

GEF-8 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

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General Project Information

Project Title

Global Opportunities for the Long-Term Development of the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Sector in Mozambique – planetGOLD Mozambique

Region	GEF Project ID
Africa	12368
Country(ies)	Type of Project
Mozambique	MSP
GEF Agency(ies):	GEF Agency ID
UNEP	273890
Executing Partner	Executing Partner Type
The Impact Facility	CSO
GEF Focal Area (s)	Submission Date
Chemicals and Waste	6/8/2026

Project Sector (CCM Only)

Taxonomy

Influencing models, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Demonstrate innovative approach, Deploy innovative financial instruments, Capital providers, Financial intermediaries and market facilitators, Large corporations, SMEs, Beneficiaries, Local Communities, Community Based Organization, Non-Governmental Organization, Academia, Trade Unions and Workers Unions, Individuals/Entrepreneurs, Awareness Raising, Private Sector, Behavior change, Education, Public Campaigns, Communications, Participation, Type of Engagement, Consultation, Partnership, Information Dissemination, Land Degradation, Focal Areas, Sustainable Land Management, Community-Based Natural Resource Management, Mercury, Chemicals and Waste, Artisanal and Scale Gold Mining, Sound Management of chemicals and waste, Hazardous Waste Management, Waste Management, Best Available Technology / Best Environmental Practices, Gender Mainstreaming, Gender Equality, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender-sensitive indicators, Participation and leadership, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Access and control over natural resources, Access to benefits and services, Capacity Development, Gender results areas, Innovation, Civil Society, Knowledge Generation, Knowledge Exchange, Learning, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Stakeholders

Type of Trust Fund	Project Duration (Months)
GET	60
GEF Project Grant: (a)	GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)
4,500,000.00	0.00
Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)	Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant (d)
427,500.00	0.00
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)	Total Co-financing

4,927,500.00	30,913,732.00
PPG Amount: (e)	PPG Agency Fee(s): (f)
150,000.00	14,250.00
PPG total amount: (e+f)	Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f)
164,250.00	5,091,750.00
Project Tags	
CBIT: No NGI: No SGP: No Innovation: No Competitive Window: No	

Project Summary

Provide a brief summary description of the project, including: (i) what is the problem and issues to be addressed? (ii) what are the project objectives, and if the project is intended to be transformative, how will this be achieved? (iii), how will this be achieved (approach to deliver on objectives), and (iv) what are the GEBs and/or adaptation benefits, and other key expected results. The purpose of the summary is to provide a short, coherent summary for readers. The explanation and justification of the project should be in section B “project description”. (max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page)

planetGOLD Mozambique will protect human health and the environment by reducing and, where feasible, eliminating mercury use in Mozambique’s artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) sector. According to the 2022 Census of Artisanal Miners in Mozambique (CEMAM), there are 483 active artisanal gold mining sites nationwide with approximately 136,160 people involved. ASGM activity and mercury-related risks are concentrated in provinces including Manica, Niassa, Cabo Delgado, Sofala and Tete. The Mozambique National Action Plan for ASGM (NAP) also documents mercury contamination concerns in riverbeds. At the same time, the sector remains characterized by widespread informality, difficult licensing and formalization pathways, and limited access to suitable finance, legal markets and mercury-free technologies.

The project will address these barriers through four integrated components: support for formalization and institutional coordination; improved access to finance and responsible markets; technical solutions and improved practices; and knowledge management and communication. It will help miners and their organizations navigate formalization requirements, strengthen institutional capacity at national and subnational levels, and expand viable pathways for legally compliant, mercury-free gold production.

The project intervention areas will be confirmed during the PPG phase, drawing on the Mozambique NAP, CEMAM and field verification. The project is expected to generate global environmental benefits through reduced mercury use and releases, targeting approximately 1.3 tons of mercury releases avoided (GEF Core Indicator 9). This corresponds to an approximate 80% reduction from an indicative baseline of 1.64 metric tons/year, derived from site-level NAP data and subject to refinement during the PPG phase. In addition, the project is targeting 10,000 direct beneficiaries (35% women).

As a child project under the wider planetGOLD programme, planetGOLD Mozambique will connect to the global coordination project by applying shared methodologies, participating in programme-wide knowledge exchange, contributing lessons learned and communication products, and using common approaches for monitoring, learning, and responsible ASGM market development.

Indicative Project Overview

Project Objective

To protect human health and the environment by reducing mercury use in Mozambique's ASGM sector, and contributing to and learning from the planetGOLD Global Programme

Project Components

Component 1: Enhancing the Formalization of the ASGM Sector

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
942,857.00	6,477,163.00

Outcome:

Outcome 1: Government, stakeholders and miners strengthen formalization capacity and support development and implementation of policy and regulatory measures for responsible ASGM, including gender- and youth-responsive measures.

Output:

Output 1.1: Practical tools, procedures and recommendations that support formalization and inform development and implementation of policy and regulatory measures for ASGM are developed and applied in target areas.

Output 1.2: Miners, their organizations and relevant authorities strengthen capacity to apply formalization, compliance and responsible ASGM measures.

Component 2: Access to Finance and Responsible Markets

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1,200,000.00	8,243,662.00

Outcome:

Outcome 2: ASGM organizations improve access to finance and responsible markets, while private-sector actors strengthen due diligence and traceability for mercury-free gold.

Output:

Output 2.1: ASGM organizations strengthen financial readiness and engage with financial institutions and other market actors.

Output 2.2: Traceability, due diligence and responsible market measures for mercury-free gold are strengthened with participating ASGM groups and private-sector actors.

Component 3: Technical Solutions and Improved Practices

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1,285,714.00	8,832,495.00

Outcome:

Outcome 3: Uptake of mercury-free technologies and improved mining practices reduces mercury use and lowers pollution risks in target ASGM areas.

Output:

Output 3.1: ASGM miners and communities, including women and youth where relevant, increase awareness of mercury risks and safer environmental and health practices.

Output 3.2: Mercury-free technologies and practices are demonstrated and adopted to reduce mercury use and pollution risks in target areas.

Component 4: Knowledge Management and Communication

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
642,857.00	4,416,247.00

Outcome:

Outcome 4: Communication and knowledge management support policy uptake, replication and intersectoral learning on mercury reduction and pollution prevention.

Output:

Output 4.1: Project knowledge and evidence are used to support policy uptake, implementation learning and better management of the ASGM sector.

Output 4.2: Knowledge products, tools and lessons are shared nationally and through planetGOLD to support replication and intersectoral learning.

M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
214,286.00	1,472,083.00

Outcome:

Outcome 5: Project implementation and decision-making are strengthened through monitoring, evaluation and adaptive management.

Output:

Output 5.1: The project is monitored and evaluated through baseline development, regular tracking, reporting, review and use of findings to support adaptive management and programme reporting.

Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
Component 1: Enhancing the Formalization of the ASGM Sector	942,857.00	6,477,163.00
Component 2: Access to Finance and Responsible Markets	1,200,000.00	8,243,662.00
Component 3: Technical Solutions and Improved Practices	1,285,714.00	8,832,495.00
Component 4: Knowledge Management and Communication	642,857.00	4,416,247.00
M&E	214,286.00	1,472,083.00
Subtotal	4,285,714.00	29,441,650.00
Project Management Cost	214,286.00	1,472,082.00
Total Project Cost (\$)	4,500,000.00	30,913,732.00

Please provide justification

PROJECT OUTLINE

A. PROJECT RATIONALE

Briefly describe the current situation: the global environmental problems and/or climate vulnerabilities that the project will address, the key elements of the system, and underlying drivers of environmental change in the project context, such as population growth, economic development, climate change, sociocultural and political factors, including conflicts, or technological changes. Describe the objective of the project, and the justification for it. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

Mercury is a toxic chemical with serious impacts on human health and the environment. UNEP's Global Mercury Assessment identifies the artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) sector as the largest source of anthropogenic mercury emissions to air globally accounting for about 37%

of the total^[1]. The sector also produces about 20% of global annual gold output, much of it through largely informal supply chains^[2]. Mercury released through amalgam burning and other ASGM practices can travel long distances in the atmosphere, be deposited far from the original source, and be transformed into methylmercury in aquatic systems, where it bioaccumulates in fish and wider food webs. Although many miners are aware of the health risks associated with amalgamation, mercury remains widely used because it is one of the easiest and least costly ways to separate gold from ore, while most alternatives require investment in equipment and technical training. Mercury is also readily available in mining areas and is often supplied by buyers and intermediaries in the gold supply chain. As highlighted by the World Health Organization (WHO), these pathways create risks not only for miners and nearby communities, but also for downstream and distant populations exposed through contaminated food and aquatic systems^[3].

Artisanal mining has a long history in Mozambique, with gold and precious and semi-precious stones among the principal minerals extracted. The sector expanded significantly in the second half of the 1980s following the closure of large-scale mines, when former mine workers turned to informal gold and gemstone production as a source of livelihood, often encouraged by gold buyers. Since then, artisanal and small-scale mining has spread to other parts of the country and is now present in several regions, particularly in central and northern Mozambique. Official annual gold production has been estimated at around 1.5-1.6 tonnes in recent years, although this likely understates total output given the high level of informality in the sector. ASGM accounts for the dominant share of production, with some estimates suggesting that more than 90% of Mozambique's gold output originates from the ASGM sector, underscoring both the scale of the challenge and the importance of reducing mercury use within the sector.

Mozambique has already taken important steps to implement the Minamata Convention through development of the National Action Plan for the Reduction and/or Elimination of Mercury Use in Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining in Mozambique (NAP), which was submitted to the Convention in 2024^[4]. These efforts provide a national baseline for policy change because they identify the legal, regulatory and institutional gaps that must be addressed to implement Mozambique's Minamata commitments, strengthen ASGM formalization measures, and guide future revision or operationalization of procedures, coordination mechanisms and sector oversight.

The NAP reports an annual mercury loss of 23.76 kg based on a limited number of assessed sites, which should be understood as a partial estimate rather than a national baseline. This site-level estimate is used to derive an indicative national baseline of 1.64 metric tons/year of mercury loss by extrapolating across the 483 active gold-mining sites identified by CEMAM. Both the baseline and the associated target are indicative and will be validated and refined during the PPG phase through site selection, field verification and application of standardized methodologies.

Mozambique's ASGM sector is characterized by widespread informality, weak access to licensing and support services, low-productivity extraction methods, and continued mercury use in gold processing. These challenges are compounded by poverty, limited livelihood options, weak market access, and uneven institutional presence in remote mining areas.

The 2022 Census of Artisanal Miners in Mozambique (CEMAM), the first such census in the country and in southern Africa, identified 2,162 artisanal mining sites nationwide. The census recorded approximately 229,680 people directly engaged in artisanal mining, of whom about 136,160 (60%) were involved in gold mining. Of the 2,162 artisanal mining sites identified by CEMAM, 483 are active gold-mining sites. Women accounted for 11.7% of those directly engaged in extraction and 41.6% of trading activities. Overall female participation in the sector may be higher when support roles are considered, but this should be treated as an estimate rather than a direct census figure. The census also indicates the presence of children in ASGM-related activities, although the sector's informal nature makes the full scale of child labour difficult to quantify.

Furthermore, ASGM areas in Manica, Niassa, Cabo Delgado, Sofala and Tete—overlap with territories inhabited by Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs), including Makonde, Yao, Makua (Macua) and Mwani communities in the north, and Shona-related groups (Manyika, Ndau), Sena, Chewa and Nyungwe communities in central and western regions. These communities are closely linked to land, water and natural resources and often combine agriculture and mining-based livelihoods.⁵⁵ The project will therefore apply the IPLC concept in line with GEF safeguards. Detailed mapping and confirmation of IPLC presence in project intervention areas will be undertaken during the PPG phase through spatial analysis and stakeholder consultations, and appropriate safeguards measures will be applied accordingly.

In Mozambique, ASGM occurs in both alluvial deposits - along rivers in provinces such as Sofala, Tete, and Cabo Delgado - and in hard rock (primary) deposits, particularly in Manica and Niassa provinces, which have the longest gold mining tradition in the country. Hard rock mining is typically carried out year-round, while alluvial mining can be seasonal. In both types of operations, mercury is widely used for gold amalgamation. Worst practices such as whole-ore amalgamation and open-air burning of mercury-gold amalgam are prevalent at many ASGM sites, exposing miners, their families, and surrounding communities to severe mercury contamination. A World Health Organization report prepared as part of the NAP development highlights that miners and surrounding communities are routinely exposed to chemical hazards—most notably mercury—through direct contact during amalgamation, inhalation of mercury vapour during burning, and contamination of water, soil and food systems. These risks are compounded by low levels of mechanization, poor occupational safety conditions, and limited access to safer processing methods, resulting in high exposure levels.

