

Study on REDD Plus Piloting in Nepal

विस्तृत जानकारीको लागि सम्पर्क

नेपाल सरकार

वन तथा भू - संरक्षण मन्त्रालय

रेड - फरेष्ट्री तथा जलवायु परिवर्तन इकाई

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**Government of Nepal
Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation
REDD- Forestry and Climate Change Cell
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Abbreviation

AIPP	Asia Indigenous Peoples' Pact
ANSAB	Asia Network for Bio-Resources
BAU	Business As Usual
CBO	Community Based Organization
CFCC	Community Forest Coordination Committee
CFM	Community Forest Management
CFUG	Community Forestry Users Group
CPP	Consultation and Participation Plan
CTCT	Community to Community Training
DANAR	Dalit Alliance for Natural Resources,
DDC	District Development Committee
DFO	District Forest Office/District Forest Officer
DoF	Department of Forests
DFRS	Department of Forest Research and Survey
DNPWC	Department of National Park and Wildlife Conservation
ERI	Environmental Resources Institute
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FECOFUN	Federation of Community Forestry Users, Nepal
FM	Frequency Modular
FRA	Forest Resource Assessment
GoN	Government of Nepal
HIMWANTI	Himalayan Grassroots Women's Natural Resource Management Association
ICIMOD	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPs	Implementing Partners
IWGIA	International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs
LiDAR	Light Detection and Ranging
LRMP	Land Resource Mapping Project
LRPs	Local Resource Persons
MRV	Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
MoFSC	Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation
NARC	National Agriculture Research Centre
NEC	National Executive Committee
NEFIN	National Federation of Indigenous Nationalities
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NORAD	Norwegian Aids for International Development
NTFPs	Non Timber Forest Products
NTNC	National Trust for Nature Conservation
NTV	Nepal Television
PDD	Project Design Document
PES	Payment for Ecosystem Services
PMU	Project Management Unit

RECOFTC	Regional Community Forestry Training Centre
REDD+	Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
RPP	Readiness Preparation Proposal
SEEPOR	and Socio-ethno Political Research and Training Consultancy
SESA	Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment
SHL	Sacred Himalayan Landscape
TAL	Terai Arc Landscape
TEBTEBBA	Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education
ToT	Training of Trainers
UNFCCC	United Nation Convention on Climate Change
VDC	Village development committee
VFCCs	Village Forest Coordination Committees
WECS	Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (WECS)
WECS	Water and Energy Commission Secretariat
WWF	World Wildlife Federation

Executive Summary

Forests are proved to be an efficient method for reducing emissions and sequester atmospheric carbon dioxide. Hence, a payment mechanism for Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, Conservation of existing forest carbon and Enhancement of forest carbon through sustainable management of forest (REDD+) has emerged globally. In Nepal, several piloting projects are being implemented since 2009 to develop methodologies/mechanisms on various aspects of REDD+. Currently, the Government of Nepal is preparing itself for REDD+ mechanisms. The lessons from piloting projects would be a great value for developing policies and mechanisms for the country. In this connection, a study was designed to review the major REDD+ piloting projects implemented in Nepal and offer recommendations to the REDD-Forestry and Climate Change Cell of the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservations (MoFSC).

The study was completed through both of desk reviews and consultations. Within the given time period, it was not possible to conduct wider consultation as a survey. However, the study team reviewed the available documents of all piloting projects; consulted relevant stakeholders and personnel involved in the projects at central level and field level. The study included five piloting projects implemented relatively in large scale and national level, and are exclusively involved on REDD+. Small and localised projects have not been considered for the study.

1. Design and establishment of a Governance and Payment System for Community Forest Management under REDD+
2. REDD- Reducing Poverty in Nepal
3. Plan Vivo
4. Grass roots level capacity building on REDD+ in Asia and the Pacific
5. Climate Change and Partnership Programme

The first two projects are considered as piloting projects for the complete REDD+ package. These projects are engaged in development of methodologies/mechanisms for forest carbon assessment and future projection, benefit sharing, payment mechanisms and technical capacity building. Scope of the project Plan Vivo is beyond REDD+. This project also looks payment for ecosystems services, livelihoods and tree outside the forests. Currently, the project is designing projects to get Plan Vivo certificates. The last two projects are basically involved in developing awareness to Forest Users Groups (FUGs), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and Indigenous Peoples (IPs).

Except Plan Vivo, all these projects started in 2009 and have made several achievements. They include preparation of guidelines for forest carbon assessment and benefit sharing, operational guidelines for Forest Carbon Trust Fund (FCTF), estimate of forest carbon stock and future projection, disbursement of seed grants for forest carbon payments, development of training manuals and materials, technical capacity building and outreach activities.

There are several strengths from and lessons of these projects. They will be great value in designing and implementing national REDD+ strategies. The major strengths included:

- All the piloting projects aim to contribute national REDD+ process.

- A common and standard guideline for forest carbon assessment has been developed which can be used in national REDD+ process with minor update.
- There are several training manuals and outreach materials developed for awareness and technical capacity building. As they will need in REDD+ process, it reduces cost of designing and testing.
- It is estimate that more than 150 Local Resource Persons (LRPs) to facilitate training and carbon measurement have been developed.
- Involvement of key stakeholders of REDD+ such as Federation of IPs and Forest Users Groups in piloting process will increase chance of bringing issues and contribute in national strategy development process as these federations are also in REDD working group.
- Though, revisit of the piloted Trust Fund is needed, the learning will provide base for developing a national level REDD+ trust fund.
- Two sets of draft documents on proposed benefit sharing mechanisms will provide a ground for further discussion and development of mutually agreed system.

In general, it can be concluded that these piloting projects have contributed in national REDD+ initiations in a great extent. Despite of having several strengths there are certain issues and gaps in each project. Based on strengths, lessons and issues, several recommendations have been offered for policy, methodologies, capacity building and payments mechanisms. Few recommendations are presented below.

- The Government should welcome all interested piloting project but priority should be given for piloting REDD+, data base management and impact assessment; and to left behind forest management regimes.
- REDD- Forestry and climate change Cell should develop a simple guideline for registration and operating various piloting projects in Nepal and should be implemented immediately.
- REDD Cell should established a resource centres for REDD+ related documents and information.
- As Department of Forest Research and Survey (DRFS) is envisioned to be responsible for REDD+ related data management at central level, DRFS should nominate staff responsible for such activities and piloting projects should engage designated persons from DFRS from now onwards.
- The forest carbon monitoring should be at two levels. One at national level to claim for payments and other one at local level for benefit sharing purposes. Guidelines should be revised to fit existing inventory systems at local level.
- As there is an urgent need for biometric/allometric tables, DFRS should engage in revising and developing tables for major species.

- Capacity building need will be based on stake and involvement on REDD+ process which will be finalised in REDD strategy. All relevant stakeholders and institutions should be equipped with general understanding on REDD+, technical, equipments and space.
- Existing networks, institutions and infrastructures should be used in implementing REDD+ readiness plans and REDD+ implementation.
- All the projects should use existing available guidelines, manuals and outreach materials instead of creating new. However, they need review and translated in regional languages.
- REDD Cell should establish a roster of experts and institutions working on REDD+ and advice all relevant projects to give priority to use them.
- It is strongly recommend establishing REDD+ trust fund at national level and make transactions of all the payments for REDD+ through the trust fund. Instead of Trust Fund at Watershed level, it is strongly recommended to establish at district level.
- There is an urgent need for joint planning among the piloting projects. In the coordination of REDD cell, all project should seat together at least once a year to review and conduct joint planning.

Introduction

Forests are proved to be an efficient and economical method for reducing emission and reducing the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Hence, a payment mechanism for Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, Conservation of existing forest carbon and Enhancement of forest carbon through sustainable forest management, called as REDD plus, is emerging globally. In Nepal, several piloting projects are being implemented since 2009 to develop methodologies and mechanisms on different aspects of REDD+ that contribute national REDD+ plus initiatives. This study has reviewed the major REDD+ piloting projects implemented in Nepal and has offered sets of recommendations to the REDD-Forestry and Climate Change Cell of the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservations (MoFSC).

1.1 General Background

Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) is emerging as a promising option to promote appropriate Forest Management practices to reduce carbon emission and resolve associated problems. The World Bank has established Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) to assist selected developing countries in their efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation; and conservation and enhancement of existing forest carbon stock primarily through capacity building and institutionalising a performance based incentive mechanism. The 16th Conference of Parties held in Cancun, Mexico has given clear guidance on the phases that needs to be included in REDD+ implementation process. There are three distinct phases including Readiness, Demonstration and Implementation. Presently, Nepal is in the first phase i.e. readiness phase within which the Government of Nepal (GoN) is on the process of developing a national REDD+ strategy. In this connection, various piloting activities are being implemented in Nepal through various non governmental institutions on different aspects of REDD+. The lessons learned from these piloting projects will be very critical in developing the national REDD+ strategy and policies since Nepal does not have clear policy and strategy on the issue yet. Therefore, REDD-Forestry and Climate Change Cell of the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation (MoFSC) and Environmental Resources Institute (ERI) agreed to conduct a Study on REDD+ Piloting Projects in Nepal and signed a contract for the same on June 10, 2011.

1.2 Objectives of the Study

The overall objective of the study is to contribute to national REDD+ strategy formulation based on the learning of REDD+ plus pilot experiences of Nepal. The specific objective include

- analyse different piloting activities in Nepal;
- consolidate the learning of different pilot activities of REDD plus in Nepal; and
- make recommendations on policy, methodology, capacity building needs and payment mechanism.

1.3 Scope of the Study

The study has included only the national level piloting projects which are exclusively involved in REDD plus. Because of timing factor, the small and localised projects have not been considered for the study. The study was primarily based on desk review of available documents and consultations with key persons of projects and other stakeholders as time available for the study was not sufficient for a detailed survey. In addition, the study was limited to explore the strengths and

gaps of the projects that could be used as their learning in the national REDD plus strategy. The intension of the study was not to evaluate the project performance and impact.

2. Methodology

2.1 Approaches

The study was completed through both desk review and consultation. Within the given time period, it was not possible to conduct wider consultation as a survey. However, the study team reviewed the available documents of all piloting projects; consulted relevant stakeholders and personnel involved in the projects. The consultation process was inclusive, participatory and conflict sensitive.

2.2 Data Collection

A list of piloting projects was developed acquiring information from REDD+ Cell, literatures, and personal contacts. The name of piloting projects and activities was then verified through consultation with the key people of government and non government sectors involved in REDD+. The data collection and consultation began after finalizing the list of the pilot projects.

Primary Data Collection: Primary data was gathered through consultation with different stakeholders. The main objective of the consultation was to further explore critical findings and lesson learnt from the projects. As stated earlier, the objective was not to evaluate or assess the performance of the projects rather was to have information about status, gaps and learning. As most of the piloting projects are under implementation phase, the project documents were good reference to identify some information gaps. The collection of information was based on the following major issues but was not limited to:

- Capacity building
- Carbon Measurement- methodology used, criteria used for measuring other benefits (social and environmental)
- Benefit sharing mechanism
- Network development (Networking)
- Coordination Mechanism
- Fund Transaction Modalities

Series of consultation meetings were held with relevant stakeholders. Consultations in person and telephone were used at central level. Consultation meetings with the key persons from the piloting projects were conducted to have in-depth understanding about the projects. The list of persons consulted during the study at central level is presented in **Annex I**.

Field consultation was done for four projects in two districts, Dolakha and Banke. People consulted during field visits were, DFOs, DFO staff, project staff, local resource persons. A total of 15 persons were consulted during the field visits. List of people consulted in the field is presented in **Annex-I**. Sets of checklist were used for consultation which is presented in **Annex –II**.

Secondary Data Collection: Relevant available documents (hard copies, electronic copies and websites) were gathered. These documents gave the fundamental information including objectives, process, stakeholders, findings and lesson learnt of piloting projects. These documents were collected from the relevant piloting projects implementing institutions.

Desk Review: The collected information was thoroughly assessed and extracted as appropriate. The extracted information included two types, the first one was general information of the project and the second was on the process and findings. The second part of the information was further elaborated, explored, validated and synthesised through consultation with various relevant stakeholders.

2.3 Analysis of Findings

Analysis process started from desk review. The desk review focused on analyzing methodologies, findings and initial learning. The information collected from the consultation process were analysed qualitatively. Some quantitative figures were provided as and when necessary and also based on their availability. While analyzing the information, the following aspects were considered.

- Identify the Gaps in line with SESA, REDD++, Existing Govt. policies, and Payment mechanism.
- Strengths of pilot projects.
- Opportunities from the pilot learning.
- Similarities and differences between various pilot projects.
- Analyse and recommend how pilot project contribute in the national REDD+ strategy development.

2.4 Sharing of Findings and Report Submission

The report was shared in REDD+ multi-stakeholder forum. Needful update and correction were made on the final report based on the feedback from the workshops and written feedback from the REDD+ Cell.

2.5 The Study Team

The study was conducted by Environmental Resources Institute (ERI) in association with Socio-ethno Political Research and Training Consultancy Private Limited (SEEPOR). List of the study team members is presented in **Annex III**.

3. Description of the REDD+ Plus Initiation

3.1 Government Initiation on REDD+ Plus

The Government of Nepal (GoN), Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation (MoFSC) Submitted Readiness Preparation Proposal (RPP) for REDD+ plus to the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) of the World Bank on 19 April 2010. The proposal has clearly stated the vision for REDD+ strategy. It states "By 2013 and beyond, our greenhouse gas emissions resulting from deforestation and forest degradation will be significantly reduced by forest conservation and enhancement, by addressing the livelihoods concerns of poor and socially marginalized forest dependent people, and by establishing effective policy, regulatory and institutional structures for sustainable development of Nepal's forests under the forthcoming new constitutional framework (RPP, 2009)". According to the RPP, Nepal should be ready for REDD plus mechanism by June 2013 and by that time, Nepal needs to develop policy and plans for various aspects of REDD+ plus. The major aspects are presented below. Details can be obtained from www.mofsc-redd.gov.np . It is expected that the ongoing piloting projects will contribute in developing policy and plans on the following aspects.

