

TERMINAL EVALUATION

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I. Overview

A. Description

Project name

BS: Building National Capacity to Implement the National Biosafety Framework of Islamic Republic of Iran and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

Country

Iran

GEF ID

3730

Implementing Agency

UNEP

Executing Entity

Government

Trust Fund

GET

Project Type

MSP

Objective

B. Key Dates

CEO Endorsement/Approval

9/19/2011

Agency Approval

9/28/2012

Implementation Start

10/8/2012

First Disbursement

12/31/2013

Expected MTR

9/24/2017

MTR Submission

2/26/2025

Actual MTR

9/1/2018

Expected Completion

6/30/2021

Actual Completion

6/30/2021

Actual TE

1/31/2024

TE Submission

2/26/2025

Final Disbursement

12/31/2023

C. Disbursements

Project Financing	Cumulative Disbursement
823900	749000

II. PROGRESS STATUS AND ISSUES

A. Main Terminal Evaluation Findings

Recommendations for the Executive Agency

The main recommendations to the Executive Agency are indicated as following:

Recommendation 1: Considering that the project does not have a future sustainability plan, it is recommended that as the first next step, the Executing Agency may need to begin planning for a transition phase and secure interim financing. The transition phase will consider the emerging issues in biotechnology. The Executing Agency may consider engaging the GEF secretariat with a view to exploring ways to access funding for GEF 8 for promising initiatives, and to continue with, replicate and scale up relevant activities for the sustainable development of biotechnology in Iran. In addition to the lack of a sustainability plan, the late delivery of certain activities diminishes the likelihood that the results will be sustained: Certain project activities were delivered late in the implementation timeframe. The Executing agency may identify strategies to implement these activities to ensure full impact of the project is achieved. To this end, it is suggested that:

✓

By the end of February 2024, the Executing Agency, develop a specific sustainability plan that identifies these actions and outputs that require continuity or scaling up, specify responsible parties, budgets, and dates for each of the actions necessary. It should also identify other initiatives and stakeholders including NGOs and the private sector and projects that can assist with these actions in the future.

✓

The Executing Agency holds discussions to identify these initiatives and stakeholders with the aim of reaching specific assistance agreements.

Recommendation 2: To achieve the most visibility of the project and to make the project outputs, tools, and lessons available for future users, it is recommended that the Executing Agency publish all the reports, systematizations, and protocols in a visible, easy-access and permanent location. To this end,

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it is suggested that:

✓

The Executing Agency should make the inclusion of the project outputs visible on the Department's website, train the personnel in charge and report their location via other media (radio, television, newspapers, direct meetings).

✓

The Executing Agency must ensure the maintenance of this information and its permanent availability in the long term. This involves, among others, the permanent dedication of a webmaster, trained by the Executing Agency.

✓

The Executing Agency must run a communication campaign geared toward the

✓

stakeholders to increase the chances of success of the initiatives supported by the project.

Recommendation 3: The non-governmental organizations and the private sector continue to drive change and introduce innovation to biotechnology and biodiversity conservation in Iran.: The results of the project showcased the critical role that NGOs and the private sector have with respect to driving biotechnology in the country, including introducing innovative techniques and management arrangements, and advocating for legal and institutional reform. The Executing agency may consider a partnership with the NGO and Private Sector in the management of the next phase.

Recommendations to the UNEP

The main recommendations to be considered on future Technical Cooperation by the Implementation Agency are:

Recommendation 1: To increase the likelihood of Project impact and sustainability, it is recommended that the following partners actively participate: civil society, NGOs and the private sector among others.

Recommendation 2: UNEP could include the elaboration of agreements that make formal the cooperation and responsibilities in the implementation of initiatives or projects between the Executive Agency and several governmental and non-governmental partners for implementation of the NBF.

Recommendation 3: To improve the effectiveness of its work, the Reviewer recommends that UNEP improves the quality of project baselines, indicators and targets for more effective monitoring and measurement of change towards the results. The Reviewer does not recommend any indicators (qualitative, quantitative or proxy), rather suggests that they follow the SMART criteria. The Reviewer also suggests using diverse sources for obtaining necessary baselines and targets, such as opinion surveys, statistical data, own assessments, and reports (e.g. Rapid Assessment), and the like.

B. Stakeholder Engagement

See attached report

C. Gender Equality

see attached

D. Knowledge Management

See attached

III. Core Indicators

IV: Co Financing

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Anticipated at CEO(\$)	Materialized at MTR(\$)	Materialized at TE(\$)
Recipient Country Government		In-kind	Recurrent expenditures			851000

Recipient Country Government		Grant	Investment mobilized			749000
Total Co-financing				0.00	0.00	1,600,000.00

Comments

V: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
			Medium/Moderate

Measures to address identified risks and impacts

See attached

VI. ANNEX

Uploaded Document

Document Category M and E Document	Title Iran_BS Tracking Tool_EndofProject
Document Category M and E Document	Title 3730_2024_ValTR_unep_gef_msp_Iran