



Terminal Evaluation Report of Integrated Reporting and Transparency System Project in Bosnia and Herzegovina (CBIT Project)

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TE Time Frame: Nov 2023 to Feb 2024

Region/Country: Europe & Central Asia/Bosnia Herzegovina

GEF Focal Area: GEF-6 Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT)

GEF Implementing Agency: UNDP

Implementing Partner: Ministry of Spatial Planning Civil Engineering and

Ecology Republika Srpska, BIH

Implementation Modality: Support to NIM

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Herzegovina**

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Sincerely
Nisar Ahmad Khan
TE Consultant

Disclaimer:

This report has been prepared by an independent consultant evaluator and is a product of the Independent Evaluation Office of UNDP. The findings and conclusions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of UNDP Country Office or the UNDP Senior Management.

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ACRONYMS

BD	Brčko District
BiH	Bosnia and Herzegovina
BUR	Biennial Update Report
CBIT	Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency
CC	Climate Change
CPD	UNDP Country Programme Document
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EEA	European Environment Agency
EIS	Environment Information System
EU	European Union
FBiH	Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
FMET	Federal Ministry of Environment and Tourism for Bosnia Herzegovina
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
HMI	Hydro-Meteorological Institute
INC	Initial National Communication
iNDC	Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
LEDS	Low Emission Development Strategy
LULUCF	Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry
LPAC	Local Project Appraisal Committee
MOFTER	Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MRV	Measurement, Reporting and Verification
MSPCEE RS	Ministry of Spatial Planning, Civil Engineering and Ecology of Republika Srpska
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NIM	National Implementation Modality
NCs	National Communications
OECD-DAC	Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development-Development Assistance Committee
PIR	Project Implementation Report
PM	Project Manager
QA/QC	Quality Assurance and Quality Control
RF	Results Framework
RS	Republika Srpska
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SESP	Social and Environmental Safeguards Procedure
TBUR	Third Biennial Update Report
TE	Terminal Evaluation
ToR	Terms of Reference
UNCBD	UN Convention on Biological Diversity
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDP CO	UNDP Country Office
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Table-1: Project Information

Project title: Integrated Reporting and Transparency System of Bosnia and Herzegovina			
Country: Bosnia and Herzegovina	Implementing Partner: Ministry of Spatial Planning Civil Engineering and Ecology	Management Arrangements: National Implementation Modality (NIM) Originally conceived as NIM but implemented under Country Office Support to NIM	
UNDAF/Country Programme Outcome: <i>Outcome 5: By 2019, legal and strategic framework enhanced and operationalized to ensure sustainable management of natural, cultural and energy resources</i>			
UNDP: Accelerate structural transformations for sustainable development Signature Solution 2: Strengthen effective, inclusive and accountable governance Output 1.1.1.: Capacities developed across the whole of government to integrate the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement, and other international agreements in development plans and budgets, and to analyze progress towards the SDGs, using innovative and data-driven solutions.			
UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Category: Low		UNDP Gender Marker: GEN-2	
Quantum Award ID: 00110743.1 Atlas Award ID: 00112076		Quantum Project ID: 00110743 Atlas Output ID: 00110743	
UNDP-GEF PIMS+ ID number: 6209		GEF ID number: 9966	
Planned start date: 01 September 2020		Planned end date: 31 August 2023	
ProDoc signature/Actual start date: 4 November 2020		Extended/Actual end date: 4 May 2024	
LPAC date: 28 July 2020			
FINANCING PLAN			
		At CEO endorsement USD	At Terminal Evaluation USD
	GEF Trust Fund	1,200,000	1,200,000 ¹
	UNDP TRAC resources	0	0
	Cash co-financing to be administered by UNDP	0	0
	Total Budget administered by UNDP (1)	1,200,000	1,200,000
PARALLEL CO-FINANCING			
	Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina	50,000	50,000
	Ministry of Environment and Tourism of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina	50,000	50,000
	Ministry for Spatial Planning, Civil Engineering and Ecology of Republika Srpska	50,000	50,000
	Hydro-meteorological Institute of Republika Srpska	50,000	50,000
	Hydro-meteorological Institute of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina	50,000	50,000
	Total co-financing (2)	250,000	250,000²
	Grand-Total Project Financing (1+2)	1,450,000	1,450,000

¹ The figure represents the total available/mobilized GEF fund, which were at the disposal of project at TE. Furthermore, at the time of TE project has utilized USD 1,015,472 (83%) of total GEF fund. The remaining budget is expected to be fully utilized towards the end of Project in May 2024. For details please see: 3.3.4 Efficiency.

² The figures represent the in-kind co-financing from mentioned institutions. The in-kind support has been accounted for in the shape of staff time, expertise, facilities for training and MRV development and support of training for data providers and so on. Please see Annex-6 for details.

a) Project Description

Bosnia Herzegovina is currently focused on becoming a sustainably developed and prosperous country and its development vision is embodied in its Climate Change Adaptation and Low-Emission Development Strategy (2020-2030). The country has ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2000 and the Paris Agreement in 2017. To meet the reporting obligations under the Paris Agreement, the country has submitted several National Communications (NCs), Biennial Update Reports (BURs) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). However, despite the progress achieved, there were several gaps and needs related to climate change monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) and transparency activities including the lack of information systems, data flow, tracking tools, monitoring, compliance and reporting etc.

The overall aim of the project was to assist Bosnia and Herzegovina in developing capacities to fulfill its obligations under the Article 13 of the Paris Agreement of the UNFCCC. The immediate objective of the project was “to develop Bosnia and Herzegovina's capacities to meet the requirements of the transparency framework under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. Two interrelated outcomes were identified to achieve the immediate objectives and long-term aim. These include Outcome 1: Strengthening institutions to improve monitoring and reporting praxis and to establish a domestic MRV system and Outcome 2: Improvement of GHG inventories and NDC information.

The initial duration of the project was 36 months, from 4 November 2020 to 4 November 2023. However, due to initial delays, a 6-month extension until 4 May 2024 was approved by the Project Board and UNDP Vertical Funds Programme Support, Oversight and Compliance Hub in March 2023. The total project budgetary outlay was USD 1.45 Million, comprising USD 1.2 Million from GEF resources and in-kind co-financing of USD 0.25 Million by the involved governmental institutions. By December 2023, the project has utilized around USD 1.0 Million, which is 83% of total available GEF resources. The project document initially proposed National Implementation Modality (NIM), however later on a Letter of Agreement was signed with the Ministry of Spatial Planning, Civil Engineering and Ecology of Republika Srpska for provision of UNDP support services to NIM. Other stakeholders included relevant governmental institutions at the national and entity level, private sector organizations, academia and CSOs.

Table 2: Evaluation Rating³

1. Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)	Rating
M&E design at entry	S
M&E Plan Implementation	S
Overall Quality of M&E	S
2. Implementing Agency (IA) Implementation & Executing Agency (EA) Execution	Rating
Quality of UNDP Implementation/Oversight	S
Quality of Implementing Partner Execution	MS
Overall quality of Implementation/Execution	S
3. Assessment of Outcomes	Rating
Relevance	S
Effectiveness	MS
Efficiency	S
Overall Project Outcome Rating	MS
4. Sustainability	Rating
Financial sustainability	ML
Socio-political sustainability	L
Institutional framework and governance sustainability	ML
Environmental sustainability	L
Overall Likelihood of Sustainability	ML

b) Summary conclusions and lessons

- Overall, the project objectives, outcomes and interventions were found very relevant, aligned and consistent with the national priorities, strategies and international agreements and capacity building needs of the relevant national institutions for climate transparency and reporting.
- The project has supported the enhancement of legal frameworks and facilitated the development of draft laws and regulations at the national level to regulate the data collection, management and reporting of environment and climate change indicators.
- The project has supported the development of an Environmental Information System (EIS), which provides a basis for MRV system and GHG inventories. The project has also built capacities of the institutions involved for the application and operationalization of the EIS and MRV system.
- However, the EIS is currently still in its early stages of operationalization and is awaiting formal approval of the draft laws and regulations to formalize the collection, management and sharing/reporting of data among various involved institutions.
- The project has helped in the capacity building of the relevant stakeholders to improve the process of GHG Inventory preparation and Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC).
- However, the development of GHG inventory is found to be quite complex and involves a diverse range of sectors, institutions and methodologies and there is still a need to work further on capacity building to improve GHG inventory in all sectors.
- As of December 2023, the project has consumed \$ 1.0 Million, i.e., 83% of the total available GEF resources. It is expected that the remaining resources will be consumed towards the project's operational closure in May 2024.

³ S: Satisfactory, MS: Moderately Satisfactory, L: Likely, ML: Moderately Likely

- The project’s implementation experienced delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020-2021 and the parliamentary elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2022. Therefore, a 6-month extension was granted until 4 May 2024.
- To promote gender equality, the project has involved a large number of women representatives (76%) from the respective institutions in its capacity building programmes.
- The Gender and Climate Coalition, which has been established with the support of the project, was also found instrumental in the promotion of gender sensitive data collection and analysis methodologies for environment and climate change.
- The alignment of the project results with national priorities and international agreements and ownership level of institutions provides a sound basis for sustainability of project interventions and benefits in times to come.
- Once the laws and regulations are endorsed and fully implemented, it will pave the way for full scale operationalization and sustainability of the MRV system.
- However, the full-scale operationalization and longer-term sustainability of the MRV system also require further capacity building and will need external technical and financial resources in near future.
- At this stage, it is too early to assess the long-term impacts of the project. However, it is expected that once the MRV system is fully internalized, in the longer run it will help in reducing the negative impacts of climate change through making informed decisions.
- The main lessons learnt during project implementation includes continued need for further capacity building, establishment/approval of legal frameworks, strengthening coordination and data sharing among various institutions and most importantly, continuity of external technical and financial resources in near future.

c) Recommendations – Summary Table (Table 3)

No	Recommendation	Timeframe	Entity Responsible	Applicable Criteria
1	It is recommended that external technical and financial support needs to continue beyond the project period to enable the respective institutions to fully internalize and operationalize the MRV system. In this regard, UNDP with the support of partner institutions should consider various options for developing a follow up phase to further guide and strengthen involved institutions in full scale operationalization of the MRV system and its wider application and use. Furthermore, UNDP in collaboration with partners should develop a resource mobilization strategy to identify various donors and funding arrangements for provision of desired funds for future environment and climate change related projects.	As applicable	UNDP Relevant Institutional Partners	Sustainability
2	It is recommended to further strengthen advocacy efforts with respective parliaments and bodies to get the draft laws and regulations approved as soon possible. In this regard the project may organize awareness sessions involving parliamentarians and higher officials of respective entities.	By April 2024	UNDP Relevant Institutional Partners	Effectiveness/ Sustainability

3	It is recommended to further strengthen and formalize coordination mechanisms for MRV implementation. Permanent coordination forums need to be established at the entity level to oversee and guide the data collection, management and use. To further improve institutional coordination among the two entities, the role and responsibilities of Inter-Entity Body on Environment (IEBE) needs to be clearly defined and its capacities strengthened.	As applicable	Relevant Institutional Partners	Effectiveness
4	It is recommended that the project in its final months should deliver more training of trainers on the application and use of EIS. Needless to emphasize that such future projects should also invest more in the capacity building of data providers to ensure the quality and credibility of data.	April 2024	UNDP Relevant Institutional Partners	Effectiveness/ Efficiency
5	It is recommended that in the remaining time, the project should focus more on encouraging data providers to enter more indicators data into EIS. Furthermore, there is a good deal of data already available through various publications and reports like NDCs, BURs, NCs etc. The project in collaboration with respective Environment Funds and the IT company should make efforts to enter already available data in the EIS to help build the database.	April 2024	Relevant Institutional Partners	Effectiveness
6	It is recommended that such future projects should be designed under Direct Implementation Modality and project team should include full-time technical experts for each outcome level to guide and facilitate the implementation of project.	As applicable	UNDP	Efficiency
7	It is recommended that such future projects should continue longer term engagement with specialized private companies for updating, trouble shooting and maintenance of the EIS. Furthermore, these companies should be involved in EIS application and user training for data providers. There is also a need to facilitate online access for common users to the EIS.	As applicable	Relevant Institutional Partners	Sustainability
8	It is recommended that the project should develop a pragmatic exit strategy outlining various measures for the smooth phase-out of the project. The project should organize a final conference with the participation of all stakeholders to highlight the achievements of the project and to discuss and determine the future course of actions to ensure sustainability. Similarly, the project should hand over all knowledge products, especially the training material to the respective institutions for conduction of future trainings.	By April 2024	UNDP	Sustainability

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Evaluation Purpose, and Scope

According to the Terms of Reference (ToR), the Terminal Evaluation (TE) was mandated to assess the achievement of the project results against what was expected to be achieved, and to draw lessons that can both improve the sustainability of benefits from this project and aid in the overall enhancement of UNDP programming. The TE promotes accountability and transparency and has assessed the extent of project accomplishments. The TE covers total project duration from November 2020 to May 2024 and geographical coverage includes both entities and Brčko District. As outlined in the ToR, the following are the main objectives and scope of the evaluation exercise:

- Assess the overall Project progress vis-à-vis the Result Framework based on data, qualitative information and evidence on results and identify critical gaps or delays;
- Establish the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, performance and success or failures of the project, including the sustainability of results and the project exit strategies;
- Assess external environment and risks, such as the crisis caused by the pandemic, as well as internal, including weaknesses in programme design, management and implementation, human resource skills and resource;
- Engage all relevant stakeholders (institutions, state, entity and cantonal ministries, local governments, the international community etc.) in structured conversations, which will enable collective insights and distilling of key lessons learned in relation to (signals of) transformative change induced by the Project, mistakes, as well as important cross-cutting issues, such as innovation, gender equality and leaving no one behind;
- Use different level analysis to generate understanding of change processes influenced by the Project and assess how this change was made and what specific contribution did the Project make to the change;
- Formulate strategic recommendations for consideration by the Project and its partners, towards more effective Project implementation in the future, or adjustments, as needed.

1.2 Evaluation Approach & Methodology

a) Evaluation Approach

The project's terminal evaluation exercise was conducted in accordance with the Guidance for Conducting Terminal Evaluations of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects (2020)⁴ and Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development - Development Assistance Committee - (OECD-DAC) standard evaluation criteria and principles. Keeping in view of the scope of the project evaluation, a mixed method approach was adopted using a range of qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis methods, techniques and tools.

⁴ https://erc.undp.org/pdf/TE_GuidanceforUNDP-supportedGEF-financedProjects.pdf



In summary the overall evaluation process consists of five standard evaluation steps i.e., 1) *Evaluation Questions*, 2) *Evaluation Design*, 3) *Data Collection Methods*, 4) *Data Analysis and* 5) *Presentation and Reporting*.

b) Main Evaluation Criteria

In line with the Guideline for Conducting Terminal Evaluations of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects, the TE thoroughly adhered to the standard assessment criteria of Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact and Sustainability to assess the overall progress and performance of the project. Following is a summary criteria explanation. For further details on the specific questions related to the above-mentioned criteria please see the Evaluation Matrix, provided in Annex-3.

- **Relevance:** Relevance is the extent to which the project's objectives are consistent with beneficiaries' requirements, country needs, global priorities and partners' and donors' policies.
- **Effectiveness:** Effectiveness is the extent to which the project's objectives were achieved or are expected to be achieved.
- **Efficiency:** Efficiency is a measure of how economically resources and inputs (funds, expertise, time etc.) are converted to results.
- **Sustainability:** Sustainability is the continuation or likely continuation of positive effects from a project after it has come to an end, and its potential for scale-up and/or replication.
- **Impact:** Impact refer to the longer-term changes, positive or negative, expected as a result of project interventions.

In addition to the evaluation criteria listed above, the TE assessed the following:

- Project Design, Results Frameworks and Implementation arrangements
- Project Finance/Co-Financing
- Gender Equality and mainstreaming

c) Evaluation Rating

An assessment of the project performance was carried out, which are based on the expectations set out in the Project Logical Framework/Results Framework and provides performance and impact indicators for the project implementation along with their corresponding means of verification. Evaluation Ratings are provided in line with the rating scales guidance. Please see Annex-6 for Evaluation Rating Table and Scales.

d) Evaluation questions

A number of evaluation questions have been developed to assess the overall relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, sustainability, impact and cross cutting issues. These questions were used to assess the overall project progress and performance. A detailed evaluation matrix has been prepared, outlining the evaluation criteria, main evaluations questions, data sources/methods, indicators and methodology etc. Please see the Evaluation Matrix in Annex-3. In addition, specific questions were also identified/developed for the project stakeholders including UNDP/project team and participating stakeholders/institutions. These questions were used during the key person interviews. Please see Annex-4 for the list of evaluation questions for stakeholders.

e) Sampling strategy

The evaluation adopted a mix of purposive and convenience sampling strategies. Academically it is a form of non-probability sampling in which researchers (evaluators and project team) rely on their own judgment when choosing members of the population (stakeholders) to participate in the study. Similarly, in convenience sampling researchers leverage individuals that can be identified and approached with as little effort as possible. Efforts were also made to consult the key persons among women and vulnerable groups during the evaluation process as relevant.

Key informants among main stakeholders were identified with the support of the project team, considering their level of involvement/participation in project design, implementation and benefits received, nevertheless also depending on their availability. The selection of most informed key persons generated credible primary data related to the various aspects of project performance in line with the evaluation criteria mentioned. Main stakeholders include officials of UNDP CO and the project team, Project Board members, main Governmental Institutions and CSOs etc.

f) Data Collection Methods

The evaluation followed a participatory and consultative approach that ensured close engagement with all stakeholders. As mentioned, a mixed method approach was adopted using both qualitative and quantitative data collection methods and tools. It is important to highlight that most of the data was collected in qualitative form through key informant interviews. While quantitative data related to project progress and outcome and output targets was extracted from the project documents, reports, publications and secondary sources and perception survey of the participants of the project capacity building interventions. Following are the main data collection methods employed during the evaluation:

- ***Desk Review of documents***

A good deal of relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, sustainability, impact and project management related data was obtained from the review of relevant project documents. Qualitative and quantitative data was extracted from various project documents and secondary sources and was used to assess the project progress and performance based on the evaluation criteria and specified indicators and targets outlined in the Project Results Framework. Similarly, the data related to the financial aspects and co-financing was obtained from the project financial statements and records. For list of reviewed documents please see Annex-6.

- **Key Informants interviews**

Key informant interviews remained the main instrument for the collection of primary data related to the outlined evaluation questions. Key persons among stakeholders were identified in consultation with the CO keeping in view of their level of participation in the implementation of various interventions and benefits received, and remote/virtual interviews were conducted. These key persons included officials of UNDP CO, Project Team, Governmental Institutions including Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ministry of Spatial Planning, Construction, and Ecology of Republika Srpska, Federal Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Hydro-meteorological Institutes, Environment Protection Funds, Gender Equality Agency of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brcko District, Climate Gender Collation and CSOs. In total, 20 key persons were interviewed remotely/online during the Terminal Evaluation exercise, out of which 13 were women. Please see the list of key persons interviewed in Annex-1.

- **Online Questionnaire**

The project involved a number of stakeholders through its capacity building workshops and other events. An online perception survey was conducted through serving a questionnaire to a small proportion of participants of these workshops to receive their feedback on the relevance and effectiveness of these capacity building interventions. In total, 15 persons from various institutions involved, who attended one or more workshops, filled the questionnaire and provided their feedback. Please see Annex-2 list of participants on the online survey and Annex-5: Perception Questionnaire.

g) Data Analysis and Reporting

In view of the mix-method approach for data collection, the acquired data was analyzed both qualitatively and quantitatively. Since most of the primary data was acquired in qualitative form, therefore those were processed using qualitative data analysis techniques like triangulations, validations, interpretations and abstractions. Data collected from the review of documents, key informant interviews and group discussions was validated and triangulated through comparing data from different sources to identify similarities, contradictions and patterns. Efforts were made to logically interpret stakeholder's opinions and statements, while analyzing data, keeping in view the specific perspectives of various respondents. Similarly, where applicable, available data was analyzed using gender disaggregation.

Quantitative data was analyzed using simple statistical methods to determine progress and trends. Project Results Framework indicators and targets were used as the main reference during analysis to assess the achievability status of the Project outcomes and outputs. Quantitative data related to the project outputs indicators was analyzed to assess the progress towards specified targets. The same was validated and triangulated against the data obtained from interviews/discussions with key stakeholders. Efforts were made, to the extent possible, to process available data disaggregated by sex, while assessing the project outputs. Key financial aspects of the project were assessed by analyzing project budgets and expenditures, including the extent of co-financing planned and realized. Variances between planned and actual expenditures were assessed and explained. Similarly, the data from the online questionnaire was also analyzed quantitatively to determine various trends and perceptions.

h) Presentation and Reporting

The detailed analysis and findings of the evaluation are described in this Evaluation Report, using standard format for Terminal Evaluation Reports, as per Guidance for Conducting Terminal Evaluations of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects (2020). In addition to the detailed findings, the Report provides overall conclusions, lessons learnt and specific recommendations. The preliminary findings of the evaluation exercise were presented to the Project Board on 23 January 2024 and their feedback was received and incorporated. Similarly, this final version of the TE Report also incorporates various comments and suggestions from the UNDP CO and regional team.

1.3 Ethical Considerations

The evaluation has been conducted keeping in view the values and obligations outlined in the UNEG 'Ethical Guidelines for Evaluators'⁵. According to the guidelines, the evaluators duly respect people's right to provide information in confidence and have made participants aware of the scope and limits of confidentiality, while ensuring that sensitive information cannot be traced to its source. The TE consultant had clarified to all stakeholders interviewed that their feedback and input will be confidential. The final TE report did not indicate any specific source of quotations or qualitative data in order to uphold this confidentiality. Furthermore, an independent evaluation consultant conducted the evaluation with the highest degree of personal and professional integrity, who had no prior involvement in project design and implementation. A signed Code of Conduct form is attached in Annex-7.

1.4 Limitations of the Evaluation

The original ToR envisaged a 13-days field mission in Bosnia Herzegovina for meetings/consultations with various stakeholders to collect relevant primary data through in person key informant interviews. However, later on the UNDP CO decided to shift entirely to remote/virtual meetings/consultations with key persons. The main reason for this decision on change of methodology was to save some time to meet the pre-determined/fixed deadlines for the TE completion. In this regard, it is important to highlight that according to original TOR, the total time frame TE exercise was from 6 November 2023 to 31 January 2024 (2 months and 25 days).

However, the contract preparation took extra time and was finally received on 29 November 2023, with a lag of around 3 weeks. Keeping in view of the late start, the TE consultant made a request to extend the deadline to compensate for the time lag. However, despite the late start, UNDP CO expressed their inability to flex the pre-determined deadline and asked for completion of the exercise by 31 January 2024, which resulted in the cancellation of the field mission and shift entirely to online data collection mode to save some time to meet the deadline. The limited timeframe, tight schedule and online nature of the evaluation exercise posed challenges due to the condensed workload, internet connectivity issues and reaching out to all stakeholders.

⁵ <https://www.uneval.org/document/detail/2866>

1.5 Work Plan and Key Deliverables

Overall, the proposed evaluation exercise has taken 30 working days (non-consecutively) tentatively from 24 November 2023 to 15 February 2024. Following is the Work Plan and key deliverables of the evaluation exercise.

