



Sustainable Financing for Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resources Management (P127490)

SOUTH ASIA | Bhutan | Environment & Natural Resources Global Practice |
Global Environment Project | Investment Project Financing | FY 2013 | Seq No: 10 | ARCHIVED on 18-Jan-2018 | ISR29011 |

Implementing Agencies: Royal Government of Bhutan, Bhutan Trust Fund for Environmental Conservation

Key Dates

Key Project Dates

Bank Approval Date:15-May-2013

Effectiveness Date:04-Nov-2013

Planned Mid Term Review Date:20-Mar-2017

Actual Mid-Term Review Date:23-May-2017

Original Closing Date:31-Dec-2018

Revised Closing Date:31-Dec-2018

Global Development Objectives

Global Environmental Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The project development objective (PDO) is to improve the operational effectiveness and institutional sustainability of the Bhutan Trust Fund for Environmental Conservation. The PDO is also the global environmental objective (GEO).

Has the Global Environmental Objective been changed since Board Approval of the Project Objective?

No

Components

Name

Component 1: Enhancing the operational effectiveness and sustainability of BTFEC:(Cost \$0.80 M)

Component 2: Improving Conservation Management of high altitudes of northern areas (HANAS) landscape in Bhutan (including protected areas and associated methods, forests and agricultural systems):(Cost \$2.84 M)

Component 3: Capacity building for mainstreaming of conservation and sustainable forest and natural resource management approaches in national policies, strategies and plans:(Cost \$0.44 M)

Overall Ratings

Name	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	● Satisfactory	● Satisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	● Satisfactory	● Satisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	● Low	● Low

Implementation Status and Key Decisions



The Sustainable Financing for Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resource Management project (SFBCNRM) is a full-sized free standing GEF project. The primary objective of the Sustainable Financing for Biodiversity Conservation & Natural Resource Management (SFBCNRM) project is to improve the operational effectiveness and sustainability of the Bhutan Trust Fund for Environmental Conservation (BT FEC). The project also aims to enhance the transparency and competitiveness of the conservation grant program of the Trust Fund and enhance the impact of its financing on biodiversity conservation outcomes.

Important progress has been made during the first three years of the project in building and strengthening the operational effectiveness of BT FEC and in implementing a series of projects aimed at improving conservation management of forests and alpine ecosystems in the high altitude northern areas (HANAS) landscape in Bhutan including three Protected Areas (Jigme Dorji National Park (JDNP), Wangchuck Centennial National Park (WCNP) and the Bumdeling Wildlife Sanctuary (BWS)) and associated alpine meadows, forests and other ecosystems. The project has also been working to build capacity for the mainstreaming of conservation and sustainable forest and natural resource management approaches in national policies, strategies and plans.

COMPONENT I: Significant progress has been made under Component 1 in enhancing the operational effectiveness of BT FEC. In addition, at MTR the results framework indicators associated with Component 1 have either already been fully met or are on their way to being met. The following has already been achieved: preparation and operationalization of the BT FEC Bylaws; update of the Fund's Operational Manual; the development of an integrated information management system; project monitoring has been improved through the development of a new project monitoring matrix, the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework has been prepared and adopted, and guidelines for operationalizing the M&E system are under preparation; the grant programming process has been updated and improved through the introduction of new proposal writing and reporting formats and revised screening formats used by the Technical Advisory Panel (TAP); a Fund Raising Strategy was completed and plans for implementation are under consideration; to ensure gender perspective is captured in the grant making process a Gender Equity Strategy Framework has been adopted; a review of the investment management options are currently under consideration with the BT FEC Board and Asset Management Committee; Diversification of the Board Representatives has been achieved; Strategic Plan II was implemented and the Strategic Plan III has been prepared and approved and specific plans for its execution are being developed. It was determined that the Royal Charter cannot be updated because it was signed by the King and therefore amendments are being made through adjustments to the Bylaws.

