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Introduction

The Swedish EPA is implementing the Sida-financed Global Programme, *Strengthening Environmental Governance for Sustainable Natural Resource Management*, from September 2014 until June 2019. This annual report covers the period 1 January to 31 December 2017 of the Global Programme’s four subprogrammes.

**The Global Programme’s overall objective**

The use of natural resources and ecosystem services is in many developing and transition countries not sustainable. Natural resources have a tendency to be over-exploited and their value is not properly accounted for in the market. The consequences of unsustainable usage of natural resources and ecosystem services have major impacts, not only on the environment and the major earth systems as climate regulation and biodiversity, but also for human societies and development. The overall objective of the programme is to contribute towards a sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystem services in participating transition and development countries. The programme aims to the strengthening of institutional capacities of government agencies as well as the UN system. This will benefit all human beings and particularly the least well-off who often are more depending on natural resources and ecosystem services for their living.

**Four sub programmes**

The Global programme is built on the experiences of the Swedish EPA’s previous Global Programme as well as its other national and international work and the experience, expertise, infrastructure and global network of the partner organisations. The Global Programme is divided into four subprograms that in different ways will contribute to the overall objective:

1. *Environmental Governance for Sustainable Natural Resource Management* - Human rights and rule of law in environmental public administration, focusing on the mining sector, in collaboration with UNDP,
2. *Partnership for an environmentally sustainable One UN*, in collaboration Sustainable UN (SUN) within UN Environment (UNEP),
3. *Ecosystem Services Accounting for Development (ESAfD) in collaboration* with Environment for Development (EfD) and the World Bank’s Global initiative for Wealth Accounting Valuation of Ecosystem Services (WAVES),
4. *Capacity development of staff at Swedish EPA.*
The Swedish Environmental Quality Objectives and Agenda 2030

Many of the environmental challenges in the world are transboundary. Hence, international cooperation is crucial for Sweden to be able to achieve many of the Swedish Environmental Quality Objectives as well as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as defined in the Agenda 2030.

The Global Programme contributes primarily to the Swedish Environmental Quality Objectives Reduced Climate Impact, Clean Air, Natural Acidification Only, A Non-Toxic Environment, Zero Eutrophication, A rich Diversity of Plant and Animal Life, Sustainable Forests, Flourishing Lakes and Streams and to the Generational Goal. The ‘generational goal’, representing the overall goal of Swedish environmental policy, is to hand over to the next generation a society in which the major environmental problems in Sweden have been solved, without increasing environmental and health problems outside Sweden’s borders.

Furthermore, the Global Programme strengthens the implementation of and work towards the fulfilment of the SDGs, which were adopted by the Member States of the UN on 25 September 2015. The Global Programme’s four sub programmes contribute together to a variety of SDGs, in particular to the achievement of the SDGs on No Poverty (1), Zero Hunger (2), Gender Equality (5), Clean Water and Sanitation (6), Decent Work and Economic Growth (8), Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (9), Reduced Inequalities (10), Sustainable Cities and Communities (11), Responsible Consumption (12), Climate Action (13), Life on Land (15), Peace and Justice (16), and Partnership for the Goals (17). The 2030 Agenda also asks the global community to respond to a wide range of complex and multi-dimensional development challenges. This requires a paradigm shift supported by all actors, including governments, the UN System, business, and civil society, to work towards more “integrated approaches” that go beyond sectoral and thematic silo-thinking. Through Sub programme 1, the Environmental Governance Programme, and Sub programme 4 on Swedish EPA’s own capacity development, we also contribute towards the integration of several of the SDGs.

A programme with strong collaboration

The Global programme with its sub programmes is a strong collaboration between Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (Swedish EPA) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment), the Sustainable United Nations (SUN), the World Bank (WB) and the Environment for Development Centres (EfD); but also a range of other partners including Lund University and the Folke Bernadotte Academy.

The primary target groups for the programme are environmental public administrations and ministries with a mandate related to the environment, national human rights commissions, organisations and officials within the UN System and high level decision makers at country level. Secondary target groups are other organisations relevant for the environment including non-governmental
organisations and civil society. Stakeholders are also all parties to the multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs).

**Capacity development**

The focus of the Global Programme is the strengthening capacities of government agencies as well as the UN system. Capacity development goes beyond technical co-operation and is generally described as a three level process (OECD 2012):

- enabling environment level, including policy, legal, regulatory, economic and social support systems in which individuals and organisations operate;
- organisational level, including structures and functions of environmental administrations, for instance monitoring and evaluation;
- individual level, including different forms of trainings.

According to the OECD, capacity development is most effective if all three levels are supported at the same time. The four sub programmes with their different objectives are enabling capacity development the individual, organizational and enabling environmental level.

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1. Sub programme 1: Environmental Governance for Sustainable Natural Resource Management

Key results of 2017

Mongolia:
- Two landmark studies on the rule of law in public administration and legality in mining informed the drafting of stronger mining laws and regulation: The Law of Offences, the Mineral Law, the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation and the Environmental Monitoring Plan Regulations, which is expected to strengthen environmental protection in the mining sector for affected communities across the country.

Colombia:
- A new network of 25 representatives of regional and national environmental authorities for ensuring dialogue between national and regional environmental authorities on Human Rights, biodiversity and mining has been built.
- The ROLPAM assessment is now being replicated five new regions, with the results to be used to inform the country’s new Extractive Sector strategy and early warning system.

Mozambique:
- A cross-sectoral/inter-agency coordination mechanism for regular consultation among agencies involved in environmental governance of the mining sector has been institutionalized. The members of this group have become important advocates and influencers for change in how the mining sector is governed in Mozambique.

Kenya:
- A community guide illustrating entry points for participating in decision making across each stage of the large-scale mining cycle has been finalized and is being translated into several local languages at the request by the Ministry of Mining.
Global results:

- Conducted 8 webinars with more than 700 participants from over 100 countries.
- Contributed to a Massive Online Open Course with more than 9000 registered participants has been developed.
- Expanded the Community of Practice on GOXI membership by 40%.
- Held a soft-launch of the Global Guidance on Integrating Human Rights and Environment into the Governance of the Mining Sector was soft-launched at the annual meeting of the IGF on mining in Geneva.

Overall Performance against the 2017 Work Plan

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1.1. Executive Summary

In 2017, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency and the United Nations Development Programme through its joint global programme on “Environmental Governance of the Mining Sector” (EGP) continued to support governments to meet their national commitments under global environmental agreements, international human rights law, and to accelerate progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Aiming to have a lasting effect on how countries govern the mining sector for more sustainable development outcomes, the EGP continued to advance activities at the national, regional and global level across all key result areas. This included targeted support to Kenya, Mongolia, Mozambique and Colombia, as well as generation and sharing of new knowledge. In 2017, the EGP achieved the following results:

- Supported four governments in conducting participatory self-assessment on the environmental and social pillars of mining governance for evidence-based policy making;
- Supported four governments to strengthen the environmental, social and human rights dimension of policies, laws and regulations, and put them into practice;
- Convened platforms for multi-stakeholder dialogue and engagement between ministries of mining, ministries of environment, civil society and
human rights institutions on how to find collaborative solutions that benefit the public interest;

- Strengthened inter-agency and cross-sectoral coordination, and appreciation of the role of different authorities in governing the mining sector in four countries;
- Generated and shared knowledge, tools and good practices, including through our online community of practice on GOXI, global webinars and peer-to-peer exchanges between the Swedish EPA and sister agencies in the focus countries.

Throughout 2017, we worked more closely with our UN and non-UN partners including UN Women, UN Environment, UNITAR, World Bank, the Folke Bernadotte Academy, Swedbio at the Stockholm Resilience Centre and many others to enhance the relevance, effectiveness and responsiveness of our assistance. Moving forward, the EGP and its partners will build on progress and results achieved to date, including the in-depth country assessments and the country coordination mechanisms, to further support capacities and policy reforms for strengthened environmental governance in participating countries.

1.2. Background

Since the launch of the joint global “Environmental Governance Programme” (EGP) in 2015, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (Swedish EPA) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have promoted and applied an integrated approach to strengthening the environmental governance of the mining sector governance that is people-centred, enforces human rights, and takes into consideration complex institutional and political realities on the ground.

“The Agenda’s promise to leave no-one behind means dismantling the structural injustice that holds back women, minorities, indigenous people, and so many millions of others... The solutions for these people, embodied in the 2030 Agenda, lie in rights-based approaches.”

Former United Nations Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon

At the country level, we continued to strengthen capacities of a wide range of institutions and organizations with responsibilities for mining and environmental protection to: incorporate environmental, social and human rights protection into the regulatory frameworks of the sector; engage the public; and strengthen mechanisms for accountability and redress. At the regional and global level, we focused on generating, disseminating and applying knowledge that responds to country demand and can be adapted to a wide range of development settings.
This report details the assistance provided, results achieved, and challenges faced by the EGP in 2017. It also reflects on the way forward for 2018 and 2019. The progress report is structured around the three outputs of the global project:

**Output 1:** The national environmental and mining authorities in Colombia, Kenya, Mozambique and Mongolia have the capacity to manage natural resources in the mining sector in line with human rights and rule-of-law principles.

**Output 2:** Guidance, tools and experience on strengthening capacities for integrating Rule of Law, human rights and gender equality in environmental governance of mining disseminated based on country experience, lessons learned and research.

**Output 3:** The foundation for a long-term, sustainable partnership over an initial period of from 8-10 years on environmental governance between Swedish EPA, UNDP and other relevant organizations is in place.

### 1.3. Progress overview

**Output 1:** The national environmental and mining authorities in Colombia, Kenya, Mozambique and Mongolia have the capacity to manage natural resources in the mining sector in line with human rights and rule-of-law principles.

In 2017, the EGP continued to work with partners in the four targeted countries: Colombia, Kenya, Mongolia, and Mozambique. Each of these countries faces their own development and political challenges. EGP support is tailored to each country’s context and facilitates South-South knowledge exchange between these and other countries.

**MONGOLIA**

**Context**

In 2017, investments in the mining sector continues to be a high priority in Mongolia. Out of 306 exploitation plans submitted in 2017, 86 were approved as of February 2018. The number of mining licenses (3,369) and the ratio of licensed land to the total land area (1%) remained relatively constant throughout 2017 compared to 2016. However, environmental and social harms related to mining

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remains a major challenge, and civil society and environmental organization continue to advocate for restriction and regulation of small, medium and large-scale mining activities and illegal mining, which has become widespread in some regions.

In Mongolia, the EGP supports the government and civil society to address these challenges. The support focused on four key areas for improving environmental and social outcomes in mining: legislative changes; capacity development and coordination of participating organisations; information sharing and advocacy; and monitoring and enforcement of existing regulations. In 2017 the project also had a focus on reducing the scale and prevent future cases of degraded and abandoned land caused by large scale and illegal mining.

**Progress Overview**

**Legislative changes**

In 2017, Mongolia finalized the assessment of Rule of Law in Public Administration of Mining (ROLPAM), which measures adherence to rule of law principles and environmental procedural rights in the environmental governance of the mining sector. This study, and a complementary analysis on legality aspects, uncovered a range of contradictions, duplications and omissions in the current legal and regulatory framework for mining and environmental protection and gaps between laws, policies and practice. The findings of these two studies informed the drafting process of the following laws and regulations: new Mineral Law, the new Environmental Impact Assessments (EAI) regulations and the Environmental Monitoring Plans (EMP) regulations.

**Capacity development and coordination**

The EGP, in cooperation with the General Agency for Specialized Inspection (GASI) organized two two-day workshops in Ulaanbaatar and in the province Bayankhongor on the application of the newly adopted ‘Law on Offences’. The Law of Offences incorporates aspects of the 'Law on Mining’ and the ‘Law on Environmental Impact Assessment’ which relates to non-criminal environmental offences, under one harmonized act. Under this new law, mining inspectors are assigned new roles and responsibilities which prompted the request for a training. More than 320 environmental, geology and mining inspectors (212 men and 108 women) participated, including 205 inspectors from local levels. For many, this was the first time to receive training on how to apply the laws they use in practice, and the workshop contributed to new insights on the barriers to applying these laws on the ground. Subsequently, a handbook for inspectors on applying the new Law on Offences was prepared, printed and disseminated with the EGP support. A video from the training can be accessed here.

Another two-day workshop on degraded land census was held in March 2017, in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) and the General Agency for Specialized Inspection (GASI). The workshop was attended by 22
inspectors and local environmental officers. The last census was carried out in 2010, and this workshop was designed to introduce and validate a new census methodology. Once finalized in 2018, the census will provide up-to-date official data on land degradation by provinces and sub-provinces, as a basis for designing rehabilitation measures. Three drones were procured for the GASI, MET and the Ministry of Mining and Heavy Industry (MMHI) support in the data collection and monitoring.

The EGP also convened the first environmental governance inter-agency coordination meeting in December 2017. The group was comprised of MMHI, MET, GASI, the Mineral Resources and Petroleum Authority (MRPA), the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), and the National Police Division in charge of environmental crimes (NPD). This is a mechanism for regular consultation among agencies involved in environmental governance of the mining sector. The participation of the NDP assists the policy and regulatory agencies in obtaining information on mining related environmental crime rates and number of cases resolved by courts, which informs policy design and legal drafting.