- REDD+ Strategy
- REDD+ Implementation Framework
- Social and Environmental Impacts
- Development of a Reference Scenario
- Design and Monitoring System

3.2 Existing REDD+ Plus Projects

Currently, there are a total of five various REDD+ related projects implemented in Nepal. Fragmented news of few REDD+ related activities can be seen in media but they are not in formal communication with REDD-Forestry and Climate Change Cell. Examples of these small projects include Forest Carbon Measurement and Awareness Raising Project implemented by National Conservation and Development Centre (NCDC)¹ in Dhading and Winrock International in Sindhupalchok². Both of these institutions are engaged for awareness raising and forest carbon assessment in few community forests. Complete information on these small projects are not available, they are not included in the study. The focuses of the ongoing five projects implemented at national level include awareness raising, capacity building and methodologies development. However few projects are implemented for awareness raising and capacity building and some are to develop methodologies for REDD plus. A list of these ongoing projects with their focus areas is presented in **Table 1**.

Table 1: Summary of ongoing REDD+ piloting projects

Project	Focuses
Design and establishment of a Governance and Payment System for Community Forest Management under REDD+	Developing Methodologies for REDD+ plus
REDD- Reducing Poverty in Nepal	Developing Methodologies for REDD+ plus
Plan Vivo	Developing Methodologies for REDD+ plus
Grass roots level capacity building on REDD+ in Asia and the Pacific	Awareness and Capacity Building
Climate Change and Partnership Programme	Awareness and Capacity Building

3.2.1 Design and Setting up of a Governance and Payment System for Nepal's CFM under REDD+

Project Introduction

This project is being implemented by a consortium of three agencies (ICIMOD, ANASB and FECOFUN) since 2009 with the financial support from Norwegian Agency for Development (NORAD) and will be continued until 2013. The immediate goal of this project is to pilot a REDD+ payment mechanism in community managed forest in three watersheds of Nepal that would support a longer term goal of establishing a national demonstration payment mechanism for carbon credits in community forestry sector. These goals have been set with a view to strengthen

¹ For detailed information contact NCDC Dhading, Contact Office, Kupondol Tel: 01 5520364

² For detailed information contact Dipendra Bhattarai, Programme Associate, Winrock International 01 4467087

the role of civil societies in actively engaging in the REDD+/REDD++ process and to enhance their capacity in understanding and institutionalizing this process such that the rights of local communities, indigenous peoples and women that mainly depend on forest resources in particular in 3 watershed areas of Nepal (ICIMOD 2010).

The specific objectives of the project are:

- Strengthening the capacity of civil society actors in Nepal to ensure their active participation in the planning process and in preparation of national REDD+ strategies.
- Establishing a Forest Carbon Trust Fund that is sustainable and creditable in the long run.
- Contributing to the development of REDD+ strategies that can effectively and efficiently monitor carbon flux in community managed forests.

Likewise, the immediate outcome of this project is to initiate the development of a framework for REDD+ strategies at national and local level so that the model demonstrated can be readily up-scaled by the Government of Nepal when REDD+ payment mechanism is officially launched.

The project is implemented in three watersheds. They include watershed of Charnawati River in Dolakha District, Ludikhola River in Gorkha District and Kayarkhola River in Chitwan District. The project represents around 105 CFUGs covering about 10,266 hectares of forest area and involves more than 18,000 households (ICIMOD 2010).

Project Implementation Approach

The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB) and Federation of Community Forest Users, Nepal (FECOFUN) are jointly implementing the project. Technical support was extended by Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC) of the University of Twente, Netherlands for the remote sensing component.

The project intends to contribute in the national REDD+ process providing its learning from piloting in various aspects namely baseline information, methodologies for forest carbon measurement and benefit sharing mechanism. The process of project implementation includes awareness and capacity building to relevant stakeholders on REDD+, baseline survey, designing methodology, field testing of designed methodologies, finalizing methodologies and sharing.

To achieve the project objective, it has planned several activities to be completed within the project period. The major activities are listed below (ICIMOD 2010).

- Pilot a system for measuring increased forest stock (forest enhancement) as an alternative to measuring reductions in degradation, as the basis for carbon payment to communities;
- Design an efficient internal (national) reporting system for communities to register their carbon savings;
- Design simple but effective cross-checking mechanisms for this (internal verification);
- Design a payment system that is equitable and which motivates communities to participate voluntarily;
- Design a system to make annual payments;
- Design an internal insurance system to reduce risk for CFUGs and Forest Carbon Trust Fund;

- Design a dispute resolution mechanism;
- Develop a Forest Carbon Trust Fund at national level as a single desk to deal with credits from community forests;
- Operationalise a REDD+ governance and payment system over a three years period for a sample of communities involving around 100 CFUGs;
- Measure the transaction costs involved in reporting, checking and making payments for carbon savings made by communities under CFM;
- Assess the overall economics of the governance and payment system developed;
- Provide a regional platform to share lessons and impacts on community based REDD+ with other ICIMOD countries
- Develop a project exit strategy by recommending an appropriate governance and payment mechanism system of the Forest Carbon Trust Funds beyond the project period.

Key achievements

In the last two years, the project has achieved a number of outputs. The major outputs of the projects are listed below.

- Conducted survey on Socio-economic Baseline Study in the three watershed areas.
- Developed forest carbon measurement guideline. The Guideline contains carbon accounting standards defined by IPCC and VCS.
- Prepared Guidelines for Mapping Carbon Stocks in Community Forests of Nepal using VHR Satellite Images, Object Base Image Analysis and GIS.
- Provided training according to the guideline for project technicians, forest users and stakeholders as a part of field testing.
- Developed biophysical baseline report containing biomass and carbon value of community forests of three watersheds.
- Developed a roster of the civil society organizations actively involved in REDD+ initiative.
- Undertook a study on identifying drivers of deforestation and forest degradation.
- Prepared Operational Guidelines of Forest Carbon Trust Fund (2011) for regulating seed grant under Community Forestry REDD++ Project Nepal and shared to national stakeholders.
- Drafted and shared forest carbon fund bill and REDD+ payment system.
- Organized different capacity building activities like orientation on REDD+, workshops, ToT, interaction and awareness program.
- Prepared, published and circulated information materials in different 11 areas of REDD+ plus.
- Established forest carbon trust fund (FCTF), FCTF advisory committee, FCTF secretariat, watershed level FCTF advisory committee and provided seed grant for trust fund.

Strengths

The project has close working relationship with all actors of REDD+ at national and local levels. FECOFUN being the one of the national REDD+ working group members, the learning of piloting activities can directly contribute in national REDD+ policy process. The following are some of the key strengths of the project.

- Community Forests cover a significant pie (over 22%) of the national forest. As FECOFUN has been actively engaged in the national REDD+ process and project implementing partner, there is a high scope of carefully analyzing and addressing the issues of users while developing REDD+ plus strategy based on the project experience.
- The guidelines for carbon trust fund and benefit sharing mechanisms are developed in wider consultations at national and project area/watershed levels for project implementation purposes. However, the essence of the guidelines and learning from implementing those guidelines would contribute greatly in developing a commonly agreed national policies and guidelines. The intra-group benefit sharing mechanisms seemed more focused to indigenous people, *Dalits*, women and poor. As these guidelines have just been adopted by the project, it is expected that in near future there will be learning of implementation of those guidelines.

The current benefit sharing mechanism include 40 % for Carbon Conservation and Increment, 10 % for IPs, 15 % for Dalits, 15 % for Women and 20 % for Poor Household.
- At the initial stage, the project developed a guideline for measuring forest carbon. Later on it was refined reviewing other similar guideline tested in Nepal in coordination of REDD+ Cell. The guideline now can be considered as a national guideline for measuring forest carbon for REDD+ purpose. However, there is always scope for improvement and standardization of the guideline.
- The project has been able to establish FCTF, advisory committees and monitoring committee at watershed level and seed grants have been provided in three watersheds recently to test the functions of these committee and guidelines. The learning of fund transaction, benefit sharing and governance will be high value in national strategy development.
- The outreach materials developed by the project can widely be used with minimum revisions. This will reduce cost of developing similar outreach and capacity building materials.

Gaps/Issues of the project

Though there are several strengths of the project, few issues /gaps have been identified. Major gaps include:

- The proposed benefit sharing mechanism within the group is relatively complex to understand even to the professionals. There is a high chance of receiving double benefit to particular groups leaving behind other segments of the communities. This may create social disorder.
- Though it is piloting, the release of seed grants could raise expectation of local people. There is no mechanism developed on international payment system for REDD+ and GoN has not officially decided whether to go for REDD+ or not as cost benefit analysis and Social and Environmental Analysis of REDD+ has not been done yet.
- The seed grants provided to each watershed is not based on the international carbon markets. The fund available in the projects has been distributed proportionately as seed

grants. As there is no price determined for per unit (ton) of carbon in international market, it would not be practical to assume any price level now. If the stakeholders are not educated on this, it may create conflicts in future.

- Though it seems scientifically correct, the number of plots for carbon measurement in each watershed sounds high for national accounting and the cost involved in adopting the guidelines have not been estimated. Unless, the cost and imbedded to the carbon measurement process within the existing forest inventory system is estimated, it will be very difficult to use prescribed methodology to all over Nepal.
- The project has established a Carbon Trust Fund for each watershed. In future, the RPP plans to establish a national level REDD+ trust funds at central level to district level. The link between the watershed level and national level carbon trust fund is not clear.

Field Visit Reflection

Field visit was made in Dolakha to explore views of the local actors on the project. Various people were consulted during the field visit. They include representative of DFO, FECOFUN, REDD+ Network and Communities. According to the respondents, the project has conducted a number of activities in the field as given below.

- 45 facilitators were produced.
- CF and Catchment Boundaries Identified and Forest Carbon Inventory were done in 1st and 2nd year.
- REDD+ Network has been established representing 58 CFUGs for REDD+ related activities. It has 15 members executive committee which is elected every two years.
- Inclusive advisory and monitoring committee have been established.
- Trust fund has been established to transact REDD+ related payments. Guidelines have been developed for trust fund and benefit sharing. Social audit is done for each activity annually.

There are several strengths reported on the project. Some of the strengths were same as the above mentioned. The stakeholders perceived the following strengths of the project.

- There is a good network of CFUGs district to village level which makes communication easy and effective.
- Trust fund and benefit sharing mechanism has already been established for watershed level. So, the model can be expanded easily.
- There is participation of all segments of communities and stakeholders at district level. This ensures their voices are heard; decisions are made democratically and implemented effectively.
- The REDD+ project did further motivation to the communities for sustainable management of forest.
- Communities have developed understanding of value of Forest on REDD+ perspective.
- Human resources have developed at local level to conduct REDD+ related activities.

Despite of achievement and strengths of the project, there are a number of issues, as presented below, at local level which needs to be carefully looked while developing further projects and national level REDD+ strategies.

- There are many households having membership in more than one CFUG, e.g. CF benefit sharing, REDD+ etc. Therefore there will be chances of double counting for benefits. There is a chance of repeated benefit within a group too as one IPs/Dalits can be poor and women. So how the repetition will be avoided is not clear.
- The basis of payment among the groups within the watershed area is not clear. Except in advisory committee, the role of DFO sounds unspoken in the available documents. The RPP envisions that DFO will be the focal person at district level and District Forest Office will be secretariat for data management, trust fund and coordination.
- DFO staff are engaged in REDD+ related activities but they are not taking any ownership,
- Most of the communities' members have limited understanding on REDD+. However, they are aware that money has come as an incentive of their forest protection.
- How the current payment system will be continued, after the project is completed, is not clear.
- Under the RPP, the DFO will be responsible to keep and track all data. But neither DFO nor communities have the data management system.
- It will be hard to form networks in small sub watershed level if this institutional mechanism is replicated all over Nepal. RPP has stressed to use existing mechanism for REDD+ implementation rather than forming new institution.

3.2.2 REDD+- Reducing Poverty in Nepal

Project Introduction

WWF Nepal Program in collaboration with Winrock International completed the 1st phase (2009-2010) of the project "REDD+- Reducing Poverty in Nepal" funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Finland, WWF Finland and WWF US as an early action project on forest carbon- REDD+-Reducing Poverty in Nepal. The project *aims* to prepare for REDD++ and have an Equitable Carbon Financing Mechanism in Place (WWF-2010).

The *objectives* of the project were,

- To enhance knowledge & scientific basis on forest carbon
- To strengthen the capacity of the government & the local communities on forest carbon including the REDD+ mechanisms
- To develop policy & institutional framework for the implementation of REDD+

The project also *aims* to pave a path so that local communities and IPs-ensuring gender sensitivity and social inclusion can

The project districts include Rautahat, Bara, Parsa, Makawanpur, Chitwan, Nawalparasi, Rupandehi, Kapilbastu, Dang, Banke, Bardia, Kailali, Kanchanpur and Argakhachi.

crave future benefits post 2012 from the implementation of REDD++ principle in Nepal and at the same time benefit biodiversity conservation (WWF-2010).

The project was implemented in the Terai Arc Landscape (TAL) Nepal. The TAL covers 13 Mid and Western Terai Districts. In addition, project has taken lower belt of Argakhachi District.

In its second phase, from 2011-2013, WWF Nepal has endeavoured to:

- Upscale in work in forest carbon in the Sacred Himalayan Landscape in coordination with MoFSC (REDD+ Cell, DNPWC, DoF, DFRS and FRA)
- Pilot the use of cutting edge technology for forest carbon inventory (LiDAR) in collaboration with FRA
- Develop a PDD for TAL with the government body as the project proponent

Project Implementation Approach

The project is implemented through the MoFSC in coordination with various line agencies (Department of Forest, Department of National Parks & Wildlife, REDD+ Cell, Department of Forest Research & Survey, Department of Soil, FRA Project- GoF and GoN, NARC, District Forest Offices, Park Offices, DDC, VDC; and TAL Program).

