Note: The component wire break-up is given in the attached EPC Memo.
Govt. of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests
(Project Tiger)
BCRLI Project

Sub: In-principal approval for the proposed externally aided “Biodiversity Conservation and Rural Livelihood Improvement Project”.

We had sent to the Planning Commission on 23rd March, last a copy of the draft detailed project report on the proposed externally aided Biodiversity Conservation along with relevant enclosures seeking their in-principle approval for initiating the EFC process.

The Planning Commission vide their OM dated 31st May, 10 has accorded in-principal approval for the project to initiate the EFC process on the following two conditions:

1. The proposed State/village level units (Societies/village Level Organisations) should be conceived within the existing legal framework (Bio-diversity Act, 2002 and Bio-diversity Rules, 2004) to avoid conflicts among stakeholders in future.

2. All accounts of State/Village level units, NTCA and MoEF, with respect to implementation of the project, should be maintained in Forest Management Information System (FMIS) mode online, for which a suitable software package may developed by the project authority.

The main file on the subject is currently under submission to the Forest Finance Division.

Submitted please.
Note ante, the FR from the Planning Commission granting the conditional in-principle approval for the proposed externally aided "Biodiversity Conservation & Rural Livelihood Improvement Project" is as below:

CONDITIONS:

1. The proposed State/Village level units (Societies/Village Level Organisations) should be conceived within the existing legal framework (Biodiversity Act, 2002 and Biodiversity Rules, 2004) to avoid conflicts among stakeholders in future.

2. All accounts of State/Village level units, NTCA and MoEF, with respect to implementation of the project, should be maintained in Forest Management Information System (FMIS) mode online, for which a suitable software package may be developed by the project authority.

STATUS:

1. The Societies/village level organisation in the landscape and the Field learning Centres have been formed in consonance with the new policies viz. The Wildlife Projection Act, 2006 (Section 36X) and Guidelines for preparation of Tiger Conservation Plan to facilitate liaison with various stakeholders in the landscape. Further, the Project preparation provided explicit information on the legal status of land parcels/unit (including FAs) and their implications for project implementation. Similarly the implications of any proposed legal changes/policies (eg. Tribal bill, Forest Act, Tiger Task Force recommendations etc.) was assessed to ensure project design responds accordingly. In addition, comments and the considered opinion of the National Biodiversity Authority shall be solicited on the project while sending the EFC memo.

2. The Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF) through National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) will be overall responsible for overseeing and coordinating the implementation of the project, ensuring timely release of funds and reporting, assisting with project supervision, learning and ensuring the replication of participatory landscape concepts to other sites in the country during and after the project. NTCA and BCCLIP Societies would maintain the project accounts separately using computerised accounting software viz. Tally and follow double entry accrual based system. It may be mentioned that the project is already on line with the Forest Management Information System (FMIS) as it attempts to fulfill the FMIS objective such as i) the decision-making process should be opened up to allow increased public participation, ii) the set of forest values receiving explicit consideration in management should be expanded to include biodiversity, wildlife habitats, and ecological health among other, iii) the focus of management should change from stand and forest to ecosystem and landscape and iv) perception of forest should change from a human and economic orientation to an environmental and ecosystem one.

However, the development of the suitable software package is being considered in consultation with the World Bank.

Submitted, please.

(Dr. Tashi Wangdi)
ADIL.DIRECTOR (EAP)
Thursday, 03 June 2010

MS (NTCA)
laid down by the Planning Commission.

Rajesh Gupta
3.6.2010

...
Reference: Notes on prepage

The proposal under consideration relates to draft Memorandum for Expenditure Finance Committee in respect of externally aided 'Bio diversity Conservation and Rural Livelihood Improvement Programme'. The proposal was earlier examined in IFD vide page 5/n onwards. Keeping in view the observations / suggestions of IFD, revised EFC Memo has been received. However, in the meantime, the proposal was referred to by NTCA for in principle approval of Planning Commission to the Project. Planning Commission have accorded in principle approval to the project subject to the conditions that

(i) The proposed State / village level units (Societies/ Village Level Organisations should be conceived within the existing legal framework (Biodiversity Act,2002 and Bio-diversity Rules,2004) to avoid conflict among stakeholders in future.

(ii) All accounts of State / Village level units , NTCA and MOEF with respect to the implementation of the project should be maintained in Forest Management Information System (FMIS) mode on line for which a suitable software package may be developed by the project authority.

