

Simplified Ex-Post Evaluation for Technical Cooperation Project

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Project Name	Disaster Mitigation Support Program Project (DMSP)	January 2010 – December 2010

I Project Outline

Country Name	Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal			
Project Period	1 September 1999-31 August 2004 (5 years)			
Executing Agency	Department of Water Induced Disaster Prevention (DWIDP) of the Ministry of Water Resources			
Cooperation Agency in Japan	None			
Total Cost	678.413 million yen			
Related Projects (if any)	Grant Aid: The Project for Department of Water Induced Disaster Prevention (DWIDP) Technical Cooperation: “Water Induced Disaster Prevention Technical Centre Project” (Oct. 1991-Mar. 1999) Grant Aid for Grassroots Project: “Kathmandu - Naubise Model Project”			
Overall Goal	Capacity of Her Majesty’s Government of Nepal (HMG/N) and communities to cope with water induced disasters will be strengthened			
Project Objective(s)	Countermeasures for water induced disasters by HMG/N and communities will be promoted			
Output[s]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disaster mitigation measures and construction methods suitable for local environment will be identified. Target Group: (1) Community, (2) Counterpart of DMSP 2. Disaster rehabilitation will be strengthened through technical supports of Department of Water Induced Disaster Prevention (Disaster Mitigation Support Programme) Target Group: (1) Concerned central government offices, (2) Concerned agencies = Central and local Government offices, ICIMOD, NGOs, etc. 3. Sharing of disaster information and disaster mitigation technology will be improved. Target Group: (1) Counterpart of DMSP, (2) Concerned agencies’ staff, (3) Institute of Engineering, Tribhuvan University 4. Awareness on disaster mitigation among HMG/N and communities will be raised. Target Group: (1) Concerned agencies (JCC), (2) Communities (All Nepal) 			
	Inputs (Japanese Side)		Inputs (Nepalese Side)	
Experts	14 Long term, 40 Short term experts	Staff allocated	41 C/Ps	
Equipments	92 million yen	Equipments	N/A	
Local Cost	68 million yen	Local Cost	Rs 160 million (Budget for 2003/04)	
Trainees Received	26 C/Ps	Land etc provided	DWIDP, The laboratory at Godawari, The garage of the construction machines	
Others	N/A	Others	N/A	

II Result of the Evaluation

Summary of the evaluation

The Project clarified the responsibility of the executing agency, the Department of Water Induced Disaster Prevention (DWIDP) central role in water induced disaster management, establishing a coordination mechanism with other water induced disaster related organizations and sharing technical and updated information by publishing periodicals and establishing a DWIDP website. By doing so, the Project also upgraded the capacity of the water induced disaster related agencies as well as the coordination skills of DWIDP. As a result, the countermeasures against water-induced disaster have been to some extent furthered. The Project was relevant in response to the high demand from communities affected by water-induced disasters because of Nepal's steep topography and heavy rain during the rainy season. The government also developed a water induced disaster related policy paper.

Part of the project outputs were not realized, resulting from uncontrollable factors, such as poor security situation and deployment delays by the counterparts. Therefore, the Project was unable to completely achieve all its objectives. However, the training courses (both General and Advanced) introduced by the Project were still conducted and a certain level of project sustainability was observed. In addition, indirect impacts were also observed. The Project helped establish a Master's course on Water Induced Hazard at the Institute of Engineering at Tribhuvan University. Now after the Project, with the technical support of DWIDP, new Master's courses have been conducted on Disaster Development Study at Tribhuvan University and on Disaster Risk Management at the Nepal Engineering College, Pokhara University since September 2010. Regarding the remaining issue of establishing the local disaster rehabilitation mechanisms at district and village levels, which could not be completed during the project period, the DWIDP has been making efforts to enhance countermeasures at the local level including conducting mobile seminars in districts. When the answered questionnaire was obtained in July 2010, some concerns about continued sustainability were observed, including the lack of funds for maintenance of procured equipment which left some broken machinery unrepaired, but, at this moment, DWIDP commented that all procured equipment are well maintained and in working condition. However, the financial shortage was also reported to implement Disaster Mitigation Support Programme by DWIDP in full scale, although the budget of DWIDP has been increasing.

In light of the above, this project is evaluated to be satisfactory.

<Constraints of this evaluation study>

The evaluation relied mostly on qualitative analysis of actual achievement since the measurable numerical targets and the degree of achievement have not been set for Project Purpose and some of the Outputs.

1 Relevance

(1) Relevance with the Development Plan of Nepal

"Mitigation of natural disasters" was not clearly mentioned in the Ninth National Five-Year Development Plan which was in effect at the time of the Project started. However, the poor are the people most affected by the natural disasters. Since natural disasters are one of causes of poverty, the mitigation of these disasters is aligned with poverty reduction, the Nepal's most important development priority. The next Tenth Development Plan included water-induced disaster mitigation for the first time, ensuring the relevance of the Project.

(2) Relevance with the Development Needs of Nepal

Nepal is prone to the water-induced disasters such as mud and landslides, and flooding caused by the heavy rains during the rainy season because about 80% of the land is mountainous and the geological condition is very precipitous and fragile. Under these circumstances, the communities are frequently affected by the water-induced disasters. Therefore, the Project was in line with the development needs.

