

Project: ADF-GRIF II

Date: 18/04/2016

Implementing Agency: Ministry of Indigenous Peoples' Affairs

Reporting Period: Jan-Mar 2016

I. Output Assessment

Output	Indicators	Quarterly Target (s)	Results Achieved	Delivery Rate (<i>actual expenditures/Disbursement received</i>)*100	Challenges	Risks & Issues
		Q = 1				
<p>Output 1. Strengthened entrepreneurial and Institutional capabilities of the village economy of Amerindian communities</p>	<p>YEAR 1 Indicators: -Percentage of community ventures financed that are operational after 1st year -Percentage of community management teams or VC that are regarded as effective in managing community business -Percentage of community level businesses that are financially breaking-even -Number of partnership linkages developed in pursuit of community business development -Number of management team or VC trained to develop, manage and execute</p>	<p>Target 1: 100 % of villages visited and scoping missions conducted</p> <p>Target 2: 100 % of functional management teams have been appraised as effective in managing community level businesses</p>	<p>83% of Scoping missions conducted (133 communities)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> On-the-ground assessment of the community's readiness to receive the MCG undertaken. Work plan and budget prepared in conjunction with the communities for the implementation of the CDP. Micro-capital grant agreement (MCGA) signed by the Toshaos at public meeting <p>73% of Community Management Teams (CMTs) trained in Business Management (116 communities)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Accountability and reporting skills of the CDP Management Team (CMT) improved. Role of the CMT defined Risks and challenges associated with CDP identified and ways to 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Staff turnover: Delays were experienced in planning and executing scoping missions due to staffing constraints. The Project Unit was without a Project Manager during the last quarter of 2015 and first quarter of 2016. A seasoned CDF resigned in January 2016 and was replaced in March 2016. The new CDF had to be trained by Mr. Simmons who was performing the duties of the Project Manager. Communication challenges: some communities are only available via radio communication or written and verbal communication via intermediaries. These communication challenges have on occasion resulted in delays or poor attendance at scoping missions and sometimes miscommunication between the PMU and the Villages. Governance Issues at village level: Eleven Communities are experiencing Governance issues, such as disintegrated Villages Councils due to death, migration or drop outs. The 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Risk: Extreme unseasonal dry weather conditions nationwide has adversely affected transportation by boat due to low water levels. The extreme drought has also affected agricultural projects due to the shortage of water and rainfall for crops and livestock. Fiduciary Risk: The risk of the Village Committees utilizing the tranches deposited in their bank accounts for the CDP to service other immediate Village needs, with the intention of replacing the monies with some other form of income. Competitiveness of business ventures: a number of factors places the proposed business ventures at a competitive disadvantage in some cases. These include; remoteness of communities resulting in high

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	<p>business ventures, including technical support on specific nature of project undertaken</p> <p>-Number of formalized /registered businesses</p>	<p>Target 3: 75 % of business ventures receive the first tranche of their grant and are operational</p>	<p>minimize or overcome such risks and challenges discussed</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. key terminologies and concepts used in Business Management defined and discussed 5. CMT trained on how to prepare a work plan <p>40% of Business Ventures received their first disbursements (64 communities)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 51% of Villages are UNDP vendors. (81 Communities) 2. 68% of Villages are known to have bank accounts (108 Communities) 		<p>MoIPA / MOC will be tasked to work along with these Communities to correct the Governance challenges.</p> <p>4. Late requests for change of CDP by villages/communities: Late requests by villages/communities to change their CDP resulted in disruptions in planning of scoping missions, in particular, provision of appropriate technical personnel given the short notice of changes in CDP. Changes in CDPs that are high risk, e.g. loan schemes, resulted in unsuccessful missions, no CMT Training being conducted and no grant agreements being signed.</p> <p>1. Administrative & Logistical Challenges: Some communities are only available via radio communication or written and verbal communication via intermediaries. These communication challenges have on occasion resulted in delays or poor attendance at scoping missions and sometimes miscommunication between the PMU and village/community.</p> <p>Governance Issues at village level: Eleven Communities are experiencing Governance issues, such as disintegrated Villages Councils.</p>	<p>cost of production due to high transportation cost for inputs and farm-to-market costs. The difficulties of Communities to benefit from economies of scale due to relatively small markets (residents within community and surrounding communities) also results in higher cost of production.</p> <p>4. Capacity of MoIPA CDO program to monitor challenges that might derail project expectations: the project requires a full complement of CDOs to facilitate effective monitoring of CDP implementation to allow for quick reaction to technical difficulties of CDP implementation. However, no funding has been allocated for the CDOs conduct on demand assistance or monitoring to Communities.</p>