**Advocacy**

The EGP also supported the MMHI in organizing a regional workshop with the private sector and local authorities on issues of mining policies and environmental protection. The project facilitated the participation of nine civil society actors (five men and four women) to ensure the inclusion of their perspective and made a presentation on environmental governance.

With the EGP’s support, the NHRC organized media campaigns and competitions for raising awareness around human rights issues and mining, which resulted in 49 articles, 3 television programs and 6 radio broadcast programs.

The competition was announced in December 2016 and was concluded in November 2017. The prize winner, a TV programme entitled “Sorrows that accompany gold”, had 8,500 views on Facebook. The NHRC also organized public lectures and other advocacy initiatives during the visit of the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment. The above-mentioned trainings for inspectors and on training and the census trainings were also covered by national and local TV channels, and online news outlets.

**Monitoring and enforcement**

A draft methodology on setting benchmarks for responsible mining for mining companies, including environmental management and human rights issues, was developed jointly with the GASI. The methodology which draws upon international best practice and the current regulatory framework of Mongolia, is currently being piloted by two companies. Once tested, this methodology is expected to contribute to improving industry self-monitoring and compliance with international standards.
With EGP financial support, the NHRC continued its human rights monitoring in 2017, which included filed trips to aimags with mining activities. In total 38 Notices and Recommendations were submitted to 18 aimags. The NHRC staff also accompanied the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment to his field visits.

**Risks, challenges, lessons learned and the way forward**

The parliamentary elections in 2016 and presidential elections in 2017 lead to high employee turnover including amongst members of the EGP coordination group. To offset risks, working group meetings were held more frequently to onboard and brief the new members. The agreed workplan ensured continuity of project activities, despite the changes in the working group composition.

Agencies, civil servants and staff of other agencies involved in the EGP project already have a heavy workload, and so alignment of project activities with national workplans is an important measure to avoid overload. EGP activities were therefore integrated into workplans and performance plans for 2018. This measure will hopefully help strengthen accountability and national ownership.

Coordination with other development projects is vital to ensure synergies and more joined-up approaches. In line with these principles, the EGP is coordinating its activities with a Canadian funded project that is implemented by the Ministry of Mining and Heavy Industry and which shares similar objectives to the EGP. Going forward, some project activities will also be jointly implemented with the UNDP Land degradation off-set project. Another project the EGP is partnering with in Mongolia is the UNDP implemented project ‘Strengthening Representative Bodies in Mongolia’ which aims to strengthen capacities for environmental monitoring of mining activities by local self-governing bodies. Regular information exchange with local environmental Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) is also important. The project continues to be in regular contact with the Open Society Forum (NGO) coordinated network of environmental NGOs to ensure bottom up approaches and stakeholder engagement.

In terms of priorities for 2018, shortage of reliable data related to environmental issues caused by mining activities hampers proper analysis of issues and root causes. Therefore, in 2018, the project plans to assist in reviewing the different databases that sit with different ministries, to see possibilities for interconnectivity and timely information exchange, especially between MMHI, MET and GASI. To provide detailed data on degraded land is another priority. This will allow for analyses and evidence-based policies and strategies to rehabilitate land and prevent future land degradation. Lastly, as the EGP is moving into its last year of implementation, ensuring sustainability is a key priority, and the project will invest institutionalizing its coordination mechanisms to ensure sustainability of results.
MOZAMBIQUE

Context
Transforming mining resources into human and social capital, while minimizing environmental and social harm and maximizing respect for human rights is one of the most pressing development challenges facing Mozambique today. The mining industry in Mozambique is faced with a unique set of development challenges as the country continues to spiral into financial, political and civic unrest. For Mozambicans to benefit from mining, a robust legal, institutional and political framework must be in place to ensure participation, accountability and adherence to international standards in the governance of the sector. This can only be achieved through strengthening rights-based governance systems, including through fostering transparency, an active and informed citizenry and by developing strong accountability mechanisms.

Progress Overview
Targeted training for Civil Society Organization on Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)
Although FPIC in Mozambique is not protected by law, national legislation recognizes certain community rights related to natural resources and access to land, which allows FPIC to serve as a right based mechanism or safeguard to protect and promote these rights.

To date, however, no national and contextualized trainings that can help affected communities and CSO’s advocate for and use FPIC exists. To bridge this gap, EGP in collaboration with OXFAM designed and conducted a training on Free Prior and Informed Consent for 30 CSO members from the Manica, Nampula and Cabo Delgado provinces. One key finding of the workshop that will be addressed by the EGP going forward is how lack of community organization remains a challenge to participation in decision making.

This workshop aimed to strengthen knowledge on FPIC among community leaders and activists, community-based organizations (CBOs), national non-government organizations (NGOs) and community. The workshop also aimed to strengthen participant’s skill to help communities develop strategies for how to advocate for and use the FPIC as a standard. As a prerequisite for attending the course, participants committed to replicate the training in their own villages and province and a community of practice will be created for experience sharing.

Compendium on challenges and opportunities for women in mining
In June 2016 the EGP in Mozambique partnered with UN Women and the World Bank through its MAGTAP project to organize a national seminar and a fair on ‘Gender and Extractive Industries: Sharing of Experiences and Good Practices in Mozambique’. In follow up of this initiative, EGP partnered with UN Women in Mozambique to develop a Compendium of Good Practices for Women and Mining in Mozambique. The study aims at exploring the gender dimensions in the mining
sector and how a human rights-based approaches can potentially address gender inequalities. It showcases five success stories on women’s involvement in the mining sector. The study is currently being edited and will be published in May 2018. The EGP in Mozambique will follow up on key recommendations to be selected jointly with the EGP coordination group.

**Assessment of Rule of Law in Public Administration (ROLPA) in National Institute of Mining and the National Directorate for Environment**

Since 2016 the National Directorate on Environment (DINAB) under the Ministry of Land, Environment and Rural Development (MITADER) and the National Institute of Mining (INAMI) under the Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy (MIREME), has piloted the ROLPAM mining governance self-assessment. The piloting was finalized in 2017 in mining hotspots at both national (Maputo) and sub-national level (the provinces of Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Tete). The assessment pointed to the importance of developing specific guide questionnaire or other research tool for private companies, to assess communities’ perceptions (as has been conducted for users and public servants so far in the assessment). It also recommended to conduct a specific study on general resettlement processes, where the legal framework and submitted planning strategy is often not followed, resulting in recurring human rights violations amongst vulnerable communities.

**EGP Coordination Group in Mozambique established**

An EGP Coordination Group in Mozambique which has been active since the end of 2016 was institutionalised in 2017. The group has its own terms of reference and meets quarterly, or more regularly if needed. It consists of: INAMI, MITADER, MIREME, AQUA and the National Human Rights Commission. The purpose and role of the coordination group is to ensure the effective operationalization of the EGP program in Mozambique. More specifically, it:

- Supports and monitors the implementation of the coordination group’s activities.
- Regularly shares any issues and updates related to mining, the environment and human rights with members through any available means of communication.
- Actively participates in the GOXI platform and share relevant information
- Participate in webinars, whenever possible, to acquire capacity to produce and share good practices

**Risks, challenges, lessons learned and the way forward**

The ROLPAM assessment was significantly delayed as some surveyed agencies were not receptive to the consultants. This issue was eventually solved by UNDP intervening at the level of the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, and the assessment is now finalized.
The establishment of EGP Coordination Group has greatly facilitated the implementation of the program in Mozambique. The team members are both beneficiaries of and active players in ensuring smooth implementation of project activities. The members also actively contribute to global activities, including the online Community of Practice, development of webinars, peer review of tools as well as global and workshops and trainings. Change of focal points in the Coordination Group was also an impediment to progress. More frequent meetings proved best way of onboarding new members swiftly. The NHRC still needs to appoint a new focal point to the Coordination Group. The exposure of the Coordination Group team to various regional and global exchange programs has contributed significantly to advancing knowledge and awareness on rights-based environmental governance of the extractives sector, including influencing key decision makers.

Strong buy-in by the Government of Mozambique has all along been key for the progress and achievements of the EGP. The UNDP country office benefits from a strong relationship with involved institutions from previous projects and/or programs, which facilitated the integration of the EGP within a larger portfolio of programmatic support.

COLOMBIA
Context
After decades of armed conflict, Colombia is moving forward with the implementation of the peace process. This may open new possibilities for investment and economic development in the country’s mining sector as previous off-limit areas open to legal mining. The peace process has also created new opportunities for communities to voice opposition to both large and small-scale mining on grounds of negative social and environmental externalities that impact local communities, which many times are left unaddressed and that have given a negative image to the extractive industry. Surpassed only by India, Colombia ranks second on the Environmental Justice Atlas’ index of socio-environmental conflict hot spots, many of which are linked to mining activities. The government therefore has major challenges ahead in governing the mining sector in a way that maximizes potential social and economic benefits, while preventing environmental degradation, linked social and human rights impacts, and socio-environmental conflicts.

Progress Overview
Within this context, the EGP has supported the Colombian government on several integrated initiatives that link peacebuilding, environmental protection, and

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3 https://www.ft.com/content/80bba74c-38ef-11e7-ac89-b01cc67cfeec
4 https://ejatlas.org/
strengthening responsive, inclusive and accountable institutions. The support includes:

**Assessment of the Rule of Law in the environmental governance and the public and administration of mining (RoLPAM)**

In cooperation with the National Licensing Authorities (ANLA) and the Regional Environmental Authority in the Chocó Region (CODECHOCÓ), an initial participatory assessment was conducted on the degree to which procedural human rights (access to participation, access to information and redress) are being protected in the mining sector. The assessment tool was piloted in small, medium and large-scale mining operations on national and sub regional level, in the Choco and Antioquia regions respectively.

The assessments identified multiple gaps between de jure and de facto implementation of environmental regulations and mandates. In Chocó, a correlation was found between poor public decision making and erosion of trust in the state which can lead to heightened risk for socio-environmental conflicts. These findings are supported by a sector wide impact assessment of mining in Colombia, which was conducted by the Regional Center for Responsible Enterprises and Entrepreneurship (CREER), and which concluded that 50% of recorded grievances could be attributed to poor public decision making or management.  

Going forward, the EGP will support on following up on some of the recommendations of the ROLPAM to help the national government to implement actions for preventing new socio-environmental conflicts. Furthermore, on request by the government, this assessment is now being replicated in up to five new regions, with the results to be used to inform the country’s new extractive sector strategy and early warning system.

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Webinar on Environmental Governance of the Mining Sector
Two webinars on ‘Mainstreaming Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services and Human Rights into the Mining Sector’ featuring case studies from Colombia were conducted in Spanish and English. The webinars were developed and conducted jointly by the director of the ANLA, a delegate of CODECHOCÓ, as well as international experts in environment and mining, including from the Swedish EPA and Swedbio at the Stockholm Resilience Centre.

The webinars had more than 300 participants from across 75 countries. The country’s environmental and mining authorities described the webinar as a strategic platform for learning and knowledge exchange, and for showcasing national good practices on mainstreaming environmental protection and conservation requirements into mining governance.
Figure 3: Webinar on “Mainstreaming Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services and Human Rights into the Mining Sector” in Colombia.

**Workshop: Improving Environmental Governance in the Colombian Extractive Sector: Lessons Learned and Recommendations**

On 30 November to 1 December the EGP co-hosted a workshop in Bogota with national partners from ministries of mining, environmental and regional authorities, local CSOs and the Folke Bernadotte Academy.

More than 70 representatives of environmental authorities from eight regions, the ANLA, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development and the Ministry of Mines and Energy, as well as academic institutions, other government entities and civil society organizations attended.
The aim of the workshop was to explore the intersection between biodiversity, ecosystem services and human rights, and the significance for environmental governance of the mining sector.

An important function of the workshop was to facilitate conversations and networking between regional and national environmental authorities. In general, there are few opportunities for regional and local delegates to contribute to discussions at national level. The workshop allowed local officials to share their concerns and observations about the perceived lack of national guidelines and policies to prevent socio-environmental impacts and conflicts in the various sub-regions with the national government.

Some key take-aways from discussions that will inform future programming are: how the EGP can strengthen this embryo network of national and regional officials; the need to develop protocols and guidance for mainstreaming biodiversity and human rights in normative and legal instruments at the initial stage in the mining cycle; the need to strengthen communication plans at local level; facilitation of information sharing between National Environmental System and the mining sector.

**Risks, Challenges, lessons learned and way forward**
Within the context of the peace agreement and upcoming elections, addressing issues around mining in Colombia is politically sensitive. Large-scale mining can be an opportunity for economic growth and has been championed by the current
administration. On the other hand, several communities have voiced their opposition to mining and the Colombian Constitutional Court has provided a series of rulings that favor subnational governments. The future of mining in Colombia is now hotly debated among presidential candidates with strong demarcation lines between those who are in favor and those who are against. The UNDP Colombia and the EGP has had to navigate support carefully not to be regarded as in favor of any one position or candidate. This has to a certain extent affected implementation of planned activities, which will be further explained in the section on project deviations below.

Going forward, the EGP will focus support on rolling out the ROLPAM in five new regions as well as supporting follow up on priority recommendations from the piloting. This includes support to addressing the following two main gaps that the ROLPAM mapped out. One is that agencies in charge of environmental licensing for small, medium and large-scale mining projects often lack robust communication strategies to communicate their mandates and procedures in a clear and transparent manner, which undermines trust in the state and weakens the social contract. Another recommendation was for public institutions to improve mechanisms and procedures for participation, which are in principle protected by law, but in practice currently considered to be inadequate at best and harmful at worst.

