

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE PROJECT MID-TERM EVALUATION**

<b>Project title:</b>	<b>Building capacity to eliminate POPs pesticides stockpiles in Vietnam</b>
<b>Project ID:</b>	00060927
<b>Implementing Partner:</b>	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE)
<b>Duty Location:</b>	Hanoi (Viet Nam) with in-country travel to project sites

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### **1. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT**

#### **1.1. Country Context**

The Government of Vietnam has faced serious challenges in dealing with stockpiles of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) pesticides, including constraints due to funding, access to appropriate technologies, and coordination among multiple ministries and agencies. While some stockpiles are kept in sheds or in houses, in some communities lack of suitable infrastructure has resulted in the burial of large POPs pesticides stockpiles. An estimated 1140 tones of buried POPs pesticides have been found in five sites, and certainly there are more such sites in the country. The buried stockpiles are of far greater concern than above-ground stockpiles both because of their size and because of far less control over storage conditions, which results in much larger risk potentials and actual human health problems. In addition, illegal importation of POP pesticides from neighboring countries to Vietnam causes significant impacts to environment and public health.

#### **1.2. Project Context**

The project entitled “Building capacity to eliminate POPs pesticide stockpiles in Vietnam” or hereinafter called “POP pesticide” project is a joint initiative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and the Government of Vietnam. This four-year project has been approved by GEF in end of 2008, and launched by Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment (MONRE) in beginning of 2010. The Key objective of the project is “to remove capacity barriers to the sustainable elimination of POPs pesticides in Vietnam” and to contribute to the broader goal of “support to sustainable development in Vietnam through the elimination of POPs from the environment”. The project recognizes that the destruction of known stockpiles is an incomplete response for the two reasons: first, it’s clear that there are potentially a large number of additional, as yet unknown stockpiles, meaning that a one-off destruction process will be inadequate in dealing with additional stockpiles as they are discovered; secondly, there is a major continuing problem of illegal importation of pesticides which may contain substantial amounts of POPs. The continued movement of illegal pesticides across borders from neighboring countries will result in an on-going environmental and human health threat. Consequently, as important as the destruction of the known stockpiles, there is the need to build capacity both to destroy additional stockpiles when they are discovered and to eliminate continuing importation of illegal POPs pesticides. Capacity to eliminate continuing importation is needed both from the demand side - to reduce and ultimately eliminate demand for such pesticides, and from the supply side -to eliminate the source of the pesticides. Supply-side management will require bilateral cooperation with neighboring states: China, Lao PDR and Cambodia. In such the context the project was designed to achieve following outcomes:

1. Improved capacity to facilitate elimination of POPs pesticides stockpiles
2. All known stockpiles are destroyed and impacts on human health relieved, and
3. Improved chemical management to prevent importation and use of POPs pesticides.

The project implementation is arranged as follows:

- UNDP and FAO are both implementing agencies. However UNDP will play a role of leading agency and works closely with FAO to support the project implementation
- MONRE/VEA is the Implementing partner
- MARD, Customs Office, and Peoples’ Committees of provinces where the project provides supports are other partners involving in the project implementation.

### **1.3. Progress To Date**

The project is now at the end of its second year of implementation. Since commencement (in 2010), the POPs Pesticide project has made a number of progress. Followings key achievements provide information about progress of the project implementation to date

1. Improved capacity to facilitate elimination of POPs pesticides stockpiles
  - Completed project inception phase and inception report agreed by key stakeholders;
  - Established a database for 557 POPs pesticide stockpiles sites which are categorized into groups
  - Training conducted for local authorities of northern and central provinces on preliminary site assessment
2. All known stockpiles are destroyed and impacts on human health relieved
  - Additional investigation made for 09 selected sites;
  - Completed detailed surveys, conceptual site model (CSMs) and environmental management plan (EMPs) for 05 sites (selected from the above 09 sites) prioritized for remediation by the project.
  - Supported Government to prepare “A Plan for Prevention and Treatment of POP Pesticide Stockpile nationwide” which has been approved following decision 1946/2010/QĐ-TTg by the Prime Ministry in October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010;
  - Completed safe packaging and transportation of 25 tons of heavily POP-pesticide contaminated soil in Thai Nguyen province to an incinerator for destruction;
3. Improved chemical management to prevent importation and use of POPs pesticides
  - Initiated discussion and agreement made with Customs Office on POP pesticide management issues at the border gates.

