**Quarterly Project Progress Review Report**

Date: 14 July 2015

Award ID: 00074121

Description: Strengthened Institutional capacity of institutions to support sustainable livelihoods and reintegration programmes

Implementing Partners: UNCDF

Period Covered: Apr – June 2015

* 1. **Project Risks Logs:**

Project Risk log: *Please integrate the latest project risk log (from previous quarter or original project risk log if this is the first QPR for the project) and update as relevant*

| **#** | **Description** | **Date Identified** | **Type** | **Impact &**  **Probability** | **Countermeasures / Management response** | **Owner** | **Submitted, updated by** | **Last Update** | **Status** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1.1 | Coordination mechanism has not mentioned in roles and responsibility section of Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee and Technical Working Group establishment | Mar 26, 2015 | Operational | Roles overlapping or confusion among concerned Ministries and departments that may delay in developing FI action plan.  P = 5  I = 5 | Develop effective national coordination mechanism through multi FI stakeholders’ engagement and Public-Private partnership. | Programme Analyst | Team Leader, Local Governance | June 30, 2015 | FRD took initiation to map each ministry involvement in Myanmar FI roadmap implementation.  Will finalize and present next IMSC meeting, in Aug 2015. |
| 2.4 | Development Partners’ commitment is uncertain right now | Mar 31, 2014 | Organizat-ional | Capacity development of Weaving Centre of Excellence could not be full scale implementation.  P = 4  I = 5 | The comprehensive project document will serve as reference for implementation and potentially attract additional partners. | Programme Analyst | Team Leader, Local Governance | June 30, 2015 | Consultation meetings among DPs is scheduling in early August 2015. |

* 1. **Project Issues Logs:**

Project Issues Log: *Please integrate the latest project issues log (from previous quarter) and update as relevant – or if this the first QPR of the project, fill in the below template*

| **#** | **Description** | **Date Identified** | **Type** | **Impact &**  **Probability** | **Countermeasures / Management response** | **Owner** | **Submitted, updated by** | **Last Update** | **Status** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1.3 | Delay in Panelist approval process for MFP Transition – Project closure follow up audit. | Mar 28, 2015 | Operational | Delay caused by temporary staff shortage in procurement unit. This could delay the audit schedule and even missing the deadline for reporting.  P = 5  I = 5 | Follow up the procurement focal and approving authority.  Coordinate with audit team for the scope of work and timeline. | MF Analyst | MF Analyst | June 30, 2015 | 2014 NIM/NGO Audit was successfully conducted and audit report submitted on CARDS on time at the end of April 2015. |
| 2.1 | Delay in procurement process for consultancies services to develop a comprehensive project document for the establishment of Weaving Centre of Excellence. | Mar 24, 2015 | Operational | Delay caused by unplanned agenda of Myanmar FI roadmap launching ceremony during March 2015.  P = 5  I = 3 | Applicants will be informed the deferment of assignment period ;  VISA process will be started as soon as possible once selection process has completed. | MF Analyst | MF Analyst | June 30, 2015 | Procurement process completed and International Consultants-Weaving Specialist and management Specialist- will be arriving in Aug 03. The prodoc will be submitted at end of September. |

**2. Project Performance: Strengthened Institutional capacity to support sustainable livelihoods and reintegration programmes**

Project ID: 00086667

Description: UNDP Microfinance Project Transition

Implementing Partner: N/A

Baseline: *as per CP* Microfinance operations and ownership is currently with

UNDP

Indicator: as per CP Micro-finance operations and ownership transferred to the

selected financial intermediary

[2015] Target: Prior year audit recommendations/ issues will be resolved and

Project is officially closed.

(Micro-finance operations and ownership already transferred to

selected financial intermediaries - PGMF; Save the Children; and

GRET in 2014)

**[2015] Achievement: *Narrative – please describe achievements at the output level, taking into account all activities.***

UNDP Microfinance Project was transitioned to selected MFIs – PGMF; Save the Children; and GRET in 2014. However, in order to close the project officially, in the mid of January 2015, OAI Office recommended to conduct follow up audit to 2013 NIM/NGO audit recommendations.

