



**ASIA-PACIFIC FOREST CARBON PARTNERSHIP FACILITY CAPACITY BUILDING
PROJECT ON REDD+ (for forest-dependent indigenous peoples)
(P175928, FCPF Grant No. TF B6543)**

FINAL PROGRESS REPORT

February 28, 2023

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Acronyms

ACMA	Adaptive Collaborative Management Approach
AMAN	Aliansi Masyarakat Adat Nusantara
BSP	Benefit Sharing Plan
CBP	Capacity Building Program
CFMG	Community Forest Management Group
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
COP	Conference of the Parties
CRD	Centre for Rural Development in Central Vietnam
CSDM	Centre for Sustainable Development in Mountainous Areas
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DA	Designated Account
DFO	Division Forest Office
EM	Ethnic Minority
EnABLE	Enhancing Access to Benefits while Lowering Emissions
ERP	Emission Reductions Program
ERPA	Emission Reductions Payment Agreement
ERPD	Emission Reductions Program Document
ESCP	Environmental and Social Commitment Plan
ESF	Environmental and Social Framework
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
ESS	Environmental and Social Standards
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FGD	Focus group discussion
FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Consent
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
HIMAWANTI	Himalayan Grassroots Women's Natural Resource Management Association
ILO	International Labour Organization
IPs	Indigenous Peoples
IPLCs	Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities
IPO	Indigenous Peoples' Organization
IR	Intermediate Result
KII	Key informant interview
LMP	Labor Management Procedure
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MoFE	Ministry of Forest and Environment
NEFIN	Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Product
PC	Participants Committee
PDO	Project Development Objective
POM	Project Operational Manual
PMT	Project Management Team

REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks
RSC	Regional Steering Committee
SRETF	Small Recipient Executed Trust Fund
SSV	Soqosoqo Vakamarama iTaukei
STEP	Systematic Tracking of Exchanges in Procurement
Tebtebba	Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education
ToR	Terms of Reference
TTL	Task Team Leader
UNDRIP	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNPFII	United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
VUSTA	Vietnam Union for Science and Technology
WA	Withdrawal Application
WB	World Bank

BACKGROUND

The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) was launched in 2008. It is a global partnership of governments, donors, private sector, civil society, and indigenous peoples (IPs) focused on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, forest carbon stock conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries (REDD+). It is managed by the World Bank (WB) with the following objectives: a) assist countries in their REDD+ efforts by providing them with financial and technical assistance in building their capacity to benefit from possible future systems of positive incentives for REDD+; b) pilot a performance-based payment system for REDD+ activities, with a view to ensuring equitable benefit sharing and promoting future large-scale positive incentives for REDD+; c) test ways to sustain or enhance livelihoods of local communities and to conserve biodiversity; and d) disseminate lessons learned. The FCPF has two separate but complementary funding mechanisms: the Readiness Fund and the Carbon Fund.

Among the social and environmental safeguards that were agreed under REDD+ is the right of IPs to participate fully and meaningfully in REDD+ related processes and to ensure that the collective rights of IPs as they relate to their lands and territories are safeguarded during REDD+ design and implementation. To facilitate this, IPs requested the FCPF for an allocation for capacity building activities specifically for IPs. This request was discussed in regional and global dialogues between the IPs and FCPF. It was approved by the FCPF Participants Committee (PC) as the Capacity Building Program (CBP) of the Readiness Fund on REDD+ for forest-dependent IPs, Southern Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and other forest dwellers. The objective of the CBP was to provide beneficiaries with information, knowledge, and awareness on REDD+ to enhance their understanding on REDD+, and to enable them to engage more meaningfully in the design and implementation of REDD+ readiness activities and emission reduction programs. The aim was to support activities that empower and enable these stakeholder groups, to enhance and influence REDD+ development outcomes, and also to strengthen mechanisms for inclusion, accountability, and participation.

The CBP has two components, one for IPs and another for Southern CSOs and local communities – each implemented in sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Asia and the Pacific through projects. **Phase 1** was implemented from 2009-2016 supporting awareness-raising workshops, publication of training manuals and capacity building activities. Funding proposals were processed through the WB's general procurement system where Indigenous Peoples' Organizations (IPOs) and CSOs were selected and contracted as consultants to carry out specific capacity building activities. **Phases 2 and 3** were implemented in accordance with the WB's Procedure for Small Recipient-Executed Trust Fund (SRETF) grants with six regional grants provided to recipient organizations. For IPs in Asia-Pacific, [Tebtebba](#) Foundation (Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education), a non-government organization with consultative status to the UN-ECOSOC based in the Philippines, was chosen to be the Recipient and implementing organization of the project focusing on IPOs. National-level activities (Component 1 of the project) were financed through sub-grants. This is the final progress report prepared for the project, covering the period July 1, 2022 to February 28, 2023.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE (PDO)

The project development objective (PDO) was to strengthen the engagement of targeted forest-dependent beneficiaries in REDD+ processes and decision making at the country and regional levels. The achievement of the PDO is measured using the following indicators as defined in the project paper:

PDO 1. Increased participation of direct project beneficiaries in formulation and implementation of REDD+ strategies and actions (Target: 25, disaggregated by gender);

PDO 2. Increased participation of direct project beneficiaries in Emission Reduction Programs and Benefit Sharing Plans (Target: 3, disaggregated by gender);

PDO 3. Beneficiaries who feel project investments reflected their needs (Target: 80%, disaggregated by gender)

Intermediate results (IR)/outputs indicators are:

IR 1. Total beneficiaries with improved capacity, who directly utilize results of REDD+ activities (target 300);

