

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Ref. TF098110
Printed On: 10/01/2014

Reporting Period: 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2014
Report Type: Progress Report
Report Status: Approved

Assignment: TF098110

The Gambia Biodiversity Management and Institutional Strengthening Project GEFIA - GEF-IBRD AS IMPLEMENTING AGENCY

Task Team Leader: 00000019796 - Liba C. Strengerowski-Feldblyum
Approving Manager: 00000086169 - Benoit Bosquet

Summary Information	
TF Status	ACTV
Recipient Country	Gambia
Executed By	Recipient
Managing Unit	8840 - AFTN3 - HIS
Grant Start Date / End Date	12/28/2010 to 11/30/2014
Program Manager	Karin Shepardson
Original Grant Amount	945,000.00
Grant Amount	945,000.00
Outstanding Commitments	0.00
Cumulative Disbursements	945,000.00 as of 06/30/2014
Disbursed 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2014	271,779.85
Donor	TF602001 - MULTIPLE DONORS

This GRM report includes the following sections: Overview, Outcome, Components/Outputs, Execution, Program(GEFIA), Processing, Attached Documents, Disbursements, Internal Comments.

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OVERVIEW

Overall Assessments and Ratings

Grant Objectives:

The global objective of the Biodiversity Management and Institutional Strengthening Project is to improve the effectiveness and sustainability of biodiversity and protected areas management in two selected protected areas: Tanji/Bijol Island and Kiang West National Park

Overall progress from 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2014 with regard to Achieving Grant Objectives:

Rating: Satisfactory(Previously Rated Satisfactory on 06/30/2013)

Comment:

All project activities have been completed successfully for the two protected areas (PAs), and key performance indicators for the project have been met. Overall, the national capacity for PA management and biodiversity conservation has been strengthened through improved institutional structures and evaluation methods for measuring institutional performance and management effectiveness. Ownership of the overall project and commitment to the effective implementation of the project continues to be exemplary. Progress towards achieving the development objectives is considered satisfactory. Key park management activities were undertaken as planned. Most of the activities of component 1, 2 and 3 were on track or exceeded original targets; with regard to safeguard, the procedures outlined in the Operation Manual, EMSP and the PF were followed, including effective institutional arrangements for implementing and monitoring mitigations measures.

Overall progress from 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2014 with regard to Implementation of Grant Financed Activities:

Rating: Satisfactory(Previously Rated Satisfactory on 06/30/2013)

Comment:

Good progress was made towards strengthening the Department of Parks and Wildlife Management's (DPWM) capacity for managing the two protected areas under the project (Tanji and Kiang West). It was noted that key park management activities were undertaken as planned. Some of the achievements were inter alia: METT scores for Tanji and Kiang West exceeded the target; Construction and renovation of Park offices and information Center were finalized and handed over; participatory was updated; community consultation and awareness on sub projects were completed during June/July 2011, and the following sub-projects were identified by the communities: bee-keeping and agro-forestry and are being implemented. The long term sustainable financing vision, for the fundraising strategy, the identification and piloting of one source of revenue from PA and the establishment of the Bio diversity Trust fund was finalized and were implemented and tested. The guidelines for private sector involvement study and the business plans were finalized, and the restructuring plan of DPWM was finalized and was fully implemented. The Operational Manual for the National Biodiversity and Wildlife Trust fund was finalized. With regards to Project management, at least 80% of annual work plan was executed and without significant delays, and M&E reports were delivered on a quarterly basis.

Grant follow-up and structure

Description and context of Grant:

Expected follow up (if any): Follow up Bank project/loan/credit/grant

Comment on follow up:

no follow-up activities are expected as the grant close on May 30, 2014

End Date of Last Site Visit:

Restructuring of Grant:

The original trust fund closing date was extended once in November 22, 2013, by about 4.5 months from January 15, 2014 to May 31, 2014 to allow for the completion of two activities: (a) the testing of two sustainable financing mechanisms in the two PAs (under Component 2); and (b) the finalization of the implementation of DPWM's restructuring (under Component 3). A reallocation of funds between categories accompanied the request for extension of the closing date to reflect an increased

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amount of funding needed for implementing the activities under Component 1 and decreased costs for Components 2 and 3.

