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| * + - 1. **Consultancy information** |
| **Consultancy title:** Final Evaluation for UNDP Pacific Fiji Access to Justice Project  **Duration:** 30 working days; estimated between January – February 2021.  **Duty Station:** Suva, Fiji, with possible travel within the country *\*\*\*\* Pending travel restrictions, may be home based instead.* |
| 1. **Background and context** |
| The Fiji Access to Justice Project, funded by the European Union and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme, supports access to justice for impoverished and vulnerable groups through empowering people to access legal rights and services through the relevant key justice institutions, in conjunction with strengthening those key  justice institutions to undertake improved service delivery. The project seeks to “Empower Fijians to access justice and strengthen Fijian key justice sector institutions to deliver access to justice, particularly for impoverished and vulnerable groups”. The Legal Aid Commission and the Judicial Department are the two key justice institutions entry points for access to justice, along with links to other institutions, and are being strengthened under this project.  The development challenge that the Fiji Access to Justice Project seeks to address comprises two symbiotic components. First, the need to enhance empowerment of impoverished and vulnerable rights holders to access legal rights and services through relevant key justice institutions to obtain access to justice. Second, the need to strengthen key justice institutions duty bearers to realise and protect legal rights and provide service delivery to impoverished and vulnerable groups to deliver access to justice.  The project’s theory of change is: In support of the enhancement of overall governance systems in Fiji, access to justice in Fiji for impoverished and vulnerable groups will be improved through empowering people to access legal rights and services through the relevant key justice institutions, in conjunction with strengthening those key justice institutions to undertake improved service delivery. The LAC and the Judicial Department have been identified as the two key justice institutions entry points for access to justice, along with links to other institutions, and will be strengthened under this project. Non-governmental organisations will also be strengthened under this project to deliver accompaniment access to justice services, particularly for impoverished and vulnerable groups.  The beginning of the design for the Fiji Access to Justice Project was undertaken following the adoption of a new Constitution in 2013, democratic elections in 2014, and then the reestablishment of Parliament, when all key stakeholders engaged in discussions, research and analysis on potential areas of support for reform in Fiji. On 16 June 2015, the Fiji Government and the European Union signed the National Indicative Programme 2014 – 2020 under the 11th European Development Fund which identified public administration reform and governance as a focus area to contribute to fostering democracy, governance and political stability. Following this the European Union engaged in further consultations with a broad range of stakeholders and identified improving the functioning of the justice system and facilitating better access to justice for the underprivileged as a priority area. On this basis, and with the strategy for the entry points to address the Development Challenge already determined, the next stage of the more detailed Project Design was undertaken by UNDP during the period October 2015 to April 2016.  The Project Document (Description of the Action) was agreed and then signed by the Chief Justice, Chairman of the LAC and the UNDP Country Director on 7 and 8 July 2016. The Fiji Government and EU Financial Agreement and Project Launch was undertaken on 29 August 2016. The EU and UNDP Delegation Agreement was signed on 5 October 2016, with retroactive implementation date for commencement on 11 July 2016, and the first financial instalment was received on 3 November 2016. The inaugural Project Board Meeting was conducted on 18 October 2016 with the Chief Justice, Chief Registrar, Acting Director LAC, EU Head of Cooperation, UNDP Country Director and UNDP Programme Manager participating. For Project implementation, the focus for the first four months (July to October 2016) was primarily on the arrangements for the establishment of the Project and the initiation of procurements, with commencement in the main activity implementation from November 2016 onwards. |
| **3. Purpose of the evaluation** |
| The Fiji Access to Justice project runs from July 2016 to December 2020. This final evaluation is being conducted in concurrence with the evaluation timeline in the project document, to provide insights and feedback on the progress of the project to date. The evaluation will be forward-looking and utilisation focused, and will elaborate lessons and best practices to inform programming in the next phase of the project.  As per the OECD/DAC criteria, this evaluation will assess relevance, effectiveness and efficiency, sustainability and impact of the project and of the results. The evaluation will assess the intended and unintended outcomes/results of the Fiji Access to Justice project and recommend strategies for future operational and programmatic effectiveness from similar initiatives in comparable situations.  The evaluation serves as an important accountability function, providing national stakeholders and partners in Fiji with an impartial assessment of the results, including gender equality results, and human rights based approach of this project. The findings and recommendations of the evaluation will inform the key stakeholders of this evaluation, namely the Judicial Department and Legal Aid Commission, civil society organisations, UNDP and other UN agencies. |
| **4. Evaluation scope and objectives** |
| **Scope**  The final evaluation will include the period of 11 July 2016 – 30 November 2020, mainly based in Suva (if international travel permits) with possible travel to Lautoka, Labasa and/or Kadavu. The evaluation will cover programme conceptualisation, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of results. The evaluation will also focus/assess performance of indicators /against targets agreed with the donors. The dates of implementation may change to 2021 contingent upon operational priorities.  In addition to assessing the relevance, effectiveness and efficiency of the Fiji Access to Justice project, the final evaluation will explore the key factors that have contributed to the achieving or not achieving of the intended results; determine the extent to which the Fiji Access to Justice project contributed to building capacities; addressing crosscutting issues of gender and human rights; forging partnership at different levels, including with government, donors, UN agencies, and communities; sustainability of the Fiji Access to Justice project for continued realisation of results; and to draw lessons learned and best practices and make recommendations for future programming of projects of similar nature.  **Specific evaluation objectives are:**   1. To determine the relevance and strategic positioning of UNDP support to Fiji Access to Justice and whether the initial assumptions remain relevant for the project; 2. Assess the progress to date under each output and what can be derived in terms of lessons learned for future UNDP support towards capacity building and service delivery in Fiji Access to Justice; 3. How the interventions succeeded to strengthen application of a rights-based approach, gender mainstreaming and participation of other socially vulnerable groups such as children and the disabled; 4. Assess the overall contribution of the project to the state of good governance, rule of law and human rights observance in the country.   **Target Audience**  UNDP, donor (EU), the project partners, beneficiaries and stakeholders other external human rights and justice stakeholders, external donors and other relevant users of the report. |
| **5. Evaluation questions** |
| The final project evaluation seeks to answer the following questions, focused around the evaluation criteria of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability and partnership strategy:  **Relevance**  1. To what extent is UNDP’s engagement in Access to Justice a reflection of strategic considerations, including UNDP’s role in the particular development context in Fiji and its comparative advantage vis-a-vis other |