

**Implementation Status & Results**  
**South Asia**

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

Operation Name: APL on Strengthening Regional Cooperation For Wildlife Protection in Asia (P121210)      Project Stage: Implementation      Seq.No: 6      Status: ARCHIVED      Archive Date: 26-Sep-2013

Country: South Asia      Approval FY: 2011  
Product Line: IBRD/IDA      Region: SOUTH ASIA      Lending Instrument: Adaptable Program Loan  
Implementing Agency(ies): Bangladesh Forest Department, Department of Forests, Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, Ministry of Environment and Forests

**Key Dates**

Board Approval Date 07-Apr-2011      Original Closing Date 31-Dec-2016      Planned Mid Term Review Date 02-Dec-2013      Last Archived ISR Date 31-May-2013  
Effectiveness Date 29-Jun-2011      Revised Closing Date 31-Dec-2016      Actual Mid Term Review Date

**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?

Yes       No

**Component(s)**

Component Name	Component Cost
Bangladesh: Component 1: Capacity building for addressing the illegal trans-boundary wildlife trade	8.30
Bangladesh: Component 2: Promoting wildlife conservation in Asia	23.50
Bangladesh: Component 3: Project coordination and communication	4.60
Nepal: Component 1: Capacity building for addressing the illegal trans-boundary wildlife trade	0.90
Nepal: Component 2: Promoting wildlife conservation in Asia	1.60
Nepal: Component 3: Project coordination and communication	0.20

**Overall Ratings**

	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Unsatisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	Substantial	Substantial

**Implementation Status Overview**

Bangladesh: Progress towards achievement of PDO has been downgraded from Satisfactory to Moderately Satisfactory, largely due to the potential risks associated with India's decision not to participate in the Regional Wildlife APL and due to implementation delays. But India has demonstrated its commitment to cooperate in regional wildlife conservation through its bilateral Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) relating to wildlife and ecosystems conservations with Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal. The World Bank will explore opportunities to facilitate the engagement with India in reinforcing the goals of the Regional Wildlife APL, therefore it is anticipated that progress can be made towards achievement of the PDO. Project implementation has been downgraded from Moderately Satisfactory to Moderately Unsatisfactory on account of the delay of over one year in procurement of the TA Consultants and the Architectural and Engineering Consultants. The outputs of these two consultancies form the backbone of the project. Key capacity building initiatives are yet to commence. No civil works contracts have been awarded to date. Progress with habitat protection and management has been sluggish. Only 10% of the IDA credit has been disbursed two years since effectiveness although 26% has been committed. Project management has been weak with no full time Project Director appointed to the Project. Staffing enhancement in the PMU along with the appointment of a full time PD has been agreed by MOEF. Unless disbursements are accelerated over the next few months, the mission will have to propose project restructuring including a partial cancellation of the credit during the mid-term review scheduled tentatively for December 2013.

Nepal: Progress towards achievement of PDO has been downgraded from Satisfactory to Moderately Satisfactory due also to the potential risks associated with India's decision not to participate in the Regional Wildlife APL. Although the project was declared effective on July 20, 2011, overall implementation was delayed due to the fact that the disbursement conditions for Component 2 (50% of the overall credit amount) were complied with only on May 2, 2012. However, despite a slow start, implementation of project activities has accelerated since October 2012. Commendable progress has been made with regard to the implementation of competitive funding window 2 (innovative pilot projects with a regional dimension). MoUs for 7 sub-projects (Strengthening Wildlife Protection by Implementing MIST-based Smart Patrol System in Chitwan National Park, Habitat Management in Padampur, Chitwan National Park, Grassland and Water Resource Management in Parsa Wildlife Reserve, Strengthening Wildlife Protection in Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve, Improving Management of Bardiya National Park through habitat and human wildlife conflict management, Strengthening Wildlife Crime Control and Wildlife Protection in the Kathmandu Valley, and community based human-elephant conflict management in Jhapa district) were signed in February 2013 (first 6) and in May 2013 (last one) . Initial implementation work has commenced for all 7 sub-projects. The training to staff of the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) and the Department of Forests (DoF) in areas – such as (i) Tiger and prey base monitoring; (ii) Routine patrol based wildlife monitoring; (iii) SMART patrolling; (iv) Wildlife forensics and crime scene investigations; (v) Wildlife crime control training; (vi) Wildlife stockpile management training; and (vii) basic GIS training., has commenced in July 2013 through the Biodiversity Conservation Center (BCC). Although implementation progress is satisfactory in Nepal, considering the significantly larger program under APL 1 in Bangladesh, the overall project implementation has been rated as moderately unsatisfactory.

