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 **Annual Project Report 2018**

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| **Project title:** Capacity Building For Mainstreaming MEA Objectives Into Inter-Ministerial Structures And Mechanisms |
| **Country:** Fiji | **Implementing Partner:** Ministry of Waterways and Environment (MWE) | **Management Arrangements:** NIM |
| **Atlas Project ID/Award ID number:** 00083221 | **Atlas Output ID/Project ID number:** 00091812 |
| **UNDP-GEF PIMS ID number:** 4727 | **GEF ID number:** 5166 |
| **Project start date (ProDoc signature date):** 26-Mar-2015 | **Original Planned project closing date:** 26-Mar-2018 |
| **Revised project closing date:** 26-Sep-2019 |
| **Financing Plan & Expenditures** |
| Total GEF Grant (U$S): 611,364 | Total Co-financing (as planned in CEO endorsement request) (U$S): 1,175,000 |
| GEF Grant Disbursed as of 14/09 (U$S): 148,500 | GEF Grant Annual Expenditures (U$S): 2015: 2.26 2016: 32,595.492017: 93,084.782018: 4,159.52 (as of 13 Dec 2018) |
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| *Links to media coverage* | *N/A* |
| **Brief project summary:**  |
| This project is in line with the following CCCD Programme Objectives: i) CD 3 - Strengthening capacities to develop policy and legislative frameworks; ii) CD 4 - Strengthening capacities to implement and manage global convention guidelines; and, to some extent iii) CD 5 – Enhancing capacities to monitor and evaluate environmental impacts and trends. It is a direct response to the GEF-funded National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) project conducted in Fiji during the period of 2006-2010, which, through its endorsement by the National Environment Council (NEC) in early 2010, prioritized cross-cutting capacity issues related to the implementation of the Rio Conventions. It addresses the identified cross-cutting issues including the review and formulation of relevant legislations and policies; the promotion and establishment of cross-sector cooperation; the establishment of proper performance and reporting mechanisms; the establishment of sustainable financing mechanisms; the establishment of a systematic research and monitoring system; the development and the support of relevant training and education; and the strengthening of communication and awareness raising. Through a learning-by-doing process, this project will strengthen the capacities of individuals and institutions involved in environmental management in Fiji to coordinate better, make better decisions addressing global environmental issues and mainstream global environmental issues into national legislation, policies, plans and programmes. Under the first component, the project will focus on assessing and structuring an improved consultative and decision-making process that effectively integrates global environmental objectives into existing national environmental legislation. The project will support the development of capacities of decision-makers to interpret and agree on how best to govern the environment in Fiji that not only meets national priorities, but also global environmental obligations. This component will focus on the processes to facilitate these decisions. This component will also include strengthening the process to engage, coordinate and collaborate with non-governmental stakeholders, such as NGOs, civil society, private sector and academia. Under the second component, the project will focus on reconciling and strengthening the set of legislative instruments - inclusive of key national policies and programmes – that are used to govern environmental management and ensure that these instruments are aligned with Fiji’s MEA obligations. This will help Fiji to improve its compliance with various related Multilateral Environmental Agreement (MEAs), particularly the three Rio Conventions. |
| **Link to Project QA assessment implementation report for the reporting period:** | [**Project QA Implementation Assessment Report Link**](https://intranet.undp.org/sites/FJI/project/00083221/SitePages/ImplementationMonitoringFormV3.aspx?year=2018) |

# **I. Executive Summary**

*A concise brief on the progress towards the Project key deliverables, and outputs (project output is the same as CPAP output), related to Country Programme Outcome and SP Output and Outcome during the reporting period. The section should also include key results related to the capacity development, gender equality (marker), environment and social safeguard, partnership, South-South and Triangular Cooperation efforts, implementation issues/challenges and the main lessons learnt.*

*The project has reviewed 22 government institutions whose mandates includes the implementation of Fiji’s obligation under the Rio Conventions. The project has hosted two national capacity-building workshops for Government Institutions and agencies discussing activities related to environment management programmes, designed and implemented by each sector as commitment to the convention obligations. Various government institutions have existing gaps and overlaps in relation to implementing the Rio Conventions; the project has identified and is working towards streamlining a strategy to address institutional gaps and overlaps. Capacities of staff in relation to the Rio Conventions have been developed in relation to the understanding of the Rio Conventions. National Focal Point (NFP) training workshop builds capacities of staff to execute convention obligations, hence actively participating in all project activities. A National Action Plan (NAP) workshop was conducted in quarter 2, 2018 for Agriculture, Forests, Fisheries and Waterways. Capacity building is always part of all activities to determine the linkages between UNCCD, UNFCCC, UNCBD, on climate change, land degradation and biodiversity issues. The Environment Management Units and Environment Committees that sits with key stakeholders from government institutions and private sectors were trained on streamlining the UNCBD/UNCCD/UNFCCC requirements and the functions of the Environment Management Act. After the training, ministries without an established Environment Management Unit (EMU) have shown interest to establish one. In addition, the roles of the conservation officers have been identified and linkages have been developed on their work in relation to the Rio Convention.*

