



## Full Business Case Change Control Note

January 2025

### Detail of Template

#### 1. KEY INFORMATION

<b>Project Name</b>	Championing Inclusivity in Plastic Pollution (CHIPP)		
<b>Original Project Objectives</b>	<p><i>As part of HMG's mission to support international development programmes and diplomatic initiatives with inclusion at the forefront of their efforts, CHIPP funds two components with a strong focus on creating a fairer and more equitable approach to both educating and empowering marginalised communities and enabling participation in key decision making.</i></p> <p><b>Component 1</b>, the Tide Turners Plastic Challenge, aims to empower young people to address plastic pollution in their communities and take on leadership roles in advocating for solutions and behaviour change.</p> <p><b>Component 2</b> comprises the UK's voluntary contribution to the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Plastic Pollution, with costs ringfenced to support ODA-eligible countries to participate in the treaty negotiation sessions and intersessional regional meetings.</p>		
<b>Reasons for change</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are seeking a budget increase of <b>£200,000</b>, secured for the Global Plastics Treaty in the 2025/26 SR. The Global Plastic Pollution Treaty negotiations did not conclude as expected in December 2024, with an additional round of negotiations now expected late Spring/ early Summer 2025.</li> <li>We are seeking a timeline extension of <b>6 months</b>, up to 30 September 2025, to accommodate this uplift, and to accommodate evaluation activities for the Tide Turners component which will be covered by its existing budget.</li> </ul>		
<b>Whole Life Cost</b> Defra FLD+ programme budget	Original Amount £m	Revised Amount £m	Change Amount £m
	£5.068m	£5.3m	£0.23m
<b>Budget</b>	Original Amount £m	Revised Amount £m	Change Amount £m
	£4.9m	£5.1m	£0.2m
<b>Project Start &amp; End Date</b>	Original start date*	Original end date (Project closure)*	Amended end date (Project closure)
	01/01/23	31/03/25	30/09/25

Other projects/ Programmes impacted by change	NA
Is the change Novel or Contentious	No
DevTracker link to original business case	<a href="https://devflow.northeurope.cloudapp.azure.com/files/documents/UNEP_business_case_FINAL_Dec22_redacted_clean-20240228020245.pdf">https://devflow.northeurope.cloudapp.azure.com/files/documents/UNEP_business_case_FINAL_Dec22_redacted_clean-20240228020245.pdf</a>

\*Regarding programme start and end dates for the CHIPP programme: The original business case linked above specified a January 2023 start date and a March 2025 end date. Through this CCN we wish to clarify that this refers to a 01 January 2023 start date and a 31 March 2025 end date.

## 2. KEY DIFFERENCES (CHANGES TO ORIGINAL FULL BUSINESS CASE)

Summary reference table to help the approver understand the key changes from the original business case.

- Indicate if each case has changed or not.
- If it has, in one sentence summarise the change.

Full detail of the change is requested later in the template in sections below.

<b>Strategic Case</b> – unchanged.
<b>Economic Case</b> – changed, £200,000 budget for INC component added to recommended option for disbursal in FY25/26 and noting additional funded delegates at INC session 5.2.
<b>Commercial Case</b> – unchanged. Expected to issue a new contribution letter to INC.
<b>Financial Case</b> – changed to reflect £200,000 budget for INC component for disbursal in FY25/26.
<b>Management Case</b> – updated delivery plan and key programme milestones in line with 6-month extension to 30 September 2025.

## 3. INFORMATION

### 3.1 What is the project's background and Strategic Objectives?

CHIPP's overall objective is to foster an inclusive approach to tackling plastic pollution at all levels in ODA-eligible countries, from young people and communities to international action.

#### INC Component

Through the resolution 5/14 entitled "End plastic pollution: Towards an international legally binding instrument", adopted in March 2022, the United Nations Environment Assembly requested to convene an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC). In January 2023, Defra gave £2m in ODA to support the INC process to support inclusive participation of ODA-eligible country negotiators in the development of an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution. The Global Plastic Pollution Treaty [REDACTED] in December 2024, with an additional round of negotiations now expected late Spring/early Summer 2025.

