

UNDP Evaluation Guidelines
June 2021 update

Management response template

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UNDP management response template

Report of the Final Evaluation of the Korea Vietnam Mine Action Project Date:

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Evaluation recommendation 1.

Continue to strengthen institutional capacity and mine action architecture at a central level

Building off the positive KVMAP experience, VNMAC and UNDP should ensure that a greater focus on implementation at a provincial level (expected in Phase 2) does not detract from further work that is required at a central level to continue to build institutional capacity and strengthen the architecture of mine action in Vietnam. UNDP is a natural partner for policy development and support of sector coordination at a ministry level (MoD on S&C operations, MOLISA on VA, MoET on EORE). KVMAP has proven to be an enabling environment for partner collaboration to help strengthen mine action management - as well as to contribute to considerable advancement of mine action legislation and corresponding norms, methods and tools.

Specifically, UNDP in partnership with VNMAC should help support the operationalization of the new legal and standard framework including through its co-chair role in the Landmine Working Group* - particularly in regard to quality-, information- and risk-management regulations. In addition, an updated capacity development roadmap should be adopted with VNMAC ownership and in collaboration with UNDP and other relevant partners. UNDP should continue to use its convening powers both nationally and internationally to help support the coordination role of VNMAC and strengthen communication and collaboration with donors, UN Agencies, international and regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, commercial companies and academia involved in activities related or relevant to the reduction of risks from explosive ordnance. Additional priorities to promote institutional development should encompass those that support the additional recommendations of this evaluation concerning mine action and development, residual contamination, data sharing, survivor tracking systems and new technologies and innovation.

* Landmine Working Group should consider a name change to EO Working Group which would be more in-line with IMAS terminology and have greater resonance for the context in Vietnam

Management response:

UNDP management agrees with the recommendation and see it as paramount that efforts continue to be targeted both at the national level (strengthening policies and the enabling environment) and provincial level (direct impact for people impacted by explosive ordnance). The design of the next phase, Korea-VietNam Peace Village Project (KVPVP), re-emphasises the importance of supporting both levels. KVPVP will also provide an opportunity to test new technical regulations (QCVN) and national standards (TCVN) on a larger scale, and to share experiences through the Landmine Working Group (LWG). As co-chair of the LWG, UNDP will also promote a more coherent approach

to capacity development support to VNMAC and, ideally, support VNMAC in the design of a new roadmap in partnership with other LWG members.

Key action(s)	Completion date	Responsible unit(s)	Tracking*	
			Comments	Status (initiated, completed or no due date)
1.1 UNDP to lobby for continuation of co-chairmanship of the Landmine Working Group (LWG) in 2022	31 January 2022	CTA/LWG co-chair	LWG meeting held 19 January 2022 and UNDP re-elected as co-chair (ref. LWG meeting minutes)	Completed
1.2 Present UNDP Handbook on Mine Action at next Landmine Working Group (LWG) and advocate for capacity development being part of LWG 2022 workplan (as well as name change of LWG)	31 January 2022	CTA/LWG co-chair	Handbook presented at LWG meeting 19Jan and decision made to establish TWG on capacity development (ref. LWG meeting minutes)	Completed
1.3 Ensure that capacity development of VNMAC and other key stakeholders at central level is an integral part of the Project Document for the next phase when approved by KOICA and Government	31 March 2022	Programme Analyst	Already included in draft ProDoc expected to be approved 1 st quarter of 2022	Initiated

Evaluation recommendation 2.

Reinforce the linkage and benefits between mine action and development

The KVMAP included considerable survey and clearance efforts (releasing 16,681ha of land) but the success of operations was to a large extent measured by one quantitative output indicator, m2. It is recommended that further projects of a similar nature place even greater focus on the prioritization of survey and clearance efforts - to better facilitate provincial socio-development plans. A results frame should extend beyond m2 as an indicator – and have additional indicators that better capture the benefit and impact of S&C. There may be sense in reviewing associated theories of change to explore outcomes that support other SDGs - beyond 16 and 11 – including those SDGs that are more influenced by livelihood and economic development. Technical assets

should be targeted at where contamination and socio-economic plans intersect and therefore should only be applied in support of development plans where evidence of contamination warrants such application. From a technical standpoint a further indicator to complement m2 cleared should be the 'number of explosive items found'. This will keep check that S&C assets are not deployed for extensive periods and/or at too many sites identified as development priorities but that possess limited or negligible risk.

