
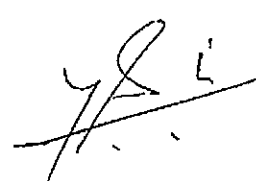


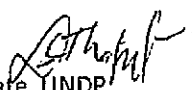




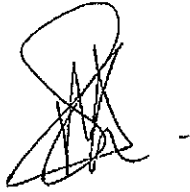
Ecosystem Based Adaptation in Mountain Ecosystems in Nepal

Second Project Executive Board Meeting
Venue- WTLCP Hall, Babarmahal, Kathmandu
8th January, 2013

Attendees

1. Gauri Shankar Timala
Deputy Director General / NPD, Department of Forests

 2. Jorn Sorensen
Deputy Country Director, UNDP
 3. Vijaya P. Singh
Assistant Country Director, UNDP

 4. Dr. Hari Bahadur K.C.
Sr. Plant Protection Officer, Ministry of Agricultural Development
 5. Kedar N. Dahal
Planning Officer, Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation
 6. Shanta Tamrakar
Planning Officer, Department of Forests

 7. Rajendra Khanal
Program Coordinator, IUCN
 8. Stephanie MacPhee
Consultant, UNDP

 9. Anu Adhikari
Program Officer, IUCN
 10. Leela Sthapit
Program Associate, UNDP

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11. Moon Shrestha
PC, UNDP/ EbA



12. Naresh Manandhar
AFA, UNDP / EbA



Agenda

1. EbA project progress
2. EbA annual work plan for 2013 and first quarterly plan of 2013
3. Budget finalization and approval for 2013
4. Field office site finalization
5. AOB

Meeting Details

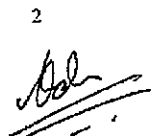
The meeting began at 2:30 PM at the WTLC Training Hall, Babarmahal.

Mr. Gauri Shankar Timala, National Project Director, chair-person of the Project Executive Board (PEB), welcomed the participants. Mr. Jorn Sorensen, Deputy Country Director of UNDP made a short welcome remark. Ms. Moon Shrestha, the EbA Project Coordinator presented on the project's progress in 2012. At the outset Ms. Moon explained about various levels of co-ordination needed for the success of the project and updated on regular partners meeting happening every month since the last PEB meeting. She also updated PEB on field level inception workshop conducted in Pokhara and on-going recruitment process of the field staff.

Major Discussions

Annual financial and project Progress: Ms. Moon Shrestha informed the PEB about the progress of the project during 2012. Although there were some delays in implementation due to technicalities like delay in signing of the project document and opening the bank account, she mentioned that the expected results of project activities for 2012 were achieved. In 2012, the project initiatives focused more on assessment and studies. The study on good practice VIA tool and methodologies and assessment of ecosystem services has been completed while baseline survey of the project site has been initiated. Similarly, the project has conducted inception workshop both at national and local level as well as initiated few adaptation options in the project sites. In 2012, the project focused on strengthening the coordination between the project partners and with the stakeholders.

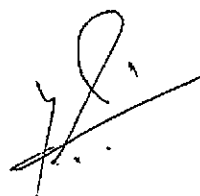
EbA PEB Meeting 8th January 2013



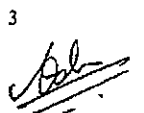
Annual and 1st quarterly work plan of 2013: Ms. Shrestha also presented the annual plan for 2013 and briefed the PEB in more detail on the quarterly work plan for Jan – March 2013. She provided details on both the project implementation and financial aspects of the work plan.

Key concerns and issues raised by the board members:

- **Discussion on field office site:** Ms. Moon Shrestha recommended that the field office site be located in the Pame area near Pokhara Valley. Some PEB members made queries regarding the suitability of the proposed site with respect to project implementation. Mr. Rajendra Khanal from IUCN gave a short overview of the other VDCs where the field office could potentially be located. After taking into consideration some of the criteria originally set out for choosing the field office location like transportation access, staff security and bank access, Mr. Vijaya Singh suggested that Pame is the most appropriate site. Finally it was agreed to open the field office in Pame and start field activities through field office immediately..
- **Update on the PMU office:** Ms. Moon Shrestha informed the PEB that the PMU has recently shifted from the WTLCP office premise to the DoF premises. Mr. Vijaya Singh from UNDP enquired about the adequate space for the Project Office. The PEB members opined that in case additional space will be required, DoF should be able to accommodate. At the end of the PEB meeting the PEB members decided to visit the new Office Space allotted to the EbA Project Office within DoF premises at Babarmahal.
- **Request for infrastructure support:** Mr. Gauri Shankar Timala, Joint Secretary and NPD enquired about the possibility of supporting the DoF office in Kaski in building an office within its premises, which can be used as EbA field office for the project duration. Mr. Vijaya Singh and Mr. Rajendra Khanal informed that no such provision has been made in the EbA project and therefore this would not be possible under the current funding of the project.
- **Discussion on Field Level Coordination with agricultural related offices**
Dr. Hari Bahadur K.C. from MoAD emphasized the importance of involving district and local agriculture related offices in EbA research work and implementation. He informed the PEB members that the agriculture network is very active from the national, district to local village level and highlighted that the project can benefit from the involvement of this network. He mentioned that the project should coordinate with those offices to get technical assistance.
- **Strategic meeting participation from the German Embassy**
Mr. Vijaya Singh informed the PEB that he had recently met with a representative from the German Embassy and discussed about their role in EbA project. He explained that the embassy was much more interested in participating in strategic meetings related to the project rather than getting engaged into project management. He therefore suggested to invite the Embassy in PEB meetings and share with them the project work plans and progress reports. He also suggested that the PMU should coordinate with the Embassy focal person and invite them in advance for their participation in any strategic level meetings organized by the project.



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- **Implementation of PES**

Payment of Ecosystem Services (PES) has been identified as one of the area that EbA should work in Panchase area. The feasibility of PES has been included in the work plan for 2013. Mr. Rajendra Khanal of IUCN shared IUCN experience in this sector. He emphasized on lack of legal and institutional framework on PES which is the main hurdle in PES implementation. Mr. Vijaya Singh stated that this is a very positive step and that WTLCP and CSUWN guidelines regarding PES should also be used as a reference.

Work plan and Budget for 2013:

Before signing off on the work plan for 2013, Mr. Vijaya Singh of UNDP requested that more details are required, specifically to the budget dealing with grants and travel. He also requested for more clarity about some of the proposed activities, such as research grant. It was not clear who will be doing the work, where the information gaps are and how it will contribute to project work. Mr. Jorn Sorensen of UNDP echoed the same.

Decisions

The board meeting decided to:

1. **Approval of annual work plan 2013 and 1st quarterly work plan of 2013:**

The meeting principally endorsed the combined annual work plan for 2013 of all three partners and approved the annual and quarterly work plan of UNDP component under the proposed annual budget limit of USD 590,000 subject to further clarification and refinement. The meeting decided to have a further in-depth discussion with UNDP team for further refinement of annual work plan and budget for 2013 before it is signed off.

2. **Select Pame as the site for field office:**

The meeting decided that Pame is an appropriate site for the field office and instructed PMU to process for office set up in the area.

At the end of the meeting, Mr. Jorn Sorensen of UNDP expressed that EbA is a very significant pilot project as it feeds into the longer term sustainable development goals of the country. He stated that the project should continue to move ahead at full speed and be as ambitious as possible. Mr. Gauri Shankar Timala, National Project Director, gave his concluding remarks. The NPD expressed his thanks to all the PEB members for their active participation in the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 4:30 pm and was followed by a tour of the PMU office.



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