# Closure Stage Quality Assurance Report

Form Status: Approved		
Overall Rating:	Satisfactory	
Decision:		
Portfolio/Project Number:	00088937	
Portfolio/Project Title:	Capacity Building for Resilient Construction	
Portfolio/Project Date:	2018-01-01 / 2021-06-30	

# Strategic Quality Rating: Satisfactory

- 1. Did the project pro-actively identified changes to the external environment and incorporated them into the project strategy?
- 3: The project team identified relevant changes in the external environment that may present new opportunities or threats to the project's ability to achieve its objectives, assumptions were tested to determine if the project's strategy was valid. There is some evidence that the project board considered the implications, and documented the changes needed to the project in response. (all must be true)
- 2: The project team identified relevant changes in the external environment that may present new opportunities or threats to the project's ability to achieve its objectives. There is some evidence that the project board discussed this, but relevant changes did not fully integrate in the project. (both must be true)
- 1: The project team considered relevant changes in the external environment since implementation began, but there is no evidence that the project team considered these changes to the project as a result.

## **Evidence:**

The project is part of a larger UNDP and Governme nt of Bhutan's disaster risk reduction program in the country. Based on the successful implementation of Phase 1 and 2 of the Capacity Building project, Pha se 3 was launched in 2018 for a period of 3 years. U nder Phase 3, the project team took the opportunity t o verify and validate the guideline developed in Pha se 1 on 'earthquake resilient construction practices' i n collaboration with the Science and Technology Re search Partnership for Sustainable Development (S ATREPS) project funded by the JICA. The findings t hrough the study will be developed as a standard/ c ode for safe construction practices. Due to the COVI D pandemic restrictions in 2020, some of the project activities such as artisans trainings could not be con ducted and hence alternative activity plans were dis cussed and approved during the project steering co mmittee meeting in August 2020.

List of Uploaded Documents			
#	File Name	Modified By	Modified On
1	ProjectSteeringCommitteemeetingminutes4A ug2020_7545_301 (https://intranet.undp.org/apps/ProjectQA/QAFormDocuments/Project SteeringCommitteemeetingminutes4Aug202 0_7545_301.pdf)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/8/2021 7:28:00 AM

- 2. Was the project aligned with the thematic focus of the Strategic Plan?
- 3: The project responded to at least one of the development settings as specified in the Strategic Plan (SP) and adopted at least one Signature Solution .The project's RRF included all the relevant SP output indicators. (all must be true)
- 2: The project responded to at least one of the developments settings1 as specified in the Strategic Plan. The project's RRF included at least one SP output indicator, if relevant. (both must be true)
- 1: While the project may have responded to a partner's identified need, this need falls outside of the UNDP Strategic Plan. Also select this option if none of the relevant SP indicators are included in the RRF.

#### Evidence:

The project is aligned to SP Outcome 5: Countries a re able to reduce the likelihood of conflict and lower t he risk of natural disasters, including from climate ch ange; and Output 5.1: Mechanisms in place to asses s natural and man-made risks at national and sub-n ational levels.

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#	File Name	Modified By	Modified On
1	UNDPStrategicPlan2018-2021_7545_302 (ht tps://intranet.undp.org/apps/ProjectQA/QAFo rmDocuments/UNDPStrategicPlan2018-2021_7545_302.pdf)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/15/2021 4:16:00 AM

# Relevant Quality Rating: Satisfactory

- 3. Were the project's targeted groups systematically identified and engaged, with a priority focus on the discriminated and marginalized, to ensure the project remained relevant for them?
- 3: Systematic and structured feedback was collected over the project duration from a representative sample of beneficiaries, with a priority focus on the discriminated and marginalized, as part of the project's monitoring system. Representatives from the targeted groups were active members of the project's governance mechanism (i.e., the project board or equivalent) and there is credible evidence that their feedback informs project decision making. (all must be true)
- 2: Targeted groups were engaged in implementation and monitoring, with a priority focus on the discriminated and marginalized. Beneficiary feedback, which may be anecdotal, was collected regularly to ensure the project addressed local priorities. This information was used to inform project decision making. (all must be true to select this option)
- 1: Some beneficiary feedback may have been collected, but this information did not inform project decision making. This option should also be selected if no beneficiary feedback was collected
- Not Applicable

