

2019

Project Implementation Review (PIR)

**POPS and Sound Harmful Chemicals Management**

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# Basic Data

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| **Project Information** | |
| UNDP PIMS ID | 5154 |
| GEF ID | 5067 |
| Title | Viet Nam POPS and Sound Harmful Chemicals Management Project |
| Country(ies) | Viet Nam, Viet Nam |
| UNDP-GEF Technical Team | Chemicals |
| Project Implementing Partner | Government |
| Joint Agencies | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Project Type | Full Size |

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| **Project Description** |
| The project objective is to continue reducing environmental and health risks from Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and harmful chemicals like Persistent Toxic Substances (PTS). The project aims to achieved this by supporting the improvement of the national integrated institutional and regulatory framework covering the management and reporting of POPs and harmful chemicals. In addition, the project targets to further improve national capacity for the management of POPs contaminated sites by building on experiences from GEF-4 projects. To improve such capacity, the project will develop provincial management plans to assess the risks and implement POPs release reduction measures at all POPs contaminated sites in two provinces.  The specific project objectives are to strengthen national capacity on the safe management of POPs and harmful chemicals; control and reduce releases of POPs/PTS to the environment from contaminated sites; and undertake a preliminary inventory of mercury sources in order to draft a national roadmap for the reduction of mercury releases. |

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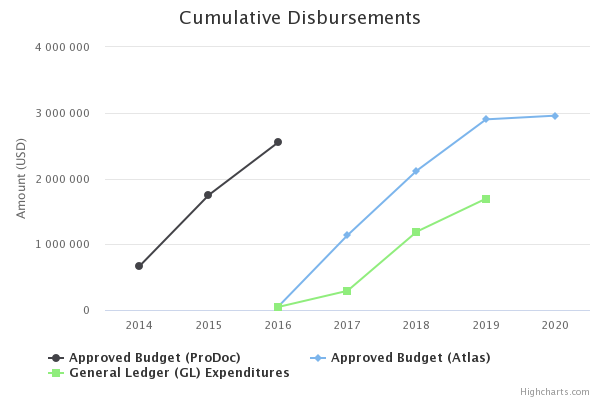
# Overall Ratings

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| Overall DO Rating | Moderately Satisfactory |
| Overall IP Rating | Moderately Satisfactory |
| Overall Risk Rating | High |