Activity Risk

Rating: Negligible or Low Risk (Original Risk Rating is Modest Risk)

Comment:

The risk of this project is modest - we do not expect any potential conflict of interest for the bank. These are the risks: (i) External resources users will not respect management plans: this low risk will be minimized through generating strong sense of ownership of these plans amongst the resident beneficiaries, as well as provision of incentives for controlling access to these resources through benefit sharing; (ii) Poor financial management and lack of internal controls could negatively affect the operation of the National Biodiversity and Wildlife Trust Fund: to mitigate this moderate risk, an operational manual was prepared for the National Biodiversity and Wildlife Trust Fund. Associated processes and procedures will be developed to mitigate this risk and tight internal controls will be put in place; (iii) Failure to exploring mechanisms for protected area revenue retention and local benefit at pilot sites: low risk to which the approach to be explored will build upon previous Gambian experience, as well as regional and international experience such as Uganda and Malawi; (iv) Insufficient revenue generated from licenses and fees: to mitigate this moderate risk, the project will focus on assisting DPWM improve the quality of protected area experience (infrastructure, information materials, community-protected area sub-projects, marketing, etc.) and build the staff capacity for ecotourism and customer service, and support; (v) Participation in training programs could leave DPWM temporarily understaffed, affecting implementation of its program of activities: to mitigate this low risk, external trainings will be staggered so that a critical mass of staff is maintained in place. To the extent possible, training and capacity building activities will be done in place; (vi) DPWM does not deliver PAs management standards due to inadequate human and financial resources. There is also a risk of delay in staff recruitment and lengthy procurement procedures for DPWM funded activities: this moderate risk will be managed by preparing a targeted capacity building plan, with targeted DPWM staff trained, of which core priorities will be implemented by the project; recruitment of project staff will start as soon as the project becomes effective; (vii) Climate change could have a negative impact upon the key biodiversity and habitats within the parks: this low risk: The National Adaptation Plan for Action (NAPA) on Climate Change has outlined a strategy for mitigating these risks, which are particularly significant in coastal areas. In the immediate term, DPWM is concentrating its efforts on improving management of key coastal and marine habitats, which can serve as a buffer and mitigation against climate change threats.

Critical Issues and Pending Actions for Management Attention

Summary of key issue and pending actions for management attention are listed below.

Critical Issues:

There are no issues to bring to management's attention. But I would like to point out that this report should have been a completion GRM and not a progress GRM, as the project closed on May 31, 2014. An Implementation Completion Memorandum (ICM) was prepared and approved and is attached to this report. Issues covered in a completion ICM such as lessons learned, overall outcome, efficiency, bank and government performance, knowledge exchange, replicability and main recommendations are included in the attached ICM for your reference.

no pending actions as project is now closed

By Whom: DPWM
By When: 5/31/2014
Status: Completed
Date Resolved: 05/31/2014

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OUTCOME

Comments on outcome achieved from 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2014

Grant Outcome Indicators

Grant outcome indicators are listed below.

Key Project Outcome Indicator 1: Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) scores for the two PAs increased.

Baseline Tanji Bird Reserve:39; Kiang West National Park: 47

Value:

Date: 07/26/2010

Progress to Tanji Bird Reserve:93; Kiang West National Park:89

Date:

Date: 05/31/2014

Target Value: Tanji Bird Reserve: 60; Kiang West National Park: 65

Date: 05/31/2014

Key Project Outcome Indicator 2: Sustainable financing mechanism identified and tested in the two selected PAs.

Baseline no mechanism in place

Value:

Date: 07/26/2010

Progress to mechanism tested

Date:

Date: 05/31/2014

Target Value: mechanism tested

Date: 05/31/2014

Intermediate indicator 1: Participatory Management Plans (PMP) prepared/updated and implemented in the 2 PAs (to include monitoring, surveillance and control systems).

Baseline no plans

Value:

Date: 07/26/2010

Progress to plans completed and under implementation, monitoring and data collection performed bi-monthly

Date:

Date: 05/31/2014

Target Value: 2 plans under impelmentation

Date: 05/31/2014

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Intermediate indicator 2: Two key species action plans prepared.

