



APL on Strengthening Regional Cooperation For Wildlife Protection in Asia (P121210)

SOUTH ASIA | South Asia | Environment Global Practice |
IBRD/IDA | Adaptable Program Loan | FY 2011 | Seq No: 9 | ARCHIVED on 09-Feb-2015 | ISR18132 |

Implementing Agencies: Bangladesh Forest Department, Department of Forests, Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, Ministry of Environment and Forests

Key Dates

Key Project Dates

Board Approval date:07-Apr-2011

Effectiveness Date:29-Jun-2011

Planned Mid Term Review Date:15-May-2014

Actual Mid-Term Review Date:26-May-2014

Original Closing Date:31-Dec-2016

Revised Closing Date:31-Dec-2016

Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The project aims to assist the participating governments to build or enhance shared capacity, institutions, knowledge and incentives to collaborate in tackling illegal wildlife trade and other select regional conservation threats to habitats in border areas.

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

No

Components

Name

Bangladesh: Component 1: Capacity building for addressing the illegal trans-boundary wildlife trade:(Cost \$8.30 M)

Bangladesh: Component 2: Promoting wildlife conservation in Asia:(Cost \$23.50 M)

Bangladesh: Component 3: Project coordination and communication:(Cost \$4.60 M)

Nepal: Component 1: Capacity building for addressing the illegal trans-boundary wildlife trade:(Cost \$0.90 M)

Nepal: Component 2: Promoting wildlife conservation in Asia:(Cost \$1.60 M)

Nepal: Component 3: Project coordination and communication:(Cost \$0.20 M)

Overall Ratings

Name	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	● Moderately Unsatisfactory	● Moderately Unsatisfactory



Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	● Moderately Unsatisfactory	● Moderately Unsatisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	--	● High

Implementation Status and Key Decisions

Despite the risks of India's absence in the regional operation and implementation delays, some progress in meeting the PDO is being made. The development of a sustainable regional mechanism for addressing wildlife protection and conservation is being pursued through: (i) India's signature of bilateral Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal on cross-border cooperation; (ii) Bangladesh's decision under APL 1 to assume the leadership for regional collaboration in trans-boundary wildlife protection by convening thematic meetings among the countries in the region; (iii) establishment of the Secretariat for the South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN) and endorsement of the SAWEN statute by the member countries during the Second SAWEN meeting in August 2014; and (iv) institutional capacity building for the SAWEN Secretariat under the Nepal project (APL 1) as well as a Bank-supported Institutional Development Fund (IDF) grant. Also, the enforcement agencies were strengthened in each participating country and the APL program is supporting collaboration among them. Finally, trans-boundary human wildlife conflict management initiatives are ongoing in all three APL participating countries.

Progress toward the achievement of the PDO remains moderately unsatisfactory because the national ratification of the statute for SAWEN (envisaged to be the regional mechanism for collaboration on addressing wildlife crime and protection threats) by each member country has not been completed. Also, the implementation delays of the project in Bangladesh that are critical to meeting the PDO have not been fully addressed.

BANGLADESH: Implementation progress is rated as moderately unsatisfactory largely because of the delays with the creation of cadre positions and retention of the staff for the Wildlife Circle and issues with the oversight and management of the project, including procurement. On the other hand, progress is being made with the sub-projects under Component 2.2 that began implementation in late 2013. However, disbursements currently amount to 35% of the IDA credit.

NEPAL: Implementation improved since the mid-term review in May 2014 as efforts were made to eliminate the impediments faced by the project coordination unit (PCU) from the management of the National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC) where the PCU is located. The Departments of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation and of Forests made some improvements to the monitoring of sub-project activities and maintenance of investments carried out at the field level. Disbursements presently stand at 59% of the IDA grant.

OVERALL: Although implementation progress is rated as moderately satisfactory for Nepal, the considerably larger project cost and IDA credit for Bangladesh have led to a moderately unsatisfactory rating for the project (i.e., APL 1). Discussions on the possible revisions of the results framework took place during the MTR in Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal. The extent of the changes to the project activities will depend upon the achievement of the steps in the respective action plans. The changes will have to be documented through a formal project restructuring and the amendment of legal documents on the Bank's side as well as revisions of appropriate documents/programs on the Government's side.



