

STANDARD PROGRESS REPORT

FINANCIAL YEAR: 2018

REPORTING Date: 8th July 2018

1. AWP Details

Program Outcome:	By 2018, sustainable and green economic growth that is equitable, inclusive, climate and disaster resilient and promotes poverty reduction, and employment opportunities particularly for vulnerable groups enhanced.
Program Output:	Solutions developed at national and sub national levels for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste.
Project:	Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience of Forest and Agriculture Landscape and Community Livelihoods in Bhutan
Implementing Agency:	Gross National Happiness Commission
Responsible Officer:	Mr. Pema Bazar

2. Activity Progress Details

Activities from AWP	Short Description of activities implemented	Ongoing/completed/Other (can be in phases)	Activity Dates (quarter)	Budget in Nu.
Output 1.1: Strengthened policy and planning frameworks and institutional capacity for integrated forest and agricultural landscape management and climate change resilience within key national agencies.				

1.2.1 Provide support for strengthening the National Forest Inventory (NFI) and National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) to measure the status and condition of forest and carbon stock in line with REDD+, MRV and GEF SFM monitoring requirements, including HCVF approach in Bhutanese context.	Provided internet connection facilities to 3 forest division (Wangdue, Zhemgang and Bumthang) and 2 protected areas (JSWNP and PNP).	Completed	Planned: April Actual: June	Planned: Nu. 1,995,175 Actual: Nu. 1,900,000
Output 1.5: Enhanced planning and monitoring capacity for sustainable forest management in FMUs and LFMPs.				
1.5.2 Train staff in the employment of the updated planning, implementation and monitoring guidelines system; and provide training and equipment to enhance forest management information system and planning and monitoring of FMUs and LFMPs. Acquisition of new software for forest inventory data analysis.	Trained 22 forest officials (2 female) from the field offices on sustainable forest management in Kasartat University, Thailand for 6 days (5 th June to 12 th June 2018).	Completed	Planned: April Actual: June	Planned: Nu. 3,893,400.00 Actual: Nu. 3,000,000.00
Output 1.6: Institutional mechanisms and tools strengthened for integration of Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and environmental sustainability needs in local development planning system at dzongkhag and gewog levels.				
1.6.1 Strengthen the central level MRG to provide technical backstopping to Local Level MRG for integrating Climate Change Adaptation and other cross cutting issues into local government planning processes.	Conducted meetings with the representatives from the central agencies for identification of the relevant and appropriate members for central mainstreaming reference group.	Completed	Planned: May Actual: June	Planned: Nu. 648,900.00 Actual Nu. 648,900.00
1.6.3. Provide training and conduct SEA for key sector-led development policies, programmes and plans affecting the project landscapes.	Conducted Strategic Environmental Assessment for Thimphu Structure Plan by multisectoral core group. Conducted 2 rounds of capacity building for the core group and relevant stakeholders;	Completed	Planned: May Actual: June	Planned Nu. 3,893,400.00 Actual Nu. 3,893,400.00

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trained 9 officials (6 male and 3 female) for 5 days in Malaysia on preparation of SEA from March 12th to 16th 2018. • 20 officials (6 female and 14 male) attended 5 days workshop in Korea to finalize the SEA report with Korea Environment Institute experts in June 2018. 			
Output 2.1: Conservation management plans integrating CCA needs in place for the four BCs in the target project landscapes.				
2.1.1 Review and revalidate the boundaries of the BCs and assess their ecosystem and CCA functionality, realign and demarcate them as necessary and produce new maps.	Trained 21 field officials (20 male and 1 female) from nine field offices (JKSNR, PNP, Paro, Wangdue, Thimphu, Mongar, Bumthang and Zhemgang Divisions) on SDM and CC modelling for CCA functionality of BCs for revision at Haa for 3 days (7th to 11th May 2018).	Completed	Planned: May Actual: May	Planned Nu. 1,013,906.00 Actual Nu. 1,013,906.00
2.1.2 Develop the technical capacity of NCD and concerned TDs on biodiversity and socio-economic survey methods that integrate appraisal of climate change vulnerabilities and risks for development of climate-adaptive conservation management plan.	The following trainings are completed: 1. Training on CC mitigation and adaptation, best practices on forestry management programs was provided to 10 field officials (all male) at Bangkok for 8 days (13th to 20th June 2018). 2. One officials (male) from NCD was trained on camera trapping study, design and data analysis at Smithsonian Mason School of conservation, USA for 12 days (2nd to 14th June 2018).	Completed	Planned: June Actual: June	Planned Nu. 2,271,150.00 Actual Nu. 2,271,150.00