Baseline no plans
Value:
Date: 07/26/2010
Progress to Date: Two key species action plans (hippos and sitatunga), finalized and validated in Dec. 2012, and being implemented.
Date: 05/31/2014
Target Value: 2 plans implemented
Date: 05/31/2014

Intermediate indicator 3: Park offices and information centers built (Tanji/renovated (Kiang West) and equipped.

Baseline no
Value:
Date: 07/26/2010
Progress to Date: All planned works (construction and rehabilitation) and equipping of offices, etc. have been completed, some ahead of targeted schedule.
Date: 05/31/2014
Target Value: renovation/ construction finalized
Date: 05/31/2014

Intermediate indicator 4: Visitor infrastructure improved (trails, roads, signage, bird hides, observation spots, water holes, campsites etc.) in two PAs.

Baseline Very limited visitor infrastructure
Value:
Date: 07/26/2010
Progress to Date: visitor infrastructure in place: waterholes, signages, community and extension; biodiversity and conservation communication materials disseminated
Date: 05/31/2014
Target Value: Visitor infrastructure in place
Date: 05/31/2014

Intermediate indicator 5: Two sustainable alternative livelihood sub-projects developed and promoted for communities in and around each of the two PAs.

Baseline zero
Value:
Date: 07/26/2010
Progress to Date: two alternative livelihood activities (beekeeping and agro-forestry) selected with participating communities and are being implemented..
Date: 05/31/2014
Target Value: Two sustainable alternative livelihood sub-projects developed
Date: 05/31/2014

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Intermediate indicator 6: Sustainable conservation financing option study developed and PA revenue generation piloted.

Baseline study drafted

Value:

Date: 07/26/2010

Progress to Long-term sustainable conservation financing options study completed and road map developed, one revenue generation mechanism implemented.

Date:

Date: 05/31/2014

Target Value: One revenue generating mechanism implemented

Date: 05/31/2014

Intermediate indicator 7: Guidelines for private sector involvement in PA prepared (both formal and community private sector).

Baseline draft under preparation

Value:

Date: 07/26/2010

Progress to ##Guidelines have been completed and validated in a national workshop with key stakeholders and

Date: disseminated widely to relevant stakeholders, potential investors (companies, and individuals).

Date: 05/31/2014

Target Value: guidelines implemented

Date: 05/31/2014

Intermediate indicator 8: Targeted DPWM (and key stakeholder) training delivered.

Baseline at least 30% of targeted staff trained

Value:

Date: 07/26/2010

Progress to ##Training assessments were carried out early in implementation (Aug. 2011) and was maintained at a steady pace throughout, consistently exceeding yearly targets. At EOP 100% of staff identified with training needs were trained.

Date:

Date: 05/31/2014

Target Value: All targeted staff completed training

Date: 05/31/2014

Intermediate indicator 9: DPWM restructured from current 7 subsections rationalized into 2 main divisions

Baseline no restructuring

Value:

Date: 07/26/2010

Progress to DPWM#s reorganization/restructure completed successfully on schedule.

Date:

Date: 05/31/2014

Target Value: restructuring completed

Date: 05/31/2014

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Intermediate indicator 10: Biodiversity and PA network communication materials prepared and disseminated (website, newsletter, brochures, posters, etc.)

Baseline no materials - 0

Value:

Date: 07/26/2010

Progress to Biodiversity and PA network communication materials prepared and disseminated (website, newsletter, brochures, posters, etc.) obtained = 100%

Date: 05/31/2014

Target Value: 100%

Date: 05/31/2014

Intermediate indicator 11: At least 80% of annual work plan executed and without significant delays.

Baseline no project

Value:

Date: 07/26/2010

Progress to at least 80% of work plan was executed in a timely manner

Date:

Date: 05/31/2014

Target Value: 80%

Date: 05/31/2014

Intermediate indicator 12: Project M&E system providing required reports and data in a timely manner.

Baseline 0%

Value:

Date: 07/26/2010

Progress to Project M&E system generated required reports and data in a timely manner - 100%.

