GEF - PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)

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1 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Project Details

GEF ID: 11049	**Umoja WBS:**SB-026736,SB-026736.03.01,SB-026736.11.01
SMA IPMR ID:204598	**Grant ID:**S1-32GFL-000946
Project Short Title: GEF-CW.11049.Africa Plastics FSP	
Project Title: Circular and POPs-free Plastics in Africa	
Duration months planned:	60
Duration months age:	27
Project Type:	Full Sized Project (FSP)
Parent Programme if child project:	
Project Scope:	Regional
Region:	Africa
Countries:	Kenya,Nigeria,South Africa,Zimbabwe,Uganda
GEF Focal Area(s):	Chemicals and Waste
GEF financing amount:	$ 11,000,000.00
Co-financing amount:	$ 79,882,669.00
Date of CEO Endorsement/Approval:	2024-03-13
UNEP Project Approval Date:	2024-06-12
Start of Implementation (PCA entering into force):	2024-09-20
Date of Inception Workshop, if available:	2024-11-13
Date of First Disbursement:	2024-10-15
Total disbursement as of 30 June 2026:	$ 3,207,233.00
Total expenditure as of 30 June:	$ 908,863.00
Midterm undertaken?:	n/a
Actual Mid-Term Date, if taken:	

Expected Mid-Term Date, if not taken:	2027-08-31
Completion Date Planned - Original PCA:	2029-08-31
Completion Date Revised - Current PCA:	
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date:	2030-02-28
Expected Financial Closure Date:	2030-08-31

1.2 Project Description

The Africa POPs in plastics project aims to reduce the releases of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) from plastic products in the African continent. Three sectors were prioritized in five countries: automotives (Kenya, South Africa), construction (Zimbabwe) and electronics (Nigeria, Uganda). Project interventions intend to reduce the import, production and use of POPs in plastic-containing products, and the generation of uPOPs and greenhouse gases (GHG) in these sectors. The project will work with governments to adopt and enforce upstream policies and financial instruments; with plastic product designers, manufacturers and assemblers to implement circular economy practices and eliminate/replace problematic products with more sustainable alternatives; and with recyclers and collectors to separate hazardous plastics fractions and increase awareness. This will result in multiple global environmental benefits: 38.6 metric tons of POPs reduced; 63,234 metric tons of POPs containing plastics prevented; 36.16 gTEQ POPs from air avoided; 39,213 metric tons of CO2e mitigated; and 5,004 direct beneficiaries reached, which in turn will lead to reduced human health, environment, and economic impacts. It marks an innovative1 approach that targets POPs in plastics directly by applying an upstream circular approach where the imports of plastics that cannot be safely managed are controlled. The project will complement existing end-of-pipe initiatives on environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes (ESM) by reducing the generation of such wastes, although it will not directly collect or manage these waste streams. By applying solutions in three sectors known to use plastic-containing products with a high likelihood of POPs contamination2, successful practices can be scaled in and outside the selected sectors. The project is consistent with several political priorities in the project countries, mainly related to ESM of plastic and hazardous waste. South-South cooperation is encouraged under the project through the provision of regional workshops and coordination. At a global level, the project directly aligns with the following sustainable development goals and targets: SDG 3 (target 3.9), 5 (target 5.5), 6 (target 6.3), 9 (target 9.3), and 12 (target 12.4, 12.5, and 12.7) and will positively contribute to the UNEP Mid-Term Strategy, UNEP Programme of Work 2025 outcomes under the Chemicals and Pollution Action and Science-Policy Sub-programme (3A, 3B, and 3C), direct outcomes (3.1, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.8, 3.9, and 3.14) and indicators (I, ii, iii, iv, and change in action by private sector and civil society). It has specific links to the UNEP Circularity in Sectors and Pollution and Health Programme Coordination Projects (PCPs). UNEP's comparative advantage is its mandate to coordinate the work of the UN in the area of environment, and its experience as a successful and efficient Implementing Agency (IA) specializing in regional and global activities. UNEP's expertise includes proof of concept, testing of ideas, and the best available science and knowledge to form the basis of GEF investments. UNEP also serves as the Secretariat to three of the MEAs (Stockholm, Minamata and SAICM), for which GEF is the/a financial mechanism. Through previous and existing work streams under its UNEP One Plastics Initiative, UNEP has created a network of partners to communicate and coordinate with on plastics-related work. The initiative acts as an additional platform to coordinate with all relevant UNEP divisions and teams, peer agencies, and partners; and engages with global partners, as well as with regional, national, and sub-national initiatives, governments, businesses, NGOs, and academia to tackle plastic pollution systematically. Finally, the project will seek strong cooperation and coordination of efforts with the UN National Country Team, the UN Resident Coordinator in the project countries and UNEP Africa Office to ensure adequate implementation in line with the UN national strategy.

