One UN Joint Programme on Environment

Annual Review Report January – December 2012







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- Women in nurseries
 - nurse Solar
 - lamps
- Livestock
 Vaccination
- Community meetingsPlantation
- works One UN JPE

PROJECT SNAPSHOT

Dat	te:	December 13, 2012									
Aw	ard ID:	00070243									
Des	scription:										
Pro	ject Start Date:	October 2009									
Project End Date: (Please state project extensi		December 2013 sions, if applicable)									
Implementing Partners:		24 CSOs implementing GRIP, Provincial Forestry & Wildlife Department, ICIMOD, WWF P, Office of the Inspector General of Forests, Ministry of Climate Change									
Tot	al Project Budget:	PKR 4,958,000 USD (Variation in Exchange Rate from 2009 to 2012)									
Anı	nual approved budget	PKR 186,525,789/-									
201	2 Expenditure	PKR 146,006,417									
Exp	bected Project Outputs										
	connect policies, pr agencies, NGOs an	ent of a inclusive common platform of relevant/key partners to rogrammes and projects and actions by government, aid d UN agencies, and commercial activities of the private sector ainable development framework for each target region									
	1.1.1. Description: C	SOs implement interventions for the achievements of MDGs at local									
	level including	awareness raising campaigns on environment									
	1.1.2. Formulate nati	onal policy on climate change									
	Outcome: Integrated N towards the achieveme	latural Resource Management in Demonstration Regions nt of MDG7A and 7B									
	2.1. Preparation and im	plementation of area-based strategies for: Integrated water and									
	natural resources n	nanagement;									
		d management of critical watersheds (including biodiversity									
	conservation in AJK, Balochistan, GB, KPK, Punjab & Sindh)										
	2.1.2. Implementation of Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Fore Degradation (REDD+) Readiness Phase in Pakistan										
	0	on (RAM) to Pakistan for Flood Management									
	_	sboundary technical collaborations and knowledge sharing									
	platform	,									

Period Covered by the Progress Report: January to December 2012

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- 5. Lessons Learnt
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Annex: AWP based reporting matrix

AGAHE: Association of Gender Awareness and Human	MF: Mashriq Foundation
Empowerment	MTM: Majlis Tahaffaz Maholiat
AMHRWO: Alpine Medicinal Herbs and Rural Welfare Organization	NARC: National Agricultural Research Council
AP: Ahsas Pakistan	NGO: Non-Governmental Organization
ATMI: Anjuman Takmeel e Maqasad e Insani	PCRET: Pakistan Council for Renewable Energy Technologies
BCDO: Basho Conservation and Development Organization	PEHE: Participatory Efforts for Health Environment
CF: Children First	PECWC: Paradise Environmental and Community Welfare Society
CBO: Community-Based Organization	PIC: Provincial Implementation Committee
CDF: Community Development Forum	SEDO: Social and Environmental Development Organization
CDM: Clean Development Mechanism	SEED: Society for Economic and Environmental Development
CSO: Civil Society Organization	SESWA: Shewa Educated Social Workers Association
DDO: Durawa Development Organization	SLM: Sustainable Land Management
FTP: Fazilia Trust Pakistan	SUSG: Sustainable Use Specialist Group
GAP: Grace Association Pakistan	SVDO: Shama Village Development Organization
GRIP: Grass Root Initiative Programme	SVDP: Soon Valley Development Programme
HDOD: Human Development Organization Doaba	SWM: Sold Waste Management
HRSP: Himalayan Rural Support Programme	UN: United Nations
NRM: Natural Resource Management	VDF: Village Development Forum
NTFP: Non-Timber Forest Product	WSO: Women Social Organization
One UN JPE: The One United Nations Joint Programme on the Environment	
PDI: Participatory Development Initiatives	
IET: Indus Earth Trust	
IWRM: Integrated Water Resource Management	
MDG: Millennium Development Goals	

¹ Describe the key changes in the project related development context in the reporting period. This does not have to be specific to UNDP.