Communities in ASGM-affected areas of Mozambique also face risks through contaminated water sources and fish consumption. According to the NAP, mercury was detected in water samples collected from the Revué, Chua and Mussambuzi riverbeds in Manica Province, with the highest concentrations reported in the Chua River, followed by the Revué and Mussambuzi rivers. Because mercury can bioaccumulate in aquatic systems, these findings raise concerns for communities that rely on fishing and river water for domestic use and livelihoods. Taken together, the available evidence points to significant environmental and public health risks in affected areas and reinforces the need for improved monitoring, prevention and mercury-reduction measures.

The level of mercury use and the degree of mechanization differ between purely artisanal and semi-mechanized operations, depending on equipment, extraction capacity, site size, and the number of people involved. Mozambique's legal framework for the mining sector is governed by Mining Law 20/2014 and its Regulation Decree 31/2015, which define the categories of mining permits, including the Mining Pass (Senha Mineira) for artisanal operators and the Mining

Certificate for cooperatives. The Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy (MIREME) and the National Institute of Mines (INAMI) are responsible for oversight, regulation, and licensing of the ASGM sector in Mozambique.

Against this backdrop, the main barriers to reducing mercury use and supporting a more responsible and formalized ASGM sector in Mozambique are set out below.

Root causes, Drivers, and Main Barriers to a Mercury-free ASGM sector in Mozambique

Poverty and Livelihood Dependence on ASGM

Mozambique faces high levels of poverty and livelihood insecurity, especially in rural areas. According to the UNDP Multidimensional Poverty Index, approximately 61.9% of the population is multidimensionally poor.^[6] In this context, ASGM is often seen as a primary source of income for rural workers and their families, including in areas where food insecurity and limited livelihood options are persistent. Many traditional income sources, such as rain-fed agriculture, are vulnerable to drought, flooding and other climate-related shocks, which can reinforce dependence on mining as a coping strategy.

In many ASGM areas of Mozambique, mining is closely linked to agriculture rather than replacing it entirely. Households often combine farming and mining seasonally or use income from gold production to buy seeds, hire labour, smooth food consumption, rebuild homes and cover school and health expenses. This means that ASGM functions not only as a source of cash income but also as a buffer against climate shocks and agricultural insecurity in rural areas. As a result, efforts to formalize the sector and reduce mercury use need to be understood not only as an environmental intervention, but also as part of a broader strategy to strengthen rural livelihoods, resilience and household well-being.

Poverty and livelihood dependence on ASGM remain major barriers to mercury reduction and formalization in Mozambique's mining areas. Despite its physical demands and hazards, ASGM is widely perceived as an attractive income-generating activity. The 2022 Census of Artisanal Miners in Mozambique (CEMAM) indicates that artisanal mining is a primary source of income for many miners and reports average monthly earnings of about 5,816 meticaís (approximately USD 90-92)^[7]. This economic dependence makes poverty-driven participation in the sector a major challenge for mercury reduction and formalization. Barriers to entry into ASGM remain relatively low, while access to mercury-free technologies and legal mining permits is much more difficult. Under Mining Law 20/2014, obtaining a Mining Pass or Mining Certificate requires meeting legal, technical and financial criteria that many informal miners cannot easily satisfy, including cooperative registration and compliance with environmental requirements.^[8]

Institutional and Regulatory Barriers to ASGM Formalization

Institutional and regulatory barriers remain a major constraint to formalization and mercury reduction in Mozambique's ASGM sector. This is not only a matter of weak implementation of existing rules: it also points to the need for new or updated policy, regulatory and administrative measures that make formalization, legal commercialization, occupational safety and health, and

environmental management more workable in practice for ASGM operators and the authorities responsible for oversight.

Mozambique has taken important steps to formalize the sector, including the introduction of the Mining Pass under Mining Law 20/2014, the conduct of the CEMAM census (2021-2022), and preparation of the NAP under the Minamata Convention. However, these measures have not yet translated into a sufficiently effective enabling environment for most miners. In practice, many operators still lack workable pathways to licensing, compliance, environmental management and responsible commercialization, which means that existing frameworks alone are not yet sufficient to drive the sectoral change needed for mercury reduction.

This persistent informality reflects weaknesses in the institutional and regulatory environment for ASGM. Although licensing categories exist, miners often face high transaction costs, lengthy and complex procedures, limited administrative support, and long distances to government service points. In practice, these barriers reduce incentives to formalize and make informal production the easier option. This creates a clear policy rationale for the project: to generate evidence, tools and implementation experience that can inform simplification of procedures, improved coordination mechanisms, and new or updated administrative and regulatory measures that better align Minamata implementation with the realities of ASGM in Mozambique.

In Mozambique, these bottlenecks are particularly acute because the path from artisanal status to more formal small-scale operation remains difficult in practice. Miners may obtain a Mining Pass for artisanal production in designated areas, but progressing to a Mining Certificate often requires organization into cooperatives, preparation of technical and environmental documentation, and interaction with centralized administrative procedures that can be costly, slow and difficult to navigate. Delays are further compounded by limited geological support, weak provincial service delivery, and overlapping institutional responsibilities between the entities responsible for licensing, technical support and sector oversight. In these conditions, many operators remain trapped in a grey zone between legality and informality, unable to access the benefits of formalization while still exposed to enforcement risk and exploitative market relations.

These challenges are compounded by limited institutional resources, weak decentralization, and uneven coordination across agencies responsible for mining, environment and local administration. As a result, government authorities often struggle both to enforce existing rules and to provide the support services needed to help ASGM operators move toward formalization and adopt improved practices, including mercury reduction.

Limited Knowledge of Safer Environmental, Health and Processing Practices

Limited knowledge of safer environmental, health and processing practices remains a major barrier to mercury reduction in Mozambique's ASGM sector. Many artisanal miners have only partial awareness of the risks associated with mercury and other hazardous chemicals, including cyanide, and often lack practical knowledge of the alternatives that could reduce exposure and improve production practices.

Previous ASGM initiatives in Mozambique, including baseline surveys and the UNIDO-supported NAP process, helped identify these knowledge gaps and pilot initial responses. However, their geographic reach was limited, focusing mainly on selected sites in Manica and Niassa. As a result, only a small share of the national ASGM workforce has been reached to date, and broader behaviour change will require sustained, larger-scale awareness-raising, training and access to demonstrated alternatives.

These knowledge gaps contribute directly to continued unsafe chemical use, avoidable occupational exposure, and persistent contamination of soils, sediments and water bodies in mining areas. They also affect surrounding livelihoods, including agriculture, livestock and fisheries, by increasing environmental pressures in rural communities already facing limited economic options. Available assessments cited in the Mozambique NAP point to contamination concerns in parts of Manica and Niassa, reinforcing the need for improved awareness, monitoring and prevention.

These conditions reflect broader weaknesses in local capacity, knowledge dissemination and technical support systems. As long as awareness, training and access to practical alternatives remain limited, unsafe processing practices and mercury dependence are likely to persist across much of the sector.

Limited Access to Finance and Responsible Markets in the ASGM Sector

Limited access to finance remains a major barrier to formalization and mercury reduction in Mozambique's ASGM sector. Financial institutions often view ASGM as a high-risk segment because of informality, weak documentation, concerns about illicit financial flows, child labour, mercury use, and the lack of predictable production and collateral. These factors reduce lender appetite and constrain the availability of formal financial products for miners and small ASGM enterprises.

As a result, most ASGM operators in Mozambique continue to rely on informal sources of finance, including family networks, local traders, mercury suppliers, gold buyers and informal savings arrangements. While these channels provide short-term liquidity, they also reinforce dependency on unregulated supply chains and limit miners' bargaining power, transparency and ability to invest in longer-term improvements.

Even where lenders are willing to engage, financing terms are often too costly or restrictive for small-scale miners, especially for operators who are unbanked, lack financial records, or do not meet compliance requirements. This constraint is particularly important for the transition to mercury-free processing, which often requires higher upfront investment than mercury-based methods. Without access to suitable finance, miners are less able to adopt improved technologies and business practices.

At the same time, the dominant financing and trading arrangements in the sector do not reward responsible production. Because miners often depend on buyers and intermediaries who do not require mercury-free gold, the costs of adopting cleaner technologies are borne largely by miners themselves. This weakens incentives to change production practices and helps sustain the continued use of mercury in the sector.

Exposure to Illicit Mercury and Gold Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa

Illicit mercury and gold trade across East and Southern Africa remains an important barrier to mercury reduction in Mozambique's ASGM sector. As controls on mercury trade have tightened, some supply is likely to have shifted through informal and illegal channels rather than transparent and regulated markets. In practice, mercury and gold may circulate through interconnected regional networks linking mining areas, border towns, trading hubs and export routes. Porous borders, uneven enforcement capacity and price differentials between formal and informal markets can make it easier for these commodities to move outside official control. In this context, a

substantial share of artisanal gold production is likely to remain outside formal and traceable supply chains.

In Mozambique, these regional dynamics may be reinforced by commercial relationships in which buyers, intermediaries and local traders provide mercury or other inputs to miners as part of broader informal purchasing and financing arrangements. Gold produced under these arrangements may then move through cross-border trade networks connected to neighbouring countries where onward trade, aggregation and resale can take place through both formal and informal channels. These interconnected networks reduce transparency, weaken incentives for legal compliance, and can make mercury more readily accessible even where its trade is restricted.

These structural incentives make mercury-based production difficult to displace. Miners often bear the cost of changing practices, while intermediaries may continue to benefit from the existing trade model. As long as these market conditions persist, incentives for formalization, traceability and mercury-free production are likely to remain weak. These dynamics can also undermine state oversight, weaken incentives for legal commercialization, and increase the difficulty of shifting ASGM production toward more transparent, traceable and mercury-free market pathways.

Vulnerability of Local Communities in ASGM Areas

The vulnerability of local communities in ASGM areas reflects a significant social and governance barrier to more responsible and mercury-free mining practices in Mozambique. In several ASGM-affected areas, including Manica, Niassa, Tete and Cabo Delgado, local communities depend on land, rivers, forests and other natural resources for livelihoods, subsistence and social organization. These communities may be affected by informal and poorly managed ASGM activities through land degradation, river contamination, competition over natural resources and disruption to local livelihood systems. In Cabo Delgado, broader insecurity may further increase vulnerability in areas where artisanal mining is present.

These vulnerabilities are often compounded by weak consultation processes, limited recognition of local resource-use systems, and uneven enforcement of safeguards in mining areas. Where ASGM expands or operates informally, local communities may have little influence over decisions affecting land, water and access to natural resources, increasing the risk of exclusion, local tensions and negative impacts on livelihoods and social cohesion.

Gender Inequality and Child Labour in the ASGM Sector

Gender inequality remains a significant structural barrier in Mozambique's ASGM sector. According to the 2022 CEMAM census, women account for 11.7% of those directly engaged in extraction and 41.6% of trading activities, while overall participation may be higher when support roles are considered. These patterns point to a strongly gendered division of labour, in which women are concentrated in lower-paid, less secure and less visible roles across the gold value chain.

Women in ASGM often face restricted access to mining rights, decision-making, equipment, finance and the more profitable stages of production. Many therefore remain concentrated in processing, trading and other precarious activities, including tasks that may involve direct exposure to mercury. These inequalities are reinforced by legal, institutional and social barriers that limit women's ability to formalize their work, improve their economic position and influence how benefits and risks are distributed within the sector.

Child labour is also a persistent concern in Mozambique's ASGM sector. The CEMAM census indicates the presence of children in ASGM-related activities, while the sector's informal nature makes the full scale difficult to quantify. Its persistence reflects a combination of poverty, limited access to education, household dependence on mining income, and weak enforcement of labour and child protection standards in remote mining areas.

Taken together, gender inequality and child labour reflect broader patterns of exclusion, weak regulation and livelihood insecurity in Mozambique's ASGM sector. These conditions make it harder to improve working conditions, reduce hazardous practices and support formalization. As long as these structural constraints persist, progress toward a safer, more responsible and mercury-free ASGM sector is likely to remain limited.

