



## GEF-8 PROGRAM FRAMEWORK DOCUMENT (PFD)

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## GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION – TO BE COMPLETED

Program Title:	Circular Solutions to Single Use Plastic Packaging Pollution from the Food and Beverage Sector		
Country(ies):	Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, India, Jordan, Laos, Morocco, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, South Africa, Senegal	GEF Program ID:	
Lead GEF Agency:	UNEP/WWF	GEF Agency Program ID:	
Other GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP, UNDP	Submission Date:	12 April 2023 08 May 2023
Type of Trust Fund:	GEF Trust Fund		
Anticipated Program Executing Entity(s) and Type(s):	Government Agencies, WWF, UNDP, UNEP and other CSOs and Private Sector entities to be defined during PPG	Other	
Sector (only for Programs on CC)	Mixed Others	Program Duration (Months)	72
GEF Focal Area (s):	Multi Focal Area	Program Commitment Deadline	
GEF Program Financing: (a)	96,280,581	PPG Amount (c):	2,750,000
Agency Fee(s): (b)	8,665,252.	PPG Agency Fee(s) (d):	247,500.
Total GEF Project Financing: (a+b+c+d)	107,943,333	Total Co-financing:	508,828,545
Project Tags:	<input type="checkbox"/> CBIT <input type="checkbox"/> SGP		
Project Sector (CCM only)	Mixed Others		
Program	Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution		

### Program Summary\*\*\*

The Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution Integrated Program (hereinafter referred to as “the Program”) aims to address the root causes of plastic pollution: ever-growing unsustainable consumption and production of single-use and problematic plastic products and packaging with low circularity. The Program will demonstrate and scale up upstream and midstream solutions in the food and beverage sector, including the elimination of single-use plastic products/packaging and reduction of using crude oil as the primary feedstock; circular design of materials, products and business models; as well as ensuring materials and products are actually circulated in practice through reuse and refill systems. This specific focus on upstream and midstream interventions will be transformative as there is a lack of critical support to address the plastic pollution from source, and it will strategically complement existing funding, projects and actions on plastic pollution which have a dominant emphasis on downstream actions (waste management and clean-ups). This Program will provide an innovative and transformative stimulation to transition towards a circular economy of plastics, to prevent plastic pollution at national, regional and global levels.

The Program will be delivered through 15 national child projects and one global child project (Global Platform). The Program activities will focus on five interlinked intervention areas throughout the whole Program: 1) Enabling a Regulatory and Policy Environment; 2) Mobilizing Finance; 3) Engaging with Food and Beverage Private Sector; 4) Activating Behavior and Social Change to support program strategy; and 5) Knowledge Management, Communication, and Project-level and Program-level Coordination.

As illustrated in Figure 3, the Program is designed in a way that child projects contribute to achieving the common goal and visualizing the benefits of the Program through a range of activities under different components. The Program will amplify its results to more than the sum of outcomes from each child project through knowledge sharing, replication,

scaling up of successful initiatives, which can potentially leverage additional investments in the future. The structure is evolving based on the identification and prioritization of activities by each child project and will be updated accordingly in the PPG phase.

The Global Platform Child Project intends to optimize the delivery of a cohesive program across 15 countries to reduce plastic pollution in the food and beverage sector by delivering technical assistance to national child Projects, addressing global barriers, and promoting knowledge management and program coordination. It aims to ensure the success of the Program’s national level child projects and create a cohesive whole to achieve an impact that is larger than the sum of child projects. The knowledge and lessons shared by the Global Platform Child Project will facilitate upscaling of activities among and beyond the countries the Program operates in.

Tentatively, the Program is expected to achieve sizable GEBs in the areas of international waters, chemicals and waste, climate change and gender, with substantial co-benefits on biodiversity, social and economic values, to be refined at PPG stage.

### Indicative Program Overview

<b>Program Objective:</b>	To transition towards a circular economy of plastics in the food and beverage sector, to prevent plastic pollution				
Program Components	Component Type	Program Outcomes	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
				GEF Program Financing	Co-financing
<b>Component 1: Enabling a Regulatory and Policy Environment</b>	Technical Assistance	<p>1.1. Agreed regulatory frameworks, policies, and guidelines in place to reduce single use plastics and transition towards a circular plastics economy in the food &amp; beverage sector</p> <p>1.2. Developed national, sub-national, or city-level plans and strategies for circular solutions</p> <p>1.3. Strengthened capacity and institutional frameworks to implement/enforce policies and plans for circular solutions to plastic pollution</p>	GEFTF	16,861,949	101,679,624
<b>Component 2: Mobilizing Finance</b>	Technical Assistance and Investment <i>(cannot put both in portal)</i>	<p>2.1. Developed new or strengthened fiscal policies that incentivize a move away from virgin plastic and towards circular solutions</p> <p>2.2. Private investment, blended and innovative finance solutions mobilized for circular solutions, including an incubator system to scale proofs of concept, and improve market access</p>	GEFTF	16,861,949	101,679,624

<b>Component 3: Engaging with Food and Beverage Private Sector</b>	Technical Assistance	3.1. Improved design and sector standards for circular products and material design  3.2. Strengthened systems for circularity through innovative business models at community to city to national scales  3.3. Commitments and transparent reporting on circular products and material design	GEFTF	19,914,076	134,924,318
<b>Component 4: Activating Behavior and Social Change to support Program strategy</b>	Technical Assistance	4.1. Increased engagement to amplify program results and build commitment and social norms around circular solutions (national, sub-national or city level)	GEFTF	16,861,949	101,679,624
<b>Component 5: Knowledge Management, Communication, and, Project and Program-level Coordination</b>	Technical Assistance	5.1. Knowledge sharing and learning activities developed to share lessons learned related to project activities, support awareness-raising, upscaling, and more transparent coherent decision making within and amongst country projects and other relevant initiatives 5.2. Communication and capacity development activities developed to increase the uptake of circular solutions within and beyond the Program 5.3. Coordination achieved among national child projects and the global program for the whole Program	GEFTF	16,861,949	101,679,624
M&E	Technical Assistance	Effective on-going Monitoring and Evaluation.		4,431,237	26,624,130
Subtotal			GEFTF	91,843,226	568,266,944
Program Management Cost (PMC) (if this is an MTF program, please report separate PMC lines for each TF)			GEFTF	4,437,355	27,511,601
<b>Total Program Cost</b>				<b>96,280,581</b>	<b>595,778,545</b>

## PROGRAM OUTLINE

### A. PROGRAM RATIONALE

#### Global plastic pollution and root causes

#### Plastic pollution at global, regional, national and local levels

1. **Global plastic consumption and production has grown exponentially since the 1950s. Annual global production of plastics doubled from 234 million tonnes (Mt) in 2000 to 460 Mt in 2019. It is forecast to triple under a business-as-usual (BAU) scenario in 2060<sup>1</sup>.** The food and beverage sector accounts for approximately 40% of plastic use. Up to 99 per cent of plastics are made from polymers derived from non-renewable hydrocarbons, mostly oil and natural gas<sup>2</sup>. Although Plastic production is associated with the use of chemical additives, many of which are of concern to human and environmental health, including those listed as hazardous under the Stockholm Convention and in national legislation, this is less relevant in the food and beverage sectors than for plastic in general, as these are the most regulated applications. Between 2019 and 2060, non-OECD countries are projected to triple their plastics use, with the largest increases expected in emerging economies in Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia<sup>103</sup>. Plastic use in OECD countries is projected to double by 2060<sup>4</sup>. OECD countries are set to remain the largest consumers of plastics on an average per capita basis in 2060.
2. **Plastic waste<sup>5</sup> is forecast to rise with the packaging sector being the largest generator**, followed by textiles, building and construction and transport sectors, from an estimated 353 Mt/yr of plastic waste in 2019 to 1,014 Mt/yr in 2060 under a BAU scenario<sup>6</sup>. **More plastic waste is mismanaged than collected for recycling with global projections for recycling remaining low.** Globally, 46 per cent of plastic waste is landfilled, 22 per cent is mismanaged and becomes litter, 17 per cent is incinerated, and 15 per cent is collected for recycling resulting in less than 9 per cent recycled, after losses<sup>7 8</sup>. Plastic pollution from uncollected and mismanaged waste largely occurs in the most impoverished urban areas, where local governments and formal service providers struggle to offer a basic waste collection service. **An estimated 60 to 99 million tonnes of mismanaged plastic waste was produced in 2015 with 2.5 time increase projected by 2040<sup>9</sup>.** An estimated 23 and 37 million tonnes per year of plastic waste could enter the oceans by 2040 under a BAU scenario<sup>10</sup>.
3. The resource-inefficient, linear plastic economy of take-make-waste is the basis of the plastic pollution crisis. Solving this crisis requires shifting economic incentives towards safe, efficient, and circular uses of plastic in the economy – acknowledging that some applications and products cannot be made circular and may need to be eliminated from the economy, unless they are essential. **The root causes** leading to the unsustainable consumption and production of plastic products, increasing generation of plastics waste and insufficient management that causes plastic pollution are the following:

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<sup>1</sup> OECD (2022), Global Plastics Outlook: Economic Drivers, Environmental Impacts and Policy Options, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/de747aef-en>.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations Environment Programme (2021). Drowning in Plastics – Marine Litter and Plastic Waste Vital Graphics. At <https://www.unep.org/resources/report/drowning-plastics-marine-litter-and-plastic-waste-vital-graphics>

<sup>3</sup> OECD (2022), Global Plastics Outlook: Economic Drivers, Environmental Impacts and Policy Options, OECD Publishing, Paris, HYPERLINK "<https://doi.org/10.1787/de747aef-en>"<https://doi.org/10.1787/de747aef-en>.

<sup>4</sup> OECD (2022), Global Plastics Outlook: Economic Drivers, Environmental Impacts and Policy Options, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/de747aef-en>.

<sup>5</sup> Five different waste handling categories (recycling, incineration, landfilling, mismanaged waste and littered waste) are considered in this modelling.

Biodegradable plastics that can be composted at the waste stage are not included because this stream remains very small. (See OECD, 2022)

<sup>6</sup> OECD (2022), Global Plastics Outlook: Economic Drivers, Environmental Impacts and Policy Options, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/de747aef-en>.

<sup>7</sup> Globally, almost 40% of plastics collected for recycling, or close to 22 Mt, are lost during recycling and end up being incinerated, landfilled or mismanaged. OECD, 2020.

<sup>8</sup> OECD (2022), Global Plastics Outlook: Economic Drivers, Environmental Impacts and Policy Options, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/de747aef-en>.

<sup>9</sup> Lebreton, L., and Andrady, A. (2019). Future Scenarios of Global Plastic Waste Generation and Disposal. Palgrave Communications. 5(6).

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41599-018-0212-7>.

<sup>10</sup> PEW Charitable Trusts and SystemIQ. "Breaking the Plastic Wave: A Comprehensive Assessment of Pathways Towards Stopping Ocean Plastic Pollution," 2020. At [https://oursharedseas.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/BreakingThePlasticWave\\_MainReport.pdf](https://oursharedseas.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/BreakingThePlasticWave_MainReport.pdf)

- a. **Linear plastics economy with increasing plastic consumption** driven by population growth, urbanization, and economic development, while further intensified in recent years by the COVID-19 pandemic: The fundamental cause of plastic pollution is the linear “take-make-dispose” pattern of the current plastics economy, intensified by misaligned pricing and incentives, as well as low oil prices, making the production of virgin plastics much cheaper and economically more attractive than using recycled content or other alternative materials. State aid and other economic incentives provided by governments for fossil fuels can lead to growth in plastic production<sup>11</sup>, due to the reduced price for producing virgin plastics and an increased price gap between recycled and virgin plastics which ultimately decreases the economic viability of the recycled plastics market<sup>12</sup>. Demand for single-use plastic products has further increased due to COVID-19, as disposable plastic products (such as PPE and cutlery) provide affordable solutions to consumers to meet their sanitary and health requirements<sup>13</sup>.
- b. **Hazardous additives and chemicals used in plastic products reduce circularity**: Additives (such as brominated flame retardants) and chemicals are used in large volumes of plastics. The presence of additives is potentially a serious constraint on the recycling of plastics and the move to a circular economy. The chemicals used to make plastics affect men and women differently, and can harm women disproportionately. Women’s bodies generally store a higher proportion of fat, which provides a greater reservoir for bioaccumulating and lipophilic (fat loving) chemicals. Women exposed to these compounds often have higher concentrations of stored toxic chemicals in their bodies than men with similar exposure<sup>14</sup>.
- c. **Policy design, waste management and awareness are unfit for current rates of plastic production growth and challenged by weak monitoring**: Most of the global population now live in urban areas, but 2 billion people worldwide lack access to solid waste collection and 3 billion lack access to controlled waste disposal and infrastructure. Plastic waste is being generated at such a pace that far exceeds the ability of existing policies, infrastructure, and awareness raising campaigns to deal with. Existing waste reporting and monitoring systems are inadequate to bring optimal analysis of waste generation and leakages. Particularly, the heightened consciousness of hygiene during COVID-19 further intensified unsustainable consumption and production patterns, resulting in the increased use of single-use plastics for both medical and domestic use.
- d. **Alternative materials, technologies, and business models needed for a more circular plastic economy are not widely tested or financially viable**. Many reuse solutions, which might perform well in pilots, still need to test their operational and economic viability at scale. In terms of technologies, for instance, chemical recycling technologies are not yet widely tested and verified, and not yet economically viable for most common packaging plastics. In the context of the pandemic, reduced economic activity has seen sharp falls in global oil prices. In turn, this has made it significantly cheaper for manufacturers to produce plastic goods from virgin, fossil-based materials than to use recycled plastic materials. The economic viability of the global plastics recycling market is presently under significant pressure<sup>15</sup>.
- e. **Externalities of plastic pollution are not factored into the low production cost of plastics at national, regional and global levels**. The production cost of recycled plastics is often still higher than that of virgin plastics as the social, economic and environmental externalities of plastic pollution are not factored into the costs<sup>27</sup>. The problem of plastic pollution is transboundary, cross-cutting as well as context specific, and there are notable barriers in various aspects to solve the problem.

4. The **barriers to be addressed** to achieve a circular economy for plastics include:

<sup>11</sup> IISD (2021), ‘Subsidies: Under the Radar or Moving into the Spotlight?’, Earth Negotiation Bulletin, 20 May 2021

<sup>12</sup> Staub C (2020) ‘Low virgin plastics pricing pinches recycling market further’, Resource Recycling, 6 May 2020.

<sup>13</sup> Yuan, X., Wang, X., Sarkar, B. et al. (2021). “The COVID-19 pandemic necessitates a shift to a plastic circular economy”. *Nat Rev Earth Environ* 2, 659–660. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s43017-021-00223-2>

<sup>14</sup> World Economic Forum, Why gender is at the heart of transforming the plastics value chain, <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/05/gender-women-plasticsghana/>

<sup>15</sup> European Environment Agency (2021). Plastics, the circular economy and Europe’s environment — A priority for action, <file:///C:/Users/xier/AppData/Local/Temp/TH-AL-20-025-EN-N%20Plastics-%20the%20circular%20economy.pdf>

- a. Lack of new business models (and innovations) and investment from the private sector to tackle plastic pollution from a systemic and value chain perspective. This is linked to all Root Causes.
- b. Lack of regulations and conducive fiscal policy instruments from governments to incentivize sustainable consumption and production by households and businesses, and trade policy to promote circular plastic products as well as pollution reduction. There also lacks coherent and consistent regulations across countries and regions to develop common solutions and markets for more circular materials, products and service. This is linked to Root Causes 1, 2, 3, and 5.
- c. Lack of investment and financing on circular alternatives, products, business models, technologies and infrastructure to support transformation towards circular plastics economy. This is linked to Root Causes 1, 2, 4, and 5.
- d. Lack of replication of best practices and innovation across national boundaries. Usually, solutions (such as EPR, reuse) are implemented at very specific national contexts in small scale, supported by individual business action or specific policy instruments. There is no fundamental transformation for all players in the same industrial sector to deploy solutions at regional or global level, which limits the uptake of potential innovation and technologies at larger scale. Potential reasons may include lack of more harmonized policy and regulatory settings across countries, limited policy or economic incentives to deploy and scale up new solutions, and insufficient exchanges at regional and global levels. This is linked to Root causes 1, 2, 3, and 4.
- e. Lack of knowledge, awareness, ambitions, and capacity to enable governments, businesses, and other stakeholders to learn and adopt best practices at city, national and regional levels. This is linked to Root causes 1, 2, 3, and 4.

#### **Intervention strategy of the Program**

5. To develop and implement the activities of the Program, **success** is achieved when **industry actors along the plastics value chain** have made ambitious commitment and taken action that significantly reduces their plastic pollution footprint. This also requires that governments put in place **an enabling regulatory environment** to induce change. A systemic and coherent regulatory framework put forward by the governments can be enforced through regular monitoring and progressive improvement, and strongly supported by industrial actions.
6. Key actions on the **public planning side and aligning public finance with circular economy objectives** may aid this shift. These include **economic analyses** that feed into governments' planning, carrying out market and technology feasibility studies to ascertain the relevance, affordability, and scaling up the potential of solutions, and using **trade related and fiscal policy measures** across the entire life cycle. **Efficient and effective public finance measures are also key for** leveraging the **private finance** that is needed to create the impetus for change. In addition, **critical demand side levers** from a consumer lens (which includes governments, businesses, and households), including public procurement and advocacy, can further incentivize changes in industry practices.
7. The Program will need to inform, and be informed, by ongoing global processes, including the intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC) on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, which will provide an additional incentive and implementation experience for actions across the life cycle. **Engagement with regulators** in countries and **key negotiators will be critical in addition to engagement with industry actors** across the plastics value chain. The Program will engage in **the G20, G7, World Economic Forum, the EMG and CEB** processes as well as United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (**UNSDCFs**) **in countries** to showcase the key achievements of the Program and identify linkages and potential collaboration areas with and via these processes. The work in the different components will reflect the difference in approaches to inspire and support action in developing as well as developed economies.

## B. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

### Objective of the Program

8. The Program aims to transition towards a **circular economy of plastics in the food and beverage sector, to prevent plastic pollution.**
9. Based on a life cycle approach and with a very specific focus on upstream and midstream interventions, the Program will target regions, countries, product categories, and value chains which can trigger the most impacts, to significantly contribute to the progress needed for a global system's change to reduce and end plastic pollution. The Program aims to coordinate with all relevant partners to create synergies and mobilize resources to create enabling policies and regulation and invest in just and safe transition towards circular systems, innovation, solutions, and technologies.