*The project has analysed existing coordination mechanisms (National Environment Council (NEC), National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan (NBSAP) Committee, National Land Care Steering Committee NLCSC)), analysis based on the operation of the council as a coordination mechanism for every environmental related activities and issues. There are existing gaps and challenges faced by the council and the project is recommending various ways to improve the operations of the council. A coordination mechanism, developed during Nation Action Plan Consultation and EMU Training workshops, analysed, collated and simplified into a flow chart that connects all partners to the focal point. The National Action Plan containing coordination mechanism for UNCCD is yet to be endorsed but there has to be a national consultation widely before official endorsement in Cabinet.*

*Raising awareness to decision makers is a continuous activity. Introducing CB2/CCCD project, its components and role and the respective obligations covered under the Rio Conventions with the stakeholders. The project is working towards developing a standard inter-sectorial coordination mechanism after the analysis of all proposed mechanisms. The standard mechanism, more simplified, will address gaps and limitations on the processes and procedures, institutional networking and collaborations.*

*The first NGOs workshop was conducted on 9 March 2018 and this activity involved non-government institutions that had a role in implementing Fiji’s Rio Convention obligation. There will be another consultation for non-government actors to allow all parties to analyse findings of the first NGO consultation and information gathered by research and desktop review. The improved coordination mechanism between government institutions and non-government organizations will set the scene of better coordination and effective future Rio Convention implementation. The project will move on in identifying strategies for improved engagements of government institutions and non-government organizations and develop in-house training materials/training tool kit/training manual for NGO's, Academia, CBO/Faith based organizations and private sectors.*

*The project financially and technically supported the development of the NBSAP & Implementation Framework (UNCBD) and the development of the NAP (UNCCD) and the Nationally Determined Contribution cabinet approval (UNFCCC).* *Consultants will be hired to revise some of the legal aspects and legal review processes; TOR is ready and will be using the UNDP’s procurement process to recruit the consultant. The legal tool that is used to address UNCBD obligations in Fiji is the NBSAP Policy Document with its Implementation Framework. Rio convention alignment has been compiled to indicate the alignment of NBSAP and other relating policy to the UNCBD requirement to Fiji’s Environmental initiatives. NBSAP is ready for cabinet endorsement while IF has been finalized and printed. The NAP is yet to be developed and the NDC has been endorsed by cabinet. The National Action Programme workshop and an Environment Management Unit workshop communicated various environmental legislations and processes to the participants. In addition, awareness will be undertaken once the policy document endorsed by cabinet.*

*After the assessment of all existing environmental indicators, a standard set of indicators and monitoring guidelines will be developed as an overall guideline for all government partners. Research is continuing in this area. Project team is currently combining baseline data set on existing efforts and legal systems that support-financing mechanism. The project will attempt to work with all NFPs and approving authorities to create an indicator monitoring systems. In addition, international and existing Payment for Ecosystem Services is also researched with recommendations of up scaling for good practices measure. The development of a Monitoring and Environmental Indicator Guideline and the development of Fiji’s Sustainable Financing Mechanism is part of consultancy works.*

*At least 40% of training workshop participants are women and as part of the project visibility, merchandises including T-shirts, pens, USB’s, eco-bags, umbrella, mugs, spiral notebooks and water bottles have been developed and distributed widely to various ministries, agencies, NGOs and internal workshops and training participants and national events such as Environment Week and World UNCCD day*

# **II. Implementation Progress**

## ***Progress toward Development Objective:***

*For each indicator, the Project Manager should enter the cumulative progress since project start directly into the box in the far right column.*