1. INTRODUCTION

- The Joint Programme on Environment (JPE) brings 11 UN agencies together to work with relevant Government counterparts at Federal and Provincial, district levels, NGOs and the private sector. The JPE is in line with and contributes to the UNDAF and key national policies and priorities relating to the environment. It also supports Pakistan in fulfilling its international obligations towards environmental treaties and agreements (such as: Goal 7 of MDGs "Ensure environmental sustainability" and various UN Conventions).
- The JPE is being implemented over four years (2009-2012) while enabling local and national partners to continue the work beyond this period. Under the JPE, five individual and interrelated Joint Programme Components (JPCs) have been developed after a consultative process with the Government and other stakeholders. This is the overall thematic categorization under which specific outputs and activities are planned. These have also been linked to the four UN roles (advocate, advisor, convener and service provider) which serves as a point of orientation in the planning of programme activities.
- There are five Joint Programme Components while this office is operationally responsible for JPC-1 i.e Strengthened and Operational mechanisms for integrated environmental management
- The One UN JPE Coordination Unit was established in October, 2009 under One UN Joint Programme on Environment Component-1 in the then Ministry of Environment with Additional Secretary of the Ministry as its National Programme Director. The name of the ministry has recently been changed to Ministry of Climate Change and the current NPD is Joint Secretary (Admin)
- The main role of this programme office is to act as a bridge between the Government and the UN Agencies, to coordinate activities of the 5 JPCs of the One UN JPE in collaboration with relevant convening / participating UN Agencies and implementing partners, also operationally responsible for the implementation of the UNDP's activities in JPC 1 and to effectively coordinate with provincial governments through Provincial Implementation Committees (PICs), a single platform as an inherent part of JPE organizational structure in order to facilitate and steer the activities of the one UN JPE in the respective provinces
- The major initiatives of this office is the implementation of Grass Root Initiative Programme (GRIP), Public sector projects, implementation of programme activities with the provinces through provincial implementation committees which is the highest forum at provincial level headed by Additional chief secretaries, also supported government of Pakistan in formalizing National Climate change policy, National sustainable development strategy and various workshops, conferences etc

2. SITUATION ANALYSIS

- One UN JPE is building capacity of the provincial governments by effectively coordinating through Provincial Implementation Committees (PICs) forums; a single platform as an inherent part of JPE organization structure in order to facilitate and steer the activities of one UN JPE in the respective provinces. Also helped into improved environmental governance and coordination to benefit sustainable development by coordinating effectively with all stakeholders. This programme unit has engaged civil societies for improved service delivery and thus strengthening them and created a source of competition among CSOs in terms of winning projects by bringing innovative techniques to cater problems at community level. GRIP provided a forum for increased ownership and relevance in facing environmental challenges and also build CSOs leadership role in response to floods as well.
- In Pakistan, NGOs and CBOs at Grassroots level, have little access to resources and lack sufficient capacities in implementing environmental projects. A few successful experiments in past were PTF SGP, GEF SGP, based on which the One UN Joint Programme on Environment among other key elements also aimed at developing an inclusive common platform of key partners to connect policies, programmes, projects and actions by the government, aid agencies, NGOs and UN agencies, and the commercial activities of the private sector into an agreed sustainable development framework. To realize this output the Grass-Roots Initiative Programme (GRIP) was initiated that assists Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in the shape of small grants for integrated environmental management.
- GRIP promotes the philosophy and belief that the right actions at grass roots are a key to solve the environmental problems. Local people are now aware of environmental degradation around them, and they are the ones most vulnerable to its ravages. GRIP assists the Civil Society Organizations with technical and financial assistance towards improvement of environmental management in the following three thematic areas.
 - Solid Waste Management and Sanitation
 - Community based Natural Resource Management
 - Grass Roots Climate Change Initiatives
- The programme provided an opportunity to work various grassroots groups and helped in developing a long term relationship with the local communities. Carrying out advocacy activities and encourage participation of local communities in improving the environmental management systems in the country were carried out at grass root level
- One UN JPE office also helped formulate a National Climate Change policy by taking all provinces together and incorporating the inputs from all the provinces into the policy and the exercise was followed by finalizing strategy and action plans to implement the policy at national level.
- The development results can be gauged from the fact that twenty four (24) GRIP projects have been completed and five public sector projects have also been completed successfully in Dec'2012. The remaining projects are meeting their objectives and timelines and this office

has really worked on sharing lessons between the project partners in order to implement best practices, replicate the same and let everybody be benefitted out of that. The success stories of various projects have also been documented and we have also made documentaries of many projects that remained extremely successful

- This office has also been ensuring cost effectiveness by building synergies with UN agencies and Government counterparts in order to share resources and putting stakes of government along with the UN funding.
- While implementing various projects, the key factor remained involvement of communities in the project activities so that project goals be met with a participatory approach and this approach has been really successful. The communities in various project sites have also been organized with the consent of local population.
- One UN JPE office has also been ensuring effective coordination with the executing line departments by involving them in the reporting process, evaluation, holding them accountable by utilizing PIC forums and there has been a marginal improvement in their capacity that has been observed. This office has also been helping provincial government to get technical input from concerned UN agencies
- One UN JPE office has been working with the provincial governments in a manner to set their development priorities and assist in developing project proposals in the thematic areas identified in One UN programme and further collaborating with the UN agencies to develop synergies in the various project components and thus ensure achieving sustainability in line with the UN objectives and government priority to contain existing financial mechanisms and further improving it through sharing of funds. The constitution of PIC forums adds to the sustainability factor as we are strengthening provincial institutions and further constituting sector specialist groups to facilitate other UN agencies to further improve implementation and coordination at each level.