The INC contribution aims to support the views of ODA-eligible countries to be heard and reflected in the ongoing plastic pollution treaty negotiations by supporting the travel and participation of delegates. The support for the INC meetings will help to ensure all countries can participate meaningfully in the discussions at a pivotal moment for the international community as it works to shape a new treaty on plastic pollution. Bringing [REDACTED] voices to the table will be critical in agreeing a global instrument that benefits the world's most vulnerable, and takes into consideration the different social, economic and environmental contexts of the countries it will impact.

Plastic pollution is a global challenge, and the UK prioritises engagement across multilateral forums and organisations to raise global ambition and drive actions that minimise plastic pollution from both land- and sea-based sources. This programme reinforces the UK Government's leading efforts to ensure an inclusive approach in tackling plastic pollution at all levels.

Activities that can use ODA funding include:

- Travel and subsistence for ODA-eligible countries
- Support for ODA-eligible delegates at intersessional regional meetings
- Training for delegates taking leadership roles from ODA-eligible countries (e.g. chair, co-chairs, co-facilitators, members of the Bureau).

#### Tide Turners Component

TTPC is a youth environmental education and advocacy initiative which seeks to educate and empower young people on marine plastic pollution and how they can address it in their communities. The objective of this programme is to influence behaviour change, share knowledge, build awareness, and promote inclusive environmental stewardship in young people and give them a voice in the fight against plastic pollution. Its core deliverable is an educational course delivered in partnership with educational institutions. It is delivered in Africa by the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) and the World Organisation for the Scout Movement (WOSM), and in India by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and Centre for Environmental Education (CEE). These organisations work in partnership with educational institutions to deliver online and in-person environmental awareness, policy and advocacy training. Captain Planet Foundation (CPF) works with UNEP to deliver more advanced policy training for Tide Turners students and supports them to attend global environmental events.

### **3.2 What is the reason for the change?**

#### INC Component

We are seeking a budget increase of £200,000, secured for the Global Plastic Pollution Treaty in the 2025/26 SR. The Global Plastic Pollution Treaty negotiations did not conclude as expected in December 2024, with an additional round of negotiations (INC 5.2) now expected late Spring/ early Summer 2025. Alongside this, a timeline extension of 6 months is requested to accommodate this spending.

#### Tide Turners Component

We are seeking a timeline extension of 6 months to accommodate the financial uplift for the INC component, and to accommodate evaluation activities for the Tide Turners component of the programme. A 6-month extension would allow for the completion of a final evaluation of Tide Turners and a recommendation for how the project evolves and secures sustained impact following programme closure. The extension would allow for the evaluation to take place and offer Defra inputs that can be included in the final reporting cycle. The next annual review is due April 2025, which is within 6 months of programme closure in September 2025. The Programme Closure Review (PCR) will therefore be the next review, due three months after closure by the end of December 2025. Further reasons for the no-cost extension to Tide Turners include:

[REDACTED]

### 3.3 What is the total and additional funding required?

Existing funding: [REDACTED]

Additional funding: [REDACTED]

Total funding: £5,100,000

### 3.4 Summary of performance to date

#### INC Component

#### ***Benefits realisation and performance to date:***

Defra funding allowed the INC Secretariat to organize two rounds of regional consultations that supported the countries in their preparations for INC-3 and INC-5 (results from INC-5 are yet to be received). These consultations allowed the member states to exchange views within their regions and to seek general areas of convergence within each region. It was also an opportunity to get more detailed knowledge about the organisation of work for the third and fourth sessions of the INC. The organisation of in-person regional consultations prior to each INC session has been requested by many regions since INC-1.

#### ***Results achieved***

As a result of pooled donor funding:

A total of 171 delegates from ODA eligible countries received travel support to attend the standalone regional consultations prior to INC-3 and INC-4, combined.

A total of 441 delegates from ODA eligible countries received travel support to attend the INC meetings (INCs 2-5). At INC-2, 213 ODA-eligible delegates attended and at INC-3, 228 ODA-eligible delegates attended.