**Locations**

No Location data has been entered

**Results**

**Project Development Objective Indicators**

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Indicator Name	Core	Unit of Measure		Baseline	Current	End Target		
PDO 1: Progress towards the development of sustainable regional mechanisms for addressing illegal wildlife trade and other conservation threats.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	0	The countries in South Asia have made progress towards the development of a regional mechanism for addressing illegal wildlife trade with the establishment of the South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN) in 2011. Stakeholders in wildlife conservation and control of illegal wildlife trade, including representatives of countries participating in Wildlife APL 1 and 2 as well as India met at the First Regional Meeting of SAWEN in June 2012 in Sri Lanka. While SAWEN is in its infancy, it can develop over time, into a sustainable regional mechanism for addressing illegal wildlife trade and other conservation threats. Nepal is supporting institutional strengthening of SAWEN under APL 1 at present and Bangladesh propose to supplement the development of SAWEN under the project in FY13/14, including hosting the second regional meeting of SAWEN in FY13/14.	Establishment of Regional coordination forum by Tiger Range Countries		
			Date	07-Mar-2011			20-Aug-2013	31-Dec-2016
			Comments					
PDO 2: Development of at least one protocol each on a common research agenda, knowledge sharing, collaboration and division of labor.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Number	Value	0.00	0.00	1.00		
			Date	07-Mar-2011	20-Aug-2013	31-Dec-2016		
			Comments		All countries participating in the Regional Wildlife APL have National Tiger Recovery Plans which contribute towards the Global Tiger	Protocols developed and commencement of their implementation		

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					Recovery Program and the goal of doubling the number of wild tigers by 2020. Key activities of the National Tiger Recovery Plan in Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal are under implementation. In addition, the need for research on trans-boundary movement of elephants and addressing the resulting human elephant conflict (HEC) has been identified as a priority in Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal and research and knowledge sharing collaboration has been initiated.	
PDO 3: Agreement among the enforcement agencies on at least two regional protocols, including approaches and solutions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Number	Value	0.00	0.00	2.00
			Date	07-Mar-2011	20-Aug-2013	31-Dec-2016
			Comments		There has been no progress towards meeting this PDO indicator due to the delay in India's participation. However, in view of the recent developments and India's non-participation in the Regional Wildlife APL, the mission discussed alternative approaches that could be taken by Bangladesh to meet this PDO indicator in collaboration with the other participating countries.	
PDO 4: Implementation of at least three regional pilots or initiatives in wildlife enforcement and conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Number	Value	0.00	0.00	3.00
			Date	07-Mar-2011	20-Aug-2013	01-Feb-2016
			Comments		Pilot projects to address trans-boundary HEC mitigation are being supported under the Regional Wildlife APL in all three participating countries and	

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					field level activities have commenced.	
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**Intermediate Results Indicators**

Indicator Name	Core	Unit of Measure		Baseline	Current	End Target		
Regional 1: Development of a common conservation research program for regional wildlife management with particular emphasis on tiger conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	0	A National Tiger Recovery Plan has been prepared. Research areas for tiger conservation have been identified in the plan. The need for research on transboundary movement of elephants and addressing the resulting human elephant conflict (HEC) has been identified as a priority in Bangladesh and is being supported under the project.	Yr 3: 100%		
			Date	07-Mar-2011			20-Aug-2013	31-Dec-2014
			Comments					Program developed and underway.
Regional 2: Set up a knowledge sharing mechanism among participating countries	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	0	The international TA consultants will develop the foundation for the VRCE. Initially, a Bangladesh specific knowledge and information sharing platform will be developed and will be migrated towards the establishment of a regional knowledge and information sharing platform by the end of 2015.	Yr 3: 100%		
			Date	07-Mar-2011			20-Aug-2013	31-Dec-2014
			Comments					Knowledge sharing mechanism established and under implementation.
Bangladesh Component 1: Indicator I: New draft Wildlife Conservation Act giving more powers to the Wildlife Circle approved by Parliament	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	0	The Wildlife -Conservation and Security Act 2012, was approved by Parliament on July 10, 2012.	Yr 2 - 100%. The target has been achieved.		

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			Date	07-Mar-2011	20-Aug-2013	31-Dec-2013
			Comments			
Bangladesh Component 1: Indicator 2: Specialized human resources in the Wildlife Circle in place with capacity to respond to wildlife crimes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	Inadequate capacity to respond to wildlife crimes	Twenty Six national training programs completed with 735 officials of BFD trained. More sophisticated training to be undertaken inFY 14 and 15.	Key staff absorbed in the Wildlife Circle.
			Date	07-Mar-2011	20-Aug-2013	31-Dec-2016
			Comments			
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	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	0	WCCU has been established through a gazette notification and some staff for WCCU has been recruited. Institutionalization of WCCUwithin the revenue budget is underway. Formal training will commence with the TA consultants in the latter part of 2013.	Yr 5 - 100%
			Date	07-Mar-2011	20-Aug-2013	31-Dec-2016
			Comments			WCCU fully operational.
Bangladesh Component 1: Indicator 4: Establishment and operationalizing of Wildlife Center with capacity to facilitate research, education, awareness, communication and M&E	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	0	Contract staff recruited and initial training provided. Only skeletal staff have been deputed from BFD, although a head for WC hasbeen appointed. The TA consultants are working on the organizational structure of the Wildlife Center and a twinning arrangement isproposed with a regional or international wildlife training center in 2014.	
			Date	07-Mar-2011	20-Aug-2013	31-Dec-2016
			Comments			Completion of at least 50% medium term activities in the Wildlife Center's Plans.

