

Management Response: Implementation Plan for Evaluation Recommendations

General Information

Eval ID	716
Evaluation Manager	Myles Hallin
Project Evaluation Title	Terminal Evaluation of the UNEP/GEF Project "Developing Core Capacity for Multilateral Environmental Agreement Implementation in Cameroon GEF ID #: 5060" (2014-2019)
PIMS #	
GEF ID	5060
UNEP Sub-programme	SP7 – Environment Under Review
GEF Focal Area	Capacity Development
Project Manager/ Task Manager	Jochem Zoetelief; Thierry De Oliveira
Office/Division	Science Division
Branch & Unit	Science - Capacity Development & Innovation Branch
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Total # of Recommendations as per Report	4
Implementation Plan Sent to PM/TM (Date)	24/05/2023
Implementation Plan Returned by PM/TM (Date)	09/06/2023
Implementation Plan finalized (if different from the date above)	00/00/00

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	A lot has been invested in IRIS and MINEPDED sees it as an added value, but it is not operational and needs updating. Furthermore, there is not a nation-wide environment data collection and management system. It is important that any future initiatives consider how to enhance public (e.g., academia, civil society, private sector) participation – including inclusion of women and marginalised groups	Building on the achievements of CB2 especially with IRIS and with coordination and information sharing, UNEP should assist the GoC represented by MINEPDED/ CIDE and NIS to elaborate a PIF that is within the strategic scope of GEF 8 to consolidate the results of CB2 by operationalizing IRIS and complement the efforts of NIS and MINEPDED to expand the present data collection and monitoring	Critical	Project	UNEP Early Warning and Assessment Division	1 of July 2023 that is 7 months	Not Accepted	Thank you for the recommendation. We acknowledge the critical nature of expanding the results of the project, and it is important to note that efforts have already been made in this direction. For example, in June 2020, UNEP developed a comprehensive Medium Size Project (MSP) PIF on Enhancing science-based MEAs	N/A

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		system to be nation-wide applying the FDES method.						implementation in Cameroon through Natural Capital Assessment and Accounting (NCAA). This proposal aimed to consolidate and expand upon the achievements of the previous project. Although the Government of Cameroon expressed their willingness to support this initiative, even they allocate GEF STAR resources of US\$1,090,000. However, the GEF did not favorably consider the submission. Furthermore, it is important to understand that UNEP's internal GEF process does not support this type of cross-cutting capacity development initiative. Currently, there is no specific mechanism in place for cross-cutting capacity development projects under the GEF-8 window. As a result, there is no available avenue for a second phase of this project. Taking these factors into account, we cannot accept the recommendation.	
2	The CB2 project had several inconsistencies in its design and did not prioritize its resources efficiently in terms of time available and doing the most important to reach the objective i.e. focus on data collection. There was no	In future projects UNEP should assist stakeholders in securing coherence by making sure an effective ToC is elaborated clearly during the design process.	Opportunity for improvement	Project	UNEP Early Warning and Assessment Division	Immediately	Accepted	We agree with the recommendation, but it has already been incorporated into the existing UNEP Project Cycle Management standards. Therefore, it is no longer considered relevant or	N/A

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	ToC that could have highlighted these issues. A ToC guides PM in keeping focus and there achieve earlier and more solid results.							necessary to address separately.	
3	The CB2 project was designed for three years, and it was too short to consolidate the mainstreaming activities in the project. Even though it was extended for two years the funding has largely been used and even though some results were in fact reached during the last two years it would have been preferable if it had been designed for five years with a somewhat bigger budget from the beginning.	Projects with a focus on mainstreaming and institutional strengthening of governments, should be for at least five years, where possible, to create and consolidate results.	Opportunity for improvement	Project	UNEP Early Warning and Assessment Division	6-12 Months	Accepted	This recommendation has already been addressed previously. As mentioned earlier, UNEP made efforts to consolidate the project for a phase two, and the Government of Cameroon expressed their strong interest in its continuation. However, the success of this phase depended on the acceptance of the Project Identification Form (PIF) by the GEF, which unfortunately did not occur. Nevertheless, the team learned from this experience and incorporated the extension of project lifespan into subsequent projects, such as the GCF FP147 and the GEF FP171.	N/A
4	It's a common trait that projects which primary focus is to build capacity and institutional strengthening do not have activities that lead to results that can be quantified. This is a problem because it can be difficult or impossible to assess what tangible change the project led to.	UNEP should carry out capacity development for staff and other relevant stakeholders on how to better design projects on capacity building and institutional strengthening, to include tangible outputs and effective indicators for measuring quantitative results	Important	UNEP Wide	PPD	Within 6 - 12 months			