

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

Project ID:	10279
Project Name:	ISLANDS - Caribbean Child Project
Countr(ies):	Regional, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Suriname, St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago, Latin America and Caribbean
Implementing Agency:	UNEP

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I. Overview

A. Description

Project name

ISLANDS - Caribbean Child Project

Country

Regional, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Suriname, St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago, Latin America and Caribbean

GEF ID

10279

Implementing Agency

UNEP

Executing Entity

BCRC Caribbean

Trust Fund

GET

Project Type

FSP

PIR Submission

9/9/2026

Fiscal Year , PIR Number

FY 2026 , 5th PIR

Objective

To prevent the build-up of materials and chemicals in the environment that contain POPs and Mercury and other harmful chemicals in SIDS, and to manage and dispose of existing harmful chemicals and materials in SIDS

B. Ratings and Disbursements

Implementation Progress

Moderately Satisfactory

Development Objective

Moderately Satisfactory

Overall risk

Low Risk

Project Financing

11,990,000.00

Cumulative Disbursement

5,309,618.00

C. Key Dates

CEO Endorsement/Approval

5/28/2021

Agency Approval

6/14/2021

Implementation Start 7/21/2021	First Disbursement 8/25/2021
Expected MTR 3/3/2026	Actual MTR 7/29/2025
Expected Completion 12/31/2026	Actual Completion

II. PROGRESS STATUS AND ISSUES

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

The ISLANDS Caribbean Project is on its fifth year of implementation. As of June 2026, the expenditure has been \$5,267,433, accounting for 48% of the total budget. The mid-term review (MTR) of the project was conducted during the reporting period. The MTR recommended to request a 24 month no-cost extension along with a budget revision (inclusive of funds reallocation between components) and an updated workplan, to revise the budget and workplan accordingly, to prioritise and cluster activities, and drop low-impact tasks to focus on essential outputs and pilots. Therefore, an extension request to December 2028 is in preparation.

The ISLANDS Child Project is being executed synergistically with the GEF 10472 Child Project due to the similarities across the components and many of the activities of both projects. The first project activity commenced in Q1 2023 and during this reporting period, activities under two (2) of the project's 12 outputs were completed, activities under nine (9) of the outputs continued and preparations for the final output to be initiated (Output 1.5) continued.

Component 1 Preventing the Future Build-Up of Chemicals Entering SIDS. During this reporting period, Output 1.1 was completed, with the final regional model policy, final model legislation (covering e-waste, ELVs, mercury-added products and plastic pollution), nine (9) final national strategies and roadmaps and nine (9) final national legislative assessment reports being shared with the project countries. Under Output 1.2, two (2) consulting teams were engaged to develop (i) a training programme on Chemical and Waste MEAs and (ii) a training course on how to train trainers. Additionally, work to develop an Effect-Cause-Action Global (ECA-G) tool for Highly Hazardous Pesticides in the Caribbean continued and the Digital Learning Hub was launched in October 2025. Thus far, there are two (2) courses on the Hub and work on the remaining four (4) courses was initiated. Under Output 1.3, the activities to improve the capacity of customs and border control agencies to identify trade in restricted and prohibited hazardous chemicals, products containing chemicals continued with a regional training being held in January 2026. Planning for the execution of a pilot exercise in Guyana also began. Work to develop a formal mechanism for inter-institutional collaboration and communication amongst relevant agencies, such as Customs and regulatory bodies, was initiated as well. Under Output 1.4, the original project scope was completed and an additional activity to translate the two (2) voluntary CARICOM Regional Standards to Spanish was initiated and completed. Under Output 1.5, the work to develop an e-book of the bio-pesticides registration manual was initiated and the consultancy to train and build capacity on Consumer Risk Assessment for Maximum Residue Limits was also initiated. Also under this Output, the BCRC-Caribbean initiated work to support the completion of the FAO and UNEP activities focusing on sustainable procurement; delays were faced in the consultant procurement process.

