

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: 7 Status: ARCHIVED Archive Date: 24-Mar-2014

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	15-May-2014	Last Archived ISR Date	26-Sep-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	Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	Moderately Unsatisfactory	Moderately Unsatisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	Substantial	Substantial

Implementation Status Overview

Despite the risks of India's absence in the regional operation and implementation delays, some progress in meeting the PDO is being made through: (i) India's commitment to cooperate on regional wildlife conservation as demonstrated by its signature of Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) with Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal; (ii) Bangladesh's decision to assume the leadership for regional collaboration in trans-boundary wildlife protection and management by convening meetings among Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal, including those for the South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN); and (iii) the provision of institutional support to SAWEN's secretariat under the Nepal project. SAWEN is envisaged to be the mechanism for regional collaboration in addressing illegal wildlife trade (especially in tiger parts) and trans-boundary conservation issues in South Asia.

Bangladesh: Although project implementation is still rated as moderately unsatisfactory because of slow disbursements, the implementing agency (i.e., the Bangladesh Forest Department (BFD)) worked hard since the July/August 2013 mission to reverse the sluggish pace of implementation. BFD accelerated the preparation and submission of sub-project proposals under the project's competitive funding windows (amounting to 66% of the IDA credit). Commitments vis-a-vis the allocation for the funding windows amount to 70%. However, the disbursement ratio currently stands at only 14%. The launch of large sub-project contracts for civil works will lead to a significant rise in disbursements in the first half of FY15.

Since the last mission, a full-time Project Director for the PMU was appointed and PMU staffing increased; these changes bode well for enhancing the pace of implementation.

Nepal: Implementation remains satisfactory with the disbursements at 45% of the total IDA grant. The allocation for the funding windows under Component 2 (amounting to 50% of the IDA grant) is fully committed. The implementation of all eight sub-projects approved under the funding window accelerated since June 2013. Of those, four directly address trans-boundary wildlife conservation and protection issues.

Although progress towards the PDO achievement is rated as satisfactory for Nepal, the considerably larger project cost and IDA credit for Bangladesh result in a moderately satisfactory rating for the entire APL 1. For the same reason, overall project implementation is 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	Institutional capacity building support for the SAWEN Secretariat is being provided under the Nepal project. The SAWEN representatives will meet for the Second Regional Meeting in 2014 in Bangladesh. The meeting will be hosted by the Bangladesh Forest Department(BFD) with support from the IDA credit. Institutionalization of SAWEN through a formal statute is a key agenda item of the second meeting.	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		The first regional coordination meeting of the tiger range countries (TRCs) in South Asia will be held in 2014 as a side event of the Second Stocktaking Conference of GTRP. Through the GTRP and National Tiger Recovery Programs, the countries participating in theRegional Wildlife APL agreed on common areas of research and knowledge sharing.	Protocols developed and commencement of their implementation		
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		During the first regional coordination meeting of TRCs in 2014, discussions will be held on the bilateral MOUs signed between Indiaand the			

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					countries participating in the Regional Wildlife APL to explore the possibility for regional protocols to be developed by the enforcement agencies.	
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		Trans-boundary human wildlife conflict management initiatives are ongoing in all three APL participating countries. Further discussions on collaboration between regional countries will be explored during the meeting in 2014.	

Intermediate Results Indicators

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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	National Tiger Recovery Plans were prepared. Research areas have been identified in the plan. 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 Nepal and 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	Building synergies among research institutions and conservation groups to share knowledge is useful for wildlife protection. At the first regional	Yr 3: 100%

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					<p>coordination meeting of the TRCs in South Asia in 2014, the VRCE will be an agenda item.</p> <p>The international TA consultants in Bangladesh 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.</p>	
			Date	07-Mar-2011	20-Aug-2013	31-Dec-2014
			Comments			Knowledge sharing mechanism established and under implementation.
Bangladesh Component 1: Indicator 1: 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.
			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 were completed with 735 BFD officials trained. More sophisticated training will be undertaken in FY14 and FY15.	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 was established through a gazette notification and some staff for WCCU were recruited and others assigned from within BFD. Institutionalization of WCCU within the revenue budget is	Yr 5 - 100%

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					underway. Formal training commenced with the TA consultants in the latter part of 2013.	
			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 were recruited and initial training was provided. Only skeletal staff was deputed from BFD although the head for the Wildlife Center was appointed. The TA consultants are working on the organizational structure of the Wildlife Center and a twinning arrangement is proposed 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.
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.
Bangladesh 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 were approved	Yr 2 to 5 - Testing of models.

