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Department of Environment, Science & Technology

Government of Himachal Pradesh

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Proceedings of 9th State Steering Committee Meeting of SLADRC project under National Adaptation Fund on Climate Change held on 04-12-2020 in the Committee Room, Armsdale Building, HP Secretariat Shimla-1.

1. 9th State level Steering committee meeting regarding implementation of project titled "Sustainable Livelihood of Agriculture Dependent Rural Communities in Drought Prone Districts of Himachal Pradesh through Climate Smart Solution" was convened on 4th December, 2020 at Shimla under the Chairmanship of Shri. K.K. Pant, IAS, Principal Secretary, (Env., S&T) to the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh, Shri. Sudesh Kumar Mokhta, IAS, Director, (Env., S&T), Govt. of Himachal Pradesh, Sh. Rajneesh, SDM, Nahan, District Sirmaur, H.P., AGM & AM (NABARD), Sh. Parveen Gupta, Addl. Director (DEST), Shimla HP & all members of departments i.e. Agriculture, Horticulture, Forest, Industry, BDOs & IPH and from district level all BDOs, Dy. Directors (Agri-Horti), Executive Engineer, IPH (Pachhad, Paonta Sahib & Sangrah), DFO (Forest Deptt.) & Representatives of M/s CTRAN consulting were present.

All the members, stakeholder department representatives attended the meeting as per list/attendance sheet at **Annexure-I**.

2. At the outset, Sh. Sudesh Kumar Mokhta, IAS, Director(Env. S&T) Himachal Pradesh welcomed the Chairman and all the Members of the Committee including participants and explained about the agenda of the meeting to all the participants.
3. Further, with the permission of the Chair, Project Coordinator-Principal Scientific Officer (Env.), Department of Environment, Science and Technology, Shimla, H.P. made the component wise physical and financial achievements/ status under the project besides presenting the agenda of the meeting.

He informed the Committee that the project was started in April, 2016 and the duration of the project is 5 years. As on date Rs. 14.56 lakhs have been released to the DEST under the project out of which 86% of funds i.e. Rs. 12.55 lakhs have been utilized. He informed that an action plan for 2020-21 was submitted to the MoEF&CC, GoI through NABARD with the request to release 4th instalment of Rs. 4.55 Crores on dated 27th April 2020. The MoEF&CC, GoI after National Steering Committee Meeting has approved and released the 4th instalment to the NABARD for further releasing it to the Executing Agency i.e. DEST. But, funds have yet not been released by the NABARD. He said that, as of now most of the components of the project have been implemented. However, Component : #4 i.e. "Capacity Building of community on climate smart knowledge base and lesson learning " and related activities from other component could not be completed in time due to COVID-19 situation. Therefore, the balance fund

remained unspent. The training progress have been restarted as per the guideline issued by the state government & district administration w.r.t. COVID-19 but at slow pace.

4. The Principal Secretary (Env.,S&T) –cum - Chairman of the Committee said that since funds received under the project have been fully utilized, except training activities due to COVID-19 situation, there is a requirement of funds to complete remaining activities as per action plan. He requested NABARD to release the balance fund to DEST so that the remaining activities under the project could be completed in time.
5. Component wise deliberation and decisions taken in the meeting are as follows:

Item No 1

Compliance of decisions of 8th State level Project Steering Committee Meeting held on 02-09-2019 and status of progress:

Component No. 2: Climate Smart Package of Practices for the District.

- 2.1 Water Harvesting Structure Creation for Irrigation &
- 2.2 Moisture Management for Vegetables
- 2.3 Promotion of Inter-cropping of maize and pulses and SRI cultivation in late but excess moisture condition.
- 2.4 Introduction of Legumes and other green fodder as well as early on setting cultivars of fruits.
- 2.6. Soil Testing & Soil Moisture Management.

Decision Taken in 8 th meeting	Compliance & Status
i) The Committee approved to release the additional funds of Rs. 17.62 lakhs required for the proposed extra works under LIS Odder-Pudla-Block Pachhad out of the Savings under component 2 subject to the submission of estimates for different components to be created under proposal and completing all codal formalities.	(i) Funds of Rs. 17.62 lakhs have been released. The Chief Eng. IPH informed that the process of construction of the scheme has been initiated. LIS Scheme Odder-Pudla-Block, Pachhad has also been inaugurated by Hon'ble Chief Minister on 1 st Sept, 2019.
ii) The implementing agency shall ensure to avoid uncovered/flood irrigation and provide water to the farmers through irrigation pipes.	(ii) Decision complied, water being distributed using irrigation pipes.
iii) The completion and implementation of other two LIS schemes shall be ensured by Deputy Commissioner and shall be reviewed regularly in district level technical advisory committee.	(iii) LIS Scheme, Paonta Sahib has been inaugurated by Hon'ble Chief Minister on 29 th July, 2020. LIS Scheme, Sangrah completed and ready for inauguration.
iv) The Committee decided that the scheme may be handed over to IPH Pachhad for running and O&M in future. (Action by DC &, Executive Engineer, IPH)	(iv) LIS Scheme Odder-Pudla-Block, Pachhad being run by IPH.