For field study, the project was coordinated by TAL and led by all District Forest Offices of the project districts. The project used Action Research approach while designing methodologies. Initially, the project did piloting in three districts namely Dang, Bardia and Banke. Upon the successful completion of piloting, project activities were expanded to the remaining project districts. While conducting piloting, orientation was given to the relevant stakeholders at national, regional and local levels. Necessary human resources (120 local resource persons) were trained. Rangers assigned from District Forest Offices took the lead role in carbon measurement process and they were assisted by a number of Local Resource Persons (LRPs). Other activities were mostly done by LRPs.

One of the major intentions of the project is to feed the lessons learned from the field to the national process. At national level, the project staff provided inputs in the RPP development process and other national REDD+ process based on their learning. Partnership was done with many organizations in REDD+ process.

Activities Accomplished

Under Capacity Building, several trainings were organized for staff of the local level institutions. Three types of trainings were conducted. They include Technical Training on Carbon Measurement, Training on Socio-economic Survey and Training for Awareness Raising. Most of the technical trainings were provided by rangers from the district forest offices. Through an intensive study, the project helped to devise methodologies for estimating forest carbon stock in the project area and to assess impacts on local community and biodiversity conservation conducting a socio-economic survey across the landscape. This study assessed the carbon sequestration potentials, permanence, leakage and additionality across the Terai Arc Landscape establishing a forest carbon baseline at a sub national level.

The project has made a number of **outputs** in the first phase. These outputs are the combine effort of field level piloting activities and central level interventions. They include:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on Socio-economic Survey of 14 Districts. • Forest Carbon Measurement Training. • Guideline for Forest Carbon Inventory • Baseline data of Forest Carbon in project Districts. • Projection of Deforestation and Forest Degradation in project area in different scenario. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation on MRV and BSM; and Benefit sharing system. • Draft Interim Strategy on REDD+ Developed. • 120 LRPs developed. • 23 Trainers Developed for Carbon Inventory. • 30 Trainers Developed on Forest Carbon and Climate Change. • 30 Enumerators Developed who can Conduct Socio-economic Survey.
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Strength of the Project

The project has performed several activities related REDD++. At the initial stage, when the REDD++ was still under doubt not knowing how it would develop through the UNFCCC negotiations, many people argue the need of carbon measurement piloting. But looking at the present context, it was not too early to pilot. It has given clarity in implementing RPP. There are several strengths of the project that may contribute to the national REDD+ process.

- The project has been able to develop a Forest Carbon Inventory Guideline based on FCPF guideline using Tier II and intended to move Tier III using Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR). The RPP has indicated to use tier II for Carbon measurement and to move to Tier III later on.
- The trained human resources especially LRPs will be very useful in implementing RPP and REDD plus strategy.
- The baseline Socio-economic, Forest Carbon Stock data and projection of DD will be valuable asset for Nepal while developing national REDD plus strategy.
- The proposed MRV, Benefit Sharing Mechanism and Draft REDD plus strategy will be basis for RPP implementation and developing national REDD plus strategy.
- The project is already mainstreamed to government channel. However, bringing other non- government agencies will need to be addressed in future.

Gaps/ Issue of the Project

Project is strong in terms of its contribution to national REDD+ process. Despite of having several strengths, there are a several issues. These issues will be very useful in future planning at national and sub-national/project levels. Few key gaps/issues are highlighted below.

- Several data have been generated from field work. But no mechanism is developed as to how data will be managed at local level and central level. There is risk of losing data after completion of the project or transfer of the DFOs.
- Nepal does not have a complete set of Biometric/Allometric Equations yet. Use of equation from other countries may result error in estimation.
- There is limited availability of time series image data and the available are not in good quality. To get those will be challenge for Nepal.
- It is not easy to estimate the carbon stock in forest. Availability of software and computational tools and Human Resource to Use them is problem.

- For small scale landscape level project, it is difficult to estimate leakage. The TAL area boundaries were defined based on the issues of Forest and other Natural Resource Management. So, the boundary for the project like REDD+ could be defined using different criteria to control the leakage.
- Various REDD+ projects are implemented in isolation. There is no communication, coordination and joint work among the projects implemented in the same district.
- Awareness on the importance of the project is limited to very few stakeholders and individual. Even new arrivals at district forest offices have limited knowledge on the project.

Field Visit Reflection

Banke is one of the initial piloting districts of the project where the project was implemented through Community Forest Coordination Committee (CFCC). There were a total of eight people trained to implement project activities but only four were ready. According to the respondents, the main activity conducted in the field was forest carbon measurement for which LRPs were used. No programme being implemented on social aspect of REDD+.

The strength of the project are four LRPs developed at district level who can engage in forest carbon measurement in future; as the programme is implemented through CFCC, it has reached to grass-root level that increase the chances of success; as the project is implemented in 13 district, experience can be shared to increase better understanding on measurement process etc.

There are several issues and gaps expressed by the respondents. Some of the issues/gaps are listed below.

- Understanding on REDD+ and importance of Carbon measurement at local level is weak.
- The ownership of the project activities is still not clearly expressed.
- Many stakeholders on REDD+ have limited understanding on the project activities and coordination among them was very weak.
- LRPs are not aware of the number sample plots established and analysis of the collected data. From the discussion with LRPs, it is found that they can demonstrate how to conduct forest carbon inventory but could not explain why they are doing and how it is processed.
- Awareness raising activities are missing in the project.
- There was no support from District Forest Office in measurement activities.

There was a separate discussion with a DFO staff about the projects implemented within the district. One DFO staff had participated in a five days training organised in Surkhet by TAL. According to him, there is no coordination among the REDD+ implemented project and between District Forest Office and those Projects. DFO does not have any record on Carbon Measurement Data.

3.2.3 Plan Vivo Project

Project Introduction

Plan Vivo is a landscape approach for enhancing sustainable livelihoods and payment for environmental services under the Plan Vivo Standard. The broad **objective** of the Plan Vivo pilot

project is to enhance livelihoods and reduce the vulnerability of poor rural people in selected communities in Nepal. Specifically the project will contribute to assisting rural communities in accessing additional financial resources from payments for environmental services (PES) in the form of Plan Vivo credits. These payments will contribute to this broader objective. In addition, the project will contribute to piloting and enhancing learning and capacity building amongst local communities and other government and non-government stakeholders that will enable these pilot approaches to be extended more widely in Nepal (LFP 2011). It is expected that any payments for environmental services will be used by communities to reduce poverty and vulnerability to climate change. Currently, with Livelihood and Forestry Program funding, project design document for Plan Vivo is being prepared by Rupantaran Nepal and is expected to be completed by 2011.

For the purpose of this Plan Vivo PIN, 8 pilot VDCs have been selected in different districts of Nepal (all covered by LFP). There are established Village Forest Coordination Committees (VFCCs) in these VDCs. VFCCs bring together forest-sector stakeholders into a body consisting of: CFUGs (i.e. all the CFUGs located in the VDC); local government; central government (Forestry Department staff); and local NGO service providers. VFCCs are strong mechanisms that ensure effective multi-stakeholder engagement at local level for facilitating the planning, use and monitoring of resources and can meet the Plan Vivo requirements.

Implementation Approach

The project intends to enhance livelihoods and reduce vulnerability of poor through equitable and sustainable management of forests and other tree resources taking a landscape approach by linking with accountable local government institutions (VDCs and VFCCs). Project is implemented to generate Plan Vivo certificates. There are several example of payment mechanism made based on Plan Vivo Certificates. These are very site specific depending on geographical location, forest type, forest condition, land ownership category and local preferences. Broadly these interventions are expected to be the following (LFP 2011):

Improving degraded forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest conservation and protection • Silvicultural treatment • Sustainable forest management
Enhancing forest carbon stocks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree seedling production • Enrichment planting • Silvicultural treatment to promote natural regeneration
Enhancing carbon stocks outside forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree seedling production and distribution • Multi-purpose tree planning on private land and public land • Agro forestry on private and public land
Reducing forest degradation and deforestation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transferring forest to local forestry groups • Reducing forest product demand (through substitution and efficient utilisation e.g. ICS, alternative energy) • Enhancing livelihoods diversity (especially of poor and socially excluded households) through income generation, enterprise and employment • Adaptation to climate change (especially of vulnerable households) • Land allocation (inside forests) for poor and socially excluded households

All these activities show that they have potential for delivering livelihoods and poverty reduction outcomes plus environmental services (including C-sequestration and reduced C emissions). The baseline information on the above activities being generated in selected VDCs. Those baseline information will feed in the PDD to acquire certificate from Plan Vivo. Once certificates from Plan Vivo are received, payment can be claimed based on certificate from Volunteer Carbon Market. It is expected that certifier will come from United Kingdom once PDD has been ready to verify and recommend for certificate.

Strength

Plan Vivo implementation has not been started in Nepal. But the project is in operational in four countries namely Mexico, Uganda, Mozambique, and Tanzania. Other nine projects are being developed in Malawi (2), Rwanda, Kenya, Nicaragua, Ethiopia, Cameroon, Senegal and Nepal (LFP 2011). Based on the approach and experience from other countries the following strengths are foreseen.

- Plan Vivo's scope is beyond REDD+ as it is implemented in landscape approach and covers forest and livelihood aspects.
- Plan Vivo is not rigid for MRV; verification is done based on checklist and by national Plan Vivo coordinator.
- Payment done under the Plan Vivo Certificate includes all aspect of forest/tree development and management in all types of land is not limited to carbon increment.
- As VFCC/VDCs has been considered as management unit. VFCC include all forest sector stakeholders, the project gives benefits to all according to their contribution in the area of certificate.
- The process for Plan Vivo is simple to understand and apply. So, certificate can be received easily with minimum cost.

Gaps/Issues

It will be too early to identify gaps /issues of the project. However, based on the preliminary discussion and review, the following issues have been identified.

- Currently, Nepal is developing REDD+ strategy and implementing RPP. Though, the REDD+ plus and Plan Vivo have similar goal, the mechanism under Plan Vivo and REDD+ plus is different. REDD+ plus is planned to implement in hybrid model and plans to cover entire Nepal. Plan Vivo concept is very immature at this stage and new to most of the people. The acceptance of government to implement project under Plan Vivo is in doubt as it could lead confusion and conflict.
- Plan Vivo approach considers VDC level landscape. VDC boundaries are defined politically not based on the forests resources. There is a risk of conflict between adjoining VDCs while implementing the project.
- Managing leakage will be problem considering VDC as project unit. This may happen when there are different management regimes exist.
- Under Plan Vivo certificate, the volunteer carbon market is expected to trap. There is a need of a strong contact and communication of the institution who manages Plan Vivo project in the country.

3.2.4 Grass-root Capacity Building Program for REDD+ in the Asia-Pacific

Project Introduction:

The grass-root Capacity Building Project is being implemented since 2009 in Nepal, Indonesia, Vietnam and Lao PDR with the funding support from Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD). The **Goal** of the project is "Grass-root forest sector stakeholders in the Asia-Pacific Region actively contribute in the success of REDD+ mechanism and take full advantage of resultant benefits for local socio-economic development (RECOFTC 2010)".

The **Objective** of the project is to enable grass-root forest stakeholders to participate to their full potential in planning and implementation of REDD+ related activities by addressing their key knowledge gaps (RECOFTC 2010).

The project intends to achieve a total of four Outputs as presented below.

- Training packages for REDD+ introduced,
- Awareness on REDD+ raised among grass-roots stakeholders,
- Monitoring and evaluation system established (only for the project purposes), and
- Capacity building programs incorporated in national REDD+ programs

In Nepal, the project commenced in July 2009 and will conclude in July 2013. During the first phase, the project was implemented in nine Western Terai districts of Nepal. The project coverage was expanded to sixteen districts in the second phase covering High hills in the Mid Development Region and Eastern Nepal.

The project districts include Nawalparasi, Rupendehi, Kapilbastu, Dang, Surkhet, Banke, Bardia, Kailali, Kanchanpur, Dandeldhura, Sindhupalchok, Kavrepalanchok, Bhaktapur, Ilam, Jhapa and Morang.

Project Implementation Approach

The project is led by Regional Community Forestry Training Centre (RECOFTC). The in-country implementing partners of the project include Federation of Community Forest Users Nepal (FECOFUN). The project has partnership with more than 15 organizations for various project activities. Example of the partner organisations include; REDD+ Forestry and Climate Change Cell of MoFSC, Forest Action Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN), Dalit Alliance for Natural Resources (DANAR), HIMWANTI, Nepal Foresters Association, Asia Network for Bio-Resources (ANSAB) and so on. The project aims at developing capacity of grass-root level forest stakeholders mobilizing trainers/resources persons from central to district level who receive training from the project itself.

The project has adopted clear steps of implementation. They include:

1. Conduct capacity building needs assessment,
2. Develop outreach and training manuals/materials,
3. Develop trainers at different level (central, regional and district level), and
4. Conduct awareness activities including workshops and training to grass-root level forest stakeholders.

REDD+ was very new to most of the forest stakeholders in Nepal. In this situation, finding and developing a large number of trainers was very challenging. Trainers were needed from central level to district level. Hence, the project adopted a cascade approach to develop trainers at different level. In this approach, training for trainers conducted at central level. Participants of central level then provide training to the potential district level trainers. Finally, the district level trainers/facilitators are responsible to train /facilitate district and community level events such as training and workshops. The **Figure: 2** reflect the process of capacity building. As the need assessment is continuous process, the training and workshop packages are revised based on the needs.

