

Closure Stage Quality Assurance Report

Overall Project Rating:	Needs Improvement
Project Number :	00085482
Project Title :	The project aims to strengthen national capacities to address Mine Action in Egypt through the provision of relevant tools and mechanisms; reintegrate mine victims into the economy ; and support the continuation of mine clearance operations in NWC.
Project Date :	23-Oct-2014

Strategic

Quality Rating: Needs Improvement

1. Did the project pro-actively take advantage of new opportunities and adapt its theory of change to respond to changes in the development context, including changing national priorities? (select the option from 1-3 which best reflects this project)

- ☐ 3: The project team regularly completed and documented a comprehensive horizon scanning exercise to identify new opportunities and changes in the development context that required adjustments in the theory of change. There is clear evidence that the project board considered the scanning and its implications, and documented changes to the project's RRF, partnerships, etc. made in response, as appropriate. (both must be true to select this option)
- ☒ 2: *The project team has undertaken some horizon scanning over the life of the project to identify new opportunities and changes in the development context. The project board discussed the scanning and its implications for the project, as reflected in the board minutes. There is some evidence that the project took action as a result, but changes may not have been fully integrated in the project's theory of change, RRF, partnerships, etc. (all must be true to select this option)*
- ☐ 1: The project team may have considered new opportunities and changes in the development context since implementation began, but this has not been discussed in the project board. There is limited to no evidence that the project team has considered changes to the project as a result. This option should also be selected if no horizon scanning took place during project implementation.

Evidence

2. Was the project aligned with the thematic focus of the Strategic Plan? (select the option from 1-3 that best reflects the project)

- ☐ 3: The project responded to one of the three areas of development [work](#) as specified in the Strategic Plan. It addressed at least one of the proposed new and emerging [areas](#) and implementation was consistent with the issues-based analysis incorporated into the project. The project's RRF included all the relevant SP output indicators. (all must be true to select this option)
- ☐ 2: The project responded to one of the three areas of development [work](#) as specified in the Strategic Plan. The project's RRF included at least one SP output indicator, if relevant. (both must be true to select this option)
- ☒ 1: *While the project may have responded to one of the three areas of development [work](#) as specified in the Strategic Plan, it was based on a sectoral approach without addressing the complexity of the development issue. None of the relevant SP indicators were included in the project's RRF. This option is also selected if the project did not respond to any of the three SP areas of development work.*

Evidence

The project contributed to the 2013-2017 UNDAF, specifically Outcome 3.1, in addition to contributing to Goals 1,3,4 and & of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

3. Evidence generated through the project was explicitly used to confirm or adjust the programme/CPD's theory of change during implementation.

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Evidence

The 2013-2017 CO CPD explicitly reasserted UNDP's mission towards mine reduction and affirmed that UNDP shall provide technical support to revise the northwestern coastal zone development plan, support mine-victim assistance and build the management capacity and mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction and conflict management in wider development interventions. This was in return reflected in this second phase of the Support to the North West Coast Development Plan and Relevant Mine Action.

Relevant

Quality Rating: Satisfactory

4. Were the project's targeted groups systematically identified and engaged, with a priority focus on the excluded and marginalized, to ensure the project remained relevant for them? (select the option from 1-3 that best reflects the project)

- ☐ 3: Systematic and structured feedback was collected regularly from a representative sample of beneficiaries, with a priority focus on the excluded and marginalized, as part of the project's monitoring system. Representatives from the targeted group were active members of the project's governance mechanism (i.e., project board or equivalent) and there is credible evidence that their feedback informed decision making. (all must be true to select this option)
- ☐ 2: Targeted groups were engaged in implementation and monitoring, with a priority focus on the excluded 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