Long-Term Scenario without the proposed intervention

Without the proposed intervention, Mozambique's ASGM sector is likely to remain characterized by widespread informality, continued mercury dependence, weak regulatory compliance and limited access to safer technologies, finance and markets. In this scenario, unsustainable mining practices would persist across ASGM-affected areas of the country, with continuing environmental degradation and ongoing risks to human health and local livelihoods. In provinces such as Cabo Delgado, where artisanal mining is expanding in a context of broader insecurity, these pressures may be even more difficult to manage. Continued unregulated mining in and around ecologically sensitive areas would contribute to further land degradation, river contamination and pressure on biodiversity, while also increasing tensions over land, water and other natural resources on which Indigenous Peoples and local communities depend.

In the absence of sustained structural change, experience from comparable ASGM contexts indicates that key barriers to reducing mercury use are likely to persist. Evidence from previous planetGOLD projects shows that adoption of mercury-free technologies remains limited where miners lack access to finance, technical support and clear economic incentives, while formalization efforts tend to remain slow and fragmented in the absence of tangible benefits such as access to markets and services.¹⁹⁹ As a result, miners would likely continue to operate within informal systems characterized by limited access to credit, weak integration into responsible supply chains and continued reliance on established but hazardous processing practices. In these conditions, ad hoc support initiatives may address immediate needs but would be unlikely to alter the underlying drivers of informality and mercury use.

These conditions would also continue to reinforce existing social inequalities within the sector. Women, who are often concentrated in lower-paid and higher-risk roles such as processing and trading, would likely remain disproportionately exposed to mercury and excluded from access to finance, formalization pathways and decision-making opportunities. Similarly, Indigenous Peoples and local communities in ASGM-affected areas would continue to face pressures on land, water and natural resources, with limited influence over mining activities affecting their livelihoods and social systems. Without targeted measures to address these structural and social barriers, progress toward safer, more inclusive and environmentally sustainable ASGM practices would remain limited.

International demand for gold and limited rural livelihood options would continue to draw people into ASGM, while low productivity, weak organization and inefficient processing methods would

constrain incomes and reinforce dependence on unsafe production practices. Private-sector activity in Mozambique's extractive industries would continue, but its contribution to transforming the ASGM sector would likely remain limited by reputational concerns, informality and insecurity in parts of the country. Without the knowledge, incentives and support systems needed to shift to mercury-free production, artisanal miners would have little reason to change established practices, and progress toward a cleaner, safer and more formalized ASGM sector would remain slow.

- [1] United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Global Mercury Assessment 2018 (Nairobi: UNEP, 2019)
- [2] World Gold Council, "ASGM Report 2022 Press Release," March 24, 2022, <https://www.gold.org/news-and-events/press-releases/asgm-report-2022-press-release>
- [3] World Health Organization, Mercury Exposure and Health Impacts among Individuals in the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) Community (Geneva: WHO, 2013)
- [4] Republic of Mozambique, National Action Plan for the Reduction and/or Elimination of Mercury Use in Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining in Mozambique (2024).
- [5] Minority Rights Group International, Mozambique country profile; Afrobarometer (2025) <https://minorityrights.org/country/mozambique/>
- [6] United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI), Global Multidimensional Poverty Index: Mozambique country profile.
- [7] CEMAM, 2022.
- [8] Republic of Mozambique, Mining Law No. 20/2014 and Decree No. 31/2015, which establish the legal framework for mining activity, including artisanal mining permits and certificates.
- [9] UNEP (2025), Cross-Programmatic Assessment of the planetGOLD Programme – Phase 1, <https://www.planetgold.org/resources/cross-programmatic-assessment-planetgold-programme-phase-1>

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project description

This section asks for a theory of change as part of a joined-up description of the project as a whole. The project description is expected to cover the key elements of good project design in an integrated way. It is also expected to meet the GEF's policy requirements on gender, stakeholders, private sector, and knowledge management and learning (see section D). This section should be a narrative that reads like a joined-up story and not independent elements that answer the guiding questions contained in the PIF guidance document. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

The project is structured around four mutually reinforcing components designed to protect human health and the environment from mercury use in Mozambique's ASGM sector. Together, these components address the main barriers identified in the project rationale and support a transition toward more formalized, responsible and mercury-free gold production.

1. Support formalization of Mozambique's ASGM sector by improving access to licensing, strengthening miners' organizations and institutional coordination;
2. Improve access to finance and responsible markets for ASGM operators, including support for financial solutions and more transparent market pathways for mercury-free gold;
3. Advance technical solutions and improved practices through awareness-raising and the introduction, demonstration and uptake of efficient mercury-free gold processing technologies and techniques via pilot activities, training and technical support; and
4. Strengthen knowledge generation, communication and exchange at national, regional and global levels in line with the planetGOLD programme.

These components are reflected in the Theory of Change (ToC) (Figure 1), which shows how project activities and outputs are expected to contribute to four component-level outcomes and a supporting monitoring and evaluation outcome and, in turn, to the project's long-term objective. The ToC also recognizes that progress will depend on several external conditions, including the policy environment, market incentives, institutional capacity and continued stakeholder engagement at national and local levels. It further recognizes that gender inequalities and barriers affecting youth influence who can formalize, who can access finance and technology, who participates in decision-making, and who benefits from safer and more responsible ASGM practices. Addressing these barriers is therefore important not only for social inclusion, but also for achieving the project's environmental and health outcomes. The project will therefore seek to move beyond participation alone by supporting women's meaningful inclusion in decision-making and leadership where relevant, applying sex-disaggregated targets and indicators across people-related results where feasible, and using proactive measures to address underrepresentation in training, consultation, implementation and governance processes.

Taken together, the proposed outcomes are expected to support positive, longer-term change in Mozambique's ASGM sector by strengthening formalization, improving access to finance and responsible markets, and reducing reliance on mercury-based production. Through participation in the planetGOLD global programme, the project will also contribute global environmental benefits by reducing mercury use and releases and by generating knowledge relevant to broader efforts to improve the sustainability of ASGM.

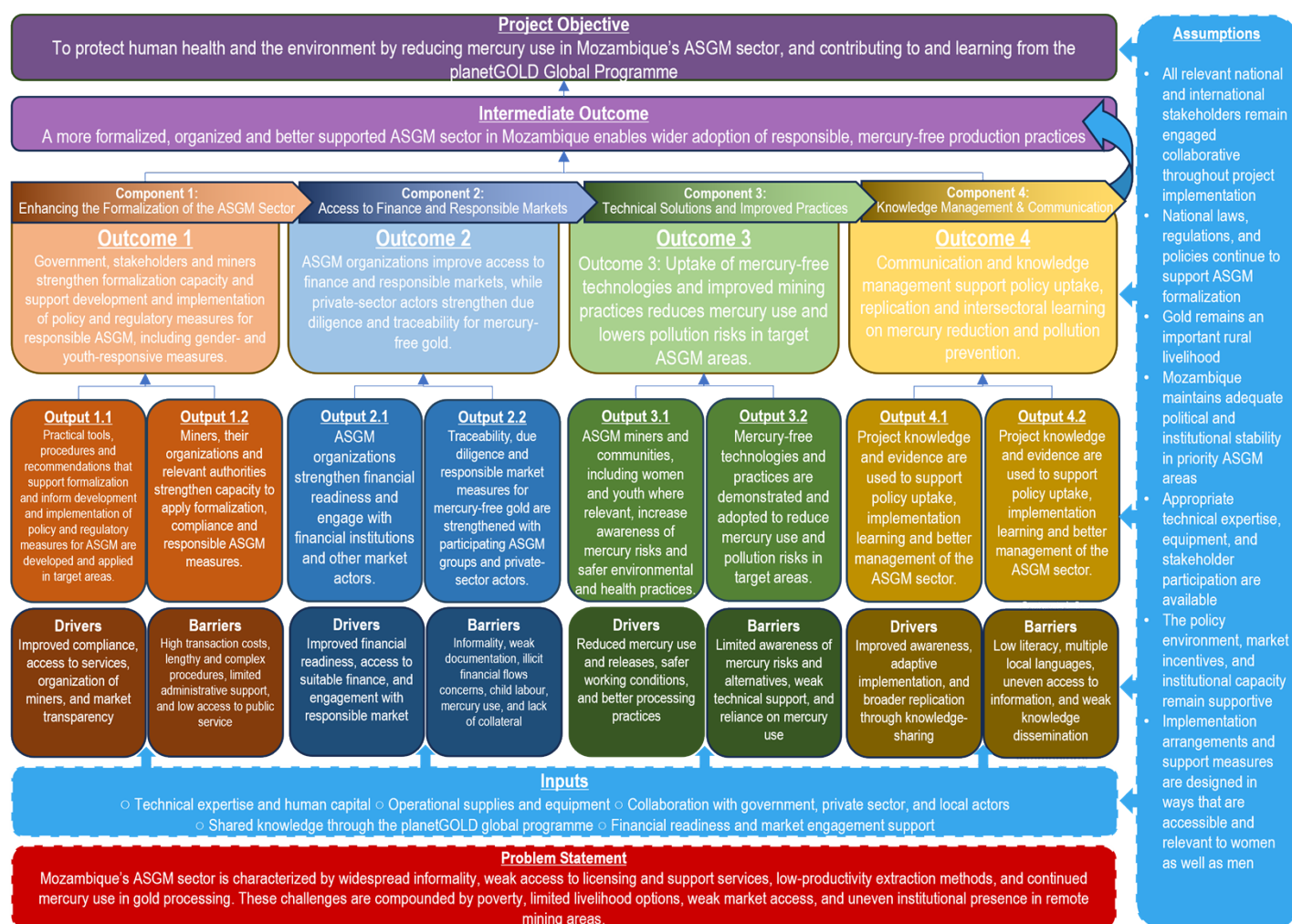


Figure 1: Theory of Change Diagram, planetGOLD Mozambique project. Source: UNEP

Taken together, the four project components and the methodologies applied are expected to support significant longer-term change in Mozambique's ASGM sector and contribute to reducing mercury use and releases. This, in turn, is expected to help strengthen the sector's contribution to more sustainable and responsible development over time.

The four components are as follows:

Component 1: Enhancing the Formalization of the ASGM Sector

Component 1 focuses on enhancing the formalization of the ASGM sector in line with the sector-governance priorities set out in Mozambique's National Action Plan (NAP) as the enabling foundation for reducing and, where feasible, eliminating mercury use in ASGM. In this project, formalization is treated not only as a legal or administrative process, but as a practical pathway to improved compliance, service access, stronger organization of miners, greater market transparency and safer production practices. The project will also support development and implementation of policy and regulatory measures for responsible ASGM by generating practical evidence, tools, procedures and recommendations that can inform improvements to licensing, compliance, commercialization and institutional coordination. By improving formalization pathways, organizational capacity and practical compliance tools, the component is also expected to contribute to stronger oversight, clearer identification of operators and more transparent commercialization arrangements in the ASGM sector.

The component will support development and application of practical tools, procedures and recommendations that facilitate formalization and inform the design and implementation of policy and regulatory measures for ASGM in target areas. This is expected to include assessment of legal, regulatory and operational bottlenecks affecting licensing, organization of miners, commercialization and oversight; development of simplified guidance and tools for miners and relevant authorities; and support to more workable pathways for artisanal operators to move toward safer, more organized and more compliant production systems. Key public counterparts are expected to include the Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy (MIREME), the National Institute of Mines (INAMI), the Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Fisheries (MAAP), provincial and district authorities, and other relevant structures involved in licensing, inspection, environmental oversight and local administration.

The component will also strengthen the capacity of miners, their organizations and relevant authorities to apply formalization, compliance and responsible ASGM measures in practice. It will help strengthen miners' associations, cooperatives and other organized groups in target areas as entry points for formalization, service delivery and dialogue with authorities, including for women and youth participating in the sector. The project will identify and address barriers that women and youth face in accessing information, permits, associations, leadership opportunities and decision-making spaces so that support is delivered in a more inclusive manner. Where feasible, the project will use targeted outreach, tailored support and participation benchmarks to improve women's representation and meaningful participation in formalization processes and related governance spaces, including women's leadership in miners' organizations and local dialogue mechanisms, while also promoting age-appropriate opportunities for youth participation in training, organization and local dialogue. Participation tracking and support for inclusive participation and leadership will be built into implementation arrangements for this component.

During the PPG phase, priority intervention areas will be confirmed using NAP and CEMAM data together with field verification, taking into account mercury use, prevalence of worst practices, environmental sensitivity, organizational readiness, community considerations and the feasibility of follow-up support. This preparatory work will also help identify where formalization support is most

likely to contribute to sustained mercury reduction, improved compliance and stronger institutional engagement.

In implementation, the component will strengthen the ability of responsible authorities at national and provincial levels to provide outreach, technical support and oversight, including through capacity-building for institutions involved in licensing, inspection, local coordination and support to miners' organizations. It will also support improved alignment across the institutions responsible for mining, environment, local administration and community engagement, so that formalization is not treated as a stand-alone licensing exercise but as part of a broader transition toward a safer and better governed ASGM sector.