1.3 Project Contacts

Division(s) Implementing the project	Industry and Economy Division
Name of co-implementing Agency	
Executing Agency (ies)	Basel Convention Coordinating Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the African Region, Nigeria (BCCC Nigeria); UNEP Industry Innovation Branch
names of Other Project Partners	Grace Aniagboso; Oluseun Badejo
UNEP Portfolio Manager(s)	Ludovic Bernaudat
UNEP Task Manager(s)	Jitendra Sharma/ Thandeka Mbatha
UNEP Budget/Finance Officer	Anuradha Shenoy
UNEP Support Assistants	
Manager/Representative	Gilbert Adie
Project Manager	Percy Onianwa
Finance Manager	Abimbola Adeyemo
Communications Lead, if relevant	

2 Overview of Project Status

2.1 UNEP PoW & UN

UNEP Current Subprogramme(s):	Thematic: Chemicals and pollution action subprogramme
UNEP previous Subprogramme(s):	
PoW Indicator(s):	• 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: (ii) Number of Governments developing or implementing policies, strategies and mechanisms to prevent or reduce waste and ensure environmentally sound waste treatment or disposal, including in the context of disaster or conflict-related environmental emergencies, with UNEP support • 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
UNSDCF/UNDAF linkages	The project is expected to reduce releases of POPs from plastic products and waste streams across Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe, while strengthening national capacities to meet obligations under the Stockholm and Basel Conventions. The project supports sustainable chemicals and waste management through improved regulatory frameworks, characterization and management of POPs-containing plastic waste, promotion of safer alternatives, and adoption of circular economy approaches. It therefore contributes directly to the environmental sustainability objectives of participating countries' UNSDCFs, particularly those related to environmental governance, pollution prevention, sustainable consumption and production, and implementation of multilateral environmental agreements. The project also advances SDGs on health, sustainable cities, responsible consumption and production, climate action, and protection of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. The regional approach promotes harmonized policies, knowledge exchange, and strengthened institutional and technical capacities for environmentally sound management of plastics and hazardous chemicals. Regular coordination is maintained with national authorities, executing partners, UNEP regional offices, and relevant UN Country Teams to ensure alignment with national development priorities, facilitate information sharing, and maximize synergies with related environmental initiatives. Project achievements, lessons learned, risks and emerging opportunities are communicated through established coordination mechanisms to support effective implementation and long-term sustainability of project outcomes.
Link to relevant SDG Goals	• Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages • Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls • Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all • 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:	• 3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination • 5.5 Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life • 6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally • 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 • 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 • 12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse • 12.7 Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities

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

	Targets - Expected Value				
Indicators	**Mid-term**	**End-of-project**	**Total Target**	**Materialized to date**	**Remarks**
6- Greenhouse gas emissions mitigated		39213	39213		
6.2- Greenhouse gas emission mitigated outside the AFOLU sector		39213	39213		
6.8- Emissions avoided outside AFOLU sector (Indirect)		39213	39213		
9- Chemicals of global concern and their waste reduced		38.6	38.6		
9.1-Solid and liquid Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) removed or disposed (POPs type)		38.6	38.6		
9.8- Avoided residual plastic waste		63234	63234		
10- Persistent organic pollutants to air reduced		36.16	36.16		
11- People benefitting from GEF-financed investments		9630	9630	736	The number of people

	Targets - Expected Value				
Indicators	**Mid-term**	**End-of-project**	**Total Target**	**Materialized to date**	**Remarks**
					trained and benefitted from project activities.

Implementation Status 2026: 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 2026	1st PIR	MS	MS	L
FY 2025				
FY 2024				
FY 2023				
FY 2022				
FY 2021				
FY 2020				
FY 2019				
FY 2018				
FY 2017				
FY 2016				
FY 2015				

Progress: Information on progress outcomes of project implementation activities

This is the first PIR of the project. In past 18 months, the project has made steady progress in establishing the institutional, technical and operational frameworks required to achieve its objectives. Key advances have been recorded in project coordination, stakeholder engagement, communications, knowledge management, gender mainstreaming, policy review processes and technical characterization studies. While implementation progress has varied across participating countries, important lessons and momentum have been generated through activities undertaken by Nigeria, and Zimbabwe.Following the release of the first tranche of funding, regional and national experts were recruited and project implementation structures became operational. Two regional Project Steering Committee meetings were held, alongside national

inception workshops and establishment of National Working Groups in several participating countries. A regional Stakeholder Engagement Plan was developed and adopted, and regular coordination was maintained through bi-weekly technical meetings and monthly meetings between UNEP and BCCC-Africa. These activities have provided a strong foundation for implementation across the project region.Component 1: Policy and Economic Instruments Targeting POPs-Containing PlasticsPolicy and regulatory foundation for reducing POPs-containing plastics was established. Nigeria completed a review of relevant policy and regulatory frameworks, which underwent expert review and stakeholder consultation. At the regional level, UNEP-IIB supported countries through knowledge management sessions on policy review methodologies and policy drafting to strengthen future regulatory and enforcement measures.Component 2: Circular Economy Practices to Reduce POPs in Problematic PlasticsTechnical knowledge and strengthening capacity for circular economy interventions were generated. Nigeria and Zimbabwe completed upstream industry and product characterization studies and collected samples for POPs analysis. Regional studies on alternatives to POPs-containing plastics and suitable technologies advanced, with preliminary findings shared through webinars. Capacity-building efforts included the award of nine bursaries for the Master of Chemical Risk Management programme, six of which were awarded to women. Preparatory work was also undertaken on postgraduate research grants and assessments on access to finance and industry training needs.Component 3: Environmentally Sound Management of POPs-Containing Plastic WasteBaseline information for environmentally sound management of POPs-containing plastic waste was established. Nigeria and Zimbabwe conducted downstream waste characterization studies, including field assessments of facilities, waste streams and waste management practices. Plastic samples were processed and submitted for laboratory analysis, while regional studies on suitable waste management technologies continued to support future interventions.Component 4: Knowledge Management, Communication and Capacity BuildingA regional communications strategy was adopted and supported through a training workshop, the first project newsletter was published, and the project website continued to disseminate information and results. UNEP-IIB coordinated several knowledge-sharing events covering policy development, alternatives to POPs-containing plastics and suitable technologies. Project visibility was enhanced through inclusion on the Global Plastics Hub, while gender mainstreaming efforts continued under the regional Gender Management Strategy, with women representing approximately 35-40% of participants in project activities.The expenditure of the project has been moderately satisfactory due to the delay in contracting with project countries. UNEP is working with the EA and countries to improve the delivery of project in coming reporting cycle.

