UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Project Implementation Report

(1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024)

Project Title:	Strengthening the environmentally-sound management and final disposal of PCBs, in Paraguay
GEF ID:	*9357*
UNIDO ID:	*150368*
GEF Replenishment Cycle:	*GEF-6*
Country(ies):	*Paraguay*
Region:	*LAC - Latin America and Caribbean*
GEF Focal Area:	*Chemicals and Waste (CW)*
Integrated Approach Pilot (IAP) Programs[1]:	*NA*
Stand-alone / Child Project:	*Stand-alone*
Implementing Department/Division:	*TCS/CEG/RMC*
Co-Implementing Agency:	*NA*
Executing Agency(ies):	*Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADES)*
Project Type:	*Full-Sized Project (FSP)*
Project Duration:	*80 months*
Extension(s):	*1*
GEF Project Financing:	*USD 3,953,250*
Agency Fee:	*USD 375,559*
Co-financing Amount:	*USD 14,485,000*
Date of CEO Endorsement/Approval:	2/21/2018
UNIDO Approval Date:	3/25/2018
Actual Implementation Start:	4/16/2018
Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June 2022:	$ 2,957,959.73
Mid-term Review (MTR) Date:	5/30/2022
Original Project Completion Date:	3/9/2023
Project Completion Date as reported in FY23:	12/31/2024
Current SAP Completion Date:	12/31/2024
Expected Project Completion Date:	12/31/2025

[1] Only for **GEF-6 projects**, if applicable

Expected Terminal Evaluation (TE) Date:	12/31/2025
Expected Financial Closure Date:	12/31/2026
UNIDO Project Manager[2]:	Lamia Benabbas

I. Brief description of project and status overview

Project Objective

The project aims to protect human health and the environment through environmentally sound management and final disposal of PCB-containing equipment and wastes, in Paraguay.

Project Core Indicators		*Expected at Endorsement/Approval stage*
5	Increase in phase-out, disposal and reduction of releases of POPs, ODS, mercury and other chemicals of global concern	Disposal of at least 80,000 tons of POPs (PCBs, obsolete pesticides): 700 metric tons of PCBs

Baseline

Before the project, Paraguay lacked the regulatory framework, national technical capacity and awareness to properly address PCB-related problems, especially regarding the fire that took place in a transformer deposit at the National Electrical Administration (ANDE) in October 2015. Although some efforts were made to address PCB-related problems nationally, financial and technical assistance was needed to advance environmentally sound management (ESM) of PCBs, the regulatory framework, technical best practices and awareness that could minimize the negative environmental and health effects of inadequate PCB management. Without GEF-funding and technical assistance through UNIDO, it was unlikely that a long-term environmentally sound management system, including a final disposal system for PCBs would be established in Paraguay.

Before the project, Paraguay had been unable to develop and effectively implement an environmental management system (EMS) for PCBs, nor were they able to adopt the necessary regulatory framework and develop institutional capacity to monitor and control PCBs. Due to low technical capacity, a detailed PCB inventory could not be developed, nor analytical capacity built, therefore there was no significant improvement in the existing storage conditions and EMS of PCBs. Without this inventory, neither an appropriate ESM nor a technically and economically feasible disposal strategy could be set-up. GEF funding and UNIDO's technical assistance would successfully support these activities.

Before the project, the management of out-of-service equipment was not environmentally sound, and there was a lack of knowledge and information on technical standards and procedures for proper handling and storage of PCB contaminated equipment, oils and waste. In particular, the situation at ANDE's storage site in Laurelty was critical, due to lack of proper management of the transformers, and to the environmental problems that occurred after the fire in October 2015. This fire and the related exposure of PCBs posed additional risks to human and environmental health. In addition, it posed challenges (human resources, technical and knowledge challenges) to the safe handling of PCB-containing equipment, oil and waste. Without financial and technical support, an improved environmental situation was not likely.

