United Nations Development Programme

Country/Region/Global: Philippines
Initiation Plan

Project Title	:	National Plastic Action Partnership in the Philippines
Expected UNSDCF/CPD Outcome(s)	:	Outcome 3: By 2028, all people benefit from just transition to low-carbon, climate-resilient development, sustainable management of environment, natural resources and biodiversity and strengthened resilience to disasters and natural hazards.
Expected CPD Output(s)	:	Output 3.1 Relevant policies, frameworks, strategies and local actions developed to support NDC implementation
Initiation Plan Start/End Dates	:	01 April 2024 to 30 April 2025
Implementing Partner	:	UNDP Philippines

Brief Description

Plastic pollution is recognized as a symptom of deeper systemic issues, including unsustainable production and consumption patterns, inadequate waste management infrastructure, legal frameworks, and enforcement, as well as economic, behavioral, and political factors. There is a pressing need for holistic solutions that address these root causes comprehensively.

The National Plastic Action Partnership (NPAP) is a collaborative initiative spearheaded by the World Economic Forum (WEF) and the Global Plastic Action Partnership (GPAP). Its aim is to tackle the global challenge of plastic pollution by bringing together stakeholders from various sectors to develop and implement strategies that reduce plastic pollution and transition towards a circular economy. This can be achieved through 1) establishing organizational and operation procedures of NPAP and developing stakeholder engagement mechanism, 2) generate evidences from studies that feed into national action roadmap and community engagement, and 3) strengthening coordination and collaborations for initiatives on plastic action.

UNDP Philippines will act as the NPAP Secretariat for the Philippines. The NPAP Secretariat in the Philippines will play a critical role in coordinating and implementing the NPAP's initiatives in the country.

Programme Period:	2024-2028
Quantum Project Number:	01002292
Quantum Output Number:	1002292
Gender Marker:	GEN 2

Total resources required	USD 208,967
Total allocated resources:	USD 208,967
• Regular	_____
• Other:	
○ Donor (WEF)	USD 208,967
○ Donor	_____
○ Government	_____
Unfunded budget:	_____
In-kind Contributions	_____

Agreed by UNDP:

DR. SELVA RAMACHANDRAN
Resident Representative

03.06.24

I. PURPOSE AND EXPECTED OUTPUT

BACKGROUND

Socioeconomic Context

The Philippines, with its vast archipelago of 7,100 islands, grapples with the challenges of a large population and rapid urbanization. In 2015, the country has recorded an urban population of 58.93 million which is 54.0 percent of 109.03 million. Further, the Philippines' gross domestic product (GDP) has been growing in recent years accelerating from 5.6 percent in 2021 to 7.6 percent in 2022– after a dip of 9.5 percent during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Tagged as one of the most dynamic economies in the Southeast Asia and Pacific region, the Philippines' economy has been strongly supported by labor market and robust remittances, with optimistic performance from service sectors like outsourcing, wholesale and retail trade, among others. The country is a consumption-driven economy, where in 2021, Filipino households' consumption production accounts for 90.8 percent of the GDP. These socioeconomic trends have resulted to increased demand for goods and services, leading to increased extraction and production, heightened consumption and waste generation.

Plastic Pollution and Circular Economy Context

The country has gained international attention for its significant contribution to marine plastic pollution, ranking as the third-largest source globally in 2015 and the largest contributor of mismanaged plastic waste into the marine environment through river systems in 2021. The country generates 61,000 MT of solid waste daily, 12 to 24 percent of which is plastic waste. The Philippines is also among the most vulnerable to disaster and climate risks, ranking fourth among countries most affected by extreme weather events according to the Germanwatch's Global Climate Risk. It ranked first with highest disaster risk in the 2022 World Risk Report. This exacerbates the risks brought about by the waste issue.

Plastic pollution is recognized as a symptom of deeper systemic issues, including unsustainable production and consumption patterns, inadequate waste management infrastructure, legal frameworks, and enforcement, as well as economic, behavioral, and political factors. There is a pressing need for holistic solutions that address these root causes comprehensively. With a notable shift from traditional waste management towards embracing the principles of a circular economy, there is an understanding that a transformative and collaborative approach is required.

Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI)

Plastic pollution poses a threat to human health and food safety, with women and youth being the most vulnerable. Women's participation in waste management is often informal and involves activities with more direct exposure to pollution, such as picking recyclables from municipal waste, dumpsites, or landfills. This have made them particularly vulnerable to social stigma and health hazards and underscores the need for gender-sensitive approach in the implementation of initiatives to address plastic pollution.

A gender-equal social, economic and political structure is a necessary foundation for addressing plastic-related issues to deliver systemic and sustainable solutions. Recognizing the role of these structural factors and how they influence and shape the direction towards plastic action, the need for applying a GEDSI perspective so that 1) solutions do not perpetuate existing inequalities, i.e., women's increased exposure to unsustainable work conditions and waste-related hazards, and 2) opportunities are provided for vulnerable groups such as the informal sector, women, youth, persons with disabilities, and others to be capacitated and integrated to be part of the solution.

STRATEGY

The National Plastic Action Partnership (NPAP) is a collaborative initiative spearheaded by the World Economic Forum (WEF) and the Global Plastic Action Partnership (GPAP). Its aim is to tackle the global challenge of plastic pollution by bringing together stakeholders from various sectors to develop and implement strategies that reduce plastic pollution and transition towards a circular economy.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), as the NPAP Secretariat for the Philippines, will play a critical role in coordinating and implementing the NPAP's initiatives in the country. It will collaborate closely with the NPAP Steering Board and GPAP Secretariat to develop and execute the NPAP's action roadmap, engage stakeholders, and monitor progress towards the NPAP's objectives.

UNDP will also manage the NPAP's budget, organize meetings and events, and provide regular updates to the NPAP Steering Board and GPAP Secretariat. It will work closely with various stakeholders, including government agencies, businesses, civil society organizations, and academic institutions, to ensure the success of the NPAP's initiatives.

The establishment of the NPAP Secretariat in the Philippines will be instrumental in the country's efforts to address plastic pollution and transition to a circular economy. Its work will contribute to the broader goal of the NPAP in reducing plastic pollution and promoting sustainable development not only in the Philippines but also globally.

EXPECTS OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES

OUTPUT	ACTIVITIES	TIMELINE
Output 1: Inclusive organizational and operational procedures of NPAP established, and stakeholder engagement mechanism developed	1.1. Recruit and hire staff for the NPAP Secretariat	Months 1-3
	1.2. Engage with relevant government officials to discuss NPAP's objectives, secure support, and align NPAP's initiatives with national priorities	Months 1-12
	1.3. Establish organizational structure for the NPAP Secretariat, in coordination with Government, including roles, responsibilities, reporting lines, and decision-making processes.	Months 1-3
	1.4. Conduct scoping, including mapping of policies, measures initiatives and actors/stakeholders in the plastic and circular economy ecosystem	Months 1-4
	1.5. Develop an inclusive stakeholder engagement strategy	Months 3-5
	1.6. Organize stakeholder consultations, workshops, and roundtable discussions	Months 4-6
	1.7. Establish partnerships and collaborations with stakeholders	Months 3-12
Output 2: Evidence-based and gender-responsive national action roadmap and studies formulated	2.1. Conduct research and data collection	Months 2-8
	2.2. Develop GESI Context Assessment Report and GESI strategy	Months 4-8
	2.3. Facilitate the development of the gender-responsive Plastic Action Roadmap, based on the research and analytical work conducted	Months 6-12

	2.4. Conduct analysis of year 1 of EPR Act implementation, with focus on plastic packaging, to inform policy measures and advocate EPR practices to enhance impact; documentation of good practices and lessons learned in EPR implementation in the country and in other countries	Months 6-12
	2.5. Develop briefs and presentations to communicate the insights and recommendations to stakeholders, policymakers, and the public.	Months 8-18
	2.6. Conduct dialogues and workshops to empower stakeholders to take action on plastic pollution and accelerate transition to circular economy	Months 4-onwards
	2.7. Develop gender-responsive and inclusive communication materials and campaigns to raise awareness about plastic pollution and circular economy and on NPAP's initiatives	Months 6-onwards
Output 3: Initiatives from partners leveraged to grow inclusive NPAP community and increase coordination and collaboration	3.1. Develop inclusive NPAP financing roadmap	Months 12-onwards
	3.2. Organize community-building events, workshops, and networking opportunities to bring together members of the NPAP community.	Months 12-onwards
	3.3. Develop partnerships and collaborations with other organizations and initiatives working on plastic pollution and circular economy in the Philippines.	Months 12-onwards
	3.4. Develop gender responsive joint initiatives, projects, and campaigns with partners to address common challenges and achieve shared goals.	Months 12-onwards

