2025

Project Implementation Report (PIR)

Empowered lives.
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Global Biodiversity Finance Programme

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A. Basic Data

Project Information	
UNDP PIMS ID	6731
GEF ID	11054
Title	Umbrella Programme to Support Development of Biodiversity Finance Plans
Country(ies)	New York - VFs, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cabo Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Dem. Rep. of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Namibia, Nigeria, Sao Tome & Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Eswatini, Togo, Zimbabwe, Bangladesh, Cook Islands, Timor Leste, Lao PDR, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Maldives, Micronesia, Nauru, Palau, Pakistan, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Iraq, Jordan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Yemen, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Bolivia, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Panama, St. Kitts and Nevis, Paraguay, Suriname, Saint Lucia, Trinidad & Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela, Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia & Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Moldova Republic, Tajikistan, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Serbia, South Sudan, Montenegro, New York - VFs
UNDP Technical Team	Ecosystems and Biodiversity
Management Arrangements	DIM
Project Implementing Partner	UNDP New York - VFs Country Office
Joint Agencies	*(not set or not applicable)*
Project Type	Enabling Act - 2 steps
Implementation Status	2nd PIR
GEF Fiscal Year	FY25
Trust Fund	GEF Trust Fund

Project Description
(not set or not applicable)

Project Contacts	
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Project Manager/Coordinator	Mariana BELLOT (mariana.bellot@undp.org)
UNDP Country Office Programme Officer	*(not set or not applicable)*
UNDP Country Office Deputy Resident Representative	*(not set or not applicable)*
UNDP Regional Bureau Desk Officer	*(not set or not applicable)*
GEF Operational Focal Point	*(not set or not applicable)*
Project Implementing Partner	*(not set or not applicable)*
Other Partners	*(not set or not applicable)*

B. Key project dates

Project duration	48 months
PIF Approval Date	Dec 2, 2022
CEO Endorsement Date	Nov 21, 2023
Project Document Signature Date (project start date):	Mar 6, 2024
Date of Inception Workshop	May 30, 2024
First Disbursement Date	Mar 6, 2024
Expected Date of Mid-term Review	Mar 6, 2026
Actual Date of Mid-term Review	*(not set or not applicable)*
Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation	*(not set or not applicable)*
Original Planned Closing Date	Mar 6, 2028
Revised Planned Closing Date	*(not set or not applicable)*

C. Overall ratings

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

D. Development Objective Progress

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

Description					
Objective **Project Objective: Enable countries to mobilize resources at scale to implement the Global Biodiversity Framework by supporting the development of national biodiversity financing plans, including baseline diagnostics, capacity, and institutional arrangements**					
Description of Indicator	**Baseline Level**	**Midterm target level**	**End of project target level**	**Level at Jun 30, 2024**	**Cumulative progress since project start as of Jun 30, 2025**
1. Number of countries with national finance plans developed and approved	0	40 draft finance plans	91 finance plans completed	*(not set or not applicable)*	0 national finance plans completed 91 national finance plans completed remaining PROGRESS STATUS: ON-TRACK Some countries had some progress during implementation of the Early Action Support Project. However, none completed the BFP expecting the GBFP project would provide necessary technical and financial support to develop it.
2. Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender (including national workshops, webinars and MOOCs)	0	400 people per country; 200 women and 200 men	1,000 people per country; 500 women and 500 men	*(not set or not applicable)*	2,795 individuals have directly benefited from global and national BIOFIN-supported activities. PROGRESS STATUS: ON TRACK

					Several include national workshops, webinars, MOOCs, and regional and global dialogues. Of these, 1,442 were women, 1,338 were men, and 15 participants chose not to disclose their gender. These figures reflect cumulative engagement across key events: the inception workshop gathered 99 participants (59 men, 40 women); regional dialogues brought together 81 stakeholders (52 men, 29 women); the global conference welcomed 161 participants (101 men, 60 women); global webinars drew in 1,215 individuals (493 men, 707 women, and 15 who preferred not to say); and national consultations engaged 1,239 participants (633 men and 606 women). Evidence link: https://bit.ly/GBFP_PIR_BeneficiariesSummary
The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	**On track**				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				
Outcome 1 **Project Outcome 1.1: National biodiversity-related policy and institutional framework analyses are completed, including recommendations to optimise the current**					

institutional structure and finance solutions					
Description of Indicator	**Baseline Level**	**Midterm target level**	**End of project target level**	**Level at Jun 30, 2024**	**Cumulative progress since project start as of Jun 30, 2025**
3. Number of countries with biodiversity-related policy and institutional framework analyses	0	40 draft policy and institutional framework analyses	91 policy and institutional framework analyses completed	*(not set or not applicable)*	15 countries have draft and/or approved Policy and Institutional Reports PROGRESS STATUS: ON-TRACK As of July 2025, 39 countries have made progress in conducting biodiversity-related policy and institutional framework analyses under the BIOFIN initiative. 6 countries—Burkina Faso, Haiti, Lao PDR, Mauritania, Morocco, and Papua New Guinea—have fully completed this report. 9 others, including Bosnia-Herzegovina, Honduras, Iraq, Namibia, Panama, Serbia, Suriname, Uruguay, and Yemen, have submitted draft reports. An additional 23 countries have begun the analysis process but have not yet produced draft outputs.

					Most participating countries are reporting that they are implementing the GBFP project jointly with the closing phase of the finance-related activities under component 4 of the Early Action Support (EAS)Project. This early-phase engagement introduced biodiversity finance concepts to key stakeholders through limited-scale pilot activities, such as preliminary policy and institutional reviews and sample-based biodiversity expenditure assessments. These foundational efforts have enabled countries to prepare for the comprehensive rollout of BIOFIN activities, which will include developing full-scale policy and institutional reviews (PIRs), thorough public and private biodiversity expenditure reviews (BERs), the design of national biodiversity finance plans, and the execution of viable finance solutions. By building on EAS groundwork, BIOFIN is positioned to accelerate implementation and address gaps identified during the pilot phase. Evidence Link: https://bit.ly/GBFP_Policies https://bit.ly/GBFP_2025PIR_GlobalIndicators
The progress of the	**On track**				

objective/outcome can be described as:	
Evidence uploaded:	YES

Outcome 2

Project Outcome 1.2: Harmful and positive subsidies and incentives to biodiversity are identified

Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at Jun 30, 2024	Cumulative progress since project start as of Jun 30, 2025
4. Number of countries with a report on nature-positive and nature-harmful subsidies	0	40 draft reports on nature-positive and nature-harmful subsidies	91 peer reviewed reports on nature-positive and nature-harmful subsidies completed	*(not set or not applicable)*	7 countries have draft and/or approved reports on nature-positive and nature-harmful subsidies PROGRESS STATUS: ON-TRACK As of July 2025, a total of 24 countries has advanced in identifying and analyzing nature-positive and nature-harmful subsidies as part of the BIOFIN initiative. 2 countries—Haiti, and Lao PDR—have fully completed their reports. 5 countries—Burkina Faso, Honduras, Morocco, Serbia, and Turkmenistan—have prepared draft versions, and an additional 16 countries have begun the process but have yet to produce a draft.

					This progress was tracked through a standardized questionnaire distributed across all project countries, with responses submitted based on available evidence. Evidence Link: https://bit.ly/GBFP_Subsidies https://bit.ly/GBFP_2025PIR_GlobalIndicators
The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	**On track**				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				
Outcome 3 **Project Outcome 2.1: National expenditure related to biodiversity across all relevant sectors is quantified with current and future trends**					
Description of Indicator	**Baseline Level**	**Midterm target level**	**End of project target level**	**Level at Jun 30, 2024**	**Cumulative progress since project start as of Jun 30, 2025**
5. Number of countries with a report on national biodiversity expenditures	0	40 draft reports on national biodiversity expenditures	91 reports on national biodiversity expenditures completed	*(not set or not applicable)*	9 countries with draft and/or approved reports on National Biodiversity Expenditures PROGRESS STATUS: ON-TRACK

					As of July 2025, 23 countries have reported progress in developing national biodiversity expenditure reports, reflecting continued momentum under the BIOFIN initiative. 1 country, Haiti has completed their reports in full. 8 other countries—Burkina Faso, Honduras, Iraq, Lao PDR, Namibia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turkmenistan—have prepared draft versions. 13 additional countries are currently in the early stages of this work and have yet to produce a draft. Evidence Link: https://bit.ly/GBFP_2025PIR_GlobalIndicators https://bit.ly/GBFP_BER
The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	**On track**				

Evidence uploaded:	YES				
Outcome 4 **Project Outcome 3.1: Financial needs for achieving the Global Biodiversity Framework targets at national level are fully costed**					
Description of Indicator	**Baseline Level**	**Midterm target level**	**End of project target level**	**Level at Jun 30, 2024**	**Cumulative progress since project start as of Jun 30, 2025**
6. Number of countries with a report on national financial needs assessment for biodiversity	0	40 draft reports on national financial needs assessment for biodiversity	91 reports on national financial needs assessment for biodiversity completed	*(not set or not applicable)*	6 countries with draft report on National Biodiversity Finance Needs Assessments PROGRESS STATUS: ON-TRACK As of July 2025, 12 countries have initiated work on preparing reports related to the finance needs assessment report. Haiti, Iraq, Lao PDR, Suriname, and Turkmenistan have submitted draft versions. The remaining 6 countries have begun initial steps but have not yet produced a draft. This collective progress reflects growing engagement across countries, with many building on the foundations established through the Early Action Support (EAS) initiative under the GEF Global Biodiversity Framework–Enabling Action Support (GBF-EAS) Project.

