

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

Project ID:	10813
Project Name:	Implementation of the National Biosafety Mechanism in the Kyrgyz Republic in accordance with the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
Countr(ies):	Kyrgyz Republic
Implementing Agency:	FAO

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I. Overview

A. Description

Project name

Implementation of the National Biosafety Mechanism in the Kyrgyz Republic in accordance with the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

Country

Kyrgyz Republic

GEF ID

10813

Implementing Agency

FAO

Executing Entity

Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision

Trust Fund

GET

Project Type

MSP

PIR Submission

9/3/2026

Fiscal Year , PIR Number

FY 2026 , 3rd PIR

Objective

To provide technical guidance and assistance for the implementation of the regulatory framework on biosafety at the national level, including the establishment of administrative systems and institutional arrangements, such as laboratories for LMO detection and human resource capacities

B. Ratings and Disbursements

Implementation Progress

Satisfactory

Development Objective

Satisfactory

Overall risk

Moderate Risk

Project Financing

1,645,250.00

Cumulative Disbursement

1,420,174.62

C. Key Dates

CEO Endorsement/Approval

6/9/2022

Agency Approval

3/30/2022

Implementation Start 8/1/2022	First Disbursement 3/27/2023
Expected MTR	Actual MTR
Expected Completion 2/1/2027	Actual Completion

II. PROGRESS STATUS AND ISSUES

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

During the reporting period from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026, the project continued to strengthen the legal, institutional and technical basis for implementation of the national biosafety mechanism in the Kyrgyz Republic. Implementation progress is assessed as satisfactory, with several outputs completed or moving forward in accordance with the approved LogFrame. The adoption of the framework Law “On Biological Safety in the Kyrgyz Republic” created an important legal foundation for fulfilling the country’s obligations under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. Building on this, the project supported the preparation of subsidiary normative legal acts, including a draft Cabinet resolution on the establishment of the National Coordination Council for handling GMOs, and contributed to stronger inter-agency coordination through the Interministerial Working Group. A national biosafety website was also developed to support access to and exchange of scientific, technical, environmental and legal information on LMOs.

Significant progress was also achieved in strengthening national technical capacity. Through the UN2UN agreement with UNOPS, modern laboratory equipment, consumables and diagnostic test systems were procured and delivered, while five specialized laboratories began preparing their premises for LMO analysis. These investments were complemented by practical trainings on GMO detection and identification, border control, socio-economic considerations, labelling requirements and regional awareness-raising. Implementation was supported through Letters of Agreement with Kyrgyzstandard, CAREC and the Institute of Biotechnology of the National Academy of Sciences. In addition, a socio-economic analysis was prepared and a roadmap for establishing a national training centre was developed. The project positively benefited laboratory specialists, regulators, academic institutions and private-sector stakeholders, while maintaining gender-balanced participation, with women representing approximately 45–55 percent of participants.

B. Challenges: Information on challenges of project implementation activities

The key implementation challenge during the reporting period related to delays in the UN2UN procurement process with UNOPS. These delays affected the delivery schedule for laboratory equipment and, as a result, required adjustments to the timing of laboratory-based technical trainings. The issue was addressed through continued coordination with UNOPS and the approval of a no-cost extension until August 2026, enabling the project to complete the planned results without changes to the overall project design. In addition, a no-cost extension/additional agreement with Kyrgyzstandard was concluded until 31 December 2026 to allow sufficient time for conducting technical trainings following the delayed arrival of equipment. Institutional changes also remained a challenge, as frequent government reorganizations and turnover among senior management, particularly within MNRETS and MWRAPI, required continuous engagement to maintain institutional memory, ownership and commitment. Despite these challenges, the project team, supported by

international and national experts, ensured continuity of key processes related to the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. At this stage, no further corrective actions are required.