Date:

Date: 05/31/2014

Target Value: 100%

Date: 05/31/2014

COMPONENTS/OUTPUTS

Output and Implementation by Component

Component 1: Strengthened Field Effectiveness of Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management

Implementation Satisfactory

Rating:

Status: Completed

Planned Output: management plans for 2 PAs, 2 species action plans, METT scores, build/renovate park offices, visitor infrastructure, database, 2 sub-projects

Actual Output: management plans for 2 PAs, 2 species action plans, METT scores, build/renovate park offices, visitor infrastructure, database, 2 sub-projects

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Component 2: Development of Long Term Sustainable Financing Vision

Implementation Rating:	Satisfactory
Status:	Completed
Planned Output:	Long Term Sustainable Financing study and road map developed, one PA sustainable revenue source identified, guidelines for private sector, Biodiversity TF
Actual Output:	Long Term Sustainable Financing study and road map developed, one PA sustainable revenue source identified, guidelines for private sector, Biodiversity TF

Component 3: Capacity Development for Management of PA Network Supported

Implementation Rating:	Satisfactory
Status:	Completed
Planned Output:	DPWM restructured, training, communication materials and equipment
Actual Output:	DPWM restructured, training, communication materials and equipment

Component 4: Project Management

Implementation Rating:	Satisfactory
Status:	Completed
Planned Output:	data and reports prepared and delivered on a timely manner
Actual Output:	data and reports prepared and delivered on a timely manner

Comment on planned and actual Output

The project achieved most of its stated objectives and output targets and consolidated the gains made under the ICAM Project. As a result of the project, the development impact compared to the investment costs are substantial: the DPWM has been restructured and strengthened, new public/private partnerships have been launched, and the participatory approaches being put into practice closely involve local communities greatly enhance the country's prospects for sustainable PA management. In addition, training and technical assistance have: (a) built the capacity of local site committees, key stakeholders, and community groups for developing business ventures; (b) reinforced the national capacity for species data collection, monitoring and analysis, and enhanced the integration of a national species data base; and (c) improved the prospects for financing PA management and conservations efforts through the testing of sustainable sources of financing. The trust fund objectives have been met satisfactorily. All project activities have been completed successfully for the two protected areas (PAs), and key performance indicators for the project have been met. Overall, the national capacity for PA management and biodiversity conservation has been strengthened through improved institutional structures and evaluation methods for measuring institutional performance and management effectiveness. Prospects for sustainable use of resources are improved through the involvement with affected communities in the management of the PAs, the introduction and piloting of sustainable financing mechanism to fund conservation efforts in the future.

Comment on component implementation progress

Implementation on all three components is satisfactory and most of the target were achieved ahead of time and studies were completed and validated.

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EXECUTION

Bank project related to the grant

Project ID / Name: P115585 - GM: Strength. Integrated Biodiv. Mngmt
Project Status: Lending
Global Focal Area: Biodiversity
Product Line: GM - GEF Medium Sized Program

Implementing agency and contact details

Agency: Department of Parks & Wildlife Management - DPWM
Contact: Ousainou Toure
Address: Banjul, The Gambia
Phone: 220-981-7559 Email:
Website:

Implementation performance ratings from 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2014 with regard to:

Project Management: Satisfactory (Previously Rated Satisfactory on 06/30/2013)

Brief Comment:
None

Financial Management: Satisfactory (Previously Rated Satisfactory on 06/30/2013)

Brief Comment:
None

Counterpart Funding: Highly Satisfactory (Previously Rated Highly Satisfactory on 06/30/2013)

Brief Comment:
None

Procurement: Satisfactory (Previously Rated Satisfactory on 06/30/2013)

Brief Comment:
None

Monitoring and Evaluation: Satisfactory (Previously Rated Satisfactory on 06/30/2013)

Brief Comment:
None

Additional Comments on Implementation Performance:

The project was prepared and implemented with strong ownership on the part of the implementing agency and the government of The Gambia. Project activities were completed satisfactorily or ahead of schedule (works on park infrastructure and offices, technical skills training), targets were met or exceeded (METT scores), and achievements on occasion exceeded expectations such as: (a) the expansion of bi-monthly monitoring and data collection to other PAs and ecologically sensitive areas besides the project sites, and (b) developing partnerships with a private UK conservation agency, and the Gambian Tourism Board to pilot revenue-generating initiatives in each of the PAs.