Activity/Deliverable	Working Days	Tentative Timeline/ Deliverable date	Responsibilities
1. Initial meetings, Documents Review and Preparation of Inception Report (Deliverable-1)	5	15 December 2023	Consultant CO and Project Team, RTA/RPA
2. Data collection: Key informant interviews and focus groups discussions with stakeholders (remotely/ virtually).	13	18 December 2023 to 12 January 2024 (intermittently) (online/remotely)	Consultant CO and Project Team
3. Presentation of Preliminary Findings	1	23 January 2024	Consultant
4. Data analysis and Preparation of Draft Terminal Evaluation Report (Deliverable-2)	8	25 January 2024	Consultant
5. Comments on Draft Report		06 February 2024	UNDP CO /Climate Hub - Technical Oversight Team
6. Final Evaluation Report duly incorporating comments and suggestions (Deliverable-3)	3	15 February 2024	Consultant
Total	30 days		

1.6 Structure of the TE report

The detailed findings of the evaluation are described in this TE Evaluation Report, using standard format for UNDP-GEF, TE Reports, provided in the TE evaluation guidelines 2020. In addition to the detailed findings the report also provides overall conclusions, lessons learnt and specific recommendations. The main contents of the TE Report include:

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2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 Project Start and Duration

According to the project document, the total project duration was 3 years (36 months) from 4 November 2020 to 4 November 2023. However, the project experienced delays in its commencement due to COVID-19 pandemic during 2020-2021, which restricted the implementation of project's in-person trainings, workshops and events. The project's actual implementation started in March 2021, with the organization of an inception workshop on 9 March 2021. Similarly, the project implementation also experienced delays during 2022 due to the government institutions' preoccupation in parliamentary and presentational elections. In view of these delays, the Project Board requested the extension of the project duration by 6 months, i.e., until May 2024.

2.2 Development Context

Bosnia and Herzegovina is an upper middle-income country, with a population of roughly 3.28 million as of 2021 and with the aspiration to become a member of the European Union (EU). The country has a complex governance structure stemming from the Dayton Peace Accord, which ended the 1992–1995 war. In addition to the state-level authorities, the country comprises two entities - the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska, with Brčko District as an autonomous self-government. Despite the positive momentum created by the decision to grant Bosnia and Herzegovina the European Union candidate member status, the overall country context continues to be marked by political instability, slow pace of structural reforms, slowed-down economic stabilization, deepening poverty and inequalities etc. Since 2000, the country has faced several significant extreme climate and weather episodes that have caused considerable material and financial losses as well as losses of human lives.

On September 7, 2000, Bosnia and Herzegovina ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). At the country level, climate change issues are addressed in the framework of the Inter-Entity Environmental Body, established in 2006. The body deals with all environmental issues that require a harmonized approach to both entities, and it is responsible for harmonizing environmental laws, regulations, standards and action plans; international agreements on environmental issues; international processes and cooperation with international organizations; environmental monitoring, information systems, and information exchange; and transboundary environmental issues. The group meets at least six times a year.

The country is currently focused on becoming a sustainably developed and prosperous country and its development vision is embodied in its Climate Change Adaptation and Low-Emission Development Strategy⁶ (LEDS 2020-2030). The Strategy, which was adopted in 2013, outlines actions that support economic growth and the prevention of environmental degradation. The approach outlined in this Strategy encompasses two closely linked components: climate change adaptation and low-emission development. It also calls for

⁶https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/ENG_CC%20adaptation%20and%20Low%20emission%20development%20Strategy%20BiH%202020-2030.pdf

capacity building for ministries at the state and entity levels and other public agencies in areas such as reporting on GHG emissions and meeting UNFCCC obligations.

As an UNFCCC non-Annex I country, Bosnia and Herzegovina is obliged to submit National Communications (NCs), Biennial Update Reports (BURs) and Nationally Determined Contribution (NDCs). In this regard the country has submitted several NCs, BURs and NDCs, these include: Initial National Communication (INC) of Bosnia and Herzegovina, October 2009⁷, Second National Communication of Bosnia And Herzegovina, June 2013⁸, Third National Communication and Second Biennial Update of Bosnia And Herzegovina, July 2016⁹, Fourth National Communication of Bosnia and Herzegovina, May 2023¹⁰, First Biennial Update Report of Bosnia And Herzegovina, September 2014¹¹, Third Biennial Update Report of Bosnia and Herzegovina, May 2023¹², First Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC), March 2017¹³, Nationally Determined Contribution Of Bosnia and Herzegovina (NDC), April 2021¹⁴. Similarly, Bosnia Herzegovina has also initiated the process of preparing its 1st Biennial Transparency Report (BTR1), which is expected to be submitted by December 2024, through the GEF-funded BTR1 + BTR2/5NC project.

2.3 Problems that the project sought to address

Despite progress made in the previous years, during the preparation of this project, several gaps and needs related to climate change monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) and transparency activities including lack of information systems, data flow, tracking tools, monitoring, compliance and reporting etc. were identified. Project document outlined that in the technical analysis of the first BUR, information and data collection and management were identified as one of the main challenges to enhancing the quality of GHG inventories and improving transparency when reporting on mitigation actions. Priority capacity-building needs included “Building capacity of institutions and experts involved in data collection, measurement and management, calculating emissions and emission factors, and research and projections of national GHG emissions” and “Developing vertical and horizontal cooperation and coordination among competent institutions as well as information flow between responsible agencies and across sectors.”

In addition, the 3rd National Communication included the following conclusions: “Data exchange and communication between institutions collecting data and governmental organizations is insufficiently developed, and there is no information exchange on existing data. Current data on the environment, as well as statistical data more generally, are not shared between the entities, which prevents them from getting the complete picture of the links between development activities and environment quality or of indicators that could support and improve decision making.”

⁷ https://www.unfccc.ba/images/dokumenti/izvjestaji/prvi_nacionalni_eng.pdf

⁸ https://www.unfccc.ba/images/dokumenti/izvjestaji/drugi_nacionalni_eng.pdf

⁹ https://www.unfccc.ba/images/dokumenti/izvjestaji/treci_nacionalni_eng.pdf

¹⁰ https://www.unfccc.ba/images/dokumenti/izvjestaji/cetvrti_nacionalni_eng.pdf

¹¹ https://www.unfccc.ba/images/dokumenti/izvjestaji/FBUR_eng.pdf

¹² https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/TBUR%20BiH_Oct_%202022%20ENG.pdf

¹³ https://www.unfccc.ba/images/dokumenti/izvjestaji/INDC_engleski.pdf

¹⁴ https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/NDC/2022-06/NDC%20BiH_November%202020%20FINAL%20DRAFT%2005%20Nov%20ENG%20LR.pdf

During the project preparation phase, several key gaps and needs related to climate change MRV and transparency activities were identified. In the following a list of various needs and gaps are provided, which the project sought to address:

- Provisions for climate change MRV are not existing, or are incomplete in current legislation, which does not specify the functions of different agencies or mandate reporting
- Institutions with jurisdiction in environmental issues do not necessarily coordinate on climate change activities; vertical coordination (at different levels of government) and horizontal coordination (across institutions) is poor
- High administrative & reporting burden for data providers in the public and private sectors
- Statistical offices are not involved in the GHG inventory process on an ongoing basis
- Lack of plans and financial support for capacity building in BiH and entity ministries
- Data exchange arrangements related to climate change are often informal and voluntary
- Climate change data are not disaggregated by gender
- Data collection is ad hoc by reporting initiative
- Different organizations use different methodologies for collecting same type of data
- Lack of Quality Assurance/Quality Check (QA/QC) programs and procedures for the GHG inventory
- Useful free-standing databases may not be reaching reports (statistical survey data, local Land use, land-use change, and forestry (LULUCF) inventories, FBiH exhaust gas database)
- Need to clarify key NDC information
- Need to establish an LULUCF inventory
- Some data are not currently collected (e.g. data on waste composition from selected landfills, which would allow the use of a higher tier emission factor for degradable organic content or DOC)
- Data providers may not have sufficient training to ensure good practice in data collection and data entry, including QA/QC
- Lessons learned are often not shared beyond the direct trainees or their institutions
- Limited opportunities to become familiar with regional and global good practice

2.4 Immediate and Development Project Objectives and Expected Results

The overall aim of the project was to assist Bosnia and Herzegovina in developing capacities to fulfill its obligations under the Article 13 of the Paris Agreement of the UNCCC. The project supported institutions to improve monitoring and reporting praxis, establishing a domestic climate change monitoring, reporting and verification system, and to improve information that forms the basis of its GHG inventories and Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). The following boxes provide the long- and short-term project objectives and project outcomes and respective outputs.

Long term objective of the project

“to assist Bosnia and Herzegovina in deepening the mainstreaming and integration of climate change into country and sectoral development goals and to enable the entity and state level governments to respond to international environmental obligations by strengthening and giving continuity to the institutional and technical capacity development”

Immediate objective of the project

“to develop Bosnia and Herzegovina's capacities to meet the requirements of the transparency framework under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

Project Outcomes

Outcome 1: *Strengthening institutions to improve monitoring and reporting praxis and to establish a domestic MRV system*

Outcome 2: *Improvement of GHG inventories and NDC information*

Project Outputs

Output 1.1: Enhance relevant environmental and air protection laws related to monitoring and reporting on GHG emissions

Output 1.2: Support provided to key institutions and other stakeholders in order to improve coordination

Output 1.3: Design and implementation of a domestic MRV system

Output 2.1: Improvement of the GHG inventory development process, including enhanced use of the IPCC 2006 guidelines, data collection and QA/QC.

Output 2.2: Clarifying key NDC information, e.g. baseline projections including for business-as-usual targets, and assisting in reporting progress towards achieving BiH NDC

Output 2.3: Integrating gender considerations in NDC and enhanced transparency framework

Output 2.4: A regional peer exchange program in place to improve transparency related capacities through best practices and information and lessons learned exchange

2.5 Main Stakeholders: Summary list

The main project stakeholders included relevant ministries and governmental institutions at the national and entity level and Brčko District and academic and research institutions, private sector organizations, civil society organizations and gender partnerships along with other relevant organizations. Details of their roles and engagement are explained in the following sections of the report. Here is the summary list of main stakeholders:

- Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations (MOFTER)
- Ministry of Spatial Planning Construction, and Ecology of Republika Srpska
- Federal Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Hydro-meteorological Institutes of Republika Srpska and Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Bosnia and Herzegovina Statistical Agency
- Other entity-level ministries
- Environment Protection Funds in Republika Srpska and Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Government of Brčko District

- Research institutions and universities
- Private Sector Organizations
- Civil Society Organizations
- Gender partnerships

2.6 Theory of Change

The project theory of change outlined that the project would attain higher level change by contributing to the achievement of environmental objectives in Bosnia and Herzegovina in three ways: strengthening institutions to improve monitoring and reporting praxis; establishing a domestic climate change MRV system; and improving information that forms the basis for GHG inventories and the NDC. Please see Theory of Change diagram in Annex-8.

Similarly, the project logic model/results framework intended to achieve the longer term objectives i.e. “to assist Bosnia and Herzegovina in deepening the mainstreaming and integration of climate change into country and sectoral development goals and to enable the entity and state level governments to respond to international environmental obligations by strengthening and giving continuity to the institutional and technical capacity development” through strengthening institutions to improve monitoring and reporting praxis and to establish a domestic MRV system and through improvement of GHG inventories and NDC information.

2.7 Total Project Resources

The total project budgetary outlay was USD 1.45 Million, comprising \$ 1.2 Million from GEF resources and co-financing of USD 0.25 Million from involved governmental institutions, for which co-financing letters were provided at the time of project design, these institutions include: Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, Ministry of Spatial Planning Construction and Ecology of Republika Srpska, Federal Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Federal Hydro-meteorological Institute and Hydro-meteorological Institute of Republika Srpska. Each of the above institutions was mandated to provide in-kind support worth USD 50,000.

3. FINDINGS OF THE EVALUATION EXERCISE

3.1 Project Design/Formulation

3.1.1 Analysis of Results Framework

A detailed Results Framework was formulated at the time of the project design consisting of project objectives and outcomes and respective Indicators, Baselines, Targets, Sources of verification and Risks and Assumptions. At the higher level, the project was also intended to contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for Bosnia and Herzegovina 2021-2025¹⁵, Outcome 1. By 2025, people benefit from resilient, inclusive and sustainable growth ensured by the convergence of economic development and management of environment and cultural resources. Similarly, the project objectives were also intended to contribute to UNDP CPD 2021-2025¹⁶ for Bosnia and Herzegovina; Output 1.1. Authorities and communities have in place capacities and tools to ensure sustainable management and protection of natural resources.

The immediate project objective was “to develop Bosnia and Herzegovina's capacities to meet the requirements of the transparency framework under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change”. It was intended that the overall objective will be realized through achieving two interrelated outcomes i.e. Outcome 1: Strengthening institutions to improve monitoring and reporting praxis and to establish a domestic MRV system and Outcome 2: Improvement of GHG inventories and NDC information. The project Theory of Change (ToC) outlined that the project would attain higher level change by contributing to the achievement of environmental objectives in Bosnia and Herzegovina in three ways: strengthening institutions to improve monitoring and reporting praxis; establishing a domestic climate change MRV system; and improving information that forms the basis for GHG inventories and the NDC. Please see ToC diagram in Annex-8.

The Results Framework provided a set of 13 indicators, out of which 3 were meant to measure the project objective and the rest of 10 measure the project outcomes. Similarly, the Results Framework also included baselines, end of project targets, means of verification and assumptions. Overall, the analysis and discussions with the project team suggest that the project's theory of change and Results Framework were well formulated and exhibited clear linkages among outputs, outcomes and objectives. The indicators are also found SMART and posed no significant challenges in measurement. Similarly, the project results framework also included a specific gender related indicator i.e., formal system for the collection of gender-disaggregated data established and in addition where applicable it also called for gender disaggregated data. Discussions also suggest that, during the course of implementation, no changes have been made in the RF in terms of indicators and targets.

¹⁵ https://bosniaherzegovina.un.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/Sustainable%20development_WEB.pdf

¹⁶ <https://www.undp.org/bosnia-herzegovina/publications/country-programme-document-bosnia-and-herzegovina-2021-2025#:~:text=The%20UNDP%20Country%20Programme%20Document,and%20Herzegovina's%20socio%20economic%20development.>

3.1.2 Assumptions and Risks

The project document in its Risks Log, identified a number of risks and assumption and relevant mitigation measures to address these risks during project implementation. The following table extracted from the project document provides details of risks and relevant mitigation measures. The assessment of risk management is provided in section 3.2.5 related to risk management and its effects on project performance and sustainability.

Table 4: Risk Assessment (as outlined in the Project Document)

Project Risk	Type	Rating	Mitigation
Risk 1: Ministries have a limited number of experts with limited technical capacity at their disposal due to budgetary constraints	Political	Medium/High	Capacity building activities implemented by CBIT will increase the number of experts in key institutions with relevant training. Training activities under Components 1 and 2 will also increase the capacity of data providers outside of ministries. The development of a comprehensive, accessible MRV system with extensive documentation will provide continuity and information even for ministries where capacity is limited.
Risk 2: Poor project coordination and limited alignment among institutions on different levels in Bosnia and Herzegovina	Organizational	Medium	At the top-down level, UNDP is an experienced GEF implementing agency and has a solid and long-standing relation with the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of BiH, as the GEF Operational Focal Point. This will help ensure the timely implementation of the project. Project activities will use existing institutions and relationships to support good communication, and activities under Component 1 will formalize vertical and horizontal communication among institutions on climate matters.
Risk 3: Sustainability of climate software	Operational	Medium/Low	The project will use a Technical Advisory Panel to ensure that the proposed MRV software builds upon existing databases and procedures. The project will specify open-source coding and software that conforms to European Economic Area (EEA) principles related to Shared Environmental Information Systems (SEIS) so that it can adapt to respond to Article 13 requirements as they evolve. Supporting legislation developed under Component 1 will formalize and mandate data exchange among institutions and other providers, which will provide a legal mandate to use the system.
Risk 4: Low sustainability of the regional peer exchange program	Operational	Low	Peer exchanges will involve a virtual community with occasional face-to-face meetings. Participation has been active to date, and it is expected that this cooperation will transition to EU-supported cooperation for the Western Balkans.
Risk 5: Political authorities may not prioritize obligations defined under the Paris Agreement.	Strategic	Low	Obligations defined under the Paris Agreement and EU access requirements will ensure that a country-wide enhanced transparency framework will be highly ranked on the political agenda.

3.1.3 Lessons from other relevant projects incorporated into project design

The project document has outlined that UNDP-GEF enabling activities regarding supporting National Communications and Biennial Updates to the UNFCCC have provided lessons learned that are relevant to this project. They have informed on the project approach of working with a broad variety of stakeholders, and they have flagged the need to support policies and skills that will allow for consistent QA/QC procedures throughout the data collection and reporting process.

Other projects focusing on environmental information systems that included climate data and indicators identified several lessons to be considered, including 1) Systems that do not build on existing databases can face political and organizational difficulties that prevent their implementation; 2) The use of data flow maps and analysis of data reporting requirements for different international purposes can identify synergies where a single dataset or indicator can be used in multiple reports and communications; 3) Software quality can be a highly important factor in acceptance by organizations; and 4) Technical specifications during the procurement process that mandate open-source software can prevent potential cost and ownership issues related to proprietary software. Finally, two ongoing initiatives (the NDC process and the GCF-financed work on the National Adaptation Plan) provided good working examples of how databases might be designed and located to maximize inter-entity data flow and access.

3.1.4 Planned Stakeholder Participation

The project document outlined a detailed stakeholder engagement plan for the project by identifying relevant institutions and roles and responsibilities. A summary matrix of planned stakeholder participation is reproduced in the following table:

Table 5: Planned stakeholder participation (as per the Stakeholder Engagement Plan)

Stakeholders	Responsibility / Contribution	Anticipated Project Role
Government Institutions		
Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations (MOFTER)	MOFTER oversees environmental issues at the country level. It has overall state responsibility for the coordination of activities and the harmonization of the plans of the entities' governmental bodies and institutions at the international level in the areas of energy, environmental protection, development, and the natural resource use.	MOFTER will be a source of co-financing for the project and a member of the Project Board. It will also participate as a member of the Inter-Entity Body on Environment.
Ministry of Spatial Planning Construction, and Ecology of Republika Srpska (MSPCE)	MSPCE serves as the corresponding authority on climate change at the entity level for RS. MSPCE also serves as the Focal Point for the UNFCCC; it was appointed in 2000 by consensus among the competent ministries in BiH and the Brčko District Department of Communal Affairs. In addition to its work on climate change, the ministry covers air pollution and pollution registries and environmental information systems in RS.	MSPCE will be a source of co-financing for the project and a member of the Project Board. It will also participate as a member of the Inter-Entity Body on Environment.
Federal Ministry of Environment and Tourism (FMET)	FMET serves as the corresponding authority on climate change at the entity level in Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina in addition to its work on climate change, the ministry covers air pollution and pollution registries and environmental information systems in Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.	FMET will be a source of co-financing for the project and a member of the Project Board. It will also participate as a member of the Inter-Entity Body on Environment.
Hydro-meteorological Institutes: Federal	The two entity-level hydro-meteorological institutes (HMIs) have an important role in providing climate data and climate projections, as they are responsible for hydro-meteorological	Both HMIs will provide in-kind co-financing to the project, and they will participate actively in

Stakeholders	Responsibility / Contribution	Anticipated Project Role
Hydrometeorological Institute (FBiH) and Republic Hydrometeorological Institute (RS)	data collection. There is no umbrella institution at the state level. Both institutes are equal, and each institute operates in the territory of its entity. In Republika Srpska, the Republic Hydrometeorological Institute is also tasked with the creation of a GHG inventory for that entity. In Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the HMI is participating in river basin modeling such as the Sava River super model, and it has ongoing transboundary cooperation on climate impacts.	the design and implementation of the MRV system. They will also participate actively in training and capacity strengthening activities related to improvements in the GHG inventory for BiH.
Bosnia and Herzegovina Statistical Agency	The Statistical Agency gathers a variety of data for international reporting commitments, including the energy balance. Entity-level statistical institutes are also important stakeholders considering their important role as information providers for the GHG inventories. It will also be very important to support the close cooperation of the statistical offices with the entity-level HMIs in order to move towards the systematic, ongoing collection of high-quality emissions data.	The Statistical Agency will participate in training and capacity strengthening activities and in the design of the MRV system, particularly in the energy and transport sectors.
Other entity-level ministries	The following sectoral ministries at entity level will also benefit from capacity strengthening activities under the project: the Federal Ministry for Energy, Mining and Industry, Republic Ministry for Industry, Energy and Mining, Federal Ministry for Agriculture, Water Management, Federal Ministry of Transport and Communication, and Republic Ministry of Transport and Communications.	Staff from ministries will participate in the design of the MRV system as needed, providing inputs on data collection and data exchange. The technical staff from the above ministries will take part in capacity building activities
The Ministry of Finance of BiH and entity-level ministries of finance	Ministries of Finance at the country and entity level monitor development of finance and investments by multilateral development banks. They are also involved with the entity-level eco/environment funds: the Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund of Republika Srpska and the Fund for Environmental Protection of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Both funds have been delegated authority to establish an information system for waste management in the entity.	Project staff will consult closely with the ministries in two key areas: 1) Establishing a Transparency Framework for reporting on support received; and 2) data collection, quality, and reporting in the waste sector.
Government of Brčko District	Representatives of the Government of Brčko District will also benefit from capacity strengthening activities under the project.	Staff from the Brčko District Government will participate in the design of the MRV system and capacity building activities as needed, providing inputs on data collection and data exchange.
Cantonal ministries and municipalities	Cantonal ministries and municipalities have a role to play in the project as potential data providers in LULUCF, in mitigation actions (in municipalities receiving MDB loans or participating in initiatives such as the Covenant of Mayors (CoM), local environmental action plans, Sustainable Energy (and Climate) Action Plans, or SE(C)APs, etc.	Cantonal ministries and municipalities may participate in training or awareness raising activities related to the MRV system.
Non-Governmental Organizations		
Research institutions and universities	The University of Banja Luka and the University of Sarajevo are involved in research and studies in diverse range of environment and climate change related issues.	Research institutions and universities will play a key role, especially in relation to capacity building and information sharing activities.
Private Sector	The private sector represents an important source of activity data in the Energy and Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU) sectors of the GHG inventory. Stakeholders from the private sector include representatives of the energy industry (hydropower plants) and the petrochemical, metallurgical, chemical, and mining industries.	Private sector stakeholders will also have an advisory role in the identification of mitigation actions and their environmental, social and economic impacts.

Stakeholders	Responsibility / Contribution	Anticipated Project Role
Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)	Regarding CSOs, there have been so far limited opportunities for civil society engagement. However, environmental NGOs such as the Center for Climate Research, the Center for Environment, the, the Eko-forum, and the Center for Development and Support (CRP) carry out awareness-raising and advocacy activities related to environment and sustainable development.	CSOs will serve as a means of communicating climate change information to the public and as a means of information regarding climate impacts and opportunities for mitigation and adaptation.
Gender partnerships	The Gender Center of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina has experience with the development of secondary legislation and can provide input on whether proposed MRV secondary legislation comply with the Bosnia and Herzegovina Law on Gender Equality and international standards in the area of gender equality. The Center for Gender Equity and Equality of Republika Srpska also has experience in supporting the process of introducing gender equality and equity into all fields of work in Republika Srpska through laws, policies and programs.	Women’s organizations will disseminate information about climate change at the grass roots level and may contribute information on how women and men may be affected differently by climate change and policies and programs designed to address it.

