2021

Project Implementation Report (PIR)

**National Program for the environmental Sound**

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# Basic Data

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| **Project Information** |
| UNDP PIMS ID | 5706 |
| GEF ID | 9203 |
| Title | National Programme for the environmental Sound Management and Life cycle management of Chemical substances |
| Country(ies) | Ecuador, Ecuador |
| UNDP-NCE Technical Team | Chemicals |
| Management Arrangements | CO Support to NIM |
| Project Implementing Partner | Government |
| Joint Agencies | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Project Type | Full Size |
| Implementation Status | 3rd PIR |
| GEF Fiscal Year | FY21 |
| Trust Fund | GEF Trust Fund |

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| **Project Description** |
| To protect human health and the environment by adopting an environmental sound management and live cycle management of chemical substances in Ecuador |

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| **Project Contacts** |
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# Overall Ratings

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| Overall DO Rating | Satisfactory |
| Overall IP Rating | Satisfactory |
| Overall Risk Rating | low |

# Development Objective Progress

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

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| **Description** |
| **Objective****To protect human health and the environment by adopting the environmentally sound and live cycle management of chemical substances in Ecuador.** |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2020** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 2 new partnership mechanisms with funding for sustainable management solutions of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste at national level. | No new partnerships with funding for sustainable management solutions of chemicals and waste established yet | 2 new partnership mechanisms with funding for sustainable management solutions of chemicals and waste established at national and/or subnational level. | 2 new partnership mechanisms with funding for sustainable management solutions of chemicals and waste established at national and/or subnational level. | During this period, 4 new partnership mechanisms with funding for sustainable management solutions of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemical products and waste at national level, have been completely designed and are currently in the implementation process. These are:i) The Interinstitutional Coordination Mechanism (ICM) has been fully developed, with the final product being the proposal of Internal Regulations of the National Environmental Quality Committee. In order to make these regulations official, initial committee meetings are planned for 2020. Appendix\_1.ii) The funding mechanism for ASGM (Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining) has been fully developed, in a way which stimulates the formalization and association of miners and encourages the adoption of cleaner processes and a reduction in pollution. In the diagnosis, the greatest barriers faced by the mining sector in terms of accessing formal funding and being able to convert to cleaner technologies are: a) informality in economic activities, b) not being able to demonstrate earnings, c) disproportionate guarantees requested by banks, and d) a lack of knowledge related to preparing feasibility projects / business plans. Based on a feasibility analysis of financial products together with the public bank BanEcuador and the Central Bank of Ecuador (BCE) it was determined that the financial product with the greatest feasibility for the ASGM sector is “Credit for Inclusive Businesses”. Meanwhile, for women miners (jancheras) the most feasible product is “Start-Up Credit”.In order to put this financial product into operation, the Program promoted the creation of an interinstitutional cooperation agreement between the Ministry of the Environment, the Central Bank of Ecuador and BanEcuador B.P., with the aim of granting credits to individuals and legal persons holding a BCE Economic Agent Authorization Certificate, i.e. those authorized to trade in gold originating from small-scale mining and artisanal mining, either directly or indirectly with the BCE, so that with the gold purchased from artisanal mining associations, credits granted by BanEcuador can be repaid. This agreement has been shared with the three entities and is currently being formalized. Appendix\_2.iii) A mechanism to provide environmental incentives for the optimization of natural resources and a reduction in POP and mercury emissions has been fully developed and shared with 90 representatives from businesses / industries in the country’s three main cities. In the first instance, the following incentives were proposed: 1. Green Point Ecuadorian Environmental Recognition (EER) for UPOPs in 2 sectors. 2. A different ‘green initiative’ for activities that support environmental management – an initiative for separation at source of UPOPs and Hg products. 3. An environmental incentive to reduce the economic impact on the industrial and services sectors on the National Register of Hazardous Chemical Substances and/or in defining quotas for importing or producing products with POPs and mercury. 4. A reduction in the environmental impact to obtain Environmental Administrative Authorization by direct application to the Green Point Ecuadorian Environmental Certification for the production and services sectors, and 5. An environmental incentive for reducing the consumption of products containing POPs and mercury under the Special Consumption Tax (SCT). After analyzing the feasibility and prioritization of incentives, governed by the principle of simplifying public sector procedures, it was identified that incentive No. 3 implies interinstitutional coordination which could delay the issuing of the Ministerial Agreement; incentives Nos. 4 and 5 were considered in other regulations currently being updated by the MAE.Therefore, the Program proposed a ministerial agreement that consolidates incentives 1 and 2 called “Green Point Ecuadorian Environmental Recognition (EER) for the environmentally-friendly management of POPs” which includes POPs in products and UPOPs. This Program is currently working on making the ministerial agreement official, anticipated by August 2020, and subsequently shall provide advice for at least 2 companies to access this initiative. Appendix\_3.iv) The competitive funds mechanism for financing environmental and social projects and technological innovations related to the management of chemical substances at national level has been fully developed. Due to the limitation on the number of initiatives, it was decided that this should be referred to as the “Funds Awarding Mechanism” with a call for bids aimed at a shortlist of thirteen (13) bidders, based on sectorized target groups, as follows: ASGM initiatives (3 allocations) and Academy/Industry projects (2 allocations). During this period, a consultant is currently assisting in formulating projects, which are set to be reviewed and approved by the Selection and Evaluation Committee by June 2020. Appendix\_4. | Mid-term target level achieved in this reporting period.In the previous period, completion of the development of the 4 mechanisms for sustainable management solutions for natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste at the national level was reported.During this period, the competitive funds mechanism (CFM) is in full implementation and the three remaining mechanisms, related to the interinstitutional coordination mechanism (ICM), financial product for artisanal and small-scale mining (ASGM) of gold and environmental incentives, are on track for implementation. The current status of each is presented below.i) The National Environmental Quality Committee corresponds to the interinstitutional coordination mechanism (ICM). This committee was established by the Organic Environmental Code Regulations (RCOA, for its Spanish acronym), for which the project developed a proposal for the Internal Regulations. Since the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition (MAATEC) has not yet set up this committee, the proposal has not yet been adopted. State priorities during this period have been focused on the control of the pandemic, to which has been added to the change of government which took place in May 2021. Although the goal of the project, according to what is established in its design (PRODOC), has been fulfilled with the development and approval of the regulations for the committee and the official creation of the same in the Organic Environmental Code, the project plans to support the activation of this committee, through the holding of the first meeting and the approval of the regulations, in coordination with the new authorities for the second half of 2021. Appendix\_1.ii) The financial mechanism for the ASGM sector corresponds to the credit product for miners qualified by the Central Bank (BCE) as certified gold Agents, which was identified and improved by the project since 2019. Although the project has supported its socialization with authorities and technicians of the BCE, it has not been possible to sign the agreement between the BCE and BanEcuador, which would allow this credit to be available for citizens involved in mining. This is a direct impact of the pandemic, since national priorities are focused on controlling the pandemic, to which the change of government has been added. Although the goal of the project, according to what is established in its design (PRODOC), has been fulfilled with the preparation and acceptance of the financial product by both public banks, the project will make new approaches with the new authorities to operationalize the mechanism. Additionally, the project is developing an academic and technical article on financing for the mining sector. The aim is to make visible the access barriers to financing that exist for the sector and to highlight the importance of the public banks (BanEcuador and BCE) prioritizing the launching of this credit product. Appendix\_2.iii) The mechanism for providing environmental incentives is reflected in a proposed Ministerial Agreement to issue the Ecuadorian environmental recognition incentives, Green Point, for activities that support the environmentally sound management of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) in Ecuador. By means of this regulatory instrument, inventories of unintentional POPs or UPOPs will be developed for the applicant companies based on the Stockholm Convention toolkit, which makes it a strategic tool for Ecuador to measure the implementation of this convention. Moreover, there will be quantifications of declines and reductions of UPOPs in Ecuador. The proposal has been approved, at a technical level, and reviewed by the Legal Department of the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition. The next step is the approval of the Legal Coordination and the signature by the highest environmental authority. It has not yet been issued due to the change of government and authorities in this entity, for which reason the project will continue to follow-up on it until this objective has been achieved. Appendix\_3. However, its implementation will be facilitated since the project developed three additional practical tools, these are: (i) the flow charts of the processes to be implemented in the Sole Environmental Information System (SUIA) platform; (ii) the technical guide of the Green Point Ecuadorian Environmental Recognition (EER) mechanism for the environmentally sound management of POPs, which establishes the steps and methodology for the application, evaluation, delivery and renewal of the Green Point incentive and access to the forms for citizens/companies; and, iii) the dissemination plan for this incentive, considering natural persons, companies, academia, NGOs and others that could apply for this incentive as the target audience. Additionally, a pilot evaluation was carried out for the delivery of this incentive with the cement company UNACEM, whose file was reviewed and approved. Therefore, as soon as the Ministerial Agreement is formalized, this company will receive the Green Point environmental recognition for the environmentally sound management of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) in Ecuador. Appendix\_4.iv) The competitive funds mechanism is in full implementation. The selection and evaluation committee of the CFM, in the meeting held in July 2020, approved the donation for the implementation of five projects, these are i) Biofiltration: this project was postulated by the National Polytechnic School and contributes to the indicator of mercury elimination in ASGM. It consists of the construction of a natural biofiltration system for the removal of mercury and trace elements from rivers impacted by gold mining (Nambija river, Zamora Chinchipe province); ii) Phytoremediation: this project was also nominated by the National Polytechnic School and contributes to the indicator of mercury elimination in ASGM and pollution reduction. It consists of analyzing remediation strategies to achieve the removal/elimination of contaminants from mining that affect water quality and, in this way, protect the health of local inhabitants and ensure environmental quality in the area in question. It is carried out in alliance with the Bella Rica Miners Cooperative; iii) Educational Eco-center: this project was postulated by the Quito Solid Waste Management Company (EMGIRS) and contributes to the indicator of UPOPs reduction. It consists of the installation and operation of an eco-center in order to sensitize the public in the use of organic waste, the use of biological fertilizers produced and the sowing of vegetables and/or fruits in urban gardens within the project "Quito free of garbage," in the Bicentenary park of this city. However, this project has a significant delay due to construction permits and implementation area, for which reason on June 7, 2021 the committee decided not to grant the extension of 60 additional days requested by EMGIRS, and suggested withdrawing support for the ECOCENTRO EDUCATIVO project proposed by EMGIRS, which has a delay of 10 months since the project was approved. The committee will meet to select a new project ready for implementation; iv) Food security: this project was proposed by the Heifer Foundation and the Jancheras Unión y Progreso Association of the Camilo Ponce Enríquez canton and contributes to the mercury elimination indicator in ASGM, it represents an annual reduction of 192.9 kg/year. Its objective is to strengthen the food security of the families of this association of jancheras and the development of capacities to promote associative enterprises ; v) Goldsmithing: this project was submitted by the Goldsmithing Association of El Oro and contributes to the indicator of access to financing in ASGM, with special attention to the participation of women. Its objective is to contribute to the improvement of income and well-being of the families of artisanal miners in the Portovelo canton through the implementation of a goldsmith business with the use of the raw material of artisanal miners. The status of each project is detailed in the indicator corresponding to this mechanism. Appendix\_5. |
| 80 of new jobs created (24 jobs for females and 56 jobs for males) through solutions for management of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste. | 0 new jobs created yet through solutions for the management of chemicals and waste. | 32 new jobs created (9 for females and 23 for males) through solutions for the management of chemicals and waste. | 80 new jobs created (24 for females and 56 for males) through solutions for the management of chemicals and waste. | End of project target level achieved and exceeded in this reporting period.During Program implementation, 106 new jobs (45 jobs for women and 61 jobs for men) were created as a direct result of implementation, through the execution of 25 contracts signed with individual consultants and businesses, thereby exceeding the target established for this indicator. Appendix\_5. | End of project target level achieved and exceeded in this reporting period. 171 new jobs (85 for women and 86 for men) were created during the implementation of the project.During this period, 65 new jobs created through solutions for the proper management of chemicals and waste were counted. The cumulative total include 139 jobs created through consulting work (these are not permanent jobs) for the project (58 for women and 81 for men) and 32 jobs (27 for women and 5 for men) created through the implementation of the competitive funds mechanism's projects. To measure this indicator, the methodology established in the Prodoc project document is applied. Appendix\_6. |
| 31,187 direct project beneficiaries (9,356 of females and 21,831 of males) for which the risk of hazardous chemicals and waste has been reduced. | 0 direct project beneficiaries. | 9,356 direct project beneficiaries (2,807 female and 6,549 male) for which the risk of hazardous chemicals and waste has been reduced. | 31,187 direct project beneficiaries (9,356 female and 21,831 male) for which the risk of hazardous chemicals and waste has been reduced. | End of project target level achieved and exceeded in this reporting period.From Program start-up, 127,247 people have directly benefitted from implementation (59,748 women and 67,499 men). This has allowed to reduce their risk in terms of contact with chemical substances and hazardous waste, broken down as follows:i) 5,644 people (648 women and 763 men with their families x4) are the direct beneficiaries of capacity building provided to representatives from the country’s public institutions and private entities, including: the Ministry of the Environment (MAE), the Ministry of Energy and Non-Renewable Natural Resources (MERNNR), the Ministry of Public Health (MSP), the Phytosanitary Regulation and Control Agency (AGROCALIDAD), the Electricity Regulation and Control Agency (ARCONEL), the Health Regulation, Control and Surveillance Agency, BanEcuador (public bank), the National Electricity Board (CNEL), the Chemical Producers Association of Ecuador (APROQUE), the Crop Protection and Health Industry Association (APCSA), the Chamber of Industry for Innovation and Agricultural Technology (INNOVAGRO), some universities and institutes conducting public and private research, hospitals, environmental management companies and retailers of products containing mercury, through 45 training events and workshops related to the environmentally-friendly management of chemical substances in their life cycle. Appendix\_6. In 2020, the Program is implementing capacity development plans for POP and Hg, through virtual channels, and training the ASGM trainers, which will contribute to an increase in beneficiaries in the period that follows.ii) 120,968 people have directly benefitted from the implementation of the citizen’s awareness campaign called “Allies of the Environment” (56,855 women and 64,113 men) which aimed to promote and raise awareness of the environmentally sustainable management, use and disposal of pesticides, in target groups identified as agricultural workers and their families, distributors or small agrochemical businesses and pesticide producers, formulators and retailers. The group of beneficiaries is composed as follows: 13,322 people (513 men, 381 women, 1,252 boys and 1,187 girls, with their families x4) participated in training workshops held in 20 cantons nationally, both in schools and agricultural producer associations; and, 107,636 people listened to the radio advert with the campaign’s key message broadcast on 36 radio stations nationally over a two month period (source: Markets and Projects Audience report); in addition the campaign was supported by 98 agrochemical distributors and retailers as well as APCSA and INNOVAGRO, in the distribution of publicity material (posters, t-shirts, caps, etc.) nationally; and 158 digital billboards showing the campaign video, located in banking service agencies (Servipagos), interprovincial bus transportation terminals and MSP health centers around the country. Appendix\_7.iii) 461 people (194 women and 267 men) have directly benefitted from the elimination of 53 tons of obsolete pesticides undertaken by the Program during this period. This group of people work on the premises of 28 agrochemical businesses and the 2 warehouses that temporarily housed this hazardous waste, for which the risk of these chemical substances and hazardous waste has been reduced. Appendix\_42.iv) 10 employees from the Institute of Geological and Energy Research (3 women and 7 men) are the first to directly benefit from improvements made to their laboratory. The donation of specialist equipment and supplies to the IIGE contributes to optimizing analysis times, avoiding cross contamination and ensuring the feasibility of results in determining the presence of mercury in the areas of geology, mining, metallurgy and the environment, which is the cornerstone for implementing the strategy proposed by the Program aiming to reduce or eliminate the use of mercury in ASGM. In return for the donation received, the IIGE offered to provide technical training to miners from Program intervention areas, sharing the information learnt in modules focusing on “Training trainers” that the Program is set to implement in 2020. The integrity of these activities shall enable a greater number of direct and indirect beneficiaries to be reached in upcoming periods. Appendix\_8.v) 161 people from the families of 35 women miners who refer to themselves as ‘jancheras’ have directly benefitted from the delivery of baskets containing foodstuffs and cleaning products funded by voluntary contributions from citizens, under the premise of the health emergency declared due to COVID-19. This was an immediate support action undertaken by the Program in response to the emergency, proposed and implemented with the aim of mitigating the economic and social impact caused by movement and work restrictions in place on ‘janchera’ families, who directly benefitted from this. Appendix\_9.vi) 3 employees from the warehousing area of the National Electricity Board (CNEL), located in the Guayas province, directly benefited from the elimination of 14 tons of luminaire waste containing mercury, carried out by the Program during this period. This waste was the result of the implementation of the national government’s Zero Mercury Plan, collected since 2016, which had been temporarily stored at CNEL’s warehouses. See Appendix 20. | End of project target level achieved and exceeded in this reporting period.During this period, 4,144 direct beneficiaries of the project's implementation were added (2,274 women and 1,870 men). The actions taken help reduce their risk of exposure to hazardous chemicals. Since the start of the project, there have been a total of 131,391 beneficiaries (61895 women and 69496 men).Below is a breakdown of the beneficiaries:- 3,328 people (462 women and 370 men and their families x 4) with strengthened capacities, as a result of their participation in the workshops and training provided by the project virtually, due to the permanence of the pandemic. They are representatives of public institutions and private entities of the country, such as: Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Ministry of Public Health, Geological Mining Research Institute, Ecuadorian Institute of Social Security, Consortium of Provincial Autonomous Governments of Ecuador, National Electricity Corporation (electric companies of the cantons Milagro, Esmeraldas, Santo Domingo, Guayaquil and CNEL headquarters), Municipal Decentralized Autonomous Governments of Cayambe, Ibarra, Riobamba, Santa Cruz, Tena, Chimborazo, El Oro, Los Ríos, Santa Elena, Cuenca, Saraguro, as well as the agrochemical companies association APCSA, SENAE, Galapagos National Park, MSP, Agrocalidad, COMEX, Civil Aviation Directorate, fire departments of various localities, and private companies. There were 26 training events and workshops related to the environmentally sound management of chemical substances in their life cycle, among them the training programs in the Stockholm and Minamata Conventions (POPs and Hg respectively) and the technical modules for ASGM experts stand out. Appendix\_54.- 337 people (95 women and 242 men) benefited directly from the elimination of obsolete pesticides during this period (second elimination process). These people were at high risk of exposure to hazardous chemicals because these wastes were temporarily stored in their workplaces. The project also directly benefited approximately 180 people who work at the facilities of INIAP - Santa Catalina Experimental Station and the National Customs Service of Ecuador - Tulcán District, who have a high risk of exposure to these hazardous wastes. See Appendix\_18- 403 people (283 men and 120 women) were directly benefited through the process of evaluating sites contaminated with pesticides and UPOPs for the cleaning of at least one (1) site. During this period, the project carried out the evaluation and analysis of contamination in four (4) sites, these are: 1. National Institute of Agricultural Research-Santa Catalina Experimental Station located in the Cutuglahua parish of the Mejía canton; 2. Environmental Protection Unit located in the La Armenia sector in the Quito canton; 3. National Institute of Agricultural Research-Pichilingue Tropical Experimental Station located in the Mocache canton in the province of Los Ríos; and, 4. Hacienda Bananera San Pablo I located in the La Maná canton in the province of Cotopaxi, this site was incorporated under the cooperation and information transfer agreement between the Chemicals Program and the Environmental and Social Remediation Program (PRAS) of the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition. Although the results of all the samples taken for analysis of pesticides and UPOPs were found to be below the laboratory's limit of quantification, now the people who work at the four sites have the peace of mind that they are not exposed to dangerous chemicals above the permissible limits . Appendix\_19.- 42 people (20 women and 22 men) that make up the ASOSERLIBER recycling association of La Libertad canton were beneficiaries of the delivery of personal protective equipment necessary to restart their recycling work after having to stop due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This, within the framework of the project to improve the dumpsite of the La Libertad GAD. The project is supporting this institution for the implementation of best environmental practices/best available techniques (BEP/BAT) in order to reduce the release of UPOPs. Appendix\_55.- 21 people (19 women and 2 men) are directly benefiting from the implementation of the project "Strengthening the food security of the families of the Jancheras Unión y Progreso Association and capacity building to promote associative entrepreneurships." This initiative seeks to diversify the productive activities of janchera women, in order to reduce their dependence on mining and improve their family finances. Appendix\_38.- 13 people (9 women and 4 men) are directly benefiting from the implementation of the project "Application of goldsmithing in the artisanal mining sector of the Portovelo canton located in the province of El Oro": this project was submitted by the Goldsmith Association of El Oro in partnership with the provincial government of El Oro and has the strategic support of APROPLASMIN. This initiative seeks to undertake the art of goldsmithing, supporting in a particular way to improve access to financing for the ASGM sector. Appendix\_39.Additionally, during this period the project implemented two communication campaigns. The first is called Golden Rules), its objective was to promote security measures against the health emergency in ASGM. This campaign had an organic reach on Facebook of 12,000 people, with an average of 10 to 18 interactions per post. On Twitter, it had 4,200 total impressions and 24 interactions per post. The second campaign, called Saving the World Starts at Home, was conceived and implemented in a joint effort with other UNDP projects in the area of climate change and biodiversity. Its objective is to promote responsible consumption linked to chemicals and waste purchase and management. Its organic reach on Facebook is 339.9K and it had 34.1K interactions. Appendix\_53.To measure this indicator, the methodology established in the Prodoc project document is applied. |
| **The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:** | **On track** |
| **Evidence uploaded:** | **YES** |
| **Outcome 1****Component 1: Strengthen institutional capacity and the regulatory and policy framework for the Sound Management of Chemicals (SMC) based on a Life-Cycle Approach.** |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2020** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Four (4) financial and capacity building plans developed and implemented and capacity of 12 private or public entities increased to enable them to address chemicals of concern. | National reporting on POPs and Hg statistics/indicators is done but requires further improvement.Entities with roles/responsibilities pertaining to the LCM of chemicals coordinate to some extent, but not with all entities that have such roles/responsibilities. | 2 financial and capacity building plans developed and implemented to benefit private or public entities and enable them to address chemicals of concern. | Four (4) financial and capacity building plans developed and implemented and capacity of 12 private or public entities increased to enable them to address chemicals of concern. | Two (2) capacity building plans for POP and Hg respectively and their two (2) financing plans have been fully developed. These are focused on strengthening institutional capacity in order to improve national reports on statistics / indicators for POPs and Hg. These are based on a needs diagnosis carried out in a participative manner and include a study guide, syllabus, presentations, methodology and training strategy seeking to achieve “aware and knowledgeable technicians” from various public and private institutions, willing to assist in the implementation of the Stockholm and Minamata Conventions. Appendix\_10.Plans are currently being implemented. The application of two methods has been planned for: a virtual method with a 60-hour duration and a face-to-face method with a 6-hour duration, including the gender equality promotion module in the context of the Stockholm and Minamata Conventions. Due to movement restrictions resulting from the health emergency, the virtual method will be promoted in the first instance, and depending on the conditions in the last quarter of 2020, the feasibility of holding face-to-face workshops will be analyzed. In all cases, the project shall ensure that the capacity building received by technicians from key institutions is high quality and complies with the planned objective in the project document. Appendix\_11.In order to complement capacity building, in December 2019 the Program, through the UNDP, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Chemical Producers Association of Ecuador (APROQUE) with the aim of disseminating the environmentally-friendly management of chemical substances in their life cycle in Ecuador to businesses (unionized or not with APROQUE) which undertake some of the phases of integral chemical management in order to minimize risks and negative effects arising from the management of chemical products or industrial activity using these on the environment and health. Representatives from this organization have supported the Program in reviewing regulations for environmental incentives for the industry and have contributed with their independent and impartial technical judgements in the project selection process for awarding funds, aimed at reducing UPOPs. The training plan will be implemented in the next period with the support of the Program’s specialist technicians. Appendix\_35.During this period, the Interinstitutional Coordination Mechanism (ICM) and its work groups were fully developed in order to improve coordination, collaboration and decision-making on issues related to the Sound Management of Chemicals (SMOC) with the final product being the proposal of Internal Regulations of the National Environmental Quality Committee. This committee was set up through the Organic Environmental Code Regulations, which is the highest environmental law in Ecuador, formed by 8 institutions with SMOC competencies, for whom capacities will be strengthened and whose competencies include “enabling the participation and incorporation of diverse parties in environmental quality management”. The move to make these regulations official will be driven through in the committee’s initial meetings to be held in 2020. See Appendix\_1.During this period, the analytical capacity of the laboratory belonging to the Institute of Geological and Energy Research (IIGE) which contributes to fulfilling the requirements of the National Accreditation Service to obtain accreditation in mercury, soil and water analysis methods, was added. The Program delivered specialist equipment and supplies contributing to optimizing analysis times, avoiding cross contamination and ensuring the feasibility of results in determining the presence of mercury in the areas of geology, mining, metallurgy and the environment. In return for the donation received, the IIGE offered to provide technical training to miners from Program intervention areas, sharing the information learnt in modules focusing on “Training trainers” that the Program is set to implement in 2020. See Appendix\_8.For capacity building for the second laboratory, related to POP analysis, the Program is evaluating the analytical capacity of several laboratories in order to ascertain their needs, establish costs and select the most suitable laboratory, so that this support contributes to achieving any type of accreditation or certification in POP analysis methods. The results of this process will be reported in the next period. | End of project target level achieved in this reporting period. 4 financial and capacity building plans developed and implemented and capacity of 18 private or public entities increased to enable them to address chemicals of concern.During this period, the implementation of two (2) capacity development plans for POPs and Hg and its two (2) financial plans was completed, directly benefiting 367 people (221 women and 146 men) linked to the management of chemical substances. These were held virtually due to the permanence of the COVID19 pandemic.Thanks to this process, eighteen (18) public institutions strengthened their capacities for the implementation of the Stockholm and Minamata conventions, by training 174 public servants: 95 women and 79 men, who completed the course of 10 academic hours. The institutions are: Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Ministry of Public Health, Geological Mining Research Institute, Ecuadorian Institute of Social Security, Consortium of Provincial Autonomous Governments of Ecuador, National Electricity Corporation (electricity companies of the cantons Milagro, Esmeraldas, Santo Domingo, Guayaquil and CNEL headquarters), Municipal Decentralized Autonomous Governments of Cayambe, Ibarra, Riobamba, Santa Cruz, Tena, Chimborazo, El Oro, Los Ríos, Santa Elena, Cuenca, Saraguro, as well as the agrochemical companies' association APCSA. On the other hand, eight (8) universities in the country were strengthened by training 193 university students and teachers (126 women and 67 men) from careers related to environmental management who completed the 60-hour course.The plans for POPs and Hg, which included a gender awareness module, were executed through a virtual education platform LMS "Moodle" version 3.9, created for this purpose, and various educational resources were complemented: tutorials and workshops were developed on platforms for massive online events and also thematic videos by invited experts. Furthermore, communicational material was designed for the dissemination of the contents. In order to replicate the contents developed, the project is managing its entry into the MAATEC environmental education platform, with which it is intended to give sustainability to this activity. Appendix\_7.The interinstitutional coordination mechanism (ICM), which corresponds to the National Environmental Quality Committee established by Organic Environmental Code Regulations (RCOA), was not activated during this period and consequently the proposed regulations developed by the program have not yet been adopted. The main reason is that state priorities during this period have been focused on the control of the pandemic, in addition to two changes of authorities in the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition. The project plans supporting the activation of this committee, through the call and the holding of the first meeting for the approval of the regulations, in coordination with the new authorities for the second half of 2021. See Appendix\_1.Regarding the increase in capacities of the laboratory of the Geological and Energy Research Institute, there is a technical report regarding the execution of the interinstitutional cooperation agreement between MAATEC and MERNNR that was signed in November 2019. This report states that there is an approximate 20% increase in the analytical capacity to carry out the tests for the determination of mercury and that the items delivered are in good and operational condition. Appendix\_8. It is important to point out that this donation contributed so that two IIGE test methods meet the requirements for the accreditation obtained in December 2020, these are: i) Determination of uranium by ICP-MS spectrometry in sediments (acid digestion); ii) Determination of gold by AA spectrometry in rocks, sediments, tailings, concentrates (fire test), since some of the items delivered allow the control of environmental conditions. Finally, to continue the IIGE's capacity building process, 15 public employees (5 women and 10 men) received training through the "Training Trainers" program implemented by the project, in order to improve their technical knowledge and gender awareness, for subsequent replication in the mining sectors of the program. Appendix\_9.On the other hand, during this period, the evaluation of analytical laboratories for POPs was completed in three phases. This was done virtually due to the pandemic. In Phase I, a survey was applied to four nationally registered public institutions and universities, which have analytical laboratories. In Phase II, a workshop was held to present the first results and included more detailed information on the test methods, enabling laboratories to identify the methods most closely related to the available technique, which facilitated the management of the Phase II surveys. Finally, 7 laboratories reached Phase III for the exhaustive evaluation of each one of them: (i) Laboratory of Contaminants of Agricultural Products of the Phytosanitary and Zoosanitary Regulation and Control Agency (Agrocalidad), located in Quito; (ii) Laboratory of Chemical Analysis of Organic Contaminants of the Ministry of Energy and Non-Renewable Natural Resources (MERNnR), located in Quito; (iii) National Laboratory of Water and Sediment Quality (LANCAS) of the National Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology (INAMHI), located in Quito; iv) Bioproducts and Bioprocesses Laboratory of the Biotechnology Research Center of Ecuador of the Superior Polytechnic School of the Coast (ESPOL), in Guayaquil; v) Instrumental Chemical Analysis Laboratory of the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics of ESPOL, located in Guayaquil; vi) Natural Products Laboratory of the Regional Amazonian University IKIAM, located in Tena; and, vii) National Water Reference Laboratory of IKIAM, located in Tena. Once the requirements for each laboratory were identified, a needs costing was applied. Finally, the MAATEC, in coordination with the project, selected the INAMHI laboratory to receive the strengthening. The reason is that this laboratory had the ideal conditions to be a beneficiary; also, this institution is attached to the MAATEC, which would facilitate the process of transferring goods. In order to formalize this support, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed in May 2021. Appendix\_10. The project is currently executing the procurement processes for the respective donation. |
| Sixteen (16) policies, regulations and standards to achieve the LCM of chemicals revised and/or developed. | Sixteen (16) policies, regulations and standards to achieve the LCM of chemicals revised and/or developed. The Government of Ecuador has a fairly sound policy and regulatory framework in place to ensure the LCF of chemicals of concern. However, Ministerial Agreements/Plans and guidelines need to be improved for the mgnt. and phase-out of POPs/Hg in products; mgnt of UPOPs, OPs, contaminated sites, HCWM, ASGM mine closure, ASGM waste mgnt, among others. 5 policies, regulations and standards to achieve the LCM of chemicals revised and/or developed. 16 policies, regulations and standards to achieve the LCM of chemicals revised and/or developed. The project is able to create sufficient momentum with its partners that Ministerial Agreements, guidelines, standards, national plans and industry incentives not be approved during the lifespan of the project, will be approved after the project has closed. | 5 policies, regulations and standards to achieve the LCM of chemicals revised and/or developed. | 16 policies, regulations and standards to achieve the LCM of chemicals revised and/or developed. | In total, since the start of the Project, 4 policies and regulations have been developed and put forward to the national environmental authority, with the aim of managing the chemical life cycle; furthermore 5 additional proposals are currently being developed. Therefore, in the second semester of 2020 the mid-term target for this indicator will be achieved and exceeded.In addition to the two (2) policies and/or regulations put forward in the previous period, the proposals developed in this period are:i) Proposal for Internal Regulations of the National Environmental Quality Committee, which will be the institutional coordination mechanism to improve coordination, collaboration and decision-making on issues related to the sound management of chemicals; the move to make these regulations official will be driven through in the committee’s initial meetings to be held in 2020. See Appendix\_1.ii) Proposal for modifying Ministerial Agreement 140 of the Ministry of the Environment relating to the Institutional Framework of Environmental Incentives, including instrumentation, basis for application, review and control of 5 environmental incentives put forward to the National Environmental Authority, as follows:1. Green Point Ecuadorian Environmental Recognition (EER) for UPOP sectors; 2. A different ‘green initiative’ for activities that support environmental management – an initiative for separation at source of UPOPs and Hg products; 3. An environmental incentive for reducing the economic impact on the industrial and services sectors on the National Register of Hazardous Chemical Substances and/or in defining quotas for importing or producing products containing POPs and mercury; 4. A reduction in the environmental impact to obtain Environmental Administrative Authorization by direct application to the Green Point Ecuadorian Environmental Certification for the production and services sectors; and, 5. An environmental incentive for reducing the consumption of products containing POPs and mercury under the Special Consumption Tax (SCT). See Appendix\_3.The policies and/or regulations that the project is currently developing are:iii) Ministerial agreement to establish the “Green Point Ecuadorian Environmental Recognition (EER) for activities that support the environmentally sound management of POPs in Ecuador”; in this new proposal incentives 1 and 2 mentioned above are consolidated and this is a result of a feasibility and prioritization analysis of feasible incentives to be implemented in the short term, carried out jointly with MAE personnel, under the principle of simplifying public sector procedures. The Program is currently working on making this ministerial agreement official by August 2020 and then providing advice for at least 2 businesses to obtain this incentive. Appendix\_13.iv) Ministerial Agreement Proposal for the incineration of hazardous, non-hazardous and/or special residues or waste as a tool to regulate UPOPs. The Program is currently working jointly with the MAE on workshops to disseminate standards, creating technical reports and providing follow-up until this is officially published in the second semester of 2020. Appendix\_14.v) Ministerial Agreement Proposal for the end disposal of hazardous, non-hazardous and/or special residues or waste in secure cells as a second tool to regulate UPOPs. Similarly, together with the MAE, follow-up will be provided until this is officially published in the second semester of 2020.vi) 2 methodology guides for the environmentally sound management of products and waste with added mercury, obsolete and POP pesticides, the final outcome of which shall be produced in the second semester of 2020. | Midterm target achieve and exceeded. 12 proposals for policies, regulations and standards have been developed and submitted to the national environmental authority for consideration. This, in order to achieve the environmentally sound management of chemical substances in their life cycle.During this period, five (5) technical guides were developed, approved and disseminated in coordination with the national environmental authority in order to manage the life cycle of chemical products. Furthermore, three (3) proposals for ministerial agreements were developed and are currently under legal revision prior to their officialization.The technical guides are:i) Technical guide on best environmental practices (BEP) and best available techniques (BAT) for the main productive sectors that generate unintentional persistent organic pollutants (UPOPs) in Ecuador. It was socialized with the companies, validated by the Basel and Stockholm Conventions and is published along with educational videos on social networks in Ecuador and the Basel Convention Coordinating Center/Stockholm Convention Regional Center for Latin America and the Caribbean. It is available at the following link: https://ccbasilea-crestocolmo.org.uy/cop-no-intencionales-guia-de-mejores-practicas-ambientales-y-mejores-tecnicas-disponibles-elaborada-por-ecuador/. Appendix\_11.ii) Guide for the management of mercury-added products. This informative guide seeks to reinforce the knowledge of people and organizations that market and use mercury-added products, to reduce their risk and promote the use of contaminant-free alternatives. It is published on the UNDP and the MAATEC websites, available at the following link: https://www.ambiente.gob.ec/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2021/01/Guia-para-la-gestion-de-productos-con-mercurio-anadido.pdf Appendix\_12iii) Guide for proper pesticide management. It is a tool aimed at people related to the agricultural sector, it details the responsibilities of the different actors linked to the value chain. It seeks to promote preventive actions that reduce the generation of highly toxic waste. Appendix\_13. It is published on the UNDP and the MAATEC websites, available at the following link: https://www.ambiente.gob.ec/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2021/01/Guia-para-la-gestion-adecuada-de-plaguicidas.pdfiv) Guide on the identification, management and remediation of sites contaminated with pesticides, which details the guidelines to promote the identification, characterization and environmentally sound management of sites potentially impacted by this type of contaminants. It was socialized with the National Institute of Agricultural Research, whose entity supported the evaluation process of potentially contaminated sites carried out by the project. Appendix\_14.v) TSA analysis for artisanal and small-scale mining. The Targeted Scenario Analysis (TSA) provides economic information to support informed decision making on policies and/or investments within productive sectors. These data can support the need to opt for better policies and increase the investments necessary to achieve an adequate management of ecosystems in the ASGM sector; and consequently, incorporating ecosystem management into ASGM planning and management could achieve higher and more traceable economic benefits in the long term. The TSA study explored an alternative organizational and profit model called the Responsible Benefit Program (RBP) and compared it to the current production trend (BAU). Appendix\_59.On the other hand, the proposals for ministerial agreements are:v) The proposal for a ministerial agreement to issue incentives for the Ecuadorian environmental recognition, Green Point, for activities that support the environmentally sound management of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) in Ecuador. It has been approved at the technical level and reviewed by the Legal Department of the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition; the next step is the approval of the Legal Coordination and signature by the highest environmental authority. To facilitate its implementation the project developed three additional practical tools, these are: (i) the flow charts of the processes to be implemented in the Sole Environmental Information System (SUIA) platform; (ii) the technical guide of the Green Point Ecuadorian Environmental Recognition (EER) mechanism for the environmentally sound management of POPs, which establishes the steps and methodology for the application, evaluation, delivery and renewal of the Green Point incentive and access to the forms for citizens/companies; and, iii) the dissemination plan for this incentive, considering natural persons, companies, academia, NGOs and others that could apply for this incentive as the target audience. This plan will be implemented by the project once the standard has been officialized. Additionally, a pilot evaluation was carried out for the delivery of this incentive with the cement company UNACEM, whose file was reviewed and approved. Therefore, as soon as the Ministerial Agreement is formalized, this company will receive the Green Point environmental recognition for the environmentally sound management of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) in Ecuador. Appendix\_4.vi) The proposed ministerial agreement for waste incineration seeks to establish the requirements, technical specifications and maximum permissible limits for emissions of gaseous pollutants that must be met by hazardous, non-hazardous and special waste incineration facilities located in the country. This, in order to minimize the risks to human health and environmental damage caused by this activity. It has been approved, at a technical level, and reviewed by the Legal Department of the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition. The next step is the approval of the Legal Coordination and the signature by the highest environmental authority. It has not yet been issued due to the change of government and authorities in this entity, for which reason the project will continue to follow-up on it until this objective has been achieved. Appendix\_15.vii) The purpose of the proposed standard for the location, design, construction, operation, closure and abandonment of a safety landfill is to establish guidelines for the confinement of hazardous and special wastes. Additionally, it seeks to determine the maximum permissible limits for a hazardous waste to be considered as stabilized, in order to guarantee the protection of the population and the environment. Like the other proposals, it has been fully developed, approved at a technical level and under legal review prior to its officialization by the MAATEC. Appendix\_16.On the other hand, the project developed a technical and legal study on effluent discharges from ASGM mining activities. It constitutes an input for the construction of specific technical and/or regulatory instructions to improve the management of the mining sector in terms of the efficiency of mining wastewater treatment systems with emphasis on environmental and human health protection. Initially, the objective of this process was to generate a proposal for regulations; however, in meetings held with the implementing partner of the ASGM component, a request was received to change the focus of the proposal. As a result, a document was prepared containing the analysis of the contents of the effluent discharges from ASGM metallurgical activities, as well as the observations and inputs generated in the technical meetings with the MAATEC, MERNNR, PNGQ and mining experts. Appendix\_52. |
