaries is estimated at 40,000 people. The data on the number of miners [500,000 people], taken as starting point, came from the MIA. The number of project beneficiaries was then estimated taking into consideration the average family size, and country specificities (geographic concentration of ASGM sites) with a balanced gender ratio.

#### **Ecuador**

Ecuador holds approximately 10% of the world's biodiversity and poor ASGM practices are considered a major threat to the country's sensitive ecosystems. Environmental pollution caused by ASGM also impacts downstream livelihoods and quality of life (e.g agricultural export products, water/food contamination) and has resulted in a trans-boundary pollution dispute with the Peruvian government. ASGM is estimated to account for 85% of Ecuador's national gold production and is thought to produce between 10 and 20 tonnes per year. The project would prioritize the mining areas in which most use of mercury has been identified in the National Action Plan (NAP) of Minamata. According to the Minamata NAP, 23.6 tons of gold were produced in Ecuador in 2018, of which 10.1 tons were recovered with amalgamation and released 29.6 tons of mercury into the environment.

While the previously GEF-funded Chemicals project in Ecuador (“PNGQ”) participated in planetGOLD, no funds were allocated to Ecuador within the framework of the planetGOLD programme and it carried out its activities through an informal relationship with planetGOLD . Under PNGQ, \$3 million was budgeted for mercury reduction, however this amount also included the reduction and sound management of mercury in products. Thus not all of PNGQ funds were allocated towards ASGM and in fact, the mercury reduction target for ASGM was only 2 MT. Furthermore, the PNGQ project was more limited in scope and only covered the southern part of the country and only hard rock mining. The GOLD+ project in Ecuador, on the other hand, will also cover alluvial mining and will be evenly distributed throughout the country. Furthermore, prices and costs in Ecuador are higher than in the rest of the region due to dollarization. The allocation for Ecuador is based on the high mercury reduction target that has been established. It should be Taking into account that Ecuador has established the second highest goal of mercury elimination, for which more resources will be required. Nonetheless, UNDP has taken note of the budget concerns and the project budget has been adjusted accordingly.

The GOLD+ Ecuador project will aim at reducing mercury by 10 metric tons by project completion. Taking into account a replication factor of 3, the total mercury reduction target is thus estimated at 30 tons. The number of beneficiaries is estimated at 9,000 people (4,500 men and 4,500 women).

### **Guinea**

While Guinea occupies a modest 10<sup>th</sup> rank as overall producer of gold in Africa, when ASGM alone is considered, it jumps to the second place. ASGM supports the livelihoods of more than 240,000 miners in Guinea. The vast majority of these miners are located in the north-eastern region of Kankan, an area close to the borders with Mali, Côte d’Ivoire and Sierra Leone. The recently completed NAP reports an annual consumption of 42 tons of mercury for a total gold production of 32 tons.

The GOLD+ Guinea project will aim at reducing mercury by 13 tons by project completion. Taking into account a replication factor of 3, the total mercury reduction target is thus estimated at 52 tons.

The number of beneficiaries is estimated at 40,000 people. The data on the number of miners [240,000 people], taken as starting point, came from the NAP. The number of project beneficiaries was then estimated taking into consideration the average family size, and country specificities (geographic concentration of ASGM sites) with a balanced gender ratio.

### **Mali**

Mali’s artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) sector is a vital source of livelihood for those living in rural and remote areas where alternatives are limited. Half a million people reportedly rely directly on ASGM activities, out of which 38% are women. However, these activities are often linked to negative environmental impacts. Mali produces 50 tons of gold annually from industrial mining and an estimated 26 tons from artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) operations. The use of chemicals in artisanal gold mining is substantial with a reported 33 tons of mercury entering the environment annually.

The total annual mercury use estimated in the National Action Plan in the country (2020) is 33 tons. The GOLD+ Mali project will aim at reducing mercury by 8 tons by project completion. Taking into account a replication factor of 3, the total mercury reduction target is thus estimated at 32 tons.

The number of beneficiaries is estimated at 11,600 people. The data on the number of miners [500,000 people], taken as starting point, came from the NAP. The number of project beneficiaries was then estimated taking into consideration the average family size, and country specificities (geographic concentration of ASGM sites) with a balanced gender ratio.