3.1.5 Linkages between project and other interventions within the sector

The project document identified a number of ongoing and planned projects and initiatives with which the project have close linkages included but not limited to UNDP-GEF Enabling Activity “Fourth National Communication and Third Biennial Update Report under the UNFCCC”, UNDP-GEF project “Catalyzing Environmental Finance for Low-Carbon Urban Development”, UNDP-GEF project “Technology Transfer for Climate Resilient Flood Management in Vrbas River Basin” FAO-GEF project “Decision Support for Mainstreaming and Scaling Up of Sustainable Land Management”, UNDP Green Economic Development (GED) project, UNDP project “Disaster Risk Reduction Initiative in Bosnia and Herzegovina” and UNDP-GCF project “Advance the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process for medium-term investment planning in climate sensitive sectors in Bosnia-Herzegovina (B&H)”. In addition, the project document also envisaged linkages with various EBRD, World Bank and EU initiatives in the areas of environment and climate change.

3.1.6 Gender responsiveness of project design

The project document outlined that the project would support gender improvements through a variety of activities in particular, by ensuring gender equality and empowerment of women in enhanced transparency processes. The project document outlined “the project will undertake capacity building activities in selected gender institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina to support their assistance on data collection and disseminating gender-disaggregated data. It will ensure that gender-disaggregated data are collected and reported where feasible, and it will undertake a study on the differentiated impacts of climate change on women and men. Throughout the project, efforts will be made to ensure the equitable participation of women in project implementation and capacity-strengthening activities”.

It is important to highlight that project document included a detailed gender assessment in the context of environment and climate change and has outlined a Gender Action Plan (GAP). Various outputs outlined in the GAP includes: 1) Ensure cooperation of responsible institutions at all levels with gender institutional mechanisms in Bosnia and Herzegovina; 2) Ensure that all relevant data are gender segregated and used for project planning and implementation; 3) Development of assessment on the impact of climate change on women

and man and; 4) Develop training materials and implement trainings on gender mainstreaming and climate change for project partners.

Similarly, the project results framework also included a gender specific output under Outcome-2 i.e. Output 2.3: Integrating gender considerations in NDC and enhanced transparency framework. Similarly, the project results framework also included a specific gender related indicator i.e. formal system for the collection of gender-disaggregated data established and in addition where applicable called for gender disaggregated data in respect of indicators.

3.1.7 Social and Environmental Safeguards (SESP) at design

Based on the SESP exemption criteria applied at the project design stage, this project was exempt from SESP screening. Having said that, the project document included the standard Checklist of Potential Social and Environmental Risks, which includes specific questions related various SESP principles and standards i.e. Principles 1: Human Rights, Principle 2: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, Principle 3: Environmental Sustainability; screening questions regarding environmental risks are encompassed by the specific standards related to: Standard-1 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management; Standard-2 Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation; Standard-3 Community Health, Safety and working conditions; Standard-4 Cultural Heritage; Standard-5 Displacement and Resettlement; Standard-6 Indigenous Peoples; Standard-7 Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency. The SESP checklist included in the project document did not identify any risk related to the above SESP principles and standards.

3.2 Project Implementation

3.2.1 Adaptive Management

Originally, the project document was submitted and approved by GEF under UNDP's National Implementation Modality (NIM) with Ministry of Spatial Planning, Civil Engineering and Ecology of Republika Srpska as the implementing partner. However, after submitting the Project Document for signatures, the Ministry informed UNDP that they could not implement the Project on its own, due to Bosnia and Herzegovina's complex administrative structure, and requested UNDP for the provision of implementation support. Therefore, a Letter of Agreement was signed between MSPCE of Republika Srpska and UNDP for provision of support services by the UNDP Country Office for project management and implementation in November 2020.

It is important to highlight that according to NIM, the implementing partner is responsible for project planning, coordination, management, monitoring, evaluation and reporting, risk management, procurement of goods and services and financial management etc. The change in implementation modality was a significant challenge, as most of these functions were performed by UNDP CO as support services. Furthermore, the project organizational structure, outlined in the project document, also envisaged a project team led by a Project Manager and consisting of two technical teams (a) for MRV System and (b) for Capacity Strengthening and support staff. However, due to the change of implementation modality, the project team could not be fully assembled and only consisted of Project Manager (PM) and a support staff, which resulted in condensed workload especially for the PM. Given the

circumstances, the project has adapted well to the change and the project was implemented by UNDP CO under support to NIM, with the active collaboration of partner institutions.

Other challenges encountered during the project implementation included the restrictions due to COVID-19 pandemic during 2020-2021, which delayed the project start and restricted the implementation of the project’s in-person trainings, workshops and events. However, the project adapted to this challenge by arranging and holding all initial consultation meetings online/remotely. Similarly, the project implementation also experienced delays in 2022 due to the government institutions’ pre-occupation in the parliamentary and presentational elections. However, the project caught up with them in due course by speeding up the implementation in the later months.

3.2.2 Actual stakeholder participation and partnership arrangements

The project has involved a diverse range of stakeholders during the project implementation including relevant governmental institutions at the state and entity level and Brcko District, private sector organizations, academia and CSOs along with other relevant institutions. The following table summarizes the actual roles and participation of various stakeholders:

Table 6: Actual Stakeholder participation

Stakeholders	Role and participation in project implementation
Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations (MOFTER)	MOFTER was represented as a member of the Project Board and has been responsible for the overall coordination and harmonization of the activities and plans of the entities’ governmental institutions at the international level in the areas of energy, environmental protection, development, and the natural resource use. Its representatives actively participated in project capacity building workshops and trainings and has also contributed its share as in-kind co-financing.
Ministry of Spatial Planning Construction, and Ecology of Republika Srpska	MSPCE was represented as a member of the Project Board and remained the lead partner institution for the project at the entity level. It also serves as the Focal Point for reporting on the UNFCCC. It closely collaborated with the project in planning and implementation of project activities at the entity level and its representatives actively participated in project capacity building workshops and trainings and design and development of the MRV system. It has also contributed its share as in-kind co-financing. Having said this, it is important to highlight that initially MPSCE was designated as the implementing partner for the project under the National Implementation Modality. However, later on the Ministry expressed their inability to implement the project on its own due to administrative complexities and requested UNDP to provide implementation support for the execution of the project.
Federal Ministry of Environment and Tourism.	FMET was represented as a member of the Project Board and remained the lead partner institution for the project at the entity level. It also serves as the Focal Point for reporting on the UNFCCC. It closely collaborated with the project in planning and implementation of project activities at the entity level and its representatives actively participated in project capacity building workshops and trainings and design and development of the MRV system. It has also contributed its share as in-kind co-financing.
Hydro-meteorological Institutes: Federal Hydro-meteorological	The two entity-level hydro-meteorological institutes (HMIs) have an important role in providing climate data. In of Republika Srpska the HMI is also tasked with the creation of a GHG inventory for that entity. In Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the HMI is participating in transboundary cooperation on climate impacts. Both HMIs participated actively in the design of the MRV system and will provide relevant data in

Institute and Republic Hydro-meteorological Institute	times to come. Their representatives actively participated in project capacity building workshops and trainings and design and development of the MRV system. They have also contributed their share as in-kind co-financing.
Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina Statistical Agency	The Statistical Agency gathered a variety of data for international reporting commitments. Its representatives actively participated in project capacity building workshops and trainings and in the design of the MRV system.
Other entity-level ministries	Representative of several entity level sectoral ministries participated in project capacity building workshops and trainings. These included but not limited to Federal Ministry for Energy, Mining and Industry, Republic Ministry for Industry, Energy and Mining, Federal Ministry for Agriculture, Water Management, Federal Ministry of Transport and Communication, and RS Ministry of Transport and Communications etc.
Environment Protection Funds in Republika Srpska and Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina	Both Environment Protection Funds remained the main partners of the project and their representatives participated actively in training and capacity strengthening activities and the design and development of the Environmental Information System /MRV system. Presently the EIS has been transferred to these institutions for hosting, operationalization and sustainability. Project has also supported both funds in establishment of training centers to enable them to train stakeholders on EIS/MRV system in time to come.
Government of Brčko District	BD was represented as a member of the Project Board and the lead partner institution for the project at the district administration. Its representatives actively participated in project capacity building workshops and trainings.
Research institutions and universities	University of Banja Luka and the University of Sarajevo representatives participated in the project's capacity building workshops and trainings.
Private Sector	Private sector organization's representatives participated in the project's capacity building workshops and trainings.
Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)	CSOs were involved in project awareness activities for the general public like climate action week etc.
Gender partnerships	The project supported the establishment of Gender and Climate Coalition, in partnership with UN WOMEN and Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees, Centre for Gender Equality at the entity level and CSOs. The coalition has played a vital role in promotion of gender component in data and legislation in the area of Climate Change, Environment and Biodiversity.

3.2.3 Project Finance and Co-Finance

The total project budgetary outlay was USD 1.45 Million, comprising \$ 1.2 Million from GEF resources and co-financing of USD 0.25 Million from involved governmental institutions at the entity and state level including: MOFTER, MSPCEE Republika Srpska, FMET Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hydro-meteorological Institute Republika Srpska, Federal Hydro-meteorological Institute. Each of the above institutions was mandated to provide in-kind support worth USD 50,000.

An analysis of the project's financial statements, provided at the time of terminal evaluation, suggests that by December 2023, the project has utilized around USD 1.0 Million, which is 83% of total available GEF resources of USD 1.2 Million. The remaining funds are expected to be utilized towards the end of the project in May 2024. The in-kind support has been accounted for in the shape of staff time, staff expertise, facilities for training and MRV development and support of training for data providers and so on. It is found difficult to estimate the exact monetary worth of institutional in-kind support. However, keeping in view of the active participation and collaboration of main institutions in project implementation, it can be deduced their contributions were quite instrumental in the successful implementation

of project interventions. Further details and analysis of component and annual fund utilization are provided in section 3.3.4 on Efficiency.

3.2.4 Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

The project document envisaged that the project results, corresponding indicators and end-of-project targets in the project results framework are expected to be monitored annually and evaluated periodically during the project implementation. It is also outlined that UNDP Country Office is to ensure that UNDP and GEF M&E requirements are met in a timely fashion and to high quality standards. A detailed M&E Plan was provided in the project document outlining UNDP and GEF M&E requirements, primary responsibility, indicative costs and timelines. A total of USD 32,000 was allocated for various M&E activities including the terminal evaluation.

As the first milestone of the GEF monitoring requirements, an Inception Workshop (IW) was organized on 7 March 2021 to bring on board all stakeholders to discuss and generate the consensus and to enhance participation and ownership of the project. The overall objective of the Inception Workshop was to create a full understanding of the project and have clear directives on how to implement it successfully. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, the workshop was organized online and around 30 representatives from various stakeholders participated in the workshop. The proceedings of the IW were duly documented in the IW Report, as an M&E deliverable.

At the highest level, the project was monitored and overseen by the Project Board, which consisted of the representatives from Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations (MoFTER), Ministry of Spatial Planning, Construction and Ecology of Republika Srpska, Federal Ministry of Environment and Tourism (FMET), Brcko District Government and UNDP. The Project Board has gathered 5 times since the project's inception and has reviewed project progress and performance and decided on the required corrective measures and future course of action. Accordingly, the minutes of all Project Board meetings were duly documented and shared with the respective stakeholders. The last meeting was held on 23 December 2023, and besides the review of progress, the preliminary findings of this terminal evaluation were also presented, and feedback was received from the board members.

The Project Manager remained responsible for the day-to-day project management and monitoring of the project implementation. UNDP Country Office provided necessary M&E expertise and support in the implementation of the M&E plan. The CO initiated and supported key M&E and reporting activities including the preparation of Annual Project Implementation Reports (PIRs) for the year 2022 and 2023, which reported on the project progress against indicators and targets of the Results Framework. In addition to implementation progress, the PIR discussed/outlined progress related to project governance, gender, risk management, knowledge management and stakeholder engagement etc. The project also monitored its progress regularly through internal review meetings.

Due to the mid-size of the project, it did not require Mid-term Review, therefore no MTR was conducted. However, the Project M&E plan envisaged an independent Terminal Evaluation of the project towards the end of the project. The TE was commissioned by the UNDP CO in November 2023, to assess the achievement of project results and outcomes, and to draw

lessons that can both improve the sustainability of benefits from this project. The TE used standard evaluation criteria of Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact and Sustainability to assess the overall progress and performance of the project. The TE also draws conclusions and provides recommendations to improve the sustainability of benefits and to improve performance of future such initiatives. Please see the following table for overall rating as per TE rating scales.

Table 7: M&E Rating

1. Monitoring & Evaluation	Rating	Remarks
M&E design at entry	Satisfactory	The project document has outlined suitable M&E measures
M&E Plan Implementation	Satisfactory	Project employed suitable mechanisms to implement M&E Plan
Overall Quality of M&E	Satisfactory	Project Board, Project team, CO M&E Expert were actively involved/engaged in project M&E.

3.2.5 Risk Management

As mentioned in the above sections, the project document had identified a number of risks and relevant measures. All risks were included in the ATLAS/QUANTUM Risk Registers and have been continuously monitored, reviewed and updated by the project team and UNDP. The PIRs regularly reported on risk management and mitigation measures and noted that no new risk was identified during 2021-2023. The following table provides a summary assessment of these risks towards the end of the project and its effects on performance and sustainability.

Table 8: Risk Management

Project Risk	Overall Risk Assessment
Risk 1: Ministries have a limited number of experts with limited technical capacity at their disposal due to budgetary constraints	Discussions with officials of government institutions suggest that there are limited human and technical resources to cope with the workload. The project has helped considerably in building the technical capacities of these institutions towards establishment of MRV system and improvement of GHG inventories. However, there is still need for further strengthening capacities and human resources to fully operationalize the MRV system in times to come.
Risk 2: Poor project coordination and limited alignment among institutions on different levels in Bosnia and Herzegovina	Project has helped in improving coordination among various inter and intra entity institutions through involving them in various project capacity building interventions. Furthermore, the PB also facilitated coordination among the main partners at the highest level. However, most of these coordination efforts were facilitated and driven by the project. In the post project period, there is a greater need for formalizing these coordination mechanisms for the purpose of sustainability and especially for sharing data for the operationalization of the MRV system. Having said that, the same stakeholders will continue to meet through 1BRT and 2BTR/5NC project so there is also room for follow up through that project.
Risk 3: Sustainability of climate software	The sustainability of the EIS software heavily depends on the endorsement of regulations for adoption and use of the EIS, enhanced technical capacities of host institutions and stakeholders and continued availability of IT support. Project has supported the

	drafting of laws and regulations for the adoption of the EIS> However, it is pending approvals. Capacities of stakeholders have been built to some extent. However, there is a continued need for further capacity building, especially for the data providers. Though the host institutions have taken full ownership of EIS, including maintenance, they have limited IT capacities. Therefore, the continuity of the IT technical support is also vital for sustainability. The availability of information i.e. indicators for Brcko District also poses challenges.
Risk 4: Low sustainability of the regional peer exchange program	It is expected that peer exchanges will continue in some shape through virtual/online interactions and also in person, as there will be more such capacity building projects/initiatives implemented by various donors, which will support the organization of various events nationally and internationally.
Risk 5: Political authorities may not prioritize obligations defined under the Paris Agreement.	Bosnia Herzegovina is a signatory to various conventions, the Paris Agreement, and other EU obligations. Therefore, it is expected that compliance with these obligations will remain a high priority of the political authorities in times to come.

3.2.6 UNDP implementation/oversight and Implementing Partner execution, overall project implementation/execution and operational issues

Originally, the project document was submitted and approved by GEF under UNDP’s National Implementation Modality (NIM) with the Ministry of Spatial Planning, Civil Engineering and Ecology of Republika Srpska as an implementing partner. It is important to highlight that according to NIM, the implementing partner is responsible for project planning, coordination, management, monitoring, evaluation and reporting, risk management, procurement of goods and services and financial management etc. However, after submitting the Project Document for signatures, the Ministry informed UNDP that they could not implement the Project on its own, due to Bosnia and Herzegovina’s complex administrative structure, and requested UNDP for the provision of implementation support. Therefore, a Letter of Agreement was signed in November 2020, between MSPCE of Republika Srpska and UNDP for provision of support services by the UNDP Country Office for project implementation as support to NIM.

Ministry of Spatial Planning, Civil Engineering and Ecology of Republika Srpska and Federal Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina remained the lead/focal institutions at the respective entities level and collaborated closely in project implementation, while at the state level, the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations (MOFTER) remained the main coordinating institution. Other stakeholders which closely collaborated in project implementation included Hydro-meteorological Institutes in both entities, Environment Protection Funds in both entities, relevant sectoral ministries entity-level, Government of Brčko District, academic and research institutions, private sector organizations and civil society organizations and so on.

UNDP CO Energy and Environment Sector Unit was involved in all stages of the project design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation. UNDP provided technical, financial management, recruitment and procurement support during project implementation, using UNDP’s standard financial management, recruitment and procurement systems and procedures. UNDP was also represented on the Project Board along with representatives from MoFTER, MSPCE, FMET and Brcko District Government, and played its due role in overseeing

and guiding the project. UNDP CO initiated and organized key M&E activities including the preparation of Annual Project Implementation Reports and commissioning of the terminal evaluation. UNDP also engaged a Project Manager and support staff, who remained responsible for the day-to-day management and implementation of the project. Similarly, technical consultants were also engaged as per the work plan.

The change in implementation modality was challenging. However, the project has adapted well to this change and was implemented by UNDP under CO Support to NIM, with active collaboration of partner institutions. Other challenges encountered during project implementation included the restrictions due to COVID-19 pandemic during 2020-2021, which delayed the project start and restricted the implementation of project in-person trainings, workshops and events. Similarly, the project implementation also experienced delays during 2022 due to government institutions’ preoccupation in parliamentary and presentational elections. These delays resulted in the extension of the project timeframe by 6 months, to May 2024.

Overall, the discussions with the informant stakeholders suggest that they are very appreciative of the UNDP role and technical and support services provided during the implementation of the project. Nevertheless, the participation of governmental and other institutions in various project capacity building and awareness activities was also forthcoming. Please see the following table for overall rating as per TE rating scales.

Table 9: Implementation & Executing Agency (EA) Execution Rating

2. Implementing Agency (IA) Implementation & Executing Agency (EA) Execution Rating	Rating	Remarks
Quality of UNDP Implementation/Oversight	Satisfactory	UNDP actively involved in all stages of the project design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation, using UNDP standard financial management, recruitment and procurement systems and procedures
Quality of Implementing Partner Execution	Moderately Satisfactory	The change in implementation modality was challenging and reflected on the lack of capacities of the designated implementing partner. Therefore, the project was implemented by UNDP under CO support to NIM. Similarly, there was hesitation from various institutions in sharing relevant data, due to absence of legal frameworks, which hinders the operationalization of the MRV system.
Overall quality of Implementation/Execution	Satisfactory	UNDP effectively provided required technical, implementation, financial management, recruitment and procurement support during project implementation.

3.3 Project Results and Impacts

3.3.1 Progress towards expected outcomes

The following table provides a summary of achievements of project objective and outcomes against specified indicators and targets as outlined in the Project Results Framework. Detailed analysis is provided in the following sections on Relevance, Efficiency, Effectiveness, Sustainability and Impact etc.

Table 10: CBIT Project Results Framework: Summary of Targets and Achievements

Objective/ Outcomes	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	End of project target level	Cumulative progress since project start till Dec 31, 2023)
Objective: Development of Bosnia and Herzegovina's (BiH) capacities to meet the requirements of the transparency framework under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change	GEF Core Indicator/ UNDP IRRF Indicator Indicator 1: Number of Project Beneficiaries (#, and of that # of women)	0	By Q12, 180 project beneficiaries, of whom at least 90 are women	In total, 173 representatives of involved institutions have participated in project working groups and capacity-building activities including in the study visits to the European Environment Agency (EEA) and the Czech Meteorological Institute. Out of 173 beneficiaries, 130 (75%) were women. (Target achieved)
	UNDP-CBIT Indicator Indicator 2: Quality of MRV Systems* Rubric based on CBIT tracking tool (10-point scale)	2	6	(3) Based on the needs and gaps identified in the assessment exercise the project supported the development of an Environmental Information System (EIS)/MRV System. After testing the EIS has been transferred to the respective Funds for Environment in both Republic of Srpska and Federation of BiH for operationalization and use. Currently the System is still in its early stages of operationalization. (Target partially achieved)
	UNDP-CBIT Indicator Indicator 3: Institutional Capacity for Transparency-Related Activities Rubric based on CBIT tracking tool (4-point scale)	1	3	(2) Project has organized several trainings and workshops for enhancing institutional capacities for transparency related activities. In total, 173 (including 130 women) representatives of involved institutions have participated in these trainings and workshops. Project has also established two training centers, one each at the Fund for Environmental Protection at the entity level to support further capacity building. Similarly, the project has also developed an EIS/MRV for managing data related to climate change indicators. However, there is still further need for capacity building for operationalization of the MRV and to promote transparency related activities. (Target partially achieved)

Outcome 1: Strengthening institutions to improve monitoring and reporting praxis and to establish a domestic MRV system	Indicator 4: Legislation prescribes formalized, mandated transparency-related data collection and exchange (yes/no)	The legislative framework lacks secondary legislation to formalize and mandate data collection and exchange among providers and reporting agencies	By Q12, sub-legislation addressing data collection and exchange for transparency frameworks has been adopted.	Project has completed an analysis of the current legislative framework for MRV processes and developed proposals for amendments to the relevant laws. Project has supported the preparation of the draft Law on Air Protection for FBiH and draft Law on Climate Change for RS. Project has also developed draft regulations which regulate the content, method of data collection and management. However, these laws and regulations are currently pending approval from relevant forums/authorities. (Target partially achieved)
	Indicator 5: a) Receipt of information (yes/no); scale of improvement in knowledge	The Inter-Entity Body on Environment does not have technical capacity or expertise to address transparency issues under the Paris Agreement.	By Q12, the Inter-Entity Body on Environment is receiving quarterly briefings and members self-assess their knowledge as having improved on a multi-point assessment scale.	There was no specific project activity related to Inter-Entity Body on Environment. However, members of the Inter-entity Body are employees of the ministries in charge of environment and they received regular briefings on transparency issues. Due to the change of entity governments, Inter-entity Body meetings were not held regularly. (Target not achieved)
	b) # of CSOs trained in transparency issues	CSOs addressing environment and gender do not have specific knowledge and awareness regarding transparency issues under the Paris Agreement	By Q12, at least six CSOs have received training on transparency issues under the Paris Agreement (same as midterm target), with at least 50% participation by women in training activities.	The Project has initiated and established collaboration with 6 (six) civil society organizations (CSO): 1) Gender Agency BiH, 2) Fondacija Cure. 3) Helsinški parlament građana, 4) AARHUS. 5) Fondacija ACT and 6) Forestry and Environment Action Southeast Europe. These CSOs participated in some of the project capacity building workshops and awareness events. These CSOs were also involved in mapping the gender component in data and legislation in the area of Climate Change, Environment and Biodiversity. (Target achieved)
	Indicator 6: Functionality of MRV system (# of institutions using the system)	Individual databases with transparency-related information exist, but they are not connected or comprehensive.	By Q12, at least 8 public sector institutions report using the MRV system for data entry and exchange.	Project has supported the development of an Environmental Information System (EIS)/MRV System. After testing the EIS has been transferred to the respective Funds for Environment in both Republic of Srpska and Federation of BiH for operationalization and use. Currently the System is still in its early stages of operationalization. Most of the data providing institutions require specific legislations/regulations to share their data in the system. Once the legal frameworks are approved it will pave the way for data entry and exchange. The main participating organizations include: 1)