| **Objectives and Outcomes** | **Indicator** | **Baseline** | **Targets****End of Project** | **Status of Implementation as of June 2018** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Objective:** To integrate and institutionalize inter-ministerial decision-making for MEA implementation. | 1. Alignment of institutional framework with the objectives and obligations of the Rio Conventions.
 | * Fiji is committed to meet its MEAs obligations; however, some critical gaps in its institutional framework exist; including an uneven capacity within key ministries
 | * Conventions obligations are well integrated into institutional framework
 | * At least 22 government institutions mandates have been reviewed and most institutional frameworks are aligned to the Rio Convention obligations
* Gaps and Overlap analysis indicated few issues that will be addressed by the project by developing a strategy to address these gaps and challenges. This is part of the Consultants work and should be finalized by May 2019
 |
|  | 1. Alignment of legislative and policy frameworks with the objectives and obligations of the Rio Conventions.
 | * Similar to its institutional framework, some critical gaps in its legal and policy frameworks exist
 | * MEAs obligations are well integrated into legislative and policy frameworks
 | * The National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan and its Implementation Framework (UNCBD), Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and its Roadmap, National Climate Change Policy (UNFCCC) and the National Action Plan (UNCCD) have been reviewed and most policy frameworks are aligned to the obligations of the Rio Conventions. Consultants will be working on the addressing gaps and overlaps identified in the reviews. Consultant should be hired before the end of December 2018
 |
|  | 1. Capacity development monitoring scorecard rating
 | Capacity for: * Engagement: 6of9
* Generate, access and use information and knowledge: 7 of 15
* Policy and legislation development: 6of9
* Management and implementation: 3 of 6
* Monitor and evaluate: 2 of 6

(total score: 24/45) | Capacity for: * Engagement: 7 of 9
* Generate, access and use information and knowledge: 10 of 15
* Policy and legislation development: 8 of 9
* Management and implementation: 5 of 6
* Monitor and evaluate: 4 of 6

(total targeted score: 34/45) | * The project is engaging with 22 government intuitions and agencies and 12 non-government organizations
* Most government and non-government intuitions have access and use of information through established MOUs and MOAs
* The project supported technically and financially the development and implementation of the NBSAP & IF, NDC, ABS and NAP.
* The project is supporting technically the management and implementation of the existing Rio Conventions technical working groups e.g. established Fiji Invasive Species Taskforce, Integrated Coastal Management Committee, Inland Waters, Sustainable Land Care Management Committees
* The CD score card will be completed for TE in February 2019.
 |
| **Outcome 1:** The institutional framework is strengthened and more coordinated, and more able to address global environmental concerns.**Output 1.1**Institutions with clear mandates and responsibilities to implement MEAs**Output 1.2**An operational inter-sectorial coordination mechanism for implementing MEAs.**Output 1.3**Improved contribution from NGO sector, Academia, CBO/Faith based organizations and private sector to implement MEAs. | 1. Strategies implemented that address prioritized institutional gaps and overlaps in respective government MEA convention focal points.
 | * Relevant policies (what are the policies?), national strategies (what are the strategies?), institutional set-ups (#? type?), endorsed by Govt from 2008 to 2013
 | * Re-structure of institutions to fully comply to obligations under MEAs
 | * Gaps, overlaps and strategies have been developed using outcomes of the National Consultation Workshops for government institutions and agencies
* Most institutions comply to Rio Convention obligations, however, recommended strategies to overcome gaps and overlaps will be communicated to various government and non-government organizations
 |
| 1. Number of relevant government institutions represented in training that effectively execute these strategies
 | * Insert number of relevant institutions trained in since 2010
 | * All relevant institutions trained, improved quality of national reports produced (e.g. national communications, 5th National Report, etc.)
 | * At least 22 government institutions and agencies and 12 non-government organizations are represented in all training workshops
* Fiji is working on its 3rd National Report to UNFCCC; the Climate Change Division of the Ministry of Economy is responsible for collating the report, 6th National Report to UNCBD; Department of Environment is responsible and 2nd National Report to UNCCD; Ministry of Agriculture is responsible. Reports undergoes rigorous national consultations and are then passed through the Fiji Cabinet before forwarding that to the various convention secretariats.
* As much as possible the project tries to ensure gender parity in participants number attending the trainings, with 50% women and the other 50% men
 |
| 1. Percentage of Environmental Management Units and conservation officers supported in the reporting and monitoring of MEAs
 | * Insert percentage of relevant EMUs and conservation officers trained in since 2010
 | * 100% of relevant EMUs and conservation officers trained
 | * At least 17 Environment Management Unit staffs and 14 conservation officers (one per province for the 14 provinces of the Fiji Islands) have been trained on the reporting and monitoring of MEAs
 |
| 1. An operational inter-sectorial coordination mechanism) that build on existing instruments such as NEC, NBSAP committee, NCCCC, NLCSC, etc.
 | * Three existing mechanisms are operational, however there is very little
* inter-sectorial coordination.
 | * Coordinating MEAs including a broader stakeholder involvement
 | * Existing instruments such as NEC, NBSAP, NLCSC have been reviewed and inter-sectorial coordination mechanism developed
 |
| 1. Policy decisions supported through improved MEA awareness.
 | * Limited awareness of policy-makers
 | * Adoption of policy-papers at various levels (ministries, Cabinet, NEC)
 | * Project has supported the NBSAP (awaiting cabinet approval), supporting development of the NBSAP IF), supported the NDC (approved by cabinet) and supporting the development of the NAP and the ABS Implementation Framework
 |
| 1. Endorsed annual work plans for MEAs (from government, NGOs, Academia, CBOs/Faith Organizations and private sector) to support government's MEA obligations.
 | * Validated MOUs/NBSAP/draft NAP/CC Policy
 | * Renewed commitments under annual work plans with specific budgets
 | * Most AWPs for government and non-government organizations supports government MEAs obligations through their various policies and are also aligned to government 5 years and 20 years national development plans
 |
| **OUTCOME 2:** Global environmental objectives are reconciled and integrated into national legislation, policy, strategies and planning frameworks.**Output 2.1**Revised legislation and policies addressing MEAs obligations.**Output 2.2**An effective system to monitor implementation of MEAs.**Output 2.3**Guidelines for Sustainable financing mechanisms developed  | 1. An analytical legal framework for the three MEAs emerging issues
 | * Currently, 56 legislations exist that need to be improved to incorporate MEAs and emerging issues
 | * Legal framework / instructions developed for the three MEAs and emerging issues
 | * Development and reviews of legal frameworks will be core part of consultancy. Consultants will be recruited on the week of 24th December 2018, TOR has been developed, and the UNDP procurement unit in their attempt to expedite the hiring process has guided the project to a desk review. The desk review is on the consultancies recommended by the project management unit for its technical capability and efficiency for the consultancy work at hand. The successful consultant’s work is to be completed by May 2019.
 |
| 1. Number of institutions that are actively involved in the formulation of environmental legal framework.
 | * 3 (Department of Environment, the Fiji Environment Law Association, and the Solicitor-General's Office)
 | * 5 institutions (2 additional - Climate Change Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Corporation; and the Land Use Division of the Ministry of Agriculture)
 | * Department of Environment (Ministry of Waterways and Environment), Fiji Environment Law Association, Solicitor General’s Office, Climate Change Division (Ministry of Economy), Research Division (Ministry of Agriculture)
 |
| 1. Number of individual MEA monitoring systems upgraded and operational (with strong guidelines, data collection methods, data norms and standards, database structures, and data sharing), and a centralized data bank.
 | * Each institution has its own database/data sets, which need to be upgraded and fed into a centralized data bank.
 | * Indicator-based monitoring systems in all institutions, and a central data bank established.
 | * Desktop review on UNFCCC, UNCBD and UNCCD monitoring systems and reports submitted, an integrated work plan for a central data bank is proposed. This is part of the consultant’s work as well
 |
| 1. Comparative analysis of research on Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) based on national and international practices
 | * Environmental Financing Mechanisms currently in place/ practice and other relevant research materials
 | * Formalized MEAs sustainable financing mechanisms
 | * Desktop review done on PES and reports yet to be submitted. This is part of the consultants work as well