| **The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:** | **On track** |
| **Evidence uploaded:** | **YES** |
| **Outcome 2****Component 2: Eliminate POPs stockpiles and reduce the use and release of initial and newly listed POPs (including those contained in products).** |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2020** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 120 tonnes of obsolete POPs and non-POPs pesticides and related waste disposed of. | AGROCALIDAD/APSCA and INNOVAGRO inventoried in 2016 ~ 600 sites and identified a quantity of 5 tonnes of obsolete pesticides.No pesticides contaminated sites have been identified.APCSA and INNOVAGRO collect 40% of empty pesticide containers, leaving an accumulated 2,135 tonnes (by 2019) inadequately disposed of. | 0 tonnes of obsolete POPs and non-POPs pesticides and related waste disposed of. | 120 tonnes of obsolete POPs and non-POPs pesticides and related waste disposed of. | Midterm target level achieved and exceeded in this reporting period.53.13 tons of obsolete pesticides and 1.3 tons of empty pesticide containers were eliminated in Ecuador; additionally, 19.87 tons of obsolete POP pesticides or those containing chlorine, and which cannot be locally eliminated, were exported for end disposal, according to the guidelines established by the Basel Convention. This totals 73 tons to be eliminated in 2020. Appendix\_15.This elimination process included the obsolete pesticide inventory produced in 2017 by the Agrocalidad, APCSA and INNOVAGRO initiative. The specialist company hired to eliminate these 73 tons managed and obtained cross-border permits for countries along the route for the export of 19.87 tons of pesticides that cannot be managed locally. There has been a delay in the implementation of this process due to government response times, which has now worsened due to prioritizing efforts on the COVID-19 health emergency. As part of this process, the capacities of 40 representatives from MAE, Agrocalidad, APCSA, INNOVAGRO and other environmental management companies, have been strengthened (13 women and 27 men), in relation to the procedures used in exporting and destroying obsolete POP pesticides. See Appendix\_6.During this period, the obsolete pesticides inventory in dispensing stores was updated and this included public institutions and universities. A detailed obsolete pesticides inventory (old and new POPs, non-POP pesticides) was completed, which included the characterization of the affected population and gender dimensions, in conjunction with AGROCALIDAD, INNOVAGRO and APCSA. As a result, 2.04 tons of obsolete pesticides in warehouses, 20.96 tons in public institutions and 54.88 tons in companies were identified, generating a total of 77 tons of obsolete pesticides. Furthermore, it was identified that the population affected, due to their proximity to the obsolete pesticides in warehouses, reached 330 people (91 women and 238 men). Appendix\_16.Alongside this activity, the capacities of 49 AGROCALIDAD Post-registration Supply Technicians were strengthened, through the training provided on “Good Storage and Inventory Management Practices”, who shared what they learnt with warehouse owners on a national scale. See Appendix\_6.Based on the updated inventory produced by the Program in 2019 and the available elimination budget, on june 2020 the program started the process for the elimination of approximately 63 tons of obsolete pesticides was undertaken with an authorized local supplier. This will mean the Program’s final objective has been achieved, reaching a total of 136 tons of obsolete pesticides being eliminated.Similarly, the cleanup process for at least one site contaminated with pesticides began on june 2020. This activity is complemented by a cooperation and information transfer agreement between the Chemicals Program and the Environmental and Social Remediation Program (ESRP) of the Ministry of the Environment for the pilot bioremediation project for soils polluted with agrochemicals and UPOPs in banana plantations in the La Maná canton in the Cotopaxi province, which will help to achieve the overall target for this indicator, as well as optimizing the resources allocated for this purpose. The results of this process shall be reported in the following period. Appendix\_12.Finally, during this period the “Allies of the Environment” publicity campaign was implemented, aiming to promote and raise awareness of the environmentally sustainable management, use and disposal of pesticides, in target groups identified as: agricultural workers and their families, distributors or small agrochemical businesses and pesticide producers, formulators and retailers. The campaign was launched in September 2019. 20 awareness workshops were held in 20 cantons nationally, directly reaching 3,333 people: 513 men, 381 women, 1,252 boys and 1,187 girls. To measure the impact this had, 8 pre-tests and 8 post-tests were applied in all adult workshops with the same questions so as to be comparable and enabling the Program to determine whether the key message was understood by the participants, in addition to an evaluation by telephone in order to ascertain their recall of key messages. With this methodology, it was determined that participants increased their knowledge of this subject matter by an average of 54.69% and that 75% of participants are able to recall the campaign’s key message. See Appendix\_7.With the implementation of this activity, the Program’s elimination target is set to be surpassed, due to this contributing to an increase in the collection and suitable elimination of empty pesticide containers, which shall be measured and reported in the following period.The publicity material produced for the campaign, including a video outlining the campaign’s implementation, is stored on the site’s drive as detailed in Appendix\_28. | End of project target level achieved and exceeded in this reporting period.146 tons of obsolete POPs and UPOPs pesticides were properly disposed of, thus meeting and exceeding the goal of this indicator.During this period, the first phase of elimination of obsolete pesticides was completed, with a total of 73 tons eliminated (reported in the previous year's report) from the inventory carried out by Agrocalidad, APCSA and INNOVAGRO in 2017 to distribution companies. Most tons of OPs were disposed of locally and 22.44 tons of waste were exported to Switzerland, to Veolia's Valorec plant for disposal . This process began in 2019 and presented some delays caused by cross-border permits and the pandemic, due to which it ended in 2020. Appendix\_17. The disposal certificates can be found at the following link: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1hA9S\_yjZXg7F633p\_uDu-3TpYKEZShpT?usp=sharingSimilarly, during this period, the second phase of disposal of an additional 73 tons of obsolete pesticides was executed with a local authorized manager; this process addressed those obsolete pesticides identified through the inventory conducted by the project during 2019. For the collection of OPs, 705 temporary storage points established in the 2017 (Agrocalidad) and 2019 (PNGQ) inventories were visited, including retail stores and public institutions nationwide. Through this activity, 337 people (95 women and 242 men) who were directly exposed to the risk of contact with these chemical substances in their agrochemical warehouses were directly benefited. Additionally, obsolete pesticides that were found in the facilities of the INIAP- Santa Catalina Experimental Station and the National Customs Service of Ecuador - Tulcán District were incorporated, benefiting approximately 180 people who work in the two mentioned public institutions, with a high risk of exposure to these hazardous waste. Appendix\_18. The disposal certificates can be found at the following link: https://drive.google.com/drive/u/2/folders/1DsRo0vR6PF9wo51fbllXI1Al346DenW0Regarding the cleanup of at least one (1) site contaminated with pesticides, during this period the project executed the extended Phase I: corresponding to the collection of initial information in accordance with ASTM E1527-13 standard practice "Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Process" and complemented with the collection of soil samples for laboratory analysis. This phase was carried out in four (4) sites, these are: 1. National Institute of Agricultural Research-Santa Catalina Experimental Station located in the Cutuglahua parish of the Mejía canton; 2. Environmental Protection Unit located in the La Armenia sector in the Quito canton; 3. National Institute of Agricultural Research-Pichilingue Tropical Experimental Station located in the Mocache canton in the province of Los Ríos; and, 4. Hacienda Bananera San Pablo I located in the La Maná canton in the province of Cotopaxi, this site was incorporated under the cooperation and information transfer agreement between the Chemicals Program and the Environmental and Social Remeasurement Program (PRAS) of the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition.The results of all samples taken for pesticide analysis were found to be below the laboratory's limit of quantification, which is less than 0.01 milligrams/kilogram, meaning that there is no presence of pesticides in the areas of environmental interest. With this, it was confirmed that approximately 403 people (283 men and 120 women) are not at risk from exposure to chemical substances. To advance towards phase II, the project prioritized the National Agricultural Research Institute Pichilingue Tropical Experimental Station, due to its historical characteristics. The water intake and livestock areas were considered as sites with possible soil damage due to the inappropriate use of pesticides, for around 25 years. According to the laboratory results of the soil and groundwater samples, after comparison with the environmental regulations in force, for reference, it was determined that there is no presence of pesticides, organochlorine pesticides and organophosphorus pesticides; therefore, there is no contamination of soil and groundwater at the sites of interest. Appendix\_19. Regarding the analysis conducted at site 4 - Hacienda Bananera San Pablo I - located in the La Maná canton in the province of Cotopaxi, it was found that the soil in the study area is within the maximum permissible limits established in the Environmental Quality Standard for Soil Resources and in the Remediation Criteria for Contaminated Soil Book VI Annex 2, as indicated in the report issued by the PRAS. For this reason, the agreement signed with the MAATEC was void. Appendix\_20.Regarding the goal of increasing the collection, transportation, recycling and disposal of empty pesticide containers by 90 tons, during this period an increase of 59 tons has been demonstrated. The INNOVAGRO business association, through its project called Clean Field, is executing the association's integrated waste management plan, which reported the volumes collected in 2019 and 2020 to the national environmental authority. Based on this information, it can be seen that during 2020 there was a significant increase in collection when compared to 2019, as a result of the implementation of the Allies of the Environment campaign, carried out in the last four-month period of 2019, in contribution to other actions undertaken by INNOVAGRO. Appendix\_21. Based on this positive effect of the Allies of the Environment campaign, in the second semester of 2021, the project will replicate the campaign in the Galapagos Islands, for which it is coordinating joint actions with the Galapagos Biosafety Agency (ABG), National Park Galapagos and the MAG zonal Coordination.In order to continue supporting this business association, during this period, the project identified its equipment needs in order to strengthen its infrastructure and capacities. As a result, a Due Diligence process was carried out and approved for the signing of a work agreement and the procurement of a mill and a cutting table, which will be donated in accordance with the provisions of the Prodoc. APCSA data are not reported for this period because they have not yet been validated by the environmental authority and the PNGQ is currently arranging a meeting through the National Technical Committee on Pesticides (CNTP, for its Spanish acronym) to identify sustainability actions regarding the generation of obsolete pesticides, collection of empty containers, and strengthening communication on the return of empty containers and triple washing. Other sectoral needs were also identified regarding the responsibilities of all stakeholders in the life cycle management of agrochemicals at the national level (including Galapagos) to improve sectoral governance. |
| 25 grams TEQ of UPOPs releases reduced. | 25 grams TEQ of UPOPs releases reduced. Most relevant UPOPs sources in Ecuador (Nov. 2016 PPG baseline assessment): Medical waste incineration (48.19 g-TEQ/yr); Landfills, Waste Dumps and Landfill Mining (16,74 g-TEQ/yr); Household Heating and Cooking – Biomass (13,36 g-TEQ/yr); Waste Burning and Accidental Fires (7.14 g-TEQ/yr); Iron and Steel Plants (6.25 g-TEQ/yr); Biomass Burning (5.35 g-TEQ/yr); and Biomass Power Plants (1.15 g-TEQ/yr). 5 g-TEQ/yr of UPOPs releases reduced. 25 g-TEQ of UPOPs releases reduced. Facilities willing to partner with project and grant access to allow for in-depth baseline assessments.2 facilities/companies interested in improving BEP practices and introducing BAT technologies by making use of tax and industry incentives to finance the introduction of improved practices with project support. | 5 g-TEQ/yr of UPOPs releases reduced. | 25 g-TEQ of UPOPs releases reduced. | Midterm target level achieved in this reporting period.It is estimated, based on the UNEP 2013 Tool Kit, that only with the implementation of the BEP/BAT at the 7 sites in which the Program has carried out UPOP emission evaluations, has it been possible to reduce over 5g-TEQ per year of UPOP releases. In order to achieve the final target, the strategy (Appendix\_40) designed for this indicator shall be applied, and it will be the result of implementing the following activities:i) UPOP generation processes/practices were evaluated at seven (7) premises, resulting in the following:a) Diagnosing the current situation of Unintentional Persistent Organic Pollutants in Ecuador; b) Updating UPOP inventories and identifying main sources of emission (end disposal of waste and brick production); c) Results of g-EQT at 7 sites emitting UPOPs and real emission factors, based on the UNEP 2013 Tool Kit; and d) Recommendations prepared for BAT/BEP interventions at the 6 sites visited, which shall be integrated into the Ministry of the Environment (MAE) platform for those being regulated to include these practices in their periodic compliance audits and other MAE control mechanisms. Appendix\_17.ii) Based on this information, during this period two sites were identified and prioritized for the introduction of BEP/BAT in order to reduce UPOP emissions, which were part of the sites monitored in the first phase, these are: a) Pululahua Geobotanical Reserve due to forest fire (August 2019) located in the Pichincha province, and b) GAD waste tip in La Libertad, located in the Santa Elena province. For these two sites, the Program has best practice guides applicable to each one. The ProDoc establishes the donation of funds for this activity, for which the Program applied the protocol designed for the Competitive Funds Mechanism (CFM) in relation to the review and approval of projects by the Selection and Evaluation Committee, as well as the financial guidelines for project implementation and follow-up. In this context, in February 2020 the CFM Selection and Evaluation Committee was set up and in March 2020 the Committee approved the implementation of the following projects for the introduction of BAT/BEP1. Integral Fire Management Schools in order to improve knowledge and capacities for those involved in Integral Fire Management (IFM) in the zones of interest to reduce the likelihood of forest fires occurring as part of actions taken by the Amazon Without Fire Program, for the sum of USD 35,000 and benefitting over 80 people (40 women and 40 men) located in 5 rural locations in Otavalo (Imbabura province), Quito and Cayambe (Pichincha province), Zaruma (El Oro province) and Paltas (Loja province).2. Implementation of a process for improving integral solid waste management based on analyzing the current management of the municipal waste tip for reducing the possible unintentional release of Persistent Organic Compounds in the canton of La Libertad, for the sum of USD 35,000 and benefitting over 200 people (100 women and 100 men) located in the areas surrounding the waste tip.The implementation of these projects is set to commence in the second half of 2020, once the proponents have made the adjustments requested by the Committee, and the corresponding institutional and documental arrangements have been made. Appendix\_18.iii) During this period, on june 2020 the program began the process of cleaning on at least one (1) site polluted with UPOPs. This activity is complemented by a cooperation and information transfer agreement between the Chemicals Program and the Environmental and Social Remediation Program (ESRP) of the Ministry of the Environment for the pilot bioremediation project for soils polluted with agrochemicals and UPOPs in banana plantations in the La Maná canton in the Cotopaxi province, which will help to achieve the overall target of this indicator, as well as optimizing the resources allocated for this purpose. See Appendix\_12. The results of this process shall be reported in the following period. See Appendix\_40.iv) Ministerial Agreement Proposal for the incineration of hazardous, non-hazardous and/or special residues or waste as a tool to regulate UPOPs. The Program is currently working jointly with the MAE on workshops to disseminate standards, creating technical reports and providing follow-up until this is officially published in 2020. Appendix\_14.v) Ministerial Agreement Proposal for the end disposal of hazardous, non-hazardous and/or special residues or waste in secure cells as a second tool to regulate UPOPs. Similarly, together with the MAE, follow-up will be provided until this is officially published in 2020. | Midterm target level achieved in this reporting period.During this period, 7.14 g-TEQ/year of UPOPs release has been reduced in the subcategory of biomass burning, bringing the cumulative total to 12.14 g-TEQ of UPOPs release added to that reported in the previous year's report.The Toolkit for the identification and quantification of UPOPs emissions developed by the Stockholm Convention in its group 6 "Waste burning and forest fires" consists of the following subcategories:• Subcategory a.- burning of biomass and• Subcategory b.- forest firesThe PNGQ intervenes directly in the subcategory of biomass burning and also intervenes in subcategory b of forest fires with the joint work carried out with the Amazon Without Fire Program (PASF, for its Spanish acronym) on integrated fire management schools.By training the people living in the areas where the PASF intervenes on integrated fire management, forest fires in these areas are totally prevented, thus reducing dioxin and furan emissionsThe project carried out an inventory of UPOPs in 2020, based on the UNEP Tool Kit, in which it was identified that the subcategory of biomass burning, subgroup A of the group 6 related to waste burning and accidental fires was reduced to 0 g-TEQ/year , compared to the baseline of the Prodoc which was 7.14 g-TEQ/year. This activity represented a relevant source of UPOPs in the Prodoc baseline, which is why the project is intervening directly in this activity by implementing the recommendations of the BEP/BAT in three (3) areas of the country with a history of agricultural fires, through the Fire Management Schools in coordination with the MAATEC's Amazon Without Fire Program. The implementation of this initiative began in July 2020 and will end in July 2021. Appendix\_57 .The second source of UPOPs that the project addresses is related to landfills, dump sites and landfill mining. The project is implementing BEP/BAT prepared for the dump site of the decentralized autonomous government (GAD) of the canton La Libertad, province of Santa Elena from the evaluation carried out in 2019. The recommendations include the construction of an enclosure, a security checkpoint, as well as the development of a capacity building process for the La Libertad GAD, and for the Association of Recyclers -ASOSERLIBER- that works at the site, in order to promote an integrated solid waste management process at the municipal dump site.During this period, the La Libertad GAD, in coordination with the project, socialized this intervention with the Association of Recyclers ASOSERLIBER and with the leaders of the houses near the dump; likewise, the construction permit was obtained and the terms of reference for contracting the construction and strengthening services were prepared. Appendix\_22. Additionally, the pre-contractual phase was carried out for the contracting of construction and capacity building, however, this could not be completed because the selected company did not manage to deliver the enabling legal documentation to sign the contract with UNDP within a reasonable period of time. Appendix\_23. For this reason, the second call was launched, for which it is estimated that these activities will be completed in the second half of 2021, benefiting more than 200 people (100 women and 100 men) who are part of the Asoserliber Association and inhabitants of the towns surrounding the dump site.While implementing the recommendations in the two selected sites (PASF and GADLL), the project developed the Technical Guide on Best Environmental Practices (BEP) and Best Available Techniques (BAT) for the main productive sectors that generate unintentional persistent organic pollutants (UPOPs) in Ecuador. This instrument was socialized with the companies and validated by the Basel and Stockholm Conventions and is published along with educational videos on social networks in Ecuador and the Basel Convention Coordinating Center/Stockholm Convention Regional Center for Latin America and the Caribbean. It is available at the following link: https://ccbasilea-crestocolmo.org.uy/cop-no-intencionales-guia-de-mejores-practicas-ambientales-y-mejores-tecnicas-disponibles-elaborada-por-ecuador/. See Appendix\_11.It should be added that the officialization of the ministerial agreement to issue the incentives for the Ecuadorian environmental recognition, Green Point, for activities that support the environmentally sound management of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) in Ecuador, will make it possible to objectively measure the release of UPOPs and their reduction through the application of the toolkit to the files of each applicant company; hence the importance of having this regulatory instrument issued by the national environmental authority. See Appendix\_3. Similarly, the ministerial agreements on incineration and security cells are instruments that will reduce the release of UPOPs.Regarding the cleanup of at least one (1) site contaminated with UPOPs, during this period the project executed the extended Phase I: corresponding to the collection of initial information in accordance with ASTM E1527-13 standard practice "Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Process" and complemented with the collection of soil samples for laboratory analysis. This phase was carried out in four (4) sites, these are: 1. National Institute of Agricultural Research-Santa Catalina Experimental Station located in the Cutuglahua parish of the Mejía canton; 2. Environmental Protection Unit located in the La Armenia sector in the Quito canton; 3. National Institute of Agricultural Research-Pichilingue Tropical Experimental Station located in the Mocache canton in the province of Los Ríos; and, 4. Hacienda Bananera San Pablo I located in the La Maná canton in the province of Cotopaxi, this site was incorporated under the cooperation and information transfer agreement between the Chemicals Program and the Environmental and Social Remeasurement Program (PRAS) of the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition.According to the results of the samples collected for the analysis of dioxins and furans, it was found that the Toxicity Equivalent Concentrations are below the established reference criteria, which, for this study was compared with the Federal Ordinance for the protection of soil and contaminated sites in Germany, since there is no Ecuadorian legislation for this type of compounds. Appendix\_19. Regarding the analysis conducted at site 4 Hacienda Bananera San Pablo I located in the La Maná canton in the province of Cotopaxi, it was found that the soil in the study area is within the maximum permissible limits established in the Environmental Quality Standard for Soil Resources and in the Remediation Criteria for Contaminated Soil Book VI Annex 2, as indicated in the report issued by the PRAS. For this reason, the agreement signed with the MAATEC ended with the results previously evidenced. Appendix\_20. |
| 30 tonnes of new POPs releases reduced. | Priority new-POPs are thought to be PFOs and C-octaBDE (Nov. 2016 PPG baseline assessment) and are potentially contained in products like ABS, high impact polystyrene with ABS, treated leather, etching agents, ferric chloride, aviation hydraulic fluids, insecticides and flame retardants. | The use and release of new POPs reduced by 0 tonnes. | The use and release of new POPs reduced by 30 tonnes. | No new POP use and release reduction has been achieved. However, the implementation of this indicator is progressing according to plan.As part of the results, the Program finished producing the inventory and macro proposal of the action plan for managing POP products in the context of the Stockholm Convention and the update to the National Implementation Plan (NIP). This is the first step in understanding that POP products are entering the country, given that Ecuador does not produce its own chemical substances, and in this way, working with Customs to reduce or eliminate the entry and use of hazardous substances, through the use of new, safer alternatives.In this context, the full inventory of products containing POPs identified and quantified the annual quantity as well as POP concentrations for products, production, import/export and other elements of twelve substances: a) Industrial POPs in Ecuador: PFOS, PCCC, PCN, HCBD, PCP; b) flame retardant POPs and residues containing these: C-PentaBDE, C-HexaBDE, C-DecaBDE, HBB, HBCD; additionally, lindane and sulfonamide were included. An important finding from this inventory is the fact that in 2017 Ecuador allocated several tariff subheadings for improved control of new POP imports; as a result of this, entries were detected possibly containing over 5 tons of PFOS in 2019. The inventory was produced using sources of tariff information, mainly originating from data from the Central Bank of Ecuador (BCE) and the National Customs Service of Ecuador (SENAE). Appendix\_41.In this phase, the support of the SENAE played an important role in initially identifying POP substances and products containing these. Consequently, the Program will produce a diagnosis of products possibly containing POPs in SENAE warehouses on a national scale. In addition, the precontractual phase is underway for the laboratory sampling and analysis of 118 samples related to substances and relevant sectors identified in the inventory. The results of the abovementioned processes shall be reported in the following period.Conversely, the macro proposal of the Action Plan for the management of products containing POPs in Ecuador, which has been fully developed, contains actions for creating a coordination and organization mechanism, producing a country profile, strengthening the legal and institutional framework, POP pesticides and interlinked actions, including: evaluating POP health risks, research, analytical training, monitoring POPs and communicating with and raising awareness among citizens. It also proposes the application of good practices for different POPs of industrial use. This plan could contribute to achieving the following DOs: Objective 6 clean water and sanitation; Objective 8 respectable work and economic development; Objective 9 industry, innovation and infrastructure; Objective 11 sustainable cities and communities; Objective 12 responsible production and consumption, and establishing industrial POP reduction and elimination strategies could be economically feasible and environmentally safe due to the characteristics of industrial development in Ecuador. See Appendix\_41. | No new POPs use and release reduction has been achieved. However, the implementation of this indicator progresses according to plan.The project developed a strategy that outlines the actions carried out up to this period and identifies those necessary to achieve the goal of reducing the use and waste of 30 tons of new POPs during the second phase of project implementation. The program's mid-term goal is 0 reduced tons.Since the start of project implementation, preliminary activities have been carried out to provide a broader picture of the situation in Ecuador in terms of the production, import and use of industrial POPs and alternatives for minimizing their use, substitution or definitive elimination that are economically viable and environmentally safe. The following actions represent a solid basis for the achievement of this indicator:i) Inventory and macro proposal of the action plan for the management of products with POPs, which made it possible to identify and quantify the annual amount and POPs concentrations for products, production, import/export and other elements of twelve substances: a) Industrial POPs in Ecuador: PFOS, SCCPs, PCN, HCBD, PCP; b) Flame retardant POPs and residues containing them: PentaBDE-c, HexaBDE-C, DecaBDE-C, HBB, HBCD; additionally, Lindane and Sulfluramid were included. An important finding of this inventory is the fact that Ecuador allocated several tariff subheadings in 2017 to better control imports of the new POPs. This activity was reported in the previous period. Appendix\_44.ii) During the current period, the project is carrying out the Diagnosis on the use, presence in products, possible substitution of industrial POPs and construction of the inventory and action plan of new POPs substances, with emphasis on the Ecuadorian industrial sector. As of the reporting date, the project has completed the development of the Inventory of new persistent organic pollutants in industrial and household products and pesticides (PFOA, PFHxS, PFHxS, dicofol, methoxychlor, dechlorane plus its syn-somers and anti-somers, and PCBs in open applications). As a result, it was obtained that PFOA and PFHxS (fluorinated organic compounds), would be present to a greater extent within products for industrial and domestic use, and it was also identified that these substances were substitutes for PFOS in various applications. The inventory was the basis for the development of the Action Plan within the framework of the update of the National Implementation Plan on the Stockholm Convention of the new persistent organic pollutants (POPs) present in products, for industrial and domestic use, and pesticides. Both the inventory and the action plan were shared with 40 representatives of SENAE, MAATEC, Galapagos National Park, MSP, Agrocalidad, COMEX, Civil Aviation Directorate, fire department from various localities, business associations linked to the issue and private companies. Appendix\_45.Additionally, this process includes the sampling and laboratory analysis of 130 samples of products with possible content of persistent organic pollutants (PFOS, SPCC and brominated compounds, PFOS, PFOA and PFHxS) in order to obtain valid evidence on the presence of POPs in some products and strengthen the results of the inventory of new POPs. In this regard, the joint selection and prioritization with the MAATEC team and the project was carried out, of samples with substances, inputs, products, materials and/or residues that could potentially contain POPs. At the moment, the selected samples are being analyzed in internationally qualified laboratories (Sweden and Holland) and the results will be reported in July/2021. This activity was impacted by the pandemic, since international laboratories have not been able to meet delivery deadlines, due to the restrictions generated by the global health situation. Appendix\_46.Based on the results achieved, the project proposes two lines of action that lead to reaching the goal until 2023, these are:a) Disposal of 30 tons of product waste containing new POPs, which is carried out based on the results of the monitoring and analysis of samples of new POPs. Additionally, the water bodies and products with the highest concentrations of PFOA, a substance listed in the Stockholm Convention, will be identified, on which the following actions will be focused: Identification of possible emission sources either industries or facilities; Application of Best Environmental Practices (BEP) Guide to avoid future emissions of new POPs in the previously selected sources; Identification of areas or products possibly contaminated with new POPs; elimination of waste contaminated with new POPs, to avoid the emission of new POPs into the environment.b) Importation restriction/prohibition of products with content of new POPs. We believe that this action could be the most efficient to achieve the goal. Once it has been identified, based on preliminary data, that firefighting foam is one of the products with the highest PFAS content (PFAS: 133 µg/l PFHxA and 83,5 µg/l 6:2 FTSA), furthermore, there is a significant amount of POP in Attakill insecticide (PFOS: 150000 ug/l NEtFOSA) and microwave popcorn bag (36.4 ng/g of PFOA), the project will propose import control measures with COMEX and SENAE. In order to adequately argue this proposal, the project will carry out a cost-benefit analysis, as well as an inaction cost evaluation, based on three (3) economic scenarios (optimistic, medium and pessimistic). In the case of fire foams, according to the projections made by the project, in a pessimistic scenario, by 2023 a reduction of 73.3 tons would be achieved, through the application of this strategy. This amount will grow progressively over the next five years. Appendix\_47. |
| **The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:** | **On track** |
| **Evidence uploaded:** | **YES** |
| **Outcome 3****Component 3: Implementation of measure for reduction and elimination of Hg from priority sectors.** |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2020** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 2 tonnes of mercury use/releases reduced from ASGM at a non-industrial level. | Mercury releases in the 3 area prioritized by the project (source: Dec. 2016 PPG ASGM Hg Baseline assessment): Portovelo (Aproplasmin) – 1,638 kg Hg/yr Ponce Enriquez (Bella Rica) – 2,318 kg Hg/yr Chinapintza – 1,184 kg Hg/yr | Mercury use/releases from ASGM reduced by 500 kg/yr at a non-industrial level . [ Everything that is not processed in processing plants, meaning “Chanchas” or “at domestic level” (this latter will not be possible)] | Total mercury use/releases from ASGM reduced by a total of 2 tonnes at a non-industrial level. | During this period, a reduction of 357.6 kg per year in the use/release of mercury in ASGM at a non-industrial level.The quantification of reduced mercury is an estimation based on the training work undertaken with groups of women miners and in which over 70 women have been trained to carry out their procedures without using mercury. We believe that these practices may have reduced greater quantities of mercury use and release; however, analyzing this reduction is complex due to the use of mercury being prohibited in the Constitution of Ecuador and the Mining Act since 2015. This prohibition has made compiling information for the purpose of identifying mercury being used in gold extraction activities somewhat difficult.Women miners or ‘jancheras’ are the group mainly using the amalgamation process (use of Hg) for extracting gold, despite being aware that this is an inefficient process in its recovery (<40%). This is due to this method being the most accessible and quickest way to obtain gold, sell it and earn money immediately in order to satisfy their needs. Each ‘janchera’ collects an average of 10 sacks of minerals per month, which are processed in 5 ‘chanchas’, using 2 sacks of minerals for each chancha. The use of mercury to form the amalgam with gold requires 3 ounces for each chancha. Therefore, 15 ounces of mercury are used to process the 10 bags of ore. Being 70 jancheras, this implies the use of 1,050 ounces of mercury per month, or 29.8 kg. Therefore, with the implementation of activities undertaken as part of this Program, it is estimated that the use of 29.8 kg of mercury per month is reduced, which would imply an annual reduction of 357.6 kg. Appendix\_19.It is estimated that by the end of the Program the goal will be exceeded. Achieving this indicator will be the result of implementing the following activities:i) The national ASGM baseline, according to the Minamata Convention on mercury, has been concluded, which was produced by the “National Action Plan on Mercury in the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Sector (ASGM) in Ecuador”, implemented by the MAE with the support of UNIDO. This information is considered as the Program’s baseline for all ASGM sites in the project (Camilo Ponce Enríquez, Portovelo and Chinapintza).ii) Three (3) mining groups were supported in the formalization process through the development of guidelines for the formalization of artisanal miners in Ecuador. Two mining groups were worked with located in Zaruma-Portovelo (El Oro province) and one in the canton of Camilo Ponce Enríquez (Azuay province) formed by women miners or jancheras; the three groups cooperated with the Program in order to learn of the difficulties that they face and/or they faced in achieving the regularization of mining activity. Based on this information and current legislation, guidelines were developed establishing four possible scenarios, the requirements and steps applicable to each one, which are as follows: i) Individual formalization / regularization as an artisanal miner; ii) Formalization / regularization under the framework of miner partnerships with permits for artisanal mining and adjoining areas, with the aim of changing their regime to small-scale mining; iii) Regularization for women miners - jancheras; and, iv) The option for miners located in licensed zones to sign an operating contract. Appendix\_22.The guidelines include information sheets in a simplified format and containing plain language, which could be distributed to beneficiaries, as soon as the mining authority decides to open the mining registry; this limitation was raised with MERNNR authorities and the Steering Committee, acknowledging that this falls outside of the control and actions of the Program, for which it approved a change in scope for this activity without affecting the fulfilment of this indicator. Appendix\_23.iii) As an alternative to installing a mobile training plant, the Program is implementing an innovative proposal entitled the “Strategy for Improving the Gold Supply and Retail Chain”. In the first instance, alternatives for implementing the plant were explored, based on legal and technical criteria, such as: transfer of ownership, ownership of the benefits generated in the plant, mineral traceability and the advantages and disadvantages related to each case, which was analyzed by the Steering Committee, as follows: Firstly, it was acknowledged that installing a plant is not feasible; and secondly, the NCMP proposal entitled the “Strategy for Improving the Gold Supply and Retail Chain” was approved, which consists of ensuring that the minerals collected by ASGM are analyzed in mineral laboratories (2 of these) authorized and strengthened by the NCMP to determine the quantity of gold present and that could be obtained, and, based on this, that could be sold to five mineral processing plants, also strengthened by the NCMP, thereby avoiding processing in chanchas or using any other artisanal method that may involve the use of mercury. The processing capacity of the five plants positively impacts on reducing mercury use, therefore this change in activity related to the plant does not affect the fulfilment of this indicator, in fact, it consolidates the activity to strengthen these five plants, which could contribute to exceeding the established target. This innovative proposal by the Program was presented to MERNNR authorities, obtaining acceptance and support by distributing information on plants and laboratories authorized by the authority and with the potential to be strengthened. Appendix\_24.Based on this information, the Program is evaluating mineral analysis laboratories and processing plants located in the cantons of Camilo Ponce Enríquez and Zaruma – Portovelo and/or their surrounding areas, to identify needs, establish costs, identify possible beneficiaries with gender sensitive criteria and ascertain their interest in participating in the strategy to then select suitable allies to undertake strengthening measures. Appendix\_25.iv) Training modules to be provided to 350 miners are currently being developed, based on the training needs identified by the IIGE in the “Mining Technical Guide 2019 for Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining” document. The integral vision for these modules focuses on “Training Trainers” and includes: Geology, Mining, Metallurgy, Environment, Social (partnerships), Industrial Safety, Taxation, practical module (field stage) and interlinked with this are modules on Gender and Andragogy, considering that the target audience consists of adults. The strategy for implementing training consists of capacity building for ASGM-related technicians from MERNNR, IIGE, MAE, SENAGUA and ARCOM, who will share knowledge with groups of miners and jancheras in the intervention areas. Due to the health emergency, capacity building for ASGM technicians will be carried out through virtual channels.Finally, the Program is currently supporting the Targeted Scenario Analysis (TSA) for ASGM in Ecuador through meetings, coordinating with key institutions, information requests and others, due to sharing the same objectives and intervention/study areas. Additionally, the financial product for ASGM, proposed by the Program, could be a success factor which supports and incentivizes the change in mining management in Ecuador to the SEM scenario. The most relevant preliminary results show that: a) ASGM gold activity is set to increase due to mineral prices and the economic crisis. This is a key moment for State intervention; b) The increase in SEM earnings (55% on average for miners in year 1) presents an opportunity for investment in this intervention; c) The main economic incentive driving the change could be the BCE purchasing Program, due to the price it pays (97% of the international price) and due to being higher than current local prices (around 80% of the international price); d) Plants will need short-term incentives to participate in the Program. Soft credits and/or tax exemptions could be an alternative. This would be to cover losses in the first year which will reach US$ 2 million; e) The use of mercury is seeing a slightly downward trend, but its use in BAU is maintained. SEM is a feasible alternative, modelling the SEM scenario projects a total reduction in the use of mercury of around 3 tons per year, only taking artisanal miners into account. The presentation of preliminary progress and results compiled by the consultancy firm responsible for this is attached below. Appendix\_43. | Midterm target achieved and exceeded.During this period, 397.01 kg/year of mercury was reduced in ASGM, at a non-industrial level, therefore, the project has achieved a cumulative reduction of 754.61 kg of mercury in ASGM, at a non-industrial level.The quantification of reduced mercury is an estimate based on the implementation of the gold supply chain and commercialization strategy, carried out by the program with mineral processing plants, mineral laboratories and artisanal miners that represents an annual reduction of 204.11 Kg of Hg/year. Appendix\_24. Added to this is the contribution of the competitive fund mechanism project, implemented with female miners or "jancheras," which represents an annual reduction of 192.9 kg/year. Although the ban on mercury use given by law since 2015 does not allow the collection of actual figures of its use, the project has information that allows calculations to be made to have an approximation of the reduction of Hg use, as well as the official value of the Government of the use of 30 t/year of Hg presented in the National Action Plan (NAP) included in the following link: http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/NAP/NAP-Ecuador-May2020-ES.pdfThe achievement of this indicator is the result of the implementation of the following activities:i) Implementation of the gold supply chain and commercialization strategy: This activity replaces the installation of the mobile training plant, which will not be carried out due to technical and legal limitations such as transfer of ownership, ownership of the benefits generated in the plant and traceability of the mineral. For this reason, the steering committee and the MERNNR authorities approved the proposal for the “Strategy for improvement in the gold supply and commercialization chain."For its implementation, during this period the project completed the evaluation of the mineral analysis laboratories and mineral processing plants located in the Camilo Ponce Enríquez and Zaruma - Portovelo cantons and/or surrounding areas and, as of the date of this report, is in the process of procuring equipment and capacities, as well as the Due Diligence with the beneficiary entities prior to the transfer of assets.The plant evaluation process was carried out based on a list of those plants that meet the legal requirements (permits) with the mining and environmental authorities. Subsequently, the following selection criteria were applied: to have its own tailings dam with sufficient capacity for at least the next 3 years of its production or that the construction of a new one is authorized to cover said capacity, that they comply with the previous administrative acts or that they are at least in process, that geographically they are located in areas of easy access for the mining population, that they provide services to third parties or are in process for this, that they provide services to women, women's groups and/or jancheras and finally, that they express their interest in being part of this strategy. As a result, only seven (7) plants agreed to participate and receive a face-to-face visit to verify their current status and technical improvement needs, the description and costs of which are documented in Appendix\_25.Based on this information, the PNGQ technical team contacted the owners of preselected plants by phone, in person (to the extent that the pandemic restrictions allowed) and via e-mail with the purpose of reaching agreements and commitments between the two parties. As a result of this process, until April 2021, the approval was obtained, via e-mail, from three (3) plants (Nueva Unión, Emicor and Eymen Corporation) regarding the equipment and training that will be delivered to them to achieve the strengthening. The two (2) remaining plants did not give a response; therefore, they were not included in the first procurement process. Appendix\_26. While the pre-contractual phase of this procurement process is underway, the project is conducting due diligence with the three beneficiary plants in order to sign a memorandum of understanding to support the transfer of the assets.On the other hand, the process of evaluating the mineral analysis laboratories began with a survey of the information from the laboratories in the intervention area, whose main line of business is the analysis of gold from minerals. As a result, a list of six (6) laboratories to be evaluated in situ, based on ISO 17025 standards, was created. During the evaluations, the degree of application of the standard that the laboratories had implemented was determined in order to obtain reliable analytical results. According to the technical performance of the laboratories, three laboratories (JV Metals, Albexxus and Goldenlab) were preselected, which demonstrated superior technical qualities. Appendix\_27. Based on this information, the project reached agreements with two of these laboratories (Goldenlab, JV Metals) for the delivery of equipment and advisory services to enable them to set up a quality management system that complies with ISO 17025 standards. For this reason, the pre-contractual phase for the procurement was executed at the same time that the project is carrying out the due diligence of the two beneficiary laboratories, with the purpose of signing a memorandum of understanding to support the transfer of the assets.It is important to point out that the plant and laboratory evaluation processes were carried out during the pandemic by COVID19 with some mobility restrictions imposed by the State, which did not allow the project team to carry out the technical accompaniment. We believe that this led to a deficient socialization of the strategy, generating a lack of interest in participating. Likewise, the evaluations of some plants present information gaps, which have been progressively identified and resolved by the project team.A challenge identified during this period was to get the mining population to build up trust in the mineral sales strategy, which is essential for it to operate and to achieve the mercury reduction goal. In view of this, the project plans to implement a communication campaign simultaneously with the start-up of the strategy. In this way, a greater number of people will be included in the strategy.ii) During this period, capacity building was provided to 37 technicians (18 women and 19 men) involved in mining activities who work in the following institutions: Institute of Geological and Energy Research, Ministry of Energy and Non-Renewable Natural Resources, Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition and, Central Bank of Ecuador. For this purpose, a training program was implemented with a training trainers approach. It had a duration of 80 hours (virtual) for 7 modules: Geology, Mining, Social Management, Metallurgy, Industrial Safety and Occupational Health, Environment and Taxation. Gender awareness concepts and activities were incorporated in a cross-cutting manner. This activity has the purpose of strengthening the knowledge of the technicians for a later replication in the project intervention areas, with a view to reaching the goal of 350 trained mining people, in joint work with the IIGE. In this regard, for the implementation of the workshops in the territory, the instructors have two action plans for face-to-face and virtual modalities, which were developed during the training sessions and with the preparation of contents and didactic materials in accordance with the target audience. Appendix\_29. The replication activities will start simultaneously with the operation of the mineral sales strategy, for which reason the waiting time to start could be a limiting factor so that the contents and key messages are not adequately transmitted to the mining population.iii) Implementation of the project of the competitive funds mechanism with women miners or "jancheras." The mineral selection activity, also known as "jancheo" and carried out mainly by women, is not integrated into the gold supply and commercialization chain strategy, since its mineral cannot be sold or bought by the plants. This activity is not recognized in the Mining Law; therefore, they do not have the (legal) permits to sell their mineral.In view of this reality, the project is implementing the venture called "Strengthening the food security of the families of the Jancheras Unión y Progreso Association and capacity building to promote associative entrepreneurships" through the competitive fund mechanism. It directly benefits 19 women and 2 men dedicated to jancheo. This initiative, in addition to encouraging the change of productive activity, allows to reach the beneficiaries with training activities related to ASGM.To estimate its contribution to mercury reduction, it is hypothesized that participation in the food security project would reduce or eliminate the use of mercury in mineral collection and processing. The premise is that this new productive activity could complement the family economy and reduce their dependence on mining, besides the fact that awareness-raising activities would lead to the elimination of mercury use. To validate this hypothesis, in May 2021, after 10 months of the implementation of the initiative, a survey was applied which returned the following results:In general, the time spent on jancheo has not changed with the implementation of the project. On average they dedicate 3 hours a day to jancheo and 2 hours a day to raising poultry and growing vegetables. However, there is a reduction in the number of mineral lumps they collect. Before starting the project, they collected an average of 18 packages per month and currently with the intervention of the project, they collect an average of 13 packages per month. Consequently, the monthly income from the jancheo has been reduced. Although they have generated sales of poultry and vegetables, this still does not represent new income for the family economy because the partners decided to reinvest the profits in the project. An important fact is that all the people surveyed affirm that they sell their mineral to the mill or traders, therefore, it can be inferred that this group of people no longer processes their mineral, and consequently they are no longer using mercury. We consider that this could be an effect of the awareness activities on the use of mercury and caring for nature undertaken during the implementation of the initiative.Based on this information, it is estimated that 192.9 kg/year of mercury have been reduced or avoided through the implementation of this initiative, during this period. For the calculation, it is considered that each janchera collects an average of 18 bags of mineral per month, which are processed in 9 chanchas. The use of mercury to form the amalgam with gold is 3 ounces per each chancha. Therefore, 27 ounces of mercury are used to process 18 bags of mineral. Being 21 jancheras, it implies the use of 567 ounces of mercury per month which is equivalent to 16.1 kg. Therefore, with the implementation of the food safety initiative, the use of mercury has been reduced by 192.9 kg per year. Appendix\_30. |
