



2022
Project Implementation Report (PIR)



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

CBIT Armenia

Basic Data	2
Overall ratings	4
Development Objective Progress	5
Implementation Progress	20
Project Governance	24
Ratings and Overall Assessments	25
Minor Amendments	30
Gender	33
Risk Management	35
Knowledge Management & Communications	37
Stakeholder Engagement.....	39
Annex - Ratings Definitions.....	40

A. Basic Data

Project Information	
UNDP PIMS ID	6332
GEF ID	10138
Title	Building Armenia's national transparency framework under Paris Agreement
Country(ies)	Armenia, Armenia
UNDP-NCE Technical Team	Integrated Strategies and SGP
Management Arrangements	CO Support to NIM
Project Implementing Partner	Government
Joint Agencies	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
Project Type	Medium Size - 2 steps
Implementation Status	1st PIR
GEF Fiscal Year	FY22
Trust Fund	GEF Trust Fund

Project Description
<p>The project is designed to provide support for building institutional and technical capacities to meet enhanced transparency requirements as defined in the Article 13 of the Paris Agreement of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. It uses a capacity strengthening approach to shift from ad hoc reporting to a continuous process of monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) that will capture transparency activities and allow the country to track its progress against its commitments under its NDC. The first project component will establish national institutional arrangements for an enhanced transparency framework, the second project component will introduce MRV systems that will support the enhanced transparency framework, and the third project component will provide capacity building for stakeholders that will be necessary to support transparency-related activities over time.</p>

Project Contacts	
UNDP-NCE Technical Adviser	Ms. Eszter Baricz (eszter.baricz@undp.org)
UNDP-NCE Programme Associate	Ms. Gulsah Dark Kahyaoglu (gulsah.dark.kahyaoglu@undp.org)
Project Manager/Coordinator	Ms. Diana Harutyunyan (diana.harutyunyan@undp.org) Davit Shindyan (davit.shindyan@undp.org)
UNDP Country Office Programme Officer	Mr. Hovhannes Ghazaryan

	(hovhannes.ghazaryan@undp.org)
UNDP Country Office Deputy Resident Representative	Konstantin Sokulskiy (konstantin.sokulskiy@undp.org)
UNDP Regional Bureau Desk Officer	Ms. Yuliya Shcherbinina (yuliya.shcherbinina@undp.org)
GEF Operational Focal Point	Mr. Hakob Simidyan (minenv@env.am)
Project Implementing Partner	Mr. Hakob Simidyan (minenv@env.am)
Other Partners	Mr. Anush Loqyan (anush.loqyan@gmail.com)

B. Overall ratings

Overall DO Rating	Satisfactory
Overall IP Rating	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	low

C. Development Objective Progress

It is mandatory for all reported progress to be substantiated by evidence. Please upload evidence files for each objective/outcome via the DO PROGRESS section in the online PIR platform. If there is no evidence to upload, the Project Manager is required to provide an explanation.

Description					
Objective					
Building institutional and technical capacities to meet enhanced transparency requirements as defined in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2021	Cumulative progress since project start
Mandatory Indicator 1: # direct project beneficiaries disaggregated by gender (individual people)	0	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	120 (65 women)	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>162 (95 women)</p> <p>To date, the project has delivered 5 trainings/workshops. The total number of training/workshop participants is 319. If repeated participants (the participants who joined more than one training/workshop) and UNDP experts are excluded, the number of participants totals 162, representing 35 institutions (state authorities, non-governmental organizations, academia, the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Climate Change and its working groups, etc.).</p> <p>Women's participation totaled approximately 59%, and the rate of women participation increased from 54.3% in the first project event to 71% in the most recent project event.</p> <p>The consolidated list of training/workshop participants has been uploaded as evidence, along with signed List of Participants (LoP).</p> <p>The project has exceeded the target for this indicator.</p>
CBIT Core Indicator 2: Quality of MRV Systems* Rubric based on CBIT tracking	5	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	7	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>An international company was engaged to conduct detailed stocktaking of data and institutions involved in Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) to inform the system architecture of the climate change MRV</p>

tool (10-point scale)					<p>platform.</p> <p>The existing regulatory framework and institutional arrangements for data exchange and reporting in support of the climate change MRV system design were analyzed.</p> <p>The MRV system concept has been developed (uploaded as evidence), including suggestions for required IT characteristics. MRV practices and climate change MRV platform used in countries with similar national circumstances were used as a base.</p> <p>At present, the project is on track to achieve the target rating of “7” for quality of MRV systems (i.e., “Measurement regarding GHG is broadly done with widely acceptable methodologies, need for more sophisticated analyses to improve policy; Reporting is periodic with improvements in transparency; verification is done through more sophisticated methods even if partially”).</p>
<p>CBIT Core Indicator 3 Institutional Capacity for Transparency-Related Activities**</p> <p>Rubric based on CBIT tracking tool (4-point scale)</p>	2	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	3	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>In 2020, the Ministry of Environment established a Climate Policy Department. The Department is functional and is comprised of 4 professionals. According to its charter, the Department is responsible for ensuring the coordination and implementation of policies and activities required for implementation of the provisions and obligations defined by UNFCCC. The Charter of Climate Policy Department (in Armenian) is available at:</p> <p>http://env.am/storage/files/havelvac5.pdf.</p> <p>The project closely collaborates with the Climate Policy Department, and the UNFCCC Focal Point (Deputy Minister of Environment) to ensure the continuous data collection for GHG inventory and in monitoring the mitigation and adaptation actions and projects.</p> <p>With the objective of supporting institutional capacity building within the Ministry of Environment as the responsible national entity for reporting under the UNFCCC</p>

				<p>and development of the national GHG inventory, the project team assessed the role of the Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center, a state non-commercial organization affiliated with the Ministry of Environment, in climate change analytical and reporting work. The project team carried out a Micro Assessment of the organization and the results (findings and recommendations) were discussed with the implementing partner. The Micro Assessment report was uploaded as evidence file under the title: "Indicator 3_HMC_Micro Assessment.pdf".</p> <p>A Letter of Agreement (LoA) between the Center and UNDP was signed on February 26, 2022 (uploaded as evidence). The LoA established the Center as a project Responsible Party. The objective of this partnership is to build capacity within a Ministry-affiliated institution as an organizational unit with standing staff that can coordinate the implementation of certain functions related to transparency including reporting under UNFCCC and Paris Agreement. Under the LoA, the center will carry out several activities in the project. Activities include (i) development of a pilot GHG inventory of Armenia for 2018, 2019; (ii) preparation of regulatory/normative package for activity data collection for GHG inventory of Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU), Land Use, Land-use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) and Waste sectors; (iii) elaboration of recommendations for continuous assessment and registration of the impact on GHG emissions from forest fires and logging (legal and illegal), land use change on carbon sequestration; (iv) enabling access and use of remote sensing data to improve forestry sector GHG estimates; (v) development and testing of sectoral templates and guidelines for assessing and reporting on mitigation policies and actions and their effects.</p> <p>The project team also organized three training sessions on climate change for the Climate Policy and Air Protection Departments of the Ministry of Nature Protection, the Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center, as well as Inter-</p>
--	--	--	--	--

