

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

Project ID:	4641
Project Name:	Disposal of POPs and Obsolete Pesticides and Strengthening Sound Pesticide Management
Countr(ies):	Cameroon
Implementing Agency:	FAO

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I. Overview

A. Description

Project name

Disposal of POPs and Obsolete Pesticides and Strengthening Sound Pesticide Management

Country

Cameroon

GEF ID

4641

Implementing Agency

FAO

Executing Entity

Ministries of Agriculture, Environment and Public health

Trust Fund

GET

Project Type

FSP

PIR Submission

9/5/2025

Fiscal Year , PIR Number

FY 2025 , Final PIR

Objective

: To reduce POPs releases from obsolete pesticide stockpiles and contaminated sites and strengthen the capacity for the sound management of pesticides.

B. Ratings and Disbursements

Implementation Progress

Satisfactory

Development Objective

Satisfactory

Overall risk

Low Risk

Project Financing

1,881,000.00

Cumulative Disbursement

1,702,428.40

C. Key Dates

CEO Endorsement/Approval

9/24/2014

Agency Approval

12/1/2014

Implementation Start

3/1/2015

First Disbursement

3/19/2015

Expected MTR	Actual MTR 6/1/2018
Expected Completion 12/31/2023	Actual Completion 8/4/2025

II. PROGRESS STATUS AND ISSUES

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

The project significantly strengthened national capacities in pesticide management. Sixteen technicians from relevant ministries were trained in pesticide inventory techniques, with nine receiving further instruction in using the FAO Pesticide Stock Management System (PSMS) in 2016. Fifteen national staff were trained in the FAO Rapid Environmental Assessment (REA) protocol and participated in assessing contaminated sites. A total of 35.711 tons of obsolete pesticides and associated waste were safely disposed of.

Awareness campaigns sensitized farmers and stakeholders to the dangers of reusing empty pesticide containers. Two container management schemes were piloted in the North and Littoral regions, leading to stakeholder approval of a national strategy for container management. Institutional capacities were enhanced through training of 40 staff in pesticide inspection and post-registration controls, and 16 laboratory staff in residue analysis and administrative management. The laboratory is now operational. Fourteen pesticide registrars were trained in the FAO Pesticide Registration Toolkit, and two staff completed postgraduate studies in pesticide risk management. Coordination among stakeholders improved through the operationalization of the National Phytosanitary Council.

The project also promoted safer pest control alternatives. Plant extracts such as *Chromolaena odorata* were proven effective against banana weevils and nematodes, while powders from *Hyptis spicigera* and *Ocimum canum* were used to control maize weevils. Banana producers and extension workers were trained in using these alternatives, supported by guides developed by the project.

The final evaluation confirmed the project's strategic relevance to Cameroon's national priorities and the mandates of FAO and GEF, while supporting global goals in environmental protection and public health. It successfully raised awareness of pesticide risks, strengthened institutional capacities, especially within the National Laboratory (LNAD), and promoted safer alternatives to highly hazardous pesticides. Vulnerable groups such as women, children, transhumant herders, and visually impaired individuals were found to be at heightened risk, with some contaminated sites still inadequately decontaminated. Gender and risk communication strategies were not fully integrated.

To address these gaps, the evaluation recommended targeted vulnerability and capacity assessments, a more ambitious follow-up initiative to eliminate remaining POPs, and improved evidence-based communication. The Management Response Plan endorsed all recommendations, committing to completing unfinished activities, strengthening capacities, particularly among private sector actors, through proposing a robust follow-up project starting 2025. This initiative will include public-private partnerships, Farmer Field Schools, and inclusive communication strategies.

Challenges included budget constraints, procedural delays, COVID-19 disruptions, limited private sector involvement, and insufficient follow-up on revised legislation. Sustainability remains uncertain due to the lack of a clear exit strategy and coordination mechanisms.

B. Challenges: Information on challenges of project implementation activities

Although the project achieved generally satisfactory results, it faced several implementation challenges that affected its overall effectiveness. Field activities began late due to delays in recruiting consultants and slow

procurement procedures related to tender development and contract awards. The COVID-19 pandemic further disrupted progress. By the Near-Term Evaluation (NTE) in March 2023, available funds were insufficient to complete waste disposal activities. Consequently, the project was granted a fifth no-cost extension until December 31, 2023, to allow for its final evaluation. Despite notable achievements, key objectives such as the elimination of obsolete pesticides and the decontamination of polluted sites were only partially met. Sustainability of outcomes remains uncertain due to the absence of a clear exit strategy, limited engagement of the private sector, and inadequate follow-up on revised legislation and national strategies.

