**Management Response**

**“Preventing Violent Extremism through Promoting Tolerance and Respect for Diversity” Final Project Evaluation**

**June 2020**

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| Recommendation No: 1: The design of the project should continue to be focused upon the original four countries selected, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines and Malaysia[[1]](#footnote-1), as well as undertake targeted regional activities in support. | | | | |
| **Management response: The recommendation is accepted.** | | | | |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking\*** | |
| **Comments** | **Status**  **(initiated, completed or no due date)** Completed |
| 1.1 The project continues in the mentioned four country offices | August 2020 | Governance and Peacebuilding Team |  | No Due Date |
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| Recommendation No. 2: Since the inception of the first project, ASEAN has achieved significant momentum at regional level in ensuring a coherent and consistent regional framework for PCVE. The political commitment of Member States to ASEAN has been matched by renewed domestic progress toward preparation and adoption of National Action Plans. Support to these twin processes – at regional and national level – should remain a priority for the future project. Technical assistance should be provided to ASEAN for follow-up of the Bali plan, and to national Governments from the regional level, in support of policy coherence with normative standards and global good practice. Collaboration with, and support to, the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter Terrorism (SEARCCT) should also be explored. | | | | |
| **Management response: This recommendation is accepted.**  The recommendation have been taken on board in the development of the Phaser II of the project. | | | | |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking\*** | |
| **Comments** | **Status**  **(initiated, completed or no due date)** Completed |
| 1.2 Technical advice for ASEAN particularly on Bali WorkPlan has been designated to UNOCT, project partner for PVE Phase II, under Activity 1.3 | August 2020 | Governance and Peacebuilding |  | August 2020 |
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| Recommendation No. 3: As NAPs are approved there will be a need to support Government coordination of external assistance on PCVE in each country, and to support RCO’s to ensure coherent UN-system response via UNCT working groups. In order to ensure protocol and respect sensitivities, this should be on-demand – at the request of Government and the approval of the UN RC. NAPs should be costed and integrated into Government budgeting processes, must be supported by Government budgets, accompanied by robust M&E regimes to measure impact and cost-effectiveness, and localised where needed. | | | | |
| **Management response: This recommendation is accepted.**  The recommendations have been taken on board in the development of the Phaser II of the project. | | | | |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking\*** | |
| **Comments** | **Status**  **(initiated, completed or no due date)** Completed |
| As per PH. II of the project, the implementing country offices are working with line ministries to ensure there is a whole-of-UN support in the development of NAPs | August 2020 | Governance and Peacebuilding Team |  |  |
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| Recommendation No. 4: Further efforts are required to ensure an inclusive and participatory ‘*whole of society*’ approach to PCVE in the region, often against the reflexes of some Governments, where politics or the point in the process of development of PCVE policy still privilege the voices of more security-oriented counterparts. Efforts to mobilise and capacitate civil society should be strengthened in the second phase, to ensure that issues of gender and human rights observance are respected in preparation and implementation of NAPs, and as the obvious and appropriate partner in the prevention of violent extremism wherever it occurs: in local communities, institutions, and online.  The recommendations have been taken on board in the development of the Phaser II of the project. | | | | |
| **Management response: The recommendation is accepted** | | | | |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking\*** | |
| **Comments** | **Status**  **(initiated, completed or no due date)** Completed |
| In the Ph. II of the project, the project is working with youth groups, religious leaders and women groups at national/regional level to increase their participation in policy development related to PCVE | August 2020 | Governance and Peacebuilding Team |  |  |
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| Recommendation No. 5: Regional-level research should be discontinued in favour of national research agendas, given the power of the latter to support advocacy and evidence-based programming. If useful, the Regional Office could provide technical support through the engagement of global or regional academic institutions or experts.  (NO KEY ACTION GIVEN) | | | | |
| **Management response: The recommendation is accepted.** | | | | |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking\*** | |
| **Comments** | **Status**  **(initiated, completed or no due date)** Completed |
| The project has discontinued its commissioning of regional projects and instead is using its platform to promote and amplify local knowledge through innovative means | August 2020 | Governance and Peacebuilding |  |  |
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| **Recommendation No. 6:**  The project should support networking and development of a PVE community of practice in the region, and underwrite research, data collection and knowledge management to allow better targeted interventions informed by global good practice. | | | | |
| **Management response: This recommendation is accepted.**  The recommendation is taken on board in the development of the Phaser II of the project. | | | | |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking\*** | |
| **Comments** | **Status**  **(initiated, completed or no due date)** Completed |
| the implementing country offices will set up Knowledge management platforms where research, knowledge and information amongst PCVE stakeholders | **August 2020** | Governance and Peacebuilding team |  |  |
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| **Recommendation No. 7:**  Development of policy frameworks, research for evidence-based policy development and programming, and building the capacity of actors are all preparatory steps in the effort. The project must also continue to support concrete activities that promote values of peace, tolerance and diversity, actively counters the prevalence of fake news and hate speech, and which ultimately disrupt the radicalisation processes upon which VE relies. | | | | |
| **Management response:** The project accepts this recommendation. | | | | |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking\*** | |
| **Comments** | **Status**  **(initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| The project has partnered with Facebook to support public-private partnership to tackle hate speech in hot spots, including online space | August 2020 | Governance and Peacebuilding |  | **Completed** |
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| Recommendation No. 8: The long duration of the second phase of the project makes it essential that a rigorous M&E regime is in place, and that appropriate baselines, targets and indicators are established to suitably capture project impact, cost-effectiveness and sustainability upon evaluation. | | | | |
| **Management response:** The project accepts this recommendation. | | | | |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date**  Project Document was signed in August 2020 | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking\*** |  |
| **Comments** | **Status**  **(initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| The project has hired a M&E Specialist to support activities against the results framework | August 2020 | Governance and Peacebuilding team |  | Completed |
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| Recommendation No. 9: Gender issues should be more thoroughly mainstreamed into the planning of activities, and reflected in the results framework, which should aim to achieve a GEN-2 rating, with gender disaggregated baselines, targets and indicators. UNDP might explore continued partnership with UN Women in support of strengthening the gender dimension of the project. | | | | |
| Management response: The project accepts this recommendation. | | | | |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** | |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| The project has partnered with UN Women on Extremelives and Youth Influencer programme | August 2020 | Governance and Peacebuilding team |  |  |
