



## Review and Update of the National Implementation Plan for Niue and Vanuatu under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

### Part I: Project Information

**GEF ID**

**Project Type**

EA

**Type of Trust Fund**

GET

**CBIT**

CBIT

**Project Title**

Review and Update of the National Implementation Plan for Niue and Vanuatu under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

**Countries**

Regional, Niue, Vanuatu

**Agency(ies)**

UNEP

**Other Executing Partner(s):**

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

**Executing Partner Type**

Others

**GEF Focal Area**

Chemicals and Waste

**Taxonomy**

Chemicals and Waste, Focal Areas, Persistent Organic Pollutants, Unintentional Persistent Organic Pollutants, New Persistent Organic Pollutants, Polychlorinated Biphenyls, Emissions, Industrial Emissions, Influencing models, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Stakeholders, Private Sector, SMEs, Individuals/Entrepreneurs, Communications, Awareness Raising, Public Campaigns, Behavior change, Strategic Communications, Local Communities, Beneficiaries, Type of Engagement, Consultation, Participation, Information Dissemination, Indigenous Peoples, Civil Society, Community Based Organization, Non-Governmental Organization, Academia, Gender Equality, Gender Mainstreaming, Gender-sensitive indicators, Women groups, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender results areas, Participation and leadership, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Knowledge Exchange, South-South, Peer-to-Peer, Capacity Development, Knowledge Generation, Workshop, Enabling Activities, Learning, Theory of change, Indicators to measure change

**Rio Markers****Climate Change Mitigation**

Climate Change Mitigation 0

**Climate Change Adaptation**

Climate Change Adaptation 0

| <b>Type of Reports</b> | <b>Submission Date</b> | <b>Expected Implementation Start</b> | <b>Expected Completion Date</b> | <b>Expected Report Submission to Convention</b> |
|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|

|   |
|---|
| Stockholm National Implementation Plan Update |
|---|

12/31/2021

6/1/2020

12/31/2021

12/31/2021

**Duration**

18In Months

**Agency Fee(\$)**

19,000

**A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS**

| <b>Objectives/Programs</b> | <b>Trust Fund</b> | <b>GEF Amount(\$)</b>         | <b>Co-Fin Amount(\$)</b> |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| CW-EA                      | GET               | 200,000                       | 30,000                   |
|                            |                   | <b>Total Project Cost(\$)</b> | <b>200,000</b>           |
|                            |                   |                               | <b>30,000</b>            |

## B. Project description summary

### Project Objective

FACILITATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION IN NIUE AND VANUATU THROUGH THE REVIEW AND UPDATE, IN A MANNER HARMONIZED WITH THE REPORTING UNDER ARTICLE 15 OF THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION, AND SUBMISSION OF THE NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (NIP) TO THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES OF THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION (COP).

| Project Component   | Expected Outcomes  | Expected Outputs   | GEF Project Financing(\$) | Confirmed Co-Financing(\$) |
|---|--|--|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Global Technical Support for NIP revision and updating         | Niue and Vanuatu are enabled to implement their NIPs and contribute to the protection of the human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants | 1.1 Project quality, sustainability and cost effectiveness are strengthened  | 20,000                    |                            |
| 2. NIP updating, endorsement and submission to the SC Secretariat | Niue and Vanuatu are enabled to implement their NIPs and contribute to the protection of the human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants | 2.1 Coordination mechanisms in place with stakeholders<br>2.2 POPs profile revised, updated and validated by relevant stakeholders<br>2.3 National capacities for new POPs management identified and priorities for new POPs risk reduction are set<br>2.4 Updated NIPs endorsed and submitted to the SC COP | 144,368                   |                            |

| <b>Project Component</b>             | <b>Expected Outcomes</b>   | <b>Expected Outputs</b>   | <b>GEF Project Financing(\$)</b> | <b>Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)</b> |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 3. Monitoring and evaluation         | Niue and Vanuatu are enabled to implement their NIPs and contribute to the protection of the human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants | 3.1 Status of project implementation and probity of use of funds accessed on a regular basis and communicated to the GEF<br><br>3.2 Independent terminal review developed and made publicly available | 17,450                           |                                   |
| <b>Sub Total (\$)</b>                |  |   | <b>181,818</b>                   | <b>0</b>                          |
| <b>Project Management Cost (PMC)</b> |  |   |                                  |                                   |
|                                      |  |   | 18,182                           | 30,000                            |
| <b>Sub Total(\$)</b>                 |  |   | <b>18,182</b>                    | <b>30,000</b>                     |
| <b>Total Project Cost(\$)</b>        |  |   | <b>200,000</b>                   | <b>30,000</b>                     |

**C. Source of Co-Financing for the Project by Name and by Type**

| <b>Sources of Co-financing</b> | <b>Name of Co-financier</b> | <b>Type of Co-financing</b> | <b>Investment Mobilized</b>   | <b>Amount(\$)</b> |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Government                     | Government of Niue          | In-kind                     | Recurrent expenditures        | 25,000            |
| Government                     | Government of Niue          | Grant                       | Recurrent expenditures        | 5,000             |
|                                |                             |                             | <b>Total Co-Financing(\$)</b> | <b>30,000</b>     |

**Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified**

n/a

**D. GEF Financing Resources Requested by Agency, Country and Programming of Funds**

| <b>Agency</b>                  | <b>Trust Fund</b> | <b>Country</b> | <b>Focal Area</b>   | <b>Programming of Funds</b> | <b>Amount(\$)</b> | <b>Fee(\$)</b> |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| UNEP                           | GET               | Niue           | Chemicals and Waste | POPs                        | 100,000           | 9,500          |
| UNEP                           | GET               | Vanuatu        | Chemicals and Waste | POPs                        | 100,000           | 9,500          |
| <b>Total Gef Resources(\$)</b> |                   |                |                     |                             | <b>200,000</b>    | <b>19,000</b>  |



## Part II. Enabling Activity Justification

### A. ENABLING ACTIVITY BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Provide brief information about projects implemented since a country became party to the convention and results achieved

The Stockholm Convention (SC) on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) was adopted in May 2001 with the objective of protecting the human health and the environment from POPs. It entered into force on 17 May 2004, initially listing twelve chemicals as POPs.

Since 2004 until 2019, the Conference of Parties (COP) has amended the list of POPs to include the following eighteen chemicals into the Annexes:

- ü At its 4th meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP) in May 2009, the Stockholm Convention was amended to include the following 9 new POPs (SC-4/10 to SC-4/18). The amendments entered into force for most of the SC Parties on 26 August 2010.

*Table 1. POPs listed in SC at 4th meeting of the Conference of Parties (2009)*

| Chemical   | Annex | Specific exemption/acceptable purpose  | Remarks  |
|--|-------|--|--|
| Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane                          | A     | None   |  |
| Beta hexachlorocyclohexane                           | A     | None   |  |
| Chlordecone  | A     | None   |  |
| Hexabromobiphenyl (HBB)                              | A     | None   |  |
| Hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether | A     | <b>Use:</b> Articles in accordance with the provisions of Part IV of Annex A | In accordance with paragraph 2 of part IV of Annex A to the Convention, at its sixth ordinary meeting and at every second ordinary meeting thereafter the Conference of the Parties evaluates the progress that Parties have made towards achieving their ultimate objective of elimination of hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether contained in articles and review the continued need for this specific exemption. This specific exemption shall in any case expire at the latest in 2030. |

|   |         |   |   |
|---|---------|---|---|
| Lindane   | A       | <b>Use:</b> Human health pharmaceutical for control of head lice and scabies as second line treatment | These specific exemptions have a limited timeframe and shall expire five (5) years after the date of entry into force of the Convention with respect to that particular chemical (paragraph 4 of Article 4), unless an earlier date is indicated in the Register by the Party or an extension is granted by the Conference of the Parties under paragraph 7 of Article 4.   |
| Pentachlorobenzene (PeCB)                             | A and C | None  |   |
| Tetrabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether | A       | <b>Use:</b> Articles in accordance with the provisions of Part IV of Annex A                          | In accordance with paragraph 2 of part IV of Annex A to the Convention, at its sixth ordinary meeting and at every second ordinary meeting thereafter the Conference of the Parties evaluates the progress that Parties have made towards achieving their ultimate objective of elimination of tetrabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether contained in articles and review the continued need for this specific exemption. This specific exemption shall in any case expire at the latest in 2030. |

|  |          |   |   |
|--|----------|---|---|
| <p>Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride</p> | <p>B</p> | <p><b>Production:</b><br/> <b>Acceptable purpose:</b><br/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ü In accordance with part III of this Annex, production of other chemicals to be used solely for the use below. Production for uses listed below.</li> </ul> <b>Specific exemption:</b><br/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ü None</li> </ul> <b>Use:</b><br/> <b>Acceptable purpose:</b><br/> In accordance with part III of this Annex for the following acceptable purpose, or as an intermediate in the production of chemicals with the following acceptable purpose:<br/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ü Insect baits with sulfluramid (CAS No: 4151-50-2) as an active ingredient for control of leaf-cutting ants from <i>Atta</i> spp. and <i>Acromyrmex</i> spp. for agricultural use only</li> </ul> <b>Specific exemption:</b><br/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ü Metal plating (hard-metal plating) only in closed-loop systems</li> <li>ü Fire-fighting foam for liquid fuel vapour suppression and liquid fuel fires (Class B fires) in installed systems, including both mobile and fixed systems, in accordance with paragraph 10 of part III of this Annex</li> </ul> </p> | <p>As revised by Decision SC-9/4 adopted at COP 9 in 2019.</p> <p>These specific exemptions have a limited timeframe and shall expire five (5) years after the date of entry into force of the Convention with respect to that particular chemical (paragraph 4 of Article 4), unless an earlier date is indicated in the Register by the Party or an extension is granted by the Conference of the Parties under paragraph 7 of Article 4.</p> |
|--|----------|---|---|