				<p>Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Federation of BiH (FBiH), 2) Ministry of Spatial Planning, Civil Engineering and Ecology of Republika Srpska (RS), 3) Hydrometeorology Institute (HMI) of RS, 4) HMI of FBiH, 5) Environmental Fund of FBiH, 6) Environmental Fund of Republic of Srpska.</p> <p>(Target partially achieved)</p>
	<p>Indicator 7: Capacity of data providers and processors to use the MRV system (# of public and private sector employees trained)</p>	<p>Neither public sector nor private sector data providers in BiH have experience or training with a unified MRV system</p>	<p>By Q12, at least 20 data providers and/or processors (and of that number at least 10 women) are trained in the use of the unified MRV system</p>	<p>Initial trainings have been conducted involving 25 officials (including 16 women) of public sector institutions on the application and use of developed EIS/MRV. More trainings are planned for the 1st quarter of 2024. Having said this there is a long road ahead to fully build the capacities of all data providers from public and private sector to fully operationalize the MRV system.</p> <p>(Target achieved)</p>
<p>Outcome 2: Improvement of GHG inventories and NDC information</p>	<p>Indicator 8: Number of data providers and analysts trained in 2006 guidelines (# trained; of that, # of women)</p>	<p>6 public sector employees (and of that number, 3 women) have received some form of data collection and QA/QC training related to GHG inventories</p> <p>6 data providers from outside of government (and of that number, 4 women) have received some form of data collection and QA/QC training related to GHG inventories</p>	<p>By Q12, 20 public sector employees (and of that number, 10 women) have received some form of data collection and QA/QC training related to GHG inventories</p> <p>By Q12, 20 data providers from outside of government (and of that number, 10 women) have received some form of data collection and QA/QC training related to GHG inventories</p>	<p>The project has conducted a training needs assessment and developed a training programme to build required technical capacity in GHG Inventory preparation, including a training on Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC). There have been already six rounds of training modules on the effective utilization of MRV system and one remaining until February 2024. The first round consisted of few different subjects such as: Reporting for EU Member States and UNFCCC reporting for Annex I countries; Technical reporting requirements for CRF and NIF; GHG inventory institutional arrangements. The second and third round were more focused on energy and industry processes. The fourth and fifth rounds dealt with GHG emissions, LULUCF and energy, waste and F-gases. Out of 27 participants which attended each of the separate 5 rounds, 22 were women. All participants were from the public sector. It is important to highlight that so far trainings have been conducted mainly for public sector institutions.</p> <p>(Target partially achieved)</p>
	<p>Indicator 9: Presence of QA/QC plan and program for GHG inventories from BiH (yes/no)</p>	<p>There is not a comprehensive QA/QC plan or program in place for GHG inventories</p>	<p>By Q12, a comprehensive QA/QC plan has been developed, and QA/QC program is in place</p>	<p>A comprehensive QA/QC plan has been developed. As a part of the QA/QC plan recommendations on clear roles and responsibilities for GHG inventory have been provided to National QA/QC coordinator, Regional QA/QC coordinator, Regional and national sectoral leads and Regional and national sectoral seconds – each inventory sector has an identified ‘second’. Furthermore, during the study visit to HMI Czech Republic, it was agreed that the HMI</p>

			representatives will assist the project in establishing adequate scheme for QA/QC. (Target achieved)
Indicator 10: Strengthened NDC baseline projections and progress against NDC tracked (yes/no)	Baseline projections in the NDC are based on IPCC guidelines that have been superseded by the 2006 guidelines.	By Q12, progress towards the BiH NDC is formally measured and accessible to transparency stakeholders and the public.	NDC projections are already made in accordance with IPCC 2006 guidelines. Both Environmental Funds took over the ownership of organizing trainings for public and for private sector organizations. The NDC progress measurement will be further streamlined once the MRV system is fully operationalized. UNFCCC website in BiH is under construction, the redesigned website https://unfccc.ba/en/ was presented to the Focal Point ministry, which also shared its comments and suggestions, now integrated in the design. Once completed, the content of this website will provide all necessary data and developments that are related to environmental activities and NDC progress. (Target partially achieved)
Indicator 11: Formal system for the collection of gender-disaggregated data (yes/no)	Gender-disaggregated data are not explicitly reported under current climate change MRV arrangements.	By Q12, gender-disaggregated data are collected in priority areas of the climate change MRV system and accessible to transparency stakeholders and the public.	Project has supported the establishment of Gender and Climate Coalition in BiH. With the support of coalition and other CSOs the project has furnished a comprehensive Report on Mapping the Gender Component in Data and Legislation in the area of Climate Change, Environment and Biodiversity. The report maps already available statistical data and also identifies possible gender disaggregated data sources related to the impact of gender and environment nexus. Similarly, specific recommendations have been provided for the Road Map for the implementation of gender component in the area of Climate Change. Presently, MRV indicators are under development and will include gender disaggregated data for relevant areas, once the required legal frameworks are endorsed and formalized. Furthermore, the Coalition significantly contributed to localizing UNDP Gender Strategy (2022-2025), which includes two out of six signature solutions focused on removing gender gaps in energy and environment field. (Target partially achieved)
Indicator 12: Availability of peer exchanges (# of exchanges in which BiH experts participate)	Support for peer exchanges on transparency is ad hoc and limited.	By Q12, at least 6 peer exchanges have taken place, with equal representation by women.	The project has facilitated the organization of 2 study visits to support peer exchanges on transparency. In total, 22 representatives (including 20 women) of the stakeholder institutions have participated in the study visits to the European Environment Agency and the Czech Meteorological Institute to learn about transparency framework. The project also participated to the Closing Conversation on Serbia's CBIT project organized by the Global CBIT-GSP. (Target partially achieved)
Indicator 13:	Lessons learned, and knowledge related to	By Q12, findings from the project have been presented in at	The project has organized two-days regional conference "Unpacking the Green Agenda for the Western Balkan -the way forward" involving 46 participants (including 32

	Dissemination of knowledge through peer exchanges and other peer learning	transparency in BiH are at a nascent stage and not shared formally.	least three country-level forums, three regional forums, and three international forums (either in person or on-line)	women). The conference identified greater need for transition into greener economy, communication and closer cooperation in the region of Western Balkan. The project also presented its achievements in EEA, in Copenhagen, during the Project Board study visit and also during the visit of working group to HMI Czech Republic. Similarly, the project has presented its achievements in international energy forum in Neum and has also participated in Green Agenda for Western Balkans – International Scientific Conference in Belgrade Serbia. Through active participation in these events, the project has shared its achievements, knowledge and learnings. (Target achieved)
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3.3.2 Relevance

Climate change is one of the biggest ecological and socio-economic challenges in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Increased frequency and intensity of extreme climate events represent significant challenges to the environment and sustainable development of the country. The country's development vision is embodied in its Climate Change Adaptation and Low Emission Development Strategy 2020-2030¹⁷. The overall goal of the strategy is to increase Bosnia and Herzegovina's resilience to climate variability and reverse trend of increasing greenhouse gas emissions and significantly reduce emissions by 2030. The Strategy notes that there is considerable lack of national capacities to address climate change issues and, among other, calls for building capacities of relevant institutions at the state and entity levels to meet the national and international monitoring and reporting obligations in the context of climate change.

Bosnia and Herzegovina ratified the UNFCCC in 2006 and Paris Agreement in 2017. As a non-Annex I country, Bosnia and Herzegovina is obliged to submit National Communications every four years while updated reports on greenhouse gas emissions should be prepared and submitted on biennial basis. Similarly, the country has been submitting Nationally Determined Contribution, National Communications and Biennial Update Reports from time to time. In addition, in 2015, a Stabilization and Association Agreement between Bosnia and Herzegovina and the European Union entered into force and the country formally applied for membership in 2016. Bosnia is also a party to the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution, and it has been a Contracting Party to the Energy Community Treaty since 2006.

These treaties and agreements bring additional requirements to report on climate change action and related activities. At the advent of the project, support for the preparation of various compliance reports has been provided on a project-by-project basis. The country must meet its increasing reporting commitments and in doing so, it needs to move from an ad hoc system of climate change MRV to a continuous system of data collection with an emphasis on collecting, processing and managing high-quality data. At the same time, it must address coordination and data flow issues in order to become more efficient at reporting and to eliminate duplication and undue burdens on data providers. Moving from often disintegrated,

¹⁷https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/ENG_CC%20adaptation%20and%20Low%20emission%20development%20Strategy%20BiH%202020-2030.pdf

not consistently updated and different methodologies between the two different entities of BiH and among different sectors to an integrated, robust system required legislative frameworks and technical and capacity building support to establish a robust MRV system to generate and process required information for decision making and to fulfill various reporting obligations.

In the technical analysis of the first BUR, information and data collection and management were identified as one of the main challenges to enhancing the quality of GHG inventories and improving transparency. In this regard, the country's priority needs included building capacity of institutions and officials involved in data collection, measurement and management, calculating emissions and emission factors, and research and projections of national GHG emissions and developing vertical and horizontal cooperation and coordination among competent institutions as well as information flow between responsible agencies and across sectors.

Overall, the project's objectives to develop Bosnia and Herzegovina's capacities to meet the requirements of the transparency framework on climate change is found highly relevant and well aligned with the national priorities, strategies and international agreements including but not limited to Climate Change Adaptation and Low-Emission Development Strategy, UNFCCC, and the Paris Agreement. Similarly, project interventions are also found highly relevant and well aligned with the capacity building and technical assistance needs of relevant institutions at the state and entity levels regarding data collection, management and reporting towards establishment of robust MRV system and GHG inventories. Nevertheless, the project is also well aligned with the strategic priorities of UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework in BiH (2020-2025)¹⁸, UNDP Country Programme Document (2021-2025)¹⁹ and GEF global priorities for Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF)²⁰ and SDG Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts²¹.

3.3.3 Effectiveness

Outcome 1: Strengthening institutions to improve monitoring and reporting praxis and to establish a domestic MRV system

The Project document outlined a number of outputs and activities to achieve this outcome and provided specific indicators and targets to measure the achievability status of respective outputs. Following is an analysis of the project progress and performance and achievability status of stipulated outputs.

Output 1.1: Enhance relevant environmental and air protection laws related to monitoring and reporting on GHG emissions

Under this output, in order to develop a sustainable system for the estimation of greenhouse gas emissions and their elimination in the long-term, the project document envisaged to review and harmonize relevant environmental and air protection laws in Federation of BiH

¹⁸ https://bosniaherzegovina.un.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/Sustainable%20development_WEB.pdf

¹⁹ <https://www.undp.org/bosnia-herzegovina/publications/country-programme-document-bosnia-and-herzegovina-2021-2025#:~:text=The%20UNDP%20Country%20Programme%20Document,and%20Herzegovina's%20socio%20economic%20development.>

²⁰ <https://www.thegef.org/what-we-do/topics/transparency>

²¹ <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal13>

and Republic of Srpska in accordance with the general requirements of the Directive (EU) no. 525/2013 on a mechanism for monitoring and reporting GHG emissions in order to stipulate preparation and enforcement of secondary legislation which shall primarily establish mandatory data flow system between competent authorities with clear responsibilities and timing.

Analysis of the project progress reports suggest that project has completed a comprehensive analysis of the current policies and strategies and legislative framework for MRV processes in Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska. The analysis concluded that there are no systemic laws and regulations which would address the overall effects of climate change in Bosnia and Herzegovina (including all levels of government). The absence of relevant laws and regulations pose greater challenges in defining the obligations of various institutions and persons responsible in the operationalization of MRV system. Therefore, one of the most important recommendations which stemmed from the analysis was to develop and adopt relevant laws which should regulate the climate change effects in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Following the recommendations of the analysis, the project has supported the development of the draft Law on Air Protection of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The proposed Law intends to regulate air quality protection and management, defines objectives and competences, air quality parameters, air quality planning, measures to improve air quality, measures to protect the ozone layer, mitigation of and adaptation to climate change, emission measurement activities, information and reporting, financing of air quality protection and improvement, information system, administrative supervision, and penal provisions.

Similarly, the project supported the development of Law on Climate Change Republika Srpska. The proposed Law intends to regulate the framework for the effective implementation, measurement, reporting and verification of greenhouse gas emission reductions and the effective implementation, monitoring, reporting and evaluation of adaptation to changed climate conditions; the preparation and implementation of a long-term strategy for reducing GHG emissions and a plan for adaptation to changed climate conditions; the preparation of the basis for planning, implementation and reporting on the contribution of Republika Srpska to the objectives of the Paris Agreement, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the issuance of permits for GHG emissions to the plant operator. In addition, the project has also developed regulations which regulates the content, method of data collection and management of the Information System for Environmental Protection of the Republic of Srpska, methodology, structure, category of data, as well as the method of data management in the Information System for Environmental Protection of the Republika Srpska.

Overall, the discussions with the stakeholders in Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska, suggest that project support was found instrumental in review of legislative frameworks and development of the above-mentioned draft laws and regulations to streamline and formalize the establishment and operationalization of the monitoring, reporting and verifications system for environment and climate change to effectively comply with domestic and international obligations. However, presently, these laws and regulations are not formally adopted or endorsed and are pending approval from the respective entities

of the parliamentary bodies. Discussions also suggest that without the formal adoption/approval of the developed laws and regulations the full-scale operationalization of the MRV system is not possible, as all institutions, at the entity level, require specific legal framework determining clear roles and responsibilities for data generation, sharing and reporting. Therefore, there is a greater need to strengthen advocacy efforts at the level of both entities to endorse and adopt proposed laws and regulations as soon as possible.

Output 1.2: Support provided to key institutions and other stakeholders in order to improve coordination

Under this output, the project envisaged to provide support to a broad range of stakeholders in order to ensure coordination and flow of both data and knowledge. In this regard, the project has involved a diverse range of stakeholders including relevant governmental institutions at the entity and state level through its various capacity building and awareness related interventions. Since most of the beneficiaries of the project were entity level institutions, a greater emphasis was laid on building their capacities and improving coordination for data generation and sharing.

The project supported the establishment of Gender and Climate Coalition in BiH, in partnership with UN WOMEN and Gender Equality Agency of the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees. In this regard, the project furnished a Report on Mapping the Gender Component in Data and Legislation in the area of Climate Change, Environment and Biodiversity. The report maps already available statistical data, through various statistical research and administrative data, but also identifies possible data sources that could lead to relevant information, serving the preparation of decisions and policies related to the impact of gender and environment nexus. Furthermore, the project has also involved several civil society organizations in its capacity building and awareness interventions to strengthen their capacities and improve overall coordination among governmental institutions and CSOs. The project has also collaborated with local CSOs in organization of awareness events like climate action week to enhance awareness among general public regarding various climate change and environment related issues.

Discussions with stakeholders suggest that project interventions were found instrumental in building the capacities and improving coordination among various stakeholders at the entity level. However, the data sharing among various institutions at the entity level still remains optional and spontaneous due to the absence of explicit regulations on mandatory data sharing mechanism. The project document has also envisaged that targeted support will be provided to the Inter-Entity Body on Environment (IEBE) to ensure that it has the information and technical support necessary for decision-making in climate change MRV and transparency activities. However, an analysis of project progress and discussion with stakeholders suggest that no specific project activities were geared towards supporting IEBE to play its due role in decision-making in climate change MRV and transparency activities. Having said this, members of the Inter-Entity Body are employees of the ministries in charge of environment and they received regular briefings on transparency issues. Due to the change of entity governments, Inter-entity Body meetings were not held regularly.

Output 1.3: Design and implementation of a domestic MRV system

Under this output, the project document envisaged the development of a domestic MRV system, including a clear definition of institutional arrangements, and an adjoining knowledge platform, which would ensure better data flows and further capacitate the relevant institutions and their staff. The overall purpose was to establish a knowledge-sharing platform regarding transparency and data methodologies, serving as a centralized institutional backup for sectoral knowledge.

To establish the MRV system, the project has conducted a detailed assessment to identify institutional, legal, technical requirements and specifications for the proposed MRV system. Based on the needs and gaps identified in the assessment exercise the project supported the development of an Environmental Information System (EIS) and facilitated the commissioning of the design of the system and the relevant database interfaces, procurement of the necessary hardware and software, engineering of the system interfaces between the MRV system and key sectoral databases and testing and refining of the system.

In this regard, the project has contracted a specialized private IT company -EUROBIT, which has designed and developed a comprehensive EIS software, adopting best practices from neighboring countries, to serve as an online database/repository for climate change and environment related indicators data at the entity level. After testing and refining the EIS system software has been transferred to the respective Funds for Environment in both Republic of Srpska and Federation of BiH for operationalization and use. The same software is used in both entities: therefore, it allows the aggregation of environmental and climate change data at the state level. The EIS is online and can be accessed through <https://klimatskepromjenfbih.ba/> for Federation of Bosnia Herzegovina and at eiscca.ekofondrs.org for Republika Srpska.

It is important to mention that the online EIS is designed with the view that all relevant institutions at the entity level will duly participate in providing/sharing sector specific data directly into the system on relevant indicators. For this purpose, initially a number of responsible officials from relevant public sector institutions have been trained in the application and use of the EIS in both entities. More of these trainings are planned for involved stakeholders in the 1st quarter of 2024. Since capacity building is a continuous process, the project has also supported the establishment of two training centers at both environmental funds to facilitate the continuity of training courses in future. Nevertheless, apart from providing access to relevant public sector institutions at the entity and state levels the EIS also provides limited online access to non-governmental institutions and the general public.

Discussions with relevant stakeholders suggest that once fully operationalized, the EIS will be quite instrumental in the monitoring of various climate change and environment related indicators and will greatly help in evidence-based decision making at the entity level and especially in reporting on various international obligations and agreements at the state level. Having said that, discussions also suggest that presently the system is still under development, though the software has been hosted by the Funds for Environment in both entities, and initial trainings were provided to the representatives of involved institutions. However, so far, a very limited number of indicators have been populated into the system at

the entity level and there are still significant challenges in the provision/input of relevant indicators data by the institutions involved.

As mentioned, the EIS is designed with the view that various institutions at the entity level will enter their relevant sectoral data directly into the system. However, discussions suggest that these institutions are hesitant in sharing their datasets and require a legal framework to enable/mandate them to share the required data through the system. In this regard, the project has supported drafting of specific laws and regulation covering various aspects including data collection, sharing and management etc., but the same has not been endorsed/approved so far, which hinders the sharing of data among institutions. Once the legal framework is endorsed it will pave the way for full scale operationalization of the EIS. In addition, there is also a greater need for further strengthening of capacities of relevant institutions and especially data providers to regularly provide and update required data in the system. Nevertheless, there will be a continuous need for external specialized technical (IT) and maintenance support to keep the system up and running smoothly and updating it from time to time.

Outcome 2: Improvement of GHG inventories and NDC information

The Project document outlined a number of outputs and activities to achieve this outcome and provided specific indicators and targets to measure the achievability status of respective outputs. Following is an analysis of the project progress and performance and achievability status of stipulated outputs.

Output 2.1: Improvement of the GHG inventory development process, including enhanced use of the IPCC 2006 guidelines, data collection and QA/QC.

Under this output the project document envisaged to build the capacities of relevant institutions participating in the GHG inventory process, in use of the IPCC 2006 guidelines, data collection and QA/QC.

In this regard, the project has conducted a detailed training needs assessment and developed and implemented training programmes in GHG Inventory preparation and Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC). Capacities of officials of relevant institutions have been built on the effective utilization of MRV system. There have been already several rounds of training modules and one remaining until February 2024. First round was consisted of subjects such as: Reporting for EU Member States and UNFCCC reporting for Annex I countries; Technical reporting requirements for CRF and NIF and; GHG inventory institutional arrangements (legal, institutional and procedural arrangements). The second and the third round were more focused on energy and industry processes. Fourth and fifth rounds dealt with GHG emissions, LULUCF and energy, waste and F-gases. Similarly, a comprehensive QA/QC plan has also been developed, providing recommendations on clear roles and responsibilities. During the study visit to HMI Czech Republic, it was also agreed that the institution will assist relevant stakeholders establishing adequate scheme for QA/QC in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Discussions with stakeholders suggest that project support was found instrumental in building the capacities of various involved institutions in GHG inventory development process, use of IPCC guidelines and quality assurance and quality control etc. However, the development of GHG inventory process is found quite complex and involves diverse range of sectors,

institutions and methodologies for calculation/estimation of GHGs. Presently the GHG inventories are developed on an ad hoc and need basis. There is still greater need to fully build capacities of all stakeholders in estimation of GHGs and development of credible GHG inventory process at the entity level. It is also expected that once the EIS is fully operationalized it will greatly help in improving the overall GHG inventory development process and its reporting.

Output 2.2: Clarifying key NDC information, e.g. baseline projections including for business-as-usual targets, and assisting in reporting progress towards achieving BiH NDC

The Project document outlined that this output would contribute to improving capacities for developing more robust NDCs over time. Activities under this output focused on improving information for the existing NDC and the robustness of the enhanced transparency framework for support.

In this regard, NDC projections are already made in accordance with IPCC 2006 guidelines. Once fully operationalized, the EIS will serve as the main tool and formal platform for generating data and information necessary for tracking the progress of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina NDC implementation and achievement and will be accessible for main stakeholders and the public. Similarly, the project supported the redesigning of UNFCCC website in Bosnia and Herzegovina (<https://unfccc.ba/en/>). It is expected that the content of the website will provide all necessary data and developments that are related to climate environmental activities and NDC progress.

Output 2.3: Integrating gender considerations in NDC and enhanced transparency framework

The project document envisaged that under this output support will be provided to ensure gender equality and empowerment of women in the NDC and enhanced transparency processes. An emphasis will be given to analysis and disaggregation of impacts, beneficiaries, and interventions by gender. It will also support capacity building of the key gender institutions to assist with gender-disaggregated data collection and dissemination.

In this regard, the project has supported the establishment of Gender and Climate Coalition in BiH, in partnership with UN WOMEN and Gender Equality Agency of the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees. The coalition has organized several meetings and, among others, have provided suggestions to integrate gender consideration, especially availability of sex disaggregated data on various climate change and environment related indicators. With the support of coalition and other CSOs the project has furnished a comprehensive Report on Mapping the Gender Component in Data and Legislation in the area of Climate Change, Environment and Biodiversity. The report maps already available statistical data, through various statistical research and administrative data and also identifies possible gender disaggregated data sources related to the impact of gender and environment nexus. Similarly, specific recommendations have been provided for the Road Map for the implementation of gender component in the area of Climate Change, Environment and Biodiversity. Furthermore, the Coalition also contributed to localizing UNDP Gender Strategy (2022-2025), which includes two out of six signature solutions focused on removing gender gaps in energy and environment sectors.

