PROJECT QUALITY ASSURANCE – DESIGN FOR FY2023 (VERSION 5)

(This is a temporary template, the ratings to be provided in the new Project QA platform that will be available in May 2023)

☒	**PROJECT QA - DESIGN**
	1. STRATEGIC
	1. Does the project specify how it will contribute to higher level change through linkage to the programme's Theory of Change?
☒	• 3: The project is clearly linked to the programme's theory of change. It has an explicit change pathway that explains how the project will contribute to outcome level change and why the project's strategy will likely lead to this change. This analysis is backed by credible evidence of what works effectively in this context and includes assumptions and risks.
☐	• 2: The project is clearly linked to the programme's theory of change. It has a change pathway that explains how the project will contribute to outcome-level change and why the project strategy will likely lead to this change.
☐	• 1: The project document may describe in generic terms how the project will contribute to development results, without an explicit link to the programme's theory of change. *Note: Projects not contributing to a programme must have a project-specific Theory of Change. See alternative question under the information icon for these cases.*
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and attached a document that provides evidence for your response): The project has a simplified version of the theory of change. It explains how technical assistance provided by the project will enable local authorities to implement energy efficiency rehabilitation in a due quality that will ultimately bring decent living conditions and quality social services to local communities and vulnerable groups. Given that the project's operational mechanism is to provide technical assistance, its intervention will have a horizontal impact on the targets and strategic perspectives of the energy efficiency programme. Assumptions and risks are well-defined with suggested mitigation measures. Attached: Project Document, Description of Action
	2. Is the project aligned with the UNDP Strategic Plan?
☐	• 3: The project responds to at least one of the development settings as specified in the Strategic Plan[1] and adapts at least one Signature Solution[2]. The project's RRF includes all the relevant SP output indicators. (all must be true)
☒	• 2: The project responds to at least one of the development settings as specified in the Strategic Plan[3]. The project's RRF includes at least one SP output indicator, if relevant. (both must be true)
☐	• 1: The project responds to a partner's identified need, but this need falls outside of 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 and attached a document that provides evidence for your response): The project is aligned with the UNDP Strategic Plan for 2022-2025 and contribute to several development settings by improving energy performance of public buildings, strengthening local governance capacity to implement investment projects in line good international standards and facilitating the path from crisis response to recovery. Specifically, the project will feed into the following output indicators from the UNDP Strategic Plan for 2022-2025: *Signature Solution 2: Governance* 2.1 Open, agile, accountable and future-ready governance systems <u>in place</u> to co-create and deliver solutions to accelerate SDG achievement 2.1.2 Number of measures in place to prevent illicit financial flows and improve the effectiveness, transparency and accountability of development financing and domestic resource mobilization *Signature Solution 3: Resilience* 3.3 Risk informed and gender-responsive recovery solutions, including stabilization efforts and mine action, implemented at regional, national and sub-national levels

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[1] *The three development settings in UNDP's 2018-2021 Strategic Plan are: a) Eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions; b) Accelerate structural transformations for sustainable development; and c) Build resilience to shocks and crises*

[2] *The six Signature Solutions of UNDP's 2018-2021 Strategic Plan are: a) Keeping people out of poverty; b) Strengthen effective, inclusive and accountable governance; c) Enhance national prevention and recovery capacities for resilient societies; d) Promote nature based solutions for a sustainable planet; e) Close the energy gap; and f) Strengthen gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.*

[3] *The three development settings in UNDP's 2018-2021 Strategic Plan are: a) Eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions; b) Accelerate structural transformations for sustainable development; and c) Build resilience to shocks and crises*

☒	**PROJECT QA - DESIGN**
	3.3.2 Number of people benefitting from improved infrastructure for recovery in crisis or post-crisis settings *Signature Solution 5: Energy* 5.2 Transition to renewable energy accelerated capitalizing on technological gains, clean energy innovations and new financing mechanisms to support green recovery 5.2.2 Amount of energy saved (in megajoule) Attachment: Project Document, Description of Action