Thus, 2014 NIM/NGO audit was conducted in April 2015. The final MFP audit report provided unqualified audit opinion and no other audit recommendations found in 2014. (All prior years’ audit recommendations were resolved and closed). Based on above audit report, the OAI Office provided SATISFACTORY AUDIT RATING and UNQUALIFIED AUDIT OPINION to MFP project closure audit.

CARDS was updated with final audit report at end of April and accepted by OAI Office.

**How has the gender dimension been addressed: *Please describe specific results achieved in the area of gender mainstreaming (if any) with a brief narrative***

N/A to gender dimension as this activity was only conducting project closure audit.

**2.1 Activity Performance: Increased institutional capacity to promote inclusive rural financial services**

Activity ID: 1.3

Start date: Jan 1, 2015

End date: Apr 2015

Purpose: MFP Transition – Project closure follow up audit

**Description:** Terms of reference for 2014 NIM/NGO audit has developed and RFP announced in early March 2015. Audit firm selection process was completed in early April. The NEXIA STT Co. Ltd From Vietnam was brought in for one week, during April 20th to 24th, verifying compliance status of 2013 audit recommendations towards PGMF, GRET, and Save the Children.

The auditor also verifying 2013 Emphasis of Matters described in CDR opinion and submitted the verification report to OAI office as per advice. This audit covered MFP transition activities/ ceremony and expenses incurred in 2014 as well. The final MFP audit report provided unqualified audit opinion as prior years’ audit recommendations were resolved and closed. Based on above audit report, the OAI Office provided SATISFACTORY AUDIT RATING and UNQUALIFIED AUDIT OPINION to MFP project closure audit.

With the clearance of OAI office, UNDP MFP transition activities were totally completed after 17 years of implementation and supporting better future of the poor across Myanmar. However, this project transition doesn’t mean the end of project delivery; it’d rather transit the nationwide MF activities from project based to legalized MFIs – PGMF, GRET, and Save the Children - for continuous service delivery of MF operations and Institutional sustainability of those IPs.

| **Quality Criteria** | **Quality Method** | **Quality Assessment Due Date** | **User Perspective** | **Timelines** | **Resource Usage** | **Gender Perspective** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **(Date – Rating: Comments)** |  |
| Audit Opinion  &  Audit Rating | 2014 Annual NIM/NGO Audit Report; and  OAI’s Rating & Opinion on 2014 NIM/NGO Audit Report | 30 April 2015 | Unqualified Audit Opinion &  Satisfactory Audit Rating received from OAI office. | 30 April 2015 | USD 7,230 | N/A |

**3. Project Performance: Strengthened Institutional capacity to support sustainable livelihoods and reintegration programmes**

Project ID: 00086666

Description: Strengthen Institutional Capacity – Sustainable Livelihood

Implementing Partner: n/a

Baseline: *as per CP* Zero number of vocational training institutions’ capacities

assessed and strengthened.

Indicator: as per CP Number of vocational training institutions’ capacities assessed

and strengthened.

[2015] Target: **a) Policy support for Inclusive Finance** - An Inter-Ministerial

Steering Committee for national financial inclusion roadmap will

be formed and Technical Assistance for roadmap

implementation framework roll out will be provided; and

**b) Enhanced institutional capacity to create employment**

**opportunities particularly for women and youth** – A

comprehensive project document will be developed to serve as

a strategic plan and an implementation guidance to establish

Saunder Weaving Centre of Excellence in Amarapura township

in Mandalay Region to support national vocational training

capacity.

