

GEF - PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)

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

1 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Project Details

GEF ID: 10619	Umoja WBS: SB-020399
SMA IPMR ID: 121498	Grant ID: S1-32GFL-000805
Project Short Title: GEF-CW.10619.GOLD+ Congo	
Project Title: Global Opportunities for Long-term Development of ASGM in Congo	
Duration months planned:	60
Duration months age:	21
Project Type:	Full Sized Project (FSP)
Parent Programme if child project:	10569
Project Scope:	National
Region:	Africa
Countries:	Congo, Republic of the
GEF Focal Area(s):	Chemicals and Waste
GEF financing amount:	\$ 2,700,000.00
Co-financing amount:	\$ 7,821,922.00
Date of CEO Endorsement/Approval:	2022-06-02
UNEP Project Approval Date:	2022-07-08
Start of Implementation (PCA entering into force):	2022-09-07
Date of Inception Workshop, if available:	2022-10-11
Date of First Disbursement:	2022-10-18
Total disbursement as of 30 June 2024:	\$ 372,900.00
Total expenditure as of 30 June:	\$ 280,230.00

Midterm undertaken?:	No
Actual Mid-Term Date, if taken:	
Expected Mid-Term Date, if not taken:	2025-03-07
Completion Date Planned - Original PCA:	2027-08-31
Completion Date Revised - Current PCA:	2027-08-31
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date:	2028-08-31
Expected Financial Closure Date:	2029-02-28

1.2 Project Description

For decades, the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) supported developing countries in their pathway to improve the management of chemical pollution as the financial mechanism for, among other, Stockholm Convention, SAICM and most recently the Minamata Convention on Mercury that entered into force in 2017.

One of the GEF's areas of concern is the ASGM sector, recognized as one of the largest anthropogenic sources of mercury emissions and releases to the environment, but also an important source of income that can contribute to poverty alleviation and economic development insofar as the practices are regulated and legalized. At the same time, GEF is the donor of the planetGOLD programme launched in February 2019.

The initiative aims to address some of the major issues linking mercury to ASGM. The planetGOLD programme has developed projects with activities focused on:

- Technical aspects of cleaner production techniques within the ASGM communities,
- Best practices to promote ASGM formalization - Piloting and upscaling access-to-finance options to ASGM communities
- Facilitating direct access to international gold markets to develop a more responsible and sustainable ASGM sector The overall objective is to make ASGM safer, cleaner, and more profitable, with a particular focus on the reduction of mercury use. The activities promoted through the planetGOLD programme match with a great number of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In this regard, the planetGOLD programme aims to demonstrate that cleaner, healthier and more efficient small-scale gold mining practices can benefit everyone, from miners to downstream actors, fulfilling a more responsible mineral supply chain.

The child project for the Republic of Congo will follow the global programme framework, promoting an integrated approach around four main components: Support to the formalisation of ASGM operators, improvement of financial and market conditions, the introduction of mercury-free processing techniques, and knowledge building and dissemination.

1.3 Project Contacts

Division(s) Implementing the project	Industry and Economy Division
Name of co-implementing Agency	N/A
Executing Agency (ies)	Centre African Pour La Sante Environnement ale (CASE)
names of Other Project Partners	N/A
UNEP Portfolio Manager(s)	Kevin Helps
UNEP Task Manager(s)	Grace Halla
UNEP Budget/Finance Officer	Edward Aput
UNEP Support Assistants	Iñaki Rodriguez
Manager/Representative	Dominique Bally KPOKRO
Project Manager	N/A
Finance Manager	Julien Yao
Communications Lead, if relevant	N/A