In addition, the site in Boggiani - the only site (out of 27 national sites) for maintenance and repair activities for distribution transformers - faced serious problems in terms of infrastructure and management. Such concerns included the absence of analytical testing for the existence of PCBs, a lack of ESM

[2] Person responsible for report content

precautionary measures (e.g., transformers stored outdoors, no safety measures for surface and groundwater) and the overcapacity of the site. Similar scenarios were seen in Capiata and Ciudad del Este due to a lack of management procedures (e.g., no transformer classification, PCB tests, lack of environmental and health measures) and increased capacity following the fire in San Lorenzo.

Under this scenario, PCBs would continue to be released into the environment and cross-contamination would continue, causing potential environmental and human health risks, especially to workers, communities living near in-use and phase-out transformers, women and children. Occupational health and safety standards and awareness-raising material would not be available to help protect workers and the population living near to storage facilities from exposure to PCBs.

To sum up, without this GEF project, Paraguay would face serious challenges complying with Stockholm Convention requirements related to PCB management and disposal by 2028. Therefore, the risks of exposure to PCBs would pose serious environmental and health concerns within the country, especially for workers dealing with PCB-oil, PCB-contaminated equipment and PCB waste, as well as for the general public, and at the global level due to the POPs properties of PCBs.

Please refer to the explanatory note at the end of the document and select corresponding ratings for the current reporting period, i.e. FY24. Please also provide a short justification for the selected ratings for FY24.

In view of the GEF Secretariat's intent to start following the ability of projects to adopt the concept of adaptive management[3], Agencies are expected to closely monitor changes that occur from year to year and demonstrate that they are not simply implementing plans but modifying them in response to developments and circumstances or understanding. In order to facilitate with this assessment, please introduce the ratings as reported in the previous reporting cycle, i.e. FY23, in the last column.

Overall Ratings[4]	**FY24**	**FY23**
Global Environmental Objectives **(GEOs)** / Development Objectives **(DOs)** Rating	*Satisfactory (S)*	*Highly Satisfactory (HS)*
Despite a delay, activities started in this reporting period for Output 1.3.2. Additional PCB-contaminated equipment has been identified, widening the scope of services required. *This is the main activity of the project, as it relates to treatment and/or elimination PCB-containing equipment and waste; therefore, the one directly linked to global environmental objectives.* *Rating is lower than in FY23, reflecting the delay in the activities under Output 1.3.2.*		
Implementation Progress **(IP)** Rating	*Moderately Satisfactory (MS)*	*Satisfactory (S)*
*Due to the delay in the start of activities of treatment and/or elimination of PCB-containing equipment and waste (Output 1.3.2)**,** the foreseen project completion date is now 31.12.2025. Hence the lower rating than in FY23.*		
Overall **Risk** Rating	*Low Risk (L)*	*Low Risk (L)*
No change since FY23.		

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

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

II. Targeted results and progress to-date

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

Please fill in the below table or make a reference to any supporting documents that may be submitted as annexes to this report.