3. PROJECT PERFORMANCE

3.1. Key Results Achieved During the Reporting Period (Summary)

The Grass-Roots Initiative Programme is a joint effort by the Government of Pakistan and the United Nations to deliver as one at the grass-roots level for environmental management. GRIP comes under the One UN Joint Programme on Environment in Pakistan, which aims to develop an inclusive platform of key partners to connect policies and projects by the government, aid agencies, NGOs and UN agencies and the private sector into an agreed sustainable development framework. GRIP assists Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) with technical and financial assistance towards improved environmental management in three thematic areas: Solid Waste Management and Sanitation; Community Based Natural Resource Management and Grass-roots Climate Change Mitigation Initiatives. Small grants of an average of 48,500 US dollars (with mandatory 20% co-financing) are given to CSOs operating within the three thematic areas after a rigorous selection process undertaken by the Project Selection Committee.

GRIP implemented its projects in all the geographic regions of the country and has to date implemented 24 projects in 19 districts of Pakistan since October 2010. The total amount allocated for GRIP was US\$ 1.2 million. These projects have led to improved service delivery and greater ownership by the local communities of their natural resources. The projects have also raised awareness about the importance of protecting the environment and safeguarding health and hygiene. GRIP in Pakistan believes in its grant assistance as an investment rather than a subsidy and co-financing is important.

The projects have also helped integrate government initiatives with CSOs, contributing to sustainability through local partnerships. In 2010, the One UN JPE Coordination Unit established Provincial Implementation Committees (PICs) in the four provinces and Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir. Each PIC is headed by the Additional Chief Secretary (Development) of the respective province or territory and its key functions are to steer, implement, and facilitate the JPE. Each PIC plans, develops, executes, and monitors various projects of the Joint Programme Components within its area of operation in close collaboration and with the assistance of the One UN JPE Coordination Unit.

3.2. Progress Against ProDoc Outputs and Annual Work Plans (AWPs) – To be Completed for All Project Outputs

Output I: Development of a inclusive common platform of relevant/key partners to connect policies, programmes and projects and actions by government, aid agencies, NGOs and UN agencies, and commercial activities of the private sector into an agreed sustainable development framework for each target region

Description: CSOs implement interventions for the achievements of MDGs at local level including awareness raising campaigns on environment

Description of output level <u>results achieved</u> in 2012:

Following illustrates the description of GRIP projects in their respective thematic area:

Solid Waste Management and Sanitation

Under GRIP, the focus has been on: enhanced access to sanitation in rural areas and enhanced water and sanitation sector coordination and knowledge management. There has also been enhanced disaster risk management and humanitarian response capacity for water and sanitation at the grass roots level.

GRIP has so far funded the following CSOs in Pakistan to complete interventions like building drains, installing water pumps and pipes and constructing pour flush latrines:

- Ahsas Pakistan in Balochistan: Clean Environment in two Union Councils of District Zhob
- Paradise Environmental and Community Welfare Society in Khyber Pukhtunkhwa: Participatory Sanitation through Shame, Shock and Disgust in Gojar Garhi Tehsil, District Mardan
- Human Development Organization Doaba in Khyber Pukhtunkhwa: Improved Environmental Management in District Charsadda
- Shama Village Development Organization in Khyber Pukhtunkhwa: Community Based Flood Response Integrated Environmental Rehabilitation in Union Council Nisatta, District Charsadda
- Women Social Organization in Punjab: Waste Management Project in Union Councils of Gah and Bhutta Pur in District Muzaffargarh
- Association of Gender Awareness and Human Empowerment Community in Punjab: Based Solid Waste Management System in Okara City
- Fazilia Trust Pakistan in Sindh: Bio-Remediation of Used Water for Income Generation in Garhi Afghana in District Taxila
- Mashriq Foundation in Sindh: Hospital Waste Management in Hyderabad

Community Based Natural Resource Management

Under GRIP, the focus has been on: nature conservation, including enhanced protection of vulnerable and threatened habitats/species and enhanced sustainable

land management through community based integrated management of natural resources. There has also been integrated water resources management through areabased strategies.