# Development Progress

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| **Description** | | | | | | |
| **Objective**  **Continued reduction of environmental and health risks through POPs, mercury and harmful chemicals release and exposure reduction achieved by provision of an integrated institutional and regulatory framework.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Progress of POP/PTS regulations developed and integrated into the newly established legal framework in Vietnam, and in compliance with requirement of the Stockholm and other relevant international conventions. | Stockholm Convention requirements are not yet completely integrated in the existing regulation on chemicals/POPs management. Lacking of a comprehensive POPs/PTS Management Information System following a PRTR Scheme which prevent good planning and reporting. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Policy framework for chemicals/POPs management improved meeting with the Stockholm Convention and other related international conventions, and expressing close links between environmental protection policy with chemical management policy. | This objective is on track. In this reporting period, a draft policy framework for chemicals/POPs management was produced, it expresses close links between environmental protection policy with chemical management policy based on reviewing and analyzing the gaps, overlap of 2 laws (Chemical and Environmental Protection Law). Beside policy framework, 2 National technical regulations were revised and 2 technical guidelines were developed . Such that progress to end of project target is estimated at 80%.  In the next reporting period, it is expected that 2 more National technical regulations would be revised and 2 more National technical regulation/decree would be drafted | The activities in this area of work are on track.  For this component of work, at PIR 2019 activities are 75% completed and progress to overall end of project target is 100%.  In this current reporting period, two additional National technical regulations were revised and two additional National technical guidelines were drafted.  The achievements since the start of the project have been as follows:  - A draft policy framework for chemicals/POPs management was produced, it expresses close links between environmental protection policy with chemical management policy based on reviewing and analyzing the gaps, overlap of 2 laws (Chemical and Environmental Protection Law).  - 3 National technical regulations were developed/revised  - 4 technical guidelines were developed  - 1 national procedure was developed  Immediate activities for the next reporting period shall include:-  - Detailed guidance on the implementation of chemical risk assessment process was developed  - A Set of Technical Criteria for 01 group of pilot products on eco-labeling  - A workshop on introduction of the policies that project supported. |
| Level of institutional capacity strengthened to manage, monitor, and remediate POP/PTS, including Mercury. | Limited national capacity and knowledge on industrial contaminated site management. | *(not set or not applicable)* | National Monitoring capacity improved to track POPs/PTS including mercury. | This objective is slightly off track. In this reporting period, Institutional monitoring capacity was strengthened to manage, monitor and remediate POPs and Hg, through completion of the following activities:  1) Completion of procurement of expert services to provide the technical support to assessment of POPs/PTS Monitoring  2) Completion of 3 basis training on POPs/PTS monitoring and analysis with participation of 149 staff (71 female) from 43 Labs under MONRE (Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment) and DONREs (Provincial Departments of Natural Resource and Environment)  3) Completion of the first round inter-laboratories of crosscheck program    Progress to end of project completion is estimated at about 50% for this reporting period.    Next steps in the following reporting period shall include:  1) Organizing 3 advanced trainings on POPs/PTS monitoring and analysis in Hanoi for selected Labs  2) Conducting the second round inter-laboratories of crosscheck program  3) Establishing the network of Labs working on POPs/PTS monitoring for continue learning and sharing  4) Support at least 2 Labs to follow the international standards on POPs/PTS monitoring and analysis | This objective is on track. For this component of work, at PIR 2019 activities are 75% completed and progress to overall end of project target is 100%.  In this reporting period, Institutional monitoring capacity was strengthened to manage, monitor and remediate POPs and Hg, through completion of the following activities:    1) Completion of three advanced trainings on POPs/PTS monitoring and analysis in Hanoi with 82 participants in which 50% is female from 17 selected laboratories;    2) Completion of the second round of the inter-laboratory crosscheck program; this activity also confirmed that there are large differences in the performance of different laboratories, and further assistance would be needed in future;    3) Preliminary establishment of the network of laboratories working on POPs/PTS monitoring for continue learning and sharing;    4) Completion of the procurement of expert services to provide the technical support to at least two Labs to achieve ISO17025 certification on POPs/PTS monitoring and analysis.  5) 2 training curriculums were developed and 2 training course were conducted with around 50 officials, in which 20 are female    The following will be achieved in the next reporting period: two laboratories will be accredited based on the ISO17025 standard on POPs/PTS monitoring and analysis. |
| Level of environmental and health risks reduction. | A substantial experience has been achieved from bilateral and GEF POP/chemical related projects. However the results are still project based, not well integrated to support the GoV having a comprehensive regulation system on POPs/PTS management. | *(not set or not applicable)* | A POPs tracking tool, database and PRTR system established and demonstrated in at least one province. Establishment of provincial – level planning for the clean-up of POPs contaminated sites in two provinces. | This objective is slightly off track. In this reporting period, the Pollutant release and transfer register (PRTR) regulation was amended; PRTR guidelines for the plating sector and thermal power plant were developed; The environmental protection plan of Nghe An province was submitted to the People's Committee of Nghe An province for approval; and more than 50 tonnes of pure DDT in contaminated sites in Lam Hoa commune, Tuyen Hoa dist., Quang Binh province were collected and destroyed    The immediate steps to be carried out in the next reporting period are:  1) Inventory and collecting data on POP/PTS in industrial sites in Binh Duong province  2) Piloting PRTR system in Binh Duong province  3) Develop the environmental protection plan of Binh Duong province  4) Pilot implementation of the Provincial Environmental Management Plan for POP Pesticides contaminated areas at Nghe An province | The achievement of this objective is on track. For this component of work, at PIR 2019 activities are 80% completed and progress to overall end of project target is 100%.  In this reporting period:    1) An Inventory and collection of data on POP/PTS in industrial sites in Binh Duong province was achieved, including 125 sampling and analysis of POPs, new POPs and metals in industrial effluents (flue gas 25 samples, waste water 50 samples, solid waste 25 samples), and a questionnaire survey covering almost 400 facilities was completed;    2) A first version of a web-based PRTR software has been developed;    3) The piloting of the PRTR system in Binh Duong province has been launched;    3) The development of the environmental protection plan of Binh Duong province started;    4) Piloting of the Provincial Environmental Management Plan for POP Pesticides contaminated areas at Nghe An province completed.  Immediate activities for the next reporting period shall include:  - A workshop to introduce the PRTR software to government and planning to PRTR replication  - Support to develop the Provincial Environmental Management Plan for POP Pesticides contaminated areas at Quang Binh, Quang Tri and Ha Tinh provinces. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 1**  **Overall policy framework and specific regulatory measures covering environmentally sound management of POPs and PTS through life cycle management developed and implemented.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Availability of regulations in Viet Nam integrated to take into account in a consistent way the requirements of the Stockholm Convention on POPs. | The existing national regulations on chemicals is based on the GHS and includes provisions of international conventions.    However the existing regulations are not fully compliant with the SC requirement, still fragmented and not fully harmonized due to issue by different Ministries. | *(not set or not applicable)* | The key regulations in Viet Nam are integrated to take into account in a consistent way the requirements of the Stockholm Convention on POPs. | This activity is on track. In this reporting period, the following actions were carried out:  - Law on Environment Protection and Law on Chemicals including related regulations were reviewed.  - Regulatory improvement plan on POP/PTS management drafted  - Stakeholder consultation workshop was organized on June 29th, 2018 in Hanoi with 55 participants (19 are female) from national and provincial Gov's agency, related experts, UNDP, PMU and media. During the workshop, the draft regulatory improvement plan on POP/PTS management was commented then the consultants will finalize accordingly.  - A chapter on hazard chemical management including POPs was established in the Draft Decree on amending the Decree on Implementation of Environment Protection Law.  - Prime Minister’s decision on Environmental incident response is drafted    In the next reporting period, the following steps are planned:  1) Submit the Prime Minister’s decision on environmental incident response for approval  2) Finalize then publish the Regulatory improvement plan on POP/PTS management | For this component of work, at PIR 2019 activities are 100%.  Activities delivered in this reporting period include:-  - Prime Minister’s decision on Environmental incident response was drafted  - The Regulatory improvement plan on POP/PTS management was finalized  The achievements since the start of the project have been as follows:  1) The Law on Environment Protection and Law on Chemicals including related regulations were reviewed.    2) The regulatory improvement plan on POP/PTS management has been drafted    3) A stakeholder consultation workshop was organized on June 29th, 2018 in Hanoi with 55 participants (out of whom 19 are female) from national and provincial Gov's agency, related experts, UNDP, PMU and media. During the workshop, the draft regulatory improvement plan on POP/PTS management was commented then the consultants will finalize accordingly.    4) A chapter on hazard chemical management including POPs was established in the Draft Decree on amending the Decree on Implementation of Environment Protection Law.    5) Prime Minister’s decision on Environmental incident response is drafted    Regulatory improvement plan on POP/PTS and Prime Minister’s decision on Environmental incident response accepted by Department of Environmental Quality Management (DEQM) in order to be submitted to MONRE by Dec 2019    The immediate next steps in the next reporting period after submission of these regulatory improvements to MONRE will be: A workshop on introduction of the policies that project supported. |
| Availability of a regulatory framework to ensure monitoring and reporting of POPs is established. | Provisions of new POPs as required by the SC are also not yet included in the chemical and environment policy framework. | *(not set or not applicable)* | A regulatory framework to ensure monitoring and reporting of POPs is established. | This activity is on track. In this reporting period, the following actions were carried out:  - 2 revised standards issued (National Technical Regulatory on emissions and waste water from steel industry)  - The Decision on Environment Incident Response drafted  - Technical guideline on planning for environmental protection incl. prevention and response to environmental incident of hazardous chemicals drafted  - Two PRTR technical guidelines for plating sector and thermal power plant drafted  - A feasibility study on market based policy initiative is being conducted. Public/ Private partnership for the reduction and/or monitoring of POPs releases and for promoting POPs disposal to be identified by the feasibility study.    In the following reporting period, next steps planned include:  1) Conduct the consultation workshop on PRTR regulation and guidelines in Hanoi with participation of PMU, UNDP, national relevant experts  2) Develop a market based policy initiative according to the finding of the feasibility study on market based policy initiative | For this component of work, at PIR 2019 activities are 100% completed    The achievements since the start of the project have been as follows:    1) Two draft National technical regulations for steel industry on emission and on wastewater were revised with more POP/PTS indicators.    2) A circular on pollution release and transfer registration (PRTR) was drafted.    3) Two draft technical guidelines on PRTR for POPs and PTS of the Chrome Plating Industry and for the Thermal Power Generation Industry were developed.    4) A technical guideline for developing environmental protection plan was drafted.  All technical guidelines, circulars and regulations developed during the last two reporting periods were presented at technical meetings/workshops to get comments and then finalized and accepted by Department of Environmental Quality Management (DEQM) in order to be submitted to MONRE by Dec 2019. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **Achieved** | | | | |
| **Outcome 2**  **Key institutions have knowledge and skills to formulate and implement neccesary chemicals and environment policies, consistent with sound chemicals management principles and international convention requirements.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Achievement of active participation of Viet Nam in the ICCM/SAICM. | A certain number of POPs training initiatives have been carried out and is being carried out in the framework of previous GEF4 projects. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Viet Nam will have consolidated its participation to ICCM/SAICM to benefit for international knowledge and have its issues and arguments on chemical management brought at the international level. | This activity is on track. In this reporting period, no missions using project budget were conducted. However, a number of officials of Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT) and Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) who is in the management board of the project, with support of UNEP, Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), Swedish Chemical Agency (KEMI), participated in some regional and international conferences related to chemical management.    In the following reporting period, next steps planned include:  - A study tour on chemical sound management for Vietnam Gov's leaders is being planned to work with the America Environmental Protection Agency and the American Responsible Care and Chemical Industry Association and visit some America chemical companies/factories to learn more knowledge and experiences on international chemical management standard, relevant state policies development | This outcome is on track.  For this component of work, at PIR 2019 activities are 75% completed and progress to overall end of project target is 100%.  In this reporting period a study tour on chemical sound management for 6 Vietnam Gov's leaders (in which 4 are female) was conducted from Sep 29th, 2018 to Oct 07th, 2018 to work with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) and the American Responsible Care – American Chemistry Council and Chemical Industries Association. Visit to some American chemical companies/factories were undertaken to increase knowledge and learn experiences on international chemical management standard and the development of relevant national policies.    In the following reporting period, two officials of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) will attend an international workshop/conference on chemical management. |
