Independent Country Programme Evaluation: UNDP Thailand

UNDP Management Response

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| Date: 24 October, 2021 |  |
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| **Recommendation 1.** **It is recommended that upcoming UNSDCF outcomes and respective indicators should be made more specific, which should duly respond to the mandates and scope of the work of participating UN agencies, including UNDP. CPD outputs, corresponding indicators and targets should be made more specific and measurable and exhibiting clear and direct linkages to the UNSDCF indicators and targets.** |
| **Management response: UNDP CO accepts this recommendation. The new Country Programme Document (CPD) 2022-2026 outcomes are copied verbatim from the new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF). The CPD RRF outcome level indicators are from adopted from the new UNSDCF indicators.**  |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking\*** |
| **Comments** | **Status (Initiated, Completed or No due date)** |
| * 1. UNDP CO as part of the UNSDCF (here after CF) formulation exercise, contributed to the stakeholder discussions and discussions with donors and key stakeholders to ensure UNSDCF outcomes and indicators are specific and covers mandates of contributing UN agencies. The stakeholder meetings and strategic CF formulation meetings were undertaken to better define and develop interlinkages and complementarities between different UN Agencies.
 | August -2021 | UNDP Country Office (RR/DRR and RCO).  | Completed | Completed  |
| * 1. The outputs and indicators are contributing to the CF outcomes in the new CPD RRF. The CPD outputs and indicators will measure how the results of CPD (outputs) contribute to CF outcomes. This will demonstrate CPDs’ contributions to CF and its targets.
 | September -2021 | UNDP Country Office (RR/DRR, Programme Unit, and projects).  | Completed | Completed  |
| * 1. The new CPD Outcomes enhance the linkages and connections among CPD outputs and outcomes. The data analysis and theory of change consultations conducted for the Cooperation Framework was used as a base for UNDP CPD process. The CPD articulates UNDP’s contribution to the Cooperation Framework and put in place systems to monitor and track that contribution.
 | September -2021 | UNDP Country Office (RR/DRR, Programme Unit, and projects).  | Completed | Completed  |
| **Recommendation 2. It is recommended that the new CPD should continue its main focus on addressing issues related to environmental sustainability and climate change in Thailand. The new CPD should devise specific and measurable outputs to fully comprehend and match the broad scope of this thematic area. With this, it is also recommended that other important and pressing issues like poverty, inequality and social inclusion, especially addressing the needs of women, disadvantaged and vulnerable groups should also be prioritized and duly incorporated in the new CPD, with more specific and tangible outputs and matching allocations. Overall, there is a greater need for formulating more balanced CPD outputs, which are equitable in scope and resources.** |
| **Management response: UNDP CO accepts this recommendation. The new CPD incorporated all aspects of recommendation#2, integrating environmental sustainability, addressing issues of poverty, inequality and taking in to account the needs of vulnerable population.** |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** |
| **Comments** | **Status (Initiated, Completed or No due date)** |
| 2.1. The new CPD outputs designed towards mitigating Climate Change, meeting the needs of vulnerable population.  | October 2021 | UNDP Country Office (RR/DRR, Programme Units). | Completed. CPD outputs are 1,2 and 3 are designed to contribute People, Planet, Prosperity and Peace.  | Completed |
| 2.2. The new CPD designed in a balanced and integrated manner focusing on key developmental challenges identified by the evaluation as well as the CCA.  | October 2021 | UNDP Country Office (RR/DRR, Programme Units). | Completed  | Completed |
| 2.3 Country office’s internal Gender Equality Strategy is developed as part of the new CPD 2022-2026, ensuring that LNOB is a cornerstone of UNDP’s work (in project design, implementation, monitoring, learning and evaluation).  | October 2021 | UNDP Country Office (*RR/DRR, RBM Analyst and Gender Task Team)* | Completed  | Completed |
| **Recommendation 3. It is recommended that the new CPD should devise and implement more specific and relevant interventions to address the most pressing issues of social inclusion, conflict resolution, peace and development and livelihood improvements in the southern border provinces. This should be done through active involvement of local communities and stakeholders. UNDP should use its influence to take up the accessibility issues of international agencies in the target areas, with relevant national and provincial authorities to give way to easy access/interaction for large scale implementation.**  |
| **Management response: UNDP accepts this recommendation.**  |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** |
| **Comments** | **Status (Initiated, Completed or No due date)** |