					These achievements were guided by a standardized questionnaire shared with all participating countries, and responses were submitted based on documented evidence. All countries—except Azerbaijan, which was unable to report due to the closure of the UNDP Country Office—have participated in this reporting cycle. All submitted reports have been uploaded for documentation and validation. Evidence Link: https://bit.ly/GBFP_2025PIR_GlobalIndicators https://bit.ly/GBFP_FNA
The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	**On track**				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				
Outcome 5 **Project Outcome 4.1: National biodiversity finance plans are developed and validated by stakeholders**					
Description of Indicator	**Baseline Level**	**Midterm target level**	**End of project target level**	**Level at Jun 30, 2024**	**Cumulative progress since project start as of Jun 30, 2025**
7. Number of countries with national biodiversity finance plans	0	0	91 national biodiversity finance plans completed	*(not set or not applicable)*	5 countries with draft National Biodiversity Finance Plans

					PROGRESS STATUS: ON-TRACK As of July 2025, 5 countries have made progress towards developing their national biodiversity finance plans under the BIOFIN initiative. Papua New, Guinea, Haiti, Iraq, and Lao PDR have draft finance plans plans. Four additional countries have begun the planning process but have not yet produced a draft. This collective achievement highlights the growing commitment among participating countries to institutionalize biodiversity finance and develop targeted strategies for sustainable resource mobilization. Evidence Link: https://bit.ly/GBFP_2025PIR_GlobalIndicators https://bit.ly/GBFP_BFPs
The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	**On track**				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				
Outcome 6 **Project Outcome 5.1: A global knowledge and technical assistance platform is established to share knowledge and experiences across participating countries and**					

partner organizations					
Description of Indicator	**Baseline Level**	**Midterm target level**	**End of project target level**	**Level at Jun 30, 2024**	**Cumulative progress since project start as of Jun 30, 2025**
8. Percentage of countries sharing their country experience through the knowledge platform	0% of countries	At least 50% of participating countries	At least 95% of participating countries	*(not set or not applicable)*	More than 50% of countries have participated in sharing their country experience through the global knowledge platform/global and regional webinars, regionals and global workshops). It is estimated that around 80 project participant countries have participated in activities related to the global knowledge platform. PROGRESS STATUS: ACHIEVED UNDP's global knowledge platforms have proven instrumental in accelerating project implementation and fostering cross-country collaboration. Through targeted support—including expert-led technical assistance, thematic webinars, regional and global workshops, and structured peer learning exchanges—countries are equipped to deliver more effective and inclusive biodiversity finance solutions. More than 80 countries (92.54% of all project participants) have actively contributed national insights via the

					BIOFIN knowledge platform. This high level of engagement reflects the success of strategic outreach and capacity-building efforts supported by donor investments. Notably, country representatives participated in the 5th Global Conference on Nature Finance in Chile (May 2025), alongside regional dialogues in Latin America (September 2024), Africa, and the Arab States (June 2025). These events enabled countries to share best practices, surface implementation challenges, and co-develop actionable solutions—strengthening the project's collective learning ecosystem. The Global Conference convened over 130 countries, including 90% of project participants and 40 additional nations with long-standing BIOFIN experience. With a satisfaction rating exceeding 90%, the event showcased tangible results from Biodiversity Finance Plan implementation and highlighted donor-supported innovations such as blended finance mechanisms, GEF-aligned projects, and emerging funding windows. Similarly, the June 2025 Regional Dialogue for Africa and the Arab States garnered strong participation and a

					satisfaction rating above 90%. The agenda featured tailored sessions on key technical components (PIR, BER, FNA, and finance plans), including a dedicated segment on operationalizing finance solutions from Biodiversity Finance Plans. These dialogues directly contribute to scaling nature-positive finance and demonstrate the catalytic role of donor support in enabling country-led progress. Evidence Links: https://bit.ly/GBFP_PIR_BeneficiariesSummary https://bit.ly/GBFP_CommunityOfPractice https://bit.ly/GBFP_2025PIR_GlobalIndicators
9. Percentage of countries using knowledge facilitated by the platform	0	At least 50% of participating countries	100% of participating countries	*(not set or not applicable)*	Nearly 100% participating countries are actively using the knowledge platform. Due to UNDP's office closure, Azerbaijan has not participated in any project-related activities. PROGRESS STATUS: ACHIEVED

					Seven main strategies were developed for this: 1. Massive Open Online Course in Biodiversity Finance This milestone was achieved through two main avenues. First, more than 350 individuals from GEF-supported countries have enrolled in the private “soft” launch of the BIOFIN Massive Open Online Course on the BIOFIN Methodology, reflecting strong global uptake of technical content. Secondly, the live MOOC will be launched in September 2025; to date, more than 4000 participants have already registered. This e-learning course will have live exchanges with participants and technical advisors. It will be provided in 4 languages: English, Spanish, French, and Russian. Gender distribution: 49.6% Male | 48.3% Female | Male | 1.7% Prefer not to answer | 0.2% Other Language distribution: 67.1% English | 17.8% French | 14.2% Spanish | 0.6% Russian Enrolled countries: 164 2. Webinar Series on Biodiversity Finance and Impact Investment and

					private sector knowledge and capacity development stream Together with the GBF-EAS and GEF 8 Umbrella Programme to Support NBSAP Update and the 7th National Report (GEF NBSAP-7NR), the project has organized the following webinars, which are available in English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese translations. A link to the webinar recordings is uploaded for reference. a. Webinar on Introduction to Biodiversity Finance (220 attendees) b. Public-Private Finance Flowing into GBF Target 19 Trends and Innovation (314 attendees) c. Indigenous and Investor Shareholdership in Revenue Generation for Nature for GBF Target 19 (397 attendees) d. Nature Bonds (98 attendees) e. BIOFIN Community of Practice (186 attendees) 3. Global Catalogue on Biodiversity Finance expanded Currently, the global catalogue is consistently being updated. The global

					catalogue can be accessed here: https://www.biofin.org/finance-solutions 4. In country implementation processes supported by technical advisors By June 2025, 90% of the project technical advisors supporting all countries under the project have been recruited. Hence, every country has a dedicated technical advisor to support the project inception phase, work plan development, and capacity building since the project started in 2024. Furthermore, the team provides thematic expert support on issues regarding gender, stakeholder engagement, climate finance, and private investments. Countries have reported receiving effective support from Global Technical Teams through tailored advisory, including TOR reviews and technical guidance on the BIOFIN Methodology, and operational support. 5. Emerging lessons and best practices captured by dedicated knowledge products such as cross-country analysis reports, technical publications, videos, website articles, and podcast episodes