GRIP has so far funded the following CSOs in Pakistan to complete interventions like building check dams and water ponds, saving forests and carrying out plantation:

- Durawa Development Organization in Azad Jammu and Kashmir: Community Based Sustainable Management of Landscape and Environment in Athmuqam Town Areas, District Neelum
- Children First in Azad Jammu and Kashmir: Participatory Environmental Rehabilitation Project in two villages of Union Council Charakpura, District Muzaffarabad
- Himalayan Rural Support Programme in Azad Jammu and Kashmir: Improved Management of Protected Areas through Improved Livelihood Options and Opportunities in District Haveli
- Sustainable Use Specialist Group in Balochistan: Biodiversity Conservation and Livelihood Improvements in Shah Noorani, District Khuzdar
- Society for Economic and Environmental Development in Balochistan: Community Based Forest Conservation in Ibrahim Khel Babar, District Zhob
- Alpine Medicinal Herbs and Rural Welfare Organization in Gilgit-Baltistan: Promoting Selected Non-timber Forest Products based on community participation approach to support sustainable forest management
- Basho Conservation and Development Organization in Gilgit-Baltistan: Basho Ecotourism Resort, Basho
- Shewa Educated Social Workers Association in Khyber Pukhtunkwa: The Rehabilitation of Communal forests of Ghuhgosto and Sowaway, Buner
- Soon Valley Development Programme in Punjab: Integrated Water Resource Management in Seven Villages of the Soon Valley, District Khushab
- Anjuman Takmeel e Maqasad e Insani in Punjab: Environment Improvement through Community Based Natural Resource Management in Phagwari Tehsil, Murree

Grass-Roots Climate Change Initiatives

Under GRIP, the focus has been on: community based climate change adaptation and increased implementation of sustainable energy activities incorporating alternative renewable supplies, energy efficiency, and equitable access. In the future, the Programme also hopes to improve the capacity and facilitation to adopt the Clean Development Mechanism and Carbon Trade Facilities.

GRIP has so far funded the following CSOs in Pakistan to complete interventions like installing biogas plants and solar panels, improving irrigation and rehabilitating flood-affected families:

- Participatory Development Initiatives in Balochistan: Community based Climate

Adaptation and Mitigation through Natural Resource Management in 10 villages of Union Council Sasol, District Khuzdar

- Grace Association Pakistan in Gilgit-Baltistan: Introducing a Sustainable Model of Community Based Climate Change Mitigation at Skardu
- Social and Environmental Development Organization in Khyber Pukhtunkhwa: Climate Change and Improved and Efficient Water and Natural Resource Management for Livelihoods in Select Sub-watershed in Tehsil Adenzai, Dir
- Majlis Tahaffaz Maholiat in Punjab: Construction of 65 Biogas Plants in 10 Union Councils of District Sargodha
- Participatory Efforts for Health Environment in Sindh: Livelihood Restoration of the Flood Victims in District Dadu
- Indus Earth Trust in Sindh: Environmental Protection, District Sujawal, Thatta

Results Achieved during 2012

- Out of 24 projects 11 were completed during 2011. While the remaining project have been completed or are near completion during 2012.
- One project in Balochistan and one in Gilgit Baltistan were placed on hold during the reporting period. PIC focal persons were consulted so that final decision regarding termination or continuation of these projects can be made.
- Civil works / Plantations/ Construction activities and other physical activities continued. 95 % work completed during the reporting period.
- Project completion reports / Quarterly reports due during reporting period were regularly submitted by CSOs.
- Field verification of the progress made by CSOs was undertaken by various staff of One UN JPE.
- Submission of documents required for Project completion formalities are in progress and will be completed during December 2012.
- A lesson learning and sharing workshop scheduled to be held during 2013

Means of Verification

- Periodic Progress Reports (Monthly, Quarterly, Completion Reports)
- Monitoring and Evaluation Reports based on physical verifications
- GRIP / JPSC Meetings
- Project steering committee meetings
- Documentaries / Photographs
- Success Stories

Output II

Preparation and implementation of area based strategies for integrated water and natural resources management

Description: Under this output, there are a total of fifteen projects under implementation with provincial line departments, international NGO's and international organizations. Out of fifteen projects, five projects shall be completed by the end of december'2012. The projects are related to the management of NRM across Pakistan

Description of output level <u>results achieved</u> in 2012:

Activity under Output 2.