Through this approach, Component 1 is expected to create more workable pathways toward formalization, improve the enabling environment for mercury reduction, and strengthen institutional capacity for longer-term replication and sustainability.

The outputs under this component are as follows:

Output 1.1: Practical tools, procedures and recommendations that support formalization and inform development and implementation of policy and regulatory measures for ASGM are developed and applied in target areas.

Indicative activities include:

- Conduct a national legal, institutional and operational assessment of formalization barriers in Mozambique's ASGM sector, including implications for policy and regulatory measures related to licensing, commercialization, organization of miners and sector oversight.
- Map key bottlenecks affecting different actor groups, including women, youth, miners and processors, and identify practical entry points for more inclusive formalization support.
- Develop simplified formalization guidance, procedures, practical tools and recommendations for ASGM miners, organized groups and relevant government authorities.
- Support the development or strengthening of miners' associations, cooperatives and other organized groups as entry points for formalization and compliance.

Output 1.2: Miners, their organizations and relevant authorities strengthen capacity to apply formalization, compliance and responsible ASGM measures.

Indicative activities include:

- Develop a training package and materials for miners, cooperatives and relevant authorities on formalization, compliance and responsible ASGM measures, including simplified procedures and inclusive outreach tools.
- Deliver capacity-building to miners, cooperatives and relevant authorities on formalization pathways, organizational strengthening, compliance requirements and responsible ASGM practices, with sex-disaggregated participation targets where feasible.
- Provide targeted support to improve women's participation and leadership in miners' organizations, formalization processes and local dialogue spaces.

- Provide follow-up accompaniment in target areas to help ASGM groups apply formalization measures, engage with authorities and address practical barriers encountered during implementation.
- Establish simple benchmarks and progress-monitoring arrangements for formalization support in target areas, including sex-disaggregated tracking of relevant participation and benefit indicators.

Component 2: Access to Finance and Responsible Markets

Component 2 addresses limited access to finance and responsible markets as major structural barriers to formalization, improved production practices and the adoption of mercury-free technologies in Mozambique's ASGM sector. In practice, many miners depend on informal and trader-linked financing arrangements in which buyers, intermediaries or suppliers provide cash advances, equipment, mercury or other inputs in exchange for preferential access to gold production. While these arrangements can provide short-term liquidity, they often lock miners into opaque trading relationships, weaken bargaining power, reduce transparency, and make it harder to shift toward legally compliant and mercury-free production. This component therefore combines support to improve ASGM organizations' access to finance and responsible markets with engagement of private-sector actors to strengthen due diligence and traceability for mercury-free gold.

The component therefore has a twofold objective. First, it will strengthen the financial readiness of miners' organizations and small ASGM enterprises and support their engagement with financial institutions and other market actors by improving basic financial management, record-keeping, savings practices, investment planning and preparedness for structured dialogue with lenders and buyers. Second, it will strengthen traceability, due diligence and responsible market measures for mercury-free gold by engaging key stakeholders including the Bank of Mozambique, the Ministry of Economy and Finance, commercial banks, microfinance institutions, savings and credit cooperatives, responsible buyers, traders, refiners and other relevant market actors. During the PPG phase, this work will examine feasible products and mechanisms, including options for equipment finance, group-based lending, staged financing or other de-risking arrangements, alongside practical approaches to improve documentation, traceability and responsible commercialization.

The project will address barriers that women and youth face in accessing finance, market information and business support within the ASGM sector. In line with the project's gender and inclusion approach, financial capacity-building and market-oriented support will improve equitable access to information, opportunities and services for women and youth participating in ASGM and related livelihood activities, including by addressing constraints related to documentation, mobility, financial literacy and participation in business networks where relevant. The project will also strengthen women's participation in financial decision-making and business leadership through targeted outreach, tailored capacity-building and other proactive measures to address underrepresentation, while supporting age-appropriate youth participation in financial literacy, business readiness and market engagement activities. Participation tracking and support for inclusive financial and business participation will be incorporated into this component's implementation approach.

To support this transition, the component will promote practical financial literacy, savings mechanisms and investment planning within miners' organizations and cooperatives. These measures are intended to strengthen internal financial management, improve preparedness for

engagement with formal lenders or buyers, and help ASGM groups plan for investments associated with cleaner processing options identified under Component 3.

A further objective of Component 2 is to support gradual alignment with responsible gold supply-chain requirements. This includes improving understanding of due diligence expectations, transparency requirements and relevant market standards, including the planetGOLD Criteria and, where relevant, internationally recognized responsible sourcing approaches such as the OECD Due Diligence Guidance and Code of Risk-mitigation for Artisanal and Small-scale Mining Engaging in Formal Trade (CRAFT). The component will engage responsible buyers, traders, refiners, financial institutions and other market actors to strengthen traceability and due diligence practices and support commercially viable, responsible and traceable market pathways for mercury-free gold. Over time, this is expected to improve access to more formal and transparent market channels for participating ASGM organizations and help reinforce incentives for formalization and cleaner production.

The outputs under this component are as follows:

Output 2.1: ASGM organizations strengthen financial readiness and engage with financial institutions and other market actors.

Indicative activities include:

- Conduct an assessment of financial access, inclusion and financing barriers in Mozambique's ASGM sector, including relevant providers, products, risk perceptions and delivery channels.
- Develop and deliver financial literacy and management training on budgeting, bookkeeping, savings, cash-flow planning and investment readiness for ASGM organizations, with sex-disaggregated participation targets where feasible.
- Provide targeted support for women and youth participating in ASGM and related livelihood activities to strengthen business skills, financial literacy, decision-making and access to opportunities.
- Support miners' organizations to prepare simple business and investment plans linked to cleaner production and improved commercialization.
- Facilitate dialogue and engagement with financial institutions and other market actors, including the Bank of Mozambique, banks, microfinance institutions, savings and credit cooperatives, buyers and traders, on suitable financing and commercialization pathways for compliant ASGM groups.

Output 2.2: Traceability, due diligence and responsible market measures for mercury-free gold are strengthened with participating ASGM groups and private-sector actors.

Indicative activities include:

- Translate, adapt and deliver training on the planetGOLD Criteria and relevant responsible sourcing approaches to strengthen traceability, due diligence and responsible market measures for mercury-free gold.
- Support participating ASGM groups and private-sector actors to strengthen traceability systems, documentation and practical due diligence measures for mercury-free gold.

- Develop action plans with selected ASGM groups to improve readiness for responsible market participation and transparent commercialization.
- Engage buyers, traders, refiners and other relevant market actors to test responsible and traceable market pathways for project-supported organizations.

Component 3: Technical Solutions and Improved Practices

Component 3 focuses on technical solutions and improved practices to reduce mercury use and releases, and to lower pollution risks in target ASGM areas, through increased awareness of mercury risks and the uptake of mercury-free technologies and improved processing practices. Mercury use in the country remains underreported given the high level of informality, and the large number of miners identified by the CEMAM census suggests that actual mercury use and associated releases are likely to be higher than currently documented. The component is therefore designed around a practical sequence that moves from risk awareness and technical assessment to demonstration, training, adoption support and follow-up.

Mercury remains widely used because it is familiar, accessible and perceived by miners as an effective low-cost option. The project must therefore demonstrate that mercury-free alternatives can deliver practical, economically viable and locally appropriate improvements in gold recovery and working conditions while also reducing mercury releases and associated pollution risks. Without such evidence, incentives to shift away from mercury-based methods are likely to remain limited.

Component 3 is closely linked to Components 1 and 2. Broader uptake of improved processing methods will depend on progress in formalization, stronger miners' organizations, better access to finance and stronger incentives to participate in legal and responsible gold markets. Technology uptake is therefore treated not as a stand-alone intervention, but as part of a wider transition to a more formalized and mercury-free ASGM sector.

During the PPG phase, the project will assess current processing practices, site conditions and technical constraints in priority intervention areas to identify feasible mercury-free options. This assessment will be carried out in consultation with miners' associations, cooperatives, local communities, provincial and district authorities, and relevant technical counterparts including MIREME, INAMI, MAAP and, where relevant, the Ministry of Health and academic or technical partners. It will consider differences between alluvial and hard-rock operations, the organization of mining groups, maintenance requirements and the conditions needed for sustained use. It will also examine gender-related barriers and opportunities, including differentiated exposure to mercury, the roles of women in processing and trading activities, and whether proposed technologies, training and support arrangements are accessible and beneficial to women as well as men involved in ASGM. Where appropriate, the project will also engage equipment suppliers and other technical service providers to help assess feasible options for demonstration, operation and longer-term maintenance.

Selection of mercury-free technologies will take into account local operating conditions, applicable legal, environmental and occupational requirements, and the practical needs of ASGM miners and communities in Mozambique. The project will draw on relevant technical experience and implementation lessons to identify options that are feasible and appropriate in the national context, including combinations of demonstration equipment, pilot processing systems and practical training models suited to different site conditions. Where possible, preference will be given to locally available vendors and cost-effective options that support long-term operation, maintenance, access to spare parts and sustainability beyond the life of the project.

Sustained uptake will require more than equipment alone. It will depend on practical training, site-based demonstration, technical follow-up and the ability of miners and their organizations to operate, maintain and manage improved systems over time. The component will therefore emphasize learning by doing, training on operation and maintenance, better tailings and wastewater management, and integration of mercury-free practices with broader improvements in occupational health, productivity and site management. Awareness-raising, demonstration and training approaches will be designed to reach ASGM miners and communities, including women and youth participating in different parts of the ASGM value chain. The project will also work to eliminate worst practices, especially whole-ore amalgamation, open burning of amalgam and unsafe tailings handling, while promoting stronger environmental, occupational health and community safety measures. Participation tracking and support for women's voice and leadership in technology-related decision-making will be integrated into this component, and relevant participation and uptake indicators will be monitored on a sex-disaggregated basis where feasible.

The outputs under this component are as follows:

Output 3.1: ASGM miners and communities, including women and youth where relevant, increase awareness of mercury risks and safer environmental and health practices.

Indicative activities include:

- Develop and disseminate information, education and communication materials on mercury risks and safer environmental, health and processing practices.
- Conduct gender-responsive and youth-inclusive outreach and community sensitization in mining-affected communities, engaging local stakeholders where relevant.

Output 3.2: Mercury-free technologies and practices are demonstrated and adopted to reduce mercury use and pollution risks in target areas.

Indicative activities include:

- Assess current processing practices, site conditions, ore characteristics and suitable mercury-free technologies and techniques for selected ASGM sites.
- Establish demonstration sites and, where feasible, pilot systems for mercury-free technologies and practices suited to selected target areas.
- Train miners and their organizations on operation, maintenance, troubleshooting and safer practices using practical demonstration approaches.
- Provide follow-up technical support for adoption and sustained use of mercury-free technologies and practices, including improved environmental and occupational practices that help reduce pollution risks in target areas.

Component 4: Knowledge Management and Communication

Component 4 supports knowledge management and communication as enabling functions for behaviour change, policy uptake, replication and intersectoral learning on mercury reduction and pollution prevention in Mozambique's ASGM sector. By improving how information is generated, documented, shared and used, the component is intended to strengthen awareness of mercury

risks, promote uptake of improved practices, and ensure that lessons from implementation contribute to broader sector reform. This work will involve public institutions responsible for ASGM governance and mercury management, miners' associations and cooperatives, local communities, civil society organizations, media organizations, academic partners, and relevant private-sector actors in the gold supply chain. Component 4 is therefore positioned not only as a dissemination function, but also as a mechanism for capturing evidence, supporting peer learning and feeding practical lessons back into project implementation and wider ASGM processes.

Communication activities will focus on audiences most relevant to mercury reduction, including ASGM communities, local stakeholders, gold supply-chain actors and the wider public where appropriate. Messages will address the health and environmental risks of mercury, practical alternatives, and lessons emerging from project-supported sites. Communication products and channels will be adapted to local conditions and, where feasible, to local languages in order to improve accessibility and relevance. Depending on local context, the project may use a mix of community meetings, print materials, radio, audio-visual products and digital dissemination to improve reach. Communication approaches will be designed to be accessible to miners and mining-affected communities, including women and youth participating in ASGM and related community activities. Where relevant, communication products will seek to portray women not only as affected stakeholders but also as active participants and agents of change in safer and more responsible ASGM.

