



QUARTERLY PROJECT REPORT

United Nations Development Programme Cambodia Combatting Marine Plastic Litter in Cambodia [01-April-2021 – 30-June-2021]

Project ID: 00119646 & Title:	Combatting Marine Plastic Litter Project
Duration:	From January 15, 2021 to August 14, 2023
Total Project Budget:	3,091,354.29
Implementing Partner:	The National Council for Sustainable Development (NCSD)
Responsible parties:	Ministry of Environment (MoE) + the Ministry of Interior (MoI)
Country Programme Outcome:	UNDAF outcome 3: By 2023, women and men in Cambodia, in particular the marginalized and vulnerable, live in safer, healthier, more secure and ecologically balanced environment with improved livelihoods, and are resilient to natural and climate changes related trends and shocks.

Table of Content

Acronyms and Abbreviations	3
I. Executive summary	4
II. Implementation progress	5
PROGRESS TOWARDS PROJECT OUTPUT	8
PROGRESS TOWARDS COUNTRY PROGRAMME (CPAP) OUTPUT	12
PROGRESS TOWARDS STRATEGIC PLAN OUTPUT	12
PROGRESS TOWARDS UNDAF/COUNTRY PROGRAMME (CPAP) OUTCOME	12
Capacity Development.....	13
Gender Marker.....	13
Environment and Social Safeguards	13
South-South and Triangular Cooperation.....	14
Innovation.....	14
Lessons learned.....	14
III. Project implementation challenges.....	15
a. Updated major project risks and actions	15
b. Updated project issues and actions	16
IV. Financial status and utilization.....	17
Annex 1: Project Risk Register.....	21

Acronyms and Abbreviations

4Rs	Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle
AWP	Annual Work Plan
BESD	Building an Enabling Environment for Sustainable Development
CE	Circular Economy
DGE	Department of Green Economy
EPR	Extended Producer Responsibility
GDEKI	General Directorate of Environmental Knowledge and Information
GDEP	General Directorate of Environmental Protection
IP	Implementing Partner
LoA	Letter of Agreement
MoE	Ministry of Environment
Mol	Ministry of Interior
MWP	Multiyear Work Plan
NCSD	National Council for Sustainable Development
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NIM	National Implementation Modality
PMU	Project Management Unit
PNH	Phnom Penh
RP	Responsible Party
SCP	Sustainable Consumption and Production
SHV	Preah Sihanouk province
SRP	Siem Reap province
SWM	Solid Waste Management
ToR	Terms of Reference
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

I. Executive summary

The main objective of this project is to prevent and minimize plastic waste pollution on land and in the ocean through promotion of a 4R framework. To achieve this objective, the project will focus on the following set of activities:

- Development and implementation of enabling policies and regulations;
- Raising awareness among stakeholders about the plastic pollution and solutions; and
- Reduction of plastic waste, and promotion of new technologies such as recycling and plastic alternatives.

While primary target provinces are Siem Reap (SRP), Sihanoukville (SHV), Phnom Penh (PNH), and Kep, the project will also include other coastal provinces such as Koh Kong and Kampot for awareness raising activities to reduce marine plastic pollution.

For the period from April to June 2021, the project made progress as below:

1. Setting up the project. This includes a) signing of Annual Work Plan (AWP) and Multi-year Work plan (MWP), b) recruitment of key project personnel, c) opening bank accounts d) provision of National Implementation Modality (NIM) orientation training, e) procurement of project IT equipment and one car, f) scoping missions in three target provinces (SRP, SHV, and PNH); g) three Letter of Agreements (LoA)s between NCSD and Mol, SRP and SHV Provincial Administrations and h) development of ToRs for international and national consultants for key target activities;
2. Launch of a national Circular Economy (CE) Strategy and Action Plan and CE private sector platform;
3. Finalizing two awareness raising videos with celebrities and one launching video;
4. Drafting of awareness raising communications strategy;
5. Development of draft contents for a website on plastic management; and
6. Organization of information sharing session by UNDP India to share India's experiences and lessons learned in designing and implementing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and plastic management.

As it is still at the inception phase for the IP and RPs, the project spent considerable time for clarifying the roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders. The Project Management Unit (PMU) and UNDP will continue to provide coordination support and work closely with all the responsible parties and line ministries.

II. Implementation progress

This report covers key project results during the period between April to June 2021 as below:

Output 1: Key enabling policies and regulations developed and implemented to promote 4Rs and the use of multi-use plastic, recycling and plastic alternatives.

- **Virtual launch of the CE National Strategy and Action Plan on June 28, 2021:** together with BESD project, the project launched the CE strategy and action plan on June 28, 2021. It outlines the key visions, mission, strategies, and roadmap to enable Cambodia to transition from a linear to a circular economy, primarily by using energy and material resources more sustainably and manage waste more effectively, which in turn helps Cambodia to make significant long-term changes and move closer towards achieving sustainable development. The event was attended by more than 100 attendees. They were from line government agencies, development partners, private sector, NGOs and academia.
- Procurement of three international consultants for designing an EPR, developing a sub-decree on plastic management and assessing feasible business models for alternatives and plastic recycling.
- Procurement of national consultants for facilitating Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP), private sector engagement specialist, and subnational coordinator to assist the Department of Green Economy (DGE) in implementing activities for output 1, 2 and 3.

Output 2: Improved awareness about the plastic crisis and its solutions among citizens and the private sector through environmental education and awareness raising activities.

