



Himachal Pradesh Forest Department (HPFD)
Himachal Pradesh, Republic of India

Himachal Pradesh Forest Ecosystems Climate Proofing Project

German Financial Cooperation/KfW German Development Bank



Semi-Annual Progress Report No. 5

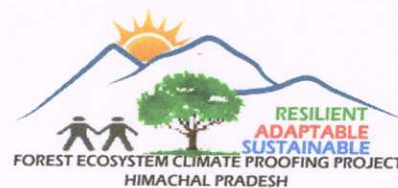
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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ACF	Assistant Conservator of Forest
AHD	Animal Husbandry Department
APD	Assistant Project Director
BO	Beat Officer
CCA	Climate Change Adapted
CCF	Chief Conservator of Forest
CF	Conservator of Forest
CPD	Chief Project Director
CRG	Conflict Resolution Group
CTA	Chief Technical Advisor
DFO	Divisional Forest Officer
DFS	Deutsche Forstservice GmbH, Lead Consultant
DPD	Deputy Project Director
DPMU	Divisional Project Management Unit
EC	Executive Committee
EPAs	Entry Point Activities
FD	Forest Department
FMP	Forest Management Plan
FOP	Forest Operational Plan
FS	Feasibility Study
FTI	Forest Training Institute
GB	General Body
GH	General House
GIS	Geographical Information System
GoHP	Government of Himachal Pradesh
GoI	Government of India
GOPA	Gesellschaft für Organisation, Planung und Ausbildung mbH
GPS	Global Positioning System
HH	Household
HP	Himachal Pradesh
HPFD	Himachal Pradesh Forest Department
IGA	Income Generating Activities
KfW	Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau, KfW Development Bank
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MP	Micro-Plan
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Produce
PCCF	Principal Chief Conservator of Forest
PFM	Participatory Forest Management
PMC	Project Management Consultant
PSC	Project Support Co-ordinator
RO	Range Officer
SC	Supreme Court
SFDA	State Forest Development Authority
SPMU	State Project Management Unit
TNA	Training Needs Assessment
TOR	Terms of Reference
ToT	Training of Trainers
VFMS	Village Forest Management Society
VGO	Village Group Organizer

ADDRESSES

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1. Executive Summary

This Report covers the period from January to June 2019, though some events / activities extend beyond that period.

Sectoral developments in HP include the withdrawal of a World Bank project and 2 ongoing GIZ & JICA funded projects. With the GIZ project the HPFECPP has developed mutually beneficial links by way of bi-annual meetings and training / experience exchange. Joint implementation of spring-shed plan in Palampur with GIZ awaits clearance at CPD level.

The ban on Green Felling continues and is unlikely to be lifted during this project period. There appears to be no movement on the possibility of felling of eucalyptus trees scheduled for felling under approved Working Plans of Kangra and Chamba. Information of developments on this front have not been conveyed to PMC.

The rehabilitation of forest stands is envisaged to be done through implementation of MPs for one or more degraded and weed infested forests. As of June 30th, 2019, 114 sites have approved MPs. Implementation of most of these MPs is underway and activities through User Groups have been taken up since the 2018 rainy season. Table 1 gives the update on other activities of the project. The preparation and approval of MPs needs very serious pursuit and checking.

The development of 7 model nurseries, one under each DPMU (except Bharmour and Pangi), is well underway with procurement of all required items completed and suggested infrastructure at each nursery more or less completed. The development of 2 nurseries in the tribal tracts of Bharmour and Pangi is still underway.

To build essential technical capacity a need for further extensive and intensive training exists, particularly of field staff lacking several key skills like the use of GPS, maps etc. This is exacerbated by frequent transfer of staff. Similarly, for social staff hired under the project, skills in mobilization and effective communication need iterative upgrading and practice preferably under senior mentors.

A comprehensive M&E system has been put in place and associated training imparted to SPMU and DPMUs earlier. Database development stands delayed due to bureaucratic procedures and not having a minimum number of MP sites identified as of now. Although agreed by the department, SPMU is yet to outsource the work of database development.

The Baseline Study as approved by KfW was tendered, the award of the services contract will likely be done in September 2019.

A detailed financial statement is included in the Report. Simplified Reimbursement procedures are agreed and adopted including direct disbursement procedure of DFS.

The SPMU and DPMU staffing positions are tabulated at Tables 12 & 13, noting changes necessitated. Summary of project impact indicators and outcomes is given at Table 15.

Among the Risks & Need for Action, a more proactive role for PMC appears necessary in terms of course correction and mentoring of forest and social staff as the project proceeds. The older PSCs continue and KfW has agreed to the recruitment and deployment of more PSCs (up to 2 PSC per DPMU) to speed up the micro planning work. Only Dharamsala DPMU recruited one more PSC.

Points of concern are outlined and need consideration and strategic adaptation in terms of future outlook. Revised silvicultural guidelines are adopted and allow more models to be incorporated making the MP work more intensive. The new models are slowly being incorporated into the new MPs. Also, in the previous MPs, as per the interest of the stakeholders and need, the new models will be included, and plans revised accordingly. It seems essential that PMC needs quick access to GoHP / PCCF to catalyse action at PEA / SPMU level.

2. Introduction

This 5th Semi-Annual Progress Report for the **Himachal Pradesh Forest Ecosystem Climate Proofing Project** outlines the project progress for the period from January to June 2019. During the period under review 55 MPs were approved by SPMU after vetting by PMC. Hence, the total number of approved MPs amounts to 114 as of June 2019. In some areas, MP implementation started after due submission of six-monthly plans approved by VFMS. For the implementation of these plans, funds were transferred to the concerned VFMS accounts.

The Consulting consortium DFS Deutsche Forstservice GmbH and GOPA mbH of Germany is providing technical advisory services, led by the CTA. This report is a contractual requirement by PMC and is at the same time the report of PEA. PEA agreed to develop the progress report jointly, initialize the report by their authorities and submit the report to KfW.

The SPMU is the PEA and has responsibility for overall support, supervision and monitoring whereas the DPMU (Divisional Project Management Unit) have implementation responsibilities.

3. DEVELOPMENT, ACTIVITIES AND PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS (JANUARY - JUNE 2019)

3.1 Sectoral Developments

Green felling ban

Since February 2018, the constraints brought about the the project by the green felling ban remain unchanged:

In consideration of the application of the State of HP filed in the SC in the case 202 of 1995; the SC vide its order of 16-02-2018 allowed:

- (i) That the state of HP be allowed to carry out green felling in 3 working circles viz Khair, Chil and Sal over an area not exceeding 20 ha in Nurpur Forest Range, Bhareri Forest Range and Poanta Forest Range respectively.
- (ii) The SC has laid down certain conditions under which this felling is to be carried out and monitored.
- (iii) After monitoring the felling and evaluation of the results in terms of natural regeneration in the felled forests, the SC will consider further course of action with respect to the Green Felling Ban in the state of HP.
- (iv) As far as the KfW Project currently ongoing in Chamba and Kangra districts is concerned, in practical terms it implies that the Green Felling Ban will not be lifted during the project's lifetime.
- (v) However, the SC has allowed felling of 764 ha of Eucalyptus that are due for felling as per Working Plan prescriptions. It is presently not known where these forests are. The matter needs to be taken up with the PCCF through the SPMU and CFs concerned. Once the spring shed catchments have been identified, PCCF / GoHP shall be asked to move a petition before the SC to allow felling of eucalyptus trees in these areas. This was agreed by ACS - Forests during discussions with the KfW Mission in May 2018.

