



Nepal: COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Project (P173760)

SOUTH ASIA | Nepal | Health, Nutrition & Population Global Practice |
IBRD/IDA | Investment Project Financing | FY 2020 | Seq No: 5 | ARCHIVED on 19-Jun-2022 | ISR51567 |

Implementing Agencies: Government of Nepal, Ministry of Health and Population

Key Dates**Key Project Dates**

Bank Approval Date: 03-Apr-2020

Effectiveness Date: 07-Apr-2020

Planned Mid Term Review Date: 31-Oct-2022

Actual Mid-Term Review Date: 02-May-2022

Original Closing Date: 16-Jul-2022

Revised Closing Date: 15-Jul-2024

Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The project development objective is to prevent, detect and respond to the threat posed by COVID-19 and to strengthen national systems for public health preparedness in Nepal.

Has the Project Development Objective been changed since Board Approval of the Project Objective?

No

Components Table

Name

1. Emergency COVID-19 Response:(Cost \$116.50 M)
2. Community Engagement and Risk Communication:(Cost \$3.00 M)
3. Implementation Management and Monitoring and Evaluation:(Cost \$2.50 M)
4. Contingency Emergency Response Component

Overall Ratings

Name	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> High

Implementation Status and Key Decisions

Nepal has demonstrated robust progress in prevention, treatment and management of COVID-19 pandemic, particularly with strengthening its health system with necessary equipment, drugs, consumables, hygiene products and complementary skill sets, as well as vaccinating its eligible populations with safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines. This progress has been achieved largely with the in-kind support from the international community (friendly neighbors, bilateral agencies, UN and global alliances), private sector and civil society organizations). This includes, (i) full vaccination of 65 percent of Nepal's population and at least one dose provided to 74 percent of the total population. Also, 85 percent of eligible population over 12 years of age is fully vaccinated and 96 percent of eligible population over 12 years of age has received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Approximately 16 percent of population >12 years of age has received an additional dose to boost immunity against COVID-19; (ii) At least 105 public and private laboratories are fully equipped with personnel, test kits, reagents and PPE to test for COVID-19, ensuring test results within World Health Organization (WHO) stipulated standard time of 24 hours for over 93 percent of specimen; (iii) Over 78 acute health care



facilities have isolation capacity and of these at least 30 have strengthened triage capacity; (iv) Over 4,073 Intensive Care Unit (ICU) beds have been established to address needs of critically ill COVID-19 patients; (v) Cold chain capacity was augmented significantly at central and provincial levels to 280.77m³, with over 155.75m³ storage space dedicated to hold at least 17 million doses of Astrazeneca COVID-19 vaccines; (vi) and deployment of a robust plan for community engagement and risk communication with technical assistance from development partners. In the last eight months, limited use has been made of IDA resources made available to Nepal on emergency basis for its COVID-19 health response.

MPA Program Development Objective

The Program Development Objective is to prevent, detect and respond to the threat posed by COVID-19 and strengthen national systems for public health preparedness

Multiphase Programmatic Approach (MPA) Status

As of May 16, 2022, 88 MPA-projects had been approved with a total commitment of US\$4.3 billion. One operation (Guatemala) was cancelled in mid-September 2021, at the request of the Government. Six parent projects have been restructured to include vaccine-related procurement.

Total disbursements as of May 16, 2022, amount to US\$3.6 billion or 83% of overall commitments. This amount does not include disbursements under MPA-V operations which are reported together with AF-V operations. **Sixty-seven (67) country projects or 77% of projects approved have reached 70-100% disbursement** (reasons for >100% disbursements relate to fluctuations between the Euro and the SDR against the US\$). **Out of the 67 operations, 48 operations or 72% have disbursed over 90% of commitments. Of these, 30 operations are fully disbursed. There are twelve (12) operations with disbursements under 50%.** The projects are benefitting around 3.7 billion people or 50% of the global population. Of the 87 active projects: (i) 33 are in Africa – 12 in AFE and 21 in AFW; (ii) 12 in East Asia; (iii) 14 in Europe and Central Asia; (iv) 11 in Latin America and the Caribbean; (v) 8 in Middle East and North Africa; and (vi) 9 in South Asia. Eighty-six (86) or 99% of projects approved are disbursing. **Two operations closed last CY. Closing dates for several operations have been extended beyond the end of the FY; twelve (12) operations have closing dates by the end of FY22. Country teams for operations which have been under implementation for twelve months or more by June 30, 2022, are preparing Mid-Term Review (MTR) ISRs to inform the Global MPA MTR, which will be prepared early next FY.**