	<p>3. With the objective to foster interaction and share knowledge about protected area, 2 female officials from NCD attended Korea National Park Friendship Program 2018 at South Korea for 27 days (2nd June to 2nd July 2018).</p> <p>4. 1 forest official (male) from NCD completed study visit to provide first-hand experience on how plan, develop and maintain mountain biking trails and recreational parks at Kosciuszko National Park, NSW National park and Wild life service, Environment and heritage, Australia for 7 days (15th to 22nd June 2018)</p> <p>5. 1 official (male) from NCD attended training on spatial mapping and analysis with specific focus on mapping biodiversity hotspots and park zonation at UNE, Armadale, Australia for 3 months (13th June to 17th September 2018)</p>			
<p>2.1.4 Review the conservation management plans of BCs 1, 2 and 4 during mid-term and update them integrating specific CCA needs.</p>	<p>Conducted two workshop/write-shop for development and standardization of BC management plan framework</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>Planned: May Actual: May</p>	<p>Planned Nu. 454,230.00 Actual Nu. 454,230.00</p>

Output 2.2: Governance operationalized and management effectiveness enhanced for the targeted biological corridors, including strengthened personnel capacity.				
2.2.1 Establish basic infrastructure (e.g. signage, patrol/ camping sites, boundary pillars) and provide equipment essential for management of the BCs in accordance with their conservation management plans.	Conducted workshop/write-shop for development/ revision of PA infrastructure guidelines.	Completed	Planned: May Actual: June	Planned Nu, 491,541.80 Actual Nu. 294,642.17
	With the objective of learning basic rafting usage and maintenance for enhanced patrolling along punatshagchu river, basic river rafting and safety skills training was provided by Druk rafting services for 79 field staffs of Wangdue territorial division (15 female and 64 male) for 4 days (19 th to 22 nd June 2018).			
Output 2.3: Law enforcement and biological monitoring capacity increased through SMART patrolling and strengthened biological monitoring system for key ecosystems for threatened species in the target BCs and adjacent PAs.				
2.3.1. Institute SMART patrolling in the management of the target BCs and adjoining PAs, and provide necessary training and equipment to the staff of these BCs/PAs	Procured and Equipped 3 Protected Areas (JKSNR, PNP and JSWNP) and 6 field divisions (Paro, Wangdue, Thimphu, Mongar, Bumthang and Zhemgang territorial divisions) with the communication equipment such as wireless handsets, base stations and its necessary accessories.	Completed	Planned: April Actual: April	Planned Nu. 59,670.95 Actual Nu. 59,670.95
Output 2.4: Sustainable human wildlife conflict response strategies developed and systems strengthened through innovative mechanisms based on global best practices in the target BCs and Adjunct PAs.				

