

## STANDARD PROGRESS REPORT

**FINANCIAL YEAR: 2019**

**REPORTING Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2019**

### 1. AWP Details

<b>Program Outcome:</b>	<b>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.</b>
<b>Program Output:</b>	<b>Solutions developed at national and sub national levels for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste.</b>
<b>Project:</b>	<b>Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience of Forest and Agriculture Landscape and Community Livelihoods in Bhutan</b>
<b>Implementing Agency:</b>	<b>Gross National Happiness Commission</b>
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>Mr. Pema Bazar</b>

### 2. Activity Progress Details

<b>Activities from AWP</b>	<b>Short Description of activities implemented</b>	<b>Status of implementation</b>	<b>Activity Dates (quarter)</b>	<b>Budget in Nu.</b>
<b>Outcome 1. Enhanced institutional capacity for integrated landscape management (ILM) and climate change resilience.</b>				

<b>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.</b>				
1.1.1 Conduct an analytical review to identify gaps, conflicts and inconsistencies in existing sectoral and inter-sectoral policy, planning and legal frameworks for developing climate-resilient integrated landscape management and climate resilient communities including investment policy and take forward recommendations with key stakeholders, in coordination with related initiatives such as HANAS, BIOFIN CPEIR and BTF.	Completed review of the RNR sector and growth analysis (policies, management regime and institution) and risk assessment by hiring the national consultant.	Completed	June 2019	Total: Nu. 250,664 Spent: Nu. 250,664
1.1.2 Assess existing capacity gaps and develop institutional capacity of MOAF and related agencies to plan and implement integrated landscape management, climate change adaptation and community development.	Trained 10 Dzongkhag Agriculture Officers (1 female officer) on Climate Smart Agriculture and Adaptation in Bangkok, Thailand for 10 days from 13 <sup>th</sup> to 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2019; Enhanced the capacity of 4 officials (1 female) from the PPD, MoAF through short course on climate change adaptation and project financing for 14 days in April 2019.	Completed	June 2019	Planned: Nu. 1,055,400 Spent: Nu. 1,055,400
<b>Output 1.2. Strengthened monitoring systems for forest condition, biodiversity status and carbon stocks in DoFPS</b>				
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.	Conducted technical workshop on Data Management at Kasetsart University, Bangkok from 29 <sup>th</sup> June to 3 <sup>rd</sup> July, 2019. The workshop was attended by 4 forestry officials (1 female) from FRMD and field divisions.	Completed	June 2019	Planned: Nu. 703,600.00 Spent: Nu. 703,600.00

1.2.2: Support the roll out of national METT+ for BC and PA and ensure consistency with GEF6 Biodiversity tracking tool requirements for project sites.	Bhutan METT+ Questionaries' for Parks reviewed and tested to be used for BCs; 40+ staffs including 15 female (CFOs, BC Focals, and Range Officers) trained on its use and methods; 8 BCs completed its internal assessment using the standard Bhutan METT+.	Completed	May 2019	Planned: Nu. 1,080,834.00 Spent: Nu. 1,080,834.00
1.2.3 Establish national protocols for monitoring habitats and biodiversity for the BC/PA system and develop capacity for targeted biological monitoring systems. (NCD)	50+ officials (10 female) were introduced on KBA and its Global Standards through the workshop at Paro held in April 2019.	Completed	June 2019	Planned: Nu. 1,055,400.00 Spent: Nu. 1,055,400.00
<b>Output 1.3. Sustainable financing system for biological corridor and PA system and sector-oriented valuation policy and tools developed to measure ecosystem services benefits.</b>				
<b>Output 1.4. Strengthened national systemic and institutional capacity for management of the biological corridor and PA system</b>				
1.4.2. Develop a strategic plan for strengthening governance and operationalizing the BC system including reporting system, staffing standards for BC/PA management (human resource requirements, job descriptions, etc.), and training modules on BC/PA management subjects including climate change adaptation measure. Incentive mechanisms for increasing motivation of field staff, mechanisms for engagement of local stakeholders (e.g. community groups) to participate in BC/PA management / information gathering, mechanisms for coordination of. BC/PA management.	BC Governance Regulation finalized and approved by TAC, DoFPS; More than 40+ officials (10 female) were made aware on the document through awareness workshop.	Completed	June 2019	Planned: Nu. 43,950 Spent: Nu. 43,950

