

| UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME | | MISSION REPORT SUMMARY |
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| Name Karma Raptan | Group/Unit Sustainable and Inclusive Growth | Date: 19 Feb 2018 |
| Approved Mission Itinerary: MDLY – Nyaung U – MDLY | | Telephone Number: 09793084228 |
| Inclusive Travel Dates: From 15 – 17 Feb 2018 | | Key counterpart(s): Implementing Partners |
| Purpose/Objective of Mission: The main purpose of this mission was to: meet/discuss with project implementing partners and explore ways of integrating work under different components of the project, as well as discuss follow-up actions on MTE recommendations and PSC decisions. | | |
| <p>Brief Summary of Mission Findings:</p> <p>During the mission, the Project Team comprising of myself, National Project Manager and M&E Officer had a discussion with IPs on possible ways of integrating work plans of the different IPs working for related components under the project. A draft integrated work plan was prepared for rehabilitation/reforestation activities and pond renovation works. The team also met with IPs to discuss the TOR and amend contracts with some of the IPs whose scope of work has changed – following the MTE recommendations and based on decision of the recent PSC meeting. The team also identified project villages to be visited during the next TAG meeting in Nyaung U.</p> <p>A. Day 01 (15 Feb 2018):</p> <p>The meeting was attended by the following IPs – Community Development Association, Network Activity Group, CESVI, Community Development Action, Farm Business Development Technical Group and Well Done Engineering Co. Ltd. The meeting started with the Project Team presenting key findings of the MTE and the proposed changes in targets and implementation modality following the decision of the recent PSC meeting. The implementing partners were informed that – as a result of the recent PSC meeting, the contracts with some of the IPs need to be amended. Following the meeting, the IPs presented the progress of activities under their respective areas during the first two months of 2018. Overall, the progress of activities are satisfactory – except for activities under Outcome 1, where some activities were suspended in anticipation of decision of the PSC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Development Association has delivered livestock to 3,500 households so far and established 119 demonstration plots including 20 fodder promotion plots. They will distribute livestock to about 200 more households and establish 9 more demonstration plots in 2018. Network Activity Group conducted survival counting in Dec 2017 and consulted communities for rehabilitation/reforestation activities in 2018, and developed GIS maps for the proposed areas, as well as submitted the application for no objection certificate to respective GAD in Chauk and Nyaung U. CESVI organized the annual planning and review meeting in Pyin Oo Lwin with the government and community representatives and identified activities for implementation in 2018, including beneficiaries. Farm Business Development Technical Group has completed survey and selection of 60 villages for soil conservation activities, and identified sites for pond renovation works, as well as developed management plans for ponds renovated in 2017. Well Done Engineering Co. Ltd. has plans to install 9 deep tube wells (4 in Nyaung U and 5 in Chauk) and 29 community water tanks. They have completed drilling works of a deep tube well in one of the villages in Nyaung U Township. Drilling work is ongoing in another village in Nyaung U township. They are also in the process of procuring materials for the small-scale water infrastructure. <p>The meeting also discussed sustainability and handover of project activities towards the end of the project. IPs were requested to include these aspects in their work plan in 2018 and the progress of these activities will be reviewed periodically in 2018.</p> <p>Following the presentation by IPs, the team identified 3 villages to be visited during the next TAG meeting. The villages identified are Kamma, Thanut Pin and Let Pan Te.</p> <p>The team had a bilateral meeting with Farm Business Development Group to discuss amendment of their contract to reflect the change in target for pond renovation works. The meeting agreed to reduce target of ponds from 75 to 60 and enhance quality of ponds in 2018. The project will allocation an additional US\$ 12,000 USD. The IP agreed to deliver better quality outputs in 2018 and the project team will strictly monitor quality of work in the field.</p> <p>After the meeting, the team visited Sin Ther Mway village to observed drilling of deep tube well, which will benefit 120 households and 500 livestock.</p> <p>B. Day 02 (16 Feb 2018):</p> <p>On the 2nd day, the team met with the implementing partners related to rehabilitation/reforestation activities and discussed ways and means to work together and integrate activities, as well as develop an integrated work plan as recommended by the MTE. The integration of activities will involve the work of 4 IPs – CESVI (for agroforestry activities), NAG and CDA (for rehabilitation/reforestation activities) and FBD (for pond renovation works).</p> <p>The meeting also discussed the draft quality assurance check list prepared by the project team for rehabilitation/reforestation activities, as well as for pond renovation works. The final check list will be circulated shortly to the IPs and DZGD for comments and inputs.</p> <p>In the afternoon, the team had a bilateral meeting with NAG to discuss changes in target and implementation modality for rehabilitation/reforestation activities following the decision of the recent PSC meeting. The project will allocate an additional US\$ 15,500 to enhance quality of plantation activities in 2018. The contract with NAG will be amended shortly to reflect the changes and implementation will start shortly based on decision of the recent PSC meeting.</p> <p>C. Day 03 (17 Feb 2018):</p> | | |

On the way back to Mandalay, the team visited two villages - Duwon and Kyauk Kan under Myingyan township to interview female beneficiaries of the project and write a story for publication during the International Women's Day in March 2018.

Actions to be Taken (and responsible party):

1. Project Team to revise TOR and scope of work and amend contract with IPs (NAG and FBD) so they are able to start implementation asap.
2. Project Team and IPs to follow up on the application process to secure no objection certificate for rehabilitation/reforestation activities.
3. Project Team to revise quality assurance check list and distribute to IPs and DZGD for further inputs.
4. Project Team to work with IPs on sustainability and exit strategy of project activities.
5. Project Team to produce 2 human-interest stories on women beneficiaries under the project.

Distribution:

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