**KENYA**

**Context**
Kenya is endowed with over 120 types of mineral resources, and mining is key to the country’s economic growth. Investment in the Kenyan mining sector has boomed in recent years, and the sector is considered by the Government to be a key driver to achieve the 2030 Agenda. The Government of Kenya recently amended the Mining and Minerals Policy (2016), the Mining Act 2016 and associated mining regulations. In 2017, these, as well the broader institutional and policy framework for environmental governance, were assessed by the EGP from the perspective of social and environmental protection. The EGP in Kenya also focused on improving public participation in decision making in mining governance and to address inter-agency coordination challenges between the Environmental regulator (NEMA) and the Ministry of Mining (MOM) for more sustainable outcomes in mining.

**Progress Overview**

**Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment**
The NEMA is in the final stage of finalizing Kenya’s Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA). By bringing together a wide range of national stakeholders to analyse and understand and the underlying social, human rights and environmental weaknesses in Kenya’s mining policy framework, the consultative process of developing the SESA has been an important achievement in of itself.
The consultations were aimed at providing a platform to identify strengths and weaknesses in the mining sector governance frameworks in relation to environmental sustainability and protection of human rights based on stakeholders at the grassroots. The consultations also provided a platform to discuss the level of public involvement in mining project Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs), including issue of post-EIA monitoring and follow-ups. In Kwale County, such meetings were held in Nguluku, Mrima, Mkangombe, Denyenye, Tiwi-Maweni and Kuranze. In Kitui County consultative meetings were held in Ikutha, Kanziku, Zombe, Mui, and Ngaaiye. Three scoping consultation meetings were undertaken with one each in Kwale, Kitui and Nairobi with a total of 161 stakeholders were consulted (66 in Kwale, 48 in Kitui and 47 in Nairobi). In addition, three consultation workshops were held in Kwale and Kitui with the aim of sharing the draft SESA report with the stakeholders in accordance with the National Guidelines for Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment in Kenya. The SESA process was finalized in a national validation and adoption workshop in Nairobi.

The NEMA is planning to launch the SESA jointly with the Swedish Embassy on the World Environment Day on 5th June 2018 and the EGP will support the Government on following up on three priority recommendations within the purview of the project, which are still to be agreed upon.

**The community guide to large scale mining in Kenya**
In 2017, the EGP supported the Ministry of Mining to develop a community guide on illustrating entry points to participation in decision making across the mining cycle in large scale mining in Kenya.

This guide was developed to address the fact that administrative practices often disregard existing procedural rights to information, participation and redress in mining governance, and both rights holders and duty bearers are seldom familiar with these rights. The guide helps local governments and communities that host large-scale mining operations better understand rights and duties linked to procedural rights. It also provides useful information about community engagement requirements at each stage of the mining lifecycle, including who, how and when they should be engaged or consulted. The information can help communities to know what to expect, from whom and how they can be involved. It explains requirements of Kenya’s Mining Law (2016), the subsequent mining regulations and other relevant environmental and land laws. In doing so, it accelerates actions to implement principle 10 of the Rio Declaration of 1992. The guide is currently being edited and designed. On request by the ministry of Mining, the guide will also be translated into several local languages and used by both the NEMA and the Ministry of Mining in their consultations with civil society.
**Inter-agency coordination and stakeholder engagement**

The EGP plays a key role in facilitating dialogue and cooperation between the NEMA and the Kenyan Ministry of Mining. Both entities are guided by two acts of parliament; the ‘Environmental Management and Coordination Laws of Kenya’, Cap 387 and ‘The Mining Act of 2016’. The partners convene through a joint technical steering committee for the SESA that ensures dialogue, cooperation and ownership across project activities. The technical Committee has evolved into a useful inter-ministerial organ for coordinating EGP activities and advocate for a rights-based approach to mining governance. The committee is comprised by of NEMA, MOM, Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR), a CSO, Directorate of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH), Kenya Chamber of Mines (KCM), Academia (University of Nairobi) and UNDP Kenya.

The project also collaborates with a broad group of key stakeholders including other relevant government entities, private sector, civil society, as and local communities. With a broad focus on advocacy, hopefully, sustained project activities will lead to a groundswell of champions for environmental governance of the mining sector.

**Challenges, lessons learned and way forward**

The annulling of Kenya’s general elections that were held on 08 August 2017 and the new elections in October 2017 created political and social turmoil slowed down the validation of the SESA assessment by the technical steering committee. Work commenced after the elections and the Government is now ready to launch the SESA and to start implementing three key recommendations jointly with the EGP, that are yet to be agreed upon. The launch is scheduled to take place during the World Environment day celebrations on 5th June 2018.

**Output 2: Guidance, tools and experience on strengthening capacities for integrating Rule of Law, human rights and gender equality in environmental governance of mining disseminated based on country experience, lessons learned and research.**

In 2017 the EGP continued to develop and tests tools and methodologies that can help countries prevent and mitigate environmental and linked negative social impacts in mining. The programme focused on practical, demand driven policy and programming measures and best fit solutions that can be adapted to various development contexts. The EGP continued to work with partners across the UN system and other stakeholders from the mining sector, including through the web-based GOXI community of practice to deliver practical policy support and guidance to development countries.
GOXI Community of Practice and Learning Series

Since it was launched in 2016, EGP’s GOXI Community of Practice’s membership has nearly doubled from 60 to 115 active members, and is still growing. So far, 55 blog posts, 13 discussion forums, 3 expert interviews and 6 newsfeeds have been posted on themes such as: Environmental Monitoring of Mining, Community Based Environmental Monitoring Committees, How-To Guidance Note on Integrating Human Rights into Environmental Governance of Mining, Mercury poisoning in the Philippines, The Mariana Mining Disaster in Brazil, Ecuador’s indigenous Shuar people and the Community Mining Project, Indigenous rights and multinational interests, and Biodiversity and Human Rights.

In January 2017, the EGP decided to merge its community of practice on Environmental Governance of Mining with another emerging community of practice focusing on conflict prevention and the extractive industry. Rebranded “Environmental Governance and Conflict Prevention” the new community of practice leverages more practitioners and experts working on the intersection between social and environmental harms and conflict. A GOXI-wide online survey undertaken in July showed that members find the thematic focus and content produced on the EGP GOXI group useful; conflict prevention and meaningful stakeholder engagement emerged as priority topics for members.

“GOXI, and in particular the Environmental Governance and Conflict Prevention Community of Practice, is just one click away and has helped me to connect with environmental experts from across the globe. I definitely look forward to GOXI Initiatives in 2018 and hope to be able to contribute and benefit more from this Community of practice.”

GOXI member Piet Wostyn - Project Manager Enhanced Landfill Mining (ELFM), University of Leuven, Belgium

Figure 5: Geographical distribution of EGP’s GOXI members.

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6 GOXI is an Online Community of Practice for Governance of the Extractive sector, co-convened by UNDP and the World Bank
In September 2017, the EGP also launched its GOXI Learning Series, which is a seven-months learning series that focuses on environmental governance and social and environmental conflict prevention topics. Each month of the learning series is linked to a global event and dedicated to a specific theme, each of which featured news with the recent developments on that theme, a blog, tweets, and a webinar featuring cases and subject matter experts.

Eight webinars were conducted between October and December 2017:

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>03/Oct/17</td>
<td>Mainstreaming HR, biodiversity &amp; ecosystems services in mining</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- case study of Colombia (Spanish)</td>
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<tr>
<td>05/Oct/17</td>
<td>Mainstreaming HR, biodiversity &amp; ecosystems services in mining</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- case study of Colombia (English)</td>
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<tr>
<td>15/Nov/17</td>
<td>Management of Mining Waste &amp; Design for Closure (English)</td>
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<tr>
<td>16/Nov/17</td>
<td>Management of Mining Waste &amp; Design for Closure (Portuguese)</td>
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<td>22/Nov/17</td>
<td>Management of Mining Waste &amp; Design for Closure (Spanish)</td>
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<tr>
<td>04/Dec/17</td>
<td>Environmental Monitoring and Access to Information: Part 1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(English)</td>
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<td>05/Dec/17</td>
<td>Environmental Monitoring and Access to Information: Part 1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Spanish)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13/Dec/17</td>
<td>Meaningful Stakeholder Involvement in Decision-making Processes (English)</td>
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In total, over 700 participants signed up for the webinars from over 100 countries. On average, each webinar had 613 registered, and 70 active participants. The biodiversity webinars alone had 267 participants. In total, 89% of survey respondents said they would apply what they learnt from the webinars in their work and provided examples, 71% said they would recommend or share with others the recorded version/material and 84% said they would attend future webinars and 84% events.

The EGP tried to ensure that webinar topics were relevant, and demand driven, including by crowd-sourcing topics. Speaking to its relevance, the Guatemalan government, which is in the process of developing policies and a legislative framework for large scale mining, asked for one of the webinars on “Management of mining waste and design for closure” to be conducted in Spanish. The webinar had high-level attendance, including the Vice Minister of the Ministry of Mines, the General Director of Mines, the sub-director of Mines, and the Head of the International Cooperation Unit for Guatemala.

“On behalf of the Ministry of Interior I would like to thank you for inviting us to the webinar, and also congratulate you guys for the incredible effort you put into carrying it out. An amazing initiative to share experiences and build collectively.”

Ranferi Herrera, Advisor, Colombian Ministry of Interior
Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Environmental Security and Sustaining Peace

EGP contributed to a MOOC on Environmental Security and Sustaining Peace that was developed with UN Environment, the Environmental Law Institute, and other partners during 2017. The course, which was launched on 1st March 2018 had more than 9,000 registered participants including from, Mongolia, Mozambique, Brazil, Kenya, India, Colombia, Nepal, Afghanistan and Nigeria.

The EGP contributed two guest lecture chapters to the course. These include a chapter on Using Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue as a Tool to Navigate Natural Resource Conflicts, and one on Conflict Pathways and Determinants in Mining, Oil and Gas. The EGP and UN Environment is now discussing how to transform these lectures into concrete results on the ground. This could include hosting a study group or similar event in one or several of the EGP project focus countries in 2018.

Global Guide on Integrating Human Rights and Environment into the Governance of the Mining Sector

As the world is increasingly calling for a net positive contribution of mining to sustainable development, this guidance note reflects on the nexus between human rights, the environment and mining governance. It aims to help governments and other stakeholders to manage the sector for more sustainable outcomes by bringing together a wide range of materials in a step by step approach across the mining cycle. This includes practical guidance on environmental, social and human rights risks at each steps and tools and approaches that can help manage those risks.

The EGP held several consultations and rounds of peer review with practitioners and end-users during 2017 to ensure that the Guide is relevant and user friendly. Testifying to the demand, the Mongolian National Human Rights Commission of its own accord translated an early version of the draft to Mongolian. The EGP team also did a soft launch of the Guide at the Annual General Meeting of the Intergovernmental Forum for Mining Minerals and Sustainable Development (AGM-IGF) from 16-20 October. The launch was well attended by more than 100 relevant government partners, for which the Guide is designed. 7

This Flagship publication is currently being edited for both print and online publication and will be launched on 12 June in Stockholm during the “the Stockholm Dialogue on the nexus between Human Rights, Environmental Sustainability and Conflict Prevention.” An online course is currently being developed jointly with the UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) to enhance awareness of the approaches and tools that can be used to integrate

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7 The AGM is an annual event bringing together more than 400 participants from 65 countries, including government officials, as well as representatives from international organizations, the private sector and civil society.
environmental, social and human rights protection into the governance of the mining sector, and to strengthen the appreciation of the role of different authorities in governing the mining sector.

**Regional Study on Participatory Environmental Monitoring Committees**

The EGP advanced its work with Canadian International Resource Development Institute (CIRDI) on a joint study on how participatory environmental monitoring committees can influence decision making in the mining sector. In the future, this will position EGP to strengthen the participation of communities and civil society actors in the environmental monitoring of mining activities. The goal is that these insights can advance responsive, inclusive and accountable governance of the sector, and prevent socio-environmental conflict by addressing issues at an early stage.

Panama, Peru, Ecuador, Argentina and Bolivia were selected to participate in the study, each of which will develop two national case studies. The study is expected to be finalized in 2018 and will be followed by a regional validation workshop where recommendations and how to translate these into actions on the ground will be discussed.

In addition to producing online courses, studies and guidance notes, the EGP team also contributed to side events and brown-bag lunch discussion as a means to share and disseminate the ongoing lessons from the programme and to shape policy dialogues and debates on human rights and environmental governance of mining. This included a brown bag lunch with UN Environment on Map-X, a brown bag lunch with Source International on Participatory Environmental Monitoring, a side event a UN General Assembly on how private sector partnerships in the oil, gas and mining industries can accelerate progress towards achieving the SDGs and a side event on strategies and legal tools for mainstreaming biodiversity and human rights at the Convention on Biological Diversity’s 21st meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) together with Swedbio at Stockholm Resilience Centre, International Development Law Organisation and Natural Justice. The latter has resulted in a request from the CBD secretariat close collaboration during 2018.

