Progress Report (21)

1. Report Summary

(1) Title of the project: Promote peace building through cross boundary wastewater

Management in the opt

(2) Project No.: PAL10 00063105. Award No. 00050897

(3) Date of the approval: 16th March 2009

(4) Total Project budget: USD 6,267,555.82 (USD 5,787,321,000 contributed by the Japan)

(5) Scheme of the Project: Peace Building Grant Aid

(6) Period covered by the report: 1st Apr to 30 Jun , 2014 (Progress Report No. 21)

(7) Names of UNDP Officer in charge, and Project Manager with their contact address:

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2. Contents

(1) Summary of the project

The project "Promote peace building through cross boundary wastewater management in the occupied Palestinian territories" is a UNDP/PAPP initiative that contributes to peace building and to strengthen the dialogue between the Palestinian and Israeli local authorities through addressing common interests. In this particular project, peace building will be promoted through joint management of cross boundary wastewater in order to safeguard the shared environment and protect the water resources.

This will be achieved through the construction of three wastewater collection systems in the targeted communities" Habla, Baqa El-Sharqieh and Barta'a" in the occupied Palestinian territory; the collected wastewater will be treated in Israeli based upon agreed mechanism and tariff between both parties. The Palestinian Water Authority is interested to develop protocol of cooperation in order to regulate wastewater flows across the borders. The project will support developing such framework of agreement.

The above mentioned protocol of cooperation will be based on the interim agreement that Israel and the Palestinian Authority signed in September 1995 (Oslo 2) which includes the most updated understanding on water issues that has been reached in the peace process framework in addition to the signed MOU on 2003 that sets the Guidelines and Technical Criteria for Sewage Projects. There are at least 10 sites where wastewater across the borders (1949 armistice line) between Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory. In some of these locations Israel is downstream and receives untreated wastewater from the occupied Palestinian territory.. On the other locations oPt is downstream and untreated or poorly wastewater runoff from the Israeli settlements on the hilltops ends up in Palestinian streams.

Untreated wastewater presents a pollution that not only destroys the rivers and the connected eco-systems, but also seeps into the groundwater, harming drinking water sources. Furthermore, it leads to mosquito infestations, allowing possible spread of waterborne diseases.

The project intend to:

- 1. Contribute to peace building and strengthen the dialogue between the Palestinian authorities and the Israeli Authorities through addressing common interests and maximizing benefits on both sides.
- 2. Promote trans-boundary wastewater management in order to safeguard the shared environment and protect the water resources.
- 3. Build the capacities of the service providers and the PWA regarding wastewater management issue including technical, financial and institutional aspects.
- 4. Enhance the quality of life and improve the wellbeing of the targeted population.

Target Community Situation

The project targets three border communities in Jenin, Tulkarem and Qalqilia Governorates with a total of 16,500 residents of Baqa Al Sharqieh (Tulkarem Governorate), Habla (Qalqilia Governorate) and Barta Al-Sharqieh (Jenin Governorate). Women comprise almost 49.8% of the total beneficiaries and men comprise 50.2 % (around 8,219 are women and 8,280 are men).

It is worth mentioning that, although this project targets the overall population and all the beneficiaries will be positively affected by its activities, women in these communities will be the ones who will benefit the most, as the project aims to enhancing their living standards and improving their quality of life. Traditionally, women in the targeted communities are responsible for management of water supplies at the household level. During time of shortage, women have to store water, ensure water's quality and monitor hygiene practices within the household.

Access to wastewater collection systems will improve the environmental living conditions of the targeted population and will enhance the cleanliness level within these towns. Ultimately the project will contribute to reducing the incidents of diseases associated with wastewater pollution and contamination and improve the public health status of the population. It will also relieve women from the tasks and responsibilities to take care of the sick and the infirm within the family and provide them with more free time to develop their skills and the freedom to engage in other activities.

