2020

Project Implementation Review (PIR)

Stage II PCB Management Plan in Mexico

A. Basic Data

Project Information	
UNDP PIMS ID	5479
GEF ID	9214
Title	Environmentally Sound Management and Destruction of PCBs in Mexico: Second Phase
Country(ies)	Mexico, Mexico
UNDP-GEF Technical Team	Chemicals
Project Implementing Partner	Government
Joint Agencies	*(not set or not applicable)*
Project Type	Full Size

Project Description
(not set or not applicable)

Project Contacts	
UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Adviser	Mr. Kasper Koefoed-Hansen (kasper.koefoed@undp.org)
Programme Associate	Mr. Christopher Hawkins (christopher.hawkins@undp.org)
Project Manager	Mr. Ives Gómez (ives.gomez@undp.org)
CO Focal Point	Edgar González
GEF Operational Focal Point	*(not set or not applicable)*
Project Implementing Partner	Mr. Ricardo Ortiz (ricardo.ortiz@semarnat.gob.mx)
Other Partners	*(not set or not applicable)*

B. Overall Ratings

Overall DO Rating	Moderately Unsatisfactory
Overall IP Rating	Moderately Unsatisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	Substantial

C. Development Progress

Description
Objective **Minimize the risk of exposure from PCBs to humans and the environment, while promoting Mexico´s timely compliance with the Stockholm Convention requirements for PCB management, including convention decommissioning and destruction provisions. The project will eliminate 5,000 MT of PCB containing equipment**

Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2019	Cumulative progress since project start
Metric Ton of PCBs containing equipment eliminated	PCBs inventory (2015), total of 32,000 Mt of PCB contaminated equipment estimated from feasibility study (Phase 1)	2,000	5,000	*(not set or not applicable)*	Mexico has eliminated 68.5 MT of PCBs containing equipment in the period of this report. Based on the experience of the first stage of PCBs, the Project decided to carry out networking activities for resuming the contact and collaboration with the most critical stakeholders such as the Federal Electricity Commission (CFE). This institution shared information on the material flow balance of PCBs eliminated from 2015 to 2018 about 344.4 tons and in 2019, 68.5 tons of PCBs. The current inventory of CFE is around 100 tons that are in operation, and the Project seeks for an agreement to sample approximately 500 transformers that are in their warehouses for maintenance, to identify and

					eliminate any risks to their personnel and optimize resources. Additionally, the PCU follows a strategy of inviting diverse key actors according to the number of people that may be affected, the country's energy balance, size and distribution to obtain an inventory of their equipment, which will be sampled and, if necessary, treated or disposed of them. In this context, to ratify the inventory made in the first phase and find contaminated equipment for treatment or disposal into sensitive and industrial sites, the PCU signed Letters of Intent with the following institutions: • National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM, October 8, 2019) Metropolitan Autonomous University (UAM, October 11, 2019) • Secretariat of Sustainable Development of the State of Querétaro and the Municipality of Querétaro (October 14, 2019) • Secretariat of Environment and Territorial Development of Jalisco (November 27, 2019). • Secretariat of Sustainable Economy and Tourism and the Undersecretary of Sustainable

					Development of the State of Baja California (February 14, 2020). • Colegio Nacional de Educación Profesional Técnica (CONALEP) (14 de julio de 2020). A preliminary work program for sampling and possible elimination was agreed upon with all them. Elimination of PCBs materials is to be achieved by direct application of the Integrated Services Management System (ISMS). Methodology will be that designed and implemented during the First Stage of the Project: PCBs equipment holders will be identified (initially through the inventory stage update) and then through the promotion operations and from an inspection campaign. The Project intends to begin the inventory ratification in the third quarter of the year, and the disposal of contaminated equipment will start in late 2020, through an LTA. The PCU plans to have TORs in revision and published in August. This activity will be for a first batch to destroy 500 ton and launch the LTA. The initial PCBs equipment holders will be identified in September from

					Inventory, and subsequent holders are going to be identified through the Integrated Services Management System (ISMS) promotion operations and by the inspection campaign.
# of project direct beneficiaries: workers in electrical maintenance facilities and sensitive sites users. 200 facilities X 5 people = 1,000 (direct potential contact) + 500 transformers X 1,000 people = 500,000 (potential contact)	0	150,000	501,000	*(not set or not applicable)*	The Project has not yet determined the number of workers in electrical maintenance facilities. In the case of sensitive sites users from Universities and education institutions already reached, the PCU could infer that the student population of 3 institutions comprises 470,000 people for potential contact beneficiaries. This quantity means in a disaggregated way: 114K students at the UNAM's Major Campus; 50K students at the UAM and 306K students at all CONALEP's campuses in 32 states of the country. But this is a rough estimation, and the PCU expects to advance in the determination of direct potential and potential contact beneficiaries linked to the activities of inventory, treatment and disposal of PCBs containing equipment, in the fourth quarter of 2020 and the first half of 2021.
The progress of the objective can be described as:		**Off track**			
Outcome 1					

Component/Outcome 1 **Strengthening of market bases and of regulations enforcement for sustainable PCBs elimination**					
Description of Indicator	**Baseline Level**	**Midterm target level**	**End of project target level**	**Level at 30 June 2019**	**Cumulative progress since project start**
Number of PCBs' elimination proposals submitted to owners by Integrated Services Management System	0	800	2,000	*(not set or not applicable)*	There are no proposals for the elimination of PCB to report because the Project has not yet established the Integrated Management Services System (SISG). However, the Project advances to design and negotiate with key actors that could integrate into the system. In the second half of 2020, the PCU will hire the specialist in charge of the SISG and make the legal analysis to establish it. The Project and SEMARNAT are updating the list of companies authorized to treat, destroy and export PCBs to identify potential partners and promote their integration into the SISG through incentives in the collection, transport, treatment or disposal services at a lower cost by the end of 2020.
Number of responses from PCBs owners, to specific enforcement campaign of federal Standard 133, for PCBs sound management implementation	0	100	250	*(not set or not applicable)*	There is no progress to report because the specific enforcement campaign of federal Standard 133, for PCBs sound management implementation is on hold due to the