Challenges: Information on challenges of project implementation activities

The main challenges to the implementation of the project have been the rather poor levels of advancement on project activities schedules by South Africa, Kenya, and Uganda. The main reasons adducible for this appear to be high degrees of bureaucracy in the partner institutions in these countries. These delays make it difficult to sign off any project activity as being fully completed, as well as negatively affecting the original design to implement certain activities concurrently across the five countries. The conduct of KM events by UNEP IIB also becomes unduly delayed when partner executing countries do not carry out their activities on schedule.South Africa participated in the PSC-I of November 2024 but did not conclude its MoU with BCCC until October 2025. Since then, no further activities (administrative or technical) have been undertaken, as no formal request was received for funds transfer. The country's Focal Point participates in the bi-weekly project tracking meetings and UNEP IA has formally made two interventions with the authorities of South Africa's Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) to overcome the delay.Uganda received first tranche of funds for project implementation by late October 2025. Since then, it has conducted inception workshop, NWG inaugural meeting and consultative meeting in June 2026. However national experts are not yet hired so core activities are delayed. The Project Manager and TM are following up informally.Kenya, after a very long delay, only concluded its MoU with the Executing Agency in January 2026. It subsequently opened a project account in May 2026 and received first tranche of funds during the same month, so no activities are yet initiated. Zimbabwe is facing some delays on the policy review and drafting activity.The Project Manager will continue to work with UNEP IA to exert pressure and provide necessary support to South Africa, Uganda and Kenya to ensure that these countries commence project activities without further delays, to fulfill the goals of this important regional project within the timelines scheduled.

2.4 Co Finance

Planned Co-finance:	$ 79,882,669
Actual to date:	2,288,625
Progress	**Justify progress in terms of materialization of expected co-finance. State any relevant challenges:** The total co-finance contributions as of June 30, 2026, are very low compared to what would have been expected by that date which should be about one-quarter of the total mobilized value. Following are the reasons for low co-financing reporting: 1. Progress with project activities has been rather sluggish up to June 2026. Only Nigeria and Zimbabwe have commenced technical activities. Kenya, Uganda and South Africa are yet to commence technical work. Some level of Co-finance realization is normally associated with progression of activities by the executing country partners. 2. Some of the co-finance partners have so far not yet provided responses to the requests by the project's co-finance monitoring team. Thus, there is the possibility that the co-finance contributions of such partners may be under-reported in this PIR-1. In summary, cofinancing is expected to increase with the execution of core/technical project activities in the next period. The executing agency will also enhance the project's co-finance tracking mechanism to achieve improved co-finance reporting by all concerned.

2.5. Stakeholder

Date of project steering committee meeting	2025-11-19
Stakeholder engagement (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)	Two PSC meetings have been held since the inception period. The first was held during 13-14 November 2024 in Nairobi, Kenya, while the second was held during 19-20 November 2025. The project teams recognize the critical importance of effective stakeholders' engagement in the project. At different stages of activities, appropriate levels of stakeholders' consultations and engagement have been carried out. Some of these include: Regional Level: -The above-mentioned first and second Project Steering Committee meetings were effectively utilized to engage with officials of country executing partners and the Implementing Agency (UNEP) for the purpose of decision making on work plans, budget forecasts, procurement plans, etc., and for receiving and reviewing country reports on project activities.

	-The project newsletter (maiden issue was issued by January 2026) has also served for dissemination of information about the project with internal and external stakeholders. Partner Country Levels: Nigeria, Uganda and Zimbabwe have each held inception workshops, several National Working Group meetings for stakeholders' engagement. During characterisation studies of industries and other facilities, Nigeria and Zimbabwe held several meetings with various private sector groups, including the formal and informal sectors, to share information about the project and solicit cooperation and support.

