

MID-TERM REVIEW

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. OVERVIEW	3
A. Description	3
B. Key Dates	3
II. PROGRESS STATUS AND ISSUES	3
A. Main MTR Findings	3
B. Stakeholder Engagement	4
C. Gender Equality	5
D. Knowledge Management	5
III. CORE INDICATORS	6
IV: CO FINANCING	9
V: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS	10
VI. ANNEX	10

I. Overview

A. Description

Project name

Enhancing environmental performance in the expanded and extruded polystyrene foam industries in Turkey

Country

Türkiye

GEF ID

10082

Implementing Agency

UNIDO

Executing Entity

Government

Trust Fund

GET

Project Type

FSP

Objective

To promote the replacement of persistent organic pollutants with environmentally sound alternatives in the EPS and XPS foam industries in Turkey

B. Key Dates

CEO Endorsement/Approval

6/8/2021

Agency Approval

7/8/2021

Implementation Start

8/10/2021

First Disbursement

5/11/2023

Expected MTR

8/1/2023

MTR Submission

3/24/2025

Actual MTR

1/31/2024

Expected Completion

11/30/2024

II. PROGRESS STATUS AND ISSUES

A. Main MTR Findings

Project design: The project strategy was well designed and in accordance with the GEF-7 Chemicals and Wastes focal area and associated strategy and within that under Chemicals and Wastes Industrial Chemicals Program (CW 1-1) which aims at strengthening sound management of industrial chemicals, and their wastes through better control and reduction and/or elimination. It allows Türkiye to eliminate the use of a POPs listed in Annex A of the Stockholm Convention thus supporting the country's compliance with its obligations under this international agreement. This is aimed to be beaccomplished by introducing the application of internationally competitive technologies, techniques and approaches for eliminating HBCD in processes and products, namely EPS and XPS foam insulation. These sectors are important to the country in ensuring public safety through using fire resistant building materials and achieving increased energy efficiency in buildings and infrastructure generally.

Country ownership and alignment with national goals: The project design is well aligned with Türkiye's national goals of full compliance with Stockholm Protocol for the elimination of POPs. MoEUCC, as the main beneficiary and also as the PEE, together with other relevant state organizations including MoIT, MoT, TSE and Customs authority, is fully dedicated and has shown full ownership not only providing necessary human resources and institutional capacity but also with commitments in terms of co-financing

The Project Results Framework ("logframe") states the project objective and its intended outcomes, defines performance indicators, and presents baseline levels, midterm targets, and end-of-project targets for each indicator.

Project objectives quantitative indicators were achieved beyond the targets established by the logical framework at MTR, and and therefore quantitative indicataors were rated highly satisfactory

B. Stakeholder Engagement

The progress toward the project's objective of promoting the replacement of HBCD with environmentally sound alternatives in the EPS and XPS foam industries is highly satisfactory. The TVRs indicate that necessary investments have been made, leading to the termination of HBCD use in the EPS sector by four producers in 2019 and in the XPS sector by six producers in 2020. This achievement reflects the effectiveness of the project in fulfilling its most important target.

Outcome 1.1 highlights significant progress in providing up-to-date non-proprietary information on HBCD alternatives, with a commendable alignment with the targeted objective. The dissemination of information, including an international literature review and references, during technical verification and Environmental Assessment activities, underscores a thorough and collaborative approach, setting the stage for a comprehensive dissemination workshop.

Outcome 1.2 showcases active efforts in regulatory capacity support, with ongoing discussions and outcomes under consideration for enhancing the POPs chemicals management framework. The meticulous execution through the MoEUCC reflects a conscientious approach to address identified gaps comprehensively, signifying proactive and strategic efforts toward improving regulatory control measures.

Outcome 1.3 indicates substantive progress in initiating the development of a national strategy for the management of waste containing POPs, including HBCD. The comprehensive strategy formulation, engaging both national and international expertise, reflects a robust and systematic approach, demonstrating the project's commitment to achieving its targets.

Outcomes in the EPS and XPS sectors (Outcome 2.1 to Outcome 3.3) demonstrate notable progress, with achievements surpassing mid-term and end-of-project targets. Producers and associations have effectively transitioned toward sustainable alternatives, showcasing a commitment to environmentally responsible practices within the PS production sector.

Outcome 4.1 emphasizes the assessment of project activities and dissemination of lessons learned for sustainable replication. Various project management and monitoring techniques have been implemented, with recommendations for further improvement.

The project's implementation and adaptive management have been efficient and effective, despite turnover within the project team. Areas for refinement exist, particularly in optimizing project management tools and reporting quality.

Sustainability risks are deemed negligible, with key outcomes expected to be achieved by the project's closure and likely to continue into the foreseeable future.

The project has already achieved high-impact outcomes, and the remaining tasks within the project can be successfully concluded by its conclusion. Overall, the project serves as a model for similar initiatives, contributing significantly to Türkiye's compliance with international agreements and promoting environmentally responsible practices in the chemicals and wastes sector.

C. Gender Equality

Gender issues are integrated into the project design and reflected in specific activities, based on a comprehensive gender analysis, which is presented in Annex H of the Project Document. This annex also included a Gender Action Plan, which elaborates on the gender-disaggregated targets of the Project Results Framework and also sets forth additional targets, including that at least 50% of beneficiaries for training and capacity building will be women and women's employment will be increased by 99 in EPS and XPS sectors until the end of the project.

D. Knowledge Management

The Project has achieved most of its goals including the most important one, elimination of the use of HBCD in EPS and XPS sectors. Good progress also achieved in terms of improving legal framework, building institutional capacity, knowledge sharing and collaboration between industry and public stakeholders. There are a few remaining activities, mostly information dissemination workshops in collaboration with EPSDER and İZODER, to be completed until the end of the project. In addition, a critical task, direct analytical verification of the samples taken from producers is underway and expected to be completed by the end of the project.

