



Project Implementation Report

(1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024)

Project Title:	<i>GEF GOLD+ in Madagascar: Enhancing the formalization and mercury reduction in artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) in Madagascar</i>
GEF ID:	<i>10604</i>
UNIDO ID:	<i>200051</i>
GEF Replenishment Cycle:	<i>GEF-7</i>
Country(ies):	<i>Madagascar</i>
Region:	<i>AFR - Africa</i>
GEF Focal Area:	<i>Chemicals and Waste (CW)</i>
Integrated Approach Pilot (IAP) Programs¹:	<i>N/A</i>
Stand-alone / Child Project:	<i>Child Project</i>
Implementing Department/Division:	<i>ENV / MCM</i>
Co-Implementing Agency:	<i>N/A</i>
Executing Agency(ies):	<i>Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of Madagascar</i>
Project Type:	<i>Full-Sized Project (FSP)</i>
Project Duration:	<i>60 months</i>
Extension(s):	<i>0</i>
GEF Project Financing:	<i>4,971,750 \$</i>
Agency Fee:	<i>447,458.00 \$</i>
Co-financing Amount:	<i>31,296,986.00 \$</i>
Date of CEO Endorsement/Approval:	<i>1/12/2023</i>
UNIDO Approval Date:	<i>2/10/2023</i>
Actual Implementation Start:	<i>5/25/2023</i>
Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June 2024:	<i>249,980.00 \$</i>
Mid-term Review (MTR) Date:	<i>6/30/2025</i>
Original Project Completion Date:	<i>6/30/2027</i>
Project Completion Date as reported in FY23:	<i>NA</i>
Current SAP Completion Date:	<i>6/30/2027</i>
Expected Project Completion Date:	<i>6/30/2028</i>

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

Expected Terminal Evaluation (TE) Date:	<i>12/31/2028</i>
Expected Financial Closure Date:	<i>6/30/2029</i>
UNIDO Project Manager²:	<i>Ozunimi Iiti</i>

I. Brief description of the project and status overview

Project Objective
<p>This project aims to formalize the ASGM sector through a global, multi-sectoral and integrated approach, increase access to financing leading to the adoption of sustainable mercury-free technologies and access to supply chains in traceable gold.</p> <p>Core indicators:</p> <p>Indicator 4: Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas): Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement): 75,300.00</p> <p>Indicator 9: Chemicals of global concern and their waste reduced: Indicator 9.2 Quantity of mercury reduced (metric tons): Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement) after 15 years: 20</p> <p>Indicator 11: People benefiting from GEF-financed investments: Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement):</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Female: 5,948</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Male: 12,186</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Total: 18,134</p>

Baseline
<p>Artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) represents a means of livelihood and provides direct employment to approximately 600,000 Malagasy people, representing 2.3% of the nation population, of whom 37% are women and 20% are children, and indirect employment to 2.5 million people. Informal gold mining is practiced in 388 of Madagascar's 1,670 municipalities, with annual gold production across the ASGM sector estimated to be at least 14tonnes. Overall, Madagascar's annual gold production is believed to be worth about USD 450 million.</p> <p>However – and despite existing regulation – informal gold mining activities have caused widespread environmental degradation in Madagascar, including deforestation, land degradation, wetland destruction, loss of biodiversity, chemical pollution, and relevant induced impacts including greenhouse gases emissions. These environmental problems occur from the exploration stage to the closure stage of a mine's operation.</p> <p>Environmental problems associated with ASGM in Madagascar:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deforestation and biodiversity loss: Most of the mining sites are located in forests; hence, excavation activities in gold mining lead to deforestation. In most mining sites, large areas of land were cleared, consequently destroying the forest that many animal species depend on for food and habitation. Consequently, the balance in the ecosystem is disrupted. Many animal species known to inhabit this environment may have migrated away or worse, are exterminated, including protected or endangered species. - Soil erosion: Excavation activities for exploration purposes are a common source of soil erosion, as observed in the mining sites. Further mining activities have caused considerable damage to land and the soil is exposed to erosion. Unfortunately, the majority of the gold mining sites are not restored after decommissioning of the mining activities. - Air pollution: Air pollution is one of the consequences of ASGM activities (digging, milling, dry washing). The associated dust generated by mining has major impacts on the environment and worker's health. During the dry season, the level of dust emission is higher in comparison to the rainy season. Miners, being exposed to this dust without any personal protective equipment, such

² Person responsible for report content

as masks and goggles, are highly likely to contract respiratory and eye infections/injuries.

- Noise pollution: Constant and loud noise generated from blasting/grinding/crushing/digging activities and heavy machinery/trucks could lead to noise-induced hearing loss.
- Agricultural and water pollution: Agriculture and water are crucially important to food security and life on Earth. Madagascar is an island nation whose crops are extensively water-dependent whereas the distribution of river waters and precipitation is not equal among all states. Mining activities have threatened the sustainability of agriculture and water resources. Agricultural sector in Madagascar is affected directly (low productivity in crop farming) and indirectly (contaminated water from mining used by farmers for irrigation and daily life activities). In some cases, farmlands are destroyed where gold is found.
- Use of mercury: While mercury was not historically used within the ASGM sector, the substance and its associated processes were introduced by foreign miners about 10 years ago. Malagasy artisanal gold miners used the rest of gold mercury whole ore amalgamation collected from foreigners' exploitation. These two practices, which are gold mercury whole ore amalgamation and open burning, are considered as the worst practices in ASGM activity. The subsequent uptake of mercury in parts of the ASGM sector has seen the national consumption of the substance rise to an estimated 18.4 tonnes per year in the sector, used across sites totalling 37.65 hectares. This mercury usage has introduced serious health risks and impacts to miners and mining communities, also resulting in widespread environmental pollution. Moreover, the nature of mercury processing techniques means that the chemical can be dispersed widely through air, water courses and food chains, introducing mercury pollution – and the associated risks and impacts – to a far larger area and population than the immediately affected sites.