2.6. Gender

Does the project have a gender action plan?	Yes
Gender mainstreaming (will be uploaded to GEF Portal):	Project officials at regional and national levels are fully conscious of the need for gender mainstreaming in the execution of the project. 1. In making the first batch awards of postgraduate bursaries tenable at University of Cape Town under the project, 6 out of 9 awardees were female. 2. To the extent possible, females have been given consideration in appointments as regional and national experts: -three out of eight regional experts are females (i.e. the regional gender, policy and finance experts) -two out of four Nigeria national expert is female (i.e. the national gender and policy experts) -one out of three Zimbabwe national expert is female (i.e. the national gender experts) 3. Participation in Workshops & Consultative Meetings: -First PSC Meeting/Inception Meeting: 37 total participants - 24 male, 13 females (35%) -Second PSC Meeting: 29 total - 21 male, 8 females (28%) -Nigeria reported six different consultative activities involving total of 237 participants: 153 male, 84 females (35%). -Uganda reported three consultative activities involving total 114 participants: 64 male, and 50 females (44%) -Zimbabwe reported 13 activities involving 427 participants – 276 male, 151 females (35%) - Kenya and South Africa have not commenced consultative activities. 4. A regional gender management plan was drafted and validated by the PSC for the project. -Nigeria also developed and validated its national gender action plan

	Going forward, the project teams will strive to improve the proportion of the female gender involvement in project activities in order to achieve better mainstreaming outcomes. Already, the project design incorporates several safety nets and targets to support gender mainstreaming. Many of the activities dealing with such specific provisions for women are not yet due.

2.7. ESSM

Moderate/High risk projects (in terms of Environmental and social safeguards)	**Was the project classified as moderate/high risk CEO Endorsement/Approval Stage?** No **If yes, what specific safeguard risks were identified in the SRIF/ESERN?** -
New social and/or environmental risks	**Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during the reporting period?** No **If yes, describe the new risks or changes?** -
Complaints and grievances related to social and/or environmental impacts	**Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential) during the reporting period?** No **If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail, including the status, significance, who was involved and what actions were taken?**
Environmental and social safeguards management	GEF classified this project as a LOW-risk project. Notwithstanding this, project activity has so far been conducted and will continue to be conducted with close monitoring for alignment and compliance with GEF/UNEP guides for Environment and Social Safeguards Management (ESSM). Project design and tools have been well formulated to achieve this. The risk management plan and the stakeholders' engagement plan contribute to the achievement. Since the beginning of the project in Sept 2024, there have been no complaints/grievances or conflicts related to ESSSM issues. Nigeria and Zimbabwe have conducted field studies for the characterisation of upstream and downstream facilities in their respective sectors. Activities in the downstream facilities involved working with informal sector practitioners in cooperatives and as individuals. Adequate engagement activities were undertaken prior to, during and after the field surveys. The fears and concerns of the stakeholders were appreciated, discussed, and assurances made. There were no incidents of mishandling or contamination of sites or facilities during sample collection and preparation. There were no incidents of misuse of labour or discrimination against any persons during the field surveys. Thus, there were no causes for conflicts and grievances.The grievance

	mechanism for the project uses the link https://popsfreeafricaplastics.org/grievance-mechanism/.

2.8. KM/Learning

Knowledge activities and products	The project strengthened regional knowledge exchange through a series of webinars, technical studies, and capacity needs assessments aimed at supporting implementation across the five participating countries. Key activities included: Knowledge Sharing Webinar on Policy Review, Policy Drafting and Regulations, covering policy development approaches, regulatory drafting, gender mainstreaming, and lessons from Nigeria's policy review process. Knowledge Sharing Webinar on Alternatives Studies and Suitable Technologies, presenting findings on safer alternatives to POPs, technology options, economic feasibility, and pathways for pilot implementation. Technical webinar by the Regional POPs in Plastics Expert, providing guidance on POPs in plastics and environmentally sound management approaches. Country experience-sharing webinars by the National Technical Coordinators of Nigeria and Zimbabwe on characterization studies and lessons learned. Stakeholder Training Needs Assessment and Knowledge Management and Training Needs Webinar, which informed the development of targeted training packages for government agencies, producers, recyclers, and the informal sector. (https://globalplasticshub.org/project/10). The project also produced a first draft of two key technical studies: the Study of Alternatives to POPs and the Study of Suitable Technologies and Economic Feasibility for POPs-Free Plastic Systems, aiming to provide practical guidance for national implementation and future pilot interventions when additional information become available for incorporation into these important studies, from the final reports of the characterisation studies.
Main learning during the period	Knowledge-sharing activities confirmed that participating countries require practical, implementation-focused guidance on policy development, characterization methodologies, alternatives assessment, and technology selection. Peer-to-peer exchange proved particularly valuable in accelerating learning and implementation across countries. The training needs assessment identified significant capacity gaps among government agencies, producers, and recyclers, particularly in identifying POPs-containing plastics, understanding regulatory requirements, assessing compliance, and accessing suitable technologies

	and financing. These findings informed the design of tailored training packages and will guide future capacity-building activities.