| Evidences of increased adoption of chemical risk assessment criteria in law-making and decision making. | There is the need to build on the experience of these training activities and to establish a training system which consistently increase capacity on POPs, management of hazardous chemicals and hazardous waste in the perspective of ensuring consistency and coordination of environmental related regulation with the Stockholm Convention. | *(not set or not applicable)* | A procedure for risk assessment adopted in law-making and decision-making processes related to chemicals and hazardous waste. | This activity is on track. In this reporting period, the following actions were carried out:  -The review of the national chemicals law and related policies were completed  - The Regulatory Improvement plan was drafted  - Material/handout of training on chemicals classification and labeling in global harmonized system (GHS) and adaptation of the EU REACH/RoSH approach for application in Viet Nam was developed  - Material/handout of training on risk assessment with specific focus on POPs and mercury was developed.    In the next reporting period, the following is planned:  - An initial survey on GHS will be conducted  - Two trainings for national and provincial gov's management official, one on GHS will be conducted in September 2018, one on risk assessment will be conducted in October 2018  - The processes for risk assessment of mercury will be piloted in a priority sector | This outcome is on track.  For this component of work, at PIR 2019 activities are 80% completed and progress to overall end of project target is 100%.  In this reporting period, the following actions were carried out:    - An initial survey on GHS was conducted.    - The processes for risk assessment of mercury was piloted in the Rang Dong lamp company  In this reporting period, there were two trainings for more than 50 people (in which 20 are female) as national and provincial gov's management official were conducted: one on GHS in September 2018, and one on risk assessment in December 2018.  In the next reporting period, the following is planned:    - A detailed procedure for risk assessment on chemicals and hazardous waste will be developed. |
| Number of institutions / staff successfully trained. | *(not set or not applicable)* | *(not set or not applicable)* | Relevant institution skills on POPs management, risk assessment, international regulation on chemicals and their relationship with Vietnamese situation increased by means of certified training. | *(not set or not applicable)* | For this component of work, at PIR 2019 activities are 100 completed    This area of work is on track.    In this reporting period, there were two trainings for more than 50 people (in which 20 are female) as national and provincial gov's management official were conducted: one on GHS in September 2018, and one on risk assessment in December 2018. |
| Availability of market based policy in one or two sectors relevant to POPs. | *(not set or not applicable)* | *(not set or not applicable)* | A market based policy on waste and chemicals management and public / private partnership established. | *(not set or not applicable)* | This outcome is on track.  For this component of work, at PIR 2019 activities are 50% completed and progress to overall end of project target is 100%.  In this reporting period, the feasibility study on the market based policy initiative was conducted with finding that MBIs (Market-based Instruments) are commonly used in waste management- one of the largest sources of U-POPs and mercury, therefore, the management and reduction in different types of waste will automatically reduce the risk of POPs and mercury emissions as a co-benefit solution. To promote the advantages and effectiveness of MBIs, these mechanisms need to be applied in combination with command and control tool (legal regulations, prohibition), MRV (Measurement, Reporting, and Verification) requirements, and other tools (techniques, education, and communication, etc.)    In the next reporting period, the following is planned:  - A market-based policy initiative will be developed with a focus on green label/eco label to promote reduction in POPs releases and disposal. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 3**  **National institutions provide comprehensive and coordinated ambient environment and receptor POPs /PTS monitoring that is consolidated into a national database and utilized for high quality reporting to the GoV/National Assembly and the Convention.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| National POPs/PTS monitoring capacity assessed and POPs/PTS monitoring program upgraded to ensure POPs/PTS tracking. | POPs Monitoring capability increased in the last years thanks to governmental initiatives, support of international donors, and GEF projects related to Dioxin contaminated sites, POP pesticide stockpiles, PCBs. However, the monitoring capability on U-POPs emitted from industrial sources and other POPs is still very limited. | *(not set or not applicable)* | POPs/PTS baseline established for ambient environment (air, water, soil) and receptors (human, biota, food). | This activity on track. In this reporting period, the following actions were carried out:  - The assessment on current capacity to monitor POPs/PTS pollution was completed and the final draft report of assessment was sent to stakeholders for comments  - An article on sound chemicals and chemical-containing waste management was developed in prepartion for the  development of a chapter of chemical wastes in National  State of the Environmental Report.    In the next reporting period, the following is planned:-  - The data on current POPs/PTS monitoring will be established for tracking  - The chapter on sound chemicals and chemical-containing waste management will be developed and published in the National  State of the Environmental Report. | For this component of work, at PIR 2019 activities are 100% completed.    In this reporting period, the following actions were carried out:  - The POPs/PTS data categories to be reported on through the POPs/PTS tracking tool were selected;  - A needs assessment for the laboratories was conducted and a gap analysis was identified, and a strengthening program was developed as well.  - A chapter on the environmentally sound management of chemicals and chemical-containing waste has been developed and will be published in the Report of the State of the Environment 2019.    To take sample and analysis POPs/PTS is costly, the labs cannot bare the cost, thus it is needed to aware the gov’s policy makers to develop a national regulation on collecting the data to establish the POPs/PTS ambient environmental baseline and allocate the money for this task. |
| National POPs/PTS monitoring capacity assessed and POPs/PTS monitoring program upgraded to ensure POPs/PTS tracking | Existing POPs laboratories are mainly dedicated to sampling and analysis of POP pesticide, PCBs. Some labs are able to sample and analyze Dioxin. | *(not set or not applicable)* | - At least two laboratory accredited for monitoring of new POPs and PTS and integrated in an intercalibration network of laboratories | *(not set or not applicable)* | The previous PIR templates did not highlight these indicators, and so cumulative progress is being reported for the first time  For this component of work, at PIR 2019 activities are 50% completed and progress to overall end of project target is 100%.    As indicated previously, 2 lab selected, a needs assessment for two laboratories was conducted and a gap analysis was identified, and a strengthening program was developed as well.    Immediate next steps shall include:-  Implementation of the lab strengthening program, and ensuring they can meet ISO17025 standards. |
| National POPs/PTS monitoring capacity assessed and POPs/PTS monitoring program upgraded to ensure POPs/PTS tracking | A target level for PCDD/F has been established in the course of the ongoing GEF project on Dioxin contaminated hotspot. | *(not set or not applicable)* | An upgraded POPs/PTS monitoring programme submitted for GoV approval | *(not set or not applicable)* | The previous PIR templates did not highlight these indicators. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **Achieved** | | | | |
| **Outcome 4**  **National POPs/PTS laboratory network for support of ambient environment and receptor monitoring certified/accredited.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Availability of accredited laboratories on new POPs integrated in a POP/PTS laboratory calibration network. Level of piloting PRTR at provincial level. | A certain number of private or public laboratories having capability to perform sampling and analysis of POPs (Dioxin, PCB, POPs pesticides, etc.) is working.    Some of the above have participated in round-robin tests. However there are no national official analytical methods on the determination of POPs.    Also a national plan for accreditation and certification of these labs to international standards is missing. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Two key laboratories on POPs analysis accredited following ISO 17025 and associated accreditation schemes.    Up to 80 laboratories technicians and government staff trained on POPs monitoring related activities following international standards and requirement.    POPs/PTS database established to contain data related to industrial sources, and POPs contaminated sites in 2 provinces, and all the country-wide available data on POPs environmental monitoring. | This activity is slightly off-track. In this reporting period, the following actions were carried out:  - The laboratory capacity and need assessment was completed and the criteria for laboratories to best attain international accreditation was established  - A Report on the current status of POPs, PTS monitoring in Viet Nam by specific laboratories was drafted.  - 3 basis trainings on POPs/PTS monitoring and analysis were conducted in May and June 2018 with participation of  149 staff (71 female) from 43 Labs of 39 provinces in Vietnam  - The first round inter-laboratories of crosscheck program on POPs/PTS completed    Next steps in the following reporting period shall include:  - Organizing 3 advanced trainings on POPs/PTS monitoring and analysis in Hanoi for selected Labs  - Conducting the second round inter-laboratories of crosscheck program  - Establishing the network of Labs working on POPs/PTS monitoring for continue learning and sharing  - Continue support through learning by doing for at least 2 Labs to follow the international standards on POPs/PTS monitoring and analysis | For this component of work, at PIR 2019 activities are 50% completed and progress to overall end of project target is 100%.    This outcome is on track. In this reporting period, the following actions were carried out:  • Organised 3 advanced training courses on monitoring and analysis of PBDE, Hg, PAH monitoring and analysis of PBDE, Hg, PAH for 82 participants in which 50% is female from 17 selected laboratories  • The second round of inter-laboratories crosscheck program was completed;  • A network of laboratories for continuous learning and sharing of information on POPs/PTS monitoring has been preliminarily established.  • A POPs/PTS database has been established to contain data related to industrial sources, and POPs contaminated sites in Binh Duong province.    Next steps in the following reporting period shall include:  • Support learning by doing for two Labs to follow the international standards on POPs/PTS monitoring and analysis  • PRTR reporting system will be operational. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 5**  **Key policies, regulations and technical guidlines for management of POPs contaminated sites are in place.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Availability of policies and guidelines on POPs contaminated sites management developed and enforced. | A number of separate initiatives on the management of contaminated sites are being carried out by governmental institutions, international donors, or under GEF projects.    These effort are however still fragmented (project based) and not yet capitalized into a harmonized system of laws and guidance.    The National Target Programme on Pollution Remedies and Environmental Improvement (approved in 2011) sets an objective by 2015 to recover environment at 100 sites seriously contaminated by POPs pesticides stockpile. | *(not set or not applicable)* | A broad policy and guidelines, established to support the implementation of legal and regulatory framework developed in Component 1 for contaminated sites management. | This activity is on track. In this reporting period, the following actions were carried out:  - The survey assessment of contaminated sites in Nghe An province was completed and the provincial environmental protection plan of Nghe An province was updated and submitted to Nghe An Provincial People's Committee for approval  - Progress on the development of policies and guidelines on POPs contamination site management includes:  + 1st draft of the technical regulation for POPs pesticides residue in soil developed.  + A guidelines for contaminated site management plan is kicked off for the implementation of Circular 30/2016/TT-BTNMT dated 12/10/2016, the guidelines is following risk based approach    In the next reporting period, follow on steps will include:  1) The guidelines for implementation the Circular 30/2016 will be finalize and public  2) Technical regulation on POPs/PTS in soil superseding current non harmonized and fragmented relevant technical regulations  3) Inventories on POPs contaminated sites including industrial sites available (…e.g. Ho Chi Minh trail, Viet Tri industrial plant, Binh Duong industrial area); | For this component of work, at PIR 2019 activities are 70% completed and progress to overall end of project target is 100%.  This outcome is on track.  