

STANDARD PROGRESS REPORT
FINANCIAL YEAR: 2019
REPORTING Date: 3rd January 2020

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	Description of activities implemented	Status	Planned Budget (Nu.)	Expenditure (Nu.)
Outcome 1. Enhanced institutional capacity for integrated landscape management (ILM) and climate change resilience.				
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.				

1.1.2 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 the officials from DoA (Central, Dzongkhags and Gewogs) on Climate Smart Agriculture practices in Maharashtra for 10 days.	Ongoing	1,369,240.00	1,369,240.00
1.1.3 Provide TA and decision support tools for holistic and comprehensive integrated land use planning for the project landscapes through zonation (including BCs / PAs /wetlands / Settlements /Agricultural Land /Disaster Risk Reduction /Development) for effective future conservation and planning. Review and refine BC system delineation.	Completed two consultation meetings with Nature Conservation Division and National Land Commission in September and October 2019. The meeting was attended by 16 Officials (4 female).	On going	1,105,470.00	1,105,470.00
Output 1.2. Strengthened monitoring systems for forest condition, biodiversity status and carbon stocks in DoFPS				
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.	The METT+ awareness to the parks and BCs completed	Completed	15,466.00	15,466.00
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)	3-day workshop was conducted at Paro for developing the guidelines for identifying and management of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) in Bhutan for monitoring habitats and biodiversity. The next activity in line is to train the staff from Parks and BCs on using the guideline for identifying KBA in their respective jurisdictions.	Completed	381,400.00	381,400.00
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.				
Output 1.4. Strengthened national systemic and institutional capacity for management of the biological corridor and PA system				

1.4.1 Review and revise/ update Biological Corridor Regulations (BC 2007 Rule) to optimize BC functionality and strengthen legal basis for governance.	Consultation workshop with local governments (Tsirang, Sarpang, Dagana and others) for revision/review of FNCA guidelines.	Ongoing	690,700.00	690,700.00
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.	Awareness workshop on rules and regulations of PA/BC have been conducted in Punakha and Haa Dzongkhag. The workshop was attended by 30 forestry officials (10 female) and more than 60 local communities of the Punakha and Haa.	Completed	345,350.00	345,350.00
Output 1.5: Enhanced planning and monitoring capacity for sustainable forest management in FMUs and LFMPs.				
1.5.1 Review and update planning, implementation and monitoring guidelines, including new inventory data management system, for FMUs and LFMPs taking into account new SFM needs including integration of climate resilience, carbon sequestration, and biodiversity conservation functions and values of FMUs and LFMPs	LFMP guidelines have been revised and updated, endorsed by Technical Advisory Committee; Training on new forest inventory methods and techniques have been provided to forest officials of Paro and Bumthang Territorial Division (15 officials, 3 female).	Ongoing	1,800,000.00	1,800,000.00
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). The data has been collected from Tashiyangtse, Longchu, Dzonlala, and Ligmethang.	Completed	345,000.00	345,000.00
1.5.5 Development/Revision of Management Plan Dawathang and Selela FMUs (Bumthang and Paro Dzongkhag respectively)	Data from Dawathang and Selela FMU have been collected and FMU plan writing is ongoing which is subject to approval from the Technical Advisory Committee. Upon completion of this	Ongoing	1,400,000.00	1,400,000.00

	plan, 26,690 Ha of forest will be brought under sustainable management forest practices in Selela and Dawathang Forest Management Unit.			
1.5.6. Prepare LFMPs in the project landscapes (5 of the total 38 gewogs already have LFMP as of May 2016)	Data on the inventory of the forest resources have been completed for 7 Gewogs (Chudzom, Sergithang, Jigmecholing, Tsamang, Jarey, Nahi and Dagachu) and the plan writing for LFMP is ongoing. Upon completion of the plan writing and implementation, 203,000 Ha of forest land will be brought under sustainable management practices.		1,720,000.00	1,720,000.00
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 LGs and Dzongkhag Officials to identify the potential MRG members.	Ongoing	1,055,400.00	1,055,400.00
1.6.2 Build capacity of local government MRG on mainstreaming tools and integrate climate change adaptation and other cross-cutting issues into plans and programmes.	Conducted meetings with the officials from Central Government to identify the Central MRG members. The list of proposed officials and agencies are identified; however the finalization of the officials is due.	Ongoing	2,110,800.00	2,110,800.00
Outcome 2. Biological corridor governance and management established and demonstrated				
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.	A two-day meeting was held at Wangdue Forest Division for to discuss the issues arising in the BC 2 and revalidating its boundary for developing the management plan. The meeting was attended by Chiefs of NCD and WFD, together with staffs of WFD and some officials from NCD.	Ongoing	561,195.00	561,195.00
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.				
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.	Carried out rigorous consultation with the local government representatives on the National Human-wildlife conflict Management Strategy. Officials from the core working group met with gewog thridzins from the 20 dzongkhags and presented the strategy document for adoption by the local government. Views from the local leaders were also sought for addressing the pressing issues and approaches such as stone wall construction, bio fencing, and barbed wire fencing were identified aside from electric fencing to protect crops from predation. Focal person for dealing with Human-wildlife conflict issues has been identified from all the protected areas and forest divisions. All the focal	Ongoing	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00