					COVID-19 contingency. In the fourth quarter of 2019, The PCU and SEMARNAT contacted PROFEPA to agree the need and its commitment to implement an intensive enforcement campaign to promote PCBs sound management implementation in the country. The agreement with PROFEPA implies training and support to execute the enforcement campaign through a program for sampling around 300 transformers through 100 technical visits into the same number of facilities; and this institution developed a specific Protocol addressing health and environmental safety concerns, considering information provided by the PCU. However, due to the health restrictions by COVID-19, the program has been postponed. In this context, the PCU rescheduled the technical visits for the second half of 2020, if pandemic health measures allow. Enforcement officers (inspectors) from PROFEPA are strategic allies in the Project since they will make the technical visits for compliance with NOM-133 and the identification

					of contaminated equipment. The Project acquired 500 Chlor-N-Oil 050 kits for the colorimetric analysis of PCBs in dielectric oils and assigned 60% to PROFEPA to carry out 100 technical visits to sensitive sites and industrial areas. The PCU utilized part of the kits (110) in training courses, and the rest will use for sampling at designated locations to identify PCBs contaminated transformers in the joint program with PROFEPA and SEMARNAT. The Project organized three training workshops: • Two for PROFEPA (28 and 29 November 2019), attended by 95 inspectors. • One for the General Direction of Integral Management of Materials and Risk Activities (DGGIMAR) of SEMARNAT (December 11, 2019) attended by 15 officers. These workshops aimed to raise awareness on the second phase of the Project and training for the use of the CLOR-N-OIL 050 Kit to determine the presence of PCBs in dielectric transformer oils. Additionally, in the second quarter of

					2020, the PCU provided resources for purchasing safety equipment to support the PROFEPA inspectors for the program of technical visits. During the last quarter of 2019, The Project held several meetings with personnel from the Environmental Regulation Directorate of the Secretariat of Environment (SEDEMA) in Mexico City (CDMX), to explain the Project scope and visualize any collaboration. However, in November 2019, CDMX informed to the PCU that its transformers belong to CFE.
Financing mechanism for PCBs elimination concept developed	0	0	1	*(not set or not applicable)*	There is no progress to convey in the reporting period. The Project plans to develop the financing mechanism for PCB´s elimination concept as soon as the feasibility studies are available to set up the necessary financing conditions for the destruction of the remaining PCBs in the country. The PCU estimates to do this during the first half of 2021 through an individual consultancy.
The progress of the objective can be described as:		**Off track**			
Outcome 2 **Component/ Outcome 2**					

Improvement of PCBs Management Services and Certification of PCBs Destruction Facilities					
Description of Indicator	**Baseline Level**	**Midterm target level**	**End of project target level**	**Level at 30 June 2019**	**Cumulative progress since project start**
Number of existing facilities for PCBs elimination upgraded and certified	0	1	2	*(not set or not applicable)*	There is no progress to convey in the reporting period. As part of the identification of existing facilities for the elimination of PCBs to be certified, the PCU jointly to DGGIMAR is updating the list of companies authorized to treat, destroy, and export PCBs, to complete it by the end of 2020. Subsequently, the Project and SEMARNAT will define in detail the evaluation process of the companies willing to participate as pilots for modernizing their PCBs management processes. Technical assistance interventions in two of them will be provided in order to upgrade their operations and if possible, to provide supplementary equipment. The Project will provide training and technical support to the selected companies to proceed with certification by an external company.

					The Pilots will start in the first half of 2021.
Number of new facilities for PCBs elimination authorized and certified	0	1	2	*(not set or not applicable)*	There is no progress to convey in the reporting period. To identify new facilities for the elimination of PCBs, after a screening process, the Project will contact them to invite any possible candidate to participate in the modernization of their facilities and operations, if necessary, after evaluating their processes and verify the needed capacity to implement the recommended changes. The PCU will provide training and technical support to the selected companies. The certification will be carried out by a company authorized for this purpose, as the case of the existing facilities. The Project plans to develop and start two pilots by the first half of 2021.
Number of existing facilities for electric transformers maintenance certified	13	53	113	*(not set or not applicable)*	There is no progress to convey in the reporting period. The Project estimates that from over 1,000 workshops providing maintenance services in Mexico, the

					larger and better organized will be the first to be trained and certified (a few dozen are estimated). The PCU will seek for the first meeting with direct service suppliers (stakeholders), in the third quarter of 2020 and is going to start training activities by the end of the present year. Additionally, the Project will develop the content of the training courses for the electrical maintenance workshops, to raise awareness on NOM-133-SEMARNAT-2015 enforcement, and the importance of upgrading their operations.
The progress of the objective can be described as:		**Off track**			
Outcome 3 **Component/ Outcome 3** **Destruction of identified stock of PCBs**					
Description of Indicator	**Baseline Level**	**Midterm target level**	**End of project target level**	**Level at 30 June 2019**	**Cumulative progress since project start**
Metric Ton of PCBs containing equipment eliminated	0	2000	5000	*(not set or not applicable)*	Mexico has eliminated 68.5 MT of PCBs containing equipment in the period of this report. Based on the experience of the first stage of PCBs, the Project decided