<p>2.4.1 Review and update/ strengthen Bhutan National HWC Management Strategy 2008 progressively as a living strategic document.</p>	<p>Conducted stakeholder meeting to discuss and form core team to review HWC management strategy 2008.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Planned: June Actual: Ongoing</p>	<p>Planned Nu. 467,274.10 Actual Nu. 450,000.00</p>
<p>2.4.2 Identify relevant and practicable HWC management interventions from the updated HWC management strategy and implement them in the HWC hotspots identified in the BCs and adjoining PAs, evaluate and scale-up best practices.</p>	<p>Developed Wildlife Habitat Enrichment Guidelines.</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>Planned: April Actual: May</p>	<p>Actual Nu. 324,450.00 Planned Nu. 288,546.00</p>
	<p>Field consultation / rapid assessments at JKSNR on the applicability of the existing measures was completed.</p>			
<p>Output 3.1: Strengthened climate resilience and productivity of agricultural and livestock management.</p>				
<p>3.1.1. Support SLM interventions including traditional practices to enhance climate resilience aimed at reducing land degradation, enhancing soil fertility, productivity and vegetative cover through agronomic, vegetative and structural measures in target landscapes.</p>	<p>i. Supplied green manure seeds to all 6 GEF/LDCF SLM pilot dzongkhags to improve soil fertility for paddy cultivation. The supply of manure (or identification of the beneficiaries) was based on the new terrace/consolidation and stone bundling. ii. Two days participatory planning for each model chiwogs conducted in May and June 2018 and attend by participants from Trongsa (50 Female & 7 Male), Lhuentse (74 FM & 3 M) and Haa (40 FM & 6 M).</p>	<p>Two activities are on-going and rest are completed.</p>	<p>Planned: June Actual: Q3</p>	<p>Planned Nu. 9,236,158.31 Actual Nu. 4,787,000.00 (Remaining will be used to complete the two ongoing activities)</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iii. Collected baseline soil information to generate SOC maps. iv. National level Land Management Campaign conducted on 17th June 2018 coinciding UNCCD at Lekpa & Lingabe village , Ganzur gewog, Lhuntse Dzongkhag participated by 67 farmers and 38 officials from gewog and dzongkhag. More than 15 acres of vulnerable brought under SLM for 25 farmers. v. Modelling software (Cubist) procured for the center to enable generation of SOC maps. vi. Conducted farmer training on hedge row establishment at three model villages (Nimshong, Nabji Korphu 53, F 47: M 6, Legpa & Lingabi 30 F 21: M 9, Ngatsena, Gakiling 44 , F 16: M 28) and also set of farm tools supplied to all the beneficiaries of SLM implementers in all three model villages to ease the workability. 500 nos of mango & 500 nos of avocado seedlings were supplied to Nimshong village to generate cash income. vii. A week long Bio engineering training for west and west central region conducted from 4th -10th May 2018 at ARDC Bajo (Participants F: 10 M: 24) and east and east central region from 14th – 20th May 2018 at RDTC, Zhemgang (Participants F 11:M 20). 			
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<p>3.1.2 Develop and promote climate-smart agricultural practices through support of climate resilient crop varieties and Integrated Pest Management</p>	<p>Climate resilient and disease tolerant planting materials made available to the farmers. Establishment of 1 disease and insect proof citrus nursery in Jachedphu, Tashiyangtse.</p> <p>(Implemented by NPPC, NSSC & ARDC Wengkhar)</p>	<p>2 activities are ongoing and rest are completed</p>	<p>Planned: May Actual: Q3</p>	<p>Planned Nu. 7,148,362.88 Actual Nu. 1,252,091.23</p> <p>The remaining budget will be used to complete two ongoing activities.</p>
<p>3.1.3. Support watershed management and irrigation interventions through irrigation channel construction, rehabilitation, small-scale reservoir construction and innovative irrigation approaches</p>	<p>Procurement of equipment required for IPM;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Spec Camera for capturing microscopic insects and pests & diseases. • Mass rearing of BT for bio-control. • Pheromone traps & lures, super grains for control of storage pest <p>(NPPC, Semtokha)</p> <p>The construction of four irrigation channel (Trongsa, Haa, Punakha and Tsirang) is progressing as planned with overall progress of 20 percent.</p>	<p>On-going</p>	<p>Planned: June Actual: June</p>	<p>Actual Nu. 51,977,649.60 Planned Nu. 50,177,649.60</p>