Structural problems of ASGM in Madagascar include institutional weaknesses such as policies that do not spell out mechanisms and supporting systems for growth of the ASGM market (in terms of prompt and sufficient Returns on Investment (ROI), access to finance, the viability of the gold supply chains, exports, etc.). Additionally, other problems are associated with poor and substandard practices on mining sites such as the use of mercury which results in anthropogenic releases and subsequent environmental degradation and adverse impacts.

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

In view of the GEF Secretariat's intent to start following the ability of projects to adopt the concept of adaptive management³, Agencies are expected to closely monitor changes that occur from year to year and demonstrate that they are not simply implementing plans but modifying them in response to developments and circumstances or understanding. In order to facilitate with this assessment, please introduce the ratings as reported in the previous reporting cycle, i.e. FY23, in the last column.

Overall Ratings ⁴	FY24	FY23
Global Environmental Objectives (GEOs) / Development Objectives (DOs) Rating	<i>Moderately Satisfactory (MS)</i>	<i>Unknown</i>
<p><i>The project is currently in its first year of implementation. Focus during this initial phase has been on establishing the project's foundation, including finalizing administrative procedures, setting up the national project management unit and steering committee, forging partnerships with national stakeholders, and launching initial awareness-raising activities. To date, these efforts have resulted in 844 individuals participating in awareness campaigns and events, with women comprising 470 participants and men 374.</i></p>		

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

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

Implementation Progress (IP) Rating	<i>Moderately Satisfactory (MS)</i>	<i>Unknown</i>
<p><i>Since its start and despite the delay observed following constraints relating to administrative procedures, the project has so far started on 13 activities and 12 sub-activities, or 48% of activities planned for year 1 were commenced and are ongoing.</i></p> <p><i>Since its implementation and thanks to the dynamism and proactivity of the team, the planetGOLD Madagascar project has been able to properly and timely manage all the challenges encountered such as insecurity during the mission.</i></p> <p><i>As a major result, the project was able to begin its launch and was able to mobilize stakeholders for good conduct during the implementation of the activities.</i></p>		
Overall Risk Rating	<i>Low Risk (L)</i>	Choose an item.
<p><i>The risks identified during the preparatory phase remain unchanged, except for risks related to COVID-19 pandemic, which are now low or no longer relevant.</i></p>		

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 in FY24
Component 1 – Enhancing ASGM formalization				
Outcome 1: Higher degree of formalization and integration across the ASGM				
Output 1.A: Strengthened legal and regulatory framework for ASGM	Number of community awareness raising and workshops on dissemination and enforcement of regulations [TCO.1]	0	4	The terms of reference for the recruitment of consultants have already been launched. Procurement procedures to recruit consultants have already been launched.
		0	4	
	Number of geo-prospecting and land allocation and environmental and social assessment conducted [PAO.2]			The terms of reference for the recruitment of consultants have already been validated and are being launched.
Output 1.B: Stronger institutional capacities for supporting professionalisation and regulation of the ASGM sector within target jurisdictions	Number of capacity building activities to support professionalization and regulation of the ASGM sector	0	4	Activity planned for year 2 of the project.
Component 2 – Access to finance enhanced by financial inclusion and responsible supply chains				
Outcome 2: Increased financial inclusion for ASGM miners				
Output 2.A: ASGM miners have stronger capacity to access financial products	Number of capacity building activities provided to financial institutions	0	6	The terms of reference for recruiting consultants are currently being developed. Activity planned for year 2 and year 3 of the project.
		0	8	
	Number of capacity building activities provided to miners on financial management	0	8	The terms of reference for recruiting consultants are currently being developed. Activity planned for year 2 and year 3 of the project.