Project Strategy	KPIs/Indicators	Baseline	Target level	Progress in FY24
Component 1 – Environmentally sound management and final disposal of PCB-containing equipment, wastes and stockpiles				
Outcome 1.1: National PCB policy improved, capacity built, and knowledge and awareness increased				
Output 1.1.1: National PCB regulations are in line with international standards.	Number of national PCB regulation upgraded and approved.	Two PCB management regulations have been drafted and approved but are not being implemented by the environmental authority. The institution needs to have compliance control capacity enhanced.	The PCB policy and corresponding regulations are upgraded.	**In this reporting period:** Activities have been carried out to disseminate Resolution 138 and the regulations to be added to it. The proposed regulations are expected to be promulgated in the coming months.
Output 1.1.2: National PCB management Centre established to support PCBs owners to properly manage and dispose of PCBs and related wastes.	Number of companies implementing ESM plan for their PCB contaminated inventories.		SEAM has technical knowledge to support the electricity centre with ESM of PCB management.	**No new activities in this reporting period.**
Output 1.1.3: National data system set and analytical services strengthened to fully support the inventory development and management of PCBs and related wastes, in line with international standards and best practices.	PCB database linked to univocal code in PCB labels.		The PCB national database up and running.	**In this reporting period:** The adjustments recommended by the Project's GARPCB System users and UNITAR have been completed. The system will be definitively integrated into the Environmental Information System (SIAM) in 2024.
Output 1.1.4: Hazmat and risk management trainings conducted and awareness raised to reduced exposure of workers and the general public to PCB and related toxic wastes	Number of people trained (male/ female). Number of specific training related to gender issues (male/ female).		# At least 50 people trained on Hazmat (40% women, 60% men). # At least one specific training to address gender concerns along the PCB management cycle. # At least 50 participants (80 % women/ 20 % men) at the specific gender training.	**In this reporting period:** In February 2024, the PCB Emergency Protocol, drafted and approved by the first responders in 2019, was disseminated The events were attended by first responders and other parties directly related to PCB management in Paraguay. Purchase of PCB emergency equipment (HazMat) to be donated to first responders. The equipment already purchased includes: Chemical protection equipment Type A and B, an Eductor, Nitrile gloves, Tyvek suit, Safety glasses, Absorbent cloths, Red bags, Half face mask, and an Absorbent barrier.
Outcome 1.2: National PCB management plans ready for smooth ESM and disposal of PCB-containing equipment and waste				
Output 1.2.1: Inventory of at least 10,000 PCB-containing equipment units and PCB wastes carried out, including sampling in oil and soils and with sound analytical methodologies.	No. of transformers properly labelled and tested.		# Sampling and analysis of at least 10,000 transformers.	**In this reporting period:** 82 oil samples have been analyzed by GC due to positive screening of which 4 samples have been confirmed. 250 burned equipment have been weighed and deposited and the new

				waste generated in Laboratories has reached a total of 630 kilograms.
Output 1.2.2 ESM and disposal plan for PCBs developed, including cost-effective disposal options.	No. of PCB stakeholders with PCB management Plans integrated into The national PCB management plan.		A functional and long-term system for the ESM management of PCB developed.	**In this reporting period:** Training activities in PCB Management were carried out, with an international expert. Resolution No. 226 approving the guidelines and manuals that were prepared within the framework of the project has been enacted.
Output 1.2.3: Assessment of PCB/u-POPs pollution due to fire at ANDE PCB-storage facilities.	# Assessment of the PCB/u-POPs pollution.		Assessment of the PCB storage place at the San Lorenzo site finalized.	**No new activities in this reporting period.**
Outcome 1.3: ESM and disposal of PCB-containing equipment and wastes				
Output 1.3.1: Current PCB interim storage facilities upgraded and operational	# Number of interim storage facilities upgraded.		At least one temporary storage facility upgraded for the storage, packaging and transportation of PCBs.	**No new activities in this reporting period.**
Output 1.3.2: At least 700 metric tonnes of PCB-containing equipment and waste disposed of and/ or decontaminated.	# Quantity of PCB contaminated equipment, oils and waste eliminated (metric tonnes). # Quantity of PCB contaminated equipment, oils and waste safeguarded (metric tonnes). # Number of jobs created (male/ female). # Materials recycled (tonnes). # Commercial value of materials recycled (USD).		# 700 tonnes of PCB-Containing transformers identified, removed, packed, exported and eliminated in an environmentally sound manner and according to the Chemicals and Waste Conventions. # 5 staff concerned with environmental concepts working in the electricity field (40% women and 60% men).	**In this reporting period:** The bidding process for the treatment and/or elimination of 380 tons of PCB-containing equipment and waste has been completed and awarded to Greenway. Periodic meetings are being held with all parties involved in the treatment / elimination process to monitor the progress of the activities prior to the field work. An agreement has been signed between ANDE and MADES to carry out the decontamination and preparation for disposal work at the Laurelty site, San Lorenzo. The adjustment of the Environmental Management Plan for decontamination and disposal activities was approved in June by the Ministry (MADES) to allow activities on ANDE's site (local treatment). The Basel Notification number for export of contaminated equipment as waste was requested (international treatment).