### Scope of the Program

10. The vision of the Program will be achieved by implementing a circular economy approach in the **food and beverage sector**, which corresponds to the scope of the Program. The food and beverage industry is of particular concern due to the high volume of single-use plastic packaging pollution. Nine out of ten of the most common beach clean-up items are tied to the food and beverage sector. Meanwhile, the top brands tied to plastic pollution are associated with the food and beverage industry. Fundamental issues faced with this sector will be addressed, including:
  - Dominant use of crude oil as the primary feedstock in producing plastic packaging and products;
  - Exponential growth of production and consumption of packaging, intensified by COVID-19;
  - High volume of single-use and hard-to-recycle (multi-layers, light-weighted, low value) packaging, especially in countries with economies in transition characterized as 'sachet economy';
  - Lack of more sustainable alternatives (such as reusable packaging and products);
  - Lack of circular systems for reuse and refill to extend the life of products;
  - Constraints in product/packaging design to meet the requirements and standards on food safety and prevention of food waste;
  - Health risk caused by the migration of chemicals used in many single-use food contact materials. Chemicals and additives can be added to plastic packaging, in order to make them more flexible, boost their resistance to heat and sunlight, or add colour, and most of these can easily leach into the food they touch. 68 of the chemicals that can be added to plastics are hazardous to our environment, and 63 are hazardous to our health. Out of those 63 chemicals, 6 are notably classified as substances of very high concern (SVHC), under the EU chemical legislation REACH, based on their toxicity for reproduction and their endocrine disrupting properties<sup>16</sup>.
  - Lack of actions, solutions, and facilities to ensure materials and products are actually circulated in practice for reuse and recycling.
11. The Program, and especially its country child projects, will focus on all widely used plastics relevant to the food and beverage sector, including food packaging and containers; bottles, cups, straws, cutlery, tableware; water sachets; shopping and carrier bags, as well as plastics used in food systems and value chain that are particularly posing risks to people and the environment, including plastic products used in hospitality, restaurants, tourism sites, event centers etc. The Program will include interventions in the following plastic applications:
  - Food and beverage packaging for conservation and transport (such as individual or bulk packaging for shipment etc.)
  - Food wrapping, bottles, lids, containers, sachets for food and beverage, flexibles and films, labels etc. for food and beverage
  - Trays, cutlery, plates, straws, take-aways boxes etc.
  - Shopping bags in food and beverage markets, vendors or shops

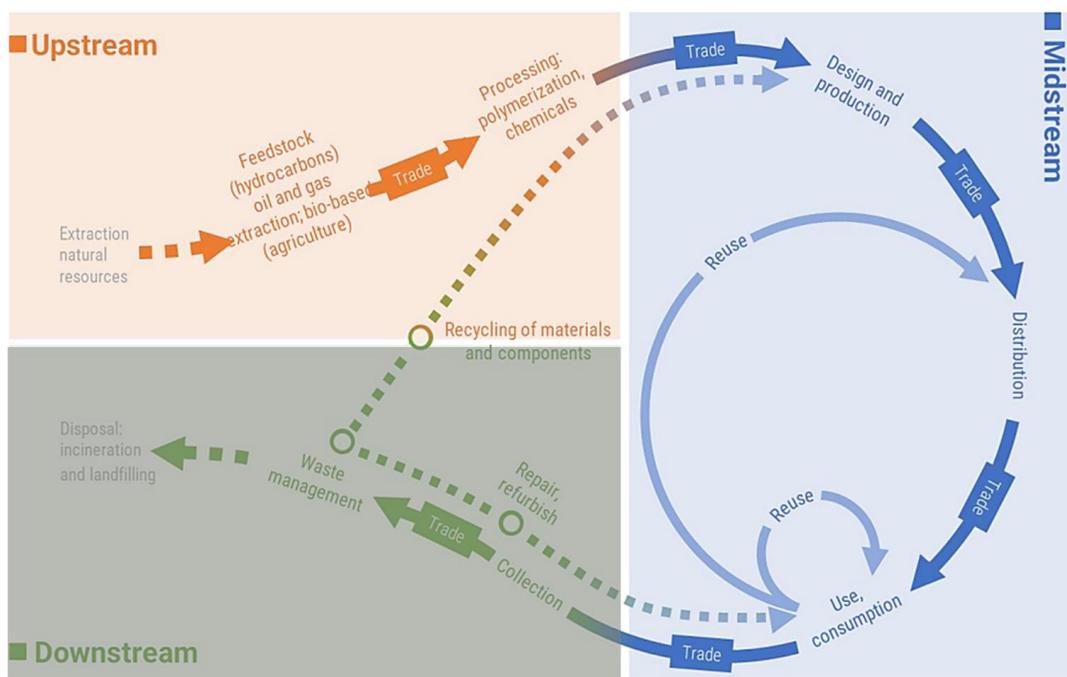
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<sup>16</sup> [https://zerowasteeurope.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/towards\\_safe\\_food\\_contact\\_materials.pdf](https://zerowasteeurope.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/towards_safe_food_contact_materials.pdf)

- Plastic products used in hospitality, restaurants, tourism sites, event centers etc. for food and beverage
12. The Global Platform intends to optimize the delivery of a cohesive program across 15 countries to reduce plastic pollution in the food and beverage sector by delivering technical assistance to national child projects, addressing global barriers, and promoting knowledge management and program coordination. It aims to ensure the success of the Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution Integrated Program’s national level child projects and create a cohesive whole to achieve an impact that is larger than the sum of child projects. The knowledge and lessons shared by the Global Platform will facilitate upscaling of activities among and beyond the countries the Program operates in.

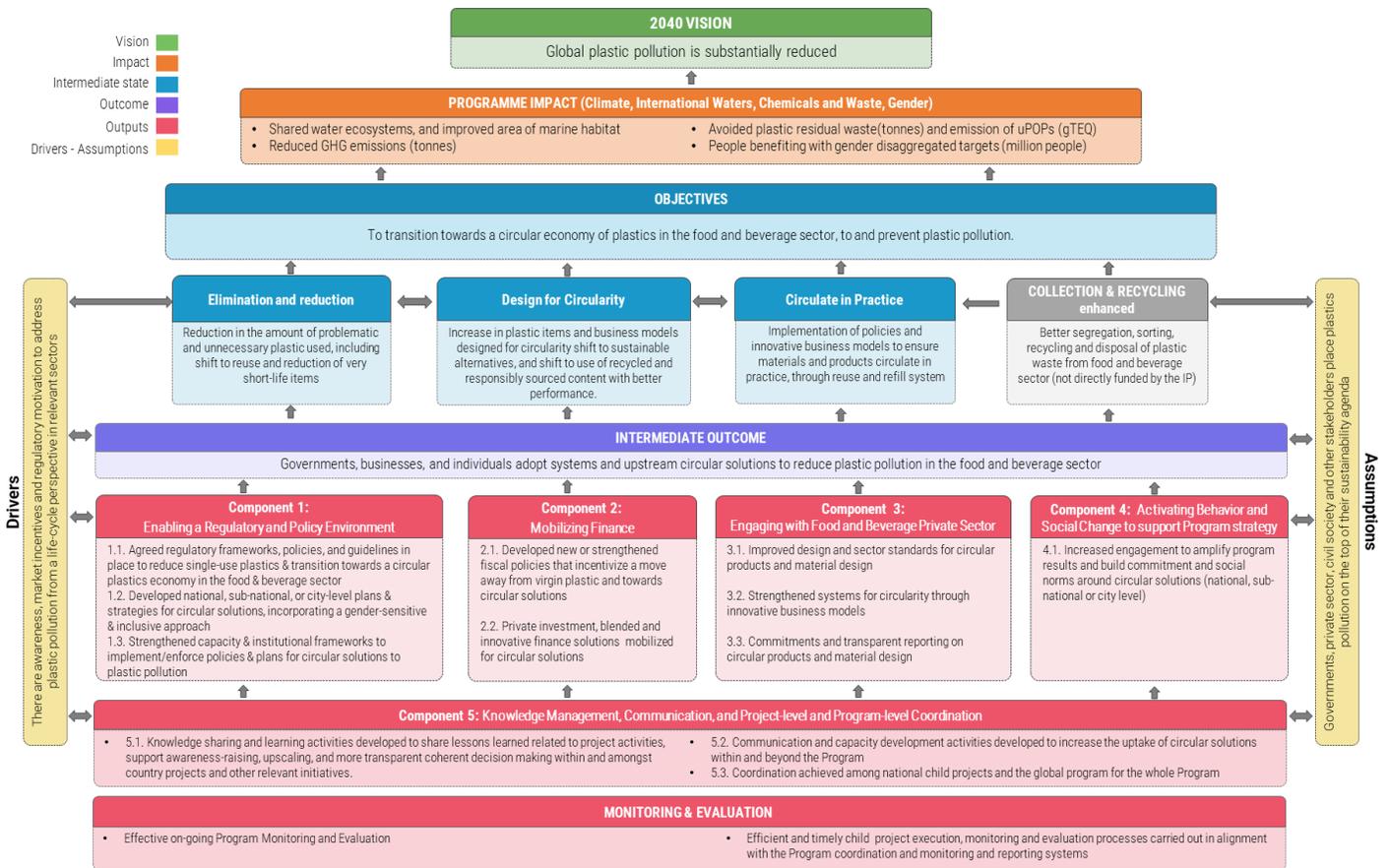
### Theory of Change

13. The Program focuses on the food and beverage sector (specially on single-use plastic products and packaging), and has the following components:
- **Component 1: Enabling Regulatory and Policy Environment** (Regulators develop & implement coherent regulatory frameworks including trade related policies, towards circular plastics economy for food & beverage with higher ambition and commitment, and transparent reporting)
  - **Component 2: Mobilizing Finance** (Governments & financial institutions develop fiscal policies and investment to realign incentives away from virgin plastic, single-use plastic packaging and products, and develop circular solutions and infrastructure)
  - **Component 3: Private Sector Engagement** (Food & beverage industry actors create & distribute products through innovative business models that ensure packaging is designed for circularity, collected, reused, and ultimately recycled with high ambition, commitment, and transparent reporting)
  - **Component 4: Behavior and Social Changes** (People and communities shift behavior and practices towards a circular plastics economy for food & beverage)
  - **Component 5: Knowledge, Capacity & Reporting** (Stakeholders agreed on harmonized definitions, metrics, and measurement methodologies for governments, private sector, supply chains, cities, and trade to access success reducing plastic pollution; improved knowledge with traceability and transparency of information and data to better understand plastic pollution; strong coordination among the stakeholders throughout the plastic life cycle to ensure circularity; increased commitment from governments and private sector; improved access to resources; and strong knowledge sharing within and among projects and beyond regarding lessons learned)
14. The Program aims to achieve expected outcomes to enhance the circularity of plastics through the following three priorities. As defined by the scope of the Program, as well as following the waste hierarchy, the Program will focus primarily on the upstream and midstream interventions.
- Upstream:** Eliminating unnecessary, avoidable and problematic plastic products and hazardous additives and shifting to sustainable alternatives; use recycled plastics as feedback for plastic production.
  - Midstream:** Innovating to extend the life of products where plastics are necessary, by creating reusable or recyclable products & by creating circular systems (reuse, refill, repair, resell, repair, repurpose); as well as reducing unnecessary consumption of plastics by consumers and commercial users, especially for single-use plastic products;
  - Downstream:** This Program will not directly fund downstream activities (including collection, segregation, recycling, incineration, landfill, disposal of residues, and clean-ups of legacy plastics in the environment), but they may be included through in-kind and co-financing activities to complement upstream and midstream activities aimed at circularity. Responsibly managing plastic waste through efficient collection systems and recycling systems to circulate plastic materials back into new products without downcycling.



**Figure 1. Life cycle of plastic products and focus of the Program on upstream and midstream intervention** (Source: INC-1 document: UNEP/PP/INC.1/7 Plastics science)

15. Through the activities organized in these five components, it is expected that the achievement of intermediate outcome is contingent on the way governments, businesses, and individuals will adopt systems and upstream and midstream circular solutions to reduce plastic pollution in the food and beverage industry. This will be concretely reflected in the results as follows:
- a. **Elimination and Reduction:** reduction in the amount of problematic and unnecessary plastic used, including shift to reuse and reduction of very short-life items.
  - b. **Design for Circularity:** Increase in plastic items and business models designed for circularity (design for reuse, recyclability, elimination of problematic chemicals and items), shift to sustainable alternatives, and shift to use of recycled and responsibly sourced content with better performance.
  - c. **Circulate in Practice:** Implementation of policies and innovative business models which ensure materials and products circulate in practice, through reuse systems, recycling and recovery systems (the latter two activities on recycling and recovery will be complemented by co-finance and in-kind contribution from other projects and partners).



**Figure 2. Theory of Change of the Program**

### Programmatic approach and structure of the Program

16. The Integrated Program follows a programmatic approach which designs its projects with a collective and common approach, reduce repetitive work on shared topics, gains unique experience from implementing the common approach in various national and local contexts, and upscale best practices and positive learning to a wider range of countries and stakeholders. The Program contains a set of interlinked projects that will be implemented together to provide systems solutions, which are expected to achieve a global transformation of the plastic economy by demonstrating the possibility and impacts of upstream and midstream actions and lead the trend of upscaling adoption. The Global Platform and 15 national child projects will collectively deliver the Programmatic Components, through the interventions at both global and national levels. Each national child project contributes to several (at a minimum to components 1, 3 & 5) or all Programmatic Components of the Program, while the Global Platform will provide the overall management of the Program, synergize inputs and experience from all national child projects, provide global level technical support on shared topics, and lead knowledge sharing, communication and program-level coordination.



**Figure 3. Illustration of projects under the Program**

17. Guided by the Theory of Change at the Program level, all 15 national child projects will be developed and implemented following this common approach to have a coordinated contribution to the delivery of the Program.

18. Summarizing the concept notes of the 15 national child projects it is evident that all projects contribute to five components of the Program:

- **Component 1: Enabling a Regulatory and Policy Environment**
  - All 15 national child projects have designed interventions to develop national regulatory and policy framework for circular economy of plastics.
  - 10 projects (out of 15) have proposed activities related to Extended Producer Responsibility, Return Deposit Schemes.
  - 5 projects focus on reduce, phase out and ban single-use and problematic plastic products in the food and beverage sector; 2 projects work on trade issues through import policies and guidance; and 4 projects stimulate market towards more sustainable and circular project through sustainable procurement and fiscal policies.
- **Component 2: Mobilizing Finance**
  - 8 projects (out of 15) have proposed activities related to fiscal policies by the governments, as well as investment from the financial institutions to support circular solutions and discourage unsustainable products and actions.
  - Several projects proposed to work on an incubator system to provide funding and investment support to increase market access to SMEs and innovative solutions.
- **Component 3: Engaging with Food and Beverage Private Sector**
  - 8 projects (out of 15) planned to work on assessment, selection and testing of alternative materials, products and solutions to alternatives (such as degradable, reusable, recyclable materials, or non-plastic materials) for application in the markets (not at laboratory level).
  - 3 projects proposed to develop guidance and support on design criteria for materials and products.

- 7 projects were also envisaged to develop reuse and refill systems for specific products.
  - Component 4: Activating Behavior and Social Change to support program strategy
    - 10 projects planned to work on targeted campaigns and actions to stimulate the behavior change of consumers, professional users and targeted groups, to improve the uptake of designed policies, regulations and products that are developed in Components 1, 2, and 3.
    - One national child project proposed to design eco-label to support more circular products, to increase the access of better Consumer Information related to sustainability.
  - Component 5: Knowledge Management, Communication, and Program-level Coordination
    - All projects prepared activities on knowledge management, capacity development and communication.
    - One project proposed to work on the traceability and transparency of plastic products.
19. In summary, all the 15 national projects have common approaches, instruments and interventions which will be implemented in diverse national contexts to generate real-time local knowledge and learning. These projects cover plastic packaging and products for a wide range of commodities in the food and beverage sector, such as drinking water, beverages and alcohols, fresh produce, frozen food, snacks and confectionery, etc. Projects also include a great variety of actors, activities, and venues along the plastic value chain: distribution, logistic and transport, tourism (hotels and attraction sites), catering service, restaurants, food delivery, event and conference centers, offices, schools, retailers and supermarkets. All these diverse settings will enrich the successful cases and examples to be generated from the Program and provide opportunities to engage with the public and private sectors for replication. Due to its specific focus on upstream and midstream solutions, the novelty of the Program will be reflected on identifying, selecting and testing those solutions which go beyond waste management, and possess the potential for transformational impacts to change our way of production and purchase behavior.
20. Furthermore, the Program does not limit to the implementation in 15 child project countries but intends to facilitate the potential replication and scale-up through the following avenues:
- a. The Program and its Global Platform will summarize the experience from countries with common topics of interventions (such as circular economy policies, EPR, reuse), and identify the commonality as well as the differentiated approaches for adaption reflecting specific contexts. Best practices and learning will be shared through the activities in Component on Knowledge Management, to increase awareness and impacts at regional and global level.
  - b. The Global Platform will work with a group of multinationals, industry associations and private sector initiatives in the food and beverage sectors, to understand and map their existing projects and actions in different countries and markets. This will connect the interventions of 15 national child projects with relevant industry players, while providing an extended network and space to replicate the learning from the 15 countries to more countries and markets.
  - c. The Global Platform will also explore with governmental donors, philanthropic foundations, development banks, private investors, and other funding partners, to strengthen the planned activities in the 15 countries, while seeking synergies by applying a similar Results Framework in other countries (considering the substantial interest from 35 countries to share their Expression of Interest to apply for the national child projects). This can lead to a more impactful outcome by working in more countries with a similar pathway that is defined by the current Program.
  - d. The Global Platform will build synergies with other ongoing GEF projects and Integrated Program related to plastics. This will lead to an enhanced outcomes that all relevant countries under the GEF portfolio are sharing implementation and learning experience. In the meantime, interventions designed for different sectors (food and beverage in this Program; agriculture in FARM; electronics, building and constructions, automotives in GEF

Africa POPs project) and geographical focus (SIDS in ISLANDS Program; Cities Program) can come together under a coherent policy framework, and aligned engagement strategy with the private sector.

- e. The Global Platform will provide technical assistance on topics that are relevant across child projects, as well as topics that have global and regional implications, which can further be applied in non-target countries. It can support to build enabling environment and propose actionable recommendations for stakeholders in child project countries and other non-target countries.