2 Overview of Project Status

2.1 UNEP PoW & UN

UNEP Current Subprogramme(s):	Thematic: Chemicals and pollution action subprogramme
UNEP previous Subprogramme(s):	N/A
PoW Indicator(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollution: (i) Number of Governments that, with UNEP support, are developing or implementing policies, strategies, legislation or action plans that promote sound chemicals and waste management and/or the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements and the existing framework on chemicals and waste • Pollution: (iii) Number of policy, regulatory, financial and technical measures developed with UNEP support to reduce pollution in air, water, soil and the ocean • Pollution: (iv) Reduction in releases of pollutants to the environment achieved with UNEP support • Pollution: Change in action by the private sector and civil society on pollution prevention and control as a result of UNEP action <p>Progress in the chemicals- and pollution-related aspects of the 2030 Agenda on which UNEP focuses its work</p>
UNSDCF/UNDAF linkages	The project will support the efforts made by the Republic of Congo in achieving the 2030 Agenda goals. In particular, the project will actively engage and support national counterparts in achieving the following expected results under the 2020-2024 UNDAF national strategy for the Republic of Congo. Precisely, the project will facilitate Outcome 1 (Governance), Outcome 2 (Human Capital), Output 2.2 (Public Health) and Outcome 3 (Economic Diversification).
Link to relevant SDG Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls • Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation • Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
Link to relevant SDG Targets:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5.a Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws • 9.3 Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets • 9.4 By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities • 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to

	minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment
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2.2. GEF Core and Sub Indicators

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

Indicators	Targets - Expected Value			Materialized to date
	Mid-term	End-of-project	Total Target	
4.1- Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity	N/A	42809	42809	
9.2- Quantity of mercury reduced	N/A	1	1	
11- People benefitting from GEF-financed investments	N/A	1500	1500	
11.1- Male	N/A	1000	1000	
11.2- Female	N/A	500	500	

Implementation Status 2024: 1st PIR

2.3. Implementation Status and Risks

	PIR#	Rating towards outcomes (section 3.1)	Rating towards outputs (section 3.2)	Risk rating (section 4.2)
FY 2024	1st PIR	MU	MU	M
FY 2023				
FY 2022				
FY 2021				
FY 2020				
FY 2019				
FY 2018				
FY 2017				
FY 2016				
FY 2015				

Summary of status

After receipt of wrongdoing claims related to the executing agency on their management of project funds, UNEP notified the government and requested the GEF for a temporary suspension of the project. The executing agency returned all unspent balance back to UNEP while the case is under internal oversight investigation (since December 2023). The government is keen to restart the project as soon as possible, therefore, next steps on resuming the project will be assessed and determined during Q4 2024. The overall expenditure during the reporting period was USD 280,230; with a forecast expenditure of USD 833,314.

Key Progress in each component until December 2023 are described below.

Risks: Social, political, and environmental risks remained stable during the reporting period. However, the risks related to the management of the project gained importance. To mitigate these risks, the Implementing Agency (IA) conducted a financial assessment on the project's EA, including in-person meetings to review and assess the project financial accounts.

C1 Formalization: The PMU conducted various field missions where the local ASGM communities were engaged and confirmed as project beneficiaries. In addition, an assessment of their formalization needs was initiated.

C2 Access to Finance: The project developed a preliminary assessment of the different financial entities established in the Republic of Congo and arranged various meetings with private sector financial service providers to introduce the project

C3 Introduction of Mercury-Free Technologies: The project conducted various field missions to different ASGM areas in the country, where the PMU could gather first-hand information on the current practices related to the used of mercury in the national ASGM sector. This will support the upcoming activities related to this component.

C4 Communications and Knowledge Management: The project launched the country project website and different social media channels accounts. In addition, the project comms team supported the development of educational materials for Component 1 and 3 in local languages which will further sustain the formalization and mercury reduction efforts with the local communities in upcoming years.