Considering the fact that at present Societies / village level organizations have been formed in accordance with Wildlife Protection Act and guidelines for Tiger Conservation Plan, these may not be strictly in accordance with Biodiversity Act and Rules and may need modification. It may also mentioned at this juncture that the project is not being implemented in Tiger landscapes and as such guidelines of Tiger Conservation Plan is no longer relevant in the context of implementation of this project.

It is also understood that National Biodiversity Authority, the nodal organization in respect of Biodiversity Act and Rules is in the process of setting up Bio diversity societies in different States. As such, the DPR and EFC Memo need to be revisited by NTCA in consultation with National Biodiversity Authority so that the project is in consonance with Biodiversity Act and Rules.

Can we call for a meeting between

NTCA, IFD and a representative of National Bio-Diversity Authority. A draft proposal can be sent to NTCA to come prepared for the meeting. I think EFC Memo needs to comply with the Bio-Diversity Act/Rules for this project and a consultation with them will be of immense help.
Notes on previous page refer.
Please put up with the Biodiversity Rules, 2004.

AB (LAP)

Rajnathpur
18. 6. 2010
Apropos, the observations of the Forest Finance in the pre-page, The objective of the project is to enhance the conservation of globally significant biodiversity and ensure its long-term sustainability by promoting appropriate conservation practices in biodiversity rich landscapes. To achieve this, one of the measures adopted was the formation of the Societies/Foundations in the landscapes in line with the Tiger Conservation Plan under the Wildlife Protection Act for effective implementation and was found not contravening with the Biodiversity Act and Rules. vide section 36(1)to (5),chapter IX of the Biological Diversity Act,2002 please see Annexure "A".

Having similar landscape level institutions (Societies/Foundations) in the non-Tiger landscapes, which contains a mosaic of land uses and collectively form a viable ecological, socio-economic and administrative unit is probably more relevant for implementation of this proposed project.

Biological Diversity Act,2002 and Rules,2004 mention the constitution of the Biodiversity Management Committees (BMC) by every local body within its area for the purpose of promoting conservation, sustainable use and documentation of biological diversity including preservation of habitats, conservation of land races, folk varieties and cultivars, domesticated stocks and breeds of animals and microorganisms and chronicling of knowledge relating to biological diversity vide section 22,Biological Diversity,Rules,2004 please see Annexure "B". No Biodiversity Societies is likely to come up in the states and this has been confirmed telephonically with the National Biodiversity Authority.

Given the above, we may send a copy of the DPR to the National Biodiversity Authority for their assent.

Submitted,please,

(DR.TASHI WANGDI)  
AD (EAP)
Friday, 18 June 2010

[Signature]

MS (NTCA)  
AN (EAP)

For action as at 'A' above.

[Signature]  
21.6.2010

[Signature]

[Signature]  
25/4/10
Apropos, the EFC memo of the proposed externally aided "Biodiversity Conservation & Rural Livelihood Improvement Project" - an approval from the National Biodiversity Authority for the detailed project report (DPR) have been received pg.136/corr.

In addition, the proposed project has since been transferred from the NTCA to the CS Division in the Ministry following a meeting of the NTCA, World Bank, National Biodiversity Authority and the CS Division pg.137/corr.

In view of above, the Detailed Project Report (DPR) is revised and the pertinent changes have been made.

We may now send the EFC memo along with the DPR "A" to IFD for concurrence.

Submitted, please.

(DR. TASHI WANGDI)
ADDL. DIRECTOR (CS-BCRLIP)
Tuesday, 14 September 2010

JOINT SECRETARY (HP)

SK: A. K. Mishra

[Signature]

[Date: 15/9/10]
Reference: Notes on prepage

The proposal under consideration relates to revised Draft Memo for Expenditure Finance Committee for Externally Aided Biodiversity Conservation and Rural Livelihood Improvement Project. The proposal was earlier examined in IFD vide page 5/n, p7-8/n, p 10-12/n, 13/n and page 18/n. Keeping in view of the observations of IFD in principle approval of Planning Commission has been obtained and as suggested by IFD in terms of in principle approval of Planning Commission, National Biodiversity Authority has also been consulted by CS Division to whom the project has been transferred from Project Tiger Division.

2. Vide letter dated 1.9.2010, NBA has given its approval to the DPR. However, the Ministries letter dated 23rd August,2010 referred to in the letter of National Biodiversity Authority is not available in file. In its absence, it is difficult to make out whether suggestions made by NBA vide their letter dated 30th July,2010 has been incorporated in the DPR or not. CS Division may kindly place a copy of this Ministries letter dated 23rd August,2010 on file to facilitate consideration of revised EFC.