	3. Is the project linked to the programme outputs? (i.e., UNSDCF/CPD, RPD or Strategic Plan IRRF for strategic interventions not part of a programme)
☒	• Yes
☐	• No (Project QA cannot be approved by the Project QA Approver)
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and attached a document that provides evidence for your response): The project is linked with the following UN Partnership Framework outcomes: Strategic Priority 2: Building Resilience Result 2.2: Early recovery interventions are effective in increasing inclusive human development, promoting a sustainable green economy and building a resilient society. CPD Outcome 3: By 2022, national institutions, private business and communities implement gender-responsive policies and practices to achieve sustainable management of natural resources, preservation of ecosystems, mitigation, adaptation to climate change and generation of green jobs Country Programme indicator 3.3. Share of population benefiting from improved coverage by cost-efficient and sustainable energy in the public sector, by sex. UNDP Strategic Plan: 5.2 Transition to renewable energy accelerated capitalizing on technological gains, clean energy innovations and new financing mechanisms to support green recovery Attachment: Project Document, Description of Action, V. Results Framework

	2. RELEVANT

	4. Does the project identity target groups, and particularly those marginalized, vulnerable and left further behind (LNOB)? [4]
☐	• 3: The target groups are clearly specified, prioritising discriminated, and marginalized groups left furthest behind, identified through a rigorous process based on evidence.
☒	• 2: The target groups are clearly specified, prioritizing groups left furthest behind.
☐	• 1: The target groups are not clearly specified.
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and attached a document that provides evidence for your response): The project relies on the standards and policies defined by the European Investment Bank (EIB), that will support investments in energy efficiency refurbishments in public buildings in frame of the UPBEE Programme. The geography of this financial support covers all regions of Ukraine, excluding the areas that are temporarily not controlled by the Government of Ukraine or located in a conflict zone, at a distance closer than 30 km from the military operations. The Programme encourages participation of small and medium-size municipalities and local government. By focusing on the kindergardens, schools and health buildings the project emphasizes the impact on vulnerable groups of the population (elderly persons, individuals with disabilities, children). In addition to energy efficiency renovations, the Programme allows the finance of repair (including related to war damages) and adaptations needed in public buildings to better suit the needs of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and hosting communities. Attachment: Project Document, Description of Action

	5. Have knowledge, good practices, and past lessons learned of UNDP and others informed the project design?
☒	• 3: Knowledge and lessons learned backed by credible evidence from sources such as evaluation, corporate policies/strategies, and/or monitoring have been explicitly used, with appropriate referencing, to justify the approach used by the project.

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[4] *Operationalizing Leaving No One Behind good Practice Note for UNCT (https://unsdg.un.org/resources/leaving-no-one-behind-unsdg-operational-guide-un-country-teams)*

☒	**PROJECT QA - DESIGN**
☐	• 2: The project design mentions knowledge and lessons learned backed by evidence/sources but have not been used to justify the approach selected.
☐	• 1: There is little, or no mention of knowledge and lessons learned informing the project design. Any references made are anecdotal and not backed by evidence.
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and attached a document that provides evidence for your response):
	The project highlights to the successful partnership with the European Investment Bank within Ukraine Recovery Programme that resulted in scaling up experience and basically gave a start for applying the same operational modalities within Ukraine Public Buildings Energy Efficiency Programme. This project has applied the same configuration, which proved to be efficient based on the expert team composition, distributions of roles among partners, etc. The project also marks a multi-year UNPD's engagement in strengthening capacity for climate policy via its partnership with the Global Environment Facility, Green Climate Fund, and the Adaptation Fund. In a more general note, the project indicates an exceptional UNPD's experience in resource mobilization and inter-disciplinary collaborations, capability for addressing complex, large-scale, multi-faceted developmental issues.
	Attachment: Project Document, Description of Action
	6. Does UNDP have a clear advantage to engage in the role envisioned by the project vis-à-vis national / regional / global partners and other actors?
☒	• 3: An analysis has been conducted on the role of other partners in the area where the project intends to work, and credible evidence supports the proposed engagement of UNDP and partners through the project, including identification of potential funding partners. It is clear how results achieved by partners will complement the project's intended results and a communication strategy is in place to communicate results and raise visibility vis-à-vis key partners. Options for south-south and triangular cooperation have been considered, as appropriate. (all must be true)
☐	• 2: Some analysis has been conducted on the role of other partners in the area where the project intends to work, and relatively limited evidence supports the proposed engagement of and division of labour between UNDP and partners through the project, with unclear funding and communications strategies or plans.
☐	• 1: No clear analysis has been conducted on the role of other partners in the area that the project intends to work. There is risk that the project overlaps and/or does not coordinate with partners' interventions in this area. Options for south-south and triangular cooperation have not been considered, despite its potential relevance.
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and attached a document that provides evidence for your response):
	The role of project partners has been established in the Annex of the *EIB-UNDP Agreement in respect of advisory support to be provided to public authorities and publicly-owned communal enterprises in Ukraine in support of the implementation of certain energy efficiency investment sub-projects* (Berlin, October 2022) and reflected in the project document accordingly.
	Building on an advisory support on energy efficiency, provided by the UNDP to the Government and other public authorities of Ukraine with a view to contributing to the energy efficiency by reducing energy consumption and costs in the residential sector, Parties agreed to set up the project and enlist the UNDP support. This support envisages collaboration with Ministry of Communities and Territories Development with the Programme Management and Support Unit within the Ministry, Covenant of Mayors, beneficiaries represented by local state administration or body of local self-government, or any communal enterprise that receives support under financial mechanism by the European Investment bank (EIB).
	The project is funded under the Eastern Europe Energy Efficiency and Environment Partnership Fund (the E5P Fund), established by the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development (EBRD, which acts as Fund Manager and manages and administers the E5P Fund. Communication policy is clearly defined in Article 8 of the mentioned EIB-UNDP Agreement.
	Attachment: Project Document, Description of Action
	3. PRINCIPLED
	7. Does the project apply a human rights-based approach?
☐	• 3: The project is guided by human rights and incorporates the principles of accountability, meaningful participation, and non-discrimination in the project's strategy. The project upholds the relevant international and national laws and standards. Any potential adverse impacts on enjoyment of human rights were rigorously identified and assessed as relevant, with appropriate mitigation and management measures incorporated into project design and budget. (all must be true)

