**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT**
**P.O. BOX 3502 KIGALI**

To: Mr. Stephen Rodriques
     Resident Representative
     UNDP

Dear Sir;

**Subject: Submission of the Q4 narrative report**

I am pleased to submit the Quarter four (Q4) narrative report for the project Strengthening Capacities for Environment and Natural Resources (SCENR) for your consideration.

This report details the activities undertaken during the period starting from October to December 2019.

We thank you for your continued support and collaboration

Regards;

**Fatina MUKARUBIBI**
**Permanent Secretary**
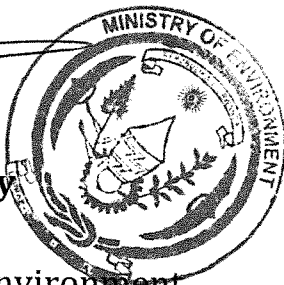
**Cc:** Hon. Minister of Environment
     **Kigali**

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# QUARTERLY NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT

## YEAR/QUARTER *2019/Q4*

**Purpose:** This report aims at assessing the achievements against the planned results during the quarter as well as risks and issues that could affect project implementation.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project title:** | Strengthening Capacities of the Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) Sector for Green Economy Transformation | |
| **Project number:** | Strengthening institutional capacity of ENR Sector (MoE)" 00116275 | |
| **Project/UNDAP/CPD outcome:** | UNDAP Outcome 4, "By 2023 Rwandan institutions and communities are more equitably, productively and sustainably managing natural resources and addressing climate change", | |
| **NST priorities:** | NST1 Priority 7: 'Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Environment to Transition Rwanda towards a Green Economy'. | |
| **SDGs:** | 5,7,9,11,13,15,17 | |
| **Project start date:** | 01/01/2019 | |
| **Project end date:** | 30/06/2024 | |
| **Reporting period** | Q4/2019 | |
| **Project budget (USD):** | **TRAC (core):** | $4,400,000 |
| | **Government of Rwanda (in kind):** | $250,000 |
| | **Other donors:** | |
| | **Total project budget:** | $4,650,000 |

# Results-based Reporting

| **OUTPUT 1:**ENR sector capacities enhanced to optimize and scale-up sustainable and climate resilient management of natural capital resources |
| --- |

| **Results achieved and evidence** *(Explain the achievements at the output level. Make sure to provide evidence, related data and how it was collected):* |
| --- |

| The program is aiming at improving the planning and coordination of the Environment and Natural Resources Sector. During this quarter (October –December 2019) the Ministry focused on the preparation of the Backward Looking Joint Sector Review meeting. |
| --- |

| **Completed activities that contributed to the above achievements** *(Explain which activities took place and how they contributed to the achievement of the output. Photos or reports can be added as annex):* |
| --- |

## Activity 1.1 Carry out Joint Sector Reviews

In line with effective coordination of the Backward Looking Joint Sector Review (BLJSR) Meeting, the project staff together with the planning unit of the MoE updated the Terms of References for the Thematic Working Group which guided all the seven sub sectors (Forests, Meteorology, Environment and Climate Change, Land, Mining, Petroleum & Gas and Integrated Water Resources Management and Climate finance) under the Environment and Natural Resources sector to carry out meaningful discussions that informed the Joint Sector Review (JSR) Report. The Thematic Working Groups for all Subsectors were carried out in the Month of September and ended by 18ᵗʰOctober 2019 while the JSR meeting took place on 28ᵗʰOctober 2019.

