**UNDP- management response to the Midterm review of the full-size project – “Reduction and Elimination of POPs/Jordan”**

**Project Title:** Reduction and elimination of POPs and other chemical releases through implementation of environmentally sound management of E-Waste, healthcare waste and priority U-POPs release sources associated with general waste management activities

**MTR Mission Completion Date**: December 16,2020

**Date of Issue of Management Response**: December 31, 2020

The MTR report included the following recommendations with respective management response as below

**Recommendations and management response**

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| Recommendations 1. Continue to work on the institutional strengthening of government partners, especially within the framework of their role within the project, but also strengthen the spaces of collective participation, so that the integrality of the actions and the objective of the project is achieved.  |
| Management response: agree  |
| Key action(s) | Time frame | Responsible unit(s) | Tracking |
| Comments | Status[[1]](#footnote-1) |
| * 1. Continue to involve project partners in all project activities; including the development of workplans and in decision making process through board and technical committee meetings.
 | Continuous till the end of the project implementation  | PMU and UNDP |  |  |
| 1.2. Continue monitoring any areas with lack of capacity in order to implement awareness and capacity building programmes if needed. | Continuous till the end of the project implementation | PMU and UNDP |  |   |
| 1.3. Consultations with the government senior officials to ensure integration with government plans and national priorities.  | Continuous till the end of the project implementation with special emphasis during the annual planning period | PMU and UNDP |  |  |

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| Recommendation 2. The 11 autoclaves that have been installed in the hospitals will need to have preventive and corrective maintenance. This is not an activity that the hospitals have trained people to do it, therefore it will be important to identify the best solution to this need. It can be through the outsourcing of the maintenance, which could be the most effective solution. This will need to be included within the sustainability strategy for the project closure so that when the funding has finished the MoH or the hospitals will have already budgeted this to guarantee the continuity of the service.  |
| Management response: Agree with immediate implementation |
| Key action(s) | Time frame | Responsible unit(s) | Tracking |
| Comments | Status |
| 2.1. UNDP CO and PMU to provide follow up on this intervention through;- Meeting with the Ministry of Health officials to emphasize the importance of proper operation of the autoclaves.- Official correspondences to be sent in this regard.- Close follow up with MoH focal points to accelerate the issue of outsourcing a company to perform operations and maintenance activities | Immediate action with continuous follow up | PMU, UNDP, MoH, MoEnv |  |  |

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| Recommendation 3. Project Coordination should keep the UNDP/Program Officer informed of the progress and quality of the institutions’ participation. In this manner, the UNDP/Program Office can address these issues with the institutions that have less aggressive participation. |
| Management response: Agree  |
| Key action(s) | Time frame | Responsible unit(s) | Tracking |
| Comments | Status |
| 3.1. Conduct Bi-weekly meetings to update UNDP CO on project progress, updates and partners participation in the project. | Bi-weekly | PMU |  |  |
| 3.2. Submit Quarter reports and annual reports on due dates. | Each quarter, annually | PMU, Technical committee |  |  |
| 3.3. Provide feedback through the monthly technical committee meetings on the levels of participation.  | Monthly | PMU, TC, UNDP |  |  |
| Organize field visits to project sites to oversee the implementation on ground as appropriate | As needed | UNDP |  |  |

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| Recommendation 4. Ensure that the monitoring and evaluation processes established by the UNDP Office are carried out in a timely manner so that Project development can be ensured.  |
| Management response: Agree  |
| Key action(s) | Time frame | Responsible unit(s) | Tracking |
| Comments | Status |
| 4.1. Revisit the monitoring plan and make any changes if found necessary especially due to the COVID-19 pandemic and response. Assessing the monitoring and evaluation schedule and amend whenever necessary in accordance 4.2 Sharing the monitoring and evaluation plans and schedule with the Central Team at UNDP (which is a practice already started in 2019) so as to have the proper support in ensuring timely completion of the relevant assignment. | Bi-annually | UNDP  | All monitoring and evaluation exercises have been conducted by UNDP according to the schedule, however, due to Covid19 circumstances, there was some delay for those planned in 2020 where the country including UNDP has went into lockdown and minimizing the relevant staff reporting to offices of the partners’ .  |  |
| Recommendation 5. To lead the project always with the perspective of the role that each institution has, that is, to have clarity of the responsibilities of each and above all define how the sustainability of this project will be obtained with the leadership of the counterparties.  |
| Management response: Agree  |
| Key action(s) | Time frame | Responsible unit(s) | Tracking |
| Comments | Status |
| 5.1. Stress continuously on partners' roles and responsibilities through Project Board meetings, specially their role in adopting strategies and plans to ensure the sustainability of the project. | Board meeting annually – or when needed. | PMU, UNP and Project Board |  |  |
| 5.2 Integrate sustainability aspects within the project`s components and demonstrate the project benefits to the targeted groups  | As needed | PMU, UNDP,  | . |  |
| 5.3 Present and discuss with the project board the findings and recommendation of the MTR, in particular to listed to feedback and suggestions of the members on how to better implement Recommendation 5 |  |  |  |  |