C. Stakeholder Engagement

Profile	Stakeholder name	Type of partnership	Progress, results & Challenges on Stakeholder's Engagement
Government Institutions	MINEPDED (Ministry of environment, protection of nature and sustainable development)	Lead executing partner, for components 1 and 2 of the project. Government agency, member of project management team and project steering committee (PSC). Participation in decision making.	Organized Project Steering committee meetings (5 sessions) and project Coordination meetings; Participate in Most workshops organized by the project; Through LoA with FAO Organized a workshop to sensitize the population of Edea on the presence of these products in the area, risk of manipulation and the subsequent removal of the 45 tonnes of stockpiled POPs and other obsolete pesticides safeguarded at the main central storage site at Edea for destruction; Participated in the evaluation of the container management pilots
Government Institutions	MINADER (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development)	Lead executing partner for components 3 and 4 of the project, member of project management team and project steering committee;	Through an LOA with the FAO has conducted an inventory of obsolete pesticides in 2016 and has supported the project to organize trainings on pesticides inventory, on PSMS and data entry and training on pesticides registration tool kit;
Government Institutions	MINSANTE (Ministry of Public Health)	Project Steering Committee member Participated in all projects Steering Committee meetings and some workshops;	Participated in the evaluation of container management pilots and the workshop for the endorsement of the national container management strategy developed by the project
Government Institutions	UNIVERSITY OF NGAOUNDEREPS C member.	Contribute in decision-making. Consultation;	Field testing of 2 botanicals (Hyptis spicigera and Ocimum canum) for the control of pests of maize in storage
Government Institutions	IRAD (The institute for agricultural research and Development	Support the design, and evaluation of alternatives to Highly hazardous pesticides in component 4 Participated at project inception, July 2015	Contributed in the identification of alternatives to highly hazardous pesticides
Government Institutions	CARBAP (Centre for Banana research)	Consultations	Field testing of botanicals (Chromolaena odorata and wood ash) for pest control in Banana especially banana weevil (Starting June 2019)
NGOs	AFAIRD (The association of honest African women for research and development)	Member of the PSC. Collaborating with the project to ensuring awareness raising on empty pesticides container management and promotion of alternatives to HHPs	Through LoA, Sensitized the population of Garoua and its environs on the risks involved in the use of empty pesticide containers, prior to the operationalization of the container management pilot schemes
NGOs	CREPD (The research and education centre for development)	Member of the PSC. Consultation.	Through LoA, Sensitized on empty pesticide container management with respect to national; and international legislation and promote alternatives to hazardous pesticides (before the operationalisation of

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 over natural resources	No	Women were also targeted in the promotion of potential alternatives to very dangerous pesticides during field tests. A workshop to strengthen capacity of banana producers on alternative methods for the management of banana pests for 40 farmers (12 women and 28 men). Demonstration workshop organized for 30 maize farmers (6 women, 24 men) on the production and formulation of some tested botanicals with proven insecticide effectiveness for the control of maize weevils.
b. Improving women's participation and decision making	Yes	Overall, effort has been made to involve women in all the activities of the project, but participation has been very low. Their participation in trainings, at all levels including decision-making; Women are present in the project management team, and a woman coordinates the NGO responsible for awareness raising. Under the project, two women (Staff from MINADER and MINEPDED) completed the online post graduate diploma course on Pesticide Risk management at the University of Cape Town, South Africa Women (186 women and 605 men) were trained in the management of empty pesticide management, with an emphasis on triple rinsing of containers immediately after use. They equally took part in the collection schemes put in place at two pilot- sites where the collection schemes were tested.
c. generating socio-economic benefits or services for women	Yes	Development of strategy for pesticide container management;(understanding risks involved in using pesticide containers will protect health and the environment) Viable alternatives to HHPs tested and promoted.
Any other good practices on gender		