2.4 Co Finance

Planned Co-finance:	\$ 7,821,922
Actual to date:	87,762
Progress	<p>Justify progress in terms of materialization of expected co-finance. State any relevant challenges:</p> <p>CASE: during the reporting period, the co-financing amount reported is US\$ 87,762. This amount corresponds to the contribution of the Executing Agency (EA) in terms of human resources supporting the project, monitoring of project activities, bank charges and equipment support.</p>

2.5. Stakeholder

Date of project steering committee meeting	2023-06-19
Stakeholder engagement (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)	<p>At the end of the first PSC meeting held on October 12, 2022; twenty-two institutions were selected from the public sector and civil society to be part of that committee. The PSC elected as Chairperson, the Head of Staff of the Minister of Environment, and as Deputy-chairperson, the General Director of Mines and Geology. The PSC debated and agreed upon the programme of work and budget for the first year of the project implementation.</p> <p>During the reporting period, a meeting gathering 11 members of the PSC took place on the 19th of June 2023, to validate the project's pilot sites. This meeting involved key national stakeholders from both the public and CSOs.</p> <p>Similarly, the project has enabled the effective interaction between the following national stakeholders:</p> <p>1- The Ministry of Environment represented by the General Directorate of Environment and Minamata Focal Point. The environmental administration also involved its regional directorates of the Sangha, Cuvette-Ouest, Bouenza, and Kouilou regions.</p> <p>2- The Ministry of Mines, represented by the General directorate of Lines and Geology and the Sub-Directorate of Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining, the Regional Directorates of Mines and Geology of the Sangha, Cuvette-Ouest, Bouenza, and Kouilou regions, as well as the Mining Cadastre Directorate.</p> <p>3- The Ministry of Health, represented by the Department of Public Hygiene and Environmental Health.</p>

	<p>4- The Ministry of Economy and Finance, represented by the Directorate General of Customs.</p> <p>5- The owners of the semi-mechanised mining licenses in the targeted project sites.</p> <p>6- The Ministry of Trade through the Department of Foreign Trade.</p> <p>7- The Ministry of the Interior, through the Directorate General of Territorial Administration and Decentralisation, which is working to involve regional and departmental prefects, sub-prefects and village chiefs in the localities targeted by the project.</p> <p>8- NGOs, Academia and Consumers groups.</p>
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2.6. Gender

Does the project have a gender action plan?	Yes
Gender mainstreaming (will be uploaded to GEF Portal):	<p>In accordance with the gender strategy, the challenges faced by women in ASGM sites have been identified. The project team targeted the following objectives to address these challenges:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- Inform and create awareness for local communities targeting mercury related health risks on children, especially young girls, as well as the social risk of dropping out of school. 2- Enforce the ban on child labour in the artisanal mines. 3- Promote and implement income-generating activities to ensure that women who do not wish to work in ASGM can support themselves. 4- Strengthen women's capacities in other activities such as agriculture and livestock farming to reduce their dependence on ASGM for their livelihood.

2.7. ESSM

Moderate/High risk projects (in terms of Environmental and social safeguards)	<p>Was the project classified as moderate/high risk CEO Endorsement/Approval Stage?</p> <p>No</p> <p>If yes, what specific safeguard risks were identified in the SRIF/ESERN?</p> <p>N/A</p>
New social and/or environmental risks	<p>Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during the reporting period?</p> <p>No</p> <p>If yes, describe the new risks or changes?</p> <p>N/A</p>