**[2015] Achievement: *Narrative – please describe achievements at the output level, taking into account all activities – On track***

**a) Policy support for Inclusive Finance:**

Myanmar Financial Inclusion Roadmap was approved by the President Office, Union of Myanmar on the 25th March 2015. The establishment of the Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee and the Technical Working Group were also approved with the approval of FI Roadmap.

UNDP was Liaising with the government on behalf of UNCDF in this progress and provide technical and administrative support to secretariat office of the Financial Inclusion Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee (Financial Regulatory Department) to build the counterpart’s capacity for policy development.

**b) Enhanced institutional capacity to create employment opportunities particularly for women and youth:**

Key recommendations of the Institutional Capacity Assessment Report for Saunder Weaving School report mentioned Saunder Weaving School should transform into Weaving Center of Excellence serves as the country’s core place for modern and up-to-date skills development methods in textiles and weaving and produce graduates of substantial capacity ready to enter various areas of the textile sector which would not be engaging in other type of vocational trainings.

As a follow up, UNDP has consulted with SSID on next steps for continued UNDP technical assistance towards establishment of Saunder Weaving Center of Excellence with the development of a comprehensive project document to serve as a reference for the government on implementation and to potentially attract additional partners.

ToR for International Consultants – Weaving Specialist and Management Specialist - have been announced in February and finalized the recruitment process at end of June 2015. The two consultants – Mr. James Cooper (Lead Consultant/ Management Specialist) and Mr. Joseph Lo (Weaving Specialist) - will arrive early August, conduct market assessment on traditional weaving products, raw materials availability, employable skilled required and submit the prodoc at end of September 2015.

***How has the gender dimension been addressed: Please describe specific results achieved in the area of gender mainstreaming (if any) with a brief narrative:***

Gender responsive questionnaires will be developed for Textile sector market research that the research findings will be incorporated in the project document for the establishment of Weaving Center of Excellence.

**3.1. Activity Performance: Increased institutional capacity to promote inclusive rural financial services**

Activity ID: 1.1

Start date: Jan 1, 2015

End date: Dec 31, 2015

Purpose: Policy Support for Inclusive Finance

**Description:**

This activity is to provide technical and administrative support to secretariat office of the Financial Inclusion Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee (Financial Regulatory Department) to build the counterpart’s capacity for policy development. Achievements on the output level during the second quarter were:

1. Secure funding for Financial Inclusion and MF sector development (2015-2018):

* Completed Stakeholders’ consultations for Revenue Sharing Agreement (Ref: UNDP MFP Assets and Liabilities Transfer Agreement, Article 2.5);
* Through exchange Letters between UNDP and UNCDF/ UNOPS, PGMF will do direct fund transfer to UNCDF (USD 6.3 million) and UNOPS/LIFT (USD 6.3 million) bi-annually from June 2015 to Dec 2018; and

• Obtained UNDP Head Quarter’s Clearance on Enhance Financial Access (EFA)

Programme Document; Revenue Sharing Agreement; and Exchanged Letters.

1. provide technical and administrative support to secretariat office of the Financial Inclusion Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee:

* ToR approved and IC contract issued to Dr. Anthony Githiari, International Consultant (Aug-Sep 2015) to develop Myanmar Financial Inclusion Roadmap Strategy and Action Plan;
* ToR reviewed and approved for Technical Advisor (Sep 2015-Aug 2016) to assist Secretariat Office (FRD) in implementing Financial Inclusion Roadmap Strategy and Action Plan;
* Provided Administrative support to hold the first IMSC meeting in June 2015; and
* Co-funding with UNCDF for the smooth functioning of Secretariat Office of IMSC.

| **Quality Criteria** | **Quality Method** | **Quality Assessment Due Date** | **User Perspective** | **Timelines** | **Resource Usage** | **Gender Perspective** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **(Date – Rating: Comments)** |  |
| Approved Myanmar Financial Inclusion Strategy and Action Plan; | Minutes of the Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee; and Minutes of the Technical Working Group. | Oct 31, 2015 | 03/25/15 – Union Government and President Office approved Myanmar FI Roadmap;  04/01/15 – Launching of the Myanmar FI Roadmap at MICC 1 in Nay Pyi Taw. | on track | USD 153,275 | Women empowerment |

**3.2. Activity Performance: Enhanced institutional capacity to create employment opportunities particularly for women and youth**

Activity ID: 2.1

Start date: Jan 1, 2015

End date: Sep 30, 2015

Purpose: To develop a comprehensive project document for the establishment of the

Weaving Centre of Excellence at Saunder Weaving School, in Amarapura

Township, Mandalay Region.