As per terms of reference circulated by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning the BLJSR focused on the following objectives:

i. To assess progress in achieving sector objectives with focus on 2018/19 targets for: NST1 sector performance indicators and their corresponding policy actions. This has also included discussion on catch up plans for areas lagging behind.

ii. To present and discuss budget execution performance for 2018/19.

iii. To highlight priority areas (maximum of five) for the 2020/21 fiscal year that will inform the planning and budgeting process for institutions in the sector.

iv. To review progress against implementation of recommendations from the last JSR meetings

The meeting highlighted the notable achievements of the Sector including the national forest coverage of 30.4%; private sector involvement in public forest management (10 companies have been given 18,241.7 Ha) and also 3,000 hectares of degraded watersheds rehabilitated (Nyabugogo, Muvumba, Sebeya and upper Nyabarongo catchments).It also emphasised on the mainstreaming of National Determined Contributions(NDCs) by all sectors as key driver towards Green Economy.

The Backward Looking Joint Sector Review Meeting concluded with some key recommendations that will help in improving the coordination of ENR Sector:

1. Use NDCs as a checklist to mainstream sustainable principles across all sectors
2. The Ministry should organize other stakeholders (CSOs and Private Sector ) to have a joint planning and reporting and also to help CSOs to be organized under Forums
3. The Ministry should put in place a mechanism to map all financial resources mobilized across Ministry and agencies.

## Change in plan (what results were not achieved as planned and why) :

Reporting on the operationalization of the Environment and Natural Resources Results Based Monitoring and Evaluation System.

Due to insufficient funds during the year 2019, some activities related to Environment and Natural Resources Results Based Monitoring and Evaluation (ENR RBM&E) have been postponed to next year 2020.Those activities are :

- Strengthen and Operationalize the ENR sector RBM&E system with technical assistance to manage and trouble shoot the RBM system
- Capacity building on general RBM and use of system for effective reporting
- Conduct 1 baseline study for the RBM&E system. During the previous mission carried out by NIRAS NATURA in line with Establishing Results Based Monitoring and Evaluation System some baseline studies were identified and these include :
    1) Ecosystems level of degradation study,
    2) Hazardous/toxic waste study,
    3) Water Productivity study,
    4) Forest Enterprises survey,
    5) Mining sites and processors assessment.

Further steps starting by January 2020, Environment and Natural Resources Sector stakeholders will update the above list of identified baseline studies and from there terms of reference of priority studies will be drafted.

## Overall Challenges, Recommendations and Lessons learnt

*Raise any challenges that require attention, and lessons learnt / best practices that can be shared within the project and with other projects.*

| Key challenges and risks, recommendations *(Identify challenges and risks and recommended solutions)*: | |
|---|---|
| 1. Limited funds has hindered some activities especially on RBM & E system<br>2. High staff turnover at district level(the ones who were trained on the use of the ENR RBM & E system left and being replaced by new ones) | 1. We need to plan ahead for better results and prioritize the activities based on available budget.<br>2. Information on the available funds should be provided by UNDP ahead of time.<br>3. Capacity building of staff at District level on the use of the ENR RBM&E System. |
| **Lessons learned and/or good practices:** | |
| The Results Based Monitoring and Evaluation System (RBM&E) using DHIS2, one of the lessons learnt is that a **large number of staff need to be trained** to 1st of all run smoothly the system but also compensate for and deal with staff turnover in districts.<br><br>Regarding the operationalization of the system, The Ministry needs to **do awareness on the importance and use of ENR RBM & E system through** a lot of trainings at both levels (District & National) and enforcement strategy should be in place so that people can report through the system regularly.<br><br>Lesson learnt from the customization of the ENR RBM & E system is that the ENR RBME indicators are **flexible** and can be revised based on justifiable reasons. We have also to keep in mind that revised indicators should always be aligned to the National Strategy for Transformation, ENR SSP and other new policies. | |
| **LNOB & Gender:** *(Share any achievements or lessons learnt, good practices on LNOB and gender equality and women's empowerment)* | |
| During the implementation of the activities we are aiming to improve the extent to which the project implementation reporting is informed by a thorough understanding of gender roles, power relations and a disaggregation of women's and men's specific interests, needs, and priorities.<br><br>Disaggregated data is still a challenge that needs to be addressed. The Environment and Natural Resources Sector has commissioned a consultancy to develop Sector Gender mainstreaming assessment and gender mainstreaming Strategy. During the assessment some weaknesses have been identified in having disaggregated data in subsectors and inadequate budgeting for disaggregated ENR gender sensitive interventions. The Strategy will come up with key strategies and indicators to guide the gender mainstreaming in the Environment and Natural Resources Sector. | |