#### ***Regional consultations held:***

- Group of Asia-Pacific States on 2 October 2023, in Colombo, Sri Lanka, and on 5-6 March 2024 in Bangkok, Thailand
- Group of African States on 16-18 October 2023, in Kampala, Uganda, and on 19-20 April 2024 in Ottawa, Canada (back to back with INC-4)
- Group of Latin American and the Caribbean States on 16-17 October, in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, and on 20-22 March 2024 in Panama City, Panama
- Group of Eastern European States on 27 October 2023, in Geneva, Switzerland, and 25 March 2024 in Vienna, Austria

The regional consultations sought to support the development of the regional positions on the:

1. Zero-draft text of the international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, to be considered by member States at INC-3;
2. Revised draft text of the international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, that would be the starting point and basis for textual negotiations at its

fourth session, without prejudice to the right of any member to propose additions, deletions or modifications in the course of negotiations at the fourth session; and

3. To support countries in their preparations for the sessions.

The INC Secretariat measured the impact of the UK's contribution through participant surveys. Results from surveys conducted after regional intersessional meetings conducted ahead of INC-3 and INC-4 indicated that more than 90% of surveyed participants consider that the regional consultations have increased understanding of the issues being discussed, more than 80% considered that it has strengthened the capacity of institutions to prepare for the INC sessions, and about 80% believe that it has help to understand better the different positions and national circumstance within each region.

### ***Value for Money***

Travel support is limited to economy class to ensure Defra can fund as many delegates as possible, and round-trip air tickets were processed and issued directly by the UNEP INC secretariat, with the most economical route available purchased for the applicable travel dates. Regional consultation meetings for Asia Pacific States, African States and Eastern European States were held back-to-back with other important regional environmental meetings to reduce travel. For example, Prior to INC-4, the regional consultations for the Africa group, were held back-to-back with INC-4.

### ***Tide Turners Component***

#### ***Benefits realisation and performance to date:***

The impact of Tide Turners is a wide cohort of youth who understand and are prepared to engage with the scale of the plastic pollution crisis, combined with the sum of the many advocacy projects and campaigns that members pursue in later stages of the challenge and beyond. The programme has also been integrated into curriculum by the World Scout Movement, in four Indian states and in two UN member states, suggesting the platform created by Tide Turners will continue engaging youth beyond the period of Defra's support. Tide Turners record and publish members who go on to deliver change in their communities or more broadly via success stories.

### ***Results achieved***

The outcome data reported by TTPC has met or surpassed expectations for all three indicators. Indicators capture the number of Tide Turners that go on to take on leadership roles whether this be at the local, regional, national or international level. Tracking how TTPC impacts behaviour change across youth is challenging to capture and makes narrative reporting for understanding TTPC's outcomes and impact particularly important. A behaviour change evaluation [REDACTED] is being undertaken to better understand this impact and will provide data for the impact indicators.

Outcome Indicator	Target	Phase 5.2 results (Jul 23 – Mar 24)	Progress
Number of events with Tide Turners youth voices presented	2/year	26	[REDACTED]

Number of community projects/advocacy campaigns executed by young people in target countries.	10/year	11	
Number of success stories on the programme shared through communication channels.	10/year	10	

### **Value for Money**

All UNEP's partners are subject to financial audit and due diligence according to UN procurement requirements. The business case estimated the total cost per beneficiary of the programme is estimated to be approximately £2.80. At present the cost-per-beneficiary is estimated at £2.90, with just under 1,000,000 registered TTPC members from a total investment of £2.9m from Defra.

The 23/24 Annual Review concluded that overall, the value for money of both components is considered uncertain. There is some evidence that Defra's spending is economical and efficient, and strong evidence that it is equitable, but limited evidence that it is effective.

### **3.5 What are additional expected benefits of the budget or other changes?**

This uplift will support the ongoing plastics treaty negotiation process by funding travel support for delegates from ODA eligible delegates to attend the negotiation sessions and intersessional regional coordination meetings. We expect the additional funding to support ODA-eligible countries to attend the next INC session expected late spring/early summer 2025.

