**Management response to the Terminal Evaluation of the GEF-funded project**

**“****Establishing Transparency Framework for the Republic of Serbia”**

Project Title: Establishing Transparency Framework for the Republic of Serbia

Project PIMS #: 6211

GEF Project ID (PMIS) #: 10029

Date of Issue of Management Response: 8 June 2022

Prepared by: Miroslav Tadic Programme Analyst, UNDP CO Serbia

Cleared by: Anas Fayyad Qarman, Resident Representative a.i., UNDP CO Serbia

Input into and update in ERC: Daniel Varga, Programme Analyst, UNDP CO Serbia

The GEF-funded project “Establishing Transparency Framework for the Republic of Serbia” (PIMS#6211) is implemented by the Ministry of Environmental Protection with UNDP’s technical support.

The Terminal Evaluation was conducted during April and May 2022. The TE report is finalised in June 2022.

Overall, the progress towards the results of the project is adjudged as ‘Satisfactory’ and the project is expected to achieve most of the planned targets.

**Key recommendations and management response**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Recommendations** | | | | **Management response** |
| Category 1: Corrective Actions for the Design, Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of the project | | | |  |
| No | Action | Entity responsible | Timeframe | **Key action(s)** |
| 1 | Establish a dedicated MRV unit sitting in MoEP (its seat to be confirmed/decided at inter-ministerial level). This will effectuate national ownership of the MRV platform and reinforce implementation of the new Law on Climate. | MoEP in cooperation with other relevant ministries | Short to medium term | **Recommendation noted.**  The Ministry recognized the need for increased capacities and is working diligently on providing administrative and technical assistance where needed in line with the dynamic prescribed by the Climate Change Law. |
| 2 | Engage a Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) for technical support to the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) in designing the Terms of References (TORs), monitoring and supporting the activities, Quality Assurance /Quality Control (QA/QC) of deliverables, as well as coordination of knowledge and communication flows among the engaged experts. | Project Team | For future projects | **Recommendation accepted.**  Terms of Reference for Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) will be included in the future Project Documents. |
| 3 | Use the revised logframe at the Mid-Term Report (MTR) as a good example for a Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound (SMART) logframe for future projects. | Project Team | For future projects | **Recommendation accepted.**  SMART logframe will be applied during new projects designs. |
| 4 | Include (1) devising a methodology for identification of the level of the capacity built and (2) assessing the level of capacity built among the tasks in the TOR for expert-trainers. | Project Team | For future projects | **Recommendation accepted.**  Methodology for assessing the level of capacity built will be one of required deliverables of future expert-trainers. |
| Category 2: Actions to follow up to reinforce the benefits from the project support | | | |  |
| No | Action | Entity responsible | Timeframe |  |
| 5 | Improve knowledge management of project results by:   * Capturing lessons learned, good practices and knowledge management products in a separate report that will be transparently published online. This project is one of the first CBIT projects approved in the world, and therefore it can feed other CBIT projects and enhance their implementation. * Reviewing the MRV platform modules and the national climate change web site and uploading the missing studies, reports, technical papers, guidelines and manuals, developed under different components. * Turning some of the training material and manuals into interactive self-learning tools and enhance the cooperation with National Academy for Public Administration (NAPA) regarding accredited courses on MRV of data and information in the field of climate change. * Targeted dissemination of CBIT knowledge products as part of the dissemination of UNDP Energy Efficiency (EE) portfolio products and also through cooperation with communication office of the MoEP. | Project Team  Communication office of the MoEP | Short to medium term | **Recommendation accepted.**  All outreach and knowledge products are already and will be available on the website: [www.klimatskepromene.rs](http://www.klimatskepromene.rs)  The website is managed jointly by UNDP and MoEP  MRV training in NAPA will be part of already launched training on Climate Change |
| 6 | Maintain/enhance the link with GEF Climate Smart Urban Development (CSUD) project, to connect the CSUD IT system for LSGs with the MRV tool (ensuring thus inputs and contributions from the LSGs also), as well as with the Green Climate Fund National Adaptation Plan (GCF-NAP) project, to connect its online and open platform on climate related data with the MRV tool (ensuring thus adequate focus on adaptation component also). Furthermore, when finalized, ensure integration of the Forestry Information System developed under Global Environment Facility /Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management (GEF/MoAFW) project on forestry management. | Project Team  UNDP and other GEF Implementing Agencies  GEF Operational Focal point  Green Climate Fund (GCF)  MoAFW | Short to medium term | **Recommendation accepted.**  All three IT systems are hosted by IT Office and eGovernment and managed in close collaboration with MoEP Climate Change Department: [www.kis.gov.rs](http://www.kis.gov.rs); [www.atlasklime.gov.rs](http://www.atlasklime.gov.rs); [www.klimainfo.gov.rs](http://www.klimainfo.gov.rs). |
| 7 | Initiate cooperation with national institutions responsible for other relevant international reporting requirements like SDGs, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, as well as at EU energy and climate reporting under Energy Community. Make synergies with other projects which provide support of those international reporting requirements. | Project Team  MoEP  Other relevant ministries | Medium to long term | **Recommendation noted.**  The MoEP will keep the coordination role in the climate change field, and established CBIT project interinstitutional working group will be actively involved in MRV – IT system. |
| 8 | Consider the following proposal for components of future projects in the area:   * Peer to peer or mentorship training for municipalities on preparation of Local Adaptation Plan (based on methodology for Local Adaptation Plan developed under the CBIT); * Training modules for framework for following the gender aspects of climate change in the seven thematic areas - Participation in decision making and policy design; Access to resources; Economy and employment; Consumption, lifestyles and living conditions; Education; Health and health protection; Climate change knowledge, attitudes and behaviour. The utilization of the CBIT gender sensitive monitoring framework for development of gender responsive methodologies and guidelines for improving national climate change adaptation planning under the GCF-NAP project should be taken as a good starting point. * Training modules for Carbon Budget Tagging in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and LSGs; * Climate change trainings for media; * MRV framework for local adaptation measures; * In-depth sectorial elaboration of the MRV system (for energy, agriculture, forestry, health etc…); * Training to MoEP and other relevant ministries on the use of the improved data that will be available through MRV platform in policy design and decision making in various areas. | Project Team  UNDP and other GEF Implementing Agencies  GEF Operational Focal point  Donor community  MoEP and other relevant ministries  LSGs  Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)  Media | For future projects | **Recommendation noted.**  - Preparation of Local Adaptation Plans continued under the GCF-NAP project.  - Developed gender sensitive monitoring framework has been already used as baseline for development of sectorial gender responsive methodologies and guidelines for improving national climate change adaptation planning under the GCF-NAP project.  - The Ministry already expressed the need for continuation of support in the development of two Biennial Transparency Reports (BTR) and 4th National Communication. Also, the Ministry expressed need for continuation of joint work with UNDP in the implementation of the MRV system and related capacity building through CBIT 2 project under the GEF 8 programming cycle. |