Accomplished Activities:

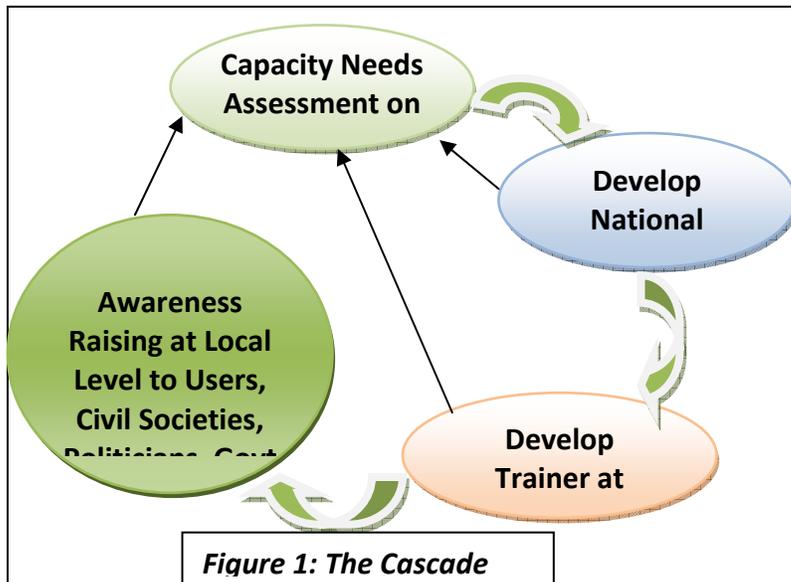
A range of activities were conducted to achieve the project objectives and immediate outputs. Very small number of activities were conducted in first phase of the project but have been increased in the second phase. A detail of achievements is presented in **Annex IV**. The major activities conducted in first phase of the project include:

- Conducted Capacity Building Need Assessment of Community Forest Groups, Networks and Civil Societies.
- Developed a range of outreach materials and conducted several outreach activities.
- Designed ToT manuals and conducted the training at central to district levels and awareness workshops at community level.
- Fellowship to journalist as a capacity building.

The project tried to be inclusive and participatory in all the planning and implementation process. It is estimated that the project has reached to more than 15,000 people in Nepal. The **Table 2** is an example of participations in training and workshops from central level to communities' level. Most of these events were focused on developing trainers and awareness development.

Table 2: Participation in training and workshops

Levels	Total	Female	Male	IPs	Dalits	Institutions
National	41	15	26	10	3	20
Regional	100	41	59	19	14	58
Community	1382	765	617	480	153	>200
Community Facilitators	96	35	61	11	7	-



Source: RECOFTC- 2010

The table indicates that the training activities were more inclusive in terms of gender and ethnicity. It shows that out of 1,523 participants 54 % were female and 46 % male; 33 % Indigenous Peoples and 11% Dalits.

In addition to above the activities, the project has contracted to Equal Access Nepal to enhance the outreach activities. Under this, 5 regional level one-day community reporters and journalist workshop and one three-day write-shops for journalists from the project districts were conducted; 12 radio episodes are being developed to be broadcasted through Radio and FM stations in Nepal to create awareness on REDD+ plus. The national coordinator of the project had significant contribution in RPP development process especially while developing Consultation and Participation Plan.

Strength of the Project

The project can be considered as a pioneer in conducting Training for Trainers (ToT). Few service providers for the RPP development of Nepal received training in REDD+ plus through this project. Major strengths are highlighted below.

- As the project is implemented through FECOFUN, the outreach and capacity building activities can be implemented smoothly through its network. While implementing local level events, it was experienced that it was more cost effective than of any other approaches.
- The project has trained a number of people as trainer at central and district levels. A list of trainers developed at central and district level in 2010 is presented in **Annex V**.
- The project can be considered as pioneer in developing training manual for developing overall awareness on REDD+ plus, trainers and creating awareness at community level. The piloted cascade training model will be very useful in national level REDD+ process.
- Two manuals have been developed. One for ToT and another for Community Level Training in REDD+ plus awareness. These manuals were developed by a consortium of eight organizations and endorsed by MoFSC.

Gaps/issues of the project

The project may have minimum gaps in implementing project. Despite of having several strengths, the project has several gaps in relation to national initiation on REDD+. However, it cannot be expected that a single project can fill all those gaps. The following gaps have been observed.

- Limited geographical coverage: The project is implemented in 16 districts. Reaching to number of people through workshops/trainings is also not so huge. Though, there are other outreach activities adopted, reaching majority of people in districts, it will need huge resources and time. This will be the real challenge for the project. Project either need additional resources or reduce project districts to cover majority of people in a short span of time so that its contribution will be valuable for readiness period. Other options could be, while implementing RPP, activities can jointly be conducted in cost sharing basis.
- Weak coordination: Similar other projects are being implemented in many districts of this project area. It seems that there is weak coordination among them to make synergies of

work and cost effectiveness. For example, in Banke, three projects, Grass-root Capacity Building Program for REDD+ in the Asia-Pacific; REDD+-Reducing Poverty in Nepal Project and Climate Change and REDD+ Partnership Programmes are being implemented but there is a very little coordination between projects.

- Civil Society focused: The project entirely focuses to non-governmental stakeholders, particularly community forest user groups (FUGs). Government institutions, including Forestry Training Institutions who are responsible to train people are left behind by the project. In a way or another, these organizations should be included for effective partnership and implementation of REDD+ in Nepal. Other participatory forest management groups like LHF group, CFM groups etc needs to be included.

Field Visit Reflection

A field visit was made in Banke district to understand views of the project participants. In Banke, 6 persons were trained as trainers who have already conducted orientation workshops at community level. The major strengths of the project included:

- Reached to the communities to increase awareness on REDD+,
- Involvement of all stakeholders such as IPs, Journalist, *Dalits*, youth, users; in training and workshops;
- There is a good coordination among CFUGs and networks,
- Cost effective
- Majority of trainers can facilitate community and district level workshops.

As REDD+ is a new to all at local level, there are a number of gaps. For example, not updated information available at local level, information materials developed are not in local languages, project has not been able to produce local level trainers who can run workshops in local language, number of trainers and events for district and local level is not adequate, mechanisms under REDD+ are yet not known which has made problem for trainer in answering questions, training was mostly focused on the social aspect of REDD+ and the existing trainers have lack on update information and event facilitation skills.

3.2.5 Climate Change and Partnership Program

Project Introduction

Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN) is an Umbrella Organization of 59 Indigenous Nationalities. NEFIN has been working in Climate Change and REDD+ Program in partnership with International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA), Asia Indigenous Peoples' Pact (AIPP) and Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education (IPIPRE) to ensure the right protection, enhance effective participation and fair benefit for indigenous peoples in Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) plus policies and program in Nepal, funded by Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) for the period between 2009 and 2012 (NEFIN, 2010).

Currently, the project is implemented in 58 districts and will be expanded gradually to 65 districts where NEFIN's District Coordination Committee existed. Out of these, intensive piloting on Climate Change and REDD+ activities is being conducted in Lamjung District. It is learnt that the

project is implemented mostly in easily accessible districts of Nepal. A list of district covered by the project is presented in **Annex VII**.

The **Goal** of the project is to contribute to the development and implementation of approaches in national REDD+ strategies that take both long term forest conservation and the rights and concerns of indigenous peoples into account (NEFIN, 2010). Objectives of the project are listed below.

- To increase awareness on Climate Change and REDD+ among indigenous peoples, and build their capacity to participate actively in the development of national REDD+ strategies;
- To increase awareness among concerned government agencies on the need to include concern of equity, social justice and poverty reduction in general, and the rights and needs of indigenous peoples in particular, in the national REDD+ strategies; and
- To strengthen indigenous peoples' community-based forest conservation and to promote REDD+ partnership between national governments, bilateral and multilateral donors and private companies, and indigenous peoples, on the basis of community-based forest management and conservation.

Project Implementation Approach

NEFIN is implementing the project in coordination with its District Coordination Committee and Village Coordination Council. The project implementation approach includes advocacy and lobby; outreach through various media; capacity building through training and workshops; intensive piloting and Research. Two broad programmes have been designed with a number of activities in each programme as presented in **Table 3** and list is presented in **Annex VII**.

Table 3: Major Programmes and Activities

Awareness Raising and Capacity Building	Advocacy and Lobby
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of education materials- REDD+ booklet, posters, documentary, articles, essays, songs and poems. • Development of training manual for indigenous leaders. • Training of Trainers (ToT) in the national and sub national level. • National REDD+ strategies workshops. • Local and national training workshops and meetings. • Information dissemination and advocacy through public media-community radios and television. • Capacity building of indigenous peoples for Community-based Forest Management. • Livelihood activities (Income generating activities) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production and distribution of information materials to relevant government agencies. • National coordination meetings and dialogue with National REDD+ players and relevant government agencies and indigenous peoples • Research and Policy and Program of Forest, Land tenure and indigenous people's rights. • Research on traditional livelihood practices for the sustainable management of the forest in the demonstration area.

Source: NEFIN- 2010

Activities Accomplished

A range of activities were conducted by the project to achieve the intended objectives. The major activities conducted include development and dissemination of outreach materials, conduct workshop in various districts, conduct general ToT on REDD+, organise national level workshops and support to REDD+ Cell. A detail of activities is presented in **Annex VIII**. Many activities cannot be quantified as they are ongoing process especially in advocacy and lobbying. No disaggregated data is available to exactly estimate the sex and ethnicity. However, the fragmented information indicated that most of Indigenous Peoples have participated in most activities. However, evidence shows that the national level forums were more inclusive in terms of sex and ethnicity. The events where IPs only participated, the ratio between male and female participation was satisfactory. NEFIN has been continuously participating and critically contributing in national REDD+ process is a member of National REDD+ Working Group.

Strength of the Project

The project has accomplished a number of activities. The concept of REDD+ was too immature when the project was launched. In such situation, the achievement of the project within the short time period is encouraging for all. There are several strengths of the project that may contribute in national REDD+ process. Following are the few key strengths of the project.

- NEFIN has good networks of indigenous nationalities of Nepal. The network made easy in project planning, implementation and communication. This in fact, has made the project activities effective in term of cost and impact. While implementing RPP, joint effort can be made between project and REDD+ cell so that outreach and consultation programme will be effective.
- The project is strong in documentation. It believes that documentation and dissemination of facts from the field will help in national policy process.
- The project claims that it has developed ten good trainers. Some of the project staffs are providing support to regional level in Asia on REDD+ and IPs. Those trainers can be further trained and used in national REDD+ process.
- Due to the project intervention, interest has been created to wide range of people at local level including district level government agencies, non-government organisations, media and journalists.

- The FCPF strongly urge for securing the right of local communities including IPs, women, vulnerable and forest dependent people. The project is contributing in the national policy process in two ways. First is creating awareness to different stakeholders on their rights

In Lamjung, the project addressed the request of these institutions to arrange awareness programme. As a result, local level small projects have formulated locally. For example, the District Agriculture Office has designed a climate change adaptation project with the help of the project staff to be funded locally. This is an example of trickle down effective of the project.

and responsibilities and the second one is providing critical feedback in national REDD+ process. One of the reasons behind to consider strong RPP of Nepal by other REDD+ implementing countries is strong involvement of NEFIN and their issue on rights are adequately addressed in the RPP. The project can contribute significantly in the process of developing national REDD+ strategy.

Gaps and Issue of the Project

Despite having several strengths of the project, it has many gaps and issues to be addressed in near future to increase its contribution in national REDD+ process. Key gaps/issues are highlighted below.

- The project targeted to secure rights of the Indigenous Nationalities on REDD+. It is equally important to understand by non IPs and specially policy makers, politicians and government officials. Majority of the project activities are targeted to IPs. Hence, at local level the project is having difficulties to included non IPs, government officials and politicians as their perceptions is the project activities are only for IPs. The project can work with REDD+ cell to develop a mechanism to address the issue.
- Currently, the project is implemented in 40 districts. Reaching wide range of stakeholders in local level and covering all 75 districts is challenge for the project due to human and financial resources limitation. There is a need to work out how the RPP implementation process and the project activities can go simultaneously so that duplication is avoided and synergy can be developed.
- The project at local level implemented independently without any collaboration with similar project implemented in the same areas. This has created confusion and misperceptions among the stakeholders at local level. The absence of DFOs even though they were invited can be considered as indicators of weak collaboration with DFOs.
- Most of the publication of the project is targeted to IPs and mostly in Nepalese language. There is high demand for outreach materials in regional languages.
- Though, community based forest management is one of the objectives of the project, there is no specific activities have been carried out that address the objective directly.

Field Visit Reflection

Banke was selected to understand the experiences from district level cadre of NEFIN. The project provided two interaction workshops at district level and three at community level where 600 IPs

participated. For community level, the fund was acquired from District Development Committee (DDC), Banke. Several strengths of the project were noted during the field visit. Some strength include

- Allocation of fund by DDC on climate change and REDD+ issues indicates the future potential to access fund for similar activities.
- NEFIN members at district level and local level understand about REDD+ and aware of impacts of REDD+ on the rights and responsibilities of IPs.

There are few issues of the project. Examples include: the project could not reach to a large number of people, there is no coordination among the project implemented on REDD+ within in the district, there a very few trainers on REDD+ at district level, no one is taking the ownership of the project at district level, there is limited knowledge on REDD+ and especially government policy on REDD+.

4. Findings

4.1 Summary of Field Reflection

As mentioned earlier, ERI study team conducted field visits in few project areas. There are some reflections received from the field.

- Capacity building program of most of the projects, particularly trainings on both social and technical parts of REDD+ to the local leaders, has been successful to some extent but the coverage of the project is very little. Only few district and community level leaders have got such opportunities and are able to transfer their knowledge and skills at community level. They however need to have more knowledge on technical aspects of REDD+ including payment mechanism. Officials from government agencies are left out from the capacity building program.
- There is good coordination between FUGs, REDD+ networks and project implementing partners. One project has supported to develop networks within the project area at watershed level. However there is very little coordination with other projects and stakeholders. The relation and coordination between government agencies, particularly DFOs and projects seems very weak.
- Few projects are able to mobilise both human and material resources at local level including resources from DDC and also are able to increase awareness on rights and responsibilities of indigenous people. However, there is serious gap on the ownership of the project and also big question on sustainability too.
- Some projects have also developed good networks and benefit sharing mechanism and have involved the stakeholders from all segments. However, the projects are yet to work to avoid double counting of beneficiaries.
- Involvement of government agencies both at district level seems very little. There seems no program to development capacity of the government officials. Therefore, DFO does not seem taking any responsibility of ownership of the project at district level.
- All projects have been able to give some basic understanding and ideas on REDD+, however they seem lacking with intense capacity building and knowledge sharing mechanism. Most of the field beneficiaries seem confused with the REDD+ concept and their role in future.