ü At its 5th meeting of the COP in April 2011, technical endosulfan and its related isomers (SC-5/3) was included in Annex A with specific exemptions for production and use. The amendment entered into force for most of the SC Parties on 27 October 2012.

Table 2. POPs listed in SC at 5th meeting of the Conference of Parties (2011)

| Chemical                                     | Annex | Specific exemption   | Remarks   |
|--|-------|--|---|
| Technical endosulfan and its related isomers | A     | <p><b>Production:</b><br/>As allowed for the Parties listed in the Register of Specific Exemptions</p> <p><b>Use:</b><br/>Crop-pest complexes as listed in accordance with the provisions of part VI of Annex A.</p> | These specific exemptions have a limited timeframe and shall expire five (5) years after the date of entry into force of the Convention with respect to that particular chemical (paragraph 4 of Article 4), unless an earlier date is indicated in the Register by the Party or an extension is granted by the Conference of the Parties under paragraph 7 of Article 4. |

- ü At its 6th meeting in May 2013, COP decided to include Hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD) in the Convention's Annex A (SC-6/13) for elimination, with specific exemptions for production for use. The amendments entered into force for most of the SC Parties on 26 November 2014.

Table 3. POPs listed in SC at 6th meeting of the Conference of Parties (2013)

| Chemical                      | Annex | Specific exemption   | Remarks   |
|-------------------------------|-------|--|---|
| Hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD) | A     | <p><b>Production:</b><br/>As allowed for the Parties listed in the Register of Specific Exemptions in accordance with the provisions of Part VII of Annex A of the Convention</p> <p><b>Use:</b><br/>Expanded polystyrene and extruded polystyrene in buildings in accordance with the provisions of Part VII of Annex A</p> | These specific exemptions have a limited timeframe and shall expire five (5) years after the date of entry into force of the Convention with respect to that particular chemical (paragraph 4 of Article 4), unless an earlier date is indicated in the Register by the Party or an extension is granted by the Conference of the Parties under paragraph 7 of Article 4. |

- ü The 7th meeting of the COP in May 2015, adopted the amendments of the SC to list:
1. Hexachlorobutadiene (HCBd) - Annex A (SC-7/12), without specific exemptions/acceptable purposes;
  2. Pentachlorophenol (PCP) and its salts and esters - Annex A (SC-7/13), with specific exemptions for production and use;
  3. Polychlorinated naphthalenes (PCNs) - Annex A (SC-7/14), with specific exemptions for production and use and Annex C to the Convention.

The amendments entered into force for most of the SC Parties on 15 December 2016.

Table 4. POPs listed in SC at 7th meeting of the Conference of Parties (2015)

| Chemical                   | Annex | Specific exemption | Remarks |
|----------------------------|-------|--------------------|---------|
| Hexachlorobutadiene (HCBd) | A     | None               |         |

|  |         |  |   |
|--|---------|--|---|
| Pentachlorophenol (PCP) and its salts and esters | A       | <p><b>Production:</b><br/>As allowed for the Parties listed in the Register of Specific Exemptions in accordance with the provisions of Part VIII of Annex A</p> <p><b>Use:</b><br/>Pentachlorophenol for utility poles and cross-arms in accordance with the provisions of Part VIII of Annex A</p> | These specific exemptions have a limited timeframe and shall expire five (5) years after the date of entry into force of the Convention with respect to that particular chemical (paragraph 4 of Article 4), unless an earlier date is indicated in the Register by the Party or an extension is granted by the Conference of the Parties under paragraph 7 of Article 4. |
| Polychlorinated naphthalenes (PCNs)              | A and C | <p><b>Production:</b><br/>Intermediates in production of polyfluorinated naphthalenes, including octafluoronaphthalene</p> <p><b>Use:</b><br/>Production of polyfluorinated naphthalenes, including octafluoronaphthalene</p>  | These specific exemptions have a limited timeframe and shall expire five (5) years after the date of entry into force of the Convention with respect to that particular chemical (paragraph 4 of Article 4), unless an earlier date is indicated in the Register by the Party or an extension is granted by the Conference of the Parties under paragraph 7 of Article 4. |

ü In May 2017, the 8th meeting of the COP made decision to amend Annexes A and C to list:

1. Short-chain chlorinated paraffins (SCCPs) (SC-8/11), with specific exemptions for production and use;
2. Decabromodiphenyl ether (deca-BDE) (SC-8/10), with specific exemptions for production and use;
3. Hexachlorobutadiene (HCBd) - Annex C Part I (SC-8/12).

The amendments entered into force for most of the SC Parties on 18 December 2018.

*Table 5. POPs listed in SC at 8th meeting of the Conference of Parties (2017)*

| Chemical                   | Annex | Specific exemption | Remarks |
|----------------------------|-------|--------------------|---------|
| Hexachlorobutadiene (HCBd) | C     | None               |         |

|                                    |   |  |  |
|------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Decabromodiphenyl ether (deca-BDE) | A | <p><b>Production:</b><br/>As allowed for the Parties listed in the Register</p> <p><b>Use:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ü Additives in the production of transmission belts in the natural and synthetic rubber industry</li> <li>ü Spare parts of rubber conveyor belts in the mining and forestry industries</li> <li>ü Leather industry, in particular fatliquoring in leather</li> <li>ü Lubricant additives, in particular for engines of automobiles, electric generators and wind power facilities, and for drilling in oil and gas exploration, petroleum refinery to produce diesel oil</li> <li>ü Tubes for outdoor decoration bulbs</li> <li>ü Waterproofing and fire-retardant paints</li> <li>ü Adhesives</li> <li>ü Metal processing</li> <li>ü Secondary plasticizers in flexible polyvinyl chloride, except in toys and children's products</li> </ul> | <p>These specific exemptions have a limited timeframe and shall expire five (5) years after the date of entry into force of the Convention with respect to that particular chemical (paragraph 4 of Article 4), unless an earlier date is indicated in the Register by the Party or an extension is granted by the Conference of the Parties under paragraph 7 of Article 4.</p> |
| Decabromodiphenyl ether (deca-BDE) | A | <p><b>Production:</b><br/>As allowed for the Parties listed in the Register of Specific Exemptions</p> <p><b>Use:</b><br/>In accordance with the provisions of Part IX of Annex A</p>  | <p>These specific exemptions have a limited timeframe and shall expire five (5) years after the date of entry into force of the Convention with respect to that particular chemical (paragraph 4 of Article 4), unless an earlier date is indicated in the Register by the Party or an extension is granted by the Conference of the Parties under paragraph 7 of Article 4.</p> |

ü In May 2019, the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the COP made the decision to list:

1. Dicofol - Annex A (SC-9/11), without specific exemptions;
2. Perfluotooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA related compounds - Annex A (SC-9/12), with specific exemptions for production and use.

The amendments have not yet entered into force. It would enter into force on expiry of 1 (one) year after the notification, by the Depositary, of the adoption of the amendment - except for the Parties<sup>[1]</sup> that have declared, in accordance with paragraph 4 of Article 25 of the Convention, in their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to become a Party to the Convention, that any amendment to Annexes A, B or C shall enter into force only upon the deposit of their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with respect to such amendment.