The component will also support knowledge exchange among miners, cooperatives, public institutions and other ASGM stakeholders within Mozambique through learning events, technical exchanges and practical documentation of project experience. This is expected to help share experience on formalization, safer processing practices, finance and market engagement across target areas. Particular attention will be given to ensuring that women and youth are able to participate in and benefit from these learning processes, and that lessons related to inclusive approaches, participation and access to benefits are captured where relevant in line with the project's broader gender and inclusion approach. Inclusive participation, gender-sensitive communication and balanced representation will be reflected in the design of these activities and products.

At the national level, Component 4 will contribute to the use of project knowledge and evidence to support policy uptake, implementation learning and better management of Mozambique's ASGM sector. It will also support establishment of a project-level grievance mechanism to help ensure that concerns raised during implementation can be received and addressed in an accessible and transparent manner, in line with applicable safeguard requirements.

Component 4 will also connect Mozambique's project experience to the wider planetGOLD programme by contributing knowledge products, tools and lessons learned to global and regional knowledge-sharing processes. Participation in the East and Southern Africa regional working group and in relevant planetGOLD exchanges will help position project results within a broader community of practice, support replication of effective approaches, and strengthen intersectoral learning beyond the initial intervention areas.

The outputs under this component are as follows:

Output 4.1: Project knowledge and evidence are used to support policy uptake, implementation learning and better management of the ASGM sector.

Indicative activities include:

- Develop a project learning framework to capture evidence and support policy uptake, implementation learning and better management of the ASGM sector.
- Establish a multi-stakeholder advisory and knowledge-sharing forum and organize regular knowledge-sharing meetings during the project.
- Organize knowledge-sharing workshops in target areas on formalization, mercury reduction and responsible ASGM practices.
- Establish a project grievance mechanism to receive and respond to concerns during implementation.

Output 4.2: Knowledge products, tools and lessons are shared nationally and through planetGOLD to support replication and intersectoral learning.

Indicative activities include:

- Develop and implement a communication and knowledge-sharing plan, including products and tools that support replication and intersectoral learning.
- Organize communication and awareness activities using suitable local channels and formats, including engagement with media organizations where relevant.
- Hold PSC and other coordination meetings related to project governance.
- Participate in regular meetings and events organized by the planetGOLD programme, including reporting on project progress and lessons learned.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) will support evidence-based implementation throughout the project. In line with GEF and UNEP requirements, the project will build on the monitoring, reporting and learning framework already established under the wider planetGOLD programme, including the programme's cross-programme indicators, common calculation methodologies and reporting tools where applicable. In particular, project-level monitoring of mercury abatement, formalization, responsible gold and access to finance results will be aligned with the methods set out in the "Guidance for Calculation of planetGOLD Cross-Programme Output Indicators". This will be complemented by project-specific arrangements for baseline development, regular indicator tracking, sex-disaggregated monitoring across relevant beneficiary indicators, safeguards-related follow-up, risk monitoring, periodic reporting and adaptive management. Together, these arrangements will help the project respond to implementation challenges, assess progress toward mercury reduction and other expected results, and ensure that lessons are used to improve delivery over time.

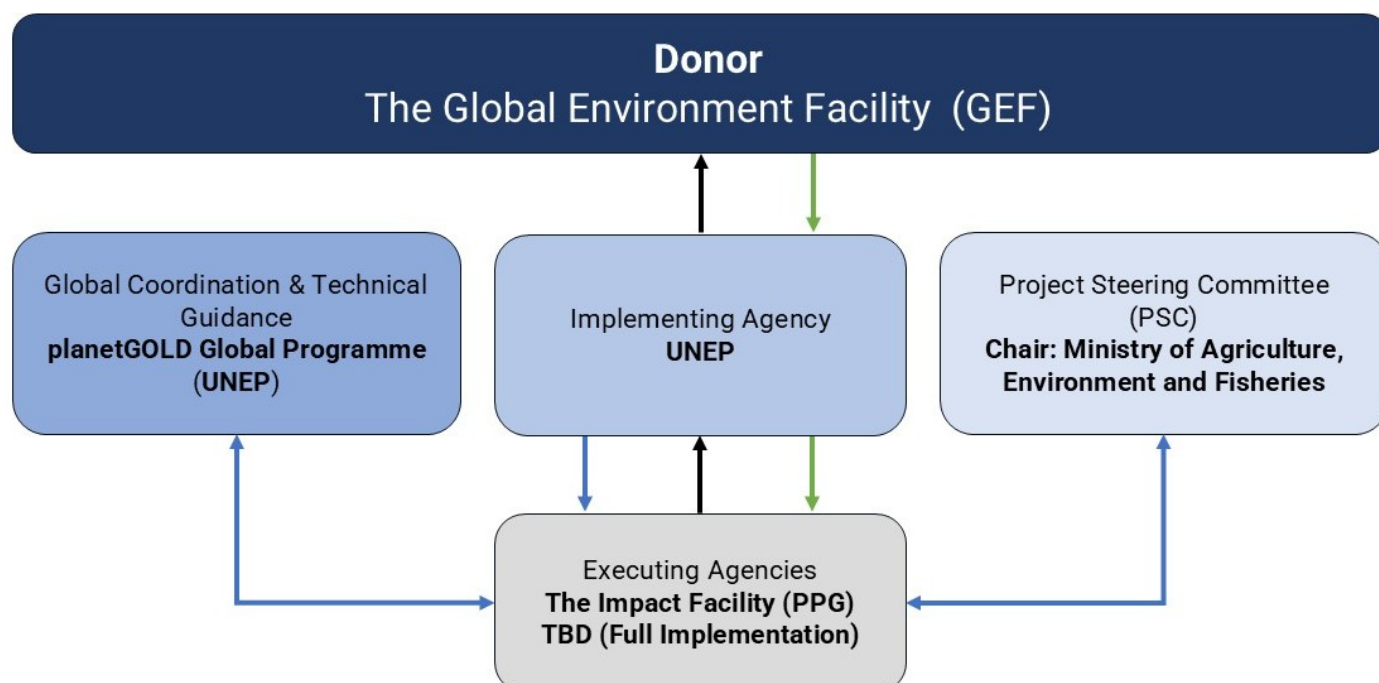
The M&E function will also support quality assurance for project data, tracking of participation and benefits where relevant to gender equality and inclusion, and regular review of assumptions and risks that could affect implementation. Findings from routine monitoring, the Mid-Term Review and the Terminal Evaluation will be reported to project governance structures and used to support adaptive management, accountability and learning across the life of the project, while also feeding into programme-wide reporting and knowledge exchange under planetGOLD.

Output 5.1: The project is monitored and evaluated through baseline development, regular tracking, reporting, review and use of findings to support adaptive management and programme reporting.

Institutional Arrangements and Stakeholders

UNEP will serve as the Implementing Agency (IA) for the project. The Impact Facility will execute the PPG phase of the project. The Executing Agency arrangement for full implementation has not yet been confirmed and will be identified during the PPG phase in accordance with UNEP and GEF procedures; it may involve one or more entities with complementary governmental, financial and technical functions relevant to project implementation. Until that arrangement is confirmed, implementation responsibilities under this appendix are limited to the PPG phase, carried out by The Impact Facility under UNEP oversight. Project implementation arrangements, including the composition of the project team or Project Management Unit (PMU), will also be finalized during the PPG phase.

Following GEF and UNEP guidelines and good practice, a Project Steering Committee (PSC) will serve as the national coordination mechanism for the project, bringing together relevant institutions and stakeholders and building on the results of the NAP and other ongoing initiatives. The Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Fisheries (MAAP), as the main national counterpart for the project and the ministry responsible for environmental governance and implementation of the Minamata Convention, is expected to play the lead national coordination role.



Legend:

Green arrows indicate the flow of funds disbursed for the project.

Black arrows indicate financial and programmatic accountability for funds disbursed.

Blue arrows indicate collaboration and coordination between entities.

Figure 2: Project Institutional Arrangements. Source: UNEP

Below is a general description of the institutional arrangements developed in accordance with UNEP's project management guidance and GEF financial rules.

The Global Environment Facility (GEF): The GEF is the project donor and provides financial resources to the Implementing Agency (UNEP) in accordance with GEF rules. In this respect, UNEP is accountable to the GEF for financial management, project implementation progress, and submission of key reports, including the Mid-Term Review and Terminal Evaluation.

Implementing Agency (IA): UNEP will be the Implementing Agency for the project and be responsible for the overall project supervision, overseeing project progress and monitoring and evaluation of project activities (midterm review and terminal evaluation). It will be responsible for quality assurance procedures, organize the contracting of the executing agency or agencies, and the review and clearance of their quarterly expenditure and progress reports. The IA will participate in the PSC Meetings as advisor and to provide guidance so that decisions are compliant with the GEF and UNEP's rules. UNEP will directly receive project funds from the GEF Secretariat and yearly validate and finalise project implementation reports (PIRs) and submit them to the GEF.

Executing Agency (EA): The Impact Facility will execute the PPG phase of the project. It is a specialized organization working on responsible ASGM, formalization, access to finance and market-based approaches for more sustainable gold supply chains. Its comparative advantage in supporting responsible gold production, financial inclusion and market readiness is expected to contribute to the PPG phase through site selection, stakeholder consultations, technical and market assessments, and other studies required to refine project design. It is also expected to help inform options related to financing solutions for ASGM operators, responsible sourcing and market readiness, and support to miners' organizations for more formal, compliant and mercury-free production.

The Executing Agency arrangement for full implementation will be identified and confirmed during the PPG phase in accordance with UNEP and GEF procedures and may involve one or more entities with complementary governmental, financial and technical functions relevant to project implementation. Once confirmed, the selected executing agency or agencies will manage day-to-day implementation of relevant components, financial and human resources, recruitment of project staff and consultants, execution of activities, and preparation of quarterly and annual technical and financial reports. They will operate under UNEP oversight and PSC guidance and will serve as Secretariat to the PSC.

The selected executing agency or agencies will:

- be responsible for the efficient and timely preparation and execution of project activities;
- provide on-the-ground coordination to facilitate project execution carried out by designated staff, consultants or partners;
- facilitate coordination meetings and related dialogue under the guidance of the PSC;
- identify, develop and foster contacts and relationships that will be beneficial for the project;
- implement the project communication strategy, including information dissemination, under the guidance of the PSC;
- apply the project's knowledge management approach, including by participating in planetGOLD programme activities to learn from and share experiences with other country projects;

- implement a regular project monitoring and evaluation plan;
- function as Secretariat of the PSC; and
- submit annual audit reports to the IA in line with international practice.

Project Steering Committee (PSC): The PSC will provide strategic guidance, review progress, and endorse annual workplans and budgets. It will be chaired by the Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Fisheries (MAAP), with participation from the EA(s) and other relevant ministries and stakeholders. UNEP, and the GEF as applicable, will participate in the PSC as advisory members and will not exercise voting rights.

The PSC will provide overall guidance and direction to the project, ensuring that it remains within applicable GEF and UNEP rules; monitor progress, risks and corrective actions; review and approve the annual workplan and budget in accordance with the approved project document and propose adjustments where needed; approve the Terms of References (ToRs) of the PMU; discuss and approve ToRs for consultants and subcontractors; ensure coordination with other initiatives at national and regional levels; and promote transparency and take all necessary measures to avoid any real or perceived conflicts of interest or breaches of UNEP or GEF policies, including by addressing any grievances or stakeholder concerns received.

The executing agency or one of the executing agencies will serve as the Secretariat and provide meeting minutes, annual workplans and budgets for endorsement, and regular progress reports. Additional stakeholder representatives from NGOs and other relevant entities may be invited to join the PSC during project implementation as experts or observers. These will be confirmed during project inception and may include relevant national initiatives and/or co-financing partners. At all times, the PSC and its activities will comply with applicable UNEP and GEF policies, conditions and regulations.

Roles of key actors responsible for project implementation

Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Fisheries, as the project counterpart and chair of the PSC will have the following specific roles:

- Chair the Project Steering Committee and serve as the Government's main convening body for the project.
- Provide overall policy guidance, coordination and communication with relevant ministries and stakeholders in support of implementation.
- Support the uptake of project lessons in national policy and regulatory processes related to ASGM and mercury management.
- Provide agreed in-kind support, relevant information and participation in project activities, as appropriate.

UNEP, as the Implementing Agency, will have the following roles:

- Contract the EA(s) and provide overall implementation oversight, quality assurance and compliance supervision.
- Participate in PSC meetings in an advisory, non-voting capacity; review progress; and validate key technical and financial reports.

- Report to the GEF and commission the mid-term review and terminal evaluation.