II. Capacity Development

CDF on the Job Training: The newly appointed CDF was trained in conducting Scoping Missions and CDP Management Training during a mission to villages in Region 7 & 8. The new CDF was also trained in preparing mission reports, Implementation Plans, Work Programmes and Budgets.

III. Gender Mainstreaming

Scoping missions: Preparation of implementation plan for CDP

No. of female participants: 1,841

No. of male participants: 1,471

Business management Training: topics covered include terminologies and concepts, financial accountability and management, marketing and work plan preparation.

No. of female participants: 471

No. of male participants: 570

IV. Lessons Learnt

Information management at community level: Scoping missions revealed a relatively low level of awareness of CDPs by community members. This was due to a combination of factors including the time that elapsed between CDP conceptualization and implementation.

Role of CDOs, POs and other stakeholders: Their role was important in the areas of mobilization, communication, logistical support and facilitation of meetings. The support of other stakeholders such as the Regional Vice Chairman Region 7 and Assistant Regional Executive Officer for the various regions was helpful in terms of organization and logistical support.

Village Bank Accounts: It was learnt that having a Village Bank Account is not important for some villages, especially isolated villages that do not generate significant surplus income, and villages where the cost of travelling to the bank is a high. Also, obtaining a proof of address is difficult for the villages due to the lack of services in their communities. The ADF2 team are facilitating reaching the requirements for the bank, such as assisting with the processing of TIN numbers for the CMT and providing introduction letter to the banks. The ADF2 will also be conducting future banking missions to ensure all villages are ready to become vendors.

Refocus Training: Lessons learnt from conducting monitoring missions was that some CMT are weak on finance management and marketing. The CMT members are uncertain about their roles and responsibility. The ADF2 will be expanding on the time spent on financial and marketing training in future missions and will provide the CMT with a written terms of reference.

V. Innovative Initiatives

Recruitment of Consultants: the PMU recruited 2 Consultants on short term (4 months) contracts in order to assist with the monitoring of 1st Tranche Disbursements of CDPs, and to update the existing CDPs.

Inclusion of the Village Council in Business Management training. This initiative is intended to, in a structured manner, define and distinguish the role the role of the Village Council vis-à-vis the CDP Management Teams in the context of implementation of the CDP. A brief section on good governance practices was included in the training session to improve this area of community development that was noted as an area of deficiency in prior scoping missions which has implications for CDP implementation.

VI. Reports & Publications

No.	Item/ Description	Number
1	Number of communities visited	133
2	Number of communities that received first tranche disbursements	64
3	Number of communities visited with no first tranche disbursement	69
4	Number of communities with no disbursement because of banking information problems	14
5	Number of communities without disbursement that require further consultation	15
6	Number of communities visited but Grant agreements not signed	16
7	Number of communities visited but in processing/ that require processing at PMU (to be sent to UNDP)	13
8	Areas that are affected by Governance Issues	11

Currently 52 % of communities visited are without disbursement

Of that 52% - 6% have Governance issues

Of that 52% - 20% have banking issues

Of that 52% - 19% require further consultation and revisiting and

Of that 52% - 19% are to be processed and sent to UNDP.

Of that 52% - 36% were to sent to UNDP for first disbursement.