Risks

Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool

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

Results

Project Development Objective Indicators

► PDO 1: Progress towards the development of sustainable regional mechanisms for addressing illegal wildlife trade and other conservation threats. (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0	India signed bilateral MOUs with each of the APL countries on cooperation for wildlife protection and conservation. Institutional capacity building support for the SAWEN Secretariat is being provided under the Nepal project; recently approved IDF grant will strengthen SAWEN. BFD offered to host the Second Regional SAWEN Meeting in late 2014 plus future thematic meetings among countries in theregion	India signed bilateral MOUs with each of the APL countries on cooperation for wildlife protection and conservation. Institutional capacity building support for the SAWEN Secretariat is being provided under the Nepal project and the IDF grant. The Second SAWEN meeting took place in Nepal in August 2014. The SAWEN statute was formally endorsed by the member countries. The process towards the ratification of the statute	Establishment of Regional coordination forum by Tiger Range Countries



		with support from the IDA credit. Draft SAWEN statute was prepared and shared by the Secretariat with the member countries.	by each member government is underway.	
Date	07-Mar-2011	09-Jun-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-Dec-2016

► PDO 2: Development of at least one protocol each on a common research agenda, knowledge sharing, collaboration and division of labor. (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
Date	07-Mar-2011	09-Jun-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-Dec-2016

► PDO 3: Agreement among the enforcement agencies on at least two regional protocols, including approaches and solutions. (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00
Date	07-Mar-2011	09-Jun-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-Dec-2016

► PDO 4: Implementation of at least three regional pilots or initiatives in wildlife enforcement and conservation (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	1.00	1.00	3.00
Date	07-Mar-2011	09-Jun-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-Dec-2016

Overall Comments

Intermediate Results Indicators



► Regional 1: Development of a common conservation research program for regional wildlife management with particular emphasis on tiger conservation (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0	1	1	Yr 3: 1
Date	07-Mar-2011	09-Jun-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-Dec-2016

► Regional 2: Set up a knowledge sharing mechanism among participating countries (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0	The VRCE will be an agenda item at the proposed Second SAWEN meeting.	The countries participating in the APL held a side event at the Second SAWEN meeting to discuss the VRCE and concluded that the VRCE should be hosted under the auspices of the SAWEN Secretariat.	Yr 3: 100%
Date	07-Mar-2011	09-Jun-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-Dec-2016

► Bangladesh Component 1: Indicator 1: New draft Wildlife Conservation Act giving more powers to the Wildlife Circle approved by Parliament (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0	Completed. Approved by Parliament on July 10, 2012.	Completed. Approved by Parliament on July 10, 2012.	Yr 2 - 100%. The target has been achieved.
Date	07-Mar-2011	09-Jun-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-Dec-2013

► Bangladesh Component 1: Indicator 2: Specialized human resources in the Wildlife Circle in place with capacity to respond to wildlife crimes (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Inadequate capacity to respond to wildlife crimes	MOEF/BFD has not yet developed a strategy for the absorption of 315 new positions for the Wildlife Circle (including 130 staff recruited and trained under the project) into the Government's	MOEF/BFD submitted a proposal to the Ministry of Public Administration on the creation of 315 new cadre positions under the revenue budget for the Wildlife Circle and for preferential recruitment	Key staff absorbed in the Wildlife Circle.



		revenue budget.	of 130 staff recruited and trained under the project.	
Date	07-Mar-2011	09-Jun-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-Dec-2016

► Bangladesh Component 1: Indicator 3: Establishment and Operationalizing of Wildlife Crime Control Unit (WCCU) with at least forensic section, legal support arm and wildlife crime bank (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0	The recruitment and training of staff has progressed, but the wildlife crime bank has yet to be developed, and the legal support arm has not yet been established. The vertical extension of BFD HQ is being constructed and will house the WCCU and the forensics laboratory.	The recruitment and training of staff has progressed but the wildlife crime bank has yet to be developed, and the establishment of the legal support arm is underway. The vertical extension of BFD's headquarters building is ongoing and it will house the WCCU and the forensics laboratory.	Yr 5 - 100%
Date	07-Mar-2011	09-Jun-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-Dec-2016

► Bangladesh Component 1: Indicator 4: Establishment and operationalizing of Wildlife Center with capacity to facilitate research, education, awareness, communication and M&E (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0	Training is on track but the lack of decision on the site for the Center facilities since project launch is impeding its operationalization.	Training is on track but the operationalization of the Wildlife Center is hampered by the lack of assignment of staff funded under the Government's budget, the absence of a strategy and operational plan for the Center and procurement delays.	--
Date	07-Mar-2011	09-Jun-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-Dec-2016



