

Environmental Appraisal

Project n°. 8320-01/2016

Final Conclusion

From an environmental point of view the project is recommended. Improvements may be achieved when recommendations are followed.

Marker Environment (ENV): 0

Marker Climate Change Mitigation (FCC): 0

Marker Climate Change Adaptation (ADP): 0

Marker Biodiversity (CBD): 0

Marker Combat Desertifikation (CCD): 0

Recommendations, Conditions, Remarks

8320-01/2016 Empfehlung Umwelt Nr. 1

Recommendation

The environmental mainstreaming in the project document is quite weak despite feedback to UNDP by the ADA Environmental Advisor. Suggestions were not incorporated by UNDP. The environmental issues are well explained in terms of the baseline issues being faced, but then the actions to combat/mitigate this are not coming out clearly in the project activities per se. (i.e. missing under Section 3.3. Strategic Approach and Methodology regarding information under the new project. For the CBA project it is well explained.) Some things that are missing to be more in-depth explained in the project document are better explained in the Annex 5 Environmental Integration Checklist document, hence ADA was able to get a better insight into the logic and approach of UNDP in this project through the latter document. Nonetheless information is clearly missing under the text for Component 2. Under Component 1 it is better. (Component 2: Support to small economic initiatives – small economic activities do have an impact on the environment and natural resources and the relationship regarding this and the necessary measures are missing. Under 4.5 Indicators, environmental references are also missing.)

Furthermore, UNDP explains that they feel that it is sufficient for them to conduct regular monitoring activities to ensure that micro-project and UNDP funded activities comply with environmental standards. The UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES) were shared with ADA and the existence of these is considered to be very positive and we welcome UNDP's commitment to mainstream social and environmental sustainability in its Programmes and Projects to support sustainable development. This does not however come across in the project document as afore explained, and UNDP should have made reference to these SES and applied them throughout in the Project Document and not only upon the ADA questioning.

Therefore we reiterate again that it is important for safeguarding the environment and natural resources to be fully integrated from the onset into all capacity building/development and awareness raising activities so that it is instilled into the people's minds, rather than monitoring the impact when activities are ongoing. People need to be trained on the environmental standards, etc. but also need to be provided the clear baseline knowledge so that this is factored into the planning of their activities from the outset. (i.e. As agricultural activities can cause pressures to the natural environment and this is key as environment is a key aspect for sustainable rural development. Therefore proper measures envisaged for soil management, pesticides, herbicides, soil, contaminations, water / irrigation measures, use of agricultural wastes, impact of the transport of goods, pollution reduction (emissions), etc. need to be addressed. Information also needs to be clarified if environmental/natural resources are to be used for recreational purposes, as this also contributes to better quality of life (air quality, and for social purposes).) These points have not been addressed and are an example to show the intrinsic linkage between income generating activities and the environment/natural resources.

UNDP is therefore requested to report on the above (how you are dealing with the environment and natural resources in the implementation for the project activities) in the semi-annual narrative/progress reports that will be submitted to ADA and clearly addressing in your narrative information that responds to some of the above listed concerns.

to be followed until: 15.08.2017

Date: 29.11.2016

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