*Copy the table below and repeat for each project output.*

| **OUTPUT 2:** Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy implemented in selected sectors |
|---|
| **Results achieved and evidence** *(Explain the achievements at the output level. Make sure to provide evidence, related data and how it was collected):* |

In October 2018 the Ministry of Environment with the support from United Nations for Development Program (UNDP) carried out the evaluation of the implementation of the Green Growth and Climate Resilient Strategy (GGCRS).

The objective of the evaluation was to assess achievements as well as challenges encountered and lessons learned during implementation from its launch in 2011 until 2018 as EDPRS 2 was concluding. The evaluation has confirmed that the GGCRS is still highly relevant to Rwanda's long term Vision 2020/2050,Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),agenda 2030 on sustainable development and National Strategy for Transformation (NST-1) for 2018 to 2024.

Indications of relevance as discussed are highlighted by the enabling pillars/priorities that have been put in place for the implementation. The Strategy also gives opportunities for forging regional and international partnerships in climate action such as the Kigali Amendment of Montreal Protocol and National Determined Contributions (NDC) Partnership.

However, the evaluation revealed that there is a need for revision of the GGCRS for making clearer the indicators and targets for some of the policy actions.

The main objective of this consultancy is to revise and update the Rwanda's Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy to capture emerging / potential future trends and respond to multiple scenarios for achieving a Green Economy, with a clear framework of its implementation.

The International Lead Consultant, in collaboration with a national consulting firm, will support the Ministry of Environment and stakeholders to enrich research and studies on emerging trends, build future scenarios using foresight methodology, and identify and document resilient strategies to facilitate actions toward the preferred scenarios.

1. The Ministry of Environment commissioned SMEC to develop wetlands master plan in the City of Kigali with main purpose of sustainably managing and utilising its wetland system. This includes the wetland boundaries and developing an appropriate form of storing the wetland coordinates in such a way that satellite monitoring can be done. In addition to that more detailed studies on the urban wetland hydrology, ecosystems, land use, socio economic analysis and other relevant data and information on urban wetlands have been carried out.

> The final report of the Wetland Master plan was validated.
>
> 2. NIRDA hired an Indian company named Council of Scientific &Industrial Research-Central leather Research Institute (CSIR-CLRI) that supported NIRDA in conducting a detailed project report on Development of Leather value chain in Rwanda and also conducted clean technologies related to leather sector. Good ideas were suggested on green technology of leather processing and waste management.

## Completed activities that contributed to the above achievements *(Explain which activities took place and how they contributed to the achievement of the output. Photos or reports can be added as annex):*

### Activity 2.1 Review the Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy (GGCRS) with stakeholders using foresight methods

Regarding Output 2 related to Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy implemented in selected sectors a number of activities were planned and significant progress was made during the quarter four of 2019.

During the quarter four, The Ministry through UNDP advertised a tender aiming of revising the Green Growth and Climate Resilience strategy. The main objective of this consultancy is to revise and update the Rwanda's Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy to capture emerging / potential future trends and respond to multiple scenarios for achieving a Green Economy, with a clear framework of its implementation with stakeholders using foresight method. So far the International Consultant has been hired and is on board since November 2019 and he submitted the inception report. The National Firm have been hired and will undertake the assignment early January 2020.