					6. Participation in Regional and Global Workshops In august 2024, UNDP hosted the LAC Regional Dialogue with the participation of around 15 countries. This meeting was dedicated to discuss implementation of the BFPs and finance solution implementation and was an opportunity for some of the countries joining this global community to learn from countries at the BFP implementation stage. The Global Conference convened over 130 countries, including 90% of project participants and 40 additional nations with long-standing BIOFIN experience. With a satisfaction rating exceeding 90%, the event showcased tangible results from Biodiversity Finance Plan implementation and highlighted donor-supported innovations such as blended finance mechanisms, GEF-aligned projects, and emerging funding windows. Similarly, the June 2025 Regional Dialogue for Africa and the Arab States garnered strong participation and a satisfaction rating above 90%. The agenda featured tailored sessions on key technical components (PIR, BER, FNA, and finance plans), including a dedicated segment on operationalizing

					finance solutions from Biodiversity Finance Plans. These dialogues directly contribute to scaling nature-positive finance and demonstrate the catalytic role of donor support in enabling country-led progress Evidence Links: https://bit.ly/GBFP_2025PIR_GlobalIndicators https://bit.ly/GBFP_2025Webinar1 https://bit.ly/GBFP_2025Webinar2 https://bit.ly/GBFP_2025Webinar3 https://bit.ly/GBFP_2025Webinar4 https://bit.ly/GBFP_2025Webinar5 https://bit.ly/GBFP_2025Webinar6 https://bit.ly/GBFP_2025Webinar7 https://bit.ly/GBFP_2025Webinar8 https://bit.ly/GBFP_CommunityOfPractice https://bit.ly/GBFP_PIR_BeneficiariesSummary
10. Number of women accessing/ participating in technical support	0	At least 200 women per country accessing technical support and capacity	At least 500 women per country accessing technical support and capacity	*(not set or not applicable)*	A total of 1,442 women have accessed and actively participated in technical support activities facilitated by BIOFIN, including national workshops, webinars,

		building activities	building activities		MOOCs, and regional dialogues. PROGRESS STATUS: On Track A total of 1,442 women have accessed and actively participated in technical support activities facilitated by BIOFIN, including national workshops, webinars, MOOCs, and regional dialogues. This reflects meaningful engagement across diverse formats and geographies, contributing to the project's inclusive approach to capacity building in biodiversity finance. Out of 2,795 total participants, women represented over 51%—a strong indicator of gender-responsive outreach and programming. Beyond participation numbers, several countries have taken proactive steps to embed gender considerations into their biodiversity finance work, such as: - Djibouti worked closely with gender focal points in government institutions to align biodiversity finance strategies with national gender policies and commitments under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the SDGs.

					- Panama integrated female leaders and technical experts from government, academia, Indigenous Peoples, and civil society into the formulation of its Biodiversity Finance Plan, ensuring intergenerational and intersectional representation. - Burundi and Benin emphasized women's leadership in decision-making bodies and developed gender-specific indicators to monitor participation in biodiversity finance activities. - Sudan included KPIs on women's engagement in its updated NBSAP, with oversight from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour.
The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	**Achieved**				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				
Outcome 7 **Project Outcome 6.1: Project M&E meets UNDP standards**					
Description of Indicator	**Baseline Level**	**Midterm target level**	**End of project target level**	**Level at Jun 30, 2024**	**Cumulative progress since project start as of Jun 30, 2025**

11. Number of countries submitting annual updates and status reports	0	91	91	*(not set or not applicable)*	90 countries have submitted an annual updates and status reports. PROGRESS STATUS: ACHIEVED Due to UNDP's office closure, Azerbaijan has not participated in any project-related activities. As of July 2025, 90 out of 91 participating countries have successfully submitted their annual updates and status reports, achieving a 98.9% completion rate for this project indicator. This outcome was facilitated through the circulation of a standardized questionnaire, enabling all countries to provide evidence-based inputs aligned with project requirements. Only Azerbaijan was unable to submit a report due to the closure of the UNDP Country Office, which limited its participation in this reporting cycle. Evidence Links: https://bit.ly/GBFP_2025PIR_GlobalIndicators
12. Project’s terminal evaluation	0	0	1 global TE completed	*(not set or not applicable)*	Not Applicable as of this stage

The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	**Achieved**
Evidence uploaded:	YES

E. Finance/Co-Finance

Cumulative disbursement as of Jun 30, 2025: **Disbursement for the FY 2025 period is an estimate as books for UNDP Q2 2025 are not yet closed.*	3,073,463

Key Financing Amounts

PPG Amount	*(not set or not applicable)*
GEF Grant Amount	38,190,000
Co-financing	460,000

F. Implementation Progress

Project Manager: Please provide comments on delays with outputs/activities during the period 1 July 2024 through 30 June 2025. If there were no delays, please indicate 'not applicable'.

The project experienced initial delays in fund disbursement to UNDP Country Offices, which UNDP Senior Management swiftly resolved. By November 2024, all participating countries had full access to project funds.

Procurement-related challenges emerged as a widespread issue during the reporting period, potentially affecting the timely implementation of key activities. These were transparently recorded in the Quantum project risk register and have been actively monitored and addressed at multiple levels.

Approximately 55% of country respondents reported significant delays in launching procurement processes, primarily due to bottlenecks in TOR approvals, compounded by delayed fund disbursement and onboarding of project coordinators. To mitigate cascading delays, the project team re-sequenced activities and strengthened communication and planning with implementing partners.

In 30% of countries, limited access to qualified local expertise—such as consultants and coordinators—led to prolonged evaluations and, in some cases, reinitiated recruitment due to non-approval by procurement oversight committees. These challenges underscored a broader capacity gap, directly impacting the procurement of expert services essential to implementation.

Recruitment delays of project coordinators affected operational momentum in several countries. While critical outputs remain on track, the situation is being closely monitored to safeguard timelines and ensure responsiveness to evolving national requirements.

Additionally, 6% of countries faced technical constraints in preparing procurement documentation. In response, the global support team developed standardized TOR templates and provided intensified one-on-one advisory support with country teams, Senior Technical Advisors, and Environmental Finance Analysts. These adaptive measures have helped mitigate procurement risks and reinforce progress toward project milestones.

Despite these efforts, implementation challenges persisted. A significant portion of countries reported difficulty sourcing expertise for biodiversity-related activities: 63% (57 of 91 countries) experienced recruitment delays, and 58% (53 of 91) faced procurement setbacks. These were largely due to limited availability of qualified experts, re-advertisement of key positions, and weak market responses to tenders.

Furthermore, 48% (44 countries) reported constraints stemming from fragmented or non-integrated financial and biodiversity data systems, delaying completion of core assessments such as the PIR, BER, and Subsidies Assessment.

Stakeholder coordination also posed challenges. 43% (39 countries) cited delays in establishing Project Steering Committees or inter-ministerial coordination mechanisms, particularly in early

implementation phases where synchronized efforts are critical.

To address these delays, several management strategies have been adopted:

- Country offices, with BIOFIN Technical Advisors and analysts, are refining TORs to attract specialized candidates and exploring alternative contractual modalities (e.g., NPSA or ICs).

- Technical support from the BIOFIN Global Team is accelerating workflows through template TORs, budgeting guidance, and onboarding webinars.

- Many countries are formalizing Steering Committees and establishing Technical Advisory Groups to ensure oversight and cross-sectoral guidance. Regular check-ins, joint planning meetings, and updated risk logs are tracking progress against work plans.

- Work plans are being revised to accommodate delayed start-up activities, including re-sequenced deliverables, extended timelines, and prioritization of early wins to sustain momentum.

These measures are helping countries mitigate delays and restore critical path timelines, with enhanced readiness expected in the second half of 2025. They reflect strong commitment from national counterparts and continued support from the UNDP global team to uphold implementation quality and project integrity.

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

N/A

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

To mitigate cascading delays, the project applied strong adaptive management measures:

Strengthening recruitment and procurement processes through refined TORs, alternative contractual modalities (e.g., NPSA, ICs), and standardized templates.

Accelerating technical support with fast-track advisory services, onboarding webinars, and one-on-one sessions with country teams.

Enhancing governance and coordination by formalizing Project Steering Committees and Technical Advisory Groups, improving inter-ministerial engagement, and holding regular check-ins and joint planning sessions.

Re-sequencing activities and revising work plans to prioritize early wins, extend timelines where needed, and sustain operational momentum.

Investing in capacity-building through the launch of the self-paced biodiversity finance course and upcoming live e-learning modules to strengthen national expertise.

These measures have stabilized implementation, addressed early delays, and safeguarded progress toward project milestones. Enhanced readiness and delivery are expected across most countries in the second half of 2025, demonstrating strong commitment from national counterparts and sustained support from the UNDP Global Team.

