

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

Project ID:	10465
Project Name:	Promoting integrated metropolitan planning and innovative urban technology investments in Brazil
Countr(ies):	Brazil
Implementing Agency:	UNEP

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I. Overview

A. Description

Project name

Promoting integrated metropolitan planning and innovative urban technology investments in Brazil

Country

Brazil

GEF ID

10465

Implementing Agency

UNEP

Executing Entity

Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovations (lead), with co-executing partners: the Brazilian Biodiversity Fund (FUNBIO), the Centre for Management and Strategic Studies (CGEE), UNEP

Trust Fund

GET

Project Type

FSP

PIR Submission

9/2/2025

Fiscal Year , PIR Number

FY 2025 , 2nd PIR

Objective

Brazilian metropolitan regions reduce greenhouse gas emissions, conserve biodiversity and achieve economic, social and environmental co-benefits through an integrated urban planning approach.

B. Ratings and Disbursements

Implementation Progress

Moderately Unsatisfactory

Development Objective

Moderately Satisfactory

Overall risk

Moderate Risk

Project Financing

13,682,160.00

Cumulative Disbursement

1,074,029.00

C. Key Dates

CEO Endorsement/Approval

12/18/2021

Agency Approval

12/23/2022

Implementation Start 12/29/2022	First Disbursement 1/4/2023
Expected MTR 1/31/2025	Actual MTR
Expected Completion 1/31/2027	Actual Completion

II. PROGRESS STATUS AND ISSUES

A. Progress: Information on progress and outcomes of project implementation activities

Progress Towards Outcomes – Moderately Satisfactory (MS): Although the project has not yet achieved measurable progress on its outcome-level indicators, the foundations for future success are being actively laid. The project has made strides in stakeholder engagement, capacity building, and the development of strategic frameworks, including diagnostic studies and Terms of Reference for key activities. Pilot initiatives, particularly in biodiversity conservation in Florianópolis, are beginning to show tangible results, and national and local actors are demonstrating strong commitment. These efforts suggest that the project is on a trajectory that could lead to meaningful outcomes, even if the current quantitative indicators remain at zero. The rating reflects the potential for progress based on the groundwork completed, despite the lack of immediate results.

Progress Towards Outputs – Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU): The implementation of outputs is significantly behind schedule, with most activities still in the early stages of procurement or planning. While some outputs have reached up to 20% completion, the majority remain below 6%, and several are still at 0%. The delays stem from a combination of factors, including slow procurement processes, challenges in identifying qualified firms, and the need to revise institutional arrangements during the project's initial phase. Despite efforts to streamline workflows and refine deliverables, the pace of implementation has not matched the expectations for a project at this stage. The rating acknowledges the efforts made but underscores the urgent need for acceleration to avoid compromising the overall project timeline and impact.

Total Risk – Moderate (M): While the project has faced notable challenges, including delays in procurement, limited delivery capacity, and the potential impact of upcoming national elections, these risks are being actively managed and mitigated. The project team has implemented several corrective actions, such as refining procurement workflows, establishing Local Advisory Groups, and enhancing coordination with federal ministries. Additionally, the engagement of stakeholders at all levels remains strong, and the federal government has demonstrated continued support, reducing the likelihood of disruption due to external factors. Although some risks persist, particularly around institutional transitions and implementation pace, the measures taken suggest that the overall risk level is moderate, reflecting a manageable but still present set of challenges.

B. Challenges: Information on challenges of project implementation activities

During the reporting period, the project team identified some lessons learned related to the procurement process. The procurement workflow proved to be time-consuming, prompting the team to work on streamlining and improving its efficiency. During the consultancies' selection phase, the team observed limitations in the Brazilian market in relation to the project's themes, with a limited number of qualified firms and difficulties in identifying professionals with a high level of expertise in the project's areas. In response, the team began adopting qualifying (rather than excluding) criteria in the selection process to broaden participation, especially by smaller firms, while maintaining product quality. Another key lesson relates to the dynamic nature of the urban context and the frequent need to renegotiate activities with stakeholders following changes in local priorities. While alignment with local agendas is important, it has also led to delays, reducing the time available for adaptive management and increasing the risk of implementation. The team has acknowledged the need for faster decision-making and stricter monitoring of deadlines. The project is experiencing significant delays in relation to the original work plan, primarily due to the revision of institutional arrangements during its first year. In response, the team has prepared a non-cost 18 – months extension to ensure the full implementation period initially planned and to safeguard the quality of deliverables. The extension request is in its final stages and is expected to be signed by August 2025.