(2) Project Budget and Components

Component	Budget as presented in the	Original budget contributed by	Project site
	project doc	Japan/USD	
a. Project staff & Operations	805,209.80		Jerusalem and West
		805,209	Bank
b. Construction of Wastewater Systems	4,498,800.00		Baqa Al Sharqieh, Habla
_		4,138,007	and Baqa Al Gharbiyeh
c. Dialogue promotion, Capacity building,	553,520.00		Baqa Al Sharqieh, Habla
Public awareness		465,495	and Barta
d. Total Programmable Amount	5,857,528.80	5,408,711	
e. UNDP/GMS (7%)	410,027.02	378,609.8	
Grand Total	6,267,555.82	5,787,321	

Tasks &	Measures			UNDP to continue follow up with PWA	and IWA in order to sign the site specific agreement that will allow for connecting with the trunk line
Remaining	Work			Connection with Israeli WWTP	Connection with Israeli WWTP
Activities done in	the reporting	period			Installation of sewage network completed. UNDP met with the Israeli Corporation to coordinate regarding the connection with the existing Israeli Trunk line. Despite of the follow up, no progress was made by Israelis
Schedule	Status		Completed for Baqa and Habla and Barta'a Sharqieh	Completed end of Aug, 2013	Completed in September 2012 with 4 months behind schedule
	2013	1,2 3,4 Q Q			
	2012	1 2 3 4 Q Q Q Q		X X X	X X X
Timeframe	2011	1Q 2Q 3Q 4Q	X X X X	X X	X X X X
	2010	1 2Q 3Q 4Q Q	×		
Activities			Final Designs & Tender Documents and Awarding the contract	Construction of wastewater networks in Barta'a Al- Sharqiya	Construction of wastewater networks in Habla
Indicated	output		Output 1: Constructio n of wastewater collection systems		

The Mei Yeron Corporation from the Israeli side has started the bid for installation of the trunk line that will connect Baga East and Baga West including the 150 meters that are close to the Israeli Boundaries. It is expected that the connection will be in place by the end of this year.	UNDP together with RoJ continue following up with both IWA and PWA in
19,∕₀*	UNDP has worked with PWA on identifying the gaps between the
Installation of sewage network completed The planning for the trunk line at the Israeli side is complete. The implementation will be finalized by June 2013	General framework agreement was prepared and submitted officially to PWA.
Completed in December 2011	On-going
×	×
	×
	×
×	×
×	×
Construction of wastewater networks in Baqa Al-Sharqiya	Developing MOU between PWA and the Israeli Water Commission
	Output 2: Dialogue Promotion, Capacity building, and Public Awareness

	sent from	the head of PWA	
	letter was	UNDP met with	
	Issue. A	comments.	
regard	the Protocol	working on the	
progress in this	conclude on	from UNDP are	
achieving	the NSU) to	NSU with support	
possibility of	(PWA and	2013 PWA and	
affecting the	internally	IWA in April	
situation is	conducted	received from	
political	were	comments were	
complicated	meetings	Substantial	
The	Several	Commission (
		Water	
	fees	the head of Israeli	
	wastewater	the Protocol to	
	for	PWA submitted	
	mechanism		
	Developing	PWA.	
		officially to	
	agreement	submitted	
	specific	contracts were	
	and site	three site specific	
	the protocol	framework for the	
	and finalize	protocol and the	
	both sides	be signed. The	
	between	and Barta'a will	
parties	discussions	for Baqa, Habla	
signed by both	the	specific contracts	
agreements	Kick-start	operational site	
specific		which three	
have the site	one.	prepared based on	
progress and	the Israeli	Protocol was also	
the required	proposal and	A transitional	
order to achieve	Palestinian		

Output 3: Youth Awareness Exchange regarding water and wastewater resources management and local participation is raised	
×	
X X X	
Completed in June 2012	
Four exchange trips were conducted (Two to Ramallah and two to Wahat a Salam in Israel) The project targeted 100 young youth, 12- 15 years old from both sides. 46 male and 53 female participated in the four exchange visits where they presented environmental cases from their localities and visited some environmental projects	on 19, March and agreed on following up with the head of IWA.
Final report was submitted and the work was completed	Dr. Shaddad on 29.April to IWA urging them to consider the Protocol again but ne feedback was received yet.