**Annual Global Workshop**

The second annual Environmental Governance Programme meeting took place from 6-8 November in Glen Cove, New York. It was well attended by more than 50 representatives from the four partner countries, the members of the Board of Advisors, and international experts. Efforts by the EGP to influence change are strengthened through these yearly meetings which offer opportunities to convene government officials and experts to exchange views on global trends, country challenges, and lessons that inform EGP work and other initiatives led by partner organizations.
The meeting was used to help monitor and evaluate progress, document good practices, and update workplans with inputs from all stakeholders. The meeting served to strengthen the EGP community of practice through exchange of knowledge and learning; setting clear priorities for the next phase identified based on country experiences and demand; strengthened partnerships between national governmental partners, civil society, national human rights institutions, development practitioners and research institutions engaged in the programme and similar initiatives. Out of 51 respondents, 91% graded the workshop as satisfactory and effective.

Output 3: The foundation for a long-term, sustainable partnership over an initial period of from 8-10 years on environmental governance between Swedish EPA, UNDP and other relevant organizations is in place.

In 2017, the UNDP-Swedish EPA partnership matured. UNDP and the Swedish EPA have reached a mutual understanding of what the program is most strategically positioned to achieve and how. Progressively, a collaborative relationship has developed at all levels between Swedish EPA, UNDP and other partners involved in the programme.
The progress achieved during 2017 and the yearly annual meetings that are attended by a wide range of UN and non-UN partners, helped establish credibility among partners, both globally and nationally, which has helped strengthen existing partnerships and forge new ones.

In 2017, the EGP continued to work closely with UN Women in Mozambique to develop a compendium on the challenges for women in mining in Mozambique. EGP also partnered with OXFAM to design training material and provide trainings for civil society in Mozambique on Free, Prior and Informed Consent. The EGP deepened its collaboration with the Folke Bernadotte Academy on finalizing the global ROLPAM methodology. EGP continued its collaborated with UN Environment on developing a MOOC on conflict prevention and natural resource management as well as a webinar on human rights and the environment that will be held in spring 2018. Within the GOXI learning series, we partnered with Swedbio at the Stockholm Resilience Center on developing a joint webinar on mainstreaming biodiversity, ecosystems and human rights in the mining sector and a joint seminar at Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) COP pre-meeting in Montreal December 2017.

The EGP and the Intergovernmental Forum for Mining, Metals and Minerals for Sustainable Development (IGF) and the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) initiated a partnership to strengthen gender dimensions of large and medium scale mining. The substantive work which will start in 2018, will include a joint mapping, a diagnostic tool, and a joint session on gender and mining during the next IGF Annual General Meeting.

Beyond joint activities on GOXI, UNDP and the World Bank also explored collaboration around its respective mining assessment work. A half-day workshop was held on exploring synergies between the ROLPAM and the World Bank methodology, which is currently being revised and renamed The Mining Sector Diagnostic (MSD). Subsequently, it was agreed to use the ROLPA methodology to complement the World Bank’s MSD in cases where a deep-dive into issues around participation, accountability and transparency has been identified as a priority by the MSD, through joint piloting in one or more countries.

1.4. Cross-cutting issues

1.4.1. Gender and diversity integration

The Swedish EPA and UNDP recognize that gender equality is a human right and a prerequisite and accelerator for achieving sustainable development in the mining sector and the EGP is designed to address gender dimensions of mining governance through mainstreaming gender in all activities. This means analyzing and assessing the different implications for women and men of any planned programmatic
intervention and collecting sex disaggregated data to ensure that the Programme contributes to greater gender equality.

For example, in Mongolia the EGP has supported the government to systematically collect data that measures sex differences in participation during public hearings within the Environmental Impact Assessments process. This will help to analyses the extent to which men and women have equal opportunity to participate in decision making related to mining activities in Mongolia and suggest remediating measures. In addition, the ROLPA and SESA assessments collect sex disaggregated data, to ensure that recommendations are gender sensitive and that future policy making based on it can contribute to gender equality in process and outcomes.

We also work closely with other agencies to advance gender equality and women’s empowerment. For example, in 2017, we developed a good practices compendium for Women and Mining in Mozambique jointly with UN Women, to inform future programming and policy making. The IGF-IISD and EGP also partnered to develop a gender and mining diagnostic tool and will develop a session on gender and mining during the IGF Annual General Meeting in 2018.

In addition, all EGP training activities – both in the four target countries and in the global webinars – has a male-female participation target of 40/60, and our evaluations collect sex disaggregated data to capture women’s perspectives on learning and learning needs.

1.4.2. Conflict sensitivity

Conflict, ranging from low tension to escalated violence is a central aspect of mining. Mining can spark social conflict with local communities, fuel and finance violent conflicts, and metal and mineral endowments often play a role in intra-state conflicts. Understanding the underlying drivers of mining conflicts and how to prevent them is therefore central to ensuring sustainable outcomes of mining.

Mining conflicts are often socio-environmental in character. Socio-environmental conflicts can often be traced back poor governance and administrative decision making that lead to environmental degradation and infringements upon substantive and procedural human rights, including lack of mechanisms for meaningful participation in decision making, accountability, grievance and redress.
The EGP adopts a dual approach to conflict sensitive programming that is grounded in the human rights-based approach and strengthening social and environmental safeguards. To improve its conflict sensitive programming, the EGP has developed the ROLPAM methodology which analyses drivers of conflict related to administrative decision making. It measures perception gaps between administrative officials and affected communities related to the quality of mining governance, including legality, accountability, participation, information and redress. This tool helps the programme and governments understand and address the concerns of citizens that can fuel grievances and social conflicts.

1.4.3. Human rights

Protecting and advancing substantive and procedural human rights for communities affected by mining is a significant objective of the programme. Environmental degradation caused by mining often impact negatively on a range of substantive human rights, including the right to water, health, livelihood. Conversely, protecting human rights, including procedural rights to participation in decision making, access to information, accountability and redress, can help protect the environment.

The EGP pursues a human-rights based approach to development. This includes ensuring that human rights principles and standards are applied at all stages in the project cycle. More specifically, the EGP focuses on integrating the substance of Human Rights into policy, legal frameworks and practices and to ensure the procedural rights to participation, access to information, accountability and redress for citizens across the mining life cycle.

1.5. Risks and actions

At global level, no unexpected events that required escalation to management level arose. The project management group convened on a needs basis to address risks and take stock of progress monthly. The risk log was systematically updated on a bi-annual basis. The global project team has frequent contact with country offices to monitor progress and risks in countries. On country level the project also actively monitored risks every quarter including consulting with key stakeholders at least once in the past year to identify continuing and emerging risks to project implementation and to assess if the main assumptions remain valid. The project continues to have strong buy in and ownership amongst national partners. Risks and actions related to national level implementation is detailed separately under each country profile.
1.6. Project deviation and adjustment

In 2017, the EGP was on track overall to achieve its outputs as planned. Minimal adjustments to indicators and targets were made based on monitoring, feedback from the ongoing evaluator, and more rigorous horizon scans and stock-taking meetings. The adjusted result framework was submitted to Sida in May 2017. At the country level, the following minor changes were made to each country’s workplan activities:

The main risks to achieving outputs was related to the political situation and staffing capacities in focus countries. In Kenya, we postponed a planned workshop with the Swedish EPA and Mozambique from October 2017 to May 2018 due to political and social unrest around the elections. The SESA process also took longer than expected and implementation of recommendations were shifted from 2017 to 2018.

In Colombia, political sensitivities linked to mining, socio-environmental conflicts, the peace agreement and the upcoming presidential elections slowed down implementation of the ROLPAM pilot survey. A planned study on the impact on women by socio-environmental conflicts in the Chocó region was put on hold for the foreseeable future.

1.7. Lessons learned

Learning from success and failures, including through monitoring and evaluation (M&E) is an integral part of the EGP programming. The success of EGP is predicated upon many factors, some of which are further detailed in the project risks matrix and theory of change, and here we will only mention a few select. Lessons learned from national level implementation are explained under each country profile.

Taking an integrated approach to mining governance that is cross-cutting and connects the dots between environmental, social, human rights and economic aspects of mining governance, requires a new approach that bring together multi-dimensional expertise and transcends organizational silos. This can lead to new and innovative solutions but also takes time and requires sustained dialogue across several agencies and countries. The project has now put in place a platform for such cross-sectoral collaboration both at country and global level that can now be leveraged for scaling up innovative solutions.

One key learning from the peer to peer component of the programme, is the need to provide agile support to ad hoc demands and to identify the right level of knowledge and learning when designing peer to peer workshops. Another key take-away is that adapting presentations and learning sessions to the local context
benefits learning for all. These aspects are both key to ensure that the programme remains relevant, engaging and has sustained impact over time.

The institutional twinning with the participating countries has now reached a new level of maturity and the programme is ready to move beyond workshops and towards more concrete, systematic and sustained peer to peer engagement in countries. This includes designing and delivering more targeted and sustained trainings and support to countries based on priority recommendations made in the mining and governance assessment. By way of example, one such concrete suggestion could be to assist the local environmental authorities in Chocó to develop a communication and outreach strategy.

Proper investment in M&E is both a function of results-based management and human rights based approaches, and a priority for the EGP. So far, the programme has benefitted from ongoing learning and evaluation support from Lund University. Some key take-aways from this partnership are that for M&E support to be optimal, it must be seamlessly integrated at all levels of programming. The level of ambition must be matched to realities in countries, such as local capacities and workload issues. Ideally, M&E experts should be involved in the design of the project from the outset. Terms of references, expectations and division of work should be clearly defined from the early start. Where the M&E expertise is embedded also matters. In a decentralized structure where the management team, the country teams and the M&E expertise is physically far removed from each other, the importance of realistic plans that are collaboratively developed and systematically updated is crucial for M&E to add real value to project management.

1.8. Added value

As demand for metals and minerals continue to raise proportionately with global concerns around existing institutional capacitases to address complex and linked development challenges around mining, including environmental degradation, human rights violation, climate change and conflict—the EGP remains highly valid.

Advocating for an integrated approach to these development challenges, the EGP draws upon the combined governance, environmental and extractive sector expertise of the Swedish EPA, UNDP and other partners.

It leverages the technical capacity and international mining and environmental expertise of Swedish EPA as well as UNDP’s presence in nearly 170 countries and territories, its regional expertise, global policy knowledge and technical know-how. This includes a portfolio of mining projects in more than 50 countries. The EGP also leverages a much larger portfolio of The Global Environment Facility (GEF)-
funded projects linked to mining as well as biodiversity and ecosystem services, as well as a large portfolio of projects focused on conflict prevention and sustaining peace.

1.9. Conclusion and way forward

In 2017 the EGP continued to implement activities and achieve progress across all three outcome areas as planned. The partnership between UNDP and the Swedish EPA and between the programme and its other partners were strengthened. The programme continues to have strong buy in an ownership in focus countries and to leverage existing resources and partnership within UNDP.

The programme has particularly been successful in putting in place platforms for cross-sectoral collaboration both at country and global level that brings together multi-dimensional expertise and transcends organizational silos to address complex development challenges in the mining sector.

Going forward, we will work even more closely with our partners to build on progress and results achieved to date, including the in-depth country assessments and the country coordination mechanisms, to further support capacities and policy reforms for strengthened environmental governance in participating countries. We will continue to invest in dialogue to seek co-creative solutions for integrated challenges and invest in learning from our successes and failures and to explore new and different ideas so that mining can contribute to a net positive contribution towards achieving the SDGs.
2. Sub programme 2: Partnership for an environmentally sustainable One UN

Key results

Total numbers of organisations reached:

- 20 UN organisations have worked regularly as EMS pilots and in the EMS working group. More organisations have been reached through the regular interactions between the SUN team (including the Swedish EPA experts) and the Sustainability Focal Points in the whole UN system, which adds around 20 more organisations.

Total number of countries reached:

- The four pilots are based in DR Congo, Kenya, Thailand and USA.

Number of learning events and by types:

- During 2017 there were five online-meetings with the EMS working group (20 organisations represented) for experience sharing, five joint EMS pilots meetings online, also for experience sharing and discussions on certain elements of EMS, and there was one full-day training on EMS face-to-face in Washington with 22 participants.

Total number of people reached (F/M):

- When considering the EMS pilots, the EMS working group and the EMS training in Washington, 14 men and 22 have been reached, i.e. in total 36 people. More organisations have been reached through the regular interactions between the SUN team (including the Swedish EPA experts) and the Sustainability Focal Points in the whole UN system, which adds around 20 more persons.

Overall Performance against the 2017 Work Plan

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<th>Below target</th>
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In line with our project plan we have conducted the activities for 2017 as planned. These activities have been continued support to the EMS pilots, development of UN-adapted guidelines for EMS, development of monitoring of EMS, and support capacity development on environmental management systems.
2.1. Executive Summary

The Swedish EPA experts’ EMS coaching to the four EMS pilot organisations have continued during the year and have been very appreciated by the pilots. During 2017 the work on forming EMS guidance for the UN context has continued. An online application called UN EMS Toolkit is being developed. The visits to the EMS pilots have contained training sessions and meetings to raise awareness and build capacity in environmental management systems in the pilot organisations. Back-to-back with the IMG meeting in Washington in November, the Swedish EPA experts provided a full-day training on implementation of EMS. In 2017, five online meetings took place with the UN EMS Working Group. The participants learn and take inspiration from each other on concrete environmental measures such as waste management, instead of reinventing the wheel. Also, the EMS Helpdesk work has continued and included feedback to UNFPA on their draft EMS Manual. Concerning monitoring showed in the annual Greening the Blue report, the environmental management work in the reporting organisations (more than 50 organisations) was rated in a traffic light model, to allow for comparisons and encourage improvements. Organisations have already contacted SUN for advice on how to improve their rating for next year.