Streamlined procedures, delegated approvals, coupled with flexible project design and intensified efforts across the Bank have contributed to the progress. Implementation is being guided by Bank teams working in parallel with other health related projects, including Additional Financing operations supporting vaccine procurement and deployment efforts. Implementation continues to face challenges as several countries are still under different levels of mobility restrictions, and counterparts and Bank teams are operating from home or partially from home. Some Bank teams continue to conduct implementation support missions virtually, which is challenging for both Bank teams and counterparts. Bank staff are operating in a hybrid environment with some days at the office and others at home. Notwithstanding the challenges, the MPA is on track to achieve its PrDO, which is to prevent, detect and respond to the threat posed by COVID-19 and strengthen national systems for public health preparedness. The significant level of disbursements attests to the strong implementation of the Bank' response thanks to the commitment of counterparts supported by Bank country teams.

The Additional Financing (MPA AF-V) to the COVID-19 Strategic Preparedness and Response Program utilizing the Multiphase Programmatic Approach ("Global COVID-19 MPA") was approved by the Board on October 13, 2021. The AF-V is significantly expanding Bank support to client countries for COVID-19 vaccination, with the aim to support vaccination of 1 billion people globally. The AF-V was approved with an envelope of US\$12 billion (\$6 billion from IDA and \$6 billion from IBRD) in financing. **On June 30, 2021, President Malpass announced the expansion of financing available for COVID-19 vaccine financing to \$20 billion over the next 18 months, adding \$8 billion to the previously announced \$12 billion.** This financing is critical to expand affordable and equitable financing for vaccine purchase and deployment. The AF-V is expected to enable vaccination for up to 750 million people, with potential surge capacity for an additional 250 million people in the poorest countries (depending



on the delivered price of approved vaccines) while scaling support to strengthen immunization delivery, with design flexibility at the country level. The AF-V is a scale-up of planned vaccination activities anticipated and supported under the Global COVID-19 MPA and a key contribution to the WBG’s overall COVID-19 response.

As of May 16, 2022, the Bank has approved 96 operations (including MPA-V operations) to support vaccine procurement and rollout in 73 countries amounting to \$8.1 billion. The 96 operations approved, include 6 operations that involved restructuring of parent projects (Bhutan, Cameroon, North Macedonia, Philippines, and Pakistan) and in the case of Lebanon, restructuring of the Health Resilience Project. Of the 96 approved operations: (i) 54 are in Africa – 24 in AFE and 30 in AFW; (ii) 9 in East Asia and the Pacific; (iii) 10 in Europe and Central Asia; (iv) 8 in Latin America and the Caribbean; (v) 7 in Middle East and North Africa; and (vi) 8 in South Asia. Fifty (50) projects are disbursing. Twenty-two (22) new operations are under various stages of processing. **Total disbursements as of May 16, 2022, under these projects amount to US\$3.3 billion or 40% of overall commitments. Disbursements under MPA-V operations are included in this total while disbursements under the six restructured projects are counted under parent projects. Fifteen (15) operations have disbursed over 70% of their commitments.** Eighty-five (85) loan/financing agreements have been signed. Also, eighty (80) loan/financing agreements have become effective; several others are expected to become effective in the coming weeks. As with the MPA operations, streamlined procedures, delegated approval, coupled with flexible project design, and intensified efforts across the Bank have contributed to the rapid design and processing of the operations. Implementation of the AF-V operations, as with MPA operations is facing challenges as several countries are still under different levels of mobility restrictions and counterparts and Bank teams are operating in a hybrid environment with some days at the office and some at home. Also, countries are dealing with new waves of infections, as the Omicron variant continues to spread rapidly among populations.

Risks

Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool

Risk Category	Rating at Approval	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Political and Governance	Substantial	High	Substantial
Macroeconomic	Substantial	Substantial	Substantial
Sector Strategies and Policies	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Technical Design of Project or Program	Moderate	High	High
Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability	High	Substantial	High
Fiduciary	Substantial	Substantial	Substantial
Environment and Social	Substantial	Substantial	Substantial
Stakeholders	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Other	Moderate	Substantial	Substantial
Overall	Substantial	High	High

