

UNDP-GEF MTR Management Response

Management response to the Midterm Review of Effective Governance for Small-scale Rural Infrastructure and Disaster Preparedness in a Changing Climate¹

Project Title: Effective Governance for Small-scale Rural Infrastructure and Disaster Preparedness in a Changing Climate

UNDP Project ID (PIMS) #: 4710

GEF Project ID (PMIS) #: 4554

Midterm Review Mission Completion Date: September 16, 2016

Date of Issue of Management Response: 1 November 27, 2016; Updated August 31, 2017

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Context, background and findings

The Project was initiated in May 2013 (5 months after expected starting date of 1st January 2013), and expected to be completed by 31st December 2016. However, due to delay in signing of Project Document, as well as delays in mobilising project teams, a one-year extension of the project was approved by the Project Board in December 2015, and subsequently granted in February 2016.

UNDP initiated the process of implementing the Mid-Term Review in late 2015, and the MTR consultant team was on board in April 2016, and starting their country mission in early June 2016. The country mission was completed by end of June 2016. Due to unforeseen personal issues related to the international consultant, the submission of the MTR Report was delayed. The first draft was received in late August 2016, and the final report is dated 25th September 2016.

¹ This template is in alignment with the [Management Response Template](#) for UNDP project-level evaluations in the Evaluation Resource Centre.

Recommendations and management response

Midterm Review recommendation 1. It is recommended to revise the AWP 2016 and integrate activities under outcome 2 and 3 as one set of activities "forcing" a more integrated approach to link these 2 outcomes

Management response: Using CRVA as tool for integration, and integrate work-plans of infrastructure and ecosystem specialists

Key action(s)	Time frame	Responsible unit(s)	Tracking ²	
			Comments	Status ³
1.1 Selection of new ecosystem areas based on the CRVA	Dec 16	PSU	Site visits will be carried out in Jan-Feb 2017	Completed
1.2 Integrating Phu Ta Yeune Ecosystem management and Kamkok water supply project	Sep 16 – Aug 17	PSU		Completed
1.3 Implement EbA actions for infrastructure projects in all ecosystem sites	Sep 16 – Aug 17	PSU	EbA action were implemented in all ecosystem sites.	Completed

² If the MTR is uploaded to the EIRC, the status of implementation is tracked electronically in the Evaluation Resource Centre database (ERC).

³ Status of Implementation: Completed, Partially Completed, Pending.

Midterm Review recommendation 2. It is recommended to increase the engagement of stakeholders from the outset of any project activities, particularly communities

Management response: Using the DDF mechanism as tool for community engagement and strengthen capacity of district agencies

Key action(s)	Time frame	Responsible unit(s)	Tracking	
			Comments	Status
2.1 Approval and endorsement of DDF Guidelines	Sep 16	PSU	The DDF mechanism already include community engagement processes	Completed
2.2 Refresher training on DDF Guidelines, including climate resilience awareness	Nov 16	PSU		Completed

Midterm Review recommendation 3. It is recommended to produce an “aggressive” work plan to complete most activities – particularly the 12 remaining small-scale infrastructure projects and the EbA measures - by August 2017.

Management response: Develop Annual Work-Plan for 2017 where all major field activities will be implemented by August 2017

Key action(s)	Time frame	Responsible unit(s)	Tracking	
			Comments	Status
3.1 Development of Annual Work-plan 2017	Dec 2016	PSU	Draft completed, awaiting approval	Completed
3.2 Approval of Annual Workplan	December 08, 2016	PSU	By the PSC at the ARM	Completed

Midterm Review recommendation 4. It is recommended to assess the impacts of small-scale infrastructure projects, particularly after at least one full yearly cycle

Management response: Develop and implement an impact monitoring programme

Key action(s)	Time frame	Responsible unit(s)	Tracking	
			Comments	Status
4.1 Recruit a new M&E specialist	Nov 16, 2016	PSU	Already identified, will start work Jan 2017	Completed
4.2 Design impact monitoring programme	Sep 16 – Jan 17	PSU	Current version to be revised by new M&E specialist	Completed
4.3 Implement impact monitoring programme	Jan – July 17	PSU	Field mission of impact monitoring was conducted.	Completed.