☒	**PROJECT QA - DESIGN**
☒	• 2: The project is guided by human rights by prioritizing accountability, meaningful participation and non-discrimination. Potential adverse impacts on enjoyment of human rights were identified and assessed as relevant, and appropriate mitigation and management measures incorporated into the project design and budget. (both must be true)
☐	• 1: No evidence that the project is guided by human rights. Limited or no evidence that potential adverse impacts on enjoyment of human rights were considered.
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and attached a document that provides evidence for your response):
	The project is guided by human rights and incorporates the principles of accountability, meaningful participation, and non-discrimination in its strategy. The UNDP committed to promote the respect of human rights and respect applicable environmental and social international standards and agreements, as well as applicable internationally agreed core labour standards under the clause of the *EIB-UNDP Agreement*. It is indicated that the technical assistance team established by the project will keep a check on human rights and ensure public engagement during implementation of the selected sub-projects. The project refers to vulnerable groups that have been affected by war and will benefit from a comprehensive energy efficient rehabilitation of public buildings, including kindergartens, schools, and health buildings, etc.
	Attachment: Project Document, Description of Action
	8. Does the project use gender analysis in the project design?
☐	• 3: A participatory gender analysis has been conducted and results from this gender analysis inform the development challenge, strategy and expected results sections of the project document. Outputs and indicators of the results framework include explicit references to gender equality, and specific indicators measure and monitor results to ensure women are fully benefitting from the project. (all must be true)
☒	• 2: A basic gender analysis has been carried out and results from this analysis are scattered (i.e., fragmented and not consistent) across the development challenge and strategy sections of the project document. The results framework may include some gender sensitive outputs and/or activities but gender inequalities are not consistently integrated across each output. (all must be true)
☐	• 1: The project design may or may not mention information and/or data on the differential impact of the project's development situation on gender relations, women and men, but the gender inequalities have not been clearly identified and reflected in the project document.
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and attached a document that provides evidence for your response):
	Participatory gender analysis has not been conducted in the project's design phase, but the effect of the project on gender equality has been mainstreamed throughout the strategy and Results Framework. Gender analysis has been conducted under another project in energy efficiency. The project's indirect outputs, specifically support to vulnerable groups affected by war, are clearly articulated in the project's strategy and result framework. The project's technical assistance team is expected to support local beneficiaries to incorporate basic gender standards in line with EIB operational framework.
	Attachment: Project Document, Description of Action, Social and Environmental Screening Template
	9. Did the project support the resilience and sustainability of societies and/or ecosystems?
☐	• 3: Credible evidence that the project addresses sustainability and resilience dimensions of development challenges, which are integrated in the project strategy and design. The project reflects the interconnections between the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. Relevant shocks, hazards and adverse social and environmental impacts have been identified and rigorously assessed with appropriate management and mitigation measures incorporated into project design and budget. (all must be true)
☒	• 2: The project design integrates sustainability and resilience dimensions of development challenges. Relevant shocks, hazards and adverse social and environmental impacts have been identified and assessed, and relevant management and mitigation measures incorporated into project design and budget (both must be true)
☐	• 1: Sustainability and resilience dimensions and impacts were not adequately considered.
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and attached a document that provides evidence for your response):
	The project's contribution to sustainable societies and is clearly defined and lies at the core of Ukraine Public Buildings Energy Efficiency Programme. The project assesses adverse social and environmental impacts and