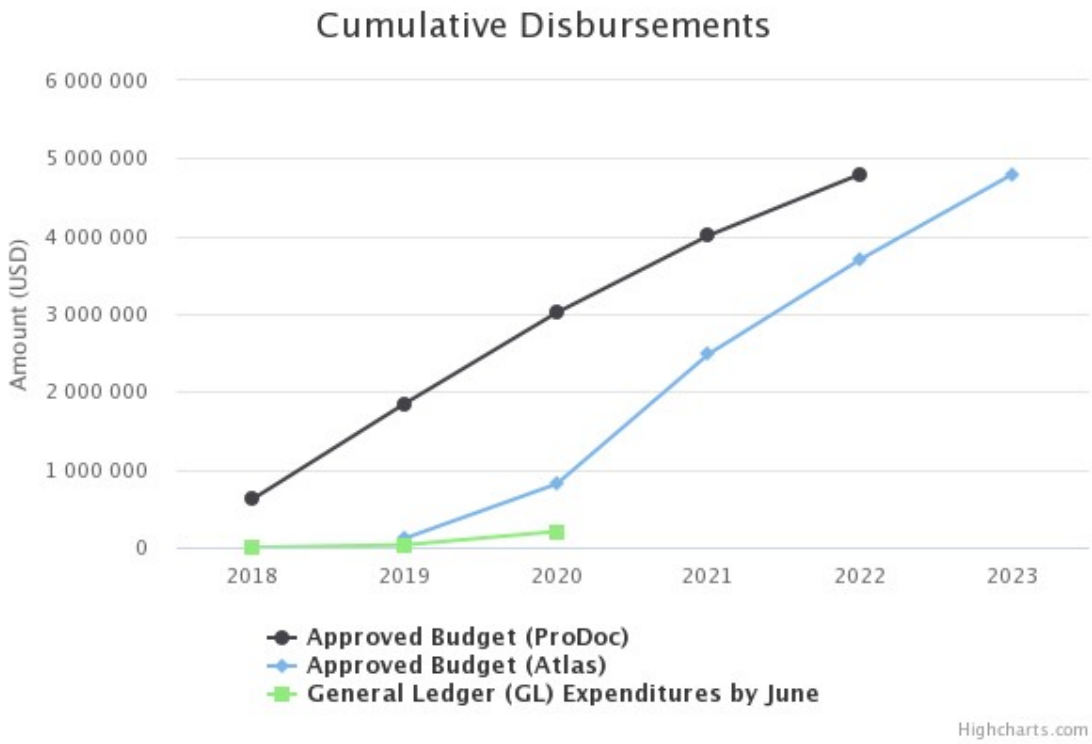
					to carry out networking activities for resuming the contact and collaboration with the most critical stakeholders such as the Federal Electricity Commission (CFE). This institution shared information on the material flow balance of PCBs eliminated from 2015 to 2018 about 344.4 tons and in 2019, 68.5 tons of PCBs. The current inventory of CFE is around 100 tons that are in operation, and the Project seeks for an agreement to sample approximately 500 transformers that are in their warehouses for maintenance, to identify and eliminate any risks to their personnel and optimize resources. Additionally, the PCU follows a strategy of inviting diverse key actors according to the number of people that may be affected, the country's energy balance, size and distribution to obtain an inventory of their equipment, which will be sampled and, if necessary, treated or disposed of them. In this context, to ratify the inventory made in the first phase and find contaminated equipment for treatment or disposal into sensitive and industrial sites, the PCU signed

					Letters of Intent with the following institutions: • National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM, October 8, 2019) Metropolitan Autonomous University (UAM, October 11, 2019) • Secretariat of Sustainable Development of the State of Querétaro and the Municipality of Querétaro (October 14, 2019) • Secretariat of Environment and Territorial Development of Jalisco (November 27, 2019). • Secretariat of Sustainable Economy and Tourism and the Undersecretary of Sustainable Development of the State of Baja California (February 14, 2020). • Colegio Nacional de Educación Profesional Técnica (CONALEP) (14 de julio de 2020). A preliminary work program for sampling and possible elimination was agreed upon with all them. Elimination of PCBs materials is to be achieved by direct application of the Integrated Services Management System (ISMS). Methodology will be that designed and implemented during the First Stage of the Project: PCBs equipment holders will be

					identified (initially through the inventory stage update) and then through the promotion operations and from an inspection campaign. The Project intends to begin the inventory ratification in the third quarter of the year, and the disposal of contaminated equipment will start in late 2020, through an LTA. The PCU plans to have TORs in revision and published in August. This activity will be for a first batch to destroy 500 ton and launch the LTA. The initial PCBs equipment holders will be identified in September from Inventory, and subsequent holders are going to be identified through the Integrated Services Management System (ISMS) promotion operations and by the inspection campaign.
The progress of the objective can be described as:		**On track**			
Outcome 4 **Component/ Outcome 4** **Capture lessons-learned, monitor project progress and provide adaptive feedback and evaluation**					
Description of Indicator	**Baseline Level**	**Midterm target level**	**End of project target level**	**Level at 30 June 2019**	**Cumulative progress since project start**

Number of GEF UNDP M&E requirements met and adaptive management applied	0	13	29	*(not set or not applicable)*	The PCU meets the M&E requirements of the UNDP GEF, through the generation of four quarterly reports, an annual report, the PIR, the Annual Operational Plan, Results-Oriented Analysis Report (ROAR), Technical Advisory Committee meetings, etc. The M&E specialist monitors the implementation of planned activities, detects delays in performance and reports them to the project manager.
Number of documents/reports published of best practices and experience	0	1	5	*(not set or not applicable)*	The lessons learned during the Project's implementation are organizing to have them documented and published at the final closing of the Project.
The progress of the objective can be described as:		**On track**			

D. Implementation Progress



Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc):	4.26%
Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year:	6.78%
Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June (note: amount to be updated in late August):	204,412

Key Financing Amounts	
PPG Amount	100,000
GEF Grant Amount	4,800,000
Co-financing	20,815,000

Key Project Dates	
PIF Approval Date	Apr 19, 2016
CEO Endorsement Date	Nov 1, 2017
Project Document Signature Date (project start date):	Dec 1, 2018
Date of Inception Workshop	Mar 1, 2019
Expected Date of Mid-term Review	Jun 1, 2021

Actual Date of Mid-term Review	*(not set or not applicable)*
Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation	Jun 30, 2024
Original Planned Closing Date	Dec 31, 2024
Revised Planned Closing Date	*(not set or not applicable)*

Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2019 to 1 July 2020)
2020-02-07

E. Critical Risk Management

Current Types of Critical Risks	Critical risk management measures undertaken this reporting period
Political	The work program compliance with universities, government agencies and other collaborative partners slowed down or halted, derived from the health measures by COVID-19 pandemic. The Project maintains communication with counterparts remotely to reprogram the activities established in the work program, but its execution depends on specific sanitary restrictions. PCU maintains the cooperation with SEMARNAT and PROFEPA, and the last join decision was the purchasing of safety material for inspectors to make technical visits to private facilities, as soon as the COVID-19 pandemic allows.
Operational	University authorities curbed their involvement and delayed the delivery of their inventories. The PCU follows up national and local health measures, to contact our partners and program face to face activities as soon as sanitary conditions allow and privileging virtual activities.
Political	There is low or no cooperation from the government in the activities of the Project. PCU maintains the cooperation with SEMARNAT and PROFEPA, and the last join decision was the purchasing of safety material for inspectors to make technical visits to private facilities, as soon as the COVID-19 pandemic allows.
Financial	There is no interest from the private sector to invest in improving their facilities and processes. Given the economic situation that will prevail in the country, Post COVID-19, probably the private sector will limit the investment in upgrading its facilities and/or operations, The PCU will seek to sustain and foster this activity through available technical and financial incentives provided by the Project.