In this reporting period, the following actions were carried out:  - Two national technical regulations on: i) the pesticide residues in the soil and ii) remediation target values of persistent organic pesticides, according to land use, were reviewed and based on the review report, a new national technical regulation was recommended to supersede those regulations which are non- harmonized and fragmented  - Conducted inventories on POPs contaminated sites in Ho Chi Minh trail (six contaminated sites were detected and six preliminary risk reports were developed), Viet Tri industrial plant (DDT was detected in the floor of the chemical factory and a preliminary risk report was developed) and Binh Duong industrial area (three potential contaminated areas were detected)    For next period report,  1) The guidelines for implementation of the Circular 30/2016 will be made public.  2) The plan to manage the potential contaminated sites will be developed. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 6**  **Provincial Management Plan for the Demonstration Provinces.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Increased capacity of national and local staff measurable by outcome of trainings and number of staff trained. | A limited training of staff trained on disposal technology and site assessment in the course of previous Dioxin hotspot and Pesticidal POPs GEF/UNDP projects. | *(not set or not applicable)* | A site management plan for the provinces of Nghe An and Binh Duong developed, addressing an estimated amount of 300 POPs pesticides sites and 50 industrial contaminated sites, representing an amount of several thousands tons of POPs contaminated soil (to be quantified) of POPs/PTS contaminated soil and waste, which includes:risk-based site prioritization; estimation of POPs amount and cleanup/disposal cost; logistic planning; GIS database; criteria for technology selection; financial plan. | This activity is off-track. In this reporting period, the following actions were carried out:  - The provincial POPs Pesticides contaminated site management plan of Nghe An province was submitted to Nghe An Provincial People's Committee for approval.  - There was a launch of risk-based guidelines for a contaminated site management plan to support the implementation of Circular 30/2016/TT-BTNMT dated 12/10/2016    For the next reporting period:  - The development of the Provincial Environmental Protection Plan for Binh Duong will begin from Q4 2018;  - Pilot implementation of the Provincial Environmental Management Plan for POP Pesticides contaminated areas at Nghe An province from Q4 2018;  - Support to implementation of the Provincial Environmental Management Plan for POPs pesticides contaminated areas at 3 provinces namely Ha Tinh, Quang Binh and Quang Tri from Q4 2018.  - Develop the material of training on contaminated sites management and prepare for training on contaminated sites management for technical officers and decision makers from ministries and 10 provinces  - Develop of material on awareness raising/communication on contaminated sites and POPs stockpiles.  - Start to develop roadmap for management and reduction of U-POP | For this component of work, at PIR 2019 activities are 70% completed and progress to overall end of project target is 100%.    This outcome is on track.    In this reporting period, the following actions were carried out:  - The provincial environmental management plan of Nghe An province was approved at Decision No. 142/KH-UBND dated 14th March 2019 which has addressed 954 contaminated sites, of which 268 sites under National Plan and 686 newly identified sites. Under the plan, Nghe An has been implementing 34 projects remediating 62 sites with the amount of more than a thousand tons of POP wastes safeguarded and treated.  - The Provincial Environmental Protection Plan for Binh Duong was just drafted.  - Review all relevant information for drafting the provincial environmental management plan for POPs pesticides contaminated areas at three provinces namely Ha Tinh, Quang Binh and Quang Tri provinces.  - The material of training on contaminated sites management was developed.  - Roadmap for management and reduction of U-POP was drafted.    In the next reporting period, follow up steps will include:  - Finalize the provincial environmental management plan for industrial POPs of Binh Duong Province.  - Finalize the provincial environmental management plan for POPs pesticides contaminated areas at 3 provinces namely Ha Tinh, Quang Binh and Quang Tri provinces.  - Develop the delayed awareness materials on contaminated sites and POPs stockpiles. |
| Amount of POPs release to the environment which will be prevented by the implementation of provincial level plan. | Experience on contaminated sites gathered from the 2 GEF/UNDP projects: the Dioxin hotspots (3 large military sites at airbases) and several pesticide POPs sites. | *(not set or not applicable)* | POPs release to the environment significantly reduced as a result of plan implementation after project completion. | *(not set or not applicable)* | For this component of work, at PIR 2019 activities are 100% completed This outcome was achieved, as more than thousands tons of POP wastes safeguarded and treated as a result of implementation The provincial environmental management plan of Nghe An province. |
| Number of people benefitting from reduced exposure to POPs | *(not set or not applicable)* | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 50 staff trained on the management of POPs contaminated sites | *(not set or not applicable)* | For this component of work, at PIR 2019 activities are XX% completed and progress to overall end of project target is XX%.  This outcome is on track. In this reporting period, the following actions were carried out: - The material of training and the awareness materials on contaminated sites management was developed.  - Roadmap for management and reduction of U-POP was drafted.    In the next reporting period, follow on steps will include:  - Training for 50 technical officers and decision makers from ministries and 10 provinces on contaminated sites management. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 7**  **Clean up of the Lím Hoí site in Guang Bing.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Amount of POPs stockpile destroyed. | The Lâm Hoá site is currently contaminated by large amount of DDT. No safeguarding or risk-prevention measures in place. | *(not set or not applicable)* | 50t of pure DDT destroyed plus 100t of highly DDT contaminated soil treated on site. (150,000USD including site investigation, repackaging, disposal, site management). | This activity is off track. In this reporting period, more than 50 tonnes of pure DDT in contaminated sites in Lam Hoa commune, Tuyen Hoa dist., Quang Binh province were collected and destroyed to remove short-term risk.    The immediate steps to be carried out in the next reporting period are:  - Midterm and long term measures are finalized will be developed for remediation of remaining contaminated soil | For this component of work, at PIR 2019 activities are 70% completed and progress to overall end of project target is 100%.  This outcome is on track. In this reporting period, the following actions were carried out:  - 200 m3 of highly DDT contaminated soil was treated on site.    In the next reporting period, follow on steps will include:  - Develop brochure/leaflet on contaminated areas and distribute to the community, and guide the community to coordinate with the local government to sustain project impacts in the long term? “    - Organize community information dissemination meetings. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 8**  **Mercury inventory results contribute to the development of awareness raising materials and the identification of national activities to ratify and implement Minamata Convention.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Availability of a national baseline mercury source and release inventory, and national mercury release reduction strategy adopted. | Viet Nam is signatory of the Minamata Convention on Mercury.    Limited demonstration of alternatives to mercury carried out under a GEF global project on healthcare waste.    Demonstration activities on replacement of mercury carried out in 2 hospitals in the framework of the GEF global project on healthcare waste.    Only demonstration activity carried out limited to mercury containing healthcare device. | *(not set or not applicable)* | A preliminary mercury inventory and its database developed and implemented. | This activity is off track. In this reporting period, the following actions were carried out:  - Two types of questionnaires (products and emissions) for a preliminary inventory of mercury source and release developed.  - Detail plan for inventory Hg was developed  - Main manufacturing products which may contain mercury are identified    For the next reporting period the following activities are envisioned:  - Inventory Hg in products and from waste resources will be conducted from Q3 2018. It is expected that the inventory exercise will be completed by early 2019 | For this component of work, at PIR 2019 activities are 100 completed  This outcome is achieved with a preliminary mercury inventory and its database developed. Inventory activities under this project were run in detail (using toolkit level 2) while after the national Minamata Initial Assessment on Mercury (MIA) already done with general data and using toolkit level 1  Identified 4 main industrial source of Hg releases (coal-burning thermal power, cement production, incineration and non-ferrous metal production) and 4 main products containing Hg (Fluorescent lamp, Hg thermometer, dental filler, chemical cosmetics)  A questionnaire survey on mercury emission in 4 key sectors mention above was carried out (200 questioners were sent to 105 cement production plans, 27 coal-burning thermal power plans, 40 incineration plans and 28 non-ferrous metal production plans. 73 questionnaires get back)  Sample and analysis of mercury in 15 plants were undertaken. These included five power plants, four cement kilns, four incinerators and two non-ferrous metal factories. The analyses were conducted on the input material (coal, oil, ore, raw material), exhaust gas, wastewater, sludge, ashes, in order to get information on the mass balance of the process and to derive a country-specific emission factors for mercury for these industrial sectors. Emission factors were adjusted on the basis of the analysis and the overall emission were recalculated for 1) all the plants from the inventory survey and 2) the overall number of plants as from the MIA survey and other sources. Sampling and analysis of 50 products were also undertaken to verify the presence of mercury. For mercury containing products, the inventory contains information on fluorescent lamps, thermometers, mercury amalgam. |
| Number of communication activities carried out and communication products disseminated. | Awareness raising activities on mercury carried out at 2 healthcare facilities. | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 3 activities on mercury related issues conducted to increase awareness and knowledge of mercury. | This activity is off-track. In this reporting period, the following actions were carried out:  - TOR for outreach workshops developed  - Recruitment of national consultants to carry out the outreach workshop under processing.    In the next reporting the following is expected:-  - Completion of the recruitment of national consultants to carry out the outreach workshop by Q3 2018  - Material on mercury for awareness raisin will be developed.  - 2 outreach workshops will be carried out across in Binh Duong and Nghe An province.  - The main outreach will provide information on the Minamata convention, sources of mercury, free-mercury processes and articles and their cost, safe disposal of mercury, management of mercury containing articles / waste. | For this component of work, at PIR 2019 activities are 50% completed and progress to overall end of project target is 100%.  This activity is on track. In this reporting period, the following actions were carried out:  - Plan for awareness raising activities on mercury was drafted.  - Awareness raising material on mercury was developed.    In the next reporting period, a number of communication activities will be carried out and communication products will be disseminated to local areas. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 9**  **Increased knowledge and awareness of mercury source and releases.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Database of mercury containing products developed. | Inventory of mercury added products in Viet Nam is missing. | *(not set or not applicable)* | A database of products containing mercury available in the Vietnamese market or produced by Vietnamese industries. | This activity if off track. In this reporting period, the following actions were carried out:  - The questionnaires for a preliminary inventory of products containing mercury were developed;  - Detail plan for inventory of products containing mercury was developed    For the next reporting period:  - Inventory will be conducted in Q3 2018  - A database of products containing mercury available by end of 2018 | This activity was achieved with a database of products containing mercury made available  A first assessment of the situation of mercury in products in Vietnam has been performed during the initial assessment carried out in the framework of the Minamata Convention. Then under the project a survey was carried out on the following category of products:  •Mercury thermometers and Sphigmo-manometers, and mercury in preservatives; Mercury Amalgam; Mercury containing lamps; Mercury paint. Rather then a database, the result is a report with statistical information ad a limited number of analysis (50) carried out on mercury products. However, it demonstrates that mercury in products is still an important issues to be solved in Viet Nam.    - Immediate next steps:-Develop awareness materials on Hg |
| Preliminary roadmap for the replacement of mercury containing product drafted. | Strategy on Mercury related product is missing.    Legislation on mercury product limited to replacement of Hg containing light bulbs. | *(not set or not applicable)* | A roadmap for the management of products and goods containing mercury will be developed. | This activity is offtrack. In this reporting period, the following actions were carried out:  - TOR for development of a roadmap for the management of products and goods containing mercury developed  - Recruitment of expert to develop a roadmap for the management of products and goods containing mercury developed under processing.    In the next reporting period, the following is expected:-  - Completion of recruitment of expertise by Q3 2018  - First draft of the roadmap for the management of products and goods containing mercury developed under processing. It is expected that the roadmap will be completed by early 2019 | For this component of work, at PIR 2019 activities are 50% completed and progress to overall end of project target is 100%.  In this reporting period the following was achieved:-  A database of products containing mercury was made available.  A first assessment of the situation of mercury in products in Vietnam has been performed during the initial assessment carried out in the framework of the Minamata Convention. Then under the project a survey was carried out on the following category of products:  •Mercury thermometers and Sphigmo-manometers, and mercury in preservatives; Mercury Amalgam; Mercury containing lamps; Mercury paint. Rather than a database, the result is a report with statistical information and a limited number of analysis (50) carried out on mercury products. However, it demonstrates that mercury in products is still an important issues to be solved in Viet Nam. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |

# Implementation Progress



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| Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc): | 66.43% |
| Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year: | 66.43% |
| Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June (note: amount to be updated in late August): | 1,693,975 |

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| **Key Financing Amounts** | |
| PPG Amount | 100,000 |
| GEF Grant Amount | 2,550,000 |
| Co-financing | 10,900,000 |

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| **Key Project Dates** | |
| PIF Approval Date | Apr 12, 2013 |
| CEO Endorsement Date | Sep 18, 2014 |
| Project Document Signature Date (project start date): | Jan 29, 2016 |
| Date of Inception Workshop | Apr 14, 2016 |
| Expected Date of Mid-term Review | Sep 30, 2017 |
| Actual Date of Mid-term Review | Mar 1, 2018 |
| Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation | Apr 30, 2020 |
| Original Planned Closing Date | Dec 30, 2018 |
| Revised Planned Closing Date | Jun 29, 2020 |

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| **Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2018 to 1 July 2019)** |
| 2019-01-17 |

# Critical Risk Management

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| Current Types of Critical Risks | Critical risk management measures undertaken this reporting period |
| Other | The risk of non-availability of data, or difficulties in data validation due to different sampling and analytical methodologies and lack of information on monitoring condition was managed through the adoption of proper QA/QC processes throughout sampling and analysis, the use of certified laboratories, and a careful cross-verification of the results. Residual risk of non-availability of data remains in most of the questionnaire surveys (except the one in Binh Duong) which were in most cases affected by a low answer rate, demonstrating the limited usefulness of this tool to gather highly technical information. |
| Regulatory | One of the risks which is currently under management is the one related to the excessive complexity of some of the new environmental regulation (i.e. PRTR). This risk will be minimized through continuous involvement of stakeholders in the piloting process, and through revision of the draft circular on PRTR as a result of its piloting in the Binh Duong province. |
| Strategic | The risk of Industries and data owners unwilling to share data and relevant process, storage, and monitoring information was currently solved through involving them in workshops related to PRTR and monitoring. Industry was very collaborative until now. Challenges however are envisaged due to the fact that the result of the monitoring revealed that industrial emissions are not in line with local regulation and the Stockholm convention, therefore more work in this direction is needed |

# Adjustments

**Comments on delays in key project milestones**

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| **Project Manager: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| The project closure was postponed as from the recommendation of the Mid Term evaluation. The project is currently on track with the new timeframe set. |

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| **Country Office: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| As the project has been extended to July 2020, the terminal evaluation will take place in 2020. |

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| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| The project received extension in late 2018, and good use has been made of this development, as the project has taken the recommendations of the MTR, and applied adaptive management processes to really fast track the long-delayed activities, and dramatically increase delivery. The project oversight structure has vastly improved, and is responsive. The UNDP CO also was able to put in place a proactive officer as focal point for the project, who was also key to greatly enhancing implementation, and making sure that the standards of project management and delivery were improved. |