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## ***Key outputs delivered during reporting period:***

| **Project Outcome** | **Key Outputs for the 2018 reporting period from July 2017 to June 2018** |
| --- | --- |
| Output 1.1 | Activity 1.1.1* An information template circulated to key government ministries and agencies to gather information on the role they play in implementing MEA obligation and related activities, policies and legislations, gaps/challenges.
* *Government Ministries, Information received from:*
* Ministry of Forests; Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport; Ministry of Environment; Ministry of Economy - Climate Change Unit (National Communications Project); Ministry of Health & Medical Services; Ministry of Agriculture; Ministry of Youth &Sports; Ministry of Education; Ministry of Land and Mineral Resource; Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development; Ministry of Fisheries; Ministry of iTaukei Affairs*.*
* *Agencies:*
* iTaukei Affairs Board; Fiji Islands Revenue and Customs Services; Land Transport Authority; Fiji Roads Authority; Water Authority of Fiji; Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji; Fiji Electricity Authority and Biosecurity Authority of Fiji [BAF]
* Continuing activity to include the gaps, challenges and way forward
* Ministries priorities differ according to planned activities under respective business plans and lack of awareness on the implementation of activities in relation to the MEAs (UNFCCC, UNCCD, and UNCBD) and reporting to the focal points.
* National Consultation – National Consultation Workshops (NCW) I and II, validated information collected. Templates received had been discussed
* Discussed issues had been analyzed in a report and submitted.
* A stakeholders meeting between GEF focal points was conducted in Nadi to discuss on national policies of implementing MEAs.
* Government Ministry(s)
* Identified - 16
* Templates Submitted - 8
* Government Agency(s)
* Identified - 9
* Templates Submitted - 5
* EMU and NAP consultation workshops - MEA related activities mapped.