Component 2 Safe Management and Disposal of Existing Chemicals, products and materials. Under Output 2.1, the identification of stockpiles activity was completed with the development of a TOR to support the disposal of prioritised stockpiles. Under Output 2.1, work to complete the FAO activity to develop a Pesticide Stock Management System Application was initiated with the engagement of a consulting team and Activity 2.1.3 was completed with the finalisation of UPOPs awareness raising materials, the communication strategy and the app, which will be piloted in Belize in the latter half of 2026. Under Output 2.2, the FAO activity on Empty Pesticide Container Management was initiated with the engagement of a consulting team and the activity to support

the management of hazardous waste streams including construction and demolition, post-disaster, medical and tourism was initiated with progress being made over the reporting period.

Component 3 Safe management of products entering SIDS/closing material and product loops for products. Under Output 3.1, the activity involving the assessment and feasibility study for E-waste management in the Caribbean region was completed. Based on country feedback, it was determined that the remaining activities would not be completed. Output 3.2 was completed; however, we are still awaiting the submission of the final assessment reports by the consultant. Under Output 3.3, work to initiate the execution of the pilot project to improve plastic waste management continued with the pilot design plan being further updated and a TOR to engage on-the-ground support being developed. Additionally, work on the PVC waste activity continued with the regional material flow assessment and the national model strategy for PVC waste management being finalised.

Component 4 Knowledge Management and Communication. Materials to support some ongoing activities were developed and a consulting team was engaged to support the expansion of the Chemicals and Waste Awareness raising campaign. Work with the Communication, Coordination and Knowledge Management Project (GEF 10266) also continued.

B. Challenges: Information on challenges of project implementation activities

Challenges around project implementation included:

- Delayed procurement of consultants for some activities. In some instances, no bids were received necessitating the revision of terms of references followed by their subsequent re-advertisement with extended submission deadlines. In some instances, the bids that were received were found to be technically unsound. There have also been issues with the slow approval of identified bidders under some of the FAO activities to ensure that the best suited consultant is engaged. The review and finalisation of terms of references for some activities has also taken more time than initially anticipated, resulting in extended procurement processes.
- Delayed submission of deliverables by consultants has slowed some project activities. Extended review periods for deliverables by project countries have, in turn, led to delays under some activities.
- The loss of representatives on the National Working Groups who support project execution and the resignation of National Project Assistants in some of the project countries.
- The review and revision of the project timeline, workplan and budget based on the recommendations of the project's mid-term review. The process to collect country feedback, revise the workplan and budget and receive endorsement from all the project countries took more time than initially anticipated. This process also impacted the finalisation of the disposal activity terms of reference as the expanded scope of what waste would be included had to be approved by the project countries.

C. Stakeholder Engagement

During the reporting period, progress was made in advancing stakeholder engagement across national, regional, and sub-regional levels to ensure meaningful participation, alignment with project objectives, and long-term sustainability.

Coordination Meetings and Consultations

- Virtual Meetings with National Working Groups (NWGs) were held on a bimonthly or quarterly basis to support implementation coordination, progress tracking, and planning.
- A joint Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting for the three (3) Caribbean projects under the ISLANDS Programme took place from November 18 to 20, 2025. During the first two (2) days of the meeting, the discussions focused on the execution of the GEF 10279 and 10472 projects, the results of their mid-terms reviews and what was next for the projects. This meeting took place in Trinidad and Tobago; eight (8) of the project countries were able to attend the PSC.

At the end of this meeting, the proposed 2026 workplan and budget for the GEF 10279 and 10472 projects were not endorsed leading to the need to host an Ad Hoc PSC meeting.

- To prepare for the Ad Hoc PSC meeting, several country consultations were held in January 2026 to discuss alternative scenarios for the implementation of GEF 10279 and 10472. The information gathered during those consultations was then used to refine the projects' workplan considering the proposed project extension and to revise the budgets. These revised documents were shared for endorsement in April 2026 and endorsement from all nine (9) project countries was eventually received.
- Coordination calls were held with the CCKM team under the GEF 10266 Global Child Project, supporting knowledge sharing and cross-component coherence.
- Monthly coordination calls with UNEP and FAO were also held to review of project activities and progress.