Reflows

Reflows (for NGIs only)	

2.9. Stories

Stories to be shared	Many stories have been published online on GEFID 11049, generally describing the features of the project and highlight its critical importance to environmental management in the African continent. Some specifically describe some of the project activities such as the project steering committee meetings and country inception workshops. Links to some of these stories are provided below. 1. Five African countries unite reduce release hazardous chemicals https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/press-release/five-african-countries-unite-reduce-release-hazardous-chemicals 2. Africa Tackles Plastics https://www.mygreenpod.com/articles/africa-tackles-plastics/?srsltid=AfmBOopmb7otZz1BXrahEFCBHZknuEkbMC32ZJdm9Ftq3PVrfiFtOfl5 3. BCCC-Nigeria Organizes Inception Workshop for the UNEP-GEF Africa Plastics Project (GEFID 11049) in Nairobi, Kenya https://www.basel.org.ng/index.php/politics/173-bccc-nigeria-organizes-inception-workshop-for-the-unep-gef-africa-plastics-project-gefid-11049-in-nairobi-kenya 4. Circular and POPs-free Plastics in Africa https://www.unep.org/gef/projects/circular-and-pops-free-plastics-africa 5. African project aims to reduce release of POPs from plastics https://sdg.iisd.org/news/african-project-aims-to-reduce-releases-of-pops-from-plastics/

	6. GEF-financed projects related to combating pollution: GEF-8 projects https://www.cbd.int/financial/gefpollution.shtml 7. NESREA Nigeria Launches GEF-funded Circular and POPs-Free Plastics in Africa Project https://popsfreeafricaplastics.org/2026/03/09/nesrea-nigeria-launches-gef-funded-circular-and-pops-free-plastics-in-africa-project/ 8. GEFID 11049 Holds Second Project Steering Committee Meeting https://popsfreeafricaplastics.org/2026/03/09/gefid-11049-holds-second-project-steering-committee-meeting/ 9. GEFID 11049 Project Newsletter (1st Edition) https://popsfreeafricaplastics.org/2026/04/27/newsletter-1st-edition/ 10. “Other parts of the world can learn lessons from POPs-free Plastics in Africa Project” https://popsfreeafricaplastics.org/2026/04/13/other-parts-of-the-world-can-learn-lessons-from-pops-free-plastics-in-africa-project/ 11. Circular and POPs-free Plastics in Africa https://globalplasticshub.org/project/10 12. UN funds POPs-Free Plastic Project in Nigeria, 4 other African countries https://web.facebook.com/AfricaIndependentTelevision/videos/un-funds-pops-free-plastic-project-in-nigeria-4-other-african-countries/1889274851841115/?_rdc=1&_rdr

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
Component 1: Policy and economic instruments targeting POPs containing plastics	1. Amount of chemicals and wastes reduced and avoided	307,526	1,387	20,738	0/20,738 tonnes of contaminated plastics avoided	Only Nigeria has commenced some work on the drafting of new policies, after concluding its activity on review of existing policies. Kenya, south Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe have yet to commence work on policy reviews and the drafting of new policies	MS
Component 1: Policy and economic instruments targeting POPs containing plastics	4. No. of countries adopting/passing new policies/strategies	Project countries' policies do not cover POPs in plastics (products) in their selected sectors nor the latest listed POPs (often used in products)		5	0/5 policies and regulations	Only Nigeria has commenced work on the drafting of new policy strategies. The draft is now being prepared for stakeholders' consultation.	MS
Component 2: Circular economy practices to reduce POPs in problematic plastics	1.149,657 Amount of chemicals and wastes reduced and avoided	149,657 tonnes of POPs containing plastics locally produced/assembled		3,113 tonnes of POPs containing plastics locally produced/assembled	0/3,113 tonnes of contaminated plastics	Project activities have not yet progressed to the extent as to have impact on amount of chemicals and wastes reduced, and contaminated plastics reduced. The results will appear in following years.	MS
Component 2: Circular economy practices to reduce POPs in problematic plastics	3. No. of beneficiaries adopting best practices/technologies	Designers, manufacturers and assemblers have no access to best practices on elimination of POPs use, POPs		10	0/10 pilot partners	Project activities have not yet progressed to the Pilot stage or the adoption of ESM derived from new technologies. These are scheduled for Yr 3 and Yr 4.	Not Rated