## **2. OBJECTIVES OF THE MID-TERM EVALUATION**

The purpose of the mid-term evaluation (MTE) is to assess project performance and implementation of the planned activities and outputs against actual results, and the level of the progress toward the achievement of the project objectives. Risks to achievement of the project outcomes and objectives will also be appraised.

The MTE will focus on identifying the corrective actions needed for the project to achieve maximum impact. Review findings will feedback into project management processes through lessons learnt, specific recommendations for improvement of the project design and implementation, project implementation time frame, likelihood of achieving its development objective, and reorientation of the project outcome/objectives if needed.

## **3. SCOPE OF THE MID TERM EVALUATION**

The MTE scope covers the entire POPs pesticide project and its outcomes, i.e. evaluation of the project implementation and management, taking into accounts the actual country situation, status of the project activities, related outputs and the resource disbursements made up to date including co-finance. Specifically, the MTE will examine following aspects:

### **1) Review of the project design, planning and implementation**

- Is the project's design adequate to address the problem(s) at hand?
- Do the project problems to be solved still stand, project responses strategies and project adaptive management measures remain relevant to national priorities and GEF strategies, considering possible changes in context?
- Are the project specific outputs and their corresponding indicators as defined in the project logical framework and design and its modification in the Inception report still relevant in the light of the project experience to date? Pinpoint any aspects of the “logframe” that shall be revisited and updated, and, if necessary, provide suggestion for timely changes or adjustment to activities and time-bound targets.
- Do the project purposes and objectives remain valid and relevant, or are there items or outcomes in the project design that need to be reviewed an updated?
- How is level of coherence an inter-link between and amongst project outcomes in terms of supporting each other towards achievement of the project objectives?
- Is the project on track to achieve its goal of “support to sustainable development in Vietnam through the elimination of POPs from the environment”?

- What were the major factors influencing the achievement/non-achievement of the project objectives/results?
- Whether the designed institutional arrangement for POP Pesticide Project has been performing effectively during the project implementation and allocated responsibilities among key stakeholders are still relevant; How the subjects fit into the partner Government's strategies and priorities; international and country development goals and priorities; and UNDP/FAO global, regional or country programmes as appropriate.
- Whether timeframe of the project is feasible and practicable?

## **2) Review of project performance**

- To what extent the project objectives have been met, taking into consideration the "achievement indicators" specified in the project document/inception report and logical framework
- To what extent have project results (outcomes and outputs) been achieved to date? And how have they been achieved in terms of inputs, timeliness, and cost-effectiveness?
- Do the outcomes/outputs complement and enhance one another, and if yes, to what extent?
- Given the level of achievement of the outputs and activities to date, is the project likely to achieve its objectives and overall target by the end of the project?
- What are factors that have facilitated or deterred the achievement of project objectives;
- How effective is the project monitoring and evaluation process to ensure the relevance and effectiveness of the activities and expected results in relation to TORs (RFP) issues, different level of work plans (AWPs and QWPs), and the required outputs? How has APR/PIR process helped in monitoring and evaluating the project implementation and achievement of results?
- Does the project take into consideration the likely risks in preparing AWP and QWP with the aim of mitigating negative impacts that could result from unexpected situation or change in the project environment?
- Is the project management arrangement appropriate to the extent of management functions, processes and procedure, in accordance with the staff capacity and reasonable workload? Is the project organization chart efficient for conducting and managing the whole project on the technical and administrative perspective?
- Financial accountability – extent to which the financial management has been an integral part of achieving project results, with particular reference to adequate reporting, identification of problems and adjustment of activities, budgets and inputs; and
- What is level of co-financing mobilized to the project till date?

## **3) Project impact**

- To determine short-term and long-term impacts of the project, including efficiency of the project and cost-effectiveness of the project on POP pesticide stockpiles elimination in Vietnam, replication and dissemination of project results within and outside project areas; awareness raised of POP pesticide among the general public and decision makers.
- Has the current project management strategy exploited all opportunities for strengthening collaboration and substantive partnerships with other government bodies, institutes, different associations, other donors, financial sectors with aim to maximizing achievement of projects' immediate results, and extending the project impacts in the long run beyond the end of the project timeframe?
- To determine how the intervention seeks to mainstream gender in development efforts.
- To determine synergies with other similar projects, funded by the government or other donors.