National and Regional Stakeholder Engagement

- NWGs were updated and mobilized in most project countries with the support of national focal points and national project assistants.
- National stakeholder missions were conducted to facilitate participatory data collection, build trust, and reinforce ownership of project activities.
- Engagements with regional, sub-regional and international institutions included:
 - The CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ)
 - The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus, Trinidad and Tobago
 - Coordinating Group of Pesticides Control Boards of the Caribbean
 - Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency
 - United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) who supported with the development of a regional model legislation to support GHS implementation in the Caribbean

Private Sector Engagement

- Engagement efforts were undertaken with private sector stakeholders to enhance cross-sectoral collaboration. This included meetings with:
 - Amber Cove Cruise Port, in the Dominican Republic, under Activity 3.3.1, to support the development of sustainable plastic waste management solutions in the national cruise ship sector.

Capacity Building and Knowledge Dissemination

- Missions with stakeholder consultations and National Validation and Endorsement Workshops were implemented under Output 2.2 across most of the nine (9) project countries to gather data and support the validation of findings.
- Workshops and country consultations were conducted under several project components to disseminate findings and validate national and regional data collected by different consulting teams. Such events occurred under Activity 3.1.1 with the Regional Validation Workshop and under Activity 3.3.2 where national consultations were held to support the finalisation of the model national strategy for the management of PVC waste.
- Training workshops were also held to build capacity among the project countries. Such workshops were held under Output 1.3 for Customs and Border Control Agencies and under Activity 2.1.3 to (i) train Belize on the use of the UPOPs awareness raising app and (ii) train on the project countries on the use of the communication materials. Training sessions were also held in June 2026 under Output 1.2 to prepare regional stakeholders for the training workshop on Chemical and Waste MEAs.
- Under Output 1.2, a regional training and multiple national trainings were undertaken to teach stakeholders how to use the ECA-G tool that was developed for the management of highly hazardous pesticides.
- Also under Output 1.2, trainings on using the digital learning hub were held. Several activities were also completed to raise regional awareness of the hub and what it can offer. These activities included the development and dissemination of a quarterly newsletter and a WhatsApp competition amongst the project countries.

D. Gender Equality

The project continued to demonstrate a strong commitment to gender equality and inclusivity during the reporting period, embedding gender considerations across planning, implementation, and stakeholder engagement processes.

Key progress in gender mainstreaming continued to include:

- **Balanced Representation in NWGs:** The formulation and composition of NWGs across project countries actively prioritized gender balance. Efforts were made to ensure that both women and men were equitably represented thereby fostering inclusive dialogue and participation in national implementation processes. The guidance document on the development of the NWGs was also updated ahead of the PSC Meeting held in November 2025 and reminded project countries to aim to have at least 40% of the NWG members be women.
- **Integration of Gender Criteria in Procurement Processes:** All Terms of Reference issued during the reporting period included gender mainstreaming requirements, encouraging consultants and firms to assemble gender-diverse teams, demonstrate an understanding of gender dynamics in relevant project contexts, and outline practical strategies for maintaining gender equality throughout implementation.
- **Institutionalizing Gender Considerations Across Activities:** Gender sensitivity and inclusivity were consistently reinforced during project planning and consultations. Wherever possible, facilitators and moderators of workshops and national stakeholder meetings promoted equal opportunities for participation, voice, and influence.

In collaboration with the ISLANDS Coordination, Communication and Knowledge Management (CCKM) project's Gender Specialist, work is underway to review and update the project's gender action plan, indicators/targets and reporting. This is to ensure gender disaggregated data is available throughout project components and gender is mainstreamed across the GEF ISLANDS programme.

E. Knowledge Management

Under Component 4, a new Communications Officer was engaged to support the creation of communication and knowledge products. Additionally, a consulting team was engaged to support the development of the regional communications campaign and communication materials that will support the dissemination of the project findings and assist behavioural change activities.

During the reporting period, under the Digital Learning Hub activity of Output 1.2, several knowledge products were created to support the use of the hub as well as raise awareness about the hub. These products include flash cards and two (2) quarterly newsletters.

Additionally, two (2) webinars were hosted to share information about project activities with regional stakeholders. The first webinar was hosted in collaboration with UNITAR and the ISLANDS CCKM project team and focused on the work completed under Output 1.4 on GHS. The second workshop was hosted to share details on the developed ECA-G tool to support the management of highly hazardous pesticides in the region. This workshop was done in collaboration with the ECA-G tool consulting team from the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus, Trinidad and Tobago and the Coordinating Group of Pesticides Control Boards of the Caribbean.