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PROGRAM

Program Specific Ratings

1. Please rate public involvement - Satisfactory
2. Please rate government commitment - Highly Unsatisfactory
3. Please rate safeguard performance - Satisfactory
4. Please rate arrangements for sustainability - Satisfactory

Program Specific Questions

1 .Please comment on additional resources leveraged

No additional sources were leveraged

PROCESSING

Manager's comments on this GRM report:

Date:10/01/2014 User ID:WB86169 Name:Mr Benoit Bosquet Operation
performed:Approved by Manager
Thank you for the timely completion and positive results.

GRM report history - Requested on 08/08/2014,due on 09/30/2014

Action	Name	Status	Date
Created	Liba C. Strengerowski-Feldeblyum	Draft	09/23/2014
Changed	Liba C. Strengerowski-Feldeblyum	Draft	09/23/2014
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Submitted for Revision	Liba C. Strengerowski-Feldblyum	Draft	09/29/2014
Changed	Liba C. Strengerowski-Feldblyum	Draft	10/01/2014
Changed	Liba C. Strengerowski-Feldblyum	Draft	10/01/2014
Mail sent to Reviewer	Liba C. Strengerowski-Feldblyum	Draft	10/01/2014
Submitted for Approval	Liba C. Strengerowski-Feldblyum	Submitted	10/01/2014
Approved by Manager	Benoit Bosquet	Approved	10/01/2014

DOCUMENTS

List of documents attached to this GRM

- 1) Implementation Completion Memorandum
- 2) M&E results framework analysis

DISBURSEMENTS

Disbursements Summary in USD

Date From	Date To	Planned Cumulative	Planned Period	Actual Cumulative	Actual Period
07/01/2010	12/31/2010	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2011	06/30/2011	0.00	0.00	100,000.00	100,000.00
07/01/2011	12/31/2011	0.00	0.00	200,086.19	100,086.19
01/01/2012	06/30/2012	0.00	0.00	302,641.19	102,555.00
07/01/2012	12/31/2012	0.00	0.00	441,055.10	138,413.91
01/01/2013	06/30/2013	0.00	0.00	673,220.15	232,165.05
07/01/2013	12/31/2013	0.00	0.00	860,558.38	187,338.23
01/01/2014	06/30/2014	0.00	0.00	945,000.00	84,441.62
07/01/2014	12/31/2014	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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INTERNAL COMMENTS

Date:10/01/2014 User ID:WB86169 Name:Mr Benoit Bosquet Operation performed:Approved by Manager
Thank you for the timely completion and positive results.

Date:10/01/2014 User ID:WB19796 Name:Ms Liba C. Strengerowski-Feldblyum
Operation performed:Mail Sent to PM
Dear Benoit - please find attached the Gambia Biodiversity Management Institutional Strengthening Project (BMIS) GRM for your approval. This GRM was cleared by Dominique Kayser from the GEF. This project closed on May 31, 2014 and an ICM was already prepared and approved at the end of June, and is attached to this report. Due to the closing of the project in May, this should have been a completion GRM instead of a progress one - we discussed this issue with Arun from the GEF anchor and he agreed and said that this will be considered as a final GRM - all the details required for a completion GRM such as lessons, replicability, efficiency, Bank & government performance etc can be found in the ICM.
Many thanks and best regards,
Liba

Date:10/01/2014 User ID:WB19796 Name:Ms Liba C. Strengerowski-Feldblyum
Operation performed:
Dear Dominique - pls find attached the GRM for The Gambia TF98110. Please note that this project closed on May 31, 2014 and that this should have been a completion GRM and not a progress one. An ICM was prepared and approved in the end of June, and is attached to this report. We spoke with Arun from the GEF anchor and he said that this GRM will be considered as a final one. All the required info such as lessons learned bank and borrower performance, efficiency, replicability, etc can be found in the ICM.

May thanks in advance,
Liba

Date:09/29/2014 User ID:WB19796 Name:Ms Liba C. Strengerowski-Feldblyum
Operation performed:Submitted for Revision
Dear Dominique - please find attached for your review the GRM for The Gambia Biodiversity Management & Institutional Strengthening (BMIS). Please note that the BMIS closed on May 31, 2014, so an ICM was already prepared and approved at the end of June, therefore this GRM should in reality be a completion GRM and not a progress one. We spoke with Arun from the GEF anchor about this, and he told us that because we are attaching the ICM, this one will be considered as the last GRM.

Thank you & best regards,
Liba