

Project Implementation Report

(1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021)

Project Title:	Development and Implementation of a Sustainable Management Mechanism for Persistent Organic Pollutants in the Caribbean
GEF ID:	5558
UNIDO ID:	150049
GEF Replenishment Cycle:	GEF-5
Country(ies):	Regional - Antigua and Barbuda (ANU), Barbados (BDOS), Belize (BZE), Saint Kitts and Nevis (SKN), Saint Lucia (SLU), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG), Suriname(SUR), Trinidad and Tobago (TT)
Region:	LAC – Latin America and Caribbean
GEF Focal Area:	Chemicals and Waste (CW), Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)
Integrated Approach Pilot (IAP) Programs¹:	Not applicable
Stand-alone / Child Project:	Stand-alone
Implementing Department/Division:	ENV/IPM
Co-Implementing Agency:	Not applicable
Executing Agency(ies):	Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Caribbean (BCRC-Caribbean)
Other Project Partners:	Not applicable
Project Type:	Full-Sized Project (FSP)
Project Duration (months):	60+18
Extension(s):	1
GEF Project Financing:	USD 8,839,000
Agency Fee:	USD 839,706
Co-financing Amount:	USD 21,124,103
Date of CEO Endorsement/Approval:	05-27-2015
Actual Implementation Start:	08/10/2015

¹ Only for GEF-6 projects, if applicable

Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June 2021:	USD 6,714,813
(Actual) Mid-term Review Date (MTR):	08-13-2019
Expected Completion Date:	05-31-2022
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date (TE):	06-30-2022
Expected Financial Closure Date:	12-31-2022
UNIDO Project Manager²:	Alfredo Cueva

I. Brief description of project

Project Objective
<p>The project objective is to enable the Caribbean Region to reduce and/or eliminate the threat of POPs through the following four (4) components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Creating the enabling regional mechanisms for effective implementation of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs); ii. Reducing UPOPs emissions by improving poor waste management practices at landfills; iii. Assessing the potentially contaminated sites to determine the level of soil and groundwater contamination by POPs and developing appropriate remediation strategies; and, iv. Developing management and disposal plans for PCBs. <p>The project also includes monitoring and evaluation. The main targeted results under the four main components of this project include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updated NIPs for eight countries, drafted legislation to guide national chemical management in eight (8) countries, a regional database on chemicals established, training of trainers conducted on the management of POPs and the implementation of the SC on five (5) thematic areas in eight countries and a communications strategy implemented in eight (8) countries. 2. Improved waste management practices at landfills through training in five (5) countries and hazardous waste storage facilities designed for three (3) countries. Additionally, waste management strategies demonstrated in Belize and Suriname. 3. Contaminated sites (1-5) prioritised in eight (8) countries and remediation demonstrated at one site; and 4. PCB managed and disposed in four (4) project countries. <p>GEF-5 project: POPs-tracking tool is enclosed.</p>

Baseline
<p>The sound management of chemicals and hazardous wastes is a recognised challenge in the Caribbean region, due to its social, economic, and environmental implications. Participating countries face a number of challenges in meeting their obligations under the Stockholm Convention, including the need to update their NIPs (current NIPs only address the original 'dirty dozen'), a lack of domestic legislation to enforce POPs management measures, a lack of ESM and disposal capacity, a lack of public awareness, and inefficient landfill management associated with poor separation and hazardous storage. Additionally, there is a lack of resources to adequately manage and dispose of obsolete POPs-containing material and equipment. There are some initiatives to address sound chemical and waste management regionally,</p>

² Person responsible for report content

including those led by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) (Technical Assistance for Pesticides Management to Caribbean Countries) and funded by the European Commission, as well as national activities executed under the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) Quick Start Programme (QSP) across the region. Also, several regional capacity-building workshops on the sound management of chemicals and wastes have been executed. In particular, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States has been modernizing waste management systems since 1997, when its six countries invested in modern engineered sanitary landfills which now require upgrade and/or expansion. Finally, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia and Antigua and Barbuda are considering waste segregation to improve recycling and conduct waste to energy conversion. These initiatives would help reduce UPOPs generation due to landfill fires and the overall carbon footprint by reducing dependence on fossil fuels for energy.

Overall Ratings ³	
Global Environmental Objectives (GEOs) / Development Objectives (DOs) Rating	Satisfactory (S)
Implementation Progress (IP) Rating	Satisfactory (S)
Overall Risk Rating	Low Risk (L)

II. Targeted results and progress to-date

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

Project Strategy	KPIs/Indicators	Baseline	Target level	Progress to-date
Component 1 – CREATE THE ENABLING MECHANISMS IN THE CARIBBEAN FOR EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION ON POPS.				
Outcome 1: Enabling mechanism for effective implementation of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants created.				
Output 1.1: National Implementation Plans (NIPs) updated.	Updated NIPs submitted to Cabinets of the participating countries.	Most of the NIPs require updating including the inventories for new POPs	8 updated NIPs to reflect the needs of the countries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated NIPs for seven (7) countries completed. Updated NIP for BDOS currently being finalized. Of the seven (7) completed, four (4) countries – SKN, SLU, SUR and TT - submitted to the BRS Secretariat, with ANU preparing for submission (June 2021) and BZE which has received national endorsement (June, 2021) and preparing to also submit the two (2) other countries at national endorsement stage.
Output 1.2: Sound chemicals management mainstreamed into	Technical regulations, standards and norms are	No country in the Caribbean Region has a comprehensive	POPs related legislations are fully in-line with the	The Regional Integrated Chemicals Management Model Act was drafted in October 2018 and provided to the eight