### **Nicaragua**

In 2019, Nicaragua exported \$ 509 million worth of gold, leading to economic stability and development. In 2020, gold was the first commodity exported by the country. While the industrial mining gold production reached approximately 8.5 tons, there were around 9 tons produced by artisanal and small-scale gold mining. ASGM is one of the main sources of income for approximately 40,000-60,000 people (including 15% women). The use of chemicals is common with

an estimated 3.52 tons of mercury used every year. However, information is limited and government sources indicate a wide range going from 1.5 tons official imports to estimated tens of tons of mercury use per year in ASGM.

The total annual mercury use estimated in the Global Mercury Assessment (GMA) is 3.5 tons/year. The GOLD+ Nicaragua project will aim at reducing mercury by a total of 3.5 tons by project completion. Taking into account a replication factor of 3, the total mercury reduction target is thus estimated at 14 tons.

The number of beneficiaries is estimated at 4,900 people. The data on the number of miners [40,000 people], taken as a starting point, came from the government. The number of project beneficiaries was then estimated taking into consideration the average family size, and country specificities (geographic concentration of ASGM sites) with a balanced gender ratio.

### **Sierra Leone**

The National Action Plan (NAP) for Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining (ASGM) in Sierra Leone estimates that the sector hosts 80,000 artisanal gold miners who produce an estimated 2.94 tons of gold annually. Estimates of mercury use in Sierra Leone's ASGM sector per year is .352 MT. In Sierra Leone, little attention has been paid to the ASGM sector, as national and international development efforts have largely focused on diamonds. The ASGM sector, which remains largely informal, has increasingly pressing environmental and health impacts that are of public concern. These include, among other things, the degradation of land, the contamination of water resources, contributions to deforestation, and the uncontrolled use of hazardous chemicals such as mercury. Interviewed mercury users reported buying mercury from Liberia, Guinea, Cote D'Ivoire, Ghana and Dubai. Sierra Leone's regional importance, transboundary mercury use and increasing ASGM related land degradation make it an important addition to the GEF GOLD + program. If the government's objective to eliminate mercury can be achieved during project implementation and using a replication factor of 3 for the reduction achieved after the project ends, the total mercury use reduction achieved by the project is 1.41 tons. There are indications that mercury use in Sierra Leone is on the rise recently, which would mean that higher long-term mercury use reductions can be achieved through the project.

### **Zambia**

Based on the information availed and using the UNEP ASGM Toolkit, the draft NAP reports for the formal ASGM sector a yearly use of .286 MT of mercury to recover about .143 MT of gold representing a 2:1 mercury to gold a ratio. ASGM activities in Zambia are largely informal and unlicensed with an estimated 98% of Zambia's 30,000 strong ASGM population falling into the informal category. However, recent discoveries of gold in numerous locations in the country are changing the landscape. The growth in ASGM gold production in Zambia led the government in the year 2020 to facilitate the purchase of more than 40 tons of gold from primary and secondary sources including ASGM. Although current mercury use estimates for the formal ASGM sector as reported in the draft NAP are low, Zambia has an emerging ASGM sector that needs policy guidance and management to minimize and eliminate mercury use. Using a replication factor of 3 for the reduction achieved after the project ends, the total mercury use reduction achieved by the project is 1.14 tons. There are indications that mercury use in Zambia is on the rise recently, which would mean that higher long-term mercury use reductions can be achieved through the project.

### **Contribution of the new Child Project(s) and the Global child project to the Program's objective and results:**

**Countries:** Seven additional Child Projects are being proposed including, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Nicaragua, Sierra Leone, Ecuador, and Zambia.

The additional child projects are intended to contribute to the GEF GOLD+ objective of reducing the use of mercury in the ASGM sector in the participating countries through a holistic, multi sectoral integrated formalization approach, and increasing access to finance leading to adoption of sustainable mercury free technologies and access to traceable gold supply chains. The additional child projects will increase the number of countries participating in GEF GOLD+ from 8 to 15, which brings the total number of GEF GOLD/ planetGOLD projects to 23.

