UNDP-GEF TE Management Response Template

Management response to the Terminal Evaluation of

Project Title: Sustainable Management of POPs in Mauritius
UNDP Project ID (PIMS) #:3779
GEF Project ID (PMIS) #: 3205
Terminal Evaluation Mission Completion Date: 26 June 2015
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Context, background and findings

The principal conclusions of the Terminal Evaluation Report are as follows:

The project was well-designed, with separate, carefully thought-out strategy to specifically address the first two of three priorities identified in Mauritius NIP. The project document clearly defined the project objectives, outcomes, outputs, activities and milestones, with key stakeholders responsible for the project activities properly identified.

The project budget and co-financing commitments were appropriate for the level of intervention, the intended outputs were achievable for the planned four-year duration of implementation, the capacities of the executing agencies (MoE and MoH) were appropriately effective for the level of project intervention.
Project Implementation.

Both UNDP as the International Implementing Agency, and MoE and MoH as the Executing Agencies exercised timely and effective management actions, provided quality support to ensure timely project inputs to ensure achievement of the project outputs and outcomes. As a result, a reasonably good rate of project delivery was recorded and the actual co-financing matching the level committed at project design. UNDP Mauritius Country Office was instrumental in applying adaptive management in moving the IVM strategy forwarded.

All project activities were implemented effectively though the implementation duration was extended by 36 months beyond the 4-year duration. All project outputs and outcomes were successfully achieved. The valuable technical guidance and support provided by the international and national technical experts to both themes contributed to an effective implementation and successful achievement of the outcomes of the two themes.

Despite delays in launching the activity, the introduction of IVM was expedited through the deployment of an incentive scheme as an adaptive management to attract IVM volunteers to promote the pilot IVM strategy to the community, to generate the much needed community interest at the pilot villages. However, the further extension of the IVM strategy to more communities and its eventual national replication will require more effective mobilization and innovative stimulus to attract active community participation.

The project encountered a 36-month delay in project completion; the main causes for the delay are: a) time taken at the inception of the project to recruit the project manager; b) additional mobilization time required to address additional contaminated sites identified; c) delay in obtaining permit for acceptance of the POPs wastes and the difficulties and lengthy time to secure the transit permit for the transportation of the obsolete POPs pesticides and contaminated soil through shipment transit point to final destination for environmentally sound disposal; and d) the delay and the difficulties in mobilization local communities and volunteers in active participation in the IVM activities.

All intended outputs and outcomes of the project have been fully achieved, though with a 36-month delay in project completion. The quantities of obsolete POPs pesticides and contaminated soil for final disposal exceeded the target, with the costs of the extra quantity of obsolete chemicals stock and contaminated soil (46 additional tons of DDT and decontamination of additional sites) disposal supported by government co-financing.

The findings of the evaluation are relevant and to the point and will enable the UNDP and the Government of Mauritius to take forward the positive findings and also to address areas where further action is needed. The ratings provided are fair and reflect the amount of effort which has gone into the implementation of the project.

Recommendations and management response

Terminal Evaluation recommendation 1. It is recommended that the MoH to undertake periodic inspection of the DDT stock, in order to detect leakage and ensure its safe storage;				
Management response: The recommendation is in line with the required procedure for safekeeping of the DDT stock and will be conveyed to the MOH				
Key action(s)	**Time frame**	**Responsible unit(s)**	**Tracking[1]**	
			Comments	**Status[2]**
1.1 Write to MOH to inform of recommendation	November 2015	UNDP CO		

[1] If the TE is uploaded to the ERC, the status of implementation is tracked electronically in the Evaluation Resource Centre database (ERC).

[2] Status of Implementation: Completed, Partially Completed, Pending.

Terminal Evaluation recommendation 2. MoE to encourage and attract active participation of the private sector and industrial associations involved in the import, distribution, use and handling of pesticides and hazardous chemicals to put the "Responsible Care" Program into practice.				
Management response: The MOE has launched a national campaign through the distribution of pamphlets on managing household chemicals. The idea can also be captured in the next Chemicals and Waste GEF Focal area project being designed.				
Key action(s)	**Time frame**	**Responsible unit(s)**	**Tracking**	
			Comments	**Status**
2.1 write to Ministry of Environment to inform of recommendation	September 2015	UNDP CO		
2.2 Inform National Portfolio Formulation process of the recommendation	September 2015	UNDP CO		

Terminal Evaluation recommendation 3. MoH to incorporate the responsibilities of IVM coordination into the TOR of regional health officers; and the tasks of community vector surveillance into the TOR of district health inspectors				
Management response: The recommendation is relevant as it will serve to enhance the long term sustainability of the project outcomes.				
Key action(s)	**Time frame**	**Responsible unit(s)**	**Tracking**	
			Comments	**Status**
3.1 UNDP to write to the Ministry to inform of the recommendation to advocate for inclusion of IVM responsibilities into the TOR of regional health officers.	Nov 2015	UNDP CO		