Management response:

UNDP management agrees with the recommendation. The design of the next phase, Korea-VietNam Peace Village Project (KVPVP), has taken this into account by ensuring a stronger element of support to affected areas post-clearance utilising various development services which UNDP Viet Nam has successfully implemented in other parts of the country. The result framework will therefore also capture these elements to ensure a more comprehensive assessment how mine action contributes to local development and the implementation of the SDGs. Emphasis will, though, still be on deploying survey and clearance assets to areas with appropriate levels of known or suspected contamination during the prioritization process and in close partnership with the Provincial People's Committees to ensure close alignment with local development aspirations.

Key action(s)	Completion date	Responsible unit(s)	Tracking	
			Comments	Status (initiated, completed or no due date)
2.1 Ensure this is a strong element in the Project Document for the next phase when approved	31 March 2022	Programme Analyst	Already included in draft ProDoc expected to be approved 1 st quarter of 2022	Initiated
2.2 Develop with the PPCs and approve in the JPCC the prioritization criteria and procedures for joint technical assessments for KVPVP considering contamination risk and development potential	30 Sept 2022	Technical Advisor (s)/Programme Analyst	Ref. 3.2.	To be initiated in Mar 2022
2.3 Reengage with GICHD about including Viet Nam as priority country for 'mine action & SDGs' assessment in 2022, or as minimum first two years of new phase (2022-2023)	30 Sept 2022	Programme Analyst		Initiated

Evaluation recommendation 3.

Promote policy and practice to effectively manage residual risk from explosive ordnance

The nature of EO contamination in Vietnam demands a long term perspective on managing risks from UXO. Mine action in Vietnam is more driven by development priorities rather than a humanitarian imperative. VNMAC should pursue the development, approval and implementation

of a risk management standard and continue to embrace research initiatives with the GICHD. UNDP may assist by using international connections to also harness policy and practice in developed nations that have more established management systems to address residual EO contamination. The Republic of Korea may be a pertinent case study with corresponding exchange facilitated.

A review of the reporting lines that communities use when UXO are discovered in Vietnam and the effectiveness of response mechanisms would be a valuable exercise - especially in contaminated provinces which are solely reliant on national capacities. A replication of mine action arrangements in Quang Tri province across the country is unlikely to be a model that is either appropriate or sustainable. Internationally funded clearance interventions are not a long term solution to managing the prevailing risk from EO. UNDP should be instrumental in strengthening national mechanisms to 'call-outs' and to support policy and practice to balance proactive and reactive response approaches to S&C activities. Strengthening these systems will eventually help support exit strategies for international partners.

VNMAC has potential to establish itself as a regional resource for countries looking for direction on managing long term risks from EO. The ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) may be one platform that could be used to demonstrate relevant knowledge and experience. The ARMAC Director has expressed a wish to seek an MOU with VNMAC – this should be pursued

Management response:

UNDP management agrees with the recommendation. Further developing capacities to manage residual contamination has already been imbedded in the design of the next phase, Korea-VietNam Peace Village Project (KVPVP). UNDP Viet Nam has already established good working relationships with GICHD and ARMAC and these partnerships will be utilised to reach the objectives mentioned above. UNDP Viet Nam also wants to further strengthen local responsive mechanisms as a sustainable approach to manage residual contamination.

Key action(s)	Completion date	Responsible unit(s)	Tracking	
			Comments	Status (initiated, completed or no due date)
3.1 Ensure this is a strong element in the Project Document for the next phase when approved	31 March 2022	Programme Analyst	Emphasis on capacity to address residual capacity already included in draft ProDoc	Initiated
3.2 Evaluate responsive mechanisms in three target provinces for KVPVP and develop concept for further strengthening an effective response to call outs from local population ('mobile spot task teams')	31 December 2022	Technical Advisor (s)/Programme Analyst	Emphasis on specific geographical area for piloting before scale-up	Initiated
3.3 Agree with GICHD on collaboration on several key	31 December 2022	Technical Advisor (s)/Programme Analyst		To be initiated in June 2022

activities planned for 2022 ('all reasonable effort' and 'risk management')				
3.4 Support VNMAC, in partnership with ARMAC, in consideration to become a regional resource center for 'managing long term risks from EO'	31 December 2022	Technical Advisor (s)/Programme Analyst		To be initiated in June 2022

Evaluation recommendation 4.