Other externally funded project in the sector or in pipeline

A) Proposed Projects

There are two externally aided projects which have been posed by the Department of Economic Affairs, GoI to the Donor Agencies for funding forestry related or watershed development activities in the state of Himachal Pradesh. The preparation of detailed Project Report is in various stages, as explained below concerning :-

1) Himachal Pradesh Forests for Prosperity Project:

Proposed to increase the economic contribution of forests in the State's Economic Development, this project was planned to be implemented in parts of Satluj catchment in Kinnaur, Mandi, Shimla, Kullu and Bilaspur districts with pilot activities at four locations outside these districts over a 5-year period with a total cost of US\$ 62.5 million and a commitment amount of US\$ 50.0 million by the World Bank. According to the Bank's

website, the project has been dropped early 2019 after the preparation of some documents (tribal development framework, social assessment and management framework, environment assessment and management framework, social assessment and management framework) and the procurement of some goods and services.

2) **Integrated Project for Source Sustainability and Climate Resilient Rainfed Agriculture in Himachal Pradesh:**

Designed to improve climate resilience around springs and streams and to enable climate resilient agriculture in Himachal Pradesh, this project with a total cost of US\$ 100.0 million and a commitment amount of US\$ 80.0 million over 7 years has been proposed to the World Bank on July 26th, 2017, The loan agreement was scheduled to be signed in September 2018. The project is to be implemented in all the districts of Himachal Pradesh except Kinnaur and Lahaul Spiti, and its head quarter would be in Solan. Being a World Bank aided project, the expenses incurred on agreed activities of the project one year before the agreement signing would be eligible for retroactive financing up to 20% of project cost.

B. Ongoing Projects others than the HPFECCP:

- 1) **HP Forest Ecosystems Management Project:** Funded through Rs.38 crores grant by GIZ of Germany, this Project is limited to technical cooperation and would monitor ecosystem services-based planning in 5-10 sites all across HP. KfW, during their visit in March 2017, desired that regular meeting be set up between SPMU, PMC and GIZ to exchange procedures and experiences (MoM March 2017). PMC had two such meetings with GIZ and future meeting involving SPMU is currently being planned.
- 2) **Himachal Pradesh Forest Ecosystems Management and Livelihoods Improvement Project:** Funded by JICA, the objective of this project is to increase the forest cover and density for improved livelihoods of communities. This project is proposed to be implemented over 10-year period in Bilaspur, Kinnaur, Kullu, Lahaul Spiti, Mandi and Shimla districts. JICA is funding the project through a loan of Rs. 800 crores, 28% of which would be contributed by the State Govt. It is expected that the loan agreement was signed in May 2018. The Project head-quarter is in Shimla and sub – offices are in Kullu and Rampur.

3.2 Implementation of Activities and Outputs as Agreed (w.r.t. Annex 1)

The project outcome as agreed, is to increase the climate resilience of forest ecosystems, improve biodiversity and enhance adaptive capacities of forest dependent communities in selected project areas. The project is expected to lead to:

- A reduction in forest degradation,
- increased biodiversity,
- enhanced income for forest-dependent communities in vulnerable landscapes,
- increased availability of spring water in treated spring catchment areas, and

- more sustainable management of forests in the project area.

3.2.1 Output 1: Forest stands in project area are rehabilitated

For rehabilitation of forest stands various activities were envisaged in the project feasibility report. After many deliberations between SPMU and PMC it was felt necessary that the recommended activities need to be looked into and revised as per the current situation and in the light of new activities proposed by the silvicultural expert. Hence, the new activities were proposed in the inception report as per the guidelines of the silvicultural expert. The reason for the changes in the project approach with respect to the activities is already clarified in the inception report.

Silvicultural guidelines, technical standards and cost norms for these activities have already been finalised and approved by KfW. Based on these, guidelines for micro-planning and a model MP were also prepared and approved by KfW.

During the period under review, out of totally planned 1176 MP sites, 71 MPs were reviewed out of which 55 MPs were approved. Thus, the total number of approved MP stands at 114. DPMUs have been asked to begin work in the areas of the approved MPs. Till date the progress is as under:

Table 1: Achievement of Project Targets

S. No	Description	Unit	Target	Achievement*
1	CCA-conversion of infested forests plus planting bamboo along nallahs	Ha	8,350	
	· Removal of Lantana	Ha		627.00
	· Planting of Small Trees	Ha		250.94
	· Planting of Tall Trees	Ha		34.79
2	High yield fodder and grass production (alpine pastures)	Ha	250	
3	High yield fodder and grass production in low-land	Ha	400	67
4	Forest closure against grazing	Ha	400	
5	Income generating activities seedling free of costs, woodlots, NTFP	Nos		
6	2 pilot areas for pasture improvement	Ha	100	
7	Rehabilitation of 150 spring catchments through drainage line treatments and physical and biological soil and water conservation measures	Nos	150	18
8	Silvicultural operations in all forest types (no planting, no fencing)	Ha	3,000	

* Till the finalization of report data from all DPMUs was not received

S. No	Name of Division	Target	Approved	Name	VFMS Area (ha)	Treatment Area (ha)	No. of Villages	No. of UG	Green Investment	Material	Free Plants	NTFP Plantation	Contingency Fund	Cost						Grand Total
														EPA @ 7.5%	SWC @ 10%	Incentive @ 20%	Honarium President	Honarium Mem. Sect.	Total MP Cost	
8	Chamba	20	13	Kiyani Sirkund	142.86	28.65	9	8	27,63,678	1,69,385			50,000	2,07,276	5,52,735	60,000	45,000	38,48,074	55,274	39,03,347
				Ohai Rakh	129.50	25.35	11	6	22,34,587	3,29,082			50,000	1,67,595	4,46,917	60,000	45,000	33,33,181	44,692	33,77,873
				Loha Mori	182.52	30.95	9	6	27,41,800	5,47,783			50,000	2,05,634	5,48,567	60,000	45,000	41,98,577	54,836	42,53,413
				Basodhan	92.27	22.20	7	6	18,69,304	5,15,577	63,000		50,000	1,40,198	3,73,861	60,000	45,000	31,16,940	37,386	31,54,326
				Kandla	85.39	20.10	5	4	17,36,005	3,89,734			50,000	1,30,200	3,47,201	60,000	45,000	27,58,140	34,720	27,92,860
				Kohal	102.73	20.20	11	7	15,98,957	2,84,528			50,000	1,19,922	3,19,792	60,000	45,000	24,78,199	31,979	25,10,178
				Khulbhalli	8.37	20.15	4	3	13,44,929	3,50,252			50,000	1,00,870	2,68,985	60,000	45,000	22,20,036	26,899	22,46,935
				Gudda Churmani	116.21	27.95	4	4	33,07,082	5,64,881			50,000	2,46,719	6,57,912	60,000	45,000	49,31,594	66,142	49,97,736
				Chambi	82.97	22.05	4	4	18,17,065	3,77,052			50,000	1,35,047	3,60,125	60,000	45,000	28,44,289	36,341	28,80,630
				Tapoon	119.39	26.95	10	8	24,94,123	3,19,913			50,000	1,87,061	4,98,825	60,000	45,000	36,54,922	49,882	37,04,804
				Sanocha	129.50	27.00	11	4	19,37,686	2,27,146			50,000	1,45,326	3,87,536	60,000	45,000	28,52,694	38,754	28,91,448
				Dhar	83.37	24.35	5	3	17,03,134	3,12,326			50,000	1,27,736	3,40,626	60,000	45,000	26,39,022	34,063	26,73,085
				Raina	140.18	25.60	8	5	22,83,622	5,16,348			50,000	1,71,270	2,28,362	60,000	45,000	38,11,327	45,672	38,57,000
	Chamba Total	20	13	13	1415.26	321.50	98.00	68.00	2,78,31,972	49,04,207	63,000	-	6,56,000	20,84,853	2,28,362	7,90,000	5,85,000	4,26,86,995	5,56,639	4,32,43,634
9	Pangi	12	2	Karyas	165.80	21.80	6	5	22,90,658	1,40,696	52,000		50,000	1,71,799	2,29,066	60,000	45,000	34,97,350	45,813	35,43,163
				Dharvas	85.50	23.20	3	3	22,47,783	2,65,289	29,500		50,000	1,68,584	2,24,778	60,000	45,000	35,40,490	44,956	35,85,446
	Pangi Total	12	2	2	251.30	45.00	9.00	8.00	45,38,441	4,05,985	81,500	-	1,00,000	3,40,383	4,53,844	1,20,000	90,000	70,37,840	90,769	71,28,609
	Total	176	114	114	16402.55	2900.55	511	494	26,13,27,567	3,25,67,623	2,39,000	1,07,600	57,00,000	1,98,41,702	2,24,82,078	68,40,000	51,30,000	40,64,93,295	52,25,905	41,17,19,201