³ Please refer to the explanatory note at the end of the document

national policies and plans.	developed and adopted.	regulatory system in place for chemicals	requirements of the SC.	countries for their determined customization or wholesale adoption. Government decision making on the adaptation or implementation of the Model Act in their countries is ongoing. SLU is in the process of hiring a legal expert to look at harmonisation of existing legislation for chemicals management with the Regional Integrated Chemicals Management Model Act.
			Legal infrastructure for hazardous waste management is drafted and submitted for cabinet approval.	National Roadmaps developed (October 2018) for implementation of legislative reform in all countries. Implementation is Government dependent.
	Number of trained trainers (women/men).	Staff has not been trained on the obligations of the Stockholm Convention in the region. There is a lack of appropriate legal infrastructure and enforcement for environmentally sound hazardous waste management in the participating countries.	At least eight (8) trainers trained.	Training targets across eight (8) countries: were met with at least sixteen (16) persons being involved throughout the gap analysis and legislation development working hand in hand with the consultants
	Number of trainings conducted.		At least five (5) trainings conducted. Number of training participants/trainees (male/female).	Five (5) regional training sessions based on the Training Needs Assessment conducted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One (1) train-the-trainer session conducted in May 2018 on ESM and Disposal of POPs (10 male/7 female) • One (1) train-the-trainer session conducted in March 2019 on Analytical Methods/Sampling Screening and Testing (BAT/BEP) (13 male/19 female) • One (1) train-the-trainer session conducted in March 2019 on Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment of POPs (11 male/21 female) • One (1) training activity conducted in January 2020 on The Reporting Requirements of the Stockholm Convention Article 15 requirements (23 females 8 males) • One (1) training activity conducted in November/

				<p>December 2020 on Detection, Identification, and Classification of POPs to Border Control Agencies (93 females 86 males over the four (4) training days)</p> <p>At least 2 professionals from each project country were trained during each session thus far.</p>
	Number of trained Inspectors in the countries.		<p>At least two (2) inspectors at enforcement authorities are trained in each country for efficient implementation of the hazardous waste related legislations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Inspectors of Chemicals and Sampling developed (November 2018) and provided in cohesion with the Regional Integrated Chemicals Management Act. • SOPs considered in the development of 2 (two) thematic areas (Analytical Methods/Sampling Screening and Testing (BAT/BEP) of POPs and Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment of POPs). • SOPs presented in the training on Detection, Identification, and Classification of POPs to Border Control Agencies (November/ December 2020). • At least 2 professionals from each project country were trained during each session thus far.
	Number of tool kit for site inspection procedures for hazardous waste management enterprises		<p>One (1) tool kit for site inspection procedures for hazardous waste management enterprises.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOPs developed (November 2018) for inspectors of chemicals for inspection of facilities and sampling. • Further input into the Toolkit will come from the outputs of Component 2.1.
	Number of trained environmental specialists in POPs inventories		<p>Eight (8) trained environmental specialists in POPs inventories.</p>	<p>Accomplished through the Regional (November 2016) and National (1Q 2017) POPs Inventory training and use of local representatives to conduct the Inventories under the guidance of the International</p>

				POPs expert. At least sixteen (16) persons were trained.
	Number of men/women trained.		At least 40% of the trained specialists are female.	Based on NIP Update/POPs Inventories and 5 Regional training workshops on thematic the average participation by women was 60%.
	Number of laboratories strengthened.		One regional laboratory for POPs analysis strengthened.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional laboratory needs were identified as part of the Training Needs Assessment (1Q and 2Q 2018). The labs were identified. Laboratory personnel trained as part of Thematic Area 4 – Analytical Methods (March 2019). Analytical Capabilities Assessment reports (ANU, SLU, BZE, SUR) under Component 4 were developed and submitted to UNIDO on March 31, 2021. Procurement of lab equipment is ongoing.
	Gender sensitive media products developed.	Whilst there is general awareness of pesticides there has been no focus on other POPs.	POPs, UPOPs are integrated into general, gender sensitive public awareness campaigns.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Documentation developed. Gender considerations are included in the Regional POPs Communications Strategy. PA/PE products developed for regional and national use. Referred to Gender Policies from UNDP, GEF, UNIDO. Distribution of materials and products currently ongoing.
	No of pesticides/POPs week activities per country.		At least one (1) public awareness workshop are conducted in each country.	National workshops on public awareness conducted in October/November 2019 following the circulation of the final draft of the PA/PE products development.
	Result of KAP survey		30 % improvement on POPs awareness (based on KAP survey).	National pre-KAP surveys completed for all countries, awareness activities also being implemented in the countries and the post KAP survey will follow.
	No of male/female participants at the workshops.		At least 45% of the participants at the public awareness workshops are female.	A total of one hundred and fifty-four (154) persons participated in the eight (8) national workshops. Approximately 58% (89 participants) were female and 42% (65 participants) were male.
Output 1.3: Regional information system	Online database developed and housed at the	POPs and contaminated sites related information is	One regional POPs database and data presentation and analysis platform is	Consultant team engaged in December 2020 and the development of the information

available for all countries	BCRC-Caribbean	scattered, Data collection, presentation is not undertaken in a standardized, redundant manner. Informed decisions are hard to make as data and data analysis are incomprehensive or missing.	developed and in place.	system is ongoing and expected to be completed by Q4, 2021.
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Component 2 – REDUCE UPOPS EMISSIONS BY IMPROVING POOR WASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AT LANDFILLS

Outcome 2: UPOPs emissions reduced by improving poor waste management practices at landfills.