III. Project Risk Management

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

	(i) Risks at CEO stage	(i) Risk level FY 22	(i) Risk level FY 23	(i) Mitigation measures	(ii) Progress to-date	New defined risk[5]
1	Private owners would not report their PCB-containing equipment and wastes.	Low risk (L)	Low risk (L)	The existing regulatory framework will be upgraded to require the reporting of PCBs and on-site institutional inspections will be required. Private enterprises will be informed about their obligations under the law. GEF funded disposal and treatment of PCB wastes and potential recovery of	The framework of the environmental impact assessment now requires continuous reporting from the private sector to MADES, through the PCB Information System. With the promulgation and dissemination of Resolution 138, more participation of	

[5] New risk added in reporting period. Check only if applicable.

				valued metals and mineral oil would help in overcoming PCB owners' reluctance to cooperate with the project.	the private sector has been achieved in terms of reporting data and management plans.	
2	Technical staff, participating in the project implementation, and, in particular, having contact with PCB-contaminated equipment will be excessively exposed to PCB harmful influence.	Low risk (L)	Low risk (L)	The technical staff will be trained on proper handling of PCB wastes and equipment. Relevant guidelines will be developed or adjusted and introduced at the technical project facilities and for the transportation teams. Protective clothes and equipment will be provided to the technical staff. Places for PCB-waste storage will be properly guarded to prevent admittance for non-authorised staff.	Inventory work was carried out by technicians (MADES and ANDE) trained in PCB. PCB management guidelines have been written and disseminated and training events have been held. The guides have been approved and published in accordance with MADES Resolution 226/2024. PPE has been purchased for field work and analysis. Training events for all public were carried out for the correct sampling procedure in different containers.	
3	Contamination of the environment during transport / handling of the PCB-containing equipment. There is a danger that some PCB-wastes could be disposed of illegally at unauthorized places, thus increasing environmental pollution and creating new "hot spots".	Low risk (L)	Low risk (L)	The in-depth inventory will record locations, volumes, weights and other conditions of PCB-containing equipment and wastes. The project management team and the environmental authorities will be able to follow the disposal paths of the equipment and wastes until safe disposal.	Reports of the screening results are delivered to the owners of equipment and waste where those that contain a concentration of 50 ppm or higher are indicated for labelling. In view of the positive results, MADES requires holders to prepare and subsequently approve Management Plans within the framework of the Environmental Impact Assessment Law. Owners who must move equipment, oil and/or waste must have approval for the transfer.	
4	Climate Change Risks might include unexpected weather events that disrupt the project processes on sites, causing further contamination.	Low risk (L)	Low risk (L)	Mitigation and upscaling measures will be taken at the storage facilities to reduce the risks associated with extreme weather events.	A guide has been developed for the proper storage of equipment and waste.	

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

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

Due to delays with Output 1.3.2, it is considered necessary to extend the project timeline and adjust the original work plan. The adjustment of the EMP has been approved by the Ministry only in June 2024 and therefore the onsite works (at San Lorenzo) could not start in the reporting period. Similarly, the Basel Convention notification number could not be obtained. *In May 2024, additional quantities of PCB-contaminated equipment were identified, requiring procurement of additional decontamination services, which could not be completed in the reporting period.* *A one-year project extension would provide the necessary time to ensure completion of the activities given the widening of the scope and the delays.*

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

The overall project rating of the MTR was **Satisfactory**. The main findings and recommendations are:

MADES has invested efforts and resources to manage the PCB project with a long-term vision, but, due to some external factors, the PCB management strategy was not fully defined. Among these factors are: (i) the signature of the decree at the Presidential level, (ii) the degree of participation of private PCB owners.

- The new regulations have been promulgated in 2023 and with it the participation of the private sector has increased, mainly in reports to the SIAM on the amount of equipment and their respective analysis.

The active participation of ANDE has contributed positively to the project; for example, the coordination with the PMU facilitated the data collection from the field, despite COVID restrictions.

- The framework agreement between ANDE and MADES has been renewed, which includes a specific agreement for the use of ANDE facilities in decontamination and preparation work for elimination.

During the project analysis, some opportunities for improvement are identified; for example:

(i) Due to COVID restrictions, PCB disposal and inventory activities were delayed; analysis and critical path milestones were not identified in the planning tools; this information is needed to inform stakeholders if the extension of the project is a real option.
(ii) Inventory activities have been completed successfully.
(iii) Monitoring can be more holistic; for example, there is no centralized and updated information system for the resources that were committed in the co-financing letters. This information would identify opportunities to improve stakeholder participation.

