

Annual Report 2019-20



West Bengal Forest & Biodiversity Conservation Project (ID – P223)

Introduction

Based on the Exchange of Notes between the Government of Japan and Government of India (GOI), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has extended a loan to implement the “West Bengal Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Project”.

The Govt. of West Bengal vide its Resolution No. 1450-For/FR/O/G/6M-12/12, dated 28.06.2012, declared to form a Society, the West Bengal Forest & Biodiversity Conservation Society, under the administrative control of the West Bengal in the Department of Forests for the smooth implementation of WBFBC Project.

The objectives of the Society are:

- a) To improve Forest eco-system and to conserve biodiversity by undertaking afforestation, regeneration and wildlife management activities through Joint Venture Management approach, including institutional capacity development, thereby contributing to environmental conservation and harmonious socio-economic development of West Bengal.
- b) To strengthen the Joint Forest Management, to arrest land degradation and also to enhance the capacity of local people for higher income generation and thereby improving the livelihood of forest dwellers and other forest dependent communities.
- c) To adapt an integrated approach for forest and biodiversity conservation.
- d) To adapt an integrated approach to implement the objectives noted at a, b & c above.
- e) To highlight the necessity of the Institutional Capacity Development of the West Bengal Forest Development and of the Community Development Component in the Forest Sector of the State of West Bengal.

The Society

The membership of the said Society consists of—

- i) All members of Governing Body of the Society.
- ii) All officers of Indian Forest Service in the rank of Addl. PCCF under the State Government.
- iii) All Invitee members who will be inducted by the Governing Body of the Society.

The members of the Governing Body of the Society and their designation are as follows:

<u>Sl. No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Designation</u>
(i)	Addl. Chief Secretary / Principal Secretary to Govt. of West Bengal, Department of Forests	Chairperson
(ii)	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Head of Forest Force, West Bengal	Member
(iii)	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife and Chief Wildlife Warden, West Bengal	Member
(iv)	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, General, West Bengal	Member
(v)	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Research, Monitoring and Development	Member

(vi)	Representative of Finance Department, Government of West Bengal, not below the Rank of Joint Secretary, to be nominated by the Additional Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary to the Government of West Bengal, Finance Department	Member
(vii)	Representative of Department of Forests, Government of West Bengal, not below the Rank of Joint Secretary, to be nominated by the Additional Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary to the Government of West Bengal, Department of Forests	Member
(viii)	Managing Director West Bengal Forest Development Corporation Ltd.	Member
(ix)	Managing Director West Bengal Wasteland Development Corporation Ltd.	Member
(x)	Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Human Resource Development, West Bengal	Member
(xi)	Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Finance, West Bengal	Member
(xii)	Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, North Bengal	Member
(xiii)	Chief Project Director, West Bengal Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Project	Member-Secretary

The State Government, vide its no. 2623-For/G/6M-38/12 dated 21.12.2012, has adopted the resolution that the Society will establish the administrative, supervisory and monitoring mechanism in respect of WBFBC Project and will get the project implemented by the Project Management Unit (PMU) to be set up within the **Society and that** at the field level, **Divisional Management Units (DMUs)** and **Field Management Units (FMUs)** will be established under the Society.

According to the Rules and Bye Laws of the Society overall responsibility of the Society lies on a Governing Body in which senior officials of Forest Department, the Government of West Bengal are ex-officio members. The Governing Body (GB) headed by the Addl. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal, will monitor the financial and physical targets to review the work of PMU and provide necessary assistance and direction from time to time.

The activities of the Society shall vest in a Project Management Unit (PMU) comprising personnel of Forest Department of the Government of West Bengal at different levels and headed by the Chief Project Director.

PMU shall function for the overall project coordination, procurement management, financial management including collating the expenditure statements from field offices and preparation and submission of reimbursement claims to JICA, monitoring and evaluation, and preparation of reports such as Quarterly Progress Reports (QPR) and Project Completion Report (PCR).

There shall also be Divisional Management Units (DMU) who will function under the guidance of PMU.

DMUs will implement the activities of the project in the Division and assist the PMU in planning, fund management, work progress monitoring and documentation at the field level. The DMUs will receive project fund from PMU for the execution of the works and disburse it to project implementers such as FMUs/JFMCs/EDCs/SHGs/NGOs. The rules and the regulations of the West Bengal Forest Department and instructions issued by PMU from time to time will be followed by concerned officers heading DMU in execution of the works of the Project.

At the grass root level 177 Field Management Units (FMUs) under 34 nos. of DMUs have been set up to ensure project implementation at the Range level.

FMUs have been created within the office of Range Officer (RO). FMUs will have following major functions:

- 1) Execution of works
- 2) Technical support to JFMCs, EDCs and SHGs etc. at the village level. At the field level, concerned Division Management Units (DMUs) will monitor the functioning of FMUs.

The Project

The objective of the West Bengal Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Project is to improve forest ecosystem, conserve biodiversity and improve livelihood means by undertaking afforestation, regeneration, wildlife management and income generation activities through Joint Forest Management approach, including institutional capacity development, thereby contributing to environmental conservation and harmonized socio-economic development of West Bengal.

The Loan Agreement was signed on 29th March 2012 between JICA and the Government of India. The Executing Agency on behalf of GOI is West Bengal Forest Department (WBFD), through the West Bengal Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Society.

The total project cost is Rs. 4060 million. Eligible (Reimbursable) Portion of the project is Rs. 3444.00 million and the Non-eligible (Non-reimbursable) Portion of the project is Rs. 617.00 million.

The Project is of 8 years duration, starting from 2012-13 to 2019-20 in consideration of capacities of stakeholders and time required to conduct activities in sustainable manners.

The project is divided into 3 phases; Preparatory Phase - 2 years (2012-13 to 2013-14), Implementation Phase -4 Years (2014-15 to 2017-18) & Consolidation (Closing) Phase -2 Years (2018-19 to 2019-20) and extended to 2021-2022.