## **Evidence:**

The project provided trainings on seismic resilient st one masonry construction, confined masonry constr uction and windstorm resilient roofing system to a tot al of 112 engineers, 86 technicians, 239 masons, 71 local leaders, 7 field officers and 4 students across 6 districts in the country under Phase 3 of the project. Out of a total of 519 trained, 118 were female partici pants. Four engineers involved in the development o f the building inventory system availed a training on ArcGIS at the ESRI Singapore and a training on seis mic vulnerability and risk assessment at NORSAR in Norway. The project team also collaborated with the Tarayana Foundation (a local NGO) to provide a four day tailor made training on disaster resilient constru ction to remote communities undertaking house con structions.

#	File Name	Modified By	Modified On
1	ProjectCompletionReport2020_7545_303 (ht tps://intranet.undp.org/apps/ProjectQA/QAFo rmDocuments/ProjectCompletionReport2020 _7545_303.docx)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/10/2021 5:36:00 AM
2	AnnualProgramReportJuly17-June18_7545_ 303 (https://intranet.undp.org/apps/ProjectQ A/QAFormDocuments/AnnualProgramReport July17-June18_7545_303.pdf)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/10/2021 5:37:00 AM
3	AnnualProgramReportJuly18-Dec19_7545_3 03 (https://intranet.undp.org/apps/ProjectQA/QAFormDocuments/AnnualProgramReportJuly18-Dec19_7545_303.pdf)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/10/2021 5:37:00 AM

4. Did the project generate knowledge, and lessons learned (i.e., what has worked and what has not) and has this knowledge informed management decisions to ensure the continued relevance of the project towards its stated objectives, the quality of its outputs and the management of risk?

- 3: Knowledge and lessons learned from internal or external sources (gained, for example, from Peer Assists, After Action Reviews or Lessons Learned Workshops) backed by credible evidence from evaluation, corporate policies/strategies, analysis and monitoring were discussed in project board meetings and reflected in the minutes. There is clear evidence that changes were made to the project to ensure its continued relevance. (both must be true)
- 2: Knowledge and lessons learned backed by relatively limited evidence, drawn mainly from within the project, were considered by the project team. There is some evidence that changes were made to the project as a result to ensure its continued relevance. (both must be true)
- 1: There is limited or no evidence that knowledge and lessons learned were collected by the project team. There is little or no evidence that this informed project decision making.

## **Evidence:**

Under phase 1, the project developed manuals and guidelines on earthquake resilient stone masonry construction, earthquake resilient confined masonry construction and windstorm resilient roofing system. Under Phase 2 and 3, the guidelines were further refined to incorporate lessons learned and feedbacks received from some of the village artisans attending the trainings. The project also supported the development of an audio-visual program on seismic resilient stone masonry construction for broadcasting on the national television. Project stories were posted on UND P social media pages for creating awareness and for reaching out to a bigger audience.

https://undp-bhutan.exposure.co/build-to-last

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#	File Name	Modified By	Modified On
1	AiringofAudiovisual-Stonemasonryconstructi onGuideline_7545_304 (https://intranet.undp. org/apps/ProjectQA/QAFormDocuments/Airi ngofAudiovisual-StonemasonryconstructionG uideline_7545_304.pdf)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/10/2021 6:36:00 AM
2	ConfinedMasonryConstructionguideline_754 5_304 (https://intranet.undp.org/apps/Project QA/QAFormDocuments/ConfinedMasonryConstructionguideline_7545_304.pdf)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/10/2021 10:45:00 AM

5. Was the project sufficiently at scale, or is there potential to scale up in the future, to meaningfully contribute to development change?

- 3: There was credible evidence that the project reached sufficient number of beneficiaries (either directly through significant coverage of target groups, or indirectly, through policy change) to meaningfully contribute to development change.
- ② 2: While the project was not considered at scale, there are explicit plans in place to scale up the project in the future (e.g. by extending its coverage or using project results to advocate for policy change).
- 1: The project was not at scale, and there are no plans to scale up the project in the future.