				<p>Agency Coordinating Council on Climate Change and its working groups, representing key ministries. The representatives of the local governments and academia were also involved in those trainings.</p> <p>The trainings contributed to the active discussion on the current gaps and needs, related to the GHG activity data holders on quality, completeness and need to improve access to the data. The key outcomes of COP-26 and requirements under updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) were shared with the Council members, linking with new challenges, related to Biennial Transparency Report development.</p> <p>More information on these events is available at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of Background Information for Climate Change Monitoring, Reporting and Verification Platform Design: https://bit.ly/3SCpQJN • “Introductory Training on Climate Change Transparency Framework” 2-day workshop organized in the frame of UNDP Climate Change Programme for RA Climate Change Interagency Council and its working group members: https://bit.ly/3Jl1Och. (The final report of this training and LoP have also been uploaded as evidence). • First meeting of the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on implementation of requirements and provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement: https://bit.ly/3zHPAMI <p>Two targeted trainings were organised for the dedicated staff of the Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center, a State Non-Commercial Organization on the GHG inventory preparation. The trainings were held in the form of discussions (organized on December 28, 2021 and April 29, 2022) on the base of the work plan under the LOA, using as a platform for the development of the pilot GHG inventory of Armenia for 2018, 2019. The trainings have enabled the</p>
--	--	--	--	---

					<p>participants to learn by doing the requirements for the transparent reporting starting from the IPCC 2006 Guidelines and all the quality control and quality assurance requirements for GHG data collection, assessment and analysis. The objective of those trainings has been to ensure smooth transfer of institutional responsibility for the GHG inventory preparation to the national designated entity, the Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center.</p> <p>Currently, the target rating of “3” for institutional capacity for transparency systems (“Designated transparency institution has an organizational unit with standing staff with some capacity to coordinate and implement transparency activities under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. Institution has authority or mandate to coordinate transparency activities under Article 13. Activities are not integrated into planning or budgeting activities”) has been reached. The continuous capacity building and close cooperation with the management and staff of the designated institution (Ministry of Environment) will be maintained to ensure appropriate knowledge on emerging needs for transparency requirements under Article 13.</p>
--	--	--	--	--	--

The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	On track
---	-----------------

Evidence uploaded:	YES
---------------------------	-----

Outcome 1

Transparency activities in Armenia are governed by clear and formal roles and responsibilities

Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2021	Cumulative progress since project start
Indicator 4: Presence of institutional arrangements for a national transparency	There are currently no formal institutional	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	By the end of the project, an inter-agency working group and/or other	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	Based on the Prime Minister Decree N719-A, dated July 6, 2021, “On Establishing the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Implementation of Requirements and Provisions of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement and Approval of

framework	arrangements for a national transparency framework.		body is meeting at least twice a year to communicate on MRV issues.		<p>Its Composition and Rules of Procedure” (https://www.arlis.am/DocumentView.aspx?DocID=157694), Deputy Prime Minister Decree N894-A was adopted on November 4, 2021, “On Establishing Inter-Agency Working Groups Adjacent to the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Implementation of Requirements and Provisions of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement and Approval of the Composition and Rules of Procedure Thereof” (https://www.arlis.am/DocumentView.aspx?DocID=157412).</p> <p>These decrees have established the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Climate Change and its working groups.</p> <p>The Resident Representative of the UNDP in Armenia is also a member of Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Climate Change. The Project supported the Ministry of Environment in developing the abovementioned decrees. The structure of working groups corresponds to reporting areas under Paris Agreement: there is a Standing Interagency Working Group on Country Accountability under the Convention; a Standing Interagency Working Group on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation; and a Standing Interagency Working Group on Financing.</p> <p>The Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Climate Change has met twice (07 January 2022, and 25 May 2022) since its establishment in November 2021. During the 1st Council meeting the commitments undertaken by Armenia under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, as well as Armenia’s climate agenda were presented and discussed. Moreover, functions of the Council, as well as work order were discussed. During the 2nd Council meeting the current status of works and the processes and projects implemented within the frames of international assistance under UNFCCC were presented. The progress and annual work plan of the CBIT project were presented and discussed as well (the Council serves as the CBIT project Steering Committee).</p>
-----------	---	--	---	--	---

					<p>Another topic for the Council discussion was the further work ahead of the preparations for COP-27. All the documents related to the Council and its working groups meetings are available at the website of the Ministry of Environment (in Armenian): http://www.env.am/shrjaka-mijavayr/mijgerateschakan-hamakargman-xorhurd</p> <p>Specifically, the protocols of the two meetings are available through the following links (in Armenian):</p> <p>http://env.am/storage/files/ardzanagrutyunn1-07-01-22.pdf</p> <p>http://env.am/storage/files/protocol-final.pdf.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its end-of-project target for this outcome.</p>
Indicator 5: Presence of legal and/or regulatory requirements for a national transparency framework	Data sharing for reporting on climate change among different institutions is currently done on an informal, voluntary basis.	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	By the end of the project, data sharing agreements in the form of MoUs or legal/regulatory mandates are in place for at least two key reporting sectors.	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>Based on the recommendations of an international consulting company, that has been engaged by the project, MRV arrangements for ensuring continuous data collection system for GHG inventory are being discussed with the Ministry of Environment and the Statistical Committee (The recommendations are part of the final report uploaded as evidence – Indicator 2_MRV framework Armenia report).</p> <p>Moreover, the project team has supported the development of draft amendments to the Law on Atmospheric Air Protection (uploaded as evidence), which are currently under discussion. The draft amendments will clarify the role of the Ministry of Environment in the data collection process for the GHG inventory, entrusting the Government with the functions of defining the procedure for development of GHG inventory, while the Ministry of Environment will be assigned the functions of developing the corresponding procedures. In addition, the amendments will establish an obligation for individuals and legal entities to provide information (data) on a regular basis as necessary for the GHG inventory. These draft amendments are currently in the Office of the Prime Minister, and it is expected that the amendments will be adopted by the National Assembly by</p>

					<p>the end of 2022.</p> <p>The Project will support the Ministry of Environment to develop the secondary legislation that will be stipulated by the amendments to the Law on Atmospheric Air Protection. This process aims to assign responsibilities for data providers on provision of activity data according to the list of data per each data provider on a regular basis (as a continuation of activities initiated in UNDP-GEF Climate Change Enabling Activity supporting the preparation of the Armenia's Third Biennial Update Report (BUR3)). The project has hired a legal expert for this work. The legal expert is expected to develop legal/regulatory documents to ensure the continuous process of collecting data necessary for the development of the GHG inventory.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its target under this outcome.</p>
The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	On track				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				
Outcome 2					
MRV systems in support of an ETF					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2021	Cumulative progress since project start
Indicator 6: Presence of an operational MRV system that is being used for continuous data collection and reporting to the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement with gender	Data are currently collected on an ad hoc, project-by-project basis	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	By the end of the project, an MRV system for climate data and information will be operational and	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	An international consulting company was hired to complete MRV system conceptualization. The consultant team provided the analysis of legal and institutional framework, IT characteristics and requirements, and recommendations on MRV practices and the functioning of the future climate change MRV platform (March 2022). The final report of the