2.2. Background

At Rio+20 year 2012, the Member States made clear their wish to see the UN lead by example on sustainability management. The UN Chiefs Executives Board for Coordination, representing the heads of all UN organisations, made a commitment in 2013 to introduce environmental management systems (EMS) in their organisations. The Swedish EPA experts are helping Sustainable UN (SUN) in supporting the implementation of EMS in a number of UN agencies, developing guidance material, training and monitoring. The ultimate long-term desired impact of this sub programme is that UN agencies have reduced their negative environmental impact and enhanced their positive environmental impact. The short-term desired impact is that UN agencies have a more systematic, robust and credible way of working with their environmental performance. Another desired impact is for the UN system organisations to lead by example on sustainability management. Environmental management systems enables UN organizations to achieve a reduced environmental footprint, improved credibility and reputation, cost savings through better resource management and efficiency improvements, and improved control of environmental risks such as pollution to air or water, that can have
significant and direct impacts on the health and development of those the UN is mandated to assist, especially the most vulnerable.

By having the overall goal to reduce the UN agencies’ environmental impact, the sub programme contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The UN agencies need to show that they are leading the way in the goals they themselves have developed for the world. The environmental impact from UN facilities, such as energy use, waste generation and emissions to air and water, impacts for example the Sustainable Development Goals number 12 ‘Responsible consumption and production’, and 13 ‘Climate action’.

2.3. Progress overview

**Desired long-term impact:** UN agencies have reduced their negative environmental impact, and enhanced their positive environmental impact.

**Short-term outcomes:**
- Targeted UN agencies have capacity and mandate to implement EMS.
- Targeted UN agencies apply EMS in the fulfilment of their mandates.
- Functional coordination, guidance and follow-up of EMS in the UN system exist in line with the principles of One UN.

**Outputs:**
- Effective collaboration mechanisms between Swedish EPA, SUN and UN system established. (Established in 2015.)
- Relevant actors have received recommendations from stocktaking exercise of the implementation of EMS across the UN system. (Achieved in 2016.)
- A knowledge base in the form of methodologies and guidelines exists and has been made available.

**Pilot implementation of EMS in a limited number of strategically selected UN organisations**
The Swedish EPA experts are accompanying the following four pilot organisations through their EMS implementation:
- The UN Secretariat at headquarters in New York
- The UN Organisation Stabilization Mission in the DR Congo (MONUSCO) in Goma
- The World Food Program (WFP) in Kenya
• The UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in Bangkok

In addition to reduced environmental impact, the purpose is to develop and test UN customized procedures and templates developed by the sub programme, and to use these organisations as good examples for organisations who want to follow on the EMS path. The ultimate responsibility for the implementation lies in the organisations themselves. The documentation developed and lessons learned will be shared with the Issue Management Group for Environmental sustainability management, made up by focal points representing around 50 UN organisations.

Five joint meetings (online) were arranged by the Swedish EPA experts for the EMS pilots, sharing experience and discussing challenges, since they are all working with the same EMS elements and therefore can benefit from each other's solutions. The Swedish EPA experts have also had individual meetings online with each pilot and given them tailored guidance in their EMS implementation. The Swedish EPA experts' EMS coaching have been appreciated by the pilots, who in many cases are new to the topic and have limited staff resources.

The EMS pilots are working in line with the following action list:
The Secretariat at headquarters in New York has during 2017 recruited a full-time environmental Sustainability manager coordinating the implementation of the EMS. They have also worked with the initial environmental review, the waste management system and developed an environmental policy. In addition to that, they have also worked on a capacity development plan for the headquarters in New York and the regional Headquarters and Commissions.

During 2017 the General Assembly adopted an action plan for all entities under the Secretariat umbrella. This is a signal from Member States to the Secretariat to lead by example. The action plan is aimed at integrating sustainable development practices into operations and facilities management. The report summarizes the scope, structure, roles and responsibilities, the sequence of required actions and milestones and the resource requirements necessary for the implementation of the plan. The Secretariat has established the Senior level UN Secretariat Steering Group on EMS that had its first meeting in July 2017. Group members represent EOSG, DM (OCSS, OPPBA, OHRM, OICT, DFS, DGACM, DPI, OCHA, UNEP, OCHA, UNEP,
CEB, regional Headquarters and Commissions. Agencies, funds and programmes also participate.

The Economic and Social Commission of Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in Bangkok have during 2017 recruited a full-time EMS Coordinator, which shows their commitment to environmental sustainability in their facilities and operations. They are now finalizing their gap analysis to see which gap they have in their environmental work, and initial environmental review which will give them an overview of their present impact of the environment.

MONUSCO has continued their ambitious EMS work and conducted a number of internal environmental audits. They are planning to have a “blank audit” which is like a pre-audit/inspection in preparation for having an external audit and getting a certification.

The World Food Programme (WFP) in Kenya has finalized their initial environmental review, developed new environmental procedures, and established the EMS governance system, i.e. an EMS coordinator, steering group and working group. They are working closely with UNON, who is responsible for the UN compound in Nairobi. With the EMS work in both UN Environment and WFP as a base, UNON is now also working with EMS and are planning to get an ISO 14001 certification. One of the Swedish EPA experts visited World Food Programme (WFP) in Nairobi. The purpose was to conduct an internal environmental audit at the refugee camp Kakuma and to visit one of several projects were WFP is supporting farmers growing vegetables.

**Development of UN-adapted guidelines for EMS**
The purpose of this activity is to develop guidelines for EMS that can accompany the UN organisations in their efforts to implement an EMS.

During 2017 the work on forming EMS guidance for the UN context has continued. The Swedish EPA experts and a consultant from Impacti, which is a new consultancy firm specialized in sustainability software for UN organisations - have developed an online application – basically like an online program and database- called UN EMS Toolkit. The Toolkit will contain descriptions of requirements on an EMS, practical advice for the EMS implementation and case studies from UN organisations. To make sure that the guidance material is UN adapted, it is sent to the EMS Working Group for review and feedback. The work will be finalized in 2018.

**Development of monitoring of EMS progress**
Monitoring is an important component for accountability and to encourage progress in the EMS implementation among the UN organisations. Since year 2008 there has been an annual inventory over greenhouse gas emissions, coordinated by SUN, covering around 64 UN organisations. This has been made public in the annual
report ‘Greening the Blue’. As a result of the work in the sub programme, sustainability initiatives such as environmental management systems were described and highlighted in the poster and a chapter in the brochure, based on text contributions from the Swedish EPA experts. This was the second year this topic was included in the report.

The environmental management work in the reporting organisations (more than 50 organisations) was rated in a “traffic light” model, to allow for comparisons and encourage improvements. Organisations have already contacted SUN for advice on how to improve their rating for next year, i.e. how to improve their environmental work.

The procurement of a software for annual inventory of EMS, GHG emissions, waste, water and environmental training is now being finalized. Up until now simple Excel-files have been used for the reporting which is no longer sufficient when the reporting becomes more extensive and complex. The Swedish EPA experts will give input in the design of the software to integrate EMS parameters.

**Support capacity development on environmental management systems**

The capacity development on EMS intends to support the organisations so they can implement, and later also maintain their EMS independently.

The visits to the EMS pilots have contained training sessions and meetings to raise awareness and build capacity in environmental management systems in the pilot organisations. Back-to-back with the IMG meeting in Washington in November, the Swedish EPA experts provided a full-day training on implementation of EMS.
There were 19 participants in total, whereof 7 men and 12 women. Feedback after the training indicates that the participants increased their knowledge on the topic. Example of the feedback received:

“I enjoyed the entire session and it was full of practical information which is helping the African Development Bank on its ISO 14001 journey. While all discussions were useful, I will single out the following: The data capture tool developed by the SUN and Impacti. One of the biggest challenges with EMS is often data capture for performance reporting and continuous improvement. The classroom exercise associated with the audit of the World Bank system was also very informative. The range of questions and discussions provided some food for thoughts for our EMS – largely around how we communicate externally.”

Osric Tening Forton, Environmental Management Consultant, Green Bank Initiative within the African Development Bank

Upon request, the Swedish EPA experts and the SUN Coordinator provided a presentation for a unit within Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) in March, to present and discuss how environmental sustainability can be further integrated in OIOS audits. The possibility to further include internal environmental sustainability as a topic in the audits made by OIOS may be further investigated by one of the OIOS auditors, who initiated the meeting and is actively involved in sustainability training sessions provided by SUN, such as the EMS training in 2016 and a green procurement training provided in 2017.

During 2017, SUN has arranged three meetings (two online and one face-to-face) with the participation of environmental sustainability focal points representing around 50 UN organisations. The Swedish experts have participated in all three, and in the face-to-face meeting in Washington they had a session presenting the progress in the EMS pilots and the EMS Toolkit.

The ‘UN EMS Working Group’ chaired by the Swedish EPA staff on loan meets online every second month. Each meeting includes one UN organisation presenting their EMS work to share experiences between the organisations and then topics of current interest such as development of EMS templates. In 2017, five online meetings took place with the EMS Working Group. There are now around 30 persons in the group, covering around 17 UN organisations. The meetings give the environmental sustainability focal points a chance to talk to colleagues working within the same area (internal environmental sustainability) – which can sometimes be a lonely role – which energizes and encourages them in their work. They learn and take inspiration from each other on concrete environmental measures such as waste management, instead of reinventing the wheel. Internal environmental sustainability is a topic they all have in common and have no reason to compete in, and therefore are these networks a contribution to enhanced collaboration between
UN organisations. The Working Group has also been a valuable testing group for the UN adapted guidance material and EMS Toolkit. ‘Gender equality and EMS’ was the main topic of one of the meetings and a gender expert in UN Environment was invited to present. The meeting resulted in a proposal to include a checklist for integration of gender equality in the EMS. This will be finalized in 2018 and included in the EMS Toolkit.

During the year, the staff on loan have provided some direct support through an “EMS Helpdesk” to environmental sustainability focal points in a couple of different UN organisations as they strive to develop an EMS. One example is giving feedback during the development process of the EMS Manual for UNFPA.

SUN coordinating a UN EMS Working Group and providing a UN EMS Helpdesk, both based on the support from the Swedish experts, are crucial signals to show the importance of working on internal environmental sustainability in line with best international practice within the UN system.

2.4. Cross-cutting issues

2.4.1. Gender, conflict and diversity integration

The increasing risk of conflict over natural resources is affecting the work of the United Nations. The Security Council has mandated peacekeeping missions to help national authorities conduct activities in support of natural resource management. Peacekeeping operations where natural resources have financed or fuelled conflict, such as grievances over access, represent around 50% of the peacekeeping budget. Land is most commonly addressed but extractive resources such as minerals, and renewable resources e.g. water, are also included. The Pacific Institute, which studies issues of water and global security, has found a fourfold increase in violent confrontations over water over the last decade.

Inability to gain a livelihood due to environmental degradation and natural disasters obligates environmental refugees to migrate from their homelands. There are currently between 25 and 30 million environmental refugees worldwide, and their numbers are expected to swell to 200 million by mid-century, largely as a result of climate change.

The poor are already the most at risk from climate change. They have the fewest resources to adapt or recovery quickly from extreme weather changes, and they

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8 Greening the Blue Helmets (2012)  
9 The Guardian, 9 February 2014  
10 The Climate Institute defines environmental refugees as "people fleeing from environmental crises, whether natural or anthropogenic events, and whether short or long term."  
11 http://climate.org/topics/environmental-security/index.html
often live on the most vulnerable land because it is the most affordable, such as homes along creeks that flood. The damage extreme weather can do to homes and businesses are often the trigger that tips the vulnerable into poverty.\footnote{The World Bank web page, Feb 6, 2015, http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2015/02/06/climate-change-complicates-efforts-end-poverty}

People in conflict regions, refugees and the poor, are typical examples of beneficiaries for UN organisations, i.e. the people that the UN exists to serve. The sheer size of the UN organization causes a considerable environmental impact from facilities and operations. Activities include office operations, big conferences, travel and procurement. For field activities such as peacekeeping operations, there is an even more diverse variation of activities, e.g. the establishment of camps and all the logistics connected to that such as transportation, waste management and food provision. In 2016 the total number of UN staff was approximately 264,000\footnote{Greening the Blue Report 2016} of whom the peacekeeping operations constituted around half\footnote{Greening the Blue Helmets (2012)}. The greenhouse gas emissions from facilities and travels in the UN system were close to 2 million tCO$_2$eq in 2016.\footnote{Moving towards a Climate Neutral United Nations (2015)}

The UN operates in several countries, both through their offices in its 193 Member States and through its programmes and initiatives. It is crucial that the UN organizations has a minimal environmental impact at its offices and operations, not least because they often operate in poor countries with limited resources and extra fragile nature. The systematic approach of an EMS will help to achieve better planning and control of basic operations and their environmental impacts, and will also allow the UN agencies to better support Member States to further the global sustainability agenda. Having environmental management systems that covers facilities and operations shows that the UN takes its responsibility to mitigate the impact from its own organization on scarce resources and climate change. EMS that also covers policy making means that the UN takes environmental issues into consideration in its overall work of keeping peace and helping nations to improve the lives of poor people.

### 2.5. Risks and actions

Three risks are scored 9 or higher in the risk matrix. These will be found below together with a description of how they are being addressed.