► Bangladesh Component 2: Indicator 1: Identification of core breeding habitats of flagship species and promoting inviolate areas (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	--
Date	07-Mar-2011	09-Jun-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-Dec-2016

► Bangldsh Comp 2: Ind. 2: Management of wildlife corridors & buffer zones according to principles of smart green infrastructure & practices to ensure socio-economic activities are biodiversity friendly (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	--
Date	07-Mar-2011	09-Jun-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-Dec-2016

► Bangladesh Component 2: Indicator 3: Development of models based on research information for tiger and elephant conservation to reduce conflict with humans (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0	Sub-projects are underway to address HEC, THC, and Human-Langur conflict. A range of models are being tested, including fodder plantations, switching to crops less desirable to wildlife, fencing, etc.	Sub-projects are underway to address HEC, THC, and Human-Langur conflict. A range of models are being tested, including fodder plantations, switching to crops less desirable to wildlife, fencing, etc.	Yr 2 to 5 - Testing of models.
Date	07-Mar-2011	09-Jun-2014	30-Jan-2015	01-Jan-2016

► Bangladesh Component 2: Indicator 4: Identification of suitable models, and development of replication strategy and master plan for mitigating THC and HEC (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0	Suitable models for replication cannot be identified until results of subprojects are known. The Master Plan for mitigating THC and HEC would be included in the Wildlife	Suitable models for replication cannot be identified until results of subprojects are known. The Master Plan for mitigating THC and HEC would be included in the Wildlife Master Plan to	Replication strategy and master plan developed.



		Master Plan to be developed under the TA component.	be developed under the TA component. The HEC mitigation plan is at an advanced stage of development.	
Date	07-Mar-2011	09-Jun-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-Dec-2016

► Bangladesh Component 2: Indicator 5: Development and implementation of ecotourism plans to enhance the revenue earning opportunities of PAs and affected communities by 20% (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0	Sub-projects focused on eco-tourism development are underway. It is doubtful whether baseline revenue at the household or tourism entity level was assessed, which could make it difficult to measure the increase in revenues. An international Ecotourism Adviser has begun to assist in developing ecotourism plans for selected protected areas but it is not clear that the revenue target can be measured or achieved by the end of the project.	Sub-projects focused on eco-tourism development are underway. It is doubtful whether baseline revenue at the household or tourism entity level was assessed, which could make it difficult to measure the increase in revenues. An international Ecotourism Adviser is assisting BFD towards the development of ecotourism plans for selected protected areas but it is not clear that the revenue target can be measured or achieved by the end of the project.	Twenty percent increase in revenue earning opportunities.
Date	07-Mar-2011	09-Jun-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-Dec-2016

► Areas brought under enhanced biodiversity protection (ha) (Hectare(Ha), Core)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	--
Date	07-Dec-2012	09-Jun-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-Dec-2016



► Bangladesh Component 3: Indicator 1: Establishment of Regional Policy Steering Committee & Operational Steering Committee for Regional Coordination (OSCRC); and made operational (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0	The use of SAWEN as well as of thematic meetings on trans-boundary wildlife conservation issues has been proposed as the mechanism for regional coordination at both the policy and operational levels. It is anticipated that India will participate at the thematic meetings to be convened by Bangladesh with support from the IDA credit.	.The use of SAWEN as well as of thematic meetings on trans-boundary wildlife conservation issues are the current mechanisms in place for regional coordination at both the policy and operational levels. It is anticipated that India will participate at the thematic meetings to be convened by Bangladesh with support from the IDA credit. The first thematic meeting will take place in March 2015.	Both structures are fully operational.
Date	07-Mar-2011	09-Jun-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-Dec-2016

► Bangladesh Component 3: Indicator 2: Development and implementation of project communication plan (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0	A project website has not yet been developed. A draft communications strategy, developed under Component 1 will be finalized and implemented by a media firm (recruited at the time of MTR).	A project website was developed. A communications strategy, developed under Component 1 is under implementation through the services of a media firm.	Operationalization of plan is underway.
Date	07-Mar-2011	09-Jun-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-Dec-2013

► Nepal Comp 1: Indicator 1: Review of key policy and legislation to identify and rectify their implementation challenges (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
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Value	Nepal currently has - National Parks and Wildlife conservation Act, Forest Act and Forest rules	Completed. These policies have been reviewed. The key constraint identified was weak implementation rather than policy shortcomings.	Completed. These policies have been reviewed. The key constraint identified was weak implementation rather than policy shortcomings.	Updated policies and regulations fully operational.
Date	07-Mar-2011	30-May-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-May-2016