disaggregated data where relevant.			used for data collection, analysis, and reporting to the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement with gender-disaggregated data where relevant.		<p>company has been uploaded as evidence (Indicator 2_MRV framework Armenia report).</p> <p>In addition, a company for developing methodology for continuous collection of information on mitigation policies and actions has been engaged. At the end of this assignment, their experts will propose a data collection protocol that should be sufficient to form the basis of the mitigation component of the MRV platform. They will also deliver a draft package of regulatory arrangements for data provision to support the implementation of the data collection protocol. The Request for Proposal of this consultancy including detailed ToR and scope of work has been uploaded as evidence.</p> <p>The list of climate change-related gender indicators was developed on the basis of “gender-climate change-social vulnerability” cross-cutting targets of SDGs (uploaded as evidence).</p> <p>Moreover, gaps and needs on climate change-related sex-disaggregated indicators were identified in consultations with the Statistical Committee (May 2022). The Statistical Committee presented two presentations on statistics on women and environment (uploaded as evidence) as background papers for the upcoming workshop on gender-related climate change statistics (to be conducted in August 2022).</p> <p>Project experts organized a separate professional discussion with the Statistical Committee on the issues of sex-disaggregated data collection and access to them (the minutes of the meeting in Armenian are included in the evidence files under the title: “Indicator 6_SC_meeting_minutes.pdf”).</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the end-of-project target for this outcome.</p>
------------------------------------	--	--	--	--	---

The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	On track				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				
Outcome 3 Armenia is able to manage data for effective transparency reporting on greenhouse gas (GHG) sources and sinks					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2021	Cumulative progress since project start
Indicator 7: Use of sectoral templates for GHG data collection in key sectors of the inventory	Different approaches are used for data collected by different entities.	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	By the end of the project, inventory experts in at least two key sectors are using sectoral templates for GHG data collection and reporting	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>The project team developed a National Inventory Improvement Plan in August 2022 (uploaded as evidence), which takes into consideration recommendations from the Technical Analysis Summary Report of Armenia's Third Biennial Update Report.</p> <p>Draft sectoral templates for Energy, IPPU, AFOLU sectors were revised, considering recent requirements for improvements in GHG inventory and need of additional activity data. The draft templates have been uploaded as evidence.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its end-of-project target for this outcome.</p>
Indicator 8: Number of sub-sectors where emissions estimates are more robust.	Certain discrepancies in sub-sector data exist, particularly in the AFOLU sector.	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	By the end of the project, the national GHG inventory will have more robust estimates (i.e. moving from Tier 1 to Tier 2) in at least two sub-sectors.	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>Two studies were conducted: "Assessment of administrative data gaps and needs in the Agriculture and Other Land Use sub-sectors" (October 2021) and "Analysis of land use relations for GHG inventory from Land subsector" (December 2021) which identified data gaps in AFOLU sector and provided recommendations for the improvement and increased quality of GHG inventory in this sector. The studies have been uploaded as evidence.</p> <p>Within the scope of implementation of LOA with "Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center" State Non-Commercial Organization, the team within the organization</p>

					<p>is formed and a team of 7 people will be engaged in the development of 2018-2019 pilot GHG inventory.</p> <p>The project team has prepared a scope of work for a service provider to conduct a survey on manure management practices in Armenia. Moreover, in the 3rd quarter of 2022 a company will be hired to collect detailed activity data and develop country-specific emission factors to estimate direct and indirect N2O emissions from managed soils, thus increasing accuracy of GHG emissions' assessment in these key sub-categories and move from Tier 1 to Tier 2.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the end-of-project target.</p>
The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	On track				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				
Outcome 4					
Armenia is able to manage data and information for the framework for transparency of action and the framework for transparency of support under Article 13					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2021	Cumulative progress since project start
Indicator 9: Use of standardized methodologies and guidelines in transparency reporting.	No common methodology is used for assessing and reporting on mitigation policies and actions, support received, and adaptation to climate change.	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	By the end of the project, at least one national climate change reporting document uses methodology developed by the project for reporting in three areas: 1) mitigation policies	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>The project has hired an international company to develop a concept for reporting on mitigation actions and tracking Armenia's progress towards its NDCs, including legal/formal arrangements and protocol for reporting information on mitigation actions. An analytical report and recommendations are expected to be completed by the end of 2022.</p> <p>A ToR for a consultancy on developing a methodology for collecting, analyzing and reporting the financial support received for reporting under Paris Agreement has been drafted (uploaded as evidence), and a tender will be</p>

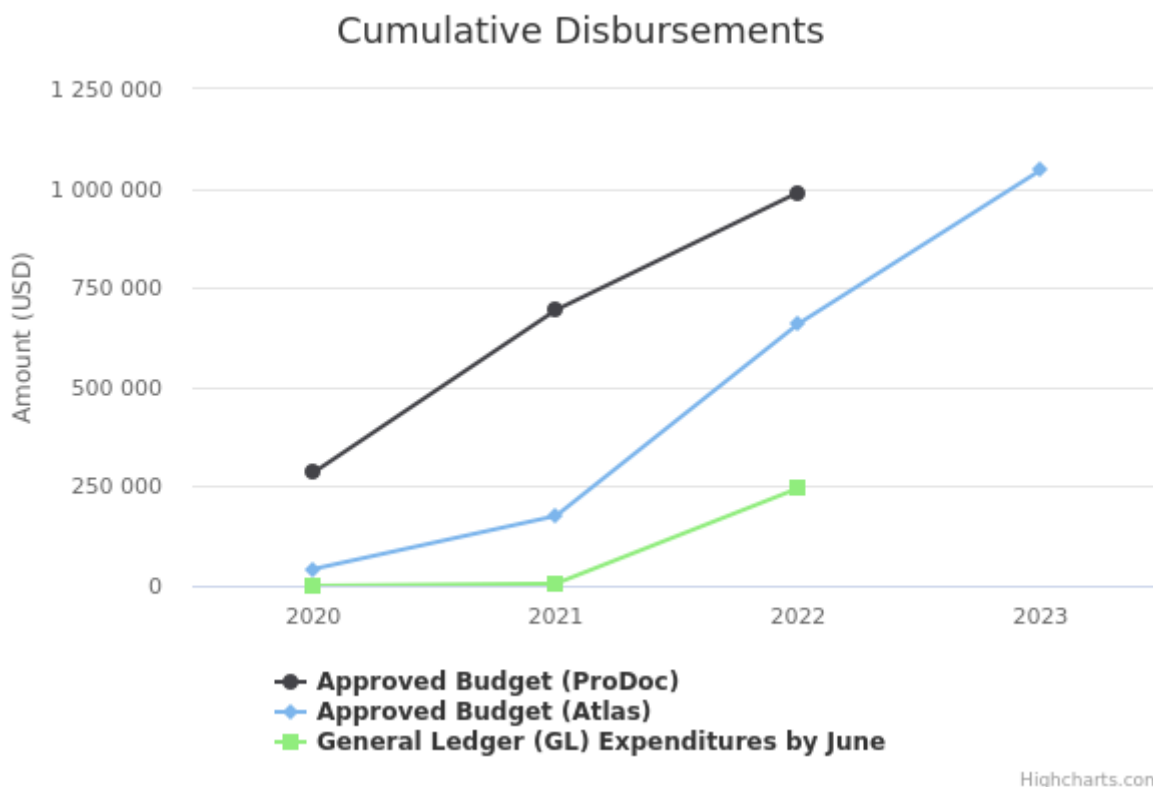
			and actions; 2) support received; and 3) adaptation to climate change.		<p>announced in the 3rd quarter of 2022.</p> <p>In addition, a consultant will be hired in the 3rd quarter of 2022 to identify data sources and availability in the area of climate change adaptation (actions and investments). A short guideline on how to collect the required data will be developed.</p> <p>The Project is cooperating with the “NDC Partnership Facilitation in Armenia” project to ensure synergies of activities and avoid duplication. Within the “NDC Partnership Facilitation in Armenia” project Climate Action Enhancement Package (CAEP) was developed for the Government of Armenia to manage and track alignment and progress of nationally and internationally funded projects and programmes in support of the NDC achievement. Thus, the registry of mitigation projects in Armenia was developed. The Project held consultations to understand how the CAEP can be integrated into the MRV platform to be developed within the Project.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the end-of-project target.</p>
Indicator 10: Coverage of gender issues in climate change reporting	Gender and climate change issues are not mentioned in national climate change documents such as the NCs and BURs	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	By the end of the project, an analysis of gender issues will be included in at least one national climate change report and discussed with stakeholders.	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>In the scope of Armenia’s Third Biennial Update Report Project, the groundwork has been laid for the coverage of gender issues in climate change reporting. Building on that the list of reference sources to statistical data to be used for gender analysis with national climate change reports under the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) will be updated.</p> <p>The project has developed a training module “Gender Analysis for Climate Change Policy and Action” (uploaded as evidence), that will be conducted with members of Working Groups of the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Climate Change who are responsible for data provision and reporting on climate change. The training is planned to be conducted by mid-November 2022.</p> <p>A two-day conference on “Gender related issues and</p>

