SANITATION & HYGIENE FUND

Quarterly Progress Report (Q4 2023)

Date of Submission: February 2024

Reporting Period: [1 October 2023 to 31 December 2023]

Sanitation and Hygiene Fund (SHF)

United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)

Geneva, Switzerland

For:

Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of the Netherlands

Directorate-General for International Cooperation (DGIS)

Activity # 4000004420

1. Introduction

In Quarter 4 2023, the Sanitation and Hygiene Fund (SHF) closed the year by reporting progress to the 7th SHF Board Meeting.

2. External operational Environment

The external operating environment continues to have challenges. Our partner countries, and the selected recipients of funding and their target populations, are facing the impacts of multiple crises of global proportions. SHF is prioritising countries and populations with the greatest needs, and here the impact is especially profound.

3. Work Plan Progress

SHF has continued its regular work planning and reporting cycle and at the end of quarter 3.

3.1 Summary of Progress with Key Deliverables/Milestones

#	Deliverable/Milestone	Current quarter status
1	Strategic Planning: SHF reviewed 2023 delivery and undertook work planning for 2024. SHF also initiated a roadmap to 2027, that includes a stocktaking exercise and development of its next strategy.	Completed against Quarter 4 targets
2	Resource Mobilisation: SHF concluded a major RM scoping exercise with documentation to be used by the incoming Head of RM in Q1 2024. At the invitation of a foundation, SHF undertook concept note writing and agreed the scope of a menstrual health and hygiene proposal to be funded from 2024. The second MHH funders roundtable attracted 18 participants with some bi-laterals attending for the first time.	Completed against Quarter 4 targets
3	Country Fund Portfolio: Work undertaken with implementing partners in Kenya and Uganda to agree KPIs and ensure on track for reporting in early 2024. A large TA contract brought to a conclusion with delivery of investment cases, financing strategies and key sector reform needs to accelerate the sanitation economy and menstrual health and hygiene market place. Scoping work conducted for country expansion in 2024.	Completed against Quarter 4 targets
4	Monitoring & Evaluation: End of year reporting and Q4 reporting undertaken and internal KPIs assessed.	Completed against Quarter 4 targets
5	Governance: 7th Board and committee meetings facilitated and annual budget 2024 approved. Work continued on SHF safeguarding principles and framework. Partnership to facilitate capability for catalytic financing progressed and approved by the Board.	Completed against Quarter 4 targets
6	Communications: On-going social media presence. Planning for the SDC/SHF menstrual health and hygiene event to be held at the World Economic Forum, Davos 2024.	Completed against Quarter 4 targets
7	Operations and Finance: End of year closure and 2024 budget exercise.	Completed against Quarter 4 targets
8	Risk management: Updated the risk and issue register with a forward look to 2024.	Completed against Quarter 4 targets

3.2 Stakeholder satisfaction

Meetings with existing donor representatives confirmed satisfaction with SHF progress and strategic direction. The Government of Uganda adopted SHF narrative around the sanitation economy on their website, coinciding with the Minister's validation of the work and partnership at AFRISan, 2023 in Namibia.

The second Menstrual health and hygiene funders roundtable reaffirmed SHFs role as a funding convenor and thought leader.

3.3 Delivery performance

Keen interest from eligible implementing partners as applications came in to undertake market-based sanitation in Nigeria. With the closure of the Call for Proposals the technical evaluation was started with an estimated timeframe of Q1 2024.

3.4 Knowledge management

Work initiated to develop a framework to assess the maturity of the sanitation economy and menstrual hygiene market in LMICs.

3.5 Personnel management

Recruitment processes underway for a Country Market Shaping Specialist and a Sanitation and Hygiene Market Specialist, in Nairobi and Geneva respectively.

3.6 Core values and learning

The year in reflection yielded lessons including the need to refine SHFs technical advice offer, expand its technical partnerships and ensure the catalytic finance offer is well positioned to attract funding under the forthcoming availability of new instruments.