Complaints and grievances related to social and/or environmental impacts	<p>Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential) during the reporting period?</p> <p>No</p> <p>If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail, including the status, significance, who was involved and what actions were taken?</p> <p>N/A</p>
Environmental and social safeguards management	<p>Natural Resource Management RisksThe reduction of mercury usage facilitated by the project will have a positive impact on the quality of water in nearby waterways, which will also in turn have positive impacts on local biodiversity and ecosystems (aquatic and non-aquatic). While the project’s main focus is on the reduction of mercury usage, broader environmental assessments and mitigation plans will be supported in order to promote better practices in areas related to land management (e.g. deforestation, rehabilitation, etc.), other areas of pollution or harmful chemical use (e.g. cyanide), and limiting impacts to biodiversity. The project will ensure that the mercury-free technologies promoted, to the extent possible, reduce the use of other harmful substances – or where potentially harmful substances are needed, that proper handling, storage and disposal processes and practices are in place.</p> <p>Social RisksThe project will aim to improve the labour and working conditions, where feasible and recognizing the activity and budget parameters for the project. Opportunity for promoting improved labour and working conditions will be identified during the baseline assessments for responsible sourcing practices of partner ASGM associations, and will be included in progressive improvement plans. The project will carry out sensitization on ASGM formalization and the harms of mercury usage in some areas (Shanga Department) where indigenous peoples are present (Baka and Twa indigenous groups). These groups tend to experience high rates of poverty and marginalization, often negatively impacted by economic activities related to the depletion of natural resources in their areas. The project will make efforts to ensure that they are included in sensitization efforts (recognizing that they may face particular barriers in participating in such sessions). Indigenous peoples do not seem to be at a significantly higher risk for general risks associated with the ASGM sector and mercury usage, however this will continued to be monitored closely, as the risks associated with the sector are dynamic.</p>

2.8. KM/Learning

Knowledge activities and products	<p>As product of the activities realised,</p> <p>1- Different maps of the ASGM sites have been elaborated to facilitate the obtention of mining permits for the different targeted beneficiary groups. Particularly, maps for the ASGM sites of Entsiami 1, Kingoué, Makokolo, Missa, Mpounga and Sounda have been elaborated and shared with the Mining Cadastre department.</p>
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	<p>2- Six (06) local press articles have been developed to inform the general public about the planetGOLD project, create awareness about the harms of mercury usage in ASGM, educate miners' communities on the benefits of being formalised, as well as on reducing the environmental degradation caused by ASGM.</p> <p>3- A documentary film presenting the current status of ASGM activities in the Republic of Congo, currently under development (Not completed yet).</p>
Main learning during the period	<p>The main learning from this period was the positive synergy achieved between key project stakeholders (Mining department, semi-mechanised mines license owners, Environment department and the PMU), for achieving the allocation of demarcated plots within the semi-industrial concessions in the targeted mine sites. Another positive note was the personal implication of the PMU in working closely with all stakeholders to facilitate the discussions, and at the same time, ensuring that the voices of rural mining communities were heard by both the mining department and the semi-industrial license owners.</p> <p>A communication strategy for the dissemination of information was developed to not support local communities in improving practices related to ASGM. It also supported government entities to obtain a better understanding of the issues related to ASGM. The strategy, has the primary objective of contributing to the implementation of the Minamata Convention with a view to reducing the risks linked to the use of mercury in ASGM sector. Specifically, the strategy aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform, train and build the capacity of communities on the dangers of using Mercury in ASGM; • Ensure the sharing of information and experiences between different communities on ASGM at the local, national and sub-regional level; • Improve understanding of the challenges of the change towards new practices that are more respectful of health and the environment for mining; • Promote community support for improving practices; • Facilitate access to information on ASGM; • Develop information, communication and education tools to ensure the involvement of national, local and sub-regional communities in ASGM; • Inform indigenous populations about the concept of ASGM;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Train local populations and communities to make their involvement in the change process more effective;• Make available to national Civil Society Organizations, press organizations and all interested stakeholders, clear information on the risks linked to mercury, the opportunities offered by the planetGOLD project, the needs and aspirations
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2.9. Stories

Stories to be shared	None to be shared during this reporting period.
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3 Performance