The additional child projects will also provide unique opportunities to pilot landscape approaches around forested mining sites (forest smart mining) and surrounding watersheds that are rich in biodiversity. The diversity of national and sub-national circumstances across the 15 countries, including the ones that officially report a relative low use of mercury, will generate a wealth of experiences and lessons learned and will increase the possibilities for replication and

upscaling of successful models. The new countries will also provide opportunities to explore regional and transboundary approaches.

The private sector engagement will also be strengthened through the proposed additions. Refiners and other private sector stakeholders have expressed interest in partnering on initiatives in these countries. Additional information can be found in the individual concept notes.

**Global Child Project:** The GOLD+ program presents an opportunity to deepen mercury reduction in ASGM through a holistic approach to formalization and the Global child project is key to providing the technical support and scaling up the successes with required research, information, networking and knowledge exchange. The original PFD approved in June 2020 (GEF ID 10569) includes a global child project which aims to provide a mechanism for coordination and knowledge management across all child projects in the program.

The Global child project has two sub- components: 1) Knowledge management and communication 2) Coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the GEF GOLD+ program.

### **Knowledge Management**

With the addition of seven new countries there will be additional opportunities for lessons learned amongst participating countries. As the number of participating countries increase, strategic opportunities will need to be developed to manage the larger scope. Active mechanisms and tools such as the Program Advisory Group (PAG) and the planetGOLD platform will need to be expanded and revised to accommodate the increase in participating countries and stakeholders. The inclusion of additional countries will also encourage diversity amongst PAG members. More knowledge products will be generated, using the experiences of almost twice the number of countries as compared to the original GOLD+ submission. The Global Child Project will support all country-level child projects to pilot jurisdictional and landscape approaches via trainings, workshops, guidelines and other supporting documents. With the increased number of participating countries, the level of effort for support for on jurisdictional and landscape approaches will increase, as well as its scale and impact. The diversity of national circumstances across the 15 countries will generate a wealth of experiences and lessons learned and will increase the possibilities for replication and upscaling of successful models. There will also be unique regional and transboundary opportunities, such as regionally focused workshops and webinars.

### **Communications and Stakeholder Engagement**

This addendum will expand communication strategies across the program. The Global project will foster opportunities to draw on corporate partners (refiners, buyers, jewelers, etc.) to elevate planetGOLD initiatives and create new partnerships and campaigns to increase public awareness, leverage resources, create unique media opportunities and facilitate knowledge sharing. In addition to the projects broader communications work, the Global project will continue efforts of the planetGOLD Global Forum by organizing a two-yearly learning and sharing event that will facilitate face-to-face meetings between ASGM experts and practitioners, governments, gold buyers, miners and other stakeholders in support of ongoing exchange of experiences and development of global expertise and capacity building on ASGM issues, in order to influence the global ASGM dialogue agenda and policy development.

### **Coordination and Monitoring**

Analysis of the active planetGOLD projects have indicated an increasing need to provide guidance to country-level child projects to ensure achieving the goals of the program. Through stakeholder interviews, The PPG stage of GOLD+ has identified a set of common issues such as identifying core program indicators, uniform metrics and reporting and consistent monitoring and evaluation across the program. To ensure country level projects are adhering to program guidelines, there is a need for more in-depth coordination efforts, such as "on-boarding" training for executing agencies, etc.

These new aspects of the coordination, communications and knowledge management build on the initial set of activities linked to Program-level reporting, development of standardized communications materials and coordination at the programmatic level in core areas. The additional resources are linked to additional duties which will greatly enhance the overall coordination across all child projects, elevate programmatic communications and, the global sharing of information and knowledge across planetGOLD and the broader ASGM community. All of this will ensure that, as set out in the original PFD, the GEF GOLD+ Program equates to more than the sum of its parts.

To support the above activities and support the global coordination of an additional 7 country level projects, an increase of the project budget, from \$ 4,627,580 to 7,936,275 is proposed.

### **Revised Program Targets**

The proposed child projects are expected to increase the Program's core indicator targets for:

Reduction, disposal/destruction, phase out, elimination and avoidance of chemicals of global concern and their waste in the environment and in processes, materials and products (metric tons of toxic chemicals reduced)

517 metric tons of mercury reduced.