Output 2.1: Systems for the collection and disposal of POPs wastes resulting in better waste management practices implemented at a national level.	Number of Trained landfill operators (male/female)	<p>Hazardous wastes generally, end up mixed</p> <p>Open burning of waste still exists at many landfills and dumpsites.</p> <p>SLU and ANU have had facilities built but these have been used for other activities.</p>	Training records Site inspection reports.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trainings completed in ANU, BDOS, SKN and SLU (Feb to March 2020) • In Antigua and Barbuda, approximately one hundred and fifteen (115) persons participated in the five (5) training sessions. Approximately 52.2% of the participants were male and 47.8% were female. • In Barbados, approximately forty-nine (49) persons participated in the four (4) training sessions. Approximately 34.6% of the participants were male and 65.4% were female. • In Saint Kitts & Nevis, approximately one hundred and ten (110) persons in total participated in the five (5) training sessions. Approximately 33% of the participants were male and 67% were female. • In Saint Lucia, approximately sixty-three (63) persons participated in the four (4) training sessions. Approximately 47.6% of the participants were male and 52.4 % were female.
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	Tons of hazardous wastes separated at source		Source separation programmes in place in each demonstration site (ANU, BDOS, SLU).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Source segregation strategies completed for ANU, BDOS and SLU. Design of pilot project(s) completed for ANU, BDOS and SLU. Training for the pilot projects completed for ANU and SLU; Baseline data collection ongoing. Pilot projects kick off for ANU and SLU proposed for Q3, 2021, BDOS implementation considerations being discussed
	Number of storage facility built		One hazardous waste storage facility per participating country (ANU, SLU and BDOS).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design report and Tender specifications for the HWS facilities in ANU, BDOS and SLU completed. Operations and Maintenance Manuals for the HWS Facilities in ANU BDOS and SLU completed. ANU Construction to commence in Q4 2021
Output 2.2: BAT/BEP demonstrated in a pilot (existing) landfill facility	Tons of hazardous wastes separated at source.	<p>Medical waste management practices at the demonstration area are generally substandard.</p> <p>Environmental contaminants such as POPs are released and deteriorating human health and environmental quality. Penalties for open burning of waste are generally low and regulatory inspections for adherence to the law is scarce.</p> <p>There are seven medical waste incinerators in Belize. Out of them only one is</p>	80% of healthcare facilities in Belize comply with sound medical waste management practices (moved from to 2.1).	<p>The following activities have been completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Output 2.1: Better waste management practices implemented (Activities 2.1.1- 2.1.5) Output 2.2. BAT/BEP demonstrated in a pilot (existing) landfill facility (Activities 2.2.1- 2.2.4)

		operational. None of them meet environmental performance standard. Solid waste management strategy and plan is silent on medical wastes consequently a country wide feasibility study for its disposal is missing.		
	Number of generators of metal rich, WEEE and potentially PBDE containing wastes adhere to improved waste management practices. Tons of materials recycled Value of materials recycled	In Suriname Penalties for open burning of WEEE and potentially PBDE containing waste streams are generally low, non-discouraging and regulatory inspections for adherence to the law is scarce. Burning is used at Ornamibo to recover metals from waste. There are several small-scale recycling facilities in Suriname that collect metals, PET bottles, paper and electronic wastes. Plastic is not analysed for PBDE content, thus the likelihood of recycling of potential POPs containing waste into sensitive products is existing.	80% of the enterprises (assume to be entities who bring waste to the landfills) comply with improved waste management practices (Suriname). One medical waste disposal demonstration technology, which adopts BAT/BEP principles, is transferred to Belize.	Upon re-confirmation and re-commitment from the Ministry in Suriname, the ToR for the pilot project is being finalized to achieve the following outputs: - Output 2.1: Better waste management practices implemented; - Output 2.2: BAT/BEP demonstrated in a pilot (existing) landfill facility Achieved
	Number of new businesses established		One technology for dismantling, crushing, cleaning, sorting, compacting and documenting metal rich, WEEE and PBDE containing wastes streams is operational. (Suriname).	Upon re-confirmation and re-commitment from the Ministry in Suriname, the ToR for the pilot project is being finalized to achieve the following outputs: 2.1 and 2.2
	Number of jobs created (women/men)		At least 5 new jobs created (Suriname). Gender not known.	Upon re-confirmation and re-commitment from the Ministry in Suriname, the ToR for the pilot project is being finalized to achieve the following outputs: 2.1 and 2.2

