



Strengthening Planning and Monitoring Capacity of NPC

Award ID: 00058362

Award Title: Strengthening Planning and Monitoring Capacity of NPC

Project ID: 00072471

Source of Funds: UNDP/DFID

Implementation Modality: (DIM/NIM): National Implementation

Project Beginning Year: 09 September 2009

Project Ending Year: 30 September 2012

Signature _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Sainju', written over a horizontal line.

Name: Rabi Shanker Sainju
Interim National Project Manager

Signature _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. L. Shakya', written over a horizontal line.

Name: Pushpa L. Shakya
Executive- Project Board

Annual Progress Report – Part I

1. Overview of the Project

Strengthening Planning and Monitoring Capacity of NPC (SPMC-NPC) project is under implementation since October 2009. This project supports the National Planning Commission to make its planning and monitoring systems inclusive as well as help NPC to strategize to meet the MDG goals. It aims to produce this result by i) making the national plans and current planning and monitoring processes, tools and system inclusive and in line with MDG goals; ii) making the processes of national level data collection, monitoring and analysis gender and social inclusion responsive; and iii) developing institutional capacity of the NPC with a focus on strengthening planning and monitoring systems, institutionalization of inclusive processes and formats, and capacity building of the relevant human resources

2. Key results in 2010

- i) One of the important achievements of 2010 is the preparation of the MDG Progress Report 2010. This work has made significant contribution towards making the upcoming plan document MDG friendly. A section of the Approach Paper to the plan document is dedicated to MDGs. This process has encouraged the policy makers and planners to work towards commitment for MDGs.

Due to continued effort on MDG progress report preparation and dissemination, government is well aware about the MDGs and is making efforts to make the deliveries in line with MDG targets and indicators. The MDG targets and indicators are often referred while working on indicators and deliveries.

- ii) The exercise on MDG Needs Assessment has been completed. The intervention list in the sectors under study was provided to NPC to prepare approach paper to the TYP. The findings from the costing has been used for preparing chapters on Three Year Plan.
- iii) Another major area that the project is being involved is the support for preparation of the Three Year Plan. In 2010, support was provided to review the draft approach paper from the Gender and social inclusion perspective. A number of technical experts are being hired to review and finalise the sectoral chapters for the full plan document. This activity will continue until the first quarter of 2011.
- iv) The inputs provided to complete the DPMAS software and its handover to the MoLD has ensured the continued commitment of government and NPC on DPMAS implementation. In 2010, DPMAS software finalized, training manual prepared and the pilot training conducted covering 10 districts – eight districts of Bagmati zone plus Dolakha and Ramechhap. The new leadership at the M&E Division at NPC and Planning Division at MoLD is seriously and completely engaged in DPMAS operationalization. The MoLD intends to implement it in all 75 districts. The UNDP and NPC started to put efforts on it since 2004. Such a long time required for its operationalization indicates need for stakeholders' strong and continued commitment and necessary action. However, it may take further several years if the scale of current effort by NPC and MoLD is continued and UNDP's technical support is continuously available.
- v) The support provided to CBS has been helpful in making the Census 2011 preparations Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI) friendly. While the consultation and the technical inputs provided to the CBS has been helpful to make the central level officials aware on the efforts towards GESI, the training materials prepared with this view will be helpful to make the field workers (enumerators and supervisors) GESI friendly. But this effort needs to be continued.

3. Achievements against Annual Work Plan (Annual Targets & Activities)

Annual Targets	Achievement	Planned Activities	Achievements	Financial			
				Fund	Budget Code	Budget	Expenditure (jan-Dec'10)
Annual Target: 1) MDG progress report 2010 published and disseminated, 2) MDG needs assessment conducted and report published	Fully achieved	Activity Result 1: Support provided to NPC to prepare an inclusive and MDG based national development plan		BDP/HQ	UNDP	38,000	38,671
		Action 1 - Finalise and publish 3rd MDG Progress Report	The MDGs progress report 2010 has been prepared, launched and disseminated widely. The report was launched by VC of NPC. 3000 copies of the Third MDG Progress report printed and disseminated. The report has been circulated to Ministries and all 75 DDCs. Reports are also distributed to university libraries and CA Members A summary of the Progress Report in the brochure version was also prepared and distributed by the Nepali delegates including Vice Chairperson of the NPC in the MDG summit held in New York in September 2010. The Nepali version of the progress report is under preparation. It has been edited as preparation for printing.	TRAC	UNDP		5,026
	Action 2 - Finalise and publish MDG needs assessment report	Since it is a document of national significance, lot of consultations were done with ministries such as Education, Health, Agriculture, Physical Planning (Roads and Drinking Water), and Environment including energy. In addition to this, expert reviews were done and the inputs were added to make the document scientifically and evidence based.	TRAC	UNDP	58,000	43,180	

P.L.S.

			Final report has been submitted to the NPC after expert reviews, in addition to thorough consultations with sectoral ministries . The editing and printing work will be done in first quarter 2011				
	<p><i>This target is partially achieved. Two training on macro economic framework were completed. But meeting the realistic target requires several years of effort.</i></p> <p>This work will be continued in 2011.</p>	<p>Action 3 - Develop and finalise MDG consistent macro-economic framework report</p>	<p>As a result of training in 2009, working group on macro economic framework is established. The results from the work by national consultant were provided as inputs to the approach paper of TYP.</p> <p>The second round of training was organized in last week of December as continuation to the effort to prepare the framework.</p> <p>This work will be continued in 2011 as well.</p>	TRAC	UNDP	21,050	8,375
	<p><i>This target is also partially achieved (Due to political situation, the plan preparation process is not geared up as expected)</i></p>	<p>Action 5 - Provide technical support for next periodic Plan</p>	<p>The project supported NPC to review approach paper from gender and social inclusion perspective. The support was also provided to edit, finalize and print the English version of the Approach Paper to the Three Year Plan</p> <p>A total of 16 national consultants have been hired to provide input to the draft prepared by thematic working groups and then finalize them as chapters/ sections of the upcoming Three Year Plan (TYP).</p> <p>This work will be continued in 2011.</p>	TRAC NON TRAC	UNDP DFID	35,765 30,000	48,094
<p>Annual Target: capacity assessment of NPC for inclusive planning and monitoring completed</p>		<p>Activity Result 2: Capacity of NPC enhanced for gender and social inclusion responsive and results oriented planning, monitoring and evaluation</p>		TRAC NON TRAC	UNDP DFID	9,000 41,000	

	<i>Partially achieved.</i>	Action 1 : Provide support to CBS for Census 2011	<p>The project supported CBS to organize workshop in Biratnagar which intended to orient the relevant officers for the Census. This workshop was important for orientation the participants from the GESI perspective. Support was also provided to prepare a leaflet (Census publicity material) for the school children.</p> <p>GESI integrated Training materials are being developed which are important for giving training to the enumerators and supervisions. Consultants were hired for this purpose. A separate consultant is hired to incorporate gender and social inclusion perspective in the training materials. (Is it completed now?)</p> <p>This work will be continued in 2011.</p>	TRAC NON TRAC	UNDP DFID	1,223 9,005
	<i>Fully achieved.</i>	Action 2 - Provide support to strengthen NPC's monitoring system	<p>The project provided technical inputs to the M&E Division to finalize the Results Based Monitoring and Evaluation Guidelines. This document indicates NPC's interest to implement results based monitoring and evaluation system in NPC.</p> <p>The project has also assisted NPC to translate the document into English. Project provided technical support to NPC to complete the DPMAS software.</p> <p>The consultants - the software engineer and a computer assistant – closely working with M&E Division assisted NPC to complete the DPMAS software.</p> <p>The DPMAS software is already been handed over it to the Ministry of Local Development.</p>	TRAC NON TRAC	UNDP DFID	2,239 30,377

			<p>The DPMAS is under implementation and the project organized a training workshop in Lalitpur with 24 participants from 10 DDCs responsible on planning and monitoring.</p> <p>A training manual was developed to facilitate the DPMAs training.</p> <p>Development Projects evaluation is relatively new phenomenon for NPC. Under the support, the project supported NPC to initiate evaluation of two bigger development projects – Assessment of Social Security Allowance and Karnali Employment Programme.</p>				
		Activity Result 3:	Programme Support Cost	TRAC	UNDP	55,500	69,848
				NON TRAC	DFID	23257	19,916
		Activity Result 4: PEI Mainstreaming	<p>PEI Support: The project organized a workshop on PEI where several papers relevant to poverty and environments were presented. The recommendations of this workshop will be sent as input to the Delhi workshop in December. This workshop was attended by VC and members of NPC and high level government staff members and experts outside government.</p>	TRAC	UNDP	29,500	34,775
		Total US\$				303,072	272,058

Budget BDP/HQ US\$ 38,000

Exp BDP/HQ US\$ 38,671

Budget UNDP US\$ 208,815

EXP. UNDP US\$ 212,760

Budget DFID US\$ 94,257

Exp. DFID US\$ 59,298

Total US\$ 303,072

Exp. Total US\$ 272,058

4. Results in Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment, and Social Inclusion

The Project supports NPC to mainstream GESI perspectives in the planning and monitoring process. In this process following results have been achieved:

GESI perspective has been incorporated in the third MDG progress report more than that in the second progress report. Analysis of data, findings and recommendations are presented by incorporating GESI perspectives.

Similarly, while preparing MDG Needs Assessment (MDG NA), analyses were done and interventions recommended from the GESI perspective.

The project had couple of Census related activities such as development of Census related training materials. While two consultants were hired to work on technical matters, a separate consultant was hired to review the training materials from GESI perspective. A separate paper on 'incorporation of GESI in the Census 2011' was presented to enhance awareness on GESI to the relevant staff members and stakeholders to be involved in the upcoming census. Therefore, albeit few, these activities have helped CBS to start incorporate GESI perspective in the Census 2011.

5. Implementation Challenges

- 5.1 Support to the Three Year Plan preparation is a very challenging work for the project. Although the project has made all preparations for facilitation of the Plan document preparation process, it is delaying as it is a highly politically sensitive work.
- 5.2
- 5.3 Implementation of DPMAS, PMAS and PPIS is challenging task. There is limited practice of using the results from monitoring and evaluation. Therefore, there is limited understanding and attention on the importance of monitoring and evaluation. This situation, in a way, has not been encouraging for the effectiveness of M&E. This challenge can be addressed with continued efforts by all the concerned stakeholders.
- 5.4 The project has multiple components with different objectives and therefore, requires different expertise. However, during 2010, there was only limited technical capacity with the project. It needs to be changed.

6. Lessons learned and next steps

- 6.1 The planning and budgeting processes are continuous process but they are not sufficiently integrated together. Therefore, there is need for reviewing these processes and find ways to integrate these processes together so that plans are realistically prepared and implemented.
- 6.2 MDG concepts are slowly getting internalized. In order to fully internalize MDGs, UNDP needs to continuously engage government in MDG related activities unlike the present practice of doing it intermittently on 'as and when needed basis'.
- 6.3 This project intends to provide inputs at the policy and planning level. The past experience shows that this work is time taking and complex. Often it requires lot of coordination and consultation to initiate and complete any action. It also requires lot of communication to maintain good relationship with people coming from different political background which is often complicated.
- 6.4 The support to preparation of TYP is a politically sensitive but important work for the project. In order to ensure right technical support through right experts, the project had to work in a well balanced manner. While the project had to work in consensus with the present NPC members, it has to consider potential change in the political situation which could affect the support it has extended to the NPC.

P.L.S.

6.5 In order to ensure smooth implementation of the project, it is a must to understand the complex political dynamics within NPC. Further, it is critical to maintain a neutral role in such situation. Only such approach may help to facilitate project delivery.

 P. 1. 52