

MFAT Management Response to the StIRRRD Mid-Term Review (Strengthened Indonesia Resilience: Reducing Risks from Disasters)

Evaluation:	A Mid-Term Review of the StIRRRD (Strengthened Indonesia Resilience: Reducing Risks from Disasters) Activity
Background:	<p>StIRRRD is a NZD\$7m, five-year disaster risk reduction (DRR) activity that aims to reduce losses from disasters. Building on a successful one-year pilot, the Activity focuses on ten districts in four provinces across Indonesia. Each district is provided with a three-year programme consisting of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - District-level hazard, risk and vulnerability assessment; - A vulnerability profile; - Local government DRR capacity assessment; and - Support to develop and finalise a DRR action plan.

In addition to this, the Activity also develops a DRR strengthening model that can be applied by the Government of Indonesia (GoI) and its partners, to other districts. This includes the provision of :

- A tailored tool-kit, guidance and methodology;
- Application training for government officials and others.

GNS Science (GNS), a Crown Research Institute has been contracted to implement the Activity in partnership with the University of Gadjah Mada (UGM). Once the Activity closes in December 2019, the following outcomes should be met:

Long-term	1. Disaster resilience strengthened and risks reduced
Medium-term	2. DRR Strengthening Model applied to other districts 3. Strengthened DRR planning and implementation by local government 4. Improved community DRR practice
Short-term	5. Increased stakeholder awareness and buy-in of a DRR approach 6. Local government have the skills and knowledge



	<p>to support DRR</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. DRR Action Plans finalised 8. Expert knowledge and skills are applied to support DRR 9. Improved community awareness of hazards and risks
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The Mid Term Review (MTR) was commissioned to undertake a comprehensive assessment of StIRRRD performance and make recommendations on modifications to the project in the remaining time to completion, and identify potential considerations for ongoing MFAT engagement beyond the life of the current phase.

Findings:

The StIRRRD partnership is a valuable and innovative initiative that fills a current gap in the DRR sector in Indonesia and delivers strong reputational, institutional and technical benefits to MFAT, GNS, UGM and their downstream Gol partners.

StIRRRD has been well implemented and planned outputs have been delivered to a high standard. Indeed, the uptake of training and mentoring support has exceeded initial plans and expectations.

In a relatively short time, the partnership has delivered significant outcomes including the establishment of UGM Gama Ina-TEK as a Centre of Excellence for DRR, the development of the first ever ISO Standards for DRR in Indonesia (flood, landslide and tsunami) and the adoption of the Tsunami Blue Line Evacuation Programme in West Sumatra.

Significantly StIRRRD has demonstrated the importance of a multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder approach to DRR and created linkages across line Ministries and subnational agencies and has contributed to building capacity of DRR actors at the national and subnational level.

The extent to which these capacities can be institutionalised into the future are affected by several key challenges including complex decentralised governance planning and budgeting arrangements, the relative newness of the subnational Disaster Management Agencies, and high turnover of personnel in key government roles. Further analysis and strategic thinking and planning will be required to seek to explore strategies to address these to maximise StIRRRD's impact.

Link to evaluation

Insert link from webpage

Approval of the MFAT Management Response

Signature:



Stuart Calman, Divisional Manager
Name, Unit Manager/Director

Date:

21 August 2018

Recommendation	Response and Action (Agree, Partially Agree, Reject)	Responsibility	When	12 month progress
Effectiveness				
As sustainability will ultimately be delivered through Gol systems, greater attention and alignment to the political processes associated with planning and budgeting are required, including ensuring that StIRRD processes align with the government planning cycle.	Agree. While there is an Activity Governance Group (AGG) in place to facilitate Gol alignment, this system could be further strengthened. This will be set as a key issue on the agenda for the last two AGG meetings taking place in Nov 2018 and May 2019.	Post in conjunction with the AGG.	November 2018 and May 2019.	
StIRRD's progress to outcomes would be significantly strengthened by taking a strategic institutional strengthening /institutional governance lens to capacity building efforts. To maximise training outcomes, consideration should be made to the provision of basic DRR training directly with whole work teams at the district level.	Agree. Provision of basic DRR training at the district-level could be integrated over the Activity's final year, however the programme is currently fully committed and additional funding is unlikely to be made available. This will be considered for any future investments.	Post in conjunction with GNS	Nov 2018 – Nov 2019	
The design and implementation of community projects requires specialist engagement and facilitation from international or local civil society actors for whom community mobilisation, socialisation and beneficiary-based M&E is core business, and to ensure that these are aligned with Gol decentralised planning and budgeting processes.	Agree. We have now decided not to proceed with the remaining two community projects in order to prioritise a new request from the Gol which we see greater benefit in. To be considered for any future investment.	MFAT	Future investments	

Recommendation	Response and Action (Agree, Partially Agree, Reject)	Responsibility	When	12 month progress
<p><u>Future Investments:</u> Any future programme should develop a capacity building strategy and capacity assessment framework for measuring capacity outcomes at the individual, institutional and systems level.</p>	<p>Agree. While there are no plans to extend the programme beyond its current timeframe, this will be considered with future investments.</p>	MFAT	Future investments	
<p>Future community based initiatives should be positioned within the decentralised governance system, build capacity, support communities to plan in a way that respects the authority and autonomy afforded them by the Village Law and build the capacity of local government agencies to fulfil their role in supporting these processes.</p>	<p>Agree. This will be considered for any future community based initiatives that the Programme supports.</p>	MFAT	Future investments	
Efficiency				
<p>UGM needs to commence long range planning for Gama Ina-TEK in order that it is sufficiently viable to respond to technical support for DRR policy and planning by national and subnational government agencies beyond the life of StIRRDR.</p>	<p>Agree. For sustainability beyond MFAT's funding, GNS will strategize with UGM in their next visit (Oct 2018) to see how Gama Ina-TEK could provide consultancy services and training on DRR, to national and local governments & members of parliaments.</p>	GNS in conjunction with UGM	October 2018	