There are fifteen projects under the subject output and are related to integrated water shed management, management of natural resource management such as wildlife conservation and forest resources management. The description of each project activitity has also been prepared and attached separately for each of the projects. There are following fifteen projects

- <u>1.</u> Participatory Watershed Management of Rehabilitation of selected earthquake and flood areas in AJK
- 2. Karli Lake Watershed Management
- 3. Biodiversity Conservation at Sarhad Forest
- 4. Rehabilitation and Increasing the Productivity of Rangelands of Thraparkar through Multiple Land Use and Community Based Integrated Management
- 5. Rehabilitation of Catchment Areas of Small Dams in District Chakwal
- 6. Kanshian Integrated Watershed Management Project
- 7. Conservation of biodiversity in Scrub Ecosystem in District Nowshera
- 8. Rehabilitation of Denuded Forest Areas through Sowing and Planting and Development of Farm/ Social Forestry with Community Participation in Northern Areas
- 9. Community Based sustainable forest resource Conservation in District Diamer
- 10. Integrating management of wildlife species and development of wild habitats in Gilgit Baltistan
- <u>11.</u> Integrated Natural Resources Management with the involvement of resident communities in Gwadar District
- <u>12.</u> Integrated Natural Resources Management with the involvement of resident communities in Musakhail District, Balochistan

Results achieved by One UN JPE:

- Signing MOAs with Implementing Partners from AJK
- Baseline survey completed
- Inception workshop done
- Rationalization of Budget taken place regarding the Budget of approval PIC

Projects

- Improving upon project components
- Three installments released and only last is left which is 15%
- Monitoring is ongoing
- More than 80% of budget has been disbursed and utilized
- Physical/ Financial progress reports are left only for last quarter and are to be submitted up to 10th of December.
- Complete standard formats for progress reports are shared and followed
- Final and revised work plan is approved
- Field visits for closure of project is left only
- Project closure formation as per check list.
- Monitoring/Verification of last quarter activities as per work plan
- Checking Financial statements, Bank statements, expenditures and disbursement procedures is in process
- Statement of Balance amounts and payment liabilities from last tranch 15% and also contingency budgets.
- Trainings for livelihood is in our plan
- Ensuring of sustainable procedures or measures so that project interventions are not lost.
- Success story documentations is in process
- Final Progress reports submission

Means of Verification : Progress reports(physical and financial), Physical Monitoring by One UN JPE, Site Visits, verifications from Implementing Partners, pictures etc

Output III

Implementation of Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) readiness phase in Pakistan

Description:

"Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation" or REDD+ is a global initiative which endeavors to create an incentive for developing countries to protect, better managed and wisely used their forest resources, thus contributing to global fight against the climate change. The Government of Pakistan through the Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC), International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) and World Wide Fund for Nature Pakistan (WWF-P) have jointly initiated the project titled, "Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+): Preparedness Phase for Pakistan". This project is financially supported by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) through One UN Joint Program on Environment (JPE). The project aims at assessing and enhancing capacities of the key stakeholders in the context of REDD+. It also focuses taking inputs of the concerned through consultative workshops for developing the National REDD+ road map in

Pakistan.

ICIMOD is the implementing partner of this project whereas WWF-P has been assigned the task to organize and conduct the sensitization and consultative workshops taking inputs of the key stakeholders.

Results achieved by One UN JPE:

- Signing MOAs with Implementing Partners
- Budget revised and rationalized and also project plan revised after consultation with the relevant stakeholders
- Holding of district level workshops in progress
- Hiring of international consultants is currently being done
- Involved FAO Pakistan in the national REDD+ process as the relevant UN agency and also regional FAO office to get technical support funds in order to further mobilize resources to follow the REDD+ road map.
- Also involved IUCN in the process to get the input from relevant stakeholders who are working in the same field in one way or the other
- Also streamlining work of Gilgit Baltistan government as they have already got REDD+ project approved from their government and funds have been made available and aligning their project activities with that of national REDD+ programme
- Also carried out training of provincial representatives in Nepal for their capacity building under REDD+ programme
- 65% of budget has been disbursed
- Procurement for the project is completed
- Checking and verifications of Physical/ Financial progress reports is underway
- Verification of deliverables
- Checking of financial expenditures, statements, balance amounts and liabilities.
- Checking Financial statements , Bank statements , expenditures and disbursement procedures in process

Means of Verification

- District level workshop reports,
- Minutes of meeting,
- Physical monitoring by One UN JPE
- Verifications from Implementing Partners, pictures etc

Output IV Ramsar Advisory Mission (RAM) to Pakistan for Floodplain Management Strategy

Description:

A Ramsar Advisory Mission (RAM) was organized from 29th October 2012 to 5th November 2012. The main purpose of this Mission was to provide advice on how the Ramsar Sites located along the middle stretches of the Indus River and the adjacent floodplains could be restored and managed in order to increase their flood water storage capacity as a response to the devastating floods that took place in August 2010

Description of output level <u>results achieved</u> in 2012:

The Indus River is one of the major river systems in the world and the people living along the banks have evolved to become intricately dependent on the river for water, food and supporting their livelihood. The annual monsoon rains have traditionally heralded floods of varying degrees that bring nutrient rich silt to the agricultural land on either side of the river, making the land highly productive. However, in August 2010, an exceptionally heavy rainfall in the upper catchment of the Indus River (and its tributaries such as the Swat River) caused the water to rise and rush downstream in one of the highest floods since the mid-1970s. When the waters reached the Taunsa Barrage in the middle part of the river, a number of the embankments were breached, and the ensuing rush of water destroyed lives, homes and farmland.

