

PROJECT EVALUATION SERIES

**Mid Term Evaluation of Disposal of Obsolete
Pesticides including POPs, Promotion of
Alternatives and Strengthening Pesticides
Management in the Caribbean**

GCP/SLC/204/GFF

MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF EVALUATION
September 2019**

Management response to the Mid Term Evaluation of Disposal of Obsolete Pesticides including POPs, Promotion of Alternatives and Strengthening Pesticides Management in the Caribbean GCP/SLC/204/GFF					Date: 24/09/2019
Evaluation recommendation (a)	Management response (b) Accepted , partially accepted or rejected	Management plan			
		Actions to be taken, and/or comments about partial acceptance or rejection (c)	Responsible unit (d)	Timeframe (e)	Further funding required (Y or N) (f)
Insert title of section, if any					
Recommendation 1 to GEF and FAO: Request a project extension until December 2020 at no cost in order to provide sufficient time to achieve a satisfactory level of contamination reduction in selected pesticides contaminated sites, which is a key activity to reduce risks to human health and the environment and build capacities in the Caribbean region. Also, ensuring enough time to engage key allies to do lobbying work with targeted regional and national institutions and organizations in order that Model Regulations can be adopted. For that, it is necessary to accomplish the activities defined in the project, namely: 1) to develop model regulations in consultation with Chief Parliamentary Counsel at the national level and CARICOM Legal Affairs Committee at the regional level; 2) ensure the revision and approval of the model by the technical experts of OECS; and 3) provide sufficient time for countries to negotiate internally the adoption of the model regulations. In general terms, this project extension will allow implementers to finish all pending project activities.	Accepted	<p><i>At the 4th Meeting of the PSC, a work plan was developed to extend to September 2020. Presently being finalized</i></p> <p><i>Countries have been requested to search for and submit the location of possible contaminated sites as a matter of priority. Responses expected by end of July</i></p> <p><i>The model legislation was delayed because the consultant fell ill. A working draft report is now being considered by the Legal Unit at HQ. The project coordinator will be subsequently advised and proceed to facilitate the preparation of the model legislation.</i></p>	<p>FAO/PC, PSC</p> <p>CGPC / PC / UWI</p> <p>FAO Legal Unit / PC / Consultant</p>	<p>Completed Mid-July 2019</p> <p>Completed End of July 2019</p> <p>End of November 2019</p>	N N N

Recommendation 2 to CGPC and FAO: Improve visibility of the project through a strategic communication campaign addressed to national stakeholders and external partners (i.e FAO country offices) in order to inform on project activities progress and its benefits additional to the removal of obsolete pesticides. This would help to reemphasize the importance of the project for the region and their commitment to the project.	Accepted	<i>Depending on budget available Communication specialist to be engaged to develop strategic communication campaign, otherwise it will be developed in house with the Communications consultant.</i>	PC/Communications Consultant	Ongoing	N
Recommendation 3 to CGPC and FAO: The arrangements to appoint the National Focal Points (NFP) from different line ministries to support National Project Teams should be implemented as indicated in the PRODOC. This would address the weak engagement of national stakeholders, who lack full knowledge of the project and its activities. Considering that 9 countries have national Boards, a proposal could be that members of the Boards are appointed as NFP of the project, which would have the responsibility to inform to their respective ministries or organizations on project progress and would be responsible for specific project duties related to their institutional functions. The NPC would have the responsibility to update during the Boards meetings on project progress and share the 6-monthly project progress reports. In the case of Suriname, the members of the Pesticide Approval Committee could be appointed as NFP. For the Dominican Republic, the members of the virtual group, created to attend activities related to the Rotterdam, Basel and Stockholm Conventions, should also be appointed as NFP of this project.	Accepted	<i>Face to face Meetings to be scheduled with the pesticides regulatory authority boards in all of the project countries to ensure that the NPT is aware of project importance, supplemented by the strategic communication campaign and materials (including a newsletter)</i>	PC/Communications Consultant, National Project Coordinators	July – September 2019. First Newsletter due September 2019	N
Recommendation 4 to FAO and National Project Team of the Dominican Republic: Communication capacity and capabilities of the National Project Team of the Dominican Republic (DR) should be strengthened in order to overcome language barriers to effectively communicate with regional partners and PC, and actively participate in the	Accepted	The Project LTO (Vyju Lopez) will meet with and introduce the project to the new Plant Health Director of the DR during the Annual Meeting of	Project LTO / PC / National Consultant / Communications Consultant, DR, National Project Coordinator	September – October 2019	N