Activity 1.1.2 * Strategies developed with iTaukei Affairs Board (iTAB) & Ministry of iTaukei Affairs (MTA)
* Institutional gaps & overlaps in respective conventional focal points had been identified and prioritized
* National Consultation Workshop had generated discussion and ideas of developing strategies to address identified gaps and challenges.
* Identified in NCW I and NCW II for prioritization.
* Strategies that will address prioritized institutional gaps were developed but will be streamlined to line ministries and agencies.

Activity 1.1.3• Capacity building for MTA/ITAB provincial office and conservation officers.• Capacity building on line ministries/agencies strategies during workshops and courtesy visits.• Capacity building was carried out successfully on the relevancy of the project to the Agriculture based workshop in Nadave, where the project coordinator delivered the aspects of the 3 conventions and how the project is implementing its requirements through capacity building. The participants were enlightened with the importance of the FNBSAP, which is the national policy document, and Ministry of Agriculture is a one of the key partner in combating land degradation and desertification. Capacity building was also undertaken during the Non-Government Organization workshop at “Devos on the Park” where participants are enlightened on the nature of the project, the link to the 3 conventions and what is Fiji currently doing in meeting each convention obligation.* As usual, capacity building is always part of all activities carried out by the MEA Officer. Recent capacity building was for the National Action Plan stakeholder that sits with Ministry of Agriculture. Capacity building was on the link between UNFCCC, UNCCD and UNCBD, whenever there is land degradations there is bio-diversity loss. There was also capacity building to the new representatives from line ministries, agencies and private sectors as majority of them are not aware about UNCBD and its requirements.
* The project officer was also part of the FIST, Wetlands Committee meeting where CB2 role in the implementation of NBSAP was outlined, towards the implementation of the NBSAP &IF.