G. Project Governance

1) Please enter the dates of Project Board meetings during the reporting period (1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025)
2024-09-24

H. Ratings and Overall Assessments

Role	2025 Development Objective Progress Rating	2025 Implementation Progress Rating
UNDP BPPS Technical Advisor	Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory

Role	2025 Overall Assessment
UNDP BPPS Technical Advisor	This report marks the first PIR for the project titled “Global Biodiversity Finance Programme (GBFP)”. The project supports 91 participating countries in mobilizing resources at scale for the implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) through the development of national biodiversity finance plans (BFPs), baseline diagnostics, and institutional capacity strengthening. Since the project’s inception in March 2024, important progress has been made in laying the foundations for implementation and establishing foundational activities and partnerships to achieve its objectives, despite encountering early operational challenges, including setting up a multi-country project in a new system, adjustments in corporate requirements and SOPs, delays in fund disbursement, recruitment, and procurement, among others. By June 2025, implementation had gained momentum. The global technical team reached 90% staffing; inception workshops and regional dialogues were successfully held across all regions; and the global knowledge platform was launched and actively used by nearly all participating countries. A total of 2,795 individuals benefited directly from national and regional workshops, webinars, and consultations, with significant progress in stakeholder engagement and knowledge exchange. While the project has made steady advancements, the pace of implementation has been uneven across countries due to persistent capacity and procurement challenges. Governance and coordination mechanisms have advanced at both global and national levels. At the global level, the first steering committee meeting was held in September 2024. The near-complete recruitment of the technical team has enabled continuous support, the production of knowledge products, and the facilitation of structured peer-learning opportunities. At the national level, more than 60% of participating countries have established Project Steering Committees or Technical Advisory Groups, fostering cross-sectoral engagement and improving alignment between Ministries of Environment, Ministries of Finance, and other relevant authorities. Regional dialogues held in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Arab States have strengthened collaboration and peer learning while helping countries troubleshoot technical and institutional challenges. The programme continues to prioritize a participatory approach that meaningfully involves Indigenous Peoples, women’s organizations, youth groups, and other stakeholders, strengthening institutional ownership and national leadership. Despite these achievements, delays in the establishment of steering structures and inter-ministerial mechanisms in a significant number of countries have slowed

	decision-making processes in the early stages of implementation. As of June 30, 2025, cumulative delivery under the project reached 14.85% of the total approved budget for the global component. USD 3.07 million have been disbursed to participating countries. While early delays in transferring funds to UNDP Country Offices were resolved by November 2024, these initial bottlenecks caused cascading effects on procurement, recruitment, and the timely initiation of key assessments. Co-financing commitments, totaling USD 460,000 to date, remain aligned with expectations, and countries are beginning to leverage the BIOFIN methodology to identify and design innovative financing solutions. The project has demonstrated adaptive management strategies to address operational challenges during the reporting period. In response to widespread delays in recruitment and procurement, the global technical team developed standardized Terms of Reference and templates, supported countries in refining their contracting processes, and promoted the use of flexible modalities such as NPSA and individual consultancies. These efforts have helped mitigate capacity gaps, although sourcing specialized technical expertise continues to be a challenge in several countries. Twelve countries introduced minor amendments to their implementation schedules to better align activities with evolving national priorities and institutional realities. Risk management processes were strengthened through the revision of the Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) to comply with updated Quantum+ requirements, while a Stakeholder Engagement Plan template was introduced to guide inclusive consultations and systematic participation. Despite these actions, persistent challenges in accessing qualified experts, onboarding coordinators, and aligning cross-sectoral stakeholders underscore the need for continued adaptive management and closer monitoring. The overall project risk remains moderate but is considered manageable with the measures in place. The Implementation Progress (IP) rating for this PIR is Moderately Satisfactory (MS). While the project has advanced significantly in establishing technical capacity, launching knowledge platforms, and supporting countries to initiate core assessments, uneven progress across participating countries and recurring operational delays continue to constrain full-scale implementation. Progress toward objective-level indicators is advancing but remains below initial projections due to the early implementation stage and persistent recruitment and procurement delays. By June 2025, the programme reported limited progress toward the midterm target of 40 draft biodiversity finance plans (Indicator 1), with countries are advancing preparatory work, including policy and institutional reviews, biodiversity expenditure analyses, and financial needs assessments, which form the technical foundation for their plans. Despite early recruitment and procurement delays, strong national ownership and the establishment of inter-ministerial steering committees and technical advisory groups in over half of participating countries have enabled the programme to remain on track to meet

	its midterm target. Furthermore, the programme achieved 7% progress toward the midterm target of 400 direct beneficiaries per country, reaching a total of 2,795 individuals who have directly benefited from BIOFIN-supported activities at the global, regional, and national levels (Indicator 2). Participation has been broadly inclusive, with 1,442 women (52%), 1,338 men (48%), and 15 participants who preferred not to disclose their gender. Engagement has been facilitated through inception workshops, regional dialogues, the global BIOFIN conference, a series of technical webinars, and national consultations, reflecting the programme's strong focus on capacity building, stakeholder involvement, and knowledge sharing. Knowledge sharing has been a notable area of achievement, with more than 80 countries actively contributing to the global platform and participating in regional dialogues. Nearly all participating countries, except Azerbaijan due to the closure of the UNDP Country Office, are using project-developed knowledge products and tools to advance biodiversity finance planning. Outcome-level progress demonstrates steady engagement but highlights variability in implementation readiness across countries. Component 1, National biodiversity finance policy and institutional reviews The programme achieved 38% progress toward the midterm target of 40 draft biodiversity-related policy and institutional framework analyses, with 15 countries having submitted draft or approved reports (Indicator 3). Among these, six countries—Burkina Faso, Haiti, Lao PDR, Mauritania, Morocco, and Papua New Guinea—have fully completed their analyses, while nine others, including Bosnia-Herzegovina, Honduras, Iraq, Namibia, Panama, Serbia, Suriname, Uruguay, and Yemen, have draft reports under review. An additional 23 countries have initiated the analysis process and are expected to deliver outputs in the next reporting period. Most countries are leveraging foundational work carried out under the GEF-7 Early Action Support (EAS) Project, which introduced key biodiversity finance concepts and facilitated limited-scale pilot assessments, such as preliminary institutional analyses and sample biodiversity expenditure reviews. This early engagement has provided a strong technical basis for the comprehensive rollout of BIOFIN activities, ensuring that upcoming full-scale policy and institutional reviews are aligned with national biodiversity priorities and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. For Indicator 4, the programme achieved 18% progress toward the midterm target of 40 draft reports on nature-positive and nature-harmful subsidies, with seven countries having submitted draft or completed reports. Among these, Haiti and Lao PDR have finalized their analyses, while Burkina Faso, Honduras, Morocco, Serbia, and Turkmenistan have prepared draft versions currently under review. In addition, 16 countries have initiated the assessment process and are expected to deliver outputs in the next reporting period. Overall, 24 countries are advancing in the identification and analysis of biodiversity-relevant subsidies, marking an important step toward addressing fiscal incentives that negatively affect biodiversity and aligning public financing with the objectives of the Kunming-

	Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. This progress has been supported by the application of standardized methodologies and reporting templates provided under the BIOFIN framework, ensuring consistency across countries and enabling comparability of results. Component 2, National biodiversity expenditure reviews conducted across all relevant sectors For Indicator 5, the programme has achieved 23% progress toward the midterm target of 40 national biodiversity expenditure reports, with nine countries having submitted draft or completed reports. Haiti has finalized its report, while Burkina Faso, Honduras, Iraq, Lao PDR, Namibia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turkmenistan have prepared draft versions currently under review. An additional 13 countries have initiated data collection and methodological preparations but have not yet delivered draft outputs. In total, 23 countries are advancing in assessing public and private biodiversity-related expenditures, a critical step in identifying financing gaps and opportunities to inform the design of National Biodiversity Finance Plans. The progress achieved demonstrates growing national capacities in financial tracking and alignment with BIOFIN methodologies, which are harmonized with the reporting needs of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. While some delays have been linked to data availability and coordination among ministries, the programme remains on track to achieve its midterm targets. Component 3, National assessment of financing needs required to achieve Global Biodiversity Framework targets For Indicator 6, the programme has achieved 15% progress toward the midterm target of 40 national biodiversity finance needs assessments, with six countries having submitted draft reports and an additional six countries initiating preparatory work. Haiti, Iraq, Lao PDR, Suriname, and Turkmenistan have advanced to draft submissions, while the remaining countries are focusing on data collection and institutional consultations to inform their assessments. These efforts build on the groundwork laid by the GEF Global Biodiversity Framework – Enabling Action Support (GBF-EAS) Project, which introduced finance needs assessment methodologies during its early phase. A standardized questionnaire guided the reporting process, ensuring consistency across participating countries, with responses submitted based on documented evidence. All countries, except Azerbaijan—which could not report due to the closure of the UNDP Country Office—have engaged in this reporting cycle. Progress to date reflects a growing capacity to estimate biodiversity finance needs and align them with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework targets, positioning countries to better define financing gaps and mobilize resources effectively. Component 4, Development of National Biodiversity Finance Plans For Indicator 7, the programme has achieved 13% progress toward the midterm target of 40 national biodiversity finance plans, with five countries—Papua New