Results

PDO Indicators by Objectives / Outcomes



Prevent, detect and respond and strengthen MoHP systems for public health preparedness				
▶ Proportion of prioritized population fully vaccinated, as per protocol, disaggregated by gender (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	5.20	78.64	50.00
Date	01-Jan-2021	15-Jul-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024
Comments:	81.9% ≥ 18 years (16,108,725/19,922,164) 78.64% ≥12 years (18,343,550/23,327,6190)			
□ Proportion of prioritized female population fully vaccinated, as per protocol (Percentage, Custom Breakdown)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	55.08	50.00
Date	01-Jan-2021	15-Jul-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024
□ Proportion of prioritized male population fully vaccinated, as per protocol (Percentage, Custom Breakdown)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	44.92	50.00
Date	01-Jan-2021	15-Jul-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024
▶ Proportion of cold chain capacity gaps filled. (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	33.00	587.00	60.00
Date	01-Jan-2021	10-Sep-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024
Comments:	Available cold chain for COVID-19 vaccination: 20.8 m3 Cold chain gap for cold, ultra-cold and super cold chain: 47.8 m3 The cold chain capacity on March 15, 2022 was 280.77 m3			
▶ Proportion of female community health volunteers fully vaccinated, as per protocol (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	42.00	93.00	60.00
Date	01-Jan-2021	15-Jul-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024
▶ Proportion of vaccination sites/outreach with at least one female health care provider/volunteer (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target



Value	0.00	100.00	78.80	80.00
Date	01-Jan-2021	01-Jan-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024

Intermediate Results Indicators by Components

Emergency COVID-19 Response				
▶ Number of health staff trained in infection prevention and control per MoHP approved protocols (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	8,705.00	11,189.00	1,000.00
Date	10-Jan-2020	15-Jul-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024
Comments:	8705 as of FY 21 + 2484 till second quadrimester of FY 22. (Source: NHTC)			
▶ Percentage of specimens submitted for SARS-COV2 laboratory testing and confirmed within WHO stipulated standard time (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	97.21	93.60	90.00
Date	10-Jan-2020	15-Jul-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024
Comments:	24hrs: 93.6% 48hrs: 94.1% 72hrs: 96% (Source: NPHL)			
▶ Number of acute healthcare facilities with triage capacity (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	1.00	30.00	30.00	10.00
Date	10-Jan-2020	15-Jul-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024
Comments:	The designated hospitals for COVID response needs to have triage facility			
▶ New/rehabilitated ICU beds established in the public hospitals for managing public health emergencies (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	1,276.00	4,073.00	135.00
Date	10-Jan-2020	15-Jul-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024



Comments:	New/ rehabilitated functioning ICU Beds established at Federal and Provincial level hospitals			
► Number of designated laboratories with staff trained to conduct COVID-19 diagnosis (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	1.00	96.00	105.00	45.00
Date	10-Jan-2020	15-Jul-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024
Comments:	The designated lab to test SARS-CoV2 should have at least one trained staff.			
► Nepal has activated its public Health Emergency Operations Centre or a coordination mechanism for COVID-19 (Text, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Date	10-Jan-2020	15-Jul-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024
► Nepal adopted personal and community non-pharmaceutical interventions (schools closures, telework and remote meetings, reduce/cancel mass gatherings (Text, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Date	10-Jan-2020	15-Jul-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024
► Number of designated laboratories with COVID-19 diagnostic equipment, test kits, and reagents (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	1.00	96.00	105.00	45.00
Date	10-Jan-2020	15-Jul-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024
► Number of acute healthcare facilities with isolation capacity (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	1.00	78.00	78.00	50.00
Date	10-Jan-2020	15-Jul-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024
► A National Deployment and Vaccination Plan (NDVP) is approved and adopted (Text, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	Yes	Yes	Yes



Date	01-Jan-2021	15-Jul-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024
------	-------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

Community Engagement and Risk Communication				
▶ Symposium on surveillance, treatment and prophylaxis conducted (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.00
Date	10-Jan-2020	15-Jul-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024
Comments:	Conference and workshops at national level for advocacy, and information on surveillance, treatment and prophylaxis. The targets are the cumulative figure.			
▶ Nepal has contextualized its risk communication and community engagement strategies (Text, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Date	10-Jan-2020	15-Jul-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024
Comments:	Nepal has adopted risk communication and community engagement strategies which include development of different communication materials and dissemination through various media channels including community engagement.			
▶ Proportion of callers to COVID-19 helplines satisfied with support/services provided (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	99.06	60.00
Date	01-Jan-2021	15-Jul-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024
Comments:	4,803/5,000 rated 4 out of 5 in feedback rating (Source: Unified COVID-19 hospital for call center 1133)			
▶ Proportion of SEA/SH calls received by COVID-19 helplines referred to OCMC or Women’s Commission for appropriate support (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	100.00	80.00
Date	01-Jan-2021	15-Jul-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024
Comments:	Two cases referred to NWC and Police Cell respectively			

Implementation Management and Monitoring and Evaluation				
▶ M&E system established to monitor COVID-19 preparedness and response plan (Text, Custom)				



	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Date	10-Jan-2020	15-Jul-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024
Comments:	A monitoring, recording and reporting mechanism for COVID-19 is in place-either digital or manual.			
► Joint supervision and monitoring visits conducted (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	7.00	7.00	4.00
Date	10-Jan-2020	15-Jul-2021	15-Mar-2022	15-Jul-2024
Comments:	Joint supervision and monitoring visits to each province in July 2021			