The Project would be implemented all over the State of West Bengal.

The activities to be undertaken in the Project have been put under the following components or Packages:

- Afforestation (Total 21,770ha)
- Biodiversity Conservation
- Community Development
- Institutional Capacity Development

All project activities at the village level will be undertaken in Joint Forest Management (JFM) mode. The 600 targeted FPCs/EDCs are to be selected in batches, based on the stipulated criteria. Services of local NGOs shall be sought to catalyze inputs of civil society for long term sustainability of the project activities.

Events

- i. The Office of the Project Management Consultant Unit has started operating from its new office established at LB2, (Bldg No2) Sector-III, Salt lake w.e.f December, 2014.

- ii. The 15th meeting of the Governing Body of West Bengal Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Society was held on 24th September, 2019 at Aranya Bhawan.
- iii. The 6th meeting of the Annual General Meeting of West Bengal Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Society was held on 14th December, 2018 at Aranya Bhawan.

Establishment of PMU, DMUs and FMUs

The State Government, vide its no. 2623-For/G/6M-38/12 dated 21.12.2012, adopted the resolution that the West Bengal Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Society will establish the administrative, supervisory and monitoring mechanism in respect of WBFBC Project and will get the project implemented by the Project Management Unit (PMU) to be set up within the **Society and that** at the field level, **Divisional Management Units (DMUs)** and **Field Management Units (FMUs)** will be established under the Society.

34 DMUs have been established till date which are participating in the Project activities.

177 FMUs were totally constituted in 34 DMUs till 31.03.2020.

Consolidation of Legal System for Institutionalization of Society and PMU

The Regulations and Byelaws of the Society have been duly framed.

The Operational Manual for the West Bengal Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Society has been prepared and approved by the Governing Body (GB) of the Society in its meeting held on 25.03.2013. Delegation of Financial Powers has also been approved by Governing Body of the Society.

Accounting Procedure for the Society has also been prepared and communicated to the DMUs.

Deployment of Staff

The G.O. for establishment of exclusive PMU for the Project has been issued vide No. 1162-For/G/6M-12/12 (Pt. I) dated 13.06.2014.

The Department of Forest, Govt. of W.B. issued orders for the appointment of seven (7) officers to the PMU, as Chief Project Director, Project Director, Finance and Project Director, Monitoring & Evaluation, Addl. Project Director, Implementation and Addl. Project Director, Planning & Research, Joint Project Director, Extension and Joint Project Director, Co-Ordination as on date.

All the above Officers have since joined the Society on deputation.

One post of Account Officer has been filled up from retired person from Audit and Account Service.

The Governing Body (GB) of West Bengal Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Society, in its meeting, held on 01.09.2013, had approved recruitment of personnel - 6 for the PMU and 81 for the DMUs under various categories - by the Society through Service Provider under the Provision "Support Staff of PMU and DMU" of the Chapter "Recruitment and Service Rules."

In addition the GB of the Society, in its meeting held on 01.09.2013, had approved engagement of retired personnel on contract basis for PMU.. The details of the staff working at the PMU and the mode of their engagement is tabulated below:

Sl. No.	Position	Mode of Engagement	Category under which expenses are to be met	Present position
1.	Chief Project Director	On Deputation	Non-reimbursable	Joined/posted since 01.07.2014
2.	Project Director, Finance	On Deputation	Non-reimbursable	Joined/posted since 01.07.2014
3.	Project Director, Monitoring & Evaluation	On Deputation	Non-reimbursable	Joined/posted since 01.07.2014
4.	Addl. Project Director, Implementation	On Deputation	Non-reimbursable	Joined/posted since 04.09.2014
5.	Addl. Project Director, Planning & Research	On Deputation	Non-reimbursable	Joined/posted since 19.09.2014
6.	Joint Project Director, Extension	On Deputation	Non-reimbursable	Joined/posted since 27.04.2018
6.	Joint Project Director, Co-Ordination	On Deputation	Non-Reimbursable	Joined/posted since 09.12.2019
7.	Forest Ranger	Contractual Retired personnel	Non-reimbursable	Since 28.10.2013
8.	Accountant-cum-Cashier	Contractual through Service Provider	Reimbursable	Joined on March,2014
9.	Accountant-cum-Cashier	Contractual through Service Provider	Reimbursable	Joined on July,2014
10.	Computer Operator-cum-Office Assistant	Contractual through Service Provider	Reimbursable	Joined on November,2014
11.	Computer Operator-cum-Office Assistant	Contractual through Service Provider	Reimbursable	Joined on November,2014
12.	Computer Operator-cum-Office Assistant	Contractual through Service Provider	Reimbursable	Joined on November,2014
13.	Computer Operator-cum-Office Assistant	Contractual through Service Provider	Reimbursable	Joined on November,2014
14.	Office Attendant	Contractual through Service Provider	Reimbursable	Joined on November,2014
15.	Office Attendant	Contractual through Service Provider	Reimbursable	Joined on November,2014
16.	Office Attendant	Contractual through Service Provider	Reimbursable	Joined on November,2014

The status of the deployment of contractual staff in different DMUs, Circle Office and PCCF Office upto 31.03.2020 is as follows:

Sl. No.	Category	Cumulative Total upto 31.03.2020	Remarks
1.	Accountant	22	Contractual through Service Provider
2.	Computer Operator cum Office Assistant	49	Including deployment in Circle Offices of Western, Central, South East, South West (4 nos.)
3.	Office Attendant	15	Contractual through Service Provider
4	System Support Personal	2	In the offices of CF, WP & GIS at Aranya Bhawan
5	Security Guard	2	In the PMU office
6	Driver (Experienced)	2	In the PMU office
Total		92	