- The Project reports monthly to MADES on the progress in the execution of technical and financial activities. The format used is that indicated by MADES to all projects in execution.

(iv) Lessons learned and good practices that contribute to adaptive management are not documented in an iterative manner.

The National Coordination and the PMU team have solved the abovementioned limitations of the scope and time through recursive actions and coordination with the project's main actors.

IV. Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

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

☐ Category A project

☒ **Category B project**

☐ Category C project

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

Please expand the table as needed.

	E&S risk	Mitigation measures undertaken during the reporting period	Monitoring methods and procedures used in the reporting period
(i) Risks identified in ESMP at time of CEO Endorsement	Contamination of soil from spills of PCBs and hazardous chemicals at the	A guide (manual) - previously developed - serves as guidance for the proper storage of equipment and	All sampling teams have a supervisor who monitors the process.

	Sampling, Transient Storage and Treatment / Disposal stages	waste. For the sampling, the necessary elements have been provided to contain spills, contemplated in the guide for sampling.	
	Contamination of soil by fires Contamination of soil by fires of equipment and materials contaminated with PCBs in the Sampling, Transient Storage and Treatment / Elimination stages Equipment and materials contaminated with PCBs in the Sampling, Transient Storage and Treatment / Elimination stages.	For the sampling, the necessary elements have been provided to contain spills, contemplated in the Guide for sampling. A guide was developed for the proper storage of equipment and waste.	All sampling teams have a supervisor who monitors the process.
	Contamination of groundwater by spills in the Sampling, Transient Storage and Treatment / Disposal stages.	A guide has been developed for the proper storage of equipment and waste. For the sampling, the necessary elements have been provided to contain spills, contemplated in the Guide for sampling.	All sampling teams have a supervisor who monitors the process.
	Contamination of groundwater by fires in the stages of Transient Storage and Treatment / Elimination.	A guide has been developed for the proper storage of equipment and waste.	All sampling teams have a supervisor who monitors the process
	Air pollution by fires in the stages of Transient Storage and Treatment / Elimination.	A guide has been developed for the proper storage of equipment and waste.	All sampling teams have a supervisor who monitors the process
(ii) New risks identified during project implementation (if not applicable, please insert 'NA' in each box)	NA	NA	NA

V. Stakeholder Engagement

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

In this reporting period, an inter-institutional agreement has been signed between ANDE and MADES for joint work in the San Lorenzo facilities (i.e., Administración Nacional de Electricidad (ANDE) to facilitate the final disposal of PCB-contaminated equipment, oils, and waste (the main activity of the project).

The Itaipu Binational entity had previously joined the decontamination and/or elimination activities. In this

reporting period, the transportation of the oil to be treated in San Lorenzo is being coordinated with ANDE.

Private and academic sector laboratories participate in training activities and planning meetings. The main challenge continues to be reducing costs in the analysis processes, since demand is still low. Companies in the private and academic sectors are showing interest in certifying screening analysis as well as sampling of online and offline equipment, including already accredited laboratories.

During the training events to facilitate the socialization and application of the incident command system in PCB emergency protocols, we have worked in coordination with the National Emergency Secretariat, USAID, the Ministry of National Defense, the Paraguayan Air Force, in addition to the contribution during the activities of the Fire Brigades and other parties involved.

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

PCB management workshop

During the workshop, specialized guides were shared on PCB transitory storage, dielectric oil sampling, and best practices in the import, manufacture, maintenance, and repair of equipment. Participants included representatives from the manufacturing and maintenance sectors of equipment with dielectric oil, laboratories accredited in PCB analysis, the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, the Ministry of National Defense, Itaipu Binational Entity, Yacyreta Binational Entity, ANDE, and MADES.Apart from consultations on these topics, there was an exchange of experiences among participants, who expressed high satisfaction with the event and the materials provided. They also requested more events at this level on similar topics.

