Management response

**UNDP management response**

**Women in Elections in BiH Project**

Date: 23 June 2021

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| **Evaluation recommendation 1.** Granting of an extension to ensure continuity into the next electoral cycle and to build on the structures and partnerships established up in the first phase, particularly including WF4D. It is essential to ensure the continuation of the current project while an assessment is conducted, and a new Project Document written and approved. It is important that momentum is not lost over the next year to ensure a smooth transition to a new project with UNDP at the helm and to ensure support to the upcoming electoral process and to build upon the successes and key structures already established under WiE. |
| **Management response: The recommendation is valid and accepted**  |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking\*** |
| **Comments** | **Status****(initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| 1.1 Continuation of the current project while an assessment is conducted | 31 May 2021 | UNDP Project Team | Continuation ensured | Completed |
| 1.2 Project documentation for extension of the project written and approved | 24 May 2021 | UNDP Project Team | Project extension approved on 26 May 2021  | Completed |
| 1.3 Smooth transition to a new project with UNDP at the helm and to ensure support to the upcoming electoral process and to build upon the successes and key structures already established under WiE | 15 December 2021 | UNDP Country Office Senior Management and Project Team | Development of the ToR for consultant for development of the second phase of the project has been initiated | Initiated |

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| **Evaluation recommendation 2**. Undertaking of key lessons learned exercises to feed into a new project |
| Management response: Recommendation valid and accepted.  |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| 2.1 Organisation of a structured brainstorming session with UN Women devoted to identification and articulation of lessons learnt and discussion on recommendations | Before December 2021 | UNDP Project team, UN Women | To be initiated as soon as possible  | Initiated |
| 2.2 Generation of a brief note on lessons learnt and a list of recommendation | December 2021 | UNDP Project team  | To be described to the UN Women in the invitation for the session | Initiated  |