Strengthen information management services and accessibility to mine action data

Mine action relies on evidence to be effective. For decision-making and priority setting in mine clearance operations it is crucial to collect accurate and timely data, compile and analyze that data, and provide quality information to support evidence-based planning. This requires a strong and reliable information management system and stakeholder access to data and data products.

Currently the access to data in the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) at VNMAC is overly restricted. The Information Management Regulation (soon to be released) may improve the current situation but it is recommended that the following activities concerning data derived from KVMAP be pursued.

- VNMAC make data available to the PPC of the two target provinces (a process that is understood to be underway).
- VNMAC make data available to UNDP, KOICA and other mine action stakeholders. This could occur in a workshop environment with a presentation and discussion on the data.
- Summary data presented on the KVMAP webpage.

Management response:

UNDP management agrees with the recommendation and the issue of sharing data has been raised a number of times during the project implementation, latest in the final meeting of the Joint Project Coordination Committee (Project Board) in November 2021.

Key action(s)	Completion date	Responsible unit(s)	Tracking	
			Comments	Status (initiated, completed or no due date)
4.1 Ensure that VNMAC hand over cleared land data to provinces as agreed in final JPCC, Nov 21	31 March 2022	Programme Analyst	Ref. last JPCC meeting minutes, Nov 21	Completed
4.2 Advocate that VNMAC organises final review meeting to present KVMAP data	30 June 2022	Programme Analyst		Initiated
4.3 Advocate that VNMAC include	30 June 2022	Programme Analyst		Initiated

summary data on its website				
<p>Evaluation recommendation 5.</p> <p><i>Advocate for the expansion of the PWD/EO survivors tracking database nationwide and enhance the effectiveness and quality of the support to EO survivors</i></p> <p>The VA component of KVMAP saw a comprehensive survey of PWD and EO survivors in the provinces of Quang Binh and Binh Dinh. Data from the survey populated the national tracking system for PWD/EO survivors managed by MOLISA/DOLISA. More than 1000 PWD/EO survivors received support including in health care services, prosthetic and orthotic rehabilitation, education scholarships and vocational trainings. The success of this support and the lessons learnt should form the basis of an expansion of the tracking system on a nationwide scale and the recommendations for the implementation of follow-up activities to improve the database infrastructure, improve capacity, improve mechanisms and policies, establish a monitoring system, as well as provide livelihood support for EO survivors in the contaminated areas. The ability to expand this system across other provinces depends on the availability of provincial budget, personnel, and IT infrastructure. MOLISA is planning on an assessment in 2022 of provincial capacity to take over the management of the tracking system with a view to integrate the tracking database into the national social security database in 2023.</p> <p>In order to safeguard the investments to date, ensure the sustainability and realize the expansion of the nationwide tracking system and the EO survivors support plans, the plan developed by MOLISA should be further discussed and encouraged to continue the results achieved.</p>				
<p>Management response:</p> <p>UNDP management agrees with the recommendation but wants to add that the responsibility lies with the line ministry, MOLISA. UNDP Viet Nam can support where possible, including by collecting data in two additional provinces of Quang Ngai and TT-Hue in the planned next phase. This will entail that five provinces out of the 15 provinces considered most contaminated with EO have completed PWD/EO survivor surveys (with the understanding that Quang Tri already have available data). In addition, UNDP Viet Nam recommends that the newly developed TCVN 14 on Victim Assistance in Mine Action, which UNDP helped draft, is approved as soon as feasible. It provides general requirements in regard to data collection and analysis. Together with the newly approved International Mine Action Standard (IMAS) 13 on Victim Assistance in Mine Action (translated into Vietnamese by UNDP), it provides a framework for how VA can be improved in Viet Nam and further integration into the disability framework will benefit persons suffering accidents from explosive ordnance.</p>				
Key action(s)	Completion date	Responsible unit(s)	Tracking	
			Comments	Status (initiated, completed or no due date)
5.1 Ensure continued follow-up with MOLISA in using the software and database mentioned in the Project Document for the next phase when approved	30 June 2022	Programme Analyst	Plan to use software for data collection in two new provinces (TT-Hue and Quang Ngai), as well as case management in all three target provinces already included in draft ProDoc	Initiated

5.2 VNMAC to get TCVN 14 on VA in MA approved after internal government consultation	Advocate	31 July 2022	Programme Analyst		Initiated
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Evaluation recommendation 6.