IR 2. Meetings and capacity building activities held between IPLCs and national REDD+ decision making entities (target 6);

IR 3. Target beneficiaries benefiting from ERP and Benefit Sharing Plan (BSP) activities at the local or national level (target 25);

IR 4. Direct beneficiaries satisfied with activities, of which 50% are women (target 50); and

IR 5. Regional knowledge exchange among IPLCs (target 3)

COUNTRIES OF IMPLEMENTATION

This project with a total budget of US\$ 460,000 was implemented for the benefit of forest dependent IPs, ethnic minorities and their representative organizations and institutions in the 11 FCPF eligible countries in Asia and the Pacific, namely Kingdom of Bhutan, Kingdom of Cambodia, Republic of Fiji, Republic of Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nepal, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Independent State of Papua New Guinea, Kingdom of Thailand, Republic of Vanuatu and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, who were eligible to participate in regional learning and exchange activities (activities funded under Component 2). Of the 11, three (3) countries were identified to be eligible to participate in national-level activities (under Component 1), Fiji, Nepal and Vietnam, because the respective governments signed Emission Reductions Program Documents (ERPDs).

PROGRESS PER COMPONENT

The project had three (3) components. In all components, the issues and concerns of indigenous women and youth were addressed thus their participation in all activities.

Component 1: National Capacity Building and Awareness Raising

This component supported five (5) sub-projects through sub-grants in three (3) eligible countries namely Fiji, Nepal and Vietnam selected through a transparent process of call for proposals and

screening¹. Top rated proposals were submitted to the WB which issued 'no objections'. These sub-projects supported REDD+ capacity building and awareness raising for forest-dependent IPs, ethnic minorities, and their respective organizations and networks that enabled them to engage their government and other stakeholders involved in REDD+ processes. The focus was on the key elements of REDD+, such as safeguards, grievance redress mechanisms, benefit sharing arrangements, monitoring, and carbon accounting and included a platform that addressed knowledge gaps among IPs and ethnic minorities on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The sub-projects² were:

1. [Enabling and mobilizing the participation of ethnic minorities \(EMs\) in implementation Vietnam ERP and combating against COVID 19, Centre for Sustainable Development in Mountainous Areas \(CSDM\), Vietnam](#)
2. [Promoting the effective engagement of ethnic minorities \(EMs\) in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Emission Reduction Program \(ERP\) through strengthening knowledge and capacity of EMs in REDD+ process, Centre for Rural Development in Central Vietnam \(CRD\), Vietnam](#)
3. [Supporting Rights and Effective Participation of Indigenous Peoples in Nepal's ERP Implementation, Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities \(NEFIN\), Nepal](#)
4. [Enhancing Sustainable Forest Management & Biodiversity Preservation for Prosperous Living Culture of Chepang Communities in Nepal by increasing their engagement in REDD+ mechanism and decision making process through capacity building trainings and workshops, Himalayan Grassroots Women's Natural Resource Management Association \(HIMAWANTI\), Nepal](#)
5. [Enabling indigenous forest dependents to effectively participate in Fiji's Emission Reductions Program, Soqosoqo Vakamarama iTaukei \(SSV\), Fiji](#)

¹ Kindly refer to the first progress report <https://www.tebtebba.org/index.php/projects-articles/in-sdgs-all-articles/phase-3-project-reports/first-progress-report-fcpf-capacity-building-project-on-redd>

² Kindly see summary of sub-projects and status of planned activities as of closing date in Annex 1

Below were the original budget amounts approved for each sub-project and corresponding expenses at sub-projects closing dates:

Country/Organization	Sub-Grant Agreement		Expenses incurred	% of budget execution
	Date Signed	Budget (US\$)	Amount (US\$)	%
Vietnam: Centre for Sustainable Development in Mountainous Areas (CSDM)	Jan. 24, 2022 amended May 27, 2022	51,155.47	13,207.91	26
Vietnam: Centre for Rural Development in Central Vietnam (CRD)	Jan. 24, 2022 amended Oct. 14, 2022	59,422.63	52,969.00	89
Nepal: Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN)	Feb. 01, 2022	55,000.00	49,548.85	90
Nepal: Himalayan Grassroots Women's Natural Resource Management Association (HIMAWANTI)	Feb. 14, 2022	55,000.00	55,000.00	100
Fiji: Soqosoqo Vakamarama iTaukei (SSV)	April 25, 2022	53,947.00	24,276.00	45
TOTAL		274,525.10	195,001.76	71%

Sub-Projects Implementation

The information provided below is a summary of all capacity building activities implemented by sub-grantees since sub-grant agreements became effective until sub-project completion or suspension. Youth participants refer to those aged between 15 to 24 years old. Sub-projects implementation in Nepal and Vietnam has been delayed and one (1) in Vietnam stopped due to required government permit. The only sub-project in Fiji was suspended due to non-compliance with finance reporting requirements.

a. Centre for Sustainable Development in Mountainous Areas (CSDM), Vietnam

Sub-project implementation started in January 24, 2022 upon signing the sub-grant agreement and stopped on May 20, 2022 when there were questions on CSDM's application for a government permit. The sub-grant agreement was amended in May 27, 2022 that excluded Nghe An province, included more communes in Ba Thuoc district, Thanh Hoa province and addressed some issues upon the recommendation of the NGO umbrella organization Vietnam Union for Science and Technology (VUSTA) which reviewed CSDM's application for government permit. On August 24, 2022, CSDM forwarded a letter to Tebtebba from VUSTA that application for a permit was denied. For this reason, only US\$13,207.91 (26%) of the US\$51,155.47 approved for sub-project implementation was disbursed.

Objective: Ethnic minority groups