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Bangladesh Component 2: Indicator 1: Identification of core breeding habitats of flagship species and promoting inviolate areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	Number	Value	0.00	0.00	
			Date	07-Mar-2011	20-Aug-2013	31-Dec-2016
			Comments		No progress yet.	Yr 5 - Process completed for declaring core breeding habitats of flagship species as inviolate areas.
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	<input type="checkbox"/>	Number	Value	0.00	0.00	
			Date	07-Mar-2011	20-Aug-2013	31-Dec-2016
			Comments		No progress yet.	Yr 5 - Process of regularising the guidelines initiated.
Bangladesh Component 2: Indicator 3: Development of models based on research information for tiger and elephant conservation to reduce conflict with humans	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	0	Sub-project proposals for human elephant conflict management and elephant conservation have been approved and are under implementation.	Yr 2 to 5 - Testing of models.
			Date	07-Mar-2011	20-Aug-2013	01-Jan-2016
			Comments			
Bangladesh Component 2: Indicator 4: Identification of suitable models, and development of replication strategy and master plan for mitigating THC and HEC	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	0	Plans under preparation.	Replication strategy and master plan developed.
			Date	07-Mar-2011	20-Aug-2013	31-Dec-2016
			Comments			
Bangladesh Component 2: Indicator 5: Development and implementation of ecotourism plans to enhance the revenue earning opportunities of PAs and affected communities by 20%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	0	A sub-project proposal for development of ecotourism plans and visitor carrying capacity studies have been approved and are under implementation.	Twenty percent increase in revenue earning opportunities.
			Date	07-Mar-2011	20-Aug-2013	31-Dec-2016
			Comments			
Areas brought under enhanced biodiversity protection (ha)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hectare(Ha)	Value	0.00	0.00	
			Date	07-Dec-2012	20-Aug-2013	31-Dec-2016
			Comments	Core sector indicator - Bangladesh: Component 2: Indicator 6	The areas brought under enhanced biodiversity protection can be determined only after all funding window proposal activities have been	

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					identified and funds committed.	
Bangladesh Component 3: Indicator 1: Establishment of Regional Policy Steering Committee & Operational Steering Committee for Regional Coordination (OSCRC); and made operational	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	0	First meeting to be held in October 2013 hosted by Bangladesh Forest Department.	Both structures are fully operational.
			Date	07-Mar-2011	20-Aug-2013	31-Dec-2013
			Comments			
Bangladesh Component 3: Indicator 2: Development and implementation of project communication plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	0	No plan has been developed as yet; as a joint agreement is needed. This will be on the agenda for the first regional meeting of the participating countries scheduled for October 2013. Bangladesh is in the process of recruiting a communications consulting firm to assist in developing and implementing the national communications plan.	Operationalization of plan is underway.
			Date	07-Mar-2011	20-Aug-2013	31-Dec-2013
			Comments			
Nepal Comp 1: Indicator 1: Review of key policy and legislation to identify and rectify their implementation challenges	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	Nepal currently has -National Parks and Wildlife conservation Act, Forest Act and Forest rules	These policies have been reviewed. The key constraint has been identified to be weak implementation rather than policy shortcomings. The project will strengthen key areas of policy implementation.	Updated policies and regulations fully operational.
			Date	07-Mar-2011	21-Jun-2013	31-May-2016
			Comments			
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	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	0	GoN has approved the establishment of a WCCB Secretariat within MoFSC. The Secretariat is yet to be staffed. 12 district level WCCBs have been established and are operating in Nepal. The district level WCCBs would serve as models for future	WCCB fully operational.