To ensure that the National Plastic Action Partnership (NPAP) mainstreams gender and social inclusion across all its operations, deliverables, and activities, several strategies can be adopted:

1. **Meaningful Engagement and Participation:** Promote meaningful community engagement and participation, particularly of women, youth, informal sector, persons with disabilities, and other marginalized groups, in the design, implementation, and monitoring of NPAP activities, ensuring their voices are heard and their needs are addressed.
2. **Gender and Social Inclusion Analysis:** Conduct a comprehensive gender and social inclusion analysis to understand the specific needs, challenges, and opportunities of different groups, including women, youth, informal sector, persons with disabilities, indigenous communities, and marginalized populations, in relation to plastic pollution and transition to circular economy. Considering differentiated impacts on various groups, identify just transition measures to ensure no one is left behind in the shift to circularity.
3. **Gender-Responsive and Inclusive Policies and Measures:** Support the development of gender-responsive and inclusive, and just transition policies and strategies that address the unique needs and vulnerabilities of various groups, promote equal participation and decision-making, and ensure access to resources and opportunities for all, especially in relation to addressing plastic pollution and CE transition.
4. **Capacity Building and Training:** Provide capacity building and training programs on gender and social inclusion for stakeholders involved in the NPAP, including government officials, civil society organizations, and the private sector, to enhance their understanding and skills in integrating gender and social inclusion considerations into their work.

5. **Gender-Disaggregated Data Collection and Analysis:** Collect and analyze gender-disaggregated data to better understand the differential impacts of plastic pollution on men and women, and to inform evidence-based decision-making and targeted interventions.
6. **Gender-Responsive and Inclusive Communication and Awareness Campaigns:** Develop gender-responsive and inclusive communication and awareness campaigns that consider the diverse needs, perspectives, and priorities of different groups, and use inclusive language and imagery that reflects the diversity of the population.
7. **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Establish a robust monitoring and evaluation framework that includes gender and social inclusion indicators to track progress, measure impact, and identify areas for improvement, ensuring that the NPAP is effectively addressing the needs of all stakeholders.
8. **Coordination and Collaboration:** Strengthen coordination and collaboration with relevant government agencies, civil society organizations, and development partners working on gender and social inclusion, to leverage expertise and resources, and to avoid duplication of efforts.

In order to facilitate the implementation of the National Plastic Action Partnership, this Project Initiation Plan identifies the major outputs to drive the establishment of a partnership platform for plastics in the Philippines, through the NPAP, with the assumption that the partnership will be sustained by the National Government.

II. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

NPAP Steering Board

At the Programme Level, the NPAP Steering Board shall be established, composed of representatives of different institutions drawn equally from the government, private sector, and civil society, who are also key stakeholders for action on plastic waste and pollution. Nominations for the Steering Board and its delegates should be inclusive, gender balanced and follow the recommended governance structure of up to two representatives per organization, one of whom is a voting member and the other a delegate who observes and supports.

The Steering Board is the most senior governing body of an NPAP and is charged with guiding the partnership's strategic direction, to be chaired by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and co-chaired by representative from the Private Sector. The Board's roles and responsibilities include:

- Reviewing and endorsing the NPAP's strategic plan
- Monitoring progress on a quarterly basis
- Reviewing and commenting on the Secretariat's annual reports as well as the impact of the NPAP itself
- Appointing delegates to advise on and assist with all NPAP activities and communications.

Project Board

The National Plastic Action Partnership (NPAP) will be implemented over a period of twelve (12) months and will be executed through Direct Implementation Modality (DIM).