- Development of a draft **awareness raising communications strategy:** based on a review of existing materials and gap analysis, the communication strategy was proposed and discussed with the General Directorate of Environmental Knowledge and Information (GDEKI). This also included a list of influencers and their contents for future engagement in awareness campaign. The recommended actions proposed in the strategy were incorporated in the GDEKI existing work plan along with budget adjustment to better reflect the new work plan. The new work plan and budget are expected to be approved by July and activities to start in August.
- **Production of two awareness raising videos with celebrities and one launching video:**
 - Video 1: A music video by Princess Jenna Norodom. This video features images of various negative consequences plastic on the environment, introduces the 4R framework and asks everyone to work together against them.
 - Video 2: An animated video about the lifecycle of plastic narrated by three celebrities: Sopheak Kosoma, VannDa, and Juvie Lin. This animation explains what happens after plastic items are thrown away, which impacts they have on the environment and which consumers can take to 4R plastic items.
 - Video 3: Video for the virtual launch of the above two videos. Due to the spread of COVID-19, holding a physical launching event for the above two videos will not be possible. Therefore, an additional video with key messages from partner institutions including the Embassy of Japan, the Embassy of Sweden, MoE, Aeon Mall (Cambodia) Co., Ltd. and Baramey Production was produced for the virtual launch in July.

- **Additional awareness raising activities** by GDEKI:
 - On June 18-19, 2021, GDEKI team handed over two Environmentally Friendly Certificates to 28 Makara High School in Srey Snom district, Siem Reap province and to Thornthean Korkos Kindergarten in Koh Chek district, Banteay Meanchey province; and handed over a letter of appreciation to Prasat Srah Kandal Pagoda (Khchas pagoda) in Preah Net Preah district, Banteay Meanchey province.
 - Two ToRs for consultants to develop school education materials and to work with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MoEYS) were drafted.
 - Three video scripts were drafted, and comments were provided by UNDP.
- **Development of a MoE website on plastic:** draft contents for a website on plastic aimed at educating the public about plastic crisis and solutions were developed and will be hosted under the sub-domain of MoE main website.
- **Launch of CE private sector platform** on June 28: together with the CE Strategy and Action Plan, the platform was launched. The platform is a website that provides information on environmentally friendly CE practices with concrete examples that private sector can adopt. It is also a space to connect all interested private companies to one another in supporting each other in implementing green actions. Private sector actors were analysed for future outreach activities to implement measures.

Output 3: Plastic waste reduced in target provinces through education and private sector-led best practices and innovations.

- **Completion of scoping studies in target provinces** (SHV, SRP, PNH and Kep): These studies assessed the volume, types, sources and major generators of plastic wastes and identified hotspots of plastic pollution and to propose key priority interventions.
- Development of three LoAs for SRP, SHV and PNH. LoAs with SRP and SHV Administrations were signed in June and PNH LoA will be signed by July 2021.

Table: Status of LoAs for different provinces

	Provinces	Scoping research	Consultation	Draft LoA	LoA signed
1	Siem Reap	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	Phnom Penh	✓	In progress	✓	In progress
3	Sihanoukville	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	Mol	N/A	✓	✓	✓
5	Kep	In progress		N/A	N/A
6	Koh Rong (NGO)	N/A	N/A	In progress	

Output 4: Priority business models for plastic recycling and alternatives supported and tested.

- Procurement of international and national consultants for assessing plastic recycling opportunities and identifying business models. The assignment will start in August once everyone is onboard.

Output 5: Best practices disseminated and shared.

As the project is still at an initial implementation stage, there are no best practices documented yet.

General project management

During the second quarter, besides implementing some concrete activities, the project still centered around supporting the PMU and responsible parties (RPs) to set up and initiate activities. This included nomination of respective key focal points, opening bank accounts, drafting ToRs and recruiting consultants, revising their annual work plans, and finalizing budgets.

PMU and UNDP provided support to all the RPs and made some progress as follow:

Items	Progress made
AWP and MWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Signed by April 15
Key personnel and consultant recruitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">UNDP: Recruitment of SB3, Project Assistant, completed and starting from April 19; and recruitment of SB4, Project Technical Coordinator, completed starting from May 3PMU recruitment of a National Project Coordinator, Project Admin Assistant and Project Finance Assistant completed with starting dates from April 1Finance and Admin Assistant for the General Directorate of Environmental Protection (GDEP) and GDEKI recruited
Procurement of equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Procurement of IT equipment completedOne project car received, and the second one in process
Bank accounts of IP and RPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Bank accounts opened for DGE, GDEP and GDEKI. Others are still in the processStill pending for Mol, SRP and SHV
National Implementation Modality orientation training	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The training was provided to PMU and DGE on May 17 on UNDP rules and operational procedure

PROGRESS TOWARDS PROJECT OUTPUT

PROJECT OUTPUT 1: Key enabling policies and regulations developed to promote 4Rs						
Project Output Indicators	Baseline		Target			Current status
	Value	Year	2021	2022	2023	
1.1. A circular economy strategy and action plan is adopted with measures to ensure gender equality and participation of vulnerable groups Measured by: 0 = drafted only, not endorsed or signed 1 = endorsed and signed	0	2020	Target: 1 Result: 1	Target: 1	Target:1	The CE Strategy and Action Plan was signed by MoE and launched on June 28.
1.2. Number of enabling regulatory measures developed and implemented in support of the reduction of plastic and increase in recycling and alternatives Measured by number (cumulative)	0 (draft regulation on single- use plastic)	2020	1 (Sub-decree on plastic approved by MoE)	1 (Sub-decree approved by Council of Ministers)	2	International consultants were contracted by UNDP and to start together with national consultant in August.
1.3. Extent to which CE and plastic approaches are adopted by line ministries Measured on a three-point scale: 0= None 1= Moderate extent: Initial endorsement 2= Great extent: Priority measures are adopted	0	2020	1	2	2	No update
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <input type="checkbox"/> delivery exceeds plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> delivery in line with plan <input type="checkbox"/> delivery below plan </div>						