(i) The BDOs shall complete all these schemes within a month of period. (ii) The BDOs shall share the list of beneficiaries with the DEST in fifteen days. (iii) The ADC shall review the progress of the schemes with convergence of different micro watershed schemes. (iv) The BDO concerned shall share the geo-tagged pre-construction photographs of all the schemes with DEST. The BDOs shall submit geo-tagged photos of construction phase and post-construction phase, i.e. three stage photographs shall be submitted pre-construction, during and after construction. (Action by BDOs of Pachhad, Sangra & Paonta Block, RD Department, & DEST)	(i) All schemes have been completed. (ii) List of beneficiaries shared with BDOs. (iii) Progress has been reviewed by the ADC on dated 20/8/2020. (iv) Geo-tagged photos have been shared with DEST.
(i) The ADC will review the preparation and implementation of Agri/Horti Plans to expedite the execution of the activities in convergence with existing scheme with field functionaries viz. Dy. Director Horticulture & Agriculture and that plans are prepared and the activities are completed within three months. (ii) In order to expedite the implementation, the DC Sirmaur may hold review meeting to see progress at district level. The Dy. Director Agriculture & Horticulture shall ensure the quantitative progress on implementation of agriculture & horticulture plans as per requirement of project in time bound manner. (iii) The list of FIG around LIS, MIS, Ponds and Irrigation Channels shall be shared with the Agriculture & Horticulture Departments. The Field Facilitators shall coordinate with Agriculture & Horticulture Departments for this purpose. The Field Facilitators shall give the list of farmers to Horticulture/Agriculture Departments with demands of fruit plants, seed requirements etc. (Action by District Administration, Agriculture & Horticulture Deptts.)	(i) Progress has been reviewed by the ADC on dated 20/8/2020 and all the concerned were directed to implement the project in time bound manner. (ii) List of FIGs shared.

Total amount of Rs. 76.50 lakhs have been released to the Horticulture Department in the month of January, 2019. Progress on this activity is to be reviewed before the Committee.

Information received from the office of Dy. Director Agriculture, Nahan placed before the Committee that total Rs. 66.13 lakhs have been utilized out of Rs. 72.72 lakhs as per the following components:

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#	Components	Target (Rs.)	Achievement (Rs.)
1.	Moisture Management for Vegetable	6.32	0
2.	Inter cropping of maize and pulses	26.6	25.34
3.	Vegetable cultivation	14.8	14.08
4.	Introduction to legumes and other fodder	19	20.26
5.	Introduction of maize and ginger	6	5.73
		72.72	66.13

The Dy. Director, Agriculture submitted that the farmers are not able to pay 20% share under this scheme (#1. Moisture Management for Vegetable) being very marginalized, therefore, for installation of micro irrigation schemes (drip/sprinkler) 90% funds may be utilized from NAFCC project and 10% funds from farmers share. No extra funds are required to implement the same. It was informed by the Director (Env.,S&T) that as per guideline of the scheme, the 90:10 sharing is permissible. The Dy. Director, Horticulture has also made the same request.

After discussions, it was decided that:

- **The Committee after discussion with NABARD AGM & AM approved the request of Dy. Director (Agriculture) that for installation of micro irrigation schemes under Moisture Management for Vegetable (drip/sprinkler) 90% funds may be utilized from NAFCC project and 10% funds from farmers share without additional funds. Dy. Director (Horticulture) may send written request to Director (DEST) for utilization of funds balance funds in similar line with Agriculture Department. The Committee authorized Director (DEST) to convey the approval of the Committee to the Agriculture & Horticulture Departments after receipt of written requests.**

(Action by DEST, Dy. Director (Agriculture & Horticulture))

Component No. 3: Development of Farmer Producer Organisation Network

The State Steering Committee reviewed the progress under this component, it was appraised to the State Committee that under this component so far total 509 Farmer Interest Groups (FIGs) covering more than 15,000 beneficiaries has been registered/ inventorized.

