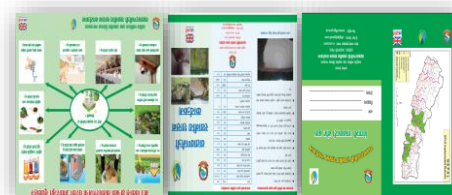


Environment Management Section

Major Highlights of Environment Friendly Local Governance Programme (EFLGP) in July 2016

EFLGP Information Education Materials (IEC)

With an aim to raise awareness on Environment Friendly Local Governance (EFLG) through imparting knowledge to wider audience, Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials such as EFLG-Framework Book in Nepali, School Children Notebook, EFLGP Diary, Posters, and Stickers with Slogans, Calendar, Brochure and Best Practices Compilation of FY 2071/72 have been published. These various IEC materials are in process of distribution to EFLGP implementing local bodies.



Environment Friendly House/ Tole/ Ward Declaration

- Chief Guest Honorable Ms. Kuntikumari Shahi declared Vyas Municipality ward number 13 as the first Environment Friendly Ward of Tanahun District on 4th July, 2016. Amidst a function, Ms. Shahi gave away certificate to the declared EFLG Coordination Committee Coordinator. MoFALD Joint Secretary Mr. Gopi Krishna Khanal, EFLGP Manager Mr. Chakrapani Sharma among others were present at the event.
- On 9th July 2016, Narayani Municipality Ward number 11 (comprising 11 Tole Development Organizations and 770 Households) declared as the first Environment Friendly Ward of Chitwan District.
- On 10th July 2016, Bharatpur Sub Metro declared Ward number 7 (comprising 32 Toles, 3069 HHs) as the First Environment Friendly Ward of Bharatpur Sub metro. The programme was organized in presence of Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of MoFALD Mr. Kamal Thapa. Around 1500 people participated the programme.
- On 14th July, 2016, ward number 8 (comprising 20 TLOs and 1800 HHs) of Ratnanagar Municipality was declared as Environment Friendly ward.
- Lamjung DDC declared 1 Ward & 197 HHs in Bhoje VDC, 50 Household in Ghermu VDC and 150 HHs in Taghring VDC, 140 HH in Pasgaun VDC, all total 637 HH in 4 VDC as environment friendly entities.
- Two Toles namely, Janachetana Tole Sudhar Samiti and Hamsheswor Tole Sudhar Samiti were declared as first Environment Friendly Toles in ward number 2 of Khairahani Municipality on 12th July 2016. Two TLOs consist of 206 households.



- Besishar Municipality declared 1 Tole (Kaulepani Tole) comprising 25 Households as Environment Friendly Tole on 16th July 2016.

Budget allocation to Local bodies for Fiscal year 2073/74

After rigorous analysis of physical progress, financial progress, Environment Friendly tole/ward declaration and reporting by local bodies in 2072/73, budget allocation for EFLGP Implementing local bodies was done on the basis of Grading System. The local bodies with good grade (good physical, financial, declaring EF tole/ ward & reporting on time) were allocated more budget than the local bodies with the low grades. Moreover, a conditional grant allocation guidelines for implementing EFLG activities under LGCDP including Dhankuta, Hetaunda, Baglung and Narayan Municipalities have been prepared and provided to Public Finance Management Expert of LGCDP.

Panchkhal, Kavre, Melamchi Municipality & Giranchaur, Sindhupalchwok visit

Panchkhal municipality organized 'Inauguration Programme' of Samajkalyan Pokhari' on 20th July, 2016 in Panchkhal in presence of Chief Guest Mr. Chakrapani Sharma, Special Guest Local Development Officer Mr. Ram Krishna Uprety, DP Cell Coordinator Mr. Anil Chandrika.

The local community appreciated EFLGP for conserving this pond and supporting to recharge the dried up water source (aquifer) in the periphery and were committed in constructing at least one pond in one village.

The same day, the team visited Melamchi Municipality to discuss about the Environment Friendly Tole (Settlement) in Giranchaur 8, Model Basti (65 Households) that is under construction phase with the initiation of Dhurmus-Suntali Foundation. In the site, the team interacted with Mr. Sitaram Kattel, Dhurmus; the president of House Construction regarding the



EFLGP team with Mr. Sitaram Kattel, Dhurmus



Pond before during and after EFLGP Intervention

procedure for declaration process. This initiation of Dhurmus-Suntali Foundation of declaring Namuna Basti of Giranchour-8, Sindhupalchowk (earthquake destroyed settlement) is expected to publicize the EFLGP to wider stakeholders nationally and internationally in future.