Midterm Review recommendation 5. It is recommended that the Project Board meet at least twice a year and be more in the “driver seat” when it comes to guiding the implementation of the project

Management response: Propose to the Project Steering Committee (Project Board) at the PSC Meeting on Dec 8, 2016

Key action(s)	Time frame	Responsible unit(s)	Tracking	
			Comments	Status
5.1 Include proposal in agenda for Board Meeting 2016	Dec 2016	PSU	Board meeting 08/12/2017	Completed
5.2 PSC to comment on the proposal	Dec 2016	PSU	Board meeting on 08/12/2017	Completed

Midterm Review recommendation 6. It is recommended to make changes to the Project Results Framework in the PIR 2015-2016 to reflect the changes to the project strategy approved in December 2015

Management response: Include changes in PIR 2016

Key action(s)	Time frame	Responsible unit(s)	Tracking	
			Comments	Status
6.1 Include changes in project strategy in PIR 2016	Jul-Sep 16	UNDP CO	The changes are: (1) project one-year extension to Dec 2017, (2) reduction of infrastructure project target from 48 to 28, and (3) under Outcome 3, change from 'area of ecosystem', to 'number of EbA measures implemented	Completed

Midterm Review recommendation 7. It is recommended to review the indicators used to measure the performance of the project and add a few capacity-based indicators

Management response: Include Capacity-based indicator(s) in project M&E system

Key action(s)	Time frame	Responsible unit(s)	Tracking	
			Comments	Status
7.1 Include Capacity-based indicator(s) in project M&E system	May 2017	PSU	Project already reviewed indicators on infrastructure projects and ecosystems (see recommendation 5), capacity assessment of DDST and DDSC will be included in M&E Framework, using	Completed

			capacity assessment of 2014 as baseline.	
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Midterm Review recommendation 8. It is recommended to increase communication activities to better explain to stakeholders the complex relationship between climate change, local livelihoods, management of local natural resources and local development

Management response: Engage with UNDP Communications Unit, and MONRE/DDMCC Division of Information and Public Relations

Key action(s)	Time frame	Responsible unit(s)	Tracking	
			Comments	Status
8.1 Meeting with UNDP Communications Unit and Division of Information and Public Relations	Oct 16, 2016	PSU	Discussion and agreement on the publications required	Completed
8.2 Include communication budget in 2017 work-plan	Dec 16, 2016	PSU	On-going work	Completed
8.3 Develop communication materials	Nov 16 – Sep 17	PSU / UNDP	Several communication materials such as press, summary notes, presentation, posters of the result of the project were developed and exhibited at the project annual review meeting/terminal meeting.	Completed

Midterm Review recommendation 9. It is recommended to review the current project achievements and develop a sustainability strategy.

Management response: Develop Sustainability Strategy				
Key action(s)	Time frame	Responsible unit(s)	Tracking	
			Comments	Status
9.1 Develop first draft of Sustainability Strategy	Mar 2017	PSU		Completed
9.2 Hold consultations with key stakeholders	Mar 2017	PSU	Stakeholder meetings was held including with UNHABITAT, new MOHA/UNDP Governance for Inclusive Development	Completed
9.3 Complete final Sustainability Strategy	April 2017	PSU	Sustainability strategy plan for project was completed and presented at the annual review meeting.	Completed

Midterm Review recommendation 10. It is recommended to conduct a capacity assessment of the 12 District Development Support Teams (DDSTs).

Management response: Conduct DDST Capacity Assessment

Key action(s)	Time frame	Responsible unit(s)	Tracking	
			Comments	Status
10.1 Training of DDST implemented, including rapid capacity assessment	Nov 16	PSU		Completed

10.2 Based on DDST training, capacity assessment needs will be determined	Dec 16	PSU	Capacity building need was identify based on the evaluation results.	Partially completed (Completion: May 2017)
10.3 Capacity Assessment completed	Feb 17	PSU	Capacity assessment completed.	Completed