

## Management Response: Implementation Plan for Evaluation Recommendations

### General Information

Eval ID	666
Evaluation Manager	Myles Hallin
Project Evaluation Title	Terminal Evaluation of the UNEP/GEF Project ID: 4934 "Enhancing Capacity, Knowledge and Technology Support to Build Climate Resilience of Vulnerable Developing Countries" : "Ecosystem-based Adaptation through South-South Cooperation (EbA South)" (2013 - 2019).
PIMS #	
GEF ID	4934
UNEP Sub-programme	SP1 – Climate Change
GEF Focal Area	Biodiversity
Project Manager/ Task Manager	Atifa Kassam
Office/Division	Ecosystems Division
Branch & Unit	Ecosystems - Biodiversity and Land Branch
Final PDF Report distributed by Evaluation Office (Date)	07-06-22
Total # of Recommendations as per Report	4
Implementation Plan Sent to PM/TM (Date)	08-07-22
Implementation Plan Returned by PM/TM (Date)	15-08-22
Implementation Plan finalized (if different from the date above)	16-08-22

### Implementation Plan

No	Challenge/problem to be addressed by the recommendation	Recommendation	Priority level	Type of Recommendation	Responsibility	Proposed Implementation time-frame	Acceptance	Reason if not Accepted or Partially Accepted	Management Action(s) to be taken
1	At the end of the project in May 2019, the project had contributed to raising awareness of EbA, at both the national and regional level[1]. However, it fell short in terms of resulting in legislative decisions to further support the mainstreaming of EbA into national sector development plans. While outside of the EbA project's remit, legislative tools would help direct policy action and contribute to creating a	At the end of the project in May 2019, the project had contributed to raising awareness of EbA, at both the national and regional level[1]. However, it fell short in terms of resulting in legislative decisions to further support the mainstreaming of EbA into national sector development plans. While outside of the EbA	Important	Project	Project Team	12 Months	Accepted		Briefs have been developed on integrating EbA into National Adaptation Plan (NAPs) - and a MOOC has been developed on integrating EbA into NAPs  <a href="https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/climate-action/what-we-do/climate-adaptation/ecosystem-based-adaptation">https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/climate-action/what-we-do/climate-adaptation/ecosystem-based-adaptation</a>

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	platform with much needed information, data and surveillance etc. The creation of a strategy document to promote high-level political commitment towards implementing EbA, and the drafting of a list of appropriate legal documents and high-level coordination mechanisms Improved (policy related) to further support EbA mainstreaming at the global level (though focusing on lessons from the 3 pilot nations) would be a sensible next step recommendation.	project's remit, legislative tools would help direct policy action and contribute to creating a platform with much needed information, data and surveillance etc. The creation of a strategy document to promote high-level political commitment towards implementing EbA, and the drafting of a list of appropriate legal documents and high-level coordination mechanisms Improved (policy related) to further support EbA mainstreaming at the global level (though focusing on lessons from the 3 pilot nations) would be a sensible next step recommendation.							<p><a href="https://www.unep.org/gan/news/blogpost/new-e-course-shows-how-bring-ecosystems-based-adaptation-national-adaptation-plans">https://www.unep.org/gan/news/blogpost/new-e-course-shows-how-bring-ecosystems-based-adaptation-national-adaptation-plans</a></p> <p>GEF best practices brief developed</p> <p><a href="https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2022-03/GEF_good_practice_brief_global_nbs_2022_3.pdf">https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2022-03/GEF_good_practice_brief_global_nbs_2022_3.pdf</a></p>
2	The EbA South project developed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) which institutionalised cooperation between government departments and national universities to encourage long-term monitoring of EbA interventions as well as EbA educational resource development. To support the longevity of the long-term research, new agendas need to be defined to help tailor data collection programmes, so information is safely stored and accessible to the international research community. The creation and despatch of a formal "template" of new research agendas for	Future UNEP/GEF South-South EbA initiatives should include long-term research agendas across multiple platforms and institutions.	Opportunity for improvement	Project	Project Team	New EbA research agenda (globally relevant) is defined and disseminated through suitable communication pathways by end of 2022	Accepted		<p>Pipeline of UNEP GEF adaptation projects include a long term research component.</p> <p>UNEP GEF adaptation website includes lessons learned and disseminates research from EbA projects across the portfolio (see above link to website)</p>

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	representatives from the Governments of Seychelles, Nepal and Mauritania to complete and populate.								
3	This highlights the need to assign (post project) full-time project managers instead of continually relying on using part-time government agents (post project). Full-time project managers – in conjunction with allowances made within financial and time budgets - are necessary to account for the unpredictable and dynamic political, social and ecological systems involved in EbA interventions. If implementing countries could commit to an agreed amount of time after an intervention to hire a dedicated post-project Manager for, it might form part of an exit strategy that is adaptable and will generate learning after the project has finished. A formal list of EbA Experts or the capture of local beneficiary views plus lessons and experiences gained from the process would be useful to include as standard practice for EbA projects to ensure learning is captured and recorded as efficiently as possible.	Future UNEP/GEF South-South EbA initiatives should consider the inclusion of full-time project managers to support “post EbA-South” project initiation coupled with an EbA Expert Register in each country to ensure learning is captured and recorded as efficiently as possible. (The evaluation team notes that this recommendation is dependent on resources and urges that alternative solutions to continuing the championing of EbA approaches after the end of funding are also considered)	Important	Project	Future EbA Projects	Defined strategy to engage full time project managers for future project designs 10 months after the formal acceptance of this TE.	Partially Accepted	This recommendation is dependent on funding availability for post project support. The time frame for which cannot be defined as such.  Recommendation to be sent to PPD	Recommendation to be passed on as a lesson learned for future programming, and solutions for post project support to be reviewed and included in future programming
4	National governments often struggle to provide continued support and guidance after a project has finished. Similarly, it can be challenging to coordinate environment-related programmes at the national levels to ensure work being done on a project site isn't impacted by other government agencies that are not engaged	Future UNEP/GEF South-South EbA initiatives should include the development of a strategy to improve national coordination of projects, during and after the project implementation, either through the National Committee on Climate	Critical	Project	Project Team	12 months	Accepted		Brief has been developed on integrating EbA into National Adaptation Plan (NAPs)  <a href="https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/28179/Eba6.pdf?sequence=1&amp;isAllowed=y">https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/28179/Eba6.pdf?sequence=1&amp;isAllowed=y</a>

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	<p>with the project. Many committees (such as the NCCC in Nepal) also rarely meet "post project" as such improved connections are needed to ensure this scheduled in post project where possible. Efforts are needed to improve attendance at formal committees (already in existence or new) plus enhanced ToRs/MoUs need to be set up to improve official decision-making powers and authorities for those whom sit on such committees.</p>	<p>Change (or equivalent), through national CEOs forum or through Cabinet of Ministers. The strategy should consider coordination beyond the life of the project.</p>							