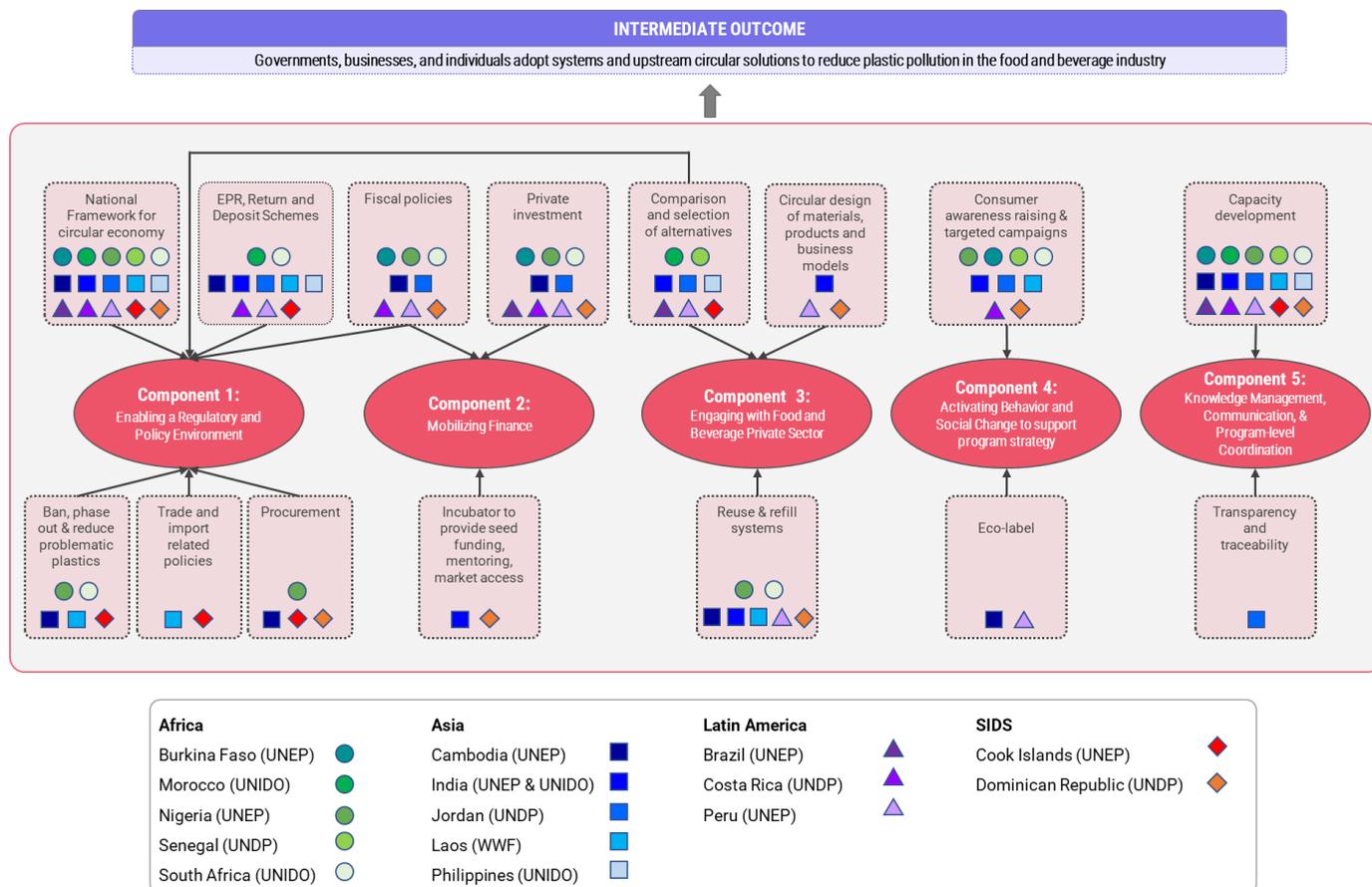


Figure 4: Programmatic approach to deliver the expected outcome

a. **Global Child Project as the coordination project for the Program (Global Platform)**

21. **Component 1: Technical Assistance to 15 National Child Projects: Targeted Technical Assistance** and capacity development to child projects on key topics related to circular economy of plastics, with ‘on-demand’ support based on emerging technical needs and critical issues identified by the child projects, and innovative business solutions to foster awareness and uptake by child projects. The topics of this component will be confirmed during the PPG development phase of national child projects through a collective consultation with all relevant countries. From an initial analysis of 15 concept notes of the national child projects, potential topics include:

- **National legislative and policy framework on circular economy to reduce plastic pollution:** provide guidance on the necessary legislative, legal, regulatory and policy setting to have a comprehensive framework to implement circular economy to reduce plastic pollution throughout the whole life cycle, including defining scope, best instruments and fiscal policies, target setting, stakeholder engagement and responsibilities, implementation roadmaps and enforcement plans etc.
- **Stakeholder engagement through partnerships and coalitions,** including with the finance sector, private sector, CSOs and global initiatives, for Program leverage and impact, connection to child projects, and to strengthen

existing coalitions and initiatives for effective and inclusive program delivery and results, especially with the private sector. This can also include the idea to develop an incubator system to provide grants or finance to support initiatives and innovations with the high-potential to scale up.

- **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and Deposit and Return Scheme (DRS):** provide best practices, technical guidance as well as tailored support to develop and enforce EPR and DRS in different contexts, targeting both governments and the private sector
- Assess different **materials and alternatives** for their environmental and economic social-economic performances by applying Life Cycle Assessment and other methods (such as biodegradable, biobased, compostable, non-plastic materials etc.), and **policy guidance on what materials to be phased out** (unnecessary, problematic, avoidable plastics) with alternative solutions provided
- **Design guidance** on sustainable materials and circular products towards relevant businesses along the food and beverage value chain
- Guidance on developing **reuse solutions**, including reusable products; logistics, facilities and support needed for reuse and refill systems at community, city and national scales
- Guidance on **standards, eco-labelling and sustainable procurement** for sustainable consumption and creating markets for more circular products and solutions

22. **Component 2: Addressing Global Barriers** on global and cross-cutting topics, which are pertinent not only to the 15 national child projects, but also to other plastic programs and initiatives beyond the GEF 8 Integrated Program and project. This will support setting up **enabling conditions** by creating a common vision, fostering knowledge sharing, developing harmonized definitions and measurement methods for monitoring plastic pollution, stimulate innovation, strengthening coordination along the plastic value chain, increasing investment in innovative solutions, and promoting a just transition. This component will not only support the 15 countries of the national child projects, but also a broader range of countries facing the same issues which will be supported through all relevant GEF agencies and partners of the Program. Refinement of topics will be defined in the PPG phase of the Global Platform through a comprehensive consultation, and below is an initial list of topics for a selection of 15 national child projects (based on their needs and interest) and other non-GEF projects to pilot test, apply, assess and improve:

- **Harmonized definitions and metrics:** develop standardized definitions, metrics and methodologies and tools for both companies and governments to create a common language for credibly and consistently measuring success against targets, and to enable and monitor the scaling and widespread adoption of circular economy approaches.
- **Trade and Traceability:** Improve traceability and transparency of trade of products by creating best practices for import controls and other means, and more harmonized data on traded products and waste.
- **Finance:** Identify, incubate, and scale up innovative and blended finance mechanisms and de-risking solutions, to support the financing of innovative business models and technologies, towards plastics waste prevention systems or emerging circular financing approaches.

23. **Component 3: Knowledge Management and Coordination**

- **Management and administration** of the Program and its child projects, including Program Management Unit (such as governance, administration, budgets and expenditure, procurements, logistics, events, contracts etc.)
- **Program coordination** across all participating global, regional and national child projects for Program coherence and synergies
- **Communications and outreach** of program results, internally and externally to the program members
- **Knowledge management** to foster south-south sharing of project lessons, experiences and to provide additional good-practices and innovative solutions and lessons learned from other partners to the participating child projects

- **Program level M&E** against a program-level Results Framework, aggregation of results and impact tracking, including through national, regional and global monitoring, for program reporting, and a program-wide mid-term review and terminal evaluation. This component will also promote coherence of indicators and develop a program level system to integrate national/regional and global monitoring systems for continuity and better assessment of impacts beyond the Program.

**b. National child projects**

24. 15 countries have been selected to implement national child projects through the Expression of Interest process. Below is a list of recommended countries for the national child projects with implementing agencies, pending the approval by the GEF Council and the table in this section summarizes the key activities from these projects:

**Africa**

- Burkina Faso (UNEP)
- Morocco (UNIDO)
- Nigeria (UNEP)
- Republic of South Africa (UNIDO)
- Senegal (UNDP)

**Asia and the Pacific**

- Cambodia (UNEP)
- Cook Islands (UNEP)
- India (UNEP cum UNIDO)
- Jordan (UNDP)
- Lao People's Democratic Republic (WWF US)
- Philippines (UNIDO)

**Latin America and the Caribbean**

- Brazil (UNEP)
- Costa Rica (UNDP)
- Dominican Republic (UNDP)
- Peru (UNEP)

25. The country child projects will address systems challenges of plastic pollution for the food and beverage sector in respective national contexts. All child projects will follow a shared Results Framework of the Program to ensure coherent implementation of targeted solutions and maximize the possibility for scale-up. From the assessment of 15 concept notes, all country child projects will include the following components:

- **Enabling a Regulatory and Policy Environment** at the national level to reduce pollution from **upstream and midstream interventions** (banning certain single-use short-lived products, eliminating chemicals of concern in plastic products, setting up single-use packaging reduction targets, reviewing eco-design criteria, standards and eco-labels, promoting sustainable procurement, developing and implementing fiscal policies such as progressive taxation on virgin plastics, tax reduction for using recycled content, trade related policies etc.), and incentive-based downstream interventions, especially on extended producer responsibility, deposit return schemes, and policy frameworks for reuse, collection and recycling, and disposal (the latter two elements to be supported by Program in-kind contribution or co-finance). The development of specific policies tailored to local conditions geared towards a global vision will support the necessary enabling regulatory framework that facilitates the system change.
- **Up taking circular solutions by Food and Beverage Private Sector** to innovate **material, product design and business models** to reduce single-use plastic products and complexity of plastic materials and to improve reusability and recyclability, guidance on circular packaging and alternatives to ensure food safety, eliminate the production and use of problematic and unnecessary plastic products, phase out plastic products containing

hazardous chemicals, and promote alternative products and recycled content. Develop and promote reuse schemes and reuse infrastructure at the city level.

26. **Knowledge management and communication** to summarize synthesize lessons learned across the experiences from the projects and communicate achievements the gain knowledge towards wider audience for replication A number of child projects are also working on the following two components (but not all projects include them):

- **Mobilizing finance** to incentivize and support the uptake of sustainable and circular solutions, through fiscal policies and private sector engagement. The approach of Extended Producer Responsibility has been widely proposed as a cross-cutting financing policy and instrument to fund better product design and support the operation of efficient collection, segregation, and recycling for plastics in the food and beverage sector (70% of the national child projects). In the meantime, there are other approaches such as new investment from banks, governments, private investors are mentioned, which can be the key topic for an incubator to provide finance, mentoring and improve market access to circular solutions.
- **Activating behavior and Social Change to support program strategy**, to promote sustainable consumption and shift behavior of key stakeholders to facilitate the uptake of new policies and business innovation developed in other components. This is achieved through awareness raising campaigns, sustainable public procurement, eco-labels and standards, and improvement of transparency through product sustainability information and digitalization (such as product digital passports, other actions to improve transparency and knowledge on trade related policies). Use of gender-sensitive language and gender-balanced images will be used in relevant campaigns (women presented as agents of change) (50% of the national child projects).

27. In addition to the individual country project, regional cooperation will be developed among countries with shared boundaries or water ecosystems (such as Cambodia and Laos), and this will also contribute to the GEF Core Indicator 7 on shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management.

**Table 1: Overview of 15 national child projects**

Country	Topic	Geo. location	Key activities by Programmatic Components				
			Policy	Finance	Private sector	Social and Behavior change	KM and comm.
Burkina Faso	Reduce single-use plastic products in 3 regions	Three regions in Burkina Faso	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Complement existing legislation and policy framework on circular economy of plastics</li> <li>- Strengthen legal framework on plastic packaging and bags</li> </ul>	Develop sustainable financing and public-private partnership	Capacity building to strengthen existing private sector partnership		Assess, monitor and report status of plastic production, consumption and waste generation
Brazil	Improve circularity of FB through tourism sector	Whole country for policies, and implementation for		Use the National Plastics Circularity Hub and Circularity index to develop finance	Pilot compostable alternatives at level 7 TRL	Develop a Plastics Circularity Hub	Gender specific capacity and knowledge among the

		coastal areas (15 pilot cities)					national and sub-national government actors, the private sector, academic, the youth and communities related to CE solutions and application
Cambodia	System change on circularity of FB sector	National level for policies, and implementation focuses on 3 cities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sub-decree and policy matrix for upstream and midstream measures (ban on unnecessary SUP, promotion of alternatives and recycling)</li> <li>- Technical standards and green procurement</li> </ul>	Support financing through EPR, fiscal policies (tax, levies, green procurement, plastic credits)	Pilot an EPR voluntary scheme	Promote sus. consumption through eco-labelling and certifications	Knowledge shared and learning activities developed to support awareness-raising, replication, and upscaling
Cook Island	Reduce unnecessary plastic products entering the island (imports) through enabling environment on reuse, alternatives, and recycling	All island and water areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Upstream and midstream policies to reduce plastic pollution on products entering the island through national strategy and action plan</li> <li>- Policy to identify and replace problematic plastics</li> </ul>	Private sector implementing fiscal credit related to EPR and DRS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Roll-out of alternative products in key businesses and venues</li> <li>- Provide technical and low-value grant assistance for the implementation of NAP</li> <li>- 20 pilots in FB sector, and also in tourism businesses</li> </ul>		Improve coordination with the Global Program, other national child projects and regional networks
Costa Rica	DRS systems, and substitution of non-plastics solution	Full country of Costa Rica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DRS</li> <li>- Policy for using non-plastic alternatives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tax for using plastics in containers and packaging</li> <li>- Fiscal incentives for waste management</li> <li>- Fiscal credit for companies</li> </ul>	Participating companies implement DRS systems, non-plastic packaging and recycling initiatives	Awareness raising campaign and educational strategy for consumers	Strengthen national and regional knowledge

Dominican Republic	Implementation of national policy framework to reduce plastics pollution from FB including EPR	Production center of region Santo Domingo, cities of tourism destinations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EPR policy</li> <li>- Green purchases</li> <li>- National dialogue platform</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fiscal incentives and payment schemes</li> <li>- Incubation of CE start-ups</li> <li>- Private banking (mobilization of green funds)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Innovation and learning in design of sustainable packaging in farms, supermarkets and canteens</li> <li>- Recycling and collective management systems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Awareness campaigns with airlines/cruises students</li> <li>- Replace single use in hotels and caterings</li> <li>- Train on national action plans (NAP)</li> </ul>	platform / network
India	Minimize waste and reduce plastic pollution from FB packaging	Pan-India and 2 pilot cities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Enable policies on alternative packaging, reuse and refill models</li> <li>- Monitoring and verification for EPR</li> <li>- SOP models for cities</li> <li>- EPR implementation at city level</li> </ul>	Develop replicable, implementable, collaborative, financially sustainable model for FB in cities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Guidelines for industry on reuse, refill and alternative materials</li> <li>- Pilot for bottled water/drink, dairy, biscuits/sweets, grains, frozen food</li> <li>- EPR implementation at city level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Capacity building in and inter cities</li> <li>- Behavior change and awareness raising activities</li> </ul>	
Jordan	Reduce the use and disposal of single-use plastic for FB sector	Mid-region for the country for implementation, awareness raising cover whole country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop policies on single-use plastics, input materials for industries, use of alternative and degradable materials, EPR, take-back programs, products and production quality standards</li> <li>- Policies and standards on sustainable products</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fiscal policies and blended finance mechanisms, and de-risking solutions</li> <li>- Promote entrepreneurial and innovative ideas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Innovation incubator</li> <li>- Use innovative materials and ecological alternatives</li> <li>- Pilot business model on plastic free restaurants, hotels and businesses</li> <li>- Implement innovative technologies in the plastics industry</li> <li>- Reduce the single use plastics in hospitality sector:</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improve knowledge with traceability and transparency to better understand plastic pollution</li> <li>- Plastics reduction education and campaigns</li> </ul>	

					compostable materials, reuse system	
Lao	Reduce single-use plastics in hospitality sector	National level for policies, and implementation focuses on 3 urban areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Policy incentive to eliminate single-use plastics</li> <li>- Implement action in NPAP (single-use, EPR, standards on waste import, import tax)</li> </ul>		SME for innovations through grant-making mechanism	Public awareness and behavior shift
Morocco	Build capacity for producers to adopt circular approaches on upstream and midstream interventions	Nation wide	Revision of policies on EPR		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Change materials and explore alternatives</li> <li>- Demonstrate technologies for highly recyclable materials</li> <li>- Ban chemicals of concern, and create segregation and disposal standards for POPs-containing plastics</li> </ul>	
Nigeria	Reduce plastic pollution from FB, and especially on water sachets	Entire country on policy, but implementation in 6 high-population density states	Policy, regulations and standards to develop reusable and refillable solutions for drinking water	Fiscal policies and investment for infrastructure, logistics, management of sustainable water sources	Partnership with private sector to develop solutions for alternative water source	Create awareness for the developed solutions towards key users
Peru	Synthetic approach of policies and business innovation towards	Entire country for policy implementation, but pilot might be implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- National policy framework</li> <li>- EPR policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Finance for companies to move away from virgin plastics</li> <li>- Fiscal policy and finance incentives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Eco-design and eco-labelling for recyclability of packaging</li> <li>- Use of non-plastic or reusable materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increase national commitment and report on SCP</li> <li>- Advocate more countries to</li> </ul>

	circularity of FB	nted at several cities			- New business model for reuse, refill and return system	join High-ambition coalition for the implementation of the treaty
Philippines	Develop sustainable policies and resource efficient systems	3 big metropolitan areas and other cities	Develop EPR policy	Funding through EPR and grants to support facilities and actions	- Adopt alternative packaging solutions - Establish waste infrastructure for food and beverage waste	
Senegal	Reduce the use and disposal of single-use plastics from FB	National and local	Awareness raising and capacity development on the existing regulation (not develop new ones)	Work with UNCDF for financing of waste management and other topics in the FB sector	- Work with restaurants for zero-waste policies - Innovation for sustainable alternative solutions and infrastructure - Hackathon and Global Call for Solutions	Capacity building towards sorting in schools, waste management
South Africa	Transition towards a thriving, equitable, and inclusive circular economy	Upstream and midstream will have nationwide activities, downstream will focus on selected municipalities	- Promote circular economy policies (EPR, DRS, regulation on imported products) - Support the EPR implementation in cities	Mobilize finance with financial institutions and governmental agencies	- National guidelines to phase out identified products - Include recycled content, replace packaging, reuse/refill models, DfC guidelines - Support EPR implementation in cities	Develop education and awareness raising materials

### Policy coherence

28. From the analysis of all 15 concept notes from national child projects, a high-level coherence on policy development and enforcement has been identified in these countries. There is a common recognition of the need to introduce a comprehensive national policy and regulatory framework that can address the full plastic life cycle and major hotspots, which goes beyond the narrow focus on downstream actions of waste management and disposal. This will

support the creation of an enabling environment to provide the necessary incentives and political drivers to reduce plastic pollution from its sources and reduce leakage of plastics into the environment.