Involving local communities was one of the project priorities when preparing the activities because their suggestions and recommendations were taken into consideration during the project planning and implementations stages. Heads of tribes and mayors were constantly being consulted and involved when conducting the work plan for the project activities in order to make sure that these activities were relative and catered to the needs of the target group (landmine victims and their families). Their feedback was of prime importance as it aimed at easing the planning process of activities and they act as the link between the Executive Secretariat and the landmine victims and their families. All victims' assistance activities were based on thorough feasibility studies, surveys, and needs assessments which identified the need for establishing an artificial limbs center in Matruh. Victims' assistance survey findings also showed the excess number of landmine victims who opted for livestock enterprise projects as means of income generation. This led to the accommodation of this activity, in

the project work plan, as an income generating activity. In addition to these findings, there was a need for building the capacities of existing local NGOs in order to guarantee that there will be a local entity capable of operating microcredit loans after the project ends. The aim was to provide them with all the necessary training and tools they need to conduct surveys, run the microcredit loan system, manage funds, and monitor them which were all conducted through a consultancy firm selected by the Executive Secretariat. Also, regarding MRE activities, pre and post assessments were conducted in households and schools regarding the knowledge the local community has on mines and their risks, which all showed an exponential increase in post-assessment results.

5. Did the project generate knowledge, particularly lessons learned (i.e., what has worked and what has not) – and has this knowledge informed management decisions and changes/course corrections to ensure the continued relevance of the project towards its stated objectives, the quality of its outputs and the management of risk? (select the option from 1-3 that best reflects the project)

☐ 3: Knowledge and lessons learned (gained, for example, from Peer Assists, After Action Reviews or Lessons Learned Workshops) backed by credible evidence from evaluation, analysis and monitoring were regularly discussed in project board meetings and reflected in the minutes. There is clear evidence that the project's theory of change was adjusted, as needed, and changes were made to the project to ensure its continued relevance. (both must be true to select this option)

☒ 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 to select this option)*

☐ 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

Regular reporting comprised lessons learned and challenges within the narrative, which in return indicated to the project team the progress and relevance of the project's activities and interventions towards the project target and beneficiaries.

6. Were the project's special measures (through outputs, activities, indicators) to address gender inequalities and empower women relevant and produce the intended effect? If not, were evidence-based adjustments and changes made? (select the option from 1-3 that best reflects the project)

☐ 3: The project team systematically gathered data and evidence on the relevance of the special measures in addressing gender inequalities and empowering women. Analysis of data and evidence were used to inform adjustments and changes, as appropriate. (both must be true to select this option)

☒ 2: *The project team had some data and evidence on the relevance of the special measures in addressing gender inequalities and empowering women. There is evidence that at least some adjustments made, as appropriate. (both must be true to select this option)*

☐ 1: The project team had limited or no evidence on the relevance of the special measures in addressing gender inequalities and empowering women. No evidence that adjustments and/or changes were made, as appropriate. This option should also be selected if the project had no special measures in addressing gender inequalities and empowering women relevant to project results and activities.

Evidence

The project's Executive Secretariat aimed at developing a gender-sensitive component in the project's action plan for

women's participation in mine action related activities in Egypt, and noticing the impact of women in the Bedouin/Matruhi community, the notion to enhance their role in disseminating awareness was of noticeable importance. Hence, the Executive Secretariat began to integrate the trained NGO members to become trainers themselves; the total number of female beneficiaries of TOTs conducted in 2017 has reached an average of 85 females. Furthermore, to initiate and support the second phase of projects aiming at to victim's assistance for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration through aspects such as youth development, livelihoods and employability, leadership and engagement, and mine risk education, a training program has been developed to provide steps in project development and guidelines for writing a proposal for the NGOs enrolled in the capacity development program after the institutional assessment phase. The program is not focused on "how to" integrate mine victims into development projects but rather provides information about development program design in general and can be adopted in all related development work. The second half of the programme course focused on Gender training. This course is designed to prompt an exploration of common behaviors and attitudes towards gender differences. It presents facts and figures about the situation of women and men in our society today – and references from key documents that highlight policies formulated to address gender concerns.

7. Was the project sufficiently at scale, or is there potential to scale up in the future, to meaningfully contribute to development change? (select the option from 1-3 that best reflects the project)

- ☒ 3: *There is credible evidence that the project reached a sufficient number of beneficiaries (either directly through significant coverage of target groups, or indirectly, through policy change) to meaningfully contribute to development change.*
- ☐ 2: While the project was not considered at scale, there are explicit plans in place to scale up the initiative in the future (e.g. by extending its coverage in a second phase or using project results to advocate for policy change).
- ☐ 1: The project was not at scale, and there are no plans currently to scale up the initiative in the future.