F. Adjustments

Risk Management

The Country Office is responsible for completing the Risk Management section of the PIR in consultation with the RTA. Before updating the PIR, the Country Office must update project-level risks in the Atlas Risk Register line with UNDP's enterprise risk management policy and have a detailed discussion with the RTA on risk management. Next, the Country Office must select below the 'high' risks identified in the Atlas Risk Register as well as any other 'substantial' risks from the Atlas Risk Register identified by the RTA as needing to be addressed in the PIR. Moderate and Low risks do not need to be entered in the PIR Risk Management section. After selecting the risk, a text field will appear where the Country Office should describe the risk and explain actions undertaken this reporting period to address the risk selected.

Select the risk(s) from the options that match the 'high' risks in the project's UNDP Risk Register as well as any 'significant' risks from the register, as agreed with the RTA. Please describe the risk identified and explain the management approach agreed between the RTA and Country Office on managing/mitigating the risk.
Political
Operational
Political
Financial

Comments on delays in key project milestones

Project Manager: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.
Since my appointment on October 1, 2019, I realized that the Project on PCBs was complicated since it shares joint coordination with the POPs Waste Project (92723). However, these Projects have the uncertainty of constant staff changes in the implementing partner and the coordination of the projects. Only in the last three years, the General Director of Integrated Management of Hazardous Materials and Activities changed on three occasions, and 2 times for the Coordinator, all these changes have affected its implementation. Notwithstanding, the projects have an opposed situation. The POP waste project (92723) was practically in its last year of operation, with a significant implementation problem depending on the Project's extension to make it viable. The PCBs Project (92730), barely begun operations in February for hiring a Coordinator and with the inception workshop in May 2019. This disparity caused the attention of the implementing partner and the Project Coordination to focus significantly on the POPs Waste Project, slowing down the activities of the other Project. Additionally, as of the second quarter of this year, the contingency for COVID-19 and its restrictions have impacted on project implementation, limiting operation and interaction among stakeholders.

I think that the project is rated marginally unsatisfactory, because it is no implementing as planned and faces significant implementation issues, given that any TORs has been submitted in the reported period. The PCU will send them in the third quarter of 2020. However, implementation progress could be improved if adaptive management is undertaken immediately, given the support of the implementing partner and other key stakeholders.

Based on the above, I propose the following activities to be committed for the period July 2020 – June 2021, to improve the implementation and operation of this Project:

Output/Activity: 1.2) Private-Public (or similar) Mechanism for Integrated Services Management System for PCBs destruction established at national scale

Description and Justification: This is one of the key output/outcome of the project. The operation of the Integrated Services Management System (ISMS) for PCBs handling and destruction will be rolled out and implemented on a national scale.

Status and Reasons of Delay: Changes in Project Coordinator and of Project Director during the reported period.

Establishment of this system will trigger the elimination of PCBs transformers.

Immediate Actions and programming:

- ISMS Coordinator TORs in revision, to be published in august
- First meeting with direct service suppliers (stakeholders), in august
- Registration of Association, September
- Start promotion activities, September

Budget to be committed, US$ 200,000

Output/Activity: 1.1) Inventories ratified by sampling of Federal Electricity Company (CFE), private industry and public sensitive sites

Description and Justification: To sample around 1,000 transformers in one year

Status and Reasons of Delay: TORs prepared 200 transformers are identified in Queretaro and agreed to be sampled. Changes in Project Coordinator and of Project Director during the reported period.

Immediate Actions and programming:

- TORs in revision, to be published in third quarter
- Start sampling in fourth quarter

Budget to be committed, US$100,000

Output/Activity: 2.3) One hundred Electrical Maintenance facilities certified

Description and Justification: From over 1,000 workshops that provide these services in Mexico, the larger in size and better organized will be the first to be trained and certified (a few dozen are estimated).

Status and Reasons of Delay: ISMS has not been established and this activity depended of the ISMS.

Changes in Project Coordinator and of Project Director during the reported period.

Immediate Actions and programming:

- TORs in revision, to be published in august
- First meeting with direct service suppliers (stakeholders), in august
- Start training activities, October

Budget to be committed, US$80,000

Output/Activity: 3.1) 5,000 Metric Ton of PCBs contaminated materials from sensitive sites, industry and CFE (Mexican state-owned electric utility) eliminated.

Description and Justification: Elimination of PCBs materials is to be achieved by direct application of the ISMS. Methodology will be that designed and implemented during the First Stage. In summary, PCBs equipment holders will be identified (initially through the inventory stage, output 1.1) and then through the promotion operations and from the inspection campaign.

Status and Reasons of Delay: Changes in Project Coordinator and of Project Director during the reported period.

Immediate Actions and programming:

- TORs in revision, to be published in august. This will be for a first batch of 500 ton to be destroyed
- Initial PCBs equipment holders will be identified in September from Inventory.
- Subsequent holders to be identified through the ISMS promotion operations and by the inspection campaign

Budget to be committed, US$1,000,000

Output/Activity: 2.1) Two existing facilities for PCBs elimination or management upgraded and certified

Description and Justification: Technical assistance interventions in two of them will be provided in order to upgrade their operations and if possible, to supply supplementary equipment.

Status and Reasons of Delay: Preparatory talks with likely enterprises have been had and Changes in Project Coordinator and of Project Director during the reported period.

Immediate Actions and programming: TORs to be elaborated in August and to be published in September.

