

**MINUTES OF THE 2ND PSC MEETING OF INTEGRATED LIVESTOCK AND CROP
CONSERVATION PROGRAM (ILCCP) PROJECT**

Date: 7th September 2009

Venue: Secretariat Conference Hall, MoA

I. MEMBERS PRESENT

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|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Chenchu Nrobu, Director, DoA, MoA | : Member & Chairman |
| 2. Mr. Bakhodir Burkhanov, DRR, UNDP | : Member |
| 3. Dasho Tsheten Rabgay, CORRB, MoA | : Member representative |
| 4. Mr. Choni Dhundup, AMS, MoA | : Member representative |
| 5. Dr. Tashi Dorji, DoL, MoA | : Member representative |
| 6. Mr. Tashi Dorji, UNDP | : Member representative |
| 7. Mr. Abilal Baskota, DFS | : Member representative |
| 8. Dr. Tashi Y. Dorji, Program Director, NBC, MoA
Director) | : Member Secretary (Project |
| 9. Ms. Tashi Yangzom, PPD, MoA | : Member representative |
| 10. Mr. Sonam Tamang, AnGR Component, NBC, MoA | : Member |
| 11. Ms. Asta Tamang, PGR Component, NBC, MoA | : Member (Project Manager) |

ABSENTEE

Mr. Norbu Wangchuk/Jambay Zangmo, GNHC, Thimphu

II. INTRODUCTORY SPEECH BY CHAIRMAN


Director, DoA who is a member of the project board chaired the 2nd PB meeting on the directives of the Secretary, MoA. Chairman opened the 2nd PB meeting by welcoming all the board members to the meeting.

Following the welcome remarks, the meeting adopted the agenda:

1. Adoption of Agenda
2. Presentation of minutes of 1st PB meeting
3. Presentation of ILCCP project brief
4. Presentation of Progress reports from Jan-June 09
5. AoB

III. PRESENTATION ON THE FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS OF 1ST PB MEETING

Project Manager presented the minutes of the first PB meeting held on 28th Jan 09 and the follow up action taken since then. The key issues were presented and the follow up actions taken up by the PMU as per the recommendations of the 1st PB meeting specifically for each key issues were informed to the members.


Tashi Dorji
UNDP



Deliberations and consensus:

1. The floor suggested that invitees and absentees of board members to be mentioned in minutes of meeting.
2. In response to clarification between Project Board and Project Steering Committee, DRR, UNDP informed the floor that initially PSC was used but was changed to Project Board later and informed that function matters more than the name.
3. On the monitoring visits, UNDP suggested to plan and inform field visits in advance and need to have a longer term timetable for monitoring missions with ample planning space.
Action: Project Manager

IV. PRESENTATION ON ILCCP PROJECT

The Project Manager informed the meeting that the overall presentation on the project is primarily for the benefit of member representatives to understand the principle, concept, goal and objectives of the project. This is in view of inconsistency in the participation of regular members in the PB meeting. The Chair advised that presentation be brief since it is the responsibility of the members to inform about the project to their representatives and is not desirable to make presentation on the project in every PB meeting. Project Manager made a brief presentation on ILCCP project focusing on the project goal, objectives, outcomes, outputs, principle and concepts, stakeholders, sites and site specific commodities of the project so as to bring all members present during the 2nd PB meeting to the same platform of understanding the project.

Deliberations and consensus:

1. Chairperson highlighted the following for the benefit of the project implementers:
 - a. Few of the sites are also included under the 'Targeted Poverty Intervention' assessment initiated by GNHC, and therefore the program highlighted under ILCCP should be well connected and harmonized with the targeted poverty intervention programs.
Action: Project Manager & UNDP
 - b. Characterization of varieties is important output and needs to be done with urgency to pin down different varieties.
Action: PMU
 - c. New technologies are taken in remote areas to complement and strengthen mainly focusing on nutritional values in terms of vegetables and cereals. Best possible combinations of cropping should be executed by sharing germplasm from within the locality.
2. Most sites are located in very remote places and DoL has not been able to support particularly on the capacity building of staff of those remote areas. Further, capacity

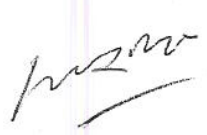
building of staff in remote areas will be critical for sustainability of the project activities and requested PMU to look into collaboration with livestock program. PMU clarified that it could not be implemented during last two quarters of the current year's work plan due to the reason that the institute could be identified only in July 2009. And is proposed to be implemented during the remaining quarter of the year after seeking endorsement of the budget re-appropriation from the PB.

V. PRESENTATION ON TECHNICAL & FINANCIAL PROGRESS REPORT

The Project Manager made a presentation on the technical and financial progress report for the period from Jan-June 2009 including budget re-appropriation for 2009. She presented outcome wise progress achieved during the last 6 months.