*Table 6. POPs listed in SC at 9th meeting of the Conference of Parties (2019)*

| <b>Chemical</b> | <b>Annex</b> | <b>Specific exemption</b> | <b>Remarks</b> |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Dicofol         | A            | None                      |                |

Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA related compounds

A

**Production:**

- ü Fire-fighting foam: None
- ü For other production, as allowed for the Parties listed in the Register in accordance with the provisions of part X of this Annex

**Use:**

In accordance with the provisions of part X of this Annex:

- ü Photolithography or etch processes in semiconductor manufacturing
- ü Photographic coatings applied to films
- ü Textiles for oil- and water-repellence for the protection of workers from dangerous liquids that comprise risks to their health and safety
- ü Invasive and implantable medical devices
- ü Fire-fighting foam for liquid fuel vapour suppression and liquid fuel fires (Class B fires) in installed systems, including both mobile and fixed systems, in accordance with paragraph 2 of part X of this Annex
- ü Use of perfluorooctyl iodide for the production of perfluorooctyl bromide for the purpose of producing pharmaceutical products, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3 of part X of this Annex
- ü Manufacture of polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) and polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF) for the production of:
  - o High-performance, corrosion-resistant gas filter membranes, water filter membranes and membranes for medical textiles
  - o Industrial waste heat exchanger equipment
  - o Industrial sealants capable of preventing leakage of volatile organic compounds and PM2.5 particulates
- ü Manufacture of polyfluoroethylene propylene (FEP) for the production of high-voltage electrical wire and cables for power transmission
- ü Manufacture of fluoroelastomers for the production of O-rings, v-belts and plastic accessories for car interiors

These specific exemptions have a limited timeframe and shall expire five (5) years after the date of entry into force of the Convention with respect to that particular chemical (paragraph 4 of Article 4), unless an earlier date is indicated in the Register by the Party or an extension is granted by the Conference of the Parties under paragraph 7 of Article 4.



In accordance with Article 7 of the SC, Parties are required to develop a National Implementation Plan (NIP) to demonstrate how the country will implement its obligations under the SC. Parties are required to transmit their NIPs to the COP within two years of the date the SC entered into force for that country.

Parties are also required to review and update their NIPs regularly, as specified by Article 7 of the Convention. The addition of chemicals to the Annexes of the SC is one of the principal factors triggering the review and update of the NIP for a Party. With the addition of 18 new chemicals to the SC, Niue and Vanuatu are now requesting the financial support from the GEF, technical support from the SPREP, with the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) as the Implementing Agency, to undertake their NIPs review and update. The revised NIPs will include all the 30 chemicals currently listed in the Convention.

According to Article 15 of the SC, each Party shall report to the Conference of the Parties on the measures it has taken to implement the provisions of this Convention and on the effectiveness of such measures in meeting the objectives of the Convention. Therefore, the NIPs review and update also take into consideration the data needs and collect the qualitative and quantitative data to enable Niue and Vanuatu to complete and submit their Article 15 reports.

#### A.2 projects implemented since niue became a party to the convention and results achieved

Niue ratified the SC on 2 September 2005 and the Convention entered into force for this country in December 2005. In compliance to the above, Niue endorsed and transmitted its initial NIP to the SC Secretariat on 25 January 2005.

The initial NIP addressed the 12 POPs initially listed in the SC. The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries served as the Executing Agency for its development. The NIP development project was funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) (GEF ID 1756) and Implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The main findings of the initial NIP of Niue are summarised below:

##### POPs Pesticides

According to the initial NIP, Niue has not produced nor used POPs pesticides and don't plan to use them in the future. However, there was anecdotal evidence indicating that some POPs pesticides (especially DDT) were used in Niue in the past. Legislation governing the production and use of POPs pesticides in Niue is non-existent. The only piece of legislation that mentions POPs pesticides is the Customs Import Prohibition (Insecticides Order) 1964 which prohibits the import of Benzene hexachloride (BHC) and Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) except with the consent of the Minister for Customs. Given the absence of production and use of POPs pesticides in Niue, the identified priority was to formally ban all imports and use of POPs pesticides and PCBs in Niue through regulation.

##### PCBs

According to the initial NIP, the stock of electrical transformers in Niue had tested positive for PCB contamination. Transformers still on use were not tested. The report for the inventory of chemical imports and use in Niue identified a small number of capacitors containing PCBs and noted that more were likely to be found.

There were no systems in place for the environmentally sound management of PCBs in Niue. The normal method of disposal for these types of equipment was simply to dump or burn them with normal household rubbish. It was therefore proposed that a system be developed for identifying and managing PCBs in small capacitors and other equipment as they were identified, including safe storage and ultimate disposal. Niue had planned to test the transformers not previously tested, once they were out of service.

#### Unintentional POPs (Dioxins and Furans)

The preliminary inventory of dioxin and furan releases had shown that the main sources of emissions in Niue were the incineration of quarantine and medical wastes and uncontrolled burning, including in landfills and backyard rubbish fires.

Niue lacked the capacity to record, control or monitor the releases of dioxins and furans. The knowledge and application of best available techniques (BAT) and best environmental practices (BEP) for new or existing sources in Niue was very limited or non-existent. Considerations of BAT/BEP measures needed to be undertaken when any new facility was developed for the disposal of medical or quarantine wastes.

The development of improved management systems in Niue was considered a fundamental requirement for the reduction of unintentional releases from activities such as rubbish burning. This should be based around enhancing the implementation of the existing National Waste Management Plan, including improvements to collection services, recycling programmes, and the promotion of alternative methods such as composting. Capacity building and public awareness programmes on POPs would also focus on the reduction in releases of dioxins and furans.

#### Chemical Stockpiles and Contaminated Sites

The identified stockpiles of obsolete POPs and other chemicals in Niue were exported for disposal in Australia through an AusAID funded project (POPs in PICs), executed by SPREP. Proper systems for the safe storage of future chemical stockpiles and hazardous wastes were not established. The NIP included a proposal to develop such a facility, as part of a National Waste Management Centre, with the flexibility to support all of Niue's waste management needs, such as the recycling programmes.

The POPs project also conducted a preliminary assessment of 12 potentially contaminated sites. Six out of the twelve sites were ranked as high risk according to the potential risk to the underground water lens and the general public. Measures were taken to deal with the clean-up of three of these sites, but detailed site investigations were still needed in the other three, followed by remediation activities, as required.

Niue has never reported on the progress made to implement its National Implementation Plan submitted in 2005, as required by Article 15 of the SC. The country has however participated in the following projects funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF):

- ü *GEF ID 3420 Niue participated in the PAS GEF Pacific Alliance for Sustainability.* The project was implemented by the World Bank and had a POPs component.

ü *GEF ID 3663 PAS: Supporting the POPs Global Monitoring Plan in the Pacific Islands Region (GMP project)*. The objective of the project was to deliver primary data on the 12 initial POPs present in human breast milk and ambient air, both sampled in eight Pacific Island Countries participating in the GMP project. The activities included regional workshops, sampling programme and laboratory testing. Niue contributed to the mother's milk sampling and ambient air samples. The key findings for ambient air results indicated that DDT was the dominant POP chemical in most PICs. Only a few number of mothers contributed to the human milk samples in Niue (3) and therefore no conclusions were drawn on the human milk contamination in Niue. Since there were no laboratories in Niue, the country has only collected the samples and sent them for analysis abroad.

ü *GEF ID 4066 PAS: Pacific POPs Release Reduction Through Improved Management of Solid and Hazardous Wastes*. The project was implemented by UNEP.

ü *GEF ID 6978 Continuing Support for the POPs Global Monitoring Plan under the SC in the Pacific Region*. The project is being implemented by UNEP and the results for Niue should be available by the end of 2019. Niue contributed with samples of air, water, human milk and other matrices of national interest. Since there are no laboratories in Niue, the country has only collected the samples and sent them for analysis abroad.

### A.3 Projects implemented since Vanuatu became a Party to the Convention and results achieved

Vanuatu acceded to the SC on 16 September 2005 and the Convention entered into force for this country on 15 December 2005. In compliance to the above, Vanuatu endorsed and transmitted its initial NIP to the SC Secretariat on 13 December 2018.

The initial NIP addressed the twelve POPs initially listed in the SC. The Department of Quarantine and Inspection Services of the Ministry of Agriculture served as the initial Executing Agency for this project. From 2010, the project was transferred to the Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation (DEPC), under the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources. The project was funded by the GEF (GEF ID 1942) and implemented by the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP).

#### POPs pesticides

The initial NIP stated that Vanuatu never produced or used POPs pesticides. It had previously registered the use of DDT for Malaria control, but the registration was withdrawn in 1989. There was no legislation governing the production and use of POPs pesticides in Vanuatu. Given the absence of intentional production and use of POPs in Vanuatu, the most appropriate action identified was to formally ban all imports and use of POPs pesticides and PCBs in Vanuatu by regulation under The Pesticides (Control) Act, the Health and Safety at Work Act and the Customs Act.