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| **Evaluation recommendation 3.** Further support to female candidates by ensuring gender sensitive reporting and tracking of hate speech |
| **Management response**: Recommendation valid and accepted.  |
| **Key action(s)**  | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| 3.1 Women in politics report that they are still discriminated upon and articles on women still center around what they wear and who they are, rather on their policies. Till date, although media has been supported, the next six months could build on the coalition and help develop a regulatory framework on the presentation of women and men by media outlets. | 31 December 2021 | UNDP Project Team | Women in Elections offered support to BH Novinari related to their initiatives legislative changes demanding transparency and improved representation of women leaders. On the other side, RfP will be developed in order to hire a consulting entity which can provide assistance with this, as factors who brought this organic structuring of the media coalition into questions still exist.  | Initiated |
| 3.2. Further support could be provided to women on how to build their campaign online and utilizing social media andonline tools for direct communication with the electorate body | 15 December 2021 | UNDP Project team, UN Women  | In addition to the existing WiE media outlets, the WiE will hold the second phase of the advocacy campaign in fall of 2021 | Initiated |
| 3.3 Support to women who suffer from some type of gender violence motivated by politics, possible avenues on tracking complaints and ensuring action is taken against | 15 December 2021 | UNDP Project team | This has been an ongoing effort of the project since April 2020. | Initiated |
| **Evaluation recommendation 4.** Consideration for a new project should revolve around the electoral cycle including training for aspiring and current MPs |
| **Management response**: Recommendation valid and accepted.  |
| **Key action(s)**  | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| 4.1 The next six months of the project should revolve around looking at the aims already made, particularly at the community and municipal level, and how this could be scaled up. Lessons learned from each of the key beneficiary institutions Baseline data should be collected. | 15 December 2021 | UNDP Project team | Extensive consultations and work has already started in the field of localisation of the GAP and in the field of social services. | Initiated |
| 4.1.1 Data to be collected during the process of improvement and introduction of new social services. | 30 November 2021 | UNDP Project team |  | Initiated |
| 4.1.2Most recent data to be collected through the process of creation of LGAPs that also foresees a thorough analytical phase in each participating LG | 30 November 2021 | UNDP Project team |  | Initiated |
| **Evaluation recommendation 5.** Consideration should be given to expand the outreach to key beneficiaries such as civil society, ethnic leaders, religious leaders and a more effective campaign with regards to media |
| **Management response**: Recommendation valid and accepted  |
| **Key action(s)**  | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| 5.1 While a number of the beneficiaries did benefit from the project, a more strategic approach to include support and technical knowhow in the areas of women, youth, and electoral and systemic reform as well as attitudinal behavior and discrimination. | December 2021 | UNDP Project team, UN Women  | To be envisaged in the ToR for expertise for development of the  | Initiated |
| 5.2. Consideration of enabling CSOs and media to better monitor hate speech, gender violence in politics, towards methodologies similar to those developed by Democracy Reporting International to gauge the extent of hate speech online. | December 2021 | UNDP Project team | To be envisaged in the second phase. | Initiated |
| **Evaluation recommendation 6.** Consideration should be given to further promotion of the key products developed under the Project, utilization thereof to develop a curriculum for potential female candidates (brochure on strategic approach to women candidate’s success in election campaigns) |
| **Management response**: The evaluation is valid and accepted.  |
| **Key action(s)**  | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| 6.1 The knowledge products are key capacity building documents and training sessions around key issues could be focused on some of the key chapters. Particularly given the current COVID-19 pandemic, online and accessible training programmes will be important for the next generation of potential candidates. | 15 December 2021 | UNDP Project Team | Upcoming cycle of training is the one on political competences. RfP is being developed at the moment. | Initiated. |
| 6.2. Development of curricula and training programme on political competences and campaigning | 30 September 2021 | UNDP Project Team | The RfP is being developed | Initiated  |
| **Evaluation recommendation 7.** IT literacy Education |
| **Management response**: The recommendation is valid and accepted.  |
| **Key action(s)**  | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| 7.1 Course on IT literacy to be organised for WiE women leaders | 30 November 2021 | UNDP Project Team | RfQ for ECDL courses is under preparation | Initiated |
| **Evaluation recommendation 8.** Mapping of support to women’s leadership and empowerment of all other stakeholders both national and international |
| **Management response**: The recommendation is valid and accepted. |
| **Key action(s)**  | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| 8.1 Strengthening collaboration with key actors such as OSCE, WFD, NDI and IRI and identify key gaps and areas of possible collaboration with both international partners and current partners which could continue or strengthen support to the key players in gender equality and women’s leadership. | 15 September 2021 | UNDP Project Team | This is an ongoing activity. Consultations with the OSCE and BH Novinari have been held. Other consultations will be organised immediately after the summer break | Initiated. |