Terminal Evaluation recommendation 4. District Councils to systematically undertake regular bulk clean-up

in villages				
Management response: We agree with the recommendation which is in line with preventing the population of mosquitoes to increase and will serve to decrease the need for volunteers in all areas.				
Key action(s)	**Time frame**	**Responsible unit(s)**	**Tracking**	
			Comments	**Status**
4.1 UNDP will write to the Ministry of Local Government to inform of and advocate for the recommendation	September 2015	UNDP CO		

Terminal Evaluation recommendation 5. MoLG to enforce stricter application of the public health act regarding vacant land owners				
Management response: We agree with the recommendation. Moreover the Government has issued warnings to private land owners not taking care of their land.				
Key action(s)	**Time frame**	**Responsible unit(s)**	**Tracking**	
			Comments	**Status**
5.1 UNDP will write to the Ministry of Local Government to inform of and advocate for the recommendation	November 2015	UNDP CO		

Terminal Evaluation recommendation 6. Design and establish the much needed Central Data Management System to capture and analyse vector data for effective monitoring of water borne diseases				
Management response: During the project, much effort was made to try to convince the Ministry of Health to implement the CDMS. However, the MoH does not have the in-house capability of implementing the system since it will require the setting up of a whole new department.				
Key action(s)	**Time frame**	**Responsible unit(s)**	**Tracking**	
			Comments	**Status**
6.1 UNDP will write to the MoH to reiterate the need for the CDMS and to encourage the MoH to move in this direction.	November 2015	UNDP CO		
Terminal Evaluation recommendation 7. Involve and empower youth and women organizations, and				

encourage NGOs to actively participate in the implementation of the IVM strategy;				
Management response: We agree with the recommendation. However with a lack of organizational structure at the level of the Ministry of Health, it is unlikely that the recommendation will be adopted by the Government.				
Key action(s)	**Time frame**	**Responsible unit(s)**	**Tracking**	
			Comments	**Status**
7.1 UNDP will write to the MoH to reiterate the need for the youth and women participation in the IVM process.	November 2015	UNDP CO		

Terminal Evaluation recommendation 8. Encourage active participation of high school and university students in data collection and vector surveillance through incentive programmes such as free computer training which equip them with a valuable, functional skill set				
Management response: It is considered that Government is already working on the area and therefore to further provide incentives, would be the responsibility of the Government.				
Key action(s)	**Time frame**	**Responsible unit(s)**	**Tracking**	
			Comments	**Status**
8. 1 UNDP will write to the MoH to reiterate the need for more computer training for youth and women.	November 2015	UNDP CO		

Terminal Evaluation recommendation 9. Increase awareness through intensive mass media promotion and publicity on IVM and personal health				
Management response: Intensive mass media promotion is being carried out by the MOH already. However the terminology used is not the same as the one used on the project, being more user friendly and less technical				
Key action(s)	**Time frame**	**Responsible unit(s)**	**Tracking**	
			Comments	**Status**

9. 1 UNDP will write to the MoH to reiterate the need for more mass media communication on the subject.	November 2015	UNDP CO		

Terminal Evaluation recommendation 10. Initiate creative incentives to generate increased and active participation at community level				
Management response: While the recommendation is a sound one, it would be difficult to implement given the current mindset at the Ministry of Health.				
Key action(s)	**Time frame**	**Responsible unit(s)**	**Tracking**	
			Comments	**Status**
10.1 UNDP will write to the MoH to reiterate the need for more incentives to ensure active participation at community level	November 2015	UNDP CO		

Terminal Evaluation recommendation 11. Through private-public-partnership, dedicate a certain percentage of the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) fund to finance better vector management				
Management response: We consider that it would be a useful suggestion in order to foster private sector interest in this activity. However the ultimate decision would be for the Government of Mauritius.				
Key action(s)	**Time frame**	**Responsible unit(s)**	**Tracking**	
			Comments	**Status**
11.1 UNDP will write to the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development to put forward the recommendation of the Terminal Evaluation	November 2015	UNDP CO		

Terminal Evaluation recommendation 12. Institute recognition and award system to motivate active

volunteer work in the implementation of the IVM strategy				
Management response: While we agree with the recommendation, the very wide ranging responsibilities of the Ministry of Health and lack of staff at the level of the Vector Biology Control Division has made it difficult for the project to develop such a system during project execution.				
Key action(s)	**Time frame**	**Responsible unit(s)**	**Tracking**	
			Comments	**Status**
12.1 UNDP will write to the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life to put forward the recommendation of the Terminal Evaluation	November 2015	UNDP CO		