(3) Relevance with Japan's ODA Policy

The issue of disaster management including prevention of landslides has been recognized in the "Support for Economic Infrastructure" as one of the priority issues in the Japan's assistance policy to Nepal.

From the above, this project has been highly relevant with the country's development plan, development needs, as well as Japan's ODA policy; therefore, its relevance is high.

2 Effectiveness / Impact

(1) Achievement of Project Outputs and Project Objective(s)

Regarding the Output 1, "Disaster mitigation measures and construction methods suitable for local environment will be identified", appropriate disaster prevention activities were identified in all four model sites and model construction was initiated. However, two out of four model sites produced only the limited outputs because of the poor security situation and deployment delays by the counterparts. In implementing model activities at all four model sites, the participatory approach was taken, for example, by introducing "disaster mitigation education" in primary schools in order to create community awareness. Moreover, the Project strengthened relations among related water-induced disaster organizations/agencies at the central level through establishment of a "Disaster Survey Committee" and sharing information on the project achievement and technical issues by publishing periodicals and developing a DWIDP homepage. The Project also tried to involve other agencies such as the Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES) in order to create a multi-tiered platform to address the problems. The DWIDP initiated a discussion with the Curriculum Development Center of MoES to incorporate disaster mitigation education in the environmental education curriculum. Furthermore, a "Disaster Protection Activity Plan" was developed in cooperation with related organizations, which fulfills the one of the indicators of project purpose, "The Formation of a plan of actions/operations by DWIDP to prevent/mitigate water induced disaster". However, the degree of the success could not be assessed without a measurable target. At the same time, It was not possible for the disaster rehabilitation mechanism established by the Project to cover the entire Nepal system. It only covered the central level but not extend to the district and village levels, which was a desired effect of the Project.

(2) Achievement of Overall Goal, Intended and Unintended Impacts

Several positive impacts were observed after the project completion. "National Interim Three-Year Plan (2007-2010)," which was formulated after the project, specifies the importance of water induced disaster mitigation and its central role of DWIDP. This was realized because of the recognition by the Government of Nepal of the importance of the issue as a result of the project achievement,

and it is concluded that government countermeasures were strengthened. The DWIDP capacity was increased and this contributed to some extent to mitigate water-induced disasters as can be seen by the number of disaster mitigation activities (plantation, construction, trainings, etc) initiated at many sites in addition to the pilot model site. The “Disaster Protection Activity Plan” was completed at the time of the ex-post evaluation. In addition to the Institute of Engineering at Tribhuvan University, which the Project supported, the Pokhara University launched a Master’s course on Disaster Risk Management with the technical assistance of DWIDP. Moreover, indirect positive impact was observed such as the establishment of the “Nepal Landslide Society” which is the first academic society of natural disaster mitigation in Nepal. There are not any negative impacts by the Project.

From the above, this project has somewhat achieved its objectives; therefore, its effectiveness is fair.

3 Efficiency

(1) Outputs

As stated in the above “Effectiveness / Impact”, a part of output could not be produced by the Project. Some of the reasons were unavoidable factors such as the security situation and the delay of the counterparts deployment.

(2) Elements of Inputs

The appropriate Japanese experts were dispatched as planned. They were highly commended by the related organizations. Other inputs for example equipment and material were carefully selected for appropriateness and the needs for disaster rehabilitation activities.

(3) Project Cost, Period of Cooperation

The Project implementation period was as planned; the planned period was 60 months and actual period was 60 months (equal to 100% of planned period). The planned cost was not confirmed but the actual cost was 678.413 million yen.

From the above, the inputs are appropriate for producing outputs and achieving the project objective; therefore, efficiency of the project is high.

4 Sustainability

(1) Related Policy towards the Project

Several political policies and strategies including “Water Induced Disaster Management Policy 2062 (2005)” and “National Interim Three-Year Plan” identified the importance of the pertinent issue which features high on the government’s list of priorities.

(2) Institutional and Operational Aspects of the Executive Agency

The “Disaster Survey Committee,” which was established in order to coordinate all disaster related organizations by the Project, was not active after project termination. Currently, DWIDP is individually coordinating the activities with related organizations; however, there is no integral body for coordination.

(3) Technical Aspects of the Executive Agency

Out of 41 counterparts only three (3) are still remaining in DWIDP. However, according to the DWIDP, newly recruited staff is receiving technical transfer by general and advanced technical training courses organized by DWIDP. DWIDP has been continuously implementing natural disaster management activities and using the provided equipment without any technical problems. Therefore, it is reported that there is no serious technical problem.

(4) Financial Aspects of the Executive Agency

The budget of DWIDP has been increasing by 20% annually after the project termination. The allocation from the Ministry in charge (Ministry of Water Resources) also has been increasing. However, there has not been enough funds budgeted for the full implementation of Disaster Mitigation Support Programme by DWIDP. It was reported at the timing of the survey in July 2010 that because of the lack of maintenance resources, some equipment such as dump truck and excavator were not in use; however, all procured equipment are well maintained and in working condition at this moment.

(5) Continuity of Effectiveness and Impact

DWIDP has been implementing the disaster mitigation/prevention activities such as community training and tree planting not only at the four project model sites but also at more than eight other sites. The information on the achievements of these activities is also shared through DWIDP periodicals and mobile seminars.

From the above, some problems have been observed in the structural and financial aspects of the executing agency; therefore, sustainability of the project effects is fair.