

Fostering Climate Resilient Upland Farming Systems in the Northeast Nagaland (FOCUS)

NO.AGRI/APC-FOCUS/PMC/1/2019-20/

Dated, Kohima the 21st July 2020.

Meeting Minutes

The first Project Management Committee (PMC) meeting of FOCUS Nagaland project was held in the Official Chamber of the APC, Secretariat on 17th July 2020 at 2.00pm. The meeting was Chaired by Shri Y.Kikheto Sema, IAS Commissioner & Secretary , APC and Mission Director FOCUS. The Heads of Department and representatives of Agriculture, Veterinary & Animal Service, Forest and Soil & Water Conservation were present. List of attendees attached at Flagged 'A'

Agendas of the meeting .

1. Presentation on an overview of the Project
2. Discussion on Annual Work Plan & Budget 2020-21
3. Procurement Plan
4. Discussion on Convergence of CSS and issues.

At the outset, Chairman of PMC welcomed all esteemed members of the Committee and Smti S. Tainiu, Joint Secretary Agriculture & State project Director, FOCUS Nagaland presented an overview of the project, covering physical and financial status and progress of the project was highlighted.

Outcome of the meeting:

1. Annual Work Plan and Budget 2020-2021

- The Annual Work Plan and Budget 2020- 2021 *which was approved by IFAD* was highlighted to the members present. The members agreed for the revision of the AWP&B 2020-2021 to Rs. 60 crores as recommended by IFAD Supervision Mission team.
- The approved Procurement Plan of 2020-21 was Presented and discussed.

2. Convergence programmes

- Members present agreed to converge CSS programmes in the field. Draft convergence modalities and possible convergence of activities with the project shared to all the members . Members of line department are to submit their respective action plans in the month of August annually to MD & APC, which will be incorporated in the Annual Work Plan & Budget of the year.
- Technical backstopping to be provided by technical departments such as in the case of identified Community Conserved Areas (CCAs) where forest departments would support the project for afforestation and nursery establishments, the soil department would support in the construction of contour trenches and water protection sites in the identified CCA areas.
- Finalization of the identified CCAs of the project to be done in consultation with forest department for technical guidance and avoid duplication.

Procurement of seeds and quality planting materials.

- PMC decided to promote locally available quality seeds and crops and discourage supply oriented low quality seeds
- Seeds and planting materials will be taken from empanelled agencies of the State and local nurseries to be encouraged in consultation with the procurement guidelines of the project.
- PMC emphasized on encouraging setting up of seed villages and nurseries at farmer's level to meet the local demand.

- PMC also emphasized on encouraging state farms and nurseries for production of quality seeds and planting materials.
- Certified and improved seeds as per farmer's demand will be procured from National Seeds Corporation with proper consultation with FOCUS Districts.

Project objectives and awareness

- Jhum cultivation in the same plot continuously for three years is another big challenge for the project. Therefore, it was discussed that, the project will closely monitor and create continuous community awareness lest it fail to meet its objective.

Overlapping of JICA and IFAD FOCUS villages

- Overlapping of FOCUS IFAD project villages with JICA project, the forest department who is the nodal implementing agency in the state for JICA was asked to write to DEA and funding agency for further clarification as discussed during two consecutive meetings in Chief Secretary 's level on 6/1/2020 and 19/3/2020. This matter was also discussed with IFAD and DEA on 13/1/2020 and decision of Tripartite Portfolio Review Meeting (TPRM) was conveyed to the Nodal Department vide letter No.APC=FOCUS/GEN-18/2018 Dated Kohima the 6th Feb'2020

PMC Monitoring

- The PMC would meet once every quarter to review the progress of project implementation and resolve problems and issues related to project implementation.
- The PMC would undertake field monitoring jointly to project sites in regard to CSS activities.

APC& MD thanked the members present from line departments for their concerted effort in building the agri and allied activities in the State. He reiterated the department to work in close coordination and reinforce the technical guidance and support suited to local conditions. He concluded that the PMC under the project would be a platform where the State can also benefit with the joint implementations of the line departments. He made special appeal to all members to put extra efforts to achieve the project activities as well as for successful convergence for optimal and positive impact.

FOCUS Convergence Guidelines.

The basic objective of convergence of different Centrally Sponsored schemes (CSS) with the Project -Fostering Climate Resilient Farming Systems in North East India-Nagaland (FOCUS) is to establish synergy among different Programmes in planning and implementation to optimise the benefits. Appropriate convergence strategies will enhance economic opportunities for the targeted masses in the Project locations which will strengthen the livelihood of the people. It is expected that through convergence, there would be additional resource support to FOCUS Project from different other Schematic provisions of the Govt. which will contribute to achieve the Project outputs. From a broader perspective, convergence of other programmes/schemes with FOCUS is going to be beneficial to both, where each such initiative will have complementary and supplementary impact to each other's objective.

A.Planning Phase.

1. The Convergence with FOCUS shall be achieved either (a) by converging the activities of the CSS of the Agri & Allied Departments, (b) or by using the resources of the FOCUS to supplement the activities of the Agri & Allied Departments which is aimed at achieving the objective of FOCUS-The overall Goal of FOCUS project is to increase agricultural income of farming households and to enhance their resilience to climate change.
2. Formulate Annual convergence action plan by Directors of Agri & Allied Departments by identifying the areas/activities for possible Convergence and submit to APC latest by August every year.
3. The Project Management Committee (PMC) shall scrutinize the action plans and recommend for integration in the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB) for approval by the Project Steering Committee (PSC)
4. The Project Management Unit (PMU) will prepare AWPB and submit to IFAD for No Objection.

B.Implementation /Reporting and Monitoring.

1. The Implementing Departments shall implement the activities and submit the detailed Financial and Physical report. Format to be designed by PMU.