1. The inception highlighted that the foresight workshop will be carried out before January 31st,2020
2. Scenario narrative will be validated before March 31st, 2020
3. Draft revised GGCRS will be available before June 30th , 2020
4. Sector costing for GGCRS will be available before September 30, 2020

### Activity 2.2 Develop a Master plan for Wetlands Management in Kigali City, including categorization of wetlands, management plan of specific wetlands and resource mobilization for further implementation

Develop a Master plan for Wetlands Management in Kigali City, including categorization of wetlands, management plan of specific wetlands and resource mobilization for further implementation. The final report was submitted and has been reviewed by a quality assurance team. The report reveals that Wetlands in the City of Kigali have undergone significant transformation mainly through agricultural activities that have drained wetlands and replaced wetland plants with crop plants. Other impactful human activities include infrastructural developments (e.g. buildings, roads) within wetland boundaries and the extraction of clay for brick making. These

changes can be reversed through ecological rehabilitation.

**Activity 2.4 Capacity building of NIRDA to strengthen the green technology research and setting up of the Environment and Climate Change Innovation Centre**

During this quarter NIRDA (National Industrial Research & development Agency) contracted Council of Scientific &Industrial Research-Central leather Research institute (CSIR-CLRI) since 29th July 2019in supporting the growth transformation of Leather Value Chain in Rwanda. The Final report was submitted and validated.

The main objectives of this assignment were (i) conducting a study and preparation of a Roadmap for the development of Leather Value Chain in Rwanda (ii) demonstration of open-source cleaner technologies and organizing a workshop on Best Available Cleaner Technologies (BACTs) and (iii) providing recommendations for the establishment of leather-park.
Some of the recommendations include :

- Salt free preservation system for curing of hides
- Enzyme assisted hair saving unhairing methodology
- Lime liquor recycling
- Water conservation and recycling wherever possible
- Pickle free Waterless Chrome Tanning technology
- Optimization of chemicals usage
- Avoidance of objectionable and toxic chemical substances in accordance with the
- international standards
- Occupational Health and Safety (OSH) aspects
- Adopt standards for greener and cleaner leather manufacture.
- Labeling of finished leather for traceability requirement of western market

| Change in plan *(what results were not achieved as planned and why)* : |
|---|
|  |

**Overall Challenges, Recommendations and Lessons learnt**

*Raise any challenges that require attention, and lessons learnt / best practices that can be shared within the project and with other projects.*

| Key challenges and risks, recommendations *(Identify challenges and risks and recommended solutions)*: | |
|---|---|
|  |  |
| **Lessons learned and/or good practices:** | |
| During the implementation of the Project it has been observed that procuring the services on time is very important. It will be very important for project's staff and | |

| implementing partners to have refresher courses in procurement and also using the E- Procurement. Planning the tenders ahead of time is also of paramount. |
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| **LNOB & Gender:** *(Share any achievements or lessons learnt, good practices on LNOB and gender equality and women's empowerment)* |
| During the implementation of the activities we are aiming at improving the extent to which the project implementation reporting is informed by a thorough understanding of gender roles, power relations and a disaggregation of women's and men's specific interests, needs, and priorities. |

## Results Framework Summary

*Monitor the indicators by quarter and record relevant progress. Make sure to add the source of data.*

| Outcome / Output | Indicator | Baseline | Project target | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Outcome1:** | | | | | | | |
| **Output 1:**ENR sector capacities enhanced to optimize and scale-up sustainable and climate resilient management of natural capital resources | Extent to which the environment and natural resources sector strategic plan implementation is coordinated | 1 Annual joint sector review report, minutes | 1 per year | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| | % of ENR KPI and non-KPI baseline and monitored data available at a set frequency in the RBM&E system for improved decision | KPI 33% Non-KPI 90% | KPI 66% Non-KPI 95% | Quarterly report | Quarterly report | Quarterly report | Quarterly report |

| Outcome / Output | Indicator | Baseline | Project target | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | making | | | | | | |
| | # of ENR sector institution staff applying gender to develop and implement environmental policies and budget statements | 150 | 50 per year | Quarterly report | Quarterly report | Quarterly report | Quarterly report |
| **Output 2:** Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy implemented in selected sectors | Extent to which GGCRS is reviewed and reflected in selected SSPs | 1 GGCRS review | 1 per year | Quarterly report | Quarterly report | Quarterly report | Quarterly report |
| | **2.2** % of recommendation from policy gap analyses used to develop or review ENR and priority sector policies and strategies | 70% | | Quarterly report | Quarterly report | Quarterly report | Quarterly report |
| | **2.3** A Master plan for Wetlands Management in Kigali City developed, | Master Plan | | Quarterly report | Quarterly report | Quarterly report | Quarterly report |