## **4) Sustainability of project outcomes**

Under this task the MTE international consultant will analyze following issues to evaluate sustainability of the project:

- Risks and assumptions that likely affect the persistence of the project outcomes, including financial, socio-political, institutional and environmental risks.
- How strong is the level of ownership of the results by the government?
- Availability of financial and economic mechanism to ensure the ongoing flow of benefits once the assistance ends;
- Policy and regulatory framework that will support continuation of benefits
- Level of commitment from the government to ensure sustainability of the results achieved? and
- How to secure changes observed in the improvement of the situation?

## 5) Recommendations and lessons learnt

- Success stories;
- Problems in project implementation;
- Lessons learnt;
- Recommendations.

## 4. METHOD AND REQUIREMENTS FOR EVALUATION

The evaluator is expected to follow a participatory and consultative approach ensuring close involvement of the government counterparts (MONRE and MARD) and relevant project partners. As an instance, the Evaluator should be required to conduct desk reviews of the project documents; interviews and meetings with selected stakeholders including the NPD, UNDP and FAO representatives, the Project Manager; field visits to 02 -03 project sites; stakeholders meetings, etc. Specifically the evaluator will:

- 1) Briefly review development and policy environment relating to regulation on hazardous waste and POPs/ pesticide, commenting on how these might have affected project performance and assess the extent to which the project remains relevant to the needs of its targets;
- 2) Perform interim assessment of the extent to which POP pesticide project has successfully accomplished its targets set for objectives in terms of activities, outputs and outcomes as defined in the agreed Project Document (logframe) and/or inception report, and assess the likelihood of achieving them upon project completion;
- 3) To identify implementing partner's institutional strengths and weaknesses, and identify potential options for improving POPs pesticide project, which could include modification of activities, project management responsibilities, schedule of activities, budget allocations, and timeframe among others;
- 4) To evaluate the level of achievement of the project outcomes and objectives against the following criteria: **relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, sustainability, and impact**. And to provide forward-looking recommendations to further consolidate successful aspects of the project and those that need to be improved in order to achieve project goals and objectives by the project ending.
- 5) To promote learning, feedback and knowledge sharing on results and lessons learnt among the GEF and its partners.
- 6) During the mission in Vietnam the international consultant is expected to present evaluation findings and recommendations at a consultation workshop organized to collect comments and feedbacks from stakeholders.

The evaluation must provide evidence-based information that is credible, reliable and useful. It must be easily understood by project partners and recommendations must be applicable to the remaining period of project duration.

In addition to a descriptive assessment, the project outcomes will be rated against following criteria:

1. **Highly satisfactory (HS).** The project had no shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives in terms of relevance, effectiveness, or efficiency.
2. **Satisfactory (S).** The project had minor shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives in terms of relevance, effectiveness, or efficiency.
3. **Moderately satisfactory (MS).** The project had moderate shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives in terms of relevance, effectiveness, or efficiency.
4. **Moderately unsatisfactory (MU).** The project had significant shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives in terms of relevance, effectiveness, or efficiency.
5. **Unsatisfactory (U).** The project had major shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives in terms of relevance, effectiveness, or efficiency.
6. **Highly unsatisfactory (HU).** The project had severe shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives in terms of relevance, effectiveness, or efficiency.

More detail requirements for the evaluation are presented in the GEF "Guidelines for Terminal Evaluations" which is posted on the following website: <http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/Policies-TEguidelines7-31.pdf>

Although an outline of an evaluation is provided above, it should be made clear that the evaluator is responsible for revising the proposed approach as necessary. Any changes should be in-line with international criteria and

professional norms and standards as adopted by the UN Evaluation Group that could be downloaded from the following website: [http://www.unevaluation.org/papersandpubs/documentdetail.jsp?doc\\_id=22](http://www.unevaluation.org/papersandpubs/documentdetail.jsp?doc_id=22).

The changes must be also cleared by UNDP before being applied by the Evaluator.

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*The Evaluator should feel free to discuss with the authorities concerned all matters relevant to its assignment. However it is not authorized to make any commitment or statement on behalf of UNDP, FAO or GEF or the project implementing partner.*

## 5. DURATION OF ASSIGNMENT, DUTY STATION AND EXPECTED PLACES OF TRAVEL

The total effort for conducting the evaluation has been estimated to **18 working days**. The MTE is expected to be conducted within the period of August 2012.

It's required that the international consultant to pay field visit to 02 – 03 project sites. However associated traveling costs from Hanoi to these sites and then back to Hanoi will be covered by the PMU and should not be submitted as part of financial proposal.

About a 10-days mission to Vietnam will be needed for the international consultant. This includes visits to the project sites.