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| Recommendation No. 10 The project should continue with the patient and supportive approach taken to establish correct ‘framing’ of the PCVE issue at national level, to promote maximum buy-in across Government to the effort, and to mobilise the broadest possible coalition of civil society actors in its undertaking. The UNDP project teams should continue to lead engagement on NAPs at the Country level given the need to be resident on the ground, and to better promote the whole of society approach, which it is best placed to convene. | | | | |
| Management response: The project accepts this recommendation. | | | | |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** |  |
| UNDP country offices have complete control over this and reflected their strategy for engagement with government partners in their respective project documents | The project document was signed by the EU, UNDP and UNOCT in August 2020 with UNDP remaining as the lead organization | Governance and Peacebuilding team | **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** Completed |
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| **Recommendation No. 11** Given the physical distances involved in the region, the cost of organising face-to-face meetings on a regular basis – and now prospective limitations on ability or willingness to travel in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis – innovative online approaches to knowledge management and continued networking of the nascent PVE community of practice in the region should be explored. | | | | |
| **Management response**: The recommendation is accepted. | | | | |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** | |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| UNDP country offices have set up online Knowledge Management Platforms to facilitate knowledge exchange. Subsequently government counterparts have been equipped with digital tools to increase online meeting and exchanges | The project document was signed by the EU, UNDP and UNOCT in August 2020 with UNDP remaining as the lead organization | Governance and Peacebuilding team |  | Completed |
| **Recommendation No. 12** In view of the obvious synergies to be extracted, project PCVE work in ‘hotspots’ should be carefully integrated with UNDP Country Office area-based development portfolios wherever possible, without losing the separate administrative identity of the project or visibility for the EU as donor.  . | | | | |
| Management response: The recommendation is accepted | | | | |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** | |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| As part of Phase II, country offices are expanding their interventions beyond national level and focusing on online and offline hotspots, particularly at sub-national level. online meeting and exchanges | The project document was signed by the EU, UNDP and UNOCT in August 2020 with UNDP remaining as the lead organization | Governance and Peacebuilding team |  |
| **Recommendation No. 12** In view of the obvious synergies to be extracted, project PCVE work in ‘hotspots’ should be carefully integrated with UNDP Country Office area-based development portfolios wherever possible, without losing the separate administrative identity of the project or visibility for the EU as donor.  . | | | | |
| Management response: The recommendation is accepted | | | | |
| **Key action** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit (s)** | **Comments** |
| As part of Phase II, country offices are expanding their interventions beyond national level and focusing on online and offline hotspots, particularly at sub-national level. online meeting and exchanges | The project document was signed by the EU, UNDP and UNOCT in August 2020 with UNDP remaining as the lead organization | Governance and Peacebuilding team |  |
| **Recommendation No. 13** Given the ubiquity of internet and social media in Southeast Asia, and its use as an amplifier and projector of extremist narratives and as a potential tool of recruitment to violent action, the project should scale-up its work with youth online to promote liberal values of peace, tolerance and diversity. Additionally, the project should explore possibilities not just to monitor the prevalence of fake news and hate speech, but to challenge it and/or disrupt its transmission.  . | | | | |
| Management response:  **The recommendation is accepted.** | | | | |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** | |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| The project is working with youth online influencers to partner with religious leaders to develop positive narrative for online dissemination. Additionally, at national level, the project has engaged with CSOs t conduct fact checking and to address mis/disinformation. | The project document was signed by the EU, UNDP and UNOCT in August 2020 with UNDP remaining as the lead organization | Governance and Peacebuilding team |  | Completed |
| **Recommendation No. 14** While the documentary series *Extreme Lives* has provided valuable visibility to the project, and gained it many new and important supporters, added value can be given to its continuation by articulating more local voices to scenario development and filming in each country, and to making local-language versions that allow the product to be used as part of a portfolio of materials to raise public awareness and support peace education. | | | | |
| Management response:  **The recommendation is accepted.** | | | | |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** | |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| The strategy and concept of Extremelives series have been revised based on the recommendation to reflect broader issues that impact recourse to violent extremism, including issues related to identity, diversity and discrimination. The new iteration of the programme will hire local level production companies to reflect the local stories and needs of those communities impacted. | The project document was signed by the EU, UNDP and UNOCT in August 2020 with UNDP remaining as the lead organization | Governance and Peacebuilding team |  | Completed |
| **Recommendation No. 15** UNDP should remain the primary implementing partner of the project for the European Commission, based on results achieved and partnerships in place, resident operational capacity in the participating countries, and long-term experience of working with both Government and civil society stakeholders. | | | | |
| Management response: The recommendation is accepted | | | | |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** | |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| UNDP conducted extensive negotiations with UNOCT to ensure that it will remain as the lead organization while UNOCT is the signatory partner | The project document was signed by the EU, UNDP and UNOCT in August 2020 with UNDP remaining as the lead organization | Governance and peacebuilding team |  | Completed |
| **Recommendation No. 16**  In line with the global MoU on collaboration signed between UNDP and UNOCT, and in support of the UN Reform process, the EU should request UNOCT to become a co-signatory to the new project, with regional responsibility for coherence with international policy frameworks, consistency with agreed standards and global good practice, and coordination with and between UN actors. | | | | |
| Management response: The recommendation is accepted | | | | |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** | |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| Based on UNOCT mandate, the agency will be implementing activities related to regional support for ASEAN and Crisis Communication. Technical advice will be received at regional level.  The project document was signed by the EU, UNDP and UNOCT in August 2020 with UNDP remaining as the lead organization | The project document was signed by the EU, UNDP and UNOCT in August 2020 with UNDP remaining as the lead organization | Governance and peacebuilding team |  | Completed |
| **Recommendation No.17**  While there is administrative sense in organising transnational activities at regional level, and continued value in supporting regional frameworks, actors and networking, future phases of the project should maintain a decentralised approach that allow activities to be designed and implemented by local teams in day-to-day contact with Government counterparts and civil society partners. | | | | |
| Management response: The recommendation is accepted | | | | |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** | |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| Each implementing country offices have developed their own project document and/or annual work plan to would strengthen the project’s intervention at national and subnational level. | The project document was signed by the EU, UNDP and UNOCT in August 2020 with UNDP remaining as the lead organization | Governance and peacebuilding team |  | Completed |