Budget to be committed, US$150,000

Output/Activity: 1.4) Enforcement Program of federal Standard 133 for PCBs sound management established

Description and Justification: Enforcement officers from PROFEPA expressed the need and their commitment to implement an intensive inspection campaign when Project started its implementation. The Project will support PROFEPA’S enforcement campaign.

Status and Reasons of Delay: Contact established with Enforcement officers from PROFEPA and ratified the need and their commitment to implement an intensive inspection campaign with Project and Changes in Project Coordinator and of Project Director during the reported period.

Immediate Actions and programming:

- Ongoing agreement with PROFEPA to be formalized in September
- 95 inspectors from PROFEPA were trained in the handling of Chlor-N-Oil 050 kit to carry out technical visits.
- Inspection activities to be started in September.

Budget to be committed, US$160,000

Country Office: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.

Project is off track on its outcomes and indicators. There has been changes in the Project Coordination Unit and the National Counterpart that has complicated the design and implementation of a complete and integral strategy to move forward in the Project outcomes.

During the first years of the project's life the execution in general has been slow, and ineffective for the achievement of goals and objectives.

However, as of the entry of the new Coordinator and the involvement of an external consultant, the work is being carried out at accelerated steps to overcome the project's delays, for which several TOR have been prepared to be published as soon as possible and obtain relevant products.

UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.

The main risk is associated with the low implementation rate of the project, which is entering its second year of implementation. The inception workshop has been conducted. The date of the MTR will be postponed and wait until the project has effectively been under implementaiton for 2 years and 6 months. the project held its project Steering Committee meeting in February 2020. The inicial delays in the project start up combined with the effects of the COVID19 pandemic is expected to general accross the board delays which are likely to trigger an extension request at a later stage of the implementation.

G. Ratings and Overall Assessments

Role	2020 Development Objective Progress Rating	2020 Implementation Progress Rating
Project Manager/Coordinator	Moderately Unsatisfactory	*- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -*
Overall Assessment	The implementation of the project during the reporting period has been complicated, due to the joint coordination with the POPs waste project (92723) and facing the uncertainty of constant staff changes in the implementing partner and project coordination. In the last three years alone, the General Director of Integrated Hazardous Materials and Activities Management changed three times, and twice for the Coordinator, all of these changes have affected implementation. The situation of the POPs Waste Project (92723), with a significant implementation problem and which depended on the extension of the project to make it viable. This context caused the implementing partner and the Project Coordination focus significantly on the POPs Waste Project, which slowed down the activities of the PCB Project in its second phase. The PCB Project (92730) as antecedent has a delayed start in its implementation, the GEF approved it on October 31, 2017, and started its operations until February 2019 to hire a Coordinator. Additionally, the inception workshop held in May 2019; once joint coordination for both projects was decided, which meant, a delay of more than 16 months since the approval by the GEF of the second phase of the PCBs. Furthermore, since the second quarter 2020, the COVID-19 contingency and its restrictions have impacted the project's implementation, limiting the operation and interaction among stakeholders, as well as the integration of the terms of reference (TOR). Although in the first months the project identified potential partners, signed collaboration agreements with stakeholders, trained a PROFEPA to establish a program to identify potential owners of PCB-contaminated equipment, to carry out 100 technical visits to companies, and the development of 300 colourimetric analyses. On the other hand, the project did not advance in the establishment of the management services system and the establishment of the PCB elimination program. I believe that the project deserves a marginally unsatisfactory rating since it is not being implemented as planned and faces significant implementation problems, given that the PCU has not submitted the needed terms of reference during the period under review. The PCU intends to finalize its elaboration and publish them in the third quarter of 2020. All this in a framework to make significant progress in the implementation by undertaking an adaptive management plan, with the support of the implementing partner and other key stakeholders, committing to the development of 5 key activities between July 2020 and June 2021, in the amount of $1,690,000, to regain a good pace of implementation.	

Role	2020 Development Objective Progress Rating	2020 Implementation Progress Rating
UNDP Country Office Programme Officer	Moderately Unsatisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Overall Assessment	The project is rated moderately unsatisfactory during the reported period. This rating is because the project is off-track in many of the outcomes and the strategy proposed still needs to accelerate its implementation. Based on the experience of the first stage of PCBs, the project decided to strengthen their collaboration with their most critical stakeholders such as the Federal Electricity Commission (CFE), Education Institutions, subnational entities and some sensitive sector´s institutions. The project has taken advantage of the relationships created by the other COP project, with authorities from different federal entities, to seek to generate agreements and synergies. Collaboration agreements have been signed with states such as Jalisco, Baja California and Querétaro, in addition to significant progress made with Mexico City authorities. Likewise, progress has been made in institutional interlocks and alliances with PROFEPA, to strengthen the capacities of inspectors through training and basic equipment for PCBs rapid diagnosis. The project has been supported by an external consultant, who designed the project and implemented Phase 1. With the support of this expert, the project has started to move forward in the creation of terms of references and strategy; however, this has created a bottleneck due to the large volume of work assigned to someone outside the coordinating unit. The project has an important delay in the implementation of the activities expected and the development of the main outputs. Outcome 1. Strengthening of market bases and of regulation enforcement for sustainable PCBs elimination. At the moment, there is limited progress in the restauration of the Integrated Management Services System (SISG) developed in Phase 1. A special consultancy is expected to support this process in the upcoming months, but no advances can be reported at this moment. Regarding the enforcement campaign of federal Standard 133, for PCBs sound management implementation, there is limited progress to report since the strategy is scheduled to for development in the following months. This activity was delayed due to the COVID-19 contingency. Nevertheless, the training of PROFEPA´s inspectors did make progress by the end of 2019. This activity should be reinforced and monitored to ensure the effectiveness of the promotion of the Standard and the involvement of the different stakeholders. Regarding the concept developed for the Financing mechanism for PCBs elimination, no progress can be reported at this moment.	