At the Project level, a Project Board will be established to provide Project oversight. The Board will be chaired by UNDP as the Project Executive, with DENR as co-chair. The Project Board shall meet as needed, and shall have the following specific responsibilities:

- Provide overall guidance and direction to the Project, ensuring it remains within any specified constraints, and promote gender equality and social inclusion (Leave No One Behind) in project implementation;

- Review project performance based on monitoring, evaluation and reporting, including standard quality assurance checks, progress reports, risk logs, spot checks/audit reports and the combined delivery report.
- Address any high-level project issues as raised by the project manager and project assurance.
- Provide guidance on emerging and/or pressing project risks and agree on possible mitigation and management actions to address specific risks (including ensuring compliance with UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards, Fraud/corruption, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment);
- Agree or decide on Project Manager's tolerances as required, within the parameters set by UNDP (Manage Change in the PPM) and provide direction and decisions for exceptional situations when the project manager's tolerances are exceeded.
- Advise on major and minor amendments to the project.
- Agree or decide on a project suspension or cancellation, if required.
- Provide high-level direction and recommendations to the project management unit to ensure that the agreed deliverables are produced satisfactorily according to plans.
- Receive and address project level grievance, including overseeing whatever specific compliance and stakeholder response (or grievance) mechanisms have been put in place so that individuals and communities potentially affected by the project have access to effective mechanisms and procedures for raising concerns about the social and environmental performance of the project; and
- Engage in the low value grant selection process where there is no Grant Selection Committee, as guided by the Low Value Grants – UNDP Operational Guide.

Project Management Unit (NPAP Secretariat)

The Project Management Unit acting as the NPAP Secretariat is a unit within UNDP Country Office which will be the enabler and implementer of the national partnership and will be in close coordination with the Global Plastic Action Partnership (GPAP) Secretariat and the NPAP Steering Board. The NPAP Secretariat will be under the overall guidance of the UNDP Philippines senior management team, with direct supervision of the Climate Action Programme Team.

The Project Management Unit (NPAP Secretariat) will be responsible for the day-to-day management and the implementation of activities, responsible for the efficient and effective use of the project resources. It shall be composed of the following:

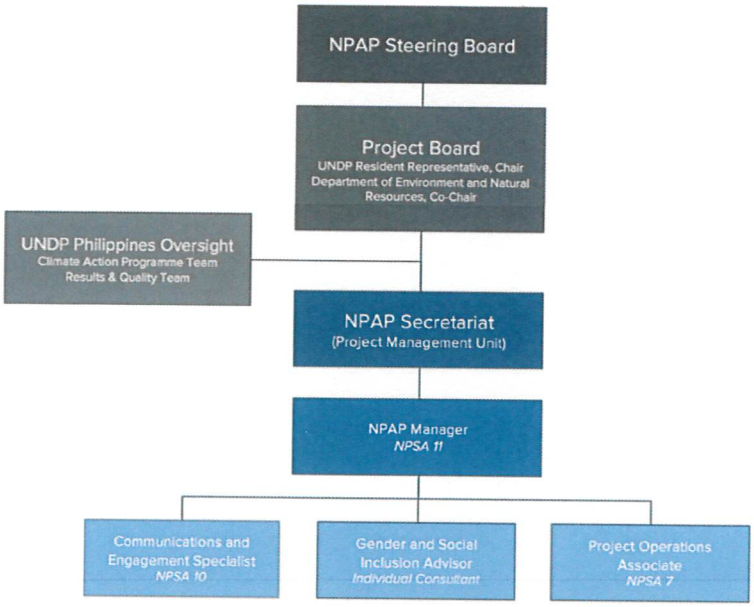
Role	Key Responsibilities	Skillset Required
NPAP Manager	• Works closely with the GPAP Secretariat, NAP Chair and Ministry focal point • Supports the identification and engagement of Steering Board members, experts and task-force members • Collaborates with the NAM tool partner and Metrics Consultants to ensure the deliverables are completed in a timely manner • Identifies strategic investment partners and investment opportunities for plastic action • Manages Secretariat staff and consultants • Provides quarterly reports to GPAP	• Ability to build partnerships across the public and private sector • Strong management and organizational skills • At least five years of project management experience • Strong professional network in the public and private sector