| 35 kg/yr of mercury use/releases avoided from priority sectors (other than ASGM). | 35 kg/yr of mercury use/releases avoided from priority sectors (other than ASGM).Ecuador’s priority Hg containing products are (Nov. 2016 PPG baseline assessment): Medical devices (40 tonnes of medical products containing ~ 164 kg of Hg, were in use in 2016 (MSP)) and energy saving lamps (28 kg of mercury is contained in 144 tonnes of lamps currently in use and imported during the period (2013-2016).2 Hg baselines have been conducted, one in preparation of the project (Nov. 2016 PPG baseline assessment) and 1 in 2008 (National Mercury Release Inventory).For public hospitals, MSP/MAE have signed an agreement and developed a plan to phase-out Hg containing medical devices. For private hospitals and the general public, no plan/agreement is yet in place.No sound treatment/recycling options exist for Hg containing products. Mercury releases from priority sectors (other than ASGM) reduced by 10 kg. Mercury releases from priority sectors (other than ASGM) avoided by 35 kg/yr. Cost-effective alternatives can be identified and are available to replace top 2 priority POPs containing products. | Mercury releases from priority sectors (other than ASGM) reduced by 10 kg. | Mercury releases from priority sectors (other than ASGM) avoided by 35 kg/yr. | During this period, 3.92 kg of mercury release was reduced or avoided in priority sectors, other than ASGM.The value reached is low in terms of the mid-term target to be evaluated, because the quantity of mercury contained in products is minimal. To calculate the quantity of Hg release avoided, based on eliminating 14 tons of luminaire waste containing mercury, two points were considered: 1) mercury content for each luminaire is approximately 40 mg Hg, with approximately 98,000 other lamps eliminated (this estimation was made based on the values proposed by UNEP in their Toolkit Level 2, Table 5-128 Preliminary predetermined mercury entry factors, by light source type) and, 2) energy-saving lightbulbs were acquired by the Ecuadorian state with an inverse bidding policy prioritizing lower-priced products, generally of inferior quality and more harmful to the environment. To achieve a reduction of 10 kg (mid-term target), comprehensive actions are required, including prohibiting the entry of products containing mercury into the country. In the next period, the Program will continue focusing its efforts on this type of comprehensive actions.During this period, the Program achieved the following results in relation to this indicator:i) 14.8 tons of luminaires containing mercury suitably eliminated thereby avoiding the release of 3.92 kg of mercury. This waste is the result of the implementation of the national government’s Zero Mercury Plan, collected since 2016. Appendix\_20ii) The exhaustive mercury baseline evaluation for medical devices and lighting products, and evaluation performed on the impact on women/men has been completed. In the Health sector, the most relevant results are:a) The Integral Public Health Network (RPIS), which includes the Ministry of Public Health (MSP), the Ecuadorian Institute of Social Security (IESS), the Institute of Social Security for the Armed Forces (ISSFA) and the Institute of Social Security for the Police (ISSPOL) have in stock 38,831 units of thermometers (equivalent to 310,65 kg of liquid Hg); 1379 units of tensiometers (equivalent to 110.32 kg of liquid Hg) and 595.5 kg of amalgams (equivalent to 297.95 kg of solid Hg).b) 96% of medical device units with added mercury originate from the Ministry of Public Health.In the electrical sector, the most relevant results are:a) In the country there are 1,455,062 public lighting luminaires (up to September 2019) of which 98.35% contain mercury in differing quantities (30 mg of per mercury-vapor lamp and 20 mg per sodium-vapor lamp).b) It is estimated that the electrical sector generates 8.11 kg of mercury per year from replacements.c) There are currently 17,746 mercury-vapor lamps and 377,649 sodium-vapor lamps.In terms of imports, the most relevant results are:a) In relation to mercury content in other products and based on the tariff heading information in the Customs system, it was determined that: thermometers (industrial, environmental and those for clinical use), dental amalgams, button batteries and skin clarifying cosmetics contain 88% of mercury in weight entering the country from 2017 to 2018, totaling 2,416.59 kg of mercury.b) Batteries (AA, AAA, etc.), fluorescent lamps, screens and LCD monitors, high pressure Na and Hg vapor lamps, LCD televisions, mercuric oxide batteries, button batteries (zinc-air) and button batteries (silver-oxide) total 12% of mercury in weight, equivalent to 312.41 kg of Hg. Appendix\_21.iii) The list of available alternatives for medical devices containing Hg and lighting products containing Hg has been concluded, which includes a macro action plan for the management of Hg products on a national scale, including prioritizing products/waste containing mercury and six lines of action. Appendix\_38.For the electrical sector, LED luminaires (tariff heading 8539.5000.00) are a mercury-free alternative already available on the market for several tariff headings. However, it has been identified that for their use in public lighting, this should be governed by national standards and regulations, such as the Ecuadorian Technical Regulations RTE INEN 069. Furthermore, possible lighting impacts must be considered in protection zones, as well as the management of LED upon expiry of its useful life.For the Health sector, it was identified that products containing mercury and mercury-free products both entered under the same tariff headings, as follows: sphygmomanometers or tensiometers (including digital versions under heading 9018.90.90.00) clinical thermometers (including digital versions under heading 9025.11.10.00) and cement and other dental obturation products (resin for dental restoration) and dental amalgams (under heading 3006.40.10.00). Furthermore, it was identified that digital thermometers and dental resins are more expensive pieces of equipment, however, they are already being used widely on a national scale.iv) The evaluation of existing options for the disposal and treatment (national / international level) of products containing mercury and residues has been concluded. During this period, a survey was carried out on eleven (11) accredited environmental managers; the most relevant results are:a) Two (2) companies indicated that they did not manage this type of waste in 2017 and 2018; b) the nine (9) remaining companies managed fluorescent lamps and batteries containing mercury, of which five (5) undertook transportation, treatment and end disposal phases (in situ or through third parties), whilst four (4) undertook transportation and temporary storage phases; c) In 2017 and 2018, the companies managed a total of 597.03 tons of waste containing added mercury. See Appendix\_21.v) The cost-benefit analysis and inaction cost evaluation (including the identification and quantification of social benefits and costs differentiated between women and men) to inform the selection of mercury-free alternatives and options for management / treatment of residues is currently underway; the results of this may be presented in the following period.vi) The pilot project in the electrical sector to support the elimination and/or improved management of used lamps containing mercury is currently underway, prior to its implementation; the Galapagos province was selected as the pilot site due to having suitable conditions for implementing efficient public lighting that protects the needs of the population and guarantees the protection of the archipelago’s own biodiversity; the results of this may be presented in the next period.Conversely, in order for the environmental authority to strengthen the management and control of products containing added mercury, the Program made improvements in the environmental regularization process based on more efficiently and effectively categorizing standardized economic activities using ISIC rev. 4.0 and standardized environmental management plans (EMP); this action contributes to optimizing the process of awarding environmental licenses on behalf of the environmental authority. This component will be integrated into the MAE’s Unique Environmental Information System (UEIS) and implemented for its application on a national scale. Appendix\_39. | During this period, the amount of 3.92 kg of mercury release reduced or avoided in priority sectors, other than ASGM, is maintained, that is, in this period no new contributions have been made to feed this indicator.The challenge facing this indicator is that the amount of mercury contained in products was less than what was anticipated in the PPG phase, which is why it was necessary to identify several lines of action to achieve the goal. In addition, now markets are moving towards LEDS, so we will find even less mercury in lamps. For this reason, the project developed a strategy that integrates the actions carried out up to this period with those necessary to reach the global goal of 175 kg of mercury in products avoided, until the end of the project implementation.In this regard, during this period, the project achieved the following results in relation to this indicator:i) A study was completed to identify the conditions and priority locations for the replacement of public lighting fixtures with more efficient, mercury-free technologies in the Galapagos Islands. As a result, a baseline and current situation and a regulatory framework for public lighting in Galapagos were established; a management and billing system was analyzed to prepare a proposal for the administrative and financial conditions necessary for the development of an efficient and mercury-free public lighting project in Galapagos; and, a technical-economic project was developed for the replacement of public lighting with more efficient and mercury-free technologies in the identified priority sectors of Galapagos. The most relevant findings are that the public lighting system in the Galapagos Islands consists approximately of 5,500 luminaires, of which 50% are LED luminaires, 33% are sodium lamps and projectors, 14% are induction luminaires, and mercury lamps and projectors represent only 3%. For this reason, it is considered that the implementation of the technical-economic project is not feasible considering its high cost and the reduced benefit it would generate in terms of the amount of Hg releases avoided. The importance of working with the GADs of the islands in terms of hazardous waste management and the disposal of household luminaires was also identified. Appendix\_48.ii) In this regard, the project identified the need to develop a regulatory instrument that promotes the proper management of disused discharge lamps in the energy sector and defines courses of action for the GADs, the MAATEC and lighting companies/marketers. For this reason, the project is carrying out the pre-contractual phase for the development of an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) instrument at the national level and whose pilot application will be carried out in the Galapagos Islands, during the second semester of 2021. Appendix\_49.iii) The economic scenario analysis for the implementation of Article 4 on Hg-added products of the Minamata Convention in Ecuador was completed, in which 3 economic scenarios (optimistic, medium and pessimistic) were constructed based on different assumptions regarding the implementation of tax measures to ban or limit the entry of Hg-added products, including non-electronic measuring devices and dental amalgams. Three proposals for tax instrument resolutions were developed (not including VAT increase), these are: Technical report for COMEX (tariff modification); COMEX Resolution according to the selected scenario; Resolution of the Tax Policy Committee, exclusion of raw materials with Hg content. We consider that this proposal could be key to achieving the indicator, however, it faces the challenge of obtaining the political will of both the MAATEC and the Foreign Trade Committee (COMEX), which is responsible for issuing a tariff modification or prohibition resolution whose results would contribute to the reduction of Hg use/release. Appendix\_50.Based on the results achieved, the project proposes a strategy with three lines of action that lead to reaching the goal until 2023, these are:a) Elimination of waste from Hg-added products from the health sector, during 2021 the project will coordinate with the MSP to update the quantities of waste, which according to the baseline inventory could represent approximately 170 kg of Hg in products. Process that should have been carried out during the 2020-2021 period but due to the restrictions of the pandemic, as well as the prioritization of the Ministry of Public Health of Ecuador (MSP) activities, could not be carried out.b) Adequate management of disused discharge lamps in the energy sector, for which the project is planning the development of a regulatory instrument proposal in the second half of 2021 and its pilot application in the Galapagos Islands during 2022.c) Restriction/prohibition of Hg-added products through the socialization and adoption of the proposal generated by the project during this period. This line of action requires the political will of both the MAATEC and the Foreign Trade Committee (COMEX). Although the project will continue to negotiate its adoption with the new government authorities, a projection of the amounts of hg reduced or avoided from this source was not included, because it could be outside the scope of the project. Appendix\_51. |
| Access to finance improved for ASGM sector through development/ improvement of 2 financial products. | Access to finance improved for ASGM sector through development/ improvement of 2 financial products. In 2016, 136 million USD in loans was granted to the mining sector in Ecuador, of which 23 million US$ was granted to the mining sector in the project’s priority areas, of which ~8 million was granted to the mining of precious metals.92.61% of credit volume was mainly placed by private banks, 6.98% by public financial institutions; 0.31% by mutuals and 0.1% by financial companies.The Central Bank of Ecuador (BCE) purchases gold from ASGM miners, provided that the gold has a licit origin.2 tax incentives for the ASGM sector exist (LRTI - 10.7 & LRTI-37 ').1 financial product developed/improved to increase access to finance for ASGM sector 2 financial products developed/improved to increase access to finance for ASGM sector 1 financial institution and 1 legal gold buyer are interested in signing an agreement with the project.1 industry and 1 gold processing plant are interested in applying tax incentives to finance cleaner production. | 1 financial product developed/improved to increase access to finance for ASGM sector | 2 financial products developed/improved to increase access to finance for ASGM sector | Midterm target level achieved and exceeded in this reporting period.During this period, 2 financial products were improved / adapted to increase access to financing for the ASGM sector, in such a way that stimulates the formalization and association of miners and encourages the adoption of cleaner processes and a reduction in pollution. In the diagnosis undertaken in the previous period, it was identified that the greatest barriers faced by the mining sector for converting to cleaner technologies are: a) informality in economic activities, b) not being able to demonstrate earnings, c) disproportionate guarantees requested by banks, and d) a lack of knowledge of preparing feasibility projects / business plans. These barriers faced by artisanal miners make it difficult for them to access formal financing. Based on a feasibility analysis of financial products together with the public bank BanEcuador and the Central Bank of Ecuador (BCE) it was determined that the first financial product with the greatest feasibility for the ASGM sector is “Credit for Inclusive Businesses”, whose management model, designed by the Program for the ASGM sector, consists of granting credits to individuals and legal persons holding a BCE Economic Agent Authorization Certificate, i.e. those authorized to trade in gold originating from small-scale mining and artisanal mining, either directly or indirectly with the BCE. The income from the sale of gold will allow those individuals or legal persons make the repaid of credits granted by BanEcuador. The credit line includes sums ranging from USD 50,000 to USD 2,000,000, after passing credit checks performed by BanEcuador. This financial product was presented to 18 ASGM sector and MERNNR representatives (6 women and 12 men) and was well accepted. Conversely, the second product developed is aimed at women miners (jancheras) and referred to as “Start-Up Credit” which could support the change in productive activities and/or strengthening of current activities, with sums ranging from USD 50 to USD 59,100, after passing credit checks performed by BanEcuador.This financial product has been considered as a benchmark for projects involved in PlanetGold, for which its documentation has been published on its website in both English and Spanish. See Appendix\_2.In order to put this first product into operation, the Program promoted the creation of an interinstitutional cooperation agreement between the Ministry of the Environment, the Central Bank of Ecuador and BANECUADOR B.P., which has been shared with the three entities and is currently being formalized.Additionally, for the implementation of the second financial product, aimed at women miners (jancheras), in conjunction with BanEcuador, training will be provided in financial education together with the competitive funds mechanism, so that the integrity of the two economic incentives (credit and grant) promote the economic empowerment of the selected groups of jancheras.The second financial product, created for women miners (jancheras) is backed up by additional economic incentives, including:i) One (1) competitive funds mechanism for financing 5 environmental, social and technological innovation projects was fully established, in a participative manner for 29 women miners (jancheras) and 50 men miners located in Camilo Ponce Enríquez and Zaruma-Portovelo, through workshops where associations with the potential to put themselves forward were able to be identified and the general conditions were shared. Due to the limitation on the number of initiatives, it was decided that this should be referred to as the “Funds Awarding Mechanism” with a call for bids aimed at a shortlist of fourteen (14) bidders, based on sectorized target groups, as follows: ASGM initiatives (3 allocations) and Academy/Industry projects (2 allocations). See Appendix\_4.Additionally, to accompany this activity and promote support for groups of women dedicated to mining, the Program made an experiential video reflecting the reality of jancheras, learning about their needs and expectations and proposing reflection on alternative activities for sustaining their livelihoods. Appendix\_26.During this period, in the context of the funds awarding mechanism, the Program is currently supporting associations and entities interested in bidding, by formulating project ideas, producing documents and validating requirements. Each file will be reviewed by the Selection and Evaluation Committee by June 2020, when 5 projects shall be chosen to be awarded funds. Appendix\_27.Finally, at least 2 plants (1 ASGM processing plant and 1 industrial plant) shall benefit from the application of existing incentives and the officialization of the incentive proposed by the Program, in order to finance cleaner production systems called “Green Point Ecuadorian Environmental Recognition (EER) for the environmentally-friendly management of POPs”. Once this incentive has been made official (August 2020), the Program will provide advice to at least two (2) businesses or industries, one (1) of which will be a mineral processing plant in order to gain access to the incentives. Appendix\_3. | End of project target achieved. 2 financial products were developed and are in implementation to increase access to finance for ASGM sector.During this period, one (1) financial product designed to grant credits to the mining population is underway for its operation and one (1) competitive fund mechanism is in full implementation. The two mechanisms make it possible to improve access to financing for the ASGM sector.The achievement of this indicator is the result of the implementation of the following activities:ii) The financial mechanism for the ASGM sector corresponds to the credit product for miners qualified by the BCE as certified gold Agents, which was identified and improved by the project since 2019. Although the project has supported its socialization with authorities and technicians of the BCE, it has not been possible to sign the agreement between the BCE and BanEcuador, which would allow this credit to be available for citizens involved in mining. This is a direct impact of the pandemic, since national priorities are focused on controlling the pandemic, to which the change of government has been added. The project will make new approaches with the new authorities to achieve this goal. Additionally, the project is developing an academic and technical article on financing for the mining sector. The aim is to make visible the access barriers to financing that exist for the sector and to highlight the importance of the public banks (BanEcuador and BCE) prioritizing the launching of this credit product. Appendix\_2.In relation to the credit product for Janchera women called "Entrepreneurship Credit," which was identified as the most accessible for this segment and reported in the previous period, the project has validated that it is available to the public; therefore, any person who meets its requirements could access it. For this reason, the characteristics of the projects were socialized with the beneficiaries of the CFM projects and, furthermore, topics related to financial education were taught, such as: financial planning, income and resource management, the importance of saving, financial products and services available for entrepreneurship and others. Appendix\_31. Additionally, this product will be strengthened during the second term of the PNGQ through local support that will improve access to the tool at the local level.ii) The competitive fund mechanism established to finance five (5) environmental and social entrepreneurships and technological innovations is in full implementation. Initially, the project identified fifteen (15) organizations with the potential to apply. These were contacted to learn of their interest in participating and to provide support during the preparation of the project documents in order to ensure the quality of the proposals and the management models to ensure their viability and sustainability. Appendix\_32. As a result of this process, only nine projects applied for the CFM. It is important to mention that two (2) of them were previously identified for the introduction of BAT/BEP in order to reduce the releases of UPOPs (Component 2) and the remaining seven (7) projects entered into tender. Appendix\_33. In July 2020, the CFM Selection and Evaluation Committee rated and selected five (5) winning projects. Appendix\_34. Its current status is presented below:a) Biofiltration: this project was postulated by the National Polytechnic School in partnership with the University of Utah and contributes to the mercury removal indicator in ASGM. It consists of the construction of a natural biofiltration system for the removal of mercury and trace elements from rivers impacted by gold mining (Nambija River, Zamora Chinchipe province), benefiting 79 women and 66 men. As of the date of this report, the project has carried out administrative and preparatory activities for the contracting of the laboratory analysis service and machinery for the construction of the system. During the months of July and August/2021, the system of canals or ditches will be installed in the Nambija River while the team of researchers from the University of Utah will take soil and water samples that will be transported to the University's laboratories for analysis. This project started later, compared to the others, because summer weather conditions are required for its construction, considering that the system will be around the Nambija River and in the open. For this reason, building in the rainy season implied the risk of losing the constructions due to an increase in the flow of the river and consequently losing the investment. Appendix\_35.b) Phytoremediation: this project was also postulated by the National Polytechnic School and contributes to the indicator of mercury elimination in ASGM and pollution reduction. It consists of analyzing remediation strategies to achieve the removal/elimination of contaminants from mining that affect water quality, in this way it is intended to protect the health of local residents and improve environmental quality in the area. It benefits 377 women and 3,004 men. It is carried out in alliance with the Bella Rica Miners Cooperative. As of the date of this report, with the active participation of the Bella Rica mining cooperative, the EPN is in the process of setting up field experiments in the El Guabo parish of the Ponce Enríquez canton. The plants that will be used in the field experiments have been collected from their natural environment and are in propagation in the nursery of the mining cooperative, which has been conditioned for the mass production of seedlings. In the same way, materials, zebra fish, xanthates and reagents necessary to carry out the chemical, ecotoxicological analyzes and microcosm experiments have been acquired in the EPN laboratories in Quito. Appendix\_36.c) Educational Eco-center: this project was postulated by the Quito Solid Waste Management Company (EMGIRS) and contributes to the indicator of UPOPs release reduction. It consists of the installation and operation of an eco-center in order to sensitize the public in the use of organic waste, the use of biological fertilizers produced and the sowing of vegetables and/or fruits in urban gardens. It is part of the macro project “Quito free of garbage.” However, it was not possible to obtain the construction permit, without which, it is not feasible to start with the tender for the construction of the Eco-center. For this reason, after ten months of being notified as the winner of this project, without execution and seven months of waiting to receive the construction permit, the CFM selection and evaluation committee decided to withdraw support for this project. New project proposals will be presented to the Committee. Appendix\_37.d) Food security: this project was submitted by the Heifer Foundation and the Jancheras Unión y Progreso Association (AJUP) of the Camilo Ponce Enríquez canton. It contributes significantly to the mercury removal indicator in ASGM. Its objective is to strengthen the food security of the families of the jancheras association and support capacity building to promote associative entrepreneurships. With the support of the Heifer Foundation, a group of 19 women and 2 men have been able to consolidate an interest group dedicated to the raising and sale of poultry, which is complemented with agro-ecological demonstration practices in the communal garden installed on land lent by the cantonal government for a period of two years until July 2022. During this period, six Field Schools (ECA) have been established in order to lay the foundations for agro-ecological learning and practice. The biggest challenge is to consolidate the use of the land, either through a loan or with the purchase of their own land, which will allow them to improve security conditions, access to water and electricity services, essential for productive activities. The economic resources generated by the first sales of their products were reinvested in the project, by decision of the partners. Appendix\_38.e) Goldsmithing: this project was proposed by the Goldsmith Association of El Oro, made up of 9 women and 4 men in alliance with the provincial GAD of El Oro and has the strategic support of APROPLASMIN. Contributes to the indicator of improved access to financing for the ASGM sector, with special attention to the participation of women. Its objective is to contribute to the improvement of income and well-being of the families of artisanal miners in the Portovelo canton through the implementation of a goldsmith business with the use of the raw material of artisanal miners. As of the date of this report, a cooperation agreement has been signed between the El Oro GAD and the Association, and a market study has been completed to set up the goldsmithing entrepreneurship in the canton of Portovelo, and equipment has been acquired, provided by the El Oro GAD as counterpart, as well as the furniture and tools to start up the goldsmithing workshop. It is expected that the installation and start-up of the workshop will take place between the months of June and July/2021, during which time the hiring of the services of a master goldsmith is projected and thus begin the training process, which will last five months. In parallel, the association has been working on its strategic planning, structuring the business model and preparing an action plan to strengthen key aspects that must be addressed to ensure the proper operation of the entrepreneurship. The biggest challenge facing the organization, in view of the expiration of the execution deadline, is the lack of experience and technical leadership that can drive the venture. Appendix\_39.Simultaneously, the project has provided technical support to all projects, so as to ensure the achievement of their objectives, indicators, counterpart/co-financing. Likewise, training workshops have been held on gender issues and financial education.iii) Regarding environmental incentives for ASGM processing plants, during this period, the project developed a database of 17 mining companies that could qualify for the Green Initiative Distinction for activities that support environmental management. It is an honorary incentive that can be accessed by natural and legal persons from the public and private sector, community or business associations. This is in force, therefore, any interested company can apply and obtain this incentive, provided that it complies with the conditions established for it. In this regard, the project contacted this group of mining companies by telephone, finding that none of them has an interest in obtaining it, which is why it was not possible to collect the documentation for the application. For this reason, it was not possible to support the delivery of this incentive for at least one plant. During this process, the project prepared an infographic that facilitates the socialization of the application particularities for this incentive and, although currently the mineral processing plants do not express interest in obtaining this incentive, the project plans to make on-site visits, once the pandemic conditions allow it, in order to better explain the characteristics and benefits of this incentive. Likewise, the project will explore other tax incentive alternatives that may generate greater interest. Appendix\_40.iv) During this period, the project held several meetings with the PlanetGold Program and made approaches with certifying companies in order to establish the path to achieve that at least one beneficiary of the project can obtain the certification of responsibly produced gold. Thus, the need to carry out a feasibility study for the application of the Fairmined certification model in Ecuador was identified through analysis of the diagnosis, understanding of the possible scenarios and the definition of the implementation roadmap; given that no mining company in Ecuador has this certification. For this reason, the project is currently preparing the terms of reference to move forward with this process. |
| **The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:** | **On track** |
| **Evidence uploaded:** | **YES** |
| **Outcome 4****Component 4: Raise awareness, ensure project monitoring and disseminate project results and experiences.** |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2020** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 11,778 people (3,533 females and 8,245 males) of whom awareness has been raised on the sound management of chemicals. | The project has raised awareness of 0 people on the sound management of chemicals. | Awareness raised of 3,533 people (1,060 female and 2,473 male) on the sound management of chemicals. | Awareness raised of 11,778 people (3,533 female and 8,245 male) on the sound management of chemicals. | End of project target level achieved and exceeded in this reporting period.During the reporting period, 126,612 people (59,452 women and 67,159 men) were educated on the sound management of chemical products, hazardous waste and its risks, through capacity building activities and by implementing the “Allies of the Environment” publicity campaign. Appendix\_6.To achieve this objective, the project contributed to the capacity building of 5,644 people (648 women and 763 men with their families x4) who participated in 45 workshops and trainings aimed at representatives from public institutions and private entities in the country, including: the Ministry of the Environment (MAE), the Ministry of Energy and Non-Renewable Natural Resources (MERNNR), the Ministry of Public Health (MSP), the Phytosanitary Regulation and Control Agency (AGROCALIDAD), the Electricity Regulation and Control Agency (ARCONEL), the Health Regulation, Control and Surveillance Agency, BanEcuador (public bank), the National Electricity Board (CNEL), the Chemical Producers Association of Ecuador (APROQUE), the Crop Protection and Health Industry Association (APCSA), the Chamber of Industry for Innovation and Agricultural Technology (INNOVAGRO), some universities and institutes conducting public and private research, hospitals, environmental management companies and retailers of products containing mercury, in subject matter related to the environmentally-friendly management of chemical substances in their life cycle.In addition, during this period, the project educated 120,968 people (56,861 women and 64,107 men) through the citizen’s awareness campaign called “Allies of the Environment” which aimed to promote and raise awareness of the environmentally sustainable management, use and disposal of pesticides, in target groups identified as agricultural workers and their families, distributors or small agrochemical businesses and pesticide producers, formulators and retailers. The group of beneficiaries is composed as follows: 13,322 people (513 men, 381 women, 1,252 boys and 1,187 girls, with their families x4) participated in training workshops held in 20 cantons nationally, both in schools and agricultural producer associations; and, 107,636 people listened to the radio advert with the campaign’s key message broadcast on 36 radio stations nationally over a two month period (source: Markets and Projects Audience report); in addition the campaign was supported by 98 agrochemical distributors and retailers as well as APCSA and INNOVAGRO, in the distribution of publicity material (posters, t-shirts, caps, etc.) nationally; and 158 digital billboards showing the campaign video, located in banking service agencies (Servipagos), interprovincial bus transportation terminals and MSP health centers around the country. Appendix\_7.The publicity material produced for the campaign, including a video outlining the campaign’s implementation, is stored on the site’s drive as detailed in Appendix\_28.Finally, a quarterly news bulletin has been produced detailing the most relevant results of the Program, with the aim of ensuring that stakeholders are kept informed and strengthening the dissemination of information for the environmentally-friendly management of chemical substances in their life cycle among people that either directly or indirectly participate in the Program’s implementation. The first news bulletin was published in March 2020 and sent to approximately 200 email addresses belonging to individuals who have participated in meetings, workshops, training sessions and other events organized by the Program; the bulletin is accessible on the internet and highlights the most relevant results and figures, including hyperlinks to news stories arising from the Program in external news media. Appendix\_31. | End of project target level achieved and exceeded.During this period, the project implemented two communication campaigns to raise awareness about the rational management of chemicals, hazardous wastes and their risks, mainly using social networks and radio. This shift to virtual channels occurred due to the restrictions imposed by the COVID19 pandemic, which has created the need to review and adapt the methodology for measuring awareness among people for this indicator, in order to obtain objective and realistic data.In this context, the project proposes to manage two types of results that feed this indicator, these are: scope of the campaign and interactions by publication. The following are the results of the activities to raise awareness about the rational management of chemicals, hazardous wastes and their risks implemented during this period:In the second half of 2020, the campaign called “Golden Rules” was implemented, its objective was to promote the application of security measures facing the health emergency in ASGM, which supported the reactivation of this sector. It was implemented in partnership with the Institute of Geological and Energy Research (IIGE) and replicated by the PlanetGold program in Peru. In social media, this campaign had an organic reach on Facebook of 12,000 people, with an average of 10 to 18 interactions per post. On Twitter, it had 4,200 total impressions and 24 interactions per post. It should be noted that the IIGE, in joint work with the project, obtained free spaces for broadcasting on 4 radios in the mining areas of Zaruma and Portovelo, for two months. Appendix\_56.The second campaign, called "Saving the world starts at home," was conceived and implemented in a joint effort with other UNDP projects. Its objective is to promote responsible consumption linked to chemicals and waste purchase and management. Its reach on Facebook is 339.9K and it had 34.1K interactions. Appendix\_53. |
| 29 GEF UNDP M&E requirements met and adaptive management applied in response to needs and Mid-term Evaluation (MTE) findings. | 0 GEF M&E requirements met by the project. | 13 of GEF M&E requirements met and adaptive management applied in response to needs and Mid-term Evaluation (MTE) findings. | 29 of GEF M&E requirements met and adaptive management applied in response to needs and Mid-term Evaluation (MTE) findings. The project team and UNDP CO are able to meet all the GEF M&E requirements and within the time planned. | Midterm target level achieved and exceeded in this reporting period.15 of the GEF M&E requirements were fulfilled, from the start of Program implementation to the current reporting period, through the following activities:- 1 Inception workshop held on November 30, 2018, with the participation of 80 representatives from 43 public institutions and private entities. Appendix\_29- 2 PIR completed and sent: the first for the period from July 2018 to June 2019, and the second for the period from July 2019 to May 2020 (corresponding to this document).- 8 meetings held by the Program’s Steering Committee with their respective meeting minutes recorded. Appendix\_30.- 1 design evaluation and supervision mission on Program implementation carried out by the GEF. Mr. Gabriel Seth Sidman visited the Chemicals Program in Ecuador from 9th to 13th March 2020; the evaluator held meetings with the main parties related to the Program in the city of Quito including: MAE, MERNNR, BCE, ARCOM, IIGE, UNDP and experts that have collaborated with the Program; testimonies were provided in these meetings revealing information related to Program design and implementation, strategic alliances, relevant achievements, challenges, adaptive measures to planning and other issues; it was not possible to continue with the planned mission in intervention areas including Camilo Ponce Enríquez and Zaruma-Portovelo and establish contact with the beneficiaries of component No. 3, because the evaluator received instructions from their head office to suspend activities due to the COVID-19 health emergency declared in Ecuador.- 3 monitoring and supervision missions completed and carried out by the Program team for the following processes: i) updating the inventory of obsolete pesticides in the Tungurahua province in June 2019; ii) storage of obsolete pesticides in TEVCOL and Cripada warehouses, for the process of elimination of obsolete pesticides, holding participative workshops for the funds awarding mechanism and pre-selection of individuals for the “Women Wanting Gold” (Mujeres con voluntad de oro) video in the Guayas and Azuay provinces in August 2019; and iii) disseminating the proposal of environmental incentives for productive sectors aimed at optimizing resources and reducing POP and mercury emissions.It is important to highlight that the Program is planning to carry out the Mid Term Evaluation (MTE), update the GEF follow-up tool at mid term and perform the gender evaluation as part of the MTE in the first quarter of 2021; nevertheless, this could be extended according to UNDP and GEF guidelines. | Midterm target level achieved and exceeded in this reporting period.During this period, 4 GEF M&E requirements were fulfilled, meaning that 19 requirements have been fulfilled since the beginning of the program implementation until this reporting period, through the following activities:- 1 PIR completed and sent corresponding to the third implementation period, from July 2020 to June 2021 (corresponds to this document).- 2 meetings of the Steering Committee of the program held with their respective minutes recorded. Appendix\_41- 1 Mid-term evaluation (MTE) carried out between January 28 and June 21, 2021. To do this, the project updated the GEF monitoring tool for Core Indicators. Appendix\_42. In general, the report presents a rating for the implementation of the project and adaptive management of Satisfactory . Regarding the rating of progress in achieving results, the main objective has a rating of Highly Satisfactory; the development objective related to the ICM is rated Moderately Satisfactory; Outcome/Component 1, and 3 are rated Moderately Satisfactory, Outcome/Component 2 is rated Satisfactory and Outcome/Component 4 is rated Highly Satisfactory. Regarding the Sustainability, the project has a rating of Moderately Likely. According to the evaluator, “during the second stage of implementation, the project faces challenges, some beyond its control, such as the political, economic, social and health instability that the country is going through - and which will continue for several more years-, which has meant the dismissal of numerous public sector officials and that has affected the MAATEC and the MERNNR who are the main implementing partners of the project and that will continue to affect the implementation and achievements of the project” (Leiva 2021,12). Appendix\_43. The Steering Committee analyzed the recommendations and prepared managerial responses Appendix\_58.Moreover, as part of project monitoring, biannual progress reports have been submitted to UNDP, including the monitoring of environmental and social risks. During this period, the most significant risk is associated with the impact of the COVID19 pandemic, which has generated delays in implementation due to mobility difficulties to accompany the implementation of activities and the temporary absence of personnel to recover their health. |
| 28 Case study reports, publications, publications, presentations, (web-based) articles, etc. summarizing lessons-learned, best practices and experiences, disseminated at national, regional and global level. | 0 publications, presentations, (web-based) articles, etc. summarizing lessons-learned, best practices and experiences, disseminated at national, regional and global level. | 10 Case study reports, publications, presentations, (web-based) articles, etc. summarizing lessons-learned, best practices and experiences, disseminated at national, regional and global level. | 28 Case study reports, publications, presentations, (web-based) articles, etc. summarizing lessons-learned, best practices and experiences, disseminated at national, regional and global level. | Midterm target level achieved and exceeded in this reporting period.From the start of Program implementation, 37 publications summarizing achievements, lessons learnt, best practices and experiences from the Program have been shared nationally, regionally and worldwide, these include:- 3 case study reports: i) Integrated and Environmentally Sound Management of PCBs in Ecuador”, which presents a summary of the most relevant achievements of the project as well as the lessons learned, and highlights the experience of the Galapagos Islands to be the first province of Ecuador free of PCB. This was published in the "Sound Chemicals and Waste Management for Sustainable Development" bulletin, pages 13 and 14 of the UNDP. Appendix\_32; ii) Case study of the National Program for the Environmentally-friendly Management of Chemical Substances in their life cycle in Ecuador in the publication entitled “From Words to Action: Projects with Innovative Solutions for Facing Climate Change and Promoting Gender Equality” of WHO Women, UNDP and UNEP, 2020, which presents an analysis of the mainstreaming of the Program’s gender focus. Appendix\_33; and, iii) Case study with a focus on gender, referring to the “Development of a financial product to be used in the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Sector – ASGM” aiming to support improvements in accessing formal financing for the mining population from the areas of Camilo Ponce Enríquez, Zaruma-Portovelo and Chinapintza in Ecuador, which is published on the PlanetGold website. Appendix\_34.- 34 press article publications related to the results and activities implemented by the Program, published in external media such as the Expreso newspaper, El Telégrafo newspaper, Metro Ecuador newspaper, Ekos Sustainable ADN magazine, Ecuador221, Latin Press, Pressreader, Medium.com, Mailchi,mp, Integral Mining Platform, Green Crowds and websites belonging to allied institutions including: MAE, MERNNR, Agrocalidad, UNDP, WHO and PlanetGold. Appendix\_36.The above is a result of the implementation of the publicity plan, developed according to the Program knowledge management strategy (Annex T of the ProDoc). The Program strategy is to generate quality content to be published on digital institutional channels belonging to the key organizations, so that this reaches wide-ranging digital audiences and has greater impact. See Appendix\_37.The additional results obtained due to the implementation of the publicity plan, to date are as follows:- 137 short articles published on social networks: interaction with content on social networks totaling 4177 (average: 31); material shared on social networks: 2800 (average 21); total comments: 141 (average 2). See Appendix\_31.- 1 space on Flickr to store Program photos and videos. See Appendix\_36.- 1 Video called "Women Wanting Gold” (Mujeres con voluntad de oro) posted on YouTube on the UNDP Ecuador channel. See Appendix\_36. | During this period, the project has promoted the publication of achievements, technical products, best practices and lessons learned, achieving a total of 186 publications, which gives a total of 223 publications since the start of implementation, through 21 media outlets. It has achieved an international reach of 25 interactions and a national reach of 198. The featured publications are:• TSA Study: https://www.ec.undp.org/content/ecuador/es/home/library/analisis-tsa-en-el-sector-de-la-mineria-artesanal-y-de-pequena-e.html• Pesticide guide: https://www.ec.undp.org/content/ecuador/es/home/library/guia-para-la-gestion-adecuada-de-plaguicidas.html• UPOPs Guide: https://www.ec.undp.org/content/ecuador/es/home/library/guia-tecnica-de-mejores-practicas-ambientales.html• Products with Mercury Guide: https://www.ec.undp.org/content/ecuador/es/home/library/guia-para-la-gestion-de-productos-con-mercurio-anadido.htmlIn order to support programmatic management, it has been proposed to use communication strategically to promote knowledge, good practices and initiatives that influence the proper management of chemical substances in their life cycle in Ecuador. In order to guarantee the implementation and effectiveness of the proposed communication plan since 2019, an annual online survey was conducted with the participation of key technical staff for the implementation of the project (11 people) belonging to: Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition, IIGE, BCE, UNDP, Innovagro and APCSA. Among the relevant results, it is worth noting that 91% of the target audience considered that the communication was good and very good. Additionally, 82% of the people surveyed mention that they know the results and progress of the PNGQ.However, in the face of the health emergency, communication has acquired greater relevance in the implementation. We face the challenge of maintaining a close relationship, in the midst of a complex context in which there is a lot of noise, several priorities and physical distancing, which impacts on the commitment and sense of belonging of key actors for the implementation of the proposal. Therefore, apart from involving them efficiently in the processes being carried out and having a close technical follow-up, we must support them through communication with tools to remind them of the work being done, the role of the parties and the commitments assumed, as well as gathering valid information and sharing experiences that allow us to recognize the work done by the parties and make it visible. |
| **The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:** | **On track** |
| **Evidence uploaded:** | **YES** |