Preparation of Manuals

Following Manuals/Guidelines/Books/Brochures have been prepared upto 31.03.2020

Published in 2014-15

1. Standard Management Manual/ Guidelines for PMU-Operation Manual
2. Manual of Accounting Procedure for PMU
3. Manual of Accounting Procedure for DMUs
4. Manual of Accounting Procedure for FMUs and FPCs/EDCs
5. Guidelines for Preparation of Micro-plan
6. Guidelines for Preparation of Forest Dwellers Development Plan
7. Nursery Techniques- Establishment of Infrastructure
8. Nursery Techniques- Production of QPM
9. Guidelines for Tree Plantation Outside Forest Areas
10. GPS usage guideline

Published in 2015-16

11. Nursery manual in Bengali
12. GPS handbook
13. TPOFA booklet

Published in 2016-17

14. Nursery Manual in English Language
15. Compost Preparation in Bengali Language
16. Compost Preparation in English Language
17. Compost Preparation in Nepali Language
18. Achievement at a Glance in English Language
19. GPS Hand Book in English Language
20. Swanirbhar Dal Gathan O Parichalana in English Language
21. Manual on FPC Boundary Demarcation in English Language
22. Manual on Online Plantation Journal in English Language
23. Guide Line of TPOFA (Tree Plantation outside the Forest Area) in English Language.

Published in 2017-18

24. Proceedings of 9th Annual JICA Workshop
25. Statistical Hand Book
26. Manual on Community Development in English Language
27. Swanirbhar Dal Gathan O Parichalana in Bengali Language
28. Guide Book on IGA (Income Generation Activities) in Bengali Language
29. Identification of NTFP Species
30. Nursery Parichalanar Sahaj Path in Bengali Language

Published in 2019-20

31. Handbook of Change Stories (Uttaran) on “Good Practices” in English Language.
32. Handbook of Change Stories (Uttaran) on “Good Practices” in English Language.

Afforestation

The status of the Achievement of Afforestation in different DMUs upto 31.03.2020 is as follows:

Model	Target in the Project in the model	Total achievement (upto 31.03.2020)
A1	450.00	450.50
A2	2,500.00	2,511.00
A3	7,300.00	7,299.50
A4	8,430.00	8,430.00
A5	1,190.00	1,175.00
A6	400.00	415.00
Total	20,270.00	20,281.00
B1	1,400.00	1,400.65
B2	100.00	100.28
Total	1,500.00	1,500.93
2A1	260.00	305.00
2A3	75.00	30.00
Total	335.00	335.00
Grand Total	22,105.00	22,116.93



Production of Quality Planting Material

The total nos of nurseries under the project, targets of 24.75 units of New Central nurseries and for expansion of 15.25 units of existing Nurseries have already been established.



Preparation of Micro-plans

The exercise for preparation of micro-plans is being carried out in the field. About 600 micro-plans have been finalized till 31.03.2020 with the help of NAEB Eastern Zone Branch located in Jadavpur University premises.

Sl. No.	Name of District	Name of Circle	Name of DMU	Targets of Microplan	Approved Microplan Submitted
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Paschim Medinipur	Western	Medinipur	73	73
2	Paschim Medinipur	Western	Kharagpur	26	26
3	Paschim Medinipur	Western	Rupnarayan	52	52
4	Jhargram	Western	Jhargram	28	28
Total Circle				179	179
5	Bankura	Central	Bankura North	59	59
6	Bankura	Central	Bankura South	51	51
7	Bankura	Central	Panchet	50	50
Total Circle				160	160
8	Purulia	South-West	Kangsabati North	30	30
9	Purulia	South-West	Kangsabati South	33	33
10	Purulia	South-West	Purulia	35	35
Total Circle				98	98
11	Birbhum	South-East	Birbhum	14	14
12	Purba Burdwan	South-East	Burdwan	31	31
13	Paschim Burdwan	South-East	Durgapur	10	10
Total Circle				55	55
14	Jalpaiguri	Northern	Baikunthapur	23	23
15	Cooch Behar	Northern	Coochbehar	3	3
16	Jalpaiguri	Northern	Jalpaiguri	25	25
Total Circle				51	51
17	Darjeeling	Hill	Darjeeling	3	3
18	Darjeeling	Hill	Kurseong	16	16
Total Circle				19	19
19	Darjeeling	Wildlife North	Darjeeling Wild Life I	6	6
20	Jalpaiguri	Wildlife North	Gorumara Wild Life II	7	7
21	Jalpaiguri	Wildlife North	Jaldapara Wild Life III	25	25
Total Circle				38	38
Grand Total				600	600

Institutional Capacity Development

1. Socio-Economic Baseline Survey

Work orders for conducting Socio-Economic Baseline Survey vide N.I.T No. WBFBCP/NIT-03 (e)/2015-16 has been assigned to NABCON, C-24, G Block Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai-400051. They have submitted the draft Socio-economic baseline survey report over 308 JFMCs and which has been accepted. The final report has also been received and published.

2. Forest Resource Baseline Survey

The work for conducting Forest Resource Baseline Survey has been assigned to Forest Survey of India, Government of India. The memorandum of understanding was signed on 20th March, 2017. The Forest Survey of India has completed the work as per condition of the MOU to conduct the studies. Field level study in the field has also completed after imparting proper training to the Frontline Staff for recording Baseline data in the Project JFMC area in the prescribed format. The data entry of 500 plots have been completed upto 31.03.2019.

Seminar & Workshop

- 1. Review meeting on Community Development Component of WBFBC Project was held at Conference Hall, Bana Bhawan, Saltlake on 6th September, 2019**
- 2. Review meeting on Community Development Component of WBFBC Project held at PMU Office, Kolkata on 18th November, 2019.**



Construction of Administrative Buildings

The civil construction of new building including electric installation at AE-391, Salt Lake, Kolkata has been completed.

Vertical extension of Aranya Bhawan, Salt Lake, Kolkata in two floors have been completed.