29. The following regulatory and policy enablers have been mentioned across all country child projects:
- a. Develop a fully inclusive, participatory and gender sensitive national strategy and actions on plastic pollution
  - b. Introduce regulations and laws to reduce single-use plastic products, including products imported from abroad and trade related topics
  - c. Develop policies, laws and standards to regulate plastic industries and their input materials and products into the products, while identifying the roles and responsibility of relevant governmental entities and businesses along the value chain
  - d. Encourage the use of more sustainable and circular alternatives and solutions through incentives and subsidies, including compostable, reusable and refillable solutions and systems
  - e. Support the implementation of extended producer responsibility to incentivize more circular products and fund waste management system of obsolete products (through in-kind contribution and co-finance), as well as an incubator to support the financing of scalable solutions and improve market access
30. The Program and its Global Platform will also closely follow the regulatory development in national child projects, to ensure that there is a good alignment between the regulatory development at the global level (following MEAs and the plastic treaty) and the implementation at national levels. The Global Platform will also support to identify potential policy instruments that may generate trade-offs or contradict with other measures, to ensure a systemic and concerted suite of instruments are developed and enforced in good coordination. This will facilitate the achievement of the Program's GEBs and co-benefits, without shifting burden from one issue or impact area to another.

### Stakeholder engagement

31. The Program will engage with the public and private sector, CSOs and consumers, to implement the most effective actions, informed by a system approach and scientific evidence. These stakeholders will bring the experience, knowledge and technical inputs from their existing work on plastic pollution. Furthermore, the Program will also target **commercial establishments** (e.g. restaurants and bakeries including fast food and take-away services, supermarkets and retailers, food delivery services, food service providing venues (e.g. office buildings, schools, conference, event and recreation centers), **public entities** (e.g. schools, governmental offices, parks), and **tourism hotspots** (tourist attraction/destinations, airlines, airports, hotels, cruise ships), to transform unsustainable consumption patterns for waste reduction, promote compostable, reusable and recyclable products and solutions, and develop markets for recycled materials. Many studies indicate that women's attitudes toward plastic pollution and the prioritization of health and profit lead to different, more environment-positive behaviours and decision-making. The Program will also trigger behaviour change through a gender lens. As noted below, vulnerable groups including informal waste pickers, women and youth groups, and local and indigenous peoples are important for this Program to engage during intervention design and implementation. These groups are highly affected by the impacts of plastic waste; and consideration of their needs, concerns, and input are necessary to ensure the success of the Program. Shifting from linear materials systems to circular systems can create new opportunities for employment, entrepreneurship, and social enterprises which are community and locally focused. Circular business models can provide an opportunity to create positive change in labour markets and create opportunities for women, youth, and people who live in urban and rural areas<sup>17</sup>.

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<sup>17</sup> Effects of the Circular Economy on Jobs, 2020 The International Institute for Sustainable Development  
Published by the International Institute for Sustainable Development, <https://www.iisd.org/system/files/2020-12/circular-economy-jobs.pdf>

32. Below is a list of stakeholders to be engaged throughout the whole Program at global, regional, national and subnational, city and community levels. Different stakeholders will play different roles in the Program, as noted under each stakeholder type below.

### **Global and regional organizations, initiatives and coalitions working on plastic pollution**

#### **Government**

33. Government stakeholders will play an executing role in the Program, including as executing agencies in the national child projects, participants in piloting and other executing activities, and as a critical engagement point regarding policy development. Furthermore, beyond execution, government stakeholders will be engaged to provide input and expertise, and facilitate connections for cross-pollination of approaches and scale up.

- National governments (relevant ministries and institutions, enforcement agencies, custom, standardization organizations etc.)
- Provincial and city governments
- Municipalities

#### **The private sector**

34. Private sector stakeholders will be engaged in several ways in the Program, including: for expert input to the design and execution of interventions, participation in piloting and incubation of solutions, advocacy and input for policy development, for adoption / scale up of solutions after piloting, and to provide co-financing and connections to relevant external initiatives. Private sector stakeholders will also be engaged in the global platform to serve on the advisory committee and participate in global level activities, as well as in each national child project.

- Packaging designers and producers
- Fast moving consumer good companies related to food and beverages sector (suppliers, wholesalers)
- Food and beverage branded and bulk companies
- Farmers (for food packaging)
- Retailers, supermarkets, grocers, individual and chain stores
- Local retail and importers related to food and beverage products
- Restaurants, fast food and take-away companies, delivery companies
- Catering companies and food service companies for: schools, governments, offices, canteens, airlines, cruise ships, conference and event centers, parks, recreation centres, tourism attractions and destinations
- Food delivery services
- Reuse, refill, repurpose, repair and remanufacturing companies
- Waste management companies, including collectors, recyclers
- Consulting and advisory firms supporting companies in the sector
- Technology and entrepreneur innovation hubs and networks
- Women's private sector networks and initiatives
- Digital solutions, social media, apps, etc.

#### **Non-government, non-profit organizations and individuals**

35. Stakeholders from non-profit organizations and individuals will be engaged as executing partners to provide expertise and technical assistance, to provide diverse perspectives into the planning and execution process, and to collaborate on relevant external initiatives to amplify uptake and scale of solutions.

- Civil society organizations
- Community groups, indigenous peoples, youth groups, women organizations
- Informal sector of waste pickers

- Trade associations

## **Research and technical institutions**

### **Replicability and reaching scale-up**

36. The 15 child projects will be coordinated and supported by communications, coordination and knowledge management activities in the Global Platform of the Program. This will ensure the exchange, replication, and scale up of successful interventions, innovations, experience from the 15 countries to a broader range of countries and regions, as well as by different stakeholders. The Global Platform will act as a central knowledge hub, receiving and providing information to and from the other child projects, as well as other GEF and non-GEF projects and activities, and encouraging communication directly between projects.
37. The stakeholder network of the Program identified and mobilized by the Global Platform will amplify learnings and facilitate replication, adaptation and scale-up of best practices at national and global levels, through different projects, actions and interventions. Knowledge products generated by the project will be shared through various platform to facilitate the scaling-up (such as: the IW: Learn platform, the Green Growth Knowledge Partnership (GGKP), the SAICM knowledge platform, the GPML Digital Platform, EPR One Stop Shop, WEF-WWF-UNEP Reuse Portal).
38. In the implementation phase, the Program and its project will also create strong ownership of stakeholders to the project by supporting governments and businesses to design and implement policies and solutions. When it comes to innovations, it is fundamental that plans for scaling up consider a broad range of factors and balance what is desirable with what is feasible. The success of scaling up depends on actual implementation. When developing policies and solutions, the project will also advise partners on how to scale these solutions up, which is particularly important for the pilot tests under policy implementation and business engagement. The communication strategy to be developed under the Program and projects will take into consideration how the communication efforts could help generate at an early stage a positive environment for scaling up and at later stage sustain the results achieved by the project. Engaging actively with relevant stakeholders identified by the project will also open-up channels for dissemination and promote the scaling-up based on sufficient coordination of interests. Based on the best practices, the activity will prepare recommendations on how these upstream and midstream innovations will be applied in the context of other cities, countries and regions.
39. In addition, the private sector engagement through the Global Platform can drive the systems change at the global level, by working with both multinationals as well as SMEs at local scales. The Global Platform will work with leaders and actors to leverage policy instruments and financial mechanisms, discuss innovation and technologies for upstream and midstream solutions along the value chain, exchange lessons learnt and best practices in a broader range of cities and countries for replication. Capacity building and training activities will support strengthening the capacity of relevant stakeholders in adaptation, while long-term monitoring will track and showcase the progress made under the Program and continue to drive help keep the momentum to scale up the project activities by achieving more measurable progress.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

40. As the lead agency, UNEP will coordinate the Program, and as co-lead WWF will work in close collaboration. Together, UNEP and WWF will deliver a cohesive Program with components designed to reinforce each other's success. UNEP and WWF will work closely with the GEF agencies implementing the 15 national child projects and will be responsible for the overall Program coordination and supervision, overseeing the progress through monitoring and evaluation of activities, by compiling progress reports as well as all relevant knowledge products and outputs. Regular assessment and tracking will be performed to understand the progress towards achieving the objectives, outcomes, and outputs of the Program by following relevant indicators.

41. In addition to the relevant GEF core indicators selected for this Program, the following indicators will be used to track the Program objective for its impacts related to the effects of upstream and midstream solution to reduce plastic pollution, across the Program and its national child projects to evaluate progress and impacts:
- a. **Elimination and Reduction:** reduction in the amount of problematic and unnecessary plastic used, including shift to reuse and reduction of very short-life items
    - Unit: Tonnes of single-use material avoided (including shifted to reusable systems)
  - b. **Design for Circularity:** increase in plastic items and business models designed for circularity (design for reuse, recyclability, elimination of problematic chemicals and items), shift to sustainable alternatives, and shift to use of recycled and responsibly sourced content with better performance.
    - Unit: Tonnes of material with improved design
  - c. **Circulate in Practice:** implementation of policies and innovative business models which ensure materials and products circulate in practice, through reuse systems, recycling and recovery systems.
    - Unit: Tonnes of material reused, recycled, composted
    - Unit: Tonnes of material avoided from open burning
42. A program-level monitoring and evaluation plan will be developed during project development (PPG). Each child project will develop their own results framework and M&E plan, aligned to the program-level M&E plan and guidance.
43. A Mid-term Evaluation (MTE) will be conducted towards the end of the second year of implementation for each child project by its implementing agency. The MTE will present an independent assessment of implementation progress, potential issues and challenges, and likelihood of the child project reaching its objectives within the expected timeframe and resources.
44. An independent terminal evaluation (TE) will take place at the end of each child project's implementation within, latest 6 months after the operational completion of the respective project. The Evaluation Office of the implementing agency will be responsible for the TE. The TE will provide an independent assessment of project performance (in terms of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency), and determine the likelihood of impact and sustainability. It will have two primary purposes: (i) to provide evidence of results to meet accountability requirements, and (ii) to promote learning, feedback, and knowledge sharing through results and lessons learned among the partner agencies. An independent Terminal Evaluation of the Program will also be undertaken by co-lead agencies and will focus on lessons learned, technical value and implementation barriers. The Program TE will be organized after all child projects have been completed.
45. Targets/reporting will be aggregated from the child projects.

#### **Coordination and Cooperation with Ongoing Initiatives and Programs**

Is the GEF Agency being asked to play an execution role on this program?

Yes  No

If so, please describe that role here.

46. The two co-lead implementing agencies will also play an execution role when it comes to the Global Platform Child Project.
- Also, please add a short explanation to describe cooperation with ongoing initiatives and projects, including potential for co-location and/or sharing of expertise/staffing (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)
47. The plastic pollution crisis has gained unprecedented momentum and attention in the last five years, but despite increased interest and investment to date, the problem continues to grow. There is a clear need for a cohesive,

global approach which matches the scale of interventions to the scale of the problem. In the next five years, there is a unique opportunity to align with and leverage the outcome of the global legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution which is currently under negotiation (expected end 2024), so that actions to address the plastic pollution crisis can be implemented a meaningful scale.

48. The Program will also assess and engage in outreach to ongoing global programs and projects on plastic pollution for which there is high potential to collaborate for greater impact, in order to identify specific and actionable connection points. Below are lists of initiatives to be further assessed for engagement and collaboration.

#### **Agencies baseline**

49. UNEP's current work on plastic includes developing authoritative and science-based knowledge products to inform policy and business action on plastic pollution; supporting multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and convening the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop a global instrument to end plastic pollution; convening stakeholders and leveraging partnerships through global initiatives such as the New Plastics Economy Global Commitment, the Global Tourism Plastics Initiative, UNEP Finance Initiative, and the Global Partnership on Marine Litter; and implementing circular economy related projects at country and city level.
50. WWF's current work on plastic includes its dedicated No Plastic in Nature initiative supported by over 40 WWF offices worldwide and focused on global policy, business engagement, and Plastic Smart Cities; working closely with the private sector and convening multi-stakeholder and business coalitions; and policy advocacy and government engagement at both the national and global levels. Several multi-stakeholder and business coalitions are convened by WWF including on the topics of plastic waste and pollution, biobased and biodegradable plastic, plastic policy advocacy, and national level cooperation for solutions.
51. UNDP has supported solid waste management including plastics management elements with a portfolio of 119 national projects with over USD 594 million in grants (<https://open.undp.org/>), and 782 community projects globally for a total grant amount of \$ USD 23 million through UNDP's GEF Small Grants Program since 1992 (<https://sgp.undp.org>). It is currently providing integrated solutions at the national, regional and global level with the current portfolio including projects in India, the Dominican Republic, Ukraine, Cambodia, Colombia, Indonesia, Ghana, Thailand, Vietnam, the Philippines, Bangladesh, Costa Rica and other countries focusing mostly on baseline setting, multi-stakeholder platforms, policy and regulation and behavior change.
52. UNIDO addresses plastic leakage to the environment, including marine environment, by promoting circular economy practices in industry helping countries develop enabling environments for promoting circular economy practices in industry and society through policy recommendations, technical assistance to industry, including capacity development and technology transfer, and awareness development.<sup>18</sup> While most of UNIDO plastic circular economy projects<sup>19</sup> aim at designing out waste to retain plastics within the economy and regaining the value embodied in plastics that leaked out of the economy as waste, it also works both on upstream and downstream of value chains, with product designs for recyclability and end of life disposal for environmental, social and economic impacts. It supports countries with policy measures to incentivize circular economy practices as well as development of new business models as well as with the development of effective infrastructure for collection and separation of waste streams and empowering local authorities with sufficient financial and technical resources could induce product designs for ease of recyclability.

#### **GEF related projects and initiatives**

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<sup>18</sup> UNIDO working paper, "Addressing the challenge of Marine Plastic Litter using Circular Economy methods", 2019

[https://www.unido.org/sites/default/files/files/2019-06/UNIDO\\_Addressing\\_the\\_challenge\\_of\\_Marine\\_Plastic\\_Litter\\_Using\\_Circular\\_Economy\\_0.pdf](https://www.unido.org/sites/default/files/files/2019-06/UNIDO_Addressing_the_challenge_of_Marine_Plastic_Litter_Using_Circular_Economy_0.pdf)

<sup>19</sup> <https://open.unido.org/projects/NG/projects/210184> ; <https://open.unido.org/projects/EG/projects/190152> ;

<https://open.unido.org/projects/GH/projects/190244>; <https://open.unido.org/projects/GH/projects/210154>;

<https://open.unido.org/projects/MO/projects/190161>; <https://open.unido.org/projects/M2/projects/190137>;

<https://open.unido.org/projects/BD/projects/190230>

53. The Global Platform will identify relevant actionable connection points with existing GEF work related to plastic waste. These initiatives include:

- The Program offers an opportunity to implement facets of the strategic road map to address marine plastics pollution through systemic approaches ([A road map to a Circular Economy](#)) which was developed under the GEF IW project ID 9681.
- Supporting the Implementation of the National Action Plan on Marine Plastic Litter in the context of Green Recovery post-COVID 19 in Viet Nam/UNDP. This project is pursuing circular solutions to food and beverage single use plastics as part of COVID recovery efforts.
- Ghana plastics/UNIDO. Aligned with the Global Plastic Action Partnership national initiative, this project is pursuing national and municipal actions.
- Indonesia plastics/ADB. Aligned with GPAP, this project is pursuing national and municipal actions as well as creating an incubator hub for SMEs.
- Latin America (Colombia, Jamaica, Panama) plastics/UNEP This project is pursuing municipal action plans in 6 cities with a focus on promoting innovation.
- Southeast Asia/ADB (Thailand, Viet Nam, Philippines, Indonesia). This project is catalyzing municipal and national plastic action plans and ADB investments.
- FARM (to link to the issues and solution to reduce plastic pollution in the agricultural sector and food value chain)
- ISLANDS (to address plastics issues in SIDSs countries, especially linking the issue of importing single-use plastic products and waste management)
- CITY (to reduce the consumption intensity and impacts of plastic products in cities, as well as linking to the issue of waste management)
- Circular and POPs-free Plastics in Africa (GEF ID 11049) in Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Regional (share knowledge and experience on chemicals of concern in plastics)
- Supporting the Implementation of the National Action Plan on Marine Plastic Litter in the context of Green Recovery post-COVID 19 in Viet Nam (GEF ID 11017) (exchange experience in designing coherent and systemic policy, regulation, and action framework)
- Promoting Resource Efficiency and Circularity to Reduce Plastic Pollution for Asia and the Pacific (GEF ID 10628), in Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam, Regional (share experience on sustainable finance and investment, and link upstream solutions to downstream actions)
- Reduce marine plastics and plastic pollution in Latin American and Caribbean cities through a circular economy approach (GEF ID 10547), in Colombia, Jamaica, Panama, at LAC regional level (share experience on developing solutions in cities)
- Plastik Sulit: Accelerating Circular Economy for Difficult Plastics in Indonesia (GEF ID 10546) (link upstream solutions with downstream technologies)
- Establishing a circular economy framework for the plastics sector in Ghana (GEF ID 10401) (link upstream with the National Plastic Action Partnership)
- Innovating Eco-Compensation Mechanisms in Yangtze River Basin (YRB) (GEF ID 10711) focusing on agricultural field plastic pollution.