Discussions with officials of Gender Equality Agency suggest that gender coalition was found quite instrumental in bringing forth the gender and climate change agenda and especially the need for sex disaggregated data for various indicators to monitor the impacts of climate change on women and other disadvantage groups. However, presently most of the data collection processes are not fully gender sensitive and there is a greater need for capacity building to incorporate and use gender sensitive approaches to climate change and environment data collection and processing.

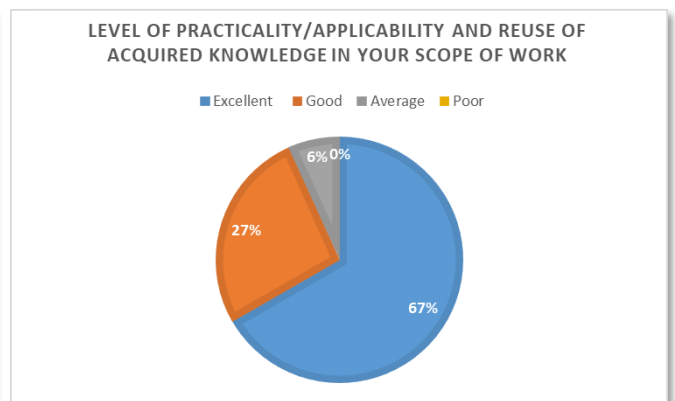
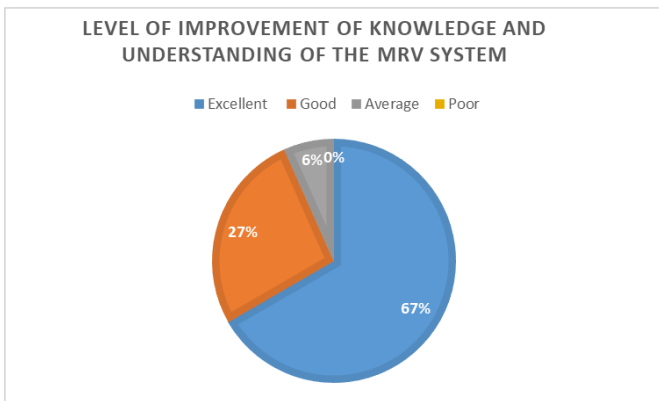
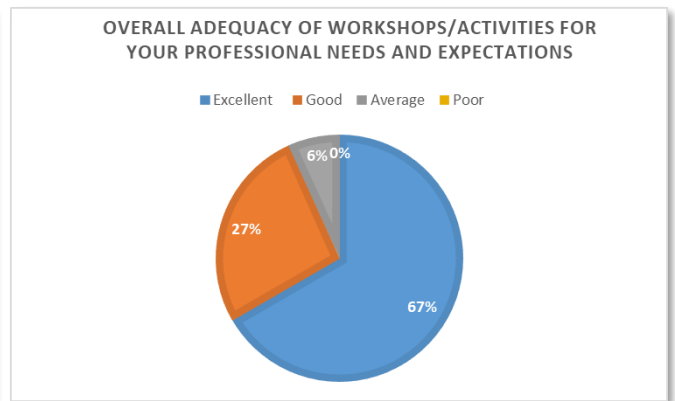
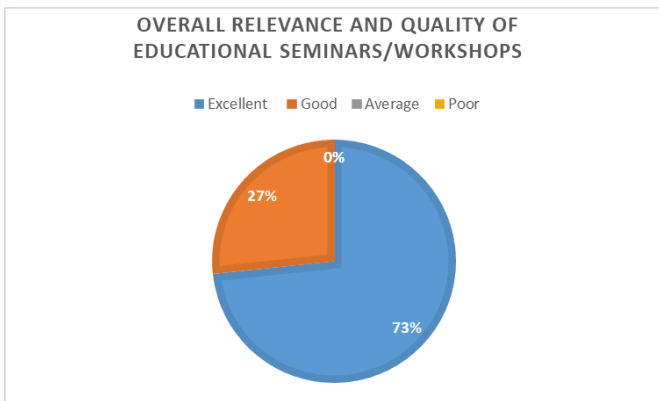
Output 2.4: A regional peer exchange program in place to improve transparency related capacities through best practices and information and lessons learned exchange

The project document envisaged that this output would continue and expand a regional peer-exchange program, initially supported by the UNDP/UN Environment Global Support Program (GSP) for NCs and BURs. The exchange was initially designed to enhance the sharing of practices, exchange of information and lessons learned in order to enhance the technical and institutional capacities that are instrumental to Article 13 compliance.

Under this output, to facilitate the dissemination of knowledge on transparency through peer exchanges, the project has facilitated the organization of 2 study visits to support peer exchanges on transparency. In total, 22 representatives of the stakeholder institutions participated in the study visits to the European Environment Agency (in November 2022) and to the Czech Meteorological Institute (in May 2022) to learn about transparency frameworks. Similarly, the project has organized a regional conference “Unpacking Green Agenda” from 7-8 December 2022 in Sarajevo. The Conference was attended by representatives of national and regional institutions from the Western Balkans, as well as international organizations working in the field of environment and climate change to discuss priority actions and next steps the region should take to address climate change issues and achieve carbon neutrality and how to strengthen their cooperation towards green transition.

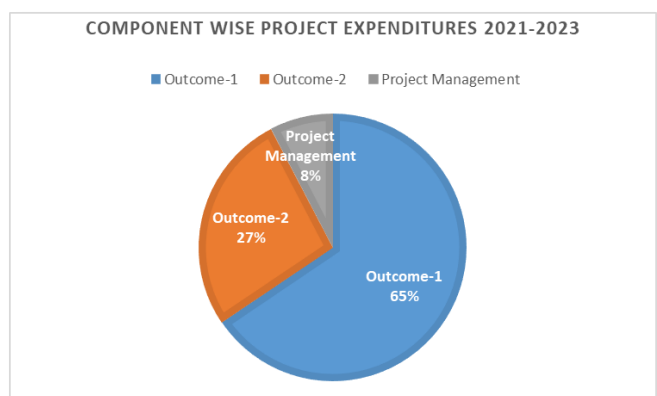
Discussions with stakeholders suggest that these peer exchanges were found instrumental in enhancing transparency related knowledge of participants through sharing of experience and learning about best practices from other countries in the regions. However, there is a greater need to formalize these exchanges and to develop mechanisms for close and meaningful collaboration among relevant institutions of BiH and other countries on regular basis to learn from each other experiences and build upon the best practices in the longer run.

Results of the perception survey: As mentioned in the methodology section, an online perception survey was conducted, with the support of project team, involving 15 participants (who completed the questionnaire) of the trainings and workshops to ascertain their perception on the overall quality, suitability, relevance, applicability and organization etc. of the trainings and workshops. They were asked to rank five different questions as excellent, good, average and poor. Overall, the findings of the survey point out that these capacity building interventions were found relevant and helped considerably in improving the understanding and knowledge of the participants regarding various workshop contents. Please see the self-explanatory charts on the next page, which provide respondents perceptions about various questions asked. Kindly note that the title of the chart represents various questions asked. For details of the survey participants, please see Annex-2.



3.3.4 Efficiency

Analysis of the project financial statements, provided at the time of terminal evaluation, suggest that by December 2023, the project has utilized around USD 1.0 Million, which is 83% of total available GEF resources of USD 1.2 Million. The remaining amount is expected to be utilized before the end of the project in May 2024. Analysis of outcome-wise expenditures as of December 2023, suggests that a major chunk of the total spent resources has been utilized under Outcome-1 (65%), followed by

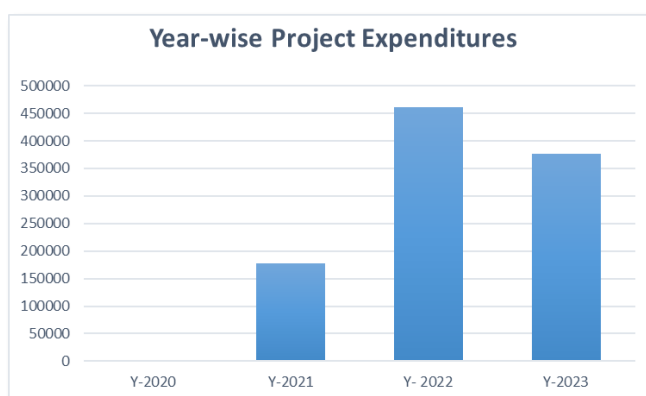


Outcome-2 (27%) and project management (8%). The following table provides summary of yearly outcome wise budgets and expenditures of GEF funds.

Table 11: Outcome-wise Project Budgets and Expenditures (Nov 2020 – Dec 2023)

Component	2020		2021		2022		2023		Total	
	Budget	Exp.	Budget	Exp.	Budget	Exp.	Budget	Exp.	Budget	Exp.
Outcome-1	0	0	77,400	63,352	355,847	332,462	294,524	269,744	727,771	665,558
Outcome-2	0	0	144,000	91,352	106,191	102,784	90,449	78,282	340,640	272,417
Project Management	1,000	324	26,000	22,513	28,947	25,937	34,857	28,723	90,803	77,496
Total	1,000	324	247,400	177,216	490,985	461,183	419,830	376,749	1,159,215	1,015,472

Analysis of year-wise project expenditures suggest that in 2020, the project consumed very little resources, pointing to the slow start due to aggravation of Covid pandemic and the time consumed by setting up the project structures and implementation mechanisms. In subsequent years, the project geared up its implementation and in 2022, its utilization rates reached the highest, before slowly coming down toward the end of the project. Please see the chart.



As mentioned earlier, the project document initially envisaged that the project is to be implemented under UNDP’s National Implementation Modality (NIM) with Ministry of Spatial Planning, Civil Engineering and Ecology of Republic of Srpska as an implementing partner. However, later on the ministry expressed their inability to implement the project on its own, due to BiH’s complex administrative structure and requested UNDP to provide implementation support for the project. Accordingly, UNDP accommodated that request, and the project was implemented as a Support to NIM, with UNDP assuming the role for administering the project funds directly. Analysis suggests that project GEF funds were managed and spent in an accountable manner, using UNDP’s standard accounting, financial management, human resource and procurement systems and procedures.

The project document also included co-financing of USD 0.25 Million from involved governmental institutions at the entity and state level including; MOFTER, MSPCEE, FMET, Republic Hydro-meteorological Institute, Federal Hydro-meteorological Institute. Each of the above institutions was mandated to provide in-kind support worth USD 50,000. This in-kind support has been accounted for in the shape of staff time, staff expertise, facilities for training and MRV development and support of training for data providers etc. It is found difficult to estimate the exact monetary worth of institutional in-kind support. However, keeping in view active participation and collaboration of main institutions in project implementation, it can be deduced their contributions were quite instrumental in successful implementation of project interventions.

The initial duration of the project was three years, from 04 November 2020 to 04 November 2023. However, the project experienced initial delays due to restrictions imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic and challenges in the conformation of the government of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which hindered the engagement and participation of key stakeholders and technical experts during the inception phase. The inception workshop was held on 09 March 2021 and the first Project Board meeting was held on 18 May 2021. The Project Board has held 5 meetings from May 2021 to January 2024. Furthermore, the presidential and parliamentary elections held in October 2022 and the delay in the formation of the Council of Ministers in Bosnia and Herzegovina also slowed down the implementation of project activities in 2022.

Keeping in view the delays, a 6-month extension was proposed by the Project Board and approved by the GEF, and the project end date was extended to 4 May 2024, to allow time for completion of all planned activities. Other implementation challenges faced by the project include the turnover of government and project staff, including Project Manager, resulting in the loss of institutional memory and slightly delaying the project progress. Similarly, the complex governmental structures and limited human resources at the state and entity level institutions also posed considerable challenges in implementation of project interventions and coordination among stakeholders and implementation of project interventions.

Overall, the analysis suggests that the project has adapted well to various implementation challenges and delays and has implemented most of its planned activities with a budget utilization rate of 83% (as of December 2023). Some of the activities such as EIS user trainings are planned for 2024. Therefore, there is a greater need to further speed up project implementation to complete the remaining activities to achieve full utilization rate by 4 May 2024. Please see the following table for overall rating as per TE rating scales for various criteria.

Table 12: Assessment Criteria Rating

3. Assessment of Outcomes	Rating	Remarks
Relevance	Satisfactory	Project was well aligned with national priorities and global obligations and needs of the involved institutions related to MRV of climate change and environmental indicators. Similarly, it was also fully aligned with UN, UNDP and GEF priorities in Bosnia Herzegovina.
Effectiveness	Moderately Satisfactory	Project has been successful in implementing its outlined activities. However, a number of outcome level indicator's targets are partially achieved.
Efficiency	Satisfactory	Project has successfully utilized most of its allocated financial resources. Project has adjusted well to coup with delays caused by Covid and parliamentary elections in 2022. However, it was granted a 6-month extension to complete all its activities.
Overall Project Outcome Rating	Moderately Satisfactory	The MRV system is still in the very early stages of operationalization and will require further efforts to give way to full scale operationalization and use in times to come. Data sharing among institutions requires legal frameworks, which are not endorsed so far, hindering the full-scale adoptability and operationalization of MRV.

3.3.5 Sustainability

Sustainability of project interventions and continuity of benefits, in the post project period normally depends on the availability of desired policies, institutional frameworks, human and technical skills, social acceptance, environmental viability and most importantly availability of desired financial resources. The project document has outlined that the project will ensure the sustainability of its actions by enhancing and embedding an enhanced transparency framework into the institutional framework of Bosnia and Herzegovina, thus engaging a wide range of stakeholders in fulfilling the provisions of the Paris Agreement. Through the project support, institutions will significantly increase their ownership role in the MRV processes. The following is a brief description of the main sustainability criteria.

a) Financial Sustainability

The project has provided much needed financial resources for building capacities of individuals and institutions towards establishment of a domestic MRV system and improving GHG inventories. It is expected that the benefits of these capacity-building interventions will continue to flow in times to come. However, discussion with stakeholders suggests that data collection, processing and reporting on climate change indicators is a complex and time-consuming process. The project has helped in piloting of the MRV system, however full-scale integration and operationalization of the MRV system will require more time and resources in times to come. Though there is a good deal of ownership for internalization of the system with the host institutions, these institutions are resource scarce and therefore external resources will be needed in times to come to support them. Nevertheless, there will be a continuous need for engaging external technical (IT) and maintenance support to keep the system up and running smoothly and updating it from time to time, which will also require needed resources.

b) Institutional Frameworks and governance sustainability

Overall, the alignment of project results and interventions with national priorities, strategies and international agreements including but not limited to Climate Change Adaptation and Low-Emission Development Strategy (2020-2025), National Adaptation Plan, UNFCCC, Paris Agreement and other international conventions and agreements provides sound basis for continuity of project interventions and benefits.

Bosnia and Herzegovina is a decentralized country with complex governance structures at the state, entity and lower levels. The MRV system is designed with the view that various institutions at the entity level will collaborate and provide relevant sectoral data directly into the system. However, discussions with stakeholders suggest that these institutions are somehow hesitant in sharing their datasets and require a legal framework to enable/mandate them to share the required data through the system. In this regard, the project has supported drafting of specific laws and regulations including Law on Air Protection of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Law on Climate Change of the Republika of Srpska. In addition, the project has also supported the drafting of specific regulations which regulates the data collection, sharing and management process etc. However, these laws and regulations are still pending approvals/endorsement from relevant forums, which somehow hinders the sharing of data among institutions. Once the legal framework is endorsed and fully implemented it will pave the way for full scale operationalization and sustainability of the MRV system in times to come.

c) Socio-political sustainability

The project has also contributed towards raising awareness among the general public through its awareness campaigns. Project has involved CSOs in its capacity building interventions and in mobilization and raising awareness of general public through events like climate action weeks. Similarly, project has also duly involved a significant number of women in capacity building and awareness raising interventions and has made efforts to address gender issues in data collection, processing and management. However, in the longer run there is also a greater need to reach out to the wider population to inform them of the perils of environmental degradation and climate change and ways to address them at the local level. Having said this, overall project interventions were found socially acceptable and beneficial from citizen's point of view, keeping in view the ongoing issues of climate change, which greatly impact the lives and livelihoods of wider population. On the political side, Bosnia and Herzegovina has a complex political history with considerable political divisions at the state and entity levels, which at times hinders coordination among inter-entity institutions. However, discussions suggest that despite political divisions the issues of climate change are considered neutral among all and at the moment there is no significant political risk to sustainability of project interventions.

d) Environmental sustainability

The long-term objective of the project is to assist Bosnia and Herzegovina in deepening the mainstreaming and integration of climate change into country and sectoral development goals and to enable the entity and state level governments to respond to international environmental obligations by strengthening and giving continuity to the institutional and technical capacity development. Therefore, environmentally, the project itself was a great advocate of and has promoted environmental sustainability through building institutional capacities in information sharing, data collection and management related to monitoring, reporting and verification of mitigation and adaptation actions and improvement of transparency framework under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. Please see the following table for overall rating as per TE rating scales:

Table 13: Sustainability Criteria Rating

4. Sustainability	Rating	Remarks
Financial sustainability	Moderately Likely	Entity level institutions are resource scarce. Therefore, additional resources will be needed in time to support them in full scale operationalization and maintenance of the MRV system.
Socio-political sustainability	Likely	Project interventions are socially acceptable and politically neutral.
Institutional framework and governance sustainability	Moderately Likely	Relevant laws and regulations supported by the project are still pending approvals, which hinders the sharing of data among institutions. Although adoption of laws is outside of the projects mandate, they are crucial in securing institutional sustainability.
Environmental sustainability	Likely	The project itself was a great advocate for addressing environmental and climate issues and all of its interventions were environmentally viable.
Overall Likelihood of Sustainability	Moderately Likely	Availability of required financial resources and delays in adoption of relevant legal framework pose some challenges for overall sustainability.

3.3.6 Gender equality and women's empowerment

The project has supported the establishment of Gender and Climate Coalition in BiH, in partnership with UN WOMEN and Gender Equality Agency of the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees. The coalition has organized several meetings and, among others, have provided suggestions to integrate gender considerations, especially availability of gender disaggregated data on various climate change and environment related indicators. With the support of Coalition and other CSOs the project has furnished a comprehensive Report on Mapping the Gender Component in Data and Legislation in the area of Climate Change, Environment and Biodiversity.

The report maps already available statistical data, through various statistical research and administrative data and identifies possible gender disaggregated data sources related to the impact of gender and environment nexus. Similarly, specific recommendations have been provided for the Road Map for the implementation of gender component in the area of Climate Change, Environment and Biodiversity. Furthermore, the Coalition contributed to localizing UNDP Gender Strategy (2022-2025), which includes two out of six signature solutions focused on removing gender gaps in energy and environment sectors.

The project board remained the high-level decision-making forum of the project and two out of five members of PB are women. Similarly, project has also involved a large number of women representatives from respective institutions in its diverse range of capacity building training and workshops. In total, 173 individuals participated in project capacity-building trainings and workshops and in the study visits to the European Environment Agency (EEA) and the Czech Hydro-meteorological Institute. Out of total 173 beneficiaries, 130 were women, with around 76% of participation rate, which shows the commitment of the project towards involvement of women in project interventions. Similarly, the higher ratio of women participation in project capacity building activities also points towards the greater representation of women in the project partner institutions.

3.3.7 Country Ownership

Overall, the analysis and discussions suggest that there is a considerable level of ownership at the highest level in Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina for climate change agenda. Bosnia and Herzegovina is a signatory to several international conventions, treaties and agreements including UNFCCC, UNCBD, Paris Agreement and various related EU agreements. The country has been regularly reporting on these obligations. Similarly, the environment and climate change agenda is also incorporated in the national level policies, strategies and plans like Climate Change Adaptation and Low Emission Development Strategy and National Adaptation Plan etc.

At the entity level, there is also considerable demand and ownership for the project interventions related to establishment of MRV systems and improving GHG inventories. Project capacity building support is much appreciated by the institutions involved and the developed EIS has been transferred to respective Environmental Funds of both entities for hosting. Discussions with officials of both entities suggest that there is a good deal of ownership for the operationalization, use and sustainability of the system. However, there is also a greater need for legal framework to mandate all involved institutions to fully recognize and own the system. As mentioned earlier, the project has supported drafting of relevant

laws and regulations to govern collection, processing and sharing of data. Once these regulations are formally endorsed it will considerably improve overall ownership and sustainability in the longer run.

3.3.8 GEF Additionality

The GEF Independent Evaluation Office classifies additionality into six factors²² including 1) Specific Environmental Additionality, 2) Legal and Regulatory Additionality, 3) Institutional and Governance Additionality, 4) Financial Additionality, 5) Socio-Economic Additionality, and 6) Innovation Additionality. The following table summarizes the GEF additionalities in the context of the CBIT project.

Table 14: GEF Additionality

GEF's Additionality	Description	Remarks
Specific Environmental Additionality	The GEF provides a wide range of value-added interventions/services to achieve the Global Environmental Benefits (e.g. CO2 reduction, Reduction/avoidance of emission of POPs).	The CBIT project agenda was fully aligned with and focused on the Global Environmental Benefits through building capacities, developing MRV system and improving GHGs, which in the longer run will significantly contribute to CO2 reduction, Reduction/avoidance of emission of POPs).
Legal/Regulatory Additionality	The GEF helps stakeholders transformational change to environment sustainable legal/regulatory forms	The project has supported development of draft Law on Environmental Protection for Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and draft Climate Change Law for Republika Srpska and required regulations for collection, management and sharing of environment and climate change data. These laws and regulations once approved will significantly help in bringing transformational change to the environmentally sustainable legal/regulatory form.
Institutional Additionality/ Governance additionality	The GEF provides a support the existing institution to transform into efficient/sustainable environment manner.	Project has supported institutions involved i to transform in efficient and sustainable manner through building the capacities of relevant institutions in data collection, management and sharing processes by establishing MRV system and improving GHG inventories.
Financial Additionality	The GEF provides an incremental cost which is associated with transforming a project with national/local benefits into one with global environmental benefits.	The GEF incremental funds were very instrumental in building capacities of relevant stakeholders toward paving the way for establishment and operationalization of MRV system and improving GHG inventories to comply with reporting of international obligations and generating data for domestic planning and monitoring.

²² An Evaluative Approach to Assessing GEF's Additionality https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF.ME_C.55.inf_01_Additionality_Framework_November_2018.pdf

Socio-Economic Additionality	The GEF helps society improve their livelihood and social benefits thorough GEF activities.	The project interventions mainly focused on building capacities of relevant institutions and awareness among the general public. As such the project did not implement any specific intervention related to livelihood improvement for people. However, in the longer run the effective monitoring of climate change will result in mitigation of negative impacts of climate change which will yield livelihood and social benefits for people affected by climate change.
Innovation Additionality	The GEF provides efficient/sustainable technology and knowledge to overcome the existing social norm/barrier/practice for making a bankable project.	The project has introduced EIS, which can be considered as innovation additionality, i.e. it provides sustainable technology to overcome existing practices.