GEF GOLD +: 280 MT of mercury reduced.

GEF GOLD + Addendum: 237 MT of mercury reduced.

<b>Country</b>	<b>NAP Data (MT/yr)</b>	<b>MT of mercury reduced during project implementation</b>
Cote d'Ivoire	13*	8
Guinea	42	13
Mali	33	24
Sierra Leone	0.352	0.352
Zambia	0.286	0.286
Nicaragua	3.5*	3.5
Ecuador	29.6	10
<b>Total</b>		<b>59.138</b>
After project implementation (replication factor of 3)		<b>177.414</b>
<b>TOTAL (implementation + replication factor of 3)</b>		<b>236.552</b>

\*NAP not finalized.

**Explanation of targets:** The sum of mercury use reductions that will be achieved in the participating countries during the 5-year program implementation phase amounts to 59.1 metric tons. While the countries have a very specific ASGM related context, they also have in common a widespread distribution of ASGM sites over their territories. In line with the program's theory of change that is designed to remove barriers to access to finance and adoption of mercury-free technologies, to enhance formalization, and to share knowledge and lessons learned at the national and global level, mercury use reduction will be replicated after the program is finalized. A replication by a factor 3 is expected over the 10 years following completion of the program. This represents an additional 177.4 metric tons of mercury use reductions.

### **Gender**

As of 2019, an estimated 4.5 million women work in the ASGM sector globally. Despite women making up 30% of the global ASGM workforce, their contribution is undervalued. In many cases women's lack of inclusion in the sector leave them to perform dangerous tasks such as amalgamation and processing tailings. The inclusion of additional countries in West Africa, where a considerable number of miners are women, will allow for additional gender

focused strategies to be piloted at all stages of the ASMG sector from prospecting to mineral trading. A gender analysis and action plan will be carried out during the project preparatory phase to mainstream gender equality and women empowerment throughout the child projects and program. There will also be opportunities to investigate indigenous peoples engagement.

Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment.

202,500 (of which 50% women and 50% men)

GEF GOLD +: 69,500 beneficiaries

GEF GOLD + Addendum: 133,000 beneficiaries

### **Additional Co-benefits**

At this time, co-benefits do not have enough data to be listed as core indicators. While co-benefits are being considered, data is not yet available. For example, land degradation, and deforestation related implications cannot be accurately assessed until site selection has been confirmed. All potential co-benefits will be investigated during the PPG phase.