☒	**PROJECT QA - DESIGN**
	incorporates appropriate mitigation measures into project design. Moreover, the project takes accountability for overseeing the sustainability of local beneficiaries', as a part of EIB policy framework. Attachment: Project Document, Description of Action
	10. Has the Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) been conducted to identify potential social and environmental impacts and risks? The SESP is not required for projects in which UNDP is Administrative Agent only and/or projects comprised solely of the preparation and dissemination of reports and communication materials; organization of events, workshops, or training; strengthening capacities of partners to participate in international negotiations and conferences; partnership coordination (including UN coordination) and management of networks; and global/regional projects with no country-level activities as well as Development Effectiveness projects and Institutional Effectiveness projects. [If SESP is not required, Select all exemption criteria that apply.]
☒	• Yes
☐	• No (Project QA cannot be approved by the Project QA Approver)
☐	• SESP not required because project consists solely of (Select all exemption criteria that apply) *Applicable only to option "SESP not required" ☐ 1: Preparation and dissemination of reports, documents and communication materials ☐ 2: Organization of an event, workshop, training ☐ 3: Strengthening capacities of partners to participate in international negotiations and conferences ☐ 4: Partnership coordination (including UN coordination) and management of networks ☐ 5: Global/regional projects with no country-level activities (e.g. activities such as knowledge management, inter-governmental processes) ☐ 6: UNDP serves as Administrative Agent ☐ 7: Development Effectiveness projects and Institutional Effectiveness projects
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and attached a document that provides evidence for your response): SESP has been conducted and the report is attached to the project document. Attachment: Project Document, Description of Action, Social and Environmental Screening Template
	4. MANAGEMENT & MONITORING
	11. Does the project have a strong results framework?
☐	• 3: The project's selection of outputs and activities are at an appropriate level. Outputs are accompanied by SMART, results-oriented indicators that measure the key expected development changes, each with credible data sources and populated baselines and targets, including gender sensitive, target group focused, sex-disaggregated indicators where appropriate. (all must be true)
☒	• 2: The project's selection of outputs and activities are at an appropriate level. Outputs are accompanied by SMART, results-oriented indicators, but baselines, targets and data sources may not yet be fully specified. Some use of target group focused, sex-disaggregated indicators, as appropriate. (all must be true)
☐	• 1: The project's selection of outputs and activities are not at an appropriate level; outputs are not accompanied by SMART, results-oriented indicators that measure the expected change and have not been populated with baselines and targets; data sources are not specified, and/or no gender sensitive, sex-disaggregation of indicators. (if any is true)
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and attached a document that provides evidence for your response): The project presents the outputs and activities at an appropriate level and in conformity with the UPBEE Programme plans and intentions. Considering that project outcomes are dependent on the regular input from other partners and determined by the selection process, the SMART indicators for the project will likely need to be adjusted with progress. It envisages that the technical assistance team in co-operation with the Programme Management and Support Unit (PMSU) will elaborate Monitoring and Evaluation for each sub-project selected for implementation. Attachment: Project Document, Description of Action