	For outcome 2. Improvement of PCBs Management Services and Certification of PCBs Destruction Facilities, no progress to report in the period. The PCU is supporting SEMARNAT to update the list of companies authorized to treat, destroy, and export PCBs. This updated is expected to be completed by the end of 2020. Once this update is completed, the strategy considers inviting a few of these companies to participate in the pilot program for modernizing their PCBs management processes. These pilots are expected to start in the second half 2021. Regarding the new facilities for PCBs elimination authorized and certified, no progress can be reported so far. This outcome is directly aligned with the updating process mentioned above and the definition of the financial mechanisms to incentivize the new investments on private and public sectors. Regarding the work with existing facilities certified for electric transformers maintenance, there has been a delay in the updating and identification of potential facilities. Outcome 3 Destruction of identified stock of PCBs, an LTA contact has been developed to support the disposal of contaminated material. According to the project, the disposal of contaminated equipment will start in late 2020; however, only a very limited stock of PCBs has been identified and the need to have the integrated management system will be crucial to guarantee competitive prices and the establishment of a sustainable model to dispose of the additional material identified. Having said this, the results of this new strategy is yet to be seen in the following months. The monitoring of administrative and contracting processes has also been slow on the part of the team, which has resulted in delays in the full assignment of the work plans approved by the Project Board. The project is off track, but there is time to accelerate the implementation and achieve its goals prior to the Mid Term Review that will be prepared for the second half of 2021. The priority of the second half of 2020 and the next year will be to accelerate these measures and correct the course of the project to ensure compliance with the results. The Country Office has been supporting the implementation of the project. Alignment and a coordination effort between the PCU, SEMARNAT and UNPD is needed in order to move forward with the strengthening of institutional capacities, the regulatory framework and the establishment of the business model to guarantee the interest in investments of the stakeholders to the PCB (and other COPs waste) management. The IP rating of the project is unsatisfactory. The PCU should accelerate the

	preparation of the package of consultancies and prepare Terms of Reference by themselves to avoid depending entirely of the external consultant. It is expected that a more proactive role of the Project Coordinator will support the progress of the processes mentioned and define the strategy for the following months.	
Role	**2020 Development Objective Progress Rating**	**2020 Implementation Progress Rating**
GEF Operational Focal point	*(not set or not applicable)*	*- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -*
Overall Assessment	*(not set or not applicable)*	
Role	**2020 Development Objective Progress Rating**	**2020 Implementation Progress Rating**
Project Implementing Partner	*(not set or not applicable)*	*- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -*
Overall Assessment	*(not set or not applicable)*	
Role	**2020 Development Objective Progress Rating**	**2020 Implementation Progress Rating**
Other Partners	*(not set or not applicable)*	*- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -*
Overall Assessment	*(not set or not applicable)*	
Role	**2020 Development Objective Progress Rating**	**2020 Implementation Progress Rating**
UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser	Moderately Unsatisfactory	Moderately Unsatisfactory
Overall Assessment	This is the first PIR of the project Environmentally Sound Management and Destruction of PCBs in Mexico: Second phase. This is a follow up project to the PCB project that was completed in 2015. The initial start up the project has been delayed for quite a while. First, the time from CEO endorsement to ProDoc signature was quite significant and afterwards there has already been two changes in the Project Coordinator position and two changes in the position as National Project Director (Head of DGGIMAR in SEMARNAT). The startup has therefore had its challenges and the real implementation started around October 2019 when the current Project Coordinator was hired. The DO rating and the IP rating are therefore similar as both reflect the same implementation period. The DO rating of MU is in line with the rating given by the project coordinator and UNDP Mexico, whereas UNDP Mexico had put U - Unsatisfactory in the IP rating. In case of the IP rating, it is correct that the disbursement figures are well below the expected numbers, and this has raised a red flag to continue to monitor this closely in the upcoming reporting period. It is also clear that only a smaller part of the annual work plan was implemented in the reporting period and that most activities have been postponed to the next year. However, it is my clear opinion that MU in the IP rating better reflects the	

	actual state of implementation especially taking into account the future prospects. The definition of the MU rating indicates the following: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces significant implementation issues. Implementation progress could be improved if adaptive management is undertaken immediately. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are significantly off track. The project is not fully or well supported. That is a very good description of the actual situation with the project implementation. There is a need to introduce an ambitious work plan for the coming period and this is already happening as several important TORs have been developed and will be published shortly (covering all areas of the implementation). There is also a clear indication that the current project team has the full support from SEMARNAT and the National Project Director, which improves the chances of success. There is no need to make any major changes in the current project team. It is believed that with time, it will be possible to turn around the current situation and bring the project implementation back on track. It is important to remember that the project has only effectively been under implementation for 9 months with the current Project Coordinator and there is already a sign that things are moving in the right direction. This is main reason for overriding the IP rating for UNDP Mexico which was a U – Unsatisfactory. The project team has spent the reporting period to take contact and generate a working relationship with all the stakeholders that were included in the first PCB project given that there has been a gap in the implementation between the two phases. It has been an important task to generate trust with the main public and private stakeholders and will assist to make the implementation easier once all the larger procurement has been completed. The direct results have been very limited and only about 68.5 MT of PCBs have been destroyed in the reporting period which is just above 1 % of the overall target of the project. There has also been an effort to update the national PCB inventory at the public institutions, especially CNE as this information will be vital for the future. The project team has signed letters of intent with several public institutions, state governments and Universities that will play an important role in the subsequent phase of the implementation. The effort to re-activate the Integrated Services Management System is still pending and there will be a focus on this in the upcoming reporting period. This system was very successfully implemented in the stage I PCB project as it managed to lower substantially the management and disposal costs especially for the smaller PCB possessors. The work with the maintenance workshops is about to start now. It is an important task to identify PCB containing equipment and to avoid cross contamination of existing equipment. Finally, the work with the disposal facilities of hazardous waste including PCB containing equipment will commence once the other activities have advanced with the implementation. The project has a gender strategy and action plan that is being followed during the implementation. There have already been several activities on gender and