#### PCBs

PCB contaminated oil was identified in electrical transformers in Vanuatu. They were stockpiled in an open space and then exported to Australia for final disposal in the framework of the POPs in PICS project. A number of capacitors and electrical transformers have not yet been tested for PCB contamination. There were no systems in place for the safe storage of chemical stockpiles and hazardous wastes in Vanuatu, so the NIP included a proposal to develop such a facility, with the flexibility to support all of Vanuatu's waste management needs, such as its recycling programmes.

### Contaminated sites

The POPs in PICS Project also conducted a preliminary assessment of 7 potentially contaminated sites:

1. The previous rubbish dump site at FreshWota on Efate;
2. The previous rubbish dump site at Manples on Efate;
3. The rubbish dump in Luganville, Santo;
4. The landfill site at Bouffa on Efate;
5. Agricultural plots near Mt. Yasur volcano;
6. Soil around the hospital incinerators in Tanna and Santo;
7. The site where UNELCO stored their used transformers.

The main conclusion was that a proper assessment of these sites was still needed to determine the potential risk they posed to nearby residents and to their potential for contaminating groundwater.

### Unintentional POPs (Dioxins and Furans)

Limited data is available on the releases of unintentional POPs (Dioxins and Furans) because of the lack of capacity to monitor these releases. However, estimates prepared using the UNEP toolkit version 2005 (2nd version), indicated that incineration of quarantine and medical wastes and uncontrolled burnings at landfills were the main source of releases. The results from the initial assessment for Vanuatu<sup>[2]</sup> were presented in a review report<sup>[3]</sup> and are summarised in the table below:

*Table 7. Dioxin emissions estimates for Vanatu (2004)*

| Source categories                          | Annual Releases (mg/TEQ/a) |       |       |          |         | TOTAL      |
|--|----------------------------|-------|-------|----------|---------|------------|
|  | Air                        | Water | Land  | Products | Residue |            |
| Waste Incineration                         | 764.000                    | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000    | 3.8     | 767.800    |
| Ferrous and Non-ferrous Metal Production   | 0.000                      | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000    | 0.0     | 0.000      |
| Power Generation and Heating               | 48.585                     | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000    | 9.7     | 58.285     |
| Production of Mineral Products             | 0.000                      | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000    | 0.0     | 0.000      |
| Transportation                             | 3.462                      | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000    | 0.0     | 3.462      |
| Uncontrolled Combustion Processes          | 5049.494                   | 0.000 | 6.100 | 0.000    | 9908.8  | 14,964.394 |
| Production of Chemicals and Consumer Goods | 0.000                      | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000    | 0.0     | 0.000      |
| Miscellaneous                              | 0.000                      | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000    | 0.0     | 0.000      |
| Disposal/Landfilling                       | 0.000                      | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000    | 0.0     | 0.000      |

|                                       |               |            |            |            |               |                   |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|------------|------------|------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Identification of Potential Hot-Spoys |               |            |            |            |               |                   |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>5865.5</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>6.1</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>9922.3</b> | <b>15,793.941</b> |

Vanuatu has never reported on the progress made to implement its NIP, as required by article 15 of the SC. The country has however participated in the following GEF funded projects:

ü *GEF ID 3420, Vanuatu participated in the PAS GEF Pacific Alliance for Sustainability.* The project was implemented by the World Bank and had a POPs component.

ü *GEF ID 4066 PAS: Pacific POPs Release Reduction Through Improved Management of Solid and Hazardous Wastes.* The project was implemented by UNEP.

ü *GEF ID 6978 Continuing Support for the POPs Global Monitoring Plan under the SC in the Pacific Region.* The project is being implemented by UNEP and the results for Vanuatu should also be available by the end of 2019. Vanuatu contributed with samples of air, water, human milk and other matrices of national interest. Since there are no laboratories in Vanuatu, the country has only collected the samples and sent them for analysis abroad.

Sex-disgragegated data related to the health impacts of POPs is missing in Niue and Vanuatu. According to UN Women, there has been notable achievements in closing the gap in gender equality in the Pacific. Nevertheless, women is still more likeliy to be in low wage or unpaid family employment. The Pacific has the lowest percentage of women in leadership roles including the world’s lowest overall average of women in parliament. The Pacific also has twice the global average of violence against women; and women and children are 14 times more likely to die in a natural disaster than men<sup>[4]</sup>. To address these issues, UN Women Fiji MCO has focused on delivering four interlinked programmes. The Programme for Women’s Political Empowerment and Leadership is particularly relevant for this project. This Programme was created to address barriers to education, contacts and resources for women to become effective leaders. The UN Women Fiji Multi Country Office will be contacted to support the development of a gender action plan to be implemented throughou the project with gender sensitive indicators and sex-disaggregated targets.

<sup>[1]</sup> Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Botswana, Canada, China, Estonia, Guatemala, India, Korea (Republic of), Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova (Republic of), Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Vanuatu, and Venezuela (Bolivian Republic of). For these Parties, if they wish to be bound by amendments, they must deposit instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession regarding the amendment in question, in which case the amendment shall enter into force for each Party on the ninetieth (90) day after the date of deposit with the Depositary.

<sup>[2]</sup> Vanuatu Government, 2011. National Plan for Implementation (NIP) of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

<sup>[3]</sup> Carol Quashie-Williams, 2004. Inventory of dioxins and furans in Vanuatu

<sup>[4]</sup> <https://asiapacific.unwomen.org/en/countries/fiji>

## **B. ENABLING ACTIVITY GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIVITIES**

The proposal should briefly justify and describe the project framework. Identify also key stakeholders involved in the project including the private sector, civil society organizations, local and indigenous communities, and their respective roles, as applicable. Describe also how the gender equality and women's empowerment are considered in project design and implementation

#### B.1 Enabling Activity Goals and Objectives

The overall goal of the Enabling Activity is to fulfil Niue's and Vanuatu's obligation under Article 7 of the SC which is to review and update their NIPs and submit them to the SC COP.

The objective is to facilitate the implementation of the Stockholm Convention in Niue and Vanuatu through the review and update, in a manner harmonized with the reporting under Article 15 of the Stockholm Convention, and submission of the NIPs to the COP.

The activities will include: strengthening the national coordination mechanisms in each country by involving additional stakeholders relevant to new POPs management; establishing working groups with expertise on new POPs issues in each country; updating and reviewing the original twelve POPs inventories and Action Plans, addressing also the data to be reported; conducting a preliminary inventory of new POPs, addressing also the data to be reported; assessing the regulatory and policy frameworks and institutional capacities to manage new POPs, prioritizing and drafting relevant objectives and action plans for reducing and phasing out new POPs.

Relevant stakeholders will be consulted and involved throughout the project implementation process. The updated and endorsed NIPs will provide a basis to identify activities and implement post-NIP projects in accordance with the requirements of the SC.

Please refer to Annex A for the project logical framework.

#### B.2 Project Stakeholders

At the international level the project will include:

- ü **UN Environment Programme Chemicals and Health:** UN Environment is the only United Nations organization with a mandate derived from the General Assembly to coordinate the work of the United Nations in the area of environment and whose core business is the environment. UN Environment Chemicals and Wastes is the UN Environment Branch that works specifically to minimize the adverse effects of chemicals and waste on human health and the environment. The implementation of this project contributes directly to reach the main mandate of the Branch;
- ü **UN Environment Regional Office for Asia Pacific:** UN Environment has six regional offices supporting different groups of countries in their efforts towards sustainable development. The UN Environment Regional Office for Asia Pacific will identify opportunities for regional synergies and areas of cooperation. Some examples may include: coordination of regional information exchange and provision of documents and inventories from other countries in the region, identification of regional experts, etc;

- ü The **Stockholm Convention Secretariat** based in Geneva, Switzerland, exerts the Secretariat role of the Stockholm Convention according to Article 20. The Stockholm Convention Secretariat will be regularly informed on the progress in the implementation of the project to be able to identify opportunities to facilitate assistance to Parties in the implementation of the Convention;
- ü The **World Health Organization (WHO)** works to achieve better health for everyone, everywhere. Some of the Persistent Organic Pollutants are among the list of ten chemicals of major public health concern developed by WHO; and this Organization has responded to this health and environmental issue of concern through the development of studies, tools and guidance materials. The UN Environment Chemicals Branch will facilitate the access to these materials and will also inform the WHO on identified needs for additional support;
- ü The **International Labour Organization (ILO)** brings together governments, employers and workers to set labour standards, policies and devise programmes promoting decent work for women and men. ILO has already supported initiatives to address the impact of e-waste in relation to occupational safety and health issues. These social aspects will be taken into account in the NIP updating;
- ü The **Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)** is the inter-governmental organization for environment and sustainable development in the South Pacific. In the area of waste management and pollution control, SPREP has assisted Pacific Island Countries and territories to build capacity to implement waste, chemicals and pollutants programmes. In particular, in its role as the Basel Convention Regional Centre for the South Pacific, SPREP has provided technical support to Pacific Islands Countries in the implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions. SPREP will provide technical support to Niue and Vanuatu on the implementation of this project.
- ü The **UN Women’s Fiji Multi-Country Office (MCO)** works with governments and civil society organisations across 14 Pacific Island countries and territories to address gender inequality, empower women and build more inclusive societies. The UN Women Fiji Multi Country Office will be contacted to support the development of a gender action plan to be implemented throughou the project with gender sensitive indicators and sex-disaggregated targets.