Based on the indicated scope of work and expected outputs, bidders must make their own estimate of the time taken to complete the assignment in line with this TOR and use this estimate as the basis of the financial proposals to be submitted which should include, among others, in their financial proposals, budget for travel, accommodation...

## 6. Deliverables

It's required that the key evaluation products that the evaluator will be accountable for producing, at the minimum will include:

- Evaluation inception report (this report should be prepared by the evaluators before going into data collection exercise)
- List of sources for primary and secondary data used including all questionnaires with raw data, if applied.
- Draft evaluation Report including Main Mission Findings
- Evaluation brief and other knowledge products
- Final Evaluation Report which might include, but is not limited to, the following components: (The Report should not exceed 30 pages in total, excluding annexes):
  - - Executive summary;
    - Introduction
    - Description of the evaluation methodology;
    - Evaluation scope and objectives
    - Analysis of the situation with regard to outcome, outputs, resources, partnerships, management and working methods;
    - Key findings and lessons learnt;
    - Conclusions and recommendations
    - Annexes:
      - ✓ TOR for this service
      - ✓ Questionnaires, if yes
      - ✓ List of documents reviewed
      - ✓ List and time-table of stakeholder consulted and Minutes of meetings
      - ✓ Presentations of Evaluation findings and recommendations in a consultation workshop in Hanoi .

For more detail information about the evaluation report, please see annex 7 of the UNDP Handbook on Planning, Monitoring and Evaluating for Development Results that can be download from the following webpage: <http://www.undp.org/evaluation/handbook/Annex7.html>

The reports must be submitted to UNDP CO in electronic format, in both English and Vietnamese version.

## **7. PROVISION OF MONITORING AND PROGRESS CONTROLS**

A week after signing contracts the selected international consultant should submit to UNDP an inception report. The inception report should detail the evaluators' understanding of what is being evaluated, why and how; a proposed step-wise method for its implementation; detailed work schedules for the whole service including travel agenda, etc.

Implementation of the service's activities will be supervised by the UNDP representative.

- Consultant's outputs/reports will be reviewed by the UNDP, FAO and the PMU within 10 days from the date of report submission
- The UNDP will require regular meetings or updating on progress as necessary.

## **8. DEGREE OF EXPERTISE AND REQUIRED QUALIFICATION**

The successful candidates must meet following conditions:

- Master degree/University degree in environmental engineering, chemistry or environment related issues;
- Recognized expertise in the field of hazardous wastes, POPs and/or related technologies, especially in POP pesticides for at least 10 years;
- At least 07 years work experience in result-based management evaluation of ODA projects;
- Knowledge of and experience in GEF/UN monitoring and evaluation policy and approaches
- Familiarity with POPs policies framework in a context similar to Vietnam;
- Knowledge about Stockholm Convention and other related international conventions
- Knowledge on economic and social development issues;
- Conceptual thinking and analytical skill
- Fluent in written English (writing sample must be provided for assessment)

## **10. ADMIN SUPPORT AND REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

The project will provide following support to the contractor:

- Work station: Working places will be provided to the consultants at the Project Office. Its address is as follows:  
"Building Capacity to Eliminate POPs Pesticides Stockpiles in Vietnam" Project  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, No 6, Lot 128, Trung Yen, Trung Hoa Str.  
Cau Giay District, Hanoi, Vietnam
- Logistical arrangements including a car for traveling to POP pesticide stockpile sites located outside of Hanoi, contacting to local authorities, meetings with government/ other officials, local people, etc.
- Support to obtaining necessary project documents and reference documents which include
  - Project document
  - Project inception report
  - Consultants Reports (Research/Studies/Training)
  - Annual/quarterly work plans/progress reports
  - Legal documents related to POP pesticide management
  - Harmonized Project & Program Management Guidelines (HPPMG 2010)
  - Etc.

## **11. PAYMENT TERMS**

All payment will only be authorized upon the UNDP approval of the deliverables. Proposed payments are indicated below:

- First payment of 40% of the contract value will be paid upon submission and UNDP's acceptance of the draft evaluation report.
- Final payment of 60% of the contract value will be paid upon submission and UNDP's satisfactory approval of the final evaluation report.

The work progress will be assessed according to the approved detailed work plan.