<p>3.1.4. Promote and support low-emission livestock practice management through enhanced management of grazing land and fodder production, stall feeding and breed improvement.</p>	<p>i. With the mission to control the stray cattles in the landscape, selection of breeding activities based on the unproductive cattle in Mestsho and Gangzur have been completed in March 2018 and 80 improved cattle were selected and sterilized in May 2018.</p> <p>ii. The awareness on the unproductive cattles have been provided to 200 households from Metsho and Gangzur. In the same gewog 250 pullets have been purchased and will be distributed to the farmers of Mestsho and Gangzur under Lhuentse. The supply of 250 pullets in the Gewog is expected to boost income of around 30 HHs by Nu. 20,000 annually.</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>Planned: Jan Actual: May</p>	<p>Planned Nu. 190,762.30 Actual Nu. 190,762.30</p>
<p>3.1.5. P Enhance institutional capacity at dzongkhag and gewog levels for extension services to promote sustainable land management, climate-resilient agricultural and low-emission livestock practices.</p>	<p>Trained 16 livestock staffs (2 female) from the dzongkhag and gewog offices in Nepal on climate smart livestock raring in June 2018.</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>Planned: May Actual: June</p>	<p>Planned Nu. 1,700,000.00 Actual Nu. 1,650,000.00</p>
<p>Output 3.2: Community livelihoods strengthened and sources of income diversified and enhanced in the target landscapes</p>				
<p>3.2.1. Promote value addition in supply chains of priority climate resilient commodities (DAMC).</p>	<p>Conducted stakeholders meeting on Cordyceps marketing for 2018 season on 27th April, 2018 (68 participants took part, Buyers=32, Gups/Mangmi=18, BAFRA=3, DoFPS=5 and DAMC=10).</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>Planned: Feb Actual: May</p>	<p>Planned Nu. 39,561.91 Actual Nu. 39,500.00</p>

<p>3.2.2. Promote organic commercialization of organically produced farm produces through cooperatives system (certification, branding, marketing: value chain development)</p>	<p>1. International consultant hired for development of certification standard for organic product.</p> <p>2. Promoted organic products from the landscape villages in Thimphu and linked the producers with consumers in Thimphu.</p> <p>a. Dagphel women group (11 female farmers from Nangkhon, Zhemgang) & Takabi women group (6 female farmers) – produces 6000 kilograms of turmeric powder every year.</p> <p>b. Green tea from Dragten Gewog, Trongsa (24 female and 2 male) - Camellia sinensis</p> <p>c. Bhutan herbal tea group - Chokor, Bumthang - Camomile & mint thum tea</p> <p>d. Gasa, Khata Gewog (51 members) - Carot, potato and garlic.</p> <p><i>Altogether, the above mentioned group have potential to produce 6000 kg of turmeric powder and 9000 packs of herbal tea and it is expected to earn additional Nu. 2 million annually with the market in Thimphu.</i></p> <p>3. Inputs for Post Production - Two turmeric and ginger production and marketing group from Trong Gewog under Zhemgang Dzongkhag have been</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>Planned: May Actual: June</p>	<p>Planned Nu. 1,290,132.53</p> <p>Actual Nu. 1,270,112.53</p>
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	supplied with the packaging equipment viz. dryers, packaging, labelling, washing and weighing machines.			
3.2.4. Safeguard environmental services (PES, PWS and REDD+) and generate alternative revenue streams through watershed protection.	36 male staffs and 10 female staffs from JKSNR, Paro and Wangdue division attended 4 days training workshop conducted by WMD on watershed management and payment for environmental services in the context of climate change held at Punakha for 4 days. Field assessment conducted in Paro (Tsento), Haa, Wangdue (Kazhi) and Punakha (Teop) on finding the causes for water source drying and exploration of PES.	Completed	Planned: Actual:	Planned Nu. 1,622,250.00 Actual Nu. 1,622,000.00
Output 3.3: Transformation of market access is demonstrated for selected rural communities to enhance their climate resilience				
3.3.1. Develop climate-resilient guidelines for design and construction of climate-resilient road infrastructure, adapting to existing EFRC guidelines and standards.	Two core group meetings were conducted in December 2017 and May 2018. The core group members visited the Nimshong-Shingkar GC Road in December, 2017. Completed training on climate change adaptation and road infrastructures for two weeks at Netherlands and Bangkok. The training was attended by 5 officials (2 female) from Department of Road.	Completed	Planned: April Actual: May	Planned Nu. 1,408,683.20 Actual Nu. 1,408,600.00