Construction work of administrative building at Siliguri is going on full swing.

Upto 2019-20, Civil Construction of New Buildings, as completed in all respect are shown hereunder in a tabular form.

Activities	Particulars	Unit	Total achievement (upto 31.03.2020)	
			Physical	Remarks
Construction of Building at AE-391		no.	1	Construction work completed
Other buildings	Group D quarters	no.	15	Target 15 nos.
	Group C quarters	no.	10	Target 10 nos.
	ROs quarters/ Range office	no.	5	Target 5 nos.
Expansion of existing Administrative Building Aranya Bhawan		1no.	2	Construction work completed
Construction of Administrative Building at Siliguri		1	1	Construction is completed upto 3 rd floor roof casting.

Procurements: Procurements made upto 2019-20 has been shown below in tabular form.

Activities	Particulars	Unit	Total achievement (upto 31.03.2020)
			Physical
Procurement	Vehicles-Mahindra Scorpio	nos.	24
	Vehicles-Maruti Suzuki Ertiga	nos.	2
	Vehicles-Tata LPT 407 EX 2-34	nos.	1
	Hero Super Splendor motor-cycles	nos.	163
	Equipment-GPS	nos.	267
	Equipment-Camera	nos.	144
	Equipment-Computers	nos.	137
	Equipment-Printers	nos.	127
	Tally Software	nos.	37

Trainings :

Training Workshops (620 nos) for Frontline staff and FPC members have been organized for hands on experience on micro-plan preparation. About 82,222 nos. Front line staff and JFMC members and other stakeholders have participated in these trainings upto 2019-20.

Also during this year, Hands on trainings have also been conducted by the MIS & GIS Expert of the PMC for the field staff of Western, Central, South East, South West, Northern, Wildlife North and Hill Circles.

Hands on trainings (14 nos. and 135 nos. Participants) on Accounting Procedure have also been conducted for the Heads of DMU (DFOs), Heads of FMUs (ROs) & Accountants/Computer Operators.

Study Tours (1 no.) to Germany where 01 no. of officers were participated during 2019-20. An Exposure visit to the state of Odisha, Tripura and Sikkim where 65 nos. of officers were participated during 2019-20.

Consultancy Services

Selection and Appointment of Consultants

The Contract was signed in July, 2013, between West Bengal Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Society, having its office at Aranya Bhavan, LA 10A, Sector III, Salt Lake City, Kolkata 700106, and consortium of Nippon Koei India Pvt. Ltd. (Lead Partner) having its corporate office at 12th Floor, B Wing, IFCI Tower, 61 Nehru Place, New Delhi 110019 and Nippon Koei Co., Ltd. having its registered office at 4, Kojimachi 5 Chome, Chiyoda Ku, Tokyo 102-0083, Japan.

JICA conveyed its concurrence for the selection of the PMC and the contracts for the services vide its memo no. JICA (ID) 25-523 dated July 26, 2013. The PMC commenced the services w.e.f. 01.08.2013. The following subject experts constitute the PMC.

The Project Management Consultants started working for the Project from 2013-14. In the year 2017-18, the PMC undertook the following activities when the members got mobilized as per the work schedule of the Project.

Sl. No.	Position	Name	Total of Man Months Utilised upto 17-18	Total of Man Months Utilised upto 18-19	Cumulative Total of Man Months Utilised upto 19-20	Activities
1	Team Leader & Afforestation Specialist	Johannes P. van Kooijk (01.08.2013 to 30.09.2016)	17.32	17.32	Nil	Discuss review and complete draft nursery manual, discuss and respond to priority areas as recognized by PMU, field visit of areas for review and detect possible problems for improvements on out planting, water conservation work direct seedlings in South, Plains and Hills of the state etc.
2	Biodiversity Conservation Expert	Dr. S. Faizi (25.11.2013 till continued)	14.37	17.93	19.63	Preparing implementing and monitoring output of Research Activities on Biodiversity Conservation etc.implementing project interventions etc.
3	Community Development. & SHG Supporting Expert	Dr Manoj Kumar Pattanaik (05.09.2013 to 19.11.2014) Mr Girish Ch. Bharadwaj (23.11.2015 till continued)	17.66	22.53	25.32	Orientation of Field level stake holders in developing business plans and facilitation of implementation of microfinance activities etc.
4	Tree Plantation Outside Forest Expert	Visvarup Chakravarti (18.11.2013 to 26.04.2015)	7.46	7.46	Nil	Creation of greeneries outside the state government forests with the help of peoples participation
5	Capacity Building Expert	Dr Raktima Mukhopadhyay (07.08.2013 to 20.12.2013) Sri Ranjan Mahapatra (13.01.2015 to 12.02.2015)	17.37	21.22	23.84	Assist in planning and organizing international training programmes as well as annual training programmes for PMU/DMU/JFMC/SHGs etc.

		Sri Ajay Rai (11.05.2015 till continued)				
6	M & E Expert	Sanjay Verma (29.08.2013 to 30.11.2013) Dr. Joseph Varghese Viruthiyel (01.07.2015 to 14.02.2016) Dr.U.Halim (16.01.2017 till continued)	11.01	13.45	14.97	To assist PMU in designing, reviewing and devising a list of project performance indicators for monitoring and evaluation and developing methodologies for evaluation of each indicators etc.
7	GIS & MIS Expert	Mr Shalabh Prakash Bharadwaj (01.08.2013 to 21.09.2014) Dr. Nupoor Prasad (05.01.2015 to 31.03.2018) Ranjan Kumar Mallick (02.09.2019 till continued)	15.38	16.54	19.14	Spatial data generation, GIS database generation, purchase of H/W and S/W and advanced training in Geo-database building under GIS system etc.