After the floods, a number of national inquiries took place to identify why the damage was so severe, and to provide recommendations on how such damage can be prevented in future. There was a feeling in some quarters that traditional 'hard engineering' flood responses by constructing further dams and embankments was not necessarily the only solution, and that 'soft engineering' techniques should also be investigated. This would include restoring the natural flood storage capacity of the floodplain by remodelling existing embankments so that they can allow passage of particularly high flow; removal of illegal structure in the floodplains, including illegal embankments; restoring old river channels and ponds adjacent to the river that have silted up over time etc.

In March 2011, Inspector General Forest, Government of Pakistan and Dr. Lew Young, Senior Regional Advisor for Asia/Oceania, Ramsar Convention Secretariat, began discussions on undertaking a RAM to Pakistan, to suggest an economically viable, socially acceptable and ecologically sound strategy to manage the floodplains of the Indus River to minimize the risk of such devastating flood in future. The strategy is anticipated to be based on successful approaches adopted for reducing the threat of floods and that have been used for the Yangtze River Basin, and other river basins around the world.

Results achieved by One UN JPE:

- Signing MOAs with Implementing Partners
- Full payment has been released and 100 % of budget has been utilized
- Advisory missions completed and activities done
- Checking and verifications of Physical/ Financial progress reports completed
- Verification of deliverables
- Checking of final Financial statements, Bank statements, expenditures and disbursement procedures under process and near to completion that falls under project closure formalities

Means of Verification Progress reports, mission visit reports, Financial statements

Output 5: Strengthening Trans-boundary Cooperation between China and Pakistan in Karakoram Pamir Landscape, feasibility assessment in Pakistan

Description:

The Karakoram-Pamir Landscape (KPL hereafter) is an important trans-boundary conservation area that spreads across international boundaries of China and Pakistan. This landscape represents highly fragile alpine ecosystem with unique assemblages of flora and fauna. It is traditionally used by the semi-nomadic pastoral communities who are solely dependent on biomass resources for their livelihoods. There are two protected areas within the landscape, viz., the Khunjerab National Park in Pakistan and Taxkorgan Nature Reserve in China which are naturally connected to each other, and provide habitat to several globally threatened species. The landscape faces severe threats due to anthropogenic pressures and global climate change leading to degradation of ecosystem, loss of biodiversity and threats to livelihood base. Loss of rare, threatened and endemic species, human-wildlife conflicts, and incidences of illegal trade in species listed by CITES are major conservation concerns. Particularly, there is a need to create amicable parkpeople interface to work out the balance between the objectives of national parks and protected areas with the need for the use of resources by the community in the buffer areas.

The proposed Tansboundary landscape initiative between Pakistan and China in the KPL, facilitated by ICIMOD aims to meet the current and potential challenges of biodiversity loss, degradation of ecosystem and vulnerability of local communities to global change through scientific cooperation and collaboration, as well as through creating an environment for dialogue and discussion. The regional initiative seeks the support from various stakeholders, both the governments as well as international development agencies for formulating a long term conservation and development plan. The participation and involvement of a wide range of stakeholders including the local agro-

pastoral communities would be sought to evolve such a plan. In line with the JPE component of "establishing institutional mechanisms for integrated environmental management", this proposal aims to address the issues of rangeland degradation, human-wildlife conflicts, illegal trade on wildlife parts and recovery of highly threatened species, such as Marco Polo's sheep. These issues would be addressed through development of regional cooperation framework between China and Pakistan, especially through scientific and technical collaboration for building detailed baseline data on environmental and socio-economic parameters.

Results achieved by One UN JPE:

- Signing MOAs with Implementing Partners (ICIMOD)
- As project has just initiated so its main results may not be projected at this level, however, its main activities shall take place in 2013
- Checking and verifications of Physical/ Financial progress reports will be done as per our procedure in vogue
- Complete standard formats for progress reports are shared and followed
- Verification of deliverables
- Checking Financial statements, Bank statements, expenditures and disbursement procedures in process

Means of Verification: Physical Monitoring by One UN JPE, Desk Monitoring, Site Visits, Follow ups by One UN JPE, Verifications from Implementing Partners

Output VI: Formulate national policy on climate change

Description:

Environmental Policy Reviewed and formulated in the area of Climate Change To identify the basic elements of Pakistan's climate change policy for near to medium term future, assisting the government for sustainable economic growth by appropriately addressing the challenges posed by climate change, in particular the threats to Pakistan's water, food and energy security.