C. Stakeholder Engagement

Profile	Stakeholder name	Type of partnership	Progress, results & Challenges on Stakeholder's Engagement
Government Institutions	Ministry of Natural resources, ecology and technical supervision of the KR	MNRETS is the authorised state executive body responsible for the development and implementation of state policy and coordination in the areas of environmental protection, ecology and climate, geology and subsoil use, use and protection of natural resources, including bioresources, subsoil and water resources, except for irrigation and reclamation infrastructure, exercising state control and supervision over compliance. MNRETS is the competent authority for implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	<i>Led the regulatory process, hosted consultations on the NPAs, and renewed the project oversight committee membership.</i>
Government Institutions	Ministry of Water resources, agriculture and processing industry of the KR (MWRAP)	It is an authorized state body of executive authority implementing the state policy in the agro-industrial complex, including livestock breeding, fish farming (aquaculture), crop production, plant quarantine, land melioration, land, water resources, irrigation and melioration infrastructure, food and processing products	<i>Engaged on the legal framework and sectoral rules, including links to organic-agriculture legislation.</i>
Government Institutions	Including: Department for Agriculture Crop Expertise of the MWRAP	Control over variety and sowing qualities of seeds and planting material of agricultural and other plants.	<i>Attended a series of workshops on GMO detection</i>
Government Institutions	and Department of Organic Agriculture, MWRAP	Field inspection of seed sowings and plantings, ground control of seed batches.	<i>Attended a series of workshops on GMO detection</i>
		Control over the quality of production of agricultural producers' agricultural organic products and increase their exports to near and far abroad.	
Government Institutions	Center for Veterinary Diagnostics and Expertise in the Northern Region of KR	It is an analytical laboratory that performs standardised and harmonized testing activities related to animal epidemiological surveillance, among other diagnostics activities according to the State Plan	<i>Organized technical laboratory activities on GMO detection and identification</i>

Government Institutions	Center for registration and certification of veterinary medicines, animal feed and feed additives under the MWRAPI	The Center's the main objective is to ensure the quality, efficiency and safety of veterinary medicines, animal feed and feed additives. To achieve the objective, the Center performs state regulation of the production, export, and import of veterinary medicines, animal feed and feed additives, as well carries out certification, registration and maintenance of a state register of the above mentioned goods.	<i>Attended a series of workshops on GMO detection</i>
Government Institutions	Kyrgyz Accreditation Center under the Ministry of Economy and Commerce of the Kyrgyz Republic	It is the central body of executive authority, which carries out functions on development and implementation of the state policy in the macroeconomic, anti-monopoly, tariff, licensing, investment, foreign economic, fiscal policy, policy in the public-private partnership, state material reserves, economic and regional development, state property management, technical regulation and metrology, as well as in the development of Halal industry, trade, business development and optimization of the regulatory legal framework for business regulation, development of free economic zones.	<i>Attended a series of workshops on GMO detection</i>
Government Institutions	Ministry of Finance of the KR (MoF)	MoF is an authorised state executive body monitoring the fulfilment of obligations by the state bodies for the preparation and implementation of projects financed by international financial institutions and donor organizations.	<i>Attended a series of workshops on GMO detection</i>
Government Institutions	State Customs Services under the Ministry of Finance of the KR	It is the state administration body for customs affairs on the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic, managing the activities of customs institutions of the republic in accordance with the customs legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic, agreements on this matter with member states of the Commonwealth of Independent States, as well as other states.	<i>Attended a series of workshops on GMO detection</i>
Government Institutions	Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES) of the Kyrgyz Republic	MES is an authorised state executive body responsible for the implementation of the policy and regulation of relations in the environmental protection, ensuring environmental safety and environmental management, as well as hunting, and protected natural areas.	<i>Attended a series of workshops on GMO detection</i>
Government Institutions	State Intellectual Property and Innovation Service under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic	The State Intellectual Property and Innovation Service (Kyrgyzpatent) is an authorized state executive body implementing a unified state policy in the field of intellectual property protection and innovation development.	<i>Attended a series of workshops on GMO detection</i>