### **Challenges and Opportunities: COVID**

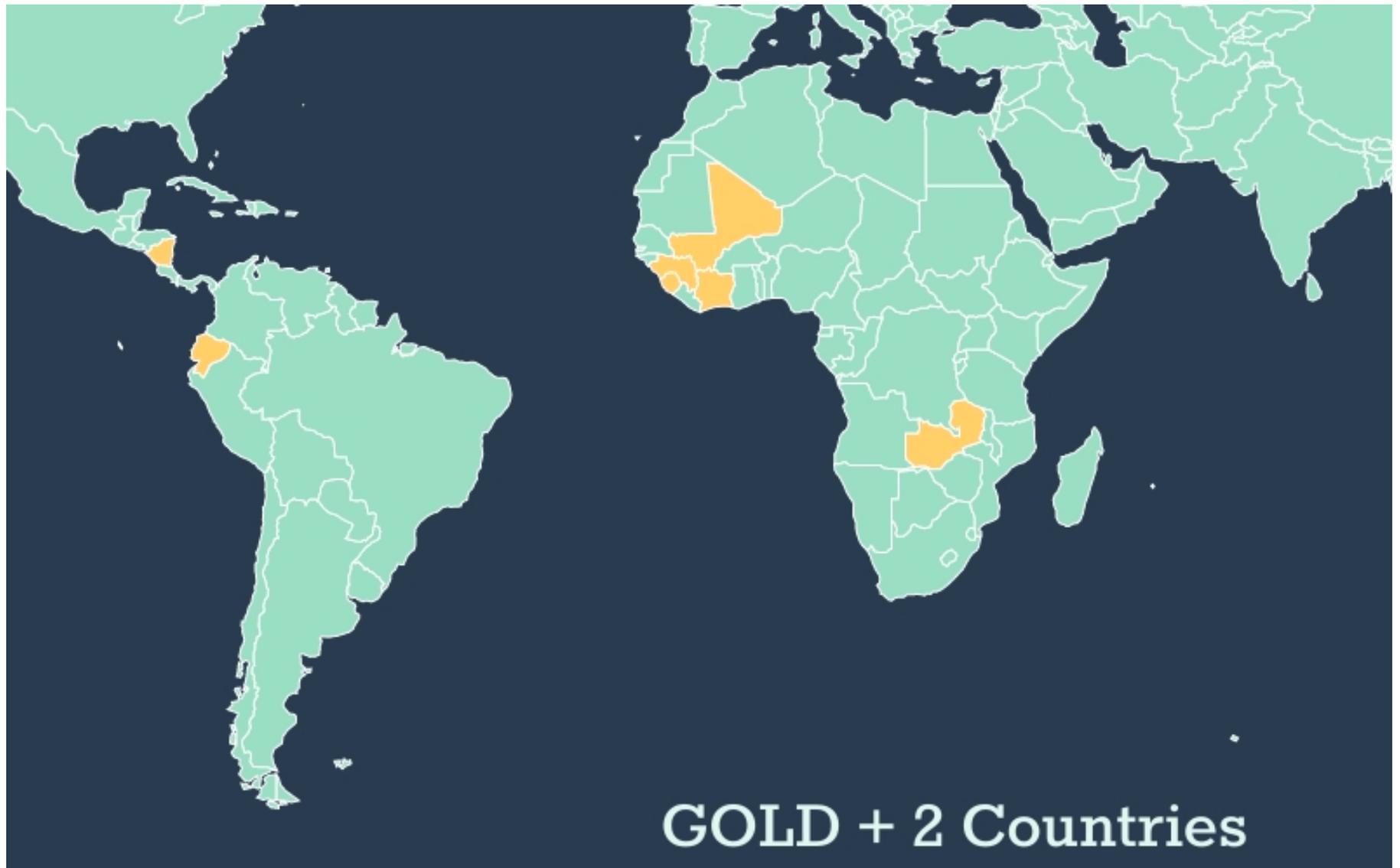
COVID19 has presented many challenges for the planetGOLD program. Active projects have been delayed due to government mandated shutdowns and limited access to project sites. Projects in development have also been impacted by shutdowns which has delayed inception workshops as well as site selection activities.

ASGM supply chains have also been impacted by COVID19. Restrictions of movement in country has made it difficult for miners to sell their gold to their usual buyers. Refiner's operations halted in early 2020, which caused an initial drop of the price of gold at many sites (less demand, less buyers). Prices recovered in some areas due to the activation of informal supply chains, including refining in non LBMA (London Bullion Market Association)-certified refiners in third countries. Most refiners have restarted operations, but the impacts of COVID19 are still causing problems today.

Even though there have been associated challenges with COVID19, there have also been opportunities. Implementing and executing agencies have adapted by hosting virtual inception workshops, virtually engaging partners on the ground and focusing efforts on project components that can be completed remotely. The time spent in preparation to return to field activities has contributed to increased planning and strategy around project outcomes. Once COVID restrictions are alleviated, there will be opportunities for in-person engagement such as aforementioned global fora, site visits, topical and regional workshops, etc. COVID implications will continue to be monitored throughout development and implementation to ensure that risks are being considered and adaptive measures are in place.

1b. Program Map and Coordinates

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the program interventions will take place.



## 2. Stakeholders

Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the program identification phase:

Civil Society Organizations Yes

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities

Private Sector Entities Yes

If none, please explain why:

In addition, provide indicative information on how stakeholders, including civil society and indigenous peoples, will be engaged in the program preparation, and their respective roles and means of engagement

### **Communications and Stakeholder Engagement**

This addendum will expand communication strategies across the program. The Global project will foster opportunities to draw on corporate partners (refiners, buyers, jewelers, etc.) to elevate planetGOLD initiatives and create new partnerships and campaigns to increase public awareness, leverage resources, create unique media opportunities and facilitate knowledge sharing. In addition to the projects broader communications work, the Global project will continue efforts of the planetGOLD Global Forum by organizing a two-yearly learning and sharing event that will facilitate face-to-face meetings between ASGM experts and practitioners, governments, gold buyers, miners and other stakeholders in support of ongoing exchange of experiences and development of global expertise and capacity building on ASGM issues, in order to influence the global ASGM dialogue agenda and policy development