PROJECT OUTPUT 2: Improved awareness about plastic crisis and its solutions among citizens and the private sector through gender sensitive environmental education and awareness-raising activities

Project Output Indicators	Baseline		Target			Current status
	Value	Year	2021	2022	2023	
2.1. Number of public schools that received gender sensitive educational materials and training on the plastic crisis and solutions SRP, SHV, PNH, Koh Kong, Kep and Kampot Measured by number of schools and students (cumulative and gender disaggregated)	0	2020	SRP: 10 SHV: 10 Koh Kong: 5 Kep+Kampot: 5	SRP: 20 SHV: 20 Koh Kong: 10 Kep+Kampot: 10	SRP: 25 SHV: 25 Koh Kong: 15 Kep+Kampot: 15	No update
2.2. Number of gender sensitive awareness raising materials developed and disseminated to the public Measured by number (per year) a) Information on website b) Messages on social media c) Posters d) Videos & cartoons	0	2020	a) 1 b) 6 c) 2 d) 1 Result: d) 3	a) 3 b) 12 c) 1 d) 1	a) 3 b) 12 c) 1 d) 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two awareness raising videos were produced and to be launched on social media in July. A launching video was produced and will be used in July as well.
2.3. Number of people reached by awareness-raising communications on appropriate plastic waste management (gender disaggregated) SRP, SHV, PNH* Measured by number of people per target city (cumulative and gender disaggregated)	0	2020	Social media 1 million (50 % women)	Social media 3 million (50 % women)	Social media 5 million (50 % women)	No update
2.4. Number of best practices to reduce plastic by private sector/citizens identified and featured on circular economy platform Measured by number (cumulative and gender disaggregated)	0	2020	5 (50% women-led)	10 (50% women-led)	15 (50% women-led)	No update
<input type="checkbox"/> delivery exceeds plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> delivery in line with plan <input type="checkbox"/> delivery below plan						

PROJECT OUTPUT 3: Plastic waste volume reduced in target cities through education, private sector led best practices and innovation						
Project Output Indicators	Baseline		Target			Current status
	Value	Year	2021	2022	2023	
3.1 Number of cities/urban centres with operational SWM Plans	0	2020	1	2	3	No update
3.2 Extent to which priority measures for plastic waste are integrated in city plans with measures to ensure gender equality and participation of vulnerable groups SRP, SHV, PNH* Measured on a three-point scale: 0= None 1= Moderate extent: Initial set of policy measures are proposed 2= Great extent: Agreed set of measures receive Government endorsement	0	2020	SRP: 1 SHV: 1 PNH: 1	SRP: 2 SHV: 2 PNH: 2	SRP: 2 SHV: 2 PNH: 2	No update
3.3. Number of public schools with reduction measures for single-use plastic items adopted SRP, SHV, PNH, Koh Kong, Kep and Kampot Measured by number of schools and students (cumulative and gender disaggregated)	0	2020	SRP: 10 SHV: 10 Koh Kong: 5 Kep+Kampot: 5	SRP: 20 SHV: 20 Koh Kong: 10 Kep+Kampot: 10	SRP: 25 SHV: 25 Koh Kong: 15 Kep+Kampot: 15	No update
3.4. Volume of plastic waste reduced as a result of the above support for schools Measured by volume against baselines (note: exact targets will be defined after baseline assessments)	NA		SRP: 24 tons SHV: 24 tons PNH: 24 tons Total: 72 tons	SRP: 48 tons SHV: 48 tons PNH: 48 tons Total: 144 tons	SRP: 72 tons SHV: 72 tons PNH: 48 tons Total 192 tons	No update
3.5. Number of business entities (primarily in the tourism sector) with measures for single-use plastic items/recycling adopted Measured by number (cumulative and if relevant gender disaggregated)	0	2020	SRP: 10 SHV: 05 PNH: 05	SRP: 30 SHV: 20 PNH: 20	SRP: 50 SHV: 30 PNH: 30	No update
3.6. Volume of plastic waste reduced as a result of the above support for business-led initiatives Measured by volume against baselines (note exact targets will be defined after baseline assessments)	0	2020	SRP: 2.6 tons SHV: 1.3 tons PNH: 1.3 tons Total: 4.9 tons	SRP: 7.9 tons SHV: 5.3 tons PNH: 5.3 tons Total: 18.5 tons	SRP: 13.1 tons SHV: 7.9 tons PNH: 7.9 tons Total: 28.9 tons	No update
It is still safe at this point in time, however, if relevant activities with subnational level do not start soon enough, this output can go below the plan.						
<input type="checkbox"/> delivery exceeds plan		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> delivery in line with plan		<input type="checkbox"/> delivery below plan		

PROJECT OUTPUT 4: Priority business models for plastic recycling and alternatives supported and tested						
Project Output Indicators	Baseline		Target			Current status
	Value	Year	2021	2022	2023	
4.1. Number of priority business solutions identified for plastic recycling and alternatives Measured by number (cumulative)	0	2020	3	5	5	No update
4.2. Number of plastic recycling and alternative innovations that ensure inclusion of women and vulnerable groups supported and tested for replication Measured by number (cumulative and gender disaggregated)	0	2020	2	3	4	No update
The delivery is still in line with the plan as relevant activities will start in the next quarter.						
<input type="checkbox"/> delivery exceeds plan		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> delivery in line with plan			<input type="checkbox"/> delivery below plan	