Evidence

The project has successfully surpassed its main target of clearing 902 KM2 of land area in the North-West Coast, by clearing the total of 1,674 KM2. The New City of Al-Alamein is now being built on the cleared lands and during its first phase, is expected to offer about 279,375 job opportunities with an expected population of 400,000 inhabitants. This number is expected to reach 4 million inhabitants by 2030. The city will include residential, medical, commercial, business, industrial, educational and touristic projects and services, such as: museums, historical places, hotels, conference centers, libraries, mosques, churches, national theme parks, physiotherapy centers, an expo city, schools, and a university. It will act as a communication point between all the cities of the North West Coast. It will also contribute in achieving economic development, and providing a better quality of life for its residents

8. Did the project seek to further the realization of human rights using a human rights-based approach? (select the option from 1-3 that best reflects the project)

- ☐ 3: There is credible evidence that the project aimed to further the realization of human rights, on the basis of applying a human rights based approach. Any potential adverse impacts on enjoyment of human rights were actively identified, managed and mitigated through the project's management of risks. (all must be true to select this option)
- ☒ 2: *There is some evidence that the project aimed to further the realization of human rights. Potential adverse impacts on the enjoyment of human rights were identified and adequately mitigated through the project's management of risks. (both must be true to select this option)*
- ☐ 1: There is no evidence that the project aimed to further the realization of human rights. There is limited to no evidence that potential adverse impacts on the enjoyment of human rights were managed.

Evidence

In addition to reducing mine-related accidents, the project also aimed at promoting the protection of human rights. Given how a landmine incident can cause various injuries to an individual including the loss of limbs, injuries to the abdominal area, chest and spine, blindness, deafness, and reduced vision, and the treatment for these kinds of injuries carry a lot of financial and psychological burdens. In the NWC region, once injured or disabled, survivors of landmines didn't receive the considerable health care and they had no access to social welfare services, taking into consideration that most of the survivors suffer from lack of employment. The project's Executive Secretariat focused on providing landmine victims with prosthesis and mobility aids, physical rehabilitation, and identifying income-generating activities to help them sustain themselves, reintegrate into society, and contribute to the development of the region. The project shed light on the importance of being active citizens, within their local communities, who are economically self-sufficient and able to provide to their households. The goal was not only to provide landmine victims with mobility aids, but to also provide them with the tools necessary to reintegrate into society. Also, building the capacities of local NGOs was successful in raising community awareness in terms of knowing their roles as MRE advocates and key players each within their local community. The project focused on integrating the local civil society in the NWC region in order to give them a sense of entitlement to assure this positive proactive attitude towards enhancing their own wellbeing continues even after the project duration ends. The underlying goal of the Executive Secretariat was to integrate the local community from the start (planning phase) until the end of the project to make sure that all activities catered to their needs and are useful to them on the long-term.

9. Were social and environmental impacts and risks (including those related to human rights, gender and environment) successfully managed and monitored in accordance with the project document and relevant action plans? (for projects that have no social and environmental risks the answer is "Yes")

- ☒ Yes

☐ No

Evidence

N/A

10. Were any unanticipated social and environmental issues or grievances that arose during implementation assessed and adequately managed, with relevant management plans updated? (for projects that did not experience unanticipated social and environmental risks or grievances the answer is “Yes”)

☒ Yes

☐ No

Evidence

N/A

Management & Monitoring

Quality Rating: Satisfactory

11. Was the project's M&E Plan adequately implemented? (select the option from 1-3 that best reflects the project)

☒ 3: Progress data against indicators in the project's RRF was reported regularly using highly credible data sources and collected according to the frequency stated in the project's M&E plan, including sex disaggregated data as relevant. Evaluations, if conducted, fully met decentralized evaluation standards, including gender UNEG standards, and management responses were fully implemented. Lessons learned, including during evaluations, were used to take corrective actions when necessary. (all must be true to select this option)

☐ 2: Progress data against indicators in the project's RRF was collected on a regular basis, although there may have been some slippage in following the frequency stated in the project's M&E plan and data sources were not always reliable. Any evaluations conducted meet most decentralized evaluation standards; management responses were fully implemented to the extent possible. Lessons learned have been captured but not used to take collective actions. (all must be true to select this option)

☐ 1: Progress data either was not collected against the indicators in the project's RRF, or limited data was collected but not regularly; evaluations did not meet decentralized evaluation standards; and/or lessons learned were rarely captured and used.