## **Evidence:**

One of the main activities under Phase 3 was to conduct a survey of building typologies in pilot districts b ased on which, vulnerability and risk assessments w ould be conducted and a centralized building invento ry system developed. Through Phase 3, the project t eam was able to conduct surveys in four districts (P aro, Punakha, Trashiyangtse and Sarpang). The De partment of Engineering Services under the Ministry of Works and Human Settlement who is the impleme nting partner for the project, has informed UNDP tha t the Royal Government of Bhutan has granted fund s for the development of building inventory for two a dditional districts. The plan is to eventually secure m ore funds from other agencies to develop the buildin g inventory for all twenty districts in the country whic h can be used by policy makers and relevant agenci es for disaster management and response activities.

QAFormDocuments/2020.12.18 ELEReport

Presentation\_7545\_305.pptx)

#	File Name	Modified By	Modified On
1	18.12.2020_ProjectClosingWorkshopPPT_7 545_305 (https://intranet.undp.org/apps/ProjectQA/QAFormDocuments/18.12.2020_ProjectClosingWorkshopPPT_7545_305.pdf)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/10/2021 10:08:00 AM
2	2020.12.18_ELEReportPresentation_7545_3 05 (https://intranet.undp.org/apps/ProjectQA/	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/10/2021 10:09:00 AM

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6. Were the project's measures (through outputs, activities, indicators) to address gender inequalities and empower women relevant and produced the intended effect? If not, evidence-based adjustments and changes were made.

- 3: The project team gathered data and evidence through project monitoring on the relevance of the measures to address gender inequalities and empower women. Analysis of data and evidence were used to inform adjustments and changes, as appropriate. (both must be true)
- 2: The project team had some data and evidence on the relevance of the measures to address gender inequalities and empower women. There is evidence that at least some adjustments were made, as appropriate. (both must be true)
- 1: The project team had limited or no evidence on the relevance of measures to address gender inequalities and empowering women. No evidence of adjustments and/or changes made. This option should also be selected if the project has no measures to address gender inequalities and empower women relevant to the project results and activities.

# Evidence:

The construction sector is a male dominated sector in Bhutan. However, through the project, local women artisans and local leaders were encouraged to participate in the trainings provided on safe construction practices. A total of 118 women participated in the various trainings provided by the project team. Refer project completion report which provides the gender disaggregated data on the beneficiaries. The exposure story for the project also covers a woman beneficiary who is a single parent and carries the responsibility of being the bread earner for the family. (https://undp-bhutan.exposure.co/build-to-last)

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7. Were social and environmental impacts and risks successfully managed and monitored?

- 3: Social and environmental risks were tracked in the risk log. Appropriate assessments conducted where required (i.e., Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for High risk projects and some level of social and environmental assessment for Moderate risk projects as identified through SESP). Relevant management plan(s) developed for identified risks through consultative process and implemented, resourced, and monitored. Risks effectively managed or mitigated. If there is a substantive change to the project or change in context that affects risk levels, the SESP was updated to reflect these changes. (all must be true)
- 2: Social and environmental risks were tracked in the risk log. Appropriate assessments conducted where required (i.e., Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for High risk projects and some level of social and environmental assessment for Moderate risk projects as identified through SESP). Relevant management plan(s) developed, implemented and monitored for identified risks. OR project was categorized as Low risk through the SESP.
- 1: Social and environmental risks were tracked in the risk log. For projects categorized as High or Moderate Risk, there was no evidence that social and environmental assessments completed and/or management plans or measures development, implemented or monitored. There are substantive changes to the project or changes in the context but SESP was not updated. (any may be true)

## **Evidence:**

There were no social and environmental implications associated with the project. The project in fact promoted the adoption of safe construction practices in terms of design and resilience towards disasters like earthquakes.

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- 8. Were grievance mechanisms available to project-affected people and were grievances (if any) addressed to ensure any perceived harm was effectively mitigated?
- 3: Project-affected people actively informed of UNDP's Corporate Accountability Mechanism (SRM/SECU) and how to access it. If the project was categorized as High or Moderate Risk through the SESP, a project -level grievance mechanism was in place and project affected people informed. If grievances were received, they were effectively addressed in accordance with SRM Guidance. (all must be true)
- 2: Project-affected people informed of UNDP's Corporate Accountability Mechanism and how to access it. If the project was categorized as High Risk through the SESP, a project -level grievance mechanism was in place and project affected people informed. If grievances were received, they were responded to but faced challenges in arriving at a resolution.
- 1: Project-affected people was not informed of UNDP's Corporate Accountability Mechanism. If grievances were received, they were not responded to. (any may be true)

#### Evidence:

Although the project did not adversely affect any gro ups of people nor were any grievances received, the project team and the beneficiaries were duly informe d of UNDP's Corporate Accountability Mechanism a nd ensured accessibility to UNDP.