PROJECT OUTPUT 5: Best practices disseminated and shared						
Project Output Indicators	Baseline		Target			Current status
	Value	Year	2021	2022	2023	
5.1. Number of gender sensitive communication materials disseminated on the project best practice to increase local knowledge sharing Measured by number (per year) a) Project report b) Project brief c) Social media posts d) Newspaper articles	0	2020	a) 1 b) 1 c) 3 d) 1	a) 1 b) 0 c) 3 d) 1	a) 1 b) 1 c) 3 d) 1	No update
5.2. Number of events organized and/or attended to disseminate project achievements and increase international knowledge sharing Measured by number (per year) and number of participants (gender disaggregated)	0	2020	1	2	1	No update
The project is still at initial stage so no good practices to share yet.						
<input type="checkbox"/> delivery exceeds plan		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> delivery in line with plan			<input type="checkbox"/> delivery below plan	

PROGRESS TOWARDS COUNTRY PROGRAMME (CPAP) OUTPUT

CPD OUTPUT:			
Output Indicators	Baseline (month/year)	Target (month/year)	Current status (month/year)
2.1.1: Number of cities/urban centres with operational Solid Waste Management Plans			
<input type="checkbox"/> delivery exceeds plan <input type="checkbox"/> delivery in line with plan <input type="checkbox"/> delivery below plan			

PROGRESS TOWARDS STRATEGIC PLAN OUTPUT

OUTPUT:			
SP Output Indicators	Baseline (month/year)	Target (month/year)	Current status (month/year)
1.1.1 Capacities developed across the whole of government to integrate the 2030 Agenda in development plans and budgets, and to analyse progress towards the SDGs, using innovative and data-driven solutions (SP1.1.1)			
1.4.1 Solutions scaled up for sustainable management of natural resources, including sustainable commodities and green and inclusive value chains			
<input type="checkbox"/> delivery exceeds plan <input type="checkbox"/> delivery in line with plan <input type="checkbox"/> delivery below plan			

PROGRESS TOWARDS UNDAF/COUNTRY PROGRAMME (CPAP) OUTCOME

OUTCOME:			
Outcome Indicators	Baseline (month/year)	Target (month/year)	Current status (month/year)
UNDAF Outcome 3: By 2023, women and men in Cambodia, in particular the marginalized and vulnerable, live in a safer, healthier, more secure and ecologically balanced environment with improved livelihoods, and are resilient to natural and climate change related trends and shocks.			
<input type="checkbox"/> delivery exceeds plan <input type="checkbox"/> delivery in line with plan <input type="checkbox"/> delivery below plan			

Capacity Development

Capacity development is one of key focuses of this project. It is imperative that respective government institutions will develop the technical knowledge and skills necessary to implement and sustain activities beyond the project duration.

Hence, for the initiation stage, the project sought to enhance the knowledge of the key institutions for project management with regards to project planning and operation through the NIM training. This training shared the information of how to design, plan, implement and monitor project activities and how to properly manage the budget.

The project also sought to enhance the ownership and leadership of the government agencies in project activities. For example, all the planning processes engaged responsible institutions so that they can lead in implementing proposed activities in accordance with their priorities and interests.

The project will continue to provide technical assistance throughout the project implementation in a manner that enhances the project management skills, and technical knowledge and capacity. For instance, for awareness raising, the project will provide training support to the key focal points of the GDEKI for managing the MoE website and social media including Tiktok related to plastic management to build the long-term and internal capacity and knowledge. In this manner, they can themselves lead the activities instead of relying on external consultants.

Gender Marker

The project aims to ensure inclusion and involvement of women and girls, who are among the most vulnerable to environmental degradation and often face inequalities in economic opportunities, in relevant decision-making processes related to plastic waste reduction and the transition towards a circular economy, and equitable sharing of economic, environmental, and public health benefits.

The project has thus far considered gender equality in all the process and obtains the gender marker rating 2 for acknowledging the role of informal waste sector (comprises mostly female) in the project strategy and for fully mainstreaming gender into all project outputs.

During the design phase, project output indicators included targets that are gender disaggregated to encourage participation of businesses led by women and make sure they are sought out with support mechanisms to test and replicate or scale up recycling and alternatives innovations. Similarly, the project will pay special attention to ensure inclusion of women and vulnerable groups when best practices to reduce plastic by private sector/citizens identified are featured on circular economy platform during the implementation.

The project will also incorporate gender vulnerability issues and perspectives in the development of educational and awareness raising materials, and conducting training, capacity building and awareness raising activities.

Environment and Social Safeguards

The project seeks to ensure environmental and social safeguards to local communities by incorporating clauses in all the LoAs of the RPs that where there are communities affected by project implementation identified through the social and environmental screening process, the RPs shall establish a grievance mechanism to receive and facilitate resolution of affected communities'

concerns and grievances; shall resolve concerns promptly and in consultation with concerned parties; shall provide periodic reports to the affected communities on the project implementation progress on issues that involve ongoing risk to or impacts on them, and shall also report risks and risk mitigation measures on a quarterly basis.

South-South and Triangular Cooperation

To enhance the result of output 1 on designing and implementing plastic management policies and regulations, the project requested UNDP India to share their experiences and lessons learned of designing and implementing EPR, plastic management and how to mobilize larger scale private sector engagement (Coca-Cola) in partnership with informal waste pickers. Around 30 people attended the learning session including MoE, Mol, and key focal points at subnational level from SHV and SRP. This knowledge would help Cambodia in developing our own EPR regulations and to visualize the possibility of better management of plastic waste in the future.

Innovation

N/A. The project will explore innovative approaches in relation to awareness raising activities, and promotion of alternatives and plastic recycling from August onwards.

Lessons learned

For the inception stage, the project focused on activities to set up the project. These activities included the establishment of PMU, the appointment of project focal points, the recruitment of key personals, the procurement of consultants, and updating of annual work plan and procurement plan. Since this project was new to a majority, it was essential to spend ample time among relevant focal points and departments to review, discuss and agree on project objectives, planned activities and budget. For this reason, the PMU organised a number of meetings involving all relevant institutions and departments to collectively review and discuss project activities.