**12. CONSULTANT PRESENCE REQUIRED ON DUTY STATION/UNDP PREMISES**

☐ NONE      ☒ PARTIAL      ☐ INTERMITTENT      ☐ FULL-TIME

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)**

### **NATIONAL CONSULTANT PROJECT MID-TERM EVALUATION**

<b>Project title:</b>	PIMS - Building capacity to eliminate POPs pesticides stockpiles in Vietnam
<b>Project ID:</b>	00060927
<b>Implementing Partner:</b>	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE)
<b>Duration of the Assignment:</b>	18 working days
<b>Duty Location:</b>	Hanoi (Viet Nam) with in-country travel to project sites

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#### **I. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT**

##### Country context

The Government of Vietnam has faced serious challenges in dealing with stockpiles of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) pesticides, including constraints due to funding, access to appropriate technologies, and coordination among multiple ministries and agencies. While some stockpiles are kept in sheds or in houses, in some communities lack of suitable infrastructure has resulted in the burial of large POPs pesticides stockpiles. An estimated 1140 tones of buried POPs pesticides have been found in five sites, and certainly there are more such sites in the country. The buried stockpiles are of far greater concern than above-ground stockpiles both because of their size and because of far less control over storage conditions, which results in much larger risk potentials and actual human health problems. In addition, illegal importation of POP pesticides from neighboring countries to Vietnam causes significant impacts to environment and public health.

##### Project background

The project entitled “Building capacity to eliminate POPs pesticide stockpiles in Vietnam” or hereinafter called “POP pesticide” project is a joint initiative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and the Government of Vietnam. This four-year project has been approved by GEF in end of 2008, and launched by Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment (MONRE) in beginning of 2010. The Key objective of the project is “to remove capacity barriers to the sustainable elimination of POPs pesticides in Vietnam” and to contribute to the broader goal of “support to sustainable development in Vietnam through the elimination of POPs from the environment”.

The project recognizes that the destruction of known stockpiles is an incomplete response for the two reasons: first, it's clear that there are potentially a large number of additional, as yet unknown stockpiles, meaning that a one-off destruction process will be inadequate in dealing with additional stockpiles as they are discovered; secondly, there is a major continuing problem of illegal importation of pesticides which may contain substantial amounts of POPs. The continued movement of illegal pesticides across borders from neighboring countries will result in an on-going environmental and human health threat. Consequently, as important as the destruction of the known stockpiles, there is the need to build capacity both to destroy additional stockpiles when they are discovered and to eliminate continuing importation of illegal POPs pesticides. Capacity to eliminate continuing importation is needed both from the demand side - to reduce and ultimately eliminate demand for such pesticides, and from the supply side -to eliminate the source of the pesticides. Supply-side management will require bilateral cooperation with neighboring states: China, Lao PDR and Cambodia. In such the context the project was designed to achieve following outcomes:

1. Improved capacity to facilitate elimination of POPs pesticides stockpiles
2. All known stockpiles are destroyed and impacts on human health relieved, and
3. Improved chemical management to prevent importation and use of POPs pesticides.

The project implementation is arranged as follows:



- UNDP and FAO are both implementing agencies. However UNDP will play a role of leading agency
- and works closely with FAO to support the project implementation
- MONRE/VEA is the Implementing partner
- MARD, Customs Office, and Peoples' Committees of provinces where the project provides supports are other partners involving in the project implementation.

### Project Status

The project is now at the end of its second year of implementation. Since commencement (in 2010), the POPs Pesticide project has made a number of progress. Followings key achievements provide information about progress of the project implementation to date:

#### 1. Improved capacity to facilitate elimination of POPs pesticides stockpiles

- Completed project inception phase and inception report agreed by key stakeholders;
- Established a database for 557 POPs pesticide stockpiles sites which are categorized into groups
- Training conducted for local authorities of northern and central provinces on preliminary site assessment

#### 2. All known stockpiles are destroyed and impacts on human health relieved:

- Additional investigation made for 09 selected sites;
- Completed detailed surveys, conceptual site model (CSMs) and environmental management plan (EMPs) for 05 sites (selected from the above 09 sites) prioritized for remediation by the project.
- Supported Government to prepare "A Plan for Prevention and Treatment of POP Pesticide Stockpile nationwide" which has been approved following decision 1946/2010/QĐ-TTg by the Prime Minister in October 21st, 2010;
- Completed safe packaging and transportation of 25 tons of heavily POP-pesticide contaminated soil in Thai Nguyen province to an incinerator for destruction;

#### 3. Improved chemical management to prevent importation and use of POPs pesticides

- Initiated discussion and agreement made with Customs Office on POP pesticide management issues at the border gates.

