

# Monthly PMR – February 2022

## 1. PROGRESS THIS MONTH

### 1.1. NARRATIVE

- Started foundation work at Luma Khola Bridge. Contractor has stored materials required for construction and established a material testing lab. Bar bending for foundation works complete.
- Started aggregate production and dismantling of the wooden bridge at Darke. Gabion retaining walls also being dismantled to lay bridge foundation. Reinforcements required for foundation works prepared.
- Substantially completed a total of 62.81 km in MHLR construction. 190m structure works remaining.
- Surface improvement works ongoing between Melchham (52+000) and Janche Khola (Ch 56+880).
- As-built survey ongoing between Melchham and Deuli.
- Liaising and sharing information with WFP for IV of MHLR completion in March
- Received approval and budget allocation for carrying out additional Specific Maintenance on RAP3 roads in Mugu and Humla
- Continued RMG maintenance work on handed-over sections of MHLR and other supported MRCN / PRN.
- Installed traffic signs between Melchham and Deuli.
- Healthy Workforce Team conducted 12 orientations on personal and menstrual hygiene, Covid 19 prevention, family planning and child vaccination, first aid kit and risk reduction where 197 members, including 93 women, benefitted; and 1 outreach clinic in Humla examining and providing medicines to 23 workers including 10 women.
- Completed RMG refresher training for RMG members and IDO Technical Focal Persons (TFP) in Surkhet, Salyan, Jajrkot and Dailekh. The teams have prepared training videos to support handover to the IDD/IDOs.
- Field teams and Palika TFPs jointly visited RMG worksites in preparation for effective RMG implementation post-handover.
- Demonstrated retaining wall construction techniques to the technical staff of Palikas of Surkhet and Salyan.
- Completed external financial audit of all field offices
- Completed internal financial audit of the field offices. Technical, safeguards and contract management audit of the River Crossings ongoing – physical verification of works planned for March.
- Asset management of vehicles and motorbikes being discussed with BEK.

### 1.2 RESULTS

#### 1.2.1 Physical Results Summary

Overall weighted progress in Milestone A: MHLR Construction is 99.85% (62% of planned this month and 99.85% of planned cumulative); Overall progress in Milestone B: MHLR River Crossing remains at 10% (100% of planned cumulative) as there was no physical result achieved for this month.

#### 1.2.2 Financial Results Summary

The financial result till date is 82.03% of the total budget, i.e. £12.71 million out of total budget of £15.5 million has been spent. The financial progress in February is 48.51% of the planned financial result and 99.45% of the planned cumulative as milestones in the River Crossings planned for this month was not achieved by the contractor.

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Ref	Milestone Payments	This Month			Cumulative			Contract Value	% Completion
		Planned	Actual	Variance	Planned	Actual	Variance		
<b>A.</b>	<b>MHLR Road Construction</b>	<b>52,227</b>	<b>52,227</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,325,298</b>	<b>9,325,298</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,063,216</b>	<b>92.67%</b>
W1	Progress Milestones	-	-	-	8,040,946	8,040,946	-	8,040,946	100.00%
W2	Completion Milestones	52,227	52,227	-	1,284,353	1,284,353	-	2,022,270	63.51%
<b>B.</b>	<b>MHLR River Crossings</b>	<b>70,220</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 70,220</b>	<b>140,441</b>	<b>70,220</b>	<b>- 70,220</b>	<b>702,203</b>	<b>10.00%</b>
<b>C.</b>	<b>COVID 19 Recovery Response</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,515,600</b>	<b>1,515,600</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,653,794</b>	<b>91.64%</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>Management Milestones</b>	<b>13,927</b>	<b>13,927</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,802,983</b>	<b>1,802,983</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,080,787</b>	<b>86.65%</b>
<b>D.</b>	<b>Un-allocated</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>136,374</b>	<b>66,153</b>	<b>- 70,220</b>	<b>12,784,321</b>	<b>12,714,101</b>	<b>- 70,220</b>	<b>15,500,000</b>	<b>82.03%</b>
<b>% actual / planned</b>		<b>48.51%</b>			<b>99.45%</b>				

### 1.2.3 Employment and other Results

Cumulative employment days created by the RAP3 MHLR project until February 2022 is 1,140,543. Details are shown in the tables below.