Component 3 – ASSESS POTENTIAL CONTAMINATED SITES TO DETERMINE THE LEVEL OF CONTAMINATION BY POPS AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REMEDIATION STRATEGIES				
Outcome 3: Identification and remediation of contaminated sites.				
Output 3.1: Contaminated sites identified, assessed and prioritized for treatment	Risk assessments and site evaluations and classification conducted for candidate sites	The preliminary contaminated sites inventories of the first NIP development process in the Caribbean have not provided appropriate information on potential POPs contaminated sites that would have allowed the selection of a priority site for demonstration activities.	1-5 priority sites are identified for detailed site assessment and evaluation. Conceptual site modelling is developed for the locations including the determination of POPs and co-contaminant levels.	Inventory of POPs contaminated sites completed for all countries in 2018; Selection of priority sites ongoing Preliminary site and risk assessments to be completed by in country National Project Assistants which are currently undergoing recruitment, final reports expected to be completed by Q4, 2021.
			One contaminated site is selected for remediation.	Guanapo landfill site in Trinidad was selected in consultation with Government agencies and the PSC during the project preparation phase (2015).
Output 3.2: Output 3.2: Remediation demonstrated in a prioritized contaminated site.		Lack of capacity in the region for remediation of contaminated sites.	Remediation plan including technology selections and cost and benefit assessment is developed.	Closure and remediation of Guanapo landfill site is not possible because the site won't be closed during the project lifetime, however, the following support has been provided to better assess the situation: EMGRISA (Contaminated site assessment, focusing on POPs analysis) TAUW (The implementation of an Environmental Risk Management Programme at Guanapo landfill in Trinidad and Tobago). Environmental Risk Management Programme is ongoing under TAUW's contract (70 % executed).
			One site remediated.	
Component 4 - PCB Management and Disposal (ANU, BZE, SLU, SUR)				
Outcome 4: PCBs managed and disposed of				
Output 4.1: ESM of PCBs implemented	Number of labelled oil containing equipment. Number of PCB-containing equipment prioritized and selected for Phase-out. Tons of PCB-contaminated	The Caribbean does not have appropriate hazardous waste disposal facilities for POPs and PCBs. Export disposal operations are costly, which has hindered phasing out of PCB containing	30% of potential PCBs containing equipment and wastes are identified and labelled in the electrical and private sectors. Disposal of 70 tons of PCB or PCB contaminated oil;	Four (4) PCB Inventory reports for ANU, BZE, SLU, SUR along with the Analytical Capabilities Assessment report completed. Awaiting the final PCB inventory data to propose the final elimination plan for the identified PCBs.

	oil and carcasses. Value of mate	equipment in the past. There is no accurate information within the Governments on PCB Amounts. Some inventories were done by the FAO.	representing approximately 210 tons of PCB-contaminated equipment	
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III. Project Risk Management

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

	(i) Risks	(i) Risk level	(i) Mitigation measures	(ii) Progress to-date	New defined risk ⁴
1	Participating countries lack the political will for establishing a comprehensive regulatory framework.	M	High level awareness raising activities are planned to be undertaken in partnership with the BCRC-Caribbean to increase high level understanding and political support for the implementation of the Stockholm Convention in the region. The BCRC-Caribbean has a track record of consulting member countries on legislation, having used the same process with waste legislation. The involvement of the BCRC-Caribbean in this activity ensures that activities are complimentary to, and build on, activities already undertaken in the Region.	The Project Steering Committee (PSC), the National Project Coordinator (NPC) and Project Working Committee (PWC) members from each project country were engaged in the process of Legislative and Regulatory Review under this project. The national teams, including national Legal Officers (PWC members or otherwise appointed) endorsed the method which required their in-country support of the Legal Consultant, through the endorsement of the Consultant's Terms of Reference (TOR) and scope of works. Legal officers also played a key role in the identification of the key stakeholders and guidance to applicable legislation during the gap analysis and country visit activities and regional consultations on the development of Model Legislation. Additionally, high-level stakeholders (such as the relevant permanent secretaries and Parliamentary council officers) were engaged during the adaptation of the Regional Model Act for national reform phase of the project.	<input type="checkbox"/>

⁴ New risk added in reporting period. Check only if applicable.

2	Technology transfer will be successful, but the maintenance of the disposal facility may be sub-standard.	L	Training program is planned for operating the transferred technology according to BEP. Staff will also be trained on appropriate service and maintenance of the technology.	A medical waste autoclave unit for Belize has been installed which was procured by the UNIDO procurement office. Local training is included and the process of installation and operation is being monitored closely.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	The cost of remediation of potentially contaminated sites would be too high to cover by project budget.	M	Characterization of potentially contaminated sites will be undertaken gradually. First a historical review will be undertaken to identify potential contaminants including non-POPs pollutants, then an initial testing program will follow to confirm contamination, then if necessary a detailed testing program will characterize the sites. This will allow the control of the cost of contaminated sites assessment and allow for maximizing the impacts of the actions.	Closure and remediation of Guanapo landfill site is not possible because the site won't be closed during the project lifetime	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	The disposal cost of PCB containing wastes may vary significantly within project life. This could have negative impact on project efficiency in PCB disposal.	L	If export disposal costs will be high and thus joint disposal with the waste collected in the FAO-GEF project #5407 could not be undertaken, the project intends to lease a mobile technology for draining PCB-containing equipment and cleaning the carcasses. This mostly applies for low and medium PCB content (PCB concentration < 2000 ppm). With this the weight of the wastes sent for export disposal could be significantly reduced and by selling the scrap metals some of the costs could be recovered.	Yes, PCB disposal costs vary, however, based on the latest PCB inventory sheet provided by the BCRC, the total amount of PCB-containing equipment is only around 2 tons. If this is confirmed to be the case, this will actually lead to an opposite scenario with more funds being available than expected.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	The Caribbean SIDS are located in an area that is prone to tropical storms/hurricanes and flooding	L	Field activities will be planned outside the storm/hurricane seasons. POPs wastes will be stored in areas not prone to hurricane or flooding.	In the Caribbean, the hurricane season officially runs from June 1 through November 30. However, in order to minimize the risks associated with storms/hurricanes/flooding, close attention was paid to the forecasts and advisories when planning the country missions that inevitably fell within this period. Additionally, updates from and close communication is maintained with national project stakeholders for direct feedback on weather conditions.	<input type="checkbox"/>

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.