Deliberations and consensus:

1. With regard to advances reported as expenditure, PMU informed the meeting without reporting advances as expenditure in the FACE, it reflects huge fund balance with the PMU and affects subsequent release of fund for the remaining quarter. UNDP informed the meeting that other projects report as advance for the funds which are not booked as expenditure under the normal RGoB financial procedures. If there are any inconveniences with the PMU, this needs to be sorted out through bilateral discussion. **Action:** Project Manager
2. Member from DoL commended PMU for coming up with the publication on 'Animal Genetic Resources of Bhutan' which is very useful publication for the Department. He also appreciated coordination role played by NBC. He also suggested NBC through the project to come up with a newsletter on Biodiversity for information sharing and dissemination targeting wider audiences. **Action:** PMU
3. With regard to capacity building, DoL suggested for some arrangements of supporting in-country and ex-country trainings for the field staff in the targeted sites. DoL will contribute towards in-country training and the project will support ex-country training for the capacity building of the field staff. This will be followed up through a bilateral discussion of PMU with DoL. **Action:** PMU & DoL
4. In response to the fielding of TA for AnGR which is not yet implemented: Project Director informed the difficulties in identifying relevant expertise in such field and the PMU is currently exploring possibilities through FAO. It is expected to take some more time and will not be possible to implement within the next quarters. The floor suggested exploring FMPP through FAO Focal Point. **Action:** PMU
5. Since local materials are cheaper and more effective, the Chair commented on the supply of CGI sheets as roofing materials for poultry and piggery sheds, when people don't have proper roof for their houses. Project Director informed the house that the input supplies are done on cost sharing basis. The meeting recommended that PMU should re-examine and discuss with DoL on best possible model and also follow up on inputs supply guidelines and process developed by DoL. **Action:** PMU & DoL



6. Member from AMS sought clarification with regard to marketing interventions being executed in the field and assessment taking place simultaneously. Project Director informed the floor that AMS was expected to take up this work but in view of shortage of staff, this activity was again taken up by NBC but in very close consultation with AMS. She informed that implementation of field interventions were already commenced in view of the fact that the field staffs were already clear of what needs to be done in the field to promote marketing of agro-biodiversity, whereas the market analysis will provide practical guidelines and strategies that can be applied across the board.
 - a. Chair commented that departments will be interested to support the recommendations of the market analysis targeting specific products.
 - b. Member from DoL informed the floor that this kind of report will be very useful to find scopes for marketing of indigenous agro-biodiversity products.
 - c. Marketing scope of Nublang as draught power and other scopes should also be worked out.
 - d. DRR, UNDP asked PMU to distribute draft copies of the report to stakeholders and to board members for specific issues and comments and expedite the finalization of document as early as possible.
Action: PMU
7. Member from AMS informed that value addition also includes packaging and presentation for which project could invest more in alternative local materials that are suitable and practical though all imports come in plastic. MoA should take it up with the government to allow plastic wrapping for few selected agricultural products, in view of the current enforcement of plastic ban.
Action: PMU & AMS
8. Responding to concern raised by a member from DoF on sustainability of project activities, PMU informed the floor that sustainability has to come from the economic benefits associated with indigenous agro-biodiversity. Farmers will continue to farm and maintain diversity in the field when there are economic benefits tied up to these resources. The member from DoL suggested that the departments should take ownership and mainstream agrobiodiversity conservation into the plans and programs, and carry forward the implementation part.
Action: PMU, DoA, DoL & AMS
9. The chairperson informed the meeting that since these programs are already reflected in the 10th Plan, the departments and research centers that are already a part of the program, will ensure sustainability of the program after the project period.



VI. BUDGET RE-APPROPRIATION

In response to clarification sought by DRR on reduction of fund for outcome no 7, PMU clarified that more activities will be implemented during the latter half of the project. DRR also reminded that re-appropriations should be done before incurring expenditures. Since the proposed re-appropriation does not entail additional budget and is within total outlay for 2009, UNDP is in agreement with the proposed re-appropriation and should be routed through GNHC. The Board recommended the proposition.

Action: Project Manager

VII. OTHER POINTS

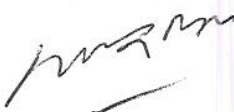
- DRR suggested that actions stemming from field mission should be properly documented and made available to PB members.
Action: Project Manager
- He also remarked that it is important to highlight and acknowledge donor in terms of any publications.
Action: PMU
- He also thanked the PMU for robust delivery.

VIII. AOB

- The Members were informed that an important event has been earmarked for 2009 in the Wangchuck Centennial Park in Bumthang to showcase conservation initiatives, local festivals, and other important event. DoL will take a lead along with DoF in organizing the event. Board agreed that presence of NBC will be important to create awareness on the ongoing programs to local communities and others.
- Midterm review of project has been scheduled for December 2009 and will be coordinated by the UNDP CO and PMU. ToR will be circulated to all PB members for comments.
- 3rd PB Meeting: Mid-term review should be completed prior to 3rd PB meeting. 3rd PB meeting will be convened in late January or early February 2010.

IX. CONCLUDING REMARKS

Chairman pointed out that this meeting has been very interesting and educative. He said that the board is pleased to see many publications which he said should be widely shared and disseminated. He closed the 2nd PB meeting thanking all the board members for their active participation and contribution.



Project Manager thanked the Chair for efficient conduct of the meeting, UNDP, all Board Members and Member Representatives for their inspirational support and technical guidance and look forward to continued support, guidance and direction towards achieving objectives and goal of the project.

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Action: Project Manager
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Action: PMU
- He also thanked the PMU for recent delivery.

VIII. AOB

- The Members were informed that an important event has been commenced for 2009 in the Wangchuck Central Park in Bhanubang to showcase conservation initiatives, local festivals, and other important event. DoJ will take a lead along with DoF in organizing the event. Board agreed that presence of NBC will be important to create awareness on the ongoing programs to local communities and other.
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