3. On perusal of revised EFC it may be seen that as regards implementation arrangement (page 7 ) manpower requirement has been indicated but it has not been specified nor its financial implications have been given.

4. Total of financial targets given at page 5-6 of EFC do not correspond to the approved outlay for 2010-11 and 2011-12 which are Rs.3 crores each. The total of various components given at page 5-6 comes to Rs.289 lakh for 2010-11 and Rs.308.69 lakh for 2011-12.

5. Output / outcomes of the investment are given only in intangible terms.

6. Owing perhaps to the typographical error, the outlay for the remaining two year of the Plan period has been indicated as Rs.60 crore instead of Rs.6 crore.

7. Annexures and tables given in the draft EFC should be numbered and referred to in the body of writeup alongwith their numbers for facilitating examination.

In view of the above, the proposal may be referred to CS Division for further necessary action.

(D.P.Singh)
US(IFD/WL)

As Wing 1 to list up modify as discussed

AG/circ
5/10/10.

EFC have been modified as revised

as discussed. May fl. conc.

Pr. Examiner
2/10/10.

WIFE
Reference: Notes on prepage

The proposal under consideration relates to Draft Memo for Expenditure Finance Committee for Externally Aided Biodiversity Conservation and Rural Livelihood Improvement Project. The proposal was earlier examined in IFD and the matter was also discussed by Director (Fin.) with Addl. Director. Pursuant to the discussions revised draft memorandum for EFC has been received. Revised draft appears to be in order and may be circulated. A draft of comments of AS&FA for incorporation in EFC Memo is placed below for consideration and approval please.

\[\text{Dy. (Fin.)}\]

\[\text{D.P. Singh} \quad \text{U.S.(IFD/WL)}\]

1. The project is conceived as an EA with:
   - GEF grant - 36.61cr.
   - IDA loan - 68.55cr.
   - AID/other slim - 27.28cr.
   - Beneficiaries slim - 4.33cr.
   - Total 136.77cr.

2. DPE has asked to process the EFC and refer them to external funding after EFC approval.
3. Planning Commission has given in-principle approval for the project with the following remarks:
   i) Synchronization with the existing legal framework - that is National Biodiversity Authority etc.
   ii) All accounts including field level societies to be maintained on line through forest management system.
4. NAD has also agreed to the project with the following remarks as in the report of planning commission recommendation at 3(i) above.

We may obtain approval by Secretary/ECF and MEF for circulation to the draft EFC memo.

\[\text{A.C.}
\[\text{AS(MEF) may like to see a final version of the proposal in accordance of the meeting that has been taken place.}\]

\[\text{A.C.}
\[\text{AS(MEF) As Link Officer.}\]
Put up to P&G(M&F) on his return each up to
As it's not at present

PS to AS(M&F)

21/4

Sir, 

Yours

2/4/1

11/11.

J.S. (H.K.R)

O/o J.S. (H.K.P)
Dy. No. 979
Date 11/4/1
Note ante, the file was discussed with AS (MFF) on 2nd., as JS (HP) was on tour. He desired a presentation on the Detailed Project Report of the proposed externally aided "Biodiversity Conservation & Rural Livelihood Improvement Project" in the presence of JS (HP) on 8th. November, 2010.

Consequently, the Detailed Project Report was discussed at length in a meeting held on 8th. November, 2010 at 1500 hours. The meeting was chaired by AS (MFF) and attended by JS (HP) and the officers from the CS division.

After thorough examination and deliberation, it was decided to go ahead with the EFC (Expenditure Finance Committee) clearance and pave the way for the project to be negotiated with the World Bank.

Submitted, please.

(DR. TASHI WANGDI)
ADD. DIRECTOR (CS-BCRIP)
Tuesday, 09 November 2010
Room no. 110

JS (HP)

AS (MFF)

AS & A

Dir. (4FO)

US (1FO)

AS & A have last seen the proposal vide p 241/1. AS (MFF) have seen and approved the proposal. If approved, Dir. ECF may be circulated.

US (4FO)

Dir. (4FO)

10/11
Ref. on pre-page.