Recommendation	Response and Action (Agree, Partially Agree, Reject)	Responsibility	When	12 month progress
<p><u>Future investments:</u> Any future investment design should clearly assess the costs and benefits of placing additional management support in-country to enable the UGM technical team to focus on the Faculties strategic development and institutional sustainability model.</p>	<p>Agree. This will be considered for any future investments.</p>	MFAT	Future investments	
Results Management and Monitoring and Evaluation				
<p>Stronger investments into the M&E system should be made to support the strengthened collection, analysis and documentation of qualitative evidence to support sense-making and evaluative thinking and to inform strategy development for the remaining life of the programme.</p>	<p>Partially agree. MFAT is satisfied with the level of investment that GNS and UGM have put into M&E. Reporting against the Results Framework took place as agreed on a monthly basis, and emphasised the importance of outputs. However, we acknowledge that the level of analysis or qualitative evidence of this progress could be strengthened. Such analysis will be incorporated in the next 6-month report, and particularly with the completion report.</p>	GNS and UGM	In the following 6-month report	

Recommendation	Response and Action (Agree, Partially Agree, Reject)	Responsibility	When	12 month progress
<p>A midterm review of the Results Framework should be undertaken to assess i.e. the appropriateness of current indicators (e.g. increase in financing) and ii. the integration of key learning / evaluative areas to respond to knowledge and data gaps identified by the MTR (e.g. strengthen analysis of capacity building efforts, public diplomacy and attention to gender approaches and outcomes).</p>	<p>Agree. MFAT will be re-evaluating the current Results Framework to see what changes could be made to strengthen its relevance to programme outcomes. In particular, we intend to adjust the existing indicators, in order to capture the outstanding results that have been achieved, such as public diplomacy.</p>	<p>GNS in consultation with MFAT</p>	<p>December 2018</p>	
<p><u>Future Investments</u>: A fully resourced M&E strategy and plan should be developed as part of any future initiative. This system should consider the full range of M&E needs from data collection and data management through to sense-making, evaluative reflection and reporting.</p>	<p>Agree. This will be considered for any future investments.</p>	<p>MFAT</p>	<p>Future investments</p>	<p>-</p>
<p>M&E Resourcing should align with global good practice for M&E financing at between seven (7) to ten (10) percent of total programme value.</p>	<p>Partially Agree. Most MFAT funded activities allocate between 5-7% of total investment to M&E. For the StiRRRD activity, 6 percent of the total programme value was allocated for M&E.</p>	<p>MFAT</p>	<p>Future investments</p>	<p>-</p>
<p><u>Sustainability</u></p>				

Recommendation	Response and Action (Agree, Partially Agree, Reject)	Responsibility	When	12 month progress
<p><u>Current Term:</u> A detailed assessment of the political economy and preconditions that underlie success in each of the locations should be undertaken to inform more nuanced approaches to each district as well as inform replication to new areas. This assessment should extend to those non-StIRRRD target districts that are implementing StIRRRD like processes.</p>	<p>Partially Agree. This will be considered with any future investments, particularly during a pilot or inception phase that precedes full implementation. The scope of any assessments beyond districts targeted by the activity would need to be considered further in the design of those activities.</p>	MFAT	Future investments	-
<p><u>Future:</u> Future strategy and design should ensure a governance lens to inform more nuanced approaches to address key barriers and constraints to good DRR governance.</p>	<p>Agree. This will be considered for any future investments.</p>	MFAT	Future investments	
Cross Cutting Issues				

Recommendation	Response and Action (Agree, Partially Agree, Reject)	Responsibility	When	12 month progress
<p><u>Current Term:</u> Resources should be identified to undertake efforts to strengthen the gender and social inclusion lens of the program. These investments should include at a minimum:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Both gender sensitisation and gender and social inclusion resilience training for all team members; The development of an interim strategy to inform a strengthened focus on gender and social inclusion for the remaining term of the program; and A review of the Results Framework to include both quantitative and qualitative indicators regarding gender and social inclusion outcomes. <p><u>Future:</u> Future investments should adopt a gender and socially inclusive approach to resilience and DRR policy and planning, based on sound gender analysis and a clear and resourced strategy for implementation.</p>	<p>Agree.</p> <p>MFAT and GNS are currently investigating means of addressing this recommendation for the remaining term of the activity.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Gender workshops are currently being delivered through other MFAT funded activities. Efforts to coordinate with these are currently being arranged. Consultation for developing this strategy is currently under way. The process for updating the results framework to measure these outcomes has been initiated. <p>Agree.</p> <p>Cross-cutting issues such as gender are integrated into all MFAT funded activities, as with StIRRD during the design phase. However additional resources would need to be allocated to ensure these plans are followed through.</p>	<p>MFAT in conjunction with GNS</p> <p>MFAT in conjunction with its partners</p>	<p>August - December 2018</p> <p>Future investments</p>	