# Implementation Progress



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| Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc): | 46.34% |
| Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year: | 51.4% |
| Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June: | 3,934,518 |

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| **Key Financing Amounts** |
| PPG Amount | 200,000 |
| GEF Grant Amount | 8,490,000 |
| Co-financing | 40,571,428 |

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| **Key Project Dates** |
| PIF Approval Date | Apr 19, 2016 |
| CEO Endorsement Date | Nov 6, 2017 |
| Project Document Signature Date (project start date): | Mar 23, 2018 |
| Date of Inception Workshop | Dec 3, 2018 |
| First Disbursement Date | May 11, 2018 |
| Expected Date of Mid-term Review | May 6, 2021 |
| Actual Date of Mid-term Review | May 17, 2021 |
| Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation | Dec 23, 2022 |
| Original Planned Closing Date | Mar 23, 2023 |
| Revised Planned Closing Date | *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2020 to 1 July 2021)** |
| 2020-12-16 |
| 2021-06-16 |

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| **Project Manager: Please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones outlined in the above 'Key Project Dates' table. Include comments on COVID-19 related challenges, delays and impact. If there are no delays, please indicated 'not applicable'.** |
| During this period, the mid-term evaluation was carried out virtually due to the permanence of the COVID19 pandemic. Although the evaluation addressed all the issues that are expected from this type of process, the virtuality limited the evaluator's full knowledge of the progress of the project within the contractually established deadlines. For this reason, it was necessary to make term extensions to the contract in order to deepen explanations and means of verification. Therefore, the contract, which initially had a duration of 45 effective days in a period of 90 calendar days (according to the terms of reference), now has a (real) duration of 142 calendar days, that is, 52 days more than initially established. As of the date of this report, the MTE report has been finalized and approved by the Steering Committee.On the other hand, during this period the implementation of the project has been carried out in the context of the COVID19 pandemic, which, added to the political and institutional instability of the country, has resulted in the merger of ministries (MAE with SENAGUA and the Ministry of Hydrocarbons with Mines and Electricity in 2018), changes of authorities at the level of ministers in the MAATEC and the MERNNR, and the reduction of personnel, mainly in the MAATEC.These conditions have led to inefficient coordination of activities between the partners and the program, mainly affecting the achievement of milestones related to: i) the establishment of the interinstitutional coordination mechanism; ii) the signing of the agreement between BanEcuador and Banco Central del Ecuador to provide loans to the mining sector; and, iii) the issuance of three ministerial agreements for environmental incentives, incineration and safety cells for hazardous waste, respectively. The proposals of the first two have been developed since the previous period and the proposals for ministerial agreements have been developed during this period without achieving their officialization.In this context, the Program has reported a Low risk in previous reports; however, due to the limitations resulting from the pandemic, as well as the political and administrative instability of state institutions in Ecuador, the risk is reported as Moderate in this report.Finally, for the second period (2021-2023) of implementation of the Chemicals Program, the suggestions of the Mid-term evaluation that ended on 21/06/2021 will be incorporated.1) Current Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition (MAATEC) |

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| **CO Programme Officer: Please include specific measures to manage the project's implementation performance** |
| While the Project has managed to meet or exceed most of its mid-term goals and has reached some of its ultimate goals, during this period there have been many delays, mainly due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the political instability of the country, having 8 Ministers of Environment since the start of the project, jeopardizing the good performance achieved to date, during the second part of the implementation. Some examples that can be named of delays in implementation are:• The operationalization of the interinstitutional coordination mechanism, which has not been achieved due to the lack of ownership by the authorities to hold the initial meeting of this committee, created in the Organic Environmental Code.• The financing mechanism for artisanal and small miners from the two public banks, which during the time of the pandemic have had other priorities.• The initiation of the mineral sales strategy, which involves the strengthening of processing plants and private laboratories and which has needed to be revised on several occasions because the pandemic has caused plant owners to change their minds about their participation. Added to this is the time it has taken to carry out due diligence processes with the plants that have finally joined the strategy.However, as Development Progress shows, the country office has supported the Program’s implementation in a timely manner, in terms of acquisitions, administrative and financial processes, in conjunction with the Program Coordinator and their team of professionals.All Project Outcomes are on track and Project Coordinator, Partners and CO are now working on strategies to boost project´s implementation in its second half, in order to achieve the remaining end of project targets. |

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| **NCE RTA: Please include specific measures to manage the project's implementation performance.** |
| The project is slightly behind schedule mainly due to 3 reasons.1) The late startup of project implementation at the ourset of the project implementation.2) The institutional instability which is reflected by the high turnover of staff, Directors and Ministers in the key Ministries, and3) the COVID19 pandemic.Despite those challenges, the project has managed to advance very well with the implementation and the annual implementation rates in this and the previous reporting periods has been at an acceptable level.The Mid Term Review was successfully conducted virtually this year. It took much longer than anticipated to finalize the process but this was mainly due to external factors. It is important to note that the project has met or exceeded most of its mid-term goals, and in some cases already met the targets for the full project.The high turnover in the Ministries combined with the COVID19 pandemic has led to delays in the establishment of the interministerial coordination mechanism. The aim is to achieve this in the upcoming period.The financing mechanism was developed prior to the pandemic and about to be tested when the pandemic started. This work will continue once the pandemic permits it.The project team is receiving strong support from UNDP Ecuador with the implementation of the project. UNDP Ecuador provides execution support while the government is taking all the decisions. This model has proven very effective for this project.The project implementation is clearly on track. |

# Project Governance

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| **Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021). Please also upload all meeting minutes using the FILE LIBRARY button.** |
| 2020-12-16 |
| 2021-06-16 |

# Ratings and Overall Assessments

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| **Role** | **2021 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2021 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP-NCE Technical Adviser** | Satisfactory | Satisfactory |
| **UNDP Country Office Programme Officer** | Satisfactory | Satisfactory |

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| **Role** | **2021 Overall Assessment** |
| **UNDP-NCE Technical Adviser** | This is the third full year of implementation of the Chemicals and Waste project in Ecuador, and it must be considered a good year taking into consideration all the challenges related to the COVID19, lockdown and associated challenges the country has been facing. The DO rating of this project is “Satisfactory” which is in line with the assessment of UNDP Ecuador as well as the other entities that have rated the project in this reporting period. The IP rating is also “Satisfactory” which is also in line with the assessment of UNDP Ecuador. The project is on track to achieve all of its targets and outcomes. Additionally, the financial disbursements have been at approximately 1.5 m US$ in the reporting period which is satisfactory considering the challenges the COVID19 has put on the country. There has also been a high turnover of staff in the key ministries and finally a general election with change in government, which has led to additional delays and complications with the implementation of the project.The project team has acted swiftly with the adaptive management during the pandemic to mitigate the effect of the lockdown, restrictions in movement and associated limitations to the project implementation. The project team has implemented a strategy to implement meetings virtually via all the platforms that UNDP is providing for the project execution. There has an effort to carefully assess what activities can be carried out and how. This means that some activities that were programmed for later years have been advanced, and others have been put on hold for the time being. In general, the advances have been impressive. This is a good example of adaptive project management.The project conducted the Mid Term Review in the reporting period and the result was satisfactory. This was expected as the implementation of the project has been strong so far. The project has met and surpassed 13 out of 14 targets set for the MTR and even achieved 7 of the end-of-project targets. The main challenge is related to the high turnover of staff in the involved public institutions, and this is affecting the institutionalization of the results of the project. There has been a change in the Minister of Environment 7 times since the beginning of the implementation and there has been subsequent changes at the Director level each time. The project team and UNDP has invested many resources in bringing the new government staff up to date on the implementation and to assure the full ownership of the government of the project. This was listed in the Mid Term Review.The project implementation has been good both in the reporting period and with the cumulative results that have been achieved as of today. The following sections provide an overview of the specific achievements.Overall projectThe project reported in the previous period the completion of the development of the 4 mechanisms for sustainable management solutions for natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste at the national level, which is beyond the MTR target. Currently, the competitive funds mechanism (CFM) is in full implementation and the three remaining mechanisms are on track with their implementation (interinstitutional coordination mechanism (ICM), financial product for artisanal and small-scale mining (ASGM) of gold and environmental incentives).171 new jobs (85 for women and 86 for men) has been created during the implementation of the project, which surpasses the end of project target of 80. 65 new jobs created through solutions for the proper management of chemicals and waste were created during the reporting period. The cumulative total includes 139 jobs created through consulting work (these are not permanent jobs) for the project (58 for women and 81 for men) and 32 jobs (27 for women and 5 for men) created through the implementation of the competitive funds mechanism's projects.4,144 direct beneficiaries of the project's implementation were added in the current reporting year (2,274 women and 1,870 men). The actions taken help reduce their risk of exposure to hazardous chemicals. Totally, there have been a total of 131,391 beneficiaries (61895 women and 69496 men) from the project activities.Component 1:4 financial and capacity building plans have been developed and implemented and the capacity of 18 private or public entities has increased to enable them to address chemicals of concern and thereby has reached the end-of-project target. The implementation of two capacity development plans for POPs and Hg and its two financial plans was completed during this reporting period. It is worth highlighting that an online course on the Stockholm and Minamata Conventions was implemented, which included the participation of 18 public institutions, 174 public officials, of which 95 women and 79 men, completed the 10-hour course.12 proposals for policies, regulations and standards have been developed and submitted to the national environmental authority for consideration to improve the environmentally sound management of chemical substances in their life cycle. The midterm target of 5 was already surpassed and the project is well on target to reach the planned number of 16. Five technical guides were developed, approved, and disseminated in coordination with the national environmental authority to manage the life cycle of chemical products in the reporting period. Three additional proposals for ministerial agreements were developed and are currently under legal review prior to their officialization.Component 2146 tons of obsolete POPs and UPOPs pesticides have been properly disposed of as compared to the end of project target of 120 MT. The inventory of mixed POPs and obsolete pesticides came from the inventory carried out by Agrocalidad, APCSA and INNOVAGRO to distribution companies in 2017. 73 MT of Obsolete Pesticides mixed with POPs were disponed of in the reporting period. Most it was disposed of locally and 22.44 tons of waste was exported to Veolia's Valorec plant in Switzerland for final disposal. The project has demonstrated the collection, transportation, recycling and disposal capacity of empty containers by 59 MT.7.14 g-TEQ/year of UPOPs release has been reduced in the subcategory of biomass burning during the reporting period. This brings the cumulative UPOPs release reduction up to a total of 12.14 g-TEQ/year, which is beyond the target of the Midterm Review of 5 g-TEQ/year and half way to achieve the end of project target. The reductions come from the subcategory of waste burning and forest fires. It should be noted that the recommendations of the BEP/BAT guide are currently being implemented in the two selected sites (Amazon without Fire Project and La Libertad Municipality).There have been no new POPs use and release reduction achieved at this point and that was not expected either. The implementation of this indicator progresses according to plan. The project has developed a strategy that outlines the actions carried out until now and has identified those actions necessary to achieve the project goal of reducing the use and waste of 30 tons of new POPs during the second phase of project implementation.Component 3:397.01 kg/year of mercury was reduced in Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) Sector, and a cumulative reduction of 754.61 kg of mercury in ASGM has been achieved at a non-industrial level. The quantification of reduced mercury is an estimate based on the implementation of the gold supply chain and commercialization strategy, that is carried out by the project team with the mineral processing plants, mineral laboratories and artisanal miners. The is well beyond the Midterm target of 500 kg of Kg reduced.A total quantity of 3.92 kg of mercury release reduced or avoided in priority sectors other than ASGM has been achieved. However, in this period no new contributions have been made to reduce further mercury in products. This is below the midterm target of 10 kg reduced/avoided. This is mainly due to the fact that the mercury content in e.g. fluorescent lamps is lower than anticipated. The expected quantity of was dealt with, but with a lower mercury content. This trend will continue as newer technologies like LED lamps do not contain mercury and they are getting increasingly popular. It is therefore likely that the project will not achieve the target of this indicator by the end of the project.Two financial products were developed and are in implementation to increase access to finance for ASGM sector. Currently, one financial product designed to grant credits to the mining population is underway for its operation and one competitive fund mechanism is in full implementation. The two mechanisms make it possible to improve access to financing for the ASGM sector. The loan application was ready to be tested before the pandemic but was delayed due to the lockdowns and slowdowns in the local and global economy. Hopefully, it can be re-activated soon. BCE and BanEcuador have played an important role in the development of the financial mechanism and can assure the long-term sustainability of the measure.The ASGM component of this project has been adopted under the Global PlanetGOLD umbrella and is providing information to the global Knowledge Management component of PlanetGOLD that is led by UNEP. At the global level, the Ecuador project is considered the most successful ASGM project of the 9 participating countries and the other 8 countries are learning valuable lessons from the project in Ecuador.Component 4The project has implemented two communication campaigns to raise awareness about the rational management of chemicals, hazardous wastes and their risks, mainly using social networks and radio. The shift to virtual channels occurred due to the restrictions imposed by the COVID19 pandemic, which has created the need to review and adapt the methodology for measuring awareness among people for this indicator, in order to obtain objective and realistic data. The midterm target has been achieved.The campaign called “Golden Rules” was implemented in the second half of 2020 with the objective to promote the application of security measures facing the health emergency in the ASGM sector due to the pandemic. This sector is key for the reactivation of the economy in Ecuador. It was implemented in partnership with the Institute of Geological and Energy Research (IIGE) and replicated by the PlanetGold program in Peru. In social media, this campaign had an organic reach on Facebook of 12,000 people, with an average of 10 to 18 interactions per postFour GEF M&E requirements were fulfilled during the reporting period, meaning that 19 requirements have been fulfilled since the beginning of the program implementation until this reporting period, in line with the original planning. The project consists of a strong communication and M&E team that is complementing the implementation of the project very well.The mobilized co-finance is being implemented effectively in the project and in line with the original planning. The project has put a strong emphasis on gender mainstreaming for all the activities in the project.Changes du to Covid19:For the time being, the original project strategy is being pursued and no major or minor changes have been made to the strategy. The only adjustment has been with the timing of some activities. This will not affect the project objective, outputs and outcomes, and the project is still well on track to achieve everything. The project is being implemented in accordance with the approved ProDoc and both DPC and PMU costs are being kept within the approved levels. The project has adopted a strong virtual strategy to be able to operate and reach people during the pandemic. This project can be considered a very good example of how projects can be successfully implemented even under more challenging circumstances when adaptive management is applied intelligently. |
| **UNDP Country Office Programme Officer** | The rating for the development of objectives in this period is Satisfactory (S), 13 of the 14 mid-term indicators have been met, 7 of these indicators already reach the end of the project goal. This demonstrates the effectiveness of the proposed actions and the coordinated work of the project with its partners so that the benefits are magnified and reach more people with an effective use of resources. The project kept up the good levels of development of its activities, even with the great challenges that have arisen, not only because of the global health emergency, but also because of the lack of political stability in the country and the high turnover of personnel and authorities in the project's partner institutions. This shows a very good adaptability to change and the development of strategies that allow execution in short times and complex situations.However, the second half of the project implementation phase presents several difficult challenges to overcome. First of all, the health emergency has diminished the capacity of all projects to develop all the necessary actions to meet their objectives and to generate a positive and definitive change, and this one is no exception. Secondly, the project will continue to face political problems and the limited responsiveness of the national authorities. For this reason, the project has already started to work on an implementation strategy for the remaining effective time; however, one of the possible conclusions of this strategy, which will be discussed with the steering committee, is a request for a time extension that will allow to properly complete all the initiated activities and guarantee the sustainability of the key actions.Regarding the progress in the implementation of the project, it is Satisfactory (S). This is demonstrated by the execution achieved in 2020, which amounted to USD 1,437,222.51, representing 96% of what was planned for the year. Although so far it has been possible to have a very effective implementation, due to external factors, the project has suffered delays that will become evident later and for which mitigation measures are already being taken.It is important to mention that during this period the project carried out its mid-term evaluation. This was an exercise carried out completely in a virtual way and it was possible to interview a very high number of partners and beneficiaries (73 interviews). The results of the evaluation were widely discussed with the evaluator, steering committee and UNDP Regional Office in Panama, because it was identified that the project implementation phase was evaluated based on what the consultant/evaluator considered that the design should have been and not based on actual achievements. The consequence is that all members of the steering committee disagree with the rather low evaluation results of a project that is considered to be effective and satisfactory.The project does not present critical risks. Like most GEF/UNDP projects in the chemicals and waste portfolio, its implementation, in itself, is a mitigation measure since the objective is to protect human health and avoid environmental contamination. However, it is important to note that the global health emergency and the limitations that countries have had on mobility and commuting have represented significant delays and will continue to do so in the near future. This is a substantial risk that, as the main consequence, has made the project have to plan its Annual Work Plan around what was allowed/possible and not based on what is necessary. Consequently, not all activities that would have been possible, under normal conditions, have been included for implementation. Until the reporting period, the project has been working with the Pandemic constraints for 53% of the effective time it has had to implement and the main consequence is that the cumulative execution (45.38%) is below what should be achieved to date.Regarding the project's progress in mainstreaming the gender approach, the project has been extremely efficient and has achieved very important advances, especially in the mining, agricultural and grassroots recycling sectors. With women miners, it has been possible to execute projects, through the competitive funds mechanism, which are giving very good results, not only in reducing the use of mercury (192Kg/year), but also in implementing new life alternatives that are better for their economy and health. Furthermore, there are very good possibilities for the sustainability of these initiatives. With the agriculture sector and grassroots recyclers, work has been done to train and strengthen women, achieving important progress in the continuity of the work that these women develop and reducing the risk of exposure to dangerous chemical substances.From the CO we encourage all main parties involved in the Program to maintain their interest and participation in order to achieve the project goals. The CO is decided to make all efforts necessary to motivate the Program team to adopt an adaptative focus to handle the dynamics of implementation, even more so now with the changing conditions exacerbated by the uncertainty generated by the health emergency. The CO also supports the adoption of flexible measures enabling progress in project implementation. |
| **Project Manager/Coordinator** | For DO progress, the rating for this reporting period is Satisfactory (S). The third year of Program implementation has been successful, due to having fulfilled all planned activities allowing for quality products to be generated. As a result, during this period the Program managed to achieve, and in some cases exceed, the majority of its mid-term targets. In relation to targets that have not yet been met, the Program is working on the activities necessary to meet these so that they are achieved prior to the end of the project evaluation. For the above reasons, my evaluation is SATISFACTORY (S).The progress of the project is in accordance with what is determined in the Prodoc and its annexes. There have been various complications in the implementation of actions in 2020-2021, mainly due to the instability and institutional weakening of the state portfolios with which the program works, where there have been merger processes, which included a reduction in staff in a generalized manner. This situation has been aggravated by the restrictions of the pandemic, which despite the fact that the program moved all its activities to virtual modalities, the results have not been as expected. The Program does a lot of field work; therefore, empowerment and sustainability actions are vital to be worked on in the remaining years of implementation.As part of the fulfillment of the project's general objective, the following is reported:65 new jobs created through solutions for the proper management of chemicals and waste were accounted for, thus reaching a cumulative total of 171 new jobs (85 for women and 86 for men) created during the implementation of the project.Furthermore, during this period, 4,144 direct beneficiaries of the project's implementation were added (2,274 women and 1,870 men).Component 1:An online course on the Stockholm and Minamata Conventions was implemented, which included the participation of 18 public institutions, 174 public officials, of which 95 women and 79 men, completed the 10-hour course. Moreover, eight (8) universities in the country were strengthened through the training of 193 university students and teachers (126 women and 67 men) from environmental management-related careers, who completed the 60-hour course. Currently, the program is virtualizing the course on the MAATEC environmental education platform.Regarding the increase in capacities of the laboratory of the Geological and Energy Research Institute, there is a technical report regarding the execution of the inter-institutional cooperation agreement between MAATEC and MERNNR that was signed in November 2019. This report states that there is an approximate 20% increase in the analytical capacity to carry out the tests for the determination of mercury.Also, during this period, the evaluation of POPs analytical laboratories was completed. In May 2021, the INAMHI laboratory, attached to the MAATEC, signed a Memorandum of Understanding to work on Dioxins and Furans as pilot processes.During this period, four (4) technical guides were developed, approved and disseminated in coordination with the national environmental authority in order to manage the life cycle of chemical products. Furthermore, three (3) proposals for ministerial agreements were developed and are currently under legal revision prior to their officialization.Component 2:During this period, the first phase of elimination of obsolete pesticides was completed, with a total of 73 tons eliminated. Eliminating a total of 146 tons and exceeding the program goal of 120 tons.Regarding the cleanup of at least one (1) site contaminated with pesticides, during this period the project carried out field analysis in four (4) sites, in none of which contamination was identified.Regarding the goal of increasing the collection, transportation, recycling and disposal of empty pesticide containers by 90 tons, during this period an increase of 59 tons has been demonstrated.During this period, 7.14 g-TEQ/year of UPOPs release has been reduced in the subcategory of waste burning and forest fires, bringing the cumulative total to 12.14 g-TEQ of UPOPs release added to that reported in the previous year's report. The recommendations of the BEP/BAT guide are currently being implemented in the two selected sites (Amazon without Fire Project and La Libertad Municipality).The project developed a strategy that outlines the actions carried out up to this period and identifies those necessary to achieve the goal of reducing the use and waste generation of 30 tons of new POPs during the second phase of project implementation. The program's mid-term goal is 0 reduced tons.Component 3:During this period, 397.01 kg/year of mercury was reduced in ASM, at a non-industrial level, therefore, the project has achieved a cumulative reduction of 754.61 kg of mercury in ASM, at a non-industrial level. The mineral sales strategy will be strengthened through pilots in 2021 where selected plants and laboratories participate, and will be supported by a communication campaign.The project is implementing the venture called "Strengthening the food security of the families of the Jancheras Unión y Progreso Association and capacity building to promote associative entrepreneurships" through the competitive fund mechanism. It directly benefits 19 women and 2 men dedicated to jancheo. This initiative, in addition to encouraging the change of productive activity, allows to reach the beneficiaries with training activities related to ASM. Work with Jancheras will continue to be strengthened through CFM projects, as well as new inclusion proposals.During this period, the amount of 3.92 kg of mercury release reduced or avoided in priority sectors, other than ASGM, is maintained, that is, in this period no new contributions have been made to feed this indicator. The challenge facing this indicator is that the amount of mercury contained in products is minimal, which is why it was necessary to identify several lines of action to achieve the goal. For this reason, the project developed a strategy that integrates the actions carried out up to this period with those necessary to reach the global goal of 175 kg of mercury, which includes a strategy of extended producer responsibility for disused luminaires, the elimination of the remaining Hg products in the health sector, and work with COMEX for regularization and tariff measures.Component 4:During this period, the project implemented two communication campaigns to raise awareness about the rational management of chemicals, hazardous wastes and their risks, mainly using social networks and radio. This shift to virtual channels occurred due to the restrictions imposed by the COVID19 pandemic.In the second half of 2020, the campaign called “Golden Rules” was implemented, its objective was to promote the application of security measures facing the health emergency in ASGM. In social media, this campaign had an organic reach on Facebook of 12,000 people, with an average of 10 to 18 interactions per post. On Twitter, it had 4,200 total impressions and 24 interactions per post. It should be noted that the IIGE, in joint work with the project, obtained free spaces for broadcasting on 4 radios in the mining areas of Zaruma and Portovelo, for two months.The second campaign, called "Saving the world starts at home," was conceived and implemented in a joint effort with other UNDP projects. Its objective is to promote responsible consumption linked to chemicals and waste purchase and management. Its reach on Facebook is 339.9K and it had 34.1K interactions.Finally, regarding the MTE:During this period, 4 GEF M&E requirements were fulfilled, meaning that 19 requirements have been fulfilled since the beginning of the program implementation until this reporting period, through the following activities:- 1 PIR completed and sent corresponding to the third implementation period, from July 2020 to June 2021 (corresponds to this document).- 2 meetings of the Steering Committee of the program held with their respective minutes recorded.- 1 Mid-term evaluation (MTE) carried out between January 28 and June 21, 2021.To do this, the project updated the GEF monitoring tool for Core Indicators. In general, the report presents a rating for the implementation of the project and adaptive management of Moderately Satisfactory. Regarding the rating of progress in achieving results, the main objective has a rating of Highly Satisfactory; the development objective related to the ICM is rated Moderately Satisfactory; Outcome/Component 1, 2, and 3 are rated Moderately Satisfactory and Outcome/Component 4 is rated Highly Satisfactory. Regarding the Sustainability, the project has a rating of Moderately Probable. According to the evaluator, “during the second stage of implementation, the project faces challenges, some beyond its control, such as the political, economic, social and health instability that the country is going through - and which will continue for several more years-, which has meant the dismissal of numerous public sector officials and that has affected the MAATEC and the MERNNR who are the main implementing partners of the project and that will continue to affect the implementation and achievements of the project” (Leiva 2021,12). The Steering Committee analyzed the recommendations and prepared managerial responses.There are two immediate actions that will be carried out in the second stage of the program, based on the recommendations of the MTE: 1) the development of SMART indicators and an implementation strategy to achieve the objectives of the program, and 2) development of a strategy for knowledge management that includes work guidelines with stakeholders and sustainability measures. |
| **GEF Operational Focal point** | During the reported period, the coordination and implementation actions of the National Chemical Management Program (PNGQ) have been Satisfactory (S), and are aligned with the objectives of its implementing partners: Ministry of the Environment, Water and Ecological Transition (MAATEC) and the Ministry of Energy and Non-Renewable Natural Resources (MERNNR).As the GEF focal point in Ecuador and knowing that the main objective of the Project is to protect human health and the environment from the risks caused by hazardous chemicals, I consider it important to mention that the results of the Project implementation are satisfactory because they have proven to achieve the mid-term goal of 12 indicators out of a total of 14 indicators; all activities are aimed at achieving the project objectives.It should be noted that the program's contribution to institutional management for environmental control is significant, because its results increase institutional capacity, not only of the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition, but also of partner institutions. The implementation of capacity building plans for the Stockholm (Persistent Organic Pollutants - POPs -) and Minamata (Mercury - Hg -) Conventions, which have strengthened the capacities of 18 government institutions and more than 350 public officials, is noteworthy. Similarly, institutional management is strengthened through the participatory development of technical guides and proposals for ministerial agreements for an Ecuadorian environmental recognition that encourages the reduction of POPs, incineration and security cells for hazardous waste.At the international level, the project and its partners have been present virtually at events related to chemicals and hazardous wastes, due to the restrictions generated by the COVID19 pandemic. It is worth highlighting the exchange of experiences, good practices and lessons learned with similar projects at the regional level within the framework of the PlanetGold program. In this event, a representative of the Central Bank of Ecuador also participated to publicize the management of the commercialization of gold for national reserves and its support to the artisanal and small-scale mining sector.Regarding risk management, the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition, in its role as GEF focal point, permanently monitors the projects through periodic reports, besides participating in project steering committee meetings. During this period, the impacts generated by the COVID-19 pandemic, which was identified in the previous period as a risk by the project, have been generally experienced. Faced with this situation, the project has taken mitigation measures that include making adjustments to the annual operational planning and adopting new "online" actions to maintain contact and coordinate with partners. The challenge is to achieve the inclusion of the interlocutors located geographically in localities with limited internet connection. The mitigation measure proposed by the project is to develop a strategy to approach stakeholders so that they are always informed and to promote two-way communication.Finally, the budget execution for 2020 was satisfactory, reaching 96%. For the year 2021, the effective execution of the Project, until the end of the reporting period, reaches a relatively low percentage for the reporting month, considering that the effects of the restrictions generated by the pandemic are still being experienced. In this regard, the project will reformulate the planning for the second semester of the year in order to accelerate the implementation, applying a priority approach and identifying those products that can be developed simultaneously.It is important to mention that the participation of the GEF Operational Focal Point (OFP) in the Project has been well received and coordinated. The participation of the OFP in the steering committees and milestone events of the Project, such as the mid-term evaluation carried out in the first semester of 2020, has had a positive impact on the monitoring of activities aligned with the GEF guidelines and the government priorities. |
| **Project Implementing Partner** | The National Program for Environmentally Appropriate Management and Life Cycle Management of Chemical Substances in its third year of implementation presents satisfactory results, even under adverse conditions generated by the COVID19 pandemic and the institutional instability of the country; It is possible to qualify the progress of the project as Satisfactory (S), given that the implementation has not stopped, the accumulated financial execution is adequate and the achievement of the indicators and its goals is aimed to be achieved until the end of the project.The contribution of the program to the institutional management of the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition is significant, highlighting, in this period, the following contributions:1. Institutional capacities were strengthened through a virtual program on the Stockholm and Minamata conventions, the content of which will be incorporated into the MAATEC environmental education platform.2. Institutional capacity of INAMHI attached to MATEC is being strengthened to work on Dioxin and Furan issues as pilot processes.3. Generation of four (4) technical guides, which were developed, approved and disseminated in coordination with the national environmental authority in order to manage the life cycle of chemical products.4. Developed three (3) proposals for ministerial agreements that are currently under legal review prior to their formalization.On the other hand, it has provided support by the project in actions against the authorities to achieve common goals among Institutions, such as the Environmental Quality Committee, which has been little visualized due to certain institutional instability for which it has the country has passed since 2019, to which is added the effects of the pandemic restrictions.Finally, waiting for better results regarding the management of the pandemic and state stability, it is expected to continue the project, reaching the objectives and goals initially proposed, thereby supporting the management that as a National Environmental Authority is evidenced in the territory national regarding environmentally sound management throughout the life cycle of chemical substances. |
| **Other Partners** | *(not set or not applicable)* |

# Gender

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

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

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

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| **2) Please indicate in which results areas the project is contributing to gender equality (you may select more than one results area, or select not applicable):** |
| Contributing to closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources: No |
| Improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance: No |
| Targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women: Yes |
| Not applicable: No |