Activity 1.1.4• Capacity enhancement for approving authorities with the Environment Impact assessment and Ozone Depleting Substance Unit- Training on EMA 2005• Consultation and Training for 14 Conservation Officers had been conducted• Training of Environment Management Units and Environment Committees from key government institutions and private sectors stakeholders was carried out in the Northern Division, Western Division and Central Division streamlining MEA requirements to respective sectors in the 3 divisions and simultaneously capturing updates and training on the implications of the Environment Management Act.Activity 1.1.5 • Activity completed • Case studies on 10 communities in Serua (build on existing work by FLMMA) and Tailevu Yaubula Management Committee • This activity had been completed but there will always be a follow up on the established mechanism.• Project team meets with Roko Tui Serua and Senior Assistant Roko Tui Serua at Ministry of Environment Conference Room. The meeting was on the report that is yet to be submitted by Serua Provincial Office about the fund allocated for the case study on 10 communities in Serua. |
| Output 1.2 | Activity 1.2.1 • NBSAP/NBSAP IF had been reviewed and has been finalized and awaiting for endorsement by cabinet. • MEA Officer technically supported the review of the document and contributed to the designing of activities in each thematic area.• Identification of roles of Conservation Officers in implementing MEA obligations• National Environment Council had been reviewed and currently active.• Reviewed of the Conservation Officers Coordination mechanism addressing inter-sectoral issues• Feedbacks received from line government institutions shared ideas on institutional networks and inter-sectoral activities addressed by existing mechanisms.• Technical Focal point meeting reflects the updates on the review of National Policy such as NBSAP, NAP & NCP.• National Environment Council - analyzing the operation of the Council as a coordination mechanism for every environmental activities and issues • NEC reviewedActivity 1.2.2 • NBSAP & IF had already in place. A successful coordination mechanism that allows thematic working groups to share information and collaborate effectively• The National Environment Council has returned to force after a period of dormancy.• Designed set of coordination mechanism for Conservation Officers under iTAB• A proposed inter-sectoral coordination mechanism was developed during NCW II addressing changes on existing environmental reporting and coordination mechanism, which brings down the Department of Environment to take the coordination role and as a focal point for the international treaties.• UNCCD Coordination mechanisms were also developed during NAP Consultation and EMU Training. These coordination mechanisms will be analyses and collated into one with a more simplified linkages that connects all partners to the focal point.• Numerous mechanisms options developed in the NCW I&II consultations, trainings and workshops. Strategies proposed by relevant stakeholders will address inter-sectoral coordination issues such as reporting, networking, collaboration and the coordination of environmental issues.Activity 1.2.3• Part of this activity was completed with iTaukei Affairs Board where CB2/CCCD project recommended for appropriate coordination and reporting mechanisms for the conservation officers and MEA focal points, the project will proceed with formalizing the mechanism through consultations and cabinet endorsement.• This activity has already been completed for the UNFCCC Focal Point (Climate Change Unit). • The NBSAP & Implementation Framework has been finalized with cabinet paper being reviewed before final submission for endorsement.• The proposed inter-sectoral coordination mechanism will be finalized by the consultant• A standard inter-sectoral coordination mechanism developed after analyzing all the proposed mechanisms.Activity 1.2.4 • This was a continuous program conducted in the last two quarters with a wide number of stakeholders in the Western Division, Northern and the Central Division. • A continuous program conducted in the last three quarters with a wide number of stakeholders in the Central/Western and Northern Division.• Raising awareness was continuously undertaken in workshops, meetings and consultation where CB2/CCCD Project was involved and decision makers are present. For example, Project Logo launched at the National Environment Council Meeting where PS’s, Directors and other senior officers from line ministries and non-government organizations present.• Some decision makers were part of the NAP Consultation and EMU Training. This is where awareness was undertaken to inform them about MEA Obligations, identified gaps and challenges, strategies developed to address these prioritized gaps.• Awareness raising through community work |
| Output 1.3 | Activity 1.3.1 • UNCBD with its NGO, Private Sectors, FBOs and CSO partners has completed this activity during a round-table session.• 11 Non -Government Organizations had been identified with their roles in implementing MEAs• Templates developed and sent to respective NGOs.• Access to NGO websites for further details of the work committed.• Non-state actors profiling was undertaken before the commencement of the NGO Consultation Workshop. Concerning UNCBD, non-state actors are driving the course in meeting the requirements of the convention. Most of the work was accomplished; some are still underway while planning for upcoming activities is in progress • There will be another consultation for non-government actors to allow all parties to analyze on the findings of the first NGO consultation and information gathered by research. All parties will participate in exploring deep to what is actually required by the project and come up with a collated update that reflects everyone’s contribution to the achievement of MEA requirements.Activity 1.3.2 • The improved coordination between government institutions and non-government organizations will set the scene of better coordination and effective future implementation of Fijis MEA obligations. • UNCBD officer has partially implemented this activity with Resource Management Unit in identifying opportunities for improved engagements for non-government actors. • Develop in-house training materials/training tool kit/training manual for NGO's, Academia, CBO/Faith based organizations and private sectors.• Actually this was done during round table forum with NGOs where most issues being solved with alternatives of improving engagements.• During the NGO Consultation Workshop, participants identified gaps, challenges and overlaps, which could be a hindrance in the engagement process. • Validation on the engagement process is also applicable to government ministries and agencies, how it can be improved and a way forward that can bring the government parties together to collaboratively impact on the achievement of MEA requirements. |
| Output 2.1  | Activity 2.1.1• The MEA Officer is collaborating with Resource Management Unit (Ministry of Environment) worked on the NBSAP & IP, a guiding policy for CBD, it was reviewed but the implementation framework requires further input from stakeholders before final cabinet endorsement.• Supported positioned towards the review of National Action Plan with Ministry of Agriculture through pocket meeting with partners from Land Use division as well as the review of NBSAP cabinet paper and TOR for NAP Consultant. NAP internal consultation• NBSAP Policy Document reviewed• TOR for consultant forwarded to UNDP for recruitment processActivity 2.1.2• Technical workshop organized in Nadi for technical officers from the 3 focal points to determine synergies, challenges, issues and gaps between the amended NBSAP & IF.• The NBSAP IF had been finalized with printed copies circulated to heads of relevant stakeholders. This will be a tool used to address the NBSAP Policy Document.• MEA alignment has been compiled and submitted to show the alignment of the Rio Conventions to Fiji’s Environmental initiativesActivity 2.1.3• Legal instruments used to fulfill MEA obligations compiledActivity 2.1.4• NBSAP has been finalized but waits for cabinet endorsement while IF has been finalized and printed.Activity 2.1.5• Awareness will be conducted for relevant stakeholders once policy instruments, its compliance and significance to MEA obligations are reviewed and formalized. • Activity was previously conducted by RMU during the review of the NBSAP Policy Document |
| Output 2.2 | Activity 2.2.1• This is a continuous activity and incorporated with existing project mapping activities in setting together baseline datasets, monitoring guidelines, data collection methods, data norms and standards, database structures, and data sharing, etc.• NBSAP existing monitoring system has been identified and reviewed during the consultation process• Mapping of monitoring systems carried out during the NGO Consultation Workshop and NCW II Workshop. Parties came up with existing monitoring systems, which are in-place and currently used by respective organization. There were varieties of monitoring systems based on what has to be monitored. However, monitoring systems has been tabulated and reportedActivity 2.2.2• Environment indicators used by respective stakeholders were captured during NGO Consultation Workshop and NCW IIActivity 2.2.3• After the assessment of all indicators, a standard set of indicators, monitoring guidelines, supported (technically and financially), and developed as an overall guideline for all government partners.• Research is continuing in this area and few environment indicators being identified and reported in the National Consultation Workshop Report.• A set of indicators guideline identified in the last workshops needs to be reviewed and finalized |
| Output 2.3  | Activity 2.3.1 • Information gathered from relevant non-state actors, line ministries and agencies concerning efforts and legal systems that support financing mechanisms. Some has been captured in NCW II Report. • UNCCD Financing Mechanism Support reviewed• Project providing technical and financial support in the preparation work by the Ministry of Agriculture on the National Action PlanActivity 2.3.2 • The REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) reported earlier • The lease payment of reserved forest has been part of Ministry of Forest to protect the logging of certain high biodiversity ecosystems in parts of Fiji.• The environment bond is another area, which calls support for campaigns. Financing is a major gap for PES and GEF Small Grant is supportive in small scale. • Regulatory reforms in place can streamline procedure and general understanding of details involved to obtain funding.• This is a continuous activity and will be reported once baseline datasets for all PES is finalized.• PES practiced locally is driven through projects, funding agencies, international donors and government. Non-state actors are active drivers of this mechanism and managed to sustain it for years. This has been captured in NGO Consultation and NCW II Report.• Research on PES is ongoing |

