#### ASM-06597 - Quality Assurance - Closure

Procedure Year: 2023 Overall Project Risk Categorization: Satisfactory

Procedure Status: Approved
Procedure Name: ASM-06597
Procedure Department: HQ - Reg Centre - Istanbul
Procedure Type: Closure

Record Owner: Rayza Oblitas

Created by: Rayza Oblitas,4/18/2024, 6:10 AM

Last Modified by: Abusabeeb Elsadig,4/25/2024, 10:44 PM

Decision:		
QA Summary/Project Board Comments:		

RELATED PROJECTS(4)					
NAME	DEPARTMENT	STATUS	ATLAS PROJECT NUMBER	START DATE	END DATE
00117911	HQ - Reg Centre - Istanbul	On Going	00119164	5/15/2019	12/31/2023
00118444	HQ - Reg Centre - Istanbul	On Going	00119164	5/15/2019	12/31/2023
00115706	HQ - Reg Centre - Istanbul	On Going	00119164	5/15/2019	12/31/2023
00117910	HQ - Reg Centre - Istanbul	On Going	00119164	5/15/2019	12/31/2023

## **Approval History**

Approval Date: Fri Apr 26 00:00:00 GMT 2024 Approved By: Abusabeeb Elsadig <abusebeen less adig@undp.org>

**Reassess Closed Procedure History:** 

APPROVAL HISTORY			
STEP NAME	DATE	STATUS	ASSIGNED TO
Submitted for Approval	2024-04-25 22:44:22	Approved	Abusabeeb Elsadig
Approval Request Submitted	2024-04-25 08:05:12	Started	Stanislav Kim

## **QA Questionnaire:**

Strategic Status: Complete Quality Rating: Satisfactory

- 1. Did the project pro-actively identified changes to the external environment and incorporated them into the project strategy?
  - 3: The project team has identified relevant changes in the external environment that may present new opportunities or threats to the project's ability to achieve its objectives and the assumptions have been tested to determine if the project's strategy is still valid. There is evidence that the project board has considered the implications, and documented any changes needed to the project in response. (all must be true)
  - ② 2: The project team has identified relevant changes in the external environment that may present new opportunities or threats to the project's ability to achieve its objectives. There is some evidence that the project board discussed this, but relevant changes may not have been fully integrated in the project. (both must be true)

	1: The project team may have considered relevant changes in the external environment since implementation began, I	but there is no e	vidence
tha	at the project team has considered changes to the project as a result.		

#### Evidence (Enter a short explanation or upload a document that provides evidence for your response)

The project closely engaged with uranium communities, national partners and international community on the uranium remediation related regional initiatives, platforms, programmes and projects in Central Asia, implemented by UNECE, IAEA, WISUTEC, and EBRD. New opportunities have been incorporated into the project strategy, resulting in ongoing discussions with the European Commission and national governments regarding the next phase of the project which highlights a crucial aspect of its sustainability. The project regularly updated its risk and mitigation measures as outlined in the final report, Section 7.

#### 2. Was the project aligned with the thematic focus of the Strategic Plan?

- 3: The project responds at least one of the development settings as specified in the Strategic Plan (SP) and adopts at least one Signature Solution and the project's RRF includes at all the relevant SP output indicators. (all must be true)
- ② 2: The project responds to one of the three areas of development work as specified in the Strategic Plan. The project's RRF includes at least one SP output indicator, if relevant. (both must be true)
- 1: While the project may respond to a partner's identified need, this need falls outside the UNDP Strategic Plan. Also select this option if none of the relevant SP indicators are included in the RRF.

#### Evidence (Enter a short explanation or upload a document that provides evidence for your response)

The project contributed significantly to the implementation of UNDP IRH RPD (Regional programme document) Outcome 3. "Building resilience to shocks and crises through enhanced prevention and risk-informed development" or more specifically to RP Output 3.1. "Evidence-based assessment and innovative planning tools and capacities developed regionally for use by countries to enable implementation of gender-sensitive, risk-informed prevention and preparedness to limit the impact of natural hazards, pandemics and conflict". Activities under the project Outcome 1 and Outcome 2 contributed to the strengthening of local authorities and local population capacity and equipped them with the tools and knowledge on how to be involved in the process of uranium waste management. Activities under the project Outcome 3 served to set up the local measures that would help local communities develop alternative livelihoods and reduce the likelihood of exposure to contaminated toxic materials. Please refer to the attached report, section 2.

Relevant Status: Complete Quality Rating: Satisfactory

# 3. Are the project's targeted groups, and particularly those marginalized, vulnerable and left further behind (LNOB), being systematically engaged, with a priority focus on the discriminated and marginalized, to ensure the project leaves no one behind (LNOB) and remains relevant for them?