Communications and Engagement Specialist	• Supports NPAP Manager and collaborates with GPAP Secretariat • Helps organize NPAP meetings, including preparing relevant materials, in consultation with GPAP Secretariat • Engages with members, maintains and curates NPAP community member database and regularly communicates changes to NPAP Secretariat • Designs and implements NPAP communication strategy • Develops monitoring and evaluation framework, including gender-related indicators, in cooperation with GPAP Impact Reporting Specialist, and tracks progress towards goals • Contributes to GPAP annual reports, case studies and success stories demonstrating NPAP impact	• At least two years of experience in event organization and communication • Experience in communication strategy development and execution • Strong management, research and organizational skills
Gender and Social Inclusion Advisor	• Collaborates with Metrics Consultants to develop the gender and social inclusion context assessment and GESI strategy • Works closely with the Steering Board, Metrics Advisory Group and task forces to ensure principles of inclusivity are embedded throughout the NPAP's work • Identified strategies to ensure inclusion of sectors affected by plastic pollution, including women-led MSMEs	• Strong analytical skills within situation analysis and/or gender analysis • At least two years' professional experience in the development sector, with experience of gender issues • Ability to engage with the public and private sectors • Strong academic research skills
Operations/ Admin/ Finance	• Provide support effective budgeting and financial controls. • Ensure efficient provision of procurement services and quality of project inputs. • Support to coordination with partner organizations.	• At least two years of experience in administrative and implementation support for programme/project development • Experience in financial management and procurement

Oversight and Quality Assurance

UNDP, through the Climate Action Programme Team and support from Results and Quality Team, shall perform the quality assurance role and support the NPAP Secretariat by carrying out objective and independent oversight and monitoring functions.

The Project's Management arrangement is shown in the figure below:



III. MONITORING

Monitoring Plan

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action
Track results progress	Progress data against the results indicators in the RRF will be collected and analysed to assess the progress of the project in achieving the agreed outputs.	Quarterly Reporting periods: January – March (due 10th April) April – June (due 10th July) July – Sept (due 10th Oct) October – Dec (due 10th Jan)	Slower than expected progress will be addressed by project management.
Operations/ Implementation Monitoring	Assess if project activities are on track based on work plan and procurement plan, including operational bottlenecks and cost efficiencies	Weekly	Inform course correction and budget revisions, as needed

Learn	Knowledge, good practices and lessons will be captured regularly, as well as actively sourced from other projects and partners and integrated back into the project.	At least annually	Relevant lessons are captured by the project team and used to inform management decisions.
Project Report	A progress report will be presented to the Project Board and key stakeholders, consisting of progress data showing the results achieved against pre-defined annual targets at the output level (including the results of the GAP), the annual project quality rating summary, an updated risk long with mitigation measures, and any evaluation or review reports prepared over the period.	Semestral, and at the end of the project (final report)	
Project Board	The project's governance mechanism will hold regular project reviews to assess the performance of the project and review the Multi-Year Work Plan to ensure realistic budgeting over the life of the project. In the project's final year, the Project Board shall hold an end-of project review to capture lessons learned and discuss opportunities for scaling up and to socialize project results and lessons learned with relevant audiences.	As needed	Any quality concerns or slower than expected progress should be discussed by the project board and management actions agreed to address the issues identified.

Results Framework

UNDP CDP Outcome 3: Climate action, environmental sustainability and disaster resilience *By 2028, all people benefit from just transition to low-carbon, climate-resilient development, sustainable management of environment, natural resources and biodiversity and strengthened resilience to disasters and natural hazards.*				
Impact: Improved state of the environment and quality of life for communities impacted by plastic pollution				
Outcome	**Outcome Indicators**	**Baseline**	**Target**	**Means of Verification**
Outcome 1: Public and private actors increase investment in tackling plastic pollution	**1.1.** No. of new gender-responsive initiatives launched by NPAP partners influenced by NPAP connections or action roadmaps	0	TBD (Period 1)	Project Report
Outcome 2: Public and private actors' decision making to tackle plastic pollution is informed by evidence	**2.1** No. of policies and plans to address plastic waste and pollution influenced by NPAP partners (at government/business level)	0	TBD (Period 1)	Memorandum Circulars/ Department Orders/
Outcome 3: Public and private actors take inclusive action to tackle plastic pollution	**3.1** Amount of investment committed by NPAP Partners to initiatives focused on reducing plastic pollution	0	TBD (Period 1)	Project Report
Expected Output	**Output Indicators**	**Baseline**	**Target**	**Means of Verification**
Output 1: Organizational and operational procedures of NPAP established, and inclusive stakeholder engagement mechanism developed	**1.1.** Number of events, workshops, and meetings hosted by NPAP	0	4	Activity Reports/ Documentation/ Minutes of the Meetings
	1.2. Number of stakeholder engagement mechanism for NPAP established	0	TBD (Period 1)	Project Reports/ Memorandum Circulars/ Department Orders
	1.3. No. of gender-responsive operational procedures of NPAP developed	0	TBD (Period 1)	Project Reports/ Memorandum Circulars/ Department Orders
	1.4. No. of stakeholders engaged, gender disaggregated	0	TBD (Period 1)	Project Reports/ Activity Reports/ Documentation Attendance Sheets