The international partners will provide ongoing support to the project and their engagement will be discussed and agreed upon in the inception meetings.

In reference to national stakeholders, strong emphasis will be placed on the participation of the private sector and civil society to ensure their active involvement in the execution of the project and sensitization towards POPs issues. NGOs, including research groups and academic institutions, industrial and professional associations, will be invited to stakeholder’s consultations to contribute to the achievements of the project objectives. Special emphasis will also be placed on the participation of women, as one of the vulnerable groups to POPs, on the NCMs to ensure their active involvement throughout the project duration. Further, civil society organizations (CSOs) representatives will be involved in the NCMs as necessary. A preliminary list of national stakeholders has been identified and will be strengthened in the national inception meetings.

*Table 8. Preliminary list of national stakeholders in Niue*

| Organization / Agency | Role in the project |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
|-----------------------|---------------------|

| Organization / Agency  | Role in the project  |
|--|--|
| Ministry of Natural Resources: Department of Environment                         | Project Focal Point <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Project Coordinator</li> </ul>   |
| Ministry of Social Services: Health Department                                   | Member of the National Consultation Group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing information during the inventory and gap analysis;</li> <li>participating in stakeholder consultation;</li> <li>assisting in the review of project outputs.</li> </ul> |
| Ministry of Natural Resources: Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries |  |
| Ministry of Infrastructure   |  |
| Niue Power Corporation   | Other Government Stakeholders  |
| Bulk Fuel Corporation  |  |
| Public Works Department  |  |
| Niue Customs Department  |  |
| Niue Policy Department   |  |
| Niue Island (Umbrella) Association of NGOs - NIUANGO                             | Non-Governmental Organisation  |

*Table 9. Preliminary list of national stakeholders in Vanuatu*

| Organization / Agency   | Role in the project  |
|---|--|
| Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources - Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation (DEPC)  | Project Focal Point <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Project Coordinator</li> </ul>   |
| Department of Agriculture   | Member of the National Consultation Group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing information during the inventory and gap analysis;</li> <li>participating in stakeholder consultation;</li> <li>assisting in the review of project outputs.</li> </ul> |
| Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, Fisheries and Biosecurity   |  |
| Ministry of Trade and Business Development  |  |
| Ministry of Internal Affairs  |  |
| Ministry of Health  |  |
| Ministry of Communities (responsible for solid waste management)  | Other Government Stakeholders  |
| Ministry of Lands, Geology and Mines  |  |
| Ministry of Education   |  |
| Ministry of Infrastructure and Public Utilities<br>Department of Customs and Inland Revenue   |  |
| Chamber of Commerce<br>Vanuatu Agriculture Supplies<br>Other users and importers of POPs (Such as Pacific Suppliers, Cellovilla, Ezzykill, and Flick) | Business and Industry Stakeholders   |



| Organization / Agency  | Role in the project          |
|--|------------------------------|
| Vanuatu Associations of NGOs<br>Live & Learn Environment Education<br>Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific<br>Reef Check<br>Vanuatu National Council of Chiefs<br>Vanuatu Christian Council<br>Vanuatu National Council of Women | Public Interest Stakeholders |

### B.3 Gender dimensions

In practice, gender mainstreaming means identifying gaps in gender equality using sex disaggregated data, developing strategies to close those gaps, putting resources and expertise into implementing strategies for gender equality, monitoring and implementation and holding individuals and institutions accountable for results. Gender mainstreaming is not an end in itself; it's a process whose goal is to **achieve gender equality**[1] (Sustainable Development Goal 5).

Gender or vulnerable populations are not explicitly mentioned in the Convention text. Nevertheless, several decisions of the Convention's bodies have referred to gender. For instance, in 2013 the BRS Secretariat released the BRS Gender Action Plan with the vision that "gender equality should be an integral part of the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions".

The level of exposure to POPs chemicals and its related impacts on human health are determined by social and biological factors. Women, children and men might be exposed to different kinds, levels and frequency of new POPs chemicals (e.g. in the household, agriculture, industry, school, etc.). The Stockholm Convention Global Monitoring Plan have bio monitored persistent organic pollutants in human milk, in recognition to the fact that women are particularly impacted by the poor management of hazardous chemicals and wastes.

This project aims at contributing to the Stockholm Convention Action Plan through the development and implementation of a gender analysis and a gender strategy with SMART indicators to mainstream gender throughout the project. It's recommended that the focal point of the Stockholm Convention follow a training on gender equality for a better understanding of the topic before working on the strategy. Below some of the elements that could be considered in this strategy:

1. Facilitating the equal access to information and training. Are there any legal, cultural or religious constraints on women's potential participation in the activity?;
2. Encouraging the equal participation in the working groups and any national consultations. How the project can actively promote gender equality and women empowerment?
3. Fostering the equal recruitment of consultants to deliver the project outputs;
4. Collecting sex-disaggregated data on vulnerable population, particularly during the project socio-economic assessment;
5. Designing gender related activities, based on the POPs potential impact on women vs. men, to be included in the NIP action plans.

<sup>[1]</sup><http://www.undp.org/content/dam/aplaws/publication/en/publications/environment-energy/www-ee-library/chemicals-management/chemicals-management-the-why-and-how-of-mainstreaming-gender/Chemicals%20Management%20and%20Gender%20Mainstreaming.pdf>

## C. DESCRIBE THE ENABLING ACTIVITY AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Discuss the work intended to be undertaken and the output expected from each activity as outlined in Table A

C.1 Work intended to be undertaken and output expected from each activity as outlines in Table A (Annex A)

Project Components and Activities: The NIP review and update project has three components, which consist of the outputs and activities indicated below:

### Component 1: Global Technical Support for NIP revision and updating

The global component has successfully supported countries globally on the development of their NIPs. As a result of the previous NIP updating projects, a roster of international, regional and national experts on NIP development and implementation has been developed<sup>[1]</sup>. As of September 2019, the roster listed 132 experts in diverse areas of POPs expertise and regional experience.

The global component has also organized trainings on new POPs inventories in Asia, Latin America and Africa in partnership with the BRS Secretariat. A final lessons-learned workshop and report<sup>[2]</sup> have also been developed in consultation with participating countries and international experts. Finally, the POPs inventory data was collected, harmonized and uploaded in a geo-visualisation platform developed to facilitate POPs data management and risk assessments<sup>[3]</sup>.

In the GEF 7 replenishment, the objective of the global component is to continue strengthening the quality and impact of the project through the delivery of specific outputs. Funds from multiple NIP updating projects will be pooled and common outputs, such as guidance, training, help desk services will be developed answering directly to common country needs.

### Expected Outputs and Activities:

#### *1.1 Project quality, sustainability and cost effectiveness are strengthened*

##### *1.1.1 Quality check of the final draft NIP*

This activity is directed to each individual country. In Niue and Vanuatu, the quality check of the final NIP will be done in two steps. Firtly, a review of the advanced draft NIP will be done. The Executing Agency considers and addresses the comments made. Finally, the final NIP is reviewed once again for final validation. The objective is to ensure the

high quality of the main project outputs. If the case and within the limits of available funding, a multidisciplinary team of experts could be recruited to provide the quality check with policy, legal, chemicals assessments, gender and socio-economic backgrounds.

### *1.1.2 Facilitating decision-making through geovisualisation of NIP inventory data*

This activity is also directed to each individual country. The geovisualisation of NIP inventories developed by other countries working with UN Environment is already available at the MAPx<sup>[4]</sup> platform. The platform has been a useful data management tool and is now being upgraded to allow risk assessment and action plan prioritization. The objective is to facilitate decision making by national and international stakeholders. Niue's and Vanuatu's inventories will also be translated into specific formats and uploaded in the MAPx platform. Data will still belong to Niue and Vanuatu. Only UNEP, Niue, Vanuatu and SPREP will have access to the uploaded data, unless it's decided otherwise by the participating countries.

### *1.1.3 Regional trainings and tools developed based on identified country needs in partnership with the Basel and Stockholm Convention Regional Centres and the SC Secretariat*

The specific workplan for the development of trainings and tools will be adapted in response to country needs. The workplan will be regularly updated in consultation with the GEF Unit and the Chemicals and Health Branch and the Executing Agencies. Initial themes of potential interest for the global component are: (1) NIP priority setting; (2) linking the NIP update and national reporting under SC, with the aim of facilitating the reports submission; (3) adopting a life-cycle approach into the National Implementation Plan update; (4) NIP integration into the national strategies and plans; (5) screening of inventory data needs and potential sources of information; (6) post-NIP project development and co-financing to facilitate the implementation of the NIP; (7) exploring the need/possibilities for BAT and BEP promotion and implementation at national level.