					possible solutions in the RA climate change actions” was held in 18-19 November 2021 for decision-makers, including the members of working group of the State Commission of Men and Women Equal Rights and women-led non-governmental organizations. More information on this conference is available through the following link: https://bit.ly/3wau5mk . The project is on track to achieve the end-of-project target.
The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	On track				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				
Outcome 5					
Armenia is able to track progress against its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and share its approaches					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2021	Cumulative progress since project start
Indicator 11: Armenia is able to track its progress towards its NDCs	No tracking system or report exists for NDCs.	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	By the end of the project, Armenia will release a status report on its progress towards its NDCs.	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	The draft GHG Inventory for 2018 and 2019 planned to be prepared under the project to track the evidence of mitigation policy impact. The LEAP software adopted for the Armenian energy system was used for projections for NDC-2021 in the energy sector. The project will support in building capacity for using the LEAP software for other IPCC sectors. As the LEAP should be used for other projections. the permission for its application has been requested from the developer and received for 2 years use free of charge. The data collection protocol of mitigation actions and their impact will be developed by an international consultant to facilitate the work at the national level on undertaking adjustments to GHG emissions forecast scenarios as a means for tracking the NDC implementation per set target

					(expected: end of 2022). The project is on track to achieve the end-of-project target.
Indicator 12: Accessibility of information regarding transparency initiatives and climate change reporting in Armenia.	Climate change reports from Armenia are available in different locations on the Internet. Information on transparency initiatives in Armenia is partially available in different locations.	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	By the end of the project, Armenia's climate reports, NDCs, and lessons learned from this project will be available on a national climate change portal and the CBIT Global Coordination Platform or other global transparency website as appropriate.	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	The climate change reports, including National Communications, Biennial Update Reports and National GHG Inventory Reports, are currently disseminated through the Climate Change Information Center's website (https://nature-ic.am/). The formal reports under the UNFCCC are also available at the website of the Ministry of Environment (http://env.am/mijazgayin-hamagorcakcutyun/azgayi-zekuycner). Following the launch and operationalization of the CBIT Global Coordination Platform, the project will also share its results and lessons learned through the website of the Platform and by participating workshops organized by this Global CBIT project. The project is on track to achieve the end-of-project target.
Indicator 13: Consideration of gender issues in progress towards the NDC	Gender and climate change issues are not mentioned in the current NDC.	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	By the end of the project, the tracking system for the NDC will monitor gender considerations related to the NDC, such as the differentiated impact of proposed measures on women and men.	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	Gender related aspects were covered in Armenia's updated 2021-2030 NDC (uploaded as evidence), where the gender responsiveness is required as an approach in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • implementing of NDC actions, • NDC reviewing process, • the next NDC preparation process. The contacts are established with Statistical Committee gender statistic focal point, as well as with State Commission of Men and Women Equal Rights. In 2021, a series of meetings/round-table discussions was organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs where Gender & Climate Change cross-cutting issues had been presented by the Project. As a result of discussions, the proposed action on "Ensuring women's participation in decision-

					<p>making and in the development of programs on Climate Change mitigation and adaptation at the national, regional and community levels” was included in the “National Programme and 2022-2024 Action Plan for Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution N1325 on “Women, Peace and Security” and adopted by the Government of Armenia on 02.06.2022 (Decree No. 803-L, https://www.e-gov.am/gov-decrees/item/38359/).</p> <p>In 2021, the Ministry of Labour and Social Issues, responsible for implementation of the National Gender Strategy and Action plan for 2019-2023, initiated amendments to the Prime-Minister Decree N1740-A (21.11.2019) in order to update the composition of State Commission of Men and Women Equal Rights. As a result, for the first time, the Deputy Minister of Environment became a member of the State Commission of Men and Women Equal Rights, according to the Prime Minister Decree N215-A (09.03.2021, https://www.e-gov.am/decrees/item/23128/).</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the end-of-project target.</p>
The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	On track				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				

D. Implementation Progress



Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc):	24.79%
Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year:	24.79%
Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June:	245,464

Key Financing Amounts

PPG Amount	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
GEF Grant Amount	990,000
Co-financing	570,000

Key Project Dates

Project duration	36 months
PIF Approval Date	Apr 18, 2019
CEO Endorsement Date	May 20, 2020
Project Document Signature Date (project start date):	Dec 16, 2020

Date of Inception Workshop	May 7, 2021
First Disbursement Date	May 31, 2021
Expected Date of Mid-term Review	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
Actual Date of Mid-term Review	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation	Sep 16, 2023
Original Planned Closing Date	Dec 16, 2023
Revised Planned Closing Date	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>

Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2021 to 1 July 2022)

2022-05-25

Co-financing

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Co-financing amount confirmed at CEO Endorsement / Approval	Investment mobilized	Materialized co-financing as of Jun 30, 2022
GEF Agency	UNDP	In Kind	170,000	Recurrent expenditures	75,000
Recipient Government	Ministry of Environment	In Kind	400,000	Recurrent expenditures	176,000
Σ			570,000		251,000

Project Manager: Please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones outlined in the above 'Key Project Dates' table. Include comments on COVID-19 related challenges, delays and impact. If there are no delays, please indicated 'not applicable'.

Project Document was signed on December 16, 2020. However, the inception workshop was held on May 7, 2021. The delays were due to slow hiring of the project management staff. Thus, the actual start of the project and the first disbursement were made in the end of May 2021. The delays are partly caused by the compound crisis in Armenia related to the COVID-19, and the 2020 hostilities in and around Nagorno-Karabakh and its impacts on standard operational procedures.