Output 2B: Improved oversight and implementation of existing responsible supply chains within target jurisdictions	Number of capacity building activities or advocacy sessions conducted for government officials	0	4	The terms of reference for recruiting consultants are currently being developed. Activity planned for year 2 and year 3 of the project.
Component 3– Enhancing uptake of mercury-free technologies				
Outcome 3: Increased uptake of mercury-free technologies across the ASGM sector				
Output 3.A: Appropriate, context-specific technologies and processes identified and demonstrated	Number of plans to improve processing technologies developed	0	4	This activity will start in 2025.
Output 3.B: Miners gain technical skills in mercury-free technologies	Number of capacity building events for miners on mercury-free technologies	0	4	This activity will start in 2025.
Component 4 – Knowledge sharing, communication and local capacity building support				
Outcome 4: All actors across the ASGM sector have improved knowledge of strategies, tools and processes for mercury reduction				
Output 4.A: Programme of awareness raising and capacity development delivered for all ASGM actors	Number of awareness raising activities on mercury reduction delivered	0	8	Seven (7) awareness-raising events on the harmful effects of mercury on health and the environment and the benefits of the use of mercury-free technologies were carried out. - Four awareness campaigns in Farezy (215m/172f; 387 total); - One event in Antanimbary, project site (100m/15f; 115 total); - One event in Toliara during the celebration of World Environment Day (45m/34f; 79 total); - One event in Angovokely with the learners of future agents of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (23m/7f; 30 total).
	Number of training tools developed in national and local languages	0	2	The terms of reference for the recruitment of consultants are being launched. The implementation of related activities begins in year one and will continue in year 3 of the project.
Output 4.B: Madagascar GOLD+ project contributes to - and benefits from - global planetGOLD knowledge management activity	Number of awareness raising activities organized or attended at the global level on the environmental preservation and restoration, social welfare improvement	0	4	Participation in the planetGOLD Global Forum in the Philippines, June 2024. Since the child project in Madagascar is in the initial phase of its implementation, the national team's first participation in the forum served as a major brainstorming session, drawing valuable information and experiences from various sessions and lessons learnt from other child projects which offer practical solutions applicable to the challenges in Madagascar. The below insights gained will help refine strategies to reduce mercury use and promote sustainable mining practices in Madagascar. 1. National Action Plans (NAP) and Strategies for Vulnerable Populations: The discussions on National Action Plans, particularly those focused on protecting vulnerable populations, are critical for our project in Madagascar. We aim to adapt these strategies to Madagascar's unique socio-economic context, emphasizing gender-sensitive approaches and community participation in ASGM (Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining). Women in Madagascar play a significant role in ASGM but are often underpaid. Engaging with ministries and NGOs is crucial to understanding their situation and developing appropriate training, income generation, and healthcare initiatives.

				<p>2. Mercury-Free Mining Technologies: Insights from the Philippines, particularly on mercury-free mining in Burkina Faso, could be adapted for Madagascar to improve environmental and health outcomes in the ASGM sector. The upcoming implementation decree of Madagascar's new mining code will determine the types of equipment that can be used in ASGM. The project's decisions on equipment will be informed by this decree and the findings of consultants working in Malagasy ASGM sites.</p> <p>3. Access to Financing for Gold Miners: The forum presented strategies, particularly from Burkina Faso, on helping gold miners access funds to improve their work and transition to mercury-free technologies. The Central Bank's role in providing clean financing is highlighted as crucial for formalizing the gold sector in Madagascar, which is currently dominated by informality and illicit practices.</p> <p>4. Stakeholder Engagement and Formalization Efforts: Examples from Ecuador and Burkina Faso provide successful strategies for stakeholder engagement and formalization, which will guide efforts in strengthening legal frameworks and institutional cooperation in Madagascar.</p> <p>5. ASGM Site Visit in the Philippines: The visit to an ASGM site in the Philippines provided the Madagascar team with valuable insights into the equipment used in artisanal mining. The visit highlighted concerns about the affordability of such equipment for the planetGOLD Madagascar project, given its budget constraints.</p>
	Creation of database of ASGM actors and mailing list in Madagascar	0	1	Ongoing
Component 5 –Monitoring, evaluation and learning				
Output 5: M&E and adaptive management applied to capture and share lessons learned	NA	NA	NA	Ongoing

III. Project Risk Management

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

	(i) Risks at CEO stage	(i) Risk level FY 23	(i) Risk level FY 24	(i) Mitigation measures	(ii) Progress to-date	New defined risk ⁵
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⁵ New risk added in reporting period. Check only if applicable.

1	COVID-19 risks		L	Remote working arrangement, creation of virtual platforms for information dissemination and meetings, rigorous planning for the site-based interventions, with implementation of strict biosafety protocols for all project personnel, including distribution of protective equipment, deliver awareness programs at mining sites, partnering with local health services where possible	The pandemic is under control, and business has returned to normal, as it was before COVID.	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Lack of medical care and awareness at mining sites		M	Deliver awareness programs at mining sites, partnering with local health services where possible	Awareness sessions were realized in the regions and ASGM sites of the project (Farezy, Region Atsimo Andrefana and Antanimbaray, Region Betsiboka)	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Land degradation and deforestation due to mining activity		M	Analysis during project preparation indicates that legislation round land rehabilitation is likely to be a priority action during the project. Any work on this will also include sensitization / training with miners to strengthen rehabilitation efforts	awareness raising on the bad effects of the use of mercury in ASGM and the benefits of implementing environmental restoration activities (such as reforestation) after ASGM activities were carried out in two sites between the four sites ASGM of the project in Madagascar	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Degradation of water and soil resources		M	Legal literacy and awareness raising; strict law enforcement around use of mercury in ASGM; implement environmental restoration activities (such as reforestation).	Awareness raising of the benefits of implementing environmental restoration activities (such as reforestation) after ASGM activities were carried out in two sites between the four sites ASGM of the project in Madagascar to fight against the soil resources degradation.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Workers' safety during mining operation		M	Provision of appropriate personal equipment (PPE)	PPE will be provided when the MFPS is installed.	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Vulnerability to extreme climatic events		L	Potential climate change impacts were considered during site selection and will be closely monitored during implementation	Ongoing monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Water shortages due to climate variability		L	The potential technologies initially identified during project preparation involve recycling of process water, with miners to be trained on improved water recycling techniques. This will not only prevent water loss but will reduce other related environmental impacts (prevention of downstream pollution).	Ongoing monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Non site rehabilitation leading to social and individual risks		M	Conduct training, awareness campaigns and social behaviour change communication to all stakeholders around the importance of environmental restoration.	Ongoing training and monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Greenhouse gas emissions grow from fossil fuel use in ASGM		L	Motivate beneficiary mining organizations to progressively implement electrical equipment and renewable energy sources whenever utilities are available	Will be addressed in the next years	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Resistance of supply chain actors to formalization		H	Adopt participatory and awareness-raising approaches at the local level to make ASGM actors aware of the advantages of formalization. Increase enforcement of regulatory and legislative provisions or standards. Support local governance structures in order to improve supervision and product traceability.	Ongoing training and monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Change in the political and/or economic situation that negatively impact the ASGM sector		H	Building on the national committee on mercury established for the NAP project, the Government of Madagascar will supervise the project	Ongoing monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>