Biodiversity Conservation Component

The following Biodiversity Research topics have been undertaken under WBFBC Project. Selection was made on the basis of e-tender through QCBS method. The agreement with all the successful bidders have been executed and work order issued. A committee has been formed with PCCF, Wildlife and CWLW, West Bengal as Chairman to monitor the research work in consultation with Biodiversity Conservation Specialist of Project Management Consultant (PMC) of WBFBC Project. The research study is going on in the field.

Research Topics	Allotted To	Present Status
Ecology of Elephant in North Bengal	AARANYAK, Guwahati-781028, Assam, India	Inception report, 1st year study report, & 2nd Year Study report submitted. Pending Submission of the Final Report due to COVID-19 Pandemic Situation.
Ecology of Gaur in North Bengal	AARANYAK, Guwahati-781028, Assam, India	Inception report, 1st year study report, &

		2nd Year Study report submitted. Pending Submission of the Final Report due to COVID-19 Pandemic Situation.
Ecology of Elephant in South Bengal	Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON) P.O.: Coimbatore-641108, Tamil Nadu, India	Inception report, 1st year & 2nd Year Annual report submitted.
Ecology of Tiger in North Bengal	AARANYAK, Guwahati-781028, Assam, India	The Tiger study project was decided to be closed, in the absence of evidence for the existence of any significant presence of Tiger in the study area as per resolution of the meeting of the Biodiversity Research Monitoring Committee Sulka para FRH, 22 February 2019 after one year of study.
Ecology of Leopard in North Bengal	AARANYAK, Guwahati-781028, Assam, India	Inception report, 1st year report submitted
Impact of Habitat Management Practices in N.Ps and Sanctuaries	Nature Environment & Wildlife Society 10, Chowringhee Terrace Kolkata- 700020	Submission of 2 nd Quarterly /Half Yearly Report of the 2 nd year.
Study on "Population Estimation and Ecological Reconnaissance of the Small Mammals of South Bengal".	Zoological Survey of India	Work in progress

Status Report of Silvicultural Research Topics

Sl.No.	Topics	Conducting Agency	Present Status
1.	Mapping on Soil Nutrition	RMD	Work in Progress
2	Acacia auriculiformis (Akashmoni)	RMD	Work in Progress
3.	Planting stock improvement on plus trees & evaluation of standing plus trees & candidate plus tree of target Species	RMD	Work in Progress

4	Evaluation of existing Seed stand and Seed production Areas (SPA) of the Forest Directorate, W.B	RMD	Work in Progress
5	Teak Tree Improvement	RMD	Work in Progress
6	Validation / Standardization of various parameters in the Tall Seedlings protocol	RMD	Work in Progress
7	Inoculation of Agar Wood (<i>Aquilaria malaccensis</i>)	RMD	Work in Progress
8	Floristic & Avian survey of forest areas of South west and North Bengal to monitor the changes in the population	RMD	Work in Progress
9	E-Monitoring of Forest Plantations	RMD	Work in Progress

GIS & MIS

1. Generation of GIS database on Forest boundaries in West Bengal

Joint Forest Management committee (JFMC), earlier termed Forest Protection Committee (FPC) is the basic unit of forest management in West Bengal. FPC's have long been formed and surveyed in field, the ancillary data per FPC has been recorded and reported for monitoring activities regularly. The MOD of WBFBCP clearly indicates that all the project activities to be undertaken in field shall be recorded in GIS, making it imperative to generate the GIS database of FPC boundaries in project area.

The generation of comprehensive GIS database on FPC boundaries will enable efficient management of ground activities related to project and will assist decision makers in analysis and visualization of project impact. Also, JFMC database will be used as founding stones for development of comprehensive Forest boundaries (Beat, Range and Division), which are not available in desired accuracy to state forest department.

After a series of workshops and field visits, a set of guidelines have been formed for the territorial staff for demarcation of JFMC (FPC) boundaries using GPS assisted survey. The demarcation of these boundaries is in its final stages now.

2. Raw GPS Data cleaning/ Editing

FPC boundary data from field collected via a GPS assisted survey by skilled project staff, rigorously trained in GPS handling and data collection. Despite of all field precautions, the GPS data can be often replete with human induced errors which may render the data unusable and inaccurate in absence of post-processing procedures. In absence of laboratory for post processing of GPS data, the field data (600 FPC's) is being post-processed by hiring a competent external agency which is capable of cleaning the raw data in GPS output form (or as received from field) and editing it to add attribute data available in JFMC records in excel files.

Boundary Demarcation

Project JFMCs boundaries of the Forest areas, have been demarcated with the help of GPS under Mis-GIS component of the project activities and the boundary demarcation work of the jointly managed forest area has been completed over 600 JFMCs by 31.03.2020

Sl. No.	Name of District	Name of Circle	Name of DMU	No. of FPC	Submission of GPX Files As On 31.03.2020
1	Paschim Medinipur	Western	Medinipur	73	73
2	Paschim Medinipur	Western	Kharagpur	26	26
3	Paschim Medinipur	Western	Rupnarayan	52	52
4	Jhargram	Western	Jhargram	28	28
Total Circle				179	179
5	Bankura	Central	Bankura North	59	59
6	Bankura	Central	Bankura South	51	51
7	Bankura	Central	Panchet	50	50
Total Circle				160	160
8	Purulia	South-West	Kangsabati North	30	30
9	Purulia	South-West	Kangsabati South	33	33
10	Purulia	South-West	Purulia	35	35
Total Circle				98	98
11	Birbhum	South-East	Birbhum	14	14
12	Purba Burdwan	South-East	Burdwan	31	31
13	Paschim Burdwan	South-East	Durgapur	10	10
Total Circle				55	55
14	Jalpaiguri	Northern	Baikunthapur	23	23
15	Cooch Behar	Northern	Coochbehar	3	3
16	Jalpaiguri	Northern	Jalpaiguri	25	25
Total Circle				51	51
17	Darjeeling	Hill	Darjeeling	3	3
18	Darjeeling	Hill	Kurseong	16	16
Total Circle				19	19
19	Darjeeling	Wildlife North	Wild Life I	6	6
20	Jalpaiguri	Wildlife North	Wild Life II	7	7
21	Jalpaiguri	Wildlife North	Wild Life III	25	25
Total Circle				38	38
Grand Total Circle				600	600

3. Baseline survey of Forest

The baseline survey to be conducted for establishment of the benchmark in the project is being done by Forest survey of India (FSI). This survey is designed to generate estimates for the project districts (not JFMC-wise). As requested by FSI, the JFMC boundaries collected in field are being provided to them only after cleaning/editing with defined attributes required for the survey.

