**Management Responses to Key Recommendations**

**Mid-Term Review**

**Reducing the Vulnerability of Cambodian Rural Livelihoods (SRL) Project**

**Date: 08 February 2019**

**Overall comments:**

The Project Board agrees with most of the observations and recommendations provided by the MTR team. UNDP and the IPs will ensure the follow up actions will be implemented in a timely manner.

| Key Recommendations | Management Response | Key Action(s) | Responsible Parties | Time Frame | Status\* | Comments |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Reassess at the Onset of the Rainy Season Progress with Infrastructure Projects and Chart the Way Forward | Agree | * A detailed matrix of the progress with its likelihood of completion. * Prepare a clear follow up plan of action. * Regularly and closely monitor and report the progress | NCDDS/SNAs | Q1 -Q4 2019 | Initiated | The project team, specifically the National Infrastructure Advisor works closely with the Technical Service Consultants (TSCs) to develop a detailed matrix to track progress and its likelihood of completion of the 49 small-scale water infrastructures. It has been regular follow up visits to monitor the progress and issues to make sure that the implementation issue is timely addressed. 47 out 49 schemes have been completed and operational in quarter 3, 2019 and the other two will be completed in Q1-2020. In 2019, the project is supporting 39 small-scale water infrastructure schemes. The feasibility studies and technical designs of these schemes will be completed for bidding in quarter 4, 2019. A detail matrix, to monitor and track progress, has been developed to ensure the construction/rehabilitation will be finished by mid-2020. |
| 1. Safeguard the Sustainability of Infrastructure Projects | Agree | * Identify dimensions of sustainability and preliminary assessment of potential exit strategies & develop a sustainability plan * Develop a clear action plan for formation of community groups/management committees. | NCDDS/SNAs | Q3-4 2019 | Initiated | The project team has identified dimensions of sustainability. A preliminary assessment of potential exit plan for ensuring the sustainability of the schemes will be begin in quarter 4, 2019.  40 FWUC/WUGs are being established. So far 35 FWUC/WUGs have been recognized by PDoWRAMs and the remaining 5 will be completed and recognized in quarter 1, 2020.  The team has prepared a detail work plan for capacity development and support to FWUC/WUG in Q4-2019 and Q1-2020 that has already been integrated in the 2020 annual workplan and budget. |
| 1. Build on Existing Community Groups rather than Reinventing the wheel | Agree | * Mapping out and assessing the existing community groups in target villages * Develop action plan for supporting/strengthening the community groups | NCDDS/SNAs | Q2 – Q4 2019 | Initiated | The project team has been advised to assess the possibility of building on the existing groups as an entry point to support the landless, land-poor and vulnerable families including women headed households.  The project has just completed the selection of target villages for 2019. In which, the team will map out and assess the existing community groups  However, based on initial discussion, it takes time to agree on institutional arrangement and approach. Therefore, it has been suggested that merging the groups at the later stage can be an option to ensure sustainability. This will be included in the exit plan. |
| 1. Strengthen Synergies and Linkages between Projects | Partly agree | * Develop a calendar of events and meetings, where possible. * Where possible, conduct joint events - learning and annual retreat. | NCSD & NCDDS | Q2 2019 – Q4 2020 | Initiated | Under the leadership of NCSD/DCC, the collaboration and linkages between the SRL project and other technical assistance projects, particularly the CCCA and SPCR/TA-8179 projects have been strengthened through meetings, knowledge sharing and exchange of knowledge products and tools including the CC extension materials. Key events and meetings – joint learning events have been discussed and coordinated for last two years. In addition, at the fourth project board meeting, dialogue on possible co-financing from CCCA to top-up sub-national activities of SRL project has been also explored. Due to different approach in fund management and implementation, co-financing from CCCA is not feasible. |
| 1. Using the M&E System to Track Important Parameters | Partly agree | * Develop a tracking mechanism for pilot initiatives, including documenting results, lessons, experiences and good practices. | NCDDS/SNAs | Q2 2019 -Q4 2020 | Initiated | Project information, specifically the small-scale water infrastructure projects, has been updated in the Project Implementation Database of NCDDS, aside from it, the project team develop also a tracking tool to record additional key important parameters and to document the results, lessons and experiences. In addition, the Communication Plan was also developed to capture project’s results in forms of anecdotal feature stories and case studies, to capture lessons learned and successful adaptation methods/ technologies from the project on a continuous and systematic basis for dissemination and replication.  The project team works closely with UNDP Communication team and other media to develop project features, case-study, case-stories, photo stories, etc. |
| 1. Strengthen Engagement with SDGs at the Sub-National Level. | Partly agree | * Use the SRL workshop and events at sub-national level to raise and promote the SDGs. | NCSDS | Q2 – Q4 2019 | Initiated | The project team works closely with the CCCA to prepare and introduce the SDGs and climate change in the recent SRL workshop events in Kampong Thom and Siem Reap provinces aiming at raising and promoting their awareness and to strengthen sub-national planning.  The project team further discussed the SDGs in district trainings to familiarizing and reflect it when do local planning |

\* Status: (*Not Initiated, Initiated, Completed,* and *No Longer Applicable*)