**Description:**

Key recommendations of the Institutional Capacity Assessment Report for Saunder Weaving School report includes:

a) Saunder Weaving School should transform into Weaving Center of Excellence serves as the country’s core place for modern and up-to-date skills development methods in textiles and weaving and produce graduates of substantial capacity ready to enter various areas of the textile sector which would not be engaging in other type of vocational trainings; and

b) To conduct a survey on supply and demand sides of textile sector in Myanmar to identify market demand for weaving products and skill sets demand from weaving/textile businesses that would help the school in Curriculum Development and Training in line with market demand and NSSA.

As a follow up, UNDP has consulted with SSID on next steps for continued UNDP technical assistance towards establishment of Saunder Weaving Center of Excellence with the development of a comprehensive project document to serve as a reference for the government on implementation and to potentially attract additional partners. The RFP was developed and posted on the UNDP website on the 20th February and shortlisted done in early April. The final IC recruitment was done at the end of June and contracts issued in July.

The timeframe defers one month due to lengthy preparation work in March on UNSGSA Visit and Myanmar Financial Inclusion Launching Ceremony which was conducted in MICC1 in Nay Pyi Taw on the 1st April 2015. (UNDP liaised with FRD on behalf of UNCDF for UNSGSA visit arrangement and providing event management support for FI launching Ceremony).

| **Quality Criteria** | **Quality Method** | **Quality Assessment Due Date** | **User Perspective** | **Timelines** | **Resource Usage** | **Gender Perspective** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **(Date – Rating: Comments)** |  |
| Approved comprehensive project document for the establishment of the Weaving Centre of Excellence (CoE). | Market Assessments for weaving skills; textile products; and tradition skills and weaving technologies;  and  desk review. | Sep 30, 2015 | 02/20/15 – RFP posted on the UNDP website;  11/07/15 – IC contracts issues to both International Consultants. | Sep 30, 2015 | USD 75,000 | Gender Sensitive |

**3.2. Activity Performance: Enhanced institutional capacity to create employment opportunities particularly for women and youth**

Activity ID: 2.4

Start date: Oct 1, 2015

End date: Dec 31, 2015

Purpose: Employable skill development of Saunder Weaving Centre of Excellence

**Description:**

This activity is pending the development of the comprehensive project document for the establishment of the Weaving Centre of Excellence. Thus actual implementation will start in October 2015.

| **Quality Criteria** | **Quality Method** | **Quality Assessment Due Date** | **User Perspective** | **Timelines** | **Resource Usage** | **Gender Perspective** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **(Date – Rating: Comments)** |  |
| Approved Policy and Manual for HR; Finance; IT; and M&E functions | Reports on  Weaving Centre of Excellence’s Capacities Development | Dec 15, 2015 | N/A yet | Dec 31, 2015 | USD 60,000 | Gender Sensitive |
| Approved Training Curricula and Syllabus | Training Curricula and Syllabus are reviewed and approved by the National Skills Standard Authority (NSSA) | Dec 15, 2015 | N/A yet | Dec 31, 2015 | USD 100,000 | Gender Sensitive |
| Establishment of a Laboratory for natural dye and a Testing Centre. | Reports on  Weaving Centre of Excellence’s Capacities Development | Nov 30, 2015 | N/A yet | Dec 31, 2015 | USD 30,000 | N/A |