

# Launch and Inception Event of the GEF-8 Integrated Programme on Eliminating Hazardous Chemicals in Supply Chains

## *Draft concept note*

### Event overview:

**Dates:** 9-11 December 2024 | **Location:** Siem Reap, Cambodia | **Meeting type:** Hybrid – [Join online](#)

### Background:

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) and Lead Agency UNEP are initiating the GEF-8 Integrated Programme (IP) on eliminating hazardous chemicals from supply chains in the fashion and construction industries. The supply chains IP aims to tackle environmental degradation by transforming fashion and construction supply chains to be green and sustainable, achieve zero pollution and zero waste, integrate nature-based solutions, and become carbon neutral.

The IP is made up of nine child projects (Costa Rica, Ecuador, Peru, and Trinidad in Tobago in Latin-America and the Caribbean, and Cambodia, India, Mongolia and Pakistan in the Asia-Pacific region, and one global coordination project), and the program approach was approved by the GEF Council in June 2023. The country child projects are expected to launch for implementation in 2025-2031.

This concept note outlines the key elements and proposed structure of the launch event for the supply chains IP. The launch event will also include the first global coordination project steering committee meeting.

### Objectives:

1. Launch the GEF-8 Supply Chains IP, engage a wide range of stakeholders and initiate collaborative efforts towards more sustainable supply chains.
2. Initiate the engagement and convene potential future Programme Advisory Group (PAG) members, and to facilitate in-depth discussions on thematic topics relevant to the programme.
3. Identify pathways to leverage the GEF-8 Supply Chains IP in scaling up transformative actions across target sectors, focusing on impactful, scalable interventions that align with the program's goals and foster sustainable change.
4. Generate awareness with OFPs and National Focal Points on the operational and administrative expectations, including holding the first Project Steering Committee for the global coordination child project (closed session).

### Target participants:

**Project country government representatives:** Cambodia, India, Mongolia, Pakistan, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Peru and Trinidad & Tobago.

**Implementing Agencies:** United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and Food and Agriculture Organization on the United Nations (FAO).

**Other key stakeholders:** Executing agencies (EAs), project managers, sister & cousin projects, Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), co-financing partners, global industry actors and

other relevant stakeholders, including private sector, civil organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), development banks and research institutes.

## Draft Summary Agenda

Date	Activities	Attendance
<b>Arrivals Day</b> <i>Sunday 8 Dec</i>	- Arrivals	
<b>Meeting Day 1</b> <i>Monday 9 Dec</i>	<p><b><u>Morning Session</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Registrations</li> <li>- High-level launch – Opening session</li> <li>- Overview of the programme.</li> <li>- Panel discussion</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Afternoon Session</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Site visits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Fashion Site Visit: Lotus Farm by Samatao</li> <li>o Construction Site Visit: Ecobrick</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>Evening</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cocktail mixer &amp; networking event</li> </ul>	Open to all participants
<b>Meeting Day 2</b> <i>Tuesday 10 Dec</i>	<p><b><u>Morning Session</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Global project presentation.</li> <li>- Child project presentations.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Afternoon Session</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Thematic sessions (e.g., Finance, Policy, Innovation)</li> <li>- Programme Advisory Group discussion</li> </ul>	Open to all participants
<b>Meeting Day 3</b> <i>Wednesday 11 Dec</i>	<p><b><u>Morning Session</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Thematic sessions continue (e.g. Global Project (e.g., M&amp;E and Indicators, Communications, Branding, KM)</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Afternoon Session</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Parallel session: Project Steering Committee</li> <li>- Parallel session: EA training– Session on Integrated programme</li> </ul>	<u>Closed sessions</u> IAs, National Focal points, GEF sec EAs