#### **Non GEF Initiatives**

54. The program will also need to inform, and be informed by, other non-GEF initiatives and ongoing global processes, such as the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) on plastic pollution, which will provide an additional incentive and implementation experience for actions across the life cycle. Notable initiatives include the Global Plastic Action Partnership (GPAP), a multi-stakeholder platform hosted by the World Economic Forum dedicated to translating commitments to reduce plastic pollution and waste into concrete action; the New Plastics Economy Global Commitment, led by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation in collaboration with UNEP, which unites more than 500 organisations behind a common vision of a circular economy for plastics; and Break Free From Plastic, a global movement working to achieve a future free from plastic pollution.
55. Engagement with regulators in countries and key negotiators will be critical in addition to engagement with industry actors across the plastics value chain. Engagement in the G20, G7, World Economic Forum, the EMG and CEB processes as well as United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCFs) in countries will highlight the plastics issue. The work in the different components will reflect the difference in approaches to inspire and support action in developing as well as developed economies. As discussed above, there are already strong connections between several of the baseline initiatives and this Program, and therefore the Program is well positioned to build off existing efforts to create transformational change in the target sector of food and beverage. Furthermore, beyond global level cross-collaboration, the Program will map and connect relevant initiatives to the national projects. The global project will support gender integration in the national projects by providing resources and technical assistance for good practices during project design and implementation.

### Core Indicators

Project Core Indicators		Expected at PFD
6	<b>Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated</b> (metric ton of CO <sub>2e</sub> )	6.2 = 6,021,881 metric tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub> eq avoided
7	<b>Shared water ecosystems</b> under new or improved cooperative management (count)	7 = 1 7.3 = 1 7.4 = 1
9	Chemicals of global concern and their waste reduced (metric ton of toxic chemicals reduced)	9.8 = 2,469,129 metric tonnes
10	Persistent organic pollutants to air reduced (gram of toxic equivalent gTEQ)	312 gTEQ
11	People benefiting from GEF-financed investments <b>disaggregated by sex</b> (count)	34,804,614

Explain the methodological approach and underlying logic to justify target levels for Core and Sub-Indicators (*max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page*)

56. For the estimation of the GEBs for the entire Program, including its national child projects, a high-level methodology and calculator have been developed by the lead agencies. This is based on a top-down approach for fast-track estimation due to lack of intervention details presented in the concept note of national child projects. A more detailed and elaborated methodology and calculator will be developed during the PPG phase of the Global Platform including quantitative assessment between different circular actions and corresponding GEBs, in order to support the development and implementation of national child projects. The following paragraphs explain the methodology of GEBs estimation for the PFD.
57. The methods for calculating the GEBs are elaborated on below for core indicators 6, 9 and 10. GEBs for select Core Indicators (6.2, 9.8, 10) were calculated using a calculator prepared by WWF and UNEP.
58. The calculations are based on the reductions and interventions that will be achieved during the Program, but benefits are estimated to be higher as they will continue after the Program has finished. Therefore, a timeline of 10 years has been used to estimate, with the intention of differentiating between the achieved impacts at the time

of the Program end, and projected impacts from continuing interventions (e.g. a policy put in place during year 4 of the Program will continue to result in benefits after the Program ends). During the PPG phase, UNEP and WWF will collaborate with the National Child Projects to create more detailed GEB calculations based on specific project activities, considering the different pathways of impact for each activity as well as the proportions of contribution for each activity. Furthermore, innovative approaches to clearly capture co-benefits will be considered, for instance job creation along the plastic value chain, economic benefits, social benefits for vulnerable groups (women, youth, the informal sector) and indigenous people, health and life quality etc.

59. Specifically, Core Indicator 9.8 is calculated by using the estimated amount of plastic waste generated in the country, reduced by the percent of that plastic that is from the food and beverage sector that the project will eliminate over its lifetime. The annual weight of that plastic that is estimated to be recycled is removed (in order to get the avoided residual plastic waste per year). This annual avoided residual plastic waste for each country is totaled and then multiplied by an estimated 10 years, to reflect the duration of the global project (~8 years) and an additional two years' projected impact due to the continued impact of interventions past the end of the project lifetime. This total avoided residual plastic waste across the Child Projects is then used to estimate the associated GHG emissions reductions for Core Indicator 6.2: where a percentage of that avoided plastic that would have been open burned (based on a global average or where possible a country-specific estimate) leads to an estimated reduction in emissions as estimated by the Industrial Transformation 2050 project (~2.7 tCO<sub>2</sub>e avoided/t plastic burned). This total is combined with the results of CI 9.8 multiplied by an average of the emissions factor (EF) for GHG production of mixed plastics, and EF for recycling based on the Environmental Protection Agency's WaRM model (~1.36 tCO<sub>2</sub>e avoided per t of plastic). For countries that have more specific data for their EFs relative to their project, those are used because they better approximate the expected impact. Once the project activities have been refined, each Child Project's contributions to this indicator will be estimated by mapping the specific EFs to the intervention type, scope, and timeframe for each of their activities based on the best available information from the country. During the national child project planning phase once the activities of the child projects have quantified the plastic impacted by their causal levers, EFs and related calculations will be further refined based on those activities. Ultimately, the estimated avoided emissions will vary based on the levers used; emissions factors (EFs) associated with avoided plastic production vary by plastic type, plastic that is produced may have lower impacts if recycled, or made from alternative feedstocks, among other variations. The expected results across CI 6.2 (direct and indirect) may change during child project preparation. The results from 9.8 are also used to estimate the persistent organic pollutants to air reduced for Core Indicator 10 (based on the estimated avoided open burning of plastic waste). In the next phase of the project, these estimates will be refined, and the durations used to estimate the project impact will be project-specific.
60. For Core indicator 7, it has been assessed that at concept phase national/local reforms and active participation of Inter-Ministerial Committees as contemplated in sub indicator 7.3. have not been taking place (hence a one rating) and that the child projects are not yet connected to IW: LEARN (sub-indicator 7.4) hence again a 1 rating.
61. Core indicator 11 corresponds to the direct beneficiaries in the impacted geography where the GEF investment is taking place as described by each Child project. A more refined estimate will be developed once countries
62. Beyond these core indicators, a number of co-benefits are expected from the Program, both from the increase in circular approaches and from the decrease in plastic production, use, waste, and pollution. Shifting from linear materials systems to circular systems can create new opportunities for employment, entrepreneurship, and social enterprises which are community and locally focused. Circular business models can provide an opportunity to create positive change in labor markets and create opportunities for women, youth, and people who live in urban and rural areas<sup>20</sup>. Reduced plastic pollution can also create economic co-benefits, such as increased revenue from tourism due to improved aesthetics. Environmental co-benefits may include improved air quality due to decreased

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<sup>20</sup> Effects of the Circular Economy on Jobs, 2020 The International Institute for Sustainable Development  
Published by the International Institute for Sustainable Development, <https://www.iisd.org/system/files/2020-12/circular-economy-jobs.pdf>

open-burning of waste (this also has a human health benefit), and benefits to biodiversity. Over 2,000 species are negatively affected by plastic pollution through entanglement, ingestion, habitat degradation, and chemical pollution.<sup>21</sup> Decreased plastic entering nature, including marine, freshwater, and terrestrial ecosystems, results in less individuals encountering these impacts. Furthermore, increased circularity of material systems is associated with a decrease in waste management practices which negatively impact human health, including use of open dump sites which can contribute to air, water, and soil contamination as well as act as a vector for diseases like malaria, cholera, and dengue fever<sup>22</sup>. It is also important to note that, in order to successfully deliver these co-benefits as well as the GEBs listed above, it is essential that the Program’s interventions do not increase (and ideally support the decrease of) food waste and food loss. Therefore, during the PPG phase a method for monitoring important consideration will be determined and applied across the Program.

**NGI (only): Justification of Financial Structure**<sup>23</sup>

Please describe the financial structure and include a graphic representation. This description will include the financial instrument requested from the GEF and terms and conditions of the financing passed onto the Beneficiaries.

**Risks to Achieving Program Outcomes**

Summarize program-level risks that might emerge from preparation and implementation phases of child projects under the Program, and what are the mitigation strategies the **child project preparation process will undertake to address these** (e.g. what alternatives may be considered during child project preparation-such as in terms of consultations, role and choice of counterparts, delivery mechanisms, locations in country, flexible design elements, etc.). Identify any of the risks listed below that would call in question the viability of the child project during its implementation. Please describe any possible mitigation measures needed.

The risk rating should reflect the overall risk to program outcomes considering the global context and ambition of the program. The rating scale is: *High, Substantial, Moderate, Low*.

Risk Categories	Rating	Comments
Climate	Low	<p>It is expected that the sustainable production of plastics and sound plastic waste management practices implemented through the project will lead to increased resilience against climate change impacts.</p> <p>The Program will lead to a net reduction of GHG emission as the mitigation effort, resulting from reduced open burning of plastics, more reuse and recycling of plastic waste to avoid consumption of virgin plastics.</p> <p>Selected project countries in SIDS (such as Cook Island) could be vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, and so are the local communities. The interventions from the child project will address the climate issue by reducing unnecessary consumption of single-use plastic products from imports and reduce vulnerability of such countries.</p>
Environment and Social	Low	<p>The Program will have substantial environmental benefits, in the areas of biodiversity, climate change, chemicals and waste, and Shared water ecosystems under new or improved cooperative management. It will also have substantial social benefits related to gender, indigenous people, the informal sector and the youth.</p>

<sup>21</sup> Tekman, et al. (2022) Impacts of Plastic Pollution in the Oceans on Marine Species, Biodiversity and Ecosystems.

<sup>22</sup> Omang DI, John GE, Inah SA, Bisong JO. Public health implication of solid waste generated by households in Bekwarra Local Government area. *Afri Health Sci.* 2021;21(3). 1467-1473. <https://dx.doi.org/10.4314/ahs.v21i3.58>

<sup>23</sup> Note: Make this into a pop-up which appears only if “NGI” was selected in the “General project Information”

Political and Governance	Low	There is an unprecedented attention on plastic pollution due to the on-going Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee meetings to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution. Most child projects will commence when the global instrument is in place and is highly relevant from the political aspect.
Macro-economic	Moderate	The upstream and midstream solutions developed at early stage might not be fully economic due to higher cost to produce more circular materials and products, set up reuse and refill systems, and create markets for recycled content. However, when these solutions are replicated at the global level, it is expected the economic benefits will improve substantially.  All activities will follow a sustainable economic model that should make activities financially feasible in the long term.
Strategies and Policies	Low	The Program and its national child projects will develop strong policy, regulatory and legal framework and specific instruments to address plastic pollution from upstream and midstream issues. This is at the interest of most governments which consider plastics as a top agenda in their environmental issues and developing circular economy. This will also contribute substantially to SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 14 Life below water, SDG 13 Climate action, and SDG 11 Sustainable cities and communities etc.
Technical design of project or program	Moderate	The Program team has sophisticated knowledge and project implementation experience on marine litter, plastic pollution and circular economy. The design of the Program task to identify upstream, midstream and scalable solutions will be based on thorough consultation with participating countries, agencies, private sector, NGOs, academia and other relevant stakeholders.
Institutional capacity for implementation and sustainability	Low	UNEP, WWF, UNDP and UNIDO will be the IAs for the national child projects, with sophisticated experience to work on in-country projects and having good network with stakeholders at the country level.
Fiduciary: Financial Management and Procurement	Moderate	Most funding of the Program will be spent on technical assistance to countries and stakeholders in identifying the best available knowledge, assessment and solutions. Funding will be also spent on supporting the development of new policies, as well as scaling up innovative solutions. Strict procurement rules will be in place to ensure transparency and quality of the tenders.
Stakeholder Engagement	Low	International organizations actively working on plastic pollution, including UNEP, WWF, UNIDO, IUCN, ADB, IADB, FAO, WB, UNDP, as well as global and regional plastic initiatives including EMF, GPAP/WEF were informed of the Program during its design phase.  Through webinars organized during the design phase, the program team has been also interacting with the private sector (businesses along the food and beverage value chain), to gauge their potential engagement, support, co-finance and seek their contribution to the design of project outputs, co-generation of new knowledge, and scale up of solutions in participating countries.  A survey was also shared with participants as to be able to further understand their offer and mesh it with the demand of the Program during PPG.

Other		
Financial Risks for NCI projects		
Overall Risk Rating	Low	

**Safeguards Rating (PFD level):**

**Low**

**C. ALIGNMENT WITH GEF-8 PROGRAMMING STRATEGIES AND COUNTRY/REGIONAL PRIORITIES**

63. The plastic pollution crisis has seen unprecedented momentum in interest in the last five years, but despite increased interest and investment to date, the problem continues to grow. There is a clear need for a cohesive, global approach which matches the scale of interventions to the scale of the problem. Over the next coming years, there is a unique opportunity to align with and leverage the outcome of the global binding instrument to end plastic pollution which is currently under negotiation (expected end 2024) to create a harmonized and systems-based approach to address the plastic pollution crisis at a meaningful scale.
64. The current state of policy relevant to the plastic pollution crisis is uneven and fragmented across nations, and even sub-nationally. While many governments have enacted some policies such as plastic bag bans, national waste management strategies, and other targeted policies, there is generally a lack of cohesive policy frameworks which address the upstream drivers of plastic waste and create effective incentives for the establishment of circular systems. Additionally, subsidies and other incentives for fossil fuels are common, and are counter-productive to progress on this topic as they keep the virgin, fossil-based plastic artificially low-cost, creating an uneven playing field for reusable systems and other alternatives.
65. This Program is thus designed to be additional/incremental to other global efforts, and will need to inform, and be informed, by ongoing global processes, including the intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC) on plastic pollution as well as in the marine environment, which will provide an additional incentive and implementation experience for actions across the life cycle.
66. In this context, the constituent Child Projects were selected using the following criteria.
  - High level of plastic consumption, production, export/import, and pollution (especially with high leakage to water bodies, oceans, and land)
  - High political ambition and commitment to address plastic pollution from national and sub-national governments, especially through a circular economy approach with emphasis on upstream preventative measures
  - High chances for adopting system change, innovation, and behavior changes from the public sector, private sector, and users
  - High potential of multiple global environmental benefits (GEBs) by implementing program interventions
  - Balanced geographical and socio-economic representation across all continents, with focus on the involvement of SIDS and LDCs, and countries with informal economies
  - Strong partnership and network (or desire to build) with the private sector, financial sector, individual and business users, regional and global fora for collaboration, resource mobilization, and scale-up
  - Developing countries with inadequate waste management that are major consumers of single-use plastic items

67. Country-specific strategies, plans, and policies, and how they relate to multilateral environmental agreements, can be found in country Concept Notes included with this program submission.

### ***Programmatic approach***

68. The IP is formulated to reflect the programmatic approach as described in the GEF8 programming directions document (GEF/R.08/17) which is in accordance with the GEF definition of a Program and provides an opportunity to feature interlinkages between projects to achieve more impactful outcomes than if done individually. It provides for a longer-term and strategic arrangement of individual yet interlinked projects to achieve larger-scale impacts on the global environment, facilitating engagement on complex system issues devising circular solutions to achieve systems change, promoting the generation and use of learning including through South-South exchange, partnership-building including with the private sector and programmatic co-financing as well as an enabling environment for policy and institutional reforms ensuring policy coherence. This programmatic approach will ultimately support the synergistic generation of a critical mass of knowledge and experiences on circular solutions to plastic pollution to shift the needle on behavior and social changes and increase engagement to amplify program results and built commitment and social norms around circular solutions both nationally and globally including with private actors. The global to local community of practice on sustainable circular solution to plastic pollution hereby created will help catalyze transformational changes at the level of the program and but hopefully as well beyond the program geographical scope.

### ***Integrated Program alignment***

69. The IP and its portfolio of country child projects and its global platform child project are fully in line with the objectives for the GEF-8 Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution Integrated Program (IP) which intends to catalyze circular economy approaches to reduce plastic production, consumption, and waste, investing in national and city-level initiatives with some global-level investments given the global nature of the value chain and given that many countries are only beginning to tackle plastic pollution.

70. This IP will tackle plastic pollution through interventions at the upstream and midstream that influence the entire plastic value chain from production to consumption to disposal thereby leveraging interlinked benefits across the processes and sectors contributing to plastic pollution. Investments under the IP will support, for example, material engineering, product and process design, enhancing the efficiency of the packaging system to reduce packaging and foster reuse across the food system, upgrading recycling infrastructure for packaging waste, developing and/or adopting business models and policies that promote the re-use and recycling of food packaging, etc., requiring systemic change in the way producers, processors, retailers, distributors and consumers operate, and requiring a high level of cross-collaborative engagement through the development of circular partnerships and consumer education on the use of plastics to shift mindsets and behaviors. Such a system change is predicted to cut government costs and save businesses financial resources in shifting away from the current business as usual trajectory creating more economic opportunities and jobs, and reducing ocean pollution, projected plastic-related greenhouse gas and hazardous chemical emissions.

### ***Focal Area and MEA alignment***

71. The IP and its constituent child projects draw resources and/or contribute principally to International Waters and two STAR focal areas (biodiversity and climate change mitigation) and deliver co-benefits to Chemicals & Wastes.

72. Global plastic consumption and production has grown exponentially since the 1950s. Annual global production of plastics doubled from 234 million tonnes (Mt) in 2000 to 460 Mt in 2019. The amount of plastic waste produced globally is forecast to triple under a business-as-usual (BAU) scenario in 2060<sup>24</sup>. The food and beverage sectors

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<sup>24</sup> Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). (2022) Global Plastics Outlook: Policy Scenarios to 2060, OECD Publishing.

account for approximately 40% of this volume<sup>25</sup>. Up to 99 per cent of plastics are made from polymers derived from non-renewable hydrocarbons, mostly oil and natural gas<sup>26</sup>.