4. Mauza level Data Preparation (TOR)

The generated GIS database under WBFBCP will be utilized for generation of a comprehensive spatial database of forest resources for entire project area to assist in strategic planning,

monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment of the project. As the data assimilation for JFMC boundaries is in process by the territorial forest divisions, generation of comprehensive GIS database is being done in a phased manner.

The generation of Land records (plot level) data per JFMC has been initiated in collaboration with Fisheries Mapping Project, a part of State Fisheries Department, West Bengal. Forest division of Burdwan has been taken up as the pilot division for the same.

5. E Plantation journal

Status: *Fully functional with restricted access for JICA related plantations*

E Plantation journal is an online MIS system supporting a comprehensive databank of Plantation Journals. E plantation journal allows for input of plantation through a user-friendly GUI, retrieves the Plantation Journals quickly apart from enabling online data analysis and report generation. To reduce the common errors during data entry and to guide the operators, inter-linked Master Data set of location, land schedule, models of plantation, species, central nursery locations, soil and moisture conservation works, soil data, etc. have been compiled and interlinked.

The application expansion is expected to incorporate plantation journals of many other schemes like state plan, Namami-Gange etc which requires slight modifications in basic database structure and strengthening of master datasets.

Application Support and Backup for the application is elaborated below:

- Database Backup Application includes a *Daily backup plan* wherein every day the database is synced from Cloud to local server. Also, every *two days*, whole application content is synced to local MAC server by visiting Support Executive Innova (contracted MIS Company) in order to backup the heavy content like regularly uploaded photographs and kml files. Additionally, the complete local server backup is synced to Cloud & Local Hard drive in *continuous mode*. For documentation and reporting purposes, a monthly backup DVD is submitted to PMU containing database & with other files.
- Application Support by Innova's tech-support team handles the technical queries related to entry/updation of plantation journals from PMU & DMUs and application & database modifications for FMIS as well as training sessions & workshops on data entry/updation in FMIS are conducted at PMU and DMUs as and when required.

Community Development

Community mobilisaiton is a central component of the WBFBCP. Communities residing in forest fringe villages are members of JFMC. Thus, JMFC approach is adopted by the project to deliver Community Mobilisation work. Economic empowerment of villagers reduces their perpetual dependency on forests for deriving livelihoods. It also ensures better forest Protection & management.

WBFBCP has adopted few strategies for Community Mobilisation i.e. mobilization, participatory planning, creating community assets through one-time grants and providing small loans to SHG members; all these interventions are done through JFMCs.

Micro plans determined the needs of the villagers and highlighted their priorities in terms of assets needed. Assets created at community level are being maintained by community members, who are also members of JFMC. Small loans to SHGs have triggered a cascading effect and helped many poor families to overcome abject Poverty and to participate in Joint forest management in a more effective way.

Achievement of Community Development at a glance during 2019-20

Nature of Work	Nos.	Amount in Lakhs
Income Generation Activities - Revolving Fund Through SHGs	10661 SHG Members	648.41
Community Infrastructure Development Support Activities	2,137 Sites of 600 JFMCs	3330.16



Utilisation of Grants

Utilisation of grants during 2019-20

The Society has received Rs. Nil Crores as Non-Fund Grant during the year 2019-20.

Funds to the tune of Rs. 51.01 Crores were released to DMUs during the FY 2019-20 for implementation of the project activities such as establishment of central nurseries, microplanning, afforestation and construction of staff quarters.

Utilisation of grants to the tune of 51.0347 Crores (Audited Figure) consisting of reimbursable and non-reimbursable parts and Non-fund grants have been done during 2019-20.

The Total utilisation under the project stands as follows:-

Sl.No.	Period	Category	Utilisation (Rs in Crores)
1	2019-20	Grants -in -Aid (Reimbursable)	43.8885
2		Non-Fund grant (Reimbursable)	Nil
3		Non-reimbursable	7.1462
4		Total utilisation	51.0347

Reimbursement claim made upto 2019-20.....Rs. 43.7892 Crores

Reimbursement claim settled upto 2018-19.....Rs. 191.2279 Crores

Utilisation of Grants

The Society received Grants-in Aid of Rs. 1.3525 crores in 2012-13, Rs. 55.08 crores during the year 2013-14, Rs. 91.41 crores in 15-16 and Rs.65.00 Crores during the year 2016-17 respectively, no Grants-in-Aid received during 2017-18, 80.35 Crores during the year 2018-19 and 62.33 Crores during the Financial Year 2019-20.

During the FY 2019-20, Rs. 51.0347 crores (upto March, 2020) was utilized for implementation of the Project Activities.

Re-imburement claim settled upto 31.03.2020 is Rs. 43.7892 crores (cumulative since the beginning of the project).

Details of utilization of Reimbursable and Non-reimbursable grants are depicted at the bottom of Progressive achievement table.