1.4.3. Raise awareness and understanding of the BC system concept, conservation and socio-economic benefits, and the law and regulations that govern them among stakeholders at national level.	A comprehensive information on Bhutan's Protected Area published in Happiness Journal: Co-funded for production of TV spot on Wildlife feeding (monkeys) in both the languages (English and Dzongkha); Developed signage on importance of not feeding the wild animals and distributed for installation at strategic locations; Awareness on forest fires and formation of FFV (Forest Fire Volunteers) groups in 6 Gewogs of Haa.	Completed	June 2019	Planned: Nu. 80,530.00 Spent: Nu. 80,530.00
<b>Output 1.5: Enhanced planning and monitoring capacity for sustainable forest management in FMUs and LFMPs.</b>				
1.5.3. Support field studies and lab analysis to improve the accuracy of estimation of growing stock for sustainable management planning, and training for the inventory data management system.	Updated volume equation for 8 species of commercial wood (Completed data collection, data analysis and interpretation, modeling and report compilation).	Completed	June 2019	Planned: Nu. 1,150,000 Spent: Nu. 1,150,000
1.5.6. Prepare LFMPs in the project landscapes (5 of the total 38 gewogs already have LFMP as of May 2016)	Developed local forest management plan for two Gewogs in Haa and Zhemgang (Gakeling & Bjoka).	Completed	June 2019	Planned: Nu. 439,750 Spent: Nu. 439,750
<b>Outcome 2. Biological corridor governance and management established and demonstrated</b>				
<b>Output 2.1: Conservation management plans integrating CCA needs in place for the four BCs in the target project landscapes.</b>				
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.	Primary desktop analysis completed for revision of BC boundary and re-validation; Workshop conducted to train field staffs on the methodologies of ground verification; Field works for validation initiated in BCs	Ongoing	June 2019	Planned: Nu. 3,524,310 Spent: Nu. 3,524,310

2.1.3. Carry out field surveys in BC8 using biodiversity and socio-economic survey methods integrating appraisal of climate vulnerabilities and risks, and prepare a climate-adaptive conservation management plan for BC8.	Training workshop on BC management plan survey completed and trained staffs from Wangdue, Bumthang and Mongar in May 2019; Survey equipment procured and Biodiversity survey data collection completed for Biological Corridor 8.	Completed	June 2019	Planned: Nu. 2,256,881.60 Spent: Nu. 2,256,881.60
<b>Output 2.2: Governance operationalized and management effectiveness enhanced for the targeted biological corridors, including strengthened personnel capacity.</b>				
2.2.2. Raise awareness and understanding of the BC/PA concept, goals, regulations and conservation/ socio-economic benefits among the local stakeholders	Awareness training on BC concepts, goal, regulations and importance is conducted for three forestry field divisions (Zhemgang, Wangdue and Bumthang).	Completed	June 2019	Planned: Nu. 351,800 Spent: Nu. 351,800
<b>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.</b>				
2.3.2. Institute biological monitoring system for key ecosystems and species, including high resolution mapping, in the target BCs and adjoining PAs and train their staff in the application of the monitoring system	Completed development and testing of the Biodiversity Monitoring protocol through workshop and practical session in Gelephu in May 2019.	Completed	June 2019	Planned: Nu. 4,173,383.48 Spent: Nu. 4,173,383.48
<b>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.</b>				
2.4.1 Review and update/ strengthen Bhutan National HWC Management Strategy 2008 progressively as a living strategic document.	Developed Human wildlife strategy of Bhutan (2018-28).	Completed	June 2019	Planned: Nu. 781,233.00 Spent: Nu. 781,233.00