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| **3) Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women.****Please explain how the results reported addressed the different needs of men or women, changed norms, values, and power structures, and/or contributed to transforming or challenging gender inequalities and discrimination.** |
| During this period, in line with the gender strategy and its action plan, the project prioritized support to women's associations linked to the mining industry for their application to the competitive funds mechanism and support during the implementation of their initiatives. Additionally, it prioritized capacity building by incorporating gender modules, the application of gender-sensitive communication and collection of sex-disaggregated data with differentiated impacts.As in the previous period, the program incorporated gender mainstreaming in all processes. The outcomes achieved in this reporting period are:- 19 women and 2 men are directly benefiting from the implementation of the project &quot;Strengthening the food security of the families of the Jancheras Unión y Progreso Association and capacity building to promote associative entrepreneurships.&quot; This project was submitted by the Heifer Foundation and the Jancheras Unión y Progreso Association (AJUP) of the Camilo Ponce Enríquez canton. It began its implementation in July, 2020 and its objective is to strengthen the food security of the association's families and support capacity building to promote associative entrepreneurships. With the support of Fundación Heifer, it has been possible to consolidate this interest group, which are dedicated to the raising and sale of broilers and demonstrative agro-ecological practices in the communal garden installed on land provided by the cantonal GAD, for the period of two years until July, 2022. During this period, six field schools (ECA) have been established for agro-ecological learning and practice, which have also become spaces for awareness and mutual solidarity. We believe that these actions have raised awareness of the need to care for nature and their health, so that these people no longer process their minerals, but sell them to mills or traders and, consequently, they are no longer using mercury. Therefore, the benefits generated through this initiative include, on the one hand, the reduction of the risk of exposure to hazardous chemicals such as mercury and, on the other hand, the diversification of productive activities that nourish their family economy while reducing their dependence on mining. See Appendix\_30 and 38.- 9 women and 4 men are directly benefiting from the implementation of the project &quot;Application of goldsmithing in the artisanal mining sector of the Portovelo canton located in the province of El Oro&quot;: this project was submitted by the Goldsmith Association of El Oro in partnership with the provincial government of El Oro and has the strategic support of APROPLASMIN. Its implementation began in September, 2020 and its objective is to contribute to the improvement of income and well-being of the families of artisanal miners in the Portovelo canton through the implementation of a goldsmith business with the use of the raw material of artisanal miners. The benefits generated through this initiative include, on the one hand, improved access to ASGM financing for excluded groups linked to ASGM and, on the other hand, the empowerment of the women who are carrying it out. Being a recently created association, they still lack the experience and technical leadership to lead the entrepreneurship, for this reason, the project is strengthening their capacities to meet this need. See Appendix\_39.- 18 women and 19 men with strengthened capacities for their work as experts in mining activities and trainers with a gender focus. They are employees of the Institute of Geological and Energy Research, the Ministry of Energy and Non-Renewable Natural Resources, the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition, and the Central Bank of Ecuador. These people completed the &quot; Training Trainers&quot; program, which included 7 technical modules and transversally incorporated gender sensitization concepts and activities, developed specifically for this highly masculinized sector. With the support of this group of people, the project plans to replicate it in the project intervention areas, with a view to reaching the goal of 350 trained miners. See Appendix\_29.- 95 women and 79 men with strengthened capacities for their work as experts in the implementation of the Stockholm and Minamata conventions. Similarly, 126 women and 67 men strengthened their knowledge as teachers and university students on this subject. The training program included a gender sensitization module, with basic concepts, case studies and incorporation of the gender approach in projects and public policy. The developed content will be uploaded to the MAATEC environmental education platform, for its replicability. See Appendix\_7.- 95 women and 242 men are the population directly exposed to the risk of obsolete pesticides in agrochemical stores nationwide. According to the data collected in the update of the obsolete pesticide inventory carried out by the program in 2019, there are a total of 2,725 people who work in agrochemical stores, 924 of whom are women and 1801 are men; of this universe, only 95 women and 242 men have obsolete pesticide residues in their stores, which represent a risk to their health and the environment; These hazardous wastes were collected and disposed of by the program in this period, directly benefiting this group of people.- 1 video called &quot;Alternatives to chemical contamination&quot; was produced, as part of the project carried out by the Jancheras Unión y Progreso Association. This video shows the progressive change in the activity of the jancheras. This video is part of a series that the project is producing, which highlights the participation of women. Available at the following link: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1RSKXeeg3mg5YxMqk7iDH9kGuFLq0UGXY?usp=sharing- 60 women and 14 men were sensitized on the topic of &quot;Gender, environment and development&quot; through two virtual workshops. These people are the direct beneficiaries of the implementation of the five projects of the competitive funds mechanism and of the two projects for the implementation of BEP/BAT to reduce the release of UPOPs. In this space there was also an exchange of experiences between project implementers and beneficiaries, which enriched the contents.- 50 additional Janchera women will benefit through the process of designing and implementing a strategy to improve the technical, environmental and social conditions of the mineral selection activity (Jancheo). This process began in May, 2021 and is expected to be completed in the second half of 2021. Its purpose is to generate an update of the diagnostic document of the mineral selection activity (Jancheo) developed by groups of women located in the Camilo Ponce Enriquez canton, Azuay province, as well as the design and implementation of the strategy and short-term action plan in order to contribute to the improvement of their technical, environmental and social conditions.- 14 case reports with a gender focus prepared for each of the studies and consultancies carried out by the program in this period.In the next period, the program will continue to incorporate the gender approach based on its strategy, trying also to find new opportunities that will be identified throughout the implementation. |

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| **4) Please describe how work to advance gender equality and women's empowerment enhanced the project's environmental and/or resilience outcomes.** |
| The progress made during the third reporting period, which is described in the previous item, contributes to achieving gender equality and the economic empowerment of women in the program intervention area, improving sustainability of actions and the environmental and/or resilience outcome of the project, as follows:Outcome / Component 1: A step that increasingly brings us closer to gender equality is the recognition of the differences that take place in the daily lives of men and women in the context of the life-cycle management of chemical substances, which lead to an awareness that motivates us to change behaviors and discourses. With this premise, the project has promoted the incorporation of gender-specific modules in all the training workshops implemented during this period. These contents were developed by gender experts and validated by the UNDP; therefore, the approach was directed to achieve equality and promote the empowerment of women in this sector, and included the importance of incorporating the gender approach in investment projects and public policies.Outcome/Component 2: This outcome seeks to eliminate the stock of POPs, reduce the use and release of initial POPs and of those recently listed (including those contained in the products) and clean up or remediation of at least one (1) POPs/UPOPs contaminated site. In this context, the incorporation of the gender equality approach resulted in a database with sex-disaggregated information about the affected population, which enables to make decisions and easily identify the beneficiaries of future actions of the program.Outcome / Component 3: The main objective of this component is to reduce by 2 tons the use of mercury in the ASGM and other sectors, which is possible thanks to the implementation of the gold trading and supply chain strategy and the contribution of the jancheras ladies who are implementing an entrepreneurship initiative related to food safety, supported through the competitive funds mechanism. The participation of miners and miners, as well as mineral plants and laboratories is essential for the operation of the strategy. Activities such as the strengthening of beneficiation plants and metallurgical laboratories, and capacity building of miners and jancheras which is being carried out by the program, will make it possible to meet the goal of reducing mercury in ASGM. The strategy seeks to guarantee that these target groups become the suppliers of ore for the plants, receiving a fair payment based on gold testing of the ore by the laboratories. The comprehensiveness of the aforementioned will contribute to reduce the existing gaps between men and women in the mining sector and, in parallel, will allow to achieve one of the goals of this component.Outcome/Component 4: 46.5% of program direct beneficiaries are women as active agents thanks to their effective participation in all program activities. Therefore, the incorporation of the gender equality approach contributes with almost half of the goal with regard to the number of direct beneficiaries of the program. Additionally, all the case reports generated by the program include gender mainstreaming, which has made it possible to identify new opportunities to incorporate a gender focus, promote activities that contribute to this end, and disseminate them at the local, regional and global levels. |

# Risk Management

## A) Review of Risks outlined in Risk Register and PIMS+ risk tab

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| **NCE RTA:**Please provide an assessment of project risk management (including risks reported in  Risk Register and risks included in the project’s risk tab in  PIMS+ ) undertaken in the reporting period  and summarize the key risk management measures to be taken in the coming year. This text will be pulled into the risk management action plan in this project’s risk tab in PIMS+. |
| The Risk Register in ATLAS is updated. The cumulative delivery of the project is slightly below what is expected at this point in time, but is mainly due to a late startup. The currently level of implementation is at the expected level.The risks that were identified during the PPG phase are still valid and are being managed well by the project team and UNDP Ecuador. Now new risks have been added.As described in other parts of this PIR, there are two risks that are currently affecting the implementation of the project. The first is related to the high turnover of staff (including Ministers) in the Ministry of Environment. This has weakened the institutionalization of the project. However, the project team has found ways to mitigate the effects of this and maintained a very good level of implementation. The second risk is related to the COVID19 pandemic. It has forced the project team to rethink the way they operate, and they have now introduced a strong virtual communication strategy. It has also affected many important stakeholders. Especially the ASGM sector was hard hit, as miners were unable to work for a prolonged period of time. The project team developed the campaign: Golden rules. This campaign aimed at securing the safe return of miners to their work. This has also been important for the re-activation of the economy especially in rural areas of Ecuador. |

## B) Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards) Risks

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| **1) Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during the reporting period?** |
| No |

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| **If any new social and/or environmental risks have been identified during the reporting period please describe the new risk(s) and the response to it.** |
| Not applicable |

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| **2) Have any existing social and/or environmental risks become more severe and/or has the project's SESP categorization changed 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 become more severe and/or if the project's SESP categorization has changed during implementation please describe the change(s) and the response to it.** |
| The project was originally listed as low. This will be changed to moderate due to the new categorization of risks in the SESPs. The update of the SESP will be conducted in the upcoming reporting period. |

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| **3) Have any social and environmental assessments and/or management plans been prepared or updated, and/or has the SESP been updated in the reporting period, as required? For example, an updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) or Indigenous Peoples Plan.** |
| No |

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| **If yes, please upload the document(s) above using the FILE LIBRARY button. If no, please explain when the required documents will be prepared.** |
| Not applicable |

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| **4) Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential ) during the reporting period?** |
| 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.** |
| Not applicable |

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| **5) Is the preparation and./or implementation of the project's safeguards management plan(s) on track, including monitoring?** |
| Yes |

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| **If no, please explain:** |
| Not applicable |

# Knowledge Management & Communications

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

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| **1) Please provide progress on the implementation of the project's Knowledge Management approach approved at CEO Endorsement/Approval. If there is no KM approach/strategy, please comment on how the project is capturing and disseminating best practices and lessons learned.** |
| The chemicals program as an annex to its Prodoc, includes the Annex T - Knowledge Management Strategy, in which compliance with component 4 is contemplated within the framework of the actions of its knowledge management strategy.During this period, the project has promoted the publication of achievements, technical products, best practices and lessons learned, achieving a total of 186 publications, which gives a total of 223 publications since the start of implementation, through 21 media outlets. It has achieved an international reach of 25 interactions and a national reach of 198. The featured publications are:•TSA Study: https://www.ec.undp.org/content/ecuador/es/home/library/analisis-tsa-en-el-sector-de-la-mineria-artesanal-y-de-pequena-e.html•Pesticide guide: https://www.ec.undp.org/content/ecuador/es/home/library/guia-para-la-gestion-adecuada-de-plaguicidas.html•UPOPs Guide: https://www.ec.undp.org/content/ecuador/es/home/library/guia-tecnica-de-mejores-practicas-ambientales.html•Products with Mercury Guide: https://www.ec.undp.org/content/ecuador/es/home/library/guia-para-la-gestion-de-productos-con-mercurio-anadido.htmlIn order to support programmatic management, it has been proposed to use communication strategically to promote knowledge, good practices and initiatives that influence the proper management of chemical substances in their life cycle in Ecuador. In order to guarantee the implementation and effectiveness of the proposed communication plan since 2019, an annual online survey was conducted with the participation of key technical staff for the implementation of the project (11 people) belonging to: Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition, IIGE, BCE, UNDP, Innovagro and APCSA. Among the relevant results, it is worth noting that 91% of the target audience considered that the communication was good and very good. Additionally, 82% of the people surveyed mention that they know the results and progress of the PNGQ.Additionally, the project implemented two communication campaigns to raise awareness about the rational management of chemicals, hazardous wastes and their risks, mainly using social networks and radio. This shift to virtual channels occurred due to the restrictions imposed by the COVID19 pandemic, which has created the need to review and adapt the methodology for measuring awareness among people for this indicator, in order to obtain objective and realistic data.In the second half of 2020, the campaign called “Golden Rules” was implemented, its objective was to promote the application of security measures facing the health emergency in ASGM, which supported the reactivation of this sector. It was implemented in partnership with the Institute of Geological and Energy Research (IIGE) and replicated by the PlanetGold program in Peru. In social media, this campaign had an organic reach on Facebook of 12,000 people, with an average of 10 to 18 interactions per post. On Twitter, it had 4,200 total impressions and 24 interactions per post. It should be noted that the IIGE, in joint work with the project, obtained free spaces for broadcasting on 4 radios in the mining areas of Zaruma and Portovelo, for two months.The second campaign, called &quot;Saving the world starts at home,&quot; was conceived and implemented in a joint effort with other UNDP projects. Its objective is to promote responsible consumption linked to chemicals and waste purchase and management. Its reach on Facebook is 339.9K and it had 34.1K interactions.Additionally, an online course on the Stockholm and Minamata Conventions was implemented, which included the participation of 18 public institutions, 174 public officials, of which 95 women and 79 men, completed the 10-hour course. Moreover, eight (8) universities in the country were strengthened through the training of 193 university students and teachers (126 women and 67 men) from environmental management-related careers, who completed the 60-hour course. Currently, the program is virtualizing the course on the MAATEC environmental education platform. |