### **3.6 What is the approach to implementation?**

This is unchanged. As set out in the current contribution agreement (end March 2025), the INC Secretariat is the contribution recipient and will disburse funding co-financed with other donors to the process to cover the activities listed above.

UNEP will also continue to implement the Tide Turners programme working with downstream partners to deliver activities as set out in the contribution agreement.

### **3.7 Describe any key changes to the original business case including the Theory of Change or new evidence from ongoing monitoring, evaluation or learning work.**

- **Strategic Case**

No changes

- **Economic Case**

£200,000 budget for INC component added to recommended option costs for FY25/26 and noting additional delegates funded to attend INC session 5.2. Value for money is unchanged as expect the cost-per delegate supported to remain roughly consistent. This is a small increase relative to other donor contributions. The UK would remain the fifth largest donor at **US\$2.68m** to the INC process, below Canada (**US\$2.88m**), the US (**US\$4.38m**), Germany (**US\$6.18m**) and Norway (**US\$6.2m**). Planned results for the Tide Turners programme reflect targets set out in delivery plans and logframe

revisions agreed between UNEP and Defra in 2024. Overall value for money case is unchanged and remains uncertain due to the absence of monetised benefits measurable within the lifetime of the programme.

- **Commercial Case**

No changes. A new contribution letter will be agreed with the INC secretariat covering dispersal of the £200,000 and will draw on the terms of the most recent MOU covering Defra's core contribution to UNEP. Defra and the Tide Turners team will agree a no-cost extension to the existing contribution via email, subject to SRO approval. Both agreements will run to and expire on 30 September 2025.

- **Financial Case**

Adding additional budget of £200,000 for 25/26 for the INC component, to be disbursed in April 2025. Whereas previous programme budget has been sourced from the International Sustainable Blue Finance (ISBF)'s ODA budget, the proposed £200,000 will come from ODA budget secured by the Ocean and Plastic Pollution team in the 25/26 spending review. Defra is in the process of conducting a Central Assurance Assessment due diligence of UNEP and the programme will monitor the outcomes of this process. No additional programme-specific due diligence will be conducted as a result of this extension. Resource costs to Defra for additional 9 months, counting up to delivery of the PCR expected December 2025:

Grade	G6	G7 - SRO	SEO - PRO	SEO - MEL	HEO - analyst	HEO – PMO
Time	0.05	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.05	0.05
Annual cost						
Adjusted cost						
					<b>Total</b>	<b>30,031</b>

- **Management Case**

The delivery plan and reporting schedule is revised to run up to *30 September 2025, with Defra's Programme Closure Review due 31 December 2025*:

March 2024	New contribution agreements signed
April 2025	Defra disbursement of £200,000 payment to INC
May-July 2025	INC 5.2 (estimated)
March-August 2025	Tide Turners evaluation delivered
31 August 2025	Tide Turners Phase 5.3 final report due
30 September 2025	Final INC proforma and financial report due (extended from April 2025)

30 September 2025	Contribution agreements expire
September-December 2025	Drafting programme closure review
31 December 2025	Defra programme closure review due

The programme risk potential assessment remains unchanged. The programme risk register and fraud risk assessment have been updated to reflect the additional funding and longer timeframe.

UNEP report on risks at monthly calls with Defra. In 2024, the fraud risk assessment was been updated and a SEAH risk assessment and SEAH action plan drafted and agreed with UNEP.

Defra had originally intended to deliver both mid-term and final evaluations for the programme. These were not budgeted for in the business case and we now expect a single final evaluation for the Tide Turners component only.

The two component logframes have been combined and updated as per changes agreed with UNEP in November 2024 – January 2025.

### 3.8 Lessons identified and implemented

Recommendations based on lessons learned for the programme were set out in the 23/24 Annual Review. This extension will give Defra and UNEP more time to implement these before programme closure.

