

## 6 Lessons learned

All aspects of the project were evaluated during this assessment with particular attention to the attainment of project objectives and results, the sustainability of project benefits, innovations, catalytic effects and replication, and project monitoring and evaluation. During this evaluation, the following lessons relevant to future projects were identified:

- Institutional procedures for the issuing of contracts, payment of consultants and data dissemination and review should be streamlined effectively to avoid project delays.
- There are situations in which aspects of project implementation can benefit significantly from external support provided by Implementing Agencies, since this can enable the project team to overcome local bottlenecks, such as the delays associated with national contractual modalities in the present project.
- There is a need for Government to establish a special fund to address Natural Disasters associated with Climate Change. This fund could be catalytic, allowing the country to access additional funds from donor agencies.
- Significant data gaps exist, both at the sectoral and national level, which affected the execution of both the INC and SNC, as well as other national development initiatives. For example, the Water Authority was not aware of the gaps in its own data sets which constrained its contributions to forecasting as required under the SNC. This speaks to the need for a focused effort on the acquisition and management of data relevant to national development.
- Collaboration and cooperation between and among state agencies can facilitate planning and decision-making at the local level, improve the implementation of projects, and ensure responsiveness to international obligations.
- Public awareness programmes require a professional approach as well as a creative strategy to avoid consultation fatigue which can result from the same small group being targeted by several projects.
- Economic and social implications need to be at the forefront of public awareness programmes, rather than an emphasis on pure science, since this is more likely to attract the attention of the political directorate and reach a larger section of the general public.
- Project audits are demanding for the project management team but can provide significant benefit both to a current project and when dealing with other international financing entities.

- There needs to be strong emphasis on ensuring that senior Government officials understand the expectations and obligations of the project, thereby ensuring that services are provided when required to move the project forward.
- Projects such as the SNC can significantly increase environmental awareness and Climate Change consciousness, but efforts to achieve this should be maintained over time.