- **Risk:** Lack of understanding about the importance of an EMS at the management and programme implementation levels in targeted UN organisations.
Mitigation: More pressure on UN organisations concerning the importance of internal environmental sustainability is needed from Member States. In 2018 the subprogramme is focusing more on communication activities to reach out to Member States and management groups within the UN. One way is to include environmental sustainability in the UN Reform.

- **Risk:** The knowledge and experience in EMS disappears together with the Swedish EPA experts when they leave the UN.
  
  **Mitigation:** Same as above. If Member States see the importance they can also make sure this topic has a higher priority in UN organisations.

- **Risk:** Time limited work contracts and high staff turnover within the UN. This may jeopardize the continuity of the implementation of the EMS.
  
  **Mitigation:** There has been a change of EMS coordinators in a couple of the EMS pilots. It is important to ensure support from senior management as a way to make the EMS work continue.

### 2.6. Project deviation and adjustment

Partly due to lack of, and change of, staff resources, there have been delays in the EMS pilots. They are all better staffed now and have increased the pace in the EMS implementation. The finalization on the EMS guidance/Toolkit has been delayed and will be finalized and tester in 2018.

### 2.7. Lessons learned

Thanks to the insight the Swedish EPA experts have gained in the collaboration, it is clear that more signals from Member States to UN organisations are needed to put internal environmental sustainability on the agenda.

At UN Environment Assembly (UNEA), world leaders within the environmental area meet to discuss broad environmental matters. Whichever topic to be discussed, the imperative for the UN to walk the talk remains and there is a chance for UN organisations to show efforts in this respect. Such interventions, and related potential side events, need however, to be proposed and hosted by Member States. Despite repeated attempts, so far the Swedish EPA and SUN partnership have not been able to convince any Member State to invest on such issue. The consequences of this is that coherence between words and actions in the UN system is still considered a secondary matter.

### 2.8. Added value

One of the Swedish EPA’s duties is to support almost 200 government agencies in their environmental management work and to analyse the progress annually. The UN system is similar to the Swedish governmental system and Sustainable United
Nations (SUN) is supporting UN organisations in their work to improve their environmental performance and to analyse the progress annually. Both Swedish EPA and SUN are therefore benefiting from the partnership, by learning from each other in their similar work streams.

2.9. Conclusion and way forward

The subprogramme is on track with only a few minor delays. In 2018 more focus will be on communication activities directed towards Member States and high-level forums in the UN system. The finalisation and testing of the EMS Toolkit will also take place.

The UN Reform now being shaped is anchored in the idea of improving the credibility and effectiveness of the UN system in implementing the 2030 Agenda. The Reform offers an opportunity to turn the approaches and knowledge acquired via the Greening the Blue initiative into a coherent integration of the Sustainable Development Goals in UN facilities and operations worldwide.

From July 2018 to June 2019 there will be an extension phase of subprogramme 2. That phase will have a slightly different focus and include evaluation of the use of the EMS Toolkit, and communication activities to raise awareness on the importance of internal environmental sustainability.
3. Sub programme 3: Ecosystem Service Accounting for Development

Key results

Total number of scientific publications:

- 20 peer-reviewed papers in preparation based on country studies (4 on water purification, 5 in pollination, 11 on urban green areas). Expected to be sent for publication before the end of June 2018
- 9 discussion paper on preparation based on country studies (3 in water purification, 2 on pollination, and 4 on urban green areas)
- 2 cross-country collaborative papers on preparation (water purification and urban green areas)

Number of conferences and seminars by types:

- International Conferences: 15 papers presented in 5 international conferences
- Local meeting: 8 papers in 8 local meetings
- Meeting with international organizations and groups of experts: 2 seminars on international organizations and 1 participation on a group of experts on ecosystem accounting

Number of observable changes and by types:

- 1 ecosystem services accounting pilot study by UNSD that is going to be fed by ESA4D (South Africa).
- 2 invitations to contribute to global discussions on ecosystem accounting methods (Expert Meeting on Ecosystem Valuation in the context of Natural Capital Accounting, to be held from 24 to 26 April 2018, in Bonn, Germany, and Forum of Experts in SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA EEA) that is going to be held on 18-20 June 2018 at, Long Island, USA.
- 1 Policy session, joint with UNSD and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (UICN), to be organized during next World Congress on Environmental and Resource Economics, that is going to take place in Gothenburg in June 2018.

Number of new partnerships formed and by types:

- 1 collaboration with the United Nations Statistical Division
The project has successfully almost concluded twenty studies in seven countries, and developed some other ten studies. Also, collaborative papers have been shaped. We made a large effort on bringing our work to the most important organizations working on these topics worldwide, like the World Bank, United Nations Statistical Division, International Union for Conservation of Nature, and more broadly, the community of environmental economists.

3.1. Executive Summary

The objectives of the sub programme on Ecosystem Service Accounting for Development (ESA4D) for 2017 were to a) finalize the analysis stage of the ongoing studies b) initiate joint studies where appropriate and c) link and disseminate the knowledge generated and experiences gained to relevant institutions and stakeholders at national as well as multinational level. All studies that had been initiated in the beginning of the year had finalized most of the analysis work and were ready, or soon to be ready, for submission to papers. Some studies originally planned for had not been carried out due to data constraints or lack of accessibility of data. This is not a negative result as the ability to apply the method given different data situations and different country context is an important finding of the program. In total, there are more than 25 peer reviewed papers in preparation to be submitted for publication in 2018. Tanzania and Ethiopia conducted the pollination valuation studies using more than one method. On the urban green spaces ecosystem services valuation, two methodologies are being used, choice experiments and hedonic prices. The choice experiment valuation method was jointly designed across countries. This gives place for harmonization across studies that helps to build a joint study.

During the workshop in Addis Ababa, in October 2017, the team analyzed how to produce collaborative papers using the inputs from the national studies. Two papers, on water purification and urban green spaces, have been identified. An outline for these papers has been drafted and collaborative work is going to be conducted during 2018. Also, a joint paper for pollination is under preparation for the African countries.

The dissemination activities during 2017 focused both on the global and national communities. Also, dissemination included specific country cases, as well as the entire sub programme. Moreover, events included academic activities and presentations to decision makers, international, and national organizations. The sub programme, and examples of its results, were presented in the London Group meeting, held in Costa Rica. This is the most important global meeting of
environmental accounts, where guidelines for the UN handbooks are identified. As a result of this meeting, we have strengthened the relationships with United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD). We also presented the program and examples of a case studies in the World Bank, in Washington DC, and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), both in November 2017.

Three papers were presented in the annual European Association for Economic and Resource Economics (EAERE) conference in Athens. The conference only accepted 50 percent of papers submitted so it was a good result that all ESA4D submitted papers were accepted. Also, ESA4D arranged three sessions in the annual Environment for Development (EfD) conference in Addis Ababa presenting eight papers in total. A session on urban green spaces, one in pollination, and one in water purification. The EfD conference is a great arena to share methodological approaches and results with top level researchers. All the papers received a great level of acceptability and good feedback. Individual country studies were presented at other conferences also.

The programme has been granted with a one-year extension. During 2018 we are going to finish the national country studies, as well as the two collaborative papers that has been already started. We are planning to design and conduct also additional collaborative work. Regarding dissemination and external outreach, the project has organized, joint with UNSD and IUCN, a high-profile policy session that is going to take place during the World Congress on Environmental and Resource Economics (WCERE), in Gothenburg in June 2018. This was possible thanks to the relationships started with UNSD during the London Group meeting in October 2017. Also because of this new partnership, ESA4D is taking part of the global review on the Experimental Ecosystem Accounts (EEA), conducted by UNSD. Also, three ESA4D members have been invited to contribute to global discussions on ecosystem accounting methods on different international meetings. All these activities bring the opportunity to feed the international handbooks on ecosystem accounting with the lessons from ESA4D. We are planning also to organize webinars to disseminate our results massively. It is expected to organize the webinars by the time that the work is published, to not commit it publication.

3.2. Background

The objective of the programme is to improve the methodology and provide input to the development of international guidelines in benefits from ecosystem services accounting such that better-informed decisions can be made. This will contribute to the targets outlined in the Convention of Biological Diversity i.e. that by 2020 the value of ecosystem services is being incorporated into national accounting. The programme results will also provide input to national objectives such as the sub goal of the Swedish Environmental Objective, A rich Diversity of Plant and Animal Life. Furthermore, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) include the
aim to conserve and restore the use of terrestrial ecosystems and to halt biodiversity loss.

The project provides empirical insights from field tests carried out concurrently in seven countries: China, Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Africa, Sweden, and Tanzania. The project is administered by the Swedish EPA (SEPA) and implemented by Environment for Development Initiative (EfD) centers in the respective countries. The project is conducted by a working group (WG) that is headed by Dr. Juha Siikamäki (IUCN), and eight researchers representing the different countries. The executive coordination has been done by Dr. Jessica Alevsilver (SEPA) until September 2017, and taken by Dr. Matías Piaggio since then, who also conducts the case studies for Costa Rica. The result will contribute to the overall outcomes of the UN Statistical Division (UNSD) by feeding the UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (UNCEEA) in developing the guidelines to include ecosystem services accounting on national accounts, and the Wealth Accounting and the Valuation of Ecosystem Services (WAVES) program at the World Bank by informing on robust methodologies and help to construct a value function in the future. The expected results should be able to be replicated in other countries and contribute to internationally agreed standards in ecosystem valuation. The case studies include gender and distributional dimensions on the value of ecosystem services.

The programme has been carried out as expected. One main opportunity we have seized, which was not expected at the beginning of the programme, are the ties established with UNSD. This gives the opportunity to feed the international standards on ecosystem services accounting with the results from the ESA4D project. As a consequence, we are taking part of several initiatives by invitation of UNSD.

3.3. Progress overview

The stages in the project cycle for 2017 were to assemble to start disseminating the results (Fig. 9). The process objective to achieve this were to a) finalize the analysis stage of the ongoing studies b) initiate joint studies where appropriate and c) link and disseminate the knowledge generated and experiences gained to relevant institutions and stakeholders at national as well as multinational level.
Activity 1: Country level work is carried out

To achieve the first objectives, i.e. to finalize the analysis stage of the ongoing studies and to initiate joint studies where appropriate, the face to face workshops had a strong focus on the individual papers and on the working group (WG) members understanding, supporting and learning from each other. In total, during 2017 have been more than 25 peer review papers in preparation to be submitted for publication in 2018. Table 1 shows the degree of progress on each study per country. Because Tanzania and Ethiopia had data available from different sources, they conduct the pollination valuation studies using more than one method. This is helpful to compare results using different approaches. Tanzania also conducts a spin-off study on the role of pollinators abundance on female headed rural households. On the urban green spaces ecosystem services valuation, two methodologies are being used, choice experiments and hedonic prices. While choice experiments are a stated preferences method, i.e. it asks respondents about their preferences for ecosystem services, the hedonic model is a revealed preferences method, i.e. estimates values of nature form transactions that take part in real markets, e.g. real estate market. There is lack of consensus on which method is acceptable to national accounting. Approaching this research area through different methods allows us to analyze the results from different perspectives. The choice experiment valuation method was jointly designed across countries. This allows for harmonization across studies that helps to build a joint study.
Table 1: level of progress of the national country studies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country / Case</th>
<th>Water purification</th>
<th>Pollination</th>
<th>Urban Green Spaces</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>Hedonics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>70% 70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>30% Forest</td>
<td>85% 80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mapping</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>30% Forest</td>
<td>85% Gen.</td>
<td>75% 85% P&amp;N 80% Agr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>40% L&amp;F P&amp;N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>80% 80% L&amp;F P&amp;N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>In preparation</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>In preparation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA 80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costa Rica</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>80% 35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: 100% indicated a paper submitted for publication in a peer review journal
Gen.=Gender, P&N = Parks and nature, Agr. = Agriculture, L&F= Forest

During 2017 two workshops were planned and budgeted for, the first in Naivasha (Kenya) in March and the second in connection to the annual EfD conference in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) in October. The workshop in Naivasha was organized as an internal conference where all the working group (WG) members took part. WG members had to submit their papers to be discussed during the workshop before a specific deadline, and a discussant to papers was assigned. This resulted in 14 papers presented and discussed contributing to improve and develop the individual studies. Table 1 in Annex III shows the participants in the Naivasha workshop.
One outcome of the workshop was the need to present and discuss the work more often 2017. A webinar was accordingly planned and arranged in July. This was a mean to arrange a workshop despite no funds were available for this activity. For two hours during four consecutive days (to allow for time differences between China and Costa Rica) the group met to present and discuss papers. Two papers were presented per day. The webinar was successfully completed with 100 percent country participation and very good discussions. Although this kind of set up cannot replace face-to-face meetings, it can be a cost-efficient complement. Before the webinar took place, all WG members conducted a training session to present by videoconference as a mean to avoid time consuming technical problems during the webinar, including clear instructions of how to behave. The webinar was an important stage to have peer-to-peer feedback, but also to think together about future collaborative stages. As a result, the WG started working on joint global studies for the green urban valuation work, East African pollination, and a global study for the countries succeeded in getting data for the water work.