► Nepal Comp 1: Indicator 2: Establishment and operationalizing of Wildlife Crime Control Bureau with at least forensic section, legal support arm, wildlife crime units and wildlife crime bank (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0	WCCB has been created at central level and nineteen district level WCCBs established at field level. Capacity building for NAFOL(National Forensic Laboratory) and training for law enforcement agencies are ongoing.	WCCB has been created at central level and nineteen district level WCCBs established at field level. Capacity building for NAFOL(National Forensic Laboratory) and training for law enforcement agencies are ongoing.	WCCB fully operational.
Date	07-Mar-2011	30-May-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-May-2016

► Nepal Comp 1: Indicator 3: Establishment of legislation for effective compliance of CITES and set up of national CITES secretariat (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0	Nepal is signatory to CITES but needs to revise local laws and regulations to ensure more effective compliance of its obligations under CITES. Legislation to address these shortcomings has been drafted but is yet to receive parliamentary approval.	Nepal is signatory to CITES but needs to revise local laws and regulations to ensure more effective compliance of its obligations under CITES. Legislation to address these shortcomings has been drafted but is yet to receive parliamentary approval.	Legislation completed.
Date	07-Mar-2011	30-May-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-May-2016



► Nepal Comp 1: Indicator 4: Effective training programs conducted to increase capacity of staff on wildlife conservation and management and respond to illegal wildlife trade (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	--	--	--	--
Date	07-Mar-2011	30-May-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-May-2016

► Nepal Comp 2: Indicator 1: Interventions put in place to improve protection and conservation of key flagship species (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	9.00	--
Date	07-Mar-2011	30-May-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-May-2016

► Nepal Comp 2: Ind 2: Models developed to manage wildlife corridors & buffer zones on principles of Smart Green Infrastructure & practices to ensure socio-economic activities are biodiversity friendly (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	4.00	--
Date	07-Mar-2011	30-May-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-May-2016

Comments

Four ongoing pilot projects would lead to models on grassland management, invasive species management and water resources management.

► Nepal Comp 2: Ind 3: Develop of models based on research information for tiger, rhino & elephant conservation to reduce conflict with humans thereby ensuring long term conservation of these species (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0	Window 2 sub-projects: (i) Community based human-elephant conflict management in Jhapa District; (ii) improving management of Bardia National Park through habitat and human wildlife conflict management.	The Window 2 sub-projects include: (i) community based human-elephant conflict management in Jhapa District; (ii) improving management of Bardia National Park through habitat and human wildlife conflict management. Models	Yr 2 - 5 testing of models.



			will be developed based on the experiences of these sub-projects prior to the end of the project.	
Date	07-Mar-2011	30-May-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-May-2016

► Nepal Comp 2: Ind. 4: Identification of suitable models, and development of replication strategy and master plan for mitigating tiger human conflict, human elephant conflict & the rhino human conflict (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0	Based on the outcomes from the Window 2 sub- projects mentioned above, a regional replication strategy and action plan will be put in place.	Based on the outcomes from the Window 2 sub- projects mentioned above, a regional replication strategy and action plan will be put in place.	Strategy and master plan developed.
Date	07-Mar-2011	30-May-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-May-2016

► Nepal Comp 2. Indicator 5: Development and implementation of ecotourism plans to enhance the revenue earning opportunities of PAs and affected communities by 20% (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0	Procurement of consultant for assessment of ecotourism potential is underway.	A study on willingness to pay (WTP) for access to Chitwan National Park has been undertaken (not funded by the project). This could form the basis for the consultant's work. Procurement of consultant for assessment of ecotourism potential is underway.	Twenty percent increase in revenue earning opportunities.
Date	07-Mar-2011	30-May-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-May-2016



► Areas brought under enhanced biodiversity protection (ha) (Hectare(Ha), Core)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	--
Date	07-Dec-2012	30-May-2014	30-Jan-2015	31-May-2016



► Nepal Comp 3: Indicator 1: Establishment of Regional Policy Steering Committee & Operational Steering Committee for Regional Coordination; and made operational (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0	The use of SAWEN as well as of thematic meetings on trans-boundary wildlife conservation issues has been proposed as the mechanism for regional coordination at both the policy and operational levels. It is anticipated that India will participate at the thematic meetings to be convened by Bangladesh with support from the IDA credit.	The use of SAWEN as well as of thematic meetings on trans-boundary wildlife conservation issues are the current mechanisms in place for regional coordination at both the policy and operational levels. It is anticipated that India will participate at the thematic meetings to be convened by Bangladesh with support from the IDA credit.	RPSC and OSCRC fully operational.
Date	--	30-May-2014	30-Jan-2015	30-Jun-2013

