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LPAC Meeting on

The draft project document

"Integrating Community Based Adaptation into Afforestation and Reforestation Programmes in Bangladesh" Project

Meeting Date:

August 25, 2013

Meeting Venue:

UNDP CO, 19th floor Conference Room, IDB Bhaban

Participants:

Please see annex

1. Opening

The meeting was chaired by Ms. Pauline Tamesis, UNDP Country Director. The Chair opened the meeting and explained the purpose of the Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) to discuss the draft project document on "Integrating Community Based Adaptation into Afforestation and Reforestation Programmes in Bangladesh" UNDP-GEF-LDCF full sized project.

2. Presentation of the Meeting

Following the opening remarks of the Chair, Assistant Country Director of the Climate, Environment and Disaster (CCED) Cluster clarified the overall objectives of the appraisal meeting which were to review, discuss and validate the draft project document (ProDoc) in terms of its alignment with national priorities, clarity, completeness and result orientation as well as to make recommendations that would go in the submission package to GEFSEC. He provided a brief description of the process that was followed in developing the ProDoc including national and local consultations during the formulation and design period.

Md. Alamgir Hossain, Programme Analyst (Environment) made a brief presentation on the draft ProDoc and explained that the global objective of this project is to reduce vulnerability of communities to the adverse impacts of climate change through participatory and community-based management and diversification of afforestation and reforestation programmes. He informed the meeting about the approach and strategies adopted by the project in response to situational analysis and addressing the key barriers to long term community resilience as well as to complement and synergize ongoing and planned intervention in the project area by the government, donors and UN agencies. He then

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introduced various components, results framework and ESSF as explained in the ProDoc as well as management arrangement and monitoring mechanism.

3. Record of Discussions

A good discussion took place in the meeting. While the proposed project is found to be fully aligned with national and local priorities and the interventions are very pertinent to address the key barriers to community resilience in project areas, the participants shared their review findings, concerns and suggestions as summarized below:

Issue	Discussion Summary	
Policy issues that need to be addressed	Land tenure has been an important barrier for sustainability of the coastal green belt this project should take account of this issue while developing the comanagement model and the benefit sharing mechanism in the coming years.	
	Community benefit sharing should be promoted but not through felling of standing trees, rather with non-timber forest products, e.g. honey, Nypa fruticans, twigs, etc. Also eco-tourism may be promoted as an adaptive livelihood option.	
Coordination and inter- sectoral synergies	Inter-sectoral coordination is a long-standing problem, particularly at the local level, which different projects are trying to overcome; this project should continue this venture and build upon the lessons learned.	
National and Local level alignment	The project needs to align with national priorities and more specifically to the local level scenario to effectively address climate change issues for coastal population of Bangladesh.	

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Integrating	lessons	from -
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(a) First LDCF Project

The lessons from the first LDCF project should be leveraged and reflected in the component 2 while exploring innovative solution to forest co-management option that would ensure community engagement and deliver significant benefits to forest dependent communities.

FFF model is very beneficial for the coastal landless poor with assess to land and multiple livelihood benefits and need expansion throughout the coast.

(b) Other on-going initiatives

The unit cost for mangrove plantation activities should be appropriately rationalized in the light of BCCRF funded CRPARP so as to ensure uniformity and complementarity.

While synergy with CRPARP is important, the proposed project must put in place mechanism to avoid duplication and overlaps particularly when targeting beneficiary households.

In addition to the climate proofing of the community wells, other complementary option such as PSF (pond sand filter) promoted by other projects can also be considered to ensure safe drinking water for the coastal population.

The degraded earthen embankments need to be improved to ensure effective drainage facilities and reduce water logging. Also development of local reservoir for rainwater harvesting to small-scale crop irrigation can be considered.

USAID funded CREL project, co-financing partner for Component-2 of this project, is assessing value chain for 29 crops and NTFPs. This project can get benefit from the output, particularly for component 1.

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4. Conclusion

Overall, the participants were appreciative of the draft project document for 'Integrating Community Based Adaptation into Afforestation and Reforestation Programmes in Bangladesh'. With above observations, the LPAC recommended for submission of the prodoc to GEFSEC with necessary clarification on the raised issues to the extent possible. The chair thanked all the participants and closed the meeting.

5. Attachment

- a. Draft Project Document
- b. Draft PPT
- c. Participant List
- 6. Prepared by: Alamgir Hossain, Programme Analyst, UNDP

7. Reviewed by: Md. Tarik-ul-Islam, Assistant Country Director, UNDP Markal-ham

8. Approved by: Pauline Tamesis, Country Director, UNDP