Performance-Based Conditions

Data on Financial Performance

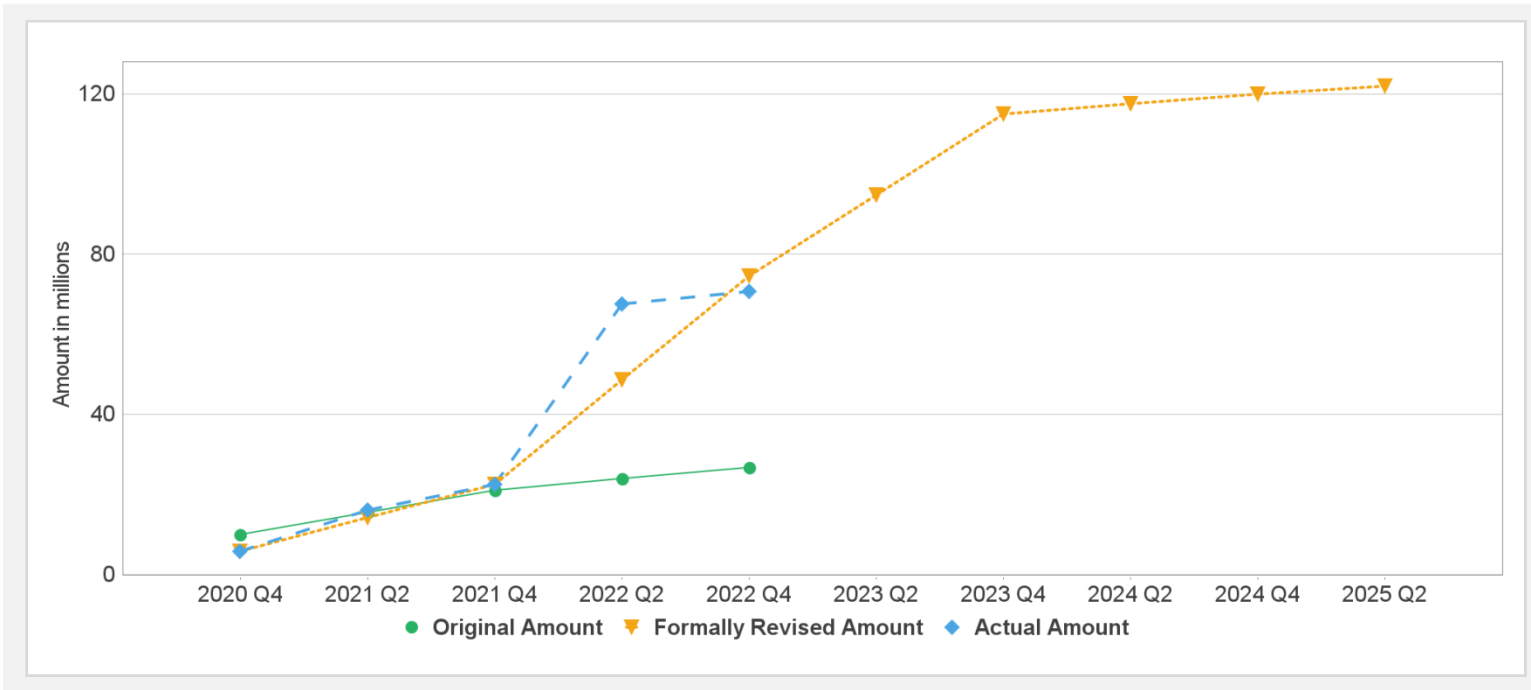
Disbursements (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	% Disbursed
P173760	IDA-66040	Effective	USD	29.00	29.00	0.00	27.14	2.35	92%
P173760	IDA-68470	Effective	USD	75.00	75.00	0.00	43.61	28.22	61%
P173760	IDA-70280	Effective	USD	18.00	18.00	0.00	0.00	17.35	0%

Key Dates (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P173760	IDA-66040	Effective	03-Apr-2020	07-Apr-2020	07-Apr-2020	16-Jul-2022	15-Jul-2024
P173760	IDA-68470	Effective	18-Mar-2021	02-Apr-2021	06-Apr-2021	15-Jul-2024	15-Jul-2024
P173760	IDA-70280	Effective	12-Jan-2022	25-Feb-2022	25-Feb-2022	15-Jul-2024	15-Jul-2024

Cumulative Disbursements



Restructuring History

Level 2 Approved on 11-May-2021

Related Project(s)

P175848-Additional Financing: Nepal COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Project ,P178205-Second Additional Financing to Nepal COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Project