Activity 2: Designing collaborative work
During the workshop in Addis Ababa, on October 2017, the WG analyzed the inputs produced at each country, and how to merge data to produce collaborative papers using the inputs from the national studies. Table 1 in Annex III show the list of participants at the meeting. Two papers, on water purification and urban green
spaces, have been selected. An outline for these papers has been drafted and collaborative work is starting in 2018. Also, a joint paper for pollination is under preparation for the African countries. Collaborative papers are going to be pushed forward in the first semester of 2018.

Figure 11: The Working Group during the workshop in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in October 2017.

**Output 2:** Increased knowledge generated about identified gaps in knowledge in ecosystem accounting recognized by the accounting community.

**Activity 3: The methodological guideline and the outline and state of the work are presented at relevant meetings and institutions.**

To achieve the dissemination and validation of results, two different communities were targeted. On the one hand, papers produced in the program were presented in academic conferences to test the robustness of the method. On the other hand, a joint effort was made to present and discuss the results into accounting and practitioners’ forums. Table 1 summarizes the presentations since the beginning of the project. To secure that the method implemented in the different countries fulfill the requirement of being robust, three papers were submitted in January to the most prestigious conference in environmental economics, the European Association for Economic and Resource Economics (EAERE), and they were all accepted. Only 50 percent of all the papers submitted to the conference were accepted. Also, three sessions were organized by ESA4D in the EfD annual conference: a session on urban green spaces, one in pollination, and one in water purification. The EfD meeting conference is a great arena to share methodological approaches and results with top level researchers. All the papers received a great level of acceptability and
good feedback. Also, national country studies were presented at other conferences (see Table 1).

In consultation with WAVES and other partners, the joint methodological effort of estimating the value of regulating services i.e. the pollination studies and the water studies, was submitted to the London group meeting that took place in Costa Rica in October 2017. The London Group is an informal group of experts primarily from national statistical agencies but also international organizations. The London Group on Environmental Accounting has played a leading role over the years in advancing the methodologies of environmental-economic accounts and in providing a forum for sharing national and international expertise in the field. The most notable accomplishments of the London Group have been its contribution to the System of Environmental Economic Accounting Central Framework (SEEA-Central Framework) which was adopted as the international statistical standard for environmental economic accounts at the forty-third session of the United Nations Statistical Commission. The general approach and the worldwide effort call the attention of the participants. During the London group meeting we strengthened relationships with the representatives of the United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD), the organization responsible for the guidelines for environmental accounting in UN. Therefore, the ESA4D outcomes are going to be considered in a global assessment on ecosystem services for accounting that UNSD is conducting between 2018 and 2020. This process will start with the participation of Dr. Juha Siikamäki and Dr. Matías Piaggio at the Forum of Experts in SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA EEA) that is going to be held on 18-20 June 2018 at
Long Island, USA. Also, we are co-organizing, joint with UNSD and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), a policy session during next World Congress on Environmental and Resources Economics (WCERE), to be held in Gothenburg in June 2018. Moreover, three ESA4D researchers (Dr. Juha Siikamäki, Dr. Jane Turpie, and Dr. Matteo Piaggio) have been invited to contribute to global discussions on ecosystem accounting methods (Expert Meeting on Ecosystem Valuation in the context of Natural Capital Accounting, to be held from 24 to 26 April 2018, in Bonn, Germany.

The programme was also presented at a seminar in the World Bank and IUCN. This allowed not only to reach the WAVES practitioners, but other experts in technical assistance and conservation professionals working worldwide on similar topics. The stage of assembling and dissemination has required intensified planning activities within the program as well as intensified consultations with relevant institutions such as WAVES, UNCEEA and London Group. Regular planning meetings between the coordinator and the PI have been held, at a minimum each month and similar for meetings with accounting related organizations. All these meetings are made through the virtual conferences.

Additionally, UNSD, UN Environment, and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity have launched the project "Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services" in five countries - South Africa, China, India, Brazil and Mexico. This is a 3-year partnership project funded by the European Union. The project will initiate pilot testing of the SEEA EEA in partner countries to advance the knowledge agenda on natural capital accounting. One of the main objectives is to mainstream natural capital accounting and valuation of ecosystem services in data driven decision and policy making and is expected to influence policy-makers at national, regional and local level. The ESA4D team in South Africa is involved in this project. The ESA4D approach and results has been considered during the planning meetings, and ESA4D is going to be an important baseline for the pilot accounts in this country.

Table 1: Presentations at national and international events per country.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>International conference</th>
<th>International small meeting</th>
<th>National meetings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Costa Rica</td>
<td>• EfD annual meeting (30/10 to 2/11 2017)</td>
<td>• Gaborone Declaration for Sustainable Development in Africa (GDSA) with Conservation</td>
<td>• EfD Seminar series – CATIE (21/06 2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• EAERE 2017 – Athens, Greece (28/06 2017)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>• EfD annual meeting (30/10 to 2/11 2017)</td>
<td>• EfDT policy workshop (25/02 2016)</td>
<td>• EfDT policy workshop (02/03 2017)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• EAERE 2017 – Athens, Greece (Juha Siikamäki) (28/06 2017)</td>
<td>• EfDT board policy review (25/09 2017)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>International conference</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• 15th International conference on Ethiopian Economy (21/07/2017)</td>
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<td>• Vice president’s office-GDSA &amp; UDSM – meeting – overall (27/6 20176)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• EfD annual meeting (30/10 to 2/11 2017)</td>
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<td>• Vice president’s office &amp; United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), National Accounting for Natural Resources Retreat for Development Partners specifically the Group on Environment (DPGE) - presentation – overall (4/03 2016)</td>
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<td>Ethiopia</td>
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<td>Kenya</td>
<td>• EfD annual meeting (30/10 to 2/11 2017)</td>
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<td>• African ESP Conference:</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>South Africa</strong></td>
<td>Ecosystem Services for SDGs in Africa, Nairobi, Kenya. (21-25/10 2016)</td>
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<td>Brown Bag Lunch seminar, Cape Town University</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• EfD annual meeting (30/10 to 2/11 2017)</td>
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<td>• EAERE 2017 – Athens (28/06 2017)</td>
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<td>• Elsevier water conference</td>
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<td>• Choice modelling conference in South Africa, Dambala Gelo</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>China</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>1st Annual Conference of the Chinese Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, Beijing (25/08 2017)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• EfD annual meeting (30/10 to 2/11 2017)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sweden</strong></td>
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<td>PKU-NSD Workshop in Economics of Environment, Energy and Climate (21/06 2017)</td>
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<td>• EfD annual meeting (30/10 to 2/11 2017)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• London Group meeting in Oslo (Juan Pablo Castaneda, WAVES partnership) (30/09 2016)</td>
<td>• BBL at the World Bank Matias Piaggio (14/11 2017)</td>
<td>Workshop with mining industry in Mozambique Jessica Alvsilver (13/10 2016)</td>
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<td>Country</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Technical Expert Committee (PTEC), WAVES, World Bank Washington, Per Strömberg, Jessica Alvsilver (14/11 2016)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
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Note: all the presentations were conducted by each country representative, except when clarifications are made for the specific event.

Furthermore, to regularly document country level work and assemble result as well as share country experiences, monthly meetings are held with the group every first Wednesday each month. In most cases there is a hundred percent country participation in these meetings. Only one meeting, the July meeting was cancelled. This was substituted by the webinar mentioned before. Table 3 in Annex IV summarizes the planned activities during 2017, it expected results, and the activities that have been carried out.

### 3.4. Cross-cutting issues

#### 3.4.1. Gender and diversity integration

The ESA4D main objective is to develop consistent methodologies to incorporate non-provision ecosystem services into national accounts. In low and middle-income countries, ecosystem services are more related to household sustainability when female are head of the household in agricultural settings. To integrate the gender dimension, we have used household survey data to analyze the relationship between the gender of the household head and the dependency of the household on crop pollination services in several sub-Saharan countries. The results suggest that gender and dependency on crop pollination are indeed related and the potential decline of natural pollinators is likely to disadvantage female-headed households more. Byela Tibesigwa, a member of the WG, is preparing a manuscript on the assessment.

| Gender Score (0-2) | 1 |
3.4.2. **Poverty reduction and anti-corruption**

Understanding and measuring the benefits that humans get from ecosystem services, and incorporating them into the System of National Accounts (SNA) helps to improve their management, and sustain the revenues from the sale of products that depend on ecosystems. Measuring the ecosystems contribution to water purification and agricultural revenues in developing countries brings tools that help to improve natural resources management by allowing countries to manage and reduce water purification costs and sustain rural households’ income.

3.5. **Risks and actions**

The risk analysis remains the same.

3.6. **Project deviation and adjustment**

The program is on track.

3.7. **Lessons learned**

In a four-year project with a clear project cycle it became obvious that the number of workshops and meetings would benefit from being able to adapt to where in the cycle the project is. This year, as well as next year, required more intensified collaborative work as opposed to the earlier in country work, and would have benefitted from three workshops as opposed to the planned two.

Despite personal interactions are sometimes weak as a consequence of the different locations of the research centers worldwide, the virtual workshop and one to one discussions sessions work as a good complement to the costlier face-to-face meetings. Good planning and some training increase the outcome of the virtual workshop. Virtual workshops should probably not replace real meeting, but only work as complements.

The WG was active in self-organizing to push collaborative work. Next year needs to increase the efforts to assemble the country studies datasets and results to reach high quality collaborative papers.

3.8. **Added value**

The Swedish EPA / EfD partnership brings a favorable setting for ESA4D. The project aims to conduct research relevant for policy making by helping to develop methodologies and applications to incorporate ecosystem services valuation into national accounts. The Swedish EPA brings a large expertise and network of
contacts for validation and consultation about the methods and results. EfD complements this expertise by allowing the development of empirical analyses worldwide in developing countries.

3.9. Conclusion and way forward

The project has successfully conducted a large number of country studies that are being prepared to be sent to peer reviewed publications. The peer review process assures the quality of the work conducted during the last years. This is complemented with the development of two collaborative studies, setting the stage to reach the project objectives during the remaining period.

The accomplishments so far have enabled the opportunity to share results both in academic and practitioner arenas. Because of sharing the results in academic events, helpful feedback has been received that not only improves current work, but also help to shape ideas for future collaborative work. Communicating results to practitioners has helped bring the methods and results to professionals who can both use the results from the project to include in national ecosystem accounts and policy assessments and to feed the development of the UN methodologies for ecosystem accounting. During the London group meeting we strengthened relationships with the representatives of the United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD), the organization responsible for the guidelines for environmental accounting in UN. Therefore, the ESA4D outcomes are going to be considered in a global assessment on ecosystem services for accounting that UNSD is conducting during 2018. Also, we are co-organizing, joint with UNSD and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), a policy session during next World Congress on Environmental and Resources Economics (WCERE), to be held in Gothenburg in June 2018. Moreover, three ESA4D researchers (Dr. Juha Siikamäki, Dr. Jane Turpie, and Dr. Matías Piaggio) have been invited to contribute to global discussions on ecosystem accounting methods. As a consequence, ESA4D is going to be able to feed the guidelines for ecosystem accounting directly. Also, ESA4D researchers in South Africa are taking part of the "Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services", a project launched by UNSD, UN Environment, and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity have launched the project in five countries - South Africa, China, India, Brazil and Mexico. The ESA4D approach and results has been considered during the planning meetings, and ESA4D is going to be an important baseline for the pilot accounts in this country.

One of the main challenges was the difficulty to gather detailed microeconomic data to conduct some specific studies in some countries. This is an important lesson learned for the project and for accounting in general, showing how difficult it can be to construct robust information to support ecosystem accounting in some places. Another challenge was the effective management of a group spread worldwide. We
handled this fact by intensifying virtual interaction during the year. This is going to be kept during the next year.
4. Sub programme 4: Capacity development of staff at Swedish EPA

4.1. Executive Summary

The activities carried out under this programme and through the Environmental Governance Programme have, among other things, contributed to a greater understanding of the interdependency between environmental sustainability and human rights and how to operationalize these in programming. There is clearly a momentum that has been created, but a lot more can be done.

There was also no or very limited sharing of experiences within SEPA and among other government agencies when it comes to how to work with capacity development and other related issues. Through the Network for learning, N4L, which was initiated by SEPA and MSB (the Swedish Contingency Agency) and activities funded through this programme, there is now a well institutionalized mechanism for exchange of experiences and learning together to improve our work.

Through the Environmental Governance Programme, EGP, we have also contributed to the Convention on Biological Diversity’s, CBD’s, work on human rights and mining which has resulted in that the secretariat of the convention have asked EGP for continued support and close cooperation on these issues during 2018.

There is an added value of this sub programme as the government agencies working with development cooperation are funded only through programmes or project and shall have full cost coverage of their work. This means that there is in principle no funding nor much room to develop how we work unless through programme components like this one. Through the funding of this programme we have been able to organize small - yet important – activities that have given meaning to the network for learning, by allowing us to move from talking to action. Capacity development is a large field in itself, one that we need to stay up to date with, in addition to our core competencies and mandate, which this sub programme allows us to do.

4.2. Background

SEPA staff are first and foremost experts in supporting environmental policy development and implementation in Sweden and the EU. Working peer to peer with SEPA staff is highly appreciated by SEPA partners. However, to make the most of SEPA’s contribution, SEPA staff also need to continuously improve how we work with capacity development and cross cutting issues such as human rights.
and gender inequalities. There is also a need for better integration of the development perspective including issues such as capacity development and human rights in the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) to come to terms with their large implementation gaps.