## **II. OBJECTIVES OF THE MID-TERM EVALUATION**

The purpose of the mid-term evaluation (MTE) is to assess project performance and implementation of the planned activities and outputs against actual results, and the level of the progress toward the achievement of the project objectives. Risks to achievement of the project outcomes and objectives will also be appraised.

The MTE will focus on identifying the corrective actions needed for the project to achieve maximum impact. Review findings will feedback into project management processes through lessons learnt, specific recommendations for improvement of the project design and implementation, project implementation time frame, likelihood of achieving its development objective, and reorientation of the project outcome/objectives if needed.

## **III. SCOPE OF ASSIGNMENT**

The national consultant will work together with an international consultant (team leader), recruited by UNDP Viet Nam, as a team to deliver the final product.

The MTE scope covers the entire POPs pesticide project and its outcomes, i.e. evaluation of the project implementation and management, taking into accounts the actual country situation, status of the project activities, related outputs and the resource disbursements made up to date including co-finance. Specifically, the MTE will examine following aspects:

### 1) Review of the project design, planning and implementation

- Is the project's design adequate to address the problem(s) at hand?
- Do the project problems to be solved still stand, project responses strategies and project adaptive management measures remain relevant to national priorities and GEF strategies, considering possible changes in context?
- Are the project specific outputs and their corresponding indicators as defined in the project logical framework and design and its modification in the Inception report still relevant in the light of the project

experience to date? Pinpoint any aspects of the “logframe” that shall be revisited and updated, and, if necessary, provide suggestion for timely changes or adjustment to activities and time-bound targets.

- Do the project purposes and objectives remain valid and relevant, or are there items or outcomes in the project design that need to be reviewed and updated?
- How is level of coherence an inter-link between and amongst project outcomes in terms of supporting each other towards achievement of the project objectives?
- Is the project on track to achieve its goal of “support to sustainable development in Vietnam through the elimination of POPs from the environment”?
- What were the major factors influencing the achievement/non-achievement of the project objectives/results?
- Whether the designed institutional arrangement for POP Pesticide Project has been performing effectively during the project implementation and allocated responsibilities among key stakeholders are still relevant; How the subjects fit into the partner Government's strategies and priorities; international and country development goals and priorities; and UNDP/FAO global, regional or country programmes as appropriate.
- Whether timeframe of the project is feasible and practicable?

## 2) Review of project performance

- To what extent the project objectives have been met, taking into consideration the “achievement indicators” specified in the project document/inception report and logical framework
- To what extent have project results (outcomes and outputs) been achieved to date? And how have they been achieved in terms of inputs, timeliness, and cost-effectiveness?
- Do the outcomes/outputs complement and enhance one another, and if yes, to what extent?
- Given the level of achievement of the outputs and activities to date, is the project likely to achieve its objectives and overall target by the end of the project?
- What are factors that have facilitated or deterred the achievement of project objectives;
- How effective is the project monitoring and evaluation process to ensure the relevance and effectiveness of the activities and expected results in relation to TORs (RFP) issues, different level of work plans (AWPs and QWPs), and the required outputs? How has APR/PIR process helped in monitoring and evaluating the project implementation and achievement of results?
- Does the project take into consideration the likely risks in preparing AWP and QWP with the aim of mitigating negative impacts that could result from unexpected situation or change in the project environment?
- Is the project management arrangement appropriate to the extent of management functions, processes and procedure, in accordance with the staff capacity and reasonable workload? Is the project organization chart efficient for conducting and managing the whole project on the technical and administrative perspective?
- Financial accountability – extent to which the financial management has been an integral part of achieving project results, with particular reference to adequate reporting, identification of problems and adjustment of activities, budgets and inputs; and
- What is level of co-financing mobilized to the project till date?

## 3) Project impact

- To determine short-term and long-term impacts of the project, including efficiency of the project and cost-effectiveness of the project on POP pesticide stockpiles elimination in Vietnam, replication and dissemination of project results within and outside project areas; awareness raised of POP pesticide among the general public and decision makers.
- Has the current project management strategy exploited all opportunities for strengthening collaboration and substantive partnerships with other government bodies, institutes, different associations, other donors, financial sectors with aim to maximizing achievement of projects' immediate results, and extending the project impacts in the long run beyond the end of the project timeframe?
- To determine how the intervention seeks to mainstream gender in development efforts.
- To determine synergies with other similar projects, funded by the government or other donors.