- 3: Systematic and structured feedback was collected over the project duration from a representative sample of beneficiaries, with a priority focus on the discriminated and marginalized, as part of the project's monitoring system. Representatives from the targeted groups were active members of the project's governance mechanism (i.e., the project board or equivalent) and there is credible evidence that their feedback informs project decision making. (all must be true)
- 2: Targeted groups were engaged in implementation and monitoring, with a priority focus on the discriminated and marginalized. Beneficiary feedback, which may be anecdotal, was collected regularly to ensure the project addressed local priorities. This information was used to inform project decision making. (all must be true to select this option)
- 1: Some beneficiary feedback may have been collected, but this information did not inform project decision making. This option should also be selected if no beneficiary feedback was collected
- Not Applicable

### Evidence (Enter a short explanation or upload a document that provides evidence for your response)

The project included a profound consultation with national and local stakeholders and beneficiaries to ensure that most vulnerable and marginalized communities have access to project benefits. These measures have been devised through participatory approaches and multi-stakeholder consultations in beneficiary countries (led by the respective COs), targeted groups being systematically engaged in the project implementation. For example, the project closely worked with the Public Environment Information Centers (PEICs) and national decision-makers, focusing on stakeholder engagement for mitigating risk from uranium legacy sites in the pilot countries. Throughout the project, 132 consultations were organized focusing on radioactive safety with participation of the local population from MinKush, Shekaftar and MailuuSuu (in Kyrgyzstan), Istiqlol and Goziyon (in Tajikistan) and Yangiabad and Charkesar (in Uzbekistan), including active participation of the managers of PEICs and local NGOs. As a result of these consultations, more than 2,500 people were informed about radioactive safety measures, public access to environmental information and planned remediation works in the legacy sites. Please refer to the attached report for details across output activities.

4. Did the project generate knowledge, and lessons learned (i.e., what has worked and what has not) and has this knowledge informed management decisions to ensure the continued relevance of the project towards its stated objectives, the quality of its outputs and the management of risk?

	3: Knowledge and lessons learned from internal or external sources (gained, for example, from Peer Assists, After Action Reviews or Lessons
Le	arned Workshops) backed by credible evidence from evaluation, corporate policies/strategies, analysis and monitoring were discussed in project

must be true)  2: Knowledge and lessons learned backed by relatively limited evidence, drawn mainly from within the project, were considered by the project team. There is some evidence that changes were made to the project as a result to ensure its continued relevance. (both must be true)  1: There is limited or no evidence that knowledge and lessons learned were collected by the project team. There is little or no evidence that this informed project decision making.  Evidence (Enter a short explanation or upload a document that provides evidence for your response)
Over the course of implementation, the project actively collected lessons learned by engaging UNDP COs, OSCE as well as government
partners through various consultations, working-level and high-level meetings. Key lessons learned were outlined in the final report, section 8.
5. Was the project sufficiently at scale, or is there potential to scale up in the future, to meaningfully contribute to development change?
<ul> <li>3: There was credible evidence that the project reached sufficient number of beneficiaries (either directly through significant coverage of target groups, or indirectly, through policy change) to meaningfully contribute to development change.</li> <li>2: While the project was not considered at scale, there are explicit plans in place to scale up the project in the future (e.g. by extending its coverage or using project results to advocate for policy change).</li> <li>1: The project was not at scale, and there are no plans to scale up the project in the future.</li> </ul>
Evidence (Enter a short explanation or upload a document that provides evidence for your response)
The project's commitment to sustainability is actualized through development of a new phase (Phase 3) which is yet to be signed by the EC. Please refer to the section 4 of the attached report.
Principled Status: Complete Quality Rating: Satisfactory
6. Were the project's measures (through outputs, activities, indicators) to address gender inequalities and empower women relevant and produced the intended effect? If not, evidence-based adjustments and changes were made.  3: The project team has systematically gathered data and evidence through project monitoring on the relevance of the measures to address gender inequalities and empower women. Analysis of data and evidence were used to inform adjustments and changes, as appropriate. (both must be true)  2: The project team had some data and evidence on the relevance of the measures to address gender inequalities and empower women. There is evidence that at least some adjustments were made, as appropriate. (both must be true)  1: The project team had limited or no evidence on the relevance of measures to address gender inequalities and empowering women. No evidence of adjustments and/or changes made. This option should also be selected if the project has no measures to address gender inequalities and empower women relevant to the project results and activities.  Evidence (Enter a short explanation or upload a document that provides evidence for your response)
The project supported efforts to address gender inequalities in the region, ensuring both women and men would benefit from the initiatives planned for implementation in the pilot areas. In Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, special attention was given to gender mainstreaming during the selection of pilot business projects, aiming to empower women, enhance their skills, and create job opportunities in these regions. Additionally, community engagement activities were inclusive of all groups, including the most vulnerable such as women, the elderly, youth, and people with disabilities. Please refer to the section 5 of the attached report.
7. Were social and environmental impacts and risks successfully managed and monitored?
3: Social and environmental risks were tracked in the risk log. Appropriate assessments conducted where required (i.e., Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for High risk projects and some level of social and environmental assessment for Moderate risk projects as identified through SESP). Relevant management plan(s) developed for identified risks through consultative process and implemented, resourced, and monitored. Risks effectively managed or mitigated. If there is a substantive change to the project or change in context that affects risk levels, the SESP was updated to reflect these changes. (all must be true)  2: Social and environmental risks were tracked in the risk log. Appropriate assessments conducted where required (i.e., Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for High risk projects and some level of social and environmental assessment for Moderate risk projects as identified through SESP). Relevant management plan(s) developed, implemented and monitored for identified risks. OR project was categorized as Low risk through the SESP.  1: Social and environmental risks were tracked in the risk log. For projects categorized as High or Moderate Risk, there was no evidence that social and environmental assessments completed and/or management plans or measures development, implemented or monitored. There are substantive changes to the project or changes in the context but SESP was not updated. (any may be true)
Evidence (Enter a short explanation or upload a document that provides evidence for your response)