Embrace new technologies and innovation to advance mine action in Vietnam

Vietnam should stay abreast of developments in technologies and innovation and explore potential new tools and approaches that may benefit the mine action sector in the country. Three areas of innovation are considered of particular relevance to the context in Vietnam:

6.1 New technologies to support more effective EORE

Relevant EORE actors should balance traditional methods of EORE delivery through school and community engagement with ambitious and strategic messaging through new technologies - including mobile platforms. New opportunities should be further explored through social media, digital apps and text messaging. These EORE platforms are easily scalable, cost effective, quick to adapt and can be targeted at different age and sex groups. They can also be administered to different degrees based on varying levels of risk and also be responsive to individuals moving between geographic areas.

The GICHD publication 'Review of New technologies and Methodologies for EORE' is an important resource. UNDP should organize an online presentation by the EORE Working Group (based at the GICHD) to relevant partners in VNMAC, MoET and the LWG. This may stimulate a coordinated response to adopt new approaches more widely - drawing on the experience from MAG and CRS. A tailored national EORE campaign across the country through a platform such as Facebook should be an objective.

6.2 Databasing and digital innovation to support outreach and implementation of legislation and new standards

The text of the new legislation and standards in Vietnam should be databased and made available online. This would provide the opportunity for documentation to be readily available for query, search and filtering from a thematic, activity-based or standard specific perspective.

The databasing of legislation and standards will facilitate the ease of their rollout through training, outreach and implementation. Online tools would promote understanding of international norms and would facilitate compliance with corresponding local standards. Two distinct products are recommended and should be available in both Vietnamese and English:

1. Relevant IMAS in Vietnamese databased
2. National technical regulations and standards (QCVN & TCVN) databased

A pilot project databasing select standards could be undertaken with a view to expand the databasing thereafter.

The databasing of national mine action standards is an activity promoted in the global UNDP mine action work plan.

6.3 Drones to support technical survey

Drone technology is advancing at a fast pace and new systems are likely to have application in Vietnam to support technical survey and risk assessments. Such technology, if viable, has potential to be a game changer in the Vietnamese context. Recent commercial contracts have been awarded to commercial companies in other countries to undertake aerial surveys concerning mines and UXO contamination.

If a further multi-year project supersedes KVMAP it is recommended that an international event be budgeted at the mid-point to convene a meeting of manufacturers as well as practitioners to

exchange on drone technology. A key objective of the event would be for manufacturers to demonstrate their products – and this should be done at a location of choice for VNMAC. It could include a test field which VNMAC has designed with varying types of ordnance placed at varying depths to evaluate the detection capabilities of the systems trialed.

Management response:

UNDP management agrees with the recommendation and is already planning a collaboration with Mines Advisory Group (MAG) on Digital EORE (D-EORE). UNDP Viet Nam also previously engaged GICHD/EORE Working Group in the discussion of the EORE strategy and TCVN 13 on EORE (before VNMAC requested CRS to develop these documents), but it will be considered to have a follow up discussion on EORE in the new phase, KVPVP. Ideally, the new EORE Strategy and TCVN 13 on EORE will also soon be approved, which be important guidance for EORE in general and within KVPVP in particular. UNDP Viet Nam has helped digitalise the Quality Management System and see the potential in databasing Vietnamese translations of IMAS, once all key IMAS have been translated and peer-reviewed, as well as QCVN and TCVN, once approved.

Key action(s)	Completion date	Responsible unit(s)	Tracking	
			Comments	Status (initiated, completed or no due date)
6.1 Ensure innovation is emphasised in the Project Document for the next phase when approved	31 March 2022	Programme Analyst	Innovation in the form of e-Quality Management System, Climate Innovation Platforms and use of new technology already included in draft ProDoc	Initiated
6.2 Finalise discussions with MAG about utilising D-EORE in KVPVP	30 Sept 2022	Technical adviser (s)/Programme Analyst	Discussions have already started with MAG Country Director	Initiated
6.3 Develop concept for databasing IMAS (Vietnamese translations) and national technical regulations and standards (QCVN & TCVN – when approved)	30 Sept 2022	Technical adviser (s)/Programme Analyst		To be initiated in Mar 2022
6.4 Advocate VNMAC to agree to an international demonstration of drone technology in Viet Nam	31 Dec 2022	Technical adviser (s)/Programme Analyst	Recommendation to table and agree at the last KVPVP's JPCC meeting in 2022	Initiated

* Status of implementation is tracked electronically in the ERC database.