Executing agency or agencies (to be determined during PPG) will have the following roles:

- Assume financial accountability for project funds and manage day-to-day implementation in line with the approved workplan and budget.
- Recruit and manage project staff, consultants and contractors, and coordinate project delivery through appropriate management tools.
- Act as Secretariat to the PSC and prepare regular technical, financial and annual implementation reports for UNEP and national counterparts.
- Ensure procurement, communications, monitoring and audit requirements are carried out in line with UNEP procedures.

The Project Steering Committee (PSC) will, under the chairmanship of the Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Fisheries, have the following roles:

- Review and endorse annual workplans and budgets.
- Review progress, provide strategic and technical guidance, and recommend adjustments where needed.
- Support coordination, communication and engagement with relevant stakeholders and project documentation, as requested by the Chair and the EA(s).

The following table outlines each key stakeholder and project's engagement.

Stakeholder name	Roles
Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Fisheries (MAAP)	MAAP will be the main national counterpart for the project. It will provide overall national coordination in relation to environmental governance, implementation of the Minamata Convention and management of mercury-related environmental concerns, while working closely with other relevant ministries and institutions involved in ASGM governance and formalization. Its role is cross-cutting across all components, with particular relevance to Component 1, 3 and 4.
Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy (MIREME)	MIREME will serve as a key national counterpart for the project in relation to ASGM policy, regulation and sector oversight. The project will work closely with MIREME, the National Institute of Mines (INAMI), the National Mercury Commission and other relevant structures to support formalization, licensing, institutional coordination and implementation of priority activities in sites to be confirmed during the PPG phase. Its role relates primarily to Component 1, 3 and 4.
Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF)	The project will engage MEF and relevant financial and investment institutions to help improve the enabling environment for ASGM finance and more transparent gold value chains. This may include dialogue on financial inclusion, compliance requirements and approaches that can facilitate more responsible participation of ASGM actors in the formal economy. Its role is mainly linked to

	Component 2, with supporting relevance to Component 1 where financial policy conditions affect formalization incentives.
Banco de Moçambique (BdM)	As Mozambique's central bank, Banco de Moçambique (BdM) will be a relevant institutional stakeholder for dialogue on financial inclusion, payment systems, regulatory conditions and the broader financial environment affecting access to finance in the ASGM sector. Its engagement may also help inform discussions on transparency, formal financial channels and risk considerations linked to responsible gold value chains. Its role is primarily linked to Component 2, with indirect relevance to Component 4 where lessons on financial inclusion and market transparency are documented and shared.
Ministry of Health (MISAU)	The project will engage MISAU on awareness-raising related to mercury exposure and on the use of project evidence to inform public health messaging and policy dialogue on risks affecting ASGM communities. Its role is primarily linked to Component 3 with additional relevance to Component 4.
Ministry of Labour, Gender and Social Action (MTGAS)	The project will engage MTGAS to help inform gender-responsive engagement and actions related to women's participation, child protection, labour conditions and social inclusion in ASGM areas. Its involvement will be particularly relevant to stakeholder engagement, gender equality and efforts to address child labour risks in the sector. Its role is cross-cutting across all components.
Relevant law-enforcement and regulatory authorities:	Where relevant, the project may engage selected public authorities responsible for oversight of commercialization, traceability and compliance in the mineral sector, in order to support more transparent and responsible gold market arrangements consistent with the project's formalization and mercury-reduction objectives. Their engagement is expected to be relevant to Component 1 and 2.
Artisanal Gold Miners' Associations and Cooperatives	The project will work with relevant miners' associations, cooperatives and other organized groups in sites to be confirmed during the PPG phase. These organizations are expected to play an important role in outreach, stakeholder coordination, formalization processes and the uptake of improved practices at mine-site level. Their role is central to all project components.
ASGM Miners and Mining-Affected Communities	Artisanal miners are the project's primary direct beneficiaries. The project will also engage people living in or near mining-affected areas whose livelihoods, health or local environment may be influenced by ASGM activities. This includes women, men and youth participating in mining, processing, trading and related livelihood activities, whose roles, risks and access to benefits may differ. Their participation will be important for consultation, uptake of improved practices and the long-term relevance of project interventions, and the project will seek to ensure that women and youth are able to participate meaningfully in these processes. Their role spans all four components.
Civil Society Organizations and Community-Based Organizations	Relevant civil society organizations, community-based organizations, faith-based groups and academic partners may contribute to stakeholder outreach, awareness-raising, local dialogue and support for vulnerable groups in ASGM areas. This may include organizations with experience in women's empowerment, community development, labour rights or child protection. Their participation can help

	strengthen inclusion, transparency and continuity of engagement beyond project-supported mine sites. Their role is relevant to all project components.
Media Organizations	Relevant media organizations may support public awareness, local outreach and wider dissemination of project messages and lessons, including on mercury risks, safer practices and responsible ASGM. Their participation can help extend the reach of communication activities, strengthen public understanding and support broader uptake of project knowledge at national and local levels. Their role is linked to all components.
Executing Agency	The Impact Facility will execute the PPG phase of the project and support site selection, stakeholder consultations, technical and market assessments, and other studies needed to refine project design. The Executing Agency arrangement for full implementation will be identified and confirmed during the PPG phase in accordance with UNEP and GEF procedures and may involve one or more entities with complementary governmental, financial and technical functions relevant to project implementation. Once confirmed, the selected executing agency or agencies will be responsible for day-to-day project execution and technical delivery in coordination with UNEP and the national counterparts. Their role is cross-cutting across all components.
Private Sector Partners including Gold Supply-Chain Actors	The project will engage relevant private-sector actors at national and local levels, including responsible buyers, traders, refiners, financial institutions, market facilitators and, where appropriate, local technology suppliers. Their participation will support the development of commercially viable and traceable mercury-free gold value chains by improving market transparency, expanding due diligence and traceability practices, and identifying financing and offtake arrangements that can better serve legally compliant ASGM organizations. Private-sector engagement will also help test practical business models and market linkages that can reinforce formalization, improve incentives for responsible production, and reduce reliance on illicit or opaque trading relationships. Their role is particularly relevant to Component 2 and Component 3, with supporting links to Component 1 where formalization is needed for market participation and to Component 4 where lessons and market models are documented and shared.
Kimberley Process Management Unit (UGPK)	The project will engage the Kimberley Process Management Unit (UGPK) as a relevant institutional stakeholder for dialogue on traceability, documentation, transparency and formal trade systems that may offer useful experience for responsible gold commercialization. Its participation can help inform practical approaches to record-keeping, coordination and market transparency in the ASGM gold sector. Its role is mainly linked to Component 2, with supporting relevance to Component 1 and Component 4.
Industry Associations, including the Chamber of Mines of Mozambique (CMM)	Industry associations can provide a platform for engagement with the formal mining sector and related private-sector actors on responsible sourcing, supply-chain expectations, local procurement opportunities and dialogue on coexistence between large-scale mining and ASGM. In particular, the Chamber of Mines of Mozambique may help

convene relevant industry perspectives and identify opportunities for collaboration on responsible sector development. Their role is mainly linked to Component 2 and Component 4 with some relevance to Component 1 where formalization and sector coordination intersect with industry engagement.

Private Sector Engagement Strategy

The project will engage private sector actors connected to the ASGM economy in Mozambique, with particular attention to ASGM cooperatives, associations, enterprises and unions, as well as equipment suppliers, traders and other actors involved in gold commercialization. Such engagement is expected to support the transition towards a more formalized, mercury-free and responsible ASGM sector, while creating incentives for legal production, improved practices and greater market transparency. To ensure coherence with national regulatory and policy frameworks, this engagement will be undertaken in coordination with relevant public institutions, including MIREME, MAAP, the National Institute of Mines, Banco de Moçambique (BdM) and, where useful, the Kimberley Process Management Unit (UGPK) as a source of relevant experience on traceability, documentation and formal trade systems that can inform responsible gold market development.

Access to finance will be a priority area for private sector engagement. The project will engage commercial banks, public investment banks, microfinance institutions and savings and credit cooperatives to identify financial products and services suited to ASGM organizations seeking formalization and investment in improved processing. The strategy will also take account of national financing mechanisms and precedents relevant to ASGM, including the historical role of the Mining Development Fund (Fundo de Fomento Mineiro - FFM), government loan facilities, and partnership models that have supported ASGM operators. Consistent with the concept materials, BdM will be engaged from an early stage as a key counterpart for dialogue on financial sector engagement, integrity risks, and enabling conditions for compliant financial services to ASGM actors. In doing so, the project will also consider barriers faced by women participating in or leading ASGM organizations in accessing finance, market information and related business support.

Beyond financial actors, the project will also take into account the presence of large-scale and exploration-related gold actors, particularly in provinces where artisanal gold mining overlaps with broader mining activity. During project preparation, the mapping of relevant private sector actors will therefore include industrial mining companies, exploration licence holders and other businesses whose presence, experience or infrastructure may create opportunities for dialogue, coexistence planning, service provision, local partnerships and the dissemination of responsible practices.

The project will promote engagement along responsible gold supply chains. Cooperation will be sought with intermediary private companies involved in gold commercialization, including licensed traders and other legal market actors, as well as international refiners and end buyers interested in supporting traceable and mercury-free gold from Mozambique. In doing so, the project will take into account the structure of Mozambique's gold buying market and the need to strengthen legal commercialization pathways in a context where informal and unlicensed buyers remain active. The project will also seek to establish linkages with World Gold Council and, where relevant, with actors aligned to the London Bullion Market Association framework to explore market access, due diligence and responsible sourcing opportunities. Private-sector engagement will also seek to strengthen due diligence, traceability, transparency and compliance measures in responsible gold market pathways, in order to improve incentives for legal commercialization and reduce dependence on opaque or informal trading arrangements.

The project will engage technology and equipment providers associated with cleaner gold extraction and processing. Mercury-free technologies will be assessed, demonstrated and promoted in target areas, with due attention to technical suitability, operation and maintenance requirements, economic viability and the likelihood of uptake by miners. Engagement on technology uptake will also be linked, where relevant, to extension support, training, geological information, and the use of designated ASM areas and organized groups as entry points for capacity-building.

The private sector engagement categories include the following:

- **Financial actors:** commercial banks, public investment banks, microfinance institutions, savings and credit cooperatives, and other financing actors that may support formalized ASGM organizations, taking into account relevant national mechanisms and precedents such as the Mining Development Fund and government loan facilities, and including engagement coordinated, as appropriate, with the Bank of Mozambique.
- **Gold market actors:** intermediary companies involved in gold commercialization, responsible buyers, international refiners and end buyers, and market-facing initiatives and frameworks, including engagement linked to the World Gold Council and the London Bullion Market Association.
- **Technology and service providers:** suppliers of mercury-free processing equipment and related technical services, and other businesses capable of supporting safer and more efficient gold production in target areas.

Coordination and Cooperation with Ongoing Initiatives and Project.

Does the GEF Agency expect to play an execution role on this project?

If so, please describe that role here. Also, please add a short explanation to describe cooperation with ongoing initiatives and projects, including potential for co-location and/or sharing of expertise/staffing

The planetGOLD programme is a key global initiative for advancing systemic change in the ASGM sector by supporting safer, cleaner and more responsible gold production. It recognizes that reducing and, where feasible, eliminating mercury use in ASGM requires an integrated approach that addresses the underlying drivers of mercury dependence and the barriers that prevent miners from transitioning to mercury-free technologies and more formalized business models. These include formalization, access to finance, responsible gold supply chains, awareness of mercury-related health and environmental risks, access to mercury-free technologies, and strengthened local capacity for longer-term sustainability.

planetGOLD Mozambique is expected to complement previous GEF-funded and bilateral efforts on ASGM mercury reduction and formalization. At the global level, the programme supports implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and related national commitments, including Mozambique's National Action Plan on ASGM.

The project will seek cooperation with the Government of Mozambique and relevant ongoing initiatives related to ASGM formalization, mercury reduction and support to mining-affected communities in priority ASGM areas to be confirmed during the PPG phase. Coordination with government institutions at national and provincial levels will help align the project with existing policies and field-based initiatives, avoid duplication and strengthen complementarities where appropriate. This will include coordination with the Kimberley Process Management Unit (UGPK),

where relevant, to draw on institutional experience related to traceability, documentation, transparency and formal trade systems that may help inform responsible gold commercialization approaches.

At the regional level, the project will coordinate with other relevant planetGOLD and ASGM-related initiatives in Eastern and Southern Africa through peer exchange, joint learning and participation in the regional working group established under the planetGOLD programme. This cooperation will help share experience on formalization, responsible sourcing, mercury reduction and support to ASGM communities in cross-border and fragile contexts.