	the results have so far been promising for the future work. The main risk associated with this project is the very low cumulative disbursement rate. As described above, this is mainly due to the late startup of project implementation combined with the fact that the current Project Coordinator started working 9 months after the signing of the Project document. Therefore, this delay will in the foreseeable future continue to be a red flag and will have to be followed closely. Frequent meetings with UNDP Mexico are organized to closely monitor the progress. There is also a political risk given that environmental issues are not a top priority of the current government in Mexico. PCB waste does not have any value and is a liability for the PCB possessors. Strong regulation and enforcement is therefore a pre-condition to effectively carry out the project strategy. However, since the beginning of the first stage PCB project there have been long discussions with PCB holders and there have in general been a good commitment to make sure that PCB waste is managed and disposed of in an environmentally sound manner. This risk is also relevant for the upgrade of disposal facilities in Mexico as this will require a significant amount of co-funding. This will require stronger regulation and enforcement to create a level playing field and to assure that companies that comply with the regulation and international standards will be the only ones considered for the disposal activities. The project will only use qualified facilities for the disposal activities financed with project funds. The other risks mentioned in the ProDoc have not changed and their mitigation strategy continues as before. The Covid19 Pandemic has clearly influenced the project implementation in the reporting period. The strategy is focused on concrete activities in the field as more regulatory work was done in the first stage. All these activities must be postponed until a later point in time. In case the pandemic continues over a prolonged period, then the project will have to re-assess the situation. With adaptive management it has been possible to conduct some activities virtually, especially to create the enabling environment for the implementation of future activities with stakeholders. Virtual meetings are taking place. However, eventually it will be necessary to get out to the field and start working on more concrete activities. The project will in the short term spent a very limited amount of funding on protective equipment (PPE) especially for inspectors and trainers, but this will not have any real effect on the overall budget. This is considered a minor change and it has been cleared by the RTA. The overall project strategy remains the same, and it is expected that the project will be able to achieve all the targets set (objectives, outputs and outcomes). It is believed that the current reporting period has been used to prepare the terrain for a successful upcoming reporting period. In short, the results have been insufficient in the reporting period due to several reasons. There is a confidence in the current project coordinator and team, and it is expected that the project will be fully back on track when the PIR reporting will take place next year. It is for these reasons that both the DO and IP ratings have been set at Marginally Unsatisfactory in the reporting period, but with the positive signal that things are changing and starting to move in the right direction. No major changes have been made to the project strategy due to the covid19 pandemic.

H. Gender

Progress in Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

This information is used in the UNDP-GEF Annual Performance Report, UNDP-GEF Annual Gender Report, reporting to the UNDP Gender Steering and Implementation Committee and for other internal and external communications and learning. The Project Manager and/or Project Gender Officer should complete this section with support from the UNDP Country Office.

Gender Analysis and Action Plan: Preliminar Gender Analysis and Action Plan PCB 2020.06.30.pdf
Please review the project's Gender Analysis and Action Plan. If the document is not attached or an updated Gender Analysis and/or Gender Action Plan is available please upload the document below or send to the Regional Programme Associate to upload in PIMS+. Please note that all projects approved since 1 July 2014 are required to carry out a gender analysis and all projects approved since 1 July 2018 are required to have a gender analysis and action plan.
Atlas Gender Marker Rating
GEN1: some contribution to gender equality
Please indicate in which results areas the project is contributing to gender equality (you may select more than one results area, or select not applicable):
Contributing to closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources: Yes
Improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance: No
Targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women: No
Not applicable: No
Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women. **Please explain how the results reported addressed the different needs of men or women, changed norms, values, and power structures, and/or contributed to transforming or challenging gender inequalities and discrimination.**
On November 28 and 29, 2019, the individual consultant that develops the Gender Action Plan gave a talk to sensitize 95 inspectors (32 women and 63 men) from the Federal Attorney for Environmental Protection (PROFEPA) on “Perspective of gender and its links with the management of hazardous chemicals”. The specific objectives of the talk were: 1. Know the main concepts related to the gender perspective. 2. Provide data and examples on existing gender inequalities at the global level. 3. Emphasize data available for Mexico. 4. Present the links between the gender perspective and the management of hazardous chemicals.

Please describe how work to advance gender equality and women's empowerment enhanced the project's environmental and/or resilience outcomes.

The Gender Action Plan (GAP) for the projects Environmentally Sound Management and Destruction of Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) and Environmentally Sound Management of Waste with Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) began on October 28, 2019. This initiative intends to reduce gender gaps, minimizing impacts on health and the environment through the environmentally sound management of chemicals and the reduction of POP emissions, as well as reducing exposure to POPs.

The PCU decided initially to develop a single GAP for the two projects; however, during the development of the document, but finally was resolved that each Project would have its GAP. This Plan seeks to sensitize the population on this matter. Within the Project's results framework, to find the ideal entry points for incorporating the gender perspective, inputs and guidelines for the implementing partner and key actors to execute them.

The GAP is built with information obtained through the application of an online survey to a group of key actors related to PCBs, to know their opinion and identify the level of knowledge about PCBs and gender. Seventy-six people from academic institutions, companies, federal and state government public officers answered the survey.

I. Social and Environmental Standards

Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)

The Project Manager and/or the project's Safeguards Officer should complete this section of the PIR with support from the UNDP Country Office. The UNDP-GEF RTA should review to ensure it is complete and accurate.

SESP: UNDP_GEF5479_PCB2_MEX_AnnexG_SESP.docx
For reference, please find below the project's safeguards screening (Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) or the old ESSP tool); management plans (if any); and its SESP categorization above. Please note that the SESP categorization might have been corrected during a centralized review.
(not set or not applicable)
1) Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during project implementation?
No
If any new social and/or environmental risks have been identified during project implementation please describe the new risk(s) and the response to it.
Not applicable
2) Have any existing social and/or environmental risks been escalated during the reporting period? For example, when a low risk increased to moderate, or a moderate risk increased to high.
No
If any existing social and/or environmental risks have been escalated during implementation please describe the change(s) and the response to it.
Not applicable
3) Have any required social and environmental assessments and/or management plans been prepared in the reporting period? For example, an updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) or Indigenous Peoples Plan.
Not Applicable
If yes, please upload the document(s) above. If no, please explain when the required documents will be prepared.
Not Applicable
4) Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential)?
No
If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail including the status, significance, who was involved and what action was taken.

Not Applicable

J. Communicating Impact

Tell us the story of the project focusing on how the project has helped to improve people's lives.

(This text will be used for UNDP corporate communications, the UNDP-GEF website, and/or other internal and external knowledge and learning efforts.)