Not applicable

3. Please indicate any implication of the **COVID-19** pandemic on the progress of the project.

The main consequence of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on the GEF 5558 project was related to the travel related missions to countries and regional and national workshops. The BCRC-Caribbean monitored the various COVID-19 protocols implemented by each project country, held discussions with the project country leads and the consultants and concluded the following implications to the project schedule:

1. The uncertainty on how the COVID-19 pandemic will evolve means the project activities will need to be conservatively scheduled now.
2. The greatest impact remains to travel related activity (missions and workshops) and it is assumed that these cannot reasonably occur before Q4 2021.
3. Non-related travel tasks can proceed however some additional time should be considered to account for the social upheaval from COVID-19.
4. The BCRC-Caribbean has reviewed and revised the project schedule monthly to take into account the fluidity of the situation.

In the absence of face-to-face workshops for the launch of pilot projects and training activities, provisions for virtual meetings were put in place as a mitigation measure.

The immediate effects and responses are summarised below:

1. Component 1 – Training Module 3 (Detection, Identification, and Classification of POPs by Border Control Agencies) was scheduled for the end of July 2020, but this could not occur and an online training module was formulated and executed remotely by the Consultants in November/December, 2021.
2. Component 2 – RWA travel related activities (fundamentals training and national roadmap workshop in SVG and SKN; source separation pilot kick-offs in ANU, BDOS and SLU) could not be initiated as scheduled in 2020. As the RWA team were still unable to travel and start the activities in 2021. As such, virtual training of the activities was designed and delivered in the first half of 2021 for SKN. However, for SVG where volcanic eruptions from the La Soufriere volcano resulted in severe disruptions, the training has been rescheduled for July/August 2021.
3. Component 3 – the conduct of the preliminary assessment prioritisation of prioritised potentially contaminated sites (task 4) which involves missions to the countries by the BCRC-Caribbean and the UNIDO technical advisor could not take place as planned within the original schedule as the team were unable to travel to the countries and perform the tasks. National Project Assistants are being engaged within the project countries to undertake the preliminary site and risk assessment work, under the training and supervision of the BCRC-Caribbean and from the respective PWC's. This is ongoing and is expected to be completed by the end of 2021.
4. Component 4 – the country missions to conduct sampling to support the development of the PCBs inventory were converted to activities for the country personnel to do on their own. In three (3) countries (ANU, SLU and SUR) the country personnel were trained on how to obtain samples from the equipment. For Belize, the Department of Environment routinely collects environmental samples. Sampling equipment and material were shipped by the BCRC-Caribbean to the countries, and the samples themselves were shipped to Canada for analysis. Four (4) PCB Inventory reports

for ANU, BZE, SLU, SUR along with the Analytical Capabilities Assessment report were submitted to UNIDO on March 31, 2021, and subsequently approved.

The impacts of the COVID-19 virus on the project implementation were discussed at the fifth (5th) annual PSC meeting on June 24, 2020. Further to the findings of the Project Mid-term Review and Evaluation and the decisions moved at the PSC Meeting 5, the BCRC-Caribbean submitted a request to the Chief and GEF Coordinator at UNIDO to extend the project's end date by eighteen (18) months on December 16, 2020.

The project was granted a no-cost extension until 05-31-22.

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).

Not applicable because this is a GEF-5 project.

V. Stakeholder Engagement

1. Please provide information on **progress, challenges and outcomes** regarding engagement of stakeholders in the projects (based on the description of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent document submitted at CEO Endorsement/Approval).

Stakeholder meetings and consultations between 01 July 2020 – 30 June 2021 included (supporting attachments provided):

- National Knowledge, Attitude and Practices (KAP) Surveys have been completed for all project countries to support the national implementation of the Communications Toolkit (Feb 2020 – Jan 2021). These KAP Surveys serve as a baseline on the public awareness of POPs before the national use of public awareness and education materials from the toolkit.
- (Virtual) Inception meeting for the Implementation of the Environmental Risk Management Program (UNIDO Demo Project, Guanapo Landfill) (September 09, 2020)
- (Virtual) Training on PCB sampling for Belize (September 28, 2020)
- (Virtual) Training on Thematic area 3 – Customs Training Workshop - Detection, Identification, and Classification of POPs by Border Control Agencies (Regional - November 16, 2020; and National Training Sessions on November 12, 26 and December 02, 2020)
- (Virtual & local face-to-face) Communications and Behaviour Change Capacity Building Training under the activity 'UPOPs reduction by improving waste management practices at landfills' were held for ANU (December 08, 2020) and SLU (December 16, 2020). This activity supports the source separation pilot projects
- (Virtual) Inception meeting to kick off POPs-RIS development (January 14, 2021)
- (Virtual) Training under the activity 'UPOPs reduction by improving waste management practices at landfills' for Green Waste Source Separation Pilot Projects

- ANU – Cook’s Landfill (Day 1 M&E Plan – March 01, 2021, Day 2 Intro to Source Separation of Green Waste – May 12, 2021)
- SLU – Deglos Landfill (Day 1 M&E Plan – March 09, 2021, Day 2 Intro to Source Separation of Green Waste – March 22, 2021)
- (Virtual) Training under the activity ‘UPOPs reduction by improving waste management practices at landfills’ for SKN were held on March 22, 23 and 25 and April 06 and 07, 2021
- (Virtual) Fifth (5th) PSC Meeting on June 18, 2021

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.).