The project will contribute technical knowledge products, communication materials and lessons learned to the wider planetGOLD programme and will benefit from common tools, methodologies and knowledge-sharing platforms supported by the programme. This exchange is expected to strengthen both national implementation and broader learning across participating countries.

The project will also explore coordination with relevant GEF-supported and other national initiatives working on land degradation, sustainable land management, biodiversity conservation and rural livelihoods in areas affected by ASGM. Such cooperation may help identify opportunities for complementary action, shared learning and more coherent engagement with local communities and institutions.

Given the interaction between ASGM, land degradation, climate stress and rural livelihoods, the project will also seek coordination with relevant climate adaptation and natural resource management initiatives in Mozambique where this can support more coherent responses in mining-affected areas.

The project will also engage with relevant private-sector initiatives and actors that have an interest in responsible sourcing, formalization and improved environmental performance in the gold sector. In line with the private sector engagement strategy, this cooperation will focus on building structured dialogue with responsible buyers, traders, refiners, financial institutions and other market actors to identify workable commercial incentives for mercury-free production, strengthen traceability and due diligence, and explore financing and market arrangements that can support project-supported ASGM organizations. Such cooperation is expected to improve the prospects for formal market access, reduce dependence on informal intermediaries and reinforce the long-term sustainability of project results.

Core Indicators

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)
1.30	0.00	0.00	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)

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)
1.30			

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)
1			

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)

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	3,500			
Male	6,500			
Total	10,000	0	0	0

Explain the methodological approach and underlying logic to justify target levels for Core and Sub-Indicators (max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page)

GEF Core Indicator 4:

No figure was provided at PIF stage because available literature and administrative datasets do not yet provide sufficiently consistent geo-referenced information at mine-site level for Mozambique to robustly quantify hectares under improved practices. Therefore, during the PPG phase, the project will gather field and spatial information in priority ASGM areas during the project site selection process (in coordination with national and provincial authorities). Once data are consolidated, the number of hectares under improved management practices will be estimated based on the confirmed portfolio of target sites and the scope of practice improvements to be implemented.

GEF Core Indicator 9:

Mozambique's National Action Plan (NAP) provides only indicative estimates of mercury use and releases in ASGM and is not sufficient, on its own, to establish a definitive national target at PIF stage. The NAP reports 23.76 kg/year of mercury loss for a limited number of assessed ASGM sites in Manica and Niassa, which should be treated as a partial site-based estimate rather than a provincial or national baseline. The 2021 CEMAM census also reports that approximately 18,866 mining operators use mercury in gold processing, indicating that mercury use and releases are likely to extend well beyond the sites covered by the NAP assessment. The project therefore uses an indicative national baseline of 1.64 metric tons/year of mercury loss, derived by extrapolating the NAP's observed 23.76 kg/year across 7 assessed ASGM sites to the 483 active gold-mining sites identified by CEMAM. Based on this indicative baseline, the project targets an approximate 80% reduction, equivalent to about 1.3 tons of mercury releases avoided annually by project end. The baseline and target will be refined during the PPG phase through site selection, field verification, and application of a monitoring approach consistent with planetGOLD guidance.

GEF Core Indicator 11:

According to the 2022 CEMAM census, approximately 136,160 people were recorded in artisanal gold mining activities in Mozambique. Given the sector's high level of informality, these figures should be treated as indicative. At PIF stage, the project proposes an initial target of 10,000 direct beneficiaries, aligned with the expected scale of intervention and the phased implementation approach. Of these beneficiaries, 35% are expected to be women. This proportion is intended as an indicative minimum target at PIF stage, based on current evidence that women participate substantially in trading, processing and other support roles even where their recorded share in direct extraction is lower. More detailed beneficiary assumptions, component-level participation benchmarks and gender-disaggregated targets will be refined through site selection, consultations and the project's Gender Analysis and Action Plan during the PPG phase. In addition to tracking participation, the project will monitor, where feasible, the extent to which women and men are able to access relevant services, opportunities and benefits from project support.

Key Risks

	Rating	Explanation of risk and mitigation measures
CONTEXT		
Climate	Moderate	Climate risks are considered moderate because recurrent flooding, cyclones, extreme rainfall and heat stress can affect access to selected sites, disrupt field operations, and increase health and safety risks for workers and nearby communities. During the PPG phase, the project will integrate climate-screening criteria into site selection and activity planning, including accessibility, seasonal exposure and climate resilience considerations. During implementation, the project will also provide training on climate-related risk management, occupational health and safety, and site practices that help reduce vulnerability to climate shocks.
Environmental and Social	Moderate	Environmental and social risks are considered moderate because ASGM operations may contribute to mercury releases, soil and water contamination, unsafe working conditions, child labour, and pressures on land, water and community resources. There is also a risk that improved productivity could unintentionally encourage expansion of mining activity if safeguards are not applied. The project will mitigate these risks by promoting better environmental management practices, mercury reduction, occupational health and safety measures, and formalization pathways that improve compliance with national requirements. The project will not support the physical expansion of mining operations. Social risks also include potential adverse effects on local communities, vulnerable groups and cultural practices in or near ASGM areas, as well as the risk that women and other potentially excluded groups may not benefit equitably from consultations, training, formalization support, finance or technology if project measures are not intentionally inclusive. During the PPG phase, the project will undertake a safeguards assessment, stakeholder consultations and site screening to identify such risks and define appropriate mitigation measures. A stakeholder engagement plan and project-level grievance mechanism will be established, and consultation processes will be designed to ensure meaningful participation of affected communities and other relevant stakeholders. Mitigation measures will include gender-responsive outreach, sex-disaggregated participation monitoring, targeted support to women's participation and leadership, and accessible grievance pathways. In this context, the project's formalization, capacity-building and stakeholder engagement activities are expected to reduce rather than increase these risks, provided that safeguard requirements and inclusive design measures are integrated into project preparation and implementation from the outset.
Political and Governance	Moderate	Political and governance risks are considered moderate in light of Mozambique's recent post-electoral instability and ongoing insecurity in Cabo Delgado province. Although the principal ASGM intervention areas currently under consideration, including Manica and Niassa, are not directly affected by active conflict, the broader national context may still affect institutional continuity, field access and implementation conditions. The Implementing Agency will monitor the situation closely in coordination with the Government of Mozambique and the United Nations Country Team (UNCT), and implementation modalities will be adjusted as needed to safeguard project

		personnel, beneficiaries and delivery of activities. In some ASGM areas, informal trade networks and weak oversight may also complicate implementation, stakeholder engagement and the promotion of traceable, mercury-free market pathways. Where security or political conditions warrant, activities may be postponed, adapted or relocated until safe and effective implementation can be ensured.
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INNOVATION

Institutional and Policy	Low	Institutional and policy risks are considered low because the project is designed to support, rather than diverge from, Mozambique's existing commitments under the Minamata Convention, the National Action Plan and relevant national mining and environmental policy frameworks. Continued coordination with relevant ministries and the United Nations Country Team will help ensure alignment with national priorities and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework.
Technological	Low	The evolving nature of mining technologies and operational practices may affect the suitability, relevance and uptake of technologies supported by the project. To mitigate this risk, the project will draw on the established planetGOLD programme framework, relevant technical guidance and lessons from previous ASGM interventions to inform the identification, assessment, adaptation and promotion of mercury-free technologies appropriate to the Mozambican context.
Financial and Business Model	Moderate	Financial and business model risks are considered moderate because political instability, exchange-rate pressures, inflation, trade disruption and commodity price volatility may affect implementation costs, access to inputs and the commercial environment for ASGM actors. To manage this risk, the project will maintain flexibility in implementation planning, monitor economic conditions regularly, and work with stakeholders to identify commercially viable pathways that remain resilient under changing market conditions.

EXECUTION

Capacity	Moderate	Capacity risk is considered moderate. National counterparts have prior experience with GEF- and UNEP-supported projects in the chemicals and waste portfolio, which supports implementation readiness. At the same time, capacity constraints at provincial and local levels may affect the pace of delivery in remote ASGM areas. The project will mitigate this risk through clear institutional arrangements, capacity-building, phased implementation and close coordination with national and subnational authorities.
Fiduciary	Low	Fiduciary risks are considered low because UNEP and GEF financial management, procurement and reporting requirements will apply throughout the project cycle. Regular financial oversight, audit arrangements and implementing partner due diligence will help reduce the risk of misuse of funds or non-compliance with applicable procedures.
Stakeholder	Moderate	Stakeholder engagement risk is considered moderate because the project will operate in areas where interests may differ among miners, local communities,

		authorities and private-sector actors. There is also a risk that women, vulnerable groups or less organized stakeholders may participate less in consultations and decision-making unless engagement is deliberately designed to be inclusive. The project will mitigate this risk by preparing and implementing a stakeholder engagement plan, conducting inclusive consultations during the PPG phase and implementation, and establishing a project-level grievance mechanism that is accessible to affected stakeholders. Where project activities may affect communities with strong customary ties to land and natural resources, consultation processes will be designed in line with applicable safeguard requirements and good practice to ensure meaningful participation and informed decision-making.
Other		
Overall Risk Rating	Moderate	Taken together, the identified risks support an overall rating of Moderate. The main sources of risk relate to climate exposure, environmental and social safeguards, stakeholder engagement, political context and macroeconomic uncertainty. These risks are considered manageable through careful site selection, phased implementation, strengthened safeguards during the PPG phase, active stakeholder engagement, and ongoing monitoring and adaptive management throughout project implementation.

C. ALIGNMENT WITH GEF-8 PROGRAMMING STRATEGIES AND COUNTRY/REGIONAL PRIORITIES

Describe how the proposed interventions are aligned with GEF- 8 programming strategies and country and regional priorities, including how these country strategies and plans relate to the multilateral environmental agreements.

Confirm if any country policies that might contradict with intended outcomes of the project have been identified, and how the project will address this.

For projects aiming to generate biodiversity benefits (regardless of what the source of the resources is - i.e., BD, CC or LD), please identify which of the 23 targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework the project contributes to and explain how. (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

Contribution to GEF-8 programming strategies

The planetGOLD Mozambique project is directly aligned with the GEF-8 programming strategies. It contributes to the Chemicals and Waste focal area, Objective 1: Creation, strengthening and supporting the enabling environment and policy coherence to transform the manufacture, use and sound management of chemicals and to eliminate waste and chemical pollution; and Objective 2: Prevention of future build-up of hazardous chemicals and waste in the environment.

The project follows the shift from a chemical-by-chemical approach to a sector-based approach by addressing the ASGM sector as a whole, including private-sector engagement to support implementation of the Minamata Convention.

In addition, the project fulfils many principles in addressing chemicals and waste priorities under the GEF8 programming strategy:

- Potential to generate multiple global environmental benefits and socio-economic benefits including facilitating equal access of women and men to financial services and productive assets to boost their livelihoods.
- Promote women's participation and decision-making opportunities
- Promote gender-responsive awareness-raising and communication
- Innovation - develop and scale locally developed technologies and practices to include design of financial mechanisms at the national level
- Support policy coherence across national institutions to manage hazardous chemicals and waste

The project will seek to substantively reduce the amount of mercury used in Mozambique's ASGM sector, contributing not only to the GEF's strategic goals, but also to support national priorities and fulfil country obligations under the Minamata Convention.^{[1]¹⁰}

The project is expected to contribute to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF)^{[2]¹¹}, in particular Targets 7, 10, 11, 22 and 23. It contributes most directly to Target 7 by reducing mercury use and releases from artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM), thereby helping to reduce pollution pressures affecting terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems. The project also contributes to Target 10 by promoting improved environmental practices and more responsible management in mining-affected production landscapes, including through formalization, safer processing practices and stronger compliance with environmental requirements. It contributes to Target 11 by helping to reduce pressures on ecosystem functions and services, especially water resources, in ASGM-affected areas where mercury contamination and unsafe mining practices can affect rivers, aquatic systems and community livelihoods. In addition, the project contributes to Target 22 by supporting more inclusive and participatory approaches for women and vulnerable groups in ASGM communities, and to Target 23 by promoting gender equality and women's participation in decision-making, access to resources, and leadership in project-supported interventions.

Contribution to National Strategies

At the country level, the project is aligned with Mozambique's commitments under the Minamata Convention on Mercury and with the National Action Plan (NAP)^{[3]¹²} for the ASGM sector by taking forward its policy recommendations through implementation support for formalization and technology transfer. Close coordination will be maintained with relevant government bodies, including the Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Fisheries (MAAP) and the Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy (MIREME), to ensure alignment with national minerals policy and environmental regulations.