				<p>execution as part of the PSC, ensuring thus commitment and alignment with national priorities. Continuous communication and updates will be provided to ensure institutional support both at the national and at the local level for the selected jurisdiction</p> <p>The fluctuation of the international price of gold over the years had had little effect in the number of miners involved in the sector</p>		
12	Lack of coordination between key ministries, main stakeholders and various ASGM initiatives in the ground		H	There are several players working on many ASGM related projects and regular communication and coordination with them will be ensured, especially through the PSC meetings. Additionally, quarterly reports will be shared with relevant stakeholders	Ongoing communications and monitoring among partners to mobilize support	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Veto of local authorities, lack of commitment from local authorities		L	Support the public disclosure, on a disaggregated basis, of all information regarding taxes, duties and royalties that are paid to governments for the extraction, trade, processing, transport and export of minerals from areas of conflict or high risk. Inform government agencies at local and central level of any gaps in revenue collection and tracking; support capacity building training for these organizations so that they can effectively carry out their mission.	Ongoing communications and monitoring among partners to mobilize support	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Lack of accessible financial institutions / Limited interest from financial institutions		M	Establish and strengthen miner group capacity to organize collective savings. Encourage networks of existing financial entities to extend their network to rural areas. Support projects to set up microfinance institutions dedicated to the ASGM sector. Organize awareness and information sessions involving all potential players in the sector while highlighting the potential of the sector and the socio-economic impact that their investments will produce.	Ongoing communications and monitoring among partners to mobilize support	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Conflicts within and between mining communities and native residents in the mining areas		M	Prioritise development of conflict resolution processes (including legislation if necessary) as identified during project preparation stage. Strengthen monitoring and control systems within sites and strengthen capacity of monitoring authorities.	Ongoing communications and monitoring among partners to mobilize support	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Corruption		M	Develop warning mechanisms at the various stages of operations (at group level and at supply chain level) to identify suspicious behavior and activities. Maintain comprehensive list of all the actors; report behavior that raises suspicion of criminal activity to local, national, regional and international law enforcement agencies. Strengthen transparency by displaying the procedures and standards in force at the level of municipalities.	Ongoing reporting and communications between UNIDO – MEDD and local partners	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Continued disregard for the environmental and health impacts of existing mining activities		M	Awareness raising activity will be tailored to different audiences: government, private sector, public. Increase enforcement of regulatory and legislative provisions or standards.	Ongoing training and monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>

18	Prevailing cultural norms and practices (negative views on outsiders, resistance to change) prevent project activities		H	These risks will be mitigated through cultural orientation, community consultation, and miner-miner consultations. In addition, awareness-raising and incentives will be put in place to motivate bi-directional behavior changes (for project team and for miners)	Ongoing training and monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	Displacement of women and vulnerable groups through technologic changes		H	Implementation of new technologies will be accompanied by a gender impact assessment and corresponding mitigation measures	Mainstream gender perspectives in all activities (events, trainings)	<input type="checkbox"/>
20	Economic displacement of informal sector workers through formalization of ASGM		M	Communities/relevant experts and the informal sector will be engaged in the execution of the project's activities to ensure that activities provide new economic opportunities for informal workers.	Will be addressed in the next years	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	Loss of jobs for intermediaries and mercury providers could lead to threats and/or criminal activities		H	Providing job opportunities in the formalized artisanal gold supply chain while assessing the mercury trade flows and related risks throughout the project lifecycle	Will be addressed in the next years	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	Educational gaps such as illiteracy prevent meaningful engagement with project		L	Tailor training / capacity development material and processes to each specific target audience.	Will be addressed in the next years	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	Social conflict over the use of new equipment		L	Participatory community meetings	Will be addressed in the next years	<input type="checkbox"/>
24	Failure to identify an appropriate investment model ensuring sustainability post-intervention		L	Several options will be explored throughout the implementation of the project based on the local circumstances	Will be addressed in the next years	<input type="checkbox"/>
25	Limited willingness of public and private financial institutions to coordinate		L	Prioritization of work agendas on specific issues. Use of communication strategies that promote the importance of concurrence between actors	Will be addressed in the next years	<input type="checkbox"/>
26	Lack of interest of intermediary financial institutions to implement financial products targeting ASGM		H	Raising awareness among intermediary financial institutions of the importance of these mechanisms for further deepening of the financial system	Will be addressed in the next years	<input type="checkbox"/>
27	Language barrier communication/low education in the mining communities when training workshops take place		L	The project will develop easy access and understandable information workshops prepared by local specialists that will maintain close communication with mining communities	Training was carried out in the local language by local expert	<input type="checkbox"/>
28	Low absorption capacity of trainees on technical and difficult site accessibility		M	To mitigate the risk, the project will employ skilled experts (local and international) to provide training and then hands-on guiding. As the project progresses, the participants trained under the project can offer their acquired expertise to peers. Concerning the accessibility, a prescreening of area, combined with proper budgeting, transportation arrangement and communication support mechanisms, will be applied	Ongoing training and monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>
29	Gender-based violence (GBV)		M	Legal literacy and rights dissemination (including human rights, women's and children's rights, law 2019-008 on GBV Law enforcement through exemplary sanctions	Ongoing training and monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>