C. Stakeholder Engagement

The project has a general stakeholder engagement plan and a communication plan, both of which are being implemented. Specific engagement plans will be implemented for the main outputs by their respective consultancies, for example: the consultancy responsible for developing the climate action plans (Component 1), the consultancies leading the co-creation processes for the pilot projects (Component 2), and so forth.

Local Stakeholders: The hiring of Metropolitan Coordinators improved local engagement by establishing regular communication with stakeholders and involving municipal and state representatives in the refinement of the Terms of Reference, reinforcing the partnership with the project. Thematic working groups are being set up as technical activities advance. The Metropolitan Coordinator for Belém left the team in Q4/2024, and the position is expected to be filled in Q3/2025. The absence of an in-territory focal point has affected local coordination efforts, despite the technical coordination team's efforts to mitigate the impact of the vacancy and maintain ongoing dialogue with key institutions.

Local Advisory Group (LAG): On June 13, 2025, the first meeting of the Local Advisory Group for the RIDE of Teresina was held. Notably, this marked the first participation of representatives from the State of Maranhão in the project as well as members of academia, civil society and private sector, expanding the participation beyond government representatives. The LAG meetings for Florianopolis and Belém are expected to take place by Q4/2025.

National Stakeholders: The Ministry of Cities and the Ministry of Environment are actively engaged in the project and participate in biweekly follow-ups. Technical activities are being aligned with national policies and coordinated with existing initiatives. This partnership is further strengthened by the participation of all three Ministries in the Green and Resilient Cities Program.

D. Gender Equality

Main progress to the implementation of the Gender Action Plan:

- The Project CEO Endorsement gender action plan was reviewed and further detailed by the Project Communications and Gender Advisor in collaboration with the project team.
- Guidelines from the Gender Action Plan were integrated into the Terms of Reference for all project activities.
- The strategy for systematizing and disseminating lessons learned, good practices, and project experiences incorporated questions to verify the implementation of the gender action plan across the project's different activities.
- Metropolitan coordinators are coordinating with municipal and state agencies responsible for women's policies to ensure their participation in working groups related to all project activities in the three project regions.
- Two members of the project team completed the course 'Cities for All: Gender and Diversity in Urban Spaces,' offered by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) in partnership with the Brazilian Ministry of Cities. The course's results will be incorporated into the implementation of activities whenever possible.
- Gender disaggregated data shows that women constitute 56,8% of project beneficiaries.
- 69% of the members of the project steering committee are women.

E. Knowledge Management

The project has finalized its strategy for systematizing and disseminating lessons learned, good practices, and implementation experiences. This strategy is being actively applied, with the project team conducting quarterly monitoring and documentation efforts that integrate a gender perspective and adhere to pre-established guidelines. To ensure that insights are captured throughout the implementation process, the Terms of Reference for project activities include a final task dedicated to compiling and analyzing these lessons. In parallel, the team has been independently administering an assessment tool with metropolitan focal points, national counterparts, and internal staff. The data collected is being systematically consolidated to support benchmarking, comparative analysis, and knowledge exchange. Additionally, the project website is undergoing updates and, once it incorporates CITInova II content, will serve as a central repository for materials and publications, further enhancing accessibility and visibility of project knowledge.

III: Minor Amendments

CONTEXT	
Result Framework	Minor adjustments have been made to the project's results framework, particularly in the description of deliverables and outputs, to better reflect the activities being implemented and the expected results. Additionally, the content originally planned under Deliverables 1.2.5, 1.5.4, and 1.8.3 will now be developed under Component 2, in coordination with Outputs 2.1, 2.3, and 2.4, respectively. These changes will be formalized in the revision and extension package described in the table below (Rev 3).

Components and Cost	
Institutional And Implementation Arrangements	At the initial stage of the project, CGEE was removed as a co-executing agency, leaving UNEP Brazil and FUNBIO as the sole MCTI's co-executing partners (Rev1) . Additionally, the project team structure was redesigned to centralize technical leadership and decision-making authority within the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (Rev2). These adjustments aimed to streamline coordination and enhance strategic oversight. All of these changes were formally documented and approved through the project revisions listed below.
Financial Management	
Implementation Schedule	
Executing Entity	
Executing Entity Category	
Minor Project Objective Change	
Safeguards	
Risk Analysis	
Increase of GEF Financing up to 5%	
Co-Financing	
Location of Project Activity	
others	

IV: Geographic Coordinates of Project Activities

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Florianópolis	-27.5969	-48.5495	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Teresina	-5.08921	-42.8016	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Belém	-1.45502	-48.5024	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

V. ANNEX

Uploaded Document

Document Category	Title
M and E Document	10465-PIR-UNEP-2025-GEF-7 CITinova II