COMPONENT II: Implementation of Component 2 has been satisfactory with very good results from the ongoing and completed projects. Twelve sub-projects amounting to approximately US\$ 2.7 million have been approved by the BT FEC Board and are under implementation. The results framework indicators associated with Component 2 have all either already been achieved or are on track to achieve the end of project target. The types of activities financed include: park infrastructure to cater for better access to remote areas; establishment of community insurance schemes for livestock predation; human/wildlife conflict mitigation programs; improved livelihood support programs; ecotourism development; rehabilitation of degraded rangelands; protection of critical habitats for migratory birds; anti-poaching programs; improved monitoring and patrolling programs and systems. Three of the projects have been successfully completed. While there have been some delays in reporting and release of funds for the sub-projects in the past this issue has been resolved. Important lessons are being learned, documented and shared. One important example of this is exchange of information about the failure of a bio-briquette activity in Wangchuck Centennial National Park, which caused a similar activity proposed in Jigme Singye Wangchuck National Park to be revised using more appropriate technology.

COMPONENT III: The implementation of Component 3 has been very successful. The results framework indicators associated with Component 3 have all either already been achieved or are on track to achieve the end of project target. The first phase of mainstreaming of conservation and sustainable forest and natural resource management approaches in national policies, strategies and plans has been initiated with support for undertaking a gap analysis of conservation policy, mainstreaming management effectiveness of Bhutan's protected areas, sharing lessons and experiences from activities supported under the HANAS component, strengthening human resource capacity and adoption of a landscape approach to develop a strategic management plan for snow leopards.



**Risks****Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool**

Risk Category	Rating at Approval	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Political and Governance	--	● Low	● Low
Macroeconomic	--	● Low	● Low
Sector Strategies and Policies	--	● Moderate	● Moderate
Technical Design of Project or Program	--	● Moderate	● Moderate
Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability	--	● Moderate	● Moderate
Fiduciary	--	● Low	● Low
Environment and Social	--	● Low	● Low
Stakeholders	--	● Low	● Low
Other	--	● Low	● Low
Overall	--	● Low	● Low

Results**Global Environmental Objective Indicators**

▶ Areas brought under enhanced biodiversity protection (ha)(Hectare(Ha), Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	1,319,424.00	1,323,428.00	900,000.00
Date	20-Feb-2013	29-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2018



► PDO- Indicator 2: Disbursements of total financial resources for activities approved by BTFEC increased(Amount(USD), Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	800,000.00	1,549,000.00	1,549,000.00	400,000.00
Date	30-Jun-2012	29-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2018

► PDO - Indicator 3: M&E system that effectively monitors grant implementation established(Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No data on outcomes	In progress	In progress	M&E System operational
Date	20-Feb-2013	29-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2018

► Land area under sustainable landscape management practices(Hectare(Ha), Corporate)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	111,237.00	114,521.00	5,000.00
Date	20-Feb-2013	29-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2018

► Direct project beneficiaries(Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	5,042.00	6,575.00	1,000.00
Date	20-Feb-2013	29-Jul-2016	30-Jul-2016	31-Dec-2018



Female beneficiaries(Percentage, Custom Supplement)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	46.00	46.00	50.00

Overall Comments

Intermediate Results Indicators

Component 1: Indicator 1: BTFEC's strategic plan effectively implemented (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Prioritized Strategic Plan 2010-2015	See comments.	See comments.	40% Implemented
Date	20-Feb-2013	29-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2018

Component 1: Indicator 2: BTFEC fund raising strategy developed and new financial instruments identified (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No strategy	Fund raising plan completed	Fund raising plan completed	Implementation report
Date	20-Feb-2013	29-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2018



► Component 2: Indicator 1: Total financial resources for conservation activities in HANAS increased (Amount(USD), Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	300,000.00	2,046,000.00	2,046,000.00	2,800,000.00
Date	20-Feb-2013	11-Dec-2015	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2018

► Govt institutions provided w/ capacity buildg to improve mgt of forest resources (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	8.00	8.00	3.00
Date	20-Feb-2013	29-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2018

► Forest users trained (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	2,216.00	3,039.00	1,000.00
Date	20-Feb-2013	29-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2018

▲ Forest users trained - Female (Number, Custom Breakdown)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	533.00	533.00	500.00
Date	20-Feb-2013	29-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2018



▲ Forest users trained - Ethnic minority/indigenous people (Number, Custom Breakdown)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Date	20-Feb-2013	29-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2018

▶ Component 3: Indicator 1: At least 5 best practices or experiences of mainstreaming conservation and sustainable forest and NR management documented (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	3.00	6.00	5.00
Date	20-Feb-2013	29-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2018