In February, 54 groups were mobilised in construction, comprising of 13 RBGs and 41 SRBG, creating 11,820 employment days out of which 44% is by women. Cumulative employment days created through construction is 795,569 of which 40% is by women.

Indicator	RBG	SRBG	Total
<b>No. Groups</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>No. Members</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>804</b>	<b>1,084</b>
Women	135	293	428
Men	145	511	656
% Women	48%	36%	39%
<b>Employment Days</b>	<b>3,005</b>	<b>8,815</b>	<b>11,820</b>
Women	1,658	3,558	5,216
Men	1,347	5,257	6,604
%Women	55%	40%	44%

Indicator	RBG	SRBG	Total
<b>Employment Days</b>	<b>423,547</b>	<b>372,022</b>	<b>795,569</b>
Women	211,341	107,462	318,803
Men	212,206	264,560	476,766
%Women	50%	29%	40%

200 RMGs were mobilised in February, creating 13,214 employment days, 43% of which was by women. Cumulative employment days created through routine maintenance under FCDO and GON funds is 344,974 including employment days created by SMGs through FCDO fund, of which 40% was by women.

Indicator	RMG	SMG	Total
<b>No. Groups</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>200</b>
<b>No. Members</b>	<b>1,020</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,020</b>
Women	437	-	437
Men	583	-	583
% Women	43%	0%	43%
<b>Employment Days</b>	<b>13,214</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13,214</b>
Women	5,658	-	5,658
Men	7,556	-	7,556
% Women	43%	0%	43%

Indicator	RMG (GON Fund)	RMG (FCDO Fund)	SMG (FCDO Fund)	Total
<b>Employment Days</b>	<b>134,762</b>	<b>111,383</b>	<b>98,829</b>	<b>344,974</b>
Women	56,755	47,409	35,291	139,455
Men	78,007	63,974	63,538	205,519
% Women	42%	43%	36%	40%

In total 3104 poor women and men worked on RAP3 MHLR in February.

## 2. PLAN FOR NEXT MONTH

### 2.1. NARRATIVE

- Complete construction of bridge foundations at Luma and Darke khola; initiate works on Lebra and Melchyam.

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- Complete 190 m substantial completion works in MHLR construction, bringing total to 63.0km and achieving substantial completion milestone
- Support WFP to conduct Independent Verification of MHLR.
- Continue maintenance by RMGs in MHLR Mugu section, Surkhet, Salyan, Dailekh, Jajrkot and Rukum West.
- Complete surface improvement works between Janchhe khola and Deuli.
- Complete as-built survey between Chankheli and Melchyam (after snow in the section melts).
- Complete works identified in the EMAP, e.g. reinstating water supply, clearing spoil from fields.
- Continue healthy workforce programme on MHLR.
- Support in the organising of Steering Committee Meeting, GON / BEK field visit, MOU extension.
- Organise a one-day training for Technical Focal persons and a workshop for Palika / IDD/ IDO representatives regarding RMG works continuation. Assist IDD/IDO and Palikas to conduct RMG refresher training on-demand
- Complete public audits of RMGs mobilised under direct funding.
- Finalise Asset Disposal Plan and start handover / disposal process.

## 2 FORECAST RESULTS

### Physical Results Estimate

The cumulative physical result plan by the end of March is 100% in Milestone A: MHLR Construction, and 30.00% in Milestone B: MHLR River Crossings. Planned to substantially complete 0.19 km in MHLR construction. There are 4 foundation and 2 sub-structure works planned in March in the River Crossings Component, according to the latest revised work plan submitted by the contractor. However, the result plan seems bit optimistic in March for River Crossing Component.

### Financial Results Estimate

The payment planned for March is based on results for the project milestones. The forecast is made considering work completion and Independent Verification in March. £395,496 spend next month will take the total project spend to £13,109,597.