Another reason for the delays is related to the capacity constraints of the "Environmental Projects Implementation Unit", which is the State Agency of the Ministry of Environment, defined in the CBIT project document as the project Implementing Partner (IP). In consultation with the Ministry of Environment, the "Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center", a State Non-commercial Organization under the Ministry of Environment was defined as Responsible Party for execution of certain project activities. Given that the charter of the Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center includes certain

provisions on the climate change transparency, the strategic objective is that in future the Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center can act as a specialized entity to coordinate certain functions related to transparency as a result of gaining experience, capacity and knowledge for national reporting under UNFCCC through CBIT project.

CO Programme Officer: Please include specific measures to manage the project's implementation performance

The project encountered delays due to the later start of the project (May 2021 instead of December 2020) due to the COVID-19 global pandemic and post-war emergency situation in the country as well as capacity gaps within the project Implementing Partner - Ministry of Environment that has necessitated the involvement of the "Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center", a State Non-commercial Organization affiliated with the Ministry of Environment to act as a Responsible Party in the project and carry out certain project activities.

Besides, the project set back in the implementation schedule due to late recruitment of International Consultant on Capacity Building for Transparency Framework under the Paris Agreement and ongoing recruitment of the project assistant. The gap of the project assistant has been filled in by the backup of other project staff members.

Specific measures to support the project's implementation performance include:

- regular consultations with the Deputy Minister of Environment, national director of the project and UNFCCC focal point; and the Climate Policy Department of the Ministry, acting as a Secretary to Inter-Agency Council on Climate Change on the progress of the project, challenges and risk mitigation measures;
- technical discussions with the members of the Inter-Agency Council on Climate Change and its working groups;
- regular meetings with the management of EU4Climate, National Adaptation Plan and NDC Partnership Facilitation projects to share lessons learned and project results and explore synergies and opportunities for cooperation;
- providing technical expertise in the form of suggestions/comments to the draft legal acts to mainstream climate agenda in the country, that would also facilitate the delivery of certain project outputs.

Although cumulative delivery is lower than the project document approved budget, funds have been committed and consultants have been engaged to accelerate the expected outputs under the annual plan (the target of the delivery of budget is about 61% by end of 2022).

However, these delays are not likely to affect the overall ability of the project to achieve its targets.

NCE RTA: Please include specific measures to manage the project's implementation performance.

The project implementation is proceeding mainly as planned and the completion of key project activities are on track with minor delays. The IP rating of "Moderately Satisfactory" is owing to the delays in the start of project implementation, that has resulted in a considerably lower cumulative financial delivery rate (24,79% as of June 2022) than the original target envisaged by the project document. The project document was signed on 16 December 2020 and although the recruitment process of the project management team has immediately initiated after that, due to unsatisfactory results of the first round, a re-advertisement of the positions was needed which resulted in a longer selection process than originally expected. In addition, the delays in the project's start were also connected to the aggravation of the COVID situation in the country, combined with the rotation of key

staff of the Implementing Partner and the conflicts in Nagorno-Karabakh that affected standard operating procedures and priorities of Government institutions. Finally, in April 2021, the Project Manager was recruited, and the Inception Workshop was held on 7th May 2021. Since then, the implementation of project has intensified, but due to capacity constraints on the Implementing Partner's side including further difficulties in the fulfillment of the Project Assistant position, the recruitment of consultants and the execution of project activities have progressed in as slower pace in 2021. To accelerate the implementation progress, the project has exercised adaptive management by identifying and engaging a Responsible Party in early 2022, the Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center, which is a State Non-commercial Organization affiliated with the IP to implement certain project activities under Component 1 and 3. In addition, the project has also managed to step up the engagement of consultants this year and the commitment of project funds accordingly which should result in an increased financial delivery rate by end of this year in alignment with the project's Annual Workplan. Overall, the project is managed well and on track to achieve all of its targets, however, considering that the operational closure of the project is 16 December 2023, the project management team should keep accelerating the delivery of remaining activities. The project should find a permanent solution for the fulfillment of the Project Assistant position to advance procurement processes and operational procedures. Regular monitoring of activities executed by the Responsible Party and external experts is essential along with the continuous update and revision of project's workplan and budget to ensure that funds are fully utilized by the end of project. In light of Covid-19 pandemic, the project should consider keeping virtual and hybrid approaches when organizing trainings and workshops and consider the development of on-line training modules that could replace/complement in-person trainings and provide wider accessibility.

E. Project Governance

Dates of Project Board Meetings during reporting period (1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022). Please also upload all meeting minutes using the FILE LIBRARY button.

2022-05-25

F. Ratings and Overall Assessments

Role	2022 Development Objective Progress Rating	2022 Implementation Progress Rating
UNDP-NCE Technical Adviser	Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory
UNDP Country Office Programme Officer	Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory

Role	2022 Overall Assessment
UNDP-NCE Technical Adviser	<p>The primary objective of the project is to support Armenia in building institutional and technical capacities to meet enhanced transparency requirements under United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as defined in the Article 13 of the Paris Agreement (PA) and to shift to a permanent institutional framework for Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) that would allow the country to track its progress in implementing and achieving its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the PA.</p> <p>The project is in its second year of implementation and this its first PIR. Following initial delays, the project has managed to accelerate the implementation of its activities and delivered significant achievements against its end-of-project targets as evidenced under each outcome. Some targets have already been met and all targets are currently on track and expected to be achieved by the project closure.</p> <p>In terms of the overall development objective, the project has taken important steps in establishing a comprehensive MRV system, including the development and formalization of institutional and legal arrangements and the design of an MRV platform that are essential for the fulfillment of enhanced transparency requirements and tracking the progress of Armenia's NDCs. The project has also carried out a wide-range of capacity-building activities on transparency, including the delivery of trainings and workshops targeting government agencies, NGOs, the academia and the private sector. As for Objective Indicator 3, with the establishment of the Climate Policy Department within the Ministry of Environment, Armenia has a designated transparency institution with an organizational unit and standing staff that has authority and mandate and some capacity to coordinate and implement transparency activities under Article 13 of the PA.</p> <p>Under Outcome 1, the project has supported the establishment of the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Implementation of Requirements and Provisions of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement and its Working Groups. The Council coordinates and oversees the fulfilment of all commitments of Armenia under UNFCCC including transparency and reporting obligations and achievement of the country's NDCs. The Council also serves as the Project Board for this project ensuring high-level political support and active involvement of representative of key ministries in the project. In addition, the project has developed draft amendments to the Law on Atmospheric Air Protection (provided as evidence) that are under adoption by the National Assembly to formalize the role and functions of the Ministry of Environment and the Government in the GHG Inventory preparation and data collection process and to designate obligations for individuals and legal entities for data provision necessary for the GHG Inventory. Within the next period, the project will continue to support the Ministry of Environment in the development of secondary legislation to the Law on Atmospheric Air Protection to assign clear</p>

roles and responsibilities for data providers in the GHG Inventory preparation process.

Under Outcome 2, the project has made considerable progress in the development of an operational MRV system to be used for continuous data collection and reporting. A concept for Climate Change Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (CCMRV) platform has been designed (provided as evidence) in line with requirements of the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) of the PA, including recommendations for its components and architecture, IT characteristics, software requirements and supporting legislative and regulatory measures to ensure its successful operation. The CCMR will facilitate the preparation of the country's GHG inventory, the monitoring and reporting on climate change mitigation and adaptation actions and support needed and received to implement those actions.