4.2 Similarities/Differences among Current Projects

The piloting projects have lots of similarities on the focus programs. Most of them are focused on capacity building, carbon measurement and benefit sharing mechanism. Further the area covered also seems overlapping as there are number of districts where three piloting projects are running at the same time. The **Table 4** below shows similarities and differences between REDD+ piloting projects in Nepal.

Table 4: Similarities and Differences among Current Projects

Project Name → Project Details ↓	Grassroots Capacity Building Program (RECOFTC/FECOFUN)	Climate Change and Partnership (NEFIN)	Reducing Poverty in Nepal (WWF)	Setting up of Governance and Payment System (ICIMOD/ANSAB/FECOFUN)	Plan Vivo Project (LFP)
Approach	Capacity building of various stakeholders (Org and individuals) through trainings adopting cascade approach	Capacity building through training and workshop and advocacy and lobbying through various media	Capacity building of various stakeholders through trainings and action research.	Learning from piloting and demonstrating on various REDD+ related activities (baseline information, forest carbon measurement and benefit sharing mechanism).	Piloting and enhancing learning and capacity building amongst local communities and other government and non-government stakeholders
Coverage	16 Districts (Dadeldhura, Kanchanpur, Kailali, Bardia, Surkhet, Banke, Dang, Kapilvastu, Rupandehi, Nawalparasi, Sindhupalchowk, Kabhre, Bhaktapur, Morag, Ilam, and Jhapa)	40 Districts covering most of the districts from mid hill and Terai.	14 Districts (Rautahat, Bara, Parsa, Makawanpur, Chitwan, Nawalparasi, Rupandehi, Kapilbastu, Dang, Banke, Bardia, Kailali, Kanchanpur and Argakhachi)	3 Watershed Areas (Charnawati River in Dolakha District, Ludikhola River in Gorkha District and Kayarkhola River in Chitwan District.	8 VDCs of 4 Districts (Baglung – Resha and Damek, Dhankuta – Budimorang and Khuwaphok, Rupandehi - Saljhandi and Suryapura, and Dang – Rampur and Laxmipur)
Target Group	CFUGs, Local Stakeholders, Civil Societies, Schools, Colleges, Youth Club, Aama Samuha etc	Indigenous people of the project areas	District level Government agencies (DFOs) and other stakeholders	The project targets around 105 CFUGs covering about 10,266 hectares of forest area and involves more that 18,000 household.	Local forest user groups of different types and their member Households at VDC level
Focused Theme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Needs Assessment Development of Outreach Materials Develop Trainers at different level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness raising and capacity building Advocacy and lobbying 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building (Training) on Carbon Measurement, Socio-Economic Survey and Awareness Raising Action Research on Carbon Measurement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building on baseline information, forest carbon measurement and benefit sharing mechanism Field testing and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving degraded forest Enhancing forest carbon Stocks Reducing forest degradation and deforestation

				demonstration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Livelihood improvement of targeted households
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In summary, there are a lot of similarities in approach, focuses and coverage within the ongoing piloting projects. The following are some of the similarities.

- Except Plan Vivo, the entire project's one of the main objectives is to contribute in national REDD+ process.
- Two projects namely Reducing Poverty in Nepal and Setting up of Governance Payment Systems, are especially involved in capacity building for carbon measurement, conduct carbon measurement and establishing benefit sharing mechanism. These two projects can be considered as full package REDD+ project. Two similar documents have been prepared namely Carbon Measurement Guidelines and draft of benefit sharing mechanism.
- The Grass root Capacity Building Programmes and Climate Change Partnership Projects are focusing to non government sector's awareness creation on REDD+. The Grass-root Capacity Building Project includes all the non governmental institutions/civil societies' organisations and up to now the Climate Change Partnership Project has mostly focused to aware IPs for securing their rights and responsibilities.
- All the projects intended to develop capacity of various stakeholders at central and local level on REDD+ and Climate Change Aspects. The capacity building activities especially include development of resource persons, raising awareness, measuring carbon. Most of these projects have so far engaged in capacity building for non-government sectors. However, the project managed by WWF has engaged few government cadres in capacity building on carbon measurement.
- The approaches of capacity building in three projects namely Grass-root Capacity Building Project, Climate Change and Partnership Project and Reducing Poverty in Nepal Project have somehow followed cascade model of capacity building.
- Similar types of outreach materials have been developed by various projects.
- There is duplication in project area except Plan Vivo and Setting up of Governance and Payment System.
- Effectiveness and cost benefits assessment have not been done any of these implemented projects. This information will be necessary for nation in analysing comparative benefit of REDD plus.

Based on the achievement made so far, it is interesting to note that both the Project " Reducing Poverty in Nepal" and the project " Setting up of Governance and Payment System" are mostly focused on developing local capacity on Carbon Measurement; developing guidelines for forest carbon measurement; conduct base line survey for socio economic and forest carbon; and developing mechanism for benefit sharing. There are two separate guidelines available for public. For REDD+ purpose, the country need only one commonly, nationally and internationally agreed methodology. With the coordination of the REDD+ Cell, a common carbon measurement guideline have been developed merging these two.

Similarly, there are a number of outreach and capacity building materials developed by mostly three projects. They include training manual, poster, pamphlet, leaflets etc. However, trend has

developed to publish those materials jointly. Example include REDD+ training manual and REDD+ information- brochure. Though, there will be need of outreach materials based on target groups, for the common message, there should a commonly agreed outreach materials that avoid duplication and communication of wrong information.

There are few differences among these projects in terms of focused themes, approaches, area coverage, and target groups. The key differences are summarised in the bullet below.

- The scope of Plan Vivo is beyond the REDD+ plus. It is implemented in landscape approach and uses VDCs/VFCC as lowest unit of implementation. In addition to REDD+ plus scope, this will include the intensive mechanism for tree in private and public land, other environmental services and etc.
- There is a need of sensitization of the entire stakeholder on the rights and responsibilities of particular communities, groups and nationalities. It is found that the Climate Change and Partnership Project implemented by NEFIN is mostly targeted to Indigenous peoples (IPs). However, now the project has realised the need to aware all on the rights and responsibilities of IPs. Similarly, the Grass-root Capacity Building Project focused to Community Forest Users and associated other stakeholders. There is a need of such activities for collaborative forest users, leasehold forest users, buffer-zone communities and other forest dependent people who are not associated with any of these groups.
- The Project-Setting of up Governance and Payment System has piloted "Trust Fund Model" at Watershed Level. The watershed has been considered as lowest management unit by the project.
- The project "Reducing Poverty in Nepal" implemented by WWF has estimated the present forest carbon stock and also projected the future scenario of deforestation and forest degradation in Business as Usual scenario.
- The Grass root Capacity Building Project has fully adopted the approach of cascade model. It is not explicit in other projects. This could be the sustainable and cost effective model for outreach and capacity building.

4.3 Strengths and Areas for Improvement of Current Pilot Projects

The objective of the study was not to evaluate the ongoing REDD+ related piloting project in terms of their impact, strength and weaknesses rather was to assess them how these project contributing and potential to contribute in the national REDD+ process. So, instead of evaluating the project against their log-frame/objectives, we assess these projects to identify their strengths that contribute in national REDD+ process and gaps to maximize their inputs in national REDD+ process.

The current pilot projects have several strengths. They have been able to educate people on REDD+ concept and other technical aspects including carbon measurement, payment mechanism etc. However, the study team also noted a number of issues that could be improved within the project. The following table shows the strengths and areas to be improved in the various pilot projects that are being implemented by different agencies.

Strengths and Gaps Project Name ↓	Strengths	Areas to be Improved
Setting up of Governance and Payment System (ICIMOD/ANSAB/FECOFUN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project has demonstrated the effectiveness of project implementation through CFUGs networks like FECOFUN. Project has prepared guidelines for carbon measurement; carbon trust fund and benefit sharing mechanism which is foundation for developing national REDD+ strategy. The disbursement of seed grants at sub watershed level as REDD+ incentive is good initiation. The transaction of these fund and benefit sharing mechanisms will give lessons in near future before developing national level fund transaction and benefits sharing mechanisms. Outreach materials developed by the project can be widely used. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The benefit sharing mechanism within group is relatively complex and there is high chance of receiving double benefits Though it seems numerically correct, the carbon measurement in each watershed involves high costs. The expectation of local people on REDD+ is high which could be difficult to meet in future. No clear link between local and central level carbon trust fund. The fund provided to each watershed is not based on the international carbon markets. Carbon measurement is not an annual business, it rather has to be periodically
Reducing Poverty in Nepal (WWF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project has been able to develop Forest Carbon Inventory Guidelines based on FCPF. Developed trained human resources who will support to implement RPP and REDD+ plus strategy. Baseline information on socio-economic condition and forest carbon stock and projection of D& D would be valuable asset for national REDD+ strategy development. It has been working with government agencies very closely. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No mechanism developed who will manage what data both at local and central levels Use of Biometric/Allometric Equations may result error. There seems lacking in coordination between similar projects. Everyone seems working in isolation. Awareness on importance of project is limited to very few stakeholders and individuals.
Plan Vivo Project (LFP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The scope is beyond REDD+ and it covers livelihood aspect too. It is not rigid and verification can be done through other references. Payment done under the Plan Vivo Certificate includes all aspects of forest development and management. VFCC include all forest sector stakeholders and gives benefits to all 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan Vivo is new concept so; it is not clear how other stakeholders perceive and react on Plan Vivo initiative. It is based on VDC level landscape, so it might create conflict as forests boundaries are not made based on administrative boundary. Managing leakage will be problem to consider VDC as project unit.

	according to their contribution.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under Plan Vivo certificate, the volunteer carbon market is expected to be in trap which is not so easy.
Grassroots Capacity Building Program (RECOFTC/FECOFUN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project has demonstrated that using FECOFUN networks, awareness and capacity building activities can be more effective and can be reached in large number of people. There are well trained facilitators within project network to conduct training at district and community levels. The training manual developed by the projects are highly appreciated and endorsed by many stakeholders. The activities under the project are in line with the RPP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Though project covers 16 districts, all the people are not benefited from the project as activities targeted to each district are limited in number. There seems weak coordination between similar projects in district to make synergies and cost effectiveness. The project has focused only non-governmental organisations. Project focuses only CFUGs but it has left out other CBOs including leasehold groups, buffer-zone groups, and collaborative groups and so on.
Climate Change and Partnership (NEFIN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The implementing agency has a good network of indigenous nationalities in Nepal and demonstrated that they can make outreach activities effective. Strong documentation and dissemination provision in the project. Project has been able to create interest to wide range of people at local level on REDD+. The project is directly working on rights of IPs which is in line with the concept and provision of FCPF. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project is focusing on IPs, so non IPs are excluded. It might give negative impression to the latter one. The project covers huge areas, 40 districts but does not cover all the stakeholders in the areas. There seems weak coordination between similar projects in district to make synergies and cost effectiveness. DFOs have not been involved in the project activities. Involvement of DFOs is critical to get the project success. Most of the publication is targeted to IPs. They rather should be useful to all stakeholders.

As the strengths of the ongoing project are assessed against the requirement for the national REDD+ initiation, the strength identified here will be a high value for National REDD+ Strategy Development and Implementation. Some strengths are highlighted in the following bullets.

- There are many extension materials available that can be used for outreach programmes. From those available materials, there is a scope of developing common and multi-language materials to be used by various media.
- Initially, there were two sets of guideline for Forest Carbon Assessment. Now, a common guideline has been developed in coordination with REDD+ Cell. However, there is a scope of improvement for a standard and recognised guideline.
- The implementations of the project especially outreach and capacity building activities through big networks of communities such as FECOFUN and NEFIN have been quite

effective. The outreach and consultation process while developing national REDD+ strategy, these types of networks would be cost effective and productive. This will further ensure that the grievances and concerns of those groups are heard.

- There are two sets of training manuals on REDD+ developed by most of the actors working in REDD+. One is to be used for training master trainer and regional level trainers where as other one for conducting training at community levels. These manuals (to develop general understanding) can be regularly updated and used for developing trainers at various levels and awareness activities at local level.
- It is obvious that due to the project interventions, many trainers and facilitators from field level to national level have been developed. Those trainers can be further equipped with updates and used in readiness and implementation phases.
- Though, revisit of the piloted Trust Fund is needed, it has given base for developing a national level REDD+ trust fund.
- Two sets of draft documents on proposed benefit sharing mechanisms will provide a ground for further discussion and development of mutually agreed system.
- The plan Vivo could provide additional benefits than of REDD+ plus which involve less effort to certificate. There is a scope of piloting as buyers already in the market and there is funding support for its further piloting.
- It is believed that the ongoing Forest Resource Assessment Project will provide data to set up reference scenario and existing carbon stock but it is still not clear that the data available will be sufficient enough to project future level of emission and existing carbon stock. The present piloting project can provide inputs for basic information collection. It is also necessary that if the additional information, which is beyond the current project scope, is collected during FRA inventory, it will save huge amount of money.

As REDD+ is new to many of us, we are yet not clear on many aspect of it. In such situation, it is obvious that there can be several rooms for improvement. Though, the piloting project may have less rooms for improvement based on the designed documents, but as most of the project intend to contribute in national REDD+ initiation, the area for improvement has to be done based on the national requirements too. The following areas have been noted down for consideration in future.