# Ratings and Overall Assessments

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| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Manager/Coordinator** | Moderately Satisfactory | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | In this reporting period the project completed or almost completed some of its most important tasks. The mercury inventory and roadmap have been completed. The PRTR system is being developed and piloted. Sampling and analysis of industrial effluents for POPs and PTS have been carried out, with significant results in the field of mercury and U-POPs emissions and mercury containing products still being in use. Some of the project result could have been better, like the inventory of mercury containing products which is based on too few data and information, in general all the questionnaire surveys (except the one on PRTR carried out in Binh Duong) resulted in a limited answering rate.    In the next months, the most critical task would be the effective piloting of the PRTR system, with revision of the PRTR software and guidelines based on the piloting in Binh Duong, the completion of the mercury and U-POPs roadmaps, which will be key in the development of future action plans on the matter, and the certification of laboratories. One of the risks to be avoided is that the PRTR system, including the software, is not fully tested so that the project is not sustained after project ends. It would be also very important that the analytical results, which in some cases revealed uncomplicated with the SC or the national standards, are not forgotten, but properly used to speed up the development of proper countermeasures. It is also very important that the PRTR guidelines and the PRTR circular are revised after piloting so that they can be promptly endorsed by the government.    The support from donors is also very important to help government sustain and extend the results of the project. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP Country Office Programme Officer** | Moderately Satisfactory | Moderately Satisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | Overall, the project has satisfactorily achieved the targets. After serious delay in the first two years, the project has taken different interventions and actions to deliver the project objectives and results. By now the project is on track to deliver all the planned targets by the July 2020. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **GEF Operational Focal point** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Implementing Partner** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Other Partners** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser** | Moderately Satisfactory | Moderately Satisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | This is the 3rd PIR of this project. The project was approved in September 2014, with DOA provided October 2014. However, there was a long delay in project document signature by the government, such that it was only provided January end 2016, with an expected 3 year span for execution. However, challenges soon arose, not only because of cumbersome, multilayered government processes for approvals and vetting, but also because in early 2017 the initial program officer departed the UNDP VietNam office. A replacement did not come on board until October 2017. Upon arrival, the new officer had to not only get up to speed with several implementation and execution delays, but had to immediately begin preparation for the project Mid Term Review, the mission for which was done in April 2018, with the report being finalized in June 2018. The MTR recommended that the project be extended and made recommendations, inter alia, on where ownership by government and better support from the Project Steering Committee could improve, on how adaptive management approaches could fast track deliverables, on how activities could be decentralized for execution by provincial and local bodies, and gender participation better tracked.    Overall one can see that the MTR (and attendant management response) was critical in helping to turn project delivery around. The recommended extension was provided, extending the project until July 2020; and good use has been made of this additional time. In this reporting period, one year since the MTR, several components were fully achieved, with the lowest appearing to be at about 60% progress to completion. The project now appears well on track to ultimately achieve the intended objective of “Continued reduction of environmental and health risks through POPs, mercury and harmful chemicals release and exposure reduction achieved by provision of an integrated institutional and regulatory framework”. There has also been a marked uptick in financial delivery, and there seems to be good tracking of risks and barriers, enhanced efficacy of the project oversight structure (including the PSC), and successful implementation of ways to fast track delayed elements. More details are noted in this review, including observations of RTA from her February 2019 project oversight mission, which were used to help flesh out some of the detail that was missing in the PIR information received from country level partners.    Completion of this PIR was again challenging, with heavy inputs needed by RTA. However, there can be reduced need for back and forth reviews ahead of upload of PIR to the system if attention is consistently paid to the following:-    (i) sticking to simple, bullet point updates of DO progress to completion, what occurred in the reporting period, and immediate next steps;  (ii) Upload of critical risks to ATLAS (this is consistently neglected by several COs across the region, requiring many reminders),  (iii) tracking of the SESP (or its predecessor equivalent), gender, stakeholder plans etc, which always has to be flagged by RTA suggesting that there is insufficient use of the prodoc to ensure that implementation is thorough and that all expected duties of the UNDP CO, PMU and National Implementation partners are being consistently carried out.  (iv) As in several countries, georeferenced data has proven challenging, and the process is not as simple for projects as proposed. The tutorial embedded in PIMS+ is applicable to desk top application vs the browser version of Google Earth, and not every office has the downloaded version. Indeed, it can be blocked by systems administrator. Further, like COs, PAs have not been trained in this, and cannot assist countries in difficulty. This needs to be revisited in the PIR portal as a requirement.  (v) UNDP CO needs to ensure that project focal points and PMU staff are fully available and dedicated during PIR period, so that there can be timely response to queries and upload for final submission. If principle focal points are absent, then their replacements MUST be versed on the projects and be able to supply the necessary information and action to permit final submission of PIR. Overall, there needs to be review and uptake of previous years' RTA advice to avoid the need to constantly reiterate the same quality of information needs, and to recall the time required to collate information so that this exercise is less stressful.        Development Objective Rating - Moderately Satisfactory (MS)  The DO progress has been rated “Moderately Satisfactory” for this 2019 reporting period. The project now appears well on track to achieve final target, with a few minor deviations in the sense that there appears to be a few slight under achievements, and there is still some question of if sufficient thought is being given to some post project sustainability elements, and maximizing awareness and knowledge management elements. But overall, this project is a good example of how an MTR, extension and responsive government and project staff, can turn an “at risk” project into an impactful one.      Component 1 – Policy framework for sound chemicals management, including POPs/PTS developed and implemented.    In this reporting period, the PIR indicates that the strengthening of the legal framework on POP/PTS management was completed with a section on Environmental Management on Chemicals being integrated into a draft decree to amend decrees related to the Implementation of the National Laws on Environmental Protection. Technical guidelines on environment protection planning were drafted as were revisions to two (2) national technical regulations on wastewater and emission for the steel industry. PRTR regulation and 2 technical guidelines for PRTR implementation in the chrome-plating sector and thermal power sector were also completed. Immediate follow up activities are to include: (i) Detailed guidance on the implementation of the chemical risk assessment process that was developed; (ii) A Set of Technical Criteria for 1 group of pilot products on eco-labeling; and a workshop to introduce all the new policies supported by the project.  In terms of activities to support implementation of this law, the project carried out many activities such as: (i) Organizing a US study tour on chemical management in for a delegation of 6 leaders and officials of VINACHEMIA and the Vietnam Environmental Administration (VEA); (ii) Conducting an initial survey & assessment on implementation of the Global Harmonization System for classification of chemicals (GHS) and organising a training for 30 related officials; (iii) Developing procedures for chemicals environmental and health risk assessment, with training for 25 related officials; (iv) Conducting a feasibility study on the market based policy initiative to promote reduction in POPs/PTS releases.  The work carried out under this component appears to have been well done and the only recommendation from the RTA is that attention be paid to ensuring that there be a bit more targeted awareness raising as relates to all of the new laws and regulations, to ensure that private sector is aware, and long-term compliance can be achieved. In setting up the standards, and enhancing baselines and monitoring capacities, it was discovered that many enterprises were not meeting pollution standards, nor Stockholm Convention obligations. So it seems that there should be some use of remaining project time to make sure there is appropriate sensitization of industry, and exploration of any barriers of compliance by industry.  Component 2- Monitoring and reporting of POPs and PTS.  Again significant progress has been made in this component such that national institutions should now be equipped to monitor ambient environmental levels of POPs/PTS. During the February oversight mission, it was indicated that the suite of activities were to be completed in 2019. Within this reporting period, the PIR confirms that: (i) the project has established a baseline database on POPs/PTS; (ii) that an inventory of lab capacity was completed (highlighting much disparity between labs), and a National POPs/PTS lab network has been established; (iii) there was development of a POPs/PTS database and operation of a pilot PRTR reporting system in Binh Duong; (iv) 3 basic training courses on POPs and PTS monitoring and analysis were organized for 149 laboratory staff, along with 3 advanced training courses on monitoring and analysis of PBDE, Hg, PAH with participants from 17 laboratories (82 total trained of which half were female). The project was also able to develop a sub-chapter on mercury into the 2018 National State of Environment Report of 2018.    Some of the notable follow-up activities include: (i) a workshop to introduce the PRTR software to government and planning to PRTR replication; (ii) Support to develop the Provincial Environmental Management Plan for POP Pesticides contaminated areas at Quang Binh, Quang Tri and Ha Tinh provinces; (iii) two laboratories will be accredited based on the ISO17025 standard on POPs/PTS monitoring and analysis.    The RTA thinks that overall this activity was also managed effectively, and it is good to see that, there already intention to ensure that the PRTR software works well to ensure post project use and replication. There appears to be good foundational capacity for labs being built which will also have far reaching benefits beyond the project.      Component 3 – Management of POPs contaminated sites    The project has upgraded the existing database on contaminated sites with inventory of pesticides contaminated sites at Ho Chi Min trail and Viet Tri chemical plant. Several technical improvements were made in setting remediation target values and to set up supportive financial mechanism to fund remediation long term. But for this project the greatest impacts ultimately arise in the identification of new contaminated sites, enhancing the database on contaminated sites, as well as the achievement of developing Environmental Protection Plans for contaminated sites for 5 provinces, with related materials for training on managing contaminated sites, and development of road maps for reductions of uPOPs also completed. Under the Environment Plan for Nghe An province, multiple remediation efforts were coordinated, such that over a thousand tons of POPs wastes were reportedly safeguarded and treated. The end of project target envisioned site management plans for Nghe An and Binh Duong addressing a combined estimated amount of 300 POPs pesticides sites and 50 industrial contaminated sites, representing an amount of several thousands tons of POPs contaminated soil (to be quantified) of POPs/PTS contaminated soil. Nghe An alone addressed 954 contaminated sites, of which 268 sites under National Plan and 686 were newly identified sites.    This component appears to have been executed quite successfully, and the only real comment from the RTA is that fuller commitment to awareness and knowledge products to share lessons be developed. Apart from retaining experience for replication at national level, this type of work is what generates tangible impact for communities, and helps reduce threats to human and ecosystem health. The GEF is a learning organization as well, and each project should contribute knowledge and lessons learned to the overall GEF Chemicals Portfolio. Therefore, it is hoped that in the next reporting period, some more attention can be paid to general awareness and knowledge management beyond the select technical partners/enterprises and government apparatus.    Component 4- National mercury baseline inventory and release reduction.    Within the component it is worthy to note a few key end of project indicators, and what has actually been achieved as reported within this PIR:    (i) Target: 50t of pure DDT destroyed plus 100t of highly DDT contaminated soil treated on site. (150,000USD including site investigation, repackaging, disposal, site management).  Actual Progress to date: 50 t of contaminated soil was treated in Lam Hoa commune, Tuyen Hoa dist., Quang Binh province. The follow up indicated, is to do more awareness efforts.    (ii) A preliminary mercury inventory, including mercury in products and a related database developed and implemented.  Actual Progress to date: a preliminary mercury inventory and its database were developed, using a level 2 toolkit under the project, to complement and improve upon the national Minamata Initial Assessment on Mercury (MIA) recently done using toolkit level 1. This activity identified 4 main industrial source of Hg releases (coal-burning thermal power, cement production, incineration and non-ferrous metal production) and 4 main products containing Hg (Fluorescent lamp, Hg thermometer, dental filler, chemical cosmetics). A survey on mercury emission in these 4 key sectors was carried out across 105 cement production plants, 27 coal-burning thermal power plans, 40 incineration plans and 28 non-ferrous metal production plans. 73 questionnaires were received out of the 200 sent out. Sample and analysis of mercury in 15 plants were undertaken. Mercury sampling and analysis were carried out across five power plants, four cement kilns, four incinerators and two non-ferrous metal factories, looking at their input material (coal, oil, ore, raw material), exhaust gas, wastewater, sludge, ashes, in order to get information on the mass balance of the process and to derive country-specific emission factors for mercury for these industrial sectors. Emission factors were adjusted on the basis of the analysis and the overall emission were recalculated for 1) all the plants from the inventory survey and 2) the overall number of plants as from the MIA survey and other sources. Sampling and analysis of 50 products were also undertaken to verify the presence of mercury. For mercury containing products, the inventory contains information on fluorescent lamps, thermometers, mercury amalgam.    (iii) A roadmap for the management of products and goods containing mercury will be developed.  Actual Progress to date: the road map has been developed but appears to be awaiting final vetting and acceptance by the VEA. Once accepted, the PIR indicates that a future action plan and a concept note will be developed to support for implement the roadmap.    (iv) At least 3 activities on mercury related issues conducted to increase awareness and knowledge of mercury.  Actual Progress to date: it appears that pretty much all of the meaningful awareness effort will be made in the next reporting period.    Based on the above assessment, it appears that the reduction targets were not fully met, but there is no explanation of if there will be effort to pursue the remain tonnages for reduction, or not. This is important if project GEBs are to manifest, and the RTA will have to enquire further what alternate activities are to be done to meet the original project mercury reduction targets.    As stated before, when it comes to components that can actually generate tangible reductions in risks to environmental and human health, Communication Strategies should be designed to work alongside implementation of this type of work (as opposed to after the technical work is completed) to ensure timely sharing of lessons learned, and to enhance participation in survey and inventory work. This is also important especially since under Vietnam law, enterprises are not obligated to share chemicals information. Therefore, awareness efforts are critical not just from the learning perspective, but to also facilitate stakeholder engagement and buy-in. Hopefully there can be think through on how best to meet the final end of project targets ahead of July 2020 project close.    Implementation Progress – RTA Rating Moderately Satisfactory (MS)    1. The project’s cumulative financial delivery has shown significant improvement in this reporting period. It was reported at 2.7% in PIR 2017, 24.48% in PIR 2018, but stands at 66.43% in PIR 2019. This is respectable delivery rate given there is one year remaining in the project, although every effort should be made to keep up the efforts to accelerate delivery ahead of project close in July 2020. The first jump in delivery arises with the arrival of the new UNDP Vietnam project focal point in October 2017, and the push to get activities moving. But the increase from 2018 to 2019 really shows the value of the MTR and the management response in helping to identify adaptive management strategies that could be used to make up for lost time. It is commendable that the project extension has been well used to actually deliver impact.    During this reporting period, critical risks have been identified, but do not appear to be in ATLAS. The original Environmental and Social screen created back in 2013 during the project development phase was poorly done. In responding “No” to the question “Does the proposed project include the implementation of downstream activities that potentially pose environmental and social impacts or are vulnerable to environmental and social change?” , not only was this an incorrect response, but it effectively ended consideration of the environmental and social screen key questions. Nevertheless, the project has been paying attention to such risks along the way, though not using a formal tool such as a SESP, and risks appear to be managed fairly comprehensively.    3. With regard to gender results, the original project actually did not have a gender analysis and plan, and though the MTR suggested that gender elements be better incorporated into the project, and the project has responded to the recommendation, it does not appear that a full-scale gender analysis was done within the project. The RTA will consult with the RBM specialist to see if with less than a year of implementation remaining, it is worth doing the full fledged gender analysis when approved end-of-project targets and 100% delivery is still to be achieved in coming months.    4. As aforementioned, given the province level remediation activities, there is real opportunity for this project to do far more awareness and knowledge sharing, and to also generate real human impact stories for the UNDP and GEF knowledge libraries, to showcase what has been achieved for the people of Vietnam.    5. It should be noted that this is yet another example of a Chemicals project with poor risk screening and embedding of formal tools; and yet it does not manifest the risks, likely because chemicals projects are inherently designed to manage risk within activities. Consideration of possible environmental impacts and spills in the course of transport, disposal, switching to alternatives etc. all require assessment of unintended consequences and accidents. So perhaps this is why so many older chemicals projects are able to be executed with no such issues. It would be interesting to discuss with UNDP RBM team.    Taking note of the implementation progress discussed above, the “Moderately Satisfactory” implementation rating was given. | |

