

Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM)

Community Based Flood and Glacial Lake Outburst Risk Reduction Project (CFGORRP)

Field Visit Report of Component II, Terai project sites from 7-9 Jun

Visiting Team:

Top B Khatri, NPM, CFGORRP/DHM

Rajendra Sharma, SDE, DHM & Focal point, CFGORRP/DHM

Shreedhar Adhikari, AFO, CFGORRP/DHM

Duration: 7-9 June 2017

Objective: The main objective of the visit was to observe and monitor activities undertaken by FCO during the fourth quarter of 2016 and first quarter of 2017 including the planned activities for second quarter 2017. Also to touch base and interact with local beneficiaries and stakeholders as to how they have been involved and benefitted from the project interventions. District covered were, Mahottra, Siraha and Udaipur.

Field-itinerary:

Day 1, Wednesday 7th June 2017:

The team left for Janakpur, by Buddha air at 10:50 AM. Arrived Janakpur at 11:30 AM. Upon arrival the team were received at the airport by Mahottari District Project Officer, Mr. Dinesh K Shah. The team proceeded to Sitasharan hotel for lunch. After lunch, the team then left for Sarpallo VDC ward no 8-9 to observe embankment stretches with revetments undertaken during last quarter of 2016 and first quarter 2017. The team also interacted with CDMC members, observed the stretch to be done with bio-engineering measures during this quarter. The team also inspected the evacuation center, ETW and observed the newly built toilets within the EC premises. During the visit the team also took note of the stolen panel of the CBF EWs in Sarpallo installed by ICIMOD in 2015. Alongside, the team also visited Naini VDC to observe the impacts of Flood proofing drainage systems, evacuation center and the ETWS and the spill over impacts it had created within the community. The team also visited the northern stretch of the earthen embankment constructed during the first quarter 2017. Heavy rain did not allow for full inspection of the stretch. At 5.30 PM the team left Sarpallo for Bardibas. At 6.30 the team arrived Gautam hotel for overnight stay.

Day 2, Thursday, 8th June 2017:

After breakfast, the team left for Siraha Tulsipur VDC. DPO, Mahottra also joined the team. Upon arrival at Golbazar, the team were received by Interim DPC, Mr. Sanjay Shah who led the team to Tulsipur VDC and Pipra Pi 2 to observe the revetment works of length 550 and 650 m stretch done in Pipra pri undertaken during the last quarter of 2016. Due to bad condition of the road, visit to Pipra pri was dropped. The team observed the 550 m earthen embankment built in the northern stretch of the Tulsipur VDC. The team however interacted with the local CDMC from Tulsipur VDC and queried on how the structural embankments have been performing during last year's flood including the use of CBEWS during floods. Last year's flood in Gagan River had damaged certain section of the embankments in Tulsipur VDC. After the interaction with CDMC members, the team returned back to Lahan and checked in to hotel Durbar. After a quick lunch the team left for Hadia, Udaipur at 12. 30 PM.

At 1: 30 PM the team arrived at Hadia to inspect the flood control measures at ward number 5, including earthen embankment, revetment works done in 795 m at Mushahar basti and 935 m stretch in Mathilo Dungaha ward no 5 Hadia. Interacted profusely with the CDMC members and local mushar communities on the impacts made by the flood control measures. The team also observed the sections for bio-engineering measures planned for this second quarter. The team also observed a rain gauge site installed in nearby village. Since there was only one such rain gauge, it would not really bring value except for the measurement of local rainfall within that area.

After the visit in Hadia, the team then left for jogidaha VDC to observe 500 m of earthen revetment work undertaken in Dakshin tole ward 8 of Jogidaha and 630 m stretch of embankment and revetment undertaken in ward no 8, Mainaha of Jogidaha. The team also interacted with the members of the CDMC and rain gauge readers and interacted on how they were communicating during floods. The team also inspected the flood mark post installed in Kong river and advised to mark the flood level marking towards the settlement side so that measurement could be read easily without having to go towards the river side.

During the visit to Udaipur stretch, the team converged to meet Mr. Vijay Singh ACD from UNDP who was also travelling to Hadia and jogidaha to observe the project interventions carried out by the project since 2015-2017. The ACD also interacted with local beneficiaries and enquired as to how the interventions have benefitted the locals from flash flood risk. He also inspected the bio-engineering stretch that would be undertaken this monsoon. The ACD advised that local species of bamboos and grasses be planted on the embankments as part of bio-engineering measures. The ACD returned back to Itahari, Sunsari for overnight stay. The PMU team returned back to Lahan for overnight stay.

Day 3, Friday, 9th June 2017.

After breakfast at 8 AM, the team left for FCO, Lahan for a debriefing session.

The NPM and AFO shed light on programmatic and operational matters in view of the operational closure of the FCO by July 2017 and measures to be adopted for the planned interventions. Mr. Rajendra Sharma also spoke on the occasion and said that he was pleased to observe both the structural and non-structural measures undertaken in all the three districts and thanked the FCO team for making this possible. He also mentioned that the local beneficiaries were found to be happy with the activities undertaken by the project. During the debriefing meeting, the Interim DPC suggested that there is a need for the erection of wall of the Evacuation center including water supply. The FCO team also requested PMU for providing some financial support to the volunteer rain gauge readers for the monsoon period (3-4 months)

After the debriefing, the team provided necessary instruction and guidance to all FCO team and thanked them for making the visit successful.

The team left FCO, Lahan at 9.30 AM to arrive Janakpur to catch flight at 12. 15 PM. The team arrived Katmandu at 1 PM and joined PMU at 1.30 PM.

Findings/Recommendations:

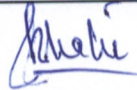
- 1) That FCO comes up with necessary exit plans for handover of interventions to CDMC and line agencies by 15th July 2017.
- 2) FCO, Lahan finalizes the assets list for handover to collaborating partners by 15th July 2017.
- 3) Planned bio-engineering measures be done in the proposed stretches 5560 m (2660 in Sarpallo & 2900 in Hadia) after the onset of monsoon to ensure high survival rates of saplings. The saplings will comprise of local species of bamboos, grass and trees. Technical guidance of the species selection will be sought from respective DSCOs.
- 4) Two gender friendly toilets with water supplies will be built at evacuation centers in Naini and Balu Tole Siraha. Signage of male and female will be made.
- 5) The flood post markings will be dressed properly to ensure visibility from both sides. This needs to be done across all the posts erected including the signage of CFGORRP/DHM
- 6) Respective DPOs will make necessary backstopping of ongoing works such as LDRMP preparation, SoP –EWS to ensure quality assurance of the task and ownership of the products developed by SPs.
- 7) Likewise sediment analysis of the existing samples is also being worked by IOE/CES and hence support from FCO is required.
- 8) Proactive engagement by DPOs for networking and liaison with local bodies and newly formed Municipalities is urgent for institutionalizing the interventions undertaken by the

project. Also to lobby and influence the decision makers for the allocation of resources to give continuity of the structural measures.

- 9) The FCO would cease to exist from July 2017 and hence operational works for FCO will be continued from PMU until end of August 2017.

FTR jointly prepared by and submitted to National Project Director:

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