30	Insecurity		M	Work with law enforcers to ensure security Advocate for a better application of the social convention "the dina"	Ongoing communications and monitoring among partners to mobilize support	<input type="checkbox"/>
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2. If the project received a **sub-optimal risk rating (H, S)** in the previous reporting period, please state the **actions taken** since then to mitigate the relevant risks and improve the related risk rating. Please also elaborate on reasons that may have impeded any of the sub-optimal risk ratings from improving in the current reporting cycle; please indicate actions planned for the next reporting cycle to remediate this.

N/A

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

The project is experiencing delays in its implementation due to the delay in finalizing the implementing partner agreement between the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development and UNIDO (the implementing agreement was signed by UNIDO on 25 May 2023 and by the Ministry on 31 August 2023) as well as the delay of the acquisition of the first funds of the project (the first instalment was transferred on 27 November 2023). The Project Management Unit team plans to extend the implementation of the project until 30 June 2028.

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

N/A

IV. Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

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

Category A project

Category B project

Category C project

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

Please expand the table as needed.

	E&S risk	Mitigation measures undertaken during the reporting period	Monitoring methods and procedures used in the reporting period
(i) Risks identified in ESMP at time of CEO Endorsement	Discrimination against vulnerable groups (especially women, people with disabilities and illiterates) where prevailing social norms would ordinarily reduce or prevent those groups' participation in the project	Miners and communities have improved knowledge of the law and rights of different stakeholders Communication campaigns to disseminate awareness of rights Development of a documentary film with testimonials from target groups	Ongoing project monitoring through events and field visit
	Inability of vulnerable groups to benefit in the same way from planned project activities, due to their lower education levels which may reduce	Planned for next year	Planned for next year

	their ability to use the new equipment		
	Social unrest and potential conflict due to poor financial management within the group of gold miners	Financial and inclusive education of miners will be carried out in the next year.	Planned for next year
	Social conflict over the use of new equipment	Planned for next year	Planned for next year
	Increased levels of gender-based violence as a result of project activities, potentially arising due to social norms that would ordinarily reduce or prevent women's full participation in the project	Involvement of local and traditional authorities in the dissemination of rights	Ongoing project monitoring through events and field visit
	Increased levels of crime and insecurity	Work with local law enforcement to ensure security	Ongoing project monitoring through events and field visit
	Occupational accidents in mining areas Handling of toxic and hazardous substances	Safety briefings will be an integral part of any new technology or process-focused training	Ongoing project monitoring through events and field visit
	Infections with COVID-19	The pandemic is under control.	Ongoing project monitoring through events and field visit
	Child labour in mining cooperatives	Awareness raising around law and supply chain requirements	Ongoing project monitoring through events and field visit
	Increased land degradation and environmental pollution in case training on the proper implementation of site restoration activities is not or not properly conducted	Planned for next year	Planned for next year
	Failure to restore the environment, leading to social and individual risks such as poorer health incomes, social tensions	Ongoing environmental monitoring of the project	Ongoing project monitoring through events and field visit
	River contamination from mining discharges Emissions of pollutants into water and air from mining operations or processing plants supported through the project	Strict application of the law on the non-use of mercury Communication campaigns to disseminate awareness of existing laws and rationale for those laws	Ongoing project monitoring through events and field visit

	Impacts on soil from mining operations. Further decrease in organic matter, reduced fertility and water infiltration capacity (likely) decrease in arable land and increase in orphan sites (likely) Increased soil erosion (probable)	Communication campaigns to disseminate awareness of existing laws and rationale for those laws	Ongoing project monitoring through events and field visit
	Increased Air pollution (evaporation of Hg) => inhalation (probable)	Awareness campaign	Ongoing project monitoring through events and field visit
	Impacts on conservation values in protected areas Loss of biodiversity	Planned for next year	Planned for next year
	Access to water as a constitutional right	Planned for next year	Planned for next year
(ii) New risks identified during project implementation (if not applicable, please insert 'NA' in each box)	NA	NA	NA

V. Stakeholder Engagement

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

The members of the Project Management Unit of the project work with the stakeholder to implement the project.

The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MEDD) ensures the coordination and the Management Unit of the planetGOLD project Madagascar during the implementation through the Minamata National Office. This Ministry as a lead of the project implementation guides the development of the various strategies and regulatory texts, oversee capacity building activities of all stakeholders to achieve project objectives and facilitate the participation of stakeholders in the implementation of the project.

The Ministry of Mines works closely with the members of the Project Management Unit (PMU) for the implementation of the project in Madagascar.

The Ministry of Industrialization and Trade supports and accompanies gold miners and smallholders in the formalization of groups and cooperatives.

The Ministry of Health supports the design of strategy and implementation of communication tools on health risks and measures to be taken to eliminate them.

The Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene mobilizes the deconcentrated technical services to improve access to clean water and latrine facilities for gold miners.