HAZMAT workshop

Following activities related to the PCB emergency protocol, a survey showed that participants were very satisfied with the workshop, highlighting both the content and organization. As in previous events, there was a strong desire for additional training on this topic, with participation anticipated from other sectors such as fire departments, the health sector, military forces, and national emergency agencies.

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

9357_Project Steering Committee Meeting_Paraguay

9357_Meeting_Minutes 2023-2024_Paraguay.pdf

9357_ Res 226-24 Guias PCB_Paraguay.pdf

9357_GUIAS ACTUALIZADAS_Paraguay.zip

VI. Gender Mainstreaming

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

The project makes special effort to ensure at least 50% participation of women in all trainings, dialogues and planning events. Data show women participation is usually above 50% of the total of participants.

In all trainings and meetings, participant lists are disaggregated by gender.

VII. Knowledge Management and Communication

1. Using the previous reporting period as a basis, please elaborate on any **knowledge management and communication activities / products**, as documented at CEO Endorsement / Approval.

Different training activities have been carried out on PCB management, the legal framework, and HAZMAT.

Training activities have been aimed at members of the Technical Support Committee, stakeholders, environmental consultants, importers of oil and equipment, manufacturers, and transformer maintenance and repair workshops.

The main knowledge management activities / products **in this reporting period** fall under output 1.1.4 and 1.2.2:

- Dissemination and training in PCB emergency protocols, including desk and field drills.
- Dissemination and training in PCB management, following the guidelines of the protocols and manuals on: GAR-PCB Sampling Guide; GAR-PCB storage guide; GAR-PCB Guide for Importers, Manufacturers and Workshops.

Training activities in PCB Management and HAZMAT were carried out in coordination with national and international experts.

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

Websites:

- http://www.mades.gov.py/proyectos/proyecto-gar-pcb-paraguay/
- https://www.mades.gov.py/informacion-gar-pcb/

VIII. Implementation progress

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

- **Output 1.1.1: Development of the national regulatory and normative framework on PCBs**: Activities have been carried out to disseminate Resolution 138 and the regulations to be added to it. The proposed regulations are expected to be promulgated in the coming months.
- **Output 1.1.4: Hazmat and risk management training:** In February 2024, the PCB Emergency Protocol, drafted and approved by the first responders in 2019, was disseminated. The purchase of emergency equipment with PCBs to be donated to first responders has been carried out.
- **Output 1.2.2: ESM and disposal plan for PCBs developed, including cost- effective disposal options:** Training activities in PCB Management were carried out. Resolution No. 226 approving the guidelines and manuals prepared within the framework of the project has been promulgated.
- **Output 1.3.2: PCB-containing equipment and waste disposed of and/ or decontaminated**: The bidding process for the elimination of PCBs has been completed and awarded to Greenway. An agreement has been signed between ANDE and MADES to carry out the decontamination and preparation for disposal work at the Laurelty site. The Environmental Management Plan for decontamination and disposal activities was approved in June by MADES.

2. Please briefly elaborate on any **minor amendments**[6] to the approved project that may have been introduced during the implementation period or indicate as not applicable (NA).

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

☐	Results Framework	
☐	Components and Cost	

[6] As described in Annex 9 of the *GEF Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines*, **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%.

☐	Institutional and Implementation Arrangements	
☐	Financial Management	
☒	Implementation Schedule	*An extension request is likely to be submitted to the GEF. Therefore, while the current SAP Completion Date is 12/31/2024, the Expected Project Completion Date is a year later 12/31/2025.*
☐	Executing Entity	
☐	Executing Entity Category	
☐	Minor Project Objective Change	
☐	Safeguards	
☐	Risk Analysis	
☐	Increase of GEF Project Financing Up to 5%	
☐	Co-Financing	
☐	Location of Project Activities	
☐	Others	

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

As of 30 June 2024, UNIDO has implemented:

- **Total to date: USD 3,416,465.90**
- **This reporting period: USD 2,023,483.40**

1. **International and National Consultants.** To carry out the coordination, execution and monitoring of the activities planned in the Project, in addition to the support of experts in the areas of legal framework, HAZMAT and management of PCBs (BL11+BL17).
  - Total to date: USD 640,506.70
  - This reporting period: USD 178,898.06