☒	**PROJECT QA - DESIGN**
	12. Is the project's governance mechanism clearly defined in the project document, including composition of the project board?
☐	• 3: The project's governance mechanism is fully defined. Individuals have been specified for each position in the governance mechanism (especially all members of the project board.) Project Board members have agreed on their roles and responsibilities as specified in the terms of reference. The ToR of the project board has been attached to the project document. (all must be true)
☒	• 2: The project's governance mechanism is defined; specific institutions are noted as holding key governance roles, but individuals may not have been specified yet. The project document lists the most important responsibilities of the project board, project director/manager and quality assurance roles. (all must be true)
☐	• 1: The project's governance mechanism is loosely defined in the project document, only mentioning key roles that will need to be filled at a later date. No information on the responsibilities of key positions in the governance mechanism is provided.
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and attached a document that provides evidence for your response): The project's governance structure is fully defined. The mandate of the Project Board and its modus of operandi are outlined in the draft ToR that is attached to the project and is to be signed at the Appraise and Approve stage. Attachment: Project Document, Description of Action
	13. Have the project risks been identified using the risk assessment tools (Project Quality Assurance, Social and Environmental Screening Procedure, Partner Capacity Assessment Tool, Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer, Private Sector Due Diligence, etc., if applicable), with clear plans stated to manage and mitigate each risk?
☐	• 3: Project risks related to the achievement of results are fully described in the project risk register, based on comprehensive analysis drawing on the programme's theory of change, Social and Environmental Standards and screening, situation analysis, capacity assessments and other analysis such as funding potential and reputational risk. Risks have been identified through a consultative process with key internal and external stakeholders, including consultation with the UNDP Security Office as required. Clear and complete plan in place to manage and mitigate each risk, including security risks, reflected in project budgeting and monitoring plans. (both must be true)
☒	• 2: Project risks related to the achievement of results are identified in the initial project risk register based on a minimum level of analysis and consultation, with mitigation measures identified for each risk.
☐	• 1: Some risks may be identified in the initial project risk register, but no evidence of consultation or analysis and no clear risk mitigation measures identified. This option is also selected if risks are not clearly identified, no initial risk log is included with the project document and/or no security risk management process has taken place for the project.
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and attached a document that provides evidence for your response): The project risks related to the achievement of results are fully described in the project risk register and the SESP. The project outlines how the UNDP will work under the guidance of the UN Department for Safety and Security and the authority of the UN Designated Security Official to secure a safe environment for the implementation of the project's activities. The project plans to seek co-operation with national and local counterparts on addressing security, political and organizational risks. The risks and related mitigation measures derived from external and internal consultations combined with accumulated in UNDP's experience over the years, given the changing circumstances in the time of warfare. Attachment: Project Document, Description of Action
	5. EFFICIENT
	14. Have specific measures for ensuring cost-efficient use of resources been explicitly mentioned as part of the project design? This can include, for example: **i) Using the theory of change analysis to explore different options of achieving the maximum results with the resources available.** **ii) Using a portfolio management approach to improve cost effectiveness through synergies with other interventions.** **iii) Through joint operations (e.g., monitoring or procurement) with other partners.**