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
		alternatives and circular business models					
Component 3: Environmentally Sound Management of plastic waste containing POPs	2. No. of beneficiaries with reduced impact / DALY* from chemical exposure	Little initiatives are present in project countries that work on segregation of contaminated plastics and awareness raising (those present work mainly on electronics e.g., GEF ID 10141).		600 (60% women)	0/600 recyclers, collectors, and waste shredders	Project activities have not yet progressed to the stage assessment of impacts from reduced chemical exposure. This may be possible by Yr 5 of the project.	Not Rated
Component 4: Knowledge management, capacity building and communication	8. No. of beneficiaries changing practices as a result of improved awareness	Established circular economy networks are present in the project countries but mainly informal. Knowledge on the presence of hazardous chemicals in sector's plastics is low, leading to their unsound management and leakage of (u)POPs into the environment.		360	0/360 beneficiaries; 0/300 regional/ global beneficiaries	None of the countries have developed their national awareness raising strategies. These will need to be developed and implemented to raise awareness that could result in changing practices by beneficiaries. Awareness raising activities were originally scheduled to commence in Yr 1 and will be now initiated in Y2.	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
0 Component 1: Policy and economic instruments targeting POPs containing plastics	Output 1.1 Gender-sensitive policy review and strategies developed to align chemicals and plastics regulatory frameworks and instruments	2026-12-31	Not Applicable (N/A) - PIR1	1/5 polocies	Output indicator target: 5 gender-sensitive reviews of policies and regulations with 'hotspots' identified, and actionable strategies defined (Y1) Progress: Only one country (Nigeria) out of five has concluded the policy review activity. The other four are yet to commence the review	MS
0 Component 1: Policy and economic instruments targeting POPs containing plastics	Output 1.2 Regulations and instruments endorsed by project countries targeting import, production and consumption of plastics containing POPs	2027-06-30	N/A	0/12 regulations or instruments drafted	Output indicator target: 12 regulations or instruments drafted and endorsed. Progress: None of the countries has commenced the drafting and adoption of regulations. It is expected in the next reporting cycle.	MS
0 Component 1: Policy and economic instruments targeting POPs containing plastics	Output 1.3 Enforcement plans and modalities established to promote compliance with regulation and monitoring of impacts	2027-06-30	N/A	0/285 Officials	Output indicator target: 285 officials (min 50% women). Progress: None of the countries has commenced the drafting and implementation of enforcement strategies. The progress is moderately satisfactory as the expected completion date is June 2027.	MS
0 Component 2: Circular economy practices to reduce POPs in problematic plastics	Output 2.1 Gender-sensitive industry and product characterization studies to quantify POPs in plastics, identify alternatives and prioritize interventions	2028-01-30	N/A	2/5 industry and product characterization studies	Output indicator target: 5 gender-sensitive industry and product characterization studies in selected country sectors with available alternatives identified and interventions prioritised; Progress: Samples collected by them have been sent to South Africa for analysis. When the analysis results are ready, they will have to write their respective reports. Both countries have also presented their findings from the field work at a knowledge sharing webinar during Q2 2026.	MS
0 Component 2: Circular economy	Output 2.2 Gender-responsive industry and	2029-06-30	N/A	0/10	Output indicator target: At least 10 bursaries (2 per	Not

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
practices to reduce POPs in problematic plastics	SME pilots to prevent the use and release of POPs from plastics via circular economy practices				country) awarded (at least for 6 women). Progress: The pilots are not yet due to commence until about Qrt 4 2026.	Rated
0 Component 3: Environmentally Sound Management of plastic waste containing POPs	Output 3.1 POPs-containing plastic waste streams characterized and prioritized in national gender-responsive ESM waste strategies, including technology solutions	2027-03-31	N/A	0/5 ESM strategies developed	Output indicator target: 5 gender-responsive ESM strategies developed including plastic waste characterisation studies on POPs contained parts with country needs for POPs-containing plastics separation and disposal technologies identified. Progress: Only Nigeria and Zimbabwe have concluded field work for the characterisation studies of downstream industries and waste plastics. Samples collected by them have been sent to South Africa for analysis. When the analysis results are ready, they will have to write their respective reports. Both countries have also presented their findings from the field work at a knowledge sharing webinar during Qrt 2 2026.	MS
0 Component 3: Environmentally Sound Management of plastic waste containing POPs	Output 3.2 Best practices disseminated to recyclers, waste collectors, and waste shredders for POPs containing plastics waste fractions	2029-08-31	N/A	0/600 recyclers and collectors, and waste shredders	Output indicator target: 600 recyclers and collectors, and waste shredders (60% women) of waste management and recycling operators, and informal workers trained on plastic waste management (separation). Progress: The organisation of training workshops for dissemination of best practice to recyclers, waste collectors, and waste shredders for POPs containing plastics waste fractions is not yet due. The workshops are scheduled for Yr 3.	Not Rated
0 Component 4: Knowledge	Output 4.1 Gender-responsive	2029-08-31	N/A	1/5 national	Output indicator target: 5 national awareness raising	MS

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
management, capacity building and communication	communication strategies for the project delivered			awareness raising strategies	strategies implemented on POPs in plastics in Africa. Progress: Regional communication strategy was drafted and adopted. Nigeria has a draft communication strategy awaiting stakeholders' endorsement and technical review. The other four countries have not commenced drafting the strategies.	
0 Component 4: Knowledge management, capacity building and communication	Output 4.2 National, regional and global collaboration and knowledge exchange established and strengthened	2029-08-31	N/A	0/6 knowledge products	Output indicator target: 6 knowledge products produced for stakeholders outside the project. Progress: Foundational knowledge management systems have been established, including project integration into the Global Plastics Hub, development of the GEB monitoring tool, completion of stakeholder training needs assessment, and delivery of several regional knowledge-sharing events. However, most substantive KM outputs including finalized training packages, systematic uploading of country-generated knowledge products, and broader dissemination activities, etc. remain dependent on the completion of ongoing national studies, assessments, and pilot preparation activities. Progress is therefore assessed at approximately 35%, reflecting solid establishment of enabling KM systems while recognizing that the majority of knowledge products are still under development.	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	Low	Low
2 Governance structure - Oversight	Low	Low
3 Implementation schedule	Moderate	Moderate
4 Budget	Low	Moderate
5 Financial Management	Low	Low
6 Reporting	Low	Low
7 Capacity to deliver	Low	Low

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
Decreased local support due to shifted priorities	1,2,3,4	L	L					L		There have been significant changes in political priorities in any of the five partner countries to the extent that potentially affect the project.
Delays in project outputs	1,2,3,4	M	L					L		There have been recorded infrastructural damage to any project-related facility, or derived

