

# Management Response

UNDP Management Response  
Capacity Building for SLM in Seychelles : Date: May 2013

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**Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 1:** (i) Government of Seychelles (GoS) should adopt the various reviews / updates of laws and policies undertaken within the project in the near future and prioritize better mainstreaming of SLM throughout key national agencies. This particularly depends on continuing awareness raising at all levels on the win-win-win benefits of SLM and its synergies, particularly with climate change and biodiversity protection (ii) . GoS are more committed to increasing national food production now than they were pre 2008 – this should help support scaling-up of support for SLM (iii) The extension service and future projects could usefully include more “learning by doing” / action research / farmer field school approaches, which are found widely successful elsewhere to catalyse wide up-take of SLM technologies. (iv) SAA should continue to support the soils laboratory in Grand’ Anse, as it is not likely to be able to recoup sufficient funds to cover its costs in the short-term. Furthermore, the manual produced by the project on SLM for farmers (Nancy, 2012) should be translated into Creole to widen the number of farmers who can benefit from it.

**Management Response:** We agree with the comment and any future projects dealing with SLM will take into account the recommendations. In addition, GoS will be implementing a new IFAD funded small project to boost the agricultural small scale productions.

Key Action(s)	Time Frame	Responsible Unit(s)	Tracking*	
			Comments	Status
1.1 Continue the dialogue with the Ministry of Industry and Natural Resources and the Seychelles Agricultural Agency	December 2013	Ministry of Industry and Natural Resources, Seychelles Agricultural Agency		Initiated
<p><b>Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 2:</b> The project has trained SNPA trainers in fire fighting. It is furthermore recommended that these staff is enabled to impart their knowledge widely to reduce the problems of forest fires which plague the granitic islands. DRDM staff also needs such training.</p> <p><b>Management Response:</b> We agree with the comment and will incorporate further training for the DRDM staff as well as Forestry staff on the main island of Mahe, Praslin and La Digue. This will be incorporated as part of the upcoming GEF projects submission for protected area.</p>				



Key Action(s)	Time Frame	Responsible Unit(s)	Tracking	
			Comments	Status
2.1. Include additional forestry management and forest fire training as part of the Protected Area Project under implementation. In addition, this will be a component of the upcoming project on Sustainable management and Financing of Protected Area in Seychelles	December 2013	Seychelles National Parks Authority/Ministry of Environment and Energy/Programme Coordination Unit/UNDP		The PA Policy is being reviewed and the action will form part of its implementation.
<p><b>Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 3 :</b> It is also recommended that MLUH should use the land use maps prepared by the project to protect biodiversity and adopt landscape approaches in wider land management, rather than using the maps as tools in land administration / development planning</p> <p><b>Management Response:</b> We agree with the comment and this will be undertaken as part of the revised Town and Country Planning Act and subsequent Regulations being developed under the Biodiversity Mainstreaming Project.</p>				
Key Action(s)	Time Frame	Responsible Unit(s)	Tracking	
3.1 - Ensure that the Land Use Plans developed under the SLM and the Mainstreaming Biodiversity Project are approved by Cabinet.	September 2013	Ministry of LUH, Department of Environment, UNDP, Programme Coordination Unit		Ongoing
3.2 – Land Use Planner to finalize the remaining LUPs and to present to Cabinet for approval	July 2013	Ministry of LUH, Department of Environment, UNDP, Programme Coordination Unit		Ongoing
<p><b>Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 4:</b> Although the project is now closed, there remains disagreement among those interviewed in the TE as to who is / was the counterpart for the Land Use Planning Consultant who worked to develop district land use plans continuously (funded by this GEF SLM project and also the on-going BD project) since November 2009. This is surprising, as it seems <i>sim qua non</i><sup>1</sup> that local staff should have been trained to continue the land use mapping / planning role – which used some 10% of the project funds. It is important that this is not repeated in future projects in Seychelles – or beyond.</p> <p><b>Management Response:</b> Comment noted. It is not entirely correct as the LUP worked closely with local counterpart and upon his departure the GIS Unit at MLUH will be capable of continuing the work to maintain and update the existing LUPs as well as to develop new ones as required.</p>				
Key Action(s)	Time Frame	Responsible Unit(s)	Tracking	

<sup>1</sup> Used to denote something that is an essential part of the whole.



4.1: The extended contract of the LUP will allow for the completion of the remaining Land Use Plans for all districts of Mahe, Praslin and La Digue. Proper handing over to the counterpart will be undertaken before the end of the contract of the LUP.	April 2013	UNDP, Min of Land Use and Habitat, Ministry of Environment and Energy, Programme Coordinating Unit	Comments Contract of LUP extended till end of June	Status Completed
<p><b>Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 5:</b> Reports produced by the project (see Annex 5) should either be up-loaded to the PCU website as they stand and their availability there publicised – or summaries should be prepared. Furthermore, clear links should then be made between the PCU website and GoS sites to widen awareness of SLM</p>				
<p><b>Management Response:</b> We agree with the recommendation and will ensure PCU uploads the all existing documents under this as well as other GEF Projects once the review of the PCU website is finalized.</p>				
<p><b>Key Action(s)</b></p> <p>5.1 The Communications Officer of the PCU band the new CTA will ensure all documents related to the SLM are uploaded to the UNDP and PCU website and appropriate links created.</p>	Time Frame July 2013	Responsible Unit(s) Programme Coordinating Unit/UNDP, Communications Officer	Tracking Comments PCU website under review	Status Ongoing
<p><b>Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 6:</b> It would be advisable for future GEF funded and other projects in Seychelles and other small / remote countries to carefully <i>consider the expertise available among national consultants during the design phase</i>, to ensure they do not require expertise which is unlikely to be available during project implementation – or to ensure that there are clear arrangements to enable for example civil servants to undertake such work in parallel to their existing work</p>				
<p><b>Management Response:</b> We agree with the comment and will ensure this is observed during preparation of future GEF projects.</p>				
<p><b>Key Action(s)</b></p> <p>6.1 use of local consultants will remain a challenge in a Seychelles due to ,limited human resource capacity and expertise in the various field required under GEF projects</p>	Time Frame Dec 2013	Responsible Unit(s) Environment and UNDP	Tracking Comments	Status ongoing
<p><b>Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 7:</b> Revisions of the LogFrame during project implementation (Feb. 2010 &amp; July 2012) show that the list of assumptions and risks have been reduced – which is surprising, as by that stage in project implementation issues of human resources and wider economic issues were affecting project implementation. The various versions of the LogFrame also failed to mention externalities (i.e. national and global economic / political issues, the effects of climate change etc.) which in the event particularly affected the project. LogFrames can be very useful tools in project management, but to be effective, must be kept</p>				

up-to-date.

Management Response: Agreed. Recommendation noted and will be applied to future projects.

Key Action(s)	Time Frame	Responsible Unit(s)	Tracking	
			Comments	Status
7.1 Updating of LogFrames will be done as required and reviewed at Project Steering Committee.	June 2013	Programme Coordination Unit/. UNDP/Ministry of Environment		Completed

Approved by Mr Simon Springett, UNDP Resident Representative

Signature



Date 6 June 2013