It was appraised that the Deputy Commissioner, Sirmaur is coordinating the setting up of Farmer Producers Organisation (FPOs) in three Blocks with Department of Industries and the expert agency - CTRAN to extend requisite assistance for the formation of FPO's and giving a operational framework.

 The Chairman expressed his serious concern upon slow progress on the formulation of FPOs and directed the expert agency to expedite the facilitation of process for FPO formation, assist the District Administration & Industries Department in this regard. The representative of the expert agency M/s CTRAN consulting explained that since formation of FPO require public/farmers participation and because of COVID-19 situation the process has been delayed. The point wise progress of FPO formation as under:

- A detailed Data Base of block wise FIGs has been prepared.
- Consultation Meetings with PRI members and Local Extension Officials have been organized and Based on Concentration of FIGs 12 Clusters have been Identified-
 - o Pachhad-3,
 - o Sangrah-5,
 - o Poanta Sahib-4
- FIG members/farmers Sensitization on FPO formation in different blocks have been done through Training programs, sensitisation workshops/meetings at different clusters & sub-clusters, FIG & PRI levels. Through such initiatives 4,188 farmers of project Blocks have been sensitised for FPO.
- List of farmers interested to be member of FPO and will contribute share money has been prepared. So far-
 - o 563 farmers in Pachhad,
 - o 451 farmers in Paonta sahib
 - o 351 farmers in Sangrah Block
 have shown interest to contribute share capital and a few have given the share money also.
- Name selection for FPO registration completed in Pachhad block. It has been named as **Bhureshwar Farmer Producer Organisation**.
- Draft bye-law of FPO prepared & Shared with BoD for registration.
- Collection/Preparation of related documents like PAN, AADHAAR Card of all BoD members & share-holder register, proceeding registers for FPO registration has been completed.
- Application for registration will be submitted to Inspector of Cooperative after getting all other formalities completed (Under process). FPO in Pachhad Block will be registered in the month of December, 2020. Other 2 FPOs will be registered by February 2021.
- Collection of secondary information related to implementation of Different agriculture, horticulture and irrigation plans from line departments in progress.

After discussions, it was decided that:

- **M/s CTRAN consulting in association with district administration & concerned field level departments shall expedite the process of FPO formation and the process of formation of three FPOs in each Block shall be completed by the end of March, 2020.**



(Action by M/s CTRAN Consulting & District Administration)

Component No. 4: Capacity Building of Community on Climate Smart Knowledge base and lesson learning

The State Steering Committee was apprised that this component is being implemented through and expert agency M/s CTRAN consulting. The Committee was apprised that 7 training modules have been published and submitted by the agency in both Hindi & English Language including information brochures. Trainings of Agriculture Extension Officers & Lead Farmers have been completed. It was also informed that the process of trainings to

farmers has also been delayed due to COVID-19 situation. As on date, out of total 30,000 farmers 11,128 farmers have been trained.

After discussions it was decided that:

- The expert agency M/s CTRAN consulting shall propose process road map to complete the remaining trainings by the end of June, 2021 and submit the training report strictly by the end of July, 2021. The training programme shall be conducted as per the guidelines of COVID-19 issued by state government and district administration time to time.

- (Action by M/s CTRAN & DEST)

- The DEST to submit the request through NABARD to seek extension of project for another 12 months.

- (Action by DEST)

Item No. 2: Expenditure approval.

The Committee was apprised that as on date Rs. 14.56 Cr have been released to the DEST under the project out of which 86% of funds i.e. Rs. 12.55 Cr. have been utilized. It was also informed that an action plan for 2020-21 was also submitted to the MoEF&CC, GoI through NABARD on dated 27th April 2020 with the request to release 4th instalment of Rs. 4.55 Crores. The MoEF&CC, GoI had approved and released the 4th instalment to the NABARD for further releasing it to the Executing Agency i.e. DEST. But, funds have not been released by the NABARD.