3.3.3. Improve marketing infrastructure through development of post-harvest storage , packaging, processing and sales facilities	Constructed three farm shops with storage facilities in Kashzi and Phangyul under Wangduephodrang and Tsamang under Mongar Dzongkhag. Farm Shop constructed in Tsamang Gewog Mongar is benefiting 3142 people from 357 HHs (1774 Male and 1638 female).	Completed	Planned: April Actual: June	Planned Nu. 3,500,000.00 Actual Nu. 2,400,000.00
3.3.5. Develop capacity of farmers to recognize market risks, linkages and explore opportunities (access to markets/bueys) to maximize value addition in the supply chain.	Completed awareness workshop on the market and potential market scope for the agriculture produce. This was attended by 40 participants (18 female) from Zhemgang, Tsirang, Gelephu and Sarpang.	Completed	Planned: Feb Actual: April	Planned Nu. 76,556.88 Actual Nu. 76,556.88
Output 4.1: Institutional, human and financial resource base strengthened in support of long term knowledge management for sustainable, climate resilient forest and agricultural systems				
4.1.1: Review and document existing information and lessons on integrated landscape management and climate change resilience	Recruited local consultant to review and document existing information and lessons on ILM and CC resilience.	On-going	Planned: June Actual:Q3	Planned Nu. 1,283,000.00 Actual Nu. 650,000.00 Rest amount will be used to complete the activity next quarter.
Output 4.2: Enhanced generation, documentation and sharing of knowledge and best practices in sustainable management of forest and agricultural landscapes and climate resilient livelihood practices				
4.2.1: Communication strategy development	Developed communication strategy for the project.	Completed	Planned: Jan Actual: March	Planned Nu. 284,000.00 Actual Nu. 254,000.00

4.2.3. Support national and regional focus group discussions and exchange visits on climate change adaptation and ILM, including sustainable community livelihood and HWC and innovative conservation approaches. Document and disseminate proceeding and results of above events through publication and various media.	Procured laptops and hard disk for Project Management Unit.	Completed	Planned: May Actual: May	Planned Nu. 896,235.00 Actual Nu. 450,000.00
Output 4.3: Knowledge sharing events organized and documented, promoting linkages between different stakeholder groups from project landscapes and national agencies				
4.3.1. Review, update and elaborate project indicator baselines, work plans and management arrangements during inception period.	Conducted inception workshop with all relevant stakeholders & progress review meeting.	Completed	Planned: Jan Actual: Jan	Planned Nu. 973,350.00 Actual Nu. 300,000.00
4.3.2: Implement impact evaluation in Year 1 (Baseline survey).	Terms of reference finalized.	On-going	Planned: June Actual: Q3	Planned Nu. 648,900.00 Actual Nu. 0
PMU management	Completed procurement of vehicle for the project, recruited project officials for PMU, procured office stationaries, furniture and laptops, conducted second project board meeting and first TACC meeting in Thimphu.	On-going	Planned: June Actual: June	Planned Nu. 4,057,424.00 Actual Nu. 3,057,424.00

