

Strategic Management Team Monthly Review Report – August 2017

Progress against Implementation Year 4 Targets = 15.52%

Result	This month		IY4 Cumulative progress to date	% IY4 Target	IY4 Target (July 2017 - June 2017)
	Target	Progress			
LRN (km)	2,089	2,286	2,286 km DRCN maintained (Total)	109.43	2,089km DRCN maintained
	0.00km	0.27km	1.17km 3.5m track opened	14.63%	+8 km at 3.5m track opened
	2.00km	2.32km	On-going		
	0.00km	0.70km	0.70km 4.5m full widening	5.83%	+12 km at 4.5m track opened
	3.00km	3.86km	On-going		
	0.00km	0.00km	0 km road works completed	0.00	+60 km road completed
Employment days	50,000	55,061	114,332 employment days (Total) (104,466 days from DFID fund)	18.44%	+620,000 employment days
		[36,106]	[Claimed from DFID in July]		
		[18,955]	[To be claimed later from DFID]		
Capacity Building	90	93	157 training days	19.38%	+810 training days
	0	0	0 policies/guideline with influencing agenda developed/delivered	0.00%	+4 policies/guidelines developed for and delivered to GoN
CONNECT	9%	9%	22% 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	2 internal audits conducted	11.11%	+18 internal audits completed
	1	1	1 trimester progress report	33.33%	3 trimester reports completed

Time elapsed in Year 4 = 16.67%

Remarks: The RAP3 IY4 implementation plan covers a period for July-17 to June-18.

RMG maintenance of DRCN except for 3 new construction districts budget is allocated from GoN sources. Hence, outputs derived from GoN and DFID funds are segregated and presented as above. But the GoN fund allocated for RMG wage payment is yet to be transferred.

Financial Progress Against Year 4 Budget = 15.64%

Amount (UK£)

Component	INVOICED this month (August 2017)	IY4 Cumulative Total Cumulative Total	FORECAST for next month (September 2017)
Output 1 (LRN):	148,304.32	281,329.55	154,215.92
Output 2 (Employment days):	156,292.36	370,152.22	129,861.26
Output 3 (CBID):	4,534.49	7,655.01	4,388.22
Output 4 (CONNECT):	29,344.57	65,309.31	30,000.00
Safeguard:	6,568.42	13,885.23	6,500.00
PMV (Audit and Reports):	41,313.38	56,737.57	29,560.22
Other – TA:	140,000.00	220,000.00	80,000.00
Flexible Fund- (MHLR, Safetyknot):	54,567.80	64,467.80	176,400.00
OVERALL	580,925.34	1,079,536.69	610,925.62

Key issues:

Output 4 (CONNECT) and Safeguard invoiced on actual costs and others based on results.

Quality Management

Field Verification Works in IY4	Number	Actions taken
Field verifications conducted this month	21	Reporting on feedback of accomplished works has helped improved monitoring and quality of works
Total field verifications conducted to date	38	
Audit	Number	Key issues / Actions required
Audits conducted this month	1	Audit approach targeted at key issues/risks. Two audits proposed. One in Dailekh on use of programme funds by private sector implemented through connect conducted and the other on wage payment in Humla postponed due to adverse weather conditions and unavailability of aeroplane flights to Simikot.
Total Audits Conducted to Date in IY4	2	

Key issues:

Total issues raised by audit up till July 2017 since the beginning of the programme has reached at 205 and all issues have been settled as the part of the continual improvement action plan (CIAP). Management actions on 6 issues related to documentation, reporting and submission of invoices by partners and public audit raised by audit conducted in August ongoing.