## Draft Annotated Agenda

Date & Time	Activity	Details
Arrivals Day Sunday, 8 Dec		Arrivals to Siem Reap
<b>Meeting Day 1</b>		
<b>Monday, 9 Dec. 9:00 - 12:00</b>		
<b>8:00 - 9:00</b>		
<b>Welcome coffee and registration</b>		
<b>9:00-9:05</b>	National Anthem	All Participants
<b>9:05-9:15</b>	Welcoming Remarks	Importance of integrated program, environmental challenges, and expected impacts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Anil Sookdeo</b>, Chemicals and Waste Focal Area Coordinator, GEF Secretariat</li> </ul>
<b>9:15 – 10:15</b>	Opening Remarks & Keynote Address	Welcoming speech and overview of the IP significance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Mariano Piñeyrua</b>, CEO, Ixalab – Trace Surfer</li> <li>- <b>Mohammed Imam Bakarr</b>, Integration and Knowledge Management Division Manager, GEF Secretariat</li> <li>- <b>Marlene Nilsson</b>, Asia Pacific Deputy Regional Director, UNEP</li> <li>- <b>H.E. Lao Tipseiha</b>, Secretary of State, Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction, Cambodia</li> <li>- <b>H.E. Sabo Ojano</b>, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Environment, Cambodia</li> </ul>
<b>10:15-10:45</b>		
<b>Photo Session and Coffee Break</b>		
<b>10:45-11:05</b>	Programme Overview	IP's objectives, scope, and expected outcomes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Eloise Touni</b>, IP Task Manager, UNEP</li> </ul> <p>Presentation on linkages between the two sectors and cross cutting themes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Apoorva Arya</b>, CEO, Circular Innovation Lab</li> </ul>
<b>11:05-12:00</b>	Expert Panel Discussion	Panel discussion on challenges and opportunities related to the program with 4 key stakeholders and experts. Moderated by <b>Apoorva Arya</b> , CEO, Circular Innovation Lab <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Sok Thy</b>, Founder, Ecobrick Business.</li> <li>- <b>Zubeida Zwavel</b>, Founder and executive director, Center for African Resource Efficiency and Sustainability.</li> <li>- <b>Ilch Yiliqi</b>, Scientist &amp; Senior Manager, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)</li> <li>- <b>Samuil Shiderov</b>, Blended finance expert, UNDP Sustainable finance Hub</li> </ul>
<b>12:00 – 12:15</b>		Q&A and Closing of Launch
<b>12:15 - 13:15</b>		
<b>Lunch</b>		
<b>13:15 - 18:00</b>	Site visits	Site visits to Fashion and construction location in Siem Reap <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fashion Site Visit: Lotus Farm by Samatao</li> <li>- Construction Site Visit: Ecobrick</li> </ul>
<b>Welcome Reception &amp; Dinner</b>		
<b>Tuesday, 10 Dec</b>		
<b>Meeting Day 2: 9:00 - 17:30</b>		
<b>8:30 - 9:00</b>		
<b>Welcome Coffee</b>		

9:00 - 9:10	Recap of Day 1	Recap from day 1 - <b>Eloise Touni</b> , IP Task Manager, UNEP
9:10 - 9:30	Overview of Global coordination Project	Presentation of the global coordination project and opportunities for engagement. - <b>Tapiwa Nxele</b> , Global Coordination Project Manager, UNEP Interactive Q&A.
9:30 – 11:00	Child project posters	8 poster presentations by each child project. Topics: objectives, intervention materials, challenges of each Child Project. - Implementing agencies and executing agencies
<b>10:30-11:00</b> <b>Coffee Break</b>		
11:00 - 11:15	Q&A session	Poster session recap - <b>Tapiwa Nxele</b> , Global Coordination Project Manager, UNEP  Interactive session collecting reactions and project expectations.
11:15 - 12:05	National priorities sessions – all child projects	Eight short 5-minute interventions on national priorities, specific needs for linking with the other projects through the global project and overall added value of the IP. - National Focal Points / GEF Operational Focal Points.
<b>12:05 - 13:05</b> <b>Lunch</b>		
13:05- 13:45	Panel discussion	Panels discussion introducing perspectives on the topics of the thematic breakout groups, underlining key levers for transformative change. 3 Panellists (to become breakout group leads). Moderated by <b>Apoorva Arya</b> , CEO, Circular Innovation Lab  <b>A. Suitable solutions for harmful materials and processes</b> o <b>Stewart Muir</b> , Senior technical consultant, Bio regional <b>B. Creating enabling environments to support responsible innovation.</b> o <b>Rowena Maguire</b> , Professor and Director of Centre for Justice, University of Queensland <b>C. Access to finance from commercial and development banks for supporting sustainable practices.</b> o <b>Samuil Shiderov</b> , Blended finance expert, UNDP Sustainable finance Hub
13:45 - 15:15	Rotating Thematic Breakout Sessions	Breakouts: (30 mins x 3 rotations) <b>A. Suitable solutions for harmful materials and processes</b> o <b>Stewart Muir</b> (Bio regional) – Topic chair <b>B. Creating enabling environments to support responsible innovation.</b> o <b>Rowena Maguire</b> (UoQ) – Topic chair <b>C. Access to finance from commercial and development banks for supporting sustainable practices.</b> o <b>Samuil Shiderov</b> (UNDP) – Topic chair
<b>15:15 - 15:45</b> <b>Coffee Break</b>		
15:45 - 16:30	Thematic Breakout Session Reporting Back	Reporting back of key points from each breakout session.
16:30 - 17:15	Programme Advisory Group	Discuss roles, responsibilities, and participation opportunities in the advisory group. - <b>Ludovic Bernaudat</b> , Head of Knowledge and Risk Unit, UNEP