Output 2: Evidence-based and gender-responsive national action roadmap and studies formulated	**2.1.** Number of evidence-based and gender-responsive national action roadmap formulated	0	1	Approved National Action Roadmap
	2.2. Number of studies conducted	0	2	GESI Assessment Analysis of EPR Implementation
Output 3: Initiatives from partners leveraged to grow NPAP community and increase coordination and collaboration	**3.1.** Number of gender-responsive local partnerships launched by NPAP	0	TBD (Period 1)	Project Reports/ Activity Reports
	3.2. Number of gender-responsive initiatives supported by NPAP	0	TBD (Period 1)	Project Reports/ Activity Reports

IV. TOTAL BUDGET AND WORK PLAN

Period[1]: 12 months

EXPECTED OUTPUTS *And baseline, indicators including annual targets*	PLANNED ACTIVITIES *List activity results and associated actions*	2024			2025		RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
								Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2				
Output 1: Organizational and operational procedures of NPAP established, and stakeholder engagement mechanism developed	NPAP Steering Committee Meeting						UNDP	WEF	75700 Training, Workshops and Conferences	426.00
	Meetings with partners and stakeholders						UNDP	WEF	75700 Training, Workshops and Conferences	1,574.00
	NPAP Launch						UNDP	WEF	75700 Training, Workshops and Conferences	6,950.00
	Workshops and consultations						UNDP	WEF	75700 Training, Workshops and Conferences	11,945.00
	NPAP Annual Forum						UNDP	WEF	75700 Training, Workshops and Conferences	4,802.00
	Facilitators/ documenters						UNDP	WEF	71300 Local Consultant	3,553.00
Output 2: Evidence generated from studies to feed into national action roadmap and community engagement	Analysis of year 1 of EPR Act implementation						UNDP	WEF	71300 Local Consultant	16,500.00
	Consultant for NPAP Campaign Videos						UNDP	WEF	71300 Local Consultant	8,000.00
	Production and printing of campaign materials and knowledge products						UNDP	WEF	72500 Supplies	5,000.00
	Communication/campaign events						UNDP	WEF	75700 Training, Workshops and Conferences	11,674.22
Output 3: Initiatives from partners leveraged to grow NPAP community and increase coordination and collaboration	Local Travel						UNDP	WEF	71600 National Travels	10,000.00
	Accommodation						UNDP	WEF	71600 National Travels	2,250.00
	International travel						UNDP	WEF	71600 International Travels	3,000.00
Output 4: Project Management	Role 1 - NPAP Manager						UNDP	WEF	71400 Contractual Services - Individual	32,616.00

[1] Maximum 18 months

	Role 2 - Communication and Engagement Specialist						UNDP	WEF	71400 Contractual Services - Individual	23,604.00
	Role 3 - Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI) advisor (part time)						UNDP	WEF	71300 Local Consultant	21,000.00
	Role 5 - Operations/ Admin/ Finance						UNDP	WEF	71400 Contractual Services - Individual	7,872.00
	DES Staff						UNDP	WEF	64300 Staff Management Cost	10,304.20
	DES GOE						UNDP	WEF	74500 Miscellaneous Expenses	5,701.80
	Office space and facilities (only rental)						UNDP	WEF	73100 Rental & Maintenance-Premises	4,800.00
									General Management Support (8%)	15,325.80
									TOTAL Project Budget	**206,898.00**
									UN Levy (1%)	2,069.00
									GRAND TOTAL	**208,967.00**