Climate Change Capacity Building and Knowledge Management

Country / Region: **Bangladesh** | Project Id: **XPCRBD005A** | Fund Name: **PPCR** |

Comment Type	Commenter Name	Commenter Profile	Comment	Date
Comment 1	Jan Sheltinga	Canada	As a follow-up to my email of June 2, below please find additional comments from the Government of Canada. · The TA proposes to support the establishment of an Information Knowledge Management network for collection, generation and analysis of knowledge related to traditional resilience, adaptability and innovativeness of the local communities, who have battled natural disasters over the centuries, and their dissemination to potential beneficiaries. This activity is very much consistent with the need for research and knowledge identified as one of the priorities in The Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan 2008 of the Government of Bangladesh and the SPCR - Strategic Program for Climate Resilience. The TA should provide special attention to capturing and analysing data specific to women and also ensure that women have access to the information disseminated by the network. · The major challenges will be ensuring GOB ownership, taking into consideration the frequent transfers of Government officials and the usual bureaucratic delays in getting the TA started. We are pleased that these issues have been addressed in the document. It is important to identify one or more champions in Government who could uphold this program give it the momentum an support required from GOB's side and also be able to advocate and lobby at high levels. The results at various level (Design and Monitoring Framework), though challenging considering the short duration of the project 1.5 years, are achievable given more than ten years of donor involvement (UNDP, DFID and EU) in capacity building of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MOEF). To ensure that expected results are achieved, the performance monitoring framework introduced at the planning stage should provide concrete indicators of results both quantitatively and qualitatively. In addition, a risk identification and management exercise should be undertaken and included Project/Program Approval Request document.	Jun 08, 2011
Comment 2	Annette Windmeisser	Germany	Germany is happy to support the project. Pls find attached some comments. We would be grateful if our suggestions could be taken into consideration during implementation. All the best Annette ** Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development Comments on proposed project: People's Republic of Bangladesh: Climate Change Capacity Building and Knowledge Management Summary We welcome the proposed project, and would like to commend all involved parties	Jun 01, 2011

for submitting a well prepared proposal. There are no major objections from our point of view. We would like to suggest, however, that our recommendations (see bold highlights below) be incorporated during project implementation.

Individual Comments

Considering that Bangladesh is one of the countries most vulnerable to climate change, and that counteracting this threat will require close cooperation of all partners and the Government of Bangladesh, a well designed and fully institutionalised information and knowledge management system for climate change adaptation is among the highest priority for the country.

We welcome in particular that great care is being taken to establish an appropriate institutional architecture for the information and knowledge management system. However, in our view the proposal does not yet elaborate sufficiently on assessing the information and knowledge requirements of both the partners within and outside the Government of Bangladesh. The proposal's narrative does mention the intended utilisation of a needs assessment previously undertaken as part of TA 7273. However, it is

not clear whether this needs assessment is sufficiently detailed in order to allow proper identification of information and knowledge requirements. Also, there are no provisions being made for the case that the needs assessment does not provide a sufficiently clear picture of information and knowledge requirements. The Design and Monitoring Framework neither contains activities nor milestones related to an information and knowledge needs assessment. The experience from numerous information and

knowledge management projects suggests that without a proper needs assessment, such projects consistently fall short of reaching their objectives because they are supply oriented and do not cater to the real needs of users. We therefore recommend that greater attention be paid (a) to carefully identifying and stratifying the users of information and knowledge, (b) to thoroughly assessing their information and knowledge needs, and (c) to designing information and knowledge products accordingly. This should be reflected explicitly in the project's Design and Monitoring Framework.

The project document mentions an intention to consult with the private sector. This is highly commendable, since the private sector will be a key partner in successful adaptation to climate change. It also declares the intent to gather and disseminate information and knowledge on differential impacts of climate change across genders. However, the activities and milestones of the Design and Monitoring Framework contain rather little detail on how this is to be achieved. There is actually no reference to

gender differentiation in information and knowledge products generation, and only one brief reference to the private sector. We therefore recommend that the Activities with Milestones section of the

Design and Monitoring Framework be more explicit as to how engagement with the private sector and consideration of gender issues will be ensured.