

Progress Report
on
Project: Cyclone Emergency Recovery

Component A5.1: Coastal Ecosystems Recovery
submitted by the
Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and
Meteorology

for the

Cabinet Development Committee

**Progress Report on
Project: Cyclone Emergency Recovery: Component A5.1-Coastal Ecosystems
Recovery**

1. Purpose of Submission

Project Progress Report from period: July 2006 to March 2007.

2. Executing Agency

Ministry of Finance (MoF)

3. Implementing Agency

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE)

The Project is coordinated by the Principal Marine Conservation Officer who is also the Coastal Ecosystems Recovery Adviser (CERA) based with the Division of Environment and Conservation, MNRE.

4. Background of the Project

The Government of Samoa has received a Credit (No.CR3885) from the International Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of the Cyclone Emergency Recovery Project (CERP). Part of the proceeds of this credit is intended to payments under contracts for services and works to conduct Coastal Ecosystem Recovery Planning and Implementation.

The overall objective of this CERP component is that 'the resilience against natural hazards of the Infrastructural assets, livelihoods of inhabitants and coastal ecosystems, impacted by Cyclone Heta, will be recovered and improved to sustainable levels with due safeguards for the natural environment.'

5. Project Duration

The component officially started in June 30, 2004. However, due to delays in the appointment of the Coastal Ecosystems Recovery Adviser (CERA)/Coordinator, the implementation actually started in mid-February 2005.

The Project timeframe was originally for two years (from June 30, 2004 to June 30, 2006). However, some of the activities were delayed hence could not keep with this estimated timeframe due to the lengthy processes involved and the late recruitment of the CERA. Fortunately, with approval by the World Bank, this project Component has now been extended for up to December 2007.

6. Funding Sources and Conditions

Phase 1. Coastal Ecosystems Recovery Planning

(i) External assistance: World Bank (IDA)	ST\$210,937.50
(ii) Local/Government contribution:	ST\$ 70,312.00
TOTAL:	¹ST\$281,250.00

¹ The World Bank contributes 75% of the project component funds while the Government of Samoa contributes 25%.

Phase 2. Coastal Ecosystems Recovery Implementation = ST\$410,000

7. Current Financial Status

(i) Total expenditure to date:

To date, a total of ST\$226,875 has been paid out for the Coastal Ecosystems Recovery Planning Consultancy.

(ii) External funds received: None

(iii) Government financial resources: ST\$70,312.00

(iv) Amount approved in current budget year: ST\$70,312.00

(v) Amounts already disbursed to or by Implementing Agency: ST\$226,875

8. Additional Resources Requested

(i) External

⇒ *Capital inputs*

None

⇒ *Programme support*

None

(ii) Local/Government

⇒ *Capital inputs*

None

⇒ *Programme support*

None

⇒ *Recurrent costs*

None

9. Current Implementation Stage (% of physical completion)

The Component is implemented in two Phases which are (i) Coastal Ecosystems Recovery Planning and (ii) Coastal Ecosystems Recovery Implementation.

The Coastal Ecosystems Recovery Planning Phase has now completed 98% of the original outputs for this particular phase. These were:

(i) Coastal Ecosystems Rapid Assessment Surveys for the eight target sites/villages

(ii) Data analysis/mapping-highlight areas of high vulnerability/resilience

(iii) Production of survey Reports and Maps for the eight sites

(iv) Communities consultative workshops (diff groups) including selection of Recovery Plan (RP) Committee

(v) Develop and finalize site-level Recovery Plans (RP)

10. Outstanding Activities

Phase 1. Coastal Ecosystems Recovery Planning

(vi) Get Recovery Plans approved by the MNRE Minister

(vii) Procure sub-contract for Recovery Planning Implementation

Phase 2. Coastal Ecosystems Recovery Implementation

(i) Conduct recovery activities based on Recovery Plans developed for the 8 target sites

3. ²Coastal Resilience Technical Advisory Support

- (i) Provide technical advice/Promote sustainable decision-making (ongoing)
- (ii) Produce Sand-mining & coastal reclamation pamphlets
- (iii) Produce a 20-30 minute video program to be based on the pamphlets
- (iv) Conduct 4 Community Awareness workshops using pamphlets and video

⇒ *Revised implementation schedule*

Attached

⇒ *Revised total project costs*

* *Capital costs*

None

* *Recurrent costs*

None

Reason for request of project variation, additional funds etc.

Not Applicable

11. Possible Implications on Project

The possible implications of the project to be elaborated on under the following headings:

(i) Project financial and economic rate of return

Not applicable as this is not a commercially orientated project. However, it is expected that successful implementation of the coastal ecosystems recovery activities for the eight selected sites would be beneficial in terms of recovered and improved natural coastal resilience to cyclones as well as local marine resources for subsistence and commercial use.

(ii) Project reaching its objectives

The Project has progressed satisfactorily into achieving its overall objective of recovered and improved natural coastal resilience to cyclones as well as local marine resources for subsistence and commercial use. The key milestones will be (i) the completion of Recovery Plans for the coastal ecosystems of the eight selected sites/villages and their endorsement by the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment; and (ii) successful implementation of the Recovery Plans.

(iii) Project sustainability

Ongoing government support e.g. provision of technical and timely advice on key marine issues as well as continuous community support and participation is seen as critical to the long-term sustainability of the Project.

² involves the services of the Coastal Ecosystems Recovery Adviser (CERA)

The Project activities fall in line with the objectives and Work Plan of the Division of Environment and Conservation (Marine Conservation Section) so at end of Project, the DEC will continue to implement and monitor these activities within the eight sites/villages selected.

12. Summary of Issues

None

13. Recommendations for Consideration

None

14. Signature of Executing Agency



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15. Date

04 May 2007