# **III. Project Implementation Challenges**

*Please identify and analyse project critical risks and project issues that:*

*1) had an impact on project deliverables (quality, schedule) during the reporting period, or*

*2) were newly identified during the reporting period and are being addressed by the project (in the case of risks, describe project prosed means to mitigate their effects or decrease the likelihood of impact in the future, and in the case of issues, how to resolve them).*

***a. Updated project risks and actions***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Project Risk Description** | **Type** | **Date identified** | **Mitigation Measures** |
| Enter a brief description of the risk | EnvironmentalFinancialOperational OrganizationalPoliticalRegulatoryStrategicOther | dd-mm-yyyy | What actions will be taken to mitigate this risk |
| Institutional Reforms: changes in government recruiting systems and priorities | Organizational Operational | July 2017  | Prior to December 2017, the Fiji CCCD-CB2 project staffs were contracted on a monthly basis. On December 2017, they were all contracted for 3 years. However each contract has in itself stipulations that it will expire, become null and void, at the completion of the project.  |
| Delay in the Government processes – finance, payments and endorsement of minutes | OrganizationalOperational | July 2017 | Frequent discussions and follow up with immediate supervisors and the manager finance for management decisions  |
| Delay in getting the 2018 AWP endorsed and delay in disbursements of funds from UNDP | OrganizationalOperational | July 2017 | Delay in the endorsement of request for project extension from UNDP. Once the extension was granted in February 2018, the 2018 AWP was endorsed in March 2018 after project board meeting.Mitigation – get the AWP approved by the Project Board in December of 2018.  |
| Staff turn-over | Operational Organizational | July 2017 | UNFCC staff resigned in December 2017 and yet to recruit one. Consistent follow done to date with our corporate services division |
| Delay in recruiting consultants | Operational Organizational | July 2017 | Delay from management to agree on the terms of reference. The TOR has been agreed late September 2018, so we are using the UNDP process to recruit the consultant, which is a lot faster than the government’s procurement processes.  |

***b. Updated project issues and actions***

*Explain the main implementation issues encountered in the course of implementation during the year and the proposed actions to solve the issues.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project Issue Description** | **Mitigation Measures, Actions Taken** |
| Enter a brief description of the risk | What actions will be taken to mitigate this risk |
|  | *\*Listed in (a) above* |
| Delay in minute or any project related work that needs management approval | At least 24 hours turn-around time requested after meeting Management on 24/09/2018 |
| Release of funds from Ministry of Economy - Request to Incur Expenditure. Internal clearing process | GEF OFP to meet MOE budget division – familiarization of donor funds and how projects operate |
| Spending versus Saving Culture | Costs must not be cut when all necessary documents provided – micro managing (Government has a saving culture attitude) |
| Capacity Building of project staffs | Staffs to be provided the opportunity to get exposed to project related training/workshop/conference |
| Hiring of consultants – constitute majority of project work | Project is using UNDP process to hire consultants |
| Staff turn-over | Out of the 5 project staffs, 3 resigned and 2 staffs are now managing the projectRequest to recruit project staff sent to our corporate services  |

# **IV. Annexes**

*Meetings/workshops minutes/reports, Knowledge products, Lessons Learnt, Gender analysis, etc.*