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| **2) Please provide URLs specific to this project in the relevant field below. Please categorize the URLs appropriately (for example: project websites, social media sites, media coverage, etc.)** |
| July 2019 to june 2020:Photographs:1. Photo storage of the program in FLICKR https://www.flickr.com/photos/186710937@N03/albumsGender and Mining Video:2. Video of the program called “Women with a golden will” uploaded on YouTube of UNDP Ecuador https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jUy\_iKrRvNECase studies:3. Integrated and Environmental Sound Management of PCBs in Ecuador Sound chemicals and waste management for sustainable development: Results, lessons, and human impact from selected GEF-funded projects to implement the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants4. Case studies on gender responsive environmental projects in the Latin American and Caribbean region: Case of the National Program for the Environmental Sound Management and Life Cycle Management of Chemical Substances – Ecuador “UN Women, UNDP, UNEP, 2020. From words to action: Projects with Innovative Solutions to Confront Climate Change and Promote Gender Equality. UN Women, United Nations Development Program and United Nations Environment Program. City of Panama: Panama.” https://spark.adobe.com/page/LHwETi0ry9WfC/5. Case study, with a gender focus, on the development of a financial product to be used in the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining sector - ASGMhttps://www.planetgold.org/reporte-de-caso-desde-un-enfoque-de-generoPress releases:6. Ecuador promotes actions to reduce the effects of pollution associated with chemical compounds http://www.ec.undp.org/content/ecuador/es/home/presscenter/articles/2019/ecuador-impulsa-acciones-para-reducir-los-efectos-de-la-contamin.html7. Ecuador presents the &quot;Allies of the Environment&quot; campaign to promote the proper management of pesticide containers http://www.ambiente.gob.ec/ecuador-presenta-la-campana-aliados-del-ambiente-para-promover-la-gestion-adecuada-de-envases-de-plaguicidas/8. Ecuador executes a campaign for the proper management of pesticide containers https://www.prensa-latina.cu/index.php?o=rn&id=309061&SEO=ejecuta-ecuador-campana-de-gestion-adecuada-de-envases-de-plaguicidas9. Ecuador promotes the “Allies of the Environment” campaign to encourage the environmentally sound management of pesticide containers http://www.ec.undp.org/content/ecuador/es/home/presscenter/articles/2019/ecuador-promueve-campana-aliados-del-ambiente-para-promover-gest.html10. ECUADOR PROMOTES ACTIONS TO REDUCE THE EFFECTS OF POLLUTION ASSOCIATED WITH CHEMICAL COMPOUNDS http://www.un.org.ec/ecuador-impulsa-acciones-para-reducir-los-efectos-de-la-contaminacion-asociada-a-compuestos-quimicos/11. “IIGE participated in a workshop on the proper management of chemical substances” https://drive.google.com/file/d/11CWfPHNGDgrbtymlvfyE5Rg6fogFx8E5/view12. 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Associations of female miners have become a network of support, care and response in COVID-19 emergency https://www.planetgold.org/associations-female-miners-have-become-network-support-care-and-response-covid-19-emergency32. #StayHome, but do not forget about #YourSolidarity https://us10.campaign-archive.com/?e=&u = 53cffcd3b237b8bc10b11461a&id = 51ef66e10d33. Associations of female miners have become a network of support, care and response in COVID-19 emergency https://medium.com/@ecuadorpnud/associations-of-female-miners-have-become-a-network-of-support-care-and-response-in-covid-19-a770aaf6060034. ALLIES OF THE ENVIRONMENT CAMPAIGN Printed magazineShort notes on social networks:35. &quot;Today I want to tell you that @Ambiente\_Ec together with @PNUDEcuador and @AgrocalidadEC presented the “Allies of the Environment” national campaign, which seeks to promote the proper management of pesticide packaging and fight the main socio-environmental problems derived from contamination generated by chemical substances. The aim is to reach more than 9000 people linked to agriculture so that they are aware of the steps they must take to reduce the associated risks.&quot; https://www.facebook.com/misionsostenible/36. “&quot;Recently, @Ambiente\_Ec together with @PNUDEcuador and @AgrocalidadEC presented the “Allies of the Environment” national campaign, which promotes the proper management of pesticide containers to fight the problems caused by the contamination of chemical substances.”” https://twitter.com/RicardoDuenasEC/status/118746388184255692837. “[NEWSLETTER] 15 tons of street lights with mercury stored in Guayaquil were properly disposed of ➡️ https://bit.ly/2tVAmFs” https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1217188963565424645/photo/138. “#Agrocalidad together with @FAOEcuador provide support at the obsolete pesticide inventory workshop with the aim of updating the inventory at the national level led by@Ambiente\_Ec through the National Chemicals Management Project of @PNUDEcuador&quot; https://twitter.com/AgrocalidadEC/status/112661175349477376139. Ecuador promotes actions to reduce the effects of pollution associated with chemical compounds https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/posts/129613522724711440. &quot;#Ecuador promotes actions to reduce the effects of #pollution associated with #chemical compounds. More than 150 representatives of public and private organizations were trained: https://bit.ly/2GSyUXX #SDGsEcuador # Agenda2030”41. #ODSEcuador #Agenda2030&quot;https://twitter.com/PNUDEcuador/status/1159143591480102912?s=2042. Together with the Ministry of Environment of Ecuador, we trained officials of 10 public institutions and companies to improve the sustainable management of chemical substances. https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/posts/132966437389419943. Remember, pesticide containers are not reusable https://www.facebook.com/apcsaecuador/posts/259996025672849044. Launch of the “Allies of the Environment” campaign to collect pesticide containers, MAE, AgroCalidad, UNDP, INNOVAGRO https://www.facebook.com/innovagroecuador/posts/235577619801105445. &quot;Our function is to establish a clear environmental standard in order to prevent sanctions. We will assume responsibilities and we expect the same from each sector in order to achieve proper outcomes for the benefit of the environment, natural resources and substantially for the human beings.” Ramiro Montalvo https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1177619408853901314?s=2046. Ecuador presents the “Allies of the Environment” campaign to promote the proper management of pesticide containers. ➡️ https://bit.ly/2mf3uUF https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1177729148611186688?s=2047. The deputy minister, Ramiro Montalvo, participated in the presentation of the “Allies of the Environment” campaign held at the Botanical Garden of Quito, together with representatives of UNDP Ecuador and Agrocalidad Ecuador. https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/posts/249473417061474548. Presentation of the “Allies of the Environment” campaign, with the participation of the deputy minister Ramiro Montalvo, at the Botanical Garden of Quito. https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1177619297184763904?s=2049. &quot;The deputy minister, Ramiro Montalvo, on behalf of the minister @raulclementelh, expresses cordial greetings and points out the need for farmers to correctly use chemical substances in their activities to protect their health, the environment and their natural resources.&quot; https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1177619382199095296?s=2050. Ecuador presents the “Allies of the Environment” campaign to promote the proper management of pesticide containers https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/posts/134302137589183251. “The “Allies of the Environment” campaign wants to protect our health, conserve our fields, our water sources and the wildlife that lives in them.” Matilde Mordt https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1177619372090777600?s=2052. &quot;The Government is an ally of the environment. I thank the international cooperation and the various national stakeholders for assuming this responsibility with us.&quot; Ramiro Montalvo https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1177619390533181447?s=2053. “Allies of the Environment” is an awareness-raising campaign that will have no effect if all the involved parties are not committed to carry out specific actions.” Ramiro Montalvo https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1177619400293257221?s=2054. “The resident representative in Ecuador of @PNUDEcuador, Matilde Mordt, ratifies the support to continue carrying out actions aimed at the environmentally sustainable human development of the country” https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1177619355095490561?s=2055. “Pamela Ruales, General Coordinator of Agricultural Supplies Registry of @AgrocalidadEC, highlights that working as a team gives results.” “Our commitment is to work to raise awareness among companies and registered stores and achieve the proposed objectives.”” https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1177619346543304709?s=2056. &quot;The sound management of chemicals and waste is an important component to achieve sustainable, inclusive and resilient human development&quot;, Matilde Mordt. https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1177619363547009024?s=2057. Ecuador presents the “Allies of the Environment&quot; campaign to promote the proper management of pesticide containers. https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/posts/249530374722445458. &quot;Allies of the Environment&quot; is a campaign that promotes the collection of pesticide containers, which seeks to fight one of the causes of contamination generated by chemical substances in the agricultural sector. https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1177619309083987976?s=2059. “The misuse of agricultural chemicals generates highly harmful pollution” Mario Rodas https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1177619336846086144?s=2060. Mario Rodas, Coordinator of the National Program for the Environmental Sound Management and Life Cycle Management of Chemical Substances, gives a welcome speech and points out the importance of this initiative https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1177619317308956672?s=2061. “Our goal is to protect human health and the environment. We want to influence the lives of more than 30,000 Ecuadorians with actions that contribute to protection and responsible consumption in the next five years,” Mario Rodas. https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1177619327736057857?s=2062. #TripleWashing #AlliesoftheEnvironment Proper management of empty agrochemical containers. https://www.facebook.com/apcsa.protecciondecultivos/posts/271842651154295563. #TripleWashing #AlliesoftheEnvironment Proper management of empty agrochemical containers. https://twitter.com/apcsa\_ecuador/status/1178063151524405248?s=2064. We promote the proper management of pesticide containers in order to protect your health and the environment, through small actions we make a big difference by ensuring the sustainable economic development of the agricultural sector. Join the #AlliesoftheEnvironment campaign! https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1178791592129433600?s=2065. &quot;In order to promote the proper final disposal of pesticide and related containers, Agrocalidad joins the campaign of @AmbienteEC #AlliesoftheEnvironment @PNUDEcuador @AgriculturaEc @XavierLazoG @PatricioAgroEc&quot; https://twitter.com/AgrocalidadEC/status/1178744668764422147?s=2066. We promote the proper management of pesticide containers in order to take care of your health and the environment https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/posts/250082100000606267. &quot;From @PNUDEcuador we support the #AlliesoftheEnvironment campaign led by @Ambiente\_Ec&quot; https://twitter.com/PNUDEcuador/status/1178829226390233090?s=2068. We received the visit of PhD. Guillermo Román, independent consultant who will be monitoring the collection of information of the National Program for the Environmental Sound Management and Life Cycle Management. This program seeks to protect human health and the environment from the impact of harmful chemicals, and we are proud to be the only sugar mill in Ecuador to participate in it. #SomosValdez https://www.facebook.com/525388440891922/posts/2243701835727232?sfns=mo69. &quot;PICHINCHA. In order to define the severity of the environmental damage after forest fires, the National Program for the Environmental Sound Management and Life Cycle Management of Chemical Substances, together with the Amazonia Fire-Free Program implemented by the Ministry of the Environment, and the Pululahua Geobotanical Reserve staff, took samples of soil and water that will serve to identify the emissions of unintentional persistent organic pollutants (UPOPs) generated. This type of actions is prioritized because when dealing with highly harmful substances, it is necessary to identify the impact that these substances can have on the population.#wearepasf #UPOPs UNDP Ecuador #stockholm convention UNDP in Latin America and the Caribbean United Nations Development Program - UNDPhttps://www.facebook.com/PASFEcuador/posts/51082682976398570. &quot;In order to define the impact of pollution generated in landfills by emissions of unintentional persistent organic pollutants (UPOPs), the National Program for the Environmental Sound Management and Life Cycle Management of Chemical Substances, implemented by MAE, with the technical assistance of the Program of The United Nations for Development, and the financing of the Global Environment Facility, is conducting an assessment in Pichacay, Cuenca, together with CGA and EMAC EP staff. The samples taken will serve to have a baseline to help define actions and good practices aimed at reducing the impact of these highly harmful substances in the health of human beings and the environment. Municipality of Cuenca EMAC EP Ministry of Environment” https://www.facebook.com/337446383035334/posts/2463953467051271?sfns=mo71. “This campaign seeks to reach more than 9,000 people linked to #agriculture to achieve the proper management of pesticide packaging. Learn more in http://bit.ly/2BJvGTE” https://twitter.com/revistaekos/status/1190765550936510464?s=1272. “The impact caused by the mismanagement of pesticide packaging affects us all. Be part of #AlliesoftheEnvironment and remember to wash them, puncture them and return them to the place where you bought them. @PNUDEcuador @AgrocalidadEC &quot; https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1205175639885721601?s=2073. The impact caused by the mismanagement of pesticide containers affects us all. Be part of #AlliesoftheEnvironment and remember to wash them, puncture them and return them to the place where you bought them. https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/videos/2703406039720546/74. The impact caused by the mismanagement of pesticide containers affects us all. Be part of #AlliesoftheEnvironment and remember to wash them, puncture them and return them to the place where you bought them. https://twitter.com/PNUDEcuador/status/1205616643558313984?s=2075. Farmers are the main #AlliesoftheEnvironment. Watch this video and see how important it is not to leave pesticide containers near water sources. Together we fight pollution! https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/posts/265886194753529976. “#AlliesoftheEnvironment. Those who work the field, male and female farmers, are the main #AlliesoftheEnvironment. Watch this video and see how important it is not to leave pesticide containers near water sources. Together we fight pollution! Ministry of Environment Agrocalidad Ecuador” https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/posts/142553445764052377. Farmers are the main #AlliesoftheEnvironment. Watch this video and see how important it is not to leave pesticide containers near water sources. Together we fight pollution! https://www.facebook.com/ImportadoraDelMonteAG/videos/994984580857158/78. “The impact caused by the mismanagement of pesticide packaging affects us all. Be part of #AlliesoftheEnvironment and remember to wash them, puncture them and return them to the place where you bought them. @Ambiente\_Ec @AgrocalidadEC” https://twitter.com/i/status/120561664355831398479. Farmers are the main #AlliesoftheEnvironment. Watch this video and see how important it is not to leave pesticide containers near water sources. Together we fight pollution! https://www.facebook.com/apcsaecuador/videos/2454251828226514/80. “HOY | The Undersecretary of Small Mining and Artisanal Mining, César Vásquez, together with representatives of the National Program for the Environmental Sound Management and Life Cycle Management of Chemical Substances and @PNUDEcuador, participated in the workshop on the “TSA” methodology.#MiningWithResponsibility” https://twitter.com/RecNaturalesEC/status/1205621279937708032?s=2081. The TSA methodology workshop seeks to contribute to decision-making in the mining sector at the national level, through an analytical and innovative approach that takes into account the social, economic and environmental impact of artisanal and small-scale mining. #MiningWithResponsibility https://twitter.com/RecNaturalesEC/status/1205621676991483905?s=2082. The TSA methodology workshop was held in Quito with the participation of representatives of public institutions, organizations and companies of the Ecuadorian mining sector #MiningWithResponsibility https://twitter.com/RecNaturalesEC/status/1205621490898653195?s=2083. “Farmers are the main #AlliesoftheEnvironment. Watch this video and see how important it is not to leave pesticide containers near water sources. Together we fight pollution! @PNUDEcuador @AgrocalidadEC” https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1205633774467342337?s=2084. Throwing away with common garbage, burning or burying pesticide containers can affect your health. The #AlliesoftheEnvironment wash, puncture and return them. Three steps towards a better future. https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/posts/265886753753474085. “The #AlliesoftheEnvironment seek to properly manage pesticide packaging to care for health and the environment. Remember to follow the three steps: wash, puncture and return. @PNUDEcuador @AgrocalidadEC.” https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1205834826210783233?s=2086. Throwing away with common garbage, burning or burying pesticide containers can affect your health. The #AlliesoftheEnvironment wash, puncture and return them. Three steps towards a better future. https://www.facebook.com/ImportadoraDelMonteAG/videos/443000876654358/87. Farmers are the main #AlliesoftheEnvironment. Watch this video and see how important it is not to leave pesticide containers near water sources. Together we fight pollution! https://www.facebook.com/ImportadoraDelMonteAG/videos/994984580857158/88. “Farmers are the main #AlliesoftheEnvironment. Watch this video and see how important it is not to leave pesticide containers near water sources. Together we fight pollution! @Ambiente\_Ec @PNUDEcuador @AgrocalidadEC We are all Allies of the Environment” https://twitter.com/apcsa\_ecuador/status/1206257269618434052?s=2089. Throwing away with common garbage, burning or burying pesticide containers can affect your health. The #AlliesoftheEnvironment wash, puncture and return them. Three steps towards a better future. https://www.facebook.com/ImportadoraDelMonteAG/videos/443000876654358/90. “The impact caused by the mismanagement of pesticide packaging affects us all. Be part of #AlliesoftheEnvironment and remember to wash, puncture and return them to the place where you bought them. Ministry of Environment Agrocalidad Ecuador” https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/videos/619912978764457/91. “Those who work in the field, male and female farmers, are the main #AlliesoftheEnvironment. Watch this video and see how important it is not to leave pesticide containers near water sources. Together we fight pollution!@Ambiente\_Ec @AgrocalidadEC” https://twitter.com/i/status/120670566416637952092. “Throwing away pesticide containers close to common garbage, burning or burying them can affect your health. The #AlliesoftheEnvironment wash, puncture and return them. Three steps towards a better future. @Ambiente\_Ec @AgrocalidadEC” https://twitter.com/i/status/120696750905385369793. “The #AlliesoftheEnvironment seek to properly manage pesticide packaging to care for health and the environment. Remember to follow the three steps: wash, puncture and return. At APCSA we are all #AlliesoftheEnvironment” https://twitter.com/apcsa\_ecuador/status/1206936220431003648/photo/194. “It is in our hands to take care of the environment. The #AlliesoftheEnvironment do our part for the proper management of pesticide containers” https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/videos/2566985916919974/95. “The #AlliesoftheEnvironment seek to properly manage pesticide packaging to care for health and the environment. Remember to follow the three steps: wash, puncture and return.” https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/photos/a.315040061917511/2658876630867164/?type=3&theater96. The #AlliesoftheEnvironment seek to properly manage pesticide packaging to care for health and the environment. Remember to follow the three steps: wash, puncture and return. https://www.facebook.com/ImportadoraDelMonteAG/photos/a.314956002274669/833189557117975/?type=3&theater97. “The #AlliesoftheEnvironment seek to properly manage pesticide packaging to care for health and the environment. Remember to follow the three steps: wash, puncture and return. Ministry of Environment of Ecuador Agrocalidad Ecuador” https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/photos/a.262441303949850/1429030903957545/?type=3&theater98. &quot;Throwing away pesticide containers close to common garbage, burning them or burying them can affect your health. We, the #AlliesoftheEnvironment wash, puncture and return them. Three steps towards a better future. Ministry of Environment of Ecuador Agrocalidad Ecuador”https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/videos/580118266056819/99. “The #AlliesoftheEnvironment seek to properly manage pesticide packaging to care for health and the environment. Remember to follow the three steps: wash, puncture and return. @Ambiente\_Ec @AgrocalidadEC” https://pbs.twimg.com/media/EMFMRe5W4AcExwW?format=jpg&name = small100. “It is in our hands to take care of the environment. The #AlliesoftheEnvironment do our part through the proper management of pesticide containers. @PNUDEcuador @AgrocalidadEC” https://twitter.com/i/status/1207685185476681729101. “The #AlliesoftheEnvironment seek to properly manage pesticide packaging to care for health and the environment. Remember to follow the three steps: wash, puncture and return. Ministry of Environment of Ecuador Agrocalidad Ecuador” https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/photos/a.262441303949850/142903090395102. “It is in our hands to take care of the environment. The #AlliesoftheEnvironment do our part through the proper management of pesticide containers. @Ambiente\_Ec @AgrocalidadEC” https://twitter.com/i/status/1207692347619860480103. Do you know how to properly manage pesticide containers? The #AlliesoftheEnvironment invite you to follow the three steps: wash, puncture and return. https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/videos/572121016915207/104. Do you know how to properly manage pesticide containers? The #AlliesoftheEnvironment invite you to follow the three steps: wash, puncture and return. https://twitter.com/i/status/1208064208195215360105. Do you know how to properly manage pesticide containers? The #AlliesoftheEnvironment invite you to follow the three steps: wash, puncture and return. https://www.facebook.com/agrocalidadecuador/videos/591710824924749/106. “It is in our hands to take care of the environment. The #AlliesoftheEnvironment do our part through the proper management of pesticide containers.Ministry of Environment of Ecuador Agrocalidad Ecuador” https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/videos/2424009414394009/107. “Do you know how to properly manage pesticide containers? The #AlliesoftheEnvironment invite you to follow the three steps: wash, puncture and return. @Ambiente\_Ec @AgrocalidadEC” https://twitter.com/i/status/1208054599610970112108. There are more and more of us, the #AlliesoftheEnvironment. More than 1,000 people committed with the proper management of pesticides. Quinindé, Nuevo Israel, Chone and Santa Ana are already part of the change! https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/videos/471692010206719/109. “There are more and more of us, the #AlliesoftheEnvironment. More than 1,000 people committed with the proper management of pesticides. Quinindé, Nuevo Israel, Chone and Santa Ana are already part of the change! @Ambiente\_Ec @AgrocalidadEC” https://twitter.com/i/status/1208416988760018951110. Pesticide containers should be washed, punctured, and returned to the place where they were purchased. Watch this video and see the commitments of the #AlliesoftheEnvironment. https://twitter.com/i/status/1208733930083377153111. Pesticide containers should be washed, punctured, and returned to the place where they were purchased. Watch this video and see the commitments of the #AlliesoftheEnvironment. https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/videos/807858546331492/112. “The #AlliesoftheEnvironment are traveling across the country to promote, together with distributors and storekeepers, proper spaces for the return of pesticide containers. @PNUDEcuador @AgrocalidadEC” https://twitter.com/i/status/1209096316669874176113. There are more and more of us, the #AlliesoftheEnvironment. More than 1,000 people committed to the proper management of pesticides. Quinindé, Nuevo Israel, Chone and Santa Ana are already part of the change! https://twitter.com/i/status/1208371543878840321114. The #AlliesoftheEnvironment are traveling across the country to promote, together with distributors and storekeepers, proper spaces for the return of pesticide containers. https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/videos/459064328143665/115. Through workshops held in 20 provinces of the country, we build the capacities of farmers so that they become #AlliesoftheEnvironment and manage pesticide containers properly. https://twitter.com/i/status/1209458705105870848116. Through workshops held in 20 provinces of the country, we build the capacities of farmers so that they become #AlliesoftheEnvironment and manage pesticide containers properly. https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/videos/476715076586365/117. “Be part of #AlliesoftheEnvironment! If you want to have a better future, share this information, follow these three steps and improve your quality of life. @PNUDEcuador @AgrocalidadEC” https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1209821092350578688/photo/1118. Be part of #AlliesoftheEnvironment! If you want to have a better future, share this information, follow these three steps and improve your quality of life https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/photos/a.119. The #AlliesoftheEnvironment are traveling across the country to change this reality. You can also be a part of it! https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/videos/451527235787988/120. Do you know that you can protect the planet? The #AlliesoftheEnvironment know that by returning a pesticide container we are part of a better future. https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/photos/a.121. “Do you know that you can protect the planet? The #AlliesoftheEnvironment know that by returning a pesticide container we are part of a better future. @PNUDEcuador @AgrocalidadEC” https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1210545867167555587/photo/1122. “Together with farmers we take care of the environment and their health. They only have to follow three steps: wash, puncture and return the containers. Together for a sustainable future. #AlliesoftheEnvironment @PNUDEcuador @AgrocalidadEC” https://twitter.com/i/status/1210908255007981570123. Together with farmers we take care of the environment and their health. They only have to follow three steps: wash, puncture and return the containers. Together for a sustainable future. #AlliesoftheEnvironment https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/videos/897649737320318/124. If you are a distributor or warehouseman, join the #AlliesoftheEnvironment campaign and be part of a better future. https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1211270644870070273/photo/1125. If you are a distributor or warehouseman, join the #AlliesoftheEnvironment campaign and be part of a better future. https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/photos/a.315040061917511/2673153619439465/?type=3&eid = ARD- 4t49IptbIT\_xbhEU3b1TxTQCEVVIZR7Q\_e2rtokfPWHQEulnDOhjvLZCS5nOJqwexAFkIIA1osgD&\_\_xts \_\_% 5B0% 5D = 68.ARDrYSK2ROxKOcGKc-XULR33k-kcGhzQ8zIthHFDWvEYYThyrCVGxw7D1zB2RJvbNM9QgAWLDidG0vHp0PECBs77PIp9FgjhCFIVFbw0RgZGxi7qeC7iXTZTxQNt1rbyLKYM3co8TKNbOI7KsgePQPwPxVApmnAMSqjVT0SGuqETcWZd2TTWmcS7W831kII1kgvIOn5bS23hKb4z98tFEhwCeME0bUmY5WIsqGFqg1qVlSGPdjOQtrlqWLYsYWgAoUqIj8v3z2E6JkcALysyHEfkDEJMBs22nxBwXFFipGVDtkQlYbrMCalWzcfkSOWh-hpkJgh5Fp3z6bzrY57Dv-KCTQ&\_\_tn \_\_ = EHH-R126. It is in our hands to take care of the environment. The #AlliesoftheEnvironment do our part through the proper management of pesticide containers. https://www.facebook.com/ImportadoraDelMonteAG/videos/1052010315146773/127. Together with the Ministry of Environment of Ecuador, through the #AlliesoftheEnvironment campaign, we seek to promote the proper management of dangerous chemical substances. The agricultural sector is an important ally to achieve this. Learn more about the campaign in this issue of #ADNSostenible of the Ekos Magazine https://bit.ly/2N9NAow https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/photos/a.262441303949850/1456335737893728/?type=3&eid = ARAM2xC9O49-xY0UTAlE0S-2-v99o-7p3Z9ye8ZrzbN5kxrr7PK69h1dldgUJ-33w5nShsEgM8ffaOxt&\_\_xts \_\_% 5B0% 5D = 68.ARB40JU0IXxLhya1eNBKmL-SDJwt9a0bov8dJ1O4dXKune71S4QMg6T3nckyLolFBvSmGKIsyh44sfnbv8bccaw0gHZwTRIYMWZ3iKIQbfo6zXCbbjVGo15E0ebqcscKCVLESuPDFV - 1yHDBe3DvsI2Abdlul5sS7V3cHQeNnvlepOhNLR5iZv8ecuB4Loi-1mbIa9HvbAbx5zfH8pyETTNP766IpwFOwzhmWEKF6fpOkMyPgN\_4fgVA40PbuSLDBZmNYuvkgiFZemps2s5kvQpFI\_CEEgiLeniZHZik1yKW6oAblFSiy0JrILtMBgpUDqtvO6FTGoon4ZCuEWQtB947Q&\_\_tn \_\_ = EHH-R128. “Together with @Ambiente\_Ec through the #AlliesoftheEnvironment campaign, we seek to promote the proper management of dangerous chemical substances. The agricultural sector is an important ally to achieve this. Learn more about the campaign in #ADNSostenible of @RevistaEkos https://bit.ly/2N9NAow” https://twitter.com/PNUDEcuador/status/1215392674078961666/photo/1129. 60 officials of this Ministry were trained on the new environmental categorization process to improve and streamline processes. This activity was carried out with the support of the United Nations Development Program - UNDP, through the National Program for the Environmental Sound Management and Life Cycle Management of Chemical Substances. https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/photos/pcb.2727641647323995/2727640877324072/?type=3&\_\_tn \_\_ = HH-R&eid = ARA1g6rNdL\_yH0yqSpCUSqwBwGiupm8HXKLHt269Kg9hNPVsITinDIaQv5OdNMNyLVhY0WvucPmrRX8K&\_\_xts \_\_% 5B0% 5D = 68.ARDOXaxYXv8I3MxtedZ3y3vaIRusA\_cXoktk0cAnlQ2shvXKQ2ko0JnaG\_t23BrwSL\_VZ6uPGwTE0B9KBNQ2IeRRFlEx-ta7bEvgfmrzc8w8qNTjjxRz8L\_vNuI53\_cmu2IrkFq4eeSVqX6ko6Lfi-f6id\_xPr\_jorsbXJdpfE4NG\_yiGcDz-bPVsn9CIBJcoLs-4WHSFQDfZiz07ZDYIk\_iHzhXEDVDu6b9ibH1\_is-GERvS2jp0vzmqFQP1lZppCxwghwSK94pMeqd-AFPGPAb7\_SgOVsuh\_eubVRYF9qmUNWA7-4Ndp0\_p7VIckKlp8jHrW9\_ASKoh-fq5FCE9vQ3FQ130. “Did you know that there are several everyday products that have mercury? It is in your hands to protect your health and the environment through the proper management of this type of products and their waste.” https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/videos/2589173914703010/131. Do you want to consume less energy and take care of your health? Buying mercury-free products and delivering your waste to authorized operators, instead of throwing it out with the common garbage, are key actions. https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/videos/2604714186426260/132. Throwing them away with common garbage, burning or burying pesticide containers can affect your health. The #AlliesoftheEnvironment wash, puncture and return them. Three steps towards a better future. https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1205834826634280962?s=20133. “What will you do in 2020 to help the planet? Small actions generate great results, it begins with the proper management of waste with mercury. Follow these practical tips!” https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/videos/484339752284278/134. There are more and more #AlliesoftheEnvironment! The proper management of pesticide containers is in your hands, follow these three steps: wash, puncture and return them to the place where you bought them. https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/videos/250784635889040/135. “By returning pesticide containers to where you bought them, you return health and life to the planet. Remember to follow the three steps: wash, puncture and return.” #AlliesoftheEnvironment https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/photos/a.315040061917511/2733473200074173/?type=3&theater136. More than 2000 farmers have become #AlliesoftheEnvironment and congratulate the actions carried out by this Ministry. Together we build a better country! https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/videos/511821113019252/137. Follow these three steps: wash, puncture and return, in this way you will be #AlliesoftheEnvironment. https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/photos/a.315040061917511/2733512323403594/?type=3&theater138. The Ministry of Education of Ecuador joins the #AlliesoftheEnvironment. Protecting health and the environment is our responsibility, small actions generate big changes. Remember to follow the three steps! https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/videos/1084157051937049/139. Pesticide containers should be washed, punctured, and returned to the place where they were purchased. Do not recycle them, it is dangerous for your family and the planet #AlliesoftheEnvironment. https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/photos/a.315040061917511/2733545126733647/?type=3&theater140. By returning pesticide containers to where they were purchased, we combat pollution and take care of our planet. We are more and more #AlliesoftheEnvironment! https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/videos/654369725302116/141. Together with farmers we achieve sustainable changes. We congratulate all the #AlliesoftheEnvironment who seek to be part of the change and contribute to the construction of a better country. https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/videos/217867359234551/142. Together with farmers we achieve sustainable changes. We congratulate all the #AlliesoftheEnvironment who seek to be part of the change and contribute to the construction of a better country. https://twitter.com/i/status/1221055116339564544143. By returning pesticide containers to where they were purchased, we combat pollution and take care of our planet. We are more and more #AlliesoftheEnvironment! https://twitter.com/i/status/1220692728482189312144. Pesticide containers should be washed, punctured, and returned to the place where they were purchased. Do not recycle them, it is dangerous for your family and the planet #AlliesoftheEnvironment. https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1220330344856973312?s=20145. @Educacion-Ec joins #AlliesoftheEnvironment. Protecting health and the environment is our responsibility, small actions generate big changes. Remember to follow the three steps! https://twitter.com/i/status/1219967956676833280146. “Follow these three steps: wash, puncture and return, this way you will be #AlliesoftheEnvironment. @PNUDEcuador @AgrocalidadEC” https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1219605564465922049?s=20147. “More than 2000 farmers have become #AlliesoftheEnvironment and congratulate the actions carried out by this Ministry. Together we build a better country!@PNUDEcuador @AgrocalidadEC” https://twitter.com/i/status/1219243180236795904148. By returning pesticide containers to where you bought them, you return health and life to the planet. Remember to follow the three steps: wash, puncture and return. #AlliesoftheEnvironment https://twitter.com/Ambiente\_Ec/status/1218880791062679552?s=20149. “There are more and more #AlliesoftheEnvironment! The proper management of pesticide containers is in your hands, follow these three steps: wash, puncture and return containers to the place where you bought them. @PNUDEcuador @AgrocalidadEC” https://twitter.com/i/status/1218518400890261504150. “Together with farmers we achieve sustainable changes. We congratulate all #AlliesoftheEnvironment who seek to be part of the change and contribute to building a better country.” https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/videos/650393465728794/?t=10151. “By returning pesticide containers to where you bought them, you return health and life to the planet. Remember to follow the three steps: wash, puncture and return. #AlliesoftheEnvironment @Ambiente\_Ec @AgrocalidadEC” https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/photos/a.262441303949850/1485806424946659/?type=3&theater152. More than 2000 participants from the agricultural sector in Ecuador have become #AlliesoftheEnvironment and join the actions promoted by the @Ministerio Ambiente Ecuador and UNDP Ecuador to reduce the environmental impact caused by the use of pesticides. https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/videos/956310191476351/153. “The Ministry of Education joins #AlliesoftheEnvironment. Protecting health and the environment is our responsibility, small actions generate big changes. Remember to follow the three steps: 1 wash, 2 puncture, 3️ return the container” https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/videos/631958857631639/154. “Remember: Pesticide containers should be washed, punctured, and returned to the place where they were purchased. Do not recycle them, it is dangerous for your family and the planet #AlliesoftheEnvironment” https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/photos/a.262441303949850/1488584238002211/?type=3&theater155. “By returning pesticide containers to the place where they were purchased, we combat contamination and care for our planet. We are more and more #AlliesoftheEnvironment! Ministry of Education Ecuador Ministry of Environment EcuadorAgrocalidad Ecuador” https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/videos/3056785447666428/156. “Together with farmers we achieve sustainable changes. We congratulate all #AlliesoftheEnvironment who seek to be part of the change and contribute to building a better country.” https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/videos/1530761543756628/157. “By returning pesticide containers to the place where they were purchased, we combat contamination and care for our planet. We are more and more #AlliesoftheEnvironment! @Ambiente\_Ec @AgrocalidadEC @Educacion\_Ec” https://twitter.com/i/status/1227623781436477440158. “Remember: Pesticide containers should be washed, punctured, and returned to the place where they were purchased. Do not recycle them, it is dangerous for your family and the planet #AlliesoftheEnvironment Woman who works on a farmHandshakeMan who works on a farm” https://twitter.com/PNUDEcuador/status/1227261528312893441?s=20159. More than 2000 participants from the agricultural sector of Ecuador have become #AlliesoftheEnvironment and join the actions promoted by the Ministry of Environment Ecuador and UNDP Ecuador, to reduce the environmental impact caused by the use of pesticides Man who works on a farm Woman who works in a farm https://twitter.com/PNUDEcuador/status/1226530254564610051?s=20160. “By returning pesticide containers to where you bought them, you return health and life to the planet. Remember to follow the three steps: Back of the hand with the index finger pointing to the right, washes, punctures and returns. #AlliesoftheEnvironment @Ambiente\_Ec@AgrocalidadEC” https://twitter.com/PNUDEcuador/status/1226174088760233984?s=20161. “There are more and more #AlliesoftheEnvironment! The proper management of pesticide containers is in your hands, follow these three steps: Key number one washes162. Key number two punctures key number three return them to where you bought them. Become #AlliesoftheEnvironment @Ambiente\_Ec @AgrocalidadEC” https://twitter.com/i/status/1225838194748514304163. With the objective of achieving the coordinated work of the #planetGOLD project in the Andean Community, the technical teams of Peru and Colombia met with Ecuador representatives to share good practices and carry out joint actions for clean and sustainable mining. http://bit.ly/2Owr6if https://twitter.com/PNUDperu/status/1225466730971095042?s=20164. Together with farmers we achieve sustainable changes. We congratulate all #AlliesoftheEnvironment who seek to be part of the change and contribute to the construction of a better country. https://twitter.com/i/status/1221055116339564544165. “#EduAmbientalEC | Taking care of the environment is in our hands. From @Educacion\_Ec together with @Ambiente\_Ec and @PNUDEcuador we promote the proper management of pesticide containers. More and more #AlliesoftheEnvironment!” https://twitter.com/Educacion\_Ec/status/1220761804114141184?s=20166. The donation of equipment by the Ministry of @Ambiente\_Ec with the support of @PNUDEcuador contributes to the development of #MiningWithResponsibility https://www.facebook.com/261804923924198/posts/2464053213699347?substory\_index=0&sfns = mo167. #LaNoticiaDelDía | “Specialized laboratory equipment and supplies seek to decrease the use of mercury in Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining.” We invite you to read and share this interesting news. Follow the link http://bit.ly/2P1eyj5 https://www.facebook.com/IIGEEcuador/photos/a.515503205221034/2462779207160081/?type=3&theater168. The @IIGE\_Ec Chemical Laboratory received specialized equipment and supplies from the @Ambiente\_Ec Ministry, through the National Program for the Environmental Sound Management and Life Cycle Management of Chemical Substances. #MiningWithResponsibility https://www.facebook.com/IIGEEcuador/photos/a.261806513924039/2462778157160 186 /? type = 3&theater169. The @IIGE\_Ec is an institution affiliated with the Ministry of @RecNaturalesEC, which conducts research in the areas of geology and energy, to contribute with the provision of inputs and information for development. #MiningWithResponsibility https://www.facebook.com/IIGEEcuador/photos/a.261806513924039/2462566420514693/?type=3&theater170. “#Women play a significant role in artisanal and small-scale gold mining #ASGM, but they often face the greatest hardships. @TheGEF -funded @UNEP-led #planetGOLD program works to make the sector safer, cleaner and more profitable. Http: //wrld.bg/A2nd50yF0pQ # IWD2020” https://twitter.com/theGEF/status/1235973890310057991?s=08171. “This #InternationalWomensDay we are lifting up the voices of female gold miners in the artisanal and small-scale mining sector around the world. Women play a significant - often unrecognized - role in #ASGM, and they often face some of the greatest challenges. Our #planetGOLD partner program in Ecuador, also funded by the #GEF, spotlights the situation of women who work as “jancheras” (women miners who work in the dumpsites of large mining operations), involving them in training activities, and promoting women's empowerment by supporting sustainable ventures led by them. Hear from these “women with a golden will”: https://lnkd.in/gQCMpvs&quot; https://www.linkedin.com/posts/planetgold\_internationalwomensday-asgm-planetgold-activity-6641743325005258752-BQq1/172. “Entrepreneurship and equality policies will improve the quality of life of 1,300 women and their families in the mining sector. Every day, Luisa and the other women are exposed to solar radiation, falls and collapses, eye damage, silicosis, excessive weight load and, above all, to the almost invisible and highly harmful impact caused by chemical substances, such as mercury, which are usually used in the gold recovery process in artisanal mining. Learn about their stories #WomensDay #GeneratingEquality Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources Ministry of Environment Ecuador Global Environment Facility Latin America Genera” https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/videos/253989685608022/173. “Entrepreneurship and equality policies will improve the quality of life of 1,300 women and their families in the mining sector Learn more in our #WomensBulletin ➡️ https://bit.ly/2TNQlzU” https://twitter.com/PNUD\_ALGenera/status/1240372435364519941?s=20174. “Solidarity reaches the homes of Camilo Ponce Enríquez. In the context of the COVID-19 quarantine, 35 female mineral sorters and their families, 150 people in total, receive food and cleaning kits financed with voluntary contributions from the citizens. Read more about this story: bit.ly/SolidaridadMujeresMinería #COVID19 #Coronavirus #Women #Solidarity” https://www.facebook.com/262410043952976/posts/1565742663619701/?d=n175. “Great outcomes are achieved when you work as a team👍🏿 we have reached 110 people in Camilo Ponce 💕 thank you for your support 💕 We share with you a message sent by them, by women with a golden will 💛 #StayHome #WasiSakirihttps://www.facebook.com/1636545203278680/posts/2549472038652654/July 2020 to june 2021:176 &quot;To disinfect our homes and workspaces, we are using a lot of chemicals. Try to use those that are also environmentally friendly and carefully follow the instructions that indicate the recommended proportion.