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# **Management & Monitoring**

**Quality Rating: Satisfactory** 

- 9. Was the project's M&E Plan adequately implemented?
- 3: The project had a comprehensive and costed M&E plan. Baselines, targets and milestones were fully populated. Progress data against indicators in the project's RRF was reported regularly using credible data sources and collected according to the frequency stated in the Plan, including sex disaggregated data as relevant. Any evaluations conducted, if relevant, fully meet decentralized evaluation standards, including gender UNEG standards. Lessons learned, included during evaluations and/or After-Action Reviews, were used to take corrective actions when necessary. (all must be true)
- 2: The project costed M&E Plan, and most baselines and targets were populated. Progress data against indicators in the project's RRF was collected on a regular basis, although there was may be some slippage in following the frequency stated in the Plan and data sources was not always reliable. Any evaluations conducted, if relevant, met most decentralized evaluation standards. Lessons learned were captured but were used to take corrective actions. (all must be true)
- 1: The project had M&E Plan, but costs were not clearly planned and budgeted for, or were unrealistic. Progress data was not regularly collected against the indicators in the project's RRF. Evaluations did not meet decentralized evaluation standards. Lessons learned were rarely captured and used. Select this option also if the project did not have an M&E plan.

# **Evidence:**

UNDP allocated some budget for carrying out field monitoring and assurance activities for the project. U NDP participated as an observer for three artisans tr aining programs conducted by the implementing part ner in 2018 and 2019 and also joined a field visit to one of the project sites. Standard progress reports a re submitted every quarter to report the project progress with gender disaggregated data. A more detaile d presentation is also made during the mid year and end-year Outcome Group meetings. UNDP also nud ged the IP into conducting a tracer survey to study the impact of the trainings provided and the level of a doption of the safe construction guidelines.

#	File Name	Modified By	Modified On
1	BTORartisanstraininginWangdueDec2018UN DPUSAID_7545_309 (https://intranet.undp.org/apps/ProjectQA/QAFormDocuments/BTORartisanstraininginWangdueDec2018UNDPUSAID_7545_309.docx)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/10/2021 6:51:00 AM
2	TracersurveyReportjuly2020_7545_309 (https://intranet.undp.org/apps/ProjectQA/QAFormDocuments/TracersurveyReportjuly2020_7545_309.pdf)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/10/2021 6:55:00 AM
3	TracerSurvey_MongarDec2020_7545_309 (https://intranet.undp.org/apps/ProjectQA/QA FormDocuments/TracerSurvey_MongarDec2 020_7545_309.docx)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/10/2021 6:58:00 AM

<sup>10.</sup> Was the project's governance mechanism (i.e., the project board or equivalent) function as intended?

- 3: The project's governance mechanism operated well, and was a model for other projects. It met in the agreed frequency stated in the project document and the minutes of the meetings were all on file. There was regular (at least annual) progress reporting to the project board or equivalent on results, risks and opportunities. It is clear that the project board explicitly reviewed and used evidence, including progress data, knowledge, lessons and evaluations, as the basis for informing management decisions (e.g., change in strategy, approach, work plan.) (all must be true to select this option)
- 2: The project's governance mechanism met in the agreed frequency and minutes of the meeting are on file. A project progress report was submitted to the project board or equivalent at least once per year, covering results, risks and opportunities. (both must be true to select this option)
- 1: The project's governance mechanism did not meet in the frequency stated in the project document over the past year and/or the project board or equivalent was not functioning as a decision-making body for the project as intended.

# Evidence:

The Project technical steering committee includes m embers from the UNDP, Gross National Happiness Commission, the Policy and Planning Division (PPD) and Department of Engineering Services (DES) und er the Ministry of Works and Human Settlement. The committee convened for the inception meeting in Ma rch 2018 and again in August 2020 to review the pro ject's progress and to provide strategic guidance. The committee members were also present for the project closing workshop in December 2020.

