

United Nations Development Programme

Regional Bureau for Africa



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Ruby Sandhu-Rojon
Officer-in-Charge
Regional Bureau for Africa

Date: 18 December 2015

From: Silke Hollander
Team Leader Central Africa
Country Support Team

Extension: -

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Hollander', is written over the 'From:' field.

Subject: Request for the approval of DIM for the project "Plateformes Multifonctionnelles dans le sud-est du Tchad"

Please find attached for your consideration a request from the Chad country office (CO) for approval of the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) for the project "Plateformes Multifonctionnelles dans le sud-est du Tchad" for the period 01 Jan 2016 to 31 Dec 2016.

Background

The Multi-Functional Platform (MFP) Programme is a UNDP concept and structure that comes under the strategic area of reducing poverty and protecting the environment. It is designed to respond to the needs for expanded opportunities for employment and income-generating activities, especially for young people and women, and for improved income and food security for vulnerable groups. UNDP has implemented the MFP in several African countries including Mali, Burkina Faso, and Senegal. In Chad the first MFP was initiated in 2006 and UNDP has since gradually implemented several more MFPs.

The project "Plateformes Multifonctionnelles dans le sud-est du Tchad" is supported by UNDP, AfDB and the Development Bank of Central African States (BDEAC) and implemented in close partnership with the Government of Chad. The project is part of a larger programme ("bitumage des routes") coordinated by the Ministry of Infrastructure (MIDT) and includes (in addition to the multifunctional platforms) components on environment and transportation which will be implemented by NGOs. The project focuses on promoting access to modern energy services to women in the three townships of the Department of Lake Iro (Kyabé, Koskobo and Singako). Lessons learnt from previous experiences and the findings of the external evaluation of the first MFP (November 2013) will feed into this project to maximize the results and impact. The project fits well within pillar 3 of the Sahel Strategy and pillar 1 of the National Development Plan (NDP 2013-2015) and is anchored in the current Country Programme (CPD 2012 -2016 (extended)).



Justification for DIM

Given the low government capacity, the Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) decided that direct implementation by UNDP would be the best modality for this project to better achieve results, mobilize further resources and forge additional partnerships. Previous MFPs in Chad and other countries have shown UNDP's comparative advantage in mobilizing expertise in technology transfer and innovation in this sector.

It has to be noted however, that the CO had a CO management audit last year which was rated 'unsatisfactory' and that serious deficiencies were noted in the control environment as well as project monitoring and implementation. The CO is implementing the audit recommendations with support and oversight from RBA and has already addressed some of these aspects. The audit task team in the Country Support Team will work closely with the CO to implement all recommendations. Nevertheless, projects under DIM authorization will have to be monitored closely.

Institutional Arrangements

The project will be managed by a Project Management Unit (PMU). The PMU will be headed by a national coordinator who will report to the Country Director. The PMU will be responsible for preparing workplans and ensuring that activities are implemented accordingly and resources are managed efficiently. The PMU will also prepare recommendations for the Project Steering Committee for decision making/approval.

The Steering Committee is composed of representatives from the Ministry of Infrastructure (MIDT), the Ministry of Agriculture (MA), the Ministry of Women, Promotion of Early Childhood and Solidarity (MFPPESEN), AfDB and BDEAC. Representatives of other ministries will be invited when necessary on a case by case basis. The committee is responsible for the approval of the workplan and any changes to it, provide overall guidance and advice; and monitor the progress of the project implementation.

As part of the larger government programme ("bitumage des routes"), the overall coordination rests with the Ministry of Infrastructure (MIDT).

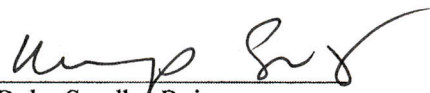
The CO will ensure that all necessary measures are applied for quality control to safeguard UNDP's financial responsibilities and accountable use of UNDP's and partners' resources. All financial resources of the preparatory assistance will be managed according to the rules, procedures and requirements as defined in the UNDP's Programme and Operations Policies Procedures (POPP), and according to UNDP guidelines on direct execution/implementation.



-3-

Recommendation

Based on the above justification, it is recommended to approve the request for the Direct Implementation Modality for the project "*Plateformes Multifonctionnelles dans le sud-est du Tchad*" for the period 01 Jan 2016 to 31 Dec 2016. Relevant documents are attached.

Approved by: 
Ruby Sandhu-Rojon
Officer-in-Charge
Regional Bureau for Africa

Date: 23 Dec 2015