# Gender

**Progress in Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

This information is used in the UNDP-GEF Annual Performance Report, UNDP-GEF Annual Gender Report, reporting to the UNDP Gender Steering and Implementation Committee and for other internal and external communications and learning.  The Project Manager and/or Project Gender Officer should complete this section with support from the UNDP Country Office.

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| --- |
| **Gender Analysis and Action Plan:** *not available* |
| **Please review the project's Gender Analysis and Action Plan. If the document is not attached or an updated Gender Analysis and/or Gender Action Plan is available please upload the document below or send to the Regional Programme Associate to upload in PIMS+. Please note that all projects approved since 1 July 2014 are required to carry out a gender analysis and all projects approved since 1 July 2018 are required to have a gender analysis and action plan.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **Please indicate in which results areas the project is contributing to gender equality (you may select more than one results area, or select not applicable):** |
| Contributing to closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources: No |
| Improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance: No |
| Targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women: No |
| Not applicable: Yes |

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| **Atlas Gender Marker Rating** |
| **GEN1:** some contribution to gender equality |

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| **Please describe any experiences or linkages (direct or indirect) between project activities and gender-based violence (GBV). This information is for UNDP use only and will not be shared with GEF Secretariat.** |
| N/A |

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| **Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women.**    **Please explain how the results reported addressed the different needs of men or women, changed norms, values, and power structures, and/or contributed to transforming or challenging gender inequalities and discrimination.** |
| During project activities, particularly contaminated site treatment activity, women were thoroughly consulted in different treatment steps.  There are 1,178 people participated in to the workshops, trainings, meetings of the project, in which 507 are women (count of 43%) |

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| **Please describe how work to advance gender equality and women's empowerment enhanced the project's environmental and/or resilience outcomes.** |
| For example, women consultation and participation in different contaminated site treatment steps supported to make the consensus process quicker. |

# Social and Environmental Standards

**Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)**

The Project Manager and/or the project’s Safeguards Officer should complete this section of the PIR with support from the UNDP Country Office. The UNDP-GEF RTA should review to ensure it is complete and accurate.

