

Project evaluation series

**Mid-term evaluation of the
project “Disposal of POPs and
Obsolete Pesticides and
Strengthening Sound Pesticide
Management
in Cameroon”**

GCP/CMR/031/GFF

MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

Overall response to the evaluation:

1. The management team appreciates the work done by the Evaluation team, the conduct of the evaluation and the report including the recommendations. The report relates to the synthesis of findings from a midterm evaluation of the project "**Disposal of POPs, obsolete pesticides and strengthening sound pesticide management in Cameroon**" conducted from the 01 to 10 March 2018. The draft report was circulated for comments, responses received from the PMU and other partners, few comments were returned in writing, and results of the review/recommendations were discussed during the 3rd Project steering committee of the project held in September 2018. The management considers the review as a fair and accurate account of the project performance. The evaluation was helpful in identifying the strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for improvement on the implementation of activities.
2. All the six (6) recommendations are accepted and will go a long way to enhance the activities of the project. As these activities are part of broader efforts, the report in many of its findings and conclusions, provided an indication of progress made in the implementation of the project activities. The evaluation has provided information on what has worked best, what has been learned and provided views and suggestions on the way forward. The lessons of this evaluation are of relevance.
3. It would have been good to have a broad consultation of documents produced by the project and have more time for field visits by the evaluation team to appreciate all what was already achieved by the project. An action plan is underdevelopment to implement the recommendations of this project evaluation.

Management response matrix

Management response to the (Evaluation Title)					Date
Evaluation Recommendation (a)	Management response (b) Accepted	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					
1 Recommendation 1- to the PMU and FAO Cameroon The PMU should urgently develop an implementation strategy for the remaining activities to ensure their implementation over time, taking into account the project closure date.	Accepted	<p>Organize a meeting to explain FAO procedures to key stakeholders/actors especially those involved in the implementation of LOAs to avoid any delays in implementation.</p> <p>Involvement of some stakeholders through LOA: CNPCC (in Garoua-North), and Farmer organization "COOP HOC" + local council (in Loum-Littoral) for the management of empty pesticides through a pilot collection scheme(Component 2: Management of empty pesticides containers , output 2.2: implementation of pilot project on management of empty pesticides containers);</p> <p>Under component 4: Promotion of alternatives to conventional pesticides, Output 4.2: Alternatives tested for their technical and economic feasibility, Activities to be conducted through LoAs have been identified with 2 institutions: 1) CARBAP (Banana research institution), for the field test of alternatives to highly hazardous pesticides, on banana pests (banana weevils and nematodes).and 2) University of Ngaoundere to test some alternatives (plant extracts) for the control of maize weevils.</p> <p>The project Log frame has been reviewed with SMART indicators.</p> <p>A no cost extension has been granted for an additional 1 year (Feb 2019 to February 2020), to enable the project complete planned outputs.</p>	PMU; FAOCM, FAOR	January-April 2019	N

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		The recruitment of an assistant to the Project management unit is underway. The incumbent will support the Project Technical Coordinator in project implementation.			
2 Recommendation 2- to the PMU The PMU should hold regular weekly or at least monthly meetings to enable members to monitor the proper implementation of the project and contribute effectively to accelerating the implementation of activities.	Accepted	The PMU will hold monthly meetings to evaluate progress, share information and identify potential risks, problems or issues affecting the implementation of activities. Recommendations issued from these meetings will be followed up to ensure implementation by the concerned.	PMU NPC FAO NTC	At the end of every month starting this month of January 2019	N
Recommendation 3- to FAO Cameroon The project should design and rapidly implement a computerized monitoring and evaluation system to facilitate instant monitoring of the activities implementation.	Accepted	With the assistance of the Monitoring and evaluation officer at the FAO Cameroon, a computerized monitoring and evaluation system has been put in place. The log frame has been reviewed and all the information introduced into FPMIS to replace the old log frame. It is now possible to monitor instantly to know which activities have been implemented at any given time. FAO tracking system has been put in place, with a possibility of reporting progress monthly(Tracking linked to log frame and work plan); In addition to the computerized monitoring, it is also necessary for monitoring of activities in the field be conducted by a joint team of partners.. To this effect, the project will improve on the monitoring of activities by the Project Management Unit, through a LoA that will be signed with the MINEPDED. The LTU will provide support for the monitoring of the activities of the project; will be support from the LTU	FAOCM FAO AGPM PMU	Jan 2019 –Feb 2020	N
Recommendation 4 to the PMU	Accepted	The recommendation is well noted;	PMU FAOCM;	Feb2019-Dec 2019	N

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<p>The PMU should develop a strategic note on the sustainability of the project's actions and its exit strategy.</p>		<p>In relation to the management of empty pesticide containers, a meeting is envisaged with the importer, pesticide distributor to define the management strategy for the sustainable management of empty packaging of pesticides; A national strategy on the management of empty containers will be put in place based on lessons learnt from the pilot collection schemes to be put in place in the North and Littoral regions; and the sensitization activities conducted by two NGOs (CREPD and AFAIRD) on the dangers on the use of empty pesticide containers.</p> <p>Extend public awareness of the management of pesticide packaging from project pilot areas to other part of the country using pesticides; sensitize municipalities, sign partnership with CNPCC for continuity;</p> <p>At the end of the project examine possibility of setting up an empty packaging recycling unit in Cameroon.</p> <p>A note to be prepared (LTU), indicate local partners and donors</p>	FAO GPMP(LTU)		
<p>Recommendation 5- to the PMU</p> <p>The project must give greater consideration to gender by involving enough women in the implementation of the project.</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Even though gender equality was not taken into account at formulating the results and key indicators of the project outputs, effort is being made to ensure women are more involved in the activities that are ongoing and to come. Activities on sensitization on dangers of using empty pesticide containers in a recent workshop on 27/28 November 2018 involved a good number of women.</p> <p>Efforts will be made to get more women participate in the upcoming field activities of the project (especially activities on FFS and promotion of alternatives to conventional pesticides (Highly Hazardous pesticides); and management of empty pesticides collection scheme. The project will consider recruiting a gender consultant to have a better inclusion of gender mainstreaming into the project and produce evidence of any key steps to make to make the approach sustainable.</p>	PMU FAOCM	Jan2019-Feb 2020	N
<p>Recommendation 6- to the PMU and FAO Cameroon</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>The Management fully agrees with this recommendation as it is perfectly in line with the objectives of the project and those of</p>	PMU	Jan 2019-Feb 2020	N

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<p>The project must improve its visibility and develop a communication strategy to showcase the value of the work undertaken.</p>		<p>the donor agency, the GEF, to give more visibility and communicate on the outcomes of the project.</p> <p>The project is going to improve on the collaboration with decentralized offices.</p> <p>Through two NGOs working in close collaboration with the farmers, pesticide retailers, and users, 2 communication strategies have been developed for the sensitization of the farmers/population in the North and Littoral where the pilot phase for empty pesticide container management schemes will be implemented, taking into consideration gender and vulnerable groups. Communication tools have been prepared (posters, flyers, and spot messages).</p> <p>In addition, some articles have been published on the activities of the project and others are under publication,</p> <p>The project will develop a communication strategy with priority outputs, in partnership with the implementing ministries. The development of this strategy will be supported by the LTU</p>	<p>FAOCM; FAO Rome(LTU)</p>		