#DíaDeLosOcéanos&quot; &quot;https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/videos/603180013950303177 The first phase of elimination of hazardous agrochemicals is executed by @Ambiente\_Ec , through the National Program for the Environmentally Sound Management and Life-Cycle Management of Chemical Substances, with the support of UNDP Ecuador and the Global Environment Facility #GEF. https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/videos/567243580661014178 “The Golden Rules” are practical advice for #Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining to take action against #COVID19. Together for the safety of the #ASGM. https://twitter.com/planetGOLD\_org/status/1271175255856492551179 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: We present the second &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot;. Take care of your team, watch this video and learn step by step what you should take into account when facing the #COVID19. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.@planetGOLD.org@ecuador.pnud @IIGEEcuador&quot; https://twitter.com/IIGE\_Ec/status/1274059068043333633?s=19180 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: We present the second &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot;. Take care of your team, watch this video and learn step by step what you should take into account when facing the #COVID19. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.@planetGOLD.org@ecuador.pnud @IIGEEcuador&quot; https://www.facebook.com/261804923924198/posts/2718357594935573/181 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: We present the second &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot;. Take care of your team, watch this video and learn step by step what you should take into account when facing the #COVID19. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.@planetGOLD.org@ecuador.pnud @IIGEEcuador&quot; https://www.linkedin.com/posts/instituto-de-investigaci%C3%B3n-geol%C3%B3gico-y-energ%C3%A9tico-iige-b6b44a1a1\_mineraedaartesanal-covid19-mape-activity-6679821776341544960-F4HH182 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: We present the second &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot;. Take care of your team, watch this video and learn step by step what you should take into account when facing the #COVID19. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.@planetGOLD.org@ecuador.pnud @IIGEEcuador&quot; https://www.instagram.com/tv/CBoKPr2pdLL/?igshid=nngqk0fhooh6183 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: We present the third &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot;. Watch this video and learn more about the security measures to take against #COVID19. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.@planetGOLD.org@ecuador.pnud @IIGEEcuador&quot; https://twitter.com/IIGE\_Ec/status/1276218432552423424?s=19184 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: We present the third &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot;. Watch this video and learn more about the security measures to take against #COVID19. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.@planetGOLD.org@ecuador.pnud @IIGEEcuador&quot; https://www.facebook.com/261804923924198/posts/2733450910092908/185 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: We present the third &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot;. Watch this video and learn more about the security measures to take against #COVID19. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.@planetGOLD.org@ecuador.pnud @IIGEEcuador&quot; https://www.linkedin.com/posts/instituto-de-investigaci%C3%B3n-geol%C3%B3gico-y-energ%C3%A9tico-iige-b6b44a1a1\_mineraedaartesanal-covid19-mape-activity-6681976164287844352-LWpd186 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: We present the third &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot;. Watch this video and learn more about the security measures to take against #COVID19. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.@planetGOLD.org@ecuador.pnud @IIGEEcuador&quot; https://www.instagram.com/tv/CB3eJooJnP4/?igshid=1hkj9tdl02fa3187 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: We present the second &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot;. Take care of your team, watch this video and learn step by step what you should take into account when facing the #COVID19. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.Together with UNDP Ecuador, planetGOLD, Global Environment Facility and IIGE Ecuador we work for the security of ASGM. https://www.facebook.com/planetGOLD.org/videos/287927018928680188 &quot;In our daily lives we live with chemical substances.Protecting health and the environment is a priority for@Ambiente\_Ecand@PNUDEcuador@theGEFFind out about the latest actions here: http://bit.ly/2NNQvDA&quot; https://twitter.com/PNUDEcuador/status/1278369279528906756?s=20189 &quot;Solidarity reaches the homes of Camilo Ponce Enríquezhttps://ecuador.un.org/es/44807-la-solidaridad-llega-hogares-de-camilo-ponce-enriquez&quot; https://www.facebook.com/806641489393718/posts/3251658274892015/?sfnsn=mo190 With the aim of supporting Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (ASGM), the National Program for the Environmentally Sound Management and Life-Cycle Management of Chemical Substances of UNDP together with the Institute of Geological and Energy Research (IIGE) presents “The Golden Rules” simple tips for this productive sector to take measures in face of #COVID19. https://www.facebook.com/806641489393718/posts/3251653088225867/?sfnsn=mo&d=n&vh=e191 &quot;Ecuador begins the elimination of 73 tons of obsolete pesticideshttps://www.ecuavisa.com/articulo/noticias/nacional/611356-ecuador-inicia-eliminacion-73-toneladas-plaguicidas-obsoletos&quot; https://www.facebook.com/806641489393718/posts/3251651131559396/?sfnsn=mo192 &quot;How many people can go on a transport vehicle or be in the mining camp dining room at the same time?#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining pay attention to the fourth &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot;. Know the security measures to take in against #COVID19. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.UNDP Ecuador IIGE Ecuador- - - - -How many people can go on a transport vehicle or be in the mining camp dining room at the same time?Artisanal and Small Scale Miners, turn your attention to the fourth &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot; video and learn the security measures to take against #COVID19. Together we can work for #ASGM safety&quot; https://www.facebook.com/watch/planetGOLD.org/303717427472035193 &quot;Introducing the third &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot; video. Please share this animated video with artisanal miners or anyone else confronting #COVID19 who could use these practical tips and safety measures.- - - - -#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: We present the third &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot;. Watch this video and learn more about the security measures to take against #COVID19. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.Together with UNDP, planetGOLD, the Global Environment Facility and the Institute of Geological and Energy Research IIGE, we work for the safety of ASGM.UNDP Ecuador UNDP in Latin America and the Caribbean IIGE Ecuador&quot; &quot;https://www.facebook.com/planetGOLD.org/videos/1216562845349563194 &quot;How many people can go on a transport vehicle or be in the mining camp dining room at the same time?#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining pay attention to the fourth &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot;. Know the security measures to take in against #COVID19. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.UNDP Ecuador IIGE Ecuador- - - - -How many people can go on a transport vehicle or be in the mining camp dining room at the same time?Artisanal and Small Scale Miners, turn your attention to the fourth &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot; video and learn the security measures to take against #COVID19. Together we can work for #ASGM safety&quot; https://www.facebook.com/planetGOLD.org/videos/627015621501212195 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: We present the fifth &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot;. When you get home, follow these steps and take care of the people you love the most. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.#ResponsibleMining #COVID19Together with UNDP Ecuador, planetGOLD, Global Environment Facility and IIGE Ecuador we work for the security of ASGM. https://www.facebook.com/planetGOLD.org/videos/1221160628236119196 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: Learn about prevention measures against #COVID19 in the commercialization process. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.Together with UNDP Ecuador, planetGOLD, Global Environment Facility and IIGE Ecuador we work for the security of ASGM.#ResponsibleMining&quot; https://www.facebook.com/planetGOLD.org/videos/2935803916532558197 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining, below learn in detail the measures to consider inside mining camps. Together for the safety of #ASGM️👷🏽‍♀️👷🏾Share these #GoldenRules and see the 7 keys here: https://www.facebook.com/watch/planetGOLD.org/303717427472035/UNDP Ecuador IIGE Ecuador UNDP in Latin America and the Caribbean&quot; https://www.facebook.com/planetGOLD.org/videos/294678484921578198 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: Learn about prevention measures against #COVID19 in the commercialization process. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.#ResponsibleMiningTogether with UNDP, planetGOLD, GEF and IIGE we work for the security of ASGM.&quot; https://www.facebook.com/IIGEEcuador/videos/203958984324674199 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining, below learn in detail the measures to consider inside mining camps. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.#ResponsibleMiningTogether with UNDP, planetGOLD, GEF and IIGE we work for the security of ASGM.&quot; https://www.facebook.com/IIGEEcuador/videos/1826568690815953200 &quot;How many people can go on a transport vehicle or be in the mining camp dining room at the same time? #Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining pay attention to the fourth &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot;. Learn about the security measures to take against #COVID19. https://twitter.com/APROPLASMIN/status/1278088753828028416?s=20201 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: Learn about prevention measures against #COVID19 in the commercialization process. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.👷🏽‍♀️👷🏾#GoldRules #ResponsibleMining@PNUDEcuador@IIGE\_Ec@PNUDLAC&quot; https://twitter.com/planetGOLD\_org/status/1283859391209508864?s=20202 &quot;We present the second &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot;. Take care of your team, watch this video and learn step by step what you should take into account when facing the #COVID19.#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining@IIGE\_Ec@pnudecuador@thegef@planetGOLD\_org&quot; https://twitter.com/PNUDEcuador/status/1288525523962834945?s=20203 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: We present the fifth &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot;. When you get home, follow these steps and take care of the people you love the most. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.#ResponsibleMining #COVID19@PNUDEcuador@IIGE\_Ec@PNUDLAC&quot; https://twitter.com/planetGOLD\_org/status/1281230578315153408?s=20204 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: Learn about prevention measures against #COVID19 in the commercialization process. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.#ResponsibleMining@PNUDEcuador@theGEFand@IIGE\_Ecwe work for the security of the #ASGM. &quot;https://twitter.com/PNUDEcuador/status/1284926018164264962?s=20205 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining, below learn in detail the measures to consider inside mining camps. Together for the safety of #ASGM️👷🏽‍♀️👷🏾Share these #GoldenRules and learn more at https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLj9oUhARbzx4hfo02hRC3axl4wTWYhESF&quot; https://twitter.com/planetGOLD\_org/status/1286352752227098627?s=20206 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining, below learn in detail the measures to consider inside mining camps. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.#ResponsibleMining@PNUDEcuador@theGEFand@IIGE\_Ecwe work for the security of the #ASGM.&quot; https://twitter.com/PNUDEcuador/status/1284926018164264962?s=20207 &quot;We present the fourth &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot;. Take care of your team, watch this video and learn step by step what you should take into account when facing the #COVID19.#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining@IIGE\_Ec@theGEF@planetGOLD\_org&quot; https://twitter.com/PNUDEcuador/status/1289233045476835328?s=20208 &quot;#ASGMwithoutCOVID19 | Follow this &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot; when you are in the dining room of the mining unit or in a transport vehicle. Watch this video and learn how to prevent #COVID19.@PNUDEcuador@theGEF@IIGE\_Ec@PIMineria@responsiblemine&quot; https://twitter.com/planetGOLD\_PE/status/1285249314323824640?s=20209 &quot;Follow this &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot; during your workday at the mining unit. Watch this video and learn how to prevent #COVID19.@PNUDEcuador@theGEF@IIGE\_Ec@PIMineria@responsiblemine@artisanal\_gold@RedS0cial@CINCIAMDDQuote Tweet Follow this &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot; during your workday at the mining unit. Watch this video and learn how to prevent #COVID19.@PNUDEcuador@theGEF@IIGE\_Ec@PIMineria@responsiblemine@artisanal\_gold@RedS0cial@CINCIAMDD&quot; https://twitter.com/planetGOLD\_PE/status/1281616409953525760?s=20210 👷🏽‍♀️👷🏾 #ASGMwithoutCOVID19 | Follow this &quot;Golden Rule&quot; when you are in the dining room of the mining unit or in a transport vehicle. Watch this video and learn how to prevent #COVID19. https://twitter.com/planetGOLD\_PE/status/1285249314323824640?s=20211 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: We present the &quot;&quot;Golden Rules&quot;&quot;, practical advice that details step by step what you should take into account in the face of #COVID19.👷🏽‍♀️👷🏾UNDP Ecuador, Global Environment Facility and IIGE Ecuador work for the security of the #ASGM.&quot; https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/videos/279353820002376212 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: We present the second &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot;. Watch this video and learn more about the security measures to take against #COVID19.#ResponsibleMiningUNDP Ecuador, Global Environment Facility and IIGE Ecuador work for the security of the #ASGM.&quot; https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/videos/2944529135669599213 &quot;How many people can go on a transport vehicle or be in the mining camp dining room? #ArtisanalMiningKnow the security measures to take in against #COVID19.#ResponsibleMiningUNDP Ecuador, Global Environment Facility and IIGE Ecuador work for the security of the #ASGM.&quot; https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/videos/731578837635750214 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: We present the fourth &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot;. When you get home, follow these steps and take care of the people you love the most.#ResponsibleMining #COVID19UNDP Ecuador, Global Environment Facility and IIGE Ecuador work for the security of the #ASGM.&quot; https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/videos/3089647791152544215 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: Learn about prevention measures against #COVID19 in the commercialization process. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.#ResponsibleMiningUNDP Ecuador, Global Environment Facility and IIGE Ecuador work for the security of the #ASGM.&quot; https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/videos/326291645073524216 &quot;#Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining, below learn in detail the measures to consider inside mining camps. Together for the safety of the #ASGM.#ResponsibleMiningUNDP Ecuador, Global Environment Facility and IIGE Ecuador work for the security of the #ASGM.&quot; https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/videos/3379725345391354217 &quot;Practical advice for #Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining to take action against #COVID19IIGE Ecuador Global Environment FacilityPlanet-GOLD&quot; https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/videos/288331179069892218 &quot;We present the third &quot;&quot;Golden Rule&quot;&quot;. Take care of your team, watch this video and learn step by step what you should take into account when facing the #COVID19.IIGE Ecuador Global Environment Facility Planet-GOLD&quot; https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/videos/2873383286229188219 &quot;Golden Rules - Tips for resuming work activities in #Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining#COVID19IIGE Ecuador Global Environment Facility Planet-GOLD&quot; https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/videos/286030775958886220 &quot;USD 299,229 earmarked for chemical pollution reduction projectsThe Ministry of Environment and Water, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the Global Environment Facility granted USD $299,229.5 for the development of six projects aimed at reducing pollution generated by chemical substances, specifically persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and mercury. The projects will be executed by associations of mineral selector women and mining associations, academia and Decentralized Autonomous Governments.Read more ➡️ https://bit.ly/3lPUDmn&quot; https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\_fbid=3293720370716117&id=314626305292220221 &quot;In coordination with the National Chemicals Management Program, Comprehensive Fire Management Schools are being implemented to reduce emissions of unintentional persistent organic pollutants (UPOPs), strengthening community capacities to prevent forest fires in Cayambe in the buffer zones of the Cayambe Coca National Park and in Zaruma in the water recharge areas of the Guizhaguiña Municipal Conservation and Sustainable Use Area and the Sanchez and Zambrano Private Municipal Reserves.This will be done by implementing agricultural techniques whose purpose is a technical and responsible management of fire, as well as in the promotion of alternatives to its use, friendly practices in the sustainable management of natural resources and the territory.Read more: ➡️ https://www.ambiente.gob.ec/se-destinan-usd-299-229-para-proyectos-de-reduccion-de-la-contaminacion-por-sustancias-quimicas/&quot; https://www.facebook.com/277865709726766/posts/749163035930362/222 &quot;LA LIBERTAD'S MUNICIPAL GAD RECEIVES AN IMPORTANT ECONOMIC FUND DESTINED TO PROCESSES FOR THE EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF SOLID WASTE.The Ministry of Environment and Water, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the Global Environment Facility granted USD $299,229.5 for the development of six projects aimed at reducing pollution generated by chemical substances.Thanks to the efforts made by our Mayor Victor Valdivieso through the Department of Hygiene and Environment of the Municipal Government, 22% of these funds ($ 65,000.00) will be used to improve the integral management of solid waste in the open dump site located in our canton.!WE WORK FOR THE WELL-BEING OF THE PEOPLE OF LA LIBERTAD!.#UnitedForLibertenses#IPlayMyPart#VictorValdiviesoMayor&quot; https://www.facebook.com/506019069499350/posts/2762154890552412/223 &quot;Heifer Ecuador will support the associations of mineral selector women in the field of agroecology, peasant entrepreneurship, associativity and socio-organizational strengthening, in order to promote the projects that work@Ambiente\_Ec@PNUDEcuadorand@theGEF&quot; https://www.facebook.com/333625653365241/posts/3466062973454811/?extid=wCXei0VhUhWEbLFO&d=n224 &quot;Heifer Ecuador will support the associations of mineral selector women in the field of agroecology, peasant entrepreneurship, associativity and socio-organizational strengthening, in order to promote the projects that work@Ambiente\_Ec@PNUDEcuadorand@theGEF&quot; https://twitter.com/heiferecuador/status/1301216704798887936?s=21225 &quot;Participate in the development process of the Incineration and Safety Landfill Standards. Get to know these documents and send us your contributions.➡️ https://www.ambiente.gob.ec/programa-nacional-de-gestion-de-quimicos-pngq/&quot; https://www.facebook.com/AmbienteEc/posts/3301017986653022226 &quot;The Workshop for Artisanal and Small-Scale Miningtechnicians has begun&quot; https://drive.google.com/file/d/14txZa1WHwn9lMm2vCgLozyyoa7CAOCfr/view227 &quot;Did you know that...? 99% of forest fires are started by human activities such as uncontrolled burning of agricultural waste.With the Comprehensive Fire Management Schools, we train communities to avoid the polluting effects of forest fires and improve their livelihoods through improved agricultural and livestock practices.Over the next 6 months, work will be carried out with more than 15 producers in the areas surrounding the Guizhaguiña Municipal Conservation and Sustainable Use Area, in the province of El Oro, on sustainable management practices for natural resources and the territory.This is carried out with the Amazon Without Fire Ecuador Program, the Ministry of Environment and Water of Ecuador and UNDP Ecuador through the National Chemicals Management Program, the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Ecuador, El Oro Provincial GAD and the Guizhaguiña Parochial GAD&quot; https://www.facebook.com/277865709726766/posts/760105664836099/228 &quot;Did you know that...? 99% of forest fires are started by human activities such as uncontrolled burning of agricultural waste.With the Comprehensive Fire Management Schools, we train communities to avoid the polluting effects of forest fires and improve their livelihoods through improved agricultural and livestock practices.Over the next 6 months, work will be carried out with more than 15 producers in the areas surrounding the Guizhaguiña Municipal Conservation and Sustainable Use Area, in the province of El Oro, on sustainable management practices for natural resources and the territory.This is done with the Amazon Without Fire Ecuador Program, the Ministry of Environment and Water of Ecuador and UNDP Ecuador through the National Chemical Management Program, the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of Ecuador, El Oro Provincial GAD and the Guizhaguiña Parochial GAD&quot; https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/posts/1699993483527951229 Mercury pollution and poisoning endanger health and the environment, aggravating poverty in communities, exacerbating conflict and further reducing the chances of achieving equality. https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=2823430407874878230 &quot;#NewsOfTheDay |&quot;&quot;A global agreement to protect health and the environment against mercury&quot;&quot; We invite you to read and share this interesting news. Follow the link 👉🏼 https://bit.ly/3dkc2zx#WeAllSaveEcuador#SectorsThatWorkForYou &quot;https://www.facebook.com/IIGEEcuador/photos/a.515503205221034/3042488049189191/231 Today in Ecuador we commemorate the adoption of the #MinamataConvention, which seeks to curb mercury #pollution. We work together with the health and electricity sector to reduce the risk of human exposure and promote the transition towards the use of efficient products without mercury #WithoutPollution https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=409501790449216232 &quot;Virtual Seminars - La Linterna, presents a special edition with the following theme &quot;&quot;Application of the Minamata convention in ASGM&quot;&quot; organized by the IIGE and UNDP, this Monday, October 12 at 15h00.https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89326270525Meeting ID: 893 2627 0525&quot; https://www.facebook.com/IIGEEcuador/photos/a.515503205221034/3045968218841174/233 Special Edition - &quot;Virtual Seminars - La Linterna&quot;. Today we will discuss the Application of the Minamata Convention in ASGM, organized by UNDP and IIGE and we are joined by M.Sc. Isabel Garzón and M.Sc. Luis Tapia. https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=339080804019762234 The process of eliminating 138 tons of obsolete pesticides has been completed https://twitter.com/ambiente\_ec/status/1316090611632463872?s=21235 The process of eliminating 138 tons of obsolete pesticides has been completed https://www.facebook.com/314626305292220/posts/3419915224763297/236 The process of eliminating 138 tons of obsolete pesticides has been completed https://www.instagram.com/p/CGS3LMEjFqq/?igshid=rpoci886jmaq237 &quot;From@Ambiente\_Ec, with the support from@PNUDEcuadorwe have successfully completed the process of eliminating 138 tons of obsolete pesticides. We reduce pollution in #Ecuador and take care of the resources of the next generations. #WeSowTheFuture&quot; https://twitter.com/pauloproanoa/status/1316795277852934144?s=21238 Did you know that mercury pollution and poisoning endanger health and the environment? Moreover, it aggravates the poverty of communities, exacerbating conflicts and further distancing the chances of achieving equality. https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=776303366524106239 &quot;#Mercury is one of the 10 most toxic #chemicals. In Ecuador we are making efforts to reduce the illegal use of mercury in artisanal and small-scale mining, as part of the commitments made in the #MinamataConvention, adopted on 10 October 2013.#WithoutPollution#WeAllSaveEcuador&quot; https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/posts/1724360231091276240 Today in Ecuador we commemorate the adoption of the #MinamataConvention, which seeks to curb mercury #pollution. We work together with the health and electricity sector to reduce the risk of human exposure and promote the transition towards the use of efficient products without mercury #WithoutPollution https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1647412778770603241 &quot;The process of eliminating 138 tons of obsolete pesticides has been completedEcuador eliminated 138 tons of obsolete pesticides linked to the agricultural sector. Of the total tons processed, 19 were sent and disposed of in Europe in institutions specialized in the treatment of highly toxic pesticides, while the remaining 119 tons were eliminated by qualified national managers, complying with the hazardous waste management guidelines established in the Stockholm and Basel Conventions.Learn more here: bit.ly/375ZU41Ministry of Environment and Water of Ecuador Global Environment Facility&quot; https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/posts/1729456567248309242 &quot;Great news! Ecuador eliminates 138 tons of obsolete pesticidesEcuador exceeded the goal of eliminating 120 tons of obsolete pesticides contemplated in the Action Plan approved in the year (2018)During 2019, a visit was made to 2,500 agrochemical warehouses and public institutions nationwide for the collection of pesticidesMinistry of Environment and Water of Ecuador#Ecuador #Environment#Sustainability&quot; https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1683757888466069243 &quot;We also thank the digital media Actores Productivos for the publication of the work carried out by #APCSA in the territory.At APCSA we work for the health of the #farmer and that of the #environment to achieve a #SustainableAgriculturehttps://actoresproductivos.com/.../visitas-tecnicas-a.../&quot; https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Factoresproductivos.com%2F2020%2F10%2F16%2Fvisitas-tecnicas-a-acopios-temporales-de-apcsa%2F&h=AT1h4u47xMP2yqqV4ZG7tPkhJqT88i6un5iU1-VZ3\_YpOPyisahIe9XMiorGmIhP\_rX-J10nWqrC2r5TXPAfaN2s8SwVGt9qhprbq1p8WKr0012Bb1XO79H12NhZOGdPLKc7LJ-a0JLIHZaykoOBHf4&s=1244 &quot;Today the technical visit of the National Chemical Management Program #PNGQ of the Ministry of Environment and Water of Ecuador to the APCSA Temporary Collection Center located in #SantoDomingo, Nuevo Israel site, Km 21 on the Santo Domingo - Chone highway.The following people participated in the visit: Gastón Zambrano and Franklin Góngora (PNGQ) and Cristhian Palma Technical Manager of the #APCSAEnvironment program&quot; https://www.facebook.com/apcsaecuador/posts/3562704960454010245 &quot;In #Ecuador, 138 tons of obsolete pesticides related to the agricultural sector were eliminated. Of the total tons processed, 19 were sent and disposed of in Europe in institutions specialized in the treatment of highly toxic pesticides, while the remaining 119 tons were eliminated by qualified national managers, complying with the hazardous waste management guidelines established in the Stockholm and Basel Conventions. Ministry of Environment and Water of Ecuador / United Nations Development Program - UNDP UNDP Ecuadorhttps://www.ambiente.gob.ec/culmina-proceso-de.../&quot; https://www.facebook.com/apcsaecuador/posts/3596428247081681246 &quot;PRAS Environment Ecuador@PrasEcuador·Oct. 22#PRASnews✍In #LaManá,@PrasEcuadortogether with@PNUDEcuadorand the Equinoctial Technological University have been implementing the Bioremediation Project for Soils Contaminated by Agro-toxins caused by aerial spraying in banana crops.&quot; https://twitter.com/PrasEcuador/status/1319315540788301827?s=20247 &quot;EL ORO | With the support of the National Chemical Management Program, UNDP Ecuador and in coordination with the Guizhaguiña Parish GAD and El Oro Provincial GAD, the first module of the Field School for Comprehensive Fire Management was developed for the Prevention of Forest Fires in the farm of a participant in the San Juan sector, Guizhaguiña parish of the Zaruma canton.In this module, the genesis of the soil was analyzed and fertility was determined by analyzing pH, texture and organic matter using homemade methods.#NoMoreFires #wearePASF&quot; https://www.facebook.com/PASFEcuador/posts/782192622627403248 &quot;👩‍🌾👨‍🌾 Heifer Ecuador and UNDP Ecuador articulate actions in the project &quot;&quot;Future of Food&quot;&quot;, with the Jancheras Unión y Progreso Association of the Ponce Enríquez canton. As part of the planned activities, the weeds were removed from the land provided by the GAD of Ponce Enríquez so that the sowing of agro-ecological products could be carried out.#HeiferOnTheMove #FutureOfFood&quot; https://www.facebook.com/HeiferEcuador/posts/3595645330496574249 &quot;CANTON RECYCLERS HAVE PERSONAL BIOSECURITY EQUIPMENT.Thinking about the health and wellbeing of the citizens of La Libertad, who perform activities that carry risks due to the complexity of their work activities, this Monday morning, the delivery of biosafety protection supplies was carried out to the members of the Recyclers Association of the waste dump site. This action is the result of an interinstitutional agreement signed by the Municipal GAD and the United Nations Development Program, with the purpose of protecting the health of the recyclers due to the high exposure to diseases in their daily activities.Our mayor Víctor Valdivieso participated in the event, along with the Deputy Mayor Karen Medina and representatives of the Ministry of Environment and UNDP.In his speech, the president of the recyclers' association expressed his gratitude for taking into account the health of the people who carry out this important work.#VictorValdiviesoMayor#LaLibertadIsSecurity#IPlayMyPart&quot; https://www.facebook.com/alcaldialalibertad/posts/2918110618290171250 &quot;UNDP Ecuador and the Ministry of Environment and Water of Ecuador promote the proper management of chemical substancesthrough the National Program of Chemical Substances in their Life-Cycle(PNGQ) and APPROQUE –Responsible Care.With the aim of promoting economic developmentin the social benefit andprioritization of environmental care, the first webinar was held with the participation of representatives from more than 22 companies.These webinars will be held until the end of this year in which they will talk about the national regulations and the goodpractices deployed from different sectors.&quot; https://www.facebook.com/ecuador.pnud/photos/a.262441303949850/1782115525315746/251 &quot;🧑‍💻 Sign up for the next Free Webinar of APROQUE - Responsible Care together with UNDP Ecuador on Chemical and hazardous waste management, we will have the intervention of Franklin Gongóra - UNDP Specialist.Sign up for the Webinar🗓 Wednesday, December 02⏰ 10:00am➡️ https://aproque.com/inscripciones-webinar/&quot; https://www.facebook.com/AproqueRC/photos/a.1580965572217619/2717610988553066/252 &quot;🌎 We promote the proper management of chemical substances: the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the Ministry of Environment and Water of Ecuador, through the National Program of Chemical Substances in their Life-Cycle and APROQUE - Responsible Care held the first webinar in which more than 22 companies participated.👉 The objective of this space is to spread economic development, with a focus on social benefit and prioritizing environmental care. To promote a culture of prevention, APROQUE - Responsible Care and PNGQ invited companies and the community to participate in the 4 webinars that will be held until the end of this year, in which the good practices deployed from the different sectors of the Chemical Industry will be discussed.&quot; https://www.facebook.com/AproqueRC/photos/a.1580965572217619/2709090172738481/253 &quot;Sign up at no cost to the next Free webinar of APROQUE - Responsible Care together with the Ministry of Environment and Water of Ecuador and UNDP Ecuador, in which we will discuss the generalities of the National Chemical Management Program (𝗣𝗡𝗚𝗤) and the Globally Harmonized System (GHS) and the presentation of the National Program for the Environmentally Sound Management and Life-Cycle Management of Chemical Substances.👉 Click on the link to sign up for FREE: https://bit.ly/WebinarAproque&quot; https://www.facebook.com/AproqueRC/photos/pcb.2702488106732021/2702487780065387/254 &quot;🌎 Be part of the first Free 𝙒𝙚𝙗𝙞𝙣𝙖𝙧 of APROQUE - Responsible Care together with the Ministry of Environment and Water and UNDP on the generalities of the National Chemical Management Program (𝗣𝗡𝗚𝗤) and the Globally Harmonized System (GHS) and the presentation of the National Program for the Environmentally Sound Management and Life-Cycle Management of Chemical Substances.👉 Click on the link to sign up for FREE: https://bit.ly/WebinarAproque&quot; https://www.facebook.com/AproqueRC/videos/371011393960094255 &quot;PICHINCHA|The impact and loss of our country's ecosystems by forest fires due to their destructive power and contamination is increasing as a result of human action.As a measure of prevention to the misuse of fire in agricultural activities in buffer zones of protected areas, the second session of the School of Comprehensive Fire Management was held this Saturday in the canton of Cayambe, Juan Montalvo parish, made up of 5 communities where 37 members attended including children, youth, adults and seniors. They were trained on the topic of Mountain Microorganisms Capture as an alternative to improve the nutrition of their crops, without using agrochemicals and the use of anti-technical fire in order to improve the fertility of their soils.These actions are carried out thanks to the joint work between the Amazon without Fire Program of the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition, UNDP Ecuador through the National Program for the Environmentally Sound Management and Life-Cycle Management of Chemical Substances, the Municipality of Cayambe and El Hato Corporation.#nomorefires #wearePASF #chemicalsubstances #PNGQ&quot; https://www.facebook.com/PASFEcuador/photos/pcb.803293350517330/803293213850677256 &quot;PICHINCHA |Together with the PNGQ/UNDP National Chemical Management Program and the Cayambe GADIP, on Saturday, December 12, 2020, the materials and supplies for the design and implementation of the bio factories in the El Hato sector were delivered.Bio factories allow the production of 100% biological concentrates of beneficial microorganisms, which promote the development and health of crops, providing the necessary nutrients.The objective of these actions is to prevent forest fires and reduce pollution caused by chemical substances produced in combustion processes. Together we take care of the Cayambe Coca National Park and its buffer zones.The aim is also to reduce dioxin and furan emissions and to reduce the use of pesticides and other environmentally harmful substances.#wearepasf #NoMoreFiresLas&quot; https://www.facebook.com/PASFEcuador/photos/pcb.831267551053243/831267377719927/257 &quot;Together with the National Chemicals Management Program #PNGQ/UNDP, Amazon Without Fire Program Ecuadorand the Cayambe GADIP, on Saturday December 12, 2020, the materials and supplies were delivered for the design and implementation of the bio factories in the El Hato sector.Thanks to these actions, we seek to prevent forest fires and reduce the emissions of dioxins and furans, as well as the use of pesticides and other substances that are harmful to the environment.Together we take care of the Cayambe Coca National Park and its buffer zones.&quot; https://www.facebook.com/PASFEcuador/photos/pcb.831267551053243/831267377719927/258 &quot;InnovAgro Ecuador supports the PNGQ to protect Health and the Environment in the Country#PNGQ #environment #health #healthemergency&quot; https://fb.watch/2Ru-z28kl3/ |