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| Recommendation 6. This project has three components that are linked to the purpose of protecting the health and the environment with environmentally sound waste management and the complementing of a green economy. It is important to establish in the best possible way the complementarity each component has with each other and/or the importance that, as one component progresses, another component subsequently advance or be directed. The components are not isolated but integrated parts of the project.  |
| Management response: Agree  |
| Key action(s) | Time frame | Responsible unit(s) | Tracking |
| Comments | Status |
| 6.1. To share with the stakeholders a comprehensive brief action plan explaining the linkages between the activities for ensuring timely responses from the relevant stakeholders. | First quarter of 2021 | PMU, MoEnv, UNDP, TC |  |  |
| 6.2 Revisit the workplan on regular basis and identify complementary points of intersection among all components  | Quarterly  | PMU, UNDP, TC |  |  |
| 6.3 Incorporating a task in all ToRs to be launched in 2021 and beyond calling consultants to advise on and ensure proper synergies among the three components.  |  |  |  |  |
| 6.4 To design and redesign the capacity development activities so as to serve the three components and have the training events as a platform to discuss synergies and integration among the three components. |  |  |  |  |

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| Recommendation 7. Seek to continue enhancing women empowerment and gender equity in different project activities. Responsible parties for their completion: PMU, UNDP, MoENV. |
| Management response: Agree  |
| Key action(s) | Time frame | Responsible unit(s) | Tracking |
| Comments | Status |
| 7.1. Revisit the activities regularly in order to identify further opportunities for enhancing women empowerment/engagement especially in light of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. | Quarterly basis | PMU, UNDP, MoEnv |  |  |
| 7.2 work closely with UNDP gender task force to identify new activities to enhance women engagement in the project activities under different components | As needed | UNDP Gender task force |  |  |
| 7.3 Discuss this recommendation with the implementing partners so as to support better empowerment and mainstreaming of gender not only in project activities but in the broader sector. |  |  |  |  |

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| Recommendation 8: In working with social and economically sensitive sectors, for instance, the informal e-waste sector, the target population should be involved from the beginning of the process. This will allow for this group to believe that their opinion is heard and form part of the actions that need to be implemented and make for a smoother transition to a modern economically viable and structured E-waste management scheme.  |
| Management response: Agree  |
| Key action(s) | Time frame | Responsible unit(s) | Tracking |
| Comments | Status |
| 8.1. Involve the informal sector in the project activities and keep them informed with regards to new procedures and regulation in coordination with the MoEnv.  | From the beginning of the project | PMU, MoEnv |  |  |
| 8.2. Organize a training program on e-waste operation and safety measures targeting both formal and informal sectors. | First quarter, 2021 | PMU  |  |  |
| 8.3 Demonstrate successful models of collaboration specially with private sector engagement | As appropriate | PMU, UNDP communication team |  |  |

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| Recommendation 9. Establish a clear sustainability strategy to strengthen the institutional capacities of those who are part of the project to be integrated during the remaining time. It is important to prepare and start strengthening efforts towards the sustainability of the results once the project has ended. |
| Management response: Agree  |
| Key action(s) | Time frame | Responsible unit(s) | Tracking |
| Comments | Status |
| 9.1. Develop a project sustainability plan in consultation and coordination with the project stakeholders and set list of actions to be implemented through the relevant institutions. | End of the project | UNDP, PMU, Project Board |  |  |
| 9.2 Improve communication strategy which can lead in showcasing project impacts to large audience  | Quarterly | PMU, UNDP communication team |  |  |
| 9.3 Further engagement and empowerment of the concerned entities at the IPs so as to have them properly capacitated and ready for hand over. |  |  |  |  |