Narrative
<p>Core New Construction – New construction of 97.5km road in HUM, MUG, KAL and BAJ on-going. 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.</p> <p>RBG works resumed in all new road construction corridors. Land take issue at the entry section in BAJ settled by the municipality and informed to DTA. DTA has proceeded construction works mobilising 4 RBGs in the entry section.</p>
<p>Road Maintenance – RMG road maintenance of DRCN in 10 districts and 3 new construction districts except Humla, where no DRCN exists, ongoing.</p> <p>The incessant rainfall and inundation affected 6 of the 26 DRCN roads in MOR and 12 of the 17 DRCN roads in JHA. DTAs assessed damage to DRCN using rapid condition surveys and informed local bodies on needs of emergency maintenance through DCC and DTO. RMGs did a commendable tasks that helped resume vehicle pliability soon after the floods and landslide clearance in most of the damaged roads in both districts. Damage of permanent cross drainage structures needs a separate maintenance package including funding.</p> <p>SMG specific road maintenance works in DAI, DOT, ACH and JUM of IY3.5 completed. Lessons learned from SMG pilot works, which is under finalisation process, to be undertaken during IY4 implementation.</p> <p>Term Maintenance contracts with preferred bidders signed in DAD and DAI and contractors of both districts started mobilisation. DTAs started rapid condition surveys of selected road corridors for term maintenance works in both districts.</p>
<p>Procurement – Supplies of earlier contracts substantially completed and procurements for IY4 implementation ongoing.</p> <p>In response to the tender notice published in 6 packages for supply of construction materials, tools and safety gears, bids on 5 packages of new construction districts received and evaluation of bids ongoing. Retender notice published for supply of gabion boxes & wires.</p>
<p>RAP3 CONNECT – Connect programme in 6 core districts (ACH, BAJ, DAD, DAI, DOT and JUM) ongoing.</p> <p>248 Hamri Didis activated with NPR 4,281,852 leveraged in start-up capital. Monsoon credit of NPR 672,841 for 64 HDs has been delivered jointly by UNL and CONNECT.</p> <p>Organic Mountain Flavor exported 68 MT of dry ginger slices to-date and has 6.48 MT of ginger and 20 MT of turmeric ready for export; valuation report on OMF (a sister concern The Organic Valley) received; and TA service agreement signed with SAFAL.</p> <p>Supported Harvard Kennedy School Evidence for Policy Design team on the feasibility study for undertaking a Randomized Control Trial (RCT) with farmers in and near Organic Mountain Flavor’s supply chain.</p> <p>RAP3 GE secured a place on the One Planet MBA programme in University of Exeter as agreed under the partnership programme.</p> <p>DFID AR stakeholders’ consultation completed and significant progress made OMF-TOV merger negotiations.</p>
<p>Safeguards – Social mobilisation, workers’ and work site safety, rehabilitation and reinstatement of damaged structures and public utilities in new construction districts ongoing.</p> <p>Implementation of mitigation measures by Climate Resilience Audit of SDDR, KAL ongoing. Actions on MEL’s study findings and recommendations on beneficiaries’ feedback report related to group saving and use of safety gears ongoing.</p> <p><i>Scoping Study for Safer Communities (SS4SC) in Mugu</i> – The Study Team completed field study of communities residing in road influence area and report to be produced by the end of September 2017.</p>
<p>MHLR Design – Design review and implementation plan finalised. Discussions between GoN and DFID on joint management modality of MHLR implementation ongoing. Negotiation on financial proposal with DFID underway.</p> <p>Arrangements of GoN yearly budget allocation for the project implementation, including the current FY as per the co-financing commitment waiting for MoF approval.</p>
<p>Capacity Building – CPD programme continued in all programme districts. Implementation of District ASPs for the year 2016-17 and Radio programme “Bikashko Baato” through local FM stations is ongoing. As agreed with DFID, ANF is being asked to submit new proposal. Support to NEC to introduce Professional Engineering programme ongoing.</p> <p>Support to DOLIDAR for the preparation of GIS maps of new (rural) municipalities and re-classification of DRCN ongoing. Total local levels not connected by roads in the country has remained at 46, with 18 of RAP3 districts. District level review workshops and engagement strategy for newly formed municipality planned for third week of Sept 2017.</p>
<p>PMV – External financial auditor mobilised for audit of programme spends incurred during Feb 2016 – Jun 2017.</p> <p>Ten monthly report, (Sept 2016 – June 2017) for DFID annual review, trimester progress report and IY4 implementation plan finalised and submitted to DFID and GoN.</p> <p>Continual improvement actions on all 205 issues raised by audit up till July completed. Improvement actions on 6 additional issues picked up by August audit related to the use of programme funds by private sector partners thorough RAP3 CONNECT ongoing.</p>
<p>Risks and Mitigations – Mitigation measures on risks taken by the programme include the following:</p> <p><i>RMG wage payment in 10 maintenance districts</i> – Delays in release of RMG maintenance budget from the centre to local bodies of GoN affected on timely RMG payments. RAP3 as proposed in IY4 implementation plan to pay RMGs wage payments for Aug and Sept up till upcoming festivals from programme flexible funds.</p> <p><i>Effects of unusual increment of district daily wage rates in works</i> – Unlike to other DCCs, Humla increased the district wage rate by 27% year-on-year basis for this year. The Finance and the Engineering team have concluded that the additional cost of construction can be absorbed by the programme using less labour in 2018/19.</p> <p><i>MHLR co-financing and engagement of management consultant</i> – Delays beyond mid-September may result in the loss of next working season, increase in costs of construction and slippage of the project implementation period by up to a year.</p>
<p>Others – In response to the recommendations of MEL’s RAP beneficiaries’ feedback report, RAP initiated actions to deal issues related to sustainability and potentiality to capture by elites of RBG savings after project completion and use of safety gears by working groups. Actions on disproportionate work load to women as mentioned in the report needs long term intervention of GoN. Storekeepers of new road construction corridors training organised on 21-22 August 2017 in Nepalgunj and all 12 storekeepers successfully completed the training.</p>