**UNDP Management Response Template**

**Title: Bhutan Sustainable Rural Biomass Energy**

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**Overall comments:**

*The evaluation recommendations were addressed adequately where ever there exists provision and within the timeframe. For some of the recommendations such as integration of the budgetary provision in the government five years plan is very unlikely at this stage unless the funding is being secured. Whenever, the funding is secured, such activities can be integrated in the yearly budgetary plan of the government on ad-hoc basis.*

*The delivery on the recommendations are being followed with the implementing partners consistently, and most of the issues on the recommendation will be addressed by December, 2015.*

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| ***Recommendation for Corrective Actions in project design and implementation (section 4.2.1)*** |
| **Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 1:** *Recommendation 1: Strengthen DAHE with at least one human resource to share the increased volume of work and help with coordination and management of cook stove deliveries across 10 districts for remainder of the project.* |  |  |  |  |
| **Management Response:** *The management has taken up this issue – the need to strengthen the manpower of DAHE so that the massive construction target envisaged in 2015 will be achieved. The management has upraised this issue in the 4th board meeting, and taken up in the 5th board meeting dated 23rd January, 2015.* |  |  |  |  |
| **Key Action(s):** | **Time Frame** | **Responsible Unit(s)** | **Tracking\*** |
| **Status** | **Comments** |
| * *During the 5th Board Meeting, the implementing partner in particular, DRE proposed to recruit VTI graduates on internship as field technicians to support DAHE in coordination*
* *The focal person from DAHE informed that recruiting VTI graduate will have huge cost implication to the project.*
* *Instead, the project board endorsed that Mr. Tenzin Rabgyel, as full time SRBE focal person from DAHE until the end of the SRBE Project.*
* *The 5th Board Meeting endorsed DAHE to recruit VTI graduates if it is necessary only within the proposed budget without any additional cost to the project.*
 | January, 2015 | CCM&E, UNDP, DRE, SFED | Initiated |  |
| **Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 2:** *Recommendation 2: Communication with the District Officials about the SRBE project; its implementing and supporting agencies; end users and the overall benefits will help in securing feedback from Dzonkhag for scale up.* |  |  |  |  |
| **Management Response:** *There is a good communication network within the implementing partners. At the moment the focus is in the installation of the stoves, which is ongoing. The district education officers are entrusted to oversee the construction works in remote villages.* |  |  |  |  |
| **Key Action(s)*** *Communication with the local governance enhanced,*
* *District Education Officers made a SRBE Focal officers to oversee stove’s construction works*
 | **Time Frame** | **Responsible Unit(s)** | **Tracking** |  |
| **Status** | **Comments** |
|  | December, 2015 | CCM&E, UNDP, DRE, SFED | Initiated  |  |
| **Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 3:***Recommendation 3: Expedite the implementation of briquetting project with private sector saw mills to gain experience, build capacity and arrive at a better understanding of the market for briquettes.* |  |  |  |  |
| **Management Response:***Social Forestry Extension Division, of DoFPS identified to initiate briquetting project based on the decision of the 5th Board Meeting* |  |  |  |  |
| **Key Action(s)** | **Time Frame** | **Responsible Unit(s)** | **Tracking** |
| **Status** | **Comments** |
| * *Completed the survey of sawmills and produced feasibility report through consulting services and implementing partners*
* *The report was presented on the 4th Board Meeting and the board recommended to institute a Taskforce chaired by the Director, DRE to validate the recommendations of the consultant regarding the viability gap funding.*
* *The taskforce presented the finding on the 5th Board Meeting and outsourced the activity to SFED, MoEA due to relevance.*
* *The SFED received the proposal from DRE and the SFED has taken up to their Management for final decisions whether to undertake this activity by them or by DRE.*
* *DoFPS has agreed to implement briquetting project as proposed*
 | January, 2015 | CCM&E, UNDP, DRE, SFED  | Initiated |  |
| **Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 4:***Recommendation 4: A qualitative and quantitative study in the 3rd quarter of 2015 to capture the benefits and the impact of improved cook stove.* |  |  |  |  |
| **Management Response:***The relevance of the qualitative and quantitative study will be relooked in the third quarter of 2015 and if felt essential, this activity will be undertaken after third quarter of 2015.*  |  |  |  |  |
| **Key Action(s)** | **Time Frame** | **Responsible Unit(s)** | **Tracking** |  |
| **Status** | **Comments** |
|  | December, 2015 | CCM&E, UNDP, DRE, SFED | Initiated |  |
| **Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 5:***Recommendation 5: UNDP to work with DRE and GNHC to make budgetary provision in the annual plans for 2016, 2017 and 2018 to support improved cook stoves installations in the hilly regions and to low income rural households by the end of current plan period.* |  |  |  |  |
| **Management Response:***DRE have been informed to incorporate the Budgetary provisions in the annual plans of the DRE and GNHC. However, UNDP can jointly work on resources mobilization and future up-scaling plan could be developed and approach different donors for funding support.* |  |  |  |  |
| **Key Action(s)*** *DRE has submitted project concept to the GNHC for their necessary actions*
 | **Time Frame** | **Responsible Unit(s)** | **Tracking** |  |
| **Status** | **Comments** |
|  | December, 2015 | DRE | Ongoing |  |
| **Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 6:** |  |  |  |  |
| *Recommendation 6: Use standard methodologies of IPCC and UNFCCC to estimate GHG reduction from forestry.* |  |  |  |  |
| **Management Response:***SFED has completed 111 hectares of plantation under the SRBE Project and GHG reduction estimates to be pursued*  |  |  |  |  |
| **Key Action(s)** | **Time Frame** | **Responsible Unit(s)** | **Tracking** |  |
| Need to assess GHG reduction  |  |  | **Status** | **Comments** |
|  | December, 2015 | DRE, SFED, UNDP | Ongoing |  |

\* The implementation status is tracked in the ERC.