The EFC Memo placed on the file relates to the externally aided Biodiversity Conservation and Rural Livelihood Improvement Project. This was last seen by AS&FA vide page 24/n and it was desired that AS(MFF) may first approve the proposal. Accordingly, a meeting was chaired by AD(MFF) on 8th November, 2010 in which the DPR was discussed and it was decided to go ahead with the EFC clearance. Accordingly, the file has been referred to us.

2. As the EFC memo stands finally approved by AS(MFF), we may approve the draft EFC for circulation.

[Signature]
24/11/10

[Signature]
24/11/10

AS(MFF)
India, with 2.4% of world’s landmass supports 8.1% of the world biodiversity with around 70% of population dependent locally on natural ecosystems for subsistence livelihood. To conserve biodiversity, several areas in the country have been declared as Protected Areas (PA). However, there is a need to conserve biodiversity holistically covering the landscapes including PAs and the areas falling outside PAs, through integrating livelihood options with conservation needs. The instant project aims to explore the possibility of integrating rural livelihood options and conservation needs at the landscape level with active participation of local population. The project should decide a clear strategy for documenting and replicating two lessons learnt from the implementation of the project and for evolving policy for conserving with rural livelihood options.

The proposal should also incorporate the following:

i) The details of the commitments by GOI and the State should be clearly indicated in para 4(b).

ii) Clear provision should be made for liability towards any cost escalation/time overrun.

iii) Convergence with projects/scheme of this Ministry as well as other Central Ministries and State Governments.

iv) Online monitoring of the project should be undertaken with digital mapping of the project area boundaries.

v) A mechanism of reporting; review, monitoring and control; institutional/administrative structure for the purpose; system for third party inspections; and commitment to, and monitoring of reforms/outcome.

vi) A suitable MOA should be signed with State Government and the implementing agency through which the fund is routed, inter-alia, incorporating the expected outcomes from the project, proposed components and the time line

(Gauri Kumar)
Additional Secretary(GK)
25.11.2010
Contd.……

In addition, for monitoring quality aspects of project activities and outputs it is proposed that an **external agency** would be engaged. The agency on every six month would conduct quality monitoring of activities and outputs including utilisation of resources on sample basis. Details on monitoring may please be seen at page 70 of the Detailed Project Report.

**VI) Government of Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and WII** has already participated in the preparatory phase of this project and is in agreement with this Project. A suitable MOA is proposed to be agreed with the implementing agencies, once the internal clearance from the Ministry is obtained.

Submitted for consideration, pl.

(Dr. Tashi Wangdi)
ADD. DIRECTOR (CS-BCLIP)
Monday, 29 November 2010

---

**JS (HP)**

[Signature]

May like to see and expedite the [signature]

29/11/10
(Hem Parkash)
TD (Ad)

---

**AS X FA**

[Signature]

The comments are to be printed inclusively in the ERP menu to be circulated may be added. [Signature]

29/11/10

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[Signature]

Ad (ERP) Dir, (LED) [Signature]

29/11/10
In addition, for monitoring quality aspects of project activities and outputs it is proposed that an external agency would be engaged. The agency on every six month would conduct quality monitoring of activities and outputs including utilisation of resources on sample basis. Details on monitoring may please be seen at page 70 of the Detailed Project Report.

VI) Government of Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and WII has already participated in the preparatory phase of this project and is in agreement with this Project. A suitable MOA is proposed to be agreed with the implementing agencies, once the internal clearance from the Ministry is obtained.

Submitted for consideration, pl.

(DR. TASHI WANGDI)
ADD. DIRECTOR (CS-BCRLIP)
Monday, 29 November 2010

JS (HP)

May like to see and expedite the occurrence.

L.P.

28/11/10
(Humberto)

78 (CS)

AS X G A

The comments are to be simply included in the ETC Memo - to be commented.

May do so now.

30.11
-81-

Apropos, the EFC have been suitably revised incorporating the comments points raised by PA p.q. 65/act. We may now circulate the revised EFC to various Ministry/Departments as per the attached draft.

Surns #781

JS [Signature] 09/11/10

HD [Signature] 11/11/10

Annotated: 6/12/78
As desired, the necessary changes have been made in the minutes of the EEC meeting. May pl. see at "A" a apbrace.

Signed: P!

[Signature]

24/12/10

[Signature]

P1 sp.
2.1.4
24/11

Div (FH)

Refund minutes replace [for]
planned and acquired.

P!

[Signature]

21/12/10

Diw

2.1.15

[Signature]

21/12

Sey (Lok)

[Signature]

20/11

[Signature]

21/12

Sen

[Signature]

20/11

Diw