73. Plastic waste is forecast to rise with the packaging sector being the largest generator, from an estimated 353 Mt/yr of plastic waste in 2019 to 1,014 Mt/yr in 2060 under a BAU scenario<sup>27</sup>. More plastic waste is mismanaged than collected for recycling with global projections for recycling remaining low. Globally, 46 per cent of plastic waste is landfilled, 22 per cent is mismanaged and becomes litter, 17 per cent is incinerated, and 15 per cent is collected for recycling resulting in less than 9 percent recycled, after losses<sup>27</sup>. An estimated 60 to 99 million tonnes of mismanaged plastic waste was produced in 2015 with a 2.5 time increase projected by 2040<sup>28</sup>. Between 23 and 37 million tonnes of plastic waste are projected to **enter the oceans** by 2040 under a BAU scenario<sup>29</sup>.
74. Plastic production is one of the fastest growing uses of fossil fuels, while waste incineration also releases significant amounts of greenhouse gases. Based on current projections, production and incineration of plastics will account for 10-13% of the annual carbon budget by 2050<sup>27</sup>.
75. Plastic pollution is found everywhere in our oceans and affects more than 2,000 species, with negative effects such as entanglement, ingestion, smothering, and chemical pollution observed in almost 90% of assessed species. It has been estimated that up to 90% of all seabirds and 52% of all sea turtles ingest plastics<sup>29</sup>.
76. Communities with inadequate waste management are exposed to air pollution from spontaneous fires in dumps, disease and toxins from dump site contents and its decomposition, while waste pickers in the informal sector face dangerous work and living conditions. There are also significant flooding and associated disease-related risks from clogged drainage and sewage systems from plastic pollution.
77. The health implications of ingesting plastic and exposure to the toxic chemicals they contain/collect are not yet fully understood. Although the toxicological risks are not fully understood at present, there are concerns that toxic chemicals associated with ingested microplastics may bio-accumulate within body tissue, with implications for animal and human health<sup>30</sup>.
78. There is increasing recognition of the need to take a systemic, transformational approach to the plastic pollution crisis, as evidenced by the global binding instrument on plastic pollution currently in negotiation. Research supports that we already have the solutions needed to reduce the leakage of plastic into the oceans by at least 80% by 2040 compared to a business-as-usual scenario. However, this will require a substantial shift in investment away from the use of virgin plastic and to new delivery models, substitute materials, and collection and recycling infrastructure. So far, most commitments and investments have focused on downstream solutions such as collection and recycling, and a lot more effort is needed on upstream solutions such as reduction, substitution, reuse, and redesign<sup>31</sup>.
79. The Plastics Integrated Program meant to trigger a systems change to accelerate the transition towards a circular economy of plastics in the food and beverage sector, to prevent plastic pollution through upstream solutions in the following areas:
  - a. **Elimination and Reduction:** Reduction in the amount of problematic and unnecessary plastic used, including shift to reuse and reduction of very short-life items

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<sup>25</sup> Geyer, R., Jambeck, J.R. and Law, K.L. (2017) Production, use, and fate of all plastics ever made, *Science Advances*, 3(7), pp. e1700782.

<sup>26</sup> Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL). (2023) *Fossil Fuels & Plastic*.

<sup>27</sup> Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL). (2019) *Plastics & Climate: The Hidden Costs of a Plastic Planet*.

<sup>28</sup> United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). (2021) *From Pollution to Solution: A global assessment of marine litter and plastic pollution*. Nairobi.

<sup>29</sup> Tekman, et al. (2022) *Impacts of Plastic Pollution in the Oceans on Marine Species, Biodiversity and Ecosystems*.

<sup>30</sup> Barboza, et al. (2018). *Marine microplastic debris: An emerging issue for food security, food safety and human health*, *Marine Pollution Bulletin*.

<sup>31</sup> The Pew Charitable Trusts and SYSTEMIQ (2020). *Breaking the Plastic Wave: A Comprehensive Assessment of Pathways Towards Stopping Ocean Plastic Pollution*.

- b. **Design for Circularity:** Increase in plastic items designed for circularity, design for recyclability, elimination of problematic design elements, shift to alternatives, and shift to use of recycled and responsibly sourced biobased content
  - c. **Circulate in Practice:** Implementation of policies and innovative business models which ensure materials circulate in practice, including reusable systems, and incentives for circularity.
80. It will thereby, thru its proposed actions as described above, contribute to the International Waters, Biodiversity, Climate Change Mitigation focal areas with co-benefits to Chemicals & Wastes, summarized as follows:
- **International Waters** –plastic waste has significant impacts on marine and freshwater ecosystems and ecosystem services. It is a transboundary issue, as plastics that start on land are polluted into rivers and oceans. The program will support goals under the IW focal area by reducing the amount of plastic pollution entering transboundary marine and freshwater ecosystems.
  - **Biodiversity** - marine, freshwater and terrestrial biodiversity are all threatened by plastic pollution. In the ocean, more than 2,000 species are impacted, with negative effects such as entanglement, ingestion, smothering, and chemical pollution. Birds and terrestrial species face similar threats. By promoting circular systems, the program aims to protect and preserve the habitats and ecosystems that support biodiversity.
  - **Climate Change Mitigation** – plastic waste production and incineration releases significant amounts of greenhouse gas emissions, which this program aims to address through upstream and midstream interventions.
81. This will help meet some of the 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 & 11 core indicators targets.

### ***Global Biodiversity Framework***

82. There is a strong link between circular solutions to plastic pollution and the global biodiversity framework. Indeed, the global biodiversity framework is set to protect and restore biodiversity reducing negative impacts of human activities on nature including plastic induced pollution.
83. Circular solutions to plastic pollution promoting approaches to reduce the amount of plastic waste generated to the environment by adopting circular solutions, will help protect biodiversity and preserve the health and diversity of ecosystems and species around the world. Therefore, circular solutions to plastic pollution are an important component of the global biodiversity framework and are essential to achieving a sustainable future.
84. Specifically, the biodiversity effects of plastic pollution are associated with entanglement, toxic ingestion, suffocation, starvation, and general debilitation[5]. These deadly effects are evident across marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems[6]. Among the marine species affected by plastic pollutions, 17% are listed as threatened or near threatened on the IUCN Red List[7]. The adverse effects are also experienced at the ecosystem level with plastic pollution identified as the second biggest threat to the future of coral reefs as it increases disease outbreaks by more than 20 times[8].
85. Therefore, the IP actions will result in biodiversity benefits helping reduce the rates of loss and degradation of globally important ecosystems and biodiversity, reducing threats to freshwater and coastal aquatic ecosystems and

<sup>[5]</sup> G.G.N. Thushari, J.D.M. Senevirathna, Plastic pollution in the marine environment, Heliyon, Volume 6, Issue 8, 2020, e04709, ISSN 2405-8440, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2020.e04709>

Gregory Murray R. 2009. Environmental implications of plastic debris in marine settings. Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B3642013–2025. <http://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2008.0265>

José G.B Derraik, The pollution of the marine environment by plastic debris: a review, Marine Pollution Bulletin, Volume 44, Issue 9, 2002, Pages 842-852, ISSN 0025-326X, [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0025-326X\(02\)00220-5](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0025-326X(02)00220-5)

<sup>[6]</sup> [https://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/cms\\_report\\_migratory\\_species\\_and\\_plastic\\_pollution\\_31AUG2021.pdf](https://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/cms_report_migratory_species_and_plastic_pollution_31AUG2021.pdf)

<sup>[7]</sup> S.C. Gall, R.C. Thompson, The impact of debris on marine life, Marine Pollution Bulletin, Volume 92, Issues 1–2, 2015, Pages 170-179, ISSN 0025-326X,

<sup>[8]</sup> J. B. Lamb, B. L. Willis, E. A. Fiorenza, C. S. Couch, R. Howard, D. N. Rader, J. D. True, L. A. Kelly, A. Ahmad, J. Jompa, C. Drew Harvell, Plastic waste associated with disease on coral reefs. Science 359, 460–462 (2018).

improved ecosystem health in coastal areas, due to improve circular practices which will reduce the leakage of plastic into inland and oceans ecosystems.

86. These benefits will contribute directly to the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework as follows.

GOAL A:

87. The integrity, connectivity and resilience of all ecosystems are maintained, enhanced, or restored, substantially increasing the area of natural ecosystems by 2050;

88. Human induced extinction of known threatened species is halted, and, by 2050, extinction rate and risk of all species are reduced tenfold, and the abundance of native wild species is increased to healthy and resilient levels.

GOAL D:

89. Adequate means of implementation, including financial resources, capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation, and access to and transfer of technology to fully implement the Kunming-Montreal global biodiversity framework are secured and equitably accessible to all Parties, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, progressively closing the biodiversity finance gap of \$700 billion per year, and aligning financial flows with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity.

2030 Targets of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework	GEF TF core indicators or Program Indicator	IP Links
<p><b>TARGET 2</b></p> <p>Ensure that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of areas of degraded terrestrial, <i><b>inland water, and coastal and marine ecosystems are under effective restoration</b></i>, in order to enhance <b>biodiversity and ecosystem functions</b> and services, ecological integrity and connectivity.</p>	<p>CI 5</p>	<p>The IP will help reduce the rates of loss and degradation of globally important ecosystems and biodiversity, reducing threats to freshwater and coastal aquatic ecosystems and improved ecosystem health in coastal areas, due to improve circular practices which will reduce the leakage of plastic into inland and oceans ecosystems.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 7</b></p> <p><i><b>Reduce pollution risks and the negative impact of pollution from all sources, by 2030, to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, considering cumulative effects</b></i>, including: reducing excess nutrients lost to the environment by at least half including through more efficient nutrient cycling and use; reducing the overall risk from pesticides and highly hazardous chemicals by at least half including through integrated pest management, based on science, taking into account food security and livelihoods; and also preventing, reducing, <i><b>and working towards eliminating plastic pollution</b></i>.</p>	<p>CI 9, w 9.8 in particular</p>	<p>The IP will contribute to eliminating plastic pollution and its impacts on biodiversity mainly through the implementation of</p> <p><b>Component 1:</b> Enabling a Regulatory and Policy Environment given that all 15 national child projects have designed interventions to develop national regulatory and policy framework for circular economy of plastics;</p> <p>and</p>

2030 Targets of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework	GEF TF core indicators or Program Indicator	IP Links
		<p><b>Component 2:</b> Mobilizing Finance given that most projects have proposed activities related to fiscal policies by the governments, as well as investment from the financial institutions to support circular solutions, and discourage unsustainable products and actions.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 14</b>  Ensure the <i>full integration of biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning and development processes, poverty eradication strategies, strategic environmental assessments, environmental impact assessments and, as appropriate, national accounting, within and across all levels of government and across all sectors, in particular those with significant impacts on biodiversity</i>, progressively aligning all relevant public and private activities, fiscal and financial flows with the goals and targets of this framework.</p>	<p>No core indicators</p>	<p>The IP will help integrate recognition for biodiversity values into policies mainly through implementation of <b>Component 1:</b> Enabling a Regulatory and Policy Environment given that all 15 national child projects have designed interventions to develop national regulatory and policy framework for circular economy of plastics</p>
<p><b>TARGET 15</b>  <i>Take legal, administrative or policy measures to encourage and enable business</i>, and in particular to ensure that large and transnational companies and financial institutions:  <i>Regularly monitor, assess, and transparently disclose their risks, dependencies and impacts on biodiversity</i>, including with requirements for all large as well as transnational companies and financial institutions along their operations, supply and value chains and portfolios;  <i>Provide information needed to consumers to promote sustainable consumption patterns;</i>  Report on compliance with access and benefit-sharing regulations and measures, as applicable; in order to progressively reduce negative impacts on biodiversity, increase positive impacts, reduce biodiversity-related risks to business and financial institutions, and promote actions to ensure sustainable patterns of production.</p>	<p>No core indicators.</p>	<p>The IP will help businesses be more transparent on biodiversity impacts and promote sustainable consumption patterns mainly through <b>Component 3:</b> Engaging with Food and Beverage Private Sector and</p> <p><b>Component 4:</b> Activating Behavior and Social Change to support program strategy</p>
<p><b>TARGET 16</b>  Ensure that people are encouraged and enabled to make sustainable consumption choices including by <i>establishing supportive policy, legislative or regulatory frameworks, improving education and access to relevant and accurate information and</i></p>	<p>No core indicators.</p>	<p>Plastics IP focusses on upstream actions around consumption and waste reduction through Components 1 and 4.</p>

2030 Targets of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework	GEF TF core indicators or Program Indicator	IP Links
<p><i>alternatives, and by 2030, reduce the global footprint of consumption in an equitable manner, including through halving global food waste, significantly reducing overconsumption and substantially reducing waste generation, in order for all people to live well in harmony with Mother Earth.</i></p>		
<p><b>TARGET 18</b>  <i>Identify by 2025, and eliminate, phase out or reform incentives, including subsidies, harmful for biodiversity, in a proportionate, just, fair, effective and equitable way, while substantially and progressively reducing them by at least 500 billion United States dollars per year by 2030, starting with the most harmful incentives, and scale up positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.</i></p>	<p>No core indicators.</p>	<p>The IP will help create the enabling policy environment for circular solutions by establishing regulations and incentives that foster circular economy best practices for the plastic industry through <b>Component 1</b>.</p> <p>In addition, the IP has a noted priority focus on policy coherence and aims to strengthen coherence across government agencies to ensure plastic pollution reducing measures are not negated by contradictory policies.</p> <p>Ensuring policy coherence will require a thorough review of government policies and strong interagency communication, collaboration and negotiation.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 20</b>  <i>Strengthen capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology, and promote development of and access to innovation and technical and scientific cooperation, including through South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation, to meet the needs for effective implementation, particularly in developing countries, fostering joint technology development and joint scientific research programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and strengthening scientific research and monitoring capacities, commensurate with the ambition of the goals and targets of the framework.</i></p>	<p>No core indicators</p>	<p>This will be achieved through the global coordination platform.</p>

<sup>[1]</sup> Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). (2022) Global Plastics Outlook: Policy Scenarios to 2060, OECD Publishing.

<sup>[2]</sup> Geyer, R., Jambeck, J.R. and Law, K.L. (2017) Production, use, and fate of all plastics ever made, *Science Advances*, 3(7), pp. e1700782.

<sup>[3]</sup> Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL). (2023) Fossil Fuels & Plastic.

<sup>[4]</sup> United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). (2021) From Pollution to Solution: A global assessment of marine litter and plastic pollution. Nairobi.

<sup>[5]</sup> - G.G.N. Thushari, J.D.M. Senevirathna, Plastic pollution in the marine environment, *Heliyon*, Volume 6, Issue 8,

- 2020, e04709, ISSN 2405-8440, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2020.e04709>

- Gregory Murray R. 2009. Environmental implications of plastic debris in marine settings. *Phil. Trans. R. Soc.* B364:2013–2025. <http://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2008.0265>

- José G.B Derraik, The pollution of the marine environment by plastic debris: a review, *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, Volume 44, Issue 9, 2002, Pages 842-852, ISSN 0025-326X, [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0025-326X\(02\)00220-5](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0025-326X(02)00220-5)

<sup>[6]</sup> [https://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/cms\\_report\\_migratory\\_species\\_and\\_plastic\\_pollution\\_31AUG2021.pdf](https://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/cms_report_migratory_species_and_plastic_pollution_31AUG2021.pdf)

<sup>[7]</sup> S.C. Gall, R.C. Thompson, The impact of debris on marine life, *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, Volume 92, Issues 1–2, 2015, Pages 170-179, ISSN 0025-326X,

<sup>[8]</sup> J. B. Lamb, B. L. Willis, E. A. Fiorenza, C. S. Couch, R. Howard, D. N. Rader, J. D. True, L. A. Kelly, A. Ahmad, J. Jompa, C. Drew Harvell, Plastic waste associated with disease on coral reefs. *Science* 359, 460–462 (2018).

## D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

### **Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment\*\*\*:**

We confirm that gender dimensions relevant to the Program have been addressed as per GEF Policy and are clearly articulated in the Program Description (Section B).

Yes

90. The combination of education, employment opportunities and a relatively progressive gender climate provide entry points for gender mainstreaming in the plastics sector. Women already play a significant role in waste management efforts, and the essential role of women in designing and implementing solutions is increasingly recognized. For example, women are playing a larger role as volunteers and women’s associations are spearheading effective community engagement campaigns. Women typically manage household waste and adhere more frequently to proper disposal behavior. Moreover, there is a growing awareness about the benefits of resource efficiency and the importance of sustainable purchasing, solid waste management and recycling, especially in relation to plastic pollution.
91. What is less known is the role (and potential roles) of women across the plastics value chain, especially in developing and adopting upstream and midstream interventions. Information about the proportion of men and women working in the plastics producing industry and plastic-using companies (such as packing companies, fast consumer goods companies) is often lacking. Actual estimations on the number of employed people in the global plastic industry are not available or not accessible, therefore their potential influence on decision-making related to upstream and midstream solution is not yet clear.
92. A gender strategy will be developed to guide the design of the Program and its child projects across the timeline of the project. Gender specialists will conduct targeted surveys to assess the roles of women in the plastic value chain, and design gender-disaggregated indicators to measure impacts, by following the Theory of Change and programmatic components. By following the strategic priorities and objectives of the Program, relevant activities, deliverables and timelines will be developed to improve women’s participation and influence in delivering the Program outcomes. The gender specialist will also collect gender-disaggregated data from the Program and project activities to gender related GEB, as well as co-benefits.
93. Systemic actions and activities will be put in place across the Program to respond to identified gender risks, differences, gaps, and opportunities. The adoption of the gender mainstreaming will consider both women and men experiences, concerns, and needs. These proposed activities and target setting are intended to achieve the following strategic priorities: 1) increase women’s involvement across the plastics value chain, when planning and implementing upstream and midstream solutions on the design of materials, product, and business models; 2) enhance gender equality in decision making and leadership, related to sustainable consumption; and 3) improve women’s economic empowerment and social benefits related to reuse and recycling actions.

### **Stakeholder Engagement**

We confirm that key stakeholders were consulted during PFD development as required per GEF policy, their relevant roles to program outcomes and plan to develop a Stakeholder Engagement Plan in the Coordination Child Project before CEO endorsement has been clearly articulated in the Program Description (Section B).

Yes

Were the following stakeholders consulted during PFD preparation phase:

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities?  Yes  No  
Civil Society Organizations?  Yes  No  
Private Sector?  Yes  No

Provide a brief summary and list of names and dates of consultations

(Please upload to the portal documents tab any stakeholder engagement plan or assessments that have been done during the PFD preparation phase.)

94. A detailed stakeholder engagement plan is under development, to be completed during PPG phase. During the PFD stage, priority was given to informational exchanges and feedback with those stakeholders who are most directly engaged with the Program planning, and stakeholders whose input is priority for the development of the Program. These stakeholders fall into the following categories:

- GEF Secretariat
- GEF Agencies
- Country Focal Points
- Global Private Sector Actors relevant to the food and beverage industry and/or Finance Industry
- Civil Society Actors relevant to plastic pollution and circular systems
- Funders with portfolios relevant to the topic of circular solutions to plastic pollution

95. All of these stakeholders and many others (as described earlier in this document) will be further engaged through both individual outreach and topic-specific virtual convenings in the next phase of development. Below is a summary of contact points during PFD development.