Description of output level <u>results achieved</u> in 2012:

The Climate Change Policy was approved by the Federal Cabinet on 26th September, 2012. Consequently the final draft of The National Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Action Plans are now being pursued for final endorsement by the relevant stakeholders.

Means of Verification

- Twelve Consultative Workshops held in all 5 provinces and AJ&K for relevant stakeholders including Federal Government, Provincial Governments, Civil Society, Academia, Corporate Sector, Research Institutes, Media etc
- Notification of the Cabinet Division, Government of Pakistan after approval of the National Climate Change Policy by the Federal Cabinet on 26th September, 2012

Output VII:

Facilitating Pakistan's preparations for Rio+ 20 UNCSD

Description:

Finalization and approval of National Sustainable Development Strategy and Action Programme (NSDS&AP) as major GoP policy and programming initiative

- One National and 3 Provincial consultative workshops held for relevant stakeholders including Federal Government, Provincial Governments, Civil Society, Academia, Corporate Sector, Research Institutes, Media etc
- Final Draft of the NSDS prepared and is in the process of being endorsed by the Ministry of Climate Change, Government of Pakistan.
- After endorsement by Ministry of Climate Change the NSDS will be processed for approval by the Federal Cabinet

Sponsoring of "National Conference on Green Economy" during May 2012, as Pakistan's preparation for Rio+20 UNCSD, jointly organised by UNDP and Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Pakistan.

Support to the delegation of Pakistan for participation in Rio+ 20 UNCSD

- Sponsoring of the delegation of the Ministry of Climate Change, Government of Pakistan for participation in Rio+ 20 UNCSD
- Sponsoring of Pakistan's Side Event at Rio+20 UNCSD

Means of Verification

- National and 3 Provincial Consultative Workshops held for relevant stakeholders including Federal Government, Provincial Governments, Civil Society, Academia, Corporate Sector, Research Institutes, Media etc
- Final Draft of the NSDS submitted to Ministry of Climate Change, Government of Pakistan for endorsement and onward submission to the Federal Cabinet for approval
- Participation of the delegation of Ministry of Climate Change, Government of Pakistan in the Rio+ 20 UNCSD
- Pakistan's Side Event held at Rio+ 20 UNCSD

4. PROJECT RISKS AND ISSUES

Project Risks	Mitigation Measures/Plan	Status		
Environmental				
 Environmental: 2010 floods delayed the initiative. Long duration of dry season had a major effect on the process of plantation which further slowed down the project. 	• Plantation was undertaken during next season, issue resolved within project period. Settled	Activities completed		
 Institutional: Frequent transfers at govt. level Willingness at provincial level to continue support Change in management of Children first 	 Beyond projects scope. Project steering committee conducted progress review regularly. Newly recruited management continued to utilize same project staff 	• Activities completed		
Security: • Serious security concern in Balochistan Province	 Field visit were delay and could not take place completely 	Not Applicable		
Financial: • Delay in financial released slowed down the progress	 Delay in financial release was due to 18th amending during which, smooth flow of funds could not be maintained due to non availability of government counterparts Expedite release of funds 	• Pending		

Project Issues	Solution/Recommended Action	Status
Devolution process	PIC forum enhanced	Resolved
Frequent change of NPD	New NPD in place.	Resolved
Security situation in GB and Balochistan	Abide by security protocols	Ongoing

5. LESSONS LEARNT

The lessons that have been learnt may be summarized below:

- The capacities of line departments of governments are very weak especially that of Gilgit-Baltistan and Balochistan and therefore a lot of engagement is necessary for successful completion of project activities and to ensure timelines.
- The training aspect for the project partner has to be catered for as project management training remains a must for all project partners.
- In most of the cases, we see that little or no technical feasibility is carried out before developing project proposals therefore maximum input shall be given in the planning phase of the project where baseline studies must be carried out before initiation of any project intervention.
- It has also been observed that lack of interest lies in the planning and development department of the government in carrying out internal monitoring of the projects.
- While working with the CSOs, there is a requirement to register all CSOs with the respective departments such as PCP(Pakistan Centre for Philanthropy)
- There is a requirement of a knowledge sharing platform for all relevant stakeholders on frequent basis so that various project interventions are planned and promotion of informed decision making.