- The coordination among the projects, though they are implemented in the same areas, was very weak. However, regular sharing exists at central level. But at central level to, there is no evidence of these projects sat for meetings to implement project at field level together.
- The involvement of Government Agencies especially staff from DFO, protected areas offices, district soil conservation offices is very slim. As the objective of most of these projects is targeted to non-government sector, they are knowingly left behind. Even they are invited, their interest seemed less. In some cases, it was reported that some of the government staffs are reluctant to participate with non-government participants. The RPP envisions that DFOs and staffs will have responsibilities in coordinating REDD+ initiation at

district level. In such situation, mechanisms have to be developed for capacity building of government staff and for coordinated works.

- Costs and benefits of REDD+ yet not been estimated. The cost for REDD+ involves in many aspects including capacity building, carbon measurement, opportunities costs, forest management, database management and fund transaction. The ongoing piloting projects are not been able to show the cost of REDD+. Hence, it is difficult to decide the prescribed methods from the guidelines are cost effective.
- Though the ongoing project showed wide range coverage, the actual number of beneficiaries is very small. The current pace of capacity building will take years to cover majority of the populations. Hence, instead of piece meal approach, joint effort of government and non government sectors will be necessary.
- Availability and transparency of project report and documents is another big issue. REDD-Forestry and Climate Change Cell has been established as coordinating cell for all REDD+ related issues. The Cell does not have important documents such as PDD, project reports; except some outreach materials. These documents will have high value for those who want to know about REDD+ and projects and designing national REDD+ strategy as well. In future, REDD cell will need to have mini library of such documents.
- Though it is piloting, the project should carefully analyse the future implications of their actions. For example, yet there is no legal basis for trust fund established at watershed level, and the amount the project have provided to communities are not based on their carbon increment but is based on proportion; there are several facilitators and trainers developed, they commonly ask question, what they will do after the project, community have estimate amount of carbon stock in their forests but the next step is not clear. These issues need to be carefully analysed and should developed sustainable exit strategies.
- Two projects are working for similar objectives including capacity building in forest carbon measurement and establishing benefit sharing mechanisms. These projects have developed different models. It will be necessary to develop a mechanism to avoid duplication of efforts.
- If Nepal goes for REDD+ mechanism, Nepal should be ready for REDD+ by 2013. To be ready for REDD+, Nepal should work out in a number of aspects on REDD+ as indicated in the RPP. These aspects include development of REDD+ strategy- strategies to reduce deforestation and forest degradation, conservation of forest carbon stock and enhancement of carbon stock, benefit sharing mechanisms, database management, fund transaction mechanisms, policy and institutional reform, capacity building and stakeholders participation; development of reference scenario; and designing a monitoring system. Out of them, the ongoing piloting projects are focuses on capacity building especially awareness raising and carbon measurement, benefit sharing and fund transaction mechanism at local level. The crux of the REDD+ plus is reducing Deforestation

It is heard from various stakeholders that without knowing whether we are having baby or not, you are preparing clothes for new baby.

and Forest Degradation, Conservation of Existing Carbon Stock and Enhancement of Forest Carbon. There is no piloting project under REDD+ implemented in Nepal to address these requirements especially reducing Deforestation and Forest Degradation in the Terai and High Hills. There is urgent need for piloting in the remaining aspects of the REDD+ plus.

4.4 Lessons Learnt

In the last two years, several lessons were learnt from these piloting projects. Based on their document reviews and discussions, the following major lessons are drawn.

- Wider awareness raising program, methods and materials (in various regional languages) are needed to reinforce the understanding of REDD+;
- Multi-stakeholder forum and process at district and community levels is necessary to effectively implement REDD+ process;
- Preparation of facilitators and trainers with adequate knowledge and skill at various level is important to develop awareness in various levels and policy development process;
- Local level are interested to listen local impacts of climate change, safeguarding local peoples' rights on the forest resources, bringing REDD+ benefits to the local communities, benefit sharing mechanism, etc;
- Sound technical, organizational and administrative capacity is crucial in order to develop and implement forest-based carbon offset projects;
- The success of the implementation of the REDD+ and securing indigenous peoples rights would be possible only if the indigenous peoples in the grassroots level are equally aware about the issues and develop their capacity to have negotiation and dialogue with local level government agencies and other civil society organizations like FECOFUN;
- The role of media is important for the advocacy and lobby with the government agencies and other REDD+ players. The community radio program has been also effective tool for developing awareness;
- There is a need to understand REDD+, rights and responsibilities of various stakeholders of REDD+ by all actors. Unless, other actors of REDD+ clearly understand and realize the rights of particular groups/people, securing rights of IPs, Women, *Dalits* and Forest Dependent Communities will be difficult;
- Communities have interest in REDD+ to legitimize their carbon ownership-experience from projects have shown that local communities are interested in participating in REDD+. They view REDD+ as a bonus to the non-monetary returns they are already receiving;
- For the effective implementation of the projects, strong coordination and collaboration with relevant government agencies is needed. For such collaboration, developing understanding of those agencies on REDD+ plus and projects is equally important.
- Governance is the main factor for effective REDD+. Experience has shown that establishing a REDD+ governance system is going to be the single most important outcome of this pilot project (ICIMOD 2010).
- REDD+ may be an incentive based mechanism for meaningful conservation as communities perceive REDD+ payment as a bonus to what they are already getting.

5. Conclusion and Recommendations:

Funding forest management to avoid deforestation, forest degradation, conservation of forest carbon and enhancement of forest carbon under REDD+ plus could be an effective policy mechanism for reducing emissions and carbon sequestration. However, to work such a mechanism for the benefit of both the buyer from the industrialised world and the seller from the community groups from developing countries is a challenging task. Therefore, it is important to devise a policy mechanism that safeguards local community rights and interests. All the pilot projects trying to address the current issues surrounding REDD+ policy from a community perspective. The lessons learnt from these projects must have implications for replication in other parts of the country. Based on the study, the following **Conclusions** have been made.

- From piloting, various positive outputs have been made in capacity building, preparing baseline information, guidelines, outreach materials and training manuals. The Government of Nepal has initiated the process of developing a National REDD+ Strategy. These piloting projects can have significant contributions to enable this national policy process thereby having a contribution at the strategic level. All the projects have contributed significantly in a particular area and should be taken as an advantage and asset while designing, partnering, approving and implementing such projects.
- All these projects by and large have positive impacts on the mobilisation of non governmental institutions including federation of CFUGs, indigenous communities, women and *dalits* in project implementation. These groups are considered as right holders in REDD+. As they are already involved in REDD+ process, there is high chances of raising and hearing their concerns.
- While developing REDD+ implementation strategies, a mechanism will be needed in consultation process and ensuring two way communications. From the experience of the current piloting projects, it can be concluded that using the existing institutional structure of various federations for outreach and consultation process is relatively effective. So, in future, the existing institutional structure of the federation/alliance can be used in large extend wherever possible.
- Capacity building program of most of the projects, particularly trainings on both social and technical parts of REDD+ to the local leaders, has been found effective and the concept of REDD+ has been transferred at the local level. However, the coverage of the project is very little.
- Though, all the piloting projects have good relationship with the REDD-Forestry and Climate Change Cell, the coordination among the projects is very weak in terms of project implementation at field level. This has resulted duplication of efforts.
- It is found that there is good coordination between FUGs, REDD networks and project implementing partners at local level. Watershed level REDD networks also have been established to enhance coordination and collaboration. However, there is very little coordination with other projects and stakeholders. The coordination between government agencies, particularly with DFOs and projects has been found very weak.

- Though these are piloting projects, long term implications of their actions needs to be carefully analysed and planned accordingly. This is not seen in most cases.
- By definitions, piloting means conducting action research on various ideas and concept. It is not necessary to have similar outcomes/learning of various piloting projects even piloted for the same issue. It largely depends on the level of project interventions and socio-economic conditions and greatly helps on policy development process. However, Nepal as a small country cannot use various modalities for the same issue. So, the different findings of these piloting projects needs to be carefully reviewed while developing common and widely acceptable methodologies.
- There are few small and localized projects implemented in Nepal whose official records are not available at the REDD-Forestry and Climate Change Cell.
- All the REDD+ initiatives are potential for delivering livelihoods and poverty reduction outcomes as well as environmental services (including sequestration and emissions reduction so it should be considered as national initiative.
- Few initiatives have been carried out to link and mobilise local level resources from local agencies like DDC. There is a gap on the ownership of the project and sustainability of the project.
- Duplication of the project and its activities in the same districts has been found during the study. It not only a matter of duplication it is also a danger of double counting of beneficiaries.
- All projects have been able to give some basic understanding and ideas on REDD+, however they seem lacking with intense capacity building and knowledge sharing mechanism. Most of the field beneficiaries seem confused with the REDD+ concept and their role in future.

As the concept of REDD+ emerged three years ago, many aspects of REDD+ are still not clear at global and national level. Following the emergence of REDD+ concepts, these pilot projects are designed and are being implemented in Nepal to explore solutions of unclear aspects in local situations. At the same time, the Government of Nepal prepared REDD+ Readiness Preparation Proposal (RPP) which is currently being implemented. Under RPP, Nepal is preparing a National Strategy for REDD+ plus. The learning of these piloting projects will be great value for Nepal in preparing and implementing National Strategy for REDD+. As mentioned earlier, several positive impacts and learning have been noted from the existing piloting projects. The learning of these projects could be of high value in national REDD+ process. Based on the study, the study team offers recommendations on various aspects of REDD+. These **recommendations** are presented in five categories below.

5.1 Recommendations for Policy

- As REDD+ Cell is a coordinating body of the government, it should be active and vigilant to monitor, supervise, co-ordinate between and among different projects, donors and organizations. Furthermore, it should take ownership and leadership of the pilot projects.

- In coordination with REDD+ Cell, the pilot projects should meet regularly for planning and implementing project together for wider impacts of their efforts.
- The Government should welcome all interested piloting project as we need clear answers of various aspects of REDD+ plus.
- While inviting new piloting projects, those areas which are not piloted yet but important and avoids duplication should be given first priority. The priority areas are: piloting to reduce D&D and enhance forest carbon enhancement, piloting for market based and fund based payment, database management system, piloting fund transaction mechanism at national to local level, cost benefit analysis etc.
- There is an urgent need of REDD+ related project registration at central level. A simple form can be developed to be filled by project and submit along with their project document. However, these piloting projects should be reviewed by the REDD+ Cell before going to piloting to consider it as a REDD+ pilot project or not. Once registered, REDD Cell should write letters to concerned collaborating institutions such as DFOs for collaboration and engagement in the project.
- There is a need of a simple operational procedure for REDD+ related pilot project. The guideline should contain mechanism for collaboration and coordination, report sharing mechanisms, dispute management mechanisms etc.
- Department of Forest Research and Survey is envisioned to be responsible for REDD+ related data management at central level. DRFS should nominate staff responsible for such activities and piloting projects should engage designated persons from DFRS from now onwards.
- The new Forest Policy, which is being drafted currently, should include clear provision on REDD + piloting.
- There is a huge demand of Climate Change and REDD+ related publications, outreach materials etc. REDD cell should be developed as resource centres for all the documents. Hence, a small library can be established where publication would available for review and distributions.

5.2 Recommendation for Methodological Approach

- In future, carbon monitoring will have to be at two levels. The first one is national level to estimate the overall reduction of Deforestation and Forest Degradation, Conservation of existing forest carbon stock and Enhancement of forest carbon. These estimates can be used to claim payments for REDD+. The second measurement is for the purpose of benefit sharing to different regimes and groups as share of benefit may vary between regimes and group according to their inputs.
- The methodology for carbon measurement prescribed by the piloting projects should use for national level estimate in permanent plots being established by ongoing Forest Resource Assessment (FRA) Project. For the purpose of benefit sharing at community level, the prescribed methodologies should be in the line with the Community Forest Inventory Guideline. Hence, if Nepal decides to go for REDD+, the CF inventory Guideline should be revised to incorporate carbon estimation component.

- The developed guideline is mostly focused on carbon increment and conservation. The other aspects of REDD+ such as biodiversity, ecosystem services are not explicitly mentioned in the guidelines. Hence, while revising the guideline, these aspects must be looked at.
- Before finalizing the developed Carbon Measurement Guideline, the cost of conducting assessment should be estimated and need to evaluate against the benefits.
- Nepal does not have Biometric/Allometric Equations' for many species. Those available are also need revision. There is an urgent need to engage Department of Forest Research and Survey (DFRS) to develop/update such equations.
- The current methodology for data processing and management is complex. There is an urgent need to develop simple guidelines for data processing, analysis and management.

5.3 Recommendation for Capacity Building Need

- There is a need of capacity building in all aspect of REDD+. In addition to the general awareness raising, there is a need of capacity building on various aspect of REDD+. They include, forest carbon measurement, data processing, data management, projection of future scenario, cost benefit analysis, opportunity cost analysis etc. It is not necessary to develop capacity of all stakeholders in these areas as this depends on the level of involvement. The following are few training needs preliminarily identified.

Institutions	Capacity Building Need
DFRS	Data processing, data management, modelling for future projections of stock, reporting.
MoFSC, MoE, DoF, DNPWC, DPR and DSCWM	General Awareness of REDD+
District Forest Offices	General awareness to all field staff; GIS, Carbon measurement, data analysis and management to selected staff; ToT to selected district level staff; Carbon accounting to selected staff.
Civil Societies Organisations, Federations and other service providers	General awareness on REDD+; general and specific ToT to selected local resource persons,
Politicians, relevant government line agencies at local level	General awareness
CBOs- CFUG, LFG, BZMG, CFM etc	General awareness on REDD+, fund management, basic carbon inventory.
Forestry Training Institutions	General awareness, carbon measurement and data processing, cost benefit analysis, impact assessment etc.
REDD Cell and national level experts	Carbon accounting, modelling and future projections of stocks, reporting, cost benefit analysis, impacts assessments etc.

