

Mid-term evaluation of the UN CC:Learn 2014-2017 Implementation Phase

Management Response

AGB.2014.CCP.001

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Name of programme/office/unit:	Green Development and Climate Change Programme		
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Name of project undertaking	UN CC:Learn 2014-2017 Implementation Phase	AGB #	AGB.2014.GCPCCP.001
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SECTION I – Comments on Findings, Conclusions

The report is informative and well written and the evaluator has managed to get a good grasp of a complex and multi layered initiative within a relatively short amount of time. The positive and constructive feedback provided throughout the report, in particular on the country projects and the relationship with the Secretariat, is motivating for our team and personally felt. That said, we would like to highlight three areas in which we believe results have been undervalued:

- On resource mobilization for strategy implementation, while we acknowledge that there is a need for further country support in this area, as highlighted by the evaluation, it is also important to recognize that partner countries have committed significant funding towards implementation of their national climate change learning strategies. Therefore, the 3.7 million USD co-financing reported does not exclusively refer to the implementation UN CC:Learn activities (nor should it), but recognizes that implementation of learning strategies is a broader process, well beyond UN CC:Learn. We believe this a key point that should be mentioned in the final evaluation report.
- Regarding the assessment on the depth of the partnership, we noticed from the list of interviewees in Annex 7 that various of the more active partner agencies (e.g. UNESCO, WMO, WHO, UN-Habitat) did not share their views. With inputs from these agencies the perception of the role and work of the partners might have resulted in a more balanced view. Instead of a general judgement we would recommend a table that shows the actual engagement of each UN CC:Learn partner.
- While few priority learning actions have been delivered by new partner countries, as the focus of their work so far has been the development of their national climate change learning strategies, multiple learning actions have been implemented by the 5 pilot countries during the UN CC:Learn implementation phase 2014-2017. Evaluation efforts of such activities have also taken place. To be accurate the evaluation report would need to be corrected accordingly.

SECTION II - RECOMMENDATIONS		Management Response and Planned Action			
Recommendation		Accepted Partially Accepted Rejected	Planned action	Budget allocated (if necessary)	Status (planned, under implementation, implemented)
1.	The UN CC:Learn Secretariat should establish a dedicated staff position to support partner country resource mobilization efforts. Core responsibilities should include the development of a more systematic approach to UN CC:Learn resource mobilization, including the provision of direct support and guidance for partner countries.	Partially accepted	Recommendation taken into account in the design of the new phase	/	Planned
		<p>Management Comments: The UN CC:Learn Secretariat recognizes the importance of increasing support to partner countries on resource mobilization efforts and will carefully consider how to implement a more systematic approach during the next implementation phase of UN CC:Learn. The establishment of a dedicated staff position will be taken into account, among the options under consideration.</p>			

Recommendation	Accepted Partially accepted Rejected	Planned action	Budget allocated (if necessary)	Status (planned, under implementation, implemented)
2. With support from the UN CC:Learn Secretariat, national coordinating partners should develop more systematic approaches to engaging with – and maintaining awareness of – UN resident agencies that are working in the climate change domain.	Accepted	Invest in the development and maintenance of relationship with UN resident agencies that are working in the climate change domain, by carrying out additional background research on existing UN projects and initiatives, by promoting more communication and exchange, including online	/	Planned

			and face-to-face meetings, facilitated by the UN CC:Learn Secretariat, as necessary.		
		<p>Management Comments: We believe that it is key that UNCTs support the implementation of the national strategies, rather than knowing about and specifically supporting UN CC:Learn. However, we recognize the importance of enhancing information sharing on UN CC:Learn and its activities with UNCTs and promote their involvement, as necessary.</p>			
Recommendation		Accepted Partially accepted Rejected	Planned action	Budget allocated (if necessary)	Status (planned, under implementation, implemented)
3.	<p>In consultation with global partner agencies and partner countries, the UN CC:Learn Secretariat should develop a detailed theory of change for the project. At a minimum this should identify the project's impact pathways, assumptions underlying the project logic, and external influences on the project, including other climate change programmes.</p> <p>Following development of the theory of change, the UN CC:Learn Secretariat should revise the project's logical framework, adjusting impacts, outcomes, outputs and indicators as necessary.</p>	Accepted	Conceptualization of a detailed theory of change to support the development of the new implementation phase of UN CC:Learn, to be fully described in a new project document.	/	Planned
		<p>Management Comments: The new implementation phase will have a new project document. The current project's logical framework will conclude with the current phase. As country support is, above all, demand driven, the process necessarily begins with a strong case being made for support by a proposed partner country which both links learning needs to national climate change policy, engages all of government, and promotes capacity building for national training institutions.</p>			
Recommendation		Accepted Partially accepted Rejected	Planned action	Budget allocated (if necessary)	Status (planned, under implementation, implemented)
4.	The UN CC:Learn Secretariat should identify and deliver more	Accepted	Organization of a new partner exchange workshop	Around 30,000 USD for the	Planned

	regular opportunities for learning exchanges between partner country stakeholders. This should include the provision of – or support for – some form of continuously available web-based networking.		in the first half of 2017; additional dedicated discussion with partner countries; additional country missions of the UN CC:Learn Ambassadors for Climate Change Learning planned in 2017; new Ambassadors to be appointed in the coming months; opportunities for regional hubs for UN CC:Learn explored for the next phase.	organization of the workshop as well as travel/DSA for partner country participants and Ambassadors	
		Management Comments:			
	Recommendation	Accepted Partially accepted Rejected	Planned action	Budget allocated (if necessary)	Status (planned, under implementation, implemented)
5.	In consultation with global partner agencies, the UN CC:Learn Secretariat should formally confirm arrangements for the ongoing, post-project hosting of the e-courses and learning resources developed through UN CC:Learn.	Accepted	Research existing options for ensuring long-term sustainability of the platform and access to the learning resources; organization of a dedicated discussion with global partner agencies during the next UN CC:Learn Steering Group Meeting, planned for February 2017; inclusion of key considerations in the design of the next implementation phase of UN	/	Planned

			CC:Learn; explore partnerships with other stakeholders, as necessary.		
		<p>Management Comments: These virtual resources are increasingly being recognized as key global repository of learning materials that are of high quality and that have legitimacy.</p>			