Case Study/Success Story (OPTIONAL)

6. THE WAY FORWARD AND STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 2013

The way forward shall be focused towards ensuring sustainability of the project interventions by maximum involvement of communities which have been organized during the course of the project and eventually the maintenance and post care of natural resources be catered for with frequent involvement of government line departments as the project site lies under their area of responsibility and also using PIC forums so that interest remains at the highest level at each province. Livelihood factor remains imperative while ensuring sustainability and economic uplift by revising project proposals and incorporating livelihood components into the proposals be made mandatory.

Another factor shall be the up-scaling of those projects that remained successful and have the potential to widen their project parameters within the scope of the project.

The capacities of various CSOs and government line departments have been enhanced during the course of the project therefore lesson sharing exercise be promoted with other departments and CSOs where future project interventions may take place. The CSOs must also be encouraged to get themselves registered with Pakistan Centre of Philanthropy that is responsible for registration of these organizations so that regularization process of CSOs may be initiated.

The National Climate Change Policy way forward lies with more interaction with the provinces by carrying out vulnerability mapping and doing risk assessment accordingly, carry out a detailed technical feasibility and baseline surveys where future climate change adaptation projects may take place.

Another way forward shall be the knowledge management exercise for the sake of informed decision making by mapping all project activities into interactive GIS mapping and live imagery through SUPARCO or Google maps

Grassroots Initiative Programme (GRIP), due to limited funded invested in 19 districts of Pakistan to support 24 Civil Society Organizations. The programme as a model has successfully attempted to achieve its goal of contributing towards sustainable development by bringing improvement in livelihoods of marginal groups in local communities through sustainable management of natural resources, energy conservation, climate mitigation/adaptation measures, and other related environmental issues to decrease the pressures on physical, social, and biological environments.

GRIP will formally close by December 31, 2012. Learning from GRIP, will help in identifying similar programmes during the Operational Phase – II, of One UN and aligning with new strategic priority areas (SPAs). Certainly, the success of GRIP need to be expanded in other parts of the country in order to ensure its visibility, real impact and

empower the Grass Root groups to improve the environmental management at large scale.

Annex: AWP based Reporting Matrix

EXPECTED	PLANNED	Activi			Budget (PI	KR)		Ex	<mark>penditure (</mark> F	PKR)	%
OUTPUTS And baseline, associated indicators and annual targets	ACTIVITIES	ty Status Compl eted, Ongoi ng, Delaye d, Cancel led	TRAC	Govt	Donor/One UN	Total	TRAC	Govt	Donor/ One UN	Total	Deli very
Output 1 Development of a inclusive common platform of relevant/key partners to connect policies, programmes and projects and actions by government, aid agencies, NGOs and UN agencies, and commercial activities of the private sector into an agreed sustainable development framework for each target region	Activity CSOs implement interventions for the achievements of MDGs at local level including awareness raising campaigns on environment	Completed			12864000	12864000			12627264	12627264	98
Output 2 Management of Natural Resources in Demonstrated Regions	1. Activity Preparation and implementation of area-based strategies for Integrated water and natural resources management	Ongoing			138361500	138361500			122208593	122208593	88

EXPECTED	PLANNED	Activi			Budget (PI	KR)		Ex	<mark>penditure (</mark> F	PKR)	%
OUTPUTS And baseline, associated indicators and annual targets	ACTIVITIES	ty Status Compl eted, Ongoi ng, Delaye d, Cancel led	TRAC	Govt	Donor/One UN	Total	TRAC	Govt	Donor/ One UN	Total	Deli very
	2. Activity Ramsar Advisory Mission (RAM) to Pakistan for Floodplain Management Strategy	Completed			4758240	4758240			4758240	4758240	100
	3. Activity Strengthening Transboundry Cooperation between China and Pakistan in Karakoram Pamir Land Scape, feasibility assessment in Pakistan	Ongoing			7572000	7572000			1655860	1655860	22
	4. Activity Implementation of Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) readiness phase in Pakistan	Ongoing			8925249	8925249			6084362	6084362	68
Output 3 Formulate national policy on climate change	1. Activity Formulate national policy on climate change				3196800	3196800			3033600	3033600	95

EXPECTED	PLANNED	Activi			Budget (PI	(R)	Expenditure (PKR)				%
OUTPUTS And baseline, associated indicators and annual targets	ACTIVITIES	ty Status Compl eted, Ongoi ng, Delaye d, Cancel led	TRAC	Govt	Donor/One UN	Total	TRAC	Govt	Donor/ One UN	Total	Deli very
Output 4 Facilitating Pakistan's preparations for Rio+ 20 UNCSD	1. Activity Finalization and approval of National Sustainable Development Strategy and Action Programme (NSDS&AP) as major GoP policy and programming initiative				10848000	10848000			8136960	8136960	75%
TOTAL					186525789	186525789			158504879	158504879	85%



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