## 4) Sustainability of project outcomes

Under this task the evaluation team will analyze following issues to evaluate sustainability of the project:

- Risks and assumptions that likely affect the persistence of the project outcomes, including financial, socio-political, institutional and environmental risks.
- How strong is the level of ownership of the results by the government?
- Availability of financial and economic mechanism to ensure the ongoing flow of benefits once the assistance ends;

- Policy and regulatory framework that will support continuation of benefits
- Level of commitment from the government to ensure sustainability of the results achieved? and
- How to secure changes observed in the improvement of the situation?

#### 5) Recommendations and lessons learnt

- Success stories;
- Problems in project implementation;
- Lessons learnt;
- Recommendations.

The national consultant will take main responsibility in collecting relevant information and data, translating if necessary, participating in meeting, discussion, facilitating the meetings, workshop and debriefings. The national consultant will be responsible for the team in contacting relevant stakeholders, collecting comments from stakeholders to the draft report, providing inputs to the final MTE report, assisting Team Leader in interpretation when needed, as well as translating of the final MTE report into Vietnamese.

### **IV. METHOD AND REQUIREMENTS FOR EVALUATION**

The evaluation team is expected to follow a participatory and consultative approach ensuring close involvement of the government counterparts (MONRE and MARD) and relevant project partners. As an instance, the evaluation team should be required to conduct desk reviews of the project documents; interviews and meetings with selected stakeholders including the NPD, UNDP and FAO representatives, the Project Manager; field visits to 02 -03 project sites; stakeholders meetings, etc. Specifically the evaluation team will:

1. Briefly review development and policy environment relating to regulation on hazardous waste and POPs pesticide, commenting on how these might have affected project performance and assess the extent to which the project remains relevant to the needs of its targets;
2. Perform interim assessment of the extent to which POP pesticide project has successfully accomplished its targets set for objectives in terms of activities, outputs and outcomes as defined in the agreed Project Document (logframe) and/or inception report, and assess the likelihood of achieving them upon project completion;
3. To identify implementing partner's institutional strengths and weaknesses, and identify potential options for improving POPs pesticide project, which could include modification of activities, project management responsibilities, schedule of activities, budget allocations, and timeframe among others;
4. To evaluate the level of achievement of the project outcomes and objectives against the following criteria: **relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, sustainability, and impact**. And to provide forward-looking recommendations to further consolidate successful aspects of the project and those that need to be improved in order to achieve project goals and objectives by the project ending.
5. To promote learning, feedback and knowledge sharing on results and lessons learnt among the GEF and its partners.
6. During the mission in Vietnam of the international consultant, the team is expected to present evaluation findings and recommendations at a consultation workshop organized to collect comments and feedbacks from stakeholders. The national consultant is expected to facilitate the workshop organization.
7. The evaluation must provide evidence-based information that is credible, reliable and useful. It must be easily understood by project partners and recommendations must be applicable to the remaining period of project duration.

In addition to a descriptive assessment, the project outcomes will be rated against following criteria:

1. **Highly satisfactory (HS).** The project had no shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives in terms of relevance, effectiveness, or efficiency.
2. **Satisfactory (S).** The project had minor shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives in terms of relevance, effectiveness, or efficiency.
3. **Moderately satisfactory (MS).** The project had moderate shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives in terms of relevance, effectiveness, or efficiency.
4. **Moderately unsatisfactory (MU).** The project had significant shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives in terms of relevance, effectiveness, or efficiency.

5. **Unsatisfactory (U).** The project had major shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives in terms of relevance, effectiveness, or efficiency.
6. **Highly unsatisfactory (HU).** The project had severe shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives in terms of relevance, effectiveness, or efficiency.

More detail requirements for the evaluation are presented in the GEF “Guidelines for Terminal Evaluations” which is posted on the following website: <http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/Policies-TEguidelines7-31.pdf>

Although an outline of an evaluation is provided above, it should be made clear that the evaluation team is responsible for revising the proposed approach as necessary. Any changes should be in-line with international criteria and professional norms and standards as adopted by the UN Evaluation Group that could be downloaded from the following website:

[http://www.unevaluation.org/papersandpubs/documentdetail.jsp?doc\\_id=22](http://www.unevaluation.org/papersandpubs/documentdetail.jsp?doc_id=22).

The changes must be also cleared by UNDP before being applied by the Evaluation team.