- Establishment of Project Steering Committee (PWC) as well as Project Working Committees (PWCs) in each of the eight countries to serve as a functional network to support the project implementation, build local capacity, share information, and bring together key government agencies.
- Increased awareness, knowledge and capacity on POPs and u-POPs in the eight countries participating in the project;
- Strengthened capacity and expanded team of the BCRC-Caribbean;
- Updated POPs and PCB inventories and country-level National Implementation Plans (NIPs) for the Stockholm Convention on POPs;
- Detailed technical studies undertaken for the three demonstration projects (e.g., design for the sanitary landfill at Ornamibo in Suriname, remediation site assessment for Guanapo Landfill in Trinidad and Tobago, and a review of medical waste disposal options for Belize). These studies were undertaken to support government decision making on dealing with their landfill sites and addressing current challenges and opportunities with regard to waste management practices in their countries;
- Regional Integrated Chemical Management Model Act that provides a solid basis for the eight countries to either fully adopt the model act (after adjustment to country specificities) or extract relevant sections for integration into already existing legislations.

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

- GEF 5558_KAP Survey Report
- GEF 5558_Customs Training Workshop Report
- GEF 5558_Training Comms Capacity Building – ANU
- GEF 5558_Training Comms Capacity Building – SLU
- GEF 5558_POPs-RIS Inception Mtg Report
- GEF 5558_Trainings Source Sep Pilot Projects – ANU (*training report pending*)
- GEF 5558_Trainings Source Sep Pilot Projects – SLU (*training report pending*)
- GEF 5558_UPOPs Reduction Training Report-SKN_draft Final
- GEF 5558 Sixth Annual PSC Meeting Report_Final Draft

VI. Gender Mainstreaming

1. Please provide information on **progress on gender-responsive measures** and **gender-sensitive indicators** as documented at CEO Endorsement/Approval (in the project results framework or gender action plan or equivalent).

The project aims to mainstream gender in its activities, e.g., through monitoring of women's participation in the project Teams, project steering committee, training events, and Public Awareness events on POPs. Implementation of the three demonstrations/pilots is also paying special attention to women's participation due to their specific role during waste management, separation, and disposal.

Some gender issues were identified at the design stage to ensure inclusivity of women. For example, the project document (GEF CEO Endorsement) identified gender balance, gender rights in training opportunities, equal participation of women from participation will be considered. Based on the findings of the MTR report:

- Most of the stakeholders interviewed stated that gender issues were not a major concern since women and men had an equal opportunity to participate in project activities and in some departments, women were in the majority among the senior technical personnel.
- The Project Management Team at the BCRC is comprised mainly of women; the Steering Committee was comprised of 13 men and 17 women at its last meeting; experts and consultants were comprised of men and women, but there is no documentation to specifically identify the gender of all of the project beneficiaries.
- Project activities did not appear to discriminate between men and women; however, it was too early in the project implementation to determine if any socio-economic benefits have been realised.
- There were no other project activities that specifically promoted the empowerment of women or gender equality, except for "Activity 1.2.6: Develop gender sensitive PA/PE materials on POPs" which has been completed as the Communications Toolkit by Q1 2021. Gender issues during public awareness programmes, the development of gender sensitive public awareness materials, as well as the gender ratio among trainers and trainees were identified for monitoring in the GEF CEO Endorsement project document.
- Disaggregated data as provided in the MTR report and Section II. above on Targeted results and progress to-date indicate that the project consultations, trainings and meetings maintained an attendance of over 40% female participants.

VII. Knowledge Management

1. Please elaborate on any **knowledge activities / products** (when applicable), as outlined in knowledge management approved at CEO Endorsement / Approval.

Knowledge management among key stakeholders is approached through:

- Reporting - monthly, quarterly, and annual reporting. Monthly, quarterly project reports and annual reports are prepared by the BCRC, and progress reviewed by the PSC and UNIDO. Technical outputs for each project activity are shared with all project stakeholders with the quarterly project reports and annual reports (see attached Annual Report 5 including technical reports - submitted January 2021)
- Project documents are also uploaded to the BCRC-Caribbean website for public access.

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

- BCRC-Caribbean Projects on the organisation website - [POPs Projects in the Caribbean](#)
- The Regional POPs Communications toolkit included the recently launched StopthePOPs campaign site (www.stopthepops.com)

- National Implementation of the POPs Communication Toolkit through local campaign rollouts in the project countries (television, radio and social media)
- Training material on 'UPOPs reduction by improving waste management practices at landfills' were held virtually for SKN
- Customs Training Workshop material
- Communications & Behaviour Change Capacity Building Training materials (ANU, SLU)

VIII. Implementation progress

1. Please provide information on **progress, challenges and outcomes** on project implementation activities.

Component 1: Enabling mechanism for effective implementation of the Stockholm convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants created

