

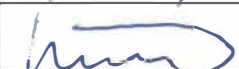


MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

Evaluation Title:	CAPACITY BUILDING FOR COOPERATION ON DAM SAFETY IN CENTRAL ASIA (PHASE 3)		
Period of Review:	September 2017 – June 2020		
Date of Evaluation Report:	30/07/2021		
Approved by	Nicolas Dath-Baron Officer-in-Charge, Programme Management Unit	Date	Signature
		22/10/2021	
Cleared by:	Director of Division Marco Keiner	22/10/2021	
Prepared by:	Manager of the evaluation Batyr Hajiyev	22/10/2021	

Recommendation 1:

UNECE to continue supporting national and regional capacities on hydraulic and hydro-electric structures and cooperation on dam safety, in close cooperation with relevant global and regional organizations, and donors.

Management Response:

UNECE partially accepts the recommendation.

Follow up actions and responsibilities:

Depending on available funding UNECE will continue to support cooperation on dam safety if a proper regional institution willing to address the dam safety challenges is allocated. However, supporting capacities on hydro-electric structures has never been the focus of UNECE initiative. UNECE will explore cooperation opportunities with the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS) which is mandated to address the dam safety challenges in the region.

Responsible: Project Manager

Timeline: December 2022

Recommendation 2:

UNECE Secretariat to present the findings of this review to the Committee on Environmental Policy to continue promoting dam safety awareness across all government agencies and among general public.

Management Response:

UNECE accepts the recommendation.

Follow up actions and responsibilities:

The results of the evaluation and the management response will be presented at the next CEP meeting in November 2021.

Responsible: Programme Manager

Timeline: November 2021

Recommendation 3:

During the future similar project designs UNECE should include explicit provisions to address gender equality, vulnerable people and disabled in project activities, outcomes, as well as reporting. One of the directions could be to make a study/assessment of how gender roles, as well as situation of vulnerable/disabled people could be influenced by displacement and environmental migration as a consequence of a major dam accident. National crisis management agencies should be actively integrated in these efforts

Management Response:

UNECE partially accepts this recommendation

Follow up actions and responsibilities:

1. Gender assessment is part of the standard template of the concept note and it was addressed at the design stage of the project. As to the vulnerable and disable people this aspect was not part of the project template and can be added subject to amendment of the concept template.
2. Follow-up projects on dam safety will assess in the inception phase the potential impact of the project on gender equality and the situation of the vulnerable groups, as reflected in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Responsible: Project Manager (#2) and PMU (#1)

Timeline: December 2023

Recommendation 4:

To address some of the project design related shortcomings, encountered during the evaluation, UNECE should consider the following in the future project design:

- Develop a comprehensive overall project design concept that links inputs, activities, outputs and results/outcomes with the overall objective(s) and aspirations that set the scene for project activities
- Include appropriate monitoring & evaluation provisions, including baseline information, realistic indicators of success and targets that support both clear reporting and project management.

Management Response:

UNECE does not accept this recommendation.

Follow up actions and responsibilities:

The key component of the logical framework such as objective, expected accomplishment/outcomes, activities, indicators were developed in line with the existing project template based on result-based management (RBM) and approved by ECE EXCOM. Baseline and targets are currently not part of the template applied by UNECE.

Monitoring and evaluation provisions are also already mandatory in UNECE. In future project assessments UNECE will make sure that all documents are provided to the evaluator.

Management Response, Evaluation, PMU, UNECE

Recommendation 5:

In the future projects UNECE should systematically assess, monitor and document the usefulness and expected impact of the capacity development workshops by canvassing feedback from the participants through a well-tailored questionnaires, quiz approach application and internet based tools as e.g. Survey Monkey. These assessments should include a space for qualitative comments and improvement proposals by participants

Management Response:

UNECE accepts this recommendation

Follow up actions and responsibilities:

This recommendation will be brought to the attention of the Director of Environment Division and will apply in future Dam Safety projects if any.

Responsible: Project manager

Timeline: December 2023

Recommendation 6:

For the purposes of sustainability in development of legal, regulatory and technical frameworks on dam safety in Central Asia, UNECE should maintain frequent engagement with Governments and other partners through, but not limited to, advisory missions.

Management Response:

UNECE accepts this recommendation.

Follow up actions and responsibilities:

The challenges and the need to strengthen cooperation in the area of dam safety in the region as well as the results of the UNECE initiative will be presented at the various events (SPECA Working Group on Water, Energy and Environment, relevant regional platforms; Water MoP) conducted in the region. UNECE will also provide advisory, intermediary, mediation services to other donor and development organizations (e.g. IWAC, GIZ, AFD) interested in addressing the Central Asian countries' dam safety challenges. In addition, it will be implemented through various relevant missions including conducted by the Regional Advisor on Environment.

Responsible: Programme Manager and Regional Advisor

Timeline: December 2023