3.3.9 Catalytic/Replication Effect

Project has helped in building the capacities of involved institutions in data collection, management and reporting and it is expected that the knowledge and experience gained by the institutions will play a catalytic role in further strengthening of climate change and environmental monitoring at various levels. The project has developed sufficient training material and has also supported the establishment of the training centers at the two Environment Funds in both entities. These training materials and facilities at the training centers will be used to replicate the capacity building activities for involved stakeholders in time to come.

The MRV system once fully operationalized and internalized will also play a catalytic role in improving overall effectiveness of similar projects and initiatives through provision of credible data. The MRV system is also designed to expand data collection and reporting as needed. The software and database interfaces developed under this project can be expanded to collect data in additional sub-sectors and at different levels. In addition, the secondary legislation, MRV system, and training materials developed by this project will be very relevant to other parties to the Paris Agreement, and individual project guidance and documentation may be used to replicate certain approaches in other countries.

3.3.10 Progress to Impact

The long-term objective of the project “to assist Bosnia and Herzegovina in deepening the mainstreaming and integration of climate change into country and sectoral development goals and to enable the entity and state level governments to respond to international environmental obligations by strengthening and giving continuity to the institutional and technical capacity development”. Overall, the project objectives are also linked to SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

Since impact relates to longer term changes induced by the project interventions and results, at this stage, when the project is just coming to an end, it is too early to assess the longer-term impacts of the project. Having said this, as mentioned in detail in the effectiveness section, the project has considerably built the capacities of relevant stakeholders and has supported the establishment of MRV system and improvement of GHG inventory in Bosnia Herzegovina. It is expected that once the MRV system is fully internalized and operationalized, on one hand, it will greatly help in providing credible data on environment and climate change for evidence based policy making and planning for sustainable development at the state, entity and lower levels and, on the other hand, it will considerably improve the compliance and reporting on country's international obligations especially towards UNFCCC and Paris Agreement.

The project has also supported the drafting of various environmental and climate change related laws and regulations. Once approved, these legal frameworks in the longer run will ensure the enforcement of various measures to discourage unsustainable development and business practices and will guide the promotion of more environment friendly and sustainable development technologies and practices. Nevertheless, the availability of credible data will also allow involved institutions in the longer run to make efforts to reduce emission of GHGs and will also allow them to predict and develop in advance various climate change related scenarios and accordingly will help in developing and implementing effective mitigation measures to reduce the negative impacts of climate change on the lives and the livelihoods of local population.

4. SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS

4.1 Main Conclusions

Based upon the detailed analysis and findings of the evaluation exercise, following are the main conclusions:

a) Project Design and Management

Overall, the project's Theory of Change and Results Framework were well formulated and exhibited clear linkages among outputs, outcomes and objectives. The project was initially designed to be implemented through National Implementation Modality, with MPSCE Republika Srpska as the implementing partner. However, later on the ministry expressed their inability to implement the project on its own, and due to the administrative complexities, the project was implemented under CO Support to NIM. Project has involved diverse range of stakeholders at the national and entity level. Overall project implementation arrangements were found appropriate and participation and cooperation of various stakeholders, especially among relevant governmental institutions, remained forthcoming.

b) Relevance

Overall project objectives, outcomes and interventions were found very relevant, aligned and consistent with the national priorities, strategies and international agreements including but not limited to Climate Change Adaptation and Low-Emission Development Strategy (2020-2025), National Adaptation Plan, UNFCCC, Paris Agreement etc. Similarly, the project duly responded to the capacity building and technical assistance needs of relevant institutions at the state and entity levels regarding establishment of MRV system and GHG inventories. Nevertheless, project objectives and interventions were also aligned with UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework in Bosnia and Herzegovina (2020-2025), UNDP Country Programme Document Bosnia and Herzegovina (2021-2025) and GEF global priorities and SDGs.

c) Effectiveness

Project has supported the enhancement of legal frameworks through the development of the draft Law on Air Protection of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and draft Law on Climate Change of the Republika of Srpska and various regulations which regulates the content, method of data collection and management of the MRV system. However, presently these laws and regulations are not formally endorsed and are pending approval from the respective forums/bodies, which hinders the sharing of data among various institutions.

Project has supported the establishment of an Environmental Information System (EIS), as a repository for the environment and climate change related data. The EIS is transferred to Environment Funds of both entities for operationalization and initial training has been provided to officials of relevant institutions. However, the EIS is still in its early stages of operationalization. Currently there is slight hesitation on the part of participating institutions to share required sectoral data, as they require a legal framework to mandate them to share and post the required data through EIS. Once required regulations are fully adopted, it will pave the way for full scale operationalization of the EIS.

Project has also helped in capacity building of relevant stakeholders through trainings to improve the process of GHG Inventory preparation and Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC). However, the development of GHG inventory is found quite complex and involves diverse range of sectors, institutions and methodologies for estimation of GHGs, and there is still a need to further strengthen capacities to streamline and improve GHG inventory in all sectors.

d) Efficiency

As of December 2023, the project has consumed \$ 1.0 Million, i.e. 83% of the total available GEF resources. It is expected that the remaining resources will be consumed towards the project end in May 2024. A major chunk (65%) of the total resources spent has been utilized under Outcome-1, followed by Outcome-2 (27%) and project management (8%). It is found difficult to estimate the exact worth of in-kind co-financing, however keeping in view active participation it can be deduced their contributions were quite instrumental in realizing project outcomes. Overall project resources were managed and spent in an efficient, cost effective and accountable manner, using UNDP standard financial management, recruitment and procurement procedures.

The project was originally designed for a 3-year term (36 months) from Nov 2020 to Nov 2023. However, the project inception was delayed due to Covid and confirmations from partner institutions and the actual implementation started in March 2021. Furthermore, the project also experienced more delays due to presidential and parliamentary elections held in October 2022. Keeping in view of the subsequent implementation delays, a 6-month extension was approved by the GEF, and the project end date was extended to 4 May 2024 to cope with the delays and implement all its interventions.

e) Sustainability

Overall, the alignment of project results and interventions with national priorities, strategies and international agreements and ownership of local institutions provides a sound basis for sustainability of project interventions and benefits. Once the laws and regulations supported by the project are endorsed and fully implemented it will pave the way for full scale operationalization and sustainability of the MRV system. The social acceptability and environmental viability of project results and interventions will also help in sustaining project results and benefits. However, full scale operationalization and longer-term sustainability of the MRV system will require further capacity building and will need external technical and financial resources in times to come.

f) Gender equality

To promote gender equality, project has involved a large number of women representatives from respective institutions in its capacity building programmes. Out of total 173 beneficiaries, 130 were women, with around 76% of participation rate, which shows the overwhelming commitment of the project towards involvement of women in project interventions. Similarly, the Project has supported the establishment of Gender and Climate Coalition, through which a comprehensive Report on Mapping the Gender Component in Data and Legislation was furnished with specific recommendations for promotion and availability of gender disaggregated data in the area of Climate Change, Environment and Biodiversity.

However, it will require further efforts and capacity building to make the data collection process fully gender sensitive.

g) Impact

At this stage, when the project is just coming to an end, it is too early to assess the longer-term impacts of the project. Having said this, the project has considerably built the capacities of relevant stakeholders and has supported the establishment of MRV system and improvement of GHG inventory in Bosnia Herzegovina. It is expected that once the MRV system is fully internalized and operationalized, it will greatly help in providing credible data. The availability of credible data will enable involved institutions in the longer run to make efforts to reduce emission of GHGs in the country and will also allow them to predict and develop in advance various climate change related scenarios and accordingly will help in developing and implementing effective mitigation measures to reduce the negative impacts of climate change on the lives and the livelihoods of local population.

4.2 Lessons Learned

Following is a summary of the main lessons learnt during project implementation:

1. Continued need for external technical and financial resources

The project has provided much needed technical and financial resources for establishment of MRV System and improving GHGs inventory in Bosnia and Herzegovina. However, establishing and sustaining such systems are quite complex endeavors and require a great deal of consistent efforts and resources to allow them to fully develop and internalize for longer term benefits. Discussions with stakeholders suggest that governmental institutions have very limited budgets and human resources and can barely cope with their existing mandates. Therefore, there is a continued need for external technical and financial support beyond the project period to enable them to fully adopt and operationalize the MRV system in the longer run.

2. Continued need for capacity building

The project has significantly contributed to the capacity building of stakeholders to streamline data collection, management and reporting mechanisms in the area of climate change and environment. However, given the diverse range of stakeholders involved across many sectors, there is still great need for building capacities of relevant stakeholders to collect, manage and especially share and report the required data on a regular basis. Besides building capacities of governmental institutions at the state and entity level, there is also greater need to involve and build capacities of private sector organizations/companies involved in various activities which generate GHGs or other environmentally harmful substances.

3. Need for Establishment of legal frameworks

The MRV system requires various institutions to collaborate and regularly provide and share relevant data. However, many of the institutions are hesitant in sharing their datasets in the absence of any mandatory laws and regulations. Without such legal frameworks it will not be possible to establish an effective MRV system. Therefore, there is an urgent need to get the already drafted law and regulation approved as soon as possible from the relevant forums.

Once the legal framework is endorsed and established, it will pave the way for full scale operationalization and sustainability of the MRV system.

4. Continued need for strengthening coordination mechanism

Bosnia and Herzegovina is a decentralized country with complex governance structures at the state, entity and lower levels. Project has made considerable efforts to improve coordination among stakeholders especially at the entity level. However, this coordination was mainly facilitated and convened by the project. Furthermore, the coordination among inter-entity institutions remains considerably weak, especially when it comes to sharing of data. Therefore, there is a continued need to further strengthen and formalize the coordination mechanisms especially for availability and sharing of environment and climate change data in time to come to give way to effective decision making and cooperation among stakeholders.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the detailed analysis and conclusions of the evaluation exercise following are the main recommendations:

Table 15: Recommendation Table

No	Recommendation	Timeframe	Entity Responsible	Applicable Criteria
1	<p>Project has supported the establishment of Environmental Information/MRV System. However, it is still in its very initial stages of operationalization and internalization. Therefore, it is recommended that external technical and financial support need to continue beyond project period to enable the respective institutions to fully internalize and operationalize the system. In this regard, UNDP with support of partner organizations should consider various options for developing a follow up phase to further guide and strengthen involved institutions in full scale operationalization of the MRV system and its wider application and use.</p> <p>Furthermore, to meet the future resource requirements, UNDP in collaboration with partners should develop a resources mobilization strategy to identify various donors and funding arrangements for provision of desired funds for environment and climate change related projects in Bosnia and Herzegovina.</p>	As applicable	UNDP Relevant Institutional Partners	Sustainability
2	<p>Project has supported drafting of specific laws and regulations including Law on Air Protection of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Law on Climate Change of the Republika Srpska and secondary regulation to regulate data collection, management and use. However, these laws and regulations are still pending approvals/endorsement, which hinders the sharing/provision of data among institutions. Therefore, it is recommended to further strengthen advocacy efforts with respective parliaments and bodies to get these laws and regulations approved as soon possible. In this regard the project may organize awareness sessions involving parliamentarians and higher officials of respective entities.</p>	By April 2024	UNDP, Partners	Effectiveness/ Sustainability
3	<p>Project has helped in improving coordination among involved institutions, especially at the entity level. However, the coordination remains need-based and spontaneous. Therefore, it is recommended to further strengthen and formalize coordination mechanisms for MRV implementation. Permanent coordination forums need to be established at the entity level to oversee and guide the data collection, management and use. To further improve coordination among inter entities institution the role of and responsibilities of Inter-Entity Body on Environment (IEBE) needs to be clearly defined and its capacities strengthened to play an effective role in improving overall coordination in general and facilitation of information sharing in particular.</p>	As applicable	UNDP, Partners	Effectiveness

4	Climate change and environment related data mostly comes from diverse range of public and private sector organizations. Project has provided initial training on EIS to some of the involved institutions, however there is a greater need for further strengthening the capacities especially of all data providing institutions from both public and private sectors. Therefore, it is recommended that the project in its final months should deliver more training of trainers on the application and use of EIS. Needless to emphasize that such future projects should also invest more in the capacity building of data providers to ensure the quality and credibility of data.	April 2024	UNDP, Partners	Effectiveness
5	Currently the EIS is populated with very limited number of indicators, therefore it is recommended that in the remaining time the project should focus more on encouraging data providers to enter more indicator's data into EIS. Furthermore, there is a good deal of data already available through various publications and reports like NDCs, BURs, NCs etc. The project in collaboration with respective Environment Funds and the IT company should make efforts to enter already available data in the EIS to help build the database.	April 2024	UNDP Partners	Effectiveness
6	The project was developed under the UNDP's National Implementation Modality with MSPCE of Republika of Srpska as an implementing partner, however later the implementation modality was changed to Support to NIM. Similarly, project team was consisted only of Project Manager and support staff. Therefore, it is recommended that future such projects should be designed with Direct Implementation Modality and project team should include fulltime technical experts for each outcome level to guide and facilitate the implementation of project.	As applicable	UNDP Partners	Efficiency
7	The smooth running of the EIS will require continued specialized technical and maintenance support in times to come. Project has engaged a private IT company for development of the EIS software and initial trainings. Since resources of the Environment Funds are limited therefore it is recommended that future such projects should continue long term engagement with specialized companies for updating, trouble shooting and maintenance of the EIS. Furthermore, these companies should be involved in EIS application and user training for data providers. There is also a need to facilitate easy online visibility and access for common users to the EIS.	As applicable	UNDP, Partners	Sustainability
8	The project towards its end should develop a pragmatic exit strategy outlining various measure to smoothly phase out the project. Towards the end the project, the project team may organize a grand conference of all stakeholders to highlight the achievements of the project and to discuss and determine the future course of actions to ensure sustainability. Similarly, project should hand over all knowledge products, especially the training material to the respective institutions for conduction of future trainings.	By April 2024	UNDP Partners	Sustainability

Annex-1: List of Key Persons (Stakeholders) Interviewed

Note: All interviews were conducted remotely/online from 15 December 2023 to 12 January 2024 intermittently.

No	Name	Institution	Designation
1	Ms. Raduška Cupać	UNDP Bosnia and Herzegovina	Energy and Environment Sector Leader
2	Ms. Amra Zorlak	UNDP Bosnia and Herzegovina	Monitoring and Evaluation Analyst
3	Ms. Alma Mirvic	UNDP Bosnia and Herzegovina	Project Manager (Current)
4	Ms. Amra Vranjes	UNDP Bosnia and Herzegovina	PR Specialist at EE Sector
5	Mr. Zoran Skenderija	-	Project Manager (Former)
7	Mr. Mehmed Cero	Federal Ministry of Environment and Tourism	Assistant Minister
7	Mr. Ishak Abdurahmanovic	Brcko District Government	Senior Expert Associate
8	Ms. Tanja Kapetanović	Federal Environmental Fund	Head of Department at Federal Environmental Fund
9	Ms. Ranka Radić	RS Hydro-Met Institute	Head of Department at Hydro-Met of Republika Srpska
10	Ms. Sanja Kapetina	Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of BiH	Head of Energy Division Senior Expert
11	Ms. Svjetlana Radusin	Ministry of Spatial Planning, Construction and Ecology of Republika Srpska	Assistant Minister
12	Mr. Zoran Lukac and	Environmental Protection Fund Republic of Srpska	Assistant Director
13	Mr. Bogdan Brkic,	Environmental Protection Fund Republic of Srpska	Advisor for Information Technology
14	Mr. Senad Oprašić	Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of BiH	Head of Environmental Department, former GEF Operational Focal Point
15	Ms. Anida Sabanovic	MPI NGO	Manager
16	Ms. Ozren Laganin	Ministry of Spatial Planning, Construction and Ecology of Republika Srpska	Senior Associate
17	Ms. Branislava Crnčević	Gender Equality Agency of BiH	Member of Gender and Climate Coalition
18	Mr. Hamza Cengic	AISEEC, student organization participated in Climate Action Week	Coordinator on behalf of Students Association (AIESEC) on Climate Action Week
19	Ms. Berina Cehajic	EUROBIT, IT company designing the MRV electronic system	Manager
20	Mrs. Eszter Baricz	UNDP Climate Hub Technical Oversight Team	Regional Technical Advisor (Former)

Annex-2: List of Participants of Online Perception Survey

No	Name	Gender	Name of institution	Thematic area covered by training/activities
1	Marijela Hašimbegović	F	Sarajevo Canton Assembly	Climate Action Academy
2	Stanko Stančić	M	Department of Physical Planning, Brčko District Government	MRV/GHG Waste and F-gases
3	Mirjana Kos	F	Ministry of Physical Planning, Construction and Ecology, Republika Srpska	Greenhouse Gas Inventories (energy, industrial processes, agriculture, waste)
4	Azra Ćulov	F	Hydrometeorological Institute, BiH Federation	Development of the GHG Inventory and Budget
5	Sabina Hodžić	F	Hydrometeorological Institute, BiH Federation	CBIT MRV Agriculture, LULUCF
6	Branislava Crnčević Čulić	F	Agency for Gender Equality of Bosnia and Herzegovina, BiH MHRR	Climate and Gender
7	Sanja Renic	F	Zenica-Doboj Canton Assembly	Climate Action Academy
8	Muharem Čizmo	M	Federation Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry-Federation Forestry Authority	Protected Area Management LULUCF, Waste
9	Amela Selimović	F	Hydrometeorological Institute, BiH Federation	Energy, Industry, Agriculture, LULUCF, Waste
10	Anel Ibeljić	M	Lawyer Ibeljić Anel; Tuzla City Council	Climate Action Academy
11	Stana Kopranić	F	Institute of Statistics, RS	Agriculture and Waste
12	Ermina S.Dizdarevic	F	BiH House of Representatives	Climate Action Academy
13	Branka Ćelić	F	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, Republika Srpska	Agricultural production, land and waste-gas emissions
14	Zagorka Grahovac	F	National Assembly, Republika Srpska	Ecology
15	Sabina Kavazović	F	Hydrometeorological Institute, BiH Federation	Development of the GHG Inventory and Budget

Annex-3:Evaluation Matrix

Evaluation Criteria	Key Evaluation Questions	Data Sources/ Methods	Indicators	Methods for Data Analysis
Relevance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How was the project aligned to the national, regional and local policies, plans and priorities? • To what extent project interventions addressed the needs of the target institutions and other beneficiaries? • How was the project aligned to various international obligations/conventions and UNDP and GEF national and global priorities? • To what extent did the objectives and interventions remain valid throughout the project duration? • Were the activities and outputs of the project consistent with the intended impacts and effects? • Is the project country driven? And what was the level of stakeholder participation and ownership in project design and implementation? • Whether gender issues had been taken into account in project design and implementation? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of project documents including National policies and strategies • Key informant interviews • Focus group discussions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Degree of alignment with the national policies, plans and priorities - Degree of appreciation from national stakeholders with respect to adequacy of project in addressing prevailing issues. - Level of involvement of government and other partners in the design and implementation - Linkages between project results and the needs of relevant stakeholders - Degree of alignment with international obligations and UNDP – GEF national, regional and global priorities 	<p>Qualitative data analysis methods i.e.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Triangulation - Validations - Interpretations - Abstractions
Effectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To what extent have the expected project outcomes of 1) strengthening institutions to improve monitoring and reporting praxis and to establish a domestic MRV system and 2) Improvement of GHG inventories and NDC information have been achieved? • What were the major factors influencing the achievement or non-achievement of the objectives? • Did the project activities contribute to the achievement of the planned outputs and have the different outputs been achieved and how? • What are the main quantifiable results (outputs and outcomes) of the project so far, against the original targets? • What is the quality of the results? How do the stakeholders perceive them and what is the feedback of the stakeholders on the project effectiveness? • Were the right target groups reached? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of project documents including National policies and strategies • Key informant interviews • Focus group discussions • Online survey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Progress towards output indicators and targets of project results framework - Number and type of beneficiaries involved or benefited -Completeness of risk identification and assumptions during project planning and design 	<p>Qualitative data analysis methods i.e.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Triangulation - Validations - Interpretations - Abstractions <p>Quantitative methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Progress and trend analysis of project planned and achieved targets

Evaluation Criteria	Key Evaluation Questions	Data Sources/ Methods	Indicators	Methods for Data Analysis
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent partnerships/ linkages between institutions/ organizations were encouraged and supported? How well are risks, assumptions and impact drivers being managed? What lessons have been learned from the project regarding achievement of outcomes? 			
Efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have resources (financial, human, technical) been allocated strategically and economically to achieve the Project's results? Are the expected results achieved within the original budget or the budget was revised? Were the accounting and financial systems in place? How timely is the project in producing outputs and initial outcomes? Are there implementation delays and why? Were progress reports produced accurately, timely and responded to reporting requirements including adaptive management changes? Did the leveraging of funds (co-financing) happen as planned? Were financial resources utilized efficiently? Was procurement carried out in a manner making efficient use of project resources? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of project documents (financial statements and audit reports) Key informant interviews Focus group discussions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Availability and quality of financial and progress reports and its timeliness Level of discrepancy between planned and utilized financial expenditures Planned vs. actual funds leveraged Cost in view of results achieved compared to costs of similar projects from other organizations Quality of results-based management, monitoring and evaluation and reporting) Timeliness of project implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualitative data analysis methods i.e. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Triangulation Validations Quantitative methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress and trend analysis of project allocations and expenditures
Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are there financial risks that may jeopardize the sustainability of project outcomes? What is the likelihood of financial and economic resources not being available once GEF grant assistance ends? Are there ongoing activities that may pose an environmental threat to the sustainability of project outcomes? Are there social or political risks that may threaten the sustainability of project outcomes? What is the risk for instance that the level of stakeholder ownership will be insufficient to allow for the project outcomes/benefits to be sustained? Do the various key stakeholders see that it is in their interest that project benefits continue to flow. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of project documents including secondary sources Key informant interviews Focus group discussions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The likely ability of an intervention to continue to deliver benefits for an extended period of time after completion. Financial, Social, Institutional and Environmental risks to sustainability of benefits level of ownership of project interventions and availability of mechanisms to carry forward the results attained Availability or plans of an exit strategy to ensure sustainability Availability of exit strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualitative data analysis methods i.e. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Triangulation Validations Interpretations Abstractions

Evaluation Criteria	Key Evaluation Questions	Data Sources/ Methods	Indicators	Methods for Data Analysis
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is there sufficient public/stakeholder awareness in support of the project's long-term objectives? Is there an exit strategy prepared for phasing out of the project? 			
Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are there indications that the project has contributed toward the mainstreaming and integration of climate change into the sectoral development goals? What kind of longer term differences will the project intervention make? Are there any early signs for the same? To what extent project longer term goal are shared by stakeholders? What are the expected longer term impacts and benefits of the project interventions? What will be longer term benefits the project will produce for women and vulnerable groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of project documents including secondary sources Key informant interviews Focus group discussions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type and kind of long term positive and negative, foreseen and unforeseen changes produced by project interventions Level of contribution to gender equality and needs of the disadvantaged groups. 	Qualitative data analysis methods i.e. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Triangulation Validations Interpretations Abstractions
Cross cutting issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent have gender equality and the empowerment of women been addressed in the design, implementation and monitoring of the project? To what extent has the project promoted positive changes in gender equality and the empowerment of women? Were disadvantaged and vulnerable groups consulted and meaningfully involved in project design and implementation? How Cross-cutting issues such as gender, human rights, civil society engagement, Do-No Harm and, conflict sensitivity principles are taken into consideration during project design and implementation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of project documents including secondary sources Key informant interviews Focus group discussions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No and ratio of women involved and benefited from project Availability of gender sensitive indicators in the RF Interventions No of people from disadvantaged groups involved and benefited 	Qualitative data analysis methods i.e. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Triangulation Validations Interpretations Abstractions Quantitative methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress and trend analysis

Annex-4: Long list of Questions for Stakeholders Consultation/Interviews

For UNDP, Project Team and consultants

1. How was the project conceptualized and who was involved in the design process?
2. What were the main issue project intended to address?
3. To what extent were the project objectives, design and implementation appropriate and relevant to national priorities and other international obligations? Are these objectives still relevant in the current context?
4. Is the project theory of change and the design adequate and technically feasible to address the problems that had been identified?
5. Is the project results chain from outputs, outcomes to impact clear, logical and achievable, and whether the respective indicators and targets are SMART and gender disaggregated?
6. To what extent are the programme interventions aligned with the needs of women and vulnerable segments of the society?
7. Who were the main stakeholders of the project and what was the level of stakeholder ownership and collaboration in implementation? Were there any collaboration or coordination related issues?
8. How was the project governed and managed? Were the project governance and management structures appropriate and suitable?
9. What were the coordination mechanisms among various stakeholders at the national and sub national levels, was it efficient and effective?
10. Are there any changes/revisions made to the results framework indicators and targets during implementation, if yes why and what type of changes were made?
11. How is the project progress and performance being monitored and evaluated? What kind of M&E mechanisms are in place for collection, analysis and reporting of data related to results framework indicators?
12. How was the information provided through the M&E system used to improve the project's performance and to adapt to respond to the changing needs?
13. To what extent the intervention addressed the synergies and interlinkages with other interventions carried out by UNDP, Government of BIH and development partners?
14. What were the major issues in project implementation which hindered the timely achievements of the project targets and how were they mitigated?
15. Were financial resource and timeframe adequate to achieve targets.
16. How and to what extent were the project co-financing contribution materialized from partners?
17. To what extent have resources (financial, human, institutional and technical) been allocated and utilized strategically, keeping the best value for money?
18. To what extent have the expected project outcomes of 1) strengthening institutions to improve monitoring and reporting praxis and to establish a domestic MRV system and 2) Improvement of GHG inventories and NDC information have been achieved?
19. What are the expected longer term impacts of the project? Are there any indications that the project has contributed to, or enabled progress toward, reduced environmental stress and/or improved ecological status?
20. What is the likelihood of continuation and sustainability of the project outcome and benefits after completing the project?