The National Gold Sector Agency elaborates and supports the popularization of regulatory texts on ASGM.

The Central Bank of Madagascar participated in the inception workshop of the project and engage to participate during the implementation of the project.

The “Plateforme Nationale Femme, Développement Durable et de la Sécurité Alimentaire (PNFDDSA)” participated in the inception workshop of the project and supports the project in the implementation of communication activities and advocacy sessions.

The University UMAGIS – SAMIS contributes to the development and implementation of communication

during the meetings and workshops organized by the project.

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.).

The members of the PSC provided the below key feedback:

- Set up a grievance mechanism for the project or grievance management plan.
- Revise the timeline of some activities to ensure sufficient time to measure the project's results.

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

- Minutes of the Project Steering Committee on 31 of January 2024
- Minutes of the Project Steering Committee on 22 of February 2024
- Terms of reference for the project steering committee (discussed on 31 January 2024)
- Terms of reference for the project steering committee (discussed on 22 February 2024)
- Report of the inception workshop on 14 March 2024
- Concept note of the project inception workshop on 14 March 2024

VI. Gender Mainstreaming

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

Taking the gender perspectives into account in all project activity and drafting of the ToR for future activities. In 2024, 13 activities and 12 sub-activities were carried out.

Compared to the main gender-sensitive indicators in the results framework, two key performance indicators specifically concern this area, namely:

OC1.1: Number of gold miners supported in the formalization process:

The implementation of activities relating to this indicator is scheduled from the second half of 2025.

OC4.1: Number of actors reached through the project's awareness and capacity building activity:

In relation to the project activities carried out during FY 2023-2024, 611 participants joined the awareness raising events carried out by the project, including 228 women and 383 men.

VII. Knowledge Management and Communication

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

The following activities were carried out from September 2023 to June 2024:

- Launch of the planetGold project;
- Meeting of the Project Management Unit of the project;
- Project Steering Committee Meeting;
- Organize and conduct advocacy sessions on the implementation of the regional and municipal project and on the ASM sites: Farezy site, Antanimbary site
- Design of communication tools;
- Participation in international exchanges and training (in the Philippines);
- Knowledge repository management and knowledge sharing (sharing of activity reports) through the PlanetGOLD website;
- National communication and training strategy currently being developed.

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

Relevant knowledge management and communication mechanisms and tools are:
 Online information exchange and sharing platforms (WhatsApp - UGP planetGOLD Madagascar)
 Half-yearly financial technical reports (December 2023)
 Quarterly technical reports (April 2024)
 Leaflets, roll up, banner, brochure.

VIII. Implementation progress

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

Regarding progress, since its start and despite the delay observed following constraints relating to administrative procedures, the project has so far started on 13 activities and 12 sub-activities, or 48% of activities planned for year 1 were commenced and are ongoing.
 Since its implementation and thanks to the dynamism and proactivity of the team, the planetGOLD Madagascar project has been able to properly and timely manage all the challenges encountered such as insecurity during the mission.
 As a major result, the project was able to begin its launch and was able to mobilize stakeholders for good conduct during the implementation of the activities.

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

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

<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Framework	NA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Components and Cost	NA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Institutional and Implementation Arrangements	NA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Financial Management	NA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Implementation Schedule	<i>The project experienced a delay due to constraints relating to administrative procedures which affected the project timeline.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Executing Entity	NA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Executing Entity Category	NA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor Project Objective Change	NA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Safeguards	NA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Risk Analysis	NA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Increase of GEF Project Financing Up to 5%	NA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Co-Financing	NA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Location of Project Activities	NA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Others	

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

During FY 2023-2024, the executing agency's main expenses amount to USD 120,054.09.

⁶ As described in Annex 9 of the *GEF Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines*, **minor amendments** are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5%.



GRANT DELIVERY REPORT

Grant:	290004967	Grant Status:	Authority to implement	Grant Validity:	23.02.2023 - 23.02.2024
Sponsor:	489150 - GEF - Global Environment Facility	Currency:	USD	Reporting Period:	23.02.2023 - 30.06.2024
Other Reference:	19804-UNDO-PJ-FS-GR-7	Fund:	GF	Prepared on:	15.08.2024
Project:	200051	Country:	Madagascar	Region:	Africa
Project Description:	GEF GOLD+ IN MADAGASCAR: ENHANCING THE FORMALIZATION AND MERCURY REDUCTION IN ARTISANAL AND SMALL-SCALE GOLD MINING IN MADAGASCAR		Project Manager:	Corwin H	
				Project Validity:	09.03.2020 - 30.06.2027