Overall Comments

Data on Financial Performance

Disbursements (by loan)

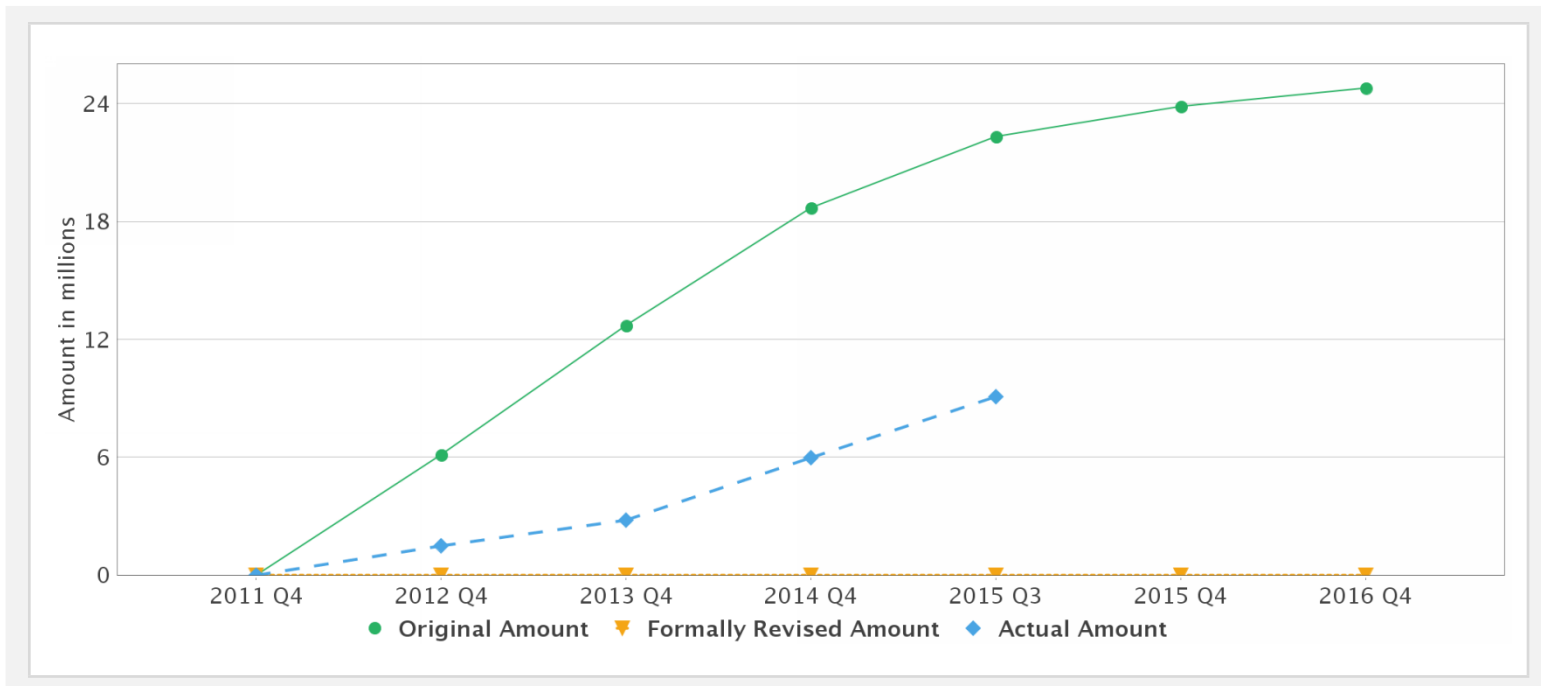
Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Disbursed
P121210	IDA-49090	Effective	XDR	22.90	22.90	0.00	7.91	14.99	 35%
P121210	IDA-H6660	Effective	XDR	2.00	2.00	0.00	1.17	0.83	 58%

Key Dates (by loan)



Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P121210	IDA-49090	Effective	07-Apr-2011	02-Jun-2011	29-Jun-2011	31-Dec-2016	31-Dec-2016
P121210	IDA-H6660	Effective	07-Apr-2011	27-Jun-2011	20-Jul-2011	31-May-2016	31-May-2016

Cumulative Disbursements



Restructuring History

Level 2 Approved on 27-Feb-2014

Related Project(s)

There are no related projects.