

Strategic Management Team Monthly Review Report – October 2017

Progress against Implementation Year 4 Targets = 32.18%

Result	This month		Year four (Jul 17-June 18)	% IY4	IY4 Target
	Target	Progress	Cumulative progress	Target	(July 2017 - June 2017)
LRN (km)	2,089	2,292	2,292 km DRCN maintained (Total)	109.72	2,089km DRCN maintained
	0.00km	0.00km	2.45km 3.5m track opened	30.63%	+8 km at 3.5m track opened
	2.00km	1.50km	On-going		
	0.00km	0.00km	2.98km 4.5m full widening	24.83%	+12 km at 4.5m track opened
	2.50km	1.21km	On-going		
	0.00km	0.00km	0 km road works completed	0.00	+60 km road completed
Employment days	20,000	17,611	220,025 employment days (Total)		
		[2,175]	[Claimed from DFID in Oct]	35.49%	+620,000 employment days
		[15,436]	[Created from GON budget on RMG maintenance in Oct]		
Capacity Building	0	53	313 training days	38.64%	+810 training days
	1	1	1 Annual and municipal engagement workshop organised	25.00%	+4 policies/guidelines developed for and delivered to GoN
CONNECT	10%	9%	43% work plan delivered	N/A	100% work plan delivered
Safeguards	8.33%	8.33%	All activities ongoing as planned	N/A	100% work planned delivered
PMV	2	1	6 internal audits conducted	33.33%	+18 internal audits completed
	0	0	1 trimester progress report	33.33%	3 trimester reports completed

Time elapsed in Year 4 = 33.33%

Remarks: The RAP3 IY4 implementation plan covers a period for July-17 to June-18.
Physical progress on new construction activities slowed down due to stoppage of works during festivals.

Financial Progress Against Year 4 Budget = 31.29%

Amount (UK£)

Component	INVOICED this month (October 2017)	IY4 Cumulative Total Cumulative Total	FORECAST for next month (November 2017)
Output 1 (LRN):	104,603.52	551,115.58	144,315.92
Output 2 (Employment days):	9,414.94	680,096.42	86,574.18
Output 3 (CBID):	26,492.28	39,169.36	3,423.06
Output 4 (CONNECT):	29,642.92	127,926.65	22,000.00
Safeguard:	1,921.52	26,058.43	5,000.00
PMV (Audit and Reports):	15,424.19	115,858.01	29,560.22
Other – TA:	80,000.00	380,000.00	80,000.00
Flexible Fund- (RMG Payment-CDEL):	0	150,015.04	0
Flexible Fund - (MHLR - RDEL):	0	44,667.80	0
Flexible Fund – (Safetyknot - RDEL):	0	45,105.38	0
OVERALL	267,499.37	2,160,012.67	370,873.38

Key issues:

Output 4 (CONNECT) and Safeguard invoiced on actual costs and others based on results.
October spend remained less than the forecast amounts due to stoppage of construction works during festivals.

Quality Management

Field Verification Works in IY4	Number	Actions taken
Field verifications conducted this month	16	Reporting on feedback of accomplished works has helped improved monitoring and quality of works
Total field verifications conducted to date	70	
Audit	Number	Key issues / Actions required
Audits conducted this month	1	Audit approach targeted at key issues/risks.
Total Audits Conducted to Date in IY4	6	One scheduled audit on action status of DC's field visit report recommendations by DTA in MUG postponed. But one unscheduled audit on RMG monthly work plan, work assignment and work measurement and payment in DOT accomplished.

Key issues:

Total issues raised by audit up till October 2017 since the beginning of the programme has reached at 217. Continual improvement actions on 214 issues completed. Management actions on 3 remaining issues related to public audit of connect activities, low level of understandings of connect partners on programme modality and Health and Safety related issues at work sites ongoing.

Narrative

Core New Construction – New construction of 97.5km road in HUM, MUG, KAL and BAJ ongoing. Review of construction plans for remaining works reconfirmed that deviations in earlier proposed date of construction completion are minimal and all roads scheduled to complete before the end of the programme period.

RBG works in new construction corridors stopped for celebrating festivals and expected to resume after Tihar (Deepawali).

Road Maintenance – RMG road maintenance of DRCN in 10 districts and 3 new construction districts except Humla, where no DRCN exists, ongoing.

Preparation works on SMG specific road maintenance pilots- second round in DAD, DAI, DOT, ACH and JUM ongoing. Works are scheduled to commence after the provincial and federal level elections. Minor adjustments on contract document will be made to incorporate positive lessons learned from last year's SMG work experience, and lessons will be shared with relevant stakeholders. DAD is added for SMG specific road maintenance works this year. Procurement of tools and PPEs for SMGs is underway. Term Maintenance contracts in DAD and DAI ongoing for xxx and yyy works. Contractors completed works on insurance and erection of signboards and emergency repairs. Rapid road condition survey of selected road corridors underway to identify works for term maintenance and for follow on work orders to contractors in both districts.