As per the MIS of Utilization Certificate submitted to the NABARD upto 30/9/2020 component wise expenditure is as under:

#	Component & Activities	Budget Sanctioned	Funds Released	Expenditure	Status
1.	C-1 Drought related vulnerability assessment - Climate Change Vulnerability and List of Beneficiaries	74,00,000.00	43,97,875.00	43,97,875.00	Activity Completed
2.	C-2 Climate smart package of practices for the district - Water harvesting structure creation: 3 LIS through IPH Department, about 82 small schemes (MIS, Irrigation Channels, Village Ponds) through IDP & BDOs) - Activities through Agriculture & Horticulture Departments (Moisture Management, Promotion of Inter cropping, Introduction of legumes & fodder, micro nutrient & soil moisture)	9,08,25,242.00	8,95,25,242.00	8,68,66,100.00	Activity Completed
3.	C3: Development of Farmer Producer Organisation Network - Engagement of Field facilitator through IDP for formation of FIGs, Setting up of FPOs	50,00,000.00	41,64,500.00	28,08,642.00	In progress

#	Component & Activities	Budget Sanctioned	Funds Released	Expenditure	Status
	through Dy. Commissioner.				
4.	C4: Capacity Building of community on climate smart knowledge base and lesson learning - Signed MoUs with M/s CTRAN consulting after completion of all codal formalities through bidding process. The approval of the Hon'ble Chief Minister accorded for the purpose. - Development of Training Modules, Training / Orientation of target farmers on climate resilient agriculture / horticulture; co-ordination and monitoring of agricultural and horticultural plans is being done through the selected agency i.e. M/s CTRAN. - Extension officers, Lead farmers & Marginal Farmers trainings.	6,17,00,000.00	3,48,78,209.00	1,87,90,098.00	In progress
5.	C5: Inclusion risk transfer instruments - Setting up of Assurance fund through Dy. Commissioner.	1,37,15,534.00	76,57,000.00	76,57,000.00	Activity in progress
6.	C6: Project/Programme Execution cost - Organization of State Steering Committee & District Technical Committee and other project execution cost as per the approved activities	1,55,33,981.00	50,08,241.00	49,69,750.00	In progress
7.	NABARD Cost	58,25,243.00			
	Total	20.00 Crores	14,56,31,067.00	12,54,89,465.00	

The above expenditure has been done after approval of the competent authority. The quarter wise UCs have been furnished through MIS and submitted to the NABARD.

The State Steering Committee approved expenditure of Rs. 12,54,89,465.00 incurred for implementation of the project. The NIA of the project NABARD was requested to release the balance fund to the executing agency DEST so that the remaining activities could be completed in time as per the action plan.

Agenda Item No.3 : Request for Extension of Project period

The Committee was apprised that an e-mail dated 18th November, 2020 had been received from the office of Technical Officer – MIS, Climate Change Division, MoEF&CC, Govt. of India regarding sending request for extension of project.

The Committee was also informed that as on date most of the components of the project have been implemented. However, Component : #4 i.e. "Capacity Building of community on climate smart knowledge base and lesson learning" and related activities from other component could not be completed in time due to COVID-19 situation. Component-wise Physical & Financial progress/status of the project is as under:

#	Name of Component and Activity	Sanctioned amount	Cumulative amount released by NABARD	Cumulative Utilisation	Financial Utilization %	Physical Progress
		in (Rs.)	in (Rs.)	in (Rs.)	%	
1	Drought related vulnerability assessment	74,00,000	43,97,875	43,97,875	100	100% Complete
2	Climate smart package of practices for the district	9,08,25,242	8,95,25,242	8,68,66,100	97	90% Complete
3	Development of FPO	50,00,000	41,64,500	28,08,642	67	40% Complete
4	Capacity Building of community	6,17,00,000	3,48,78,209	1,87,90,098	54	40% Complete
5	Inclusion risk transfer instruments	1,37,15,534	76,57,000	76,57,000	100	100% Complete
6	Project/ Programme Execution Cost	1,55,33,981	50,08,241	49,69,750.00	99	In progress
7	NIE fee	58,25,243	-			
	Total	20,00,00,000	14,56,31,067	12,54,89,465	86	

As mentioned above, components which involve massive public participation could not be completed in time due to COVID-19 invoked restrictions. Now, as per the COVID-19 guidelines these activities have been re-started. In order to compensate the time loss due to COVID-19 pandemic an extension of 12 months shall be required to complete the remaining activities.

The State level Project Steering Committee approved that in response to the e-mail received a Director (DEST) shall send request for extension of NAFCC project period may be forwarded to the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India through NABARD.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Approved K.K. Pant
128dt-9/12/20.
(K.K. Pant, IAS)

Principal Secretary (Env., S&T) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh.

Endst No. the Shimla dated 2020.

CC to following for information and necessary action:

1. All the Members of State Steering Committee.
2. The Expert Agency- M/s. CTRAN Consulting Co.
3. Guard file.

(Sudesh Kumar Mokhta)
(Sudesh Kumar Mokhta, IAS)
Director,
Department of Env. S&T,
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