96. In addition to email exchanges, interagency calls were held as follows in order to review process and discuss content:

- January 6th - Topic: Theory of Change Consultation and Expressions of Interest Preparation
- January 12th - Topic: Strategic support for Expression of Interest
- March 23rd - Topic: Design workshop with UNDP and UNIDO

97. Furthermore, given the need for a strong and focused engagement with the private sector related to food and beverage throughout the execution of the Program including all relevant businesses, associations and think tanks engaged in the plastic value chain, such as packaging producers, fast-moving consumer goods companies, brand owners, retailers, logistics and service providers, tourism operators, restaurants and caterers, and recycling companies etc., the following consultations have been organized during the preparation phase of PFD:

- 30 March 2023, consultation with 15 countries (which have been preliminarily selected as the target countries for national child projects)
  - Two separate sessions were held to accommodate time zones, with 8 of the country representatives in attendance.
  - Discussion focused on topics necessary for the finalization of concept notes as well as broader discussion of the Program theory of change and scope.
- 6 April 2023, consultation with global and regional plastic initiatives, NGOs, donors, and philanthropic organizations
  - Over 50 participants registered to take part in this session, and the recording and slides were further shared with additional organizations who were unable to join the live session.

- This session was attended by organizations working on topics relevant to the Program, including: Reuse systems, plastic metrics and disclosure, investment and incubation of solutions, entrepreneurship, sharing and communication of conservation issues, recycling and waste management, environmental justice, research and advancing knowledge of plastic waste impact, and funders of transformational sustainability initiatives.
  - Individual follow up sessions have been schedule and/or conducted for several participants with further questions and thoughts about engaging with the Program, and an interest survey was circulated to facilitate the next round of broad outreach and engagement.
  - 7 April 2023, consultation with private sector
    - Over 25 participants registered to take part in this session, and the recording and slides were further shared with additional organizations who were unable to join the live session.
    - This session was attended by global and regional organizations representing packaging suppliers, food and beverage consumer goods companies, information technology, quick serve restaurant and restaurant sectors, app-based food delivery, tourism and hospitality, and business coalitions and associations.
    - Individual follow up sessions have been schedule and/or conducted for several participants with further questions and thoughts about engaging with the Program, and an interest survey was circulated to facilitate the next round of broad outreach and engagement.
98. Subsequently, a survey was also shared with participants so as to be able to further understand their offer and mesh it with the demand of the Program during PPG. Over 20 interest survey responses have been received to date. The results of the survey will be used to inform further rounds of consultations with stakeholders including the private sector and global/regional initiatives to define the terms of possible partnerships both within the Global Platform and in support of the child projects. Generally, executing partners will be determined during the PPG phase, through identification of workplan needs and topics (via consultation process) and selection of qualified organizations guided by impact criteria.

#### **Private Sector**

Will there be private sector engagement in the program?

Yes       No

And if so, has its role been described and justified in the section B program description?

Yes       No

#### **Environmental and Social Safeguards**

We confirm that we have provided indicative information regarding Environmental and Social risks associated with the proposed program and any measures to address such risks and impacts (this information should be presented in Annex D).

Yes

#### **E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

##### **Knowledge management**

We confirm that an approach to Knowledge Management and Learning has been clearly described in the Program Description (Section B)

Yes

## ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES

### GEF Financing Table

Indicative Trust Fund Resources Requested by Agency(ies), Country(ies), Focal Area and the Programming of Funds

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount (in US\$)		
					GEF Project Financing	Agency Fee	Total
UNEP	GEFTF	Brazil	BD	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	2,686,294	241,766	2,928,060
UNEP	GEFTF	Brazil	BD	BD IP Matching Incentives	895,431	80,589	976,020
UNEP	GEFTF	Brazil	IW	IW IP Contributions	4,475,156	402,764	4,877,920
UNEP	GEFTF	Burkina Faso	IW	IW IP contribution	2,652,294	238,706	2,891,000
UNEP	GEFTF	Cambodia	IW	IW IP contribution	2,652,294	238,706	2,891,000
UNEP	GEFTF	Cook Islands	BD	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	1,326,147	119,353	1,445,500
UNEP	GEFTF	Cook Islands	CC	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	1,326,147	119,353	1,445,500
UNEP	GEFTF	Cook Islands	BD	BD IP Matching Incentives	442,049	39,784	481,833
UNEP	GEFTF	Cook Islands	CC	CC IP Matching Incentives	442,049	39,784	481,833
UNEP	GEFTF	Cook Islands	IW	IW IP Contributions	2,685,627	241,706	2,927,333
UNDP	GEFTF	Costa Rica	CC	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	91,743	8,257	100,000
UNDP	GEFTF	Costa Rica	CC	CC IP Matching Incentives	30,581	2,752	33,333
UNDP	GEFTF	Costa Rica	IW	IW IP Contributions	3,427,982	308,518	3,736,500
UNDP	GEFTF	Dominican Republic	CC	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	882,789	79,451	962,240
UNDP	GEFTF	Dominican Republic	CC	CC IP Matching Incentives	294,263	26,484	320,747
UNDP	GEFTF	Dominican Republic	IW	IW IP Contributions	2,648,368	238,353	2,886,721
UNEP	GEFTF	India	CC	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	1,880,406	169,236	2,049,642
UNEP	GEFTF	India	CC	CC IP Matching Incentives	626,802	56,412	683,214
UNEP	GEFTF	India	IW	IW IP Contributions	3,132,609	281,935	3,414,544

UNIDO	GEFTF	India	CC	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	805,888	72,530	878,418
UNIDO	GEFTF	India	CC	CC IP Matching Incentives	268,629	24,177	292,806
UNIDO	GEFTF	India	IW	IW IP Contributions	1,342,547	120,829	1,463,376
UNDP	GEFTF	Jordan	IW	IW IP contribution	4,437,156	399,344	4,836,500
WWF	GEFTF	Lao PDR	IW	IW IP contribution	3,978,440	358,060	4,336,500
UNIDO	GEFTF	Morocco	BD	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	1,341,147	120,703	1,461,850
UNIDO	GEFTF	Morocco	CC	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	1,341,147	120,703	1,461,850
UNIDO	GEFTF	Morocco	BD	BD IP Matching Incentives	447,049	40,234	487,283
UNIDO	GEFTF	Morocco	CC	CC IP Matching Incentives	447,049	40,234	487,283
UNIDO	GEFTF	Morocco	IW	IW IP Contributions	2,645,627	238,106	2,883,733
UNEP	GEFTF	Nigeria	BD	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	867,431	78,069	945,500
UNEP	GEFTF	Nigeria	CC	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	867,431	78,069	945,500
UNEP	GEFTF	Nigeria	BD	BD IP Matching Incentives	289,144	26,023	315,167
UNEP	GEFTF	Nigeria	CC	CC IP Matching Incentives	289,144	26,023	315,167
UNEP	GEFTF	Nigeria	IW	IW IP Contributions	3,603,058	324,275	3,927,333
UNEP	GEFTF	Peru	IW	IW IP contribution	4,437,156	399,344	4,836,500
UNIDO	GEFTF	Philippines	BD	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	2,687,985	241,919	2,929,903
UNIDO	GEFTF	Philippines	CC	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	895,995	80,640	976,635
UNIDO	GEFTF	Philippines	BD	BD IP Matching Incentives	895,995	80,640	976,634
UNIDO	GEFTF	Philippines	CC	CC IP Matching Incentives	298,665	26,880	325,545
UNIDO	GEFTF	Philippines	IW	IW IP Contributions	3,584,051	322,565	3,906,616
UNDP	GEFTF	Senegal	BD	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	1,784,862	160,638	1,945,500
UNDP	GEFTF	Senegal	BD	BD IP Matching Incentives	594,954	53,546	648,500
UNDP	GEFTF	Senegal	IW	IW IP Contributions	2,668,960	240,206	2,909,167

UNIDO	GEFTF	South Africa	BD	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	1,782,705	160,443	1,943,149
UNIDO	GEFTF	South Africa	BD	BD IP Matching Incentives	594,235	53,481	647,716
UNIDO	GEFTF	South Africa	IW	IW IP Contributions	4,456,699	401,103	4,857,802
UNEP	GEFTF	Global	IW	IW IP contribution	8,152,046	733,684	8,885,730
WWF	GEFTF	Global	IW	IW IP contribution	7,832,358	704,912	8,537,270
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>					<b>96,236,582</b>	<b>8,661,292</b>	<b>104,897,874</b>

### Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant for Child Projects requested?  Yes  No  
 If yes: fill in PPG table (incl. PPG fee)

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount (in US\$)		
					PPG	PPG Fee	Total
UNEP	GEFTF	Brazil	BD	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	66,000	5,940	71,940
UNEP	GEFTF	Brazil	BD	BD IP Matching Incentives	22,000	1,980	23,980
UNEP	GEFTF	Brazil	IW	IW IP Contributions	112,000	10,080	122,080
UNEP	GEFTF	Burkina Faso	IW	IW IP contribution	100,000	9,000	109,000
UNEP	GEFTF	Cambodia	IW	IW IP contribution	100,000	9,000	109,000
UNEP	GEFTF	Cook Islands	BD	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	50,000	4,500	54,500
UNEP	GEFTF	Cook Islands	CC	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	50,000	4,500	54,500
UNEP	GEFTF	Cook Islands	BD	BD IP Matching Incentives	16,667	1,500	18,167
UNEP	GEFTF	Cook Islands	CC	CC IP Matching Incentives	16,667	1,500	18,167
UNEP	GEFTF	Cook Islands	IW	IW IP Contributions	66,667	6,000	72,667
UNDP	GEFTF	Costa Rica	IW	IW IP Contributions	150,000	13,500	163,500
UNDP	GEFTF	Dominican Republic	CC	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	34,642	3,118	37,760
UNDP	GEFTF	Dominican Republic	CC	CC IP Matching Incentives	11,547	1,039	12,587
UNDP	GEFTF	Dominican Republic	IW	IW IP Contributions	103,926	9,353	113,279

UNEP	GEFTF	India	CC	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	46,200	4,158	50,358
UNEP	GEFTF	India	CC	CC IP Matching Incentives	15,400	1,386	16,786
UNEP	GEFTF	India	IW	IW IP Contributions	78,400	7,056	85,456
UNIDO	GEFTF	India	CC	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	19,800	1,782	21,582
UNIDO	GEFTF	India	CC	CC IP Matching Incentives	6,600	594	7,194
UNIDO	GEFTF	India	IW	IW IP Contributions	33,600	3,024	36,624
UNDP	GEFTF	Jordan	IW	IW IP contribution	150,000	13,500	163,500
WWF	GEFTF	Lao PDR	IW	IW IP contribution	150,000	13,500	163,500
UNIDO	GEFTF	Morocco	BD	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	35,000	3,150	38,150
UNIDO	GEFTF	Morocco	CC	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	35,000	3,150	38,150
UNIDO	GEFTF	Morocco	BD	BD IP Matching Incentives	11,667	1,050	12,717
UNIDO	GEFTF	Morocco	CC	CC IP Matching Incentives	11,667	1,050	12,717
UNIDO	GEFTF	Morocco	IW	IW IP Contributions	106,667	9,600	116,267
UNEP	GEFTF	Nigeria	BD	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	50,000	4,500	54,500
UNEP	GEFTF	Nigeria	CC	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	50,000	4,500	54,500
UNEP	GEFTF	Nigeria	BD	BD IP Matching Incentives	16,667	1,500	18,167
UNEP	GEFTF	Nigeria	CC	CC IP Matching Incentives	16,667	1,500	18,167
UNEP	GEFTF	Nigeria	IW	IW IP Contributions	66,667	6,000	72,667
UNEP	GEFTF	Peru	IW	IW IP contribution	150,000	13,500	163,500
UNIDO	GEFTF	Philippines	BD	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	64,309	5,788	70,097
UNIDO	GEFTF	Philippines	CC	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	21,436	1,929	23,365
UNIDO	GEFTF	Philippines	BD	BD IP Matching Incentives	21,436	1,929	23,366
UNIDO	GEFTF	Philippines	CC	CC IP Matching Incentives	7,145	643	7,788
UNIDO	GEFTF	Philippines	IW	IW IP Contributions	85,673	7,711	93,384

UNDP	GEFTF	Senegal	BD	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	50,000	4,500	54,500
UNDP	GEFTF	Senegal	BD	BD IP Matching Incentives	16,667	1,500	18,167
UNDP	GEFTF	Senegal	IW	IW IP Contributions	83,333	7,500	90,833
UNIDO	GEFTF	South Africa	BD	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	52,157	4,694	56,851
UNIDO	GEFTF	South Africa	BD	BD IP Matching Incentives	17,386	1,565	18,950
UNIDO	GEFTF	South Africa	IW	IW IP Contributions	130,457	11,741	142,198
UNEP	GEFTF	Global	IW	IW IP contribution	153,000	13,770	166,770
WWF	GEFTF	Global	IW	IW IP contribution	147,000	13,230	160,230
<b>Total PPG Amount</b>					<b>2,800,115</b>	<b>252,010</b>	<b>3,052,126</b>

#### Sources of Funds for Country STAR Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Sources of funds	Total (in US\$)
UNEP	GEFTF	Brasil	BD	BD STAR Allocation	3,000,000
UNEP	GEFTF	Cook Islands	BD	BD STAR Allocation	1,500,000
UNEP	GEFTF	Cook Islands	CC	CC STAR Allocation	1,500,000
UNDP	GEFTF	Costa Rica	CC	CC STAR Allocation	100,000
UNDP	GEFTF	Dominican Republic	CC	CC STAR Allocation	1,000,000
UNEP	GEFTF	India	CC	CC STAR Allocation	2,100,000
UNIDO	GEFTF	India	CC	CC STAR Allocation	900,000
UNIDO	GEFTF	Morocco	BD	BD STAR Allocation	1,500,000
UNIDO	GEFTF	Morocco	CC	CC STAR Allocation	1,500,000
UNEP	GEFTF	Nigeria	BD	BD STAR Allocation	1,000,000
UNEP	GEFTF	Nigeria	CC	CC STAR Allocation	1,000,000
UNIDO	GEFTF	Philippines	BD	BD STAR Allocation	3,000,000

UNIDO	GEFTF	Philippines	CC	CC STAR Allocation	1,000,000
UNDP	GEFTF	Senegal	BD	BD STAR Allocation	2,000,000
UNIDO	GEFTF	South Africa	BD	BD STAR Allocation	2,000,000
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>					<b>23,100,000</b>

#### Indicative Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	Amount (in US\$)	
		GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
Plastic IP Brasil	GEFTF	8,056,881	33,000,000
Plastic IP Burkina Faso	GEFTF	2,652,294	21,500,000
Plastic IP Cambodia	GEFTF	2,652,294	21,500,000
Plastic IP Cook Islands	GEFTF	6,222,018	35,000,000
Plastic IP Costa Rica	GEFTF	3,550,306	20,600,000
Plastic IP Dominican Republic	GEFTF	3,825,420	20,600,000
Plastic IP India	GEFTF	8,056,881	43,000,000
Plastic IP Jordan	GEFTF	4,437,156	11,963,982
Plastic IP Lao	GEFTF	3,978,440	54,380,737
Plastic IP Morocco	GEFTF	6,222,018	43,132,000
Plastic IP Nigeria	GEFTF	5,916,208	35,000,000
Plastic IP Peru	GEFTF	4,437,156	54,380,737
Plastic IP Philippines	GEFTF	8,362,691	57,000,000
Plastic IP Senegal	GEFTF	5,048,777	-
Plastic IP South Africa	GEFTF	6,833,639	26,297,000
Plastic IP Global	GEFTF	15,984,404	111,890,826
<b>Total Project Cost</b>		<b>96,236,582</b>	<b>589,245,282</b>

#### Indicative Co-financing TO BE COMPLETED

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount (\$)
Other		(select)	(select)	
<b>Total Co-financing</b>				

Please provide indicative information regarding the expected amounts, sources and types of Co-Financing, and the subset of such Co-Financing that meets the definition of Investment Mobilized.

## ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTTS

Name of GEF Agency Coordinator	GEF Agency Coordinator Contact Information
Name of Agency Project Coordinator	Agency Project Coordinator Contact Information

### Record of Endorsement of GEF Operational Focal Point (s) on Behalf of the Government(s):

Name of GEF OFF	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/dd/yyyy)
Signature			
<i>&lt;&lt;additional fields to be added for regional projects or global projects with on the ground investments&gt;&gt;</i>			

NGIs do not require a Letter of Endorsement if beneficiaries are: i) exclusively private sector actors, or ii) public sector entities in more than one country. However, for NGI projects please confirm that the agency has informed the OFP of the project to be submitted for Council Approval  YES

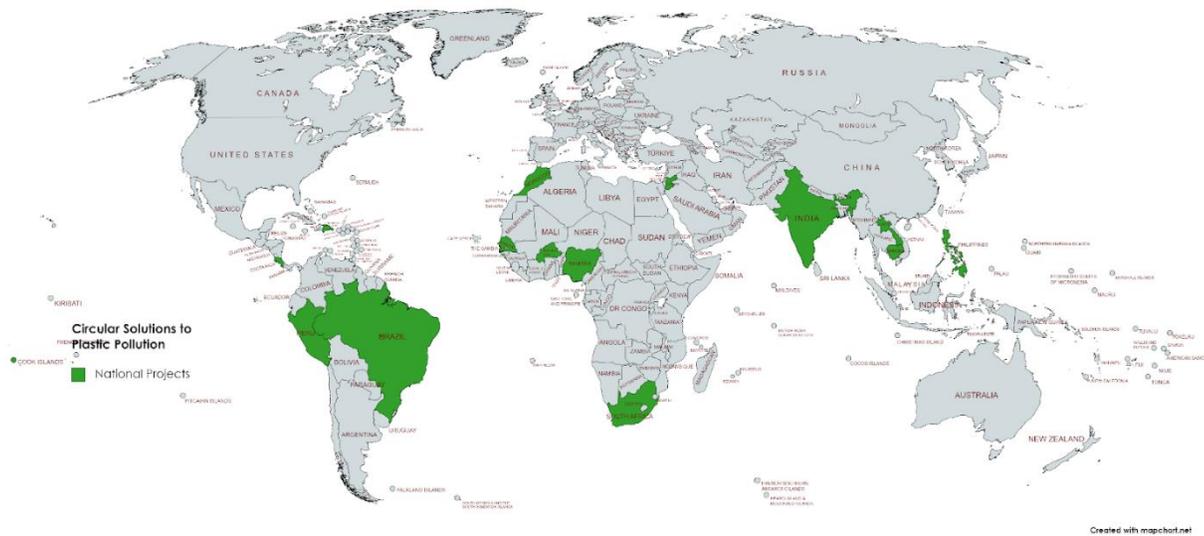
### Compilation of Letters of Endorsement

Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter(s) in this Annex. Please include a compilation of the signed LOEs in one PDF file in this annex.