▶ Component 3: Indicator 2: Number of officials participating in capacity building activities for mainstreaming conservation into national development planning (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	405.00	405.00	30.00
Date	20-Feb-2013	29-Jul-2016	29-Jul-2016	31-Dec-2018

Overall Comments

Data on Financial Performance

Disbursements (by loan)

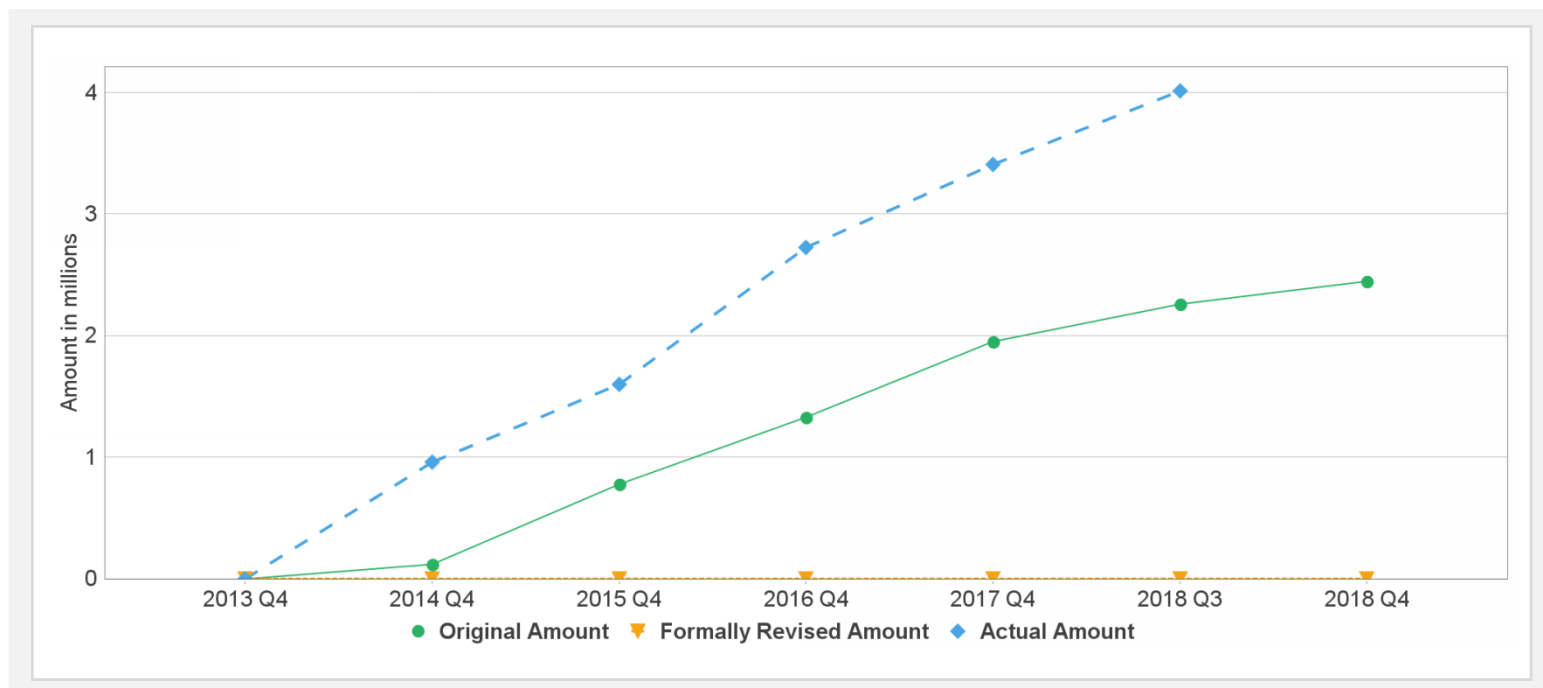
Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Disbursed
P127490	TF-14705	Effective	USD	4.08	4.08	0.00	4.01	0.07	 98%

Key Dates (by loan)



Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P127490	TF-14705	Effective	20-Aug-2013	20-Aug-2013	04-Nov-2013	31-Dec-2018	31-Dec-2018

Cumulative Disbursements



Restructuring History

There has been no restructuring to date.

Related Project(s)

There are no related projects.