3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project outcomes

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
Objective: To prevent damage of human health and ecosystems' pollution by reducing mercury use in the ASGM sector in the Republic of Congo	No. of new regulation prepared that target the formalization of the ASGM sector and the reduction of mercury	0	1	2	0	Progress was made to advance discussions with the mining department to issue a regulation customising the formalisation process for ASGM in Congo. As debates are ongoing, the model of the regulation is already agreed. However, the first draft will be prepared in the coming year of the project implementation.	MS
Outcome 1: Informal ASGM miners are formalized by government institutions to improve their gold production practices	No. of legal initiative implemented under JA/LA	0	1	2	25%	To date, three of the owners of semi-mechanised licences have agreed to concede a parcel of their concession to artisanal miners. A memorandum of understanding has been prepared and approved by the Ministry of Mines to remove the demarcated plots from the semi-mechanised concessions. Maps of the various ASGM sites will serve as the basis for this protocol. The project will act as a guarantee for compliance with environmental protection obligations and the non-use of mercury in the ASGM areas granted to artisanal mining groups. This guarantee is based on training gold miners in mercury-free techniques and environmental protection.	MS

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
Outcome 2: Targeted ASGM organizations have access to financial mechanisms that support transparent, legal, mercury-free gold production	Amount accessed by miners in targeted ASGM associations from new financial inclusion mechanisms (of which at least 5% by women)	0	2000	40000	0%	The component related to financial mechanisms has not been implemented yet.	0
Outcome 2: Targeted ASGM organizations have access to financial mechanisms that support transparent, legal, mercury-free gold production	Amount mobilized by buyers/refiners/mining companies for inventory financing/technical partnerships with ASGM operations	0	20000	60,000	0%	As per workplan, the activities related to this indicator have not started yet	0
Outcome 3: Mercury-free processing methods are widely used by ASGM organizations	Increase of average monthly gold productivity with the use of mercury-free technologies	0	1%	2%	0%	The use of mercury-free technologies has not been implemented at this stage of the project implementation.	0
Outcome 3: Mercury-free processing methods are widely used by ASGM organizations	% of the miners in the targeted communities (which actively use mercury) initiate the adoption of mercury free technologies	0	50%	100%	0%	As per workplan, the activities under this component have not started yet.	0
Outcome 4: The ASGM sector is better managed through the strengthening of communication and knowledge	No. of direct beneficiaries changing their practices	0	400	1049	25%	The PMU has developed various educational materials and has provided awareness raising activities to key beneficiaries to support the achievement of this goal	MS

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

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
1 Promotion of formalization of the ASGM sector in the Republic of Congo	Output 1.1: In-depth legal, social, technical, financial and environmental assessments of ASGM areas are completed in the targeted mining communities available to policy designers	2023-03-31	0%	100%	The assessment report was approved in the last PSC meeting	S
1 Promotion of formalization of the ASGM sector in the Republic of Congo	Output 1.2 A capacity building programme is designed and provided to selected ASGM communities to improve formalization in the sector	2027-12-31	0	15	A draft of the capacity building programme was developed, but it needs to be reviewed and endorsed by project stakeholders and disseminated to project beneficiaries	MS
2 Financial Inclusion and Responsible Supply Chains	Output 2.1: ASGM organizations have access to financial services from the private sector	2027-12-31	0	0	The activities under this component have not started yet	
2 Financial Inclusion and Responsible Supply Chains	Output 2.2: ASGM stakeholders improved their knowledge on due diligence-related requirements and responsible mining initiatives	2027-12-31	0	0	The activities under this component have not started yet	
3 Enhancing the uptake of Mercury-free technologies	Output 3.1 Mercury-free processing equipment are provided to selected ASGM communities	2027-12-31	0	0	The activities under this output have not started yet	
3 Enhancing the uptake of Mercury-free technologies	3.2 Output 3.2 National suppliers and manufacturers are able to provide long term services to selected ASGM communities that have adopted mercury-free production processes	2027-12-31	0	0	The activities under this output have not started yet	
3 Enhancing	Output 3.3 ASGM Miners improved their technical capacity on the	2027-12-31	0	0	The activities under this output have	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
the uptake of Mercury-free technologies	optimal use of mercury free equipment				not started yet	
4 Knowledge sharing and communication	Output 4.1 Knowledge sharing and public outreach of the ASGM sector in the country is fostered	2027-12-31	0	30	Awareness-raising articles have been developed and published in local press to inform the population at local, regional and national levels on the impacts of ASGM activities, as well as the harms of mercury use on both, environment and health. Moreover, the PMU has taken video footage to produce a educational materials to sensitize ASGM communities in the country	MS
4 Knowledge sharing and communication	The project contributes to the planetGOLD knowledge platform and events organized by the planetGOLD global programme	2027-12-31	0	10	The country project website was launched.	MS