Among lessons learned from the inception phase is the importance of the project to align with existing policies and strategies to ensure the effectiveness of project intervention on the ground. For instance, it is important that the output 3 subnational activities, which aim to carry out priority interventions to reduce and recycle plastic, would build on the existing structure of the Decentralization and Deconcentration (D&D) regarding Solid Waste Management in Cambodia. The new government decision (no 95) aims to enhance cooperation between the MoE and Mol for effective management of the environment including plastic waste. Thus, LoAs for subnational governments were designed and will be implemented in a manner that reflects this decision in close coordination with the Mol.

III. Project implementation challenges

a. Updated major project risks and actions

No	Types of possible risks	Countermeasures	Status
1	Continuous and possible COVID-19 outbreaks will delay the planned project activities and adversely impact delivery	The PMU will apply an adaptative planning approach. Whenever physical meetings become impossible, the PMU will adopt virtual meetings or prioritize activities which would not require face-to-face meetings.	Being implemented
2	Effective reduction of plastic waste requires drastic change in consumer behaviors to adopt 4Rs however consumers do not adopt the 4Rs	This project has a strong focus on education and awareness raising and applies strategic communication using a variety of communication tools (e.g. MoE/NCSD websites, posters, social media and music) and engaging influencers and celebrities to outreach a wider segment of the society.	Being implemented
3	Effective reduction of plastic waste requires drastic change in waste management practises among the private sector. But the private sector does not promote the 4Rs	The project seeks to engage and motivate the private sector by providing firsthand information and technical and regulatory support. The project will do assessments for viable business models for plastic recycling and support creation of an enabling environment for the private sector to invest in plastic recycling if deemed necessary.	A draft engagement strategy is ready and will be implemented from Q4 2021
4	Government actions against plastic pollution are fragmented and uncoordinated	The project organizes regular project planning meetings involving technical focal points to ensure a coherent approach. The project fully adopts the decision No 95 which promotes the inter-ministerial cooperation between MoE and Mol/NCDDS to enhance environmental governance at the subnational level, including plastic management. The PMU will closely collaborate with relevant ministries in implementing priority actions.	Being implemented
5	There may be challenges in effectively engaging all stakeholders in target provinces (Sihanoukville, Phnom Penh, Siem Reap, Kep) (NEW)	The project will conduct scoping research to conduct interviews with key stakeholders to understand their perceived challenges and motivations with plastic waste management (e.g. SEZs and major businesses and citizens in Sihanoukville). The PMU will use the information to formulate tailored approaches for effectively engaging all stakeholders in the target provinces.	The project conducted scoping research to identify challenges to be addressed by the project. The PMU has discussed the set of project interventions tailored to meet these challenges. The PMU will continue to work closely with the subnational governments to ensure the effective implementation of agreed activities.

The anticipated risks and countermeasures can be seen in Annex 1: Project Risk Register

b. Updated project issues and actions

Project Issue 1: Continuous COVID-19 outbreak adversely impacting project activities and delivery especially for workshops and meetings.

Actions taken:

- *The project has been regularly reviewing planned activities by giving priority to activities that do not require field travels or physical meetings.*
- *PMU will conduct a thorough review of the annual budget, identify activities that are critically affected by the COVID-19 and propose repurposing of fund where necessary.*

Project Issue 2: Limited knowledge and understanding about project objectives and activities. Initially there was limited shared understanding of expected roles and responsibilities of each department, their work plan and required procedures. This resulted in delay of activities and created challenges in effectively engaging targeted stakeholders at least initially.

Actions taken:

- *PMU provided an orientation session to all RPs to ensure full understanding of roles, responsibilities and rules and procedures.*
- *PMU arranged additional separate meetings with each RP to review and discuss their work plan and budget so that it is clear to all on 1) what the project aims to achieve, 2) what are respective roles of different RPs and 3) how best to design ToRs to meet their needs and priorities.*

Project Issue 3: Needs for additional capacity and knowledge to successfully run awareness raising activities: MoE plans to use TikTok as a new innovate channel to outreach the youth for plastic actions. Since this app is new, there was an urgent need to develop the internal knowledge and skills in developing and disseminating contents effectively and in producing maximum impacts.

Actions to be taken:

- *The project will provide social media training and online-courses to relevant staff members, particularly on content development, dissemination, posting scheduling etc. This strategy seeks to build the long-term lasting capacity among the MoE staff to effectively run relevant social media platforms instead of hiring consultant(s) to make short-lived interventions.*
- *UNDP communications team will provide support in training design and running some sessions.*

Project Issue 4: Challenges in procuring experts specialised in the areas which are new such as plastic recycling and EPR.

Actions taken:

- *PMU used a combination of open job announcements and head-hunting approach to identify suitable experts.*

IV. Financial status and utilization

Table 1: Contribution Overview [Project start: 15 January 2021 – 14 August 2023]

Donor Name	Contributions		Cumulative Expenditure [As of 30 June 2021]	Balance [In USD]
	Committed [In USD]	Received [In USD]		
The Embassy of Japan	3,011,354.29	3,011,354.29	156,615.70	2,854,738.59
UNDP [TRAC]	80,000.00	25,172.00	5,702.22	19,469.78
Total	3,091,354.29	3,036,526.29	162,317.92	2,874,208.37

Table 2: Quarterly Expenditure by Activity [Project started: 01 April- 30 June 2021]