Government Institutions	Department of Disease Prevention and State Sanitary and Epidemiological Surveillance under the Ministry of Healthcare of the KR	It is a government entity subordinate department under the Ministry of Healthcare of the Kyrgyz Republic, which aims to organize and implement preventive and anti-epidemic activities to combat infectious, parasitic and priority noninfectious diseases to ensure sanitary and epidemiological well-being, to assess the effectiveness of implemented programs and projects in public health, to provide supervision in sanitary and epidemiological well-being of the population, the safety of goods, products, environmental facilities and conditions, prevention of harmful effects of environmental factors on human health.	<i>Attended a series of workshops on GMO detection</i>
Government Institutions	Department of Medicines Provision under the Ministry of Healthcare of the KR	It is a government entity subordinate department of the Ministry of Healthcare of the Kyrgyz Republic whose purpose is: regulation of circulation of medicines and medical devices through mechanisms provided by the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic in medicines and medical products; conducts pharmaceutical inspections of pharmaceutical subjects for compliance with the requirements of the rules of proper pharmaceutical practices; evaluates the quality of medicines and assesses the quality and safety of medical products; carries out certification of authorized persons of medicine producers in accordance with the law of the Eurasian Economic Union; exercises control and supervision over compliance with requirements in the circulation of medicines and medical products.	<i>Attended a series of workshops on GMO detection</i>
Government Institutions	Institute of Biotechnology of the National Academy of Sciences and Universities (Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic)	It is the central body of executive authority carrying out the state policy and carrying out management in education and science and state control over accessibility and quality of education, ensuring the constitutional right of citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic to education. The main goal of the Ministry is the formulation of the state policy in education, science and science technology activity.	<i>Hosted a practical seminar on the scientific and laboratory basis of GMO analysis</i>
Government Institutions	Business Development and Investment Council under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic	It is a consultative and advisory body coordinated by the government of the Kyrgyz Republic, which ensures the development and preparation of recommendations and proposals for government bodies on improving the business environment and investment climate in the Kyrgyz Republic and the implementation of activities necessary to accelerate the socio-economic development of the country.	<i>Attended a series of workshops on GMO detection</i>

Government Institutions	Public Council for Transition to a Green Economy in the Kyrgyz Republic	This is a consultative and advisory body. The council is formed to monitor, evaluate and coordinate the implementation of the green economy concept in the Kyrgyz Republic; and to develop relevant recommendations on the basis of monitoring and evaluation, define the strategy, tactics and mechanisms of the Concept implementation that ensure economic modernization based on green and sustainable development principles.	<i>Attended a series of workshops on GMO detection</i>
NGOs	Rural Development Fund	RDF supports initiatives based on local needs and is aimed at poverty alleviation and sustainable rural development. RDF actively engages local communities, government agencies, and donors to identify priority areas and ways to realize rural development goals	<i>Attended a series of workshops on GMO detection</i>
NGOs	Aarhus Centre	Aarhus Centre Bishkek ensures public access to information and the decision-making system, in order to ensure the rights of citizens to a healthy environment.	<i>Attended a series of workshops on GMO detection</i>
NGOs	Agency Of Development Initiatives (ADI)	ADI helps to achieve social harmony, prosperity and the creation of a developed society by promoting and supporting local development initiatives	<i>Attended a series of workshops on GMO detection</i>
NGOs	'BIO-KG' Organic Movement Federations	BIO-KG promotes organic agriculture as the strategic trajectory of the Kyrgyz economy in compliance with principles of health, fairness, ecology and care	<i>Attended a series of workshops on GMO detection</i>
NGOs	The Alliance has developed partnership relations with state bodies working in the field of green economy and sustainable development, climate change and environmental protection.	The Alliance has developed partnership relations with state bodies working in the field of green economy and sustainable development, climate change and environmental protection.	<i>Attended a series of workshops on GMO detection</i>
Others	Kyrgyz National Agrarian University named after K.I. Skryabin	Letter of Agreement	<i>Advanced the development of biosafety curricula for secondary and higher education.</i>
NGOs	Branch of the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia in Kyrgyz Republic (CAREC)	Letter of Agreement	<i>Delivered practical trainings on detection/identification, border control and labelling; drafting a technical guideline on GMO detection/identification.</i>
Government Institutions	The Center for Standardization and Metrology under Ministry of Economy and Commerce of the Kyrgyz Republic	Letter of Agreement	<i>Delivered practical trainings on detection/identification, border control and labelling; drafting a technical guideline on GMO detection/identification.</i>