☒	**PROJECT QA - DESIGN**
	iv) Sharing resources or coordinating delivery with other projects. **v) Using innovative approaches and technologies to reduce the cost of service delivery or other types of interventions.**
☒	• Yes
☐	• No
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and attached a document that provides evidence for your response): Considering the nature of support assigned to the UNDP, the project has limited space for maneuvering cost-efficient use of resources that will be allocated to management and operation only. At the same time, the project will maximize the use of innovative technologies, where possible. In addition, to the central hub in Kyiv (technical coordination unit), the project will place a technical assistance unit (TA unit) in the regional offices in Dnipro, Odesa and Mukachevo to cover the different geographical parts of the country. The regional presence of the TA unit might be useful for on-spot assistance by other projects. It also utilizes cost-sharing of local offices and shared equipment for costs related to security. Attachment: Project Document, Description of Action
	15. Is the budget justified and supported with valid estimates?
☐	• 3: The project's budget is at the activity level with funding sources, and is specified for the duration of the project period in a multi-year budget. Realistic resource mobilisation plans are in place to fill unfunded components. Costs are supported with valid estimates using benchmarks from similar projects or activities. Cost implications from inflation and foreign exchange exposure have been estimated and incorporated in the budget. Adequate costs for monitoring, evaluation, communications and security have been incorporated.
☒	• 2: The project's budget is at the activity level with funding sources, when possible, and is specified for the duration of the project in a multi-year budget, but no funding plan is in place. Costs are supported with valid estimates based on prevailing rates.
☐	• 1: The project's budget is not specified at the activity level, and/or may not be captured in a multi-year budget.
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and attached a document that provides evidence for your response): Budget is provided within the Annual Work Plan solely for management and operation. The project is funded under the Eastern Europe Energy Efficiency and Environment Partnership Fund (the E5P Fund). The estimated budget is broken down by categories in multi-year. Estimates are made on standard rates and benchmarks from similar activities. Attachment: Project Document, Annual Work Plan
	16. Is the Country Office / Regional / Global Project fully recovering the costs involved with project implementation?
☐	• 3: The budget fully covers all project costs that are attributable to the project, including programme management and development effectiveness services related to strategic country programme planning, quality assurance, pipeline development, policy advocacy services, finance, procurement, human resources, administration, issuance of contracts, security, travel, assets, general services, information and communications based on full costing in accordance with prevailing UNDP policies (i.e., UPL, LPL.)
☒	• 2: The budget covers significant project costs that are attributable to the project based on prevailing UNDP policies (i.e., UPL, LPL) as relevant.
☐	• 1: The budget does not adequately cover project costs that are attributable to the project, and UNDP is cross-subsidizing the project.
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and attached a document that provides evidence for your response): The project is funded under the E5P Fund via EBRD acting and a Fund Manager. The criteria and conditions for determining eligibility of costs are set out in the *EIB-UNDP Agreement* (Articles 5.6 to 5.9). The cost of the contribution shall be the aggregate amount of the direct personnel costs and the amount of eligible indirect costs (amounting to 44% of aggregated direct costs). The budget covers management costs required for personnel, and operational resources (inc. office facilities, equipment, travel and vehicles). Attached: Project Document, Description of Action
	6. EFFECTIVE

☒	**PROJECT QA - DESIGN**
	17. Have targeted groups, and particularly those marginalized, vulnerable, and left further behind (LNOB), been engaged in the design of the project? [5]
☐	• 3: Credible evidence that all targeted groups, prioritising discriminated, vulnerable, and marginalized populations that will be involved in or affected by the project, have been actively engaged in the design of the project. The project has an explicit strategy to identify, engage and ensure the meaningful participation of target groups as stakeholders throughout the project, including through monitoring and decision-making (e.g., representation on the project board, inclusion in samples for evaluations, etc.)
☒	• 2: Some evidence that key targeted groups have been consulted in the design of the project.
☐	• 1: No evidence of engagement with targeted groups during project design.
☐	• Not Applicable
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and attached a document that provides evidence for your response): The project is designed based on the EIB policies following the clauses established in the *EIB-UNDP Agreement*. In the theory of change it states that local communities, IDPs and other vulnerable groups receive decent living conditions and quality social services. In addition to energy efficiency renovations, the UPBEE Programme allows the finance of repair of public buildings. The project highlights the impact on vulnerable groups (including people with disabilities) and people that were directly affected by the ongoing hostilities and infrastructure damage. Attached: Project Document, Description of Action
	18. Does the project plan for adaptation and course correction if regular monitoring activities, evaluation, and lesson learned demonstrate there are better approaches to achieve the intended results and/or circumstances change during implementation?
☒	• Yes
☐	• No
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and upload a document that provides evidence for your response): Monitoring and evaluation plan has been included in the project document with the plan for regular data collection and reporting. This outlines how the project board can recommend changes to the respective project agreements as a part of monitoring progress on the Annual Work Plans for consideration and further approval. The project will also report to the EIB on an account of any changes introduced, difficulties encountered, and measures taken to overcome them, among other things. Attached: Project Document, Description of Action, VI. Monitoring and evaluation
	19. The gender marker for all project outputs are scored at GEN2 or GEN3, indicating that gender has been fully mainstreamed into all project outputs at a minimum.
☐	• Yes
☒	• No
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and upload a document that provides evidence for your response): Project gender marker scored at GEN 1 Attached: Project Document, Description of Action
	20. Have societal digital risks and opportunities been taken into account when designing the project's approach and have digital or data technology solutions been considered to enhance the efficiency, effectiveness and scalability of project results? [6]

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[5] Operationalizing Leaving No One Behind Good Practice Note for UNCT (https://unsdg.un.org/resources/leaving-no-one-behind-unsdg-operational-guide-un-country-teams)

