PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

Project ID:	9080
Project Name:	Integrated Health and Environment Observatories and Legal and Institutional Strengthening for the Sound Management of Chemicals in Africa (African ChemObs)
Countr(ies):	Regional, Ethiopia, Gabon, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Senegal, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Implementing Agency:	UNEP

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I. Overview

A. Description

Project name
Integrated Health and Environment Observatories and Legal and Institutional Strengthening for the Sound Management of Chemicals in Africa (African ChemObs)

Country
Regional, Ethiopia, Gabon, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Senegal, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

GEF ID	Implementing Agency
9080	UNEP

Executing Entity
WHO Afro and African Institute

Trust Fund	Project Type
GET	FSP

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

Objective
To contribute to improved health and environment through strengthening national and regional institutions, and implementing priority chemicals and waste related interventions

B. Ratings and Disbursements

Implementation Progress	Development Objective
Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory

Overall risk
Moderate Risk

Project Financing	Cumulative Disbursement
11,445,000.00	9,548,033.00

C. Key Dates

CEO Endorsement/Approval	Agency Approval
4/4/2017	4/27/2017

Implementation Start 6/21/2017	First Disbursement 9/18/2017
Expected MTR 3/1/2021	Actual MTR 3/1/2021
Expected Completion 3/31/2027	Actual Completion

II. PROGRESS STATUS AND ISSUES

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

The ChemObs Project in Ethiopia includes a major component for the safeguarding and environmentally sound international disposal of obsolete DDT and DDT-contaminated materials, with significant progress achieved. At Adami Tulu (Phase One), the planned target of safeguarding and disposing of 471 tonnes of obsolete DDT and contaminated materials has been fully achieved. At Adama City (Phase Two), implementation is well advanced, with substantial quantities safeguarded and an initial volume already exported for environmentally sound disposal. By the end of the period, the project has managed to safeguard 703 tons of the DDT of which 537 tons has been disposed. All exported waste has been disposed of in Spain through an internationally licensed disposal company (Veolia), following environmentally sound management practices. Expenditure for this part of the project during the period was $743,616.The environmental monitoring was conducted in line with the approved Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and Health, Safety, and Environment (HSE) Plan. The air quality monitoring focused on potential exposure risks associated with safeguarding and handling activities at both sites were done. The final air monitoring rounds will be conducted after the completion of the activities.In Zimbabwe, phase II hard interventions focus on obsolete chemicals and pesticides held in stores, farms, research stations, training institutions, warehouses and agro-industrial facilities. The obsolete pesticides chemical verification exercise undertaken by ChemObs project, confirmed a substantial stock of obsolete chemicals and pesticides, comprising 211 known products and 44 unknown substances, with recorded quantities exceeding 11,215 litres of liquids and 14,078 kilograms of solids. Safeguarding of this material is planned for early in the next period. The findings showed that many stocks were being kept under poor storage and security conditions, with some containers already leaking or deteriorating. These conditions created clear risks of worker exposure, community exposure, soil contamination and pollution of nearby water resources. Obsolete pesticides and related chemicals can remain hazardous long after expiry, withdrawal from use or loss of usefulness. Risk increases when containers deteriorate, labels are lost, products are mixed without segregation, stores lack ventilation, or there is no secondary containment. These conditions can expose workers and surrounding communities through skin contact, inhalation, accidental ingestion, contaminated surfaces, soil contamination and water pollution. The hard intervention phase in Zimbabwe seeks to structurally safeguard these obsolete pesticides. Through the ChemObs project, the obsolete chemicals are moved from dispersed and often poorly controlled conditions into a safer, documented and traceable system. This had involved technical planning, risk assessment, procurement of suitable equipment, training, field collection, repackaging, labelling, transport and temporary storage. All these activities were conducted during this reporting report. To date Zimbabwe is at the 90% completion with regard to the safeguarding. Expenditure for Africa Institute for the period was $214,209 which relates to supporting DDT safeguarding activities and environmental monitoring in Ethiopia and supporting pesticide safeguarding activities in Zimbabwe.