	Guinea, Haiti, Iraq, Lao PDR, and Suriname—having submitted draft plans under review. An additional four countries have initiated preparatory work, including institutional consultations, financial baseline analyses, and alignment of priorities with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), but have not yet produced draft outputs. These achievements demonstrate growing national ownership and commitment to institutionalizing biodiversity finance and designing strategies to mobilize and optimize resources across public, private, and innovative financing mechanisms. The progress builds on earlier analytical work completed under the GEF GBF–Enabling Action Support (GBF-EAS) Project, which provided foundational inputs such as resource mobilization plans and preliminary policy analyses. As countries strengthen cross-ministerial coordination and technical capacities through the BIOFIN methodology, the programme remains on track to achieve its midterm target. Component 5, Global Knowledge and Technical Assistance Platform Regarding Indicator 8, the programme has exceeded the midterm target for this indicator, achieving 92.5% participation, with over 80 project countries actively sharing their experiences through the BIOFIN global knowledge platform, thematic webinars, regional dialogues, and global workshops. This strong engagement demonstrates the effectiveness of UNDP's strategic outreach and capacity-building efforts, positioning the platform as a central hub for peer learning and cross-country collaboration. Key highlights include the 5th Global Conference on Nature Finance held in Chile in May 2025, which gathered representatives from 130 countries, including 90% of project participants, achieving a satisfaction rating above 90% and showcasing tangible results from biodiversity finance plan implementation and donor-supported innovations such as blended finance mechanisms and GEF-aligned projects. Similarly, the Regional Dialogue for Africa and the Arab States in June 2025 focused on technical components like FNA, BER, and finance plan operationalization, also recording high satisfaction rates. These efforts have strengthened a vibrant community of practice, enabling countries to co-develop solutions, address implementation challenges, and scale nature-positive finance. The indicator is therefore assessed as achieved ahead of schedule. For Indicator 9, by July 2025 this indicator is achieved, with nearly 100% of participating countries actively using knowledge products and services facilitated through the BIOFIN global platform, technical webinars, regional dialogues, and in-country advisory support, except for Azerbaijan due to the closure of its UNDP Country Office. Key strategies include the BIOFIN MOOC, with 4,000+ registrants from 164 countries and content in four languages; a webinar series engaging 1,415 participants on biodiversity finance, blended finance, and impact investment; the expansion of the Global Catalogue on Biodiversity Finance Solutions; dedicated technical advisory support to nearly all countries; and the development of cross-country knowledge products. Active participation in regional dialogues and the 5th Global Conference on Nature Finance—which convened 130 countries and achieved satisfaction ratings above 90%—has further strengthened knowledge uptake. Collectively, these efforts ensure countries are effectively leveraging BIOFIN knowledge to advance biodiversity finance planning and implementation.

	For Indicator 10, across global and national BIOFIN-supported activities, 1,442 women have directly benefited from workshops, consultations, and MOOCs (Indicator 2), representing 51.6% of total participants. Furthermore, under Indicator 8, more than 80 project countries have contributed to knowledge-sharing platforms and events, with a balanced gender representation in global and regional dialogues. Similarly, the BIOFIN Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) under Indicator 9 reports that 48.3% of over 4,000 registrants are women, highlighting the project's continued emphasis on gender-inclusive participation in technical support and capacity-building processes. Component 6, Project monitoring For Indicator 11, 90 out of 91 participating countries have submitted their annual updates and status reports, reaching a 98.9% completion rate and marking this indicator as achieved. Progress was supported through the circulation of a standardized questionnaire, which ensured consistent and evidence-based reporting across countries. Azerbaijan was the only country unable to submit its report due to the closure of the UNDP Country Office, which prevented its participation in this reporting cycle. In addition to results reported under individual indicators, the 2025 GBFP PIR highlights the project's holistic approach to advancing biodiversity finance, anchored in the integration of gender equality, stakeholder engagement, knowledge management, and the commitments of the UNDP Nature Pledge. In 2024, a dedicated Gender and Safeguards Specialist was recruited to guide portfolio-wide integration efforts, resulting in new global tools, webinars, and knowledge products to mainstream gender in biodiversity finance. These efforts have translated into concrete national actions, such as empowering women leaders and Indigenous groups in Panama, promoting women's access to finance in Sudan, implementing gender-responsive strategies in Mauritania and Yemen, and enhancing inclusion in Djibouti, Namibia, and Liberia. The programme has also strengthened stakeholder participation and knowledge sharing, enabling 80+ countries to actively contribute to the BIOFIN Community of Practice and global learning events, including the 6th Global BIOFIN Conference and regional dialogues across Latin America, Africa, and the Arab States. These platforms facilitate the exchange of best practices, foster peer learning, and accelerate the operationalization of biodiversity finance solutions. Through these efforts, the GBFP advances the Nature Pledge's systemic transformation goals, mobilizing resources, empowering diverse stakeholders, and linking biodiversity conservation with sustainable development and climate resilience. The Development Objective (DO) rating for this PIR is assessed as Moderately Satisfactory (MS). While important progress has been made in establishing institutional, technical, and policy foundations, the overall pace of implementation remains constrained by recurring operational challenges. The programme's strong contributions to the UNDP Nature Pledge and its alignment with the GBF provide a solid basis for accelerated progress in the coming year, provided that

	recruitment, procurement, and coordination bottlenecks are systematically addressed. To sustain the project's positive performance and ensure the timely achievement of the 2025–2026 targets, the following recommendations are provided: • Accelerate procurement and recruitment by expanding regional rosters and leveraging flexible contractual modalities to address expertise gaps. • Maintain adaptive management practices in close coordination with the Global RTA and RTLs. • Strengthen governance and oversight by formalizing Steering Committees and Technical Advisory Groups, ensuring cross-sectoral coordination and effective risk management. • Accelerate capacity-building efforts through continued one-to-one technical support, onboarding sessions, and the rollout of the self-paced and live e-learning courses on biodiversity finance. • Leverage National Coordinators (expected to be in place by September 2024) to enhance implementation readiness and drive delivery at the country level. • Sustain global and regional collaboration between the BIOFIN Global Team, regional advisors, other EAs, Nature RTAs, and country offices to ensure quality, coherence, and timely results. ---- During the reporting period, the project encountered several implementation challenges primarily related to delayed start-up phases in some countries, recruitment bottlenecks, and capacity constraints. Early delays in mobilizing National Coordinators and technical staff slowed the finalization of work plans and initial deliverables. The recruitment of specialized experts in biodiversity finance, gender, and safeguards has proven challenging in certain contexts, requiring additional time to identify qualified candidates and establish alternative contractual arrangements. Furthermore, varying institutional readiness and governance structures across participating countries created inconsistencies in the pace of implementation. In some cases, delays in forming Steering Committees, Technical Advisory Groups, and stakeholder engagement mechanisms affected cross-sectoral coordination. Limited in-country technical capacities, coupled with competing national priorities, also impacted the timely delivery of outputs. While these factors initially slowed progress, enhanced adaptive management practices and targeted support from the BIOFIN Global Team are enabling countries to realign timelines and maintain overall project quality and integrity.
UNDP Country Office Programme Officer	*(not set or not applicable)*
Project Manager/Coordinator	At the global level, recruitments of the global technical team were delayed due to long recruitment processes within UNDP. However, by the end of June 2025, the Technical Team is 90% completed.