IGOs	The United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)	UN2UN Agreement	<i>Procured and delivered laboratory equipment, consumables and diagnostic test systems; procurement timing was the main operational challenge.</i>
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D. Gender Equality

Category	Yes/No	Briefly describe progress and results achieved during this reporting period.
a. Closing gender gaps in access to and control overall natural resources	Yes	Awareness activities support informed choices by women and men on LMO production/handling; gender considerations integrated into policy and training design.
b. Improving women's participation and decision making	Yes	Public-participation mechanisms reflected in the draft policy and regulations; women included in trainings and consultations with balanced participation (~45–55% women). The governance frameworks being established (technical and decision-making bodies and the National Coordination Council) embed provisions for at least 30% participation of women, youth and ethnic minorities, with gender-sensitive nomination criteria and sex-disaggregated membership tracking.
c. generating socio-economic benefits or services for women	Yes	Socio-economic considerations, including gender-related risks and opportunities, integrated into the socio-economic analysis and decision-making guidance.
Any other good practices on gender	Yes	Participation data collected with sex disaggregation; gender expertise engaged for policy/regulatory work and training design.

E. Knowledge Management

Knowledge management and Learning (KML):
Does the project have a KML strategy?

Yes

If YES, what is the implementation progress?
In your answer, please describe how the project is fostering knowledge sharing and learning among stakeholders at national and sub-national level.

Knowledge generated is integrated across project activities and disseminated to stakeholders through trainings, consultations, technical guidelines and the national biosafety website; knowledge-sharing is fostered among ministries, laboratories, academia and the private sector via the Interministerial Working Group and Letters of Agreement.

If NO, how does the project identify, collect and document good practices?	
Please list good practices, including key-technical and/or institutional innovations, from the project thus far.	Good practices include: a socio-economic analysis informing biosafety decision-making; a roadmap for a national training centre on LMO detection/identification; inter-institutional Letters of Agreement to deliver specialized trainings; and the development of a national biosafety website for information exchange.
Communication strategy: Does the project have a communication strategy?	Yes
Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this fiscal year.	Biosafety communication is integrated into national biodiversity/biosafety planning. The national biosafety website (under finalization) and CBD/BCH channels support outreach. The main challenge was ensuring continuity of messaging amid government turnover.
Human-interest story: Please share a human-interest story from your project, focusing on how the project has helped to improve people's livelihoods while contributing to achieving the expected Global Environmental Benefits. Please indicate any Socio-economic Co-benefits that were generated by the project. Include at least one beneficiary quote and perspective, and please also include related photos and photo credits.	
Please provide links to related website, social media account	National biosafety website finalized; project information shared via CBD/BCH channels.
Please provide a list of publications, leaflets, video materials, newsletters, or other communications assets published on the web, if any.	Socio-economic analysis; technical guidelines on GMO detection/identification and labelling; training and awareness materials.
Please indicate the Communication and/or knowledge management focal point's name and contact details.	Evgeniy Pechurin, National Communication Specialist – evgeniy.pechurin@fao.org

III: Minor Amendments

CONTEXT	
Result Framework	
Components and Cost	
Institutional And Implementation Arrangements	Implementation through Letters of Agreement with Kyrgyzstandard, CAREC, the Institute of Biotechnology (NAS), KNAU, and a UN2UN agreement with UNOPS.
Financial Management	
Implementation Schedule	No-cost extension of the project end date (NTE) from July 2025 to February 2027 to allow completion of laboratory-based activities affected by the procurement timeline.
Executing Entity	
Executing Entity Category	
Minor Project Objective Change	
Safeguards	
Risk Analysis	Addition of an operational risk on UN2UN (UNOPS) procurement timing (see Section 6).
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
Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan	42.882004	74.582748	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Osh, Kyrgyzstan	40.513996	72.816101	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Naryn, Kyrgyz Republic	41.4287	75.9911	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Talas, Kyrgyz Republic	42.5228	72.2427	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Cholpon-Ata, Issyk-Kul Region, Kyrgyz Republic	42.6494	77.0823	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

V. ANNEX

Uploaded Document

Document Category	Title
M and E Document	GEFID10813_2026PIR_FAO_Kyrgyz Republic