#	File Name	Modified By	Modified On
1	2018.03.02USAIDPhaseIIIMinutesofInceptio nMeeting_7545_310 (https://intranet.undp.or g/apps/ProjectQA/QAFormDocuments/2018. 03.02USAIDPhaseIIIMinutesofInceptionMeeti ng_7545_310.docx)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/10/2021 7:03:00 AM
2	ProjectSteeringCommitteemeetingminutes4A ug2020_7545_310 (https://intranet.undp.org/apps/ProjectQA/QAFormDocuments/Project SteeringCommitteemeetingminutes4Aug202 0_7545_310.pdf)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/10/2021 7:03:00 AM
3	SoE_UNDPClosingWorkshop_7545_310 (htt ps://intranet.undp.org/apps/ProjectQA/QAFor mDocuments/SoE_UNDPClosingWorkshop_7545_310.pdf)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/14/2021 4:15:00 PM

11. Were risks to the project adequately monitored and managed?

- 3: The project monitored risks every quarter and consulted with the key stakeholders, security advisors, to identify continuing and emerging risks to assess if the main assumptions remained valid. There is clear evidence that relevant management plans and mitigating measures were fully implemented to address each key project risk and were updated to reflect the latest risk assessment. (all must be true)
- 2: The project monitored risks every year, as evidenced by an updated risk log. Some updates were made to management plans and mitigation measures.
- 1: The risk log was not updated as required. There was may be some evidence that the project monitored risks that may affected the project's achievement of results, but there is no explicit evidence that management actions were taken to mitigate risks.

# **Evidence:**

The risks associated with the project was monitored regularly and discussions held with the project team on a frequent basis. Although the risks were relativel y low for this project, some disruptions were caused by the COVID restrictions and hence a no-cost time extension was processed for the project until December 2020 to complete all the project activities.

# **List of Uploaded Documents**

#	File Name	Modified By	Modified On
1	NoCostExtensionforUSAIDproject-GNHC-DE S_7545_311 (https://intranet.undp.org/apps/ProjectQA/QAFormDocuments/NoCostExtensionforUSAIDproject-GNHC-DES_7545_311.pdf)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/10/2021 7:09:00 AM
2	RequestforNCEforUSAIDPhase3project_754 5_311 (https://intranet.undp.org/apps/Project QA/QAFormDocuments/RequestforNCEforU SAIDPhase3project_7545_311.pdf)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/10/2021 7:09:00 AM
3	Programriskassessment_7545_311 (https://intranet.undp.org/apps/ProjectQA/QAFormDocuments/Programriskassessment_7545_311.x lsx)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/10/2021 9:35:00 AM

# Efficient Quality Rating: Satisfactory

12. Adequate resources were mobilized to achieve intended results. If not, management decisions were taken to adjust expected results in the project's results framework.

Yes
No

## **Evidence:**

Phase 3 was approved for an amount of USD250,00 0 for a period of three years from November 2017 to June 2020. A no-cost time extension was requested until December 2020 to make up for the implementat ion delays caused by COVID 19 in 2020. The project team was able to accomplish all the targets set for the project as per the project document.

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- 13. Were project inputs procured and delivered on time to efficiently contribute to results?
- 3: The project had a procurement plan and kept it updated. The project quarterly reviewed operational bottlenecks to procuring inputs in a timely manner and addressed them through appropriate management actions. (all must be true)
- 2: The project had updated procurement plan. The project annually reviewed operational bottlenecks to procuring inputs in a timely manner and addressed them through appropriate management actions. (all must be true)
- 1: The project did not have an updated procurement plan. The project team may or may not have reviewed operational bottlenecks to procuring inputs regularly, however management actions were not taken to address them.

## Evidence:

The project is nationally implemented and most activ ities were carried out by the implementing governme nt agency. UNDP supported the implementing partn er with the direct disbursement of per diem and pay ment to suppliers during the artisans trainings conducted in 2019 to save time and for cost efficiency.