	Despite these delays, since January, every country had a dedicated interim technical advisor from the BIOFIN team to support the design of countries' workplans and procurement plans. BIOFIN carried several training and information opportunities starting May 2024, with the inception workshops as well as 2 Regional Dialogues and 1 Global Conference. These events are part of the project's capacity building and country learning strategy to encourage learning from other countries that have already developed a Biodiversity Finance Plan. At the country level, there were delays in the disbursement of funds to UNDP Country Offices. UNDP Senior Management acted promptly to resolve the issue, and by November 2024, all participating countries had full access to their project funds. While this milestone was an important step forward, several implementation challenges persisted. Many countries struggled to secure the necessary technical expertise for biodiversity-related activities. These difficulties were primarily due to a limited pool of qualified national experts, the need to re-advertise key positions (e.g., Project Coordinators, Finance Specialists), and weak market responses to tenders. In order to support countries, the global team worked with several country teams and COs to adapt the TOR with the focus on building in-country capacity rather than relying on external hires or international consultants. Involving Ministries of Finance into the project remains a challenge. However, we are confident that throughout the process and through setting up steering committees, collaboration with MoF will be more active with regular exchanges. To overcome these barriers, several targeted strategies are being implemented: - Strengthening recruitment efforts – Country Offices, with support from BIOFIN Technical Advisors and analysts, are refining Terms of Reference to attract specialized candidates and exploring alternative contractual arrangements (e.g., NPSA, ICs). - Accelerating technical support – The BIOFIN Global Team has provided fast-track assistance, including template TORs, budgeting guidance, and onboarding webinars. - Enhancing governance structures – Many countries are formalizing Steering Committees and establishing Technical Advisory Groups to ensure oversight and cross-sectoral engagement. Regular check-ins, joint planning sessions, and updated risk logs are being used to monitor progress. - Adjusting work plans – Activities are being rescheduled to accommodate delayed start-up phases. This includes revising the sequence of technical deliverables, extending timelines for major assessments, and prioritizing early wins to sustain momentum. These measures are helping countries recover from early delays and realign project timelines. Enhanced readiness is expected by the second half of 2025. The actions taken demonstrate a strong commitment from national counterparts, backed by sustained support from the UNDP Global Team, to ensure the project maintains both its quality and integrity.

	Looking forward, it is expected that most countries will have a dedicated National Coordinator in place by September 2024, which will accelerate implementation of the project. Technical Advisors hold regular one-to-one technical sessions aiming at capacity building and learning. In May 2025, a soft launch of the self-paced course on Biodiversity Finance and the development of Biodiversity Finance Plans was launched. The next milestone will be the official launch of the live e-learning course that by June 2025 had already 2500 registrants.
GEF Operational Focal point	*(not set or not applicable)*
Project Implementing Partner	*(not set or not applicable)*
Other Partners	*(not set or not applicable)*

I. Minor Amendments

Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5% as described in Annex 9 of the GEF Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines.

CO Programme Officer: Please mark each category for which a minor amendment occurred during this reporting period (1 July 2024- 30 June 2025).

For each category that is marked, please provide a brief description of the change that occurred in the associated text box. You may attach supporting documentation, as appropriate.

The purpose of this section is to capture adaptive management and measure project proactiveness, an indicator outlined in paragraph 70 of the GEF-8 Policy Directions available here.

A) Results Framework
No
Provide a description of the change(s) to the 'Results framework'
(not set or not applicable)
B) Components and cost
No
Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Components and cost'
(not set or not applicable)
C) Institutional and implementation arrangements
No
Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Institutional and implementation arrangements'
(not set or not applicable)
D) Financial management
Yes
Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Financial Management'
All countries were requested to complete their yearly budget revisions by November 15th based on their workplans agreed with the respective BIOFIN technical advisor. 44 countries have completed their budget revisions, 21 have started their budget revision process and 26 countries have not yet submitted workplans Link to revised workplan can be accessed here: https://bit.ly/GBFP_MinorAmendments
E) Implementation schedule

Yes
Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Implementation schedule'
12 out of 91 countries (approximately 13%) reported implementing minor amendments specifically related to the implementation schedule. These adjustments were generally made to improve operational efficiency, respond to recruitment delays, or align activities with evolving national priorities. While they did not significantly alter the project's objectives or scope, they reflect adaptive management practices aimed at maintaining implementation momentum. Most changes were due to the shift from NPSA to IC of some positions and co-sharing the project coordinators with EAS and NBSAP/7NR project. Link to workplan can be accessed here: https://bit.ly/GBFP_MinorAmendments
F) Executing Entity
No
Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Executing Entity'
(not set or not applicable)
G) Executing Entity Category
No
Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Executing Entity Category'
(not set or not applicable)
H) Minor project objective change
No
Provide a description of the change(s) to 'minor project objective change'
(not set or not applicable)
I) Safeguards
Yes
Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Safeguards'
Online SESP in Quantum Plus required has to go through a minor change. The original SESP included 4 risks, one of which applied to COVID, but this risk has been removed. The other change in how the risk were change. Risk 1 had to be split into 2 risks to meet new requirements for risks. One risk related to human rights and one related to stakeholder engagement.
J) Risk Analysis
No
Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Risk Analysis'

(not set or not applicable)
K) Increase of GEF project financing up to 5%
No
Provide a description of the change to GEF project financing up to 5%
(not set or not applicable)
L) Co-financing
No
Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Co-financing'
(not set or not applicable)
M) Location of project activity
Yes
Provide a description of the change(s) to project location activity
Closure of the UNDP Country Office in Azerbaijan. The project is still awaiting GEF Advice on fund management.
Please provide a description of other types of minor amendments that do not fall under any of the above categories. For example, minor changes to the project's Gender Action Plan and/or gender activities can be captured here.
(not set or not applicable)

J. Gender

Progress in Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

1) Please review the project's Gender Analysis and Action Plan. If the document is not attached or an updated Gender Analysis and/or Gender Action Plan is available please upload the document below or send to the Regional Programme Associate to upload in PIMS+. Please note that all projects approved since 1 July 2014 are required to carry out a gender analysis and all projects approved since 1 July 2018 are required to have a gender analysis and action plan.
Gender Guidance_on KMGBF_En_2025.pdf
Quantum Gender Marker Rating
GEN2: Gender equality as significant objective
2) Please indicate in which results areas the project is contributing to gender equality (you may select more than one results area, or select not applicable):
Contributing to closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources: Yes
Improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance: Yes
Targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women: Yes
Not applicable: No
3) Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women. **Please explain how the results reported addressed the different needs of men or women, changed norms, values, and power structures, and/or contributed to transforming or challenging gender inequalities and discrimination.**
Based on UNDP's commitment to co-fund a Gender and Safeguard Specialist, in February 2024, https://www.biofin.org/about-biofin/biofin-teamthis expert was recruited to lead gender equality programming across the BIOFIN portfolio. Anchored within the global and regional Gender Teams and working closely with the BIOFIN team under the Nature Hub, the Specialist develops global guidance on gender for the project, advises countries on achieving greater gender impacts, ensures risks are identified and safeguards applied, and generates and shares new knowledge on gender and biodiversity finance. As part of these efforts, a blog and a short video were developed to showcase the importance of integrating gender equality into biodiversity finance, highlight good practices from participating countries, and inspire action across the BIOFIN network. Working closely with country teams, these global-level efforts have translated into concrete actions at the national level. In Panama, the BIOFIN initiative actively integrated women leaders and technical experts across key institutions, including the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Economy and Finance.

Indigenous and youth-led women's groups—such as the Emberá-Wounaan associations and GEMA—were involved in the formulation of the Biodiversity Finance Plan, ensuring that diverse voices shape national priorities. This intergenerational and intersectional approach challenges existing power structures and reinforces inclusive, sustainable finance planning.

Bosnia and Herzegovina specifically targeted women for leadership positions within biodiversity and finance departments, recognizing their strong representation in mid-level government roles. By elevating women to decision-making positions, the project is contributing to changing gender norms.

In Sudan, the initiative supported women's access to finance through microcredit schemes. It strengthened their roles in community-based resource management, strengthening their roles in agriculture, resource management, and community development. Women's participation in the Gum Arabic Producers' Association and microfinance for women in agriculture from IDBAA Ban are two examples of how biodiversity finance efforts are being used to enhance livelihoods and promote economic empowerment.

Mauritania advanced gender integration by implementing its national gender strategy alongside a biodiversity gender action plan. The country also achieved UNDP Gold certification, demonstrating institutional commitment to gender equality.

Yemen incorporated gender equality as a key focus of its updated NBSAP III, which includes an M&E framework featuring key performance indicators on women's participation. The action plan introduces activities specifically targeting women, requiring their active involvement from the design phase onward. Oversight is provided by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, signalling strong institutional ownership of gender outcomes.