<p>project implementation. Hiring or developing bilingual staff is one way to reinforce these capacities. Additionally, it is necessary to strengthen communication and coordination among the National Project Team members and with stakeholders, as many were unaware of the full spectrum of the project's activities. Finally, the project should ensure that the National Coordinator has the necessary capacity to manage, implement and deliver on the project's strategic priorities. As a first step, it is advisable to have a high-level face to face meeting with the new Plant Health Director of the Ministry of Agriculture of DR in order to discuss the best way to attend this recommendation.</p>		<p>the Caribbean Plant Health Directors' Forum, being held from 17-19 July in The Bahamas. This will be followed by an email, confirming the discussions held and agreements reached with regard to the delivery of the project in the DR. A part-time National Consultant and /or a mission by the PC to meet with key stakeholders will be planned, if considered feasible.</p>			
<p>Recommendation 5 to CGPC, FAO and GEF: It is advisable to establish coordination with the activities of the GEF project ID 5558 "Development and implementation of a sustainable management system for POPs in the Caribbean" as it contains some overlapping components with the current project, including the results and lessons learned. According to FAO's previous experience, there is a potential risk that the proposals of legislations elaborated in both projects contain contradictory aspects for the sound pesticides management.</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p><i>This matter was already noted (it is a problem occurring internationally) and was being addressed by the Legal Unit at HQ and UN Environment</i></p>	<p>AGPMC LTO</p>		<p>N</p>
<p>Recommendation 6 to FAO: A Monitoring and Evaluation System is crucial to identify new/potential risks that could affect the achievement of project objectives and propose actions to mitigate them. Since significant delays were not identified during project implementation, which now affect the fulfilment of the objectives, the Monitoring and Evaluation plan of the project should be strengthened by using available resources for hiring a specialist to support the monitoring and reporting on project's progress.</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p><i>Monitoring and evaluation to be strengthened with milestones and indicators to be identified and risks identified and mitigated against quarterly</i></p>	<p>FAO (SLC) / PC / PSC</p>		<p>N</p>

<p>Recommendation 7</p> <p>to FAO and CGPC: The adoption of model-harmonized regulations would help the project countries to prevent the generation of new obsolete pesticides, however, there is uncertainty when the regulation could be adopted. Thus, a training exercise to prevent the obsolescence of pesticides is highly advisable at this stage of the project.</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p><i>Training of inspectors is ongoing along with development and publication of a pesticides inspector manual.</i></p>	<p><i>PC / CGPC / Legal consultant</i></p>	<p><i>Training ongoing Manual – December 2019</i></p>	<p><i>N</i></p>
<p>Recommendation 8</p> <p>to FAO: A gender mainstreaming strategy should be defined and implemented in pending project activities. Specialized support should be requested from FAO gender specialist. The strategy should consider aspects such as: to ensure that awareness raising activities are targeting vulnerable groups relevant to the project; to ensure that pesticides risks to vulnerable groups (such as pregnant and nursing women) are identified in the project and the identified risks are considered in trainings, remediation activities and in the communication materials; and to increase application of a gender perspective to the relevant areas of the project (for instance, intention to ensure gender balance during trainings).</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p><i>Gender mainstreaming content to be incorporated into all future activities and project communications</i></p>	<p><i>FAO Communications/ PC / LTO / Gender Consultant OR support from SLC/RLC/HQ gender teams</i></p>	<p><i>Ongoing</i></p>	<p><i>N</i></p>