- **National Implementation Plans**
 - SUR, SKN and TT NIPs submitted to the SC Secretariat.
 - SLU endorsed by Cabinet on May 26, 2021.
 - SVG and BZE drafted Cabinet notes, pending review and submission to SC Secretariat.
 - BDOS - Country review completed; finalisation expected for end June.
 - ANU national review and revision ongoing (scheduled for completion September 2021).
- **Model Regional Integrated Chemicals Management Act - Legislation drafted, national customisation pending.**
 - ANU to pursue, awaiting appointment of PTCC Board to progress the development of the Act.
 - BDOS indicated intention to use the information within the model Act, legislative review first required.
 - BZE – Cabinet paper submitted.
 - SKN to submit Act to PTCCB for review.
 - SLU – Legal consultant being recruited to review and make recommendations.
 - SVG drafted a Cabinet note.
 - SUR passed the overarching environmental framework with elements from the Act incorporated.
 - TT – PWC reported that progress was slow, activity may not be feasible.
- **POPs Regional Information System**
 - GIS4C and TAUW selected as the consultant to develop the system in December 2020; Inception meeting held in January 2021.
 - Development ongoing, presentation of prototype to all project countries proposed for Q3 2021.
 - Request for spatial and POPs data made to all project countries. BZE and TT submitted
- **Public Awareness and Education Strategy**
 - Communications toolkit completed and rollout of media items done for BZE and TT. Partial rollout in SLU and planning for the launch of activities ongoing for SKN, SVG and SUR. Discussions ongoing with ANU and BDOS for the proposed rollout.
 - Website launched (www.stopthepops.com). New website to be launched (<https://www.bcrc-caribbean.org>).
 - National KAP surveys completed for all countries
 - POPs communication items distributed to countries over Q1 and Q2, 2021. Additional items to be distributed in Q3, 2021.
- **Technical Training Activities**

- Five (5) training activities completed - 1: ESM Manual, 2: Stockholm Convention Article 15 reporting, 3: Detection, Identification, and Classification of POPs by Border Control Agencies, 4: Sampling and analytical methods for POPs and Human Health and 5: Ecological Risk Assessments for POPs.
- Countries requested refreshers on Thematic areas four (4) and five (5). Redelivery proposed for Q3, 2021 through virtual workshops

Component 2: UPOPs Reduction through improvement of landfill operations ANU, BDOS, SLU, SKN, SVG

- Training Needs and Baseline Assessments - Completed in all countries
- Training of landfill operators - Training completed in ANU, BDOS, SKN and SLU. SVG pending due to COVID-19 and activity by the La Soufrière volcano
- Development of source segregation strategies and pilot projects - Source segregation strategies completed for ANU, BDOS and SLU.
- Design of pilot project(s) completed for ANU, BDOS and SLU Training for the pilot projects completed for ANU and SLU; Baseline data collection ongoing. Pilot projects kick off for ANU and SLU proposed for Q3, 2021. BDOS – implementation considerations to be further discussed with the PWC.
- Design of Hazardous Waste Storage Facilities - Design report and Tender specifications for the HWS facilities in ANU, BDOS and SLU completed. Operations and Maintenance Manuals for the HWS Facilities in ANU BDOS and SLU completed. ANU Construction to commence in Q4 2021.

Component 3: Identification and remediation

- Develop an inventory of all potential contaminated sites in each country - Completed for all countries.
- Select 1-5 priority sites for preliminary site and risk assessments- Completed for SLU. Ongoing ANU, BZE, SKN, SVG, SUR and TT; discussions to be engaged with BDOS.
- Conduct preliminary site assessments for each of the 1.5 priority sites and preparation of final report - Ongoing with SLU. Proposed for Q3, 2021 in other project countries.

Component 4: PCB Management and Disposal in ANU, BZE, SLU, SUR

- Assess inventories and upgrade laboratory capacities- Four (4) PCB Inventory reports for ANU, BZE, SLU, SUR along with the Analytical Capabilities Assessment report were submitted to UNIDO on March 31, 2021.
- Develop PCB Phase-Out plan- Ongoing. Plans under development. To be completed June 2021.
- Consolidate, package and label PCBs wastes- Ongoing.

Monitoring and evaluation

- Annual reports 1 to 5 completed and technically approved
- Quarterly and Monthly Reporting ongoing
- Project Steering Committee (PWC) meetings 1 to 6 completed

Challenges:

- Current implications of the COVID-19 Virus – ongoing challenges with missions/fieldwork/meetings/workshops.
- Outstanding co financing/ In-kind contributions reporting

Outstanding work: Due to the fact that after the completion of the project activities vis-à-vis the CEO endorsement remaining funds will be available, UNIDO together with the BCRC-Caribbean have proposed to include additional activities on (a) National Waste Management Plans, (b) to replace precarious medical waste incinerators by autoclave, and to adapt an existing solid waste management toolkit to the situation in selected Caribbean countries. These activities are in line with Component 2 or 3 of the approved project. During the PSC meeting these additional activities have been presented and interested countries were able to confirm their participation. Currently, the ToRs are being finalized to ensure completion within the project duration.

2. Please provide information related to the **financial implementation** of the project.

As of 30 June 2021, a total of US\$ 6,704,430.90 was implemented by UNIDO.

 PROJECT DELIVERY REPORT		Project:	150049 - DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT MECHANISM FOR POPs IN THE CARIBBEAN	Project Manager:	Alfredo Herrera Cueva Jacome	Project Validity Status:	01.06.2015 - 31.05.2022 Implement
Reporting Period:	10.08.2015 - 30.06.2021	Project Theme:	Energy and Environment	Country:	Inter-Regional	Region:	Inter-Regional
Sponsor Nr.	Sponsor	Grant	Grant Description	Fund	Currency	Grant Status	Grant Validity
400150	GEF - Global Environment Facility	2000003154	2015_IPOPS REGIONAL	GF	USD	Authority to implement	10.08.2015 - 31.05.2022