21. What is the level of ownership of the project interventions at governmental level and how will the project benefits be sustained after the project? Are there any financial, technical, environmental or social risks which could hinder the sustainability of the project benefits, if yes, please elaborate?
22. What is the comparative advantages of UNDP in the context of the project?
23. What are the main lessons that have emerged?
24. What will you suggest to overcome the challenges and to improve performance of future interventions.

For main governmental partners at the national and sub-national levels.

1. How was the project idea conceptualized and by whom? Was your organization involved in the project conception and design process?
2. What were the main capacity building needs of your organization regarding meeting the requirements of the transparency framework under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change?
3. Were the project objectives and interventions consistent with the overall Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina priorities and especially the mandate of your institution?
4. What was the role of your institution in overall project implementation?
5. Did your organization receive any material/technical inputs from the project, if yes, of what kind?
6. What are the main contributions of your institution in the project implementation?
7. Is the project design, approach and inputs appropriate in addressing the needs of your institution and other the targets groups?
8. What was the level of cooperation and coordination between your institution and project partners and were there any coordination/collaboration issues?
9. Have you participated in the Project Board meetings, if yes how often were the meetings held and what kind of decisions were made?
10. Was the support and inputs from UNDP and the project team up to your expectations and what is the comparative advantage of UNDP?
11. Have you or someone from your organization benefited from project capacity building interventions, if yes, kindly elaborate.
12. To what extent have women, marginalized and disadvantaged groups, benefited from the Project 's activities?
13. What were the main issues faced during the implementation of the project?
14. To what extent have the expected project outcomes of 1) strengthening institutions to improve monitoring and reporting praxis and to establish a domestic MRV system and 2) Improvement of GHG inventories and NDC information have been achieved?
15. Do these achievements meet your expectations and are you satisfied with the overall project performance?
16. What is the level of ownership of the project interventions at your institution and how will the project benefits be sustained after the project? Do you have financial and technical resources available to sustain project benefits.
17. Do you still have more capacity building needs or challenges, which are not being fulfilled so far, if yes, what are these.
18. What would have been the implications if this project was not implemented at all?
19. What are the main lessons that have emerged from project implementation?

20. How would you rate the project performance in terms of its relevance and effectiveness on scale 1-10, 1 being lowest and 10 being the highest?
21. What will you recommend to overcome challenges and improve performance of future such initiatives.

For other stakeholders CSOs, academia and communities (if any)

1. Have you participated in the project interventions, including capacity building, if yes please elaborate?
2. How were you contacted and why did you choose to participate in the project activities?
3. What are your understanding about project objectives?
4. What kind of benefits have you received from the project? Do these meet your expectations and satisfaction?
5. Have you participated in the project capacity building/awareness activities, if yes please elaborate? Kindly also reflect on the main learning from these events.
6. To what extent have women and disadvantaged groups benefited from the Project activities?
7. Have you received any support from other similar government and donor funded programmes, if yes, please give some details?
8. Are there any community based or civil society organizations working in your area for environment related issues, if yes please elaborate?
9. What are the main challenges you are still facing in your areas related to environment and climate change, which still need to be addressed?
10. How to increase the engagement of women and vulnerable groups in future such initiatives to ensure there is 'no one left behind'?
11. In your view what more needs to be done in times to come to overcome climate change and environmental degradation issues in your areas?

Annex-5

Perception Questionnaire for Capacity Building/Awareness Activities Participants Terminal Evaluation of UNDP-GEF CIBIT Project in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Name	Gender	Designation/Organization	Training/Activity attended

Note: For questions 1-5, please indicate (tick) and for 6-8 please provide your remarks in the box.

Questions	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
1. Overall relevance and quality of the content of the capacity building/awareness workshop/activity attended	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Overall suitability of the workshop/activity to your professional needs and expectations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Level of improvement in your knowledge and understanding regarding climate change monitoring, reporting and verification systems, as a result of attending the activity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Level of practicality/applicability and replicability of the knowledge gained, to your work sphere	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Overall Workshop/Event facilitation, timings and Organization etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. What are the 3 main things you have learnt during the workshop/event organized by the project?

7. Have you applied the knowledge acquired, if YES; Please give some examples of your work and products. If NO; please highlight how you plan to use the knowledge in the future?

8. What will you recommend to further improve such capacity building/awareness activities?

Annex 6: Confirmed Sources of Co-Financing for the Project

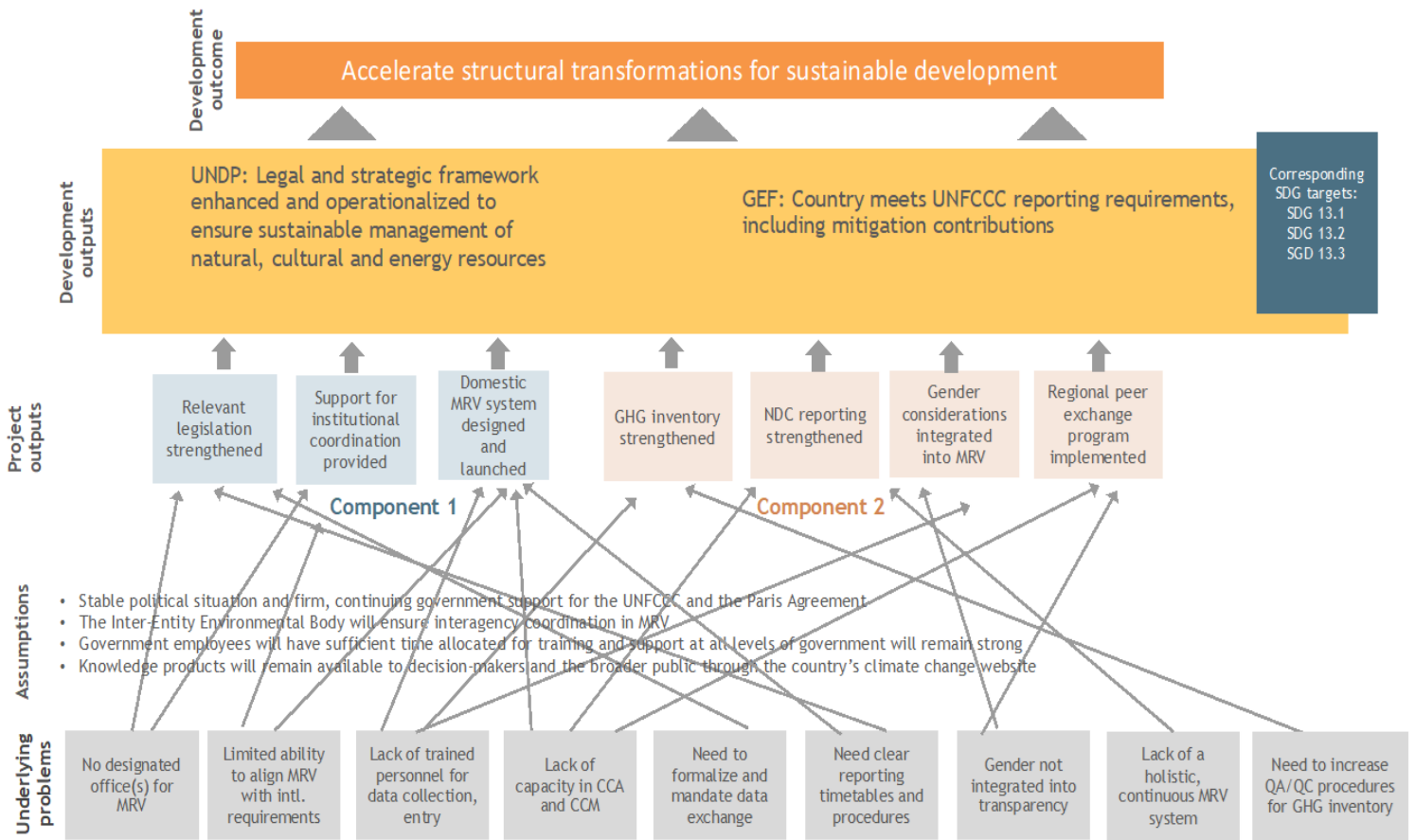
Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized \$	Amount \$ (at CEO approval)	Amount \$ (at TE stage)
Government	MOFTER	<i>In kind</i>	50,000	50,000	50,000
Government	MSPCEE RS	<i>In kind</i>	50,000	50,000	50,000
Government	FMET FBIH	<i>In kind</i>	50,000	50,000	50,000
Government	Hydro-meteorological Institute (RS)	<i>In kind</i>	50,000	50,000	50,000
Government	Federal Hydro-meteorological Institute (FBIH)	<i>In kind</i>	50,000	50,000	50,000
Total Co-financing			250,000	250,000	250,000

Note: The above governmental institutions provided letters of confirmation for the in-kind co-financing at the time of project design in late 2018. The in-kind support has been accounted for in the shape of staff time, expertise, facilities for training and MRV development and support of training for data providers and so on. It is found difficult to estimate the exact monetary worth of institutional in-kind support, however discussions with stakeholders suggest that they have contributed adequate staff time, expertise and facilities during the project implementation which could be considered at par with the monetary worth of the co-financing.

Annex 7: List of Documents Reviewed

- Project initiation documents
- Project document and agreements
- UNSDCF Bosnia Herzegovina 2021-2025
- UNDP Country Programme Document
- Project Work Plans
- Annual Project Implementation Reports
- Technical Studies and Reports
- Monitoring and Evaluation Plans and Reports
- Workshop, training, events reports
- National and State Level Strategic and Legal Documents and Reports including NCs, BURs, NDCs etc.
- Project Financial Statements and Reports
- Minutes of Project Board Meetings and other meetings
- Internet based secondary national and international reports and statistics

Annex 8: Project Theory of Change



Annex 9: Evaluation Rating Table and Scales

1. Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)	Rating
M&E design at entry	
M&E Plan Implementation	
Overall Quality of M&E	
2. Implementing Agency (IA) Implementation & Executing Agency (EA) Execution	Rating
Quality of UNDP Implementation/Oversight	
Quality of Implementing Partner Execution	
Overall quality of Implementation/Execution	
3. Assessment of Outcomes	Rating
Relevance	
Effectiveness	
Efficiency	
Overall Project Outcome Rating	
4. Sustainability	Rating
Financial sustainability	
Socio-political sustainability	
Institutional framework and governance sustainability	
Environmental sustainability	
Overall Likelihood of Sustainability	

Ratings for Outcomes, Effectiveness, Efficiency, M&E, Implementation/Oversight, Execution, Relevance	Sustainability ratings:
<p>6 = Highly Satisfactory (HS): exceeds expectations and/or no shortcomings</p> <p>5 = Satisfactory (S): meets expectations and/or no or minor shortcomings</p> <p>4 = Moderately Satisfactory (MS): more or less meets expectations and/or some shortcomings</p> <p>3 = Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU): somewhat below expectations and/or significant shortcomings</p> <p>2 = Unsatisfactory (U): substantially below expectations and/or major shortcomings</p> <p>1 = Highly Unsatisfactory (HU): severe shortcomings</p> <p>Unable to Assess (U/A): available information does not allow an assessment</p>	<p>4 = Likely (L): negligible risks to sustainability</p> <p>3 = Moderately Likely (ML): moderate risks to sustainability</p> <p>2 = Moderately Unlikely (MU): significant risks to sustainability</p> <p>1 = Unlikely (U): severe risks to sustainability</p> <p>Unable to Assess (U/A): Unable to assess the expected incidence and magnitude of risks to sustainability</p>

Annex-10: Content of the TE report

- i. Title page
 - Title of UNDP-supported GEF-financed project
 - UNDP PIMS ID and GEF ID
 - TE timeframe and date of final TE report
 - Region and countries included in the project
 - GEF Focal Area/Strategic Program
 - Executing Agency, Implementing partner and other project partners
 - TE Team members
- ii. Acknowledgements
- iii. Table of Contents
- iv. Acronyms and Abbreviations
1. Executive Summary (3-4 pages)
 - Project Information Table
 - Project Description (brief)
 - Evaluation Ratings Table
 - Concise summary of findings, conclusions and lessons learned
 - Recommendations summary table
2. Introduction (2-3 pages)
 - Purpose and objective of the TE
 - Scope
 - Methodology
 - Data Collection & Analysis
 - Ethics
 - Limitations to the evaluation
 - Structure of the TE report
3. Project Description (3-5 pages)
 - Project start and duration, including milestones
 - Development context: environmental, socio-economic, institutional, and policy factors relevant to the project objective and scope
 - Problems that the project sought to address: threats and barriers targeted
 - Immediate and development objectives of the project
 - Expected results
 - Main stakeholders: summary list
 - Theory of Change
4. Findings
(in addition to a descriptive assessment, all criteria marked with (*) must be given a rating²³)
 - 4.1 Project Design/Formulation
 - Analysis of Results Framework: project logic and strategy, indicators
 - Assumptions and Risks
 - Lessons from other relevant projects (e.g. same focal area) incorporated into project design
 - Planned stakeholder participation
 - Linkages between project and other interventions within the sector
 - 4.1 Project Implementation

²³ See ToR Annex F for rating scales.

- Adaptive management (changes to the project design and project outputs during implementation)
- Actual stakeholder participation and partnership arrangements
- Project Finance and Co-finance
- Monitoring & Evaluation: design at entry (*), implementation (*), and overall assessment of M&E (*)
- UNDP implementation/oversight (*) and Implementing Partner execution (*), overall project implementation/execution (*), coordination, and operational issues
- Risk Management incl. Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)

4.2 Project Results

- Progress towards objective and expected outcomes (*)
- Relevance (*)
- Effectiveness (*)
- Efficiency (*)
- Overall Outcome (*)
- Country ownership
- Gender
- Other Cross-cutting Issues
- Sustainability: financial (*), socio-economic (*), institutional framework and governance (*), environmental (*), and overall likelihood (*)
- Country Ownership
- Gender equality and women's empowerment
- Cross-cutting Issues
- GEF Additionality
- Catalytic Role / Replication Effect
- Progress to Impact

5. Main Findings, Conclusions, Recommendations & Lessons

- Main Findings
- Conclusions
- Recommendations
- Lessons Learned

6. Annexes

- TE ToR (excluding ToR annexes)
- TE Mission itinerary
- List of persons interviewed
- List of documents reviewed
- Summary of field visits
- Evaluation Question Matrix (evaluation criteria with key questions, indicators, sources of data, and methodology)
- Questionnaire used and summary of results
- Co-financing tables (if not include in body of report)
- TE Rating scales
- Signed Evaluation Consultant Agreement form
- Signed UNEG Code of Conduct form
- Signed TE Report Clearance form
- *Annexed in a separate file*: TE Audit Trail
- *Annexed in a separate file*: relevant terminal GEF/LDCF/SCCF Core Indicators or Tracking Tools, as applicable

Annex-11: UNEG Code of Conduct for Evaluators/Consultant Agreement Form

Evaluators/Consultants:

1. Must present information that is complete and fair in its assessment of strengths and weaknesses so that decisions or actions taken are well founded.
2. Must disclose the full set of evaluation findings along with information on their limitations and have this accessible to all affected by the evaluation with expressed legal rights to receive results.
3. Should protect the anonymity and confidentiality of individual informants. They should provide maximum notice, minimize demands on time, and respect people's right not to engage. Evaluators must respect people's right to provide information in confidence, and must ensure that sensitive information cannot be traced to its source. Evaluators are not expected to evaluate individuals, and must balance an evaluation of management functions with this general principle.
4. Sometimes uncover evidence of wrongdoing while conducting evaluations. Such cases must be reported discreetly to the appropriate investigative body. Evaluators should consult with other relevant oversight entities when there is any doubt about if and how issues should be reported.
5. Should be sensitive to beliefs, manners and customs and act with integrity and honesty in their relations with all stakeholders. In line with the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, evaluators must be sensitive to and address issues of discrimination and gender equality. They should avoid offending the dignity and self-respect of those persons with whom they come in contact in the course of the evaluation. Knowing that evaluation might negatively affect the interests of some stakeholders, evaluators should conduct the evaluation and communicate its purpose and results in a way that clearly respects the stakeholders' dignity and self-worth.
6. Are responsible for their performance and their product(s). They are responsible for the clear, accurate and fair written and/or oral presentation of study imitations, findings and recommendations.
7. Should reflect sound accounting procedures and be prudent in using the resources of the evaluation.
8. Must ensure that independence of judgement is maintained, and that evaluation findings and recommendations are independently presented.
9. Must confirm that they have not been involved in designing, executing or advising on the project being evaluated and did not carry out the project's Mid-Term Review.

Evaluation Consultant Agreement Form

Agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct for Evaluation in the UN System:

Name of Evaluator: Nisar Ahmad Khan

Name of Consultancy Organization (where relevant): _____

I confirm that I have received and understood and will abide by the United Nations Code of Conduct for Evaluation.

Signed at Islamabad  (Place) on 24 Nov 2023 (Date)

Signature: _____

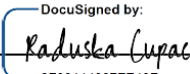
ToR Annex G: TE Report Clearance Form

Terminal Evaluation Report for *Integrated Reporting and Transparency System Project in Bosnia and Herzegovina (CBIT Project)*; UNDP PIMS+ ID: 6209

Reviewed and Cleared By:

Commissioning Unit (M&E Focal Point)

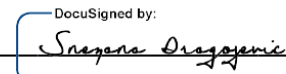
Name: Raduska Cupac

Signature: 
3F99114807FE48F

Date: 04-Mar-2024

Regional Technical Advisor (Nature, Climate and Energy)

Name: Snezana Dragojevic

Signature: 
9A8161EB90AE47E

Date: 04-Mar-2024

Annex 13: Terms of Reference for the Terminal Evaluation

BASIC CONTRACT INFORMATION

Location: Home-based with possible travel to Bosnia and Herzegovina

Application Deadline: 23 October 2023

Type of Contract: Individual Contract

Assignment Type: International Consultant

Languages Required: English

Starting Date: 6 November 2023

Duration of Initial Contract: 6 November 2023 – 31 January 2024

Expected Duration of Assignment: 3 months

BACKGROUND

1. Introduction

In accordance with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Green Environmental Fund (GEF) Monitoring and Evaluation policies and procedures, all full- and medium-sized UNDP-supported GEF-financed projects are required to undergo a Terminal Evaluation (TE) at the end of the project. These Terms of Reference (ToR) sets out the expectations for the TE of the medium-sized Project “[Integrated Reporting and Transparency System of Bosnia and Herzegovina \(CBIT Bosnia-Herzegovina\)](#)” (PIMS 6209). The Project started on the 4 November 2020 and is in its 3rd year of implementation. The Project followed the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM), where the UNDP Bosnia and Herzegovina Country Office is the implementing Partner (IP). The TE process follows the guidance outlined in the document ‘[Guidance for Conducting Terminal Evaluations of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects](#)’.

2. Project Description

Project Background

Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) is an upper middle-income country, with a population of roughly 3.28 million as of 2021 and with the aspiration to become a member of the European Union (EU). The country has a complex governance structure stemming from the Dayton Peace Accords, which ended the 1992–1995 war. In addition to the state-level authorities, the country comprises two entities - the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska, with Brčko District as autonomous self-government, 10 cantons within the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and 145 local governments.

Despite the positive momentum created in the country by the European Council’s December 2022 decision to grant Bosnia and Herzegovina the European Union candidate member status, the overall country context continues to be marked by political instability, slow pace of structural reforms, slowed-down economic stabilization, deepening poverty and inequalities, divisive political rhetoric and growing outmigration.

Bosnia and Herzegovina is currently focused on becoming a sustainable and prosperous country with a green economy by 2025, and its development vision is embodied in its [Climate Change Adaptation and Low-Emission Development Strategy \(LEDS\)](#). The Strategy, which was adopted by the Council of Ministers in cooperation with the entity governments in 2013, outlines actions that support economic growth and the prevention of environmental degradation. The approach outlined in this Strategy encompasses two closely linked components: climate change adaptation and low-emission development. Section 4.2 of the Strategy notes a lack of strategy for capacity building, and it calls for capacity building for ministries at the state and entity levels and other public agencies in areas such as reporting on GHG emissions and meeting UNFCCC obligations.

Since 2000, the country has faced several significant extreme climate and weather episodes that have caused considerable material and financial losses as well as losses of human lives. The two most significant events have been the 2012 drought the 2014 flood.

On September 7, 2000, Bosnia and Herzegovina ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Following ratification, the country has convened and trained experts from a variety of fields in climate change measurement, analysis, modelling, and reporting. As a non-Annex I country, Bosnia and Herzegovina is obliged to submit national communications every four years while update reports on greenhouse gas emissions should be prepared and submitted on biennial basis. Fourth National Communications (NCs) from Bosnia and Herzegovina on climate change have been submitted to the UNFCCC. Bosnia and Herzegovina has submitted [three biannual update reports on GHG emissions](#), while GEF has approved in May 2023 a new project to assist the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the preparation and submission of its First Biennial Transparency Report and a combined Second Biennial Transparency and Fifth National Communication Report (BTR1 – NC5/BTR2) for the fulfillment of the obligations under the United Nations Framework Convention on UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.