Evidence

The project has been successful in achieving the UNDAF outcome 3.1 which states that national and local capacities and systems are enhanced for decentralized, inclusive and gender-sensitive planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation. From the start of the project, the gender aspect has always been the main focus when it comes to the activities and income generating projects allocated for landmine victims and their families. The project focused on three main outputs, the first of which is strengthened national capacities of relevant stakeholders to manage Mine Action in Egypt, for mine clearance operations in the North West Coast Region and for accelerated Mine Clearance Operations. This output entails engaging with all concerned ministries, stakeholders, and the Matruhi governorate for the sake of demining for development. Donors supplied funds for the procurement of all the necessary demining equipment, while ministries provided the running costs for the clearance of certain areas of land for developmental purposes. For Example, the New City of Al Alamein is being implemented on cleared lands. During its

first phase it will offer about 279,375 job opportunities with an expected population of 400,000 inhabitants. This number is expected to reach 4 million inhabitants by 2030. The city will include residential, medical, commercial, business, industrial, educational and touristic projects and services, such as: museums, historical places, hotels, conference centers, libraries, mosques, churches, national theme parks, physiotherapy centers, an expo city, schools, and a university. It will act as a communication point between all the cities of the North West Coast. It will also contribute in achieving economic development, and providing a better quality of life for its residents. The second output is the reintegration of Mine Victims, with special emphasis on women, into society and enabling them to contribute to the development of the North West Coast region. This output entails engaging with local communities, landmine victims and their families, local NGOs, and Mayors and Sheikhs in order to involve them in decision making processes. The first artificial limbs center in Matruh was inaugurated in 2016 to cater for landmine victims in that region. This center solved the proximity problem as landmine victims had to commute all the way to Cairo for fitting and maintenance purposes; many amputees were unable to take on this journey due to the transportation costs to and from Cairo and the accommodation. There was special attention and focus on reintegrating landmine victims into the community. All chosen activities are gender sensitive with the aim of accounting for income generating projects which would both be suitable for women to work on them and allow the landmine victim household to become economically independent. Landmine victims were provided with 168 landmine survivors with fitting and maintenance services, in addition to 8 wheel chairs and 251 socks for leg amputations. The third output is developed and expanded Mine Risk Education Programme, and advocacy activities and its implementation entailed spreading awareness to the local communities and mayors and sheikhs in hopes of shedding light on mine risks. This mine action pillar consisted of awareness campaigns in schools, Training of Trainers (TOTs), conferences and workshops, radio competitions, and MRE sessions in schools and households. MRE activities targeted men, women, and children, of all ages in addition to local community leaders, mayors and sheikhs whom were influential amongst their tribes. The role of women was evident in their eagerness to conduct TOTs and willingness to advocate for MRE in Bedouin homes in faraway municipalities. The aim of MRE activities is to shed light on the risks of landmines, in an interactive way, and explain safe means of dealing with them in the case of encounter. Advocating for MRE orbits around altering unsafe habits of local inhabitants and assuring that the cautionary messages reach the grassroots of society. Also, in line with the overarching aim of the UNDAF, mine action can directly assist with the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

12. Did the project's governance mechanism (i.e., the project board or equivalent) function as intended? (select the option from 1-3 that best reflects the project)

☐ The project's governance mechanism operated very well, and is a model for other projects. It met in the agreed frequency stated in the project document and the minutes of the meetings are all on file. There was regular (at least annual) progress reporting to the project board or equivalent on results, risks and opportunities. It is clear that the project board explicitly reviewed and used evidence, including progress data, knowledge, lessons and evaluations, as the basis for informing management decisions (e.g., change in strategy, approach, work plan.) (all must be true to select this option)

☒ *The project's governance mechanism met in the agreed frequency and minutes of the meeting are on file. A project progress report was submitted to the project board or equivalent at least once per year, covering results, risks and opportunities. (both must be true to select this option)*

☐ The project's governance mechanism did not meet in the frequency stated in the project document, and/or the project board or equivalent did not function as a decision making body for the project as intended.