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
										from project activities, that are due to flood and climate action.
Infrastructure damage due to increased flood frequency	1,2,3,4	L	L					L		There have been recorded infrastructural damage to any project-related facility, or derived from project activities, that are due to flood and climate action.
Gender inequity at society and policy levels hinder the achievement of gender objectives	1,2,3,4	M	L					L		There have been no incidents of gender discrimination reported or suspected since the commencement of the project in September 2024. Instead, project activities are steadily on course with respect to gender mainstreaming.
Occupational health and safety and working conditions create risks of exposure of workers and/or unequal working conditions for women and men	2,3	M	L					L		The project activities have not yet advanced to the stages of the interventions of Industry Pilots, ESM of waste plastics, Training of recyclers, etc. Few countries that conducted characterisation studies did not observe very adverse occupational health and safety conditions in the sector-based facilities visited,
Changes in governments and country personnel to persons with little awareness and buy-in to the project	1,2,3,4	L	L					L		Any routine changes in government and country personnel do not appear to have negatively affected awareness of the project and buy-in of governments in the partner countries since project inception.
Macroeconomic instability	1,2,3,4	M	L					L		Recent global and regional conflicts

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
										and other events such as the Ukraine war, the Middle East wars and the Ebola crises have not caused significant macroeconomic instabilities that have adversely impacted the cost of conducting project activities till date.
Industrialization in Africa (along with its increased demand in chemical use) and increased construction, automotive and electronics demands and production	1,2,3,4	M	L					L		Nigeria and Zimbabwe have conducted field studies with sample collection for characterisation studies. They both did not experience difficulties with inter-phasing with private sector practitioners at the upstream and downstream facilities. Adequate number of samples were collected and have been sent to an accredited laboratory in South Africa for POPs analysis. We expect that the other three countries will have similar experiences.
Inadequate data collection on POPs use	1,2,3,4	M	L					L		Nigeria and Zimbabwe have conducted field studies with sample collection for characterisation studies. They both did not experience difficulties with inter-phasing with private sector practitioners at the upstream and downstream facilities. Adequate number of samples were collected and have been sent to an accredited laboratory in South Africa for POPs analysis. We expect that the

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
										other three countries will have similar experiences.
Selection and contracting of technical partners for pilot projects	2	M	L					L		The selection and contracting of technical partners for pilot projects did not arise during the PIR one period as these are selected for Q4 2026 when the development of the strategies for the pilots will commence. Meanwhile, the country partners are already in some informal consultations and discussions in this regard to mitigate the risks.
Delays in the establishment of the UNEP One Plastics Initiative Knowledge Platform	4	M	L					L		Luckily, there was no delay in establishing the Global Plastics Hub platform. The Hub was launched on June 5, 2025, and by the end of Qrt 2 2025, UNEP IIB had registered the GEFID 11049 on the platform.
Monitoring of project impact	1,2,3,4	M	M					M		This risk remains moderate and may remain so up to the end of the project, considering that it requires high-tech facilities and funds to conduct POPs-analysis. The tracking of GEBS through POPs analysis will require that funds and equipment and sustained interest be available even beyond the lifetime of the project.
The project partners do not sustain the project activities and benefits	1,2,3,4	M	M					M		During the last 20 months, project activities have mostly not commenced on schedule and

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
										generally progressed rather too slowly. This was mostly due to bureaucratic bottlenecks in the partner countries. This has been more pronounced in Kenya, Uganda and South Africa.
National execution partners have limited procurement capacity	1,2,3,4	M	L					L		The project has so far not been subject to any constraints arising from limited procurement capacity in any of the partner countries. Project funding from UNEP has been available to countries through the executing agency, BCCC-Africa,
High costs of exchange rates in the African region	1,2,3,4	M	L					L		Since the commencement of the full-sized project there have been no major fluctuations in exchange rates to the extent that constitute significant negative impacts on procurements under the project. Exchange rate fluctuations have been very minor so far.
Lack of strong engagement from private sector and/or key government actors.	1,2,3	M	M					M		In some of the partner countries (Kenya, Uganda, South Africa), key govt actors need to engage more effectively with the project. Government bureaucracy has slowed progress with the project. In Nigeria and Zimbabwe, engagement of government actors is satisfactory. The full extent of private sector engagement will become apparent

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
										during the planning and execution of the pilots in the coming quarters.
Failure of informal waste sector to participate	3	M	L					L		Teams Nigeria and Zimbabwe have conducted characterisation studies of downstream facilities and worked closely with formal an informal collectors and recyclers. There informal sector cooperated well during these activities. It is expected that Kenya, Uganda and south Africa will have similar experience.
		L	L					L		

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
The project partners do not sustain the project activities and benefits	Not Applicable (This is PIR 1)	Interventions with defaulting project countries; officials were carried out to improve engagements with project activities.	(i) Focal Points of all countries, especially defaulting countries, are regularly reminded about outstanding and due project activities, and the need by the countries to overcome bureaucratic bottlenecks.(ii) In severe cases such that of south Africa, the Project Manager reported to UNEP	(i) During bi-weekly project tracking meetings involving all regional and national project officials.(ii) March 2026 and May 2026. (iii) At various times since April 2025 to date.	i) Project Manager / Regional Technical Coordinator(ii) UNEP UA (iii) UNEP IA and the Project Manager