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#	File Name	Modified By	Modified On
1	SeekingCOSupporttoNIMfromUNDP_7545_3 13 (https://intranet.undp.org/apps/ProjectQA/ QAFormDocuments/SeekingCOSupporttoNI MfromUNDP_7545_313.msg)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/14/2021 4:32:00 PM

- 14. Was there regular monitoring and recording of cost efficiencies, taking into account the expected quality of results?
- 3: There is evidence that the project regularly reviewed costs against relevant comparators (e.g., other projects or country offices) or industry benchmarks to ensure the project maximized results delivered with given resources. The project actively coordinated with other relevant ongoing projects and initiatives (UNDP or other) to ensure complementarity and sought efficiencies wherever possible (e.g. joint activities.) (both must be true)
- 2: The project monitored its own costs and gave anecdotal examples of cost efficiencies (e.g., spending less to get the same result,) but there was no systematic analysis of costs and no link to the expected quality of results delivered. The project coordinated activities with other projects to achieve cost efficiency gains.
- 1: There is little or no evidence that the project monitored its own costs and considered ways to save money beyond following standard procurement rules.

## **Evidence:**

Due to the lengthy procurement procedures in the G overnment and also to save transaction costs, UND P was requested to support with the direct disburse ment of per diem to the training participants and pay ment to suppliers in 2019.

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# Effective Quality Rating: Satisfactory

15. Was the project on track and delivered its expected outputs?

Yes
No

### **Evidence:**

Despite restrictions created by the COVID 19 pande mic in 2020, the project team was able to successful ly fulfill all the intended targets and outputs set in the approved project document.

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- 16. Were there regular reviews of the work plan to ensure that the project was on track to achieve the desired results, and to inform course corrections if needed?
- 3: Quarterly progress data informed regular reviews of the project work plan to ensure that the activities implemented were most likely to achieve the desired results. There is evidence that data and lessons learned (including from evaluations /or After-Action Reviews) were used to inform course corrections, as needed. Any necessary budget revisions were made. (both must be true)
- 2: There was at least one review of the work plan per year with a view to assessing if project activities were on track to achieving the desired development results (i.e., outputs.) There may or may not be evidence that data or lessons learned were used to inform the review(s). Any necessary budget revisions have been made.
- 1: While the project team may have reviewed the work plan at least once over the past year to ensure outputs were delivered on time, no link was made to the delivery of desired development results. Select this option also if no review of the work plan by management took place.

## **Evidence:**

UNDP team was in regular contact with the project manager to get updates and track the project progre ss. The project progress is also presented at the mid -year and end-year Outcome group meetings and an y changes in activities are discussed and approved by the Outcome group meetings.

List of Uploaded Documents			
#	File Name	Modified By	Modified On
1	PhaseIIIWorkplanfinalasofMarch2018_7545_ 316 (https://intranet.undp.org/apps/ProjectQ A/QAFormDocuments/PhaseIIIWorkplanfinal asofMarch2018_7545_316.xlsx)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/10/2021 9:38:00 AM
2	WorkplanforQ3andQ42019_7545_316 (https://intranet.undp.org/apps/ProjectQA/QAFormDocuments/WorkplanforQ3andQ42019_7545_316.xlsx)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/10/2021 9:39:00 AM
3	ProposedactivitiesforUNDP-USAIDprojectApr il2020_7545_316 (https://intranet.undp.org/a pps/ProjectQA/QAFormDocuments/Propose dactivitiesforUNDP-USAIDprojectApril2020_7545_316.docx)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/10/2021 9:39:00 AM
4	DESpresentationforOutcome4nidyearreview_7545_316 (https://intranet.undp.org/apps/ProjectQA/QAFormDocuments/DESpresentationforOutcome4nidyearreview_7545_316.pptx)	tshering.palden@undp.org	2/10/2021 9:28:00 AM

17. Were the targeted groups systematically identified and engaged, prioritizing the marginalized and excluded, to ensure results were achieved as expected?