Component 1: Component 1 of the project focuses on regulatory strengthening, capacity building, and raising stakeholder awareness to facilitate the environmentally sound elimination of HBCD in the EPS and XPS sectors. The component aims to overcome institutional barriers by disseminating relevant information, addressing legislative gaps, eliminating import control barriers, and enhancing strategic policy and infrastructure planning for the management of HBCD stockpiles and waste. The goal is to ensure a rapid and sustainable elimination of HBCD, achieving effective elimination in the targeted sectors. Design of Component 1 is composed of three outcomes based on this concept and purpose.

Outcome 1.1 focuses on providing up-to-date, non-proprietary information on alternatives to HBCD and ensuring broad stakeholder awareness. The goal is to communicate technical details about HBCD alternatives, including their operational conditions, economic implications, and environmental impact. This aligns with the MoEUCC's priority to establish a fair playing field by making technical information on alternatives widely accessible in the EPS and XPS sectors. The outcome is being achieved through the implementation of two project-supported outputs.

Output 1.1.1 focuses on creating and sharing updated global technical references on HBCD alternatives, along with operational experiences and expert contacts. This output aims to equip industrial stakeholders in the EPS and XPS sectors with essential knowledge and tools to transition to environmentally sound alternatives. The initiative began during the PPG stage through technical discussions and materials provided by the MoEUCC.

Output 1.1.2 involves supporting an MoEUCC-administered program that includes workshops and various information dissemination methods on alternatives to HBCD. These activities, featuring international and national experts, target a wide range of stakeholders, including industrial, institutional, academic, and civil society representatives affected by the HBCD issue. This program emphasizes gender awareness and equity promotion.

Regarding the progress to date, expanding upon the groundwork laid during the PPG stage, the National Consultant (NC) has been actively incorporating updated information on available alternatives to HBCD. This information is seamlessly integrated into the technical verification process conducted by the National Coordinator (NC) and is further continued as part of the Environmental Assessment (EA) activities overseen by the Project Management Unit (PMU). A comprehensive working document, encompassing an international literature review and relevant references, has been meticulously prepared by the NC. This critical document is poised to be a focal point of discussion during the forthcoming planned dissemination workshop.

Furthermore, pertinent materials addressing the project scope, the significance of the EPS/XPS sectors, and information on HBCD alternatives and their accessibility have been thoughtfully incorporated into the Inception Workshop/Seminar (W/S). These materials are slated to feature prominently in the first information dissemination workshop scheduled for January 2024. Additional dissemination workshops, envisaged for the first and second quarters of 2024, will further emphasize the project's core elements, with particular attention given to collaboration with EPSDER/İZODER.

In a strategic move to enhance accessibility and outreach, materials pertaining to the HBCD Project are being actively integrated into the MoEUCC priority chemicals website (<https://kalicikirleticiler.com/>). This website serves as a central hub for information dissemination and will receive ongoing updates to ensure that stakeholders and the public are continually informed about the progress and developments of the HBCD Project.

III. Core Indicators

Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (direct)	1000	0	0	0
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (indirect)	1000	0	0	0

Indicator 6.1 Carbon Sequestered or Emissions Avoided in the AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) sector

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (direct)				
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting				
Duration of accounting				

Indicator 6.2 Emissions Avoided Outside AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) Sector

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (direct)	1000			
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (indirect)	1000			

Anticipated start year of accounting	2020			
Duration of accounting				

Indicator 6.3 Energy Saved (Use this sub-indicator in addition to the sub-indicator 6.2 if applicable)

Total Target Benefit	Energy (MJ) (At PIF)	Energy (MJ) (At CEO Endorsement)	Energy (MJ) (Achieved at MTR)	Energy (MJ) (Achieved at TE)
Target Energy Saved (MJ)				

Indicator 6.4 Increase in Installed Renewable Energy Capacity per Technology (Use this sub-indicator in addition to the sub-indicator 6.2 if applicable)

Technology	Capacity (MW) (Expected at PIF)	Capacity (MW) (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at MTR)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 9 Chemicals of global concern and their waste reduced

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
770.00	7,436.00	9,310.00	0.00

Indicator 9.1 Solid and liquid Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) removed or disposed (POPs type)

POPs type	Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
Hexabromocyclododecane (HBCDD)	770.00	7,436.00	9,310.00	

Indicator 9.2 Quantity of mercury reduced (metric tons)

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 9.3 Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFC) Reduced/Phased out (metric tons)

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 9.4 Number of countries with legislation and policy implemented to control chemicals and waste (Use this sub-indicator in addition to one of the sub-indicators 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3 if applicable)

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 9.5 Number of low-chemical/non-chemical systems implemented, particularly in food production, manufacturing and cities (Use this sub-indicator in addition to one of the sub-indicators 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3 if applicable)

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 9.6 POPs/Mercury containing materials and products directly avoided

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
110,000.00	2,083,000.00	2,636,846.00	

Indicator 9.7 Highly Hazardous Pesticides eliminated

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 9.8 Avoided residual plastic waste

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	100	182	99	
Male	400	1,178	1,000	
Total	500	1,360	1,099	0

IV: Co Financing

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Anticipated at CEO(\$)	Materialized at MTR(\$)
Total Co-financing				0.00	0.00

Comments

V: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
	Medium/Moderate	Low	

Measures to address identified risks and impacts

Well established project management unit and adoption of appropriate legislative measures ensured smooth progress of the project. No major risks were identified at MTR term

VI. ANNEX

Uploaded Document

Document Category	Title
M and E Document	Turkiye_HBCD_MTR_Presentation
Document Category	Title
M and E Document	HBCD_MTR_Final_ENG