	officers were called to Thimphu for consultation meeting on identifying the HWC hotspots throughout the country, which is one of the key strategies for addressing HWC, as reflected in the HWC strategy document.			
Outcome 3: Livelihood options for communities are more climate-resilient through diversification, SLM and climate-smart agriculture.				
Output 3.1: Strengthened climate resilience and productivity of agricultural and livestock management.				
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.	15 acres of land in Radi has been brought under terrace and works on 15 more acres is ongoing; 53 acres of land in Tsamang and Saling is brought under terraces; 28 acres in Sherabling Chudzom have been terraced and terracing work is ongoing in additional 15 acres of land in Chudzom; 27 acres of dry land have been terraced in Gangzur, Jarey and Methso (Lhuentse); 2.5 acres of smaller terraces were consolidated in Ganjur Gewog; 8 acres land have been brought under SLM practices in Bjee and Samar Gewog in Haa; 12 acres of land in Nabji have been terraced; Conducted soil survey in 11 gewogs in Punakha; 22 Officers (8 female) have been trained on SLM in Thailand; 30 acres of land in Tasebji have been brought under terraces and terrace consolidation; 200 Ha of land brought under SLM (Trongsa, Tsirang, Haa and Punakha).	Ongoing	3,531,640.00	3,531,640.00

3.1.2 Develop and promote climate-smart agricultural practices through support of climate resilient crop varieties and Integrated Pest Management (DoA)	Conducted consultation meeting with the ARDCs officials on the selection, purification and maintenance of local varieties; Procured and supplied seeds to ARDCs for distribution to the farmers.	Ongoing	1,400,000.00	1,400,000.00
3.1.3 Support watershed management and irrigation interventions through irrigation channel construction, rehabilitation, small-scale reservoir construction and innovative irrigation approaches (AED)	Completed and handed over the Irrigation scheme in Haa; completed the irrigation scheme in Punakha, however handing taking to the community is due.	Completed	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00
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.	3 acres of forage has been developed at Mendrigang and Sergithang Gewogs, Tsirang; 2.6 acres of leguminous forage has been developed; 110 acres of leguminous forage has been developed in Ura, Bumthang; 200 Ha of pasture land developed in Mongar Dzongkhag.	Completed	1,730,000.00	1,730,000.00
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.	22 Officials (8 female) were trained on sustainable land management in Thailand in August 2019; 7 officials (one female, 6 male) were sent for 8 days study visit to ICIMOD, Nepal for exposure and to gain deeper understanding of technologies related to climate smart livestock farming in the mountain ecosystem.	Completed	700,000.00	700,000.00
Output 3.2: Community livelihoods strengthened and sources of income diversified and enhanced in the target landscapes				

<p>3.2.1. Promote value addition in supply chains of priority climate resilient commodities (DAMC).</p>	<p>Conducted a 3-day training on dairy product diversification to 115 dairy farmers (38 female, 77 male) and milk processors of Bjee Gewog under Haa Dzongkhag; 20 extension officials (3 female and 17 male) from Dzongkhag attended the dairy post production training in Wangdue; Procurement of the processing unit equipment for Samar Gewog is ongoing; Conducted market feasibility study for potato French fry and chips, maize Kharang, immature corn tengma and valued added tengma.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>5,193,000.00</p>	<p>5,193,000.00</p>
<p>3.2.2. Promote organic commercialization of organically produced farm produces through cooperatives system (certification, branding, marketing: value chain development).</p>	<p>Supplied low cost poly house to 9 vegetable groups (consisting of 155 HHs); Conducted consultation meeting to discuss the organic honey production. The meeting involved 21 members(16 Male and 5 Female) of Patshaling seepjam Detshen and Officials from NOP, extension agent and the gewog gup; Conducted a consultation meeting to discuss the concept of model organic village to prioritize the commodity for certification and plan the activities for the coming season and this meeting involved the members of 9 vegetable groups in Chudzom; Conducted TOT cum farmers training on basic principles and practices of organic</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>3,710,764.00</p>	<p>3,710,764.00</p>

	<p>agriculture and certification for 40 farmers (38 Male, 2 Female); Conducted field visit to Thailand to learn the organic farming practices in Thailand; Field visit was made to INHERE, Uttarkand, Delhi to train 13 participants (private farms, extension offices and research centers) on organic agriculture Total of 13 people participated; TOT conducted for 38 officials from 20 Dzongkhags, Central programmes, Research centers and project ((33 male and 5 Female) on principles of organic agriculture, soil fertility management, plant protection, product development, Seed production and Bhutan Organic Guarantee system (BOGS) in organic agriculture.</p>			
<p>3.2.3 Pilot community-based crop and livestock insurance schemes in selected hot spot areas to provide protection and mitigation against climate and wildlife damage risks, including CD building at Dzongkhag and community level (GECC)</p>	<p>Conducted a consultation meeting involving the officials from research centers, Department of Agriculture, Nature Conservation Division and Project Management Unit. The meeting discussed and reviewed the assessment conducted by DoA on Human Wildlife Conflicts and Insurance schemes implemented and gaps of such schemes.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>1,000,000.00</p>	<p>500,000.00</p>