**Recommendation 1:** Defra and delivery partners should review the programme theories of change and consider combining them, and develop and agree a single logframe, at least 6 months before the next annual review/programme closure review is due (by September 2024, for PCR due March 2025). Given the limited time left for delivery, Defra should take a proportionate approach with partners and focus on data that is already reported. Also, to avoid creating a causal narrative where it doesn't exist, Defra should focus on trying to represent the causal links made in the business case, and build on the existing theories of change, making modifications only around specific learnings and tested assumptions identified by delivery partners, and only recommend changes where they have time to act on them before programme closure. This should prioritise realigning the output and outcome indicators to more accurately reflect the pathway to impact, considering what assumptions still hold or have changed, and setting revised targets. Delivery partners should continue to prioritise disaggregation of people-focused indicators wherever possible.

**Progress:** Defra and UNEP agreed revisions to the logframe in December 2024 to January 2025. The changes are to be approved by DD ISBF.

**Recommendation 2:** Defra should review the programme RAID (risk, assumptions, issues, dependencies) log and ensure it is updated monthly and ensure delivery partners also maintain risk registers and update Defra on risks at regular (quarterly as minimum) meetings. Having completed a SEAH risk assessment, Defra should work with UNEP to strengthen standards and reduce risks for SEAH across the delivery chain for TTPC, including through completing delivery chain mapping. Clear progress should be made in time to report to the BPF Joint Management Board in September 2024, and a full list of recommended actions is set out in section E (Annual Review).



**Progress:** Defra and UNEP have worked closely to understand strengthen SEAH across the delivery chain, including engaging downstream partners on policies, approach and reporting mechanisms. UNEP report on SEAH monthly to Defra. Defra have moved the risk register on the new ODA risk register template and agreed risk appetite for the programme, which is set in line with Defra ODA portfolio appetite. The register is being update monthly as minimum.

**Recommendation 3:** As the only GESI transformative programme in the marine ODA portfolio, Defra's programme team and ODA Hub should identify areas where CHIPP has performed exceptionally on GESI. In consultation with UNEP, Defra should use this as a basis around which to share learning with new and existing ODA programmes, including through the ODA GESI champions network. Before the PCR Defra should review the recommendations of the SDD audit and work with partners to implement these. Separately, Defra is undertaking a review of the links between plastic pollution and poverty, with specific reference to the INC treaty negotiations. Defra should consider the implications of this work for CHIPP, and ensure that TTPC's evaluation plans consider the livelihoods impact of the programme where possible. In preparing for the PCR and delivering against recommendation 1, Defra should work with partners to ensure data is disaggregated by gender and socio-economic background where it isn't already, without adding disproportionate burden to partners given the short time left before programme closure.

**Progress:** The programme team has considered GEDSI during the logframe revisions including adding disaggregation where UNEP already collect the relevant data, and prioritised GEDSI in comms with delivery partner who are mainstreaming it for planning the next stage of tide turners after UK funding ends. GEDSI is being incorporated into the Tide Turners evaluation design.

### **3.9 Implications of non-approval**

#### **INC Component**

An insufficient funding pot risks a number of countries being excluded from INC negotiations and losing their input or support of the final text. This limits their ability to ratify the treaty. By not ratifying the treaty the countries will not be legally bound to make critical changes in the management of plastic within their country and the global environmental improvements necessary to stabilise the marine environment may not be achieved. By providing funding to the INC process there is a greater chance that the final agreement will reflect the needs of developing countries and more effectively guide national level actions.

Financial support will ensure more inclusive, diverse dialogue and decision-making, which will be crucial for less economically developed or more geographically dispersed member states. These member states can often not fund travel to meetings and conferences that are often far from conference nations (e.g., remote Small Island Developing States (SIDS)) or are simply too expensive for delegates to attend.

By not approving this investment, the UK would forgo a valuable opportunity to continue demonstrating the UK's leading role in catalysing action against plastic pollution, in line with domestic and international commitments. Not contributing would undermine our global objective to be a leader on this issue, as per Goal 5 of the 2023 Environmental Improvement Plan.

#### **Tide Turners Component**

The evaluation for Tide Turners would take place outside of an agreement between UNEP and Defra. UNEP delivery partners require more time to complete planned activities for the final phase 5.3 of Tide Turners, and without an extension some activities will be delivered to a lower standard. Without an extension there is a risk of underspend.