*With respect to the no-cost project extension granted to the project, the project team is requested to kindly attach the detailed work plan for the remaining activities to be completed by the new closing date of the project following the format below.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Outcome 1** | **The institutional framework is strengthened and more coordinated, and more able to address global environmental concerns** |
| **Outputs** | **Planned activities** | **Chronogram** | **Budget 2018** | **Budget 2019** |
|  |  | **Start (month)** | **End (month)** | **GEF** | **GEF** |
| Output 1.1: Institutions with clear mandates and responsibilities to implement MEAs    | 1.1.1 Update of government institutions involved in implementing MEAs | Jan 2017 | Dec 2018Continuous | 13,757.75 | 8,919.25 |
| 1.1.2 Develop and implement strategies to address institutional gaps | Jan 2017 | Dec 2018Continuous | 12,765.74 | 12,347.24 |
| 1.1.3 Develop capacity of staff in relevant government institutions | Jan 2017 | Dec 2018Continuous | 8,472.25 | 12,491.21 |
| 1.1.4 Training of Environmental Management Units  | Oct 2016 | Dec 2018Continuous | 15,975.07 | 8,658.36 |
| Subtotal output 1.1 | 50,970.81 | 42,416.06 |
| Output 1.2 : An operational inter-sectorial coordination mechanism for implementing MEAs    | 1.2.1 Review of existing coordination mechanisms  | Jan 2017 | Dec 2018Continuous | 15,045.01 | 10,348.34 |
| 1.2.2 Design a mechanism to address inter-sectorial coordination issues  | April 2017 | Sep 2019 | 8,923.00 | 7,640.54 |
| 1.2.3 Formalize this inter-sectorial coordination mechanism  | Dec 2018 | Sep 2019 | 13,134.13 | 3,046.11 |
| 1.2.4 Raise awareness of Decision-Makers on MEAs obligations  | Dec 2016  | Sep 2019  | 8,601.63 | 3,814.88 |
| Subtotal output 1.2 |   |   |   | 45,703.77 | 24,849.87 |
| Output 1.3 Improved contribution from NGO sector, Academia, CBO/Faith based organizations and private sector to implement MEAs. | 1.3.1 Map out profiles of the non-government actors  | Jan 2017 | Dec 2018 | 5,161.66 | 2,643.95 |
|   | 1.3.2 Identify opportunities for improved engagement | Jan 2017  | Dec 2018 | 6,770.94 | 1,208.06 |
| Subtotal output 1.3 |   |  |  | 11,932.60 | 3,852.01 |
| O**utcome 2** | **Global environmental objectives are reconciled and integrated into national legislation, policy, strategies and planning frameworks.** |
| Output 2.1 Revised legislation and policies addressing MEAs obligations.   | 2.1.1 Identify legal review processes  | Jan 2017  | Dec 2018 | 10,550.37 | 4,143.94 |
| 2.1.2 Review/analyze tools and identify policy alignment to 3 conventions  | Jan 2017  | Dec 2018 | 10,814.24 | 4,826.96 |
| 2.1.3 Identify legal and/or policy instruments to fulfill MEA obligations |  Apr 2018 |  May 2018 | 16,765.00 | 10,135.00 |
| 2.1.4 Formalize legal and/or policy instruments  | Dec 2018 | Mar 2019 | 12,417.84 | 11,599.54 |
| 2.1.5 Raise awareness on legislation and policies  | Mar 2019 | June 2019 | 17,417.85 | 7,497.20 |
| Subtotal output 2.1 |  |  |  | 67,965.53 | 38,202.64 |
| Output 2.2 An effective system to monitor implementation of MEAs. | 2.2.1 Map out the existing monitoring systems to establish a central data bank  | Jan 2017 | Dec 2018Continuous | 10,030.44 | 5,343.48 |
| 2.2.2 Assess existing environmental indicators | Jan 2017 | Dec 2018 | 20,903.97 | 4,148.05 |
| 2.2.3 Develop one set of indicators and monitoring guidelines | Oct 2018 | Nov 2018 | 7,139.59 | 9,646.40 |
| Subtotal output 2.2 |  |  |  | 38,074.00 | 19,137.93 |
| Output 2.3: Guidelines for Sustainable financing mechanisms developed | 2.3.1 Review existing efforts and legal systems that support financing mechanisms  | Oct 2018 | Dec 2018Continuous | 37,837.06 |  7,364.01 |
| 2.3.2 Research international Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) | Sept 2018 | October 2018Continuous | 15,234.82 | 8,538.48 |
| Subtotal output 2.3 |  |  |  | 53,071.88 | 15,902.49 |
| Project Management  | 29,365.16 | 14,132 |
| **TOTAL per budget line** |  |  |  | **300,710.00** | **158,493.00** |

*Use the same format for additional Outcomes….*