

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

Project ID:	11303
Project Name:	Amplifying the impact of the “Challenge Programme for Adaptation Innovation” of the Global Environment Facility through learning and knowledge management
Countr(ies):	Global
Implementing Agency:	UNIDO

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I. Overview

A. Description

Project name

Amplifying the impact of the “Challenge Programme for Adaptation Innovation” of the Global Environment Facility through learning and knowledge management

Country

Global

GEF ID

11303

Implementing Agency

UNIDO

Executing Entity

CLIMATE-KIC

Trust Fund

MTF

Project Type

FSP

PIR Submission

9/12/2026

Fiscal Year , PIR Number

FY 2026 , 2nd PIR

Objective

To accelerate innovation and private sector engagement in climate change adaptation, by identifying, sharing and disseminating learnings and knowledge generated, including through projects supported by the GEF-managed LDCF and SCCF, particularly projects through the Challenge Program for Adaptation Innovation, in the areas of (i) investment funds, (ii) MSME incubation and acceleration, and (iii) CCA impacts and measures.

B. Ratings and Disbursements

Implementation Progress

Moderately Satisfactory

Development Objective

Satisfactory

Overall risk

Low Risk

Project Financing

2,417,875.00

Cumulative Disbursement

1,178,168.40

C. Key Dates

CEO Endorsement/Approval 11/20/2023	Agency Approval 1/29/2024
Implementation Start 2/6/2024	First Disbursement 6/5/2024
Expected MTR	Actual MTR
Expected Completion 12/31/2026	Actual Completion

II. PROGRESS STATUS AND ISSUES

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

Please note that the core indicators are currently not disaggregated by funding window and will be amended after consultations with GEF IT .

PC1 (UNIDO): Strengthened CAIL's visibility and knowledge management through the rollout of a unified project brand, redesigned website and sustained communications campaign. The website was continuously updated with outputs from the Communities of Practice (CoPs) and GEF Challenge Programme winners, establishing CAIL as a global knowledge hub for adaptation innovation. Cross-CoP learning was synthesised into an analytical note that forms the basis of the forthcoming CAIL Thought Leadership publication.

PC2 (GARI): Convened four Sub-Saharan Africa roundtables, a global webinar (135 participants), events in São Paulo and COP30, and meetings in Nairobi and London (117 participants). These activities generated actionable insights on investment readiness, blended finance and barriers to adaptation investment in LDCs. The CoP maintained a network of 110 active stakeholders and advanced its white paper and policy recommendations.

PC3 (Climate KIC): Maintained an active Community of Practice of 99 stakeholders and delivered three sessions of its flagship learning series. Two global webinars engaged 180 participants, with strong participation from women (53–62%) and stakeholders from LDCs/SIDS. Twelve expert interviews and supporting research informed the development of the CoP white paper on adaptation incubation and acceleration.

PC4 (UNEP FI): Published the Adaptation and Resilience Impact Measurement Toolkit and the Adaptation Finance Taxonomy Playbook, providing practical guidance for financial institutions to integrate adaptation into decision-making. The products were developed through extensive stakeholder consultation and disseminated through two global webinars (1,800 participants) and four regional webinars (392 participants), significantly expanding global capacity on adaptation finance and impact measurement.

B. Challenges: Information on challenges of project implementation activities

Delays in receiving technical input, communications materials and deliverables from the three Communities of Practice occasionally affected the timing of website updates, communications campaigns and knowledge product development. Additional coordination was also required to clarify financial reporting and administrative documentation.

Mobilising private investment for climate adaptation in LDCs and SIDS remained challenging due to perceived investment risks, limited pipelines of investment-ready enterprises and slower-than-expected engagement from development finance institutions and other investors.

Differences in methodologies, institutional capacities and data availability across partners complicated the development of harmonised approaches to adaptation impact measurement and the collection of comparable evidence across sectors and regions. |

Identifying robust case studies demonstrating measurable adaptation outcomes proved challenging, reflecting the broader lack of standardised adaptation metrics and consistent monitoring frameworks across the innovation ecosystem. |

Maintaining strong engagement from stakeholders during the project's final knowledge-synthesis phase required additional effort as activities shifted from events towards the production of knowledge products. Consolidating evidence from multiple webinars, consultations and partner contributions into coherent, actionable outputs also required significant coordination. |

The project's global scope highlighted the need to balance globally applicable guidance with context-specific recommendations, particularly for financial institutions seeking practical approaches to applying adaptation finance taxonomies and resilience measurement tools across diverse country contexts. |

During the final knowledge-synthesis phase, consolidating findings from webinars, interviews, events and partner contributions into coherent knowledge products required significant coordination, while maintaining stakeholder engagement became more difficult as fewer events were held. |

C. Stakeholder Engagement

Three Communities of Practice (CoPs) engaged a diverse global network of stakeholders through webinars, regional dialogues, bilateral consultations, working groups and targeted outreach, with a strong focus on gender balance and LDC/SID participation. |

UNIDO (PEE) and project partners coordinated through bi-weekly meetings and cross-CoP exchanges. The third Project Steering Committee meeting on 20 February 2026, reviewed progress, strategic priorities and next steps. |

Investment Funds CoP engaged investors, fund managers, DFIs, banks and ecosystem partners through regional roundtables and international events. They highlighted persistent investment-readiness gaps, capital mismatches and needs for practical tools to measure adaptation outcomes and de-risk investments. |

MSME Incubation and Acceleration CoP gathered practitioner perspectives through learning sessions, discussions, live polling and 12 in-depth stakeholder interviews. Feedback informed recommendations on adaptation entrepreneurship ecosystems and scaling locally led innovation. |