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| **3) In the PIR platform, please upload any supporting files, including the project's Communications Strategy, photos, videos, stories and other communication/knowledge materials.** |
| [plan de comunicación.pdf](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/5706/215404/1747298/1782754/plan%20de%20comunicacio%CC%81n.pdf) |

# Stakeholder Engagement

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| **(A) Provide an update on progress, challenges and outcomes related to stakeholder engagement based on the description in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent documentation submitted at CEO Endorsement/Approval.****(B) Upload all available documentation of the project's stakeholder engagement, including surveys, FPIC reports and others using the FILE LIBRARY button in the upper right corner of the PIR.****(C) If the project's Stakeholder Engagement Plan has been updated during the reporting period, please upload that file using the FILE LIBRARY button above.** |
| The National Program for the Environmentally Sound Management and Life-Cycle Management of Chemical Substances (PNGQ) with the aim of protecting the environment and improving the quality of life, has proposed using communication as a tool to promote knowledge, good practices and initiatives that affect the sound management of chemical substances in their life-cycle in Ecuador. Furthermore, communication is the tool to promote the active participation of the identified stakeholders.Although the PRODOC project document did not include the development of a Stakeholder Engagement Plan, it does contain the identification of the stakeholders and their roles, who have been involved in its implementation. The general objective of the communication strategy deployed is to promote knowledge, good practices and initiatives that have an impact on the sound management of chemical substances in their life-cycle in Ecuador; to accomplish this, the following specific objectives have been pursued:• Strengthen the commitment of the strategic audience that affects the implementation of the proposal• Raise awareness among the target audience according to each component about the importance of the sound management of chemical substances• Influence public opinion: engage the media to support a positive change in perceptions and among citizens on the issues addressed by the program.In the program's Communication Plan (Annex 1), the stakeholders participating in the proposal are detailed, according to the programmatic component that they are linked to, and, additionally, the channels and type of messages that will be generated are detailed.It is important to mention that communication strategies go hand in hand with programmatic implementation; therefore, specific actions related to ASGM, for example, have been delayed because documents have not been signed or the implementation of the mineral sales strategy as such has not been initiated; this also occurs in the POPs and Hg Products component.Additionally, regarding the actions carried out, the materials developed in relation to knowledge management and the steps to follow are detailed below:• Awareness, training and knowledge management plan: a virtual training plan was developed with information related to the management of chemical substances in the country. This course is in the process of being migrated to the environmental education portal of the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition so that it is available to people interested in the subject from the different sectors involved (public, private, academia).• Identification, collection, repackaging, transport and disposal of obsolete pesticides: in order to improve the environmentally sound management of hazardous waste through preventive actions to reduce the generation of highly toxic waste, a guide was prepared for people involved in the agricultural sector, detailing the responsibilities of the different stakeholders involved in the value chain. https://www.ec.undp.org/content/ecuador/es/home/library/guia-para-la-gestion-adecuada-de-plaguicidas.html• Improved pesticide container rinsing practices: The first phase of the Allies of the Environment campaign was implemented on the mainland, and thanks to this strategy, 60% of pesticide containers increased; therefore, in July, the second phase will be implemented in Galapagos and it is expected that this experience will be summarized in a case study report, as it has generated good results.• Introduction of BAT/BEP in relation to UPOPs: A guide was created detailing prevention and reduction measures, as well as recommended substitute materials or processes to be incorporated in sectors related to landfills, ferrous and non-ferrous metal production, incineration of hazardous waste, production of cement, iron, steel and foundries, among others. https://www.ambiente.gob.ec/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2021/04/GuiaCOPNIS.pdf.• The PNGQ supported the development of the Targeted Scenario Analysis (TSA) in which economic information is provided to support informed decision-making on policies and/or investments within productive sectors. https://www.ec.undp.org/content/ecuador/es/home/library/analisis-tsa-en-el-sector-de-la-mineria-artesanal-y-de-pequena-e.html. Thanks to the results obtained, PNGQ is currently beginning the process of executing the mineral sales strategy, experience that will be summarized in a case study report at the end of this year.In order to follow-up and monitor the communication strategy, Appendix\_59 provides a report detailing the progress of the Communication Plan until the beginning of 2020, as well as the results of a survey of key technical personnel in the implementation of the project (11 people) belonging to: Ministry of Environment, Water and Energy, IIGE, BCE, UNDP, Innovagro and APCSA.It is important to mention that the mid-term evaluation identified the need to strengthen participation and engagement strategies with the target audience, for which a consultancy with a focus on knowledge management will be carried out to contribute to the joint development (professional and project team) of a roadmap to complete the pending actions in terms of lessons learned and best practices, as well as the design of a mechanism to evaluate the usefulness of the published documents.Finally, in this new period the challenge is to establish a communication and involvement link with the project's stakeholders, taking into account the recommendation of the mid-term evaluation on working on a new knowledge management strategy to generate the sustainability of the actions developed. |

# 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.