<b>Outcome 3: Livelihood options for communities are more climate-resilient through diversification, SLM and climate-smart agriculture.</b>				
<b>Output 3.1: Strengthened climate resilience and productivity of agricultural and livestock management.</b>				
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.	Completed development of land use report for all 18 SLM Gewogs; 135 ac of land spread across SLM in 3 model brought under villages and 76.9 ac in Trongsa and Mongar brought under SLM practices; Completed maintenance of erosion plots at ARDCs in Samtenling, Wengkhari, Tsirang and Tintibi; Importance on SLM was aired on BBS coinciding with world day to combat desertification; 6 officials (2 female) attended two weeks study visit in Thailand.	Completed	June 2019	Planned: Nu. 5,757,306.31  Spent: Nu. 5,757,306.31
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.	12 Nos. of biogas plants constructed benefitting 9 female and 3 Male headed household under Saling Gewog (Tsanjabi village); 63.7 acres of land in Saling and Tsamang Gewog were brought under perennial fodder by supporting the seedlings and fencing materials for 36 beneficiaries (30 female and 6 male). The fencing materials were supplied in cost sharing of 40 % from beneficiaries; 83 acres of land brought under pasture land by supporting 2000 kgs of oats seeds, 120 kgs of perennial pasture seeds, 16000 Nos. of hybrid slips. The support benefits 117 farmers (50 female) of Chudzom and Jigmecholing;	Completed	Planned: June 2019; Completed: March 2019	Planned: Nu. 3,004,007 Spent Nu. 3,004,007

	Constructed silo pits benefiting 20 farmers (8 females) in Chudzom and Jigmecholing; 25 acres of pasture land developed (23 beneficiaries with 19 female); Capacity building was conducted for the youth group (15 youths, 4 female) on group management, fodder establishment, fodder management, fodder conservation; 2 Nos. of cutters and two numbers of grain mills were procured and distributed to the youth group; 2 weeks long refresher course for Artificial Insemination (AI) Technicians (AIT) / field staff (20 staffs, 5 female) of West Central Region was conducted from 22nd April to 5th May, 2019 at RNR EC Mendelgang, Tsirang Dzongkhag;			
3.1.5. Enhance institutional capacity at dzongkhag and gewog levels for extension services to promote sustainable land management, climate-resilient agricultural and low-emission livestock practices.	3 Gewog Officials were trained on climate change and its impact on livestock farming through a study tour to Kathmandu for 7 days in February 2019; 6 Officials were trained on SLM and bioengineering through study visit to Thailand for two weeks in April 2019.	Completed	June 2019	Planned: Nu. 1,749,079 Spent: Nu. Nu. 1,749,079
<b>Output 3.2: Community livelihoods strengthened and sources of income diversified and enhanced in the target landscapes</b>				
3.2.1. Promote value addition in supply chains of priority climate resilient commodities (DAMC).	Completed feasibility study for supply of Kharang Processing machines to Lhuentse and Mongar; Procured French fry production equipment;	Ongoing	June 2019	Planned: Nu. 1,681,495.91 Spent: Nu. 1,431,495.91

	Completed cost analysis for Yogurt production in Mongar, Lhuentse, Zhemgang and Trongsa;			
3.2.2. Promote organic commercialization of organically produced farm produces through cooperatives system (certification, branding, marketing: value chain development).	Trained 98 farmers (53 female) from Segor, Washokpa, Oongar and Trongthrom Gewogs through training on basic principles of organic farming, registration and certification for NWFP/CF groups; Enhanced the capacity of livestock extension officers from Zhemgang, Sarpang, Trongsa and Tsirang on Bhutan Organic Standard (BOS) and registration & certification.	Completed	June 2019	Planned: 381,984.00 Spent: Nu. 320,000
<b>Output 3.3: Transformation of market access is demonstrated for selected rural communities to enhance their climate resilience</b>				
3.3.1. Develop Climate resilient guidelines for design and construction of climate resilient road infrastructure, adapting to existing EFRC guidelines and standards.	Conducted core group meeting for planning of GC road; supported monitoring of the sites at Wangdigang – Korphu GC road.	Ongoing	June 2019	Planned: Nu. 124,185.00 Spent: Nu. 124,185.00
3.3.2. Improve and upgrade prioritized Gewog Connectivity road stretches for enhanced climate resilience.	Constructed two crib walls each of and one concrete crib wall across the Wangdigang – Korphu GC Road; Awarded the works for construction of climate resilient Nimshong – Shingkhar GC road.	Ongoing	June 2019	Planned: Nu. 14,587,711 Spent: Nu. 14,587,711
3.3.3. Improve marketing infrastructure through development of post-harvest	Completed feasibility study for supply of small grain silos, medium size cold storage for apples, orange, potato and	Ongoing	June 2019	Planned: Nu. 1,081,074.00 Spent: Nu. 756,751.80



