PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

Project ID:	10959
Project Name:	Strengthening national-level institutional and professional capacities of country Parties towards enhanced UNCCD monitoring and reporting – GEF 7 EA Umbrella III
Countr(ies):	Global, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eswatini, Guyana, Honduras, Kenya, Kyrgyz Republic, Mali, Mexico, Moldova, Morocco, Palau, Paraguay, Philippines, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Togo
Implementing Agency:	UNEP

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I. Overview

A. Description

Project name
Strengthening national-level institutional and professional capacities of country Parties towards enhanced UNCCD monitoring and reporting – GEF 7 EA Umbrella III

Country
Global, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eswatini, Guyana, Honduras, Kenya, Kyrgyz Republic, Mali, Mexico, Moldova, Morocco, Palau, Paraguay, Philippines, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Togo

GEF ID	Implementing Agency
10959	UNEP

Executing Entity
The Global Mechanism, UNCCD Secretariat and Others

Trust Fund	Project Type
GET	EA

PIR Submission	Fiscal Year , PIR Number
9/11/2026	FY 2026 , 4th PIR

Objective
To enhance national-level institutional and technical capacities for the 2021-2022 UNCCD reporting process in the context of the UNCCD Strategic Framework 2018-2030 and SDG15.3

B. Ratings and Disbursements

Implementation Progress	Development Objective
Satisfactory	Satisfactory

Overall risk
Low Risk

Project Financing	Cumulative Disbursement
2,140,000.00	1,552,508.00

C. Key Dates

CEO Endorsement/Approval	Agency Approval
5/6/2022	8/2/2022
Implementation Start	First Disbursement
10/6/2022	10/6/2022
Expected MTR	Actual MTR
Expected Completion	Actual Completion
12/31/2027	

II. PROGRESS STATUS AND ISSUES

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

16 out of 20 Countries from Umbrella III signed agreements with UNEP, received their cash advances and had completed their project activities. 16 Countries had concluded their 2022 UNCCD National Reporting activities before or during the reporting period. Financial closure of these technically completed projects is completed. 4 Countries, Palau, Morocco, Mali and Kenya which didn't sign agreements to commence project activities due to different reasons, primarily lack of project initiation documentation from the Country, but they have indicated their intention to still access the 2022 UNCCD National Reporting funds to support their 2026 and future reporting activities.

Rating towards outcomes: The rating is S because the enabling activities under this umbrella project have supported the UNCCD Country parties to submit their National Reports to the UNCCD. The project availed resources to the participating Country Parties enabling them by providing funds to support their 2022 UNCCD National Reporting activities. There were challenges experienced by Country parties waiting for the UNCCD Secretariat to confirm the reporting deadline before availing the required documents. This caused delays in some Countries' access to the funds, but ultimately national reports were submitted to the UNCCD Secretariat.

Several Country Parties encountered delays after opting to await formal confirmation of the reporting deadline from the UNCCD Secretariat before submitting the documentation required to access project funds. This challenge was compounded by the compressed timeline between project approval and the reporting deadline, a period of only seven months, which placed considerable pressure on the preparation of legal agreements, the disbursement of funds, and the drafting of national reports. As a result, several countries experienced delays in accessing project funds. Nonetheless, through frequent engagement with national focal points and the provision of targeted guidance by UNEP, the 2022 national reports were ultimately prepared and successfully submitted to the UNCCD Secretariat within the project framework.

All 16 enabling activity projects are technically completed. 4 Countries, Palau, Morocco, Mali and Kenya are yet to commence activities.

Rating towards outputs: S, 16 out of 20 Country parties compiled and submitted their 2022 UNCCD National Reporting projects. 4 countries yet to submit their project initiation documents due to administrative challenges on their respective ends.

Overall risk rating: L The risk rating is Low. 16 out of 20 Countries accessed the resources and delivered their 2022 UNCCD National Report.

B. Challenges: Information on challenges of project implementation activities

Several Country Parties encountered delays after opting to await formal confirmation of the reporting deadline from the UNCCD Secretariat before submitting the documentation required to access project funds. This challenge was compounded by the compressed timeline between project approval and the reporting deadline, a period of only seven months, which placed considerable pressure on the preparation of legal agreements, the disbursement of funds, and the drafting of national reports. As a result, several countries experienced delays in accessing project funds. Nonetheless, through frequent engagement with national focal points and the provision of targeted guidance by UNEP, the 2022 national reports were ultimately prepared and successfully submitted to the UNCCD Secretariat within the project framework.

C. Stakeholder Engagement

Some Country Parties experienced delays after choosing to await formal confirmation of the reporting deadline from the UNCCD Secretariat before submitting the documentation required to access project funds. This, in turn, delayed access to funds for a number of countries. Nonetheless, through frequent engagement with national focal points and the provision of targeted guidance, UNEP supported the successful preparation and submission of the 2022 national reports to the UNCCD Secretariat under the project.

D. Gender Equality

The Country Parties reported to the UNCCD Secretariat using gender-disaggregated data as required. Progress on environmental and social safeguard-responsive measures during the reporting period has been supported through the project's broader emphasis on inclusive and participatory national reporting processes, including the reinforcement of stakeholder participation and the integration of gender considerations across national reporting activities.

E. Knowledge Management

The Country Parties were provided with data acquired from different sources that were processed and made available to the Parties as default data on the PRAIS portal. The reporting platform, reporting tools, and guidelines for reporting were made accessible to all Country Parties. The Country parties also have access to UNCCD e-learning courses and online tutorial videos guiding the reporting process through the UNCCD Knowledge Hub.

III: Minor Amendments

CONTEXT	
Result Framework	
Components and Cost	
Institutional And Implementation Arrangements	During the implementation year, the project was extended to provide an opportunity to enable access to project resources by the 4 Countries, Palau, Morocco, Mali, and Kenya that did not access nor utilize the 2022 Enabling Activities funding for the preparation of their National Reports. The Country Parties have formally expressed their intention to access the

	available funds to supplement their respective 2026 UNCCD National Reporting activities.
Financial Management	
Implementation Schedule	
Executing Entity	
Executing Entity Category	
Minor Project Objective Change	
Safeguards	
Risk Analysis	
Increase of GEF Financing up to 5%	
Co-Financing	
Location of Project Activity	
others	

IV: Geographic Coordinates of Project Activities

V. ANNEX

Uploaded Document