

## Management Response: Implementation Plan for Evaluation Recommendations

### General Information

Eval ID	689
Evaluation Manager	Janet Wildish
Project Evaluation Title	Terminal Evaluation of the UNEP/GEF Project "Pacific POPs Release Reduction through Improved Management of Solid and Hazardous Wastes" (GEF ID: 4066)
PIMS #	
GEF ID	4066
UNEP Sub-programme	SP5 – Chemicals, Waste and Air quality
GEF Focal Area	Chemicals & Waste
Project Manager/ Task Manager	Melanie Ashton; Kevin Helps/Dickson Ho/Ludovic Bernaudat
Office/Division	Economy Division
Branch & Unit	Economy - Chemicals and Health Branch
Final PDF Report distributed by Evaluation Office (Date)	02/12/2021
Total # of Recommendations as per Report	9
Implementation Plan Sent to PM/TM (Date)	16/12/2021
Implementation Plan Returned by PM/TM (Date)	30/12/2021
Implementation Plan finalized (if different from the date above)	

### 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	During the project implementation, delays were encountered from PICs to submit timely information about data requested or activities carried out. The project design did not consider the need of having an officer on board for these countries to assist in implementing and monitoring the national activities.	Design for future regional projects should ensure that each PIC has in place a dedicated national officer to coordinate and facilitate country level activities. Funding for this position should be secured either through government or donor funding.	Important	Project	Chemicals and Health Branch and Executing Agency	Compliance to be assessed based on design of, and any revisions to, follow on project GEF ID10185 Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in SIDS (ISLANDS).	Accepted		National officer to be recruited in each countries for future projects
2	The PMU at the EA encountered several	Project design should include the risk of human capacity	Important	Project	Chemicals and Health	Compliance to be assessed	Accepted		Capacity of the EA is a consideration in all

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	resignations during the project implementation, resulting in implementation delays and unsatisfactory progress as confirmed by interviews and questionnaire responses. Provisions should be made to ensure a rapid and smooth transfer of responsibilities in case these situations arise.	and support at the Executing Agency. (should read - the risk of loss of human capacity at the EA in cases of staff changes ...)			Branch and Executing Agency	based on design of, and any revisions to, follow on project GEF ID10185 Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in SIDS (ISLANDS).			new project. Additional support in terms of procurement policy, recruitment procedure is provided when weakness is identified. Additional implementation support is also provided.
3	At project design, only three PSC meetings were envisaged for the duration of the five-year project. This was considered to be insufficient by the PICs to ensure proper project implementation and monitoring.	The project proposal should include adequate funding for PSC meetings and should explore the possibility of cost-effective measures such as back-to-back meetings and use of teleconference facilities.	Opportunity for improvement	Project	Chemicals and Health Branch and Executing Agency	Compliance to be assessed based on design of, and any revisions to, follow on project GEF ID10185 Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in SIDS (ISLANDS).	Accepted		PSC are planned annually to approve workplan and budget across the portfolio. Additional meetings are organised upon request from PSC members. TORs for services and consultancies are approved through a 5-day consultation with the PSC.
4	Delay in project implementation in the PICs was ascribed to lack of legal instruments in place such as an MoU or LoA between the Executing Agency and the recipient PICs. Legal instruments should be in place to give national counterparts a mandate to work on project issues and good in-country commitment and support.	For future regional projects, all legal agreements with PIC governments should be finalized at latest six months after approval of project funding.	Critical	Project	Chemicals and Health Branch and Executing Agency	Compliance to be assessed based on design of, and any revisions to, follow on project GEF ID10185 Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in SIDS (ISLANDS).	Accepted		SPREP to sign agreement with all the countries
5	The cash budget and time frame to implement the project was not adequate for the activities that were planned to be implemented. The amounts allocated for certain components were too low to allow efficiency of the programme in-country and meeting country needs, for example, storage and shipment costs for obsolete chemicals that cannot be	The project should ensure an adequate time frame and budget for the activities.	Opportunity for improvement	Project	Chemicals and Health Branch and Executing Agency	Compliance to be assessed based on design of, and any revisions to, follow on project GEF ID10185 Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical	Accepted		For project 10267 (ISLANDS Pacific), the budget has been developed in close collaboration with the executing agency and the countries as well as the co-financing partners.

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	disposed in-country and export of used oil. The project design did not clearly identify the risk of regulatory change taking too long to achieve.					Development in SIDS (ISLANDS).			
6	It was observed that funding was provided for many activities which required submission of reports. Examples of such activities were pilot country projects, small projects following the vocational training course and awareness raising campaigns. Non-timely or no submission of reports were observed. This would help to ensure that the recipients are aware of the data required for the final report and encourage collection of said data during project implementation.	For activities and outputs requiring submission of reports after their implementation, a report template should be included in future funding agreements, and that 5-10% of the requested grant be retained and released only on submission of final report.	Opportunity for improvement	Project	Chemicals and Health Branch and Executing Agency	Compliance to be assessed based on design of, and any revisions to, follow on project GEF ID10185 Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in SIDS (ISLANDS).	Accepted		Final payment subject to acceptance of report implemented throughout the portfolio. Regular monitoring calls with SPREP will also ensure regular follow up.
7	Not all the trainees conducted trainings after their return. The recommendation will ensure greater commitment from the trainees. A small grant to support and encourage post-training activities of trainees could be considered.	For any train-the-trainer programme, before nominating any trainee, there should be a signed agreement between the trainees and their employers that after following the sponsored training, they will impart their new skills/knowledge to other national counterparts through presentations or workshops.	Important	Project	Chemicals and Health Branch and Executing Agency	Compliance to be assessed based on design of, and any revisions to, follow on project GEF ID10185 Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in SIDS (ISLANDS).	Accepted		Follow up on train the trainer activities is required.
8	It was observed that though the FNU vocational course consisted of two modules, only twelve trainees out of ninety-six followed both.	For subsequent training that is built on a previous one, the same participants should be selected for both to ensure continuity in the trainings.	Important	Project	National governments.	Compliance to be assessed based on design of, and any revisions to, follow on project GEF ID10185 Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical	Accepted		Training need assessment is planned for first year of project 10267 (ISLANDS Pacific) implementation.

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						Development in SIDS (ISLANDS).			
9	Recognizing that chemicals, especially POPs, were particularly dangerous to vulnerable groups (women and children), the ProDoc mentioned that the project would ensure equal participation of women and vulnerable groups in project activities and planning. Though responses to evaluation interviews and questionnaires confirmed active participation of women and girls, no statistical data were provided about the gender balance in the different project activities.	To ensure that human rights and gender equity dimensions are considered during project implementation, it is recommended that these dimensions are included not only in the project design, but also in all work planning and that appropriate indicators are developed in the project results framework to track their implementation.	Critical	Project	Chemicals and Health Branch	Compliance to be assessed based on design of, and any revisions to, follow on project GEF ID10185 Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in SIDS (ISLANDS).	Accepted		Gender sensitive indicators and gender action plan have been developed for project 10267 (ISLANDS Pacific).