

Management response to the Independent Evaluation of “Promoting gender-responsive trade policy in the LDCs”

Response by recommendation

In this section, Project Management should address each recommendation that is addressed to UNCTAD, discussing them in the order presented in the evaluation report. This should be done in the format of the Management Response matrix below (see Box 1) and include:

- a. The recommendation number and text copied from the evaluation report;
- b. Indication of whether the recommendation is accepted fully, partially, or rejected;
- c. Description of the actions to be taken, with comments as required on the conditions to be met during implementation, or on reasons leading to a partial acceptance or rejection of a recommendation;
- d. The responsible party for implementing the action/s;
- e. The time-frame for implementation and/or an implementation schedule, if required;
- f. Indication if and what resources are required for implementing the recommendation.

Box 1. Management response matrix¹

Management response to the Independent Evaluation of “Promoting gender-responsive trade policy in the LDCs”					Date
Evaluation Recommendation (a)	Management response (b) Accepted, partially accepted or rejected	Management plan			
		Actions to be taken, and/or comments about partial acceptance or rejection (c)	Responsible unit (d)	Timeframe (e)	Resources required (Y or N) (f)
<p>Recommendation 1:</p> <p>As per previous evaluations, it is recommended that training delivery be accompanied with after-training activities framed under an UNCTAD Trade-and-Gender Alumni Network. Such activities, could be supported with the existing LinkedIn group and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - follow-up on actions undertaken by trainees; - follow-up on policy change, advocacy challenges and opportunities, on a country basis - facilitation of experience sharing among former trainees and between trainees and 	Partially accepted	In 2021, the project team launched the <i>LinkedIn alumni network</i> , a group aimed at creating a community space for successful participants of UNCTAD online courses on trade and gender. It was intended to encourage an exchange of views, experiences and knowledge in the field of trade and gender, and to provide a platform for networking and knowledge sharing. While the group remained active for some time, the lack of sufficient resources within the work programme did not allow a regular management of this social media channel. On the other hand, a Whatsapp group set up thanks to the initiative of some former course participants continues to be very active and	UNCTAD Trade, Gender and Development Programme	Immediately, provided resources are made available	Y

¹ Each column is cross-referenced to the bullet letters above.

<p>international experts - updating practitioners with new training contents and updating training with new practices.</p>		<p>counts over 100 members. They share information about publications, events, policies and initiatives they have taken. While UNCTAD has no role in this self-managed group, this is an indication that the courses provide solid and longstanding networking opportunities, even across different cohorts of participants.</p> <p>The team's internal mailinglist, which includes all former course participants, continues to remain one of the main channels through which information about new publications, events and other initiatives is shared with alumni, also with the purpose to keep the acknowledge acquired through the course up to date.</p> <p>As mentioned above, other after-training activities such as following-up on actions undertaken by participants or on specific issues at a country level, or nurturing a vibrant community of practice would require targeted financial resources.</p>			
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<p>Recommendation 2:</p> <p>In order for such groups to be active and activities to be effective, it is recommended that grants do not only allocate resources to module production and delivery but allow for the subcontracting of community management services with a strong thematic expertise. Resources made available on a project basis should not target the trainees benefiting from one specific project, but be pooled together for activities following up on the overall network. Indeed, greater attention could be given to trainees from previous cohorts with higher opportunities to make an effective and practical use of the training, which could in turn inform new training materials and activities.</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>The recommendation to target the whole network of trade and gender stakeholders rather than just the trainees benefiting from one specific project is very welcome. The project team commits to discuss this approach with future donors and to earmark resources for this purpose in new project proposals.</p>	<p>UNCTAD Trade, Gender and Development Programme</p>	<p>As soon as new projects proposals start to be discussed with possible donors</p>	<p>Y</p>
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