Description	Released Budget Current Year (a)	Obligations Current Year (b)	Disbursements Current Year (c)	Expenditures Current Year (d+e)	Total Agreement Budget (a)	Released Budget (f)	Obligations + Disbursements (g)	Funds Available* (h=f-g)	Support Cost (i)	Total Expenditures (j+g)
200051										
200051-1-01-01	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD
1500 Local Travel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1700 Nat.Consult./Staff	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2100 Contractual Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2600 Support Implementing Partner	813,250.00	813,250.00	0.00	813,250.00	1,315,000.00	1,315,000.00	803,500.00	511,500.00	0.00	803,500.00
3000 Travel/Fellowship/Study	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8300 Support Cost IDC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	72,315.00	72,315.00
200051-1-01-01 Total	813,250.00	813,250.00	0.00	813,250.00	1,315,000.00	1,315,000.00	803,500.00	511,500.00	72,315.00	875,815.00
200051-1-01-02	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD
1500 Local Travel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1700 Nat.Consult./Staff	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2100 Contractual Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2600 Support Implementing Partner	321,300.00	321,300.00	0.00	321,300.00	1,325,000.00	1,325,000.00	446,500.00	878,500.00	0.00	446,500.00
3000 Travel/Fellowship/Study	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8300 Support Cost IDC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	48,183.00	48,183.00
200051-1-01-02 Total	321,300.00	321,300.00	0.00	321,300.00	1,325,000.00	1,325,000.00	446,500.00	878,500.00	48,183.00	496,683.00
200051-1-01-03	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD
1500 Local Travel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1700 Nat.Consult./Staff	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2100 Contractual Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2600 Support Implementing Partner	679,300.00	679,300.00	0.00	679,300.00	1,495,000.00	1,495,000.00	832,300.00	662,700.00	0.00	832,300.00
3000 Travel/Fellowship/Study	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8300 Support Cost IDC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	83,907.00	83,907.00
200051-1-01-03 Total	679,300.00	679,300.00	0.00	679,300.00	1,495,000.00	1,495,000.00	832,300.00	662,700.00	83,907.00	1,014,207.00

* Does not include Unapproved Obligations

The above statement has been certified electronically by the designated officials in UNIDO's Financial Services.

Report Prepared on: 15.08.2024

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Description	Released Budget Current Year (a)	Obligations Current Year (b)	Disbursements Current Year (c)	Expenditures Current Year (d+e)	Total Agreement Budget (a)	Released Budget (f)	Obligations + Disbursements (g)	Funds Available* (h=f-g)	Support Cost (i)	Total Expenditures (j+g)
200051-1-01-04	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD
1500 Local Travel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1700 Nat.Consult./Staff	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2100 Contractual Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2600 Support Implementing Partner	108,800.00	108,800.00	0.00	108,800.00	600,000.00	600,000.00	211,800.00	388,200.00	0.00	211,800.00
3000 Travel/Fellowship/Study	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5100 Other Direct Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8300 Support Cost IDC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19,062.00	19,062.00
200051-1-01-04 Total	108,800.00	108,800.00	0.00	108,800.00	600,000.00	600,000.00	211,800.00	388,200.00	19,062.00	228,862.00
200051-1-01-01	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD
1500 Local Travel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1700 Nat.Consult./Staff	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2100 Contractual Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2600 Support Implementing Partner	46,350.00	46,350.00	0.00	46,350.00	236,700.00	236,700.00	97,700.00	139,000.00	0.00	97,700.00
5100 Other Direct Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8300 Support Cost IDC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,793.00	4,793.00
200051-1-01-01 Total	46,350.00	46,350.00	0.00	46,350.00	236,700.00	236,700.00	97,700.00	139,000.00	4,793.00	106,493.00

	Description	Released Budget	Commitments	Disbursements	Expenditures	Total	Released	Commitments	Funds	Support Cost	Total
		Current Year (\$)	Current Year (\$)	Current Year (\$)	Current Year (\$)	Agreement Budget (\$)	Budget (\$)	Unencumbered (\$)	Available* (\$=f-g)	(\$)	Expenditures (\$=h)
20001-1-03-01	Independent MTR and final evaluation	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD
1100	Staff & Intern Consultants	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	60,000.00	60,000.00	0.00	60,000.00	0.00	0.00
1500	Local Travel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1700	Mat. Consult. Staff	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2100	Contractual Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2600	Support Implementing Partner	4,500.00	4,500.00	0.00	4,500.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	0,000.00	12,000.00	0.00	4,500.00
3000	Travel/Fellowship/Study	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8000	Support Cost (IC)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	720.00	720.00
20001-1-03-01	Total	4,500.00	4,500.00	0.00	4,500.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	0,000.00	82,000.00	720.00	4,720.00
200001	Total	1,872,800.00	1,872,800.00	0.00	1,872,800.00	4,071,700.00	4,071,700.00	2,400,000.00	2,471,000.00	224,000.00	2,724,700.00
200000001	USD Total	1,872,800.00	1,872,800.00	0.00	1,872,800.00	4,071,700.00	4,071,700.00	2,400,000.00	2,471,000.00	224,000.00	2,724,700.00

IX. Work Plan and Budget

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

Please fill in the below table or make a reference to a file, in case it is submitted as an annex to the report.

Result by Project Components	Year 1		Year 2				Year 3				Year 4				Year 5				Remaining budget
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Component 1 : Enhancing ASGM formalization																			
Outcome 1 :	Higher degree of formalization and integration across the ASGM sector																		1,311,500
Output 1.1 :																			493,375
Output 1.2 :																			818,125
Component 2 : Access to finance enhanced by financial inclusion and responsible supply chains																			
Outcome 2 :	Increased financial inclusion for ASGM miners																		1,325,000
Output 2.1 :																			698,500
Output 2.2 :																			626,500
Component 3 : Enhancing uptake of mercury-free technologies																			
Outcome 3 :	Increased uptake of mercury-free technologies across the ASGM sector																		1,458,594
Output 3.1 :																			1,000,694
Output 3.2 :																			457,900
Component 4 : Knowledge sharing, communication and local capacity building support																			
Outcome 4 :	All actors across the ASGM sector have improved knowledge of strategies, tools and processes for mercury reduction																		457,477
Output 4.1 :																			323,198
Output 4.2 :																			134,279
Component 5 : Monitoring, evaluation and learning																			
Outcome 5 :	Stronger evidence base on effective mercury reduction strategies																		90,000
Output 5.1 :																			90,000