Under Outcome 3, the project has provided substantial contribution to the quality enhancement of country's GHG Inventory (GHGI) by developing a National Inventory Improvement Plan (provided as evidence) and revising sectoral templates for Energy, IPPU, AFOLU sectors to facilitate data collection for the 2018-2019 GHG Inventory (provided as evidence). Furthermore, the project has conducted two studies (provided as evidence) which identified data gaps and provided recommendations for the improvement of the GHG inventory in the AFOLU sector. Preparatory work has also been done in relation to the development of country-specific emission factors to improve estimates of direct and indirect N₂O emissions from managed soils in terms of accuracy and completeness and to support the transition from Tier 1 to Tier 2 method in this sub-sector. A team of experts have been formed in the Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center (the project's Responsible Party) for the development of the 2018-2019 GHG Inventory and the project has organized targeted trainings for them on the application of the 2006 IPCC Guidelines and the quality control and quality assurance requirements for GHG data collection and analysis.

Under Outcome 4 and Outcome 5, the work is on-going to support capacity-building in transparency and reporting. External experts are being engaged to develop methodologies, protocols and regulatory arrangements for data collection and reporting on mitigation policies and actions, support needed and received, adaptation to climate change and tracking progress towards NDC targets to serve as basis of specific components of the MRV platform to be established under Outcome 2.

The project has maintained extensive stakeholder participation and enhanced collaboration and capacity-building on climate change transparency by organizing several trainings, workshops and consultations reaching over 162 participants (95 women) representing 35 institutions including state authorities, NGOs, the academia, the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Climate Change and its working groups (more information on these events are either uploaded as evidence and/or provided by links under the DO progress section). All projects news, knowledge products, including training/workshop materials and press releases are published on the project website: <https://nature-ic.am/en/projects/Building-Armenia%E2%80%99s-National-Transparency-Framework-under-Paris-Agreement/1039> as well as presented to decision-makers and other stakeholders through targeted briefings and discussions and in workshops and conferences.

The project has been doing a great work in supporting the integration of gender perspectives in climate change monitoring and reporting. It has been working closely with the Statistical Committee to identify constraints and gaps in collecting sex-disaggregated data in climate change reporting and to update the list of reference sources to statistical data to be used for gender analysis

within national climate change reports. Furthermore, the project has developed a training module on “Gender Analysis for Climate Change Policy and Action” (uploaded as evidence), that will be delivered in the coming months for members of the Working Groups of the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Climate Change, data providers, data users and policy makers to support gender-responsive climate change policy development. The project has also been strongly advocating for enhanced women participation in climate change decision-making and continuously monitors the participation of women in all trainings, workshops and in the Project Board to ensure their proper representation. Women’s participation in project workshops and trainings has reached a level of approximately 59%, with an increase from 54.3% in the first project event to 71% in the last event (lists of participants of all events are provided as evidence).

Based on all the above the DO Progress rating is ‘Satisfactory’.

As outlined in more detail under the IP rating section, the project has faced initial delays in the project start due to the challenges in the recruitment of the project management team, restrictions imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic, rotation of key staff in the Implementing Partner (IP) and conflicts in Nagorno-Karabakh that affected standard operating procedures and priorities of Government institutions. The delays have also impacted the cumulative financial delivery rate, which is lower than the target presented in the approved project document (24,79% as of June 2022). For these reasons, the IP rating is “Moderately Satisfactory”. During the first reporting period, no major amendments have been made to the project, but to accelerate implementation progress minor amendments in relation to implementation arrangements and risk analysis have been initiated.

Recognizing further capacity constraints on the Implementing Partner’s side (Ministry of Environment), a Responsible Party has been identified and engaged by project. The Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center, a state non-commercial organization affiliated with the Ministry of Environment will support the implementation of certain project activities under Component 1 and 3. By participating in the project, the Center will have the opportunity to enhance its capacities in applied research and monitoring in several GHG inventory sectors with the objective that in the future it can take on the coordination and implementation of certain transparency and reporting activities under the supervision of the Ministry of Environment. Regarding risk analysis, a new operational risk has been added to the ATLAS Risk Register capturing the slow hiring process of project management staff, which has delayed the project start and negatively affected implementation progress. Although, the Project Manager was hired in April 2021, the Project Assistant position is still vacant imposing on-going capacity gaps within the project management unit. The project is working closely with the Human Resource Unit and the senior management to finalize the recruitment process.

Despite initial delays and challenges, the project is progressing well and showing a positive trend of steady increase in disbursements that should be continued in the next period as the engagement of external experts are on-going and funds are being committed accordingly. The project governance is well-functioning with the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Implementation of Requirements and Provisions of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement serving as the Project Board. The latest Project Board meeting was organized on 25 May 2022. For the remaining time, the project should keep accelerating the implementation of its activities, specifically the establishment of the Climate Change MRV platform to leave sufficient time for its piloting and operationalizing before project closure (16 December 2023).

<p>UNDP Country Office Programme Officer</p>	<p>The initial delays in project implementation are caused by the compound crisis in Armenia related to the COVID-19, and their consequences and the 2020 hostilities in and around Nagorno-Karabakh, its impacts on the start of the project. However, the project is progressing steadily and currently, is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. To recompensate the late start of the project and implement project activities as planned, there is a certain acceleration of delivery this year. The project activities are being implemented in close cooperation with the Government stakeholders and international partners.</p> <p>The project progress can be tracked though the analysis of indicators as per project monitoring plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indicator 1 is achieved and has exceeded the end of project target, as the project has already reached 162 beneficiaries including 95 women. - Indicator 2 (on track) - the MRV system concept is developed (uploaded as evidence), including suggestions for required IT characteristics. - Indicator 3 (achieved and continuous) - Climate Policy Department was established within the Ministry of Environment in 2020. The department serves as the Secretariat to Inter-agency Council on Climate Change. The project continuously conducts capacity building activities and has close cooperation with the department. - Indicator 4 (achieved and continuous) - The Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Climate Change has met twice (07 January 2022, and 25 May 2022) since its establishment in November 2021. (Links to the documents of the meetings have been included under the DO progress section as evidence). - Indicator 5 (on track) - The Project will support the Ministry of Environment to develop the secondary legislation that will be stipulated by the amendments to the Law on Atmospheric Air Protection. - Indicator 6 (on track) - the draft package of regulatory arrangements for data provision to support the implementation of the data collection is developed and will be discussed with the Ministry of Environment in mid-September 2022. - Indicator 7 (on track) – draft sectoral templates are revised and are used for collection of data for 2018, 2019 GHG inventory. - Indicator 8 (on track) – Activities are initiated for improvement of activity data and development of country-specific emission factors to estimate direct and indirect N₂O emissions from managed soils (to move from Tier 1 to Tier 2). - Indicator 9 (on track) – the international company was hired to develop a concept for reporting on mitigation actions and tracking Armenia’s progress towards its NDCs. - Indicator 10 (on track) - Groundwork has been laid for the coverage of gender issues in climate change reporting by several capacity building activities, including the development of a training module on Gender Analysis for Climate Change Policy and Action (uploaded as evidence) - Indicator 11 (on track) – The draft GHG Inventory for 2018 and 2019 planned to be prepared under the project to track the evidence of mitigation policy impact. - Indicator 12 (on track) – climate change related information and reports are placed and regularly updated on Climate Change Information Center web-site