## Component 2: NIP updating, endorsement and submission to the SC Secretariat

### Expected Outputs and Activities:

#### *2.1 Coordination mechanisms in place with stakeholders aware of the SC obligations*

##### *2.1.1 Re-establish the national coordination mechanisms and identify other key stakeholders*

As the Executing Agency, SPREP will execute and manage the project by assigning a regional coordinator as lead Project Manager (PM). As described in detail on pages 26-27 of this project document, the PM will work in close coordination with the International Consultant and the National Coordination Mechanisms in Niue and Vanuatu (NCMs).

The initial NIP project in Niue was executed by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) under the guidance of a POPs Project Steering Committee. The NCM of Niue was established comprising of relevant government departments and other stakeholders from NGOs, private companies and educational institutions who were appointed as informed members and Task Teams to carry out specific tasks. The Committee was chaired by the Project Manager (former Director of DAFF) and included members from Government agencies, NGOs, the private sector and others.

In Vanuatu a Project Coordinating Unit (PCU) was established for the development of the initial NIP. The PCU was established comprising of relevant government departments and other stakeholders from NGOs, private companies and educational institutions who were appointed as informed members and Task Teams to carry out specific tasks.

The NCMs of Niue and Vanuatu will be reinstated and complemented by additional stakeholder and ministries dealing with new POPs. The International Consultant will work together with the newly established and gender balanced NCMs to develop its terms of reference for the implementation of the project. This will include the establishment of working groups; assignment of responsibilities amongst government departments; a mechanism for the continuous identification of other relevant project stakeholders; evaluate and access the progress of the project; and provide advice, policy and institutional guidance to the project. In this regard, relevant governmental institutions will be requested to allocate the necessary human and technical resources to support project implementation through the NCMs of Niue and Vanuatu, where it does not already exist. All responsibilities, timelines and budgets will be clearly spelled out in order to guarantee the fast, safe and accurate execution of the project. For time effective implementation, the parallel executable activities will be underlined and identified.

Given the lessons learned from similar projects in the Pacific, the International Consultant will work closely with the NCMs and national working groups to guide the collection and gathering of data and draft the final reports. National experts and students from the University of the South Pacific Campuses in Niue and Vanuatu will be identified and recruited to contribute to the revision and updating of the NIPs under the guidance of the international consultant.

Two national inception workshops will be held, one in each country, to raise awareness of the project on reviewing and updating the NIP amongst the widest possible range of stakeholders (government institutions, industry and industrial associations, NGOs, university, etc.) and to get a full understanding of the integrated approach needed for the NIP review and update, governmental endorsement, and submission to the Secretariat of the SC.

The integrated approach will involve the assignment of responsibilities among government representatives, stakeholders and project participants. The principal output of the inception workshop is to establish buy-in and commitment of high-level participants in the NIP update process and subsequent endorsement as required by the SC.

The workshop will also focus on the discussion and endorsement of the project workplan, budget, procurement plan, confirmation of the project institutional arrangements, assessment of national capacities for project implementation and development of capacity building plan, development of a communication strategy throughout the project implementation, the development of a gender analysis and a strategy to integrate gender dimensions, definition of a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan, identification of potential risks to the project implementation and development of a mitigation strategy.

#### *2.1.2 Raise awareness of stakeholders and public on new POPs risks and policy implications*

The SC strongly promotes the participation and involvement of the public in the preparation and implementation of NIP-related activities as a major driving force for initiating environmental health improvements. The project seeks public participation by consulting those potentially affected by the production, use and management of new POPs. Public awareness and public education materials on POPs will be developed for Niue and Vanuatu to inform and improve the general public awareness on planned activities and achieved results of the project in a timely manner.

## *2.2 POPs profile revised, updated and validated by relevant stakeholders*

### *2.2.1 Revise, update and develop the national POPs profile and validate by national stakeholders*

Training workshops will be organized in each country on the initial and new POPs inventory methodology and link to SC reporting and other topics as identified in the capacity building plan developed in activity 2.1.1 and confirmed in the awareness raising workshops.

The working groups and national experts will be the main actors within activity 2.2.1 under the guidance of the PM and the international consultant. They will gather relevant data to establish a solid baseline for priority review setting and report under SC. This process would also assess the effectiveness, efficiency and progress of the NIP implementation process thus far.

To guide the conduction of the NIP review and updating a set of guidelines have been developed by the SC Secretariat and will be used in this project. For instance, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) together with UNITAR and the SC Secretariat developed guidelines for reviewing and updating the NIPs under the GEF project 4410 "*Development of the Guidelines for updating of the National Implementation Plans under the Stockholm Convention taking into account the new POPs added to the Convention*". The guidelines, among others[5], include a step-by-step approach on how to conduct inventories on POP-PBDEs (tetra-, penta-, hexa-, hepta- and decaBDEs), HBCD, HCBD, PCP, its salts and esters, PCNs, SCCPs and PFOS, its salts and PFOSF. These draft guidelines have undergone peer review and pilot testing and are already in the final stages of completion.

The draft guidance on socio-economic assessment for national implementation plan development and implementation under the SC (UNEP/POPS/COP.3/INF/8, revised 2017) and draft guidance on calculation of action plan costs, including incremental costs and action plans for specific persistent organic pollutants (UNEP/POPS/COP.4/INF/11, revised 2017) will also be applied. The socio-economic assessment will identify and describe any gender differences, gender differentiated impacts and risks, and opportunities to address gender gaps and promote the empowerment of women.

The revision of the legal framework and institutional infrastructure will follow the guide "Developing National Legal Frameworks to Implement the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants"<sup>[6]</sup> of 2011.

The draft reports will be submitted to UNEP for evaluation and revision and to the NCMs for comments and approval.

A desk review of available information on health and environmental impacts of POPs, level of information and awareness on POPs, existing programmes for monitoring POPs releases and environmental and human health impacts, and relevant activities of NGOs on POPs in Niue and Vanuatu will also be developed.

## *2.3 National capacities for new POPs management identified and priorities for new POPs risk reduction are set*

### *2.3.1 Complete prioritization of new POPs risk reduction options based on criteria, cost and benefit and inventory results*

Based on the POPs profile developed in activity 2.2.1, in consultation with the working groups and the guidance of the international consultant, the NCMs will develop criteria for prioritizing the mitigation (and where feasible, the elimination) of the health and environmental impacts of POPs. Based on these criteria, priority issues to address the management of new POPs and a set of objectives to guide preliminary country-specific activities relevant to new POPs will be developed. This step will consider and adjust, where necessary, the POPs priority areas outlined in the original NIP.

It is expected that the prioritization exercise will consider Niue's and Vanuatu's sustainable development priorities, as those identified in the National Strategic Plan (2016 to 2026)<sup>[7]</sup> of Niue and the National Sustainable Development Plan (2016 to 2030)<sup>[8]</sup> of Vanuatu. Both countries have identified the need to strengthen their technical and operational capacity for the management of waste and contaminants.

Two national priority validation workshops will be held, one in each country, to validate the proposed criteria, national objectives and priorities for POPs management. Discussions in the validation workshops will inform how the criteria and priorities are tailored to the specific needs of Niue and Vanuatu and used to draft specific action plans for the NIPs that will be prepared with estimated costs for execution, timelines and responsible agencies identified. These action plans will be the basis for developing post-NIP projects. The Draft guidance on calculation of action plan costs, including incremental costs and action plans for specific persistent organic pollutants (UNEP/POPS/COP.4/INF/11 (revised 2017))<sup>[9]</sup> will be applied.

Guidance on POPs alternatives<sup>[10]</sup>; BAT/BEP<sup>[11]</sup>; control of the import and export of POPs under the SC; and labelling of products and articles that contain POPs<sup>[12]</sup> will also be considered when relevant.

## *2.4 Updated NIPs endorsed and submitted to the SC Conference of Parties*

### *2.4.1 Draft updated and reviewed NIPs*

The international consultant will draft the updated NIPs taking into consideration the recommended NIP elements as provided in Annex 10 of the Guidance document for developing a NIP for the Stockholm Convention - "*Guidance for Developing a National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants*"<sup>[13]</sup>. The project GEF ID 9884 "*Integrated SC Toolkit to improve the transmission and information under articles 07 and 15*", implemented by UNEP and executed by the Chemicals and Health Branch, in close cooperation with the BRS Secretariat, aims at developing an electronic toolkit to support NIP updating. This toolkit may be used in this project if it's already available for use by other Parties during the timeline of the project.