These tentative capacity building needs are for human resources development. After the training, infrastructure and equipments will be needed to various organisations depending on their roles and responsibilities. The roles and responsibilities will be finalised in REDD strategy. However, it is recommended that DFRS and DFO should be equipped with necessary equipment and space.

- The existing outreach activities of the piloting projects have left big chunk of population within the project districts and outside the project districts. There are several community based association and groups such as collaborative forest management groups, buffer-zone forest management groups, and public land management groups. In addition, the concept has not reached to the users of government managed forests which is more than 60% of the total forest in Nepal. Government should immediately take action to reach those segments. Actions may include
 - ✓ They include request existing project to cover entire populations
 - ✓ Invite new projects willing to target left behind segments.
 - ✓ Immediately implement the RPP where the provision for capacity development of all stakeholders is included.
- The government should start implementing RPP without delay. The RPP has provision for capacity building to government agencies at sub national level including Department of Forest (DoF), Department of National Park and Wildlife Reserve (DNPWR), DFRS, Department of Soil Conservation and Watershed Management(DSCWM). There is urgent need to develop clear understanding of these institutions in general aspects of REDD+.
- The expectations of local people with REDD+ and its benefit is very high that may not be met over the course of time. So, clear and standard communication is helpful to avoid this miscommunication in this dilemmatic phase.
- For outreach and capacity buildings, various manuals and materials have been developed by various projects. As most of them are already tested in field. Instead of designing and creating new materials, all projects including government should use them. These documents should be reviewed and prepared as common national documents. The outreach materials should be translated in different regional languages by the concerned project.
- As the implementation of outreach and capacity building activities have been found effective while implementing through networks of various communities organisations, they should be used in future consultation. The current projects have ignored the existing government mechanisms which is very crucial and authentic for two way communication. All the projects, including RPP implementation, should give equal priority to existing channel.
- As Nepal is in the initial stage of developing its capacity in REDD+ process, a roster of experts and local resource persons have to be maintained at REDD Cell. These people can be used in future capacity building, outreach and consultation process. The REDD cell and

other piloting project should give priority to use them providing refresher training as and when necessary.

5.4 Recommendation for Payment Mechanism

- The operational guidelines developed by different projects for Forest Carbon Trust Fund (FCTF), benefit sharing mechanisms should be reviewed and synthesized by the REDD+ Cell for further scaling up. This will enrich the REDD+ process and helps to avoid duplication of the resources in the same area.
- Trust Fund Mechanism has been envisioned in RPP for REDD + related transactions. It is strongly recommended to document all the process and lessons learnt of transaction and use of seed grants. This will greatly help in national strategy development.
- The guidelines available for benefit sharing are targeted to project implementations and do not include the benefit sharing between the Government and Forest Managers. As the benefit sharing depends on the effort of government in REDD+ process, form recommendation cannot be offered. It greatly depends on management regimes.
- The proposed benefit sharing mechanism within the group is relatively complex to understand even to the professionals. There is a high change of receiving double benefit to particular groups leaving behind other segment of the communities. This may create social disorder. While developing REDD+ plus strategy, these aspects should be carefully reviewed but the guidelines can be a basis.
- It is strongly recommend establishing REDD+ trust fund at national level and making transactions of all the payments for REDD+ through the trust fund. Instead of Trust Fund at Watershed level, it is strongly recommended to establish at district level. The fund deposited in national fund will transfer to district level and to forest managers. As the project "Setting up Governance and Payment System" is planning to provide additional funds to watershed, piloting by establishing and transacting funds through national level to district level will have great value for the nation.
- Payment for REDD+ should deduct all the expenses associated with REDD+ for particular areas. Payment without deducting those expenses will give false expectation.

5.5 General Recommendations

- All the projects have strong contribution in national REDD+ process. Several data have been generated, human resources have been developed, tools/guidebooks/methodologies also have been developed from field work. It is also necessary to link these achievements up to meso and macro level for which mechanisms should be developed to manage and utilize all these achievements of the pilot projects.
- The projects' concern and focus on indigenous and marginalized segment of the society and involvement of these groups in designing and functioning of a national-level REDD+ governance and payment mechanism but the approach must not exclude the other segments of the society which may hinder the social process as well as governance and forest management mechanism.

- All the piloting projects are recommended to develop exit strategy ensuring the sustainability of their effort, minimum negative impact of the project interventions and high contribution in national process and for the benefit of the country.

References:

- ICIMOD, 2009- Final Report: Design and setting up of a governance and payment system for Nepal's Community Forest Management under Reduced Emission from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD+) Final Narrative Report
- RECOFTC, 2010- Final Progress Report: Grassroots Capacity Building Program for REDD+ in the Asia- Pacific Region
- NEFIN, 2010- Project Information Brochure: Climate Change and Partnership Programme
- WWF, 2010- Annual Report of WWF Nepal
- WWF, 2010-Project Report: Early Action Forest Carbon Project- to Prepare for REDD++ and Have an Equitable Carbon Financing
- Livelihood and Forestry Programme, 2011- Plan Vivo Idea Note(PIN):A Landscape Approach For Enhancing Sustainable Livelihoods and Payment For Environmental Service under the Plan Vivo Standard in Place

ANNEXES

Annex-I: List of persons involved in consultation

a. List of Persons involved in consultation at central level (individual consultation)

1. Mr. Keshav Prasad Khanal- REDD+ Forestry and Climate Change Cell, MoFSC
2. Mr. Ram Mandal – REDD+ Forestry and Climate Change Cell, MoFSC
3. Mr. Peter Branney- Livelihood and Forestry Project (LFP)
4. Ms. Pasang Dolma Sherpa- Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN)
5. Mr. Ugan Manandhar- World Wildlife Federation (WWF)
6. Mr. Hari Saran Luitel- Regional Community Forestry Training Centre (RECOFTC)
7. Mr. Eak Rana- International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)
8. Mr. Sanjib Bhattarai- Asia Network for Bio-Resources (ANSAB)

b. List of persons consulted through workshop

Venue: Training Hall, Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation, Babarmahal, Kathmandu

Name of Participant	Institute	Designation
1. Bircha Bdr. Sahi	FECOFUN	Secretary
2. Rishi Ram Tripathi	REDD – Cell	Chief
3. Bishnu Devkota	Kathmandu Forestry	Lecturer
4. Kamala Thapa Magar	NEFIN, CC and REDD Project	Project Officer
5. Babu Ram Pokhrel	DFO, Rautahat	AFO
6. Rajendra Kafle	Department of Forestry	Forest Management Officer
7. Pashupati Koirala	Leasehold Forestry and Livestock Program	Planning Officer
8. Bryan Bushley	University of Hawaii	Ph. D Candidate
9. Keshab Gautam	DFRS	Research Officer
10. Rabindra Maharjan	REDD – Cell	Under Secretary
11. Amardev Yadav	RAN	Chairman
12. Saraswoti Sapkota	DNPWC	Assistant Ecologist
13. Bishnu Bdr. Nepali	Dalit Alliance for Natural Resources, Nepal	Vice Chairman
14. Shanker Poudel	Rupantran Nepal	PES Coordination

1) Keshav P. Khanal	REDD – Cell	Under Secretary
2) Laxman Gautam	DOF	Under Secretary
3) Devi Chandra	BISEP – ST	Program Officer
4) Ram Asheshwar Mandal	REDD – Cell	Forest Officer
5) Sudeep Raj Adhakari	NORMS	
6) Rajan Shrestha	REDD – Cell	
7) Gopi Paudel	NORMs	
8) Kumud Shreshta	NFA	
9) Shambhu Dangal	ERI	Director
10) Bishwa Paudel	ERI	Director
11) Basanta Lamsal	ERI	Consultant
12) Kiran Timalina	13) GG	Director

c. Name of Consulted Persons at Local Levels

Name	Organization	Designation	Contact
Rajendra Neupane	District Forest Office, Banke	DFO	
Amar Shah	District Forest Office, Banke	AFO	9858020700
Purushottam Wagle	Banke National Park	Assistant Warden	
Kedar Nath Dahal	District Forest Office, Dolakha	DFO	049-420135
Dambar Bdr. Thapa	NEFIN REDD+ Project, Banke District Coordination Council	Chairperson	9848027618
Ram Bdr. Bhandari	FECOFUN, Banke	Treasurer	9848063697
Tularam Khatri	FECOFUN, Banke	General Secretary	9848020197
Karna Bdr. BK	Kamdi CFCC	President	9848028156
Madan Hamal	Kamdi CFCC	Secretary	9814578568
Rama Raut	Kamdi CFCC	REDD+ Facilitator	9848126494
Sita KC	FECOFUN, Banke	President	9844022014
Kamala Basnet	FECOFUN, Banke	General Secretary	049-421405
Dipak Charmakar	ANSAB, Dolakha	Forest Technician	
Laxmi Bhujel	REDD+ Network, Dolakha	Secretary	
Dhurva Basnet	Charnawati CFUG	Member	

Annex II: Sample Checklist Used for Field Consultations

Checklist for Field Discussion- Forest Carbon Stock Measurement

A) Checklist to Discuss with DFO

1) Introduction

- Name of the DFO
- Duration in the district
- How he was associated in the project

2) Process

- Objectives of the project
- Steps involve in project implementation
- What is the status now
- What is future plan
- List of stakeholders including their roles and responsibilities
- The project implemented is a part of REDD process and same piloting is being done other places too. Opinion on piece meal VS complete package testing in one place
- Your involvement in training and measurement?
- How the database has been managed and analysed? How can it be linked with payment mechanisms for REDD?

3) Outcomes/Result

- What is the result of the project so far?
- How these results fit in the national process?
- How this contributes on the payment mechanism under REDD?
- How the measurement and carbon accounting system contribute in sustainable forest management?
- Sustainability and Feasibility of Techniques (Technically, Financially and logistically)

4) Strength and Area for Improvement of the Project

- List out the strength of the project which contributes for sustainable forest management, benefit sharing mechanism, capacity building at local level and policy development at national level?
- List out the area of improvements so that the project will have wider contribution in various level and objectives?

5) Suggestions for Policy Level

- REDD strategy is being developed at central level where the mechanisms for monitoring of carbon stock enhancement and conservation of existing carbon will be developed. What is your suggestions?- Who should measure, How simple should it be, who should manage database and how it is communicated to national level, how the database and fund transaction mechanism can be made linked for logistically and for payment system, capacity building, engagements etc.

- Any other policy inputs on REDD

B) Checklist to Discuss with Field Facilitator who engage in measurement

1) Introduction

- Name of the person
- Address
- How he/she was associated in the project

2) Process

- Objectives of the project
- Steps involve in project implementation
- What is the status now
- What is future plan
- List of stakeholders including their roles and responsibilities
- How he/she got training? How difficult was it? Can techniques be transfer to other?
- How the database has been managed and analysed? How can it be linked with payment mechanisms for REDD?

3) Outcomes/Result

- What is the result of the project so far?
- How these results fit in the national process?
- How the measurement and carbon accounting system contribute in sustainable forest management?
- Sustainability and Feasibility of Techniques (Technically, Financially and logistically)

4) Strength and Area for Improvement of the Project

- List out the strength of the project which contributes for sustainable forest management, benefit sharing mechanism, capacity building at local level and policy development at national level?
- List out the area of improvements so that the project will have wider contribution in various level and objectives?

5) Suggestions for Policy Level

- REDD strategy is being developed at central level where the mechanisms for monitoring of carbon stock enhancement and conservation of existing carbon will be developed. What is your suggestions?- Who should measure, How complex should it be, who should manage database and how it is communicated to national level, how the database and fund transaction mechanism can be made linked for logistically and for payment system, capacity building, engagements etc.
- Any other policy inputs on REDD

B) Checklist to Discuss with communities

1) Introduction

- Name of the persons and community engage in discussions
- Address/location
- How they are associated in the project

2) Process

- Understanding on REDD plus
- Understanding on the objectives of the project
- What aspects of the REDD have been discussed and applied in village?
- Steps involve in project implementation
- Why they have involved? What they got and will get?
- Do they know present status and future direction of the project, if yes what?
- Develop a map of stakeholders involved and potential to involve including their roles and responsibilities
- How the database has been managed and analysed? How can it be linked with payment mechanisms for REDD?

3) Outcomes/Result

- What is the result of the project so far?
- How this contributes on payment mechanism under REDD?
- How the measurement and carbon accounting system contribute in sustainable forest management?
- Sustainability and Feasibility of Techniques (Technically, Financially and logistically)

4) Strength and Area for Improvement of the Project

- List out the strength of the project which contributes for sustainable forest management, benefit sharing mechanism, capacity building at local level and policy development at national level?
- List out the area of improvements so that the project will have wider contribution in various level and objectives?