17:15 - 17:30	Day 2 Closing Remarks	Summary, takeaways, and call to action for the program's success. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Anil Sookdeo</b>, Chemicals and Waste Focal Area Coordinator, GEF Secretariat</li> <li>- <b>Eloise Touni</b>, IP Task Manager, UNEP</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, 11 Dec</b>		
<b>Closed Session: National Focal Points, GEF Sec, and IAs + EAs</b>		
<b>8:30 - 9:00</b>		
<b>Welcome Coffee</b>		
9:00 - 9:10	Recap of Past Few Days	Stocktaking of the previous days' discussions and presentations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Eloise Touni</b>, IP Task Manager, UNEP</li> </ul>
9:10 - 9:50	Global Project Overview	Coordination presentation covering communication strategies, branding, and Knowledge Management. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Tapiwa Nxele</b>, Global Coordination Project Manager, UNEP</li> </ul> Principles for functioning as a "knowledge platform" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Mohammed Imam Bakarr</b>, Integration and Knowledge Management Division Manager, GEF Secretariat</li> </ul>
9:50 - 10:35	Alternative Approaches to Learning and Communication	The power of Interactive digital narratives: A tool for understanding complex issues. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Hartmut Koenitz</b>, Professor in Media Technology at Södertörn University [Online].</li> </ul> Bridging the intention to action gap: Harnessing Emotion-Driven Narratives for Sustainability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Vrinda Mathur</b>, Principal Designer, Vrinda Mathur [Online]</li> </ul>
<b>10:35 - 11:05</b>		
<b>Coffee Break</b>		
11:05 - 12:00	Implementation Plan, Timeline, and M&E Frameworks	Operational session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentation of the implementation plan,</li> <li>- Risks and grievance mechanisms</li> <li>- M&amp;E frameworks (programme level reporting, annual report, harmonizing mid-term reporting and TE) with open discussion on milestones, administrative procedures indicators, and integration with broader objectives.</li> </ul>
12:00 - 13:00	Discussion on key issues and synergies	Discussion on key issues and synergies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Governance and lead agency coordination with other platforms</li> <li>- Inputs from GEF sec, OFPs and Governments on expectations.</li> </ul>
<b>13:00 - 14:00</b>		
<b>Lunch</b>		
14:00 - 17:30	Project Steering Committee Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recap project document.</li> <li>- Theory of change</li> <li>- Approval of the PAG TORs</li> <li>- Approval of Consultant TORs</li> <li>- Approval of Annual Workplan &amp; Budget</li> </ul>
14:00 - 15:45	Parallel EAs session:  Asia Textiles project, GoBlu and lesson learned	Introduction to the GEF 10523 Asia textile project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Ilch Yiliqi</b>, Scientist &amp; Senior Manager, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)</li> </ul> GoBlu - Industry Assessment of POPs in the textile and fashion industry - A first snapshot <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Sophie Hiltner</b>, Key Account Manager, GoBlu. [Online]</li> </ul> Lessons learned from early stages of the GEF Asia Textiles Project

- **Ilch Yiliqi**, Scientist & Senior Manager Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

Q&A group discussion

15:45 - 16:15

Coffee Break