[6] *For a checklist and evidence template, please see the Embedding Digital Thinking into Project Design Guidelines (https://rebrand.ly/DbDProjectGuideEN).*

☒	**PROJECT QA - DESIGN**
☐	• 3: To the extent possible, societal digital risks and opportunities have been investigated when designing the strategy and Theory of Change, and the potential use of digital or data technologies in project activities has been considered in line with UNDP's digital standards[7] and data principles[8]. (All must be true)
☒	• 2: Only the potential use of digital or data solutions in project activities has been considered in line with UNDP's digital standards[9] and data principles[10], but there is no or limited evidence that aspects of inclusive digital societies have been considered in the design of the strategy or Theory of Change.
☐	• 1: Neither societal digital risks and opportunities, nor digital or data technology solutions were specifically considered in the project design or, UNDP's digital standards[11] and data principles[12] are not considered when intending to use digital or data technology solutions in project activities.
☐	• Digital considerations are not relevant to this project. *Applicable only to option "Digital considerations are not relevant" ☐ 1: Societal digital transformation is not a government or contextual priority ☐ 2: A non-digital approach yields higher effectiveness and efficiency ☐ 3: Other (specify in the "Evidence" section)
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and attached a document that provides evidence for your response): The project foresees cooperation with other UPBEE Programme Stakeholders with clearly defined roles and responsibilities. Namely, the Programme Management and Support Unit (at central level, within MCTD) will develop a Programme Management Platform and the Programme website to facilitate the application process. During the implementation process the project will contribute by providing support in using these tools and may suggest improvements. The project will also make use of various digital solutions for communication and capacity building campaigns to promote digitalization policy of the Government of Ukraine. Attached: Project Document, Description of Action
	7. SUSTAINABILITY & NATIONAL OWNERSHIP
	21. Have national / regional / global partners led, or proactively engaged in, the design of the country / regional / global project, respectively?
☒	• 3: National / regional / global partners have full ownership of the country / regional / global project and led the process of the development of the project jointly with UNDP.
☐	• 2: The project has been developed by UNDP in close consultation with national / regional / global partners.
☐	• 1: The project has been developed by UNDP with limited or no engagement with national partners.
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and attached a document that provides evidence for your response): Project design and implementation mechanisms derive from the *EIB-UNDP Agreement*. The EIB provides financing for comprehensive energy efficient rehabilitation of public buildings in Ukrainian cities through the Ukraine Public Buildings Energy Efficiency (UPBEE) Programme upon the request of Ukrainian Government. The Programme is financed through a framework loan made available by the EIB, to the Borrower, represented by the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Infrastructure as Promoter. Beneficiaries represented by local authorities or communal enterprises receive financial support from the EIB and technical support from UNDP for

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[7] *The ten UNDP Digital Standards are: a) Start with the need; b) Bridge the digital divide; c) Test early and often; d) (Perhaps) Don't build it; e) Do no harm; f) Form the Right Team; g) Measure What Matters; h) Follow The UNDP Data Principles; i) Default to Open; and j) Plan for the Long Term (https://www.undp.org/digital/standards).*

[8] *The eight UNDP Digital Principles are: a) Safeguard personal data; b) Uphold the highest ethical standards; c) Manage Data Responsibly; d) Make data open by default; e) Plan for reusability and interoperability; f) Empower people to work with data; g) Expand frontiers of data; and h) Be aware of data limitations (https://data.undp.org/data-principles).*
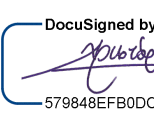
[9] *The ten UNDP Digital Standards are: a) Start with the need; b) Bridge the digital divide; c) Test early and often; d) (Perhaps) Don't build it; e) Do no harm; f) Form the Right Team; g) Measure What Matters; h) Follow The UNDP Data Principles; i) Default to Open; and j) Plan for the Long Term (https://www.undp.org/digital/standards).*

[10] *The eight UNDP Digital Principles are: a) Safeguard personal data; b) Uphold the highest ethical standards; c) Manage Data Responsibly; d) Make data open by default; e) Plan for reusability and interoperability; f) Empower people to work with data; g) Expand frontiers of data; and h) Be aware of data limitations (https://data.undp.org/data-principles).*

