

UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub for Europe and CIS

Minutes of the Virtual Project Appraisal Committee Review

Project: “Stakeholder Engagement for Uranium Legacy Remediation in Central Asia - Phase II”.

Duration: 15 July - 9 August 2019

1. List of Participants

Project Board Members	Title
Gerd Trogemann	Istanbul Regional Hub Manager, LPAC Chairperson
Pratibha Mehta	Resident Representative, UNDP in Tajikistan, LPAC member
Saltanat Dospaeva	Operations Manager, UNDP in Kyrgyzstan (on behalf of Aliona Niculita, Resident Representative), LPAC member
Hurshid Rustamov	Head of the Sustainable Development Cluster, UNDP in Uzbekistan (on behalf of Matilda Dimovska , Resident Representative), LPAC member
Farid Garakhanov	Chief of Operations, UNDP IRH, LPAC member
Barbora Galvankova	Gender Equality Programme Specialist, UNDP IRH, LPAC member
Ekaterina Paniklova	Senior Programme Coordinator, Quality Assurance, UNDP IRH
Armen Grigoryan	DRR/CC Team Leader, UNDP IRH, presenter
Stanislav Kim	Programme Specialist, DRR/CC Team, UNDP IRH
Marina Ten	RBM Specialist/Head of PSU, Quality Assurance, UNDP IRH
Mehmet Iskin	Programme Associate, PSU, UNDP IRH, Ex-Officio

2. Review of the project “ Stakeholder Engagement for Uranium Legacy Remediation in Central Asia - Phase II”

Key Highlights:

The objective of the Phase II is to reduce risk of the negative impact of the uranium waste on people, livelihoods, and environment through raising awareness and supporting people-centred, gender sensitive, risk-informed solutions in legacy sites at the level of local communities in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. This objective will be achieved through implementing targeted public advocacy and outreach campaign, building upon the successful awareness raising work of the Phase I; improving implementation of the regulatory environment through effective community engagement in the decision making process in the legacy sites; strengthening national and cross-border cooperation in uranium legacy remediation, and carrying out targeted community level socio-economic interventions to reduce the risk of Uranium Legacy Sites (ULSs) in at-risk communities in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. The realization of the project objective will be achieved through ensuring public consultations and participation as well as active engagement of the local authorities, academia, and the local NGOs.

The project has been developed jointly with participating Country Offices (Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan). The project is going to be mainly funded by EC in amount of €1 million, and will be implemented in close collaboration with national and regional stakeholders. Two outputs of the project will be implemented jointly with OSCE in their capacity as a responsible party.

The project aims to achieve the following results: i) Increased understanding of local and national decision-makers and community members about uranium waste risk and its impact on people, livelihoods, and environment; ii) Reinforced implementation of the legal and regulatory framework through community engagement in the safe governance of legacy sites; iii) Uranium legacy risk reduction in target communities through gender sensitive social economic development projects; and iv) Regional component: cross-country coordination and knowledge exchange.

The Project has undergone the mandatory QA Assessment for design and appraisal and the report is also attached for your review. Overall, the Project received satisfactory rating as it is linked to the regional programme's theory of change and contributes to the Regional Programme outcome 3: "Building resilience to shocks and crises through enhanced prevention and risk-informed development". The project builds on the results and lessons learned from the UNDP's accumulated knowledge, technical expertise and good practices. The Social and Environmental Screening has been conducted and based on the assessment, the Project's interventions were identified as low risk.

3. Summary of LPAC member comments

- The project is supported by all LPAC members and LPAC members acknowledged that the project document is in line what has been discussed with the national partners.
- There are a few issues, which need to be clarified on operational side. This requires internal discussion with the IRH Management. IRH Gender Team recommended to assign the gender marker to GEN 1.
- The Project is fully supported by the LPAC members with several minor revisions to be addressed in the final project document. Comments Log is annexed to the Minutes.

4. Final LPAC recommendation:

LPAC recommends to approve the project design, which is of sufficient quality to move to the implementation stage. The comments made by the LPAC members will be addressed in the project document prior to its final approval and signature. A detailed comments log is in the Annex 1 to this document.