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| Recommendation 10 Financial stability must be improved with a better accounting of the co-financing contributions that have not been accounted for as of this evaluation. Responsible parties for their completion: UNDP AND PMU, TC. |
| Management response: Agree  |
| Key action(s) | Time frame | Responsible unit(s) | Tracking |
| Comments | Status |
| 10.1. To keep following up with partners for providing co-financing information and maintaining records of them.  | Annually | UNDP, project partners  |  |  |
| 10.2 To request the support of the project board members in that regard and have that recommendation as an item on the agenda of the upcoming board meetings |  |  |  |  |

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| Recommendation 11. Considering all the progress made so far and the way of work that has been developed, research and evaluations should be undertaken in this pandemic context to assess how the project could contribute to the country's socio-economic recovery and to strengthen it with improved conditions after this crisis. This would of course have to be done within the limits of the project's mandate and its objectives.  |
| Management response: Agree  |
| Key action(s) | Time frame | Responsible unit(s) | Tracking |
| Comments | Status |
| 11.1. Coordinate with other UN agencies to explore opportunities of collaboration in supporting the government in responding to the pandemic. | As needed | UNDP, PMU, TC |  |  |
| 11.2. Investigate new sources of funds to complement and/or upscale project`s activities |  | UNDP, project partners |  |  |
| 11.3. Include relevant criteria in planned research and evaluations through the project. | As needed | PMU, UNDP |  |  |

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| Recommendation 12. The Project Management Unit must implement, among the institutions that have committed the co-financing, a system of reporting cash and in-kind investments. It is important that the accounting be available at least at the end of each semester. |
| Management response: Agree  |
| Key action(s) | Time frame | Responsible unit(s) | Tracking |
| Comments | Status |
| 12.1. To agree with partners on a system for registering co-finance related investments on an annual basis. | 3rd quarter,2021 | PMU, UNDP |  |  |
| 12.2 To establish a proper reporting mechanism for co-financing that is reported against quarterly. |  |  |  |  |

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| Recommendation 13. The COVID-19 Pandemic’s isolation measures and economic impacts could slow the progress of certain activities planned in the 2020 AWP and possibly until the second quarter of 2021 and beyond. The recommendation of this evaluation is to request a project duration extension for a period of 18 months. This extension will be necessary to recover the work processes that have been delayed and will be affected by the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19.  |
| Management response: Agree  |
| Key action(s) | Time frame | Responsible unit(s) | Tracking |
| Comments | Status |
| 13.1. Put extra efforts by PMU and project stakeholders to conclude all project activities within the timeframe of the project. If the extension is needed, UNDP will raise this issue with the project board and UNDP regional office to proceed with the extension as per GEF rules and regulations. | Jan. 2022 | UNDP, PMU, TC and Project Board. |  |  |

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| Recommendation 14. The project is facing challenging issues about the RDF output under component 3 of this project. It is not feasible to complete the output of the generation of 500 T/yr. for 4yrs of RDF under the present conditions that are aggravated with the lockdowns that are imposed by the COVID-19 Pandemic.After consultation with the PMU, UNDP, and the MoEnv this evaluator agrees on recommending the following actions to be undertaken within the first quarter of 2021. |
| Management response: Agree with immediate action |
| Key action(s) | Time frame | Responsible unit(s) | Tracking |
| Comments | Status |
| 14.1. Explore the feasibility of RDF production under the current scenario. | First quarter of 2021 | UNDP, PMU, TC, MoEnv AND MoLA |  |  |
| 14.2. Investigate other methods for RDF raw material collection, technologies, and RDF types to be produced under the project while serving the same objectives.  | First quarter of 2021 |  UNDP, PMU, TC, MoEnv AND MoLA |  |  |
| 14.3. Consult with the private sector and identify opportunities for collaboration. | First quarter of 2021 | UNDP, PMU, TC, MoEnv AND MoLA |  |  |
| 14.4. Assessing the proposed scenarios and proceeding with the implementation as best serves the scope. | First quarter of 2021 | UNDP, PMU, TC, MoEnv AND MoLA |  |  |
| 14.5. Consult with other development actors that have ongoing similar projects to explore opportunities for collaboration and overlapping activities.  | First quarter of 2021 | UNDP, PMU, TC, MoEnv AND MoLA |  |  |

1. Status of Implementation: Completed, Partially Completed, Pending. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)