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																						×
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											oruary											
February	conducted early	ceremony was	Final closing	session.	each awareness	participated in	member	community	female)	male and 20	Around 45(25	three villages	conducted in the	sessions were	many awareness	distributed and	publications were	villages. Many	the three targeted	in April 2011 in	activities started	Awareness

Palestinians and Israelis	Training of mayors and professionals
	×
	× ×
	× ×
Completed in February 2012	
focusing on environmental issues, management of cross boundary water and wastewater, financial management and cost recovery of water and wastewater services. Throughout the training programme 5 Mayors, 14 village council members, and 20 professionals from the targeted villages attended the training sessions and visited more than 10 environmental centers and facilities in Israel. UNDP jointly with RoJ and PWA celebrated	Twelve training sessions were conducted

closing of one year training programme in February 29, 2012.UNDP		
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Project Evaluation
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(3) Project timeframe, schedule status, progress of activities, and tasks & measures

Project Completion Date: 31 December, 2014

for extending the project timeframe up to end of December 2012 was approved by RoJ on 8, Nov, 2012. Another request for extension and budget reallocation of the project until 30, June, 2013 was addressed to RoJ in the project annual review meeting dated on 10, Dec, 2012 and was approved. However, and in order to give IWA more time to review the Protocol and agree with PWA on the site specific agreements, official request for another six months extension of the timeframe was The Agreed Minutes on Procedural Details between the Government of Japan and UNDP/PAPP were signed on March 16th, 2009. The execution stage of the project started on June 1st, 2009 and it was scheduled to be completed by June 1st, 2012. However there was significant delay in the mobilization phase of the project. Request submitted and approval was received. Finally, and base on the review meeting that was conducted with RoJ on 21, Nov, 2013 it was agreed to extend the project again until end of Dec, 2014 to allow for proper follow up on the Protocol with the Israeli side.

Financial report

Budget items (according to the proposal)	A. Original budget USD (accordin g to the proposal)	B. Original budget as Approved by Japan US\$	C. Approved Revised budget in December 16, 2013	D. Disbursement USS	E. Balance (C-D)	F. Rate of disbursem ent (%) (D/C*100)
Project staff and operations	805,209	805,209	962,884	941,916	20,968	97.8%
Construction	4,528,700	4,138,007	3,966,601	3,806,940	159,661	96%
Dialogue promotion, capacity Building, Public awareness	523,432	465,495	479,226	443,713	35,513	92.6%
GMS (7%)	410,013.9 0	378,609.8 0	378,609	363,480	15,130	96%
GAIN/LOSS				-5659	5659	
Total	6,267,355	5,787,321	5,787,320	5,550,390	236,930	96%

(4) Any special notes or remarks

Following the meeting that was conducted with the head of PWA and UNDP on 19, March, a letter was sent by Dr. Shaddad, the head of PWA, on 29, April to head of Israeli Water Authority to urge him to consider the Protocol again and start following up to achieve the required progress. However, no feedback was received.

The Mei Yeron Corporation from the Israeli side has started the bid for installation of the trunk line that will connect Baqa East and Baqa West including the 150 meters that are close to the Israeli Boundaries. It is expected that the connection will be in place by the end of this year.

^{*}It is important to highlight that the financial figures in this report are temporary figures, and may be corrected at a later stage due to exchange rate fluctuations, realized gain/loss or any other possible corrections. UNDP/PAPP's financial system operates in such a manner that the financial system closes in early December of each year and that final expenditure reports reflecting the disbursements and GMS of the previous year are only published in March of the following year.

Report authorization by UNDP/PAPP

Reporting person, title and belongings: Taghreed Najjar, Project Manager

Reviewed and cleared: Husam Tubail, Programme Analyst

Date of submission: 30 Jun 2014

Supervisor's name and her signature: Rima Abu Middain, Team Leader 1261