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					establishment of district level WCCBs for other relevant districts.	
			Date	07-Mar-2011	21-Jun-2013	31-May-2016
			Comments			
Nepal Comp 1: Indicator 3: Establishment of legislation for effective compliance of CITES and set up of national CITES secretariat	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	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.	Legislation completed.
			Date	07-Mar-2011	21-Jun-2013	31-May-2016
			Comments			
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	<input type="checkbox"/>	Percentage	Value			
			Date	07-Mar-2011	21-Jun-2013	31-May-2016
			Comments	Assessment of capacity of DNPWC and DOF staff conducted during Yr 1.	Contract for development and conducting training programs signed with the Biodiversity Conservation Center and training will commence in July 2013.	50% greater satisfactory capacity assessment against baseline based on survey.
Nepal Comp 2: Indicator 1: Interventions put in place to improve protection and conservation of key flagship species	<input type="checkbox"/>	Number	Value	0.00	0.00	
			Date	07-Mar-2011	21-Jun-2013	31-May-2016
			Comments		Sub-project proposals to address this have been approved and have commenced implementation in May 2013.	Outcome assessments are linked to regional conservation benefits.
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	<input type="checkbox"/>	Number	Value	0.00	0.00	
			Date	07-Mar-2011	21-Jun-2013	31-May-2016
			Comments		Workshop on Smart Green Infrastructure has been conducted.	Process of institutionalising the models initiated.

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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	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	0	The implementation of sub-projects has just started and models will be developed as part of the sub-projects.	Yr 2 - 5 testing of models.
			Date	07-Mar-2011	21-Jun-2013	31-May-2016
			Comments			
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	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	0	The implementation of sub-projects has just started and models will be developed as part of the sub-projects.	Strategy and masterplan developed.
			Date	07-Mar-2011	21-Jun-2013	31-May-2016
			Comments			
Nepal Comp 2. Indicator 5: Development and implementation of ecotourism plans to enhance the revenue earning opportunities of PAs and affected communities by 20%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	0	Sub-project proposals to address this are under preparation.	Twenty percent increase in revenue earning opportunities.
			Date	07-Mar-2011	21-Jun-2013	31-May-2016
			Comments			
Areas brought under enhanced biodiversity protection (ha)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hectare(Ha)	Value	0.00	0.00	
			Date	07-Dec-2012	21-Jun-2013	31-May-2016
			Comments	Core sector indicator- Nepal: Component 2: Indicator 6	The areas brought under enhanced biodiversity protection can be determined only after all funding window proposal activities have been identified and funds committed.	
Nepal Comp 3: Indicator 1: Establishment of Regional Policy Steering Committee & Operational Steering Committee for Regional Coordination; and made operational	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	0	First meeting to be held in September 2013.	RPSC and OSCRC fully operational.
			Date		21-Jun-2013	30-Jun-2013
			Comments			

**Data on Financial Performance (as of 31-Jul-2013)**

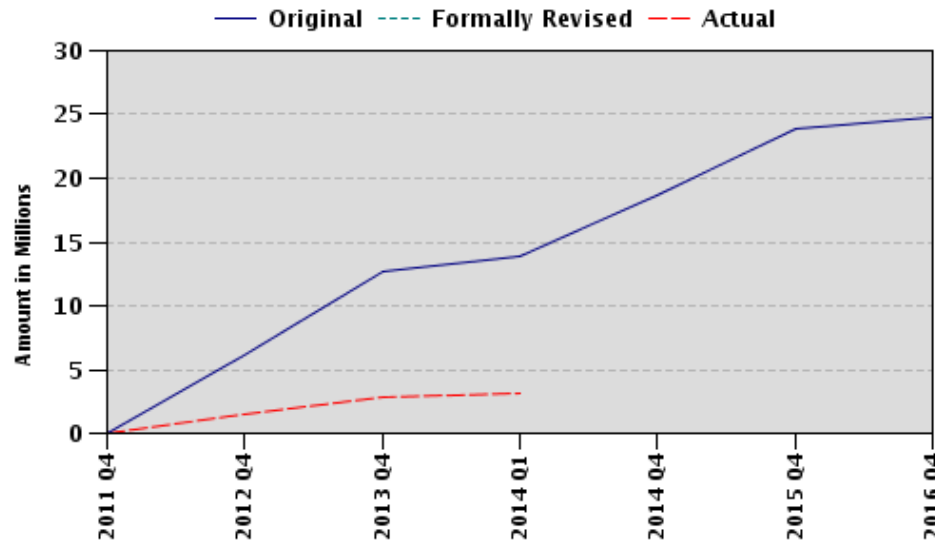
**Financial Agreement(s) Key Dates**

Project	Ln/Cr/Tf	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Original Closing Date	Revised 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

**Disbursements (in Millions)**

Project	Ln/Cr/Tf	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	% Disbursed
P121210	IDA-49090	Effective	XDR	22.90	22.90	0.00	2.57	20.33	11.00
P121210	IDA-H6660	Effective	XDR	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.51	1.49	26.00

**Disbursement Graph**



**Key Decisions Regarding Implementation**

The project satisfied all disbursement conditions on July 17, 2012 and May 2, 2012 for Bangladesh and Nepal respectively. A six month procurement action plan has been agreed upon to accelerate project implementation in Bangladesh. MOEF will closely monitor progress towards achievement of the targets of the action plan.

**Restructuring History**

There has been no restructuring to date.

**Related Projects**

There are no related projects.