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| **Recommendation No.18**  Project teams should hold regular “Partner Platforms” of project implementing partners and representatives of EU Delegations in each country to promote networking and coordination, review country plans and project “products”, contribute to EU visibility and support better awareness of UNDP operational rules, procedures and timelines. | | | | |
| Management response: The recommendation is accepted. The project document was signed by the EU, UNDP and UNOCT in August 2020 with UNDP remaining as the lead organization | | | | |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** | |
| **Comments** |
| Each implementing country offices have established Project Partners that includes UN the Donor, UNOCT and national partners who meet on quarterly basis to share plans, TORs, Budget, and strategy forward. | The project document was signed by the EU, UNDP and UNOCT in August 2020 with UNDP remaining as the lead organization | Governance and peacebuilding team |  |
| **Recommendation No.19**  PVE should be understood as a natural partnership between the UN and the European Union, which models the values and soft power of both institutions to mutual benefit, while addressing a clear set of needs in the region and globally. UNDP should ensure that the Joint Steering Committee (to be expanded to include participation of UNOCT) meets regularly to steer the project, that procedures are codified to ensure that the EU is able to input into research and other activities in a meaningful way, and which respects contractual obligations in regard to the provision of EU visibility. | | | | |
| Management response: The recommendation is accepted | | | | |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** | |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| A joint steering committee was formed that included UNDP, EU and UNOCT as Co-Chairs. This body would meet every 6 months to review AWPs, Budget and conduct major decision making. The level of participation for this project steering committee is at operational level. | The project document was signed by the EU, UNDP and UNOCT in August 2020 with UNDP remaining as the lead organization | Governance and peacebuilding team |  | Completed |

1. While the proposed future project must be approved by a full Council of Ministers, it is likely that Malaysia will agree to participate in the next phase of the project under certain conditions, with an initial round of activities aimed at supporting the development of a National Action Plan. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)