The NIP drafting will build on lessons learned from the development of the original NIPs, conducted in the GEF 1756 and 1942 projects. The action plans will be the main components of the reviewed and updated NIPs in order to meet the requirements of eliminating or phasing out POPs under the SC.

The global component's international expert(s) will review and comment on the draft NIP, considering the recommendations set out in the SC and in the document. The revised NIPs will be submitted to the NCMs, UNEP and all relevant stakeholders for written comments. The circulation, with the revised draft NIP, of a questionnaire prepared by the International expert who reviewed the document, will support this process. Written comment submissions will be gathered by the PM and be considered for the final draft NIP.

#### *2.4.2 NIP endorsement by the Government for submission to the SC Conference of Parties*

A one-day endorsement workshop will be held in each country for all relevant governmental bodies and stakeholders to review and endorse the final updated NIPs. The workshop will also aim to seek high-level commitment for the early implementation of the NIP. The International Consultant will also attend the workshop for reviewing and finalizing the NIP.

The reviewed and updated NIPs will be published on the websites of the Stockholm Convention focal point for Niue and Vanuatu, SPREP, as well as various relevant government websites. The endorsed NIPs will be submitted to the SC Secretariat for transmission to the COP.

#### *2.4.3 Draft implementation project*

Considering the capacity built and awareness raised during the project implementation, and the momentum created by the NIP endorsement, the international consultant and the PM will assist Niue and Vanuatu on the development of one post-NIP project which will assist in speeding up implementation of the updated NIPs in each country.

### Component 3: Monitoring and Evaluation

Periodic monitoring will be undertaken to ensure the timely implementation of project activities. This is a joint responsibility of UN-Environment and SPREP. Any changes to the workplan will be done in accordance with the approved Project Document and [GEF document C.39/Inf.03](#).

Day-to-day project management and monitoring will be the responsibility of the Executing Agency through the PM. The project monitoring will start with the inception workshop and the development of a detailed work plan, budget and detailed monitoring and evaluation plan with key stakeholders. The Executing Agency will develop and submit to UNEP technical reports biannually and financial reports every quarter describing the progress according to the work plan and budget, identifying obstacles occurred during implementation and the remediation actions to be taken.

UNEP will monitor the project progress according to the work plan on a regular basis to provide guidance to the Executing Agency, support implementation and ensure that any obstacles pertaining to the project are addressed in a timely manner. Yearly, during the GEF PIR, UNEP will provide information about the status of the project implementation and the disbursements made. A major technical review of the draft NIP is planned and will be conducted by an international expert.

Biannual progress reports will track the project implementation progress towards the expected objectives. These reports will focus on the timelines and quality of achieved outputs; highlight issues requiring decisions and actions, and present initial lessons learned about project design, implementation and management.

Monthly calls between the Executing Agency and the Implementing Agency will be agreed upon if the project is not progressing according to the work plan.

The terminal report and final statement of accounts developed by the Executing Agency at the end of the project closes the Executing Agency monitoring activities for this project. The final financial audit will review the use of project funds against budget and assess probity of expenditure and transactions. The final audit is to be developed by an

independent audit authority (a recognized firm of public accountants or, for governments, a government auditor). The final audit is to be sent to UNEP up to six months after the technical completion of the project.

Templates for the quarterly progress and financial report, terminal report and final statement of accounts will be provided by UNEP. There is no template for the final financial audit.

An independent terminal review (TR) will take place at the end of project implementation, latest 6 months after completion of the project. An independent consultant will be responsible for the TR and liaise with the UNEP Task Manager at the Chemicals and Health Branch of the Economy Division throughout the process. The TR will provide an independent assessment of project performance (in terms of relevance, effectiveness and efficiency), and determine the likelihood of impact and sustainability. It will have two primary purposes: (i) to provide evidence of results to meet accountability requirements; and (ii) to promote learning, feedback, and knowledge sharing through results and lessons learned among UNEP and executing partners – SPREP in particular. The direct costs of the review will be charged against the project review budget. The TR report will be sent to project stakeholders for comments. Formal comments on the report will be shared by the independent consultant in an open and transparent manner. Project performance will be assessed against standard review criteria using a six-point rating scheme. The final determination of project ratings will be made by the independent consultant when the review report is finalised. The review report will be publicly disclosed and will be followed by a recommendation compliance process.

#### Expected outputs and planned activities:

##### *3.1 Status of project implementation and probity of use of funds accessed on a regular basis and communicated to the GEF.*

- 3.1.1 EA develops and submit technical and financial reports quarterly to UNEP using UNEP's templates;*
- 3.1.2 UNEP communicates project progress to the GEF yearly during the PIR using GEF's template;*
- 3.1.3 Develop and submit terminal report and final statement of accounts to UNEP at project end;*
- 3.1.4 Submit final financial audit to UNEP.*

##### *3.2 Independent terminal review developed and made publicly available.*

- 3.2.1 Independent consultant carries out the terminal review upon the request of the UNEP Task Manager and make it publicly available in the UNEP website.*

#### C.2 Institutional framework for project implementation

**Implementing Agency (IA):** This project will be implemented by UNEP and executed by SPREP. As Implementing Agency, UNEP will be responsible for the overall project supervision, overseeing the project progress through the monitoring and evaluation of project activities and progress reports, including on technical issues.

**Executing Agency (EA):** The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) will execute, manage and be responsible for the project and its activities on a day-to-day basis. It will establish the necessary managerial and technical teams to execute the project. It will search for and hire any consultants necessary for technical activities and supervise their work. It will acquire equipment and monitor the project; in addition, it will organize independent audits in order to guarantee the proper use of GEF funds. Financial transactions audits will be carried out in accordance with SPREP regulations. SPREP will provide regular administrative, progress and financial reports to UNEP.



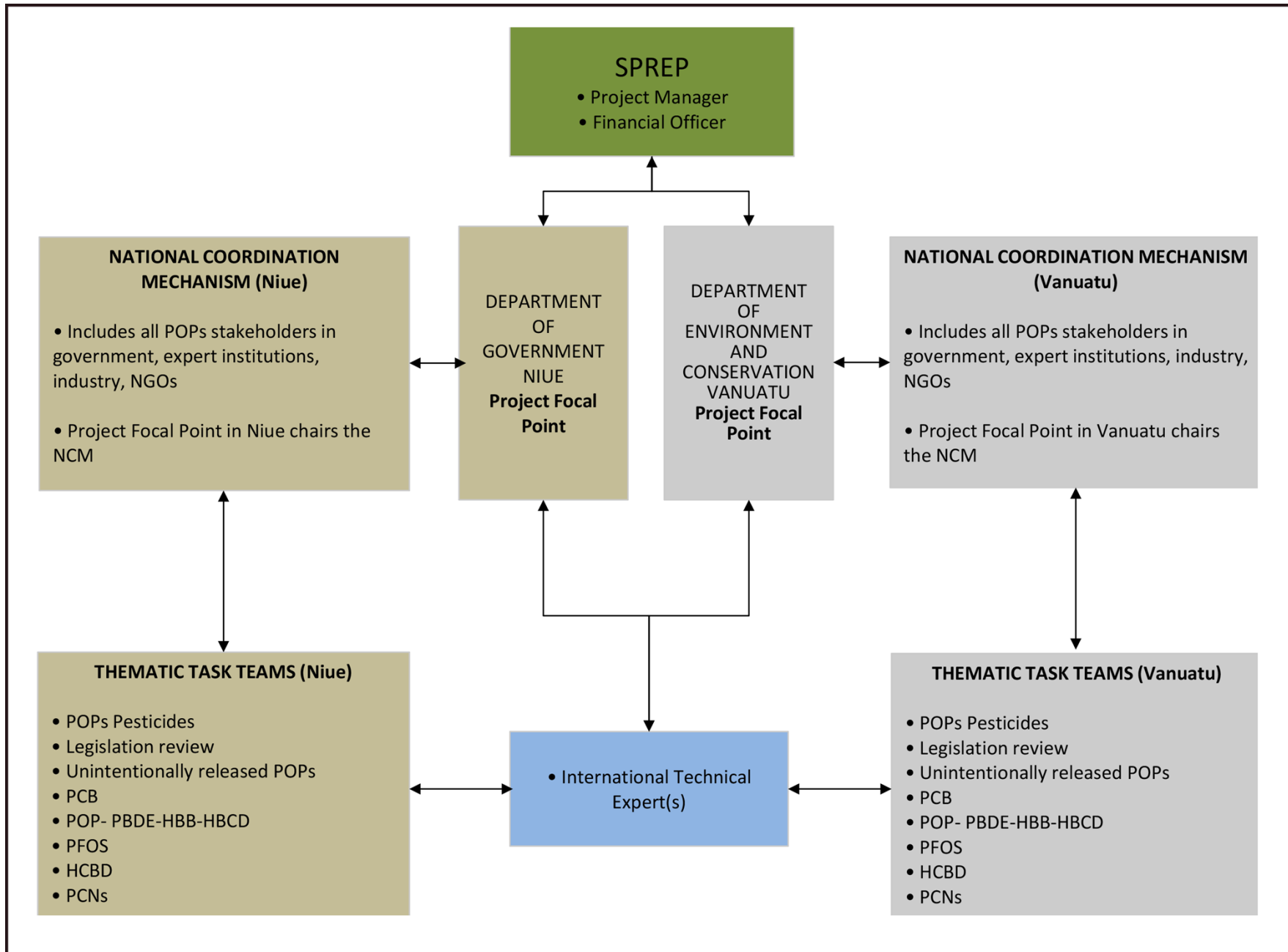
**National Coordination Mechanisms (NCMs):** The National Coordination Mechanisms established for the first NIPs will steer this project. It may be necessary however, to include additional stakeholder representatives and ministries dealing with new POPs, especially stakeholders involved in import and export of articles containing new POPs, and stakeholders from industry sectors affected by regulations on production/disposal of waste and articles containing new POPs. The ToRs for revised NCMs will be developed at the inception meetings.