3.2.4 Safeguard environmental services (PES, PWS and REDD+) and generate alternative revenue streams through watershed protection (WMD)	Consultation with key stakeholders completed & Field officials in Sarpang Dzongkhag trained on the PES; Conducted public consultation in Wamling, Langthel Gewog; Completed rapid assessments of watersheds in Sarpang Dzongkhag through consultation with the farmers of 12 Gewogs; Trained Forestry officials on the use of watershed classification guideline 2016 (2 days for 26 staffs); Transferred 200,000 to irrigation division for formation of water user group.	Ongoing	2,820,000.00	2,820,000.00
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.	Conducted core group meeting for finalization of Climate resilient road construction guidelines; Conducted two monitoring visits to Korphu and Shingkar Gewog to monitor the field works of crib wall and GC road construction.	Ongoing	100,000.00	100,000.00
3.3.2. Improve and upgrade prioritized Gewog Connectivity road stretches for enhanced climate resilience.	Awarded the road construction to Dungkar Construction Private Limited in November 2019 and paid the mobilization advance.	Ongoing	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00
3.3.3. Improve marketing infrastructure through development of post-harvest	Construction of Sunday market shed in Ligmethang, farm shop in Sangbaykha, Ginger and turmeric processing unit in	Ongoing	6,474,322.20	6,474,322.20

storage , packaging, processing and sales facilities	Zhemgang and BCoop shop in Zhemgang are ongoing.			
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)	Procured 4 weather server and 4 laptops for upgradation of weather stations. The installation work is ongoing at the field.	Ongoing	1,284,518.00	1,284,518.00
3.3.5 Develop capacity of farmers to recognize market risks, linkages and explore opportunities to maximize value addition in the supply chain.	CD for imparting the capacity of the farmers in exploring and linking to the potential market is ongoing; Completed exchange visit by one official to India for International Cooperative Alliance.	Ongoing	3,200,000.00	3,200,000.00
Component 4. Knowledge Management				
4.2.2 Identify, Prioritize and document best practices and traditional knowledge in sustainable land and forest management and climate resilient livelihoods practices.	Conducted the field visit to the irrigation construction site to monitor and verify the works of contractor and to observe the handing taking event in Haa and Punakha.	Completed	703,600.00	703,600.00
4.2.3 Support national and regional focus group discussions and exchange visits on climate change adaptation and integrated landscape management, including sustainable community livelihoods and HWC and innovative conservation approaches. Document and disseminate proceedings and	Conducted ex country exchange visit to learn the international best practices by officials from GNHC and MoAF.	Completed	979,880.00	979,880.00

results of above events through publication and various media.				
4.2.4 Develop and manage project website, or web pages hosted by other organizational websites / social media: Maintain and update the website regularly with project news, publications, progress reports and other appropriate electronic communication materials, and with discussion forum and links to websites of all major stakeholder organizations including Dzongkhag websites	Conducted the visit by UNDP and PMU to document the best cases from the project implementation sites.	Ongoing	70,360.00	70,360.00
Project Management Unit				
PMU management	Conducted Quarterly Review Meeting, conducted site visits, paid the salary for the project staff	Completed	1,717,144.50	1,717,144.50

3. Summary of Issues & Recommendations

Key Achievements: (Highlight the main achievements under this activity including no. of participants reached out to/beneficiaries) disaggregated by sex/age as relevant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brought 190 acres of land under sustainable land management (SLM) practices and improved the livelihood option for 64 HHs (384 farmers including 155 female) • Brought 229,000 Ha of forest under sustainable forest management through development of local forest management plan and forest management unit management plan in seven gewogs and two FMUs. • Brought 115 acres of land into pasture land thereby improving the nutrients supply to the cattle in Gewogs under Zhemgang, Bumthang, Tsirang and Sarpang.
Constraints & Issues: (List the constraints/problems & issues faced)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited access to the machines for land development activities. • Delay in completion of some of the activities in the Dzongkhags and Gewog like construction of the farm shops and Sunday market shed.

<p>Recommendations: (Suggest your recommendations/remedial actions to improve implementation.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommended Dzongkhags to carry out the small feasibility studies before proposing to central agencies and PMU into the plans and getting fund released. In some cases, the implementation is not feasible after getting fund released owing to inaccessibility of the land. • Conduct the small need assessment before procuring the equipments for supply to the implementing agencies in the Dzongkhags. In some cases, it is observed that the central agencies procures equipment for field and in the lateral stage, it is known that those equipment are not required in the field.
<p>Additional comments (if any)</p>	

Prepared by	Name:	Deepak Acharya	Designation:	M & E Officer	Date:	03.01.2020
--------------------	-------	----------------	--------------	---------------	-------	------------

Verified by	Name:	Mr. Pema Bazar	Designation:	Project Manager	Date:	03.01.2020
--------------------	-------	----------------	--------------	-----------------	-------	------------