## ANNEX C: PROGRAM LOCATIONS

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the program interventions will take place. The Program will implement activities in the 15 countries through the national child projects.

- Brazil: 15.7942° S, 47.8822° W
- Burkina Faso: 12.3714° N, 1.5197° W
- Cambodia: 11.5449° N, 104.8922° E
- Cook Islands: A21.2075° S, 159.7755° W
- Costa Rica: 9.9281° N, 84.0907° W
- Dominican Republic: 18.4861° N, 69.9312° W
- India: 28.6139° N, 77.2090° E
- Jordan: 31.9454° N, 35.9284° E
- Laos: 17.9757° N, 102.6331° E
- Morocco 33.9716° N, 6.8498° W
- Nigeria: 9.0765° N, 7.3986° E
- Peru: 12.0464° S, 77.0428° W
- Philippines: 14.5995° N, 120.9842° E
- RSA (South Africa): 25.7489° S, 28.2294° E
- Senegal: 14.7167° N, 17.4677° W



**ANNEX D: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SCREEN AND RATING**

(Program level) Attach agency safeguard screen form including rating of risk types and overall risk rating.

**Environmental and Social Safeguards Pre-Screen for Plastics IP**

Please note that this ESS was prepared by both lead agencies as a consolidated screen for the programme given that e.g. UNDP will not provide any screening of its national child project at concept level. Both agencies safeguard officer agreed to this common approach

Please provide indicative answers based on potential sites and program activities. This screen provides an initial review of potential social and environmental impacts based on available information.

**Program Information**

Program Title	Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution Integrated Program
Country	Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, India, Jordan, Laos, Morocco, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, South Africa, Senegal
GEF Agency	UNEP/WWF
Anticipated Executing Entity(s)	Government Agencies, WWF, UNDP, UNEP and other CSO and Private Sector entities to be defined during PPG
Total Program Cost	USD 96,236,582

**Program Overview and Activities**

*[Please provide basic Program information and describe program components. Please provide any detail about range of possible activities to be carried out as part of Program components]*

The Program aims to address the root causes of plastic pollution: ever-growing unsustainable consumption and production of single-use and unsustainable plastic products and packaging with low circularity. The Program will demonstrate and scale up upstream and midstream solutions in the food and beverage sector, including the elimination of single-use plastic products/packaging and reduction of using crude oil as the primary feedstock; circular design of materials, products and business models; as well as ensuring materials and products are actually circulated in practice through reuse and refill systems. This specific focus on

upstream and midstream interventions will be transformative by building from and filling in the gap from other existing funding, projects and actions on plastic pollution which have a dominant emphasis on downstream actions (waste management and clean-ups). This program will provide an innovative and transformative stimulation to facilitate the system change to accelerate the transition towards a circular economy of plastics, to prevent plastic pollution at national, regional and global levels.

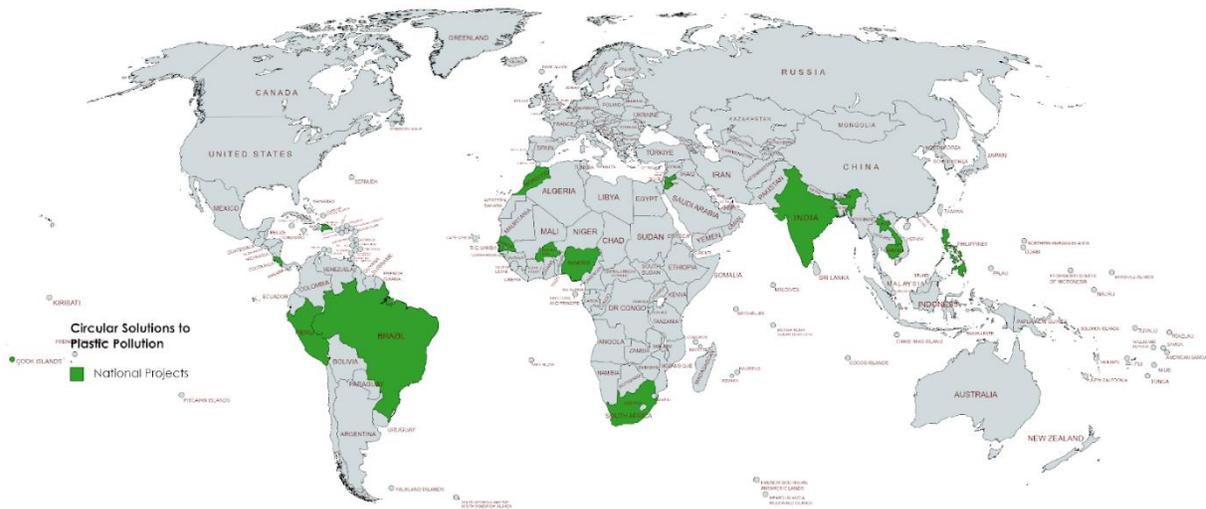
The Program will be delivered through 15 national child projects and one Global Platform. The Program activities will focus on five interlinked intervention areas throughout the whole Program: 1) regulation and policy development; 2) finance; 3) private sector; 4) communication and public advocacy for behavior and social change; and 5) knowledge management and capacity development for program-level coordination.

The Program is expected to achieve sizable GEBs in the areas of international waters, chemicals and waste, climate change and gender, with substantial co-benefits on biodiversity, social and economic values.

## Program Site(s)

The Program will implement activities in the 15 countries through the national child projects.

- Brazil: 15.7942° S, 47.8822° W
- Burkina Faso: 12.3714° N, 1.5197° W
- Cambodia: 11.5449° N, 104.8922° E
- Cook Islands: 21.2075° S, 159.7755° W
- Costa Rica: 9.9281° N, 84.0907° W
- Dominican Republic: 18.4861° N, 69.9312° W
- India: 28.6139° N, 77.2090° E
- Jordan: 31.9454° N, 35.9284° E
- Laos: 17.9757° N, 102.6331° E
- Morocco: 33.9716° N, 6.8498° W
- Nigeria: 9.0765° N, 7.3986° E
- Peru: 12.0464° S, 77.0428° W
- Philippines: 14.5995° N, 120.9842° E
- RSA (South Africa): 25.7489° S, 28.2294° E
- Senegal: 14.7167° N, 17.4677° W



## Low Risk Activities

Will Program activities include only technical assistance, policy reform, knowledge sharing, capacity building or research activities? If yes, explain.

Yes, the programme will focus only on technical assistance, policy reform, knowledge sharing and capacity building activities that include mainly:

1. Promote recyclability, eco-design and eco-labeling for circularity.
2. Promote the use of alternative materials, innovations or other sustainable business models based on returnability and circular economy.
3. Promote extended producer responsibility.
4. Strengthen the capacities of public entities and the work of inspection and control for compliance with current regulations.
5. Strengthen the capacities of the private sector and its commitment to the issue.
6. Strengthen the regulatory framework that generates the conditions to promote the circular economy in the country and contribute to the design and/or implementation of the Global Plastics Treaty.
7. Systematize and disseminate information and exchange experiences on circular solutions among public and private decision makers.
8. Systematize and disseminate information and exchange experiences on circular solutions among public and private decision makers.

## Cross-Cutting Principles

Below please indicate whether any of the following principles could be relevant to the project.

<b>Human Rights</b> (Including relevant history of Human Rights Violations impacting the project, threats to access to state services, activities that undermine rightsholders, or actions that would prevent representative participation including from the most vulnerable)	Yes / No
<b>Gender Equity</b> (Including potential negative impacts on rights and treatment of women and girls, threat of Gender-based Violence and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse)	Yes / No
<b>Children's Rights</b> (Including potential negative impacts on children and adolescents in potentially affected communities)	Yes / No
<b>Conflict Sensitivity</b> (Are there existing conflicts in the landscape/site? Could Program activities worsen conflict, insight violence, or create new conflicts within communities?)	Yes / No
<b>Climate Change</b> (Have potential impacts from climate change been considered?)	Yes / No

If you answered yes to any of the above, please elaborate below.

## ESSF Substantive Standards

Below please indicate whether any of the following principles could be relevant to the project.

<b>Involuntary Resettlement and Restriction of Access</b>	Yes / No
---	----------

(Are there Program activities that could lead directly or indirectly to involuntary resettlement? Will Program activities lead to restriction of access to natural resources or economic displacement within communities?)	
<b>Indigenous Peoples</b> (Are there indigenous communities present in or proximate to potential Program sites? Please identify these indigenous groups and explain if any are uncontacted peoples. Describe any potential negative impacts to Indigenous Peoples including, but not limited to, restriction of access.)	Yes / No
<b>Community Health and Security</b> (Please describe any potential adverse impacts on communities including, but not limited to, increased potential for human wildlife conflict, risk of introduction of disease, water contamination, and support for law enforcement that could lead to abuse)	Yes / No
<b>Natural Habitats</b> (Are there any potential environmental impacts not limited to but especially from construction, small scale infrastructure, and promotion of economic activities?)	Yes / No
<b>Pest Management</b> (Will this Program include the purchasing, procurement, or use of pesticides or other relevant chemicals?)	Yes / No
<b>Cultural Resources</b> (Does the Program risk impacting physical cultural resources? Does the Program potentially impact intangible cultural resources? Could the Program exploit cultural resources of potential Program affected peoples for commercial or other purposes?)	Yes / No

**If you answered yes to any of the above, please elaborate below.**

**Environmental and Social Safeguards Risk Rating**

[Please indicate what you believe to be the risk rating for the project: low, medium or high. Additionally, please include any other information you think is relevant to this initial determination.]

**This Programme is low risk.**

## ANNEX E: RIO MARKERS

Climate Change Mitigation	Climate Change Adaptation	Biodiversity	Desertification
Climate Change Mitigation 0	Climate Change Adaptation 0	Biodiversity 0	Desertification 0

## ANNEX F: TAXONOMY WORKSHEET

<<Table below for now taken from GEF-7 PIF>>

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Influencing Models	Transform policy and regulatory environments	(multiple selection)	(multiple selection)
	Convene multi-stakeholder alliances		
	Demonstrate innovative approaches		
Stakeholders	Civil society	Academia Local community organizations	
	Beneficiaries	Government Municipalities Capital Providers SMEs Financial Intermediaries Large Corporations Individuals/Entrepreneurs	
	Type of engagement	Participation Consultation Information Dissemination Partnership	
	Stakeholder engagement	Strategic Communications Behavior Change Awareness raising	
Capacity, Knowledge and Research	Knowledge Generation	(multiple selection)	(multiple selection)
	Knowledge Exchange		
	Learning		
	Innovation		
Gender Equality	Gender results areas	Awareness raising Access to benefits and services Capacity development Knowledge generation and exchange	(multiple selection)
	Gender mainstreaming	Women groups Sex-disaggregated Indicators Gender-sensitive Indicators	
Focal Area/Theme	International waters	Emissions Waste Management	Persistent Organic Pollutants

		Plastics Green Chemistry Mercury Open Burning	Cement Coal-fired Industrial Boilers
	Land degradation	Sustainable Land Management	Sustainable Livelihoods Income Generating Activities Sustainable Agriculture
	International waters	Pollution  Freshwater Marine Waters	Persistent toxic substances Plastics  River basin  LMEs
	Climate change	Climate Change Mitigation  Climate Change Adaptation	Technology transfer Financing  Innovation Private sector
	Biodiversity	Mainstreaming	Extractive Industries Agriculture and agrobiodiversity
Integrated Programs			

## **ANNEX G: NGI RELEVANT ANNEXES**

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1. Annex X (currently existing in NGI projects): Termsheet
2. Annex X (currently existing in NGI projects): Reflow table
3. Annex X (currently existing in NGI projects): Agency capacity to implement NGI

\*\*\*POP-UP material start

- Only for non-IP Programs

\*\*\*POP-UP material end

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<sup>32</sup> *Annex H: Only if NGI was selected on top*

## ANNEX H: CHILD PROJECT INFORMATION

Upload one PDF file with all child project concept notes here.

For each child project, please include the following information

### GENERAL CHILD PROJECT INFORMATION

Child Project Title:			
Country:		GEF Child Project ID:	
		Type of Child Project	(choose project type)
GEF Agency(ies):	(select) (select) (select)	GEF Agency Child Project ID:	
Anticipated Executing Entity(s) and Type:		(choose executing agency type)	
		(choose executing agency type)	
GEF Focal Area(s):	(select)	Submission Date:	
Type of Trust Fund:	(choose fund type)	Child Project Duration (Months)	
GEF Child Project Grant: (a)		GEF Child Project Non-Grant (b)	
Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)		Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant: (d)	
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)		Total Co-financing:	
PPG Amount (e):		PPG Agency Fee(s) (f):	
Total GEF Resources (a+b+c+d+e+f)			
Project Sector (CCM only)	(select)		
Program	Select		

\*\*\*POP-UP material start

- Program non-grant amounts (if any) only apply to child projects participating in Programas other than IPs.
- Sector has to be filled all MFA Child Projects including CC funds or exclusively using CC funds

\*\*\*POP-UP material end

## CHILD PROJECT FINANCING TABLES

### GEF Financing Table

Indicative Trust Fund Resources Requested by Agency(ies), Country(ies), Focal Area and the Programming of Funds

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)			
					Grant/Non-Grant (For NGI Projects Only)	GEF Project Grant	Agency Fee	Total GEF Financing
(select)	GEFTF		(select)	(select as applicable)				
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>								

### Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?  Yes  No

If yes<sup>33</sup>: fill in PPG table (incl. PPG fee)

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
					PPG	Agency Fee	Total PPG Funding
(select)	(select)		(select)	(select as applicable)			
<b>Total PPG Amount</b>							

### Sources of Funds for Country STAR Allocation

GFEE Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/Global	Focal Area	Source of Funds	Total
(select)	(select)		(select)	(select as applicable)	
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>					

### Indicative Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
		GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
(select) (select) Food IP	(select)		
<b>Total Project Cost</b>			

### Indicative Co-financing

\*\*\*POP-UP material start

Please provide indicative information regarding the expected amounts, sources and types of Co-Financing, and the sub-set of such Co-Financing that meets the definition of Investment Mobilized.

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount (\$)
(select)		(select)	(select)	
<b>Total Co-financing</b>				

<sup>33</sup> Note: Make this into a "pop-up" which appears only if PPG was selected, and if amount requested is above limits, they have to justify it

## List of Child Projects under the Program

Child Projects under the Program					
Country	Project Title	GEF Agency	GEF Amount (\$)	Agency Fee (\$)	Total (\$)
			PROJECT FINANCING		
	<b>FSPs</b>				
Brasil	1.	UNEP	8,056,881	725,119	8,782,000
Burkina Faso	2.	UNEP	2,652,294	238,706	2,891,000
Cambodia	3.	UNEP	2,652,294	238,706	2,891,000
Cook Islands	4.	UNEP	6,222,018	559,982	6,782,000
Costa Rica	5.	UNDP	3,550,306	319,528	3,869,833
Dominican Republic	6.	UNDP	3,825,420	344,288	4,169,708
India	7.	UNEP/UNIDO	8,056,881	725,119	8,782,000
Jordan	8.	UNDP	4,437,156	399,344	4,836,500
Lao PDR	9.	WWF	3,978,440	358,060	4,336,500
Morocco	10.	UNIDO	6,222,018	559,982	6,782,000
Nigeria	11.	UNEP	5,916,208	532,459	6,448,667
Peru	12.	UNEP	4,437,156	399,344	4,836,500
Philippines	13.	UNIDO	8,362,691	752,642	9,115,333
Senegal	14.	UNDP	5,048,777	454,390	5,503,167
South Africa	15.	UNIDO	6,833,639	615,028	7,448,667
Global Platform	16.	UNEP/WWF	15,984,404	1,438,596	17,423,000
	<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>96,236,582</b>	<b>8,661,293</b>	<b>104,897,875</b>
	<b>MSPs</b>				
	1.	(select)			

	2.	(select)			
	3.	(select)			
	<b>Subtotal</b>				
	<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>96,236,582</b>	<b>96,236,582</b>	<b>8,661,293</b>

## **LIST OF KEY REQUIREMENTS LEADING TO CEO ENDORSEMENT OF CHILD PROJECT SUBMISSIONS**

### **During child project design/by endorsement:**<sup>34</sup>

- **Stakeholders:** provide list of stakeholders, roles in the project and means of engagement; specifically address civil society organizations, vulnerable groups and Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) (as applicable) and their roles in the project
- **Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment:** carry out gender analysis and prepare gender action plan; include relevant gender aspects in Theory of change and gender-sensitive indicators in results framework (i.e. including the process to collect sex-disaggregated data and information on gender); include gender equality considerations/gender-responsive measures and actions in relevant activities in project components.
- **Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) related documents:** depending on types of ESS risks to be prepared (such as Environmental and Social Impact Assessment, Environmental and Social Management Framework/Plan, Indigenous Peoples Plan and Grievance Mechanism) and made public in country/location in relevant language/s (provide publication date and locations)
- **Private sector involvement mechanisms** (for non NGI projects: anticipated roles and type of PS; this will already be central to the project document for NGI projects)
- **Knowledge Management Plan** - develop “Knowledge Management Approach” for the project and how it will contribute to the project’s overall impact, including plans to learn from relevant previous and ongoing projects; proposed tools and methods for knowledge exchange and learning; knowledge outputs; strategic communication plan; and budget and timeline.
- **Results.** Inclusion of final Core Indicator targets, along with a comprehensive results framework with indicator name, units of measurement, and baseline and target data.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation.** Include a budget, along with an explanation of monitoring arrangements and deliverables.
- **Institutional arrangements** (incl. reporting arrangements and flow of funds) and cross-sector integration approaches, as relevant
- **Sustainability:** Post-project financing sustainability plan
- **Co-finance:** Confirm amount and type of co-financing and the definition of investment mobilized
- **To be complemented by new GEF8 policies and requirements.**

<sup>34</sup> Note: This **a list to remind agencies of key requirements** to address during project **preparation** and include in the endorsement request. No text is, therefore, to be entered here.