At the country level, climate change issues are addressed in the framework of the Inter-Entity Environmental Body. This group was established in 2006, and it consists of eight members, four of whom are appointed by the Government of Republika Srpska, and four from the Governments of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Inter-Entity Environmental Body deals with all environmental issues that require a harmonized approach to both entities, and it is responsible for harmonizing environmental laws, regulations, standards and action plans; international agreements on environmental issues; international processes and cooperation with international organizations; environmental monitoring, information systems, and information exchange; and transboundary environmental issues. The group meets at least six times a year. The state-level ministry responsible for environmental issues the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, which also serves as the Responsible Body, Political and Operational GEF Focal Point in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

About the project

The “[Integrated Reporting and Transparency System of Bosnia and Herzegovina - CBIT Bosnia-Herzegovina](#)” (PIMS 6209) Project aims to assist Bosnia and Herzegovina in developing capacities to fulfill its obligations under the Article 13 of the Paris Agreement of the UNCCC. The Project supports institutions to improve monitoring and reporting praxis, establish a domestic climate change monitoring, reporting and verification system, and improve information that forms the basis of its GHG inventories and Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).

The total budget of the Project is USD1,450,000.00, financed through GEF grant of USD 1,200,000 and USD 250,000 through other co-financing. Co-financing is provided in the amount of 50,000.00 USD per each of the following institutions: Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ministry of Spatial Planning, Construction, and Ecology of Republika Srpska, Ministry of Environment and Tourism for the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Federal Hydrometeorological Institute and Hydrometeorological Institute of Republika Srpska.

The **long term objective** of the Project is to assist Bosnia and Herzegovina in deepening the mainstreaming and integration of climate change into country and sectoral development goals and to enable the entity and state level governments to respond to international environmental obligations by strengthening and giving continuity to the institutional and technical capacity development that has been initiated and sustained by the National Communications and Biennial Update Reports processes to date.

The **immediate objective** of the Project is the development of Bosnia and Herzegovina's capacities to meet the requirements of the transparency framework under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. This objective is directly aligned with GEF Focal Area CCM-3-8, “Foster enabling conditions for mainstreaming mitigation concerns into sustainable development strategies through capacity building initiative for transparency.”

The Project's expected outcomes are as follows:

Outcome 1.1. Strengthening institutions to improve monitoring and reporting praxis and to establish a domestic MRV system.

Outcome 2.1: Improvement of GHG inventories and NDC information.

Due to initial delays caused by the aggravation of the COVID-19 situation in the country and the persisting challenges in the formation of the government of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, a 6-month extension was approved on 8 May 2023 to complete all of the planned activities and to strengthen the capacities of the key institutions and allow for full completion of trainings, full operationalization of the Measurement, Reporting and Verification System and exchange of best international practices on GHG inventory.

The Project is aligned with and contributes to the Strategic Priority: People-centered governance and rule of law of the UN Sustainable Development Framework 2021-2025 as well as the Signature Solution 2 of the corporate UNDP Strategic Plan 2022-2025: Strengthen effective, inclusive and accountable. In terms of Agenda 2030, the project contributes to the achievement of SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts, particularly Target 13.2, which focuses on integrate climate change measures into policies, strategies, and planning, and Target 13.3, which focuses on improving human and institutional capacity for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Project's targets the following institutional beneficiaries:

- Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina,
- Ministry of Spatial Planning Construction, and Ecology of Republika Srpska,
- Federal Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina,
- Hydro-meteorological Institutes of FBiH and RS,
- Government of Brčko District,
- Research institutions and universities.

3. TE Purpose

The TE report will assess the achievement of the Project results against what was expected to be achieved, and draw lessons that can both improve the sustainability of benefits from this project, and aid in the overall enhancement of UNDP programming. The TE report promotes accountability and transparency, and assesses the extent of project accomplishments.

In accordance with the Evaluation Plan of the Country Office Bosnia and Herzegovina, this TE will be conducted in the last semester of the Project implementation, as all major Project's outputs and activities are heading towards full completion.

Findings and recommendations generated by the TE will help the Project Board, Governments of Bosnia and Herzegovina, GEF, UNDP, and other relevant stakeholders strengthen ongoing or future decision making and the work in the area addressed by the Project.

TE Objectives

The TE of the Project "Integrated Reporting and Transparency System of Bosnia and Herzegovina", will have the following objectives:

- Assess the overall Project progress vis-à-vis the Result Framework based on data, qualitative information and evidence on results and identify critical gaps or delays;
- Establish the relevance and coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, performance, and success or failures of the project, including the sustainability of results and the project exit strategies;

- Assess external environment and risks, such as crisis caused by the pandemic, as well as internal, including weaknesses in programme design, management and implementation, human resource skills, and resource
- Engage all relevant stakeholders (institutions, state, entity and cantonal ministries, local governments, the international community, etc.) in structured conversations, which will enable collective insights and distilling of key lessons learned in relation to (signals of) transformative change induced by the Project, mistakes, as well as important cross-cutting issues, such as innovation, gender equality and leaving no one behind;
- Use different level analysis to generate understanding of change processes influenced by the Project and assess how this change was made and what specific contribution did the Project make to the change;
- Formulate strategic recommendations for consideration by the Project owners and its partners, towards more effective Project implementation in the future, or adjustments, as needed.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

4. TE Approach & Methodology

The TE will be implemented in line with the “[Guidance for Conducting Terminal Evaluations of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects](#)” and the “[United Nations Guidelines on Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in Evaluations](#)”.

The TE will be conducted by an International Evaluation Consultant (the Evaluator). The TE report must provide evidence-based information that is credible, reliable and useful.

The Evaluator will review all relevant sources of information including documents prepared during the preparation phase (i.e. PIF, UNDP Initiation Plan, UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure/SESP) the Project Document, project reports including annual PIRs, project budget revisions, lesson learned reports, national strategic and legal documents, and any other materials that the Evaluator considers useful for this evidence-based evaluation. The Evaluator will review the baseline and midterm GEF focal area Core Indicators/Tracking Tools submitted to the GEF at the CEO endorsement and midterm stages and the terminal Core Indicators/Tracking Tools that must be completed before the TE field mission begins. An extensive list of documents for desk review is provided in Annex B.

In conduct of the evaluation process, the Evaluator is expected to follow a participatory and consultative approach, ensuring close engagement with the Project Team, government counterparts (the GEF Operational Focal Point), Implementing Partners, the UNDP Country Office, the Regional Technical Advisor, direct beneficiaries and other stakeholders.

Engagement of stakeholders is vital to a successful TE. Stakeholder involvement should include interviews with stakeholders who have project responsibilities, including but not limited to executing agencies, senior officials and task team/component leaders, key experts and consultants in the subject area, Project Board, project beneficiaries, academia, local government and CSOs, etc. Specific key stakeholders to be considered for interviews include: Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ministry of Spatial Planning, Construction, and Ecology of Republika Srpska, Federal Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Federal Hydrometeorological Institute, Hydrometeorological Institute of Republika Srpska, Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund of Republika Srpska and Environmental Protection Fund of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Additionally, the TE team is expected to conduct field missions to Sarajevo and Banja Luka.

The specific design and methodology for the TE should emerge from consultations between the Evaluator and relevant stakeholders regarding what is appropriate and feasible for meeting the evaluation purpose

and objectives and answering the evaluation questions, given limitations of budget, time and data. The TE Evaluator must, however, use gender-responsive methodologies and tools and ensure that gender equality and women's empowerment, as well as other cross-cutting issues and SDGs are incorporated into the TE report.

The TE methodology should employ innovating approaches, relevant quantitative, qualitative or combined methods, based on diverse ecosystem of evidence, using gender sensitive data collection and analytical methods and tools applicable in the concrete case. Limitations to the chosen approach/methodology and methods shall be made explicit by the Evaluator and the consequences of these limitations shall be discussed in the proposed methodology.

The Evaluator is expected to carry out the evaluation process with careful consideration of these Terms of References. In cases where sensitive or confidential issues are to be addressed in the evaluation, the Evaluator should ensure an evaluation design that do not put informants and stakeholders at risk during the data collection phase or the dissemination phase.

The Evaluator will use other data collecting methodologies, as appropriate, such as interactive and innovative tools (i.e. "the most significant change", visual tools / cards/ creative canvases to capture insights, progress and suggestions, etc.) to unleash creativity and generate valuable insights from partners. To ensure maximum validity, reliability of data (quality) and promote use, the Evaluator will ensure triangulation of the various data sources. All evaluation products need to address gender, disability, and human right issues.

The final methodological approach including schedule of meetings, interviews or field visits as well as sampling, data and analysis methods must be clearly outlined in the TE Inception Report²⁴ and be fully discussed and agreed between UNDP, stakeholders and the Evaluator.

The final TE report must describe the full evaluation approach taken and the rationale for the approach making explicit the underlying assumptions, challenges, strengths and weaknesses about the methods and approach of the evaluation.

The total duration of the assignment is 30 workdays, implemented in the period 6 November 2023 to 31 January 2024.

5. Detailed Scope of the TE

The TE will assess the entire duration of the Project, its performance against expectations set out in the Project's Document and Results Framework (see TOR Annex A). The TE will assess results according to the criteria outlined in the [Guidance for Terminal Evaluations of UNDP-supported GEF-financed Projects](#).

The TE will review all interventions implemented under the Project and their contribution to changes triggered around climate change monitoring, reporting and verification in Bosnia and Herzegovina, identify the factors that promote or hinder their achievement as important feedback into ongoing or future initiatives, including adapting successful interventions to suit changing context.

The TE should pay particular attention to capturing best practices and lessons learned, which will be highly relevant to similar UNDP-GEF projects, and strategies for communicating project activities and results to stakeholders.

The Findings section of the TE report will cover the topics listed below. A full outline of the TE report's content is provided in ToR Annex C.

²⁴ [Inception Report Content, UNDP Evaluation Guidelines](#).

The asterisk “(*)” indicates criteria for which a rating is required.

Findings

iv. Project Design/Formulation

- National priorities and country driven-ness
- Theory of Change
- Gender equality and women’s empowerment
- Social and Environmental Safeguards
- Analysis of Results Framework: project logic and strategy, indicators
- Assumptions and Risks
- Lessons from other relevant projects (e.g. same focal area) incorporated into project design
- Planned stakeholder participation
- Linkages between project and other interventions within the sector
- Management arrangements

v. Project Implementation

- Adaptive management (changes to the project design and project outputs during implementation)
- Actual stakeholder participation and partnership arrangements
- Project Finance and Co-finance
- Monitoring & Evaluation: design at entry (*), implementation (*), and overall assessment of M&E (*)
- Implementing Agency (UNDP) (*) and Executing Agency (*), overall project oversight/implementation and execution (*)
- Risk Management, including Social and Environmental Standards

vi. Project Results

- Assess the achievement of outcomes against indicators by reporting on the level of progress for each objective and outcome indicator at the time of the TE and noting final achievements
- Relevance (*), Effectiveness (*), Efficiency (*) and overall project outcome (*)
- Sustainability: financial (*), socio-political (*), institutional framework and governance (*), environmental (*), overall likelihood of sustainability (*)
- Country ownership
- Gender equality and women’s empowerment
- Cross-cutting issues (poverty alleviation, improved governance, climate change mitigation and adaptation, disaster prevention and recovery, human rights, capacity development, South-South cooperation, knowledge management, volunteerism, etc., as relevant)
- GEF Additionality
- Catalytic Role / Replication Effect
- Progress to impact

vii. Main Findings, Conclusions, Recommendations and Lessons Learned

- The Evaluator will include a summary of the main findings of the TE report. Findings should be presented as statements of fact that are based on analysis of the data.
- The section on conclusions will be written in light of the findings. Conclusions should be comprehensive and balanced statements that are well substantiated by evidence

and logically connected to the TE findings. They should highlight the strengths, weaknesses and results of the project, respond to key evaluation questions and provide insights into the identification of and/or solutions to important problems or issues pertinent to project beneficiaries, UNDP and the GEF, including issues in relation to gender equality and women’s empowerment.

- Recommendations should provide concrete, practical, feasible and targeted recommendations directed to the intended users of the evaluation about what actions to take and decisions to make. The recommendations should be specifically supported by the evidence and linked to the findings and conclusions around key questions addressed by the evaluation.
- The TE report should also include lessons that can be taken from the evaluation, including best practices in addressing issues relating to relevance, performance and success that can provide knowledge gained from the particular circumstance (programmatic and evaluation methods used, partnerships, financial leveraging, etc.) that are applicable to other GEF and UNDP interventions. When possible, the Evaluation should include examples of good practices in project design and implementation.
- It is important for the conclusions, recommendations and lessons learned of the TE report to include results related to gender equality and empowerment of women.

The TE report will include an Evaluation Ratings Table, templates are available in ToR Annex F.

6. Expected Outputs and deliverables

Note: The start date was considerably delayed and contract was received on 29 November 2023, however the end date remained the same which resulted in the cancelling of the field mission and also resulted in condensed work load due to limited timeframe.

The TE consultant shall prepare and submit:

- TE Inception Report: The Evaluator clarifies objectives and methods of the TE no later than 2 weeks before the TE mission. The Evaluator submits the Inception Report to the Commissioning Unit and project management. Approximate due date: 22 November 2023 **(Actual 15 December 2023)**
- Presentation: The Evaluator presents initial findings to project management and the Commissioning Unit at the end of the TE mission. Approximate due date: 18 December 2023 **(Actual 23 January 2024)**
- Draft TE Report: The Evaluator submits full draft report with annexes within 3 weeks of the end of the TE mission. Approximate due date: 8 January 2024 **(Actual 25 January 2024)**
- Final TE Report* and Audit Trail: The Evaluator submits revised report, with Audit Trail detailing how all received comments have (and have not) been addressed in the final TE report, to the Commissioning Unit within 1 week of receiving UNDP comments on draft. Approximate due date: 29 January 2024 **(Actual 31 January 2024)**

#	Deliverable	Description	Responsibilities
1	TE Inception Report	The Evaluator clarifies objectives, methodology and timing of the TE	The Evaluator submits Inception Report to Commissioning Unit and project management
2	Presentation	Initial Findings	The Evaluator presents to Commissioning Unit and project management

3	Draft TE Report	Full draft report (using guidelines on report content in ToR Annex C) with annexes	The Evaluator submits to Commissioning Unit; reviewed by RTA, Project Coordinating Unit, GEF OFP
5	Final TE Report* + Audit Trail	Revised final report and TE Audit trail in which the TE details how all received comments have (and have not) been addressed in the final TE report (See template in ToR Annex H)	The Evaluator submits both documents to the Commissioning Unit

*The final TE report must be in English. If applicable, the Commissioning Unit may choose to arrange for a translation of the report into a language more widely shared by national stakeholders.

All final TE reports will be quality assessed by the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office (IEO). Details of the IEO's quality assessment of decentralized evaluations can be found in Section 6 of the UNDP Evaluation Guidelines.²⁵

7. TE Arrangements

The principal responsibility for managing the TE resides with the Commissioning Unit. The Commissioning Unit for this Project's TE is UNDP Bosnia and Herzegovina Country Office (CO).

The Commissioning Unit will contract the Evaluator and ensure the timely provision of per diems and travel arrangements within the country. The Project Team will be responsible for liaising with the Evaluator to provide all relevant documents, set up stakeholder interviews, and arrange field visits.

8. Duration of the Work

The total duration of the Terminal Evaluation will be approximately 30 working days over a time period of (11 weeks) starting on 6 November 2023 to 31 January 2024. **(Actual 29 November 2023 to 31 January 2024)**

9. TE Team composition

The evaluation will be conducted by the International Evaluator (with experience and exposure to project and programme evaluations in relevant and other regions and globally). The Evaluator will assess emerging trends with respect to regulatory frameworks, budget allocations, capacity in developing the TE detailed plan and itinerary and implementing the evaluation process in line with these Terms of References.

Specifically, the Evaluator will perform the following tasks:

- Plan the evaluation mission; Collect data and information and prepare relevant sections in the report;
- Design the detailed evaluation scope and methodology (including the methods for data collection and analysis);
- Conduct an analysis of the outcome, outputs and partnership strategy (as per the scope of the evaluation described above);
- Draft the evaluation report;
- Address comments on the report, using Audit Trial Form;
- Finalize the evaluation report.

²⁵ Access at: <http://web.undp.org/evaluation/guideline/section-6.shtml>

The Evaluator will report to the Evaluation Manager appointed by UNDP, who will oversee and support the overall evaluation process. In addition, an evaluation reference group will be formed to provide critical and objective inputs throughout the evaluation process to strengthen the quality of the evaluation. The Country Office Senior Management will approve the evaluation report. UNDP will support the implementation of meetings. An updated stakeholder list with contact details (phone and email) will be provided by the Country Office to the evaluation team. The Country Office M&E focal point will support the Evaluation Manager throughout the Evaluation process. This support will include preparation of the evaluation ToR, review of all evaluation deliverables including the inception report, draft and final evaluation report, ensuring that all evaluation deliverables and the entire evaluation process meet UNDP requirements, including gender equality, LNOB aspects and other cross-cutting issues.

10. Duty Station

TE consultant is expected to conduct a field mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sarajevo and Banja Luka.

Travel:

- International travel will be required to Bosnia and Herzegovina during the TE mission;
- The BSAFE course must be successfully completed prior to commencement of travel;
- Individual Consultants are responsible for ensuring they have vaccinations/inoculations when travelling to certain countries, as designated by the UN Medical Director.
- Consultants are required to comply with the UN security directives set forth under: <https://dss.un.org/dssweb/>
- All related travel expenses will be covered and will be reimbursed as per UNDP rules and regulations upon submission of an F-10 claim form and supporting documents.

REQUIRED SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

11. TE Evaluator and Required Qualifications

International independent evaluator with experience and exposure to projects and evaluations in other regions will conduct the TE. The Evaluator be responsible for the overall design of the evaluation and writing of the TE report. The Evaluator will assess emerging trends with respect to regulatory frameworks, budget allocations, capacity building, work with the Project Team in developing the TE itinerary, etc.

The Evaluator cannot have participated in the project preparation, formulation and/or implementation (including the writing of the project document), must not have conducted this project's Mid-Term Review and should not have a conflict of interest with the project's related activities.

The selection of the evaluator will be aimed at maximizing the attributes in the following areas:

Education

- Master's degree in the natural sciences, social sciences, technical sciences or other relevant field;

Experience

- At least 5 years of extensive project/programme review and evaluation expertise and experience, with evaluations in the area of climate change and energy management;
- Proven knowledge and experience in design and application of qualitative and quantitative data and insights collecting tools attuned to complex changing context and innovative ways of working;
- System thinking capability and strategic advice in development context;

- Excellent analytical skills and ability to distil strategic findings and patterns in a complex development setting;
- Proven ability to integrate gender, leave no one behind and other cross-cutting aspects in data and insights collecting tools and to reflect those in analysis, conclusions, and recommendations.

Language

- Fluency in written and spoken English.

12. Evaluator Ethics

The Evaluator will be held to the highest ethical standards and is required to sign a code of conduct upon acceptance of the assignment. This evaluation will be conducted in accordance with the principles outlined in the UNEG '[Ethical Guidelines for Evaluation](#)'. The Evaluator must safeguard the rights and confidentiality of information providers, interviewees and stakeholders through measures to ensure compliance with legal and other relevant codes governing collection of data and reporting on data. The Evaluator must also ensure security of collected information before and after the evaluation and protocols to ensure anonymity and confidentiality of sources of information where that is expected. The information knowledge and data gathered in the evaluation process must also be solely used for the evaluation and not for other uses without the express authorization of UNDP and partners.

13. Payment Schedule

- 20% payment upon satisfactory delivery of the final TE Inception Report and approval by the Commissioning Unit
- 40% payment upon satisfactory delivery of the draft TE report to the Commissioning Unit
- 40% payment upon satisfactory delivery of the final TE report and approval by the Commissioning Unit and RTA (via signatures on the TE Report Clearance Form) and delivery of completed TE Audit Trail

Criteria for issuing the final payment of 40%

- The final TE report includes all requirements outlined in the TE TOR and is in accordance with the TE guidance.
- The final TE report is clearly written, logically organized, and is specific for this project (i.e. text has not been cut & pasted from other MTR reports).
- The Audit Trail includes responses to and justification for each comment listed.

APPLICATION PROCESS

14. Scope of Price Proposal and Schedule of Payments

Financial Proposal:

- Financial proposals must be "all inclusive" and expressed in a lump-sum for the total duration of the contract. The term "all inclusive" implies all cost (professional fees, travel costs, living allowances etc.);
- For duty travels, the UN's Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) rates are 160.00 USD for Sarajevo and 119.00 USD for Banja Luka, which should provide indication of the cost of living in a duty station/destination (Note: Individuals on this contract are not UN staff and are therefore not entitled to DSAs. All living allowances required to perform the demands of the ToR must be incorporated in the financial proposal, whether the fees are expressed as daily fees or lump sum amount.)

- The lump sum is fixed regardless of changes in the cost components.

15. Recommended Presentation of Proposal

- a) **Letter of Confirmation of Interest and Availability** using the [template](#) provided by UNDP;
- b) **CV** and a **Personal History Form** ([P11 form](#));
- c) **Brief description of approach to work/technical proposal** of why the individual considers him/herself as the most suitable for the assignment, and a proposed methodology on how they will approach and complete the assignment; (max 1 page)
- d) **Financial Proposal** that indicates the all-inclusive fixed total contract price and all other travel related costs (such as flight ticket, per diem, etc.), supported by a breakdown of costs, as per template attached to the [Letter of Confirmation of Interest template](#). If an applicant is employed by an organization/company/institution, and he/she expects his/her employer to charge a management fee in the process of releasing him/her to UNDP under Reimbursable Loan Agreement (RLA), the applicant must indicate at this point, and ensure that all such costs are duly incorporated in the financial proposal submitted to UNDP.

All application materials should be submitted to the address (insert mailing address) in a sealed envelope indicating the following reference “Consultant for Terminal Evaluation of (*project title*)” or by email at the following address ONLY: (*insert email address*) by (*time and date*). Incomplete applications will be excluded from further consideration.

16. Criteria for Selection of the Best Offer

Only those applications which are responsive and compliant will be evaluated. Offers will be evaluated according to the Combined Scoring method – where the educational background and experience on similar assignments will be weighted at 70% and the price proposal will weigh as 30% of the total scoring. The applicant receiving the Highest Combined Score that has also accepted UNDP’s General Terms and Conditions will be awarded the contract.

17. Annexes to the TE ToR

Suggested ToR annexes include:

- ToR Annex A: Project Logical/Results Framework
- ToR Annex B: Project Information Package to be reviewed by TE team
- ToR Annex C: Content of the TE report
- ToR Annex D: Evaluation Criteria Matrix template
- ToR Annex E: UNEG Code of Conduct for Evaluators
- ToR Annex F: TE Rating Scales and TE Ratings Table
- ToR Annex G: TE Report Clearance Form
- ToR Annex H: TE Audit Trail template