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
			IA which then wrote to South Africa authorities and held virtual meetings with them. (iii) The Project Manager and UNEP IA have at various time held informal discussions with the project personnel (Focal Points) and even the Executive Director of NEMA, Uganda to get the country to speed up action on project activities.		
Lack of strong engagement from private sector and/or key government actors.	Not Applicable (This is PIR 1)	Interventions with defaulting project countries; officials were carried out to improve engagements with project activities.	(i) Focal Points of all countries, especially defaulting countries, are regularly reminded about outstanding and due project activities, and the need by the countries to overcome bureaucratic bottlenecks.(ii) In severe cases such that of south Africa, the Project Manager reported to UNEP IA which then wrote to South Africa authorities and held virtual meetings with them. (iii) The Project Manager and UNEP IA have at various time held	(i) During bi-weekly project tracking meetings involving all regional and national project officials.(ii) March 2026 and May 2026. (iii) At various times since April 2025 to date	i) Project Manager / Regional Technical Coordinator(ii) UNEP UA (iii) UNEP IA and the Project Mana

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
			informal discussions with the project personnel (Focal Points) and even the Executive Director of NEMA, Uganda to get the country to speed up action on project activities.		
Monitoring of project impact	Not Applicable (This is PIR 1)	During this PIR reporting period, UNEP IIB conducted a training workshop for all project officials on the use of the GEBs tracking tool for monitoring project impacts. During the characterization studies by Nigeria and Zimbabwe, plastic many plastic samples of interest were collected and sent for expert analysis in a laboratory in South Africa. Results from this analysis and those that will soon be obtained from similar studies by Kenya, Uganda and south Africa will form the baseline data against which any changes in POPs in plastics levels can be measures for impact assessment.	(i) Training on use of the GEBs calculation toolkit.(ii) Collection and analysis of plastic samples for POPs, to serve as baseline data.(iii) Constant reminder of the need to manage funds judiciously to enable analysis of more plastic samples from time to time up to the end of the project	(i) Qrt 3 2025(ii) Qrt 2 & 3, 2025(iii) Frequently, during bi-weekly project tracking meetings	(i) UNEP IIB – Plastics Circularity Expert(ii) Team Nigeria and Team Uganda(iii) Regional Technical Expert

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
Implementation schedule - Delay in some activities in South Africa, Uganda and Kenya	Not Applicable (This is PIR 1)	Bi-weekly project tracking meetings with regional and national project officials.	Effective workplan and Bi-weekly meetings with countries. Individual follow-up with lagging countries	During bi-weekly project tracking meetings involving all regional and national project officials.	Project Manager / Regional Technical Coordinator
Budget execution risk due to slower-than-planned expenditure by the executing agency, which may affect timely delivery of project outputs.	Not Applicable (This is PIR 1)	Quarterly expenditure and progress produced by executing partner, which are monitored against workplan. Factors contributing to underspending were identified and discussed during bilateral meetings and in bi-weekly meetings with countries. Individual follow-up with lagging countries.	Focal Points of all countries, especially countries with serious delay, are regularly reminded about outstanding and due project activities. Bi-weekly meetings with countries. Individual follow-up with lagging countries	Quarterly and during bi-weekly project tracking meetings involving all regional and national project officials.	UNEP, Project Manager/Regional technical Coordinator

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:	No
Components and Cost:	No
Institutional and implementation arrangements:	No
Financial Management:	No
Implementation Schedule:	
Executing Entity:	No
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:	No

Minor amendments

There were minor changes to scheduling of activities of the Yr 2 (2026) work plan to accommodate activities that had previously been scheduled for Yr 1 (2025), but which could not be started or completed during that year. The re-scheduling was designed to avoid possible extension of the project beyond the official implementation deadline.

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

Version	Type	Signed/Approved by UNEP	Entry Into Force (last signature Date)	Agreement Expiry Date	Main changes introduced in this revision
Original Agreement	Amendment & Extension	2024-09-18	2024-09-20	2030-02-28	Original agreement with BCCC Nigeria
Original Agreement with IIB	Amendment & Extension	2025-01-27	2025-01-27	2030-04-15	Original internal agreement with industry innovation branch

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
During the characterisation studies of upstream and downstream industrial facilities and other sites, Team Nigeria and Team Zimbabwe worked in many locations for these studies. The geo-spatial locations of these sites are available in two attached files.. Additionally, the geolocation of the capital cities from where project coordination activities were conducted in the countries are provided below					

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GEO Name ID	Location Description	Activity Description
Nairobi, Kenya	-1.2921	36.8219		Capital of Kenya, and location of Ministry of Environment	Coordination of project activities in Kenya
Abuja, Nigeria	9.0579	7.4951		Capital of Nigeria, and location of NESREA	Coordination of project activities in Nigeria
Pretoria, South Africa	-25.7449	28.1878		Capital of South Africa, and location of DFFE	Coordination of project activities in South Africa
Kampala, Uganda	0.3136	32.5811		Capital of Uganda, and location of NEMA	Coordination of project activities in Uganda
Harare, Zimbabwe	-17.8277	31.0534		Capital of Zimbabwe, and location of EMA	Coordination of project activities in Zimbabwe