| 3.1. Holistically framed by the principle of SDGs integration in area-based development, a strategic framework is designed to guide current and future interventions that lead to strengthening SDG localization in the southern border provinces. Specifically, UNDP will continue to promote Social Innovation Platforms which engages with citizens and governments to develop portfolio of solutions most pertinent in different contexts, as a means to address social inclusion, local governance, livelihood development, and peace in the southern border provinces.  | December 2021 | UNDP Country Office *(RR, DRR, Programme Units)* | Ongoing | Ongoing -  |
| 3.2 UNDP projects would influence through its local and national engagement in multi-partnership and sectors to build trust with stakeholders from government agencies and civil society. Keeping government agencies informed and following protocols will ensure the accessibility to the target areas.  | June 2022 | UNDP Country Office *(RR, DRR, Programme Units)* | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| **Recommendation 4.****It is recommended that in the implementation of upcoming CPD, the level of involvement of local CSOs, community groups and private sector should be enhanced considerably, as full partners through longer term partnerships agreements, especially in areas of awareness raising, advocacy and implementation of community based social cohesion and livelihood interventions.**  |
| **Management response:** **UNDP accepts this recommendation with the clarification that UNDP supports the involvement of CSOs, community groups and private sector. The new CPD has key focus on the LNOB principle that strengthen the engagement with CSOs and vulnerable community groups.**  |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** |
| **Comments** | **Status (Initiated, Completed or No due date)** |
| 4.1 Hiring Partnership and Engagement Advisor to support initiatives with CSOs.  |  October 2021 | UNDP Country Office *(RR, DRR)* | Completed  | Completed  |
| 4.2 Setting up a Civil Society Advisory Committee by UNDP CO. | November -2021 | UNDP Country Office *(RR, DRR,* Partnership and Engagement advisor. *)* | Completed | Completed |
| 4.3 Roll out a ‘fee for service’ modality to support companies with consultancy services on issues such as SDGs Impact, Gender, Diversity and Inclusion.  | December 2022 | UNDP Country Office *(RR, DRR, Programme Unit)* | On going | On going |
| **Recommendation 5.** **It is recommended that capacities at the CO level should be considerably strengthened to effectively undertake the M&E functions in monitoring the progress and performance of the new CPD. A comprehensive M&E framework and work plan for the new CPD should be developed and rigorously implemented in collaboration with stakeholders. Furthermore, capacities of relevant institutions like National Statistical Organization and relevant ministers should be built to monitor SDGs and national level indicators and targets.** |
| **Management response:** **UNDP CO accepts this recommendation to strengthen the Monitoring and Evaluation functions and documenting the progress of the new CPD. CO has heavy vertical funded projects; the M&E framework should be defined in consultation with the key government partners.**  |
| **Key action(s)** | **Completion date** | **Responsible unit(s)** | **Tracking** |
| **Comments** | **Status (Initiated, Completed or No due date)** |
| 5.1. Hiring of RBM Analyst to strengthen the monitoring, evaluation functions within CO.  | Sep 2021 | UNDP Country Office *(DRR)* | Completed  | Completed  |
| 5.2. CO Project Cycle Management as well as M&E system (formulation, appraisal, implementation, monitoring, learning and evaluation) will be established and strengthened with appropriate roles, capacities and mechanisms , throughout the project cycle, which allow the CO to identify and measure changes on the ground for corrective action when needed.  | June 2022 | UNDP Country Office *(DRR, RBM Analyst)* | RBM analyst will identify program team colleagues who have experience on RBM as well as monitoring and evaluation projects. | Starting from November 2021 |
| 5.3 A Gender responsive and funded CO and CPD monitoring plan will be developed and capacities will be developed to implement the monitoring plan | June 2022 | UNDP Country Office *(DRR, RBM Analyst)* | RBM Analyst and the RBAP will work together to create a CPD monitoring plan. | Starting from November 2021 |
| 5.4.CO along with the UNCT members support towards measuring and monitoring the SDGs and report back on the progress towards UNSDCF outcomes.  | June 2022 | UNDP Country Office *(DRR,CO Programme team, RBM Analyst)* | RBM Analyst will keep a track on the progress towards CF outcomes  | Starting from November 2021 |
| 5.5. Capacity building of the National Statistical Organization in SDG indicator monitoring through real time data mapping and training on data management.  | Dec 2022 | UNDP Country Office *(DRR, Co Programme team)* | RBM Analyst will identify program team colleagues who have experience on RBM as well as monitoring and evaluation projects. Seek support to train staff where required.  | Starting from November 2021 |

\* Status of implementation is tracked electronically in the Evaluation Resource Centre database (ERC).