### 3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Are gender dimensions relevant to the success of program? Yes

If yes, please provide indicative information on these dimensions and how these will be addressed in the program. If no, please explain why

Gender

As of 2019, an estimated 4.5 million women work in the ASGM sector globally. Despite women making up 30% of the global ASGM workforce, their contribution is undervalued. In many cases women's lack of inclusion in the sector leave them to perform dangerous tasks such as amalgamation and processing tailings. The inclusion of additional countries in West Africa, where a considerable number of miners are women, will allow for additional gender focused strategies to be piloted at all stages of the ASMG sector from prospecting to mineral trading. A gender analysis and action plan will be carried out during the project preparatory phase to mainstream gender equality and women empowerment throughout the child projects and program. There will also be opportunities to investigate indigenous peoples engagement.

- Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment.
- 202,500 (of which 50% women and 50% men)
- GEF GOLD +: 69,500 beneficiaries
- GEF GOLD + Addendum: 133,000 beneficiaries

In addition, please also indicate whether the program the program will include gender sensitive indicators in its result framework

#### 4. Private sector engagement

Will there be private sector engagement in the program?

Please briefly explain the rationale behind your answer.

## 5. Risks to Achieving Project Objectives

Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the Program objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the Program design (table format acceptable)

### **Challenges and Opportunities: COVID**

COVID19 has presented many challenges for the planetGOLD program. Active projects have been delayed due to government mandated shutdowns and limited access to project sites. Projects in development have also been impacted by shutdowns which has delayed inception workshops as well as site selection activities.

ASGM supply chains have also been impacted by COVID19. Restrictions of movement in country has made it difficult for miners to sell their gold to their usual buyers. Refiner's operations halted in early 2020, which caused an initial drop of the price of gold at many sites (less demand, less buyers). Prices recovered in some areas due to the activation of informal supply chains, including refining in non LBMA (London Bullion Market Association)-certified refiners in third countries. Most refiners have restarted operations, but the impacts of COVID19 are still causing problems today.

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## 6. Coordination

Outline the institutional structure of the program including monitoring and evaluation coordination at the program level. Describe possible coordination with other relevant GEF-financed programs and other initiatives.

### **Coordination and Monitoring**

Analysis of the active planetGOLD projects have indicated an increasing need to provide guidance to country-level child projects to ensure achieving the goals of the program. Through stakeholder interviews, The PPG stage of GOLD+ has identified a set of common issues such as identifying core program indicators, uniform metrics and reporting and consistent monitoring and evaluation across the program. To ensure country level projects are adhering to program guidelines, there is a need for more in-depth coordination efforts, such as "on-boarding" training for executing agencies, etc.

These new aspects of the coordination, communications and knowledge management build on the initial set of activities linked to Program-level reporting, development of standardized communications materials and coordination at the programmatic level in core areas. The additional resources are linked to additional duties which will greatly enhance the overall coordination across all child projects, elevate programmatic communications and, the global sharing of information and knowledge across planetGOLD and the broader ASGM community. All of this will ensure that, as set out in the original PFD, the GEF GOLD+ Program equates to more than the sum of its parts.

To support the above activities and support the global coordination of an additional 7 country level projects, an increase of the project budget, from \$ 4,627,580 to 7,936,275 is proposed.

## 7. Consistency with National Priorities

Is the Program consistent with the National strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions?

## 8. Knowledge Management

Outline the knowledge management approach for the Program, including, if any, plans for the Program to learn from other relevant Programs and initiatives, to assess and document in a user-friendly form, and share these experiences and expertise with relevant stakeholders.