Other knowledge activities would have included a variety of validation workshops, where consulting teams would have shared the work completed to support its validation by the project countries. Reports detailing the work as well as workshop reports would have also been completed and can be considered knowledge products. Such workshops include the national validation workshops under Activity 3.1.1 where the national assessment reports would have been validated by the project countries. Additionally, a few regional training workshops were held to support build capacity of the region on topics such as the ECA-G tool and the identification of trade in restricted and prohibited hazardous chemicals, products containing chemicals. Reports detailing these trainings as well as their presentations delivered would also be knowledge products.

III: Minor Amendments

CONTEXT	
Result Framework	
Components and Cost	
Institutional And Implementation Arrangements	
Financial Management	
Implementation Schedule	As per the MTR recommendation, an extension to 2028 has been requested by the Executing Agency and is under processing.
Executing Entity	
Executing Entity Category	
Minor Project Objective Change	
Safeguards	
Risk Analysis	
Increase of GEF Financing up to 5%	
Co-Financing	
Location of Project Activity	
others	

IV: Geographic Coordinates of Project Activities

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Wills Recycling, Antigua and Barbuda	17.11451543	-61.86165066	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Output 2.2 - Hazardous Waste Management - Site visit to assess waste management practices

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Mount St. John's Medical Centre, Antigua and Barbuda	17.11735827	-61.83792373	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Output 2.2 - Hazardous Waste Management - Site visit to assess waste management practices

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Caribbean Tires, Belmopan, Belize	17.255168	-88.78496740	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Output 2.2 - Hazardous Waste Management - Site visit to assess waste management practices

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Shipyard, Orange Walk, Belize	17.895097	-88.676234	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Output 2.2 - Hazardous Waste Management - Site visit to assess waste management practices

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Belize Waste Control Limited	17.488709878	-88.239537	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Output 2.2 - Hazardous Waste Management - Site visit to assess waste management practices

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Edison Ship Supply, Dominican Republic	18.42707165	-70.02143425	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Output 2.2 - Hazardous Waste Management - Site visit to assess waste management practices

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Dr. Luis Eduardo Aybar Health City, Dominican Republic	18.49375803	-69.88914746	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Output 2.2 - Hazardous Waste Management - Site visit to assess waste management practices

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Agrotel, S.R.L, Dominican Republic	19.34507663	-70.59545832	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Output 2.2 - Hazardous Waste Management - Site visit to assess waste management practices

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Buckleys Estate, St. Kitts	17.29748448	-62.7378401	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Output 2.2 - Hazardous Waste Management - Site visit to assess waste management practices

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Admiral's (2008) Limited, St. Kitts	17.30619404	-62.71530521	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Output 2.2 - Hazardous Waste Management - Site visit to assess waste management practices

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Long Point Landfill, Nevis	17.11732655	-62.62153384	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Output 2.2 - Hazardous Waste Management - Site visit to assess waste management practices

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Port Castries, Saint Lucia	14.01411	-60.99905	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Output 2.2 - Hazardous Waste Management - Site visit to assess waste management practices

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Rodney Bay Marina, Saint Lucia	14.07583466	-60.94797805	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Output 2.2 - Hazardous Waste Management - Site visit to assess waste management practices

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
COBO Holding N.V., Suriname	5.841984783	-55.16606087	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Output 2.2 - Hazardous Waste Management - Site visit to assess waste management practices

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Oil Mop Environmental Services, Trinidad	10.23662083	-61.63388685	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Output 2.2 - Hazardous Waste Management - Site visit to assess waste management practices

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID

San Fernando General Hospital, Trinidad	10.27918556	-61.46816886	
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Location Description:

Activity Description:

Output 2.2 - Hazardous Waste Management - Site visit to assess waste management practices

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Studley Park Landfill, Tobago	11.19716608	-60.66342134	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Output 2.2 - Hazardous Waste Management - Site visit to assess waste management practices

V. ANNEX

Uploaded Document

Document Category M and E Document	Title 10279_PIR_UNEP_FAO_2026
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