Evidence

13. Were risks to the project adequately monitored and managed? (select the option from 1-3 that best reflects the project)

☐ 3: The project actively monitored risks every quarter including consulting with key stakeholders at least annually to identify continuing and emerging risks to project implementation and to assess if the main assumptions remain valid. There is clear evidence that relevant management plans and mitigating measures were fully implemented to address each key project risk, and some evidence that risk mitigation has benefitted performance. (all must be true to select this option)

☐ 2: The project monitored risks every quarter, as evidenced by a regularly updated risk log. Some updates were made to management plans and mitigation measures. (both must be true to select this option)

☒ *1: The risk log was not updated every quarter as required. There may be some evidence that the project monitored risks that could have affected the project's achievement of results, but there is no explicit evidence that management actions were taken to mitigate risks. The project's performance was disrupted by factors that could have been anticipated or managed.*

Evidence

The risk log was not updated every quarter as required, however, this did not affect the project's performance.

Efficient

Quality Rating: Needs Improvement

14. Adequate resources were mobilized to achieve intended results. If not, management decisions were taken to adjust expected results in the project's results framework.

☒ Yes

☐ No

Evidence

Donors supplied funds for the procurement of all the necessary demining equipment, while ministries provided the running costs for the clearance of certain areas of land for developmental purposes.

15. Were project inputs procured and delivered on time to efficiently contribute to results? (select the option from 1-3 that best reflects the project)

☐ 3: The project had a procurement plan and kept it updated. Implementation of the plan was generally on or ahead of schedule. On a quarterly basis, the project reviewed operational bottlenecks to procuring inputs in a timely manner and addressed them through appropriate management actions. (all must be true to select this option)

☒ 2: *The project had a procurement plan and kept it updated. The project annually reviewed operational bottlenecks to procuring inputs in a timely manner and addressed them through appropriate management actions. (all must be true to select this option)*

☐ 1: The project did not have an updated procurement plan. The project team may have reviewed operational bottlenecks to procuring inputs regularly, however management actions were not taken to address them. This option is also selected if operational bottlenecks were not reviewed during the project in a timely manner.

Evidence

In Phase I, in collaboration with the Egyptian Armed Forces, the Executive Secretariat organized the "Cairo Mine Detectors Test Trials" - the first ever to be conducted in Egypt - to identify detectors suitable to the Egyptian environmental conditions (under the supervision of UNMAS and GICHD) . These trials set the stage for procuring the necessary demining equipment in Phase II, with guidance the Egyptian Corps of the Military Engineers. The Executive Secretariat purchased mine detectors, personal protective equipment, and ambulances, from the selected tenders of the test trials; Vallon Detectors (VMR3G), Forester Detectors, Mars Armor demining suits and helmets with visors (the quantity is highlighted in the procurement of necessary demining equipment section below). The financial contributions, which aided in procuring all the necessary and advanced demining equipment were provided through the EU, UNDP, and the demining running costs were provided by concerned ministries. On-the-job monitoring of activities implementation was conducted through the Executive Secretariat field office.

16. Was there regular monitoring and recording of cost efficiencies, taking into account the expected quality of results? (select the option from 1-3 that best reflects the project)

☐ 3: There is evidence that the project regularly reviewed costs against relevant comparators (e.g., other projects or country offices) or industry benchmarks to ensure the project maximized results delivered with given resources. The project actively coordinated with other relevant ongoing projects and initiatives (UNDP or other) to ensure complementarity and sought efficiencies wherever possible (e.g. joint activities.) (both must be true to select this option)

☐ 2: The project monitored its own costs and gave anecdotal examples of cost efficiencies (e.g., spending less to get the same result,) but there was no systematic analysis of costs and no link to the expected quality of results delivered. The project communicated with a few other projects to coordinate activities. (both must be true to select this option)