Activities-Description	Work Plan (Q2 2021)	Actual Expenditure [In USD]			Balance [In USD]	Delivery [%]
		Gov't [Disbursed]	UNDP [Disbursed]	Total		
ACTIVITY 1.1: Research on policy and regulatory gaps and solutions in promotion of 4Rs and alternative businesses	12,319.56		5,781.01	5,781.01	6,538.55	47%
ACTIVITY 1.2: Development of policies/regulations/guidelines to promote 4Rs and alternative businesses	16,815.87		3,070.49	3,070.49	13,745.38	18%
ACTIVITY 1.3: Facilitation of the inter-ministerial Working Group on plastic/sustainable consumption and production	9,086.31		1,535.31	1,535.31	7,551.00	17%
ACTIVITY 2.1: Development of educational materials targeted at priority and secondary schools	14,385.06		1,535.31	1,535.31	12,849.75	11%
ACTIVITY 2.2: Development of awareness raising and outreach materials (e.g. cartoons, infographics) targeting different types of stakeholders (business, tourists, citizens, children)	8,984.79		4,393.49	4,393.49	4,591.30	49%
ACTIVITY 2.3: Strategic communication and campaigns	10,706.31		1,535.31	1,535.31	9,171.00	14%
ACTIVITY 2.4: Information provision and effective support for the private sector led initiatives	17,631.54		3,070.49	3,070.49	14,561.05	17%
ACTIVITY 3.1: Implementation of awareness raising and campaigns in target provinces (Siem Reap, Sihanoukville, Kep, Kampot and Koh Kong)	25,731.54	-	3,070.49	3,070.49	22,661.05	12%
ACTIVITY 3.2: Implementation of target activities to reduce plastic waste in Sihanoukville, Siem Reap, and Phnom Penh	56,423.52	-	20,799.93	20,799.93	35,623.59	37%
ACTIVITY 4.1: Identification of business solutions for plastic waste recycling	3,146.31	-	1,535.31	1,535.31	1,611.00	49%
ACTIVITY 4.2: Piloting and demonstration of selected business interventions (baseline assessments, technical assistance, development of enabling regulations)	3,584.79	-	3,070.49	3,070.49	514.30	86%
ACTIVITY 5.1: Documentation and dissemination of project results and best practices through social media, newspapers, website	2,066.31	-	1,535.32	1,535.32	530.99	74%
ACTIVITY 5.2: Dissemination of best practices at workshops/international conferences	2,066.31	-	3,037.64	3,037.64	(971.33)	147%
ACTIVITY6: General Management Support	120,934.25	-	79,970.98	79,970.98	40,963.27	66%
TOTAL	303,882.47	-	133,941.57	133,941.57	169,940.90	44%

Table 3: Annual Expenditure by Activity [Project started: 01 January- 30 June 2021]

Activities-Description	Approved AWP 2021 [Revision G01]	Actual Expenditure [In USD]			Balance [In USD]	Delivery [%]
		Gov't [Disbursed]	UNDP [Disbursed]	Total		
ACTIVITY 1.1: Research on policy and regulatory gaps and solutions in promotion of 4Rs and alternative businesses	34,897.50		6,565.40	6,565.40	28,332.10	19%
ACTIVITY 1.2: Development of policies/regulations/guidelines to promote 4Rs and alternative businesses	67,567.50		4,639.19	4,639.19	62,928.31	7%
ACTIVITY 1.3: Facilitation of the inter-ministerial Working Group on plastic/sustainable consumption and production	25,920.00		2,319.70	2,319.70	23,600.30	9%
ACTIVITY 2.1: Development of educational materials targeted at priority and secondary schools	49,180.50		2,319.70	2,319.70	46,860.80	5%
ACTIVITY 2.2: Development of awareness raising and outreach materials (e.g. cartoons, infographics) targeting different types of stakeholders (business, tourists, citizens, children)	54,097.50		5,962.19	5,962.19	48,135.31	11%
ACTIVITY 2.3: Strategic communication and campaigns	34,020.00		2,319.70	2,319.70	31,700.30	7%
ACTIVITY 2.4: Information provision and effective support for the private sector led initiatives	52,380.00		4,639.19	4,639.19	47,740.81	9%
ACTIVITY 3.1: Implementation of awareness raising and campaigns in target provinces (Siem Reap, Sihanoukville, Kep, Kampot and Koh Kong)	412,560.00	-	4,639.19	4,639.19	407,920.81	1%
ACTIVITY 3.2: Implementation of target activities to reduce plastic waste in Sihanoukville, Siem Reap, and Phnom Penh	224,893.10	-	22,642.66	22,642.66	202,250.44	10%
ACTIVITY 4.1: Identification of business solutions for plastic waste recycling	52,920.00	-	2,319.70	2,319.70	50,600.30	4%
ACTIVITY 4.2: Piloting and demonstration of selected business interventions (baseline assessments, technical assistance, development of enabling regulations)	47,857.50	-	4,639.19	4,639.19	43,218.31	10%
ACTIVITY 5.1: Documentation and dissemination of project results and best practices through social media, newspapers, website	20,520.00	-	2,319.71	2,319.71	18,200.29	11%
ACTIVITY 5.2: Dissemination of best practices at workshops/international conferences	12,960.00	-	4,332.34	4,332.34	8,627.66	33%
ACTIVITY6: General Management Support	236,676.30	66.53	92,593.53	92,660.06	144,016.24	39%
TOTAL	1,326,449.90	66.53	162,251.39	162,317.92	1,164,131.98	12%

Table 4: Cumulative Expenditure by Activity [Project start: 15 January 2021 – 30 June 2021]

