

Independent Evaluation of the UNOSAT Rapid Mapping Service

Management Response

18 August 2018

Geneva, Switzerland

Management Response for UNOSAT Rapid Mapping Service Recommendations

Programme undertaking	UNITAR Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNOSAT)		
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Name of project undertaking	UNOSAT Rapid Mapping Service	AGB #	N/A
Name of evaluation	Independent Evaluation of the UNOSAT Rapid Mapping Service		
Date:	18 August 2018		

SECTION I – Findings and Conclusions

Comments:

The report for the most part reflects well the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability situation of the service. It is good to see that the service is highly relevant and very efficient compared to competitors. The financial situation of the service has been of concern for quite some time and solutions, including actively targeting potential donors, have been sought. To date, these have not materialised at the required level. However, efforts are continuing and some positive feedback has been received lately. The report will help towards fundraising and discussion with donors and partners on how to further improve the service.

SECTION II - RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation	Management Response and Planned Action				Update on status in 2019 (planned, under implementation, implemented)
	Accepted Partially Accepted Rejected	Proposed action	Budget allocated (if necessary)	Status (planned, under implementation, implemented)	
1. UNOSAT should enhance the visibility of the Rapid Mapping Service due to its global relevance for the UN family and the UN Member States. More visibility could be achieved for example by establishing a strategic advisory board for the Rapid Mapping Services comprised of UNOSAT's main institutional partners and the current donor Norad	Accepted	Define members of board and have it established by January 2019	n/a	Planned	
Comments: The board should only give advice and not be seen as a decision making body. It should be comprised of beneficiary countries, donors and humanitarian partners.					

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Recommendation		Accepted Partially accepted Rejected	Proposed action	Budget allocated (if necessary)	Status (planned, under implementation, implemented)	Update on status in 2018 (planned, under implementation, implemented)
2.	UNOSAT should revise current MoUs with institutional partners and include more joint planning and implementation tasks including secondments. This could strengthen UNOSAT's position in an increasingly competitive environment.	Partially accepted	Review of MoUs by December 2018 and identification of partners interested in joint planning. No action on secondments in current situation.	n/a	Planned	
		Comments: This will lead to spreading operational resources too thin thus not ensuring the service. If significant funding was made available for a full team of analysts and secondment to partners, this could be revisited.				
Recommendation		Accepted Partially accepted Rejected	Proposed action	Budget allocated (if necessary)	Status (planned, under implementation, implemented)	Update on status in 2019 (planned, under implementation, implemented)
3.	UNOSAT should invest in a strategic retreat with Norad, other potentially interested parts of the Norwegian administration, other potential donors and selected institutional partners to shape a redefined business model of the Rapid Mapping Service. Some options to discuss are business model and funding possibilities for a Service of i) up to 10 full-time staff scaling up current work	Partially accepted	Invite strategic partners for retreat by December 2018	5,000	Planned	
		Comments: The objective is to scale up. Option ii and iii are not supporting that objective. With the current limit in staff there are already a selection as to which emergencies we get involved in and to what extent.				

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	<p>practices and systematically using secondments and placements in institutional partners ; ii) up to 3 full-time staff scaling down current work practices covering only selected parts of the Rapid Mapping Operational Framework and focusing on coordination issues and investments in impact assessment of rapid mapping; iii) moving all remaining staff to institutional partners in field locations for shared funding of posts and maximum impact in the field combined with a light oversight role from UNOSAT in Geneva.</p>				
Recommendation	Accepted Partially accepted Rejected	Proposed action	Budget allocated (if necessary)	Status (planned, under implementation, implemented)	Update on status in 2019 (planned, under implementation, implemented)
4. UNOSAT should identify indicators and targets for the outcome and impact of the Rapid Mapping Service, as a means to move from activity-based management to results-based management.	Accepted	Targets and indicators to be defined by December 2018	n/a	Planned	
		Comments: Outcome and impact will need to be defined in collaboration with main beneficiary organization.			

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Recommendation		Accepted Partially accepted Rejected	Proposed action	Budget allocated (if necessary)	Status (planned, under implementation, implemented)	Update on status in 2019 (planned, under implementation, implemented)
5.	UNOSAT should consider to which extent user-based real-time impact assessment by upgrading existing technical solutions related to UN-ASIGN can be accommodated in any future business model of the Service, given donor interest and opportunity to lead the global humanitarian community on this topic.	Accepted	Continue innovating and making use of UN-ASIGN and other technologies	n/a	Under implementation	
Comments: This is ongoing work and may also include virtual and augmented reality						
Recommendation		Accepted Partially accepted Rejected	Proposed action	Budget allocated (if necessary)	Status (planned, under implementation, implemented)	Update on status in 2019 (planned, under implementation, implemented)
6.	If the current funding crisis requires a prioritization in the service portfolio, UNOSAT should focus on risk analysis/possible scenario definition maps and location/preliminary situation maps due to the more direct access to end-users for those products.	Partially accepted	Preliminary situation maps and scenario definition maps already defined. No action required.	n/a	Implemented	
Comments: In case one has to focus on certain products it is important to keep the core rapid mapping situational awareness. Risk analysis is less of a typical rapid mapping product, while scenario definition based on for example tropical storm modelling is a good and impactful product.						