Items	Particulars	Unit	Achievement (upto 31.03.2018)	Achievement (during 31.03.2019)	Achievement (during 31.03.2020)	Total Achievement (upto 31.03.2020)
			Financial	Financial	Financial	Financial
Utilisation of Grants	Reimbursable	Rs. Lakhs	14,904.41	6,356.82	4,521.95	25,783.18
	Reimbursable Non-Grant Fund	Rs. Lakhs	308.44	-	-	308.44
	Total Reimbursable	Rs. Lakhs	15,212.85	6,356.82	4,521.95	26,091.62
	Non-reimbursable	Rs. Lakhs	2162.29	714.30	726.84	3,603.43
	Total Utilisation Grants	Rs. Lakhs	17,375.14	7,071.12	5,248.79	29,695.05
Re-imburs ements	Reimbursible	Rs. Lakhs	12,733.68	6,080.67	4,378.92	23,193.27
	Reimbursible Non-Grant Fund	Rs. Lakhs	308.44	-	-	308.44
	Total	Rs. Lakhs	13,042.12	6,080.67	4,378.92	23,501.71

Progressive Statement of Achievements (Status Report Upto 31.03.2020)

Activities	Particulars	Unit	Achievements 2012-13	Achievements 2013-14	Achievements 2014-15	Achievements 2015-16	Achievements 2016-17	Achievements 2017-18	Achievements 2018-19	Achievements 2019-20 (upto 31.03.2020)	Total achievement (upto 31.03.2020)	
			Physical	Physical	Physical							
Establishment of PMU & Institutionalisation of Society												
Establishment of PMU		no.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1.00	
Establishment of DMUs		no.	-	32	4	-	-	-	-	-	36.00	Vide G.O. No. 2623-For/G/6M-38/12 dated 23.12.2012, State Government has decided to create 32 DMUs in the office of the Divisional Forest Officers, to enable

													functioning as Divisional Units of the Society. BTR E & BTR W are not participating in the Project activities
Establishment of FMUs		no.	-	63	79	27	5	1	2	-	177.00		On the strength of the said G.O. 178 FMUs have been constituted by the DMUs with the approval of the PMU. Another FMU at Salugara Research range will be

												formed soon.
Posting of Officers on Deputation to the Society of-PMU	At PMU	no.	-	-	5	-	-	1	-	1	7.00	
Deployment of "Support Staff" to PMU and DMU	At PMU	no.	-	-	8	-	2	1	-	1	12.00	
	Circle Office	no.	-	-	-	1	4	1	3	1	10.00	Ten Computer Operators are deployed in the Circle Offices of Western, Central, South-East, South-West & North-West. And 2 System Support

												Personnel and 1 CF, WP & GIS at Aranya Bhawan.
	At DMUs	no.	-	2	38	7	7	6	7	3	70.00	
Preparati on of Manuals	Manuals/Gui delines.	no.	-	-	10	3	10	7	-	2	32.00	
Afforestation												
Afforesta tion	A1	ha.	-	-	141.50	166.00	143.00	-	-	-	450.5 0	
	A2	ha.	-	-	176.00	406.00	365.00	845.00	720.00	-	2,512. 00	
	A3	ha.	-	-	257.00	1,643.00	1,891.00	1,800.00	1,709.00	-	7,300. 00	
	A4	ha.	-	-	1,129.00	2,923.00	2,300.00	1,993.00	85.00	-	8,430. 00	
	A5	ha.	-	-	30.00	160.00	362.00	305.00	318.00	-	1,175. 00	
	A6	ha.	-	-	20.00	110.00	135.00	75.00	75.00	-	415.0 0	
	B1	ha.	-	-	119.15	310.50	409.00	377.00	185.00	-	1,400. 65	
	B2	ha.	-	-	45.28	19.00	31.00	5.00	-	-	100.2 8	
	Total	ha.	-	-	1,917.93	5,737.50	5,636.00	5,400.00	3,092.00	-	21,78 3.43	
Central Nursery	New	units	-	-	15.75	6.75	2.25	-	-	-	24.75	
	Expansion	units	-	-	6.50	6.00	2.75	-	-	-	15.25	
Institutional Capacity Development												
Preparati		no.	-	-	185	345	52	-	18	-	600.0	

on of Micro- plans											0	
Baseline Survey	Survey of Forest Resources	no.	-	-	-	-	-	600	-	-	600.0 0	FSI started work over 600 JFMCs-in Progress.
	Socio- economic Survey	no.	-	-	-	-	-	308	1	-	309.0 0	Draft Report over 309 JFMCs submitted .
Construct ion of Building at AE-391		no.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1.00	Construct ion work complete d
Other buildings	Group D quarters	no.	-	1	6	8	-	-	-	-	15.00	Target 15 nos.
	Group C quarters	no.	-	-	8	2	-	-	-	-	10.00	Target 10 nos.
	ROs quarters/Ran ge office	no.	-	-	1	2	2	-	-	-	5.00	Target 5 nos.
Expansio n of existing Administr ative Building		no.	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2.00	Construct ion work complete d

Construct ion of Adminitr ative Building at Siliguri		no.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1.00	Work in progress
Trainings & Capacity building	Micro-plan preparation	no.	-	23	162	416	-	-	-	-	601.00	No. of Trainings
		no. of Participants	-	419	854	980	-	-	-	-	2,253.00	Frontline staff
		no. of Participants	-	10,000	14,300	15,820	-	-	-	-	40,120.00	FPC members
	Usage of GPS	no.	-	4	27	34	14	-	15	-	94.00	No. of Trainings
		no. of Participants	-	100	582	654	103	-	453	-	1,892.00	Frontline staff
	Accounting Procedure	nos.	-	-	31	24	28	30	21	14	148.00	No. of Trainings
		no. of Participants	-	-	247	600	320	178	179	135	1,659.00	Head of DMUS, Head of FMUs & Support Staff
	Tree Plantation Outside Forest Area (TPOFA)	nos.	-	-	14	73	-	-	-	-	87.00	No. of Trainings
		no. of Participants	-	-	443	472	-	-	-	-	915.00	Frontline staff & Beneficiaries