3.2.2 Output 2: Tools for climate adaptive forest management are developed and applied in project areas by HPFD

3.2.2.1 Nursery Management

Material like coco peat has already been procured and the platforms for composting have also been completed in all DPMUs.

During the period under review, required root trainers were procured and the DPMU-wise distribution was also done. Shredders were also procured. The DPMUs were requested to collect the material for the model nurseries from the central store.

DPMUs were asked to construct the bamboo frames for root trainers. DPMUs submitted that iron frames instead of bamboo frames should be made as they last longer without being substantially more expensive. SPMU asked DPMUs to submit the proposal with cost estimates and then the same can be discussed with PMC and then further with KfW.

Earlier, other nursery equipment like compost thermometer, compost hygrometer and other handheld instruments had been procured as per approved procurement plan. These instruments were distributed to all identified model nurseries. The status of project nurseries is as under:

Table 3: Division-wise Status of Project Nurseries

S. No	Division	Nursery	Area (ha)	Status			3-Phase Connection
				Platform	Bamboo Frames	Composting	
1.	Dharamshala	Daulatpur	0.50	Y	N	N	N
2.	Dehra	Khaleta	1.25	Y	N	N	N
3.	Palampur*	Duhki	0.50	Y	N	Y	N
4.	Churah	Meida	0.50	Y	N	Y	Y
5.	Dalhousie	Lahroo	0.50	Y	N	N	Y
6.	Nurpur	Sadwan	1.00	Y	N	Y	N
7.	Chamba	Mehla	0.70	Y	N	N	N
8.	Bharmour	Lamu	1.65	Y		Y	
9.	Pangi	Killar	1.00				

* As per DPMU Palampur, in one of the forest nursery Dukhi a composting unit and platform already exists.

During the previous review period nursery operations trainings with new methodology were held at circle level. In November 2019 ToT will be offered to the selected candidates of these earlier trainings so that they can be the master trainers for the whole project area.

3.2.2.2 Forest Management Planning

Out of a total of 176 planned MP sites, 114 MPs are currently approved, and by the end of June 2019, the remaining MPs shall also have been approved. The budget for

the year 2018-19 for implementation of activities in the approved MP areas has been transferred to the DPMUs. The summarised achievement up to June 2019 is as under:

Table 4: Division-wise Achievement up to June 2019*

S. No	Division	Lantana Removal	Other Weed Removal	Clearing of Lantana/Other Weeds around Pits	Planting	Fencing	Fodder & Grasses	Contour Trenching	Desilting of Pond	EPA	Soil Conservation Works	Lantana Maint.
		Ha	Ha	Ha	Ha	RMT	Ha	Rmt	Nos.	No.	Nos.	Ha
1	Dharamshala	126.10			56.00	8738						
2	Dehra	193.10	4.92		50.00	13786		1525	7			
3	Palampur	101.00	35.00		32.50	5193	2.00				36	
4	Nurpur	164.35			35.35	8111	65.00			4	23	71.97
5	Dalhousie				42.00							
6	Bharmour				5.00							
7	Churah				8.00							
8	Chamba	42.45			56.88	10364						
9	Pangi											
	Total	627.00	39.92	0.00	285.73	46192	67.00	1525	7	4	59	71.97

* Data not received from DPMUs marked in red. These are previous achievement of these DPMUs

Advance work for most of the remaining areas has also been carried out for the monsoon planting. Hence, in the next progress review, there will be major achievement of plantation targets.

During the meeting held in New Delhi with representatives of KfW, CPD proposed to take up additional 30 - 50 ha area under unfenced lantana eradication and rehabilitation with a lower limit of at least 10 ha. KfW in principle agreed to the concept and asked SPMU to submit the proposal for the same. The proposal was submitted but has yet to be approved by KfW.

A map depicting 120 approved FMP sites till June 2019 is annexed as Annexure A.

3.2.2.3 Springshed Management

Previously ACWADAM submitted 17 springshed plans for Dharamshala and Chamba circles. These were circulated to the respective DPMUs for further costing and estimating. During the period under review, one springshed in Dharamshala circle was visited again and the detailed costing and estimating was done for the same. On the basis of this, workshops were held both at Dharamshala and Chamba for the concerned Forest Guards, Block Officers and Project Support Coordinators to make them understand the process of preparing the costs and estimates for the springsheds and how to identify the activities to be carried out in the springshed area.

DPMUs were asked to collect data and other information on more springs so that the ACWADAM team can come back and handhold to prepare the two springshed development plans per division. Status update on the collection of data is pending. Based on the status the team will prepare their travel plan and share with PMC and SPMU.

A handholding exercise will mainly include insitu understanding the hydrogeological mapping process and its practical importance. The participants will be re-trained in the identification of spring typology, discharge and on-site water quality measurement, understanding role of lithology and use of Brunton compass for the delineation of

recharge zone for the spring revival. The teams will be asked to work independently and then review of the work done by the teams will be done by ACWADAM.

Table 5: List of Springs Identified*

Sr. No	Division	Range	Site	Spring
1	Dharamsala	Dharamsala	Tahu	Tahu
		Shahpur	Bhanala	Lusara-di-baudi
		Shahpur	Salol	Chakli
		Malan	Malan	Khuibasti
		Malan	Baguler	Honsti
		Malan	Baguler	Gujreda
		Malan	Plahchaklu	Bhorni
		2	Palampur	Palampur
Palampur	Panaper			Jol Basti Bowari
Palampur	Ghaneta			GalluBowari
Palampur	Ghaneta			TobdiBowari
Daroh	GaggalKholi			BhadrolBowari

*Details of springs from other DPMUs still awaited.

3.2.3 Output 3: All implementation partners and project target groups are capacitated

Capacity building is an important part of forestry sector development. With more use of people-centred approaches in forest management and integration of forestry with rural development and livelihood, the capacities of the forest department staff need to be enhanced as their basic trainings have little focus on participatory and social approaches and methods.

3.2.3.1 Assessment of training needs at all levels of project implementation

- TNA is an important part of any project for formulating training strategies and plan. The new concept of this project and different implementation strategies necessitated that the project staff should be oriented first regarding the various guidelines and their role in the project. Hence, SPMU insisted that detailed TNA shall only be conducted after initial orientation and basic trainings was given to the staff at all levels to start preparing the MPs and interactions with the community.
- More detailed TNA will be planned jointly by PMC and SPMU when most of the MPs have been prepared.
- Meanwhile the trainings are being planned based on the field level requirements for implementation of different components of the project. Nevertheless, in-depth discussions are being held with the project staff, social staff and the community based organisations on the day to day capacity handicaps faced by them in implementing the project which can be addressed through capacity building which includes trainings, on the job trainings and exposure visits.

3.2.3.2 Design and implementation of a comprehensive training programme for HPFD and contracted programme staff

An annual action plan for capacity building was prepared and submitted to the SPMU by PMC for implementation of the trainings at the level of DPMUs. During the period under review, the plan was revisited and changes were made to adjust the training needs of the DPMUs.

Trainings Conducted

During the period under review 23 trainings were organised by the Project. These trainings include both classroom as well as field training. The trainings were closely observed and attended by the SPMU and PMC consultants. The summary of trainings conducted is given in table below:

Table 6: Summarized Details of Trainings and Workshops

Cat Id	Category	Sub-Category	Nos.	Participants
A	Project Planning and Management	Managing KfW Fund Requirement	6	391
		Project Monitoring and reporting	11	264
B	Institutional Development	Reporting and data entry into databases and spreadsheets	2	48
C	Climate Change and Forest Management	Climate change Adaptation	2	39
		Springshed Management	2	40
	Total		23	782

Many trainings / workshops have been organized both at SPMU and DPMU level on different aspects mentioned in the Training Plan submitted by International Expert Dr. Rex Kinder. Till June 2019, a total of 96 events have been organized by SPMU in which about 3,329 stakeholders of different categories participated. DPMU staff is trained enough now to impart further trainings in the field as well as at DPMU level. ACFs and PSCs are playing important roles for imparting trainings to the staff as well as to the communities. The detail of the trainings conducted by DPMUs is still awaited.

Regular feedback has been taken from stakeholders to make further improvements in capacity building programmes. A format has been developed to record the feedback from the participants. These forms are distributed at the time of training to track the performance and quality of inputs being given in training. Their response was analyzed critically. Some of the responses received from feedback of various trainings are given below:

Training on internal monitoring and self-check

These trainings have been conducted by SPMU at division level. Resource persons were the M&E Expert and APD (M&E). The purpose of these trainings was to make the participants acquainted with how to generate self-check reports for internal monitoring and also to review the self-check reports prepared by DPMUs. 90% of the participants

wished to receive more training on self-check monitoring for better understanding. More than 95% of the participants were of the opinion that these trainings should be conducted at Division level as well as at Range level.

Output: 6 divisions have submitted self-check monitoring reports to SPMU.

Training on GPS/GIS based monitoring

These trainings have also been conducted by SPMU. The M&E Expert and the GIS expert were the resource persons for these trainings. Participants were PSCs, ROs, concerned BOs, F-Guards and data entry operators. Purpose of these trainings was to build the capacity of participants in proper use of GPS, to prepare KML files as well as to train them in GPS-based monitoring. More than 80% of the participants said that GPS/GIS trainings should last for at least 2 days. 100% of the participants were satisfied with the training content. 100% of the participants gave excellent rating to the field training.

Output: Forest guards are now well acquainted with GPS system and are able to read maps, able to track the area and able to prepare KML files. This resulted in increasing the pace of MP preparation.

Training on MS Excel pro at FTI Sundernagar

These trainings were organized at FTI Sundernagar. Participants were F-Guards, Sr. and Jr. Office assistants & Computer operators. Purpose of these trainings was to upgrade the skills of the participants in MS Excel pro which is required to feed the MIS data at DPMU level as well as to generate the reports required in electronic form. 90% of the participants gave excellent ratings to this training regarding its usefulness, structure of training session and training schedule relevance to their need. 100% of the participants gave excellent rating to the lodging and boarding facilities at FTI Sundernagar.

Outcome: MP data is maintained at DPMUs. Self-check monitoring reports are coming to SPMU in the desired form.

3.2.3.3 Improvement / rehabilitation of training infrastructure

Based on the assessment of the number of trainings conducted by SPMU and DPMUs in the last financial year it is felt that there is a need to identify and hire training institutions which can conduct both classroom and field trainings for the project round the year in both circles.

If the project feels that it is a long process to hire private institutions it has been suggested by PMC that a yearlong calendar with FTI Sundernagar be agreed upon and fund be provided to them. Apart from this, if the institutions need any infrastructure support it can be provided in consultation with PMC. PMC has undertaken such an assessment early this year.

3.2.4 Output 4: M&E of project progress and achievements and mainstreaming of identified best practices into HPFD routine operations

The revised Monitoring and Evaluation Guidelines, Field Manual and ToR for Third Party Monitoring were approved by KfW. However, the Guidelines on the Saving Book Approach was not approved by KfW and certain fresh queries were put in. These queries were answered and further submitted to KfW for approval. Following the proposed approach in the saving book approach guidelines and the finally approved new forest models, the database and ToR for third party monitoring have been adjusted. The tender for Third Party Monitoring was also floated and the minutes of technical evaluation were sent to KfW for approval so that the financial bid can be opened.

The final approval for the technical evaluation of the External Auditor was received from KfW on June 4th, 2019, and only then the financial bid could be opened. Hence, the external audit can only commence in the next progress review period.

During the period under review, a lot of emphasis was put on the implementation and the self-check reports. A number of trainings were held on preparation of self-check reports. The team of APD (M&E) and Project Manager (M&E) visited the DPMUs and helped the staff in preparation of self-check reports. Till end of June 2019, self-checks of 28 VFMS from 5 DPMUs were received and checked. No self-check report from Dharamsala, Churah and Bharmour was received despite repeated reminders. As for Pangji, no work under 2 approved MPs has yet been implemented. These 28 self-checks were reviewed and returned to the DPMUs for minor corrections and final submission.

A comprehensive M&E system has been developed and put in place, and data entry work into the M&E database has started. At present the data entry work is complete in some of the DPMUs. PMC has no record if the newly prepared MPs are already entered in the database but believes that the records are not up to date. Till now the Project Manager (IT) is not employed and data entry can't be checked nor tested on plausibility, though it can be summarized in one data set for all of the divisions.

3.3 Cost and Finance, including Partner Contribution

The estimated total Project Cost is EUR 38.05 million including the HPFD and the beneficiary contribution (INR 423.41 million). The financial contribution amounts to EUR 2.00 million and the Loan to EUR 30 million.

Major project heads under which reimbursement was done during the period under review are Project Facilitation by Locally Hired Experts (11) and Project Management - SPMU & DPMU (15). As of June 30th, 2019, the total reimbursed amount (Loan + Grant) amounts to INR 126.53 million, the details of which is given as under in the cost and finance table 7 (see next page).

Table 7: Financial Progress of the Project

Project Measures	Ha	Cost Norms	Total New Costs		New Financing Plan					Reimbursement/Progress Up to June 2019					Balance								
			Loan	Total	Loan	Grant	Total	HPFD	Beneficiary	Total	Loan	Grant	Total	HPFD	Beneficiary	Total	Loan	Grant	Total	HPFD	Beneficiary	Total	
1	8350	126651	1067.54	15.11	43.51%	888.65	888.65	105.43	63.45	1057.53	5.74	5.74	5.74	5.74	882.91	0.00	882.91	0.00				882.91	
2.1	250	37765	9.44	0.13	0.39%	8.87	8.87		0.57	9.44		0.00			8.87	0.00	8.87				8.87		
2.2	400	46198	18.48	0.26	0.76%	17.37	17.37		1.11	18.48		0.00			17.37	0.00	17.37				17.37		
2.3	400	48872	19.55	0.28	0.80%	18.38	18.38		1.17	19.55		0.00			18.38	0.00	18.38				18.38		
2.4	100000	15	1.50	0.02	0.06%	1.50	1.50			1.50		0.00			1.50	0.00	1.50				1.50		
3	2 pilot areas for pasture improvement	41983	4.20	0.06	0.17%	4.20	4.20		0.00	4.20		0.00			4.20	0.00	4.20				4.20		
4	Silvicultural operations in all forest types (no planting, no fencing)	4300	12.90	0.18	0.53%	6.48	6.48	6.42	0.00	12.90		0.00			6.48	0.00	6.48			6.42	12.90		
	Sub-Total		1123.60	16.05		945.45	945.45	111.85	66.30	1123.60	5.74	5.74	5.74	5.74	939.71	0.00	939.71	6.42	0.00	6.42	946.13		
5	Soil and water conservation measures on micro-watershed basis		115.50	1.65	4.75%	103.95	103.95	0.00	11.55	115.50		0.00			103.95	0.00	103.95				103.95		
6	Spring rehabilitation		64.90	0.93	2.67%	58.41	58.41	0.00	6.49	64.90	0.34	0.34			58.07	0.00	58.07				58.07		
7	Nursery development and improvement		16.80	0.24	0.69%	16.80	16.80	0.00	0.00	16.80	4.30	4.30			12.50	0.00	12.50				12.50		
8	Entry Point Activities		90.88	1.30	3.74%	90.88	90.88	0.00	0.00	90.88					90.88	0.00	90.88				90.88		
9	Training and capacity building		72.69	1.04	2.99%	6.19	66.50	0.00	0.00	72.69		4.68	4.68		61.82	0.00	61.82				68.01		
10	M&E		52.50	0.75	2.16%	44.10	44.10	8.40	0.00	52.50		0.00			44.10	0.00	44.10			8.40	52.50		
11	Project facilitation by locally hired experts		156.60	2.24	6.44%	153.10	3.50	0.00	0.00	156.60	26.83	3.50	30.33		126.27	0.00	126.27				126.27		
12	JPMC Coordination User Group Meetings		21.70	0.31	0.89%	21.70	21.70	0.00	0.00	21.70		0.00			21.70	0.00	21.70				21.70		
13	Forest protection incentives		237.30	3.39	9.78%	237.30	237.30	0.00	0.00	237.30	23.32		23.32		213.98	0.00	213.98				213.98		
14	Preparation of micro working plans		12.60	0.18	0.52%	12.60	12.60	0.00	0.00	12.60	0.57	0.57			12.03	0.00	12.03				12.03		
15	Project management (SPMU and DPMU)		273.71	3.91	11.26%	91.20	91.20	182.51	0.00	273.51	16.67	16.67			74.53	0.00	74.53			165.92	240.12		
16	Accompanying measures (Project Management Consultant)		191.80	2.74	7.89%	121.80	70.00	0.00	0.00	191.80	47.12	70.00	117.12		74.68		74.68					74.68	
	Basic Costs (August 2014)		2430.58	34.72	100%	1903.48	140.00	2043.48	302.76	84.34	2430.58	124.89	78.18	203.07	16.92	0.00	219.99	1776.59	61.82	1840.41	180.41	0.00	2020.82
	Technical Contingency (3)		64.83	0.93		55.38	0.00	6.79	2.66	64.83		0.00			55.38	0.00	55.38				55.38		
	Basic Cost + Technical Contingency		2495.41	35.65		1958.86	140.00	2098.86	309.55	87.00	2495.41	124.89	78.18	203.07	16.92	0.00	219.99	1833.97	61.82	1895.79	180.41	0.00	2076.20
	Price Increase (4)		168.71	2.41		141.85	0.00	20.36	6.50	168.71		0.00			141.85	0.00	141.85				141.85		
	Investment / Project Cost		2664.12	38.06		2100.71	140.00	2240.71	326.91	93.50	2664.12	124.89	78.18	203.07	16.92	0.00	219.99	1975.32	61.82	2037.64	180.41	0.00	2218.05
	Interest During Implementation		0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00					0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00		
	Financing Requirement		2664.12	38.06		2100.71	140.00	2240.71	326.91	93.50	2664.12	124.89	78.18	203.07	16.92	0.00	219.99	1975.32	61.82	2037.64	180.41	0.00	2218.05

3.3.1 Simplified Reimbursement procedure for HPFD

As per the Separate Agreement dated December 17th, 2014, between HPFD and KfW, all the reimbursement to HPFD will be done via simplified reimbursement procedure. HPFD will submit a reimbursement request to KfW along with Withdrawal Application and Statement of Expenditure (SOE) duly verified and counter signed by PMC. The detail of all reimbursement to HPFD till date (both Grant & Loan) is given in table 8 and 9.

Table 8: Reimbursement Status of Project (INR)

S. No	Date	Amount	Cumulative Total
Grant			
1	06-06-2017	6,08,868	6,08,868
2	09-11-2017	5,83,101	11,91,969
3	25-05-2018	98,04,928	1,09,96,897
4	26-09-2018	95,50,288	2,05,47,185
5	08-02-2019	83,23,456	2,88,70,641
6	14-05-2019	61,43,454	3,50,14,095
Loan			
1	06-06-2017	11,19,386	11,19,386
2	07-12-2017	27,20,960	38,40,346
3	25-05-2018	28,05,057	66,45,403
4	26-09-2018	88,77,703	1,55,23,106
5	08-02-2019	72,68,673	2,27,91,779
6	14-05-2019	2,81,45,242	5,09,37,021
Total			8,59,51,116

Table 9: Reimbursement Status of Project (EUR)

Description	Amount Reserved	Amount Reimbursed	Balance
201365154 Loan	2,85,18,720.00	6,47,410.41	2,78,71,309.59
201370279 Grant	10,00,000.00	4,37,067.86	5,62,932.14

3.3.2 Direct disbursement procedure DFS/GOPA

DFS/GOPA is paid for their services according to the direct disbursement procedure. The following table is showing all direct disbursement requests submitted by DFS/GOPA to HPFD and payments received from KfW up to now. The consulting contract dated July 29th, 2017, was amended to incorporate the costs for an exposure tour to Germany, September 3rd to 11th, 2017, which was organized and facilitated by DFS. The actual cost agreed for Addendum No 1 was EUR 43,463; however only EUR 37,976.87 was eligible for reimbursement after final invoicing. By June 30th, 2019, DFS received the payments from KfW up to Invoice no. 13.

Table 10: Disbursement Status of Project Management Consultants (EURO)

S. No	Date	Amount	Cumulative Total	Balance
1	29-07-2016	1,50,000.00	1,50,000.00	23,74,743.00
2	16-11-2016	1,91,548.74	3,41,548.74	21,83,194.26

3	28-02-2017	1,65,000.00	5,06,548.74	20,18,194.26
4	31-05-2017	1,65,000.00	6,71,548.74	18,53,194.26
5	31-08-2017	1,65,000.00	8,36,548.74	16,88,194.26
6	31-08-2017	21,731.50	8,58,280.24	16,66,462.76
7	21-11-2017	1,13,115.77	9,71,396.01	15,53,346.99
8	21-11-2017	16,245.37	9,87,641.38	15,37,101.62
9	01.03.2018	1,10,000.00	10,97,641.38	14,27,101.62
10	31-05-2018	1,10,000.00	12,07,641.38	13,17,101.62
11	01.09.2018	1,10,000.00	13,17,641.38	12,07,101.62
12	17.12.2018	1,10,000.00	14,27,641.38	10,97,101.62
13	11.03.2019	1,10,000.00	15,37,641.38	9,87,101.62
14	31.05.2019*	1,10,000.00	16,47,641.38	8,77,101.62

* Last Invoice Dated 31-5-19 was disbursed during the month of July 2019

3.4 Time Schedule¹

The implementation phase of the project officially started in June 2017. Till the end of June 2019, 176 MP sites were selected and 114 MPs were approved. The following table gives an overview of the overall implementation status till end of June 2019.

Table 11: Implementation Status for the Progress till June 2019

PROJECT YEAR	Units	Target	2017-18						2018-19										
			Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Project phases																			
Implementation phase FC main programme																			
Implementation phase Accompanying Measures																			
Project Preparation and Management																			
Establishment of SPMU & DPMU and Procurement																			
Project Management Units (SPMU/DPMU)- Functioning																			
Selection of forest sites (Nos. Micro-plans)	Nos.				45 Sites Selected					130 Sites Selected								53 New Sites Selected	
Formation of JFMCs and MOU with JFMCs	Nos.	176			45					14								55	
Preparation of micro-working plans (No of villages)	Nos.	600			43					265								203	
Preparation of manuals and guidelines		15			Prepared & Approved													SBA pending	
Project Activities																			
CCA conversion of infested forests plus planting bamboo along	Ha	8350			468.15													158.85	
Removing of Lantana & Other Weeds	Ha				174.2					216.06								236.74	
Planting of Small Trees	Ha									250.94									
Planting of Tall Trees	Ha									34.79									
High Yielding fodder and grass production (alpine pastures)	Ha	250																	
High Yielding fodder and grass production in lowlands	ha	400						2										65	
Forest Closure against grazing	Ha	400																	
Income generating activities seedling free of costs, woodlots, NTFP	Ha																		
2 pilot areas for pasture improvement	ha	100																	
Silvicultural operation in all forest types (no planting, no fencing)	Ha																		
Soil and water conservation measures	Ha																	59 Nos . Check Dams	
Spring rehabilitation	Nos.	150			Mapping of 13 nos. springs					Mapping of 9 Springs								Springshed Plans Finalization	
Nursery development	Nos.	9			9 Model Nurseries Selected, Procurement Started, Training Started													90% Procurement Completed	
Entry Point activities	Euros	9,14,634																	
Training and capacity building	Euros	12,90,890								57,602.08									
Monitoring and Evaluation	Euros	7,31,464								System Established & data entry work started									
Project facilitation by local experts	Euros	16,49,270								3,01,267.60									
JFMC/FCS coordination meetings	Euros	3,07,314																	
Forest protection incentive transfer to JFMC A/c	Euros	33,86,866								2,33,20,672.00									
Forest Protection incentive transfer to individual SB A/c	Euros																		

4. CURRENT SITUATION OF TARGET GROUP / BENEFICIARIES AND FOREST USER GROUPS

4.1 The Beneficiaries, Legal status & Arrangement:

The primary beneficiaries are the 'User Groups' in the MPs under operations. There are generally 4 or more UGs in each MP area with distinct treatment plots allocated to each group. The group is responsible for the implementation, maintenance and protection of their plots, and their members are the primary beneficiaries by way to usufruct sharing, earning of wages and availing of incentives after Third Party checks. This arrangement is likely to ensure a high level of involvement of the local community and of the UGs in particular. The UGs are all part of the VFMS which is a legally registered entity under the HP Societies Act, 2006. Each UG will also contribute its share of 2% in cash of the Green Investment being made in a MP to the VFMS, who will then deposit this money in the saving account held by them.

Under the guidelines and arrangements for the execution of this project, new ways of fund transfer and disbursement between the DPMUs and the VFMS have been agreed to. After approval of the MP, a six-monthly Activity Plan with budget is drawn up by the VFMS, approved by the General House and accepted by the DFO (this is specified in the Bye Laws, 31(ii), notified by the GoHP for this project). The DFO is then transferring the 6-month budget to the VFMS account (working account) and disbursements for work done is paid after checking by FD (DPMUs), by bank transfer to individual wages. Similarly, as provided for in the approved MoU and the SBA guidelines, the funds for maintenance and incentives are also being transferred to the VFMS in their maintenance account and incentive account.

For this new arrangement to work smoothly, the FD staff including those hired under the project (Project Support Co-ordinator, Facilitators, Village Group Organisers) are ensuring that the VFMS executive committee and members fully understand this arrangement and on-going efforts and facilitation are needed for this to happen.

During the KfW Mission, it was suggested and agreed that a honorarium of INR 1,000 and INR 750 should be given to the VFMS President and to the Member Secretary, respectively. For contingencies and other unexpected expenses, a fund totalling of INR 10,000 is deposited into the concerned VFMS working account. The VFMS has to provide due invoices for the usage of this contingency amount.

5. STAFFING SITUATION

5.1 Project Executing Agency-SPMU/DPMU

The SPMU has been established at Dharamshala headed by a CPD. The staffing for SPMU has been done as per Feasibility Study (FS) as per the requirement. For implementation at divisional level, the territorial divisions headed by DFOs were notified as DPMUs.

For the project implementation government staff at SPMU and the DPMUs have been deputed from the HPFD. As per the FS the operational staff like Project Managers, Project Support Facilitators, VGOs and the other support staff like Computer Operators and messengers etc. were to be hired from an outer agency, but with the change in Government Policy, it has been mandated that the required staff be hired from the Himachal Pradesh Natural Resource Management Society. The society hires the staff from the closed down forestry projects of Forest Department. The current state of staffing situation at SPMU and DPMUs is as under:

5.1.1 Staffing at SPMU

Table 12: Staffing Detail of SPMU

S. No	Position	As Per FS	Required	Present Status
Staff from Forest Department				
1	Chief Project Director	1	1	1
2	Deputy Project Director	2	2	0
3	Assistant Project Director	4	4	4
4	Clerical Staff	10	10	7
Outsourced Staff (From Resource Agency)				
1	Project Manager SFDA Support (SPMU Level)	1	0	Nil
2	Project Managers	6	5	2
3	Support Staff	7	7	
	a. GIS Expert	Nil	1	1
	b. Computer Operator		6	4
4	Messengers	4	6	6

Data Entry Operators at DPMU level were hired on work basis for speeding up the process of data entry as well as the preparation of MPs. Project Manager (IT) and Project Manager (Nurseries) are still to be hired.

It may be noted that the regular staff position at the SPMU level is yet to be filled. Two Dy. Project Director level posts are still vacant.

5.1.2 Staffing at DPMU

Staffing at DPMU level are as following:

Table 13: Staffing Detail of DPMU

S. No	Position	As Per FS	Required	Present Status
Staff from Forest Department				
1	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	8	9	9
2	Assistant Conservator of Forest (ACF)	8	9	5
3	Range Officer	30	32	26
4	Deputy Range Officer			101
5	Forest Guard			315
Outsourced Staff (From Resource Agency)				
1	Project Support Coordinator	8	9	5
2	Project Support Facilitator	40	60	35
3	Village Group Organizers	150	320	161

The status of the staff at DPMU level is presented in the table 13. As can be seen from the table there is shortage of outsourced staff i.e. PSCs, PSFs and VGOs positions are still lying vacant.

To speed up the process, approval for appointing two PSCs per division was sought from KfW which was allowed by KfW wherein KfW suggested that instead of hiring retired civil servants, persons with slightly different job profile may be hired and trained accordingly. With regards to VGOs, PCCF instructed SPMU to allow DPMUs to hire required VGOs at their own level as per requirement from the same village and not from outside.

It has been decided that the social staff deployed to the Project is for the whole term of the project i.e. till the completion of the Project. DPMUs will utilize the optimum services of the deployed staff for speedy implementation of the project.

5.2 Project Management Consultants

5.2.1 Present Situation

The Consulting consortium DFS Deutsche Forstservice GmbH and GOPA mbH of Germany are providing technical advisory services led by the CTA.

Consultant services comprise up to 71.5 person-months of international advisers and up to 116 person-months of national advisers.

5.2.2 Consultant services provided in Period under Review

Consultant services comprise in the period under review 3.467 person-months of international advisers, especially in project management, implementation and administration topics, updating silvicultural guidelines, technical standards and adjusted cost norms; finalization and evaluation of tenders for baseline study, external auditors, third party monitoring, root-trainers and other procedures; updating of procurement

plan and training plan and discussions with SPMU and DPMUs on project preparation and implementation; and 11.734 person-months of national advisers on project management, financial management, updating of procurement procedures, models and formats, providing training for project accountants at DPMU level concerning the preparation of reimbursement requests and getting experience on accounting for KfW project measures and supporting SPMU in preparation of tendering guidelines and assisting in review and approval process of these guidelines and formats after submission to KfW.

Consultant services provided during the period under review and in total are summarised in the following table

Table 14: Staffing Detail of Project Management Consultants

Code	Position	Name	Total MM	MM Used		Total Used	Balance
				Previous	Reporting Period		
CTA	Chief Technical Advisor	HESS, Peter	42	16,767	2,400	19,167	22,833
iKE1	Climate & Res. Coopera.	Alexander Horst	4	1,133	1,067	2,200	1,800
iKE2	Nursery Operation	Stellan Karlsson	4,5	3,267		3,267	1,233
B1	Backstopping DFS	Schade/Ludwig	1,8	0,833		0,833	0,967
B2	Backstopping GOPA	Tunk	1,2	0,400		0,400	0,800
iSTE1	Mgm. Proc., fin. & procurement	FUCHS Hans-Udo	1	0,900		0,900	0,100
iSTE2	CCA FMP and Silviculture	GAMPE Stephan	5	4,967		4,967	0,033
iSTE3	Capacity Building	KINDER Rex Gordon	4	4,000		4,000	0,000
iSTE4	Savings Book Approach	WILLEMS Heinz	3	1,900		1,900	1,100
iSTE5	M&E System Development	SCHWEIZER Gerhard	4	4,000		4,000	0,000
iSTE6	unallocated	unallocated	1	0,000		0,000	1,000
Sub-Total				38,167	3,467	41,634	29,866
ACTA	Assistant CTA	Vinay Tandon	60	28,466	6,000	34,466	25,534
nKE1	Financial Coordinator/Accountant	Mukesh Kumar Saraswat	18	4,667	3,300	7,967	10,033
nKE2	IGA Capacity Dev. & Conv.	Dayal Jaiswal	10	7,933	0,534	8,467	1,533
nSTE1	Micro Planning	Thakur/Picky	6	3,983	0,967	4,950	1,050
nSTE2	Climate Proofing	KOUL Deeraj	4	0,800	0,933	1,733	2,267
nSTE3	Spring Rehabilitation	ACWADAM	4	3,033		3,033	0,967
nSTE4	Pasture Mgn./Integrated Fire Mgn.	RADOTRA Sudesh	4	0,166		0,166	3,834
nSTE5	NFTP	CHKRAVARTI Visvarup	4	0,000		0,000	4,000
nSTE6	Procurement	Vikash Mishra	2	2,000		2,000	0,000
nSTE7	unallocated	unallocated	4	0,000		0,000	4,000
National				51,048	11,734	62,782	53,218
Grand Total				89,215	15,201	104,416	83,084

6. STATUS / ACHIEVEMENT OF OUTCOMES - IMPACTS, UPDATE OF INDICATORS

At present all guidelines for climate resilience of forest ecosystems are established and tested. Some of the guidelines have been updated (saving book approach, cost norms, silvicultural guidelines including technical standards) and adjusted to lessons learned so far. New approaches in MP prepreparation, implementation and governing procedures have been agreed upon like provision of salaries for VFMS president and secretary, provision of implements to the user-groups and provision of contingencies funds for each VFMS. About 176 sites (out of planned 195 MPs) for Micro-planning are selected, 59 MP approved, and another 51 MP are under preparation. Trainings for beneficiaries and forestry staff is ongoing.

At present no update of indicators is necessary. The project indicators are unchanged, and outcomes are briefly summarized in the table below.

Table 15: Project Impact Indicators

Summary	Success Indicators	Result / Achievement under Progress Review
Programme Impact (= Overall Objective)	Indicator Name / Description	
Public and private investments in the Natural Resource Management sector improve the natural resource base, minimize the risk of climate change and increase productivity and income in rural areas	1. Improving the stock of natural resources in supported states or regions (e.g. increase of forests, increasing the water table and/or improve soil quality)	
	2. The states / districts supported by German development cooperation have a strategy for adapting to climate change which is implemented and demonstrated.	
Programme Outcome (= Module Objective)	Indicator Name / Description	
Climate Resilience of forest ecosystems, biodiversity and adaptive capacities of forest dependent communities in the selected project area is increased	1. Reduction of forest degradation (canopy cover)	
	2. Increased floral biodiversity	
	3. Increased income from timber and non-timber forest products of target population as per PFM regulations.	Not accepted by SPMU
	4. Increased availability of spring water in treated	Started in 2018 with ACWADAM (NGO). Both

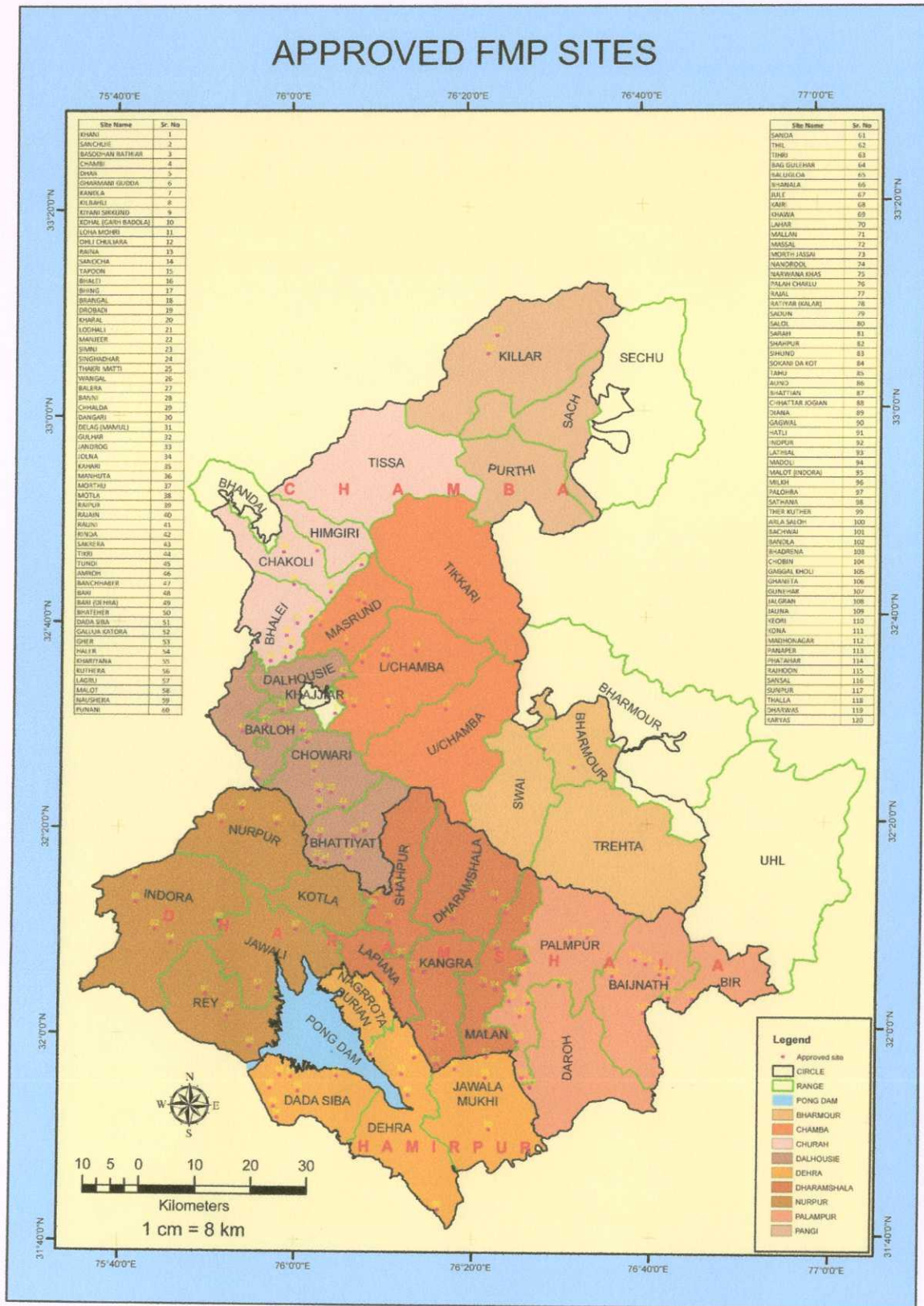
Summary	Success Indicators	Result / Achievement under Progress Review
	spring catchment areas.	Dharamshala and Chamba circle springs mapped and training imparted. Also the reports for the same stand submitted. Costing, estimating and planning are underway.
	5. Treated forest stands are well protected and sustainably managed	
	Baseline values Target values: Will be defined during project inception phase	Tender for baseline study floated. Technical and Financial Evaluation done. Study to be awarded.
Outputs (= Results)	Indicator Name / Description	
Output 1: Forest stands in project area are rehabilitated	1.a Survival rate of afforestation Baseline value: Target Value: 80%	
Output 2: Tools for climate adaptive forest management are developed and applied in project areas by HPFD	2.a. Project nurseries produce quality planting material as per established project standards Baseline value: Target value: 80% Grading methodology for nurseries will be defined during project inception phase.	Guidelines for nursery management developed, pilot nurseries selected and being prepared for root trainer planting stock, procurement of needed equipment ongoing; Training of Nursery staff with new technique was conducted in the month of Nov 2018. In addition keeping in view the planting target for next rainy season and delay in the procurement of the root trainers it was mutually decided to select 10 more forest nurseries as support nurseries wherein the required planting stock can be raised with new technique in polybags.
	2.b. Guidelines for CC adapted forest management developed and applied Baseline value: Target value: yes	With the implementation of activities in the field the need for new models were felt and hence the CC guidelines were revised and some new models and new cost norms were included which were approved by KfW. Guideline for Climate Change Adapted Forest

Summary	Success Indicators	Result / Achievement under Progress Review
		Management in HP was prepared by CC expert and submitted to SPMU for perusal.
Output 3: All implementation partners and project target groups are capacitated	3.a. Efficiency and effectiveness of training courses positively appraised by participants. Baseline value: Target value: 70% of participants rate the trainings as useful and successful	23 trainings done.
	3.b. Majority of CBOs rated as well performing according to project rating system Baseline value: Target value: 70%	
Output 4: M&E of project progress and achievements and mainstreaming of identified best practices into HPFD routine operations	4.a. Progress monitoring system established and operational Baseline value: Target value	M&E guidelines were revised due to inclusion of new models in the CC guidelines. Database was also revised. Related training was imparted for entering data into the database.
	4.b. Number of best practices/project products integrated into HPFD's respective management guidelines. Baseline value: Target value: will be defined during project inception phase	

7. RISKS AND NEED FOR ACTION

- ✓ The delay that initially set in has been remedied to an extent, but project schedules and progress are still to be speeded up. Presently after 3 years running time only about 5 percent of project funding is used / reimbursed. But in the next progress review period it is expected that the reimbursement will boost up as a lot of field activities have been implemented and DPMUs are preparing the reimbursement claims for these field activities. To speed up the implementation process the communication between the project and various stakeholders has been improved vastly. Field implementation is monitored and more awareness generated.
- ✓ While KfW targets an area of climate adopted measures in forests to be achieved, SPMU prefers to stick to a projected number of MPs to be prepared, initially set to 600. There should be a clear target in terms of the number of MPs to be prepared. As of June 2019, out of the total of 176 targeted MPs, 114 are approved. Considering the progress made so far, it seems likely that another 35 - 40 MPs could be completed and approved by December 2019, bringing the approved figure closer to 176 MPs which is the present target. The risk of being unable to accelerate MP finalisation now looks reduced.
- ✓ Progress for formulation of springshed plans is lagging behind. As of December 2018, 9 spring-shed have been identified for treatment in Chamba circle and 9 in Dharamshala circle respectively. Of these 18 springs, 4 are located outside MP areas. By June 2019 only a couple of springshed management plans were finalised and approved.
- ✓ In 7 out of the 9 model nurseries planned (2 in Pangi & Bharmour excluded), most materials, equipment and infrastructure have been provided and training of staff in various operations carried out in November 2018. Anticipating this development, PMC and SPMU along with the international nursery operations Expert agreed to grow 15,000 seedlings each in 10 supplementary nurseries. These are being raised in poly bags using the coco-peat & vermi-compost medium. It has been agreed to begin production of organic compost by April 2019 so that it becomes available for use in the next nursery season i.e. Nov/Dec 2019. No progress has, however, been reported on this front.
- ✓ The need to select and train a core group of trainers was recommended by the international HRD Expert in his December 2018 report. The trainers have been identified for nursery and GPS in both the districts. The ACFs in both the districts have been trained and they are imparting training to the staff as well as communities.

ANNEXURE A



ANNEXURE B

Glimpses



Plantation Demo at VFMS Galua Katora



VFMS Members Madhonagar digging pits



Madhonagar VFMS Plot in July 2018



Madhonagar VFMS Plot in Sept 2018



Nursery Staff working with Root Trainers



Discussion with VFMS Members on Climate Change



MIS Training at Sundernagar



MIS Training at Sundernagar



Accounts Training at Chamba



Accounts Training at Dharamsala

This report is prepared by PMC dated _____. The semi-annual progress report was received only from 5 Divisions which have been incorporated into the report.



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