- 3: The project targeted specific groups and/or geographic areas, identified by using credible data sources on their capacity needs, deprivation and/or exclusion from development opportunities relevant to the project's area of work. There is clear evidence that the targeted groups were reached as intended. The project engaged regularly with targeted groups over the past year to assess whether they benefited as expected and adjustments were made if necessary, to refine targeting. (all must be true)
- 2: The project targeted specific groups and/or geographic areas, based on some evidence of their capacity needs, deprivation and/or exclusion from development opportunities relevant to the project's area of work. Some evidence is provided to confirm that project beneficiaries are members of the targeted groups. There was some engagement with beneficiaries in the past year to assess whether they were benefiting as expected. (all must be true)
- 1: The project did not report on specific targeted groups. There is no evidence to confirm that project beneficiaries are populations have capacity needs or are deprived and/or excluded from development opportunities relevant to the project area of work. There is some engagement with beneficiaries to assess whether they benefited as expected, but it was limited or did not occurred in the past year.
- Not Applicable

## **Evidence:**

The project provided trainings on disaster resilient c onstruction practices to participants from all twenty d istricts in the country. The project specifically targete d local engineers, technicians, masons, carpenters a nd local leaders to create awareness and build their capacity and skills on safe construction practices mainly due to the fact that the country falls under a high seismic zone.

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# **Sustainability & National Ownership**

**Quality Rating: Satisfactory** 

- 18. Were stakeholders and national partners fully engaged in the decision-making, implementation and monitoring of the project?
- 3: Only national systems (i.e., procurement, monitoring, evaluation, etc.) were used to fully implement and monitor the project. All relevant stakeholders and partners were fully and actively engaged in the process, playing a lead role in project decision-making, implementation and monitoring. (both must be true)
- 2: National systems (i.e., procurement, monitoring, evaluation, etc.) were used to implement and monitor the project (such as country office support or project systems) were also used, if necessary. All relevant stakeholders and partners were actively engaged in the process, playing an active role in project decision-making, implementation and monitoring. (both must be true)
- 1: There was relatively limited or no engagement with national stakeholders and partners in the decision-making, implementation and/or monitoring of the project.
- Not Applicable

## **Evidence:**

The project was implemented under NIM modality a nd full ownership lies with the Government. Howeve r, UNDP maintained close oversight of the project pr ogress and ensured timely implementation of the act ivities through regular informal discussions, quarterly review meetings and annual on-site reviews to check the records and maintenance of proper documentation. UNDP also provided support with procurement activities and guidance throughout the project period.

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- 19. Were there regular monitoring of changes in capacities and performance of institutions and systems relevant to the project, as needed, and were the implementation arrangements<sup>8</sup> adjusted according to changes in partner capacities?
- 3: Changes in capacities and performance of national institutions and systems were assessed/monitored using clear indicators, rigorous methods of data collection and credible data sources including relevant HACT assurance activities. Implementation arrangements were formally reviewed and adjusted, if needed, in agreement with partners according to changes in partner capacities. (all must be true)
- 2: Aspects of changes in capacities and performance of relevant national institutions and systems were monitored by the project using indicators and reasonably credible data sources including relevant HACT assurance activities. Some adjustment was made to implementation arrangements if needed to reflect changes in partner capacities. (all must be true)
- 1: Some aspects of changes in capacities and performance of relevant national institutions and systems may have been monitored by the project, however changes to implementation arrangements have not been considered. Also select this option if changes in capacities and performance of relevant national institutions and systems have not been monitored by the project.
- Not Applicable

## **Evidence:**

The project is implemented by the Department of En gineering Services of the Ministry of Works and Hum an Settlement. The Division assigned to the project is the focal agency in the Government responsible for the development and institution of appropriate construction technologies. The project team consists of engineers trained as trainers and experts on various construction practices through this project.

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- 20. Were the transition and phase-out arrangements were reviewed and adjusted according to progress (including financial commitment and capacity).
- 3: The project's governance mechanism regularly reviewed the project's sustainability plan, including arrangements for transition and phase-out, to ensure the project remained on track in meeting the requirements set out by the plan. The plan was implemented as planned by the end of the project, taking into account any adjustments made during implementation. (both must be true)
- 2: There was a review of the project's sustainability plan, including arrangements for transition and phase-out, to ensure the project remained on track in meeting the requirements set out by the plan.
- 1: The project may have had a sustainability plan but there was no review of this strategy after it was developed. Also select this option if the project did not have a sustainability strategy.

## **Evidence:**

Based on the donor's decision, it was communicated to the implementing agency that there will be no furt her funding for the project. Therefore the Royal Gov ernment of Bhutan has allocated some funding to de velop the building inventory for two more districts. T he Department intends to explore for resources thro ugh collaboration with other interested agencies and eventually develop a centralized building inventory s ystem for the entire nation.

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QA Summary/Final Project Board Comments