storage , packaging, processing and sales facilities	vegetables, however the supply of the equipment will be implemented in coming quarter based on the findings from this study; Completed cost analysis for sales facilities at Trongsa and Zhemgang and identified the sites for the construction of the BCOOP shops.			
3.3.4 Improve rural community access to market and weather/climate information, including commodity prices either through Gewog community information centers, farm shops, mobile applications, mass media or other innovative applications (DAMC)	Conducted 3 consultation meeting with Department of Information Technology, Government to Citizen Service, Tashi Cell and Bhutan Telecom to discuss merging and upgradation of IVR service (RNR app for commodity price); Procured 4 weather server and 4 laptops for upgradation of weather stations.	Completed	June 2019	Planned: Nu. 4,285,018.00 Spent: Nu: 3,000,500
<b>Project Management Unit</b>				
PMU management	Conducted Quarterly Review Meeting, TACC Meeting and Project Board Meeting; Conducted site visits, paid the salary for the project staffs,	Completed	June 2019	Planned: Nu. 1,512,406 Spent: 1,512,406

### 3. Summary of Issues & Recommendations

<b>Key Achievements:</b> (Highlight the main achievements under this activity including no. of participants reached out to/beneficiaries)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brought 211.9 acres of land under sustainable land management (SLM) practices and improved the livelihood option for 96 HHs comprising 527 farmers (218 female) across 6 SLM Dzongkhags.</li> <li>Brought 171 acres of land under pasture land benefiting 176 farmers (99 female) in Tsamang, Saling, Jigmecholing, Chudzom and Shingkhari Gewogs spread across Mongar, Zhemgang and Sarpang.</li> </ul>
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disaggregated by sex/age as relevant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Constructed 12 biogas in Saling Gewog (Tsanjabi village), 5 in Tsentu - Paro and 3 in Chang - Thimphu at household level benefitting 114 people (53 female).</li> <li>• Constructed two timber crib walls and one concrete crib wall across Wangdigang – Korphu GC road and stabilized critical land slide areas.</li> <li>• Developed Human Wildlife Conflict strategy (2018 – 2028), Conducted review of the RNR sector and growth analysis (policies, management regime and institution) and risk assessment.</li> </ul>
<b>Constraints &amp; Issues:</b> (List the constraints/problems & issues faced)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited access to machines from the public hiring agencies had delay some of the SLM activities in the project landscape.</li> <li>• Farmers are not readily taking the support of biogas in some Gewogs under project landscape</li> <li>• Shortage of fund for the 3 irrigation schemes in Tsirang, Punakha and Haa.</li> </ul>
<b>Recommendations:</b> (Suggest your recommendations/remedial actions to improve implementation.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommended NSSC to focus more towards development of terrace and terrace consolidation as this SLM technology have higher value in the livelihood of the communities as compared to other SLM technologies.</li> <li>• Explore the land terracing for the land whose elevation is higher than the 25 degrees.</li> </ul>
<b>Additional comments</b> (if any)	

<b>Prepared by</b>	Name:	Deepak Acharya	Designation:	M & E Officer	Date:	03.07.2019
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<b>Verified by</b>	Name:	Mr. Pema Bazar	Designation:	Project Manager	Date:	03.07.2019
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