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

4 Risks

4.1 Table A. Project management Risk

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

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

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

4.2 Table B. Risk-log

Implementation Status (Current PIR)

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

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
Political instability and shifting priorities	All	M	L					L	=	The current political situation is stable.
Lack of buy-in by the government	All	L	L					L	=	The government through Ministries of Environment. Mines. Health and

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
										Interior is highly involved in the project. Regular follow up meetings are taking place with the head of staff of the Minister of Environment who serves as the Chair of the PSC
Local support is not provided for project needs	All	M	L					L	↓	Key local stakeholders are fully committed for its success. From village chiefs. sub prefects. prefects. regional directors of mines. environment and the owners of semi-mechanised mines. The main issue is problem is the lack of celerity in the administrative process. which may cause delays .
Lack of transparency in financial management and distribution	All	M	M					M	=	Financial procedures have been established to avoid an escalation of this risk
No mine concession permits available to be allocated to ASGM groups by the government as they are working in already gazetted areas.	Outcome 3	N/A	M					M	↑	Consultations with Min of Mines highlighted a situation where no mining permits were available to be allocated to ASGM entities in some of the project targeted regions
Introduction of new technologies may threaten jobs in ASGM sector	Outcomes 1. 2 and 3	L	L					L	↓	The artisanal miners. as well as the mining department are all impatient to start implementing the new technologies.
Technical assessment inadequately characterizes the sites and needs	Outcome 3	L	L					L	=	The experts recruited for the project have perfect knowledge of the sites where the needs for the project

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
										implementation have been characterized.
Government capacity to implement technical interventions	All	M	M					M	=	The energy supply in rural and urban areas remains a challenge to be addressed the government for improving the capacity to provide adequate technical intervention.
Lack of buy-in by the private sector	Outcome 2	M	L					L	=	There is no private sector involved in mining issues at the current stage. Only the owners of semi-mechanised or medium size mines licences exist. The ones concerned by the project pilot sites are all involved in the project and committed to make the project advance.
Lack of buy-in by miners	All	M	L					L	↓	Miners from the target project areas are fully committed to make the project a success. Their different groups started their administrative registration at their own costs. so to express their buy-in to the project.
Environmental assessment inadequately characterizes site	Outcome 3	L	L					L	↓	The environmental challenges have been characterised. It lacks some physical measurements to inform both government and science on mercury levels in the environmental matrices from ASGM areas. However. this situation will be sorted once the project will resume.

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
Climate Change adversely impacts the environment / Changes in the environment	All	L	L					L	=	The climate related issues are well documented and known from the miners' groups. which adjust their working methods and schedule according to the seasons.
Disregard for the environmental and health impacts of the mercury use	Outcome 3	L	L					L	=	Environmental Health protection is a key aspect of the project. which is monitored by all stakeholders involved in it.
Poor uptake of alternative financial mechanisms to progress towards improvement	Outcome 2	M	M					M	=	The current financial structure of the bank sector is not tailored for investing in ASGM sector. However. the micro-credit institutions are the key structures targeted to make the project successful on the component related to financial inclusion. The formalisation scheme designed for the project has incorporated this aspect.
Injuries resulting from the use of new technologies	Outcome 3	M	L					L	↓	Adequate training will be provided to miners before they start operating the machines for avoiding accidents and injuries.
Vested interest	All	L	M					M	↑	Lack of adequate safeguards standards have created situations of potential misuse of project funds
		L	M					M	↑	Project management related risks have been on the rise during the