☒ 1: *There is little or no evidence that the project monitored its own costs and considered ways to save money beyond following standard procurement rules. It is not clear that the link between cost savings and quality of results was made.*

Evidence

It is worth mentioning that during this phase of the project, a network for the trained NGOs was established and used in updating the landmine victims' database. Doing so has cut the cost of hiring an independent consultant/firm to conduct needed feasibility studies. The landmine victim database was created in the first phase of the project with details on mine victims and relevant incidents. The database was updated in Phase II by contributions from EU and UNDP.

17. Is there evidence that project outputs contributed to the achievement of programme outcomes?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Evidence

18. The project delivered its expected outputs.

☒ Yes

☐ No

Evidence

yes,
the project has contributed to its expected outputs as
highlighted in the final progress
report.

19. Were there regular reviews of the work plan to ensure that the project was on track to achieve the desired results, and to inform course corrections if needed? (select the option from 1-3 that best reflects the project)

☐ 3: Quarterly progress data informed regular reviews of the project work plan to ensure that the activities implemented were most likely to achieve the desired results. There is evidence that data and lessons learned (including from evaluations) were used to inform course corrections, as needed. (both must be true to select this option)

☒ 2: *There was at least one review of the work plan each year with a view to assessing if project activities were on track to achieving the desired development results (i.e., outputs.) There is no evidence that data or lessons learned were used to inform the review(s).*

☐ 1: While the project team may have reviewed the work plan at least once per year to ensure outputs were delivered on time, no link was made to the delivery of desired development results. Select this option also if no regular review of the work plan by management took place.

Evidence

20. Were the intended targeted groups systematically identified and engaged, prioritizing the marginalized and excluded, to ensure results were achieved as expected? (select the option from 1-3 that best reflects the project)

☐ 3: Targeted groups were systematically identified using credible data sources on their capacity needs, deprivation and/or exclusion from development opportunities relevant to the project's area of work. There is clear evidence to confirm that targeted groups were reached as intended. The project engaged regularly with targeted groups to assess whether they benefitted as expected and adjustments were made if necessary to refine targeting. (all must be true to select this option)

☒ 2: The project targeted specific groups and/or geographic areas, based on some evidence of their capacity needs, deprivation and/or exclusion from development opportunities relevant to the project's area of work. Some evidence is provided to confirm that project beneficiaries were members of the targeted groups. There was some engagement with beneficiaries to assess whether they benefitted as expected. (all must be true to select this option)

☐ 1: The project did not report on specific targeted groups, or there is no evidence to confirm that project beneficiaries have capacity needs or are populations deprived and/or excluded from development opportunities relevant to the project's area of work. There may have been some engagement with beneficiaries to assess whether they benefitted as expected, but not regularly.

☐ Not Applicable

Evidence

The project targeted specific groups and/or geographic areas, based on feasibility studies and needs assessments surveys.

21. Were at least 40 per cent of the personnel hired by the project, regardless of contract type, female?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Evidence

More than 40% of hired personnel were indeed women.

Sustainability & National Ownership

Quality Rating: Satisfactory

22. Were stakeholders and partners fully engaged in the decision-making, implementation and monitoring of the project? (select the option from 1-3 that best reflects the project)

☐ 3: Only national systems (i.e., procurement, monitoring, evaluation, etc.) were to fully implement and monitor the project. All relevant stakeholders and partners were fully and actively engaged in the process, playing a lead role in project decision-making, implementation and monitoring. (all must be true to select this option)

☒ 2: National systems (i.e., procurement, monitoring, evaluation, etc.) were used in combination with other support (such as country office support or project systems) to implement and monitor the project, as needed. All relevant stakeholders and partners were actively engaged in the process, playing an active role in project decision-making, implementation and monitoring. (both must be true to select this option)

☐ 1: There was relatively limited or no engagement with national stakeholders and partners in the decision-making, implementation and/or monitoring of the project.