Activities - Description	Total All Budgets [2021-2023]	Cumulative Expenditure [In USD]			Balance [In USD]	Delivery [%]
		Gov't [Disbursed]	UNDP [Disbursed]	Total		
ACTIVITY 1.1: Research on policy and regulatory gaps and solutions in promotion of 4Rs and alternative businesses	85,825.44		6,565.40	6,565.40	79,260.04	8%
ACTIVITY 1.2: Development of policies/regulations/guidelines to promote 4Rs and alternative businesses	169,695.54		4,639.19	4,639.19	165,056.35	3%
ACTIVITY 1.3: Facilitation of the inter-ministerial Working Group on plastic/sustainable consumption and production	69,458.04		2,319.70	2,319.70	67,138.34	3%
ACTIVITY 2.1: Development of educational materials targeted at priority and secondary schools	99,913.50		2,319.70	2,319.70	97,593.80	2%
ACTIVITY 2.2: Development of awareness raising and outreach materials (e.g. cartoons, infographics) targeting different types of stakeholders (business, tourists, citizens, children)	131,925.54		5,962.19	5,962.19	125,963.35	5%
ACTIVITY 2.3: Strategic communication and campaigns	91,868.04		2,319.70	2,319.70	89,548.34	3%
ACTIVITY 2.4: Information provision and effective support for the private sector led initiatives	138,375.00		4,639.19	4,639.19	133,735.81	3%
ACTIVITY 3.1: Implementation of awareness raising and campaigns in target provinces (Siem Reap, Sihanoukville, Kep, Kampot and Koh Kong)	584,415.00	-	4,639.19	4,639.19	579,775.81	1%
ACTIVITY 3.2: Implementation of target activities to reduce plastic waste in Sihanoukville, Siem Reap, and Phnom Penh	547,672.70	-	22,642.66	22,642.66	525,030.04	4%
ACTIVITY 4.1: Identification of business solutions for plastic waste recycling	75,398.04	-	2,319.70	2,319.70	73,078.34	3%
ACTIVITY 4.2: Piloting and demonstration of selected business interventions (baseline assessments, technical assistance, development of enabling regulations)	457,787.61	-	4,639.19	4,639.19	453,148.42	1%
ACTIVITY 5.1: Documentation and dissemination of project results and best practices through social media, newspapers, website	58,658.04	-	2,319.71	2,319.71	56,338.33	4%
ACTIVITY 5.2: Dissemination of best practices at workshops/international conferences	68,918.04	-	4,332.34	4,332.34	64,585.70	6%
ACTIVITY6: General Management Support	511,443.76	66.53	92,593.53	92,660.06	418,783.70	18%
TOTAL	3,091,354.29	66.53	162,251.39	162,317.92	2,929,036.37	5%

Annex 1: Project Risk Register

Project Title: Combatting Marine Plastic Litter in Cambodia				Project Number: 00119646	Date: 23 July 2021			
#	Event	Cause	Impact(s)	Risk Category	Impact and Likelihood = Risk Level	Risk Treatment / Management Measures	Risk Owner	Risk Valid From/To
	Potential future event	Cause of the potential event.	Potential impact of the event. The totality of all effects of an event affecting objectives.	Risk type (select from below)	Likelihood: 1-5 (1 = Not likely; 5 = Expected) Impact: 1-5 scale (1 = Negligible; 5 = Extreme) Risk Level (High, Substantial, Moderate or Low)	Risk management/ treatment	Responsible Person	Dates when the risk is valid
1	Government staff capacity is not fully available for program implementation (UPDATED)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No prior knowledge and skills in how to use TikTok Substantial reliance on consultants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lack of knowledge and skill in using this new platform especially on content development will make information sharing less effective and impactful. The reliance on consultants will make intervention short-lived and MoE staff will still not be able to produce good content and update the platform. 	Operational	Likelihood=5 Impact=3 Risk Level=Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project will provide social media training and online-courses to relevant staff members, particularly on content development, dissemination, posting scheduling etc. This strategy seeks to build the long-term lasting capacity among the MoE staff to effectively run relevant social media platforms instead of hiring consultant(s) to make short-lived interventions. UNDP communications team will provide support in training design and running some sessions. 	UNDP, PMU, GDEKI	Jun 2021- Dec 2022
2	Government actions against plastic pollution are fragmented and	Coordinated structure of the government on plastic issues and solutions is stipulated in policy documents,	If no better coordination, it will be business as usual, and the SWM will not be improved. Hence, project efforts made on other fronts such as awareness raising on plastic	Organizational	Likelihood=5 Impact=4 Risk Level=Substantial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project supports the strengthening of NCSD, an inter-ministerial coordination mechanism between MoE and Mol to enhance environmental governance at the 	UNDP, PMU, all line ministries	Jan 2021- Jun 2023

	<i>uncoordinated (UPDATED)</i>	<i>however, the actual implementation would require better coordination, based on clear understanding of the roles or standardized contracting templates from the national level to support subnational level</i>	<i>pollution will not be enough to change people behaviors quickly.</i>			<i>subnational level.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>A national consultant will be recruited under DGE to provide the coordination support.</i> <i>PMU carefully coordinates with all stakeholders and try to integrate the project interventions into their implementing structure and work plan. It organizes regular project planning meetings involving technical focal points to ensure a coherence approach.</i> 		
3	<i>Lack of adequate skills and knowledge among NGO partners</i>					<i>This project will build on and leverage existing expertise and experiences of local and international NGOs for management of plastic waste wherever possible. For the organizations requiring additional waste management and recycling skills, capacity building support will be provided to ensure adequate level of skills and knowledge.</i>		<i>Not valid yet</i>
4	<i>The private sector does not cooperate and coordinate activities effectively</i>					<i>The private sector's active engagement is crucial in introducing alternatives to single-use items, and to promoting reuse, repair, and recycling.</i> <i>The project will identify technology, business, and innovation opportunities, drivers and motivations of the private sector, and the market and financial environments appropriate for business development. The strategy will reflect these findings and mechanisms for promoting effective means to ensure private sector's long term and continuous engagement and buy-in to reducing plastic use and waste. These</i>		<i>Not valid yet</i>

