

Management Response: Implementation Plan for Evaluation Recommendations

General Information

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Evaluation Manager	Susan Mugwe
Project Evaluation Title	Terminal Evaluation of the UNEP/GEF Project Demonstration of Effectiveness of Diversified, Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Interventions and Strengthening National Capacity for Innovative Implementation of Integrated Vector Management (IVM) for Disease Prevention and Control in the WHO AFRO Region
PIMS #	
GEF ID	4668
UNEP Sub-programme	SP5 – Chemicals, Waste and Air quality
GEF Focal Area	Chemicals & Waste
Project Manager/ Task Manager	Jitendra Sharma
Office/Division	Industry and Economy Division
Branch & Unit	Chemicals & Waste
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Implementation Plan

No	Challenge/problem to be addressed by the recommendation	Recommendation	Priority level	Type of Recommendation	Responsibility	Proposed Implementation time-frame	Acceptance	Reason if not Accepted or Partially Accepted	Management Action(s) to be taken
1	Coordination between the Ministries of Health and Environment has been inconsistent, affecting the project's environmental and health components. This needs to be addressed to ensure alignment of stakeholders.	Enhance Stakeholder Coordination and Engagement: Develop a formalized integration framework to enhance collaboration between the Ministries of Health and Environment, supported by biannual coordination meetings and joint action plans, ensuring aligned execution of the project's environmental and health components. Suggested Actions	Critical	Partners	Project-level, Ministries of Health and Environment	6-12 months	Partially Accepted	It is important to note that the 4668 Afro II project is not a vector control project, it is a project to support countries to reduce reliance on DDT. This is applicable for all relevant recommendations for the project. Most countries have agreements between the two	The TE report to be shared with the stakeholders which has recommendations.

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		- Establish a joint task force to oversee activities. - Hold quarterly meetings to review progress. - Develop a stakeholder engagement plan for communication and capacity-building.						ministires (health and environment). The decisions on DDT related matters is taken up jointly, DDT use for vector control is health issue while DDT reporting to the Stockholm Convention is an environmental ministry issue.	
2	Delays in the procurement of supplies and equipment, through the WHO, have impacted on the timely implementation of project activities. Streamlining procurement is crucial for meeting project timelines.	Refine Procurement Processes: Implement a centralized procurement system with enhanced digital tracking capabilities to minimize delays and ensure the timely availability of essential project materials and equipment. Suggested Actions - Review and revise procurement policies. - Implement an electronic procurement system. - Provide training for procurement staff.	Important	Project	WHO AFRO and Country-level	6-12 months	Not Accepted	WHO as executing agency followed WHO approved procurement process which is robust and transparent. However, the point on acclerating the procurement is well noted.	Not applicable as WHO has its standard procurement process.
3	The M&E framework currently has gaps in clarity and consistency of indicators. Strengthening the framework will improve data accuracy and project monitoring.	Strengthen Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework: Augment the existing M&E framework by incorporating real-time data analytics and feedback mechanisms that allow for adaptive management and continuous improvement of project operations. Sugested Actions - Develop clear and consistent indicators. - Train M&E staff. - Implement a centralized M&E database.	Important	Project	UNEP, Project-level	6-12 months	Partially Accepted	Thanks for the useful recommendations. 4668 Afro II was a GEF5 project, since then, UNEP has improved in terms of strengthening the M&E framework with measurable indicators. This is evident in all the new projects submitted by the UNEP GEF CW Unit. The work will continue to evolve.	The unit will continue to learn from the evaluation of such projects.
4	Community involvement has been insufficient, limiting the	Increase Community Engagement and Ownership:	Critical	Partners	Country-level, Community	6-12 months	Partially Accepted	Thanks for the comments. This	WHO Afro office will be requested to take

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	sustainability of vector control interventions. Greater engagement is needed to foster local ownership.	Establish community advisory boards in each project region to increase local stakeholder input and ensure the sustainability of vector control initiatives through enhanced community ownership. Suggested Actions - Implement a community engagement plan. - Train local leaders as project ambassadors. - Establish feedback mechanisms.			Health Workers			has been done to some extent and the project results are evident of this. WHO country offices were engaged to work with the local stakeholders. National coordinators of the projects served as project leaders in each country. However, the point on making them ambassadors and feedback mechanisms is noted.	the necessary action as follow up to the project.
5	The project currently lacks clear interventions targeting gender and human rights issues. Addressing these considerations is essential for inclusivity and equity.	Address Gender and Human Rights Considerations: Create a dedicated role within the project team to focus on integrating gender and human rights perspectives into all project phases, ensuring that these considerations are systematically addressed. Suggested Actions - Conduct a gender analysis. - Develop targeted interventions for vulnerable groups. - Integrate gender into the M&E framework.	Critical	Project	UNEP, Project-level, National Partners	6-12 months	Partially Accepted	Thanks for the important comment. This issue has not been addressed adequately in old projects and is considered as lesson learnt for future. UNEP team will be working on this issue in future projects. The suggested actions for the closed project may not be practical as the project teams from the countries is no longer available.	To integrate the gender and human right aspects in future projects.
6	Innovative vector control methods, such as house screening and bio-larviciding, have shown promise but need further promotion and expansion.	Promote Innovative Vector Control Methods: Launch pilot projects in two additional countries to test and refine innovative vector control methods, such as house screening and bio-larviciding, assessing their efficacy and scalability.	Important	Project	Project-level, Ministries of Health, Local Partners	6-12 months	Partially Accepted	These activities are already part of countries vector control programme and is included in the IVM strategy. Pilot projects in additional countries is	To explore next phase of Afro II project. However, it is highly unlikely to get GEF funds for the next phase due to the phase out of DDT.

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		Suggested Actions - Conduct pilot projects. - Develop best practices based on pilot results. - Train local health workers and communities on these methods.						subject to availability of funding and country's eligibility to get GEF funds.	
7	The financial sustainability of vector control interventions beyond the project's lifespan is a major concern. A strategy is needed to secure long-term funding.	Ensure Financial Sustainability: Formulate a financial sustainability plan that includes partnerships with local governments and NGOs, and explores funding opportunities with international donors, to support ongoing and future project activities. Suggested Actions - Identify additional funding sources. - Develop a financial sustainability plan. - Advocate for integrating IVM into national health budgets.	Critical	Project	UNEP, National Governments, Donors	6-12 months	Not Accepted	The co-financing by countries provides evidence of financial sustainability of IVM activities. The countries are already working with several funds/donors on IVM implementation. As such, the aim of the Afro II was to eliminate/reduce use of DDT in vector control through the promotion of IVM which was achieved.	N/A
8	Knowledge sharing is critical for ensuring the broader adoption of the project's best practices. Current dissemination efforts need to be strengthened.	Enhance Knowledge Sharing and Dissemination: Develop a digital platform to share project outcomes and best practices, featuring webinars, downloadable resources, and interactive forums that engage both regional stakeholders and the global health community. Suggested Actions - Develop a knowledge management strategy. - Organize regional and international workshops. - Create an online platform for information exchange.	Important	Project	UNEP, Regional Partners, Global Networks	6-12 months	Partially Accepted	UNEP includes the high level results into several webinars/meetings as well as the documents related to the Conference of Parties to the Stockholm Convention (including DDT expert Group). Meeting to share results was already organized by the project involving most parties to the Stockholm Convention. Moreover, WHO leads the global	N/A. UNEP, WHO and countries to continue participate in the DDT expert group consultations.

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								malaria partnership to support the information exchange and technical assistance. In addition, UNEP invited another country (India) to share information on experiences with Afro countries.	