

UNDP MANAGEMENT RESPONSE FOR FINAL PROJECT EVALUATION of
“Enhancing adaptive capacity of communities to climate change-related floods in the North Coast and Islands Region of Papua New Guinea”
21 December 2018

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Overall comments: UNDP’s support to the Government of Papua New Guinea

UNDP’s support to the Government of Papua New Guinea to enhance the adaptive capacity of communities to make informed decisions about and adapt to climate change-driven hazards affecting both coastal and riverine communities in the North Coast and Islands Region of Papua New Guinea. This support is aligned to national development planning and policy frameworks, specifically, the Climate Change Compatible Development Strategy and Interim Action Plan for Climate Change in PNG. The overall objective of this project to enhance the adaptive capacity of communities, government institutions, private sectors and other civil society organisations to help make informed decisions about and adapt to climate change-driven hazards affecting both coastal and riverine areas of the following five provinces – East Sepik, Madang, Morobe, New Ireland and Northern.

The final project evaluation found that the project was relevant to national development priorities towards addressing emerging threats of climate change related effects. There has been notable progress on awareness and advocacy around climate change including climate and flood risks profiling of the five pilot provinces. Subsequently, further vulnerability needs assessments concluded that cost-effective and locally appropriate adaptation measures were essential for rural coastal and riverine communities. This include successful restoration of degraded mangrove areas and improved conservation actions linked to better management of coastal and marine resources in Madang and New Ireland Provinces. Another highlight of the project was the establishment of automated weather stations in strategic locations of the five provinces and PNG’s first flood early warning systems piloted for the Bumbu River in Morobe Province.

These climate change adaptation measures are anchored under either provincial adaptation or disaster risk management plans also supported by the project. Increasingly, communities embraced these adaptation actions led to the development of community-based disaster risk management plans at either the district or ward levels. Further support and advocacy for provinces to lead and take ownership have seen positive results through the formation of five Provincial Climate Change Coordination Committees (PCCC) and establishment of provincial climate change offices with officers and budget allocations. This clearly demonstrates provinces commitment to enhance local capacities to ensure long-term sustainability of these climate change adaptation measures.

While the overall project goal was not achieved following independent evaluator’s assessment, UNDP’s intervention contributed to IP and provinces building network and partnerships with key stakeholders, set-up essential institutional arrangements, understand importance of integrating climate change adaptation in development planning design, promoting locally appropriate cost-effective adaptation measures to increase peoples’ resilience to climate change related coastal and inland flooding. In conclusion, UNDP noted the findings and have put in place measures to address both internal and external factors that will affect implementation of future projects.

Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 1: Inconsistent application of UNDP Procurement Procedures.				
Management Response: UNDP's procurement policies and guidelines are consistently applied to implementing partner, contractors and service providers in provinces.				
Key Action(s)	Time Frame	Responsible Unit(s)	Tracking*	
			Status	Comments
1.1. UNDP assisted the institutional review of CCDA and will assist strengthen project support unit for coordinating and managing donor supported initiatives including on the job-training for national government officials.	January – December 2018	Energy and Environment	Completed	Project is financially and operationally closed
Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 2: Mangrove rehabilitation requires community engagement in the design, planning and implementation of activities to accommodate traditional land tenure arrangements including traditional and cultural norms and practices to ensure socio-economic development aspirations are addressed.				
Management Response: In this pilot intervention, UNDP ensured focused and targeted awareness and trainings on climate change adaptation as agreed with the stakeholders so that lessons learnt will be replicated in other provinces in the country.				
Key Action(s)	Time Frame	Responsible Unit(s)	Tracking*	
			Status	Comments
2.1 Future projects with CCDA will ensure a more holistic approach to address an inclusive participatory approach that encompasses community development priorities in climate change adaptation actions through allowing more time for planning for community-based activities	January – December 2018	Energy and Environment	Completed	Project is financially and operationally closed
Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 3: Enhance opportunities for training in mainstreaming climate change adaptation.				
Management Response: In this pilot intervention, UNDP ensured focused and targeted trainings in five pilot provinces so that lessons learnt will be replicated in other sectors and provinces in the country.				
Key Action(s)	Time Frame	Responsible Unit(s)	Tracking*	
			Status	Comments
3.1. Future projects with CCDA will ensure a more holistic approach in planning, coordination and delivery of training in mainstreaming climate change adaptation.	January – December 2018	Energy and Environment	Completed	Project is financially and operationally closed
Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 4 A Priory Output Delivery without Sustainable Strategy				
Management Response: Project provided technical and strategic advisory services to implementing partner and the pilot provinces who successfully established their respective provincial climate change coordination committees, set-up climate change offices with allocation of budget and staff to institutionalize climate change adaptation to ensure smooth transition into sustaining UNDP supported interventions after project closure.				
Key Action(s)	Time Frame	Responsible Unit(s)	Tracking*	
			Status	Comments

41 New and ongoing projects supported by UNDP are co-led by government agencies during design and implementation to promote leadership and ownership for the long-term sustainability of internationally funded climate change actions. UNDP will further enhance its approach to ensure that sustainable approach is clearly and strictly applied to the projects.	January – December 2018	Energy and Environment	Completed	Project is financially and operationally closed
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Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 5: Choice of Partners with Sustainability Strategy

Management Response: UNDP’s programmes are aligned with the national priorities that are reflected in the UNDAF which endorsed by the Government. The selection of the implementing partner is based on set of criteria and careful considerations, such as accountability, ownership and broad stakeholder engagement as well as the ability to ensure sustainability. Throughout the implementation process, the IPs are to be consulted early and regularly throughout the programme and project formulation to ensure that priorities and approaches reflect partnership and funding commitments towards achieving results. UNDP in consultation with the Implementing Partner may enter into agreement with other organization known as Responsible Party to provide support that will contribute to achieving results. RP is selected based on assessment that reflects set of criteria to proofs RP’s eligibility and accountability to implement activities.

Key Action(s)	Time Frame	Responsible Unit(s)	Tracking*	
			Status	Comments
5.1. UNDP will conduct implementing capacity assessment during the design of any project to inform the development of appropriate capacity development plans which will be implemented simultaneously with implementation of project activities.	January – December 2018	Energy and Environment	Completed	Project is financially and operationally closed
5.2 Coordination and consultation process will be conducted regularly with all partners involved and are responsible to contribute to the national priorities.	January – December 2018	Energy and Environment	Completed	Project is financially and operationally closed
5.3. UNDP Project Management and Procurement Trainings will be conducted for all implementing partners including government agencies, private sectors, non-government organisations and community-based organisations selected to implement activities.	January – December 2018	Energy and Environment	Completed	Project is financially and operationally closed

Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 6: The Role of Institutions in the Transfer of Technology

Management Response: UNDP has put in place improved capacity to ensure adequate use of technology driven data to inform application of development planning towards addressing climate change adaptation.

Key Action(s)	Time Frame	Responsible Unit(s)	Tracking*	
			Status	Comments

6.1 UNDP will continue to ensure regular engagement and dialogue on transfer of technology and skills to the implementing partner.	January – December 2018	Energy and Environment	Completed	Project is financially and operationally closed
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* The implementation status is tracked in the ERC.