	Description	Released Budget Current Year (a)	Obligations Current Year (b)	Disbursements Current Year (c)	Expenditures Current Year (d=e+c)	Total Agreement Budget (e)	Released Budget (f)	Obligations + Disbursements (g)	Funds Available* (h=f-g)	Support Cost (i)	Total Expenditures (j=g+h)
		USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD
150049-1-01-01	Enabling Mechanisms Participant Country	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,021,332.76	2,021,332.76	2,003,982.76	17,350.00	190,378.35	2,194,361.11
150049-1-01-02	Reduce U-POPs Emissions	191,353.83	(463,503.15)	470,735.11	7,231.96	3,126,416.26	3,126,416.26	2,162,080.84	964,335.42	205,397.72	2,367,478.56
150049-1-01-03	Assess Potential Contaminated Sites	131,270.50	(309,647.69)	448,764.99	107,117.30	1,229,547.87	1,229,547.87	1,006,725.52	222,822.35	95,638.90	1,102,384.42
150049-1-01-04	Managing and Disposing of PCB	313,000.00	2,437.92	10,957.53	13,395.45	1,045,834.94	1,045,834.94	447,661.00	598,173.94	42,527.80	490,188.80
150049-1-51-01	Project Management	90,909.36	31,088.18	25,529.14	56,617.32	826,322.63	826,322.63	806,399.34	219,923.29	57,607.92	664,007.26
150049-1-53-01	Evaluation and Monitoring	353.15	(80,571.85)	80,931.16	359.33	589,545.54	589,545.54	487,983.93	101,561.61	46,356.58	534,320.51
2000003154	Total	726,886.84	(850,196.59)	1,034,917.95	184,721.36	8,839,000.00	8,839,000.00	6,714,813.39	2,124,186.61	637,907.27	7,352,720.66
150049	USD Total	726,886.84	(850,196.59)	1,034,917.95	184,721.36	8,839,000.00	8,839,000.00	6,714,813.39	2,124,186.61	637,907.27	7,352,720.66

* Does not include Unapproved Obligations

The above statement has been certified electronically by the designated officials in UNIDO's department of finance.

IX. Work Plan and Budget

VII.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.

Remaining workplan (2021 and 2022)

Outputs by Project Component	2021		2022	
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Component 1 - Create the enabling mechanisms in the Caribbean for effective implementation of the Stockholm Convention on POPs				
Output 1.1: National Implementation Plans (NIPs) Updated				
Output 1.2: Sound chemicals management mainstreamed into all national policies and plans				
Output 1.3: Regional information system for all countries				
Component 2 - Reduction of UPOPs emissions by improving poor waste management practices at landfills				
Output 2.1: Systems for the collection and disposal of POPs wastes resulting in better waste management practices implemented at a national level (ANU, SKN, SLU, SVG, BDOS)				
Output 2.2: BAT/BEP demonstrated in a pilot (existing) landfill facility [UNIDO led output]				
Component 3 - Identification and remediation of contaminated sites				
Output 3.1: Contaminated sites identified, assessed and prioritised for treatment				
Activity 3.1.2: Demonstrate remediation on one contaminated site (Guanapo) [UNIDO led Activity]				

Component 4 - Managing and disposing of PCBs				
Output 4.1 ESM of PCBs Implemented				
Project M&E				
Output 5.1 Project impact monitoring system, evaluation of the achieved results and introduction of corrections if required				
Output 5.2 Dissemination of project related information and results to local stakeholders				
Project Management				
Project Management				

Due to the fact, that after the completion of the project activities vis-à-vis the CEO endorsement remaining funds will be available, UNIDO together with the BCRC-Caribbean have proposed to include additional activities on (a) National Waste Management Plans, (b) to replace precarious medical waste incinerators by autoclave, and to adapt an existing solid waste management toolkit to the situation in selected Caribbean countries. These activities are in line with Component 2 or 3 of the approved project. During the PSC meeting these additional activities have been presented and interest countries were able to confirm their participation. Currently, the ToRs are being finalized to ensure completion within the project duration.

X. Synergies

1. Synergies achieved:

The GEF 5558 project has successfully synergized with the FAO GEF 5407 project on the removal of obsolete pesticides. The 2016 PCB inventory of obsolete PCB oils and equipment conducted under the GEF 5558 identified 14.76 t of PCB contaminated oil and 43.58 t of PCB contaminated equipment. Efforts for the safeguarding, packaging and transboundary movement of the identified wastes were completed by the FAO contracted Polyeco S.A. during the period of February to June 2021.

BCRC-Caribbean supported the FAO / Polyeco team with coordination and logistics with the local producers and stakeholders in the project countries (ANU, BDOS, SUR and TTO).

Stories to be shared (Optional)

- Notable Capacity building initiatives include the Training conducted on (i) Analytical Techniques on POPs, (ii) Environmental Risk Assessments, (iii) Environmentally Sound Management of POPs and related wastes, (iv) Reporting requirements under Article 15 of the SC and (v) Detection, Identification, and Classification of POPs by Border Control Agencies.
- The project has embarked on the development of the POPs Regional Information system which will serve as an online database for capturing, maintaining and analysing POPs related information for the Caribbean region.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

1. **Timing & duration:** Each report covers a twelve-month period, i.e. 1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021.
2. **Responsibility:** The responsibility for preparing the report lies with the project manager in consultation with the Division Chief and Director.
3. **Evaluation:** For the report to be used effectively as a tool for annual self-evaluation, project counterparts need to be fully involved. The (main) counterpart can provide any additional information considered essential, including a simple rating of project progress.

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

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

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

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