

## **DFAT Management Response to Partner-led Mid-Term Review of the Viet Nam Provincial Governance and Public Administration Performance Index (PAPI) Nov 2019 - Oct 2023**

DFAT notes that UNDP has agreed to all 12 recommendations of the Mid-Term Review. In several cases, UNDP has, over the history of implementing PAPI, made significant efforts that align with the recommendations demonstrating its commitment to similar improvements. DFAT appreciates UNDP's willingness to expand and strengthen these program elements based on the Mid-Term Review.

DFAT also notes that many of the recommendations that propose extending the activities and/or scope of PAPI current activities are dependent on securing funding. Recommendations seven and eight, are closely aligned with the objectives of the Australia in Vietnam Equality Strategy 2022-27. As the provider of the majority of PAPI's program budget, DFAT will consider the mid-term review and its recommendations, amongst other factors, during consideration of any funding extension beyond the current agreement.

While DFAT endorses all the MTR recommendations, we encourage UNDP to focus on implementation of actions under recommendation 1. A more robust results frameworks and theory of change that can track outcomes would quantify and provide qualitative data on PAPI's impact in driving behaviour change. In turn, this would strengthen the rationale for the increased adoption of PAPI by the Government of Vietnam in the medium to long term as an effective modality to enhance the performance of provincial governments - along with the social and economic benefits this delivers.

DFAT will work closely with the UNDP on the longer-term recommendations as a donor and as a PAPI Advisory Board member. Further funding to PAPI after 2025 is subject to alignment with the Australia Vietnam Development Partnership Plan DFAT is developing and budget availability.

The UNDP has published the report and UNDP's management response on its website <https://erc.undp.org/evaluation/evaluations/detail/13569?tab=documents>