Prepared Initial Environmental Guidelines

To ease the Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) report preparation process for District Development Committees, IEE Guidelines in Nepali has been prepared. The Guidelines is in the process of approval from the MoFALD now. The Guidelines helps local bodies to follow process while preparing IEE of sand gravel and stones. Moreover, it guides local bodies to understand essential information necessary for IEE Reports. Need of the guidelines was felt when the MoFALD handed over the IEE approval authority to local bodies in March 2016.

PEI – Project Document

Under Poverty Environment Initiative (PEI) Program, a project concept note for extending the PEI beyond 2017 following theory of change approach has been drafted by Sachchi Karki and Ek Raj Sigdel. Moreover, result framework for additional years have been revised. The framework focus on up scaling PEI planning and budgeting experiences in EFLG framework.

Green Recovery Plan Implementation

As per the MoU signed between LGCDP and Kabhrepalanchowk and Myagdi District Development Committees, LGCDP has released 50% of the total agreed budget for implementing Pro-poor Environmentally Sustainable Green Recovery and Rehabilitation Plans in Chandani Mandan VDC of Kabhrepalanchowk and Patlekhet of Myagdi respectively. As per the approved proposal, Kabhrepalanchowk and Myagdi DDCs are receiving Rs.1650000 and Rs.1200000 respectively as advance.

Coordination Meeting

A coordination meeting between Environment Management Section of the MoFALD and UNCDF was held in the MoFAL on 21st July 2016. The meeting was to explore possibilities of creating synergy among Clean Start Program, LoCAL, PEI and EFLG in Dhading and Ruapndehi Districts. The meeting decided to work together in Dhading. In this regard, a joint field visit will be organized in 3rd week of August to monitor the LoCAL activities and to organize District level workshop for introducing clean start among the concerned stakeholders.

Field Visit

A field visit was organized from 30th June, 2016 – 5th July 2016 to facilitate the documentary preparation of Environment Friendly Local Governance program based on best practices document. Video was featured in Rajbiraj, Lalbandhi, Ishworpur, Chitrawan, Bharatpur Sub- Metropolis, Kawasoti, Gaidakot Vyas municipality and Chitwan DDC. On the basis of video script was prepared and documentary preparation is on final stage. Documentary will be an important assets of the EFLG program to communicate with wider audience. Ms. Pushpa Koirala, LoCAL Office facilitated the field interaction and observations.

Case Study: Mainstreaming environment and climate change issues into local development

With an objective of assessing to what extent the Environment Friendly Local Governance Program (EFLGP) is effective towards mainstreaming environment and climate change issues into local development planning and budgeting process, a study was carried out in Jun 2016. To this end, existing annual development plans of EFLGP implemented 14 districts and 54 municipalities were reviewed. It was found that all EFLGP implemented local bodies have conducted their respective council meetings in stipulated time framework and have adopted EFLGP. Except for Garuda municipality of Rautahat district, all 53 municipalities have approved/endorsed EFLG programmes for FY 2073/74. Further, it was revealed that in an average 15.03% of the total local bodies' annual budget were allocated for the environment, climate change and disaster related activities.

The average annual budget for environment was higher than the previous findings. For instance, a study on to what extent local government has considered poverty and environment in their annual development plans were carried out in selected 15 DDC and 5 municipalities of Nepal under Poverty Environment Initiative (PEI), - a joint undertaking of UNDP, UNEP and MOFALD, in 2013 in selected local bodies of Nepal. The study revealed that only 4% of the total annual development budget were set aside for environment friendly development activities by local bodies. Similarly, the total budget figure for environment activities such as environment conservation and climate change and adaptation (IEE, Local adaptation and improved cooking stoves) was Rs. 43, 25,000 (4%) in FY 2069/70 (DDC Dhading, Annual District Development Plan 2067 & 2068). Likewise Rupandehi district has allocated around 10% of its total budget for environment and climate change activities under separate headings of annual development plan 2072/73.

The increased proportion of budget and programme on environment, climate change and disaster management sectors in EFLGP implemented areas was due to massive orientation and campaigning at central and local level before the programme planning period in comparison to other local bodies without programme interventions. Also there have been different directives issued from the MoFALD to local bodies from time to time that have also guided the local bodies in giving priority to environment, climate change and disaster management issues in their annual plans.

From the findings of present study it can be inferred that EFLGP intervention in programme implementing local bodies has positively catalyzed to increase budget allocation on environment related activities in their Annual Development Plans. This also implies that local bodies are giving due consideration in addressing and adapting to climate change and disaster management to some extent. It implies that EFLGP is well owned by local bodies and therefore it demands upscaling all across the country. Moreover, effective implementation of the allocated budget and programmes by local bodies remain the subject of further study and analysis

Study was carried out by Meeta Acharya and Ek raj Sigdel