PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION MID-TERM REPORT (July 1 to December 30, 2025)

UMBRELLA PROGRAMME TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF BIODIVERSITY FINANCE PLANS
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This progress report is launched as part of the monitoring and evaluation framework of the Global Environment Facility (GEF)-funded programme supporting the development of National Biodiversity Finance Plans (NBFPs) in 91 countries. The programme aims to bridge the estimated $700 billion annual global biodiversity financing gap by deploying the UNDP-developed Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) methodology. This approach aligns strategic financial planning with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) to catalyze systemic change and promote sustainable financing solutions.

Covering the reporting period from **1 July 2025 to 30 December 2025**, this progress report serves to:
1. Track national progress toward project objectives;
2. Assess implementation performance, including timelines, financial management, stakeholder engagement, gender inclusion, and delivery of key outputs;
3. Identify and manage risks affecting implementation, along with mitigation measures;
4. Document lessons learned and share emerging practices across countries; and
5. Support adaptive management by reflecting on challenges and opportunities to optimize ongoing efforts.

Data Privacy Statement
All information collected through this survey will be treated with strict confidentiality and used solely for evaluation and monitoring purposes. Participation in this survey is REQUIRED. By proceeding, you consent to the collection and use of your responses in accordance with applicable data protection regulations. Data collected will be stored securely and retained only for as long as necessary to fulfill the purpose of the survey. Access to this data will be limited to authorized personnel. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your data privacy rights, please contact Kamille Rosales (kamile.rosales@undp.org). *

- (●) Agree
- ( ) Disagree

Country / Respondent Profile

Country *

Serbia

Gender *

Woman

Role in GBFP Project *

Project lead in UNDP CO Serbia

Procurement and Recruitment

Project team recruitment status
Not Started – Position not yet advertised
Ongoing – Position advertised and recruitment process ongoing
Completed – Staff on board *

	Not Started	Ongoing	Completed
Project Coordinator	○	○	◉
Project Associate	○	○	◉

Project team contract modality *

	NPSA	IPSA	Other
Project Coordinator	◉	○	○

	NPSA	IPSA	Other
Project Associate	◉	○	○

Contract arrangements of core staff *

	Full time with GBFP	Part-time - Shared with NBSAP Project	Part-time - Shared with other projects
Project Coordinator	○	○	◉
Project Associate	○	○	◉

Name and Email of Project Coordinator and Project Associate if already recruited
Project Coordinator - Name, email address
Project Associate - Name, email address

Project Coordinator - Zorica Korac, zorica.korac@undp.org; Project Associate - Emilija Orescanin, em

Have you experienced any recruitment challenges? If yes, please provide more information. if no, please put N/A. *

N/A

Status of Consultant Procurement
Not Started – Position not yet advertised
Ongoing – Position advertised and recruitment process ongoing
Completed – Staff on board
*

	Not Started	Ongoing	Completed	Not Applicable
Sustainable Finance Expert (BFP Writing/ Lead Technical Consultant)	○	○	◉	○
Environmental Policy Specialist (PIR)	○	○	◉	○
Biodiversity Finance Specialist (BER)	○	○	◉	○
Biodiversity Finance Specialist (FNA)	○	○	◉	○

Procurement of other consultants: If you have other consultants being procured (firms, etc), please specify the consultancy and indicate its current status. If none, please put N/A. *

We engaged international biodiversity financing expert, Lucy Emerton (her engagement is partly on BIOFIN project, and partly on economic valorization of ecosystem services that we're performing under the parallel initiative financed by Sweden); also we engaged one finance support consultant assisting the collection and processing of the biodiversity finance data (Vladimir Vasic).

Development Objectives Progress

Current Status of Component Outputs
NOT STARTED - No activities has been initiated
In Progress WITHOUT draft - on going consultations with no draft report submitted/reviewed
In progress WITH draft - on going consultations but a draft report has been produced and undergoing revision and results validation
Completed - reviewed and cleared by the TA, and submitted to the government *

	Not Started	In Progress WITHOUT draft	In Progress WITH draft	Completed
Policy and Institutional Review	○	○	○	◉

	Not Started	In Progress WITHOUT draft	In Progress WITH draft	Completed
Assessment on Harmful Subsidies	○	○	○	◉
Biodiversity Expenditure Review	○	○	◉	○
Finance Needs Assessment	○	◉	○	○
Biodiversity Finance Plan	○	◉	○	○

Have you experienced any challenges in the implementation of the project's components and activities in compliance with the project's approved implementation/work plan? *

- [x] Lack of support from the Ministry of Environment (MoE)
- [x] Lack of support from the Ministry of Finance (MoF)
- [x] Insufficient human resources, high staff turnover, or lack of expertise in biodiversity finance
- [x] Weak information systems or a lack of disaggregated financial and biodiversity data
- [x] Fragmented collaboration among government agencies, civil society, and the private sector
- [ ] Limited uptake of recommendations
- [ ] Capacity building
- [ ] Delays encountered in recruitment, procurement, and other administrative challenges
- [x] Slow feedback/approval from partner institutions
- [ ] Other

Are there any enabling factors that helped you achieve your outputs that you want to highlight? *

- [ ] Elevated political will and recognition of the national biodiversity agenda
- [x] Elevated political will and recognition of the global biodiversity agenda
- [x] Leadership from MoE to work on biodiversity finance
- [ ] Leadership from MoF to work on biodiversity finance
- [x] Effective technical support received from Global Technical Teams
- [ ] Other

Project Governance

Has the project established a steering committee led by the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Finance and/or any other ministry or equivalent Government Agencies? *

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

Stakeholder Engagement and Gender

This project aims to engage a diverse set of stakeholders in capacity-building activities. The project results framework aims for each country to reach at least 1,000 per country accessing technical support and capacity building activities (i.e., in person and virtually). Disaggregated by gender, the aim is for 50% of these beneficiaries to be women. Beneficiaries can include those attending webinars, trainings, workshops, meetings, and accessing technical tools. Stakeholders engaged through whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches could be recorded.

How many **MAN** have participated in trainings, workshops, and capacity-building activities related to biodiversity finance activities? *

62

How many **WOMAN** have participated in trainings, workshops, and capacity-building activities related to biodiversity finance activities? *

55

What specific initiatives has your country implemented to ensure women's participation/engagement in biodiversity finance activities *

- Initiatives such as "Rural Women Leading Change" brought together rural women, institutions, c

Knowledge Management & Communications

Please provide URLs specific to this project in the relevant field below. Please categorize the URLs appropriately (for example: social media posts, media coverage, etc.) If possible, for content written by UNDP please add the author's name plus UNDP office (CO, RB, BERA, etc.) *

UNDP post on third stakeholder engagement workshop
https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7424123561608478720

Please upload **any supporting files, including photos, videos, stories and other communication/knowledge materials** in your country folder in this format: **COUNTRY_Document_Description,** and put the link here. If none, please put N/A. https://bit.ly/PIREvidence *

https://undp.sharepoint.com/:f:/r/sites/GEF8_BIOFIN/Shared%20Documents/07%20Project%20Implementation%20Report/2025%20Evidence%20per%20country/Serbia/Serbia_PIR%20verification%20workshop?csf=1&web=1&e=uBptzw

Microsoft 365

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