						<p>may include rewards and incentives.</p> <p>Several short-term quick pilots and innovations will be supported in the priority areas of single-use plastic waste and recycling. These lessons will be used to scale up private sector innovations. This scaling means both increasing the size of the innovation or widening its reach, ensuring that nationally, the entire country benefits from business-led innovations, including secondary cities.</p>		
5	<p>Programme inputs (funds, human resources, etc.) are not mobilized in a timely fashion (UPDATED)</p>	<p>It has proved to be rather difficult to recruit consultants for the government assignments. In this quarter in particular, recruiting national consultants on plastic recycling and EPR was delayed due to no or few applicants.</p>	<p>The activities for output 1 are a bit delayed.</p>	Operational	<p>Likelihood=5 Impact=4 Risk Level=Moderate</p>	<p>PMU made job reannouncement and also used head hunting approach. If this still does not work, more job announcement platforms will be used, and UNDP will be asked to spread the word through its channel too.</p>	PMU	Apr -Dec 2021
6	<p>Potential impact on gender equality, women's empowerment and human rights</p>					<p>To mainstream gender and equality issues, the project incorporates strategies and actions such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enabling involved actors to exercise the rights and ability to participate freely in making decisions and in implementing activities that affect them and their environment. 2. Incorporating gender and vulnerability perspectives in the development of awareness and education materials, and in training and capacity building activities (by 		Not valid yet

						<p><i>including women and the physically disabled, as well as ethnic minorities and indigenous people);</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. <i>Ensuring equal participation of both women and men in adopting sustainable circular economy options both in households and workplaces (e.g. in promoting the use of sustainable energy, energy efficiency, reusable items and recycling);</i> 4. <i>Ensuring fair compensation for increased labour associated with activities taking place at the household level;</i> 5. <i>Developing employment opportunities along with targeted capacity building support that recognize and enhance the capabilities and strengths of women and vulnerable groups as equal to other groups; and</i> 6. <i>Developing business models and support mechanisms that address the needs and enhance the capability of women and vulnerable groups.</i> 		
7	<p><i>The project's major focus is testing of new approaches for scaling up. However, reflective and timely learning does not take place to</i></p>					<p><i>The project places a central focus on "effective learning" to identify what works and what does not work in a timely manner. For this reason, the project conducts regular assessments to rigorously evaluate the design of models applied under the project and to improve the design and implementation approaches, by incorporating lessons learned. The project will make use of the</i></p>		<p><i>Not valid yet</i></p>

	<i>effectively incorporate lessons from pilots for successful scaling up</i>					<i>lessons learned for designing a successful approach for scaling up.</i>		
8	<i>Effective reduction of plastic waste requires drastic change in consumer behavior (UPDATED)</i>	<i>Consumers do not adopt 4Rs.</i>	<i>Project may only achieve low level of results at activity level and have little impact at the outcome level.</i>	<i>Social and Environmental</i>	<i>Likelihood=5 Impact=4 Risk Level=Substantial</i>	<i>This project has a strong focus on education and awareness raising and applies strategic communication using a variety of communication tools both online and offline in collaboration with relevant partners from both public and private sectors, academic institutions, development partners and celebrities</i>	<i>UNDP, PMU, all IPs</i>	<i>Jan 2021-Aug 2023</i>
9	<i>Effective reduction of plastic waste requires drastic change in waste management practices among the private sector (UPDATED)</i>	<i>The private sector does not promote the 4Rs.</i>	<i>Without private sector taking part in circular economy or adopting 4R framework and waiting for the general public to change their behaviors alone will take many years to achieve significant reduction of plastic waste. Private sector is also responsible for import, production, sales and consumption of plastic products in the first place, so they should also be responsible for making changes to their daily operations.</i>	<i>Social and Environmental</i>	<i>Likelihood=5 Impact=4 Risk Level=Substantial</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The project seeks to engage and motivate the private sector by providing firsthand information and technical and regulatory support through direct outreach and CE Leaders Platform.</i> <i>The project will do assessments for viable business models for plastic recycling and support creation of an enabling environment for the private sector to invest in plastic recycling if deemed necessary.</i> <i>The project will work to identify suitable alternatives and promote adoption among private sector.</i> 	<i>UNDP, PMU, all IPs</i>	<i>Jan 2021-Aug 2023</i>
10	<i>Continuous COVID-19 outbreak in the community is still a major challenge impacting project delivery</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The outbreak continues to expand the geographic boundaries to provinces too</i> <i>The country could not achieve herd immunity yet as the</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Delay in project delivery</i> <i>Potential reduction of effectiveness of the project results</i> 	<i>Social and Environmental</i>	<i>Likelihood=5 Impact=4 Risk Level=High</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The project has been adapting and revising some activities by giving priority to activities that do not require field travels or physical meetings</i> <i>UNDP is going to thoroughly review the annual budget and propose reduction and repurposing of fund</i> 	<i>UNDP, PMU, all IPs</i>	<i>Jan 2021-Aug 2023</i>

	<i>adversely by delaying planned activities especially workshops and meetings (UPDATED)</i>	<i>vaccination has been only administered to residents in Phnom Penh and its surrounding areas and some other major cities.</i>				<i>where necessary</i>		
11	<i>There may be challenges in effectively engaging all stakeholders in target provinces (Sihanoukville, Phnom Penh, Siem Reap, Kep) (NEW)</i>				<i>Likelihood=4 Impact=4 Risk Level=Medium</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The project will conduct scoping research to conduct interviews with key stakeholders to understand their perceived challenges and motivations with plastic waste management (e.g. SEZs and major businesses and citizens in Sihanoukville). The PMU will use the information to formulate tailored approaches for effectively engaging all stakeholders in the target provinces.</i> 	<i>UNDP, PMU, all IPs</i>	<i>Jan 2021-Aug 2023</i>