3. Summary of Issues & Recommendations

Key Achievements: (Highlight the main achievements under this activity including no. of participants)	i. More than 30 acres of vulnerable land brought under sustainable land management practices. This support have the potential for increase in productivity of the paddy by more than 10 percent for 25 farmers.
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<p>reached out to/beneficiaries) disaggregated by sex/age as relevant</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. The organic products from the following group are promoted through linking program in Thimphu in June 2018. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Dagphel women group (11 female farmers from Nangkhor, Zhemgang) & Takabi women group (6 female farmers) – produces 6000 kilograms of turmeric powder every year. b. Green tea from Dragten Gewog, Trongsa (24 female and 2 male) - Camelia synses c. Bhutan herbal tea group - Chokor, Bumthang - Camomile & mint thum tea d. Gasa, Khata Gewog (51 members) - Carot, potato and garlic. <p><i>Altogether, the above mentioned group have potential to produce 6000 kg of turmeric powder and 9000 packs of herbal tea and it is expected to boost the income of the groups by additional Nu. 2 million annually with the market in Thimphu.</i></p> iii. Inputs for Post Production - Two turmeric and ginger production and marketing group from Trong Gewog under Zhemgang Dzongkhag have been supplied with the packaging equipment viz. dryers, packaging, labelling, washing and weighing machines. This support have been identified with the consultation with the group members and extension officers including LG officials. This support have benefited the 19 women in the Gewog in saving 90 percent of the time which they used to spend earlier in processing and packing the turmeric and ginger products. iv. The pressure on the forest land is reduced by sterilizing 80 native cattles and supplying 80 improved cattles. v. 250 pullets have been supplied to the farmers of Mesho and Ganjur under Lhuentse. The supply of 250 pullets in the Gewog is expected to boost income of around 30 HHs by Nu. 10,000 annually. vi. 500 number of mango & 500 number of avocado seedlings were supplied to Nimshong village to generate cash income vii. Completed development of Strategic Environment Assessment for Thimphu Structure Plan, Wildlife Habitat Enrichment Guidelines, LFMP and FMUP for Thimphu, Paro, Zhemgang, Bumthang, Wangdi, Haa. viii. Equipped field divisions (JKSNR, PNP, JSWNP, Paro, Wangdue, Thimphu, Mongar, Bumthang and Zhemgang territorial divisions) with the communication equipment such as wireless handsets, base stations and its necessary accessories. ix. Enhanced the capacity of 22 forest officials (2 female) from the field offices on sustainable forest management.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> x. Enhanced the capacity of 15 forest officials from Nature conservation division, field offices across the landscape Dzongkhag on Climate change mitigation and adaptation through the study tour to various location of Asia and America. xi. Enhanced the capacity of officials from nine field offices (JKSNR, PNP, JSWNP, Paro division, Wangdue, Thimphu, Mongar, Bumthang, Zhemgang division) on Climate change modeling for CCA functionality. xii. Enhanced the capacity 16 livestock staffs (2 female) from the dzongkhag and gewog offices on climate smart livestock raring. xiii. 90 female and 50 male farmers (spread across the landscape) are trained on edge row establishment, organic village technologies and related farming practices.
<p>Constraints & Issues: (List the constraints/problems & issues faced)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Budget incorporation The delay in incorporation of the budget and additional formalities of submitting assurance and justification letters were found tedious and time-consuming processes. ii. FACE forms As most of the implementing partners are not familiar in using FACE forms, there arises inconsistency in the data and the budget codes used leading to further delay in making fund release request. iii. Ambitious indicator Department of Livestock raised the issue that some of the indicators are so ambitious like achieving the indicator of 1000 ha of pasture land is too high and not so realistic for the department. iv. Alteration of plans The Department of Roads highlighted that their budget approval was not based on what they have proposed and led to the delay in the implementation. v. Election period The notification on the restriction of public gathering from Election Commission of Bhutan had some-how hindered awareness and other in-country capacity development programs as raised by the implementing partners. This is also causing delay in conducting public consultation and planning workshops as per the proposed plans.

<p>Recommendations: (Suggest your recommendations/remedial actions to improve implementation.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. In-order to have greater reach in the management of activities implemented by IPs, it is advisable to include PMU in any task force, core group or any other working group formed by IPs. ii. As NPPC is a more relevant agency to implement the IPM activities, it is more appropriate to include NPPC as IP rather than DoA depositing funds to NPPC for implementation. iii. In order to receive budgetary related guidance for the project, an official from the Ministry of Finance is recommended to be included in project board, TACC and other important member groups. iv. All IPs should be reminded frequently to plan considering the expected functions and events that could hinder the implementation.
<p>Additional comments (if any)</p>	

Prepared by	Name:	Deepak Acharya	Designation:	M & E Officer	Date:	8.7.2018
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Verified by	Name:	Mr. Pema Bazar	Designation:	Project Manager	Date:	9.7.18
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