Impact Measurement and Information Flows CoP engaged financial institutions and technical experts through bilateral consultations, community validation and written feedback. Inputs refined the Adaptation and Resilience Impact Measurement Toolkit and the Adaptation Finance Taxonomy Playbook for different financial institutions and regions. |

Active membership included 110 stakeholders (Investment Funds), 99 stakeholders (MSME Incubation and Acceleration) and 103 stakeholders (Impact Measurement and Information Flows). |

On 3 June 2026, UNIDO CAIL co-organised a high-level knowledge-sharing side event at the GEF Assembly in Samarkand with the Inclusive GEF Assembly Challenge Programme. Participants exchanged lessons on scaling locally led adaptation and strengthening collaboration: [From Vancouver to Samarkand: UNIDO Advances Locally Led Adaptation through Innovation, Learning and Finance at the 8th GEF Assembly | UNIDO](#)

D. Gender Equality

Gender equality remained a cross-cutting priority across all three Communities of Practice (CoPs), with targeted efforts to ensure balanced participation, gender-responsive knowledge products and the inclusion of women experts as speakers, moderators and contributors. Women represented between 45% and 60% of participants across most CoP activities.

The Investment Funds CoP actively engaged women-led organisations and gender-lens investors. Women accounted for 100% of participants in four Sub-Saharan Africa roundtables, while gender-responsive investment approaches and women-led adaptation finance initiatives were documented as case studies and incorporated into policy recommendations and knowledge products.

The MSME Incubation and Acceleration CoP prioritised the participation of women entrepreneurs and practitioners throughout its learning series. Dedicated discussions explored inclusive programme design for women and youth, while women-led adaptation enterprises were featured in webinars, interviews and case studies. Across FY2026 activities, women represented 53% of participant engagements, including 64% of participants in the early warning systems webinar and 62% in the systemic support webinar.

The Impact Measurement and Information Flows CoP promoted gender-balanced participation across its activities, with women representing 55% of its active stakeholder community. Gender considerations were integrated into the Adaptation and Resilience Impact Measurement Toolkit, and major knowledge products, including the Adaptation Finance Taxonomy Playbook, underwent UN gender review to ensure inclusive language and approaches.

UNIDO continued to monitor gender, youth and LDC/SIDS participation through project coordination and reporting processes, enabling partners to identify participation gaps and strengthen inclusive engagement across the global adaptation innovation ecosystem.

E. Knowledge Management

The CAIL website was further developed as the project's central knowledge platform, with an updated CAIL design and publication of Community of Practice (CoP) outputs, news, events, knowledge products and updates from the GEF Challenge Programme for Adaptation Innovation. <https://www.unido.org/climate-adaptation-innovation-learning>

UNIDO strengthened knowledge dissemination through coordinated communications across social media, newsletters, webinars, articles and partner platforms. Internal knowledge management and communications planning were supported through a shared project management system, ensuring coordination across partners.

The Investment Funds CoP documented lessons from regional roundtables, investor dialogues and international convenings, generating evidence on adaptation investment, blended finance and enabling ecosystems. These findings informed the policy recommendations, blogs and the forthcoming CoP white paper.

The MSME Incubation and Acceleration CoP established collaborative knowledge-sharing mechanisms, including a practitioner resource board, and generated evidence through webinars, expert interviews, desk research and case studies. These inputs are being synthesised into its white paper on strengthening adaptation entrepreneurship ecosystems.

The Impact Measurement and Information Flows CoP translated stakeholder consultations and technical exchanges into two flagship knowledge products: the Adaptation and Resilience Impact Measurement Toolkit and the Adaptation Finance Taxonomy Playbook. Both resources were disseminated through global and regional webinars, launch events and partner communications to support uptake by financial institutions. --

<https://www.unepfi.org/themes/climate-change/adaptation-and-resilience-impact-measurement-toolkit-a-practical-framework-for-financial-institutions/> &

<https://www.unepfi.org/themes/climate-change/adaptation-finance-taxonomy-playbook/>

Knowledge generated across all three CoPs is being consolidated into three thematic white papers, policy recommendations and the CAIL Thought Leadership publication, providing an integrated evidence base on adaptation finance, entrepreneurship support and impact measurement to inform future adaptation programming and investment.

III: Minor Amendments

CONTEXT	
Result Framework	
Components and Cost	
Institutional And Implementation Arrangements	
Financial Management	
Implementation Schedule	The project remains on track to complete the three Community of Practice activities including white papers, the CAIL Thought Leadership publication, final knowledge products, communications activities and project closure. Some deliverables required sequencing adjustments due to partner timelines, but these have been incorporated into the workplan. However, a further 6 months administrative extension may be needed to allow for submission of final knowledge products, showcasing at global events and mobilising further support as well as attending to administrative issues. More time may be needed to disseminate finding and promote these at global events etc.
Executing Entity	
Executing Entity Category	
Minor Project Objective Change	
Safeguards	
Risk Analysis	
Increase of GEF Financing up to 5%	
Co-Financing	

Location of Project Activity	
others	

IV: Geographic Coordinates of Project Activities

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Global	00.00	00.00	

Location Description:

Global

Activity Description:

<https://www.ivecf.org/>

V. ANNEX

Uploaded Document

Document Category M and E Document	Title CAIL 3rd PSC Meeting
Document Category M and E Document	Title CAIL Communication Output Tracker
Document Category M and E Document	Title CAIL Grant Delivery Report
Document Category M and E Document	Title Updated Workplan FY26
Document Category M and E Document	Title Workplan remaining period
Document Category M and E Document	Title 11303_2026_PIR_UNIDO_Global