[11] *The ten UNDP Digital Standards are: a) Start with the need; b) Bridge the digital divide; c) Test early and often; d) (Perhaps) Don't build it; e) Do no harm; f) Form the Right Team; g) Measure What Matters; h) Follow The UNDP Data Principles; i) Default to Open; and j) Plan for the Long Term (https://www.undp.org/digital/standards).*

[12] *The eight UNDP Digital Principles are: a) Safeguard personal data; b) Uphold the highest ethical standards; c) Manage Data Responsibly; d) Make data open by default; e) Plan for reusability and interoperability; f) Empower people to work with data; g) Expand frontiers of data; and h) Be aware of data limitations (https://data.undp.org/data-principles).*

☒	PROJECT QA - DESIGN
	developing and implementing investment sub-projects on their full ownership. This is specified in the relevant sections of the project. Attached: Project Document, Description of Action
	22. Are key institutions and systems identified, and is there a strategy for strengthening specific / comprehensive capacities based on capacity assessments conducted?
☐	• 3: The project has a strategy for strengthening specific capacities of national institutions and/or actors based on a completed capacity assessment. This strategy includes an approach to regularly monitor national capacities using clear indicators and rigorous methods of data collection, and adjust the strategy to strengthen national capacities accordingly.
☒	• 2: A capacity assessment has been completed. There are plans to develop a strategy to strengthen specific capacities of national institutions and/or actors based on the results of the capacity assessment.
☐	• 1: Capacity assessments have not been carried out.
☐	• Not Applicable
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and attached a document that provides evidence for your response): Capacity building of sub-national institutions is key for a successful project implementation, increasing energy efficiency in public buildings. The project specifies the stages of sub-project cycle management where the project team will provide technical advisory support to beneficiaries. The baseline assessment and the strategy design for strengthening capacity has not been completed. Considering that technical assistance of the project will come into service after preparatory stage, the project will plan capacity building activities in an ad hoc basis in step with the UPBEE Programme roadmap and the agenda. Besides, the project is liable for describing the impact of the capacity building and monitoring support as a part of the EIB reporting. Attached: Project Document, Description of Action
	23. Is there is a clear strategy embedded in the project specifying how the project will use national systems (i.e., procurement, monitoring, evaluations, etc.,) to the extent possible?
☒	• Yes
☐	• No
☐	• Not Applicable
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and attached a document that provides evidence for your response): The project will provide advisory support to local beneficiaries, particularly to those lacking sufficient construction and procurement capabilities ensuring the preparation of quality investment sub-project documentation acceptable to the EIB. As per the *EIB-UNDP Agreement* and the project, this includes design and engineering, procurement, due diligence (social and environmental), contract administration, payments, monitoring and supervision of construction, compliance, anticorruption monitoring support (incl. sanctions screening). Attached: Project Document, Description of Action
	24. Is there a clear transition arrangement / phase-out plan developed with key stakeholders in order to sustain or scale up results (including resource mobilisation and communications strategy)?
☒	• Yes
☐	• No
	Evidence (Enter a short explanation and attached a document that provides evidence for your response): The project has a clear vision for sustaining and scaling up results at every phase of will promote the results and reasons learned though every phase of project cycle with capacity development of final beneficiaries and community-based stakeholders, strengthening accountability, ensuring resilience. As a part of UNDP's programming policies and procedures, the project board will oversee the progress implementation and capture lessons learned for scaling up the results. Attached: Project Document, Description of Action

Name and Title	Signature and Date	Description
QA Assessor: Martine Jahre Programme Analyst a.i.	Signature: DocuSigned by: *Martine Jahre* 40E982E3BFFA41B... Date: 18-Sep-2023	The QA Assessor has to be accountable for project assurance, which is independent of the project manager. A UNDP programme or monitoring and evaluation officer typically holds the project assurance role on behalf of UNDP. For GEF- and GCF-financed projects, project assurance is undertaken as per the requirements of the vertical funds, and these services are covered by the fee provided by the vertical fund.
QA Approver: Christophoros Politis Deputy Resident Representative	Signature: DocuSigned by: 579848EFB0DC4CC... Date: 19-Sep-2023	The QA Approver is typically the Resident Representative, Deputy Resident Representative, or head of portfolio. The QA Approver must function at a higher level of accountability than the QA Assessor. The QA Approver cannot also be the QA Assessor.