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| Outcome/Output | Indicator | Baseline | Project target | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | including categorization of wetlands, mgt plan of specific wetlands and resource mobilization plan and ready for further implementation | | | | | | |
| | **2.4** Extent to which the Cleaner Production and Climate Innovation Centre is strengthened on green technology transfer and operations[1] | 1 technology | 1 technology per year | Quarterly report | Quarterly report | Quarterly report | Quarterly report |
| | **2.5** Number of SMEs that acquired climate change mitigation technologies | 1 technology | 1 technology per year | Quarterly report | Quarterly report | Quarterly report | Quarterly report |
| | **2.6** #of households in IDP model villages | 100 | 50 per year | Quarterly report | Quarterly report | Quarterly report | Quarterly report |

[1]0- Centre not yet established 1- Business model and operational manual developed and validated, 2- CPCIC and NIRDA staff capacity built on green tech and climate mitigation innovation 3- 3 bankable or investment projects designed and submitted to potential financing entities

| Outcome/ Output | Indicator | Baseline | Project target | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | newly benefiting from green components based on the GV toolkit, disaggregated by sex of the head of household | | | | | | |
| | 2.7 Extent to which the GV toolkit is utilised in IDP model villages[2] | 1 (applied partially) | 1 step every 2 years | Quarterly report | Quarterly report | Quarterly report | |
| | 2.8 Number of GCF project proposal 1) developed by ENR sector 2) approved by the NDA. 3) Amount of resources newly mobilised from the GCF [US$ millions] | Accreditation by GCF, Gicumbi project | USD60m | Quarterly report | Quarterly report | Quarterly report | Quarterly report |

## Financial Summary

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[2]1- Green Village toolkit is applied partially, 2- Toolkit is applied in half of the existing IDP model villages, 3- Toolkit is applied in all existing and newly constructing IDP model villages

| | Quarterly financial report | | | | | Annual financial summary | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | QX Budget allocation (USD) | QX Expenditure (USD) | Balance for QX (US$) | Delivery rate for Q3 (%) | Notes *(Explain reason if there are differences between budget and expenditure)* | Annual Budget allocation (USD) | Annual expenditure by end of QX (USD) | Delivery rate at end of QX (%) |
| **Output 1** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | We did not get any disbursement on output1 | | | |
| **Output 2** | 457,730,000 | 457,730,000 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| **Management** | 10,920,000 | | | | It has been returned back to UNDP Account | | | |
| **TOTAL** | | | | | | | | |

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## Next Quarter Work Plan (QWP)

*Provide a quarterly work plan including M&E and communication activities. If the work plan is created in excel sheet, please attach it to this reporting form.*

## List of Annexes

*Below are potential contents that can be annexed to the report (optional but recommended to have at least one annex).*

### a) Success Stories

### b) Key studies

### c) Other reports/documentation (e.g. field reports)

### d) Photos

### e) Links to articles etc.

https://mail.environment.gov.rw/owa/redir.aspx?C=H37gOxem1KADnDvLBblRA m3pOpqJ6hCtskOTXbT_1mpNJb1DPojXCA..&URL=https%3a%2f%2farcg.is%2fb8 K0m0

Date:                                    Date:
Prepared by:                             Approved by:

Diane BUCYANA                            Fatina MUKARUBIBI
M&E specialist                           Permanent Secretary/MoE

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