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.	
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 are documented through published articles, posters; technical guides and training during workshops, awareness campaigns. •Triple rinsing of empty pesticide containers immediately after use before it is collected for recycling or incineration •Never use empty pesticide packaging for domestic purposes •The use of PPEs during inventory, inspection, safeguarding and disposal, etc.. •sensitization to strengthen capacity of maize and banana producers on the preparation and use of proven alternative methods for the management of banana pests for farmers
Communication strategy: Does the project have a communication strategy?	Yes
Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this fiscal year.	Yes, The CS was developed mainly for communication and awareness campaign for project stakeholders on the risks associated with poor management of pesticides and empty containers in Cameroon with an emphasis on the triple rinsing of empty pesticide containers (EVP), and the promotion of alternatives to conventional pesticides identified and tested. Specifically make known, inform producers and households as well as the public of the dangers linked to the mismanagement of pesticides on the one hand as well as those linked to the handling of empty packaging of pesticides on the other hand. Also, it will be a question of putting an emphasis on the knowledge of alternatives to conventional pesticides. Thus, contributing to the appropriation of the solutions proposed by the project to reduce the risks associated with the management of pesticides by the target groups. During this reporting period 2 technical guides produced by the project were distributed and farmers trained: •Guide for the protection of suckers from attack by banana weevils using alternative control methods (<i>Chromolaena</i> sp, ash, etc) ; 29 farmers and agricultural extension workers sensitized on how to use the alternatives; •Guide to the production of two insecticidal aromatic plants: <i>Hyptis spicigera</i> and <i>Ocimum canum</i>; 30 farmers and Agricultural extension workers, sensitized on how to produce and use of these alternatives.
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	The successful, safeguarding, stowing and disposal of obsolete pesticides that were at the central storage location at Edea was a big relieve as this store has been the subject of tension in the local community. These obsolete pesticides were safeguarded at Edea store since 2012 by Crop Life international and was the focus of the current project. After repacking, 35.7 tonnes of obsolete pesticides and associated waste were shipped to France for high temperature incineration, eliminating significant risks to human health and the environment.

III: Minor Amendments

CONTEXT	
Result Framework	
Components and Cost	
Institutional And Implementation Arrangements	
Financial Management	
Implementation Schedule	Project extensions and change of timelines
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	Due to socio-political unrest in the South West region of the country, where one of the project sites (Muyuka) was identified for empty pesticides container management pilot, it became impossible to carry out this activity. In view of the above, a new pilot site for the container management was identified in the Littoral region in the locality of Loum in the littoral region, an area in the same agro-ecological zone and the same agricultural activities.
others	

IV: Geographic Coordinates of Project Activities

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Lagdo	9.058056	13.665833	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Contaminated sites

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Dschang	5.443889	10.053056	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Contaminated sites

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Bibemi	9.30981	13.87918	2234272

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Empty pesticides container management sites

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Loum	4.7182	9.7351	2229152

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Empty pesticides container management sites

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Ngaoundéré	7.332056	13.575056	2224827

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Obsolete pesticide stores and Field Testing sites of alternatives

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Eséka	3.65	10.76667	2231881

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Field Testing sites of alternatives

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Ebolowa	2.9	11.15	2232283

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Field Testing sites of alternatives

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Vina	7.16365	13.72711	7670948

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Obsolete pesticide stores

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
NKOTENG	4.51667	12.03333	2223734

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Obsolete pesticide stores

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Yaoundé	3.86667	11.51667	2220957

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Obsolete pesticide stores

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Nyong-et-kelle	3.83333	10.83333	2223330

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Obsolete pesticide stores

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Bertoua	4.57728	13.68459	2234359

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Obsolete pesticide stores

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Pendja	4.63911	9.67987	2222623

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Obsolete pesticide stores

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Edéa	3.8	10.13333	2232239

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Obsolete pesticide stores

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Bonaberi	4.07142	9.68177	2233704

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Obsolete pesticide stores

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Nkongsamba	4.9547	9.9404	2223763

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Empty pesticides container management sites

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Lagdo	9.05828	13.66605	2229681

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Obsolete pesticide stores

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Pitoa	9.3839	13.50231	2222568

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Obsolete pesticide stores and Empty pesticides container management sites

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Belo	6.13333	10.25	2234455

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Obsolete pesticide stores

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Fundong	6.25	10.26667	2231482

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Obsolete pesticide stores

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Santa	5.78716	10.15601	7109048

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Obsolete pesticide stores

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Oku	6.25	10.43333	2223198

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Obsolete pesticide stores

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Bamenda	5.9597	10.14597	2234974

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Obsolete pesticide stores

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Fako	4.16667	9.16667	2231710

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Obsolete pesticide stores

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Buéa	4.15342	9.24231	2233410

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Obsolete pesticide stores

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Niete	2.66667	10.05	2224308

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Obsolete pesticide stores

V. ANNEX

Uploaded Document

Document Category	Title
M and E Document	GEFID4641_2025PIR_FAO_Cameroon