The Project will contribute to raising public awareness on the impacts that POPs and specifically PCB may have and how to face them, through several actions:

- Exchange of ideas to foster a sound implementing management and disposal of PCBs and the involvement of stakeholder across the collection, treatment or final disposal.
- The positioning of the PCB issue among key actors in the public and private sectors.
- Developing materials, guidelines, training courses, networking, and other means to create capacities in Mexico to deal with PCBs.
- Generate different studies, diagnostics, inventories, and technical outputs to support and provide enough basis to government authorities in the PCBs decision making process and development of public policies on this matter.

Knowledge Management, Project Links and Social Media

Please describe knowledge activities / products as outlined in knowledge management approved at CEO Endorsement /Approval.

Please also include: project's website, project page on the UNDP website, blogs, photos stories (e.g. Exposure), Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, as well as hyperlinks to any media coverage of the project, for example, stories written by an outside source. Please upload any supporting files, including photos, videos, stories, and other documents using the 'file lirbary' button in the top right of the PIR.

UNDP:

http://www.onu.org.mx/95-inspectores-de-profepa-podran-detectar-bifenilos-policlorados-en-sitios-industriales/

http://www.onu.org.mx/baja-california-estado-piloto-para-reducir-y-eliminar-compuestos-organicos-persistentes/

Hyperlinks to any media coverage:

https://www.portalambiental.com.mx/legislacion/20200221/aprueban-erradicar-la-produccion-de-contaminante-organico-persistente

https://www.msn.com/es-mx/dinero/noticias/eliminar%C3%A1n-contaminantes-de-residuos-

electr%C3%B3nicos-en-baja-california/ar-BB109DF3

https://www.msn.com/es-mx/news/mexico/eliminar-c3-a1n-contaminantes-de-residuos-electr-c3-b3nicos-en-baja-california/ar-BB108yv5

https://www.canaldelcongreso.gob.mx/noticias/12922/Avalan_en_Senado%2C_prohibir_Compuestos_Organics_Persistentes

https://imagenagropecuaria.com/2019/inician-proyecto-para-manejo-adecuado-de-contaminantes-organicos-persistentes-en-mexico/

https://www.24-horas.mx/2020/02/18/eliminaran-contaminantes-de-residuos-electronicos-en-baja-california/

http://www.mexicoambiental.com/mexico-realiza-avances-en-la-implementacion-del-convenio-de-estocolmo/

https://www.cursorenlanoticia.com.mx/?p=153228

https://www.20minutos.com.mx/noticia/514118/0/impulsan-acciones-para-manejo-adecuado-de-contaminantes/

Project Location Data

Provide the coordinates for the project's geo-location sites. Provide the coordinates in decimal degrees (Longitude and Latitude). If you are not able to provide the coordinates in decimal degrees, you can alternatively provide them in the Degrees, Minutes, Seconds format. If you have this information stored in a GIS file, upload it below (e.g. shapefile, kmz/kml, or csv). If the project has multiple sites, please attach an Excel file with the coordinates for each site in either decimal degrees or in degrees, minutes, seconds format.

Please attach the GIS data. Any of the following formats are acceptable: shapefile (.shp)*, .kmz, .kml. If helpful, see here a quick note on how to gather geo-reference info. *Note that a shapefile is composed of several files: a .shp file should be zipped in a folder accompanied by the file extensions: .shx, .sbn, .prj, .dbf, .cpg, .sbx, .xml.

If the project has multiple sites, please attach an Excel file with the coordinates for each site in either decimal degrees or in degrees, minutes, seconds format.

BPC.cpgBPC.dbfBPC.prjBPC.sbnBPC.sbxBPC.shpBPC.shx
Provide geo-location in longitude, latitude, format. **If you have this information stored in a GIS file, please upload it below (e.g. shapefile, kmz/kml, or csv).**
(not set or not applicable)
Longitude
(not set or not applicable)
Alternatively, provide geo-location in degrees, minutes, seconds format. Please also provide information on what the coordinates point to in the space provided.
(not set or not applicable)
Minutes
(not set or not applicable)
Seconds
(not set or not applicable)
Coordinates description
(not set or not applicable)

K. Partnerships

Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagment

Please select yes or no whether the project is working with any of the following partners. Please also provide an update on stakeholder engagement. This information is used by the GEF and UNDP for reporting and is therefore very important! All sections must be completed by the Project Manager and reviewed by the CO and RTA.

Does the project work with any Civil Society Organisations and/or NGOs?
No
Does the project work with any Indigenous Peoples?
No
Does the project work with the Private Sector?
Yes
Does the project work with the GEF Small Grants Programme?
No
Does the project work with UN Volunteers?
No
Did the project support South-South Cooperation and/or Triangular Cooperation efforts in the reporting year?
No
CEO Endorsement Request: UNDP_GEF5479_PCB2_MEX Request for CEO endorsement Oct 13 2017.doc
Provide an update on progress, challenges and outcomes related to stakeholder engagement based on the description of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan as documented at CEO endorsement/approval (see document below). If any surveys have been conducted please upload all survey documents to the PIR file library.
The stakeholders identified in the Project document are still the relevant ones for the implementation of the project.

L. Annex - Ratings Definitions

Development Objective Progress Ratings Definitions

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Project is on track to exceed its end-of-project targets, and is likely to achieve transformational change by project closure. The project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Project is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with minor shortcomings only.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is expected to partially achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with significant shortcomings. Project results might be fully achieved by project closure if adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. Project results might be partially achieved by project closure if major adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets without major restructuring.

Implementation Progress Ratings Definitions

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Implementation is exceeding expectations. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are fully on track. The project is managed extremely efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are on track. The project is managed efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned with minor deviations. Cumulative financial delivery and management of risks are mostly on track, with minor delays. The project is managed well.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces significant implementation issues. Implementation progress could be improved if adaptive management is undertaken immediately. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are significantly off track. The project is not fully or well supported.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces major implementation issues and restructuring may be necessary. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are off track with major issues and/or concerns. The project is not fully or well supported.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Implementation is seriously under performing and major restructuring is required. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones (e.g. start of activities), and management of critical risks are severely off track with severe issues and/or concerns. The project is not effectively or efficiently supported.