☐ Not Applicable

Evidence

The schedule of activities, targeting, and delivery of outputs are all prepared by involving the donors and stakeholders in the planning stages. Involving local communities is one of the project priorities when preparing the activities because their suggestions and recommendations are taken into consideration during the project planning and implementations stages.

23. Were there regular monitoring of changes in capacities and performance of institutions and systems, and were the implementation arrangements adjusted according to changes in partner capacities? (select the option from 1-3 that best reflects the project)

- ☒ 3: *Changes in capacities and performance of national institutions and systems were regularly and comprehensively assessed/monitored using clear indicators, rigorous methods of data collection and credible data sources. There is clear evidence that capacities and performance of national institutions and systems improved by the end of the project, if applicable. Implementation arrangements were formally reviewed and adjusted, if needed, in agreement with partners according to changes in partner capacities. (all must be true to select this option)*
- ☐ 2: Aspects of changes in capacities and performance of relevant national institutions and systems were monitored by the project using indicators and reasonably credible data sources. There is limited evidence that capacities and performance of national institutions and systems improved by the end of the project, if applicable. Some adjustment was made to implementation arrangements if needed to reflect changes in partner capacities. (all must be true to select this option)
- ☐ 1: Some aspects of changes in capacities and performance of relevant national institutions and systems may have been monitored by the project, however changes to implementation arrangements were not considered. Also select this option if changes in capacities and performance of relevant national institutions and systems were not monitored by the project.
- ☐ Not Applicable

Evidence

The national mine action strategy was finalized. It was the consequence of a consultative strategic analysis and planning process involving representatives from national authorities, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), the civil society, mine-affected communities, and donor governments. The strategy is guided by the Sustainable Development Strategy "Egypt's Vision 2030" and will guide the implementation of the Mine Action activities. It provides a clear, measurable and realistic description of how Egypt intends to systematically address its threat of landmine and ERWs. The overall objective is to outline the technical and institutional responses to landmines within the broader contexts of poverty reduction, socio-economic development through mainstreaming mine action activities into development programmes. The strategy was drafted by the Executive Secretariat and it was endorsed by the Corps of Military Engineers, and H.E. Minister Nasr –as the head of the National Committee. However, it will also require the endorsement of the Egyptian government to support its full implementation, in partnership with national and international actors. The Executive Secretariat also coordinated and liaised between Egyptian stakeholders and International Partners for development: UNDP, EU, Ministries, Government, private sector, and civil society. The Egyptian Armed forces was keen on providing different trainings to deminers and making sure that the demining equipment is of high quality. Capacity building was not only targeting the QM Unit, but also the local NGOs in Matruh underwent capacity building trainings in order to enhance their skills and make them independent and self-sufficient when it comes to catering to the needs of their local communities. The financial contributions, which aided in procuring all the necessary and advanced demining equipment were provided through the EU, UNDP, and the demining running costs were provided by concerned ministries. On-the-job monitoring of activities implementation was conducted through the Executive Secretariat field office.

24. Were the transition and phase-out arrangements implemented as planned by the end of the project, taking into account any adjustments made to the plan during implementation? (select the option from 1-3 that best reflects the project)

- ☐ 3: The project's governance mechanism regularly reviewed the project's sustainability plan, including arrangements for transition and phase-out, to ensure the project remained on track in meeting the requirements set out by the plan. The plan was implemented as planned by the end of the project, taking into account any adjustments made during implementation. (both must be true to select this option)
- ☐ 2: There was a review of the project's sustainability plan, including arrangements for transition and phase-out, to ensure the project remained on track in meeting the requirements set out by the plan. The plan was implemented by the end of the project, taking into account any adjustments made during implementation. (both must be true to select this option)
- ☒ 1: *The project may have had a sustainability plan that specified arrangements for transition and phase-out, but there was no review of this strategy after it was developed. Also select this option if the project did not have a sustainability strategy.*

Evidence

The project might face challenges related to its sustainability due to shortage of funds; though the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and USAID provided funds which are scheduled to end in June and September 2019 respectively. This may reflect on the present experienced staff which have underwent capacity building trainings – specifically for mine action related topics.

25. Please upload the final lessons learned report that was produced for this project.

Summary/Final Project Board Comments: