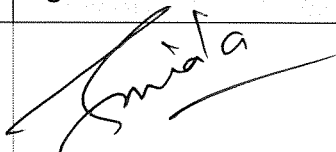

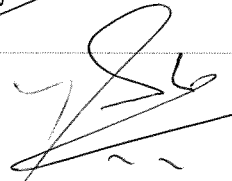

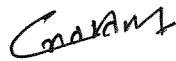

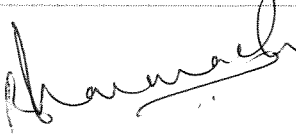

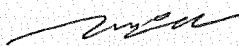
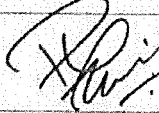


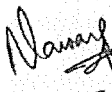
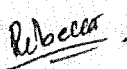
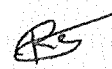


Minutes of 12th Project Board Meeting for the 2nd Quarter, 9th July 2015

Project Name:	Ecosystem based Adaptation (EbA) in Mountain Ecosystems in Nepal		
Date of Meeting:	09 th July 2015	Time:	08:30 am to 11:30 am
Chair:	Mr. Gauri Shankar Timala <i>National Project Director</i>	Location:	Meeting Hall, Temple Tree Hotel, Pokhara

Attendees			
Name	Title	Organization	Signature
Mr. Gauri Shankar Timala	Deputy Director General / National Project Director	DoF/EbA	
Mr. Shanta Muni Tamrakar	Regional Director	Western Regional Forest Directorate	
Mr. Vijaya Prasad Singh	Assistant Country Director	UNDP	
Mr. Ram Hari Pantha	Under Secretary (Tech.)	MoSTE	
Ms. Sarita Gautum	Agricultural Extension Officer	MoAD	
Mr. Vijay Prasad Kesari	Environment Programme Analyst	UNDP	
Ms. Bandana Karmacharya	PA	UNDP	

Ms. Anu Adhikari	Program Officer	IUCN	
Mr. Jaeyoon Park	Programme Officer	UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific	
Mr. Pragyajan Y. Rai	Interim Project Coordinator	EbA PMU	
Ms. Bhawani Shrestha	Research Associate	EbA PMU	
Mr. Hari N. Kurmi	Finance and Admin Associate	EbA PMU	
Ms. Nawang Sherpa	Communication And Knowledge Management Assistant	EbA PMU	
Ms. Rebecca Gurung	Field Support Associate	EbA Field Office	
Mr. Randhir K Singh	Project Assistant	EbA Field Office	

Meeting Agenda	
Topic	Presented by:
1. Present 2 nd Quarter Progress of 2015	Interim Project Coordinator
2. Present 3 rd Quarter work plan of 2015	Interim Project Coordinator
3. AOB	
4. Closing	

Discussion/ Decision and Action	Action (Including time line to complete the recommended action)/ Decision	Responsible Person for Action
<p>Topic (Discussion)</p> <p>Agenda 1: Review of 2nd quarter progress of 2015</p> <p>The meeting commenced with the opening remarks by Mr. Gauri Shankar Timala, the National Project Director who welcomed everyone to the 12th PEB Meeting. He then requested Mr. Pragyajan Yalamber Rai, Interim Project Coordinator (IPC) to present the progress of the second quarter and work plan of third quarter 2015 of all three implementation partners.</p> <p>In his presentation, Mr. Rai highlighted the major decision points of the previous PEB meeting followed by presentation of the activities that were undertaken in 2nd quarter by all the three implementing partners including the progress update of CBDP. Mr. Rai also shared the results of the monitoring of Eba activities implemented under Component 3 by the Strategic Planning Development and Effectiveness Unit (SPDEU/UNDP). Mr. Rai also shared the budget expenditure of 2nd Quarter of all partners.</p> <p>Mr. Rai also de-briefed on the Eba Global Technical and Learning Workshop and the Cost Benefit Workshop held in Peru and highlighted the global strategy for Eba as prepared by the Eba Global Team. He also highlighted that the End Term Review of the Global Eba Project will be undertaken by UNEP HQ and will start on September 2015. He also shared that in the post-earthquake scenario, Eba Nepal Partners suggested to conclude the project by the end of 2015 and not extend for 'No Cost Extension'. Each partner has submitted a revised work plan for the remaining project period. The revised work plan will be shared with the Eba Global Team once approved by the PEB.</p> <p>Mr. Rai then highlighted that post-earthquake scenario the formation of a 'Technical Committee' at Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation (MoFSC) has been delayed. Hence, UNDP has been working with the Climate Change Working Group formed by MoFSC and lead by the REDD Implementation Center to mainstream Eba in their effort to develop a working framework for adaptation and mitigation activities. However, announcement of the Forest Policy 2071, UNDP will make effort towards coordination with the MoFSC to form a technical team for mainstreaming Eba in the planning process in the forestry sector.</p> <p><u>The floor was then opened for discussion.</u></p>	<p>PEB approved the progress of 2nd Quarter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> End Term Review of the Global Eba Project will be undertaken by UNEP HQ. Eba Nepal Project will not extend for 'No Cost Extension' Revised work plan of all the three partners to be shared with the Global Team Eba will continue policy discussions with the MoFSC Working Group on Climate Change for policy discussions and Eba mainstreaming 	<p>PMU UNEP HQ</p> <p>PMU</p> <p>UNEP/UNDP /IUCN</p> <p>PMU</p>

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<p>Mr. Jaeyoon Park of UNEP ROAP, queried about the radio broadcasting and its possibility using it as a medium for VIA result dissemination. Ms. Anu Adhikari of IUCN informed that IUCN is supporting the local FM stations to broadcast Eba program once a week. Similarly, Mr. Ram Hari Pantha of MoSTE questioned that the coffee and multiple trees plantations undertaken by IUCN in different area is at a very small scale and questioned its effectiveness. In response, Ms. Adhikari informed that coffee plantation undertaken in second quarter in some specified area is replantation and managed by mother's group while plantation of tree species that have been carried out in school garden and along the roadside to manage road slopes are replantation. She also stated that IUCN does not have a plan for establishment of an arboretum.</p> <p>Mr. Timala opined using the term 'ecosystem restoration' for plantation initiatives undertaken in grasslands is too high sounding and might be misleading. Mr. Shanta Muni Tamrakar, Regional Forest Director queried on the plantations carried out in various grasslands and the conversion of grassland ecosystem into forest ecosystem as well as growth of exotic species in such areas. In response, Mr. Vijaya Singh of UNDP stated that the plantation has only been carried out on degraded grasslands that are exposed and highly vulnerable to impacts of climate change. Similarly, the number of livestock depends on the grassland for grazing is decreasing due to continuous out – migration in the region resulting in minimal use of such grasslands while plantations of multi – use tree species will give the locals easy access to fodder and timber whilst contributing to ecosystem services. Further, Mr. Timala pointed out that maintaining grassland ecosystem is also crucial for eco-tourism purposes as having big trees can disturb the scenic view. In response to the plantation of exotic species, Mr. Rai highlighted that local endemic species have been prioritized for plantation in the site.</p> <p>Mr. Pantha from MoSTE, questioned on the CBDP project to which Mr. Timala clarified that the CBDP is a different initiative of UNDP and the EBA Project only provides management support. The funds from Eba are not used for CBDP activities. Mr. Timala also remarked that the use of word 'deviation' in the presentation must be avoided as the activities mentioned has been either delayed or will be completed in the next quarter.</p> <p>Mr. Tamrakar, enquired about low delivery of the project in second quarter i.e. 67%. In response, Mr. Rai informed the team that the project received only 80% of the total budget i.e. \$119,000 instead</p>	<p>Eba will also be discussed with MoFSC towards establishment of a technical team at the Ministry towards Eba integration in forestry sector</p>	<p>PMU</p>
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<p>approved \$176,000. Hence, the project delivery for second quarter stood at 67% but if compared with the actual funds received by the project, the delivery stands at 86%.</p>	<p>PEB approved third quarter plan of 2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National VIA trainings to Government officials re-designed to 1.5 days for undersecretaries and half day to Joint Secretary and secretary) Summaries VIA report into 2 pages in English and Nepali. Nepali version to be translated by IUCN 3 days VIA training manual prepared in English and Nepali and used for 5-day training by adding 2-day field visit Possibility explored for VIA sharing at local level on first day during 10 sub watershed planning meetings with increased number of participants from vulnerable wards/VDC identified by 	<p>UNEP/UNDP</p> <p>UNEP/IUCN</p> <p>UNEP</p> <p>UNEP</p>
<p>Agenda 2: Present proposed 3rd quarter work plan of 2015</p> <p>After presenting the progress of 2nd quarter, Mr. Rai presented the revised work plan of the third quarter of all three partners along with the plan proposed by CBDP. He also presented the remaining total budget of the three partners as per the 11th PEB decision.</p> <p>On regards to capacity development training, Mr. Park informed that UNEP will be engaging on one national level workshop on EBA and three capacity development training at the field level as per the comprehensive capacity development plan (one with district line agencies, one with DDCs, and one with VDCs). Mr. Singh requested the need to undertake field level capacity development training and urged partners to finalize the participants for the training. Mr. Singh also proposed UNEP for partnering with the Western Regional Training Center under the Western Regional Forest Directorate as the regional training office conducts training across different government line agencies and is also situated in the region (Pokhara). This proposal was echoed by the Regional Forest Director and he highlighted that the training center falls directly under the MoFSC. Mr. Park responded with a positive note that he would check with his office about this proposal though initial discussion with National Staff College had already started as per suggestion at the 11th PEB.</p> <p>Similarly, Mr. Park shared that the proposed national level training workshop on VIA amongst key line ministries is now rescheduled. He added that in the present post-earthquake scenario, it might not be feasible to plan for the two-day training outside Kathmandu as was proposed earlier. In this regard, Mr. Timala suggested re-designing the training to 1.5 days for Under-Secretaries and half day for Secretary and Joint Secretary for effective engagement and participation. Mr. Vijaya Singh recommended that UNDP and UNEP merge the national training workshop considering the project timeline.</p> <p>Mr. Tamrakar queried with UNEP on translation of VIA report to Nepali to which Mr. Park responded that the main VIA report is very technical and translating such documents will be difficult. However, he informed that the VIA training manual will be translated to Nepali and also agreed on producing a two page summarized version of VIA study. The summary will be translated in Nepali by IUCN. Mr. Park also</p>	<p>to be added summary</p>	<p>UNEP</p>

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<p>shared that earlier three-day VIA training manual prepared by UNEP will be used for five-days training by adding two day field visits to Eba sites. Three field level capacity development training consist of 1 training with district line agencies (5 days) and two training for DDCs and VDCs (3 days) as per the capacity development plan.</p> <p>Mr. Pantha queried on the policy mainstreaming work by the project and the final policy outcome of Component 4. In response, Mr. Singh stated that the project has been working to mainstream Eba approaches in the work plan of Panchase Protection Forest Program. The project is undertaking VIA testing in Shivapuri Nagarjuna National Park and policy discussions towards integration of Eba in the management plan of SNNP. In addition, the project has hired Senior Policy Advisor to work on mainstreaming work and is also working on policy briefs, organizing exposure visits and capacity enhancement training to targeted participants.</p> <p>Similarly, Mr. Pantha also queried on sharing the Eba learning and documentation as this is the first of its kind in Nepal. In the same context, Mr. Singh mentioned that the project has developed and will leave behind its legacy in terms of products, tools and other resources. Such products can easily provide guidance to the upcoming Eba projects in Nepal. Other Eba projects will have incentives and easy way forward with the produced documents like VIA, siltation dam study report, training package, manuals, policy works etc. Similarly, the 'Panchase' will be a field demonstration site for Eba. Setting up a learning and resource center for Eba project will help to develop a functional linkage with the upcoming projects.</p> <p>Mr. Pantha also enquired about showcasing Eba in the Paris COP and possibilities with the MoSTE. In this regard, Mr. Singh informed while the Eba Nepal Program will be featured in the side event hosted by the UNDP. Global team the project can explore of showcasing Eba by MoSTE.</p> <p>Mr. Timalia enquired with UNEP on sharing of the VIA results at local level as there is no VIA sharing workshop proposed in the UNEP work plan. Mr. Park responded that UNEP is responsible for Eba planning at national and local levels and not for the general sharing of the VIA results as per the initial commitment in the project document. In addition, IUCN had agreed to conduct VIA sharing based on the capacity development plan collectively developed by the partners. UNEP however will look into the possibility of accommodating 5 – 10 participants from the most vulnerable wards during the sub – watershed planning meetings. Further, Ms. Adhikari informed that IUCN will only be able to carry out 3</p>	<p>the report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VIA sharing at local level at least 3 events covering as much VDCs as possible. • Forwarding the list of participants of VIA sharing and planning to PMU • Explore opportunities for showcasing Eba at the Paris COP with MoSTE • Mention the major revised activities part of UNDP budget in PEB minute. 	<p>IUCN</p> <p>PMU</p> <p>UNDP</p> <p>UNDP</p>
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<p>events of VIA result sharing at the VDC level instead of 5-6 events (as approved in 11th PEB) due to time and budget constraints. Ms. Adhikari also stated that they will seek to add participants from neighboring VDCs during the sharing meeting but will also try adjusting their plan to organize additional sharing events at local level.</p> <p>In the same context, Mr. Timala informed the team on the importance of VIA sharing and re-iterated that unless VIA results are shared at the local levels, adaptation planning and EBA mainstreaming in the policy will not be possible. Further, Mr. Timala then suggested that UNEP, during its 10 Sub-watershed planning, invite more people from VDCs and wards only to the first day of the adaptation planning meetings where VIA sharing is planned for the participants. The total participants for Day 1 can range from 30-40. Except for Day 1, the adaptation planning meetings can continue as planned with 15-20 key stakeholders of the sub-watershed. UNEP agreed the importance of VIA sharing and will look into the plan for sub-watershed meetings and the overall budget to see if it is possible to do so.</p> <p>The meeting approved the revised work plan and budget for the third quarter and Mr. Vijaya Singh requested the Interim Project Coordinator to include the major revised activities part of UNDP budget in PEB minute.</p>	<p>Contract extension of Senior Policy Advisor based on requirement and bringing additional human resources as per the need</p> <p>Central level sharing of the study findings of Siltation dam report</p> <p>Sharing of published documents and project</p>	<p>PMU</p> <p>PMU</p> <p>PMU</p>
<p>CLOSING</p> <p>In her closing remarks, Ms. Anu Adhikari of IUCN mentioned that IUCN will make effort accommodate more than the 6 VDCs for the VIA sharing at local level. She also stated that IUCN will be happy to support in drafting the concept note of the next phase of the EBA Project.</p> <p>Mr. Jaeyoon Park from UNEP mentioned that this is the last year for project and so it is important to be realistic and try meeting our commitments. He stated that more emphasis will be given by UNEP to accommodate more local people during the planning meetings but within the given time frame and budget.</p> <p>In his remark, Mr. Vijaya Singh stated that EBA is running in the final year so it is important to send out clear message to the key stakeholders about the project. He stated that all the contracts should be cleared as soon as possible with no new agreements while the progress report has to be prepared and handed over soon.</p>		

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<p>Mr. Singh appreciated the support from the Government and the PPPP in implementation of the EBA in the region but also requested revision to include 8 outside VDCs within the PPPP to ensure that the adaptation planning for the sub-watershed can be implemented. He requested sharing of the VIA result at the community level so that the community are better prepared to plan for the watershed. Hence, the project partners should look towards finalizing the capacity development plan and its implementation immediately. In terms of giving training via ISET, the team should discuss on how to go ahead since ISET is not well recognized by the locals. There should be a clear mapping and distribution of responsibilities by all the involved stakeholders.</p> <p>On regards to policy work, Mr. Singh stated that UNDP's commitments are lagging behind in terms of policy briefs and Cost Benefit Analysis reports and the project team might need to be re-enforced by hiring short term consultants if necessary. Further the contract of the Senior Policy Advisor will be reviewed for extension but based on the actual necessity. He also highlighted that UNDP will work to feature EBA success stories and look forward to collaborating with MoSTE in presenting the EBA project at the upcoming Paris COP.</p> <p>On sustainability of project interventions, Mr. Singh added that it is important for its implementing partners i.e. NGO like MDO to take the lead and continue with the best EBA practices moving forward. Mr. Singh further added that the agriculture interventions of IUCN are exemplary and are very much related to interventions priorities by MoAD (and its district units) thus there must be coordination with DADO and DLSO towards taking this success forward. In addition,</p> <p>Mr. Singh appreciated the overwhelming response from the government including the Director General of Department of Forests who has extended appreciation of the situation dam report and the support we have received from the previous Regional Forest Directors and are hopeful that further discussion will result in construction of such infrastructure. Finally, Mr. Singh thanked Mr. Gauri Shanakar Timala, the National Project Director for continuing his role with the EBA Project and thanked him for his guidance.</p> <p>Mr. Pantha in his remark requested handover the project at both field level and central level as well as sharing of knowledge to local institutions. Similarly, he requested that all published documents and reports should be shared with MoSTE to ensure proper dissemination of the project knowledge as well as hosting the EBA Nepal project at the Paris COP. Further, Mr. Pantha also invited for sharing EBA project</p>	<p>knowledge products with MoSTE</p> <p>EBA project sharing at the Multi-sectoral Climate Change Initiatives Coordination Committee (MCCICC) in coordination with MoSTE</p> <p>PMU</p>
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	<p>at the Multi-sectoral Climate Change Initiatives Coordination Committee (MCCICC) and would facilitate this sharing at the MoSTE.</p> <p>Ms. Sarita Gautam, from Ministry of Agriculture and Development (MoAD) stated that Eba project is very relevant in terms of addressing the climate change issues while the work carried out by EBA is very effective and hence it is important to give a continuity to it. In this regard, the main key stakeholders should know the importance of Eba activity while the MoAD is happy to coordinate and assist the project further.</p> <p>Mr. Shanta Muni Tamrakar, the Regional Forest Director stated the RD Office will continue to provide support and monitor the interventions of Eba while the knowledge and concepts generated by the Eba project will be prioritized for implementation in the region.</p> <p>In concluding remarks, Mr. Gauri Shankar Timala, the National Project Director requested both IUCN and UNEP to emphasize on sharing of VIA results locally and accommodate all the relevant stakeholders. Mr. Timala also requested all three partners to assess the possibility of organizing an exposure visit outside Nepal to the members of the Field level Planning and Coordination Committee (FPCC) and the PPF-Council representatives to have a greater impact on knowledge dissemination and ensure application of Eba. Before closing the PEB meeting, Mr Timala requested that since the third quarter still includes field implementation, all partners should collaboratively and efficiently work towards achieving all the commitments.</p>
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