https://undp.lightning.force.com/one/one.app#eyJjb21wb25lbnREZWYiOiJvbmU6YWxvaGFQYWdlliwiYXR0cmlidXRlcyl6eyJhZGRyZXNzljoiaHR0cH....

The project was categorized as low risk, an no issues encountered regarding SES. Please refer to the attached SESP.

8. Were grievance mechanisms available to project-affected people an effectively mitigated?	d were grievances (if any) addressed to	ensure any perceived harm was
<ul> <li>3: Project-affected people actively informed of UNDP's Corporate Accategorized as High or Moderate Risk through the SESP, a project -level grievances were received, they were effectively addressed in accordance</li> <li>2: Project-affected people informed of UNDP's Corporate Accountable</li> </ul>	grievance mechanism was in place and proj with SRM Guidance. (all must be true)	ect affected people informed. If
Risk through the SESP, a project -level grievance mechanism was in place were responded to but faced challenges in arriving at a resolution.  1: Project-affected people was not informed of UNDP's Corporate Ar	e and project affected people informed. If g	rievances were received, they
responded to. (any may be true)		
Evidence (Enter a short explanation or upload a document that provide		
The project was rated as low risk, and no issues encountered. Pleas	e refer to the attached SESP.	
Management & Monitoring	Status: Complete	Quality Rating: Satisfactory
9. Was the project's M&E Plan adequately implemented?		
3: The project had a comprehensive and costed M&E plan. Baselines		
indicators in the project's RRF was reported regularly using credible data including sex disaggregated data as relevant. Any evaluations conducted UNEG standards. Lessons learned, included during evaluations and/or Afmust be true)	, if relevant, fully meet decentralized evalua	ition standards, including gender
2: The project costed M&E Plan, and most baselines and targets wer collected on a regular basis, although there was may be some slippage in reliable. Any evaluations conducted, if relevant, met most decentralized e corrective actions. (all must be true)	n following the frequency stated in the Plan evaluation standards. Lessons learned were	and data sources was not always captured but were used to take
1: The project had M&E Plan, but costs were not clearly planned and against the indicators in the project's RRF. Evaluations did not meet dece used. Select this option also if the project did not have an M&E plan.		
Evidence (Enter a short explanation or upload a document that provide	les evidence for your response)	
The project followed the M&E plan and the donor's reporting requ were tracked on a regular basis, and risks were monitored through the beneficiary countries. Please refer to the annex 1 of the attached	corporate tools, while undertaking regu	
10. Was the project's governance mechanism (i.e., the project board o	r equivalent) function as intended?	
3: The project's governance mechanism operated well, and was a modocument and the minutes of the meetings were all on file. There was re on results, risks and opportunities. It is clear that the project board explic lessons and evaluations, as the basis for informing management decision this option)	gular (at least annual) progress reporting to itly reviewed and used evidence, including	the project board or equivalent progress data, knowledge,
2: The project's governance mechanism met in the agreed frequency submitted to the project board or equivalent at least once per year, cove  1: The project's governance mechanism did not meet in the frequence board or equivalent was not functioning as a decision-making body for the second secon	ring results, risks and opportunities. (both n cy stated in the project document over the	nust be true to select this option)
Evidence (Enter a short explanation or upload a document that provide	les evidence for your response)	
The project's governance mechanism - Regional project Board – waregional project board demonstrated a strong ownership over the as a basis for informing management decisions (e.g., changes in imattached report for details.	project; it explicitly reviewed and used p	project reports and progress data
11. Were risks to the project adequately monitored and managed?		
3: The project monitored risks every quarter and consulted with the to assess if the main assumptions remained valid. There is clear evidence implemented to address each key project risk and were updated to reflect	that relevant management plans and mitig	ating measures were fully
<ul> <li>2: The project monitored risks every year, as evidenced by an update measures.</li> </ul>	ed risk log. Some updates were made to ma	nagement plans and mitigation