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
										reporting period

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

Additional mitigation measures for the next periods

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
No available mine concession permits available to be allocated to ASGM groups by the government as they are working in already gazetted areas.	N/A	Series of negotiations meetings to find a solution in compliance with the non-superposition of mine licenses as stipulated in the Mining Act.	Continuation of the discussion meetings with the key stakeholders. Signature of the MOU between semi-mechanized operators. Government representatives and ASGM groups to effectively conduct ASGM activities in the allocated areas.	2024-12-31	PMU
Lack of transparency in financial management and distribution	N/A	The IA (UNEP) has conducted a HACT assessment on the EA. including a financial audit for the reporting period	Continuation of the close monitoring of the financial management by the IA	Regularly during the entire reporting period	IA (UNEP)
Government capacity to implement technical interventions	N/A	The project has deliver a number of activities to improve the capacity of the government staff to deliver technical interventions	Development of the planned activities as per workplan	Regularly during the entire reporting period	PMU
Poor uptake of alternative	N/A	Development of activites	Development of the	Regularly during the entire	PMU

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
financial mechanisms to progress towards improvement		under Component 2 to identify potential financial partners	planned activities as per workplan	reporting period	
Vested Interest	N/A	The IA (UNEP) has conducted a HACT assessment on the EA. including a financial audit for the reporting period. In addition. the IA has reported a potential misuse of funds to OIOS	Continuation of the close monitoring of the financial management by the IA	Regularly during the entire reporting period	IA (UNEP)

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

5 Amendment - GeoSpatial

Project Minor Amendments

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

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

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

Minor amendments

The logframe has been updated to reflect the selection of the project sites after the validation by the PSC.

The EA will provide additional staff to support the execution of the planned activities

The project is currently suspended due to ongoing investigation on the executing agency. Therefore, it will impact the implementation schedule, implementation arrangement and potential the executing entity for the remainder of the project.

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

Version	Type	Signed/Approved by UNEP	Entry Into Force (last signature Date)	Agreement Expiry Date	Main changes introduced in this revision

GEO Location Information:

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

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GEO Name ID	Location Description	Activity Description
Etsianmi 1-Kellé District	0.138456	14.223056		The Onzazaï and Lolo ASGM sites	The Onzazaï and Lolo ASGM sites are included in the area covered by the 'KELLE' NGOYBOMA small-scale gold mine zone
Kingoué District	3.534492	14.107817		The Mikassa site	The Mikassa site is within the area of the 'Mingoui' small-scale gold mining licence granted to Minéralya Congo s.a. under licence No. 4205 of 21 February 2020. The Ngapiémé site. on the other hand. is part of the Kintou - Kimpolo gold prospecting licence granted to SOCAMIRAL under Decree

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GEO Name ID	Location Description	Activity Description
					no. 2022-21 of 16 January 2023.
Linkana - Mokeko District	1.526269	15.6303		The Likana ASGM site	The Likana - ASGM site is not part of any mining concession
Sounda - Kakamoeka District	4.071494	12.138372		Sounda	The various sites in the Sounda area shown here are within the area covered by the 'Mandzi' ASGM licence granted to AS. Building. Licence no.: Order no. 1430 of 07 April 2022.
Makokolo - Kakamoeka District	4.152286	12.170339		The Makokolo 1 and Makokolo 2 sites	The Makokolo 1 and Makokolo 2 sites are located in the areas covered by the 'Mandzi' small-scale gold mining licence granted to AS. Building and 'Mboukou-or / cassiterite' for Thamani Ming. Licence no. : Order no. 1430 of 07 April 2022Order no. 8210 of 26 June 2023.

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

[Annex any linked geospatial file]

Additional Supporting Documents:

Filename	File Uploaded By	File Uploaded At	
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Filename	File Uploaded By	File Uploaded At	
10619_planetGOLD Congo_Co-finance Report_PIR1.xlsx	CW TM	2024-09-09 13:00:56	Download
16019 planetGOLD CONGO PIR-1_2024.zip	Executing Agency	2024-07-29 04:59:22	Download