5) Suggestions for Policy Level

- REDD strategy is being developed at central level where the mechanisms for monitoring of carbon stock enhancement and conservation of existing carbon will be developed. What is your suggestions?- Who should measure, How simple should it be, who should manage database and how it is communicated to national level, capacity building, engagements etc.
- Any other policy inputs on REDD

Annex III: Name of the Study Team Members

1. Shambhu Prasad Dangal- Team Leader
2. Bishwa Nath Paudel- Social and Institutional Development Experts
3. Basanta Lamsal- Socio-economist
4. Kiran timalsina- Forest Management/MRV Experts
5. Madan Bashyal- Field Researcher

**Annex IV: Overall Achievement of the Grass-root Capacity Building Project
(up to May 2011)**

SN	Activities	Unit	Quantity
A	IEC Material Development		
1	Capacity Building Needs Assessment and Training Needs Assessment of Communities and Civil Societies	event	2
2	Fliers Development and Dissemination	no.	5,000
3	Case Study (By Students) on REDD+	no.	2
4	ToT Manual Development and Revision for general ToT	No.	1
5	Community Training Manual Development And Revision	no	1
6	Flex Poster Development as Training Materials	set	20
7	Project Brochure	set	2,000
B	Consultation, Planning and Reflection		
1	Inception and Planning Workshop with REDD+ Cell and Stakeholders	no.	2
2	Inception and Planning Meeting at District Level	no.	16
3	Regional Level Project Lessons Sharing and Reflection Workshop	No.	2
4	National Level Project Lessons Sharing and Reflection Workshop	no.	1
C	Capacity Building Programs		
1	National Level TOT (4&5 Days)	no.	2
2	Regional Level TOT (4&5 Days)	no.	7
3	Refresher Training for Local Level Facilitators (2 Days)	no.	2
D	Networking and Lobbying		
1	National Level Issue Based Consultation Among REDD+ Stakeholders	no.	2
E	Awareness On Climate Change and REDD+		
1	Orientation to FECOFUN NEC Members on REDD+	no.	1
2	Journalist Fellowship for District Level Journalists (5 Articles In Each District)	person	16
3	Community Awareness Program/Campaign/Training - CFUG Level	no.	350
4	Community to Community Training (CTCT) - Piloting	no.	50
5	Broadcast REDD+ Issues and Program Updates through NTV	episode	5
6	Street Play –Pilot Scale	no	5
7	Cultural Program – Pilot Scale	no	3
8	FM Radio Programme	episode	6

Source: Consultation Meeting with NPC-2011

Annex V: List of trainers developed by Grass-root Capacity Building Project

A. Central Level

SN	Name of participants	organization	Contact no.	Email
1	Babu Ram Bhattra	KNP/DNPWC	9841142438	baburam77@gmail.com
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5	Ganesh B.K.	FECOFUN/CECI	9841459640	gaheshbk2@gmail.com
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13	Krishna B. Gautam	FECOFUN CCM	9844153721	
14	Krishna Murari Bhandari		9841277596	kmbhandary@hotmail.com
15	Krishna Pokhrel	DLA	9841398940	
16	Krity Shrestha	Clean Energy Nepal	42577481	krity@cen.org.np dan_krity143@hotmail.com
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22	Padma Chaudhari	FECOFUN, CCM	9748503085	
23	Parbata Gautam	FECOFUN CCM	9742004976	pgautam35@gmail.com
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32	Tanka Prasad Paudel	FECOFUN DDN/RRI	9851127190	prap.tanka@gmail.com

B. Participants at Central regional TOT, Banepa, Kavre

SN	Name of Participants	Organization	Phone No	Email
1	Binod B.K.	ABC, Television	9841616107	
2	Binod Sapkota	FECOFUN, Kavre	9841522088	sapkota_binod@gmail.com
3	Digamber Singh Dahal	FECOFUN, Center	9841804674	dsdahal@gmail.com
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5	Hari Kumar Shrestha	NEFIN, Sindhupalchwork	974188703, 9841456455	hari.sth74@yahoo.com
6	Laxmi Thapa Magar	FECOFUN, Bhaktpur	9841962095	
7	Nani Maya Goshai	Hamro Phalame Muthee	9841110288	maiya.nani@yahoo.com
8	Niru Gurung	ForestAction	9803229391	Angee_fren@yahoo.com
9	Rabindra Prasad Dhital	FECOFUN, Sindhu	9841183635	
10	Radhika Adhikari	FECOFUN, Bhaktpur	9849177600	
11	Raju Shrestha	FECOFUN, Sindhu	9741120160	
12	Ramila Homagai	FECOFUN, Kavre	9841566762	rami909-h@yahoo.com
13	Sajana Achariya	FECOFUN, Kavre	9741058961	acharya.sajana75@yahoo.com
14	Shanta Neupane	FECOFUN, Kavre	9841715456	
15	Shekhar Khadka	FECOFUN, Bhaktpur	9841531464	
16	Sita Sunuwar	FECOFUN Bhaktpur	9741025071	
17	Surya Prasad Nepal	Independent Consultant	9849502508	surya.nepal@yahoo.com

C. Participants at Far- Western Regional TOT, Dhangadhi Kailali

SN	Name of Participants	Organization	Phone No	Remarks
1	Basanta Kumar Gurung	NEFIN, Kanchanpur	9848720608	
2	Bhagawati Kumar Bhatta	FECOFUN, Dadeldhura	9849753746	
3	Chakra Prasad Sharma	Baitadi, FECOFUN	9749527348	
4	Chandra P. Thani	FECOFUN, Surkhet	9848078200	
5	Chun Kumari Chaudhari	CCM, Kailali	9848497649	
6	Dharma Nanda Panta	Kanchanpur	9749509012	
7	Janaki Chand	Journalist, Dadeldhura	9848744487	
8	Kali Ram Chaudhari	FECOFUN, Kailali	9814541034	
9	Kamal Panthi	Journalist	9858022281	
10	Kausila B.K.	FEOCUFUN, Kailali		
11	Khem Raj Bhandari	FECOFUN, Kailali	091-529083	
12	Kul B. Khadka	Journalist	9848106765	
13	Lal Bahadur Thapa	Dadeldhura, FECOFUN	9749512173	
14	Lekhanath Bhusal	FECOFUN, Bardiya	9748005257	
15	Lokaraj Pariyar	COFSUN, Bardiya	9848052129	
16	Man Singh Bhandari	Kanchanpur	9848811163	
17	Maya Joshi	Kanchanpur	9848758503	
18	Min B. Magar	Dadeldhura	9749517697	
19	Niranjan Gharti Magar	NEFIN- Kailali		
20	Rani Bibas	Kanchanpur	9848741212	
21	Rashem Rana Magar	NEFIN- Surkhet	9849040304	
22	Santi Singh	FECOFUN, Surkhet	9848078222	
23	Surji Chaudhari	FECOFUN, Bardiya	9814597858	
24	Tek Bahadur Bhandari	Kanchanpur	9848760516	
25	Tek Bahadur Thapa	Kailali FECOFUN	9848426587	
26	Tikaram Sunar	Ban Batabaran Samuha, Kailali	9848576581	
27	Tulsi Devkota	FECOFUN, Kailali	9749007206	
28	Yadab Chaudhari	Free Labour Society	9848432689	
29	Yasodha Kayestha	FECOFUN, Kailali	9848423933	
30	Yuba Timalisina	Dadeldhura		

D. Participants at Western regional TOT, Butwal, Rupandehi

SN	Name	Organization	Phone No.	E-mail
1	B.P Gautam	Mechikali National Daily, Rupandehi	9847025560	bpgautamnews@gmail.com
2	Bashanti Malla	HIMAWANTI, Nawalparasi	9847249822	
3	Bedkala Sharma	FECOFUN, Kapilbastu	9847285780	
4	Bishnu Prasad Bhar	FECOFUN, Kapilbastu	9847188727	
5	Champa Chaudhari	Aadhibashi Janajati Mahasang, Rupandehi	9806927290	
6	Champa Gyawali	HIMAWANTI, Rupandehi	9847149921	raju100@yahoo.com
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8	Durga Pathak (Pandey)	FECOFUN, Rupandehi	9747021329	
9	Ghanshyam Chalise	FECOFUN, Rupandehi	9847033686	
10	Hem Raj Tharu	Aadhibashi Janajati Mahasang, Kapilbastu	9814419495	
11	Hom Bahadhur Gurung	Aadhibashi Janajati Mahasang, Nawalparasi	9847041782	
12	HumNath Bhattarai	FECOFUN, Kapilbastu	9847082583	
13	K. B. Rana	Nepal Patrakar mahasang, Nawalparasi	9857028170	hotnews.kb@gmail.com
14	Kamala Sapkota	HIMAWANTI, Dang	9847842820	
15	Karkat Chaudhary	Aadhibashi Janajati Mahasang, Dang	9847966147	
16	Kesh Kumari Bhandari Oli	FECOFUN, Banke	9848095791	
17	Khim Prasad Pulami	FECOFUN, Dang	9748301694	
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20	Mukunda Kafle	Sarbangin Bikash Kendra, Dang	9847824171	

21	Narayan Prasad Paudel	FECOFUN, Nawalparasi	9847096228	
22	Ram Bahadur Bhandari	FECOFUN, Banke	9848063697	
23	Renuka Kaucha	youth Network, Banke	9841638219	idoirenuka@yahoo.com
24	Thakur Prasad Pandey	FECOFUN, Nawalparasi	9847145008	
25	Uma Thapa Magar	Nepal Samacharpatra, Banke (patrakar Mahasang)	9858022076	magaruma@gmail.com

E. Participants at Eastern regional TOT, Kalbalguri, Bhadrapur, Jhapa

SN	Name	Organization	Phone No.	Email
1	Amit Khambu	NEFIN journalist, Jhapa	9842754719	
2	Ashok Rajbanshi	FECOFUN, Jhapa	9806084792	
3	Bed Prakash Bhandari	FECOFUN, Jhapa	9807946848	
4	Bhawani Khatiwada	FECOFUN, Jhapa	9842639167	
5	Chhatra Poudel	FECOFUN, Jhapa	9842633768	
6	Dev Maya Thamsuhang	NEFIN, Jhapa	9805336177	
7	Dhan Keshar Basnet	FECOFUN, Jhapa	9842667896	
8	Dhurba Shrestha	FECOFUN, Illam	9742655420	
9	Durga Dahal	FECOFUN, Jhapa	9842629674	
10	Hima Magar	FECOFUN, Jhapa	9842634908	
11	Hira Prasad Pokharel	FECOFUN, Jhapa	9842628557	
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13	Khyam Bhujel	Nepal Patrakar Mahasang, Illam	9742618247	Khyambhujel@gmail.com
14	Lal Bahadur Dhungana	FECOFUN, Jhapa	9742603833	
15	Manuta Rai	FECOFUN, Illam	9842735166	
16	Medani Siwakoti	FECOFUN, Jhapa	9742635131	
17	Mohan Bhattarai	Naya patrika Daily, Morang	9842047142	jrmohan.brt@gmail.com
18	Nanu Dudhpau Kumal	NEFIN, Jhapa	9842696204	
19	Nima Ghising	NEFIN, Jhapa	9842679267	maichyang_nima@yahoo.com
20	Nirmala B.K.	FECOFUN, Morang	9842155055	
21	Nirmala Rai (Chemjong)	FECOFUN, Morang	9742655480	

22	Padam Bd. Tamang	NEFIN, Illam	9742603749	
23	Prashant Niraula	FECOFUN, Morang	9842145045	
24	Renuka Dahal	FECOFUN, Morang	9742030169	
25	Shailendra Thoklen	FECOFUN, Morang	9842042955	
26	Tek Bahadur Rai	FECOFUN, Illam	9814341476	
27	Til Bikram Tumbaahmphe	FECOFUN, Illam	9742655350	
28	Tilak Darnul	FECOFUN, Jhapa	9807946905	
29	Tulsi Pokharel	FECOFUN, Jhapa	9804901997	
30	Yek Raj Giri	Parbanchal Daily, Jhapa	9742617722	

Annex VI: Name of the District Coverage by Climate Change and Partnership Program

1. Arghkhachi	16. Dandaldhura	31. Pyuthan	46. Ramechhap
2. Okhaldunga	17. Taplejung	32. palpa	47. Rupendehi
3. Ilam	18. Terhathum	33. Bardia	48. Lamjung
4. Udayapur	19. Tanahun	34. Banke	49. Saptari
5. Kanchanpur	20. Dang	35. Bara	50. Sankhuwasava
6. Kapilbastu	21. Dailekh	36. Baglung	51. Sarlahi
7. Kailali	22. Dolakha	37. Bhojpur	52. Salyan
8. Kacrepancho	23. Dhankuta	38. Makawanpur	53. Sindhupalchok
9. Kaski	24. Dhanusha	39. Mustang	54. Sindhuli
10. Gulmi	25. Dhading	40. Morang	55. Solukhumbu
11. Gorkha	26. Nawalparasi	41. Mahottari	56. Surkhet
12. Chitwan	27. Nuwakot	42. Myagdi	57. Sunsari
13. Jagarkot	28. Parbat	43. Rasuwa	58. Siraha
14. Jhapa	29. Parsa	44. Rautahat	
15. Dolpa	30. Panchthar	45. Rukum	

Annex VII: Accomplished Major Activities up to December 2011 of NEFINs CC Project

S.N.	Activities	Unit	July 09- June 10	July- Dec 10	Total
1. Awareness Raising and Capacity Building on REDD+ for Indigenous Communities					
1.1 Production, publication and distribution of information materials on REDD+ plus					
1.1.1	Indigenous Peoples Guidebook on REDD+ plus-1	no. of Copies	1000		1000
1.1.2	Booklets on REDD+ plus-1	no. of Copies	1000		1000
1.1.3	News Letters-1	no. of Copies	2000		2000
1.1.4	Position Paper-1	no. of Copies	2000		2000
1.1.5	Training manual-1	no. of Copies	1000		1000
1.2	Inception meeting on Projects-1	no. of participants	100		100
1.3	National Level ToT on CC, REDD+ and IPs-1	no. of participants	50		50
1.4	Community Level Training on CC, REDD+ and IPs-1	no. of participants	33		33
1.5	Nation REDD+ strategies workshop	no. of participants	58		58
1.6	National REDD+ Stakeholders Meeting-2	no. of participants		142	142
1.7	Orientation for Journalist on CC-REDD+-1	no. of participants		39	39
1.8	Television Programme development and transmission	Episode		3	3
1.9	National Leader Refresher Workshop-1	no. of participants		54	54
1.10	Poems/Songs competition	no.		3	3
1.11	Community Radio Programme	Episode		48	48
1.12	Documentary	no.		1	1
2. Advocacy for right-based and pro-poor approach in national REDD+ Strategies					
2.1	National REDD+ consultation workshop-1	no. of participants	58		58
2.2	Press conference on the position of IPs on CC and REDD+ in Nepal-1	no. of participants	32		32
2.3	National Coordination Committee meeting-1	no. of participants		60	60
2.4	Interaction programme with Local Agencies, IPs leaders-1	no. of participants		114	114
2.5	Interaction with Local Communities-2	no. of participants		98	98
2.6	Community Level Research training-1	no. of participants		28	28
2.7	Baseline Survey	no.		1	1