	<p>(https://nature-ic.am/).</p> <p>- Indicator 13 (on track) - Gender related aspects were covered in Armenia's updated 2021-2030 NDCs.</p> <p>As of the reporting period, the project is on track, not major obstacles are anticipated, thus the DO Rating is satisfactory.</p>
Project Manager/Coordinator	<p>All project activities are progressing as planned with a high degree of stakeholder engagement. In particular, the project has demonstrated achievements in the following areas:</p> <p>*Supporting sustainability by strengthening capacity in the institutions that will be crucial to successful MRV efforts. The team has provided targeted support to the Statistical Committee and has signed a Letter of Agreement with the Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center that will allow the Center to build experience in applied research and monitoring in several GHG inventory sectors. These activities will build capacity in state institutions and experts to sustain MRV efforts beyond the project lifetime.</p> <p>*Use of an inter-agency body for decision-making and awareness-raising. The project has organized several discussions with the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Climate Change and its working groups on transparency issues. The council provides a means of communicating information to multiple ministries (Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure, Ministry of Economy) and other stakeholders such as the Statistical Committee, including those that are not traditionally tasked with climate change but must be involved for successful MRV. The decree on working groups also introduced a gender quota for participation that the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Climate Change has subsequently met.</p> <p>*Gender issues have now been mainstreamed into the updated NDC.</p> <p>The global COVID-19 pandemic has affected project implementation primarily in terms of delivery related to international experts, and travelling was restricted for most of the reporting period. The project adapted to these constraints by organizing hybrid and virtual meetings and training workshops.</p> <p>In summary, the project continues to make steady progress, and it is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by the project closure.</p>
GEF Operational Focal point	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
Project Implementing Partner	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
Other Partners	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>

G. Minor Amendments

A) Results Framework
No
Provide a description of the change(s) to the 'Results framework'
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
B) Components and cost
No
Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Components and cost'
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
C) Institutional and implementation arrangements
Yes
Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Institutional and implementation arrangements'
In the project document “Environmental Project Implementation Unit” State Agency of the Ministry of Environment is identified as the Project Implementing Partner (IP). However, due to the extreme workload of the institution, in consultation with the Ministry of Environment, it was decided to involve the Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center, a state non-commercial organization affiliated with the Ministry of Environment, as a Responsible Party to support the IP in the execution of project activities. For this purpose, the project team carried out a Micro-assessment of the organization and the Letter of Agreement (LoA) between the Center and UNDP was signed on February 26, 2022 (uploaded as evidence/supporting document). The objective of this partnership is to build capacity within a Ministry-affiliated institution as an organizational unit with standing staff that can coordinate the implementation of certain functions related to transparency including reporting under UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement. The Center will carry out certain activities under the project, as described in detail in the attached LoA.
D) Financial management
No
Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Financial Management'
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
E) Implementation schedule
No
Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Implementation schedule'
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
F) Executing Entity
No
Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Executing Entity'

<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
G) Executing Entity Category
No
Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Executing Entity Category'
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
H) Minor project objective change
No
Provide a description of the change(s) to 'minor project objective change'
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
I) Safeguards
No
Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Safeguards'
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
J) Risk Analysis
Yes
Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Risk Analysis'
During the reporting period, a new risk has been added to the ATLAS Risk Register in relation to the time-consuming hiring process of project staff that has delayed the project start and resulted on-going capacity gaps in the project management unit in relation to the function of the Project Assistant. As a response measures, the senior management has been involved in the discussion with the Human Resource Unit on how to accelerate the fulfillment of the Project Assistant position and now the selection process is under finalization.
K) Increase of GEF project financing up to 5%
No
Provide a description of the change to GEF project financing up to 5%
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
L) Co-financing
No
Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Co-financing'
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
M) Location of project activity
No

Provide a description of the change(s) to project location activity
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
Other
No
Please provide a description of other types of minor amendments that do not fall under any of the above categories. For example, minor changes to the project's Gender Action Plan and/or gender activities can be captured here.
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
Upload any supporting documentation related to responses in this section.
Indicator 3 LOA-UNDP-HMC FINAL EN Signed.pdf

H. Gender

Progress in Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

<p>1) 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.</p>
<p><i>(not set or not applicable)</i></p>
<p>Atlas Gender Marker Rating</p>
<p>GEN2: gender equality as significant objective</p>
<p>2) 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):</p>
<p>Contributing to closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources: No</p>
<p>Improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance: Yes</p>
<p>Targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women: No</p>
<p>Not applicable: No</p>
<p>3) Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women.</p>
<p>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.</p>
<p>Decision making:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Institutional mechanisms for women participation in decision making was improved. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - at least 30% of female participation in the constitution of the Working Groups is required by the Deputy Prime Minister Decree N894-A was adopted on November 4, 2021, "On Establishing Inter-Agency Working Groups Adjacent to the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Implementation of Requirements and Provisions of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement and Approval of the Composition and Rules of Procedure Thereof" (the Project has supported the development of the decree). More than 30% of female participation in both the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Climate Change and its working groups has been achieved (as of 01.02.2022). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 8 out of 15 members of the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Climate Change are women (53%), - 20 out of 24 members of working groups of the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Climate Change are women (83%). Women's participation in the project workshops and trainings totaled approximately 59%, and the rate of participation increased from 54.3% in the first project event to 71% in the most recent

project event.

Capacity building:

4. A two-day conference on “Gender related issues and possible solutions in the RA climate change actions” was held on 18-19 November 2021 for decision-makers, including the members of Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Climate Change working groups and women-led non-governmental organisations (the conference was organized in cooperation with the National Adaptation Planning Project; <https://bit.ly/3dZXfi4>):

- 35 out of 38 participants were women (92%),

- 12 women out of 26 government officials were the members of the State Commission of Men and Women Equal Rights and its working group, as well as the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Climate Change and its working groups.

5. A two-day “Introductory Training on Climate Change Transparency Framework” was conducted for the members of the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Climate Change and its working groups, where climate change gender impacts and responses were also presented (May 12-13, 2022).

6. Within the project a training module on “Gender Analysis for Climate Change Policy and Action” was developed, and will be delivered to the members of working groups of Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Climate Change in upcoming months.

Consultation

Gender-related climate data was sent to the members of working groups of the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Climate Change upon request. The request came from the Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs. The data included reports, articles, global gender indicators, etc.

Monitoring

All workshops, conferences and trainings were monitored to ensure at least 50% female participation.

The pre- and post-tests were conducted among the participants of all events to assess knowledge, attitudes and willingness of participants related to the needs to be covered. One of the sections of the questionnaire was dedicated to gender related knowledge and attitudes. According to the results, there was 44% positive change in the understanding that climate change deepens gender inequality, 43% positive change in the understanding that women and men are affected differently by climate change and 38% positive change regarding the question on differentiated response to climate change by women and men. After the training, 56% more participants believed that gender consideration in climate change policies can make climate change adaptation and mitigation actions more effective.

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

The work on advancing gender equality accomplished during the reporting period enhanced the project's environmental and resilience outcomes by establishing institutional mechanisms ensuring participation of women in decision-making, as well as in capacity building and consultation, conferences, round-table and focus group discussions.

In 2021, the Government defined the new composition of State Commission of Men and Women Equal Rights with inclusion of Deputy Minister of Environment. The climate change-related gender issues will be mainstreamed in the gender strategy for 2023-2025.