B. Challenges: Information on challenges of project implementation activities

Under Component 3, four out of six hard interventions have been completed (in Mali, Kenya, Gabon and Tanzania) and activities are still on-going in Ethiopia and Zimbabwe. The Global Environmental Benefit for the project expected is 1350 mt of POPs under Core Indicator 9.1. However various challenges encountered during the project including insufficient budget and delayed implementation will mean that only 618 mt of POPS will be dealt with. More specifically challenges that affect the implementation of the DDT disposal component in Ethiopia are the following: Delays in securing Basel Notifications from competent authorities in the waste-generating, receiving, and transit countries. Global shipping disruptions, especially due to instability in the Middle East, affecting the availability and reliability of hazardous waste shipping services. Insufficient time and budget to deal with remaining stocks of DDT spread across Ethiopia (not in Adama City and Adami Tullu as part of phases I and II).

C. Stakeholder Engagement

ChemObs Project continue to receive the support from the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Health and Child Cares, Environmental Management Agencies, Ministry of Mining, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Climate Change and Tourism, Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Forestry, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Deputy President and other different stakeholders involved in chemical management in all the project countries. In Ethiopia, Environmental Protection Agency and Ministry of Health were instrumental in terms of heading the disposal activities especially for having the country meet their co-financing obligation. These stakeholders play important role specifically on guiding the activities of the project. These stakeholders continue to play the critical role in the national Project Steering Committee, overseeing the project implementation. The project extended some of the stakeholders to form part of the Project Management Unit which meet biweekly to oversee the day-to-day implementation of the project activities.

D. Gender Equality

The gender issues continued to be on the top of the agenda during the implementation of the project activities during this reporting period. The total number of 45% of women are taking part in the safeguarding of the obsolete pesticides in Zimbabwe. These women were extensively trained in preparation to the chemObs project activities. The project continued to cover the key areas and provided the participating countries with an interactive space to strengthen their understanding of the interplay between sex, gender, and exposure to Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) while highlighting potential entry points for gender mainstreaming into the implementation of the ChemObs project. The project was used to further assess capacities, lessons learned, and key challenges for gender mainstreaming in the area of chemicals and waste management faced by POPs practitioners and decision-makers working on the implementation of the project. The implementation of the ChemObs project continues to shed some light on the current knowledge, attitudes, and practices associated with the mainstreaming of gender consideration into the project under the Stockholm Convention, with a special focus on African countries. The focus of the reporting period was on the hard intervention activities in Ethiopia and Zimbabwe. The Executing Agency continue to advise project countries to ensure that a great amount of consideration should be given to gender mainstreaming in all the activities of the project and this included stakeholder engagements. This process significantly contributed to achieving gender equality and enhancing the overall effectiveness and sustainability of projects and programs. The gender mainstreaming that was developed under this project continued to be implemented.

E. Knowledge Management

The safeguarding of DDT in Ethiopia and the safeguarding of obsolete pesticides in Zimbabwe were well managed through the rigorous Safety, Health and Environment plans developed for these activities. These plans were used during the safeguarding, transporting and disposing of organochlorine pesticide DDT and obsolete pesticide in these countries. These countries have no

national disposal options available and therefore all waste is being exported. The safeguarding processes continue to follow environmental management planning and in line with the implementation of an HSE plan by the contractor

III: Minor Amendments

CONTEXT	
Result Framework	
Components and Cost	
Institutional And Implementation Arrangements	
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

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Adami Tullu Store	7.866664	38.699997	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Gabon	0.4162	9.4673	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Madagascar	-18.8792	47.5079	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Mali	12.6392	-8.0029	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Tanzania, Arusha	-3.386925	34.892483	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Kitengela Sub location, Ildamat Location, Kajiado Central Sub – County, Kajiado, Nairobi Kenya	-1.452411	36.956019	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Adama City	8.527534	39.281758	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Nairobi Kenya	-1.28333	36.81667	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Kajiado Kenya	-1.321360	36.837155	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Ildamat Location	0.9596600	36.0772300	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Tanzania Vikuge	-6.780610	38.862200	

Location Description:

Contaminated site

Activity Description:

V. ANNEX

Uploaded Document

Document Category	Title
M and E Document	9080_PIR_UNEP_2026-September-10 ver1