*The Evaluation team should feel free to discuss with the authorities concerned all matters relevant to its assignment. However it is not authorized to make any commitment or statement on behalf of UNDP, FAO or GEF or the project implementing partner.*

## V. DURATION OF ASSIGNMENT, DUTY STATION AND EXPECTED PLACES OF TRAVEL

The total effort for national consultant conducting the evaluation has been estimated to 18 working days. The MTE is expected to be conducted within the period of October- November 2012.

It's required that the evaluation team to pay field visit to 02 – 03 project sites. However associated traveling costs from Hanoi to these sites and then back to Hanoi will be covered by the PMU and should not be submitted as part of financial proposal.

## VI. DELIVERABLES

The national consultant will provide necessary inputs and clarification for the international consultant to produce following outputs:

- Detailed work-plan (jointly developed with international consultant)
- List of sources for primary and secondary data used including all questionnaires with raw data, if applied.
- Notes with recommendations, comments from stakeholders to the draft MTE report.
- Final Evaluation Report which might include, but is not limited to, the following components: (The Report should not exceed 30 pages in total, excluding annexes):
  - Executive summary;
  - Introduction
  - Description of the evaluation methodology;
  - Evaluation scope and objectives
  - Analysis of the situation with regard to outcome, outputs, resources, partnerships,
  - management and working methods;
  - Key findings and lessons learnt;
  - Conclusions and recommendations
  - Annexes:
    - TOR for this service
    - Questionnaires, if yes
    - List of documents reviewed
    - List and time-table of stakeholder consulted and Minutes of meetings
    - Presentations of Evaluation findings and recommendations in a consultation workshop in Hanoi.

For more detail information about the evaluation report, please see annex 7 of the UNDP Handbook on Planning, Monitoring and Evaluating for Development Results that can be download from the following webpage: <http://www.undp.org/evaluation/handbook/Annex7.html>

The reports must be submitted to UNDP CO in electronic format, in both English and Vietnamese version. The national consultant is responsible for the quality of translation.

## VII. PROVISION OF MONITORING AND PROGRESS CONTROLS

The Programme Officer at UNDP Country Office in Vietnam will be the overall supervisor for this assignment, and the evaluation team will report to him/her.

The evaluation team can seek out both UNDP CO and PMU for reasonable assistance and support that they may require to fulfill their responsibilities.

- Consultant's outputs/reports will be reviewed by the UNDP, FAO and the PMU within 10 days from the date of report submission
- The UNDP may require regular meetings or updating on progress as necessary.

#### **VIII.DEGREE OF EXPERTISE AND REQUIRED QUALIFICATION**

The evaluation team member selected must not have participated in the project preparation and/or implementation and must not have conflict of interest with project related activities. The national consultant shall have the following minimum qualifications and experience:

- Graduate degree in environmental engineering, project management, or environment related fields
- At least five (5) years of experience in the areas of project implementation, hazardous waste management, and project evaluation for donor-funded development projects in Vietnam;
- Familiarity and past experience with evaluation of GEF/UNDP projects, especially environment-related projects, will be an advantage;
- Proficient English writing and communication skills, with an ability to act as translator for international counterpart and to translate written documents from/ to Vietnamese are essential (writing sample must be provided for assessment)

#### **IX. ADMIN SUPPORT AND REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

The project will provide following support to the evaluation team:

- Work station: Working places will be provided to the consultants at the Project Office. Its address is as follows:
  - "Building Capacity to Eliminate POPs Pesticides Stockpiles in Vietnam" Project
  - 2nd Floor, No 6, Lot 12B, Trung Yen, Trung Hoa Str.
  - Cau Giay District, Hanoi, Vietnam
- Logistical arrangements including a car for traveling to POP pesticide stockpile sites located outside of Hanoi, contacting to local authorities, meetings with government/ other officials, local people, etc.
- Support to obtaining necessary project documents and reference documents which include
  - Project document
  - Project inception report
  - Consultants Reports (Research/Studies/Training)
  - Annual/quarterly work plans/progress reports
  - Legal documents related to POP pesticide management
  - Harmonized Project & Program Management Guidelines (HPPMG 2010)
  - Etc.

#### **X. PAYMENT TERM**

All payment will only be authorized upon the UNDP approval of the deliverables. Proposed payments are indicated below:

1st payment: 40% of total contract value will be paid upon submission and UNDP's acceptance of the draft evaluation report

Last payment: 60% of total contract value will be paid upon submission and UNDP's satisfactory approval of the final evaluation report.

The work progress will be assessed according to the approved detailed work plan.