The expected outcome of this sub programme is hence that:

**Outcome:** The staff of the Swedish EPA has used the tools, knowledge and skills they have acquired from the sub programme in relevant fora such as international development collaboration and selected Multilateral Environmental Agreements.

**Impact:** A better understanding and implementation of a development perspective, an environmental governance perspective and human rights based approach in international development collaboration, negotiations and implementation of selected Multilateral Environmental Agreements as well as other relevant measures for a sustainable use of natural resources.

The principle strategy used for the implementation of this sub programme has been predominantly to 1) work with other government agencies through the establishment of the Network for Learning – Capacity Development in Practice (N4L), 2) to encourage and fund SEPA staff to participate in relevant trainings, and 3) through e.g. the Environmental Governance Programme (sub programme 1). Through the Network for Learning there is now a well established mechanism for exchange of experiences and joint learning between government agencies. There is also a growing awareness of the interdependence between human rights and environmental sustainability partly as a result of this programme and also increased knowledge about human rights in public administration, thanks to among other things, the training provided by Uppsala University. This together has enabled the implementation of the programme during 2017.

### 4.3. Progress overview

The expected outputs of this programme are as follows:

**Output 1:** The professional competence and skills of the staff at the Swedish EPA on capacity development, the development perspective and human rights based approaches is strengthened.

**Output 2:** The Swedish EPA staff is better equipped to contribute to the outcomes of the global programme and to other international cooperation.
At the outset of the Global Programme, there was limited knowledge about the interlinkages between human rights and environmental sustainability as well as how to more strategically and explicitly operationalize principles of human rights and rule of law in development cooperation carried out by SEPA and other government agencies. This was also true for staff working with the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) at SEPA but also at the Ministry of Environment and Energy.

Today, the situation is very different. The activities carried out under this programme and through the Environmental Governance Programme have contributed to a greater understanding of the interdependency between environmental sustainability and human rights and how to operationalize these in programming. Not only staff at SEPA but also other government agencies show an increased understanding and will to work integrated with these issues. Also at the Ministry of Environment and Energy staff see the benefit of framing environmental issues such as chemicals and waste management as human rights issues, and they try to make the link where possible in e.g. instructions that outline and defines Swedish positions at international meetings. There is clearly a momentum that has been created, but a lot more can be done.

There was also no or very limited sharing of experiences within SEPA and among other government agencies when it comes to how to work with capacity development and other related issues. Through the Network for learning, N4L, which was initiated by SEPA and MSB (the Swedish Contingency Agency) and activities funded through this programme, there is now a well institutionalized mechanism for exchange of experiences and learning together to improve our work.

Through the Environmental Governance Programme, EGP, we have also contributed to the Convention on Biological Diversity’s, CBD, work on human rights and mining which has resulted in that the secretariat of the convention have asked EGP for continued support and close cooperation on these issues during 2018.

During 2017 the following we have:

- Arranged a workshop on gender mainstreaming in development cooperation together with N4L where SEPA staff also participated.
- Arranged a workshop on mainstreaming environmental sustainability in development cooperation together with N4L.
- Arranged a workshop on human rights and environmental sustainability in development cooperation and multilateral environmental agreements for government agencies and the Ministry of Environment and Energy.
• Co-hosted a round table discussion on human rights and toxics with the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and Toxics together with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute.

• Arranged an informal discussion with the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and Toxics and staff from SEPA and the Chemicals Agency, Kemi.

• Co-organised a side event to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) to the Convention of Biological Diversity on Strategies and legal tools for mainstreaming biodiversity and human rights in the mining sector together with Swedbio at Stockholm Resilience Centre, UNDP, International Development Law Organisation and Natural Justice.

• Contributed to Sida’s event Human rights and environmental sustainability – Why should we bother to work integrated? SEPA staff also participated in the event.

• Contributed to the realization of a meeting between the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and Toxics and the Ministry of Energy and Environment.

• Contributed to the realization of a meeting between the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment and the Minister for Environment and Energy.

SEPA staff has also participated in:

• N4L’s group for administration.

• N4L’s board meetings and co-chair group.

• Training at Sida Partnership Forum on gender and on development cooperation for government agencies.

Workshops on gender mainstreaming and integration of environmental issues in programming

A follow up workshop on gender mainstreaming in government agencies’ development programmes and projects was carried out by Swedish EPA in collaboration with Statistic Sweden, Swedish Public Employment Service, Swedish Enforcement Authority and Swedish National Land Survey in January 2017. Employees of eleven different public agencies and organizations participated in the workshop. Sida presented among others gender analysis as an important tool for gender mainstreaming. The Swedish Public Employment Service sparked a discussion on ‘thinking gender equality’. Based on the evaluation, it can be summarized that the workshop was highly appreciated. Although more concrete practical examples and tips are called for. Another workshop on integration on environmental issues in Swedish public agencies development work was carried out by Swedish EPA in January 2017.
Workshop on human rights and environmental sustainability in development work for public agencies
On October 2nd 2017, the Swedish EPA arranged a one-day workshop on human rights in development work for environmental public agencies. The workshop included presentations by Uppsala Universities Faculty of Law and made room for group and panel discussions. Staff from SEPA, the Swedish Chemicals Agency, the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management, the Ministry of the Environment and Energy, the Swedish Mapping, Cadastral and Land Registration Authority, the Swedish Public Employment Service, Swedbio at the Stockholm Resilience Centre, the Folke Bernadotte Academy and Sida participated in the workshop. The large interest to participate in the workshop tells us that there is now an increased interest and understanding of the need to work integrated with human rights and environmental sustainability. The evaluation of the workshop showed that the participants where overall satisfied with the workshop. However, it highlighted also the further need for more discussion and knowledge sharing regarding these issues.

Round table discussion on Human Rights and the Environment and Q and A session with the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and Toxics
Together with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, the Swedish EPA organized and hosted a roundtable on ‘Human rights and the environment: What do stronger ties offer each other?’ in September 2017. After an introduction by Baskut Tuncak, UN Special Rapporteur on human rights implications of hazardous substances and waste, a discussion on key issues and how to address them followed. Several key public agencies and organizations, among others Stockholm Environment Institute, Stockholm International Water Institute, the Ministry of the Environment and Energy and the Swedish Chemicals Agency participated.

Before the roundtable discussions, the Swedish EPA organized an informal meeting between Baskut Tuncak and staff from the Swedish EPA and the Swedish Chemicals Agency where staff members had the possibility to ask the UN Special Rapporteur specific questions related to their work.

Trainings at Sida Partnership Forum and the Sida event Human rights and environmental sustainability – Why should we bother to work integrated?
One SEPA staff participated in Sida’s training on gender, where sharing experiences with other participants was the most important take away. One SEPA staff participated in the training ”Utvecklingssamarbete för myndigheter”. The course provided an overview of e.g. the Swedish development cooperation, the intercultural perspective, Agenda 2030, Sida and the Swedish government agencies, Theory of Change and ethical dilemmas. Staff who previously participated in the Basic course for government agencies were more satisfied and
found it more useful than the staff who participated in this new version of the course.
Several SEPA staff also participated in the Sida event Human rights and environmental sustainability – Why should we bother to work integrated? SEPA supported the event by filming and providing a live stream. The recordings can be found here.

**Side event on Strategies and legal tools for mainstreaming biodiversity and human rights**
At the Convention on Biological Diversity’s twenty-first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), SEPA and UNDP, through the Environmental Governance Programme, together with Swedbio at Stockholm Resilience Centre, International Development Law Organisation and Natural Justice co-organised a side event on Strategies and legal tools for mainstreaming biodiversity and human rights in the mining sector. Lessons learned by various organisations on the use of tools and strategies to understand and act upon the effects of mining on biodiversity and human rights of different groups in society, across time and across different localities, especially in the Global South were discussed.

**Contributing to meetings between the Special Rapporteurs and the Ministry of Environment and Energy and other advocacy activities**
When the Special Rapporteurs on Human Rights and the Environment and Human Rights and Toxics have been part of events that SEPA has arranged or contributed to, we have also contributed to their wider programme while in Sweden and most importantly to set up meetings with staff and management at the Ministry of Environment and Energy. In addition to this, the organized events and our work through the Network for learning, we have also engaged in informal discussions to further the understanding and the momentum to work integrated with human rights and environmental sustainability as well as to have a stronger capacity development perspective in international work, especially in the Multilateral Environmental Agreements.

**The Network for learning – Capacity development in practice, N4L**
The Swedish EPA has during 2017 continued to be an active and driving force within the Network for Learning where we have participated in several meetings and helped organize three workshops. SEPA also stands as a host for the N4L web platform.

4.4. Cross-cutting issues

4.4.1. Gender and diversity integration
The sub programme continues to focus on the gender mainstreaming. During 2017, a workshop on the integration of gender aspect in capacity development projects within the Network for Learning raised further awareness of these issues. Furthermore, it provided a platform to exchange experience, raise questions and discuss obstacles with other public agencies.

4.4.2. Conflict sensitivity
The sub programme has not yet addressed conflict sensitivity in workshops or trainings. This is however done to a large extent in the Environmental Governance Programme where a lot can be distilled, learned and shared during 2018 and 2019. In June 2018, the Environmental Governance Programme is hosting a Stockholm Dialogue on the Nexus of Human Rights, Environmental Sustainability and Conflict Sensitivity together with partners such as the Folke Bernadotte Academy and UN Environment.

4.4.3. Poverty reduction, anti-corruption etc.
The issue of poverty reduction and anti-corruption has predominantly been addressed through our work to strengthen our capacities to work on human rights and rule of law. Just as much as environmental sustainability and human rights are interdependent, so are human rights and poverty and environmental sustainability and poverty.

4.4.4. Human rights
One main focus of the sub programme is to raise awareness and advance the discussion on the interlinkages between human rights and the environment. An ambition is to not only move the discussion forward within the Swedish EPA, but also other government agencies, the Ministry of the Environment and Energy, the ministry of Foreign Affairs and in international fora.

4.5. Risks and actions
The risk matrix remains the same.

4.6. Project deviation and adjustment
We have not developed specific tools or methodologies for SEPA staff as stated in the results framework. We have instead focused on creating platforms for dialogue and learning through e.g. workshops, seminars and side events. As a mechanism
for continuous improvements and learning, we have together with other
government agencies created the Network for learning – Capacity development in
practice, instead of working solely within SEPA. In this sense, we are deviating
from the plan. But we do believe that this is a more fruitful way of working.

We have also not developed a separate plan for capacity development of SEPA
staff as stated in the results framework. In 2014, we instead together with the
Network for Learning developed a report on training needs for staff working at
government agencies. This among other things resulted in that Sida developed a
‘basic course’ for this category of staff in which several SEPA staff have
participated. During 2017, the Network for Learning, Sida and MSB (the Swedish
Contingency Agency) initiated a process to clarify what additional support is
needed to strengthen Swedish government agencies’ capacities to contribute to
partner capacity development within the framework of Swedish development
cooperation. A first workshop was conducted in April 2017 – Effective Learning
and Support for Capacity Development. This resulted in a report and a follow up
workshop in Kosovo. Researchers at Lund University have then based on this, and
other work, proposed a study on Swedish government agencies performance on
capacity development in international development cooperation programmes. The
study aims to provide a systematic and constructive critical assessment of how
Swedish public agencies conceptualize and operationalize their capacity
development in different partner contexts. As this process in on-going, and will
also benefit SEPA, we have decided not to duplicate work and work in parallel
with this process but to engage in it. In this sense, we are also deviating from the
initial plan.

4.7. Lessons learned

It has been useful to work with other government agencies to strengthen our own
capacities and to push the agenda forward together, as we are much in need to the
same things. Through our work, there is e.g. at large no longer a questioning of the
interdependence between human rights and environmental sustainability and the
need to work with human right in public administration. The question is more
related to how we can do this. There is still a lot that can be improved when it
comes to how we work with gender equality, human rights, capacity development
etc. But working together with others have shown to be very powerful and
inspiring.

While noting that working with SEPA and other government agencies is highly
valued by our partners, we have also identified other areas where improvements
can be made, e.g. on how we use information and communications technology
(ICT), work with adult learning, and monitoring and evaluation. Overall, with
some funding and staff time, there are a number of low hanging fruits to harvest to
- in a cost-efficient way - make the contribution from the SEPA and the Swedish government agencies even better.

### 4.8. Added value

There is an added value of this sub programme as the government agencies working with development cooperation are funded only through programmes or project and shall have full cost coverage of their work. This means that there is in principle no funding nor much room to develop how we work unless through programme components like this one. Through the funding of this programme we have been able to organize small - yet important – activities that have given meaning to the network for learning, by allowing us to move from talking to action.

It is also important to remain humble and have respect for the challenges meaningfully engaging in development cooperation entails. Capacity development is a large field in itself, one that we need to stay up to date with, in addition to our core competencies and mandate, which this sub programme allows us to do.

### 4.9. Conclusion and way forward

We will continue to focus our efforts through the Network for Learning and other partners. Hopefully, during 2018, the study proposed by Lund University on Swedish government agencies performance on capacity development will be funded and launched. This will provide important input on the way forward on how to strengthen our capacities to contribute to Swedish development cooperation and other international work such as the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs).

We will also continue to work through the Environmental Governance Programme, especially on the interdependence between human rights and environmental sustainability, but also conflict. We will especially contribute to the Convention on Biological Diversity where there is a window of opportunity through their thematic focus on biodiversity and mining.