**UNEP Chemicals and Health Branch:** This is the UNEP Branch in charge of working closely with governments, industry and civil society organizations around the world to develop mainstream solutions for the sound management of chemicals. The Branch has technical expertise and experience to reinforce the quality of the project outputs; the project cost-efficiency; and strengthen project sustainability. A focal point at the Branch will be available to provide ongoing technical support to Executing Agencies throughout the whole project as stated in the project component 1.

*Figure 1: Institutional framework for project implementation at the international level*



*Figure 2: Institutional framework for project implementation at the national level*



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[1] <http://informea.pops.int/NIPsRoster/index.html>

[2] <https://www.unenvironment.org/resources/synthesis-reports/nips-implementation-lessons-learned-report>

[3] <https://www.mapx.org/stockholm-pops/>

[4] MapX was developed by UNEP, the World Bank and the Global Resource Information Database (GRID-Geneva) to capitalize on the use of new digital technologies and cloud computing in the sustainable management of natural resources. One of the founding principles was to equalize information held by different stakeholders as a prerequisite to better dialogue, decision making and monitoring. <https://www.mapx.org/about/>

[5] The conduct of POPs pesticides inventories can also be guided by developed FAO technical guidance and manuals (2009-2011).

[6] <http://chm.pops.int/TheConvention/LegalMatters/LegalMattersAdditionalResources/tabid/2245/Default.aspx>

[7] <http://www.gov.nu/wb/media/NNSP%202016-2026/Ko%20e%20Tohi%20Fakatokatoka%20Gahua%20ha%20Niue%202016%20-%202026.pdf>

[8] <https://www.gov.vu/attachments/article/26/Vanuatu2030-EN-FINAL-sf.pdf>

[9] <http://chm.pops.int/Implementation/NationalImplementationPlans/Guidance/tabid/7730/Default.aspx>

[10] <http://chm.pops.int/Implementation/NationalImplementationPlans/Guidance/tabid/7730/Default.aspx>

[11] <http://chm.pops.int/Implementation/NationalImplementationPlans/Guidance/tabid/7730/Default.aspx>

[12] <http://chm.pops.int/Implementation/NationalImplementationPlans/Guidance/tabid/7730/Default.aspx>

[13] <http://chm.pops.int/Implementation/NationalImplementationPlans/Guidance/tabid/7730/Default.aspx>

#### **D. DESCRIBE, IF POSSIBLE, THE EXPECTED COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT**

EA NIP Update implementation will be supported by the currently existing capacities and expertise in Niue and Vanuatu put in place during the initial NIP development (and any post NIP projects) with support from UNEP as the GEF Implementing Agency. Cost-effectiveness will be achieved through fully utilizing the infrastructures and human resources available through SPREP, the Department of Government of Niue and the Department of Environment and Conservation of Vanuatu.

The involvement of the international experts is limited to tasks that could not be accomplished by national consultants. Suitable qualified national consultants will be identified locally. This will reinforce the national capacity to manage POPs chemicals and contribute to the cost-effectiveness of the project through reduced consultancy fees and travel expenses.

SPREP's PM and UNEP's Task Manager will ensure that only essential travel is undertaken and that where possible videoconferencing/Skype conference calls are utilized. For essential travel, SPREP will endeavour to maximize resources allocated for travel for workshops and necessary consultations by booking in advance and travelling during low season where possible.

#### **E. DESCRIBE, DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M & E PLAN**

More detailed information about project monitoring and evaluation can be consulted in the project Component 3 - monitoring and evaluation.

Table 10. Monitoring and Evaluation Budget

| M&E activity                       | Purpose   | Responsible Party                       | Budget (US\$)*1  | Time-frame  |
|------------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| National inception workshop        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness raising;</li> <li>• Build stakeholder engagement;</li> <li>• Development of Implementation Plan.</li> </ul>  | UNEP Chemicals and Health Branch, SPREP | \$7,450  | Within two (2) months of project start                          |
| Inception report                   | Provides implementation plan for progress monitoring  | SPREP                                   | \$0  | Within four weeks of the Inception Workshop                     |
| Project Supervision and Monitoring | Technical and Administrative support provided on a regular basis ensuring that the project is being carried out according to the agreed work plan and budget  | SPREP                                   | \$5,000  | Regularly   |
| Technical Progress reports         | Describes progress against annual work plan for the reporting period and provides activities planned for the next period  | SPREP                                   | \$0  | Quarterly   |
| Financial Progress reports         | Documents project expenditure according to established project budget and allocations   | SPREP                                   | \$0  | Quarterly   |
| Project Review by NCMs             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assesses progress, effectiveness of operations and technical outputs;</li> <li>• Recommends adaptation where necessary and confirms implementation plan.</li> </ul>  | SPREP                                   | Back to back with inception meeting and outputs validation workshops | Month 1 or 2, 12 (TC) and 24                                    |
| Terminal report                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviews effectiveness against implementation plan;</li> <li>• Highlights technical outputs;</li> <li>• Identifies lessons learned and likely design approaches for future projects;</li> <li>• Assesses likelihood of achieving project outcomes.</li> </ul> | SPREP                                   | \$0  | Three months after the end of project implementation (Month 27) |

|  |          |   |   |                 |   |
|--|----------|---|---|-----------------|---|
| Independent Review   | Terminal | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviews effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness of project implementation, coordination mechanism and outputs;</li> <li>• Identifies lessons learned and likely remedial actions for future projects;</li> <li>• Highlights technical achievements and assesses against prevailing benchmarks.</li> </ul> | UNEP – Economy Division,<br>Independent external consultant | 5,000           | Six months after the end of project implementation (Month 30)   |
| Independent Financial Audit                                |          | Reviews use of project funds against budget and assesses probity of expenditure and transactions.   | SPREP   | \$0             | Three months after the end of project implementation (Month 27) |
| <b>Total indicative Monitoring &amp; Evaluation cost*1</b> |          |   |   | <b>\$17,450</b> |   |

**F. EXPLAIN THE DEVIATIONS FROM TYPICAL COST RANGES (WHERE APPLICABLE)**

n/a

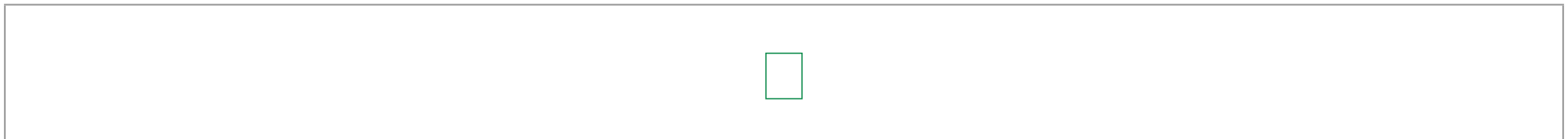
**Part III: Approval/Endorsement By GEF Operational Focal Point(S) And Gef Agency(ies)**

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

| <b>Focal Point Name</b> | <b>Focal Point Title</b> | <b>Ministry</b>  | <b>Signed Date</b> |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Mr. Haden Talagi        | Director                 | Department of Environment                                      | 10/29/2019         |
| Ms. Donna Kalfatak      | Director                 | Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation (DEPC) | 10/29/2019         |

**B. Convention Participation**

| <b>Convention</b>    | <b>Date of Ratification/Accession</b> | <b>National Focal Point</b> |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Stockholm Convention | 9/2/2005                              | Mr. Sauni Tongatule         |
| Stockholm Convention | 9/16/2005                             | Ms. Donna Kalfatak          |



Submitted to GEF Secretariat Review

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