It is worth mentioning that six women-led non-governmental organizations are included in the State Commission of Men and Women Equal Rights.

I. Risk Management

A) Review of Risks outlined in Risk Register and PIMS+ risk tab

CO Programme Officer: Has the Atlas Risk Register been updated during this reporting period?
Yes
NCE RTA:
Please provide an assessment of project risk management (including risks reported in Risk Register and risks included in the project's risk tab in PIMS+) undertaken in the reporting period and summarize the key risk management measures to be taken in the coming year. This text will be pulled into the risk management action plan in this project's risk tab in PIMS+.
<p>The risks included in the ATLAS Risk Register and the risk tab in PIMS+ have been continuously monitored, reviewed and updated by the project team and UNDP. No risks have been triggered in PIMS+ risk tab and the overall risk rating is low. The implementation of risk-management measures is on-going and continuously monitored as well.</p> <p>Although insufficient government support and lack of proper coordination have been identified as potential risks that could impede the operationalization of functioning MRV system, with establishment of the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Implementation of Requirements and Provisions of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement that also serve as Project Board for this project, high-level political support and active involvement of line ministries in the project has been ensured in a well-coordinated manner. The project has been supporting the approval of legislation formalizing roles and responsibilities of data providers in the GHG Inventory preparation process, that will allow the Government to enforce arrangements for ministries and other data providers to produce and report necessary data in a timely manner.</p> <p>The Covid-19 pandemic has affected the approach of conducting trainings and stakeholder consultations and prompted the project team to shift to alternative methods by applying virtual tools and organizing hybrid events that should be kept to avoid further delays. With regards to the conflict in Nagorno Karabakh, a ceasefire has been reached, but the project is monitoring closely the situation and maintains regular communication with Government counterparts and key experts and stakeholders of the project to ensure that a possible resumption of the dispute does not affect negatively the delivery of project outputs.</p> <p>During the reporting period, one new risk has been added to the ATLAS Risk Register in relation to the slow hiring process of project management staff, which has delayed the project start and negatively affected implementation progress. Although, the Project Manager was hired in April 2021, the Project Assistant position still has not been fulfilled resulting in on-going capacity gaps within the project management unit. The project is working closely with the Human Resource Unit and the senior management to finalize the recruitment process, while other project staff is providing back-up support for this function until the Project Assistant is on board.</p>

B) Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards) Risks

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.

If the project has updated its SESP during implementation, then please upload that file below.

<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
1) Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during the reporting period?
No
If any new social and/or environmental risks have been identified during the reporting period please describe the new risk(s) and the response to it.
N/A.
2) Have any existing social and/or environmental risks become more severe and/or has the project's SESP categorization changed during the reporting period? For example, when a low risk increased to moderate, or a moderate risk increased to substantial/high.
No
If any existing social and/or environmental risks have become more severe and/or if the project's SESP categorization has changed during implementation please describe the change(s) and the response to it. Note that any change to the project's SESP categorization should be confirmed by the Project Board and by the NCE PTA (and potentially cleared by the NCE safeguards team).
N/A.
3) Have any social and environmental assessments and/or management plans been prepared or updated, and/or has the SESP been updated in the reporting period, as required? For example, an updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) or Indigenous Peoples Plan.
No
If yes, please upload the document(s) above using the FILE LIBRARY button. If no, please explain when the required documents will be prepared.
N/A.
4) Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential) during the reporting period?
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.
N/A.
5) Is this project on track with the preparation and/or implementation of all safeguards measures required for compliance with the UNDP SES?
Not Applicable
If no, please explain:
Based on the exemption criteria, this project is exempt from SESP screening.

J. Knowledge Management & Communications

The **Project Manager** must complete the three questions below.

<p>1) Please provide progress on the implementation of the project's Knowledge Management approach approved at CEO Endorsement/Approval. If there is no KM approach/strategy, please comment on how the project is capturing and disseminating best practices and lessons learned.</p>
<p>The primary channel for disseminating lesson learned during the reporting period was the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Climate Change, which provided an efficient way to reach stakeholders in multiple ministries. The Council members participated in several briefings and targeted trainings on MRV issues.</p> <p>In addition, the conference on gender and climate issues in Armenia organized on 18-19 November 2021 provided a way to reach women-led non-governmental organisations, which might not ordinarily receive project-related information.</p> <p>Internally, the co-location of the project with other donor-supported climate change projects at the Energy and Environment Unit of the Ministry of Environment allowed for the ongoing exchange of information and experience, particularly with the EU4Climate and GEF Climate Change Enabling Activity projects, and it helped to avoid duplication in activities in areas such as training.</p> <p>The project has consulted on good practice with other UNDP-GEF projects in the RBEC region and has applied lessons learned from Macedonian and Serbian CBIT projects. Experience on the sequencing and the scope of MRV, M&E lessons were studied.</p> <p>The project plans on active participation in the sub-regional transparency networks and the streamlined global knowledge platform to be implemented under the GEF CBIT Global Platform Phase II projects (GEF ID 10128 and 10088) are still in place, and they will take place as soon as the global projects are launched.</p> <p>Project news and products, including training/workshop materials and press releases are uploaded in the project website:</p> <p>https://nature-ic.am/en/projects/Building-Armenia%E2%80%99s-National-Transparency-Framework-under-Paris-Agreement/1039</p> <p>The project also has developed PR and Communications Strategy (provided as evidence).</p>
<p>2) Please provide URLs specific to this project in the relevant field below. Please categorize the URLs appropriately (for example: project websites, social media sites, media coverage, etc.)</p>
<p>Project website: http://www.nature-ic.am/en/projects/Building-Armenia's-National-Transparency-Framework-under-Paris-Agreement/1039</p> <p>Project knowledge news, products, including training workshop materials and press releases: http://nature-ic.am/en/news/1039</p> <p>Project publications: http://www.nature-ic.am/en/publications/Publications/1039/1</p>
<p>3) In the PIR platform, please upload any supporting files, including the project's Communications Strategy, photos, videos, stories and other communication/knowledge materials.</p>

[CBIT Armenia PR and Communications Strategy.pdf](#)

K. Stakeholder Engagement

(A) Provide an update on progress, challenges and outcomes related to stakeholder engagement based on the description in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent documentation submitted at CEO Endorsement/Approval.

(B) Upload all available documentation of the project's stakeholder engagement, including surveys, FPIC reports and others using the FILE LIBRARY button in the upper right corner of the PIR.

(C) If the project's Stakeholder Engagement Plan has been updated during the reporting period, please upload that file using the FILE LIBRARY button above.

The project has adhered to the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) as presented in the Project Document, and it has expanded engagement in three areas relative to the baseline.

First, the project has expanded cooperation with the Ministry of Environment in the sense that it has signed a Letter of Agreement appointing the ministry-affiliated Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center as a Responsible Party for the project.

Second, the project has worked directly with the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Climate Change and its working groups (see the above section on progress towards project outcomes for details). This work was envisioned as part of the project but not explicitly stated in the SEP.

Finally, the project has worked closely with the EU-funded EU4Climate project in order to capture synergies in support for climate change MRV, NDC tracking, and gender mainstreaming. There are ongoing consultations with the expert team of the Armenia's National Adaptation Plan UNDP-GCF project.

By July 1, 2022, the project delivered 5 trainings/workshops. The total number of training/workshop participants was 319.

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.