Evidence (Enter a short explanation or upload a documen	t that provides evidence for your response)		
The project regularly monitored risks every year and ac 7).	The project regularly monitored risks every year and activated counteractive measures as clearly outlined in the final project report (Section		
Efficient	Status: Complete	Quality Rating: Satisfactory	
12. Adequate resources were mobilized to achieve intendence or oject's results framework.  Yes No	ed results. If not, management decisions were	taken to adjust expected results in the	
vidence (Enter a short explanation or upload a documen	t that provides evidence for your response)		
Resources allocated for the project implementation are of the attached report for an overview of the achieved		ally planned. Please refer to the annex 2	
13. Were project inputs procured and delivered on time to	o efficiently contribute to results?		
3: The project had a procurement plan and kept it updatimely manner and addressed them through appropriate m  2: The project had updated procurement plan. The project had updated procurement plan.	anagement actions. (all must be true) lect annually reviewed operational bottlenecks to		
addressed them through appropriate management actions.  1: The project did not have an updated procurement plinputs regularly, however management actions were not talk	an. The project team may or may not have review	wed operational bottlenecks to procuring	
vidence (Enter a short explanation or upload a documen	t that provides evidence for your response)		
The project had a procurement plan for procurement a by the beneficiary COs and thus the COs were respons			
14. Was there regular monitoring and recording of cost e	fficiencies, taking into account the expected q	quality of results?	
3: There is evidence that the project regularly reviewed benchmarks to ensure the project maximized results deliver projects and initiatives (UNDP or other) to ensure complem true)	red with given resources. The project actively coo	rdinated with other relevant ongoing	
2: The project monitored its own costs and gave anecd was no systematic analysis of costs and no link to the expectachieve cost efficiency gains.	ted quality of results delivered. The project coord	dinated activities with other projects to	
1: There is little or no evidence that the project monito procurement rules.	red its own costs and considered ways to save m	oney beyond following standard	
vidence (Enter a short explanation or upload a documen	t that provides evidence for your response)		
The project was designed and managed in a way to make To maximize impact in the pilot communities, the project interventions, in consultation with the project partners	ect ensured to identify the most cost-effective	e and practical socio-economic pilot	
Fffactive	Status Compilate	Quality Datings Satisfactory	
Effective	Status: Complete	Quality Rating: Satisfactory	
15. Was the project on track and delivered its expected on Yes No	utputs?		
vidence (Enter a short explanation or upload a documen	t that provides evidence for your response)		
The constant constant and delice and a second constant	outputs as per the ProDoc. Please refer to th	as annow 2 of the attached report	