| 8.2. Examine key success/best practices in the region and beyond on how to harness the momentum for systematic reform, look towards publications already developed on key success toreforms such as OSCE booklet on recommendations implementation of Electoral Reforms and other documents on women’s participation and how to enhance it. | 30 October 2021 | UNDP Project Team, UN Women | (International Group for Gender Equality) IWGE sessions to be used and followed-up on.  | Initiated |
| 8.3 Mapping of best practices of other regions in UNDP and UN Women similar projects | 30 October 2021 | UNDP CO, UNDP WIE, Project Team, UN Women CO | This activity is to be conducted in coordination with the RCO. | Initiated |
| Evaluation recommendation 9. Conduct an analysis why women´s election was significantly high in LGs while in others it decreased substantially |
| **Management response**: The recommendation is valid and accepted  |
| **Key action(s)**  | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| 9.1 It would be important to understand why there were substantial increases and decreases in the number of women being elected in the LGs where the project worked. To grasp any lessons learned to apply in the future could contribute to any even more successful outcome in the upcoming electoral cycle | 30 September 2021 | UNDP Project Team | Will be done with internal capacities | 30 September 2021 |
| **Evaluation recommendation 10.** Increased Support to the Committee on Gender Equality Parliamentary Assembly |
| **Management response**: The recommendation is valid and accepted.  |
| **Key action(s)**  | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| 10.1 It requires more concrete Plans to increase its visibility and importance and encouragement of its members to realize its Status and overall influence of gender concerns | 15 September 2021 | UNDP Project Team, UN Women  | To be further developed in the project proposal for the second phase of the project. To build up on the communication strategy and conclusions from the thematic sessions co-organised with the committee. Inputs from the thematic session to be held in the beginning of September 2021 are to be used as well. | Initiated |
| **Evaluation recommendation 11.** Promotion and replication of gender action plans as well as development of M & E frameworks to ensure implementation of GAPs |
| **Management response**: The recommendation is valid and accepted  |
| **Key action(s)**  | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| 11.1 Five new Local Gender Action Plans (LGAPS) will be developed from the scratch and three will be updated | 15 November 2021 | UNDP Project Team | One consultant will work on development of new and one will work of updating of existing LGAPs | Initiated |
| **Evaluation recommendation 12.** Agreement on increased governance mechanisms to ensure a “healthy and bidirectional flow of information between UNDP and UN Women” |
| **Management response**: The evaluation is valid and accepted  |
| **Key action(s)**  | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| 12.1 To be envisaged in proposal of the second phase that the project agrees on strengthened governance mechanisms, to ensure a “healthy and bidirectional flow of information to help inform and approve future support notably through the more regular convening of a technical committee between UNDP and UN Women to oversee any future action and ensure that bottlenecks and challenges to implementation are immediately discussed and resolved. | 30 November 2021 | UNDP Project Team | To be envisaged for the second phase of the project. ToR for the expert for development of the second phase is currently being developed | Initiated |
| **Evaluation recommendation 13.** Enhance the reports by use of most significant change stories, more reference to indicators and use of gender sensitive indicators for both outputs. |
| **Management response**: The recommendation is valid and accepted.  |
| **Key action(s)**  | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| 13.1 The reports were of a high quality, but they could still benefit from showcasing key results by utilizing most significant change stories and referencing to what extent indicators have been achieved. More gender sensitive indicators should be utilized as well as disaggregated data when referring how many persons were reached, in order to capture how many men have been reached. | 15 December 2021 | UNDP Project Team, UN Women | Externally, this standard is to be introduced in the first immediate reporting exercise, which is required towards the end of the extension. Internally, this standard is to be introduced in all ad interim and final reporting of the responsible party. | Initiated |
| **Evaluation recommendation 14.** Considerations using data in a more user-friendly format, use of info graphs to reflect where activities have taken place, persons reached etc. |
| **Management response**: The recommendation is valid and accepted.  |
| **Key action(s)**  | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| 14.1 In order to better inform the DPs and to outreach to others, preparation of interactive PowerPoint presentations outlining key successes and achievement of indicators to date | 15 December 2021 | UNDP Project Team | To be piloted on the first occasion of external reporting before the donor and partner institutions. | Initiated |
| 14.2. Pilot an enhanced format during extension | 15 December | UNDP Project Team | To be piloted on the first occasion of external reporting before the donor and partner institutions. | Initiated |
| **Evaluation recommendation 15.** Considerations using data in a more user-friendly format, use of info graphs to reflect where activities have taken place, persons reached etc. |
| **Management response**: The evaluation is valid and accepted.  |
| **Key action(s)**  | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** |
| **Comments** | **Status (initiated, completed or no due date)** |
| 15.1 In order to better inform the DPs and to outreach to others, preparation of interactive PowerPoint presentations outlining key successes and achievement of indicators to date | 15 December 2021 | UNDP Project Team | Data and material collected from response No. 14 to be used.  | Initiated |
| 15.2. Pilot an enhanced format during extension | 15 December 2021 | UNDP Project Team | To be exercised on the first external reporting occasion before the donor and partner institutions. | Initiated |

 Status of implementation is tracked electronically in the ERC database.