

# Management Response – MARPLASTICCs Final Evaluation – March 2022

March 2022

## Background

This final evaluation fulfils the IUCN Monitoring and Evaluation Policy to conduct an independent final evaluation for the purpose of assessing the results of the intervention. It is expected that the findings and recommendations of this final evaluation will help to inform future decisions such as whether to pursue additional interventions, to scale up existing interventions, or to replicate this project elsewhere. The external evaluation should also help IUCN identify key lessons learned that could be used for the development of future project proposals and improve the implementation of future interventions. Finally, it also addresses Sida’s requirement in terms of project evaluation.

IUCN’s Management Response, presented here, addresses the nine (9) recommendations put forward by the reviewers and for which they suggested actions.

The Ocean Team will lead the implementation and tracking of the actions to implement the recommendations below and will count on the support of several other units named here with shared responsibility for the actions and intended results. Every individual/unit requested to act (listed below) has been consulted and commented on this response and agreed on the planned actions. [The final evaluation is available here to review.](#)

## Evaluation Management Responses

Project identification data			
<b>Project title:</b>	Marine Plastics and Coastal Communities (MARPLASTICCs)		
<b>Date started:</b>	8.9.2017	<b>Registration n°:</b>	P02639
<b>Date closed:</b>	31.12.2021		
<b>Project manager:</b>	<b>Programme/office:</b>		
Janaka da Silva	Ocean	IUCN HQ GLAND	

Management Response Summary Data	
<b>Name of evaluation or midterm review:</b> Final Evaluation, MARPLASTICCs <b>Date received:</b> 21.2.2022	<b>Unit/person responsible for managing/tracking follow-up:</b> Ocean/Lynn Sorrentino MEL/Florian Reinhard
<b>Date Management Response approved:</b> 16 March 2022 <b>Last updated:</b> 16 March 2022	<b>Units/individuals requested to act:</b> Ocean: Janaka da Silva, Lynn Sorrentino Enterprise: Gerard Bos Asia Regional Office: Maeve Nightingale Eastern and Southern Regional Office: Peter Manyara Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning: Florian Reinhard

Recommendation	Management response	Intended Result	Actions planned (including timeframe)	Completed Actions (progress update)	Responsibility
<i>List each recommendation from the report, one per row.</i>	<i>e.g. Agree, partially disagree or disagree (explain as needed)</i>	<i>What is the intended result of the action you plan to take?</i>	<i>Actions should be SMART</i>		<i>Responsible unit/person and any other notes</i>
<b>Recommendation 1: Partnership Development</b> In order to achieve and sustain any development outcomes, it is recommended that government agencies and other non-state actors at the country level are involved at the project design stage to ensure early buy-in and to leverage in country technical and financial resources through co financing.	Agree for future project phases or new plastics projects.	Better project buy-in and design with the right stakeholders to ensure effectiveness of similar projects or Phase II.	Phase II concept proposals in 2022 should include this.		Ocean Plastics Team

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<b>Recommendation 2: Partnership Development</b> IUCN is recommended to lead the development of regional networks of likeminded international development and research organizations on harmonization of assessment methodologies.	Agree. However, there is currently no funding for this work.	The results of MARPLASTICCs work and tools are used more widely to continue to stop plastic pollution using IUCN guidance.	Phase II concept proposals in 2022 should include this.		Ocean/ARO/ESARO
<b>Recommendation 3: Future Programming Directions</b> It is highly recommended that IUCN in collaboration with the UNEP brands the hotspotting methodology as an intellectual tool and works to promote this output to major national and international entities involved in plastic waste management.	Partially Agree. UNEP owns copyrights to the methodology documentation. IUCN can explore branding with UNEP, but this may not be possible with their policies. Agree with promotional aspects however.	Wider use of methodology to stop plastic pollution, with IUCN guidance.	Discussion with UNEP and internally in IUCN to yield a plan in early 2022.		Ocean/ARO/ESARO
<b>Recommendation 4: Future Programming Directions</b> It is recommended that IUCN continues to build on the momentum gained in the area of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) as a key strategy to reduce plastic leakage by providing support to research, legislation development, and implementation.	Agree.	Wider promotion and implementation with IUCN guidance of EPR as part of a set of plastic pollution solutions.	Establish an IUCN working group in 2022 with other IUCN units including EU Team to discuss concepts to move this forward.		Ocean/ARO/ESARO
<b>Recommendation 5: Future Programming Directions</b> In addition, to capitalize on the success of the Circular Economy initiatives, there is a need to integrate CE initiatives in multi-sectoral environmental projects and to devise a replicable methodology/guideline for the development of sustainable CE Initiatives.	Agree.	Wider implementation with IUCN guidance of CE guidelines as part of a set of plastic pollution solutions.	Phase II concept proposals in 2022 should include this.		Ocean/ARO/ESARO/Enterprise
<b>Recommendation 6: Future Programming Directions</b> To increase private sector, buy-in for the Plastic Leak methodology, the project is recommended to demonstrate the proof of concept for PLP. Moreover, as opposed to large corporations who are likely to already have access to similar mechanisms, IUCN is advised to target SMEs value chains by using a cluster approach.	Partly agree. PLP is owned by Quantis so would require cooperation and partnerships and funding.	Wider implementation with IUCN guidance of PLP as part of a set of plastic pollution solutions for SM.	Phase II concept proposals in 2022 should include this.		Ocean/ARO/ESARO/Enterprise
<b>Recommendation 7: Future Programming Directions</b> It is also critical that the design of any business-focused initiative such as the PLP must be based on extensive consultations with local businesses. To implement such a program, partnerships should be made with organizations having prior experience in addressing environmental concerns in SME operations.	Agree.	Better project buy-in and design with the right stakeholders to ensure effectiveness of similar projects or Phase II.	Phase II concept proposals in 2022 should include this.		Ocean/MEL
<b>Recommendation 8: Operations</b> Based on the positive experience of the MARPLASTICCS project, it is recommended that in future projects, the Theory of Change is developed consultatively by the project stakeholders.	Agree.	ToC is not only used as a communication tool but also as a project management tool in Phase II or other similar projects.	Phase II concept proposals in 2022 should include this.		Ocean/ARO/ESARO
<b>Recommendation 9: Operations</b> It is also recommended that IUCN ensures the presence of on the ground, dedicated staff for the next phase of MARPLASTICCS (if any) or other similar projects. Also, dedicated staff for communications in a project similar to MARPLASTICCs is critical to ensure effective outreach and coordination.	Partly agree. Budgets and staffing should be carefully planned in any future phases of this project to ensure that dedicated staff can be a part of the work.	Better project support for similar projects to ensure greater effectiveness.	No action until phase II or similar projects are funded.		Ocean/ARO/ESARO/Enterprise