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| **1) Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during project implementation?** |
| Yes |

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| **If any new social and/or environmental risks have been identified during project implementation please describe the new risk(s) and the response to it.** |
| In this last reporting period, analytical result from industrial effluents were carried out and made available. These results demonstrated that some industrial sectors are not in line with the local environmental standards related to PCDD/F emissions, mercury emissions, lead and arsenic. Data related to the analysis of new POPs are not available yet. Moreover, the current legislation on U-POPs (namely PCDD/F emission from the stack of industrial facilities) envisage limits which are at least six times higher than the recommended 0.1ngTeq/Nm3 recommended by the Stockholm Convention BAT. A strategy to reduce the risk associated with that emission levels will be included in the Roadmap for phasing out U-POPs and mercury (under preparation). |

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| **2) Have any existing social and/or environmental risks been escalated during the reporting period? For example, when a low risk increased to moderate, or a moderate risk increased to high.** |
| No |

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| **If any existing social and/or environmental risks have been escalated during implementation please describe the change(s) and the response to it.** |
| N/A |

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| **SESP:** [UNDP's Environmental and Social Screening \_Annex-signed.docx](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/5154/213857/1682276/1682557/UNDP%27s%20Environmental%20and%20Social%20Screening%20_Annex-signed.docx)  **Environmental and Social Management Plan/Framework:** *not available* |
| **For reference, please find below the project's safeguards screening (Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) or the old ESSP tool); management plans (if any); and its SESP categorization above. Please note that the SESP categorization might have been corrected during a centralized review.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **3) Have any required social and environmental assessments and/or management plans been prepared in the reporting period? For example, an updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) or Indigenous Peoples Plan.** |
| Yes |

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| **If yes, please upload the document(s) above. If no, please explain when the required documents will be prepared.** |
| The provincial management plan of Nghe An province was approved at Decision No. 142/KH-UBND dated 14th March 2019 |

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| **4) Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential )?** |
| No |

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| **If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail including the status, significance, who was involved and what action was taken.** |
| N/A |

# Communicating Impact

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| **Tell us the story of the project focusing on how the project has helped to improve people’s lives.**  **(This text will be used for UNDP corporate communications, the UNDP-GEF website, and/or other internal and external knowledge and learning efforts.)** |
| The project has been developed with the purpose to improve the management of chemical substances throughout different part of the life-cycle: from production, use, end of life.  The Vietnam economy grew in the last years much faster than the capacity to prevent and address the environmental problems associated with such a rapid industrial and social development.  One of the aspects that need a substantial change of pace, is the management of chemicals– either as chemicals intentionally used in the production and manufacturing of goods, or chemicals unintentionally released during industrial production or end of life cycle of products.  The project has therefore been ideated and implemented to improve the management of chemicals – mainly POPs substances and mercury, but also other chemicals like PAHs and heavy metals.  The project activities are envisaged to impact four main areas:  1) On the side of reduction and prevention of environmental pollution, the project  a. aims at establishing safer procedures for the management of chemicals through the development of a detailed chemical risk assessment procedures, and the piloting and implementation of a system for reporting and registering the release and transfer of pollutants (PRTR).  b. The project, based on a survey (questionnaires, sampling and analysis) of industrial sources, is establishing a roadmap for the reduction of the release of mercury and dioxins in the environment.  c. Moreover, the project is currently improving the monitoring capacity of the environmental laboratories through training, assistance on certification, development of a network of laboratories.  2) On the side of safety for consumers, the project intends to establish a roadmap for the accelerated phasing out of mercury-containing products, like fluorescent lamps and mercury thermometers;  3) The project also cleaned POPs contaminated areas (DDT) in the vicinity of the Ho Chi Minh trail, by destroying around 50t of pure DDT and 100t of DDT contaminated soils  4) The project is also systematizing the Vietnamese regulation on contaminated sites and PRTR to ensure that the legislation takes into full account the Stockholm and Minamata conventions and that the overlapping and inconsistencies among regulations is reduced.    Some of the figures characterizing the projects outcomes as of now are as following:  200 m3 of highly DDT contaminated soil was treated on site. 1000 local people safeguarded  - Around 140 industrial sites have been directly assessed, through sampling and analysis activities, in term of their release of mercury, PCDD/F, heavy metals, PBDEs, PFOS, PFOAs;  - In Nghe An, 34 projects remediated 62 sites with the amount of more than a thousand tons of POP wastes safeguarded and treated.  - Around 400 industrial sites have been indirectly assessed through questionnaire survey;  - 69 laboratories have been assessed in term of their analytical capacity;  - three basis training courses on POP/PTS monitoring and analysis were carried out with the participation of 149 people in which 78 are men and 71 are women;  - three advance training courses were conducted, one on PAH with 34 participants, one on PBDEs with 21 participants; one on Hg with 27 participants;  - three extensive inter laboratory cross-checks of standard samples of POPs and mercury was conducted with 14 laboratories have been participated in the Inter-laboratory crosscheck program on PAH; 12 laboratories have been participated in the Inter-laboratory crosscheck program on Hg;  - 157 official (32% is women) were raised awareness on the National Plan for the implementation of the Stockholm Convention on POPs by 2025 with a vision to 2030 and information related to POP/PTS  - 46 local people (37% is women) were raised awareness on managing, improving and restoring the environment in the contaminated sites  - 272 people (44% is women) from businesses were raised awareness on the policies related to POP management and the Stockholm Convention  - 70 people (47% is women) were visited the area where succeed in waste treatment. |

**Knowledge Management, Project Links and Social Media**

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| **Please describe knowledge activities / products as outlined in knowledge management approved at CEO Endorsement /Approval.**    **Please also include: project's website, project page on the UNDP website, blogs, photos stories (e.g. Exposure), Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, as well as hyperlinks to any media coverage of the project, for example, stories written by an outside source. Please upload any supporting files, including photos, videos, stories, and other documents using the 'file lirbary' button in the top right of the PIR.** |
| - Website with information of the project:  + http://vea.gov.vn/. News about project activities will be published on this website.  - Project's Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/D%E1%BB%B1-%C3%A1n-Qu%E1%BA%A3n-l%C3%BD-An-to%C3%A0n-POP-v%C3%A0-PTS-t%E1%BA%A1i-Vi%E1%BB%87t-Nam-POP-PTS-Management-Project-534703736881828/?modal=suggested\_action&notif\_id=1530345816621832&notif\_t=page\_user\_activity. The facebook is a channel for information sharing among those who are interested in the topic.  - Website with information on the PSC meeting 2018: http://vea.gov.vn/vn/tintuc/tintuchangngay/Pages/H%E1%BB%8Dp-Ban-ch%E1%BB%89-%C4%91%E1%BA%A1o-d%E1%BB%B1-%C3%A1n-POP.aspx |

# Partnerships

**Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagment**

Please select yes or no whether the project is working with any of the following partners. Please also provide an update on stakeholder engagement. This information is used by the GEF and UNDP for reporting and is therefore very important!  All sections must be completed by the Project Manager and reviewed by the CO and RTA.

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| **Does the project work with any Civil Society Organisations and/or NGOs?** |
| No |

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| **Does the project work with any Indigenous Peoples?** |
| No |

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| **Does the project work with the Private Sector?** |
| Yes |
| No |

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| **Does the project work with the GEF Small Grants Programme?** |
| No |
| No |

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| **Does the project work with UN Volunteers?** |
| No |
| No |

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| **Did the project support South-South Cooperation and/or Triangular Cooperation efforts in the reporting year?** |
| No |
| No |

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| **CEO Endorsement Request:** [PIMS5154 Viet Nam POPs CEO Endorsement 2 Sep 2014.docx](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/5154/213857/1682278/1682559/PIMS5154%20Viet%20Nam%20POPs%20CEO%20Endorsement%202%20Sep%202014.docx) |
| **Provide an update on progress, challenges and outcomes related to stakeholder engagement based on the description of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan as documented at CEO endorsement/approval (see document below). If any surveys have been conducted please upload all survey documents to the PIR file library.** |
| The project works with 469 private sectors including:  - 400 industrial companies in BInh Duong have been indirectly assessed through questionnaire survey;  - 69 Center for Environment Monitoring have been assessed in term of their analytical capacity; |

# Annex - Ratings Definitions

**Development Objective Progress Ratings Definitions**

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

(S) Satisfactory: Project is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with minor shortcomings only.

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

(U) Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. Project results might be partially achieved by project closure if major adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets without major restructuring.

**Implementation Progress Ratings Definitions**

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Implementation is exceeding expectations. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are fully on track. The project is managed extremely efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are on track. The project is managed efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned with minor deviations. Cumulative financial delivery and management of risks are mostly on track, with minor delays. The project is managed well.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces significant implementation issues. Implementation progress could be improved if adaptive management is undertaken immediately. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are significantly off track. The project is not fully or well supported.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces major implementation issues and restructuring may be necessary. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are off track with major issues and/or concerns. The project is not fully or well supported.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Implementation is seriously under performing and major restructuring is required. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones (e.g. start of activities), and management of critical risks are severely off track with severe issues and/or concerns. The project is not effectively or efficiently supported.