

# CommonSensing project Independent Endline Evaluation Management Response

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C2018.TARSA027.UK Space Agency

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Geneva, Switzerland

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<b>Name of programme/office/unit:</b>	UNITAR Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNOSAT)	
<b>Name of programme manager/director</b>	Einar Bjorgo	
<b>Name of project undertaking</b>	CommonSensing	C2018.TARSA027.UK Space Agency
<b>Name of evaluation</b>	Endline evaluation	
<b>Date</b>	05.06.2021	

**SECTION I – Comments on Findings, Conclusions**

It is delighted to learn that modifications, the project management introduced following the recommendations of midline evaluation, brought improvements at the output level. In the context of the Covid-19 pandemic, the delivery of backstopping activities was not affected by it and rather helped with the national and sub-regional responses to health crises. COVID-19 mobility restrictions, however, caused some delays in the project delivery in terms of CS technical platforms that are limitedly operational and its application to the CF proposal writing. Project management thus made requests for the no-cost extension to fully achieve the project impact and expand it.

**SECTION II - RECOMMENDATIONS**

Recommendation		Management Response and Planned Action				Update on status after 6 months (planned, under implementation, implemented)
		Accepted Partially Accepted Rejected	Planned action	Budget allocated (if necessary)	Status (planned, under implementation, implemented)	
1.	UNITAR and Catapult should complete the delivery of all project activities in the next 9 to 12 months. Despite the fact that UNITAR might have delivered all its activities, it is recommended that UNITAR continue to deliver some key technical trainings using the existing online and distance learning platforms to ensure complementarity with the use of the CS platform and, in turn, coordination and complementarity of delivery at the output level during the last months of the project. This is also important in	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remaining project activities planned in coordination between UNITAR and Catapult for delivery from April 2021-March 2022</li> <li>Milestones defined and proposed in extension GCNs submitted by UNITAR and Catapult</li> </ul>	No-cost project extension is requested.	Under implementation	
		<b>Management Comments:</b> UNITAR and Catapult will continue to build on the improvements to complementarity and coordination identified at Midline. Grant change proposals for no-cost extension till March 2022 have been developed in coordination.				

	terms of sustainability as it could serve as guidance to partner countries on how to use and ensure the sustainability of the results once the project is completed.					
Recommendation		Accepted Partially accepted Rejected	Planned action	Budget allocated (if necessary)	Status (planned, under implementation, implemented)	Update on status after 6 months (planned, under implementation, implemented)
2.	Based on the information and experience gathering data to inform project indicators, UNITAR and Catapult delete the indicators that are not measurable and review the collection of data, establishing a specific methodology where possible.	Accepted	Indicators that are not timely measurable will be modified and/or replaced. This will be made upon the grant of a project extension.	N/A	Planned	
		<b>Management Comments:</b> Some data will become available only after the full completion of the project delivery, and these will be captured in the legacy evaluation (a year after the project closure).				
Recommendation		Accepted Partially accepted Rejected	Planned action	Budget allocated (if necessary)	Status (planned, under implementation, implemented)	Update on status after 6 months (planned, under implementation, implemented)
3.	Recommendations provided in the midline evaluation are applicable to the no-cost extension. In fact, it is strongly recommended that project partners focus on ensuring project sustainability, paying	Accepted	Consortium will <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue engagement with SPC's Digital Earth Pacific project</li> <li>Continue engagement with NASA re Open Data Cube technologies</li> </ul>		Under implementation	

<p>special attention to strengthening the capacity of partner countries in climate financing and climate funding. Therefore, it is important that climate finance advisors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Narrow the scope of institutions (e.g., MoF, MoE, MDMO) for participating in capacity development activities by targeting staff and institutions involved in climate finance applications only.</li> <li>• Follow up on policy and budget processes so that governments allocate the necessary human and financial resources to sustain project results in the medium/long term as well as ensure the protection of data.</li> <li>• Provide support to enhance data collection in terms of climate funding. The three countries seem to experience challenges in collecting and tracking climate finance information as indicated by project performance results; thus,</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue engagement with CSIRO's Blue Carbon project</li> <li>• Continue to work with USP to develop curricula for Master's and primary/secondary students on IPP CommonSensing products and services</li> <li>• Engage on-going regional initiatives about relocation planning, that are led by UN-Habitat, IOM, IDMC, etc, to leverage the use of CS tools and engage the civil society groups</li> <li>• Provide data and technical support for the development of national CF proposals through on-the-job training and writeshops</li> <li>• Include practical sessions on how to use CS tools for evidence-based proposal writing in the workshops designed for staff/institutions working on CF applications</li> <li>• Seek further collaboration/expansion opportunities through outreach awareness-</li> </ul>			
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	<p>it is recommended that the climate finance advisors support partner institutions in enhancing data collection in climate funding at least for the purpose of measuring CS project impacts as per log frame indicators.</p> <p>It is recommended that UNITAR and Catapult continue putting effort into stakeholder engagement and take the opportunity given by the time extension to increase its outreach by involving civil society organizations and other development partners beyond those present in the region.</p>		<p>raising events such as IPP webinars</p>			
<p><b>Management Comments:</b>                  Project sustainability plans include the continued training on climate finance for targeted groups and business expansion through maintaining and building partnerships with regional partners and donors.</p> <p>For instance, a writeshop training in Fiji is designed mainly for staff from MoE and FDB working on climate finance applications. Practical exercises on the application of CS tools and data into proposal writing will strengthen the evidence-based planning and improve the access to global climate funds. Involving a broader regional stakeholders and potential donors will be sought through outreach awareness-raising events, such as IPP webinar series and the UN High-level Political Forum’s Learning Centre.</p>						
Recommendation	Accepted Partially accepted Rejected	Planned action	Budget allocated (if necessary)	Status (planned, under implementation, implemented)	Update on status after 6 months (planned, under implementation, implemented)	
4.	UNITAR and Catapult should continue with the capitalization of project results and experiences by drafting and publishing articles and case studies related to the use of EO for combating climate change and enhancing DRR; they should also continue to make the gender-related issues in the sector more visible.	Accepted	Consortium will <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to develop digital content on climate change, climate resilience and climate justice with focus on community, gender and intersectional impacts arising from climate change and disasters</li> <li>Continue to work with regional media</li> </ul>		Under implementation	

			<p>organisations and sustainable development media partners to create content in partnership with local communities at the forefront of climate change and DRR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update the IPP Case Study and produce more case studies in the forms of web-articles, story map, etc.</li> <li>• Communicate the best practices and lessons-learned, with a focus on expected impacts and gender considerations, through the international fora/events including the UN High-level Political Forum (HLPF) Learning Centre and COP 26.</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Management Comments:</b> Above activities are planned under the proposals of project no-cost extension.</p>						