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					and are under implementation.	
			Date	07-Mar-2011	20-Aug-2013	01-Jan-2016
			Comments			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	0	Plans are under preparation.	Replication strategy and master plan developed.
			Date	07-Mar-2011	20-Aug-2013	31-Dec-2016
			Comments			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	0	A sub-project proposal for the development of ecotourism plans and visitor carrying capacity studies was approved and the plans are under implementation. Several sub-project proposals with provisions for improving visitor services in PAs are under implementation.	Twenty percent increase in revenue earning opportunities.
			Date	07-Mar-2011	20-Aug-2013	31-Dec-2016
			Comments			
	<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 identified and funds are committed.	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	0	The first meeting will be hosted by Bangladesh in 2014.	Both structures are fully operational.
			Date	07-Mar-2011	20-Aug-2013	31-Dec-2013
			Comments			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Text	Value	0	No plan has been developed as yet because a joint agreement is needed. This will be on the agenda for the first regional meeting of the participating countries scheduled for 2014.	Operationalization of plan is underway.

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					Bangladesh is in the final stages of recruiting a media communications consulting firm to assist in developing and implementing the national communications plan.	
			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 were reviewed. The key constraint identified was 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 approved the establishment of the WCCB Secretariat within MoFSC. The Secretariat is staffed by GoN staff assigned from relevant agencies. Twelve district level WCCBs were established and are operating in Nepal. The district level WCCBs would serve as models for future establishment of district level WCCBs for other relevant districts.	WCCB fully operational.
			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 a 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.

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			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.	A contract for development and conducting training programs signed with the Biodiversity Conservation Center and training commenced in July 2013. Two training programs were completed. All training is expected to be completed by June 30, 2014.	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 were approved and their implementation commenced 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		The workshop on Smart Green Infrastructure has been conducted.	Process of institutionalising the models initiated.
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 recently 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 recently 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	A research proposal for the development of eco-tourism will be supported under the project.	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 are 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	The meeting of TRCs of South Asia and the second SAWEN meeting will take place in 2014. Regional coordination mechanisms will be discussed at the meeting.	RPSC and OSCRC fully operational.
			Date		21-Jun-2013	30-Jun-2013
			Comments			

Data on Financial Performance (as of 03-Mar-2014)

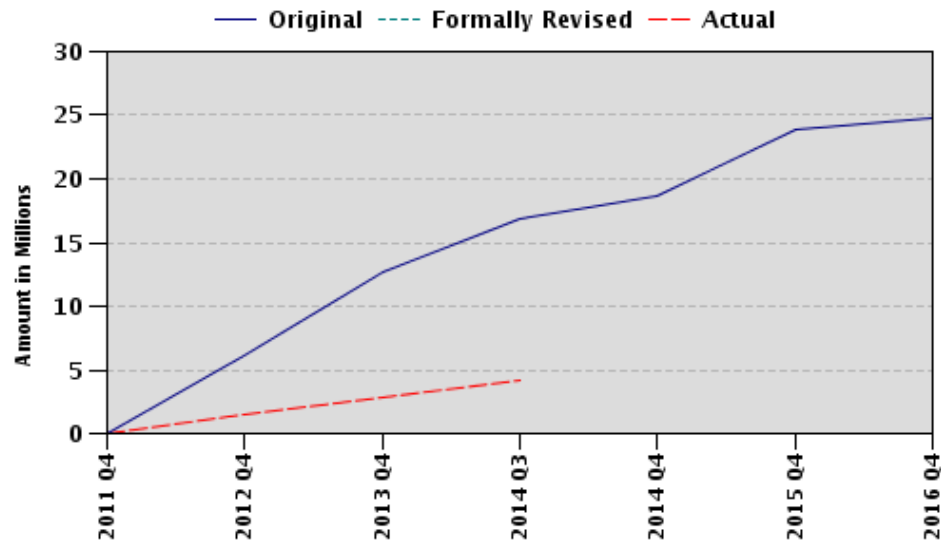
Financial Agreement(s) Key Dates

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	3.32	19.58	14.00
P121210	IDA-H6660	Effective	XDR	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.88	1.12	44.00

Disbursement Graph



Key Decisions Regarding Implementation

An action plan to improve project performance and disbursements was agreed with Bangladesh and BFD is achieving most of the targets albeit with some delays. With the important changes to the PMU, project performance would improve with a timely implementation of the specific steps in the action plan. A mid-term review (MTR) of APL 1 in Bangladesh and Nepal is planned for May 2014 and modifications to the project will be considered as needed.

Restructuring History

Level 2 CD Decision on 27-Feb-2014

Related Projects

There are no related projects.