		nos.	-	-	4	24	3	4	-	-	35.00	nos.
	Nursery Techniques	no. of Participants	-	-	113	566	134	46	-	-	859.00	Head of DMUS, Head of FMUs & Frontline Staff
	Package 2 for Middle and Junior officers in Indian Institutes Short term training (10-15 days)	no. of Participants	-	30	-	184	23	-	34	65	336.00	Exposure visit to other state & training programme Rajasthan, Orissa, Tamilnadu, Tripura, IIRS Dehradun, IGNFA, IISWC Dehradun, IIFM, KFRi etc.
			-	-	101	30	62	-	-	-	193.00	ATI Salt Lake & SFTI Kharagpur
	Package 3 for Jr. officers, FR	no. of Participants	-	-	-	110	23	-	-	-	133.00	School of Oceanogr

	and Front Line Staff (inhouse or Indian Institutes)	ants										aphy, Jadavpur University
	Frontline Staff and FPC/EDC/SHG Microfinance & Accounting	no. of Participants	-	-	-	6,800	292	3,213	20,200	33	30,538.00	BRAIPRD, Kalyani and at different DMUs
	Overseas Study Tours	nos.	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	5.00	nos.
		no. of Participants	-	-	-	-	-	19	11	1	31.00	South Africa, Sri Lanka and Germany
	MIS	nos.	-	-	-	7	-	11	10	-	28.00	nos.
		no. of Participants	-	-	-	128	-	40	181	-	349.00	Officers & frontline staff
	Community Development and IGA	nos.	-	-	-	103	46	5	30	19	203.00	nos.
		no. of Participants	-	-	-	6,780	309	256	1,530	436	9,311.00	Officers & frontline staff
	Workshop/Seminar	nos.	-	-	6	4	3	4	3	4	24.00	nos.
		no. of Participants	-	-	195	154	155	104	93	129	830.00	nos.
Procurement	Vehicles-Mahindra Scorpio	nos.	-	-	10	-	14	-	-	-	24.00	Distributed to 22 DMUs and 2 in

												PMU
	Vehicles-Maruti Suzuki Ertiga	nos.	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2.00	At HQ
	Vehicles-Tata LPT 407 EX 2-34	nos.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1.00	Converted to Airabat
	Hero Super Splendor motor-cycles	nos.	-	-	100	-	63	-	-	-	163.00	Distributed to 80 FMUs in 30 DMUs & 2 Training Centres and SBR
	Equipment-GPS	nos.	-	90	90	87	-	-	-	-	267.00	
	Equipment-Camera	nos.	-	-	90	57	-	-	-	-	147.00	
	Equipment-Computers/Laptop	nos.	-	13	43	2	9	26	46	5	144.00	Distributed at range Level
	Equipment-Printers	nos.	-	7	43	1	2	30	46	2	131.00	Distributed at range Level
	Tally Software	nos.	-	25	12	-	-	-	-	-	37.00	
Biodiversity Conservation												
Improve ment of Wildlife	Grass land Plantation in Plains	ha.	-	-	0.00	100.00	100.00	105.00	0.00	0.00	305.00	Target Completed

Habitat in Protected Areas													WL-I DMU 20 ha (Fodder Tree Plantation by working out Malling Bamboo areas)
	Fodder tree plantation after bamboo removal in the hills	ha.	-	-	0.00	5.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.00		WL-II DMU 5 ha (Fodder Tree Plantation by working out Malling Bamboo areas) target is 75 ha; The operation is kept on hold on CWLW's suggestion.
Studies	Studies	nos.	-	-	-	2	4	-	-	-	6.00		Work in

												Progress
Equipme nt	Nylon Net	Sq. m.	-	-	500	-	-	-	-	-	500.0 0	
	Searchlights	nos.	-	-	25	-	-	-	-	-	25.00	
	Field gear	nos.	-	-	175	50	-	-	-	-	225.0 0	
	Protective Gear	nos.	-	-	-	-	50	-	-	-	50.00	
	Trap Cages	nos.	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	15.00	
	Speed Boat	nos.	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2.00	
Utilisation of Grants												
Items	Particulars	Unit	Achievements 2012-13	Achievements 2013-14	Achievements 2014-15	Achievements 2015-16	Achievements 2016-17 (upto 31.03.201 7)	Achievements 2017-18 (upto 31.03.20 18)	Achievements 2018-19 (upto 31.03.20 19)	Achievements 2019-20 (upto 31.03.20 20)	Total achievement (upto 31.03.2020)	
			Financial	Financial	Financial	Financial	Financial	Financial	Financial	Financial	Financial	Financial
Utilisatio n of Grants	Reimbursible	Rs. Lakhs	-	198.87	1,702.96	3,889.31	4,046.46	5,066.81	6,356.82	4,521.95	25,78 3.18	
	Reimbursible Non-Grant Fund	Rs. Lakhs	-	-	121.79	78.84	80.32	27.49	-	-	308.4 4	
	Total Reimbursible	Rs. Lakhs	-	198.87	1,824.75	3,968.15	4,126.78	5,094.30	6,356.82	4,521.95	26,09 1.62	
	Non-reimbursible	Rs. Lakhs	-	56.63	295.50	463.80	601.90	744.46	714.30	726.84	3,603. 43	
	Total Utilisation Grants	Rs. Lakhs	-	255.50	2,120.25	4,431.95	4,728.68	5,838.76	7,071.12	5,248.79	29,69 5.05	
Re-	Reimbursible	Rs.	-	176.90	1,320.37	3,335.70	3,899.19	4,001.52	6,080.67	4,378.92	23,19	

imburse ments		Lakhs									3.27	
	Reimbursible Non-Grant Fund	Rs. Lakhs	-	-	121.79	78.84	80.32	27.49	-	-	308.4 4	
	Total	Rs. Lakhs	-	176.90	1,442.16	3,414.54	3,979.51	4,029.01	6,080.67	4,378.92	23,50 1.71	