16. Were there regular reviews of the work plan to ensure that the precorrections if needed?	oject was on track to achieve the desired res	ults, and to inform course
3: Quarterly progress data informed regular reviews of the project wachieve the desired results. There is evidence that data and lessons learn course corrections, as needed. Any necessary budget revisions were made.  2: There was at least one review of the work plan per year with a vie development results (i.e., outputs.) There may or may not be evidence the budget revisions have been made.  1: While the project team may have reviewed the work plan at least	ed (including from evaluations /or After-Action le. (both must be true) w to assessing if project activities were on track at data or lessons learned were used to inform once over the past year to ensure outputs were	Reviews) were used to inform  k to achieving the desired the review(s). Any necessary e delivered on time, no link
was made to the delivery of desired development results. Select this opt	ion also if no review of the work plan by manag	gement took place.
Evidence (Enter a short explanation or upload a document that provide	les evidence for your response)	
There were regular reviews of the AWPs and necessary revisions in or strategic matters were submitted to the Board within the implementation for project board.		
17. Were the targeted groups, and particularly those marginalized, vuengaged, prioritizing the marginalized and excluded, to ensure result	_	stematically identified and
3: The project targeted specific groups and/or geographic areas, ide and/or exclusion from development opportunities relevant to the project reached as intended. The project engaged regularly with targeted group adjustments were made if necessary, to refine targeting. (all must be true)  2: The project targeted specific groups and/or geographic areas, ba from development opportunities relevant to the project's area of work. So the targeted groups. There was some engagement with beneficiaries be true)  1: The project did not report on specific targeted groups. There is not needs or are deprived and/or excluded from development opportunities beneficiaries to assess whether they benefited as expected, but it was ling.  Not Applicable	t's area of work. There is clear evidence that the sover the past year to assess whether they be sed on some evidence of their capacity needs, some evidence is provided to confirm that project in the past year to assess whether they were be so evidence to confirm that project beneficiaries relevant to the project area of work. There is so nited or did not occurred in the past year.	e targeted groups were nefited as expected and deprivation and/or exclusion ect beneficiaries are members enefiting as expected. (all must
Evidence (Enter a short explanation or upload a document that provide	les evidence for your response)	
Yes, the project continuously engaged with intended beneficiary g appropriate socio-economic pilot projects. This ensured the develor refer to the project's output results/activities in the attached report	opment of positive impacts on the ground,	
18. If there is a digital or data technology solution in the project: have continued use by partners or UNDP?	e technology and data risks been addressed	specifically for closure, or
3: Yes, a) the implementation and closure followed good practices, s sustainability risks are addressed: hosting, licenses, intellectual property, maintenance and continued improvement); and c) post project scalability units. (All must be true)  2: Specific technology and data risks have been partially addressed project risk management.	data ownership, code documentation, or partr y has been considered: digital public goods or	ner capacity (operations, reusability for other UNDP
1: Standard UNDP sustainability practices and project risk managem are followed.	ent are applied, but no specific practices to ad	dress technology or data risks
The project did not utilize a data or digital technology solution.		
Evidence (Enter a short explanation or upload a document that provide	des evidence for your response)	
The majority of activities were delivered directly by the beneficiary followed and applied relevant corporate practices to address technote that digital or technological data solutions/markers were not and the addendum #2 for the extended period.	nology or data risks while selecting pilots. H	lowever, it is important to
Sustainability & National Ownership	Status: Complete	Quality Rating: Satisfactory
<ul> <li>19. Were stakeholders and national partners fully engaged in the decidence.</li> <li>3: Only national systems (i.e., procurement, monitoring, evaluation, stakeholders and partners were fully and actively engaged in the process.</li> </ul>	etc.) were used to fully implement and monitor	the project. All relevant

monitoring. (both must be true)

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support or project systems) were also active role in project decision-making	ment, monitoring, evaluation, etc.) were used to implement and monitor the project (such as country office o used, if necessary. All relevant stakeholders and partners were actively engaged in the process, playing an g, implementation and monitoring. (both must be true) no engagement with national stakeholders and partners in the decision-making, implementation and/or
Evidence (Enter a short explanation of	or upload a document that provides evidence for your response)
National stakeholders were fully in	nvolved in the project implementation. The project was executed by IRH through DIM modality. Please the addendum #2 for the extended period.
	f changes in capacities and performance of institutions and systems relevant to the project, as needed, and ents8 adjusted according to changes in partner capacities?
of data collection and credible data's adjusted, if needed, in agreement wit  2: Aspects of changes in capaciti and reasonably credible data sources needed to reflect changes in partner  1: Some aspects of changes in cachanges to implementation arrangen institutions and systems were not more Not Applicable	apacities and performance of relevant national institutions and systems were monitored by the project, however ments were not considered. Also select this option if changes in capacities and performance of relevant national
	the attached Prodoc and the addendum #2 for the extended period.
apacity).  3: The project's governance mector to ensure the project remained on transproject, taking into account any adjusting 2: There was a review of the project rack in meeting the requirements see	stainability plan but there was no review of this strategy after it was developed. Also select this option if the
Evidence (Enter a short explanation	or upload a document that provides evidence for your response)
crucial aspect of its sustainability. to address the legacy of uranium and economic benefits to the con two phases, moving away from ac	European Commission and national governments regarding the next phase of the project highlight a This continuation underscores the project's commitment to long-term sustainability, ensuring that efforts mining in Central Asia remain durable, effective, and beneficial to the environment, while bringing social munities involved. The new phase (Phase 3) will build on the outcomes and impacts of the preceding I-hoc capacity building activities towards establishing and strengthening an institutional base for long-ee participating countries, which will contribute to the sustainability of project results. UNDP team is at

the stage of developing ProDoc for the new phase. Please refer to the section 4 of the attached report.