### **Knowledge Management**

With the addition of seven new countries there will be additional opportunities for lessons learned amongst participating countries. As the number of participating countries increase, strategic opportunities will need to be developed to manage the larger scope. Active mechanisms and tools such as the Program Advisory Group (PAG) and the planetGOLD platform will need to be expanded and revised to accommodate the increase in participating countries and stakeholders. The inclusion of additional countries will also encourage diversity amongst PAG members. More knowledge products will be generated, using the experiences of almost twice the number of countries as compared to the original GOLD+ submission. The Global Child Project will support all country-level child projects to pilot jurisdictional and landscape approaches via trainings, workshops, guidelines and other supporting documents. With the increased number of participating countries, the level of effort for support for on jurisdictional and landscape approaches will increase, as well as its scale and impact. The diversity of national circumstances across the 15 countries will generate a wealth of experiences and lessons learned and will increase the possibilities for replication and upscaling of successful models. There will also be unique regional and transboundary opportunities, such as regionally focused workshops and webinars.

## 9. Child Program Selection Criteria

Outline the criteria used or to be used for child program selection and the contribution of each child program to program impact.

## 10. Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

Provide information on the identified environmental and social risks and potential impacts associated with the project/program based on your organization's ESS systems and procedures

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification\*

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Low			

### Measures to address identified risks and impacts

Provide preliminary information on the types and risk classifications/ratings of any identified environmental and social risks and potential impacts associated with the program (considering the GEF ESS Minimum Standards) and describe measures to address these risks.

At the PFD Phase, details of the activities of the Program are limited. However, information provided in the Preliminary Safeguard Screening Form suggest that the Program is likely to have minimal or no adverse environmental and social impacts hence is categorized as C. This categorization is subject to change during the PPG Phase when the Secondary Screening is conducted and more information on the activities becomes available. Also, the safeguards triggered and the corresponding mitigation measures will be determined during the PPG Phase.

### Supporting Documents

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title	Submitted
20210408 GOLD+ Zambia Safeguard Screening Report	
20210414 GOLD+ Sierra Leone Safeguard Screening Report	
Ecu GEF Checklist GEF GOLD+ 24 March 2021	
Pre-SESP - CHILD GOLD_ Ecuador March 10 2021	
GOLD+ Nicaragua ES screening	
GOLD+_SRIF_cote_divoire_10mar	
GOLD+_SRIF_guinea_10mar	
GEF GOLD+ Mali ES screening	

### Part III: Approval/Endorsement By GEF Operational Focal Point(S) And GEF Agency(ies)

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S): (Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter with this template).

Name	Position	Ministry	Date
Godwin Gondwe	Operational Focal Point	Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation, and Environmental Protection, Zambia	3/11/2020
Sheku Kanneh	Operational Focal Point	Environmental Protection Agency, Sierra Leone	7/15/2020
Kone Bakayoko	Operational Focal Point	Ministry of Economy and Finance, Cote d'Ivoire	4/8/2021
Ahmadou Toure	Operational Focal Point	Ministry of Environment Water and Forests, Guinea	4/14/2021
Javier Gutierrez Ramirez	Operational Focal Point, Vice Minister	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Nicaragua	3/1/2021
Jose Luis Naula	Operational Focal Point	Ministry of Environment and Water, Ecuador	4/19/2021
Amidou Goita	Operational Focal Point	Ministry of Environment, Mali	4/19/2021

**ANNEX A: LIST OF CHILD PROJECTS UNDER THE PROGRAM**

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Country Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
					Program Amount (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total c=a+b
CI	GET	Global-CI	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	2,812,391	53,115	3,065,506
UNEP	GET	Global-UNEP	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	496,304	4,667	540,972
UNEP	GET	Cote d'Ivoire	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	3,937,500	4,375	4,291,875
UNEP	GET	Guinea	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	5,302,000	77,180	5,779,180
CI	GET	Mali	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	2,026,250	82,363	2,208,613
UNIDO	GET	Mali	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	3,123,750	81,138	3,404,888
CI	GET	Sierra Leone	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	2,703,750	43,338	2,947,088
CI	GET	Zambia	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	2,703,750	43,338	2,947,088
UNIDO	GET	Nicaragua	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	3,380,000	04,200	3,684,200
UNDP	GET	Ecuador	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	4,000,000	60,000	4,360,000
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>					30,485,696	2,743,713	33,229,408

**ANNEX A1: Project Map and Geographic Coordinates**

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project intervention takes place