2. **Travel** (BL 15).
  - Total to date: USD 31,012.64
  - This reporting period: USD 6,312.15

3. **Subcontract** (BL21):
  - Total to date: USD 2,244,833.72
  - This reporting period: USD 1,481,776.56

3.a UNIDO made 7 disbursements to the Centro de Estudios Ambientales y Sociales (CEAMSO) according to the contract signed. The total disbursement to date is USD 476,998.20. The main expenditures of CEAMSO *during the reporting period* (1 July 2023 to 30 June 3024) were:

- National Consultants: USD 44,981.30
- Train / Workshops: USD 8,711.68
- Data base / Document diagramming: USD 6,014.88
- Local travel: USD 1,275.351

3.b UNIDO made 4 disbursements to UNITAR according to the contract signed. The total disbursement to date is USD 161,552.

4. **Train / fellowship / study** (BL 30)
- Total to date: USD 8,586.27
- Total reporting period: USD 0

5. **International Meetings** (BL 35)
- Total to date: USD 1,518.21
- Total reporting period: USD 0

6. **Equipment**: This Budget line was mainly for the Laboratory analysis (screening and chromatography) of PCBs (BL45).
- Total to date: USD 152,743.95.
- This reporting period: USD 70,433.09

7. **Other Direct Costs** were incurred for payments for specific project services (BL51).
- Total to date: USD 64,844.51
- This reporting period: USD 5,057.37

IX. Work Plan and Budget

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

Outputs by Project Component	2023				2024				GEF Grant Budget Available (US$)
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Output 1.1.1: National PCB regulations are in line with international standards									0
Output 1.1.2: National PCB management Centre established to support PCB owners to properly manage and dispose of PCBs and related wastes									0
Output 1.1.3: National data system set and analytical services strengthened to fully support inventory and management of PCBs and related wastes, in line with international standards and best practices									0
Output 1.1.4: Hazmat and risk management trainings conducted and awareness raised to reduce exposure to workers and the general public to PCB and related toxic wastes									52,800.88
Output 1.2.1: Inventory of at least 10,000 PCB-containing equipment units and PCB wastes carried out, including sampling in oil and soils and with sound analytical methodologies									0
Output 1.2.2: ESM and disposal plan for PCBs developed, including cost- effective disposal options									78,140.57
Output 1.2.3: Assessment of PCB/u-POPs pollution due to fire on ANDE PCB-storage facilities									0
Output 1.3.1: Current PCB interim storage facilities upgraded and operational									
Output 1.3.2: At least 700 metric tonnes of PCB-containing equipment and waste disposed of and/or decontaminated									599,984.12
Output 150368-1-53-01: Monitoring and Evaluation (including terminal evaluation)									99,161.65
150368-1-51-01 – Project Management:									-12,296.95

X. Synergies

1. **Synergies** achieved:

N/A

3. Stories to be shared (Optional)

N/A

XI. 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 and Activity Description
Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADES), *Paraguay*	*-25.2644253*	*-57.5505513*		Project office
Substation ANDE Laurelty, Paraguay	-25.3213887	-57.5118543		PCB special deposits

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

EXPLANATORY NOTE

1. **Timing & duration:** Each report covers a twelve-month period, i.e. 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024.

2. **Responsibility:** The responsibility for preparing the report lies with the project manager in consultation with the Division Chief and Director.

3. **Evaluation:** For the report to be used effectively as a tool for annual self-evaluation, project counterparts need to be fully involved. The (main) counterpart can provide any additional information considered essential, including a simple rating of project progress.

4. **Results-based management**: The annual project/programme progress reports are required by the RBM programme component focal points to obtain information on outcomes observed.

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

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

Risk ratings	
Risk ratings will access the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risk of projects should be rated on the following scale:	
High Risk (H)	There is a probability of greater than **75%** that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.
Substantial Risk (S)	There is a probability of between **51%** and **75%** that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face substantial risks.
Moderate Risk (M)	There is a probability of between **26%** and **50%** that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only moderate risk.
Low Risk (L)	There is a probability of up to **25%** that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only low risks.