During the PIF development process, the Mozambican authorities across relevant ministries were consulted to ensure that the project's approach was in line with the ministry's strategies, particularly the national ASGM formalization strategy.

Notably, the planetGOLD Mozambique project will contribute to the following national priorities:

1. Implement actions that guarantee the reduction and/or elimination of mercury use in ASGM.
2. Create a legal and regulatory framework that facilitates ASGM practice and commercialization of mineral resources, while developing and enforcing occupational safety and health standards and a strategic environmental management plan.
3. Strengthen mining associations and cooperatives and intensify ASM formalization through the creation of associations and cooperatives of artisanal miners.
4. Build and strengthen institutional capacity regarding mercury and support capacity-building and institutional alignment of ASM intervening sectors.
5. Intensify awareness on the use of mercury in ASGM and its impacts, and provide information to artisanal and small-scale miners and communities.
6. Develop, raise awareness and enforce occupational safety and health standards.
7. Prevent exposure of vulnerable communities in and around mines to mercury emissions and releases.

In addition, the project's objective is aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for Mozambique^{[4]¹³}. Notably, the project will support national priorities related to economic transformation, human capital development, social protection, and sustainable development, as well as inclusive governance and promotion of peace and security, all of which are embedded in the cooperation framework pillars relevant to Mozambique.

Regionally, Mozambique is signatory to the African Vision for the Mining Sector (AMV)^{[5]¹⁴} and is in the process of implementing it alongside other African Union Member States. The AMV recognizes the contribution of ASM to local economic development and highlights that responsible mining can only be effective with the development of policies at the local, national, and regional levels, providing benefits to workers, local communities and protecting the environment.

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) states are carefully reviewing their legal framework and specifically recognizing the role of ASM in rural development and poverty reduction. In this context, regional guidance tools for the sector have been developed, with special reference to the "SADC Mining Protocol"^{[6]¹⁵}, a regional legal instrument valid since February 2000.

The planetGOLD Mozambique project will exchange knowledge with other Southern African planetGOLD country projects (e.g., Zimbabwe, Zambia and Madagascar), especially on cross-border issues such as mercury trade and illicit gold flows.

Internationally, Mozambique's project is a child project under the GEF-8 global planetGOLD programme (GOLD+) and will thus be supported by the planetGOLD Global Knowledge Project (GEF ID 12173) which provides technical assistance, standardized methodologies (e.g., for mercury reduction calculations), and a platform for all planetGOLD countries to share lessons

learned. Regular consultation with the Minamata Convention Secretariat and UNEP Chemicals and Waste experts will ensure the project's strategies are in line with global best practices and contribute to international reporting commitments.

Contribution to UNEP's Programme of Work (PoW) and Mid-Term Strategy (MTS)

The project is aligned with UNEP's approved Medium-Term Strategy 2026-2029 and Programme of Work 2026-2027^[1]¹⁶. It contributes directly to the strategic objective of moving towards a pollution-free planet by reducing mercury use and releases from artisanal and small-scale gold mining, strengthening national capacity for sound chemicals and waste management, and supporting implementation of the Minamata Convention in Mozambique.

Within the UNEP PoW structure, the project falls primarily under the Chemicals and Pollution Action subprogramme. It also relates, where relevant, to the MTS integrated delivery model through Environmental Law and Governance, Science-Policy, Finance and Economic Transformations, and Digital Transformations in support of formalization, monitoring, access to finance, knowledge management and decision-making.

Expected contributions include stronger national policy and institutional frameworks for ASGM mercury reduction, improved uptake of technical and financial measures that support cleaner production, and measurable reductions in mercury-related pollution risks affecting people, water, soils and ecosystems in priority mining areas. The project will also contribute to stronger engagement by public institutions, local communities, civil society and private-sector actors in pollution prevention and responsible gold supply chains.

The project also supports UNEP's emphasis on science-based, country-driven and inclusive solutions. It integrates gender equality, stakeholder engagement and knowledge generation throughout implementation, while creating synergies with biodiversity and land-related objectives in mining-affected landscapes. In this way, the project contributes not only to pollution reduction, but also to broader efforts to protect ecosystems, improve livelihoods and strengthen environmental governance in line with UNEP's current strategic framework.

The project will seek strong cooperation and coordination with the UN Country Team and the UN Resident Coordinator in Mozambique to ensure implementation is aligned with UN cooperation frameworks and national development priorities.

Lastly, it is important to note that the project has not identified any country policy that might contradict the expected outcomes of the planetGOLD Mozambique project.

[1] Minamata Convention on Mercury, Article 7 and Annex C (Convention text and annexes)

[2] Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, Decision 15/4, including Targets 7, 10, 11, 22 and 23.

[3] Government of Mozambique, National Action Plan for the Reduction and/or Elimination of Mercury Use in Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining in Mozambique, submitted under the Minamata Convention (2024)

[4] United Nations, 2022-2026 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for Mozambique.

[5] African Union, Africa Mining Vision (February 2009)

[6] Southern African Development Community (SADC), Protocol on Mining (signed 8 September 1997; entered into force in 2000).

[7] UNEP Medium-Term Strategy 2026-2029 and UNEP Programme of Work 2026-2027.

D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment:

We confirm that gender dimensions relevant to the project have been addressed as per GEF Policy and are clearly articulated in the Project Description (Section B).

Yes

Stakeholder Engagement

We confirm that key stakeholders were consulted during PIF development as required per GEF policy, their relevant roles to project outcomes and plan to develop a Stakeholder Engagement Plan before CEO endorsement has been clearly articulated in the Project Description (Section B).

Yes

Were the following stakeholders consulted during project identification phase:

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities: Yes

Civil Society Organizations: Yes

Private Sector: Yes

Provide a brief summary and list of names and dates of consultations

Consultations during project identification included the following institutions and stakeholder groups:

- Local communities, civil society organizations, and private sector stakeholders were consulted through field-level engagement and national stakeholder workshops conducted during the development of the NAP between 2019 and 2022, which provides the foundational basis for this project.
- Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Fisheries (MAAP), including the Minamata Focal Point: regular meetings, calls and information exchanges between Jan 2025 and June 2026 during project identification and PIF preparation
- Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy (MIREME), including relevant technical counterparts: regular meetings, calls and information exchanges between Jan 2025 and June 2026 during project identification and PIF preparation.
- Ministry of Education and Culture (MEC), Ministry of Labor, Gender and Social Affairs (MTGAS), Ministry of Defence (MDN) have been consulted during PIF preparation in May 2026.
- Minamata Convention Secretariat: meetings, calls and information exchanges during project identification and concept development in April 2025.

- UNEP, including the Regional Office for Africa, Mining Team and Global Mercury Partnership and relevant technical teams: regular calls, meetings and technical exchanges between April 2025 and May 2026 during project development.

Further consultations with local communities, civil society organizations, and private-sector stakeholders will be undertaken during the PPG phase to gather additional input, validate priorities, and help inform the detailed design of project activities and stakeholder engagement arrangements. For further information, please refer to Appendix 3 Stakeholder Engagement Strategy.

(Please upload to the portal documents tab any stakeholder engagement plan or assessments that have been done during the PIF development phase.)

Private Sector

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

And if so, has its role been described and justified in the section B project description?

Yes

Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

We confirm that we have provided indicative information regarding Environmental and Social risks associated with the proposed project or program and any measures to address such risks and impacts (this information should be presented in Annex D).

Yes

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Medium/Moderate			

E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Knowledge management

We confirm that an approach to Knowledge Management and Learning has been clearly described in the Project Description (Section B)

Yes

ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES

GEF Financing Table

Indicative Trust Fund Resources Requested by Agency(ies), Country(ies), Focal Area and the Programming of Funds

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non- Grant	GEF Project Grant(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total GEF Financing (\$)
UNEP	GET	Mozambique	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	Grant	4,500,000.00	427,500.00	4,927,500.00
Total GEF Resources (\$)						4,500,000.00	427,500.00	4,927,500.00

Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

true

PPG Amount (\$)

150000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

14250

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non- Grant	PPG(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)
UNEP	GET	Mozambique	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	Grant	150,000.00	14,250.00	164,250.00
Total PPG Amount (\$)						150,000.00	14,250.00	164,250.00

Please provide justification

Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total(\$)
Total GEF Resources					0.00

Indicative Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
CW-2	GET	4,500,000.00	30913732

Total Project Cost		4,500,000.00	30,913,732.00
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Indicative Co-financing

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Fisheries	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1250000
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	23654286
Recipient Country Government	National Institute of Mines	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	478571
Private Sector	Chamber of Mines of Mozambique	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	291475
Recipient Country Government	Kimberley Process Management Unit	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	5239400
Total Co-financing				30,913,732.00

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

Not Applicable

ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Type	Name	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email
	Ms. Kelly West	6/5/2026	Global Funds Executive Coordinator, GEF Coordination Office, UNEP		kelly.west@un.org
	Mr. Ludovic Bernaudat	6/5/2026	Portfolio Manager, GEF Chemicals and Green Chemistry Unit, Chemicals and Health Branch, Industry and Economy Division, UNEP		ludovic.bernaudat@un.org

Record of Endorsement of GEF Operational Focal Point (s) on Behalf of the Government(s):

Name	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Eduardo Baixo	GEF OFP, Head of Division	Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Fisheries	6/5/2026

ANNEX C: PROJECT LOCATION

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place

MOZAMBIQUE



Map Sources: Natural Earth, UNGIS.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Map created in March 2025.

The project will seek to deploy its activities in ASGM-affected areas of Mozambique to be confirmed during the PPG phase through site selection, stakeholder consultations and technical assessment. The NAP and CEMAM provide important context by identifying gold-producing and mining-affected provinces, but these references do not predetermine the final intervention sites.

The table below provides indicative reference locations for selected provinces identified in the CEMAM evidence base as relevant to artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) in Mozambique.^{[1]¹⁷}

Geo Name ID <i>Required field if the location is not an exact site</i>	Location Name <i>Required field</i>	Latitude <i>Required field</i>	Longitude <i>Required field</i>	Location Description <i>Optional text field</i>	Activity Description <i>Optional text field</i>
Manica	Chimoio	-19.1164	33.4833	Capital of Manica Province	
Niassa	Lichinga	-13.3128	35.2406	Capital of Niassa Province	
Cabo Delgado	Pemba	-12.9739	40.5178	Capital of Cabo Delgado Province	
Sofala	Beira	-19.8436	34.8389	Capital of Sofala Province	
Tete	Tete	-16.1564	33.5867	Capital of Tete Province	

During the PPG phase, the final selection of intervention sites will be confirmed in consultation with national and local stakeholders, taking into account mercury use patterns, environmental sensitivity, institutional readiness, community interest and opportunities for formalization, finance and technology uptake. Subsequently, geocoordinates will be shared with the GEF, the global coordination unit of the planetGOLD programme as well as any other relevant stakeholder which may request this.

[1] CEMAM (2022)

ANNEX D: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SCREEN AND RATING

(PIF level) Attach agency safeguard screen form including rating of risk types and overall risk rating.

Title

planetGOLD Mozambique PIF - Annex D - SRIF signed

ANNEX E: RIO MARKERS

Climate Change Mitigation	Climate Change Adaptation	Biodiversity	Land Degradation
No Contribution 0	No Contribution 0	Significant Objective 1	No Contribution 0

ANNEX F: TAXONOMY WORKSHEET

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
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Influencing Models	Transform policy and regulatory environments Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making Convene multi-stakeholder alliances Demonstrate innovative approaches Deeply innovative financial instruments		
Stakeholders	Private Sector Beneficiaries Local Communities Civil Society Type of Engagement Communication	Capital providers Financial intermediaries and market facilitators Large corporations SMEs Individual/Entrepreneurs Community-based Organization Non-governmental Organization Academia Trade Unions and Workers Unions Information Dissemination Partnership Consultation Participation Awareness Raising Education Public Campaigns Behaviour Change	

Capacity, Knowledge, and Research	Capacity Development Knowledge Generation and Exchange Innovation Knowledge and Learning Stakeholder Engagement Plan	Knowledge Management Capacity Development Learning	
Gender Equality	Gender Mainstreaming Gender results areas	Beneficiaries Women groups Sex-disaggregated indicators Gender-sensitive indicators Access and control over natural resources Access to benefits and services Participation and leadership Capacity Development Awareness raising Knowledge generation	
Focal Area/Theme	Land Degradation Chemicals and Waste	Sustainable Land Management Mercury Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste Waste Management Best Available Technology/Best Environmental Practices	Community-Based NRM Hazardous Waste Management