Iraq is in the process of recruiting a gender expert to mainstream gender into project consultations. This move reflects a deliberate step toward institutionalizing gender integration in policy dialogues and stakeholder engagement under the project.

Other countries took foundational steps to promote inclusion. For example, Djibouti aligned project activities with national gender policies and involved gender focal points to ensure coherence with national commitments. Namibia ensured gender balance in its steering committee and project events, while Liberia initiated training programmes to boost women's participation in biodiversity-related activities.

Beyond the national level, the project also prioritized global and regional advocacy for gender equality in biodiversity finance. At the 6th Global BIOFIN Conference in Chile, a dedicated session on gender equality brought together government representatives, civil society, and technical experts to explore actionable solutions for inclusive biodiversity finance. Similarly, the BIOFIN Africa-Arab Regional Dialogue in Rwanda featured a plenary session on gender inclusive biodiversity finance, which highlighted innovative approaches from participating countries and facilitated peer learning on mainstreaming gender equality across finance solutions. In addition, gender help desks were established at the global conference, providing countries with targeted in-person support. These sessions helped elevate gender equality as a cross-cutting priority and reinforced commitments to

institutionalize gender-responsive approaches across all levels of project implementation.

During the reporting period, the project collaborated with partners to organize a two-part global webinar series on gender and stakeholder engagement, aligned with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF) and its Gender Plan of Action. The first webinar, planned for Wednesday, 30 July, will highlight the importance of inclusive stakeholder engagement—particularly the meaningful participation of women and underrepresented groups—in achieving equitable biodiversity outcomes, and will introduce practical guidance for integrating gender into updated NBSAPs and 7th National Reports. The second webinar, scheduled for 2 September, will build on the first by sharing country experiences in implementing gender-responsive conservation action and outlining available support to strengthen gender integration in national biodiversity planning, monitoring, and reporting.

In addition, a dedicated gender session was organized for the Pacific regional inception and onboarding workshop held in Fiji in July 2025. The session, titled Inclusive Implementation, took place on Monday, 7 July 2025 and brought together around 40 participants from 15 Pacific countries. Co-led by BIOFIN's Gender Equality Specialist, the session introduced safeguards and grievance mechanisms that promote inclusive participation, emphasized the importance of gender mainstreaming at the project activity level, and created a space for peer-to-peer exchange on barriers, solutions, and actionable entry points for integrating gender equality into biodiversity finance strategies and instruments. Presentations from Thailand and South Africa showcased country examples and safeguard approaches, followed by interactive discussion tables exploring opportunities, challenges, and support needs for designing gender responsive biodiversity finance plans.

These actions reflect a growing commitment to embed gender considerations into biodiversity finance and demonstrate early progress toward shifting institutional practices and increasing gender equality and women´s empowerment.

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

While implementation remains in the early stages, initial efforts to promote gender equality have helped strengthen the project's environmental and resilience dimensions by fostering more inclusive stakeholder engagement and governance. For instance, in Panama, the involvement of Indigenous and youth-led women's groups contributed to a more representative and context-responsive Biodiversity Finance Plan. In Sudan, support for women-led agricultural organizations and access to microfinance is helping to build economic resilience in rural areas closely tied to natural resource management. Similarly, in Mauritania, the implementation of the biodiversity gender action plan is laying the groundwork for more equitable and sustainable outcomes by ensuring that women's perspectives are systematically considered. These national-level results are reinforced by work at the global level to provide countries with gender guidance, capacity-building, and technical advice, ensuring alignment with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and its Gender Plan of Action, including Target 23 on gender equality.

K. Risk Management

A) Overall Risk Management

BPPS RTA: Please discuss the risks flagged in the Quantum project Risk Register and the VF Risk Dashboard in PIMS+ with the CO and then provide an assessment of project risk management undertaken during the reporting period. Document actions, agreed with the CO, to address all project risks in the coming year.

During the reporting period, the project applied proactive and adaptive risk management to address early implementation delays flagged in 2024. Key challenges included pending financial clearances, budget revisions, and workflow bottlenecks for Executing Agencies following the project's endorsement in November 2023. In response, the Nature Hub Director and BIOFIN Global Team implemented targeted measures to expedite approvals, streamline workflows, and support Country Offices. By October 2024, all 91 ASLs were allocated to participating countries, budget revision processes were advanced, and implementation timelines stabilized, allowing the risk to be successfully managed and deactivated.

Risks continue to be monitored and regularly updated in Quantum, ensuring real-time tracking and prompt responses to emerging issues. This structured and adaptive approach underscores the project's strong governance framework, enabling timely decision-making and maintaining momentum toward achieving project targets across all participating countries.

Four main risks are highlighted in the SESP:

Risk 1: Governments have limited capacity to consider rights, cultural preferences and norms of all stakeholders.

Risk 2: Inequitable or discriminatory impacts (including restrictions on access to resources), particularly for those living in poverty or other marginalized or vulnerable groups.

Risk 3: The project may reproduce existing gender discriminations against women and/or impose limitations on women's ability to participate in or benefit form managing natural resources

Risk 4: Exclusion of some stakeholders - especially those that are vulnerable or marginalized - from decision making that affects them, potentially leading to grievances

The project team is managing these risks through the following activities:

1. A stakeholder engagement template was developed and shared with all participating countries to support inclusive and systematic engagement throughout the Biodiversity Finance Plans (BFPs) development. The template is designed as a working tool and reference document to help countries identify, assess, and engage stakeholders in a structured and inclusive way across all phases of BIOFIN implementation. It integrates stakeholder mapping, institutional analysis, and tracking of engagement activities, and includes a dedicated Gender and Social Inclusion Checklist to ensure that the perspectives of women, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, and marginalized groups are meaningfully reflected in the process

2. The project is developing risk management plans under Activity 4.1.3 of the BFP GCP to screen for potential social and environmental issues, with attention to human rights, gender, social inclusion, access to resources, and sustainability. In developing their Biodiversity Finance Plans, country offices will receive guidance from the PMU to carry out these assessments, with action matrices prepared to define nationally appropriate measures and responsibilities.

3. To address this risk, the BIOFIN gender expert has initiated the development of guidance on integrating gender and social inclusion into the Biodiversity Finance Plan (BFP). An initial checklist was included in the stakeholder engagement template to support country teams in applying a gender lens from the outset. In parallel, comprehensive global guidance on gender and social inclusion in biodiversity finance is under development and scheduled for publication later this year. In addition, preparations are underway to organize two webinars on gender and stakeholder engagement, to be held at the end of July and September, to build capacity and provide practical support to countries.

4. A nationally customized stakeholder analysis and engagement strategy is being developed to identify all relevant groups, including Indigenous Peoples, local communities, land-user collectives, and marginalized populations, with consultation processes adapted as needed (including FPIC where appropriate). In parallel, guidance will be provided to establish gender-sensitive and accessible grievance redress mechanisms (GRMs) at the national level, with UNDP's Accountability Mechanism also available. These measures will ensure inclusive participation in BFP development and provide culturally appropriate channels for addressing grievances.

B) SES Implementation

2b) Provide an update on progress, challenges and outcomes related to stakeholder engagement based on the description in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent documentation submitted at CEO Endorsement/Approval.

A stakeholder engagement template was developed and shared with all participating countries to support inclusive and systematic engagement throughout the development of their Biodiversity Finance Plans (BFPs). The template is designed as a working tool and reference document to help countries identify, assess, and engage stakeholders in a structured and inclusive way across all phases of BIOFIN implementation. It integrates stakeholder mapping, institutional analysis, and tracking of engagement activities, and includes a dedicated Gender and Social Inclusion Checklist to ensure that the perspectives of women, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, and marginalized groups are meaningfully reflected in the process.

During the reporting period, countries initiated early stakeholder engagement efforts, with a focus on inclusivity and alignment with national priorities. Several countries involved women's groups, Indigenous Peoples, and civil society organizations in project launch events, consultations, and the establishment of steering and advisory mechanisms.

In Panama, stakeholder engagement was notably inclusive, involving Indigenous and women-led organizations such as GEMA and the Emberá-Wounaan student associations in the formulation of the Biodiversity Finance Plan, ensuring diverse perspectives shape national finance priorities.

Senegal and Djibouti engaged youth and women's civil society groups and coordinated closely with gender focal points in government to ensure alignment with national gender policies and international commitments under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the SDGs.

Serbia built on stakeholder platforms from parallel initiatives, such as the Green Agenda project, to promote inclusive consultation processes. Gender and social inclusion were actively considered in the design of pilot projects and in stakeholder engagement workshops.