X. Synergies

1. Synergies achieved:

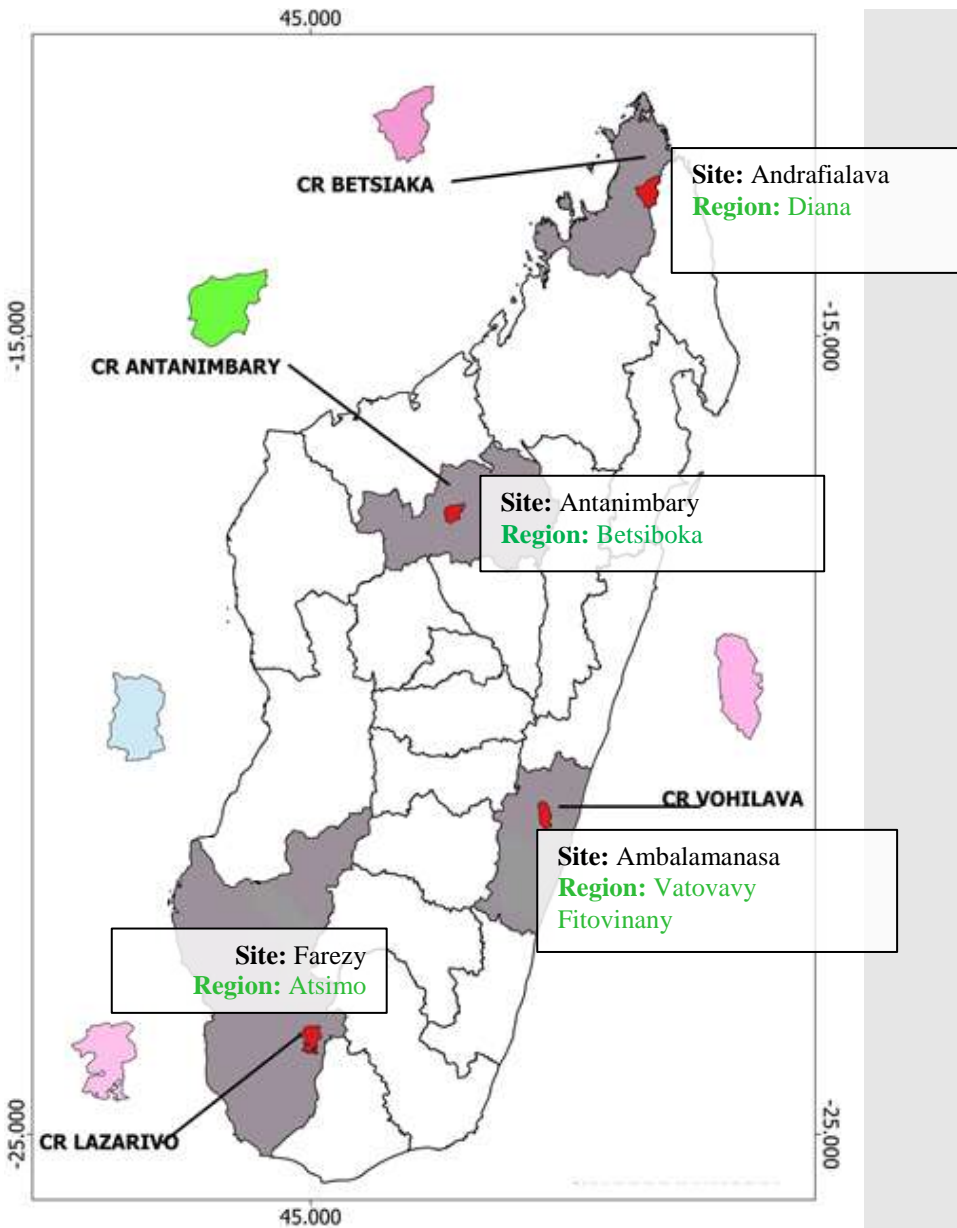
N/A

3. Stories to be shared (Optional)

N/A

XI. GEO LOCATION INFORMATION

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	Geo Name ID	Location and Activity Description
Vatovavy Fitovinany	-21.173926253209128	48.02053543962301	NA	Mine site in Ambalamanasa
Diana	-17.43975383402756	45.25143221116788	NA	Mine site in Andrafiava
Atsimo-Andrefana	-23.907498542340825	44.9245526337013	NA	Mine site in Farezy
Betsiboka	-17.183796314782683,	46.851716576879674	NA	Mine site in Antanimbary



EXPLANATORY NOTE

1. **Timing & duration:** Each report covers a twelve-month period, i.e. 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024.
2. **Responsibility:** The responsibility for preparing the report lies with the project manager in consultation with the Division Chief and Director.
3. **Evaluation:** For the report to be used effectively as a tool for annual self-evaluation, project counterparts need to be fully involved. The (main) counterpart can provide any additional information considered essential, including a simple rating of project progress.
4. **Results-based management:** The annual project/programme progress reports are required by the RBM programme component focal points to obtain information on outcomes observed.

Global Environmental Objectives (GEOs) / Development Objectives (DOs) ratings	
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	Project is expected to achieve or exceed <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.