Ref	Milestone Payments	This Month	Cumulative	Contract Value	% Completion
<b>A.</b>	<b>MHLR Road Construction</b>	<b>105,330</b>	<b>9,430,629</b>	<b>10,063,216</b>	<b>93.71%</b>
W1	Progress Milestones	-	8,040,946	8,040,946	100.00%
W2	Completion Milestones	105,330	1,389,683	2,022,270	68.72%
<b>B.</b>	<b>MHLR River Crossings</b>	<b>105,330</b>	<b>175,551</b>	<b>702,203</b>	<b>25.00%</b>
<b>C.</b>	<b>COVID 19 Recovery Response</b>	<b>96,273</b>	<b>1,611,873</b>	<b>1,653,794</b>	<b>97.47%</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>Management Milestones</b>	<b>88,562</b>	<b>1,891,544</b>	<b>2,080,787</b>	<b>90.91%</b>
<b>D.</b>	<b>Un-allocated</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>395,496</b>	<b>13,109,597</b>	<b>15,500,000</b>	<b>84.58%</b>

## 3 SAFEGUARDING AND RISK MANAGEMENT

**Impact of Covid 19:** The impact of Covid 19 is decreasing in all project areas. Work activities are being carried out with caution, adopting safety protocols of the local governments and the Remobilisation Plan. Kathmandu is downgraded to a lower risk and is open for general use with some restrictions in place.

**River crossings:** Work on the River Crossings is behind the agreed schedule due to snowfall. The contractor has mobilised a team to resume work and stocked materials required for the construction of Luma Khola. A lab has been set up at the project site for quality assurance of materials. Site clearance has started at Darke Khola with the removal of the temporary wooden bridge and associated gabion retaining structures. Work is expected to accelerate in early March.

**Accidents:** This month there was one work-related accident and one incident of Code of Conduct violation.

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A bridge construction worker employed by the contractor injured his finger while transporting stones for filling a gabion basket. He was immediately taken to Bama Health Post for treatment. The contractor had failed to provide the required PPE and first aid kits in time, but these have now arrived at the works sites.

A local Technical Supervisor (TS) based in Humla mistreated project field staff in Bohorabada. He inappropriately demanded details of work measurement sheet of Gudamadu SRBG, where his wife and relatives work as RBG members and threatened other project staff. Any issues relating to measurement had already been discussed and a resolution agreed with the group and LRUC. He was not allowed to be involved in that measurement or resolution discussions due to Conflict of Interest. The threats made were serious enough for the field team to involve the police. The project has terminated his employment with immediate effect, but have paid the standard one-month notice to avoid potential conflict and reputational harm.

Compensation for the incident involving a cow and an ox near Bohorabada in Humla in January, has not been made. The insurance company refused to reimburse the claim since the accident was not caused directly by the insured vehicle but due to a stone that slipped from the vehicle. The tipper owner has agreed to compensate for the incident. RAP3 MHLR have paid on their behalf and amount will be deducted from the next IPC payment of the tipper.

**Local Election:** Local elections have been scheduled for 13<sup>th</sup> May, preparations for which are expected to accelerate in the month leading up to the election, in the Karnali region. Works in MHLR Construction and Institutional Support are scheduled to complete before the election preparations, hence will be unaffected. However, work in the River Crossings will be ongoing and could be affected. River crossings construction workforce comprises of both local and non-local skilled labour whose absence will affect progress in accordance with the work plan. The contractor will be responsible to ensure that work is not affected by labour shortage. Work could also be affected by requests for donations from the contractor who is also engaged in other construction works in the area. Our field team will brief the contractor's team regarding Basic Operating Guidelines (BOGs) and oversee that these are followed.

The local elections could also affect the ability of Government officials to attend the MHLR handover ceremony and Lessons Learning Workshop, so we may need to reconsider the timings of these.

**International conflict:** The Russia-Ukraine war has affected the price of commodities internationally, driven by oil and gas, and is expected to further impact market inflation and supply chains. These could have a ripple effect on the project budget and delivery. We will monitor the changes and possible impacts and report to BEK accordingly.

## 4 INNOVATIONS, LESSONS, OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

**Inclusion:** This month we started a fresh round of inclusion activities. Staff have been divided into groups and each group will choose a topic and lead a discussion among staff. The first event was held by the Kathmandu team who raised the issue of waste management. The team led an interesting discussion about the attitude towards waste management, outlining data from the Waste Management Baseline Survey of Nepal 2020 conducted by the Central Bureau of Statistics. The team encouraged staff to be conscious of their waste and make wise decisions while managing them.