Namibia highlighted the importance of high-level political buy-in and cross-sectoral coordination in ensuring broad stakeholder participation. While challenges such as limited financial resources were noted, early efforts to ensure gender-balanced representation in steering structures have laid a strong foundation.

Mauritania reported elevated political will and recognition of both national and global biodiversity priorities. The engagement process has benefited from effective technical support, contributing to early momentum in implementation.

As countries move from inception to implementation, these early efforts to foster inclusive stakeholder engagement are expected to strengthen the legitimacy, ownership, and sustainability of the biodiversity finance solution.

L. Knowledge Management & Communications

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

1) Please provide progress on the implementation of the project's Knowledge Management approach approved at CEO Endorsement/Approval. If there is no KM approach/strategy, please comment on how the project is capturing and disseminating best practices and lessons learned.
The 6th Global Conference on Biodiversity Finance hosted a dynamic and interactive Marketplace Session, bringing together participants from across BIOFIN countries in a vibrant exchange of ideas, experiences, and lessons learned. The session served as a living laboratory for informal learning, with the overarching goal of strengthening the capacity of GEF-supported countries to effectively implement the BIOFIN methodology and develop biodiversity finance solutions tailored to their national contexts. More than 80 countries (92.54% of all project participants) have actively contributed national insights via the BIOFIN knowledge platform. This high level of engagement reflects the success of strategic outreach and capacity-building efforts supported by donor investments. Notably, country representatives participated in the 5th Global Conference on Nature Finance in Chile (May 2025), alongside regional dialogues in Latin America (September 2024), Africa, and the Arab States (June 2025). These events enabled countries to share best practices, surface implementation challenges, and co-develop actionable solutions, strengthening the project’s collective learning ecosystem. Similarly, the June 2025 Regional Dialogue for Africa and the Arab States garnered strong participation and a satisfaction rating above 90%. The agenda featured tailored sessions on key technical components (PIR, BER, FNA, and finance plans), including a dedicated segment on operationalizing finance solutions from Biodiversity Finance Plans. These dialogues directly contribute to scaling nature-positive finance and demonstrate the catalytic role of donor support in enabling country-led progress. Representatives from +45 GEF-supported countries presented their marketplace posters. They showcased their experiences in implementing financial solutions —from trust funds and payments for ecosystem services to green bonds and biodiversity offsets. Furthermore, +350 representatives of GEF-supported countries enrolled in the upcoming e-learning course "Biodiversity Finance: Designing and Implementing Finance Plans for Nature", which is based on the BIOFIN Workbook 2024 and will be a practical introduction to the BIOFIN methodology.
2) Please provide URLs specific to this project in the relevant field below. Please categorize the URLs appropriately (for example: project websites, social media sites, media coverage,

etc.)
Webinar "Nature Bonds: Catalyzing Investment for Biodiversity” - SM posts • https://www.linkedin.com/posts/biofin-undp_biodiversity-activity-7212311304307412993-wbxB/ • https://www.facebook.com/UNDPbiofin/photos/we-are-pleased-to-announce-the-speakers-of-the-upcoming-webinar-nature-bonds-cat/790990986515643/?_rdr • https://www.linkedin.com/posts/biofin-undp_final-call-we-are-just-a-few-hours-away-activity-7213807805999284224-vCn8/ Webinar "Nature Bonds: Catalyzing Investment for Biodiversity” -Newsletter • https://mailchi.mp/undp/webinar-nature-bonds-catalyzing-investment-for-biodiversity-17988313?e=06ceabc184 • https://mailchi.mp/0ab25f2fb090/webinar-nature-bonds-catalyzing-investment-for-biodiversity-17988037?e=06ceabc184 • https://mailchi.mp/8840bce04706/webinar-nature-bonds-catalyzing-investment-for-biodiversity-17979860?e=06ceabc184 • https://mailchi.mp/28e2991fb7e9/webinar-nature-bonds-catalyzing-investment-for-biodiversity?e=06ceabc184 Inception webinar – newsletter • https://mailchi.mp/dc7cd792e3ce/invitation-to-the-inception-webinar-umbrella-programme-to-support-development-of-biodiversity-finance-plans-17972012?e=06ceabc184 • Inception webinar (YouTube links, unlisted) • English https://youtu.be/rBMUDD3KJRY • English 2 https://youtu.be/j9myhsVBpho • French https://youtu.be/H-HG-zm5wqo • Spanish https://youtu.be/wYh7OcBr_A8 Webinar 13: Public-Private Finance Flowing into GBF Target 19 – Trends and Innovation • https://www.linkedin.com/posts/biofin-undp_nbsaps-biodiversity-activity-7302183480652656641-xcaD/https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=956045043343569&id=100068142473190&set=a.564721282475949 • https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EnXsZXiAgSM • https://mailchi.mp/undp/webinar-nature-bonds-catalyzing-investment-for-biodiversity-17988313?e=06ceabc184 • https://mailchi.mp/0ab25f2fb090/webinar-nature-bonds-catalyzing-investment-for-biodiversity-17988037?e=06ceabc184 • https://www.linkedin.com/posts/biofin-undp_meet-the-presenters-of-tomorrows-webinar-activity-7302931811028865024-aUau/ • https://www.linkedin.com/posts/biofin-undp_did-you-miss-last-thursdays-webinar-activity-

7304810812601196544-3oj1/

Indigenous and Investor Shareholdership in Revenue Generation for Nature – Advancing GBF Target 19

- https://www.linkedin.com/posts/biofin-undp_join-us-for-the-webinar-indigenous-and-activity-7318853293349179392-ftZK /
- https://www.facebook.com/UNDPbiofin/posts/-join-us-for-the-webinar-indigenous-and-investor-shareholdership-in-revenue-gene/990447839903289/

Introducing new coordinators

- https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7334141565059092481
- https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7333054404612243457
- https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7322871872352608256
- https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7341328895884890113
- https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7339214976949149696

New countries join BIOFIN (social media links)

- Burundi https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7321125810143223808
- Senegal https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7321065424295481345
- Tunisia https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7319964395743145984
- Moldova https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7315042935991943168
- Armenia https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7313065015392002048

- New countries join BIOFIN (website links)
- Ghana: https://www.biofin.org/news-and-media/ghana-launches-biofin-mobilize-resource-biodiversity-conservation
- Armenia: https://www.biofin.org/news-and-media/armenia-launches-biofin-advance-biodiversity-financing
- Tanzania: https://www.biofin.org/news-and-media/tanzania-officialy-launches-biofin-advance-biodiversity-conservation-its-mainland
- Namibia: https://www.biofin.org/news-and-media/unlocking-green-finance-namibias-financial-sector-gears-biodiversity-conservation

6th Global Conference

- https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7325604110471217152

GEF management at the 6th GLobal Conference

- https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7325867079293657088
- https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7325605185035091970

GEF Council

- https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7335735725344145408/?actorCompanyId=18984094
- https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7335735725344145408

Introducing new countries at the conference

- https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7338429781832531968/?actorCompanyId=18984094

6th Global Conference (website link)

- https://www.biofin.org/news-and-media/over-130-countries-come-together-chile-boost-nature-finance-and-support-global-0

3) In the PIR platform, please upload any supporting files, including the project's Communications Strategy, photos, videos, stories and other communication/knowledge materials.

GEF PIR_PIMS6731_Evidence Links.pdf

M. Annex - Ratings Definitions

Development Objective Progress Ratings Definitions

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

(S) Satisfactory: Project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure and any minor challenges are being addressed through an adaptive management plan. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure and minor challenges can be addressed if an adaptive management plan is promptly put in place.

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

(U) Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is expected to only partially achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. Project results might be partially achieved by project closure if major adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure and adaptive management is not expected to materialize.

Implementation Progress Ratings Definitions

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Implementation is exceeding expectations. Implementation of all outputs/activities is fully on track, proceeding as planned, The implementation of the project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned with minor challenges that are being addressed. Implementation of all outputs/activities is on track with minor deviations The implementation of the project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned with minor challenges that have not yet been addressed. Implementation of most outputs/activities is on track with minor deviations.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces implementation challenges. Implementation of many outputs/activities is off track Implementation progress could be improved if adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces major implementation challenges. Implementation of most outputs/activities is off track.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Implementation is seriously under-performing. Implementation of all outputs/activities is severely off track.