Prepared by: 

Mehmet Iskin, Programme Associate, UNDP IRH

Stanislav Kim, Programme Specialist, (e-mail)
Climate and Disaster Team, and

Cleared by e-mail:
Team, UNDP IRH

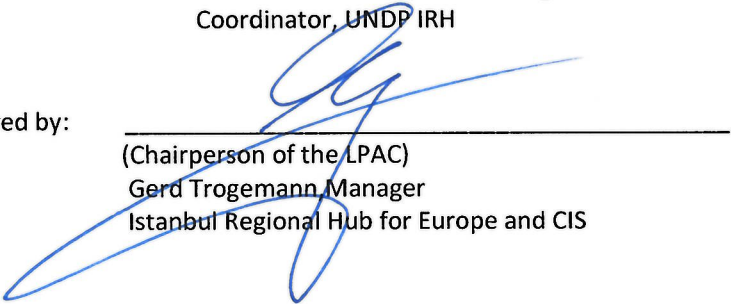
Armen Grigoryan, Team Leader, Climate and Disaster

Cleared by:



Ekaterina Paniklova, Senior Programme
Coordinator, UNDP IRH

LPAC recommendation is approved by:



(Chairperson of the LPAC)
Gerd Trogemann, Manager
Istanbul Regional Hub for Europe and CIS

Annex 1. Comments Log during LPAC Review

Comments from LPAC Members	Response from the Presenter:
<p>UNDP in Kyrgyzstan: Would you please clarify if time to be spent by Programme Associate (15-30%) will be covered via DPC? Please also clarify if any cost recovery to COs is envisaged within this project?</p>	<p>COs staff costs related to the project implementation are included into Section IV. "Project Management" and represent UNDP co-financing which is required to get EC funding. That is why COs staff cannot be charged as DPC from EC budget. Cost-recovery is also not included into the budget, due to EC policies regarding eligibility of such costs.</p>
<p>UNDP in Tajikistan: Tajikistan CO is pleased to endorse.</p>	<p>Noted with appreciation.</p>
<p>UNDP in Uzbekistan: We have reviewed the documents and on behalf of the CO would like to confirm that the ProDoc is in line with what has been discussed with the national partner – Ministry of Emergency Situations. We have made some edits (in track changes on pp. 5-6) to the Uzbekistan related text in the ProDoc- hereby enclosed. Budget was earlier discussed and agreed with the IRH CDT team in the project development stage.</p>	<p>Well noted. CO suggestions have been accepted and reflected in the final version of Project Document.</p>
<p>IRH Operations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No mentioning of DPC or possibility to charge CO staff time dedicated to the project. • Please also note that the status of OSCE as implementing partner is not fully defined and there is no clearly set waiver procedures. The situations may arise that we will need to audit OSCE, and the audit costs should be budgeted then (around \$5-7K). Another comment relates to the GMS. In case OSCE will present such charges as overheads, for the EU it may become ineligible costs, and such a risk should be taken into account beforehand. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COs staff costs related to the project implementation are included into Section IV. "Project Management" and represent UNDP co-financing which is required to get EC funding. That is why COs staff cannot be charged as DPC from EC budget. • OSCE will serve as a Responsible Party. UNDP will remain as Implementing Partner. Regarding possible audit of OSCE, this will be brought to the attention and separately discussed with IRH management. The question of overheads will be discussed with OSCE to prevent misrepresentation of OSCE expenses as UNDP GMS in line with UNDP-EC agreement.

IRH Gender Team:

- The gender mainstreaming dimensions are very well-identified in the project document and the strengthened gender-responsiveness in engaging the communities might result in enhancement of women's roles and status in the targeted communities and institutions. However, taking into account the overall scope of the project and the limited opportunity to meaningfully advance gender equality through planned activities. It is unlikely that the project will make a significant contribution to advancing gender equality. Therefore I suggest changing the gender marker to GEN 1.

- Gender marker changed to GEN1 in the final version of Project Document.

Mehmet Iskin:

From: Armen Grigoryan
Sent: Monday, August 26, 2019 3:31 PM
To: Mehmet Iskin
Cc: Stanislav Kim
Subject: RE: LPAC minutes

Thank you Mehmet,
Please proceed. Fine with me.
Regards.
Armen

From: Mehmet Iskin <mehmet.iskin@undp.org>
Sent: Monday, August 26, 2019 3:16 PM
To: Armen Grigoryan <armen.grigoryan@undp.org>
Cc: Stanislav Kim <stanislav.kim@undp.org>
Subject: FW: LPAC minutes

Dear Armen,

Please find attached the final version of LPAC minutes for the "Stakeholder Engagement for Uranium Legacy Remediation in Central Asia. Phase II" project. If you are fine with the minutes, I will collect the signatures.

Warm regards,



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

Mehmet Iskin
Programme Associate
Programme Support Unit
UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
(+90) 850 288 23 55
Skype: [mehmet.iskin@undp.org](https://www.skype.com/people/mehmet.iskin@undp.org)

eurasia.undp.org Follow us:   

From: Stanislav Kim <stanislav.kim@undp.org>
Sent: Friday, August 23, 2019 9:27 PM
To: Mehmet Iskin <mehmet.iskin@undp.org>
Subject: Re: LPAC minutes

Thanks Mehmet,
Once it will be approved, could you please send it to Armen for forwarding to Ekaterina

From: Mehmet Iskin <mehmet.iskin@undp.org>
Sent: Friday, August 23, 2019 6:10:11 PM