Procurement – Delivery of supplies of 6 packages of IY4 contracts ongoing.

Supply of gabion boxes and wires contract for KAL, split due to changed delivery site at Jite Bazaar, will be signed soon with the preferred bidder selected through competitive bidding process.

RAP3 CONNECT – Connect programme in 6 core districts (ACH, BAJ, DAD, DAI, DOT and JUM) ongoing.

MSME #2 – 276 HDs from 6 CONNECT districts have been activated with NPR 4,627,378 billed to date. Monsoon credit of NPR 672,841 delivered to 69 HDs.

MSME #3 – 2 MBCs formed in Dullu adding 50 DSSs to Belpata Dairy Cooperative's supply chain including 6 Yuva Vayus.

MSME #5 –133 hectares of land in Organic Mountain Flavour's downstream supply chain certified as organic by ECOCert.

MSME #5 - Loan accounts processed for 84 DSSs in Surkhet.

EE#6 – Internships: contracts for 2 interns extended for 6 months.

Recruitment process started for CONNECT SME Portfolio Adviser

Safeguards – Social mobilisation, workers' and work site safety, rehabilitation and reinstatement of damaged structures and public utilities in new construction districts ongoing.

Implementation of mitigation measures by Climate Resilience Audit of SSSDR, KAL ongoing. Implementation of new construction corridor level action plans on MEL's study findings and recommendations on beneficiaries' feedback report related to group saving and field verification ongoing.

Scoping Study for Safer Communities (SS4SC) in Mugu – The Study Team produced the scoping study report and submitted for comments and suggestions. Recommendations applicable to construction sites will be implemented through DTAs.

MHLR Design – Discussions between MOF and DFID on project implementation and funding modality under the proposed co-funding arrangements ongoing. In a informal meeting with RAP3 TA and DoLIDAR, MOF has suggested to prepare project document similar to the proposed ADB financed Rural Connectivity Improvement Project (RCIP) and submit draft project agreement to MOF through MoFALD for the proposed co-funding project implementation arrangements. Contract agreement between DFID and IMC to be proceeded after finalising funding and implementation modality between two governments.

The Survey Team departed to the site 29 October for engineering field survey works of remaining section in Humla district of the proposed route of alignment ongoing.

Capacity Building – CPD programme continued in all programme districts. Radio programme "Bikashko Baato" through local FM stations is ongoing. Graduate Engineers' annual workshop organised during 12 – 17 Oct in Kathmandu and GEs' rotation of districts took place. Support to NEC to introduce Professional Engineering programme ongoing.

As a part to support federal set-up, district level review and municipal engagement workshops organised to explore needs and support strategies accomplished. Compilation of workshop proceedings completed and submitted to DFID. Follow on meetings with municipal levels of RAP3 districts to identify future areas of transitional support from the programme will be organised end Nov.

Support to DOLIDAR for the preparation of GIS maps of new (rural) municipalities and re-classification of DRCN ongoing.

PMV – External financial audit of programme spends incurred during Feb 2016 – Jun 2017 ongoing. District visits of external auditor in 12 DTAs and Nepalgunj office for preliminary audits completed. Field audit works are scheduled to complete by November and auditors will submit the draft consolidated report by mid-Dec 2017.

Continual improvement actions on 214 issues raised by audit up till October completed. Improvement actions on 3 remaining issues picked-up by the audit up till Oct 2017 ongoing.

Risks and Mitigations – Mitigation measures on risks taken by the programme include the following:

Effects of provisional and federal level elections in new construction road corridor works – As of the local election, the proposed provincial and federal level elections scheduled in two phases for Nov and Dec 2017 shall stop construction works during political campaigning to vote casting and counting period. Once the situation calms down after elections, new construction corridors in MUG and HUM, which are lagging behind will be focussed to expedite works by mobilising a combined engineering team of competent Engineers in ongoing DRCN corridors and MHLR. In addition number of working groups in ongoing new construction corridors will be increased to speed up physical work progress.

Donation drive by party cadres during elections - Neutrality shall be maintained by all and BOQs "no donation policy" of DFID shall be fully adhered to avoid such drives.

Effects of unusual increment of district daily wage rates in works – Additional cost of construction to incur due to wage increase up till this year can be absorbed from budget allocated for inflation by the programme.

Others – RAP3 has commenced a study on economic analysis of rural roads. The study proposes to take references of some roads constructed in the proceeding phases in eastern and western cluster districts of the programme. The team led by the consultant economist fielded to the east for reconnaissance survey and to test questionnaires designed for study in the field survey works.