

CommonSensing project Independent Baseline Evaluation Management Response

C2018.TARSA027.UK Space Agency

May 2019

Geneva, Switzerland

Name of programme/office/unit:	UNITAR Operational Satellite Applications ProgrammeUNOSAT		
Name of programme manager/director	Einar Bjorgo		
Name of project undertaking	CommonSensing	AGB	C2018.TARSA027.UK
		#	Space Agency
Name of evaluation	Baseline evaluation		

Date:	30.05.2019
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SECTION I – Comments on Findings, Conclusions

This independent baseline evaluation is a key element in the CommonSensing project. The findings and recommendations are well received and will contribute to further enhancing the results from the project. Although baseline data availability are an issue, the independent evaluator has made the most of the available information and provided good advice based on the available data. All recommendations are accepted, except for number one that is partially accepted as some mechanisms are already in place, however we will make sure to feed into existing mechanisms or suggest creating new ones if needed.

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.	Establish an inter-agency technical working group of experts from the list of key stakeholders in each of the three countries comprising representatives of relevant government agencies including those responsible for GIS/remote sensing, NDMO, users of satellite imagery for decision-making (agriculture, forestry, fisheries, minerals, clean energy etc), planning, and finance.	Partially Accepted	Establish group or build on existing initiatives.	Part of in-country expert tasks	Planned	
		Management Comments: This is a good idea, however to my knowledge such groups may exist in some of the countries. Otherwise, the in-country expert can help facilitate this. It is also linked to our community of practice that will be created following training activities.				
Recommendation		Accepted Partially accepted	Planned action	Budget allocated (if necessary)	Status	Update on status after 6 months

		Rejected			(planned, under implementation, implemented)	(planned, under implementation, implemented)
2.	Incorporate activities in the project design to strengthen the Aid Coordination Division within the Ministry of Finance/Economy in all three countries to create a master database of ODA funding coming to the respective country and regularly update information for the monitoring and decision-making.	Accepted	Liase with stakeholders to develop database as part of Climate Finance Advisor Role	Part of Climate Finance Advisor tasks	Planned	
		Management Comments: No comments, good suggestion that can be implemented relatively fast, depending on data availability and willingness to share.				
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.	Support the national agencies responsible for mapping (land and water) in accessing relevant geospatial and remote sensing data for mapping resources and land use pattern particularly following each natural disaster or geo-hazard events.	Accepted	Populate databases	Part of in-country expert activities	Under implementation	
		Management Comments: This is part of the work planned for the in-country experts and overall CommonSensing solutions. Some data have already been shared.				
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.	Support NDMO in each country to maintain a gender-disaggregated records of (i)	Accepted	Review existing data and support system to record	Part of in-country support	Planned	

	lives lost, (ii) households and number of people affected/displaced (permanent and temporary), (iii) houses damaged and destroyed, (iv) number of missing persons, (v) value of economic loss and damage disaggregated by asset type, and (v) public building damaged and destroyed.		disaggregated records			
		Management Comments: This will be facilitated by the project team and two in-country CommonSensing experts (climate finance and technical expert)				
	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)
5.	Support a social network group of GIS/remote sensing specialists in the country who can interact regularly and support each other's technical assignment as and when needed.	Accepted	Establish network in case existing networks not adequate	Part of project communication and outreach	Planned	
		Management Comments: Such a network can be established using main social network channels popular in the countries. Also linked to community of practice.				
	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)
6.	Continue to conduct awareness-raising and sensitization workshops for key planners and decision-makers who can understand the merits of evidence-based planning and programming better as well as accessing climate funds.	Accepted	Already part of planned activities	Part of planned activities	Planned	
		Management Comments: Such activities are foreseen and will need to be carried out several times during the project life-cycle.				

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)
7.	Update the ToC for the project by giving due considerations to institutional implementation capacity constraints and reflecting the internal and external environment.	Accepted	ToC a living document that will be updated	Part of monitoring activities	Planned	
		Management Comments: Fully agree and important as also other initiatives may influence the ToC.				
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)
8.	Since the current funding arrangement has less than two years, the evaluation recommends a lighter midline evaluation exercise aimed at guiding project management with required corrective measures, if needed, alongside the cost-effective analysis.	Accepted	Specify Terms of Reference	Part of evaluation activities	Planned	
		Management Comments: This is a good suggestion that will also ensure not overwhelming country partners with too many CommonSensing surveys close to each other in time. The lighter mid-term could lead to an even more scaled up end evaluation.				