

**UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE  
TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT FORM**

**Project title and project number:** Reducing uses and releases of chemicals of concern, including Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), in the textiles sector in the UNECE region and beyond

**Expected timing/ duration:** June 2023 – December 2024

**Objective and brief summary of the project:** The objective of the project is to contribute to reduce the release of POPs and Chemicals of Concern (CoCs) into the local and global environment during textile production, use and disposal. UNECE will apply its Toolbox of recommendations, standards and guidelines in its blockchain technological solutions developed under the “Enhancing Transparency and Traceability of Sustainable Value Chains in the Garment and Footwear Sector” project (2020 - 2024), to collect and exchange reliable and confidential data on chemicals in textile value chains and run a blockchain pilot, tracing the value chain of one brand/retailer from a UNECE member State (e.g. France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, UK) with suppliers in at least one of the GEF project beneficiary countries (i.e. Pakistan, Indonesia, Vietnam, Bangladesh). In particular, based on the identification and coding of key chemicals-related data entities performed by the GEF project partners, UNECE will upgrade the Toolbox form of claims and sustainability risks around chemicals of concern (including POPs) in the blockchain; UNECE will map key processes and reference standards of value chain participants, in order to align its blockchain platform and assist value chain participants to develop a use case based on the UNECE Traceability and Transparency (TT) Matrix and Toolbox. UNECE will then support value chain participants to upload the data collected and mapped onto the UNECE blockchain system and validate results which will be published in a final report.

A1.1. Conduct the business process analysis, identifying specific reference standards for chemicals management and documents exchanged with value chains actors in beneficiary countries, and translate requirements into actionable steps to update the UNECE blockchain platform;

A1.2. Develop one use case based on the UNECE Traceability and Transparency (TT) Matrix and Toolbox and conduct coaching sessions for industry actors and partners of the project;

A1.3. Support the uploading of the data collected and mapped on the UNECE Traceability and Transparency (TT) Matrix onto the UNECE blockchain system for the defined use case;

A1.4. Develop a final report on the use case, and conduct a workshop to present lessons learned and recommendations, based on questionnaire and the collection of survey results on the pilot.

**Expected results of the project:**

EA1: Strengthen understanding and among policy makers, private sector actors and certifying agencies on international standards and digital solutions to track and trace the environmental performance of products along value chains with a focus on the use of harmful chemicals.

**Target group and beneficiaries of the project:**

The target group and beneficiaries for the project will include textile factories, small and medium enterprises, chemical manufacturers, testing and certifying organizations as well as policy makers, experts and government officials of beneficiary countries. International organisations and civil society will systematically be invited to contribute to outputs depending on the subject matter systematically. Beneficiary countries are UNECE member States and selected broader UN member States.

**Justification of project and its relationship to the programme of work:**

This project will directly contribute to the objectives: (a) “improve environmental governance and performance for safeguarding the environment and health” of the Subprogramme 1 “Environment”, and (b) “strengthen trade facilitation and electronic business, regulatory cooperation and standardization policies, agricultural quality standards and trade-related economic cooperation in the ECE region and beyond” of the Subprogramme 6 “Trade”, of the UNECE programme budget for 2023. The project responds to the mandates set in the UN/CEFACT Programme of Work of 2023-2024 (ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2022/21/Rev.1) adopted by the EXCOM at its 125<sup>th</sup> meeting (ECE/EC/2022/6), as well as in the Report of the 28th session of the UN/CEFACT Plenary (ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2022/2) (Decisions 22-18 and 19).


**Estimated UN regular budget resources (work months of RB staff/level of Staff):**

0.5 month of P2; 0.5 month of G5

**Estimated extra budgetary resources:**

Donor	Amount (Euro)
Global Environmental Facility/United Nations Environment Programme	132,000

**Project Manager:**

Maria Teresa Pisani 

06.07.2023

**Section/Division:** Trade Facilitation Section/  
Economic Cooperation and Trade Division

**Cleared by Programme Management Unit:**

Nicolas Dath-Baron



10.07.2023

**Approved by EXCOM<sup>1</sup>**

06.07.2023

<sup>1</sup> See paragraph 31 (a) of Commission decision A(65).

**Annex**  
**Results-based budget for the extrabudgetary project**

Expected Accomplishments	Planned activities	Estimated costs (Euro)
EA1: Strengthen understanding and proficiency among policy makers, private sector actors and certifying agencies on international standards and digital solutions to track and trace the environmental performance of products along value chains with a focus on the use of harmful chemicals	A1.1. Conduct business process analysis, identify specific reference standards and type of document exchanged with actors in beneficiary countries and translate requirements into actionable steps to update the UNECE blockchain platform P2 staff to provide overall substantive support for the BPA phase, standard and documents mapping x 0.5 months x €13,000 a month G5 staff to provide administrative support for performance of the activity x 0.25 month x €13,000 a month 1 international consultant to conduct analysis, standards and documents needed x 2 months x €6,000 a month 1 international consultant to translate requirements into actionable steps to update the blockchain platform x 2 months x €6,000 a month 1 staff mission for reaching out to key partners and stakeholders to be involved in the use case x €5,000	38,750 6,500 3,250 12,000 12,000 5,000
	A1.2. Develop one use case based on the UNECE Traceability and Transparency (TT) Matrix and Toolbox P2 staff to provide overall substantive support for the development of the use case and TT Matrix x 0.5 months x €13,000 a month G5 staff to provide administrative support for performance of the activity x 0.25 month x €13,000 a month 1 international consultant for use case partners onboarding and document gathering, x 1 months x €6,000 a month 1 international consultant to develop use case based on the UNECE TT Matrix x 1 months x €6,000 a month	21,750 6,500 3,250 6,000 6,000
	A1.3. Conduct coaching sessions for industry actors and partners of the project, support the upload of the data collected and mapped on the UNECE Traceability and Transparency (TT) Matrix onto the UNECE blockchain system P2 staff to provide overall substantive support for the organization and conduct coaching sessions x 0.5 months x €13,000 a month G5 staff to provide administrative support for performance of the activity x 0.25 months x €13,000 a month 1 international consultant to conduct coaching sessions, prepare training material and follow up on activities x 2 months x €6,000 a month 1 international consultant to support document upload on the UNECE blockchain system and ensure compliance with UNECE methodology x 2 months x €6,000 a month	33,750 6,500 3,250 12,000 12,000
	A1.4. Develop and distribute a questionnaire and collect survey results on pilot results and develop a final report on the use case P2 staff to provide overall substantive support for the survey development x 0.5 months x €13,000 a month G5 staff to provide administrative support for performance of the activity x 0.25 month x €13,000 a month 1 international consultant to develop questionnaire and collect survey feedback x 1 months x €6,000 a month 1 international consultant to draft final report x 1 months x €6,000 a month	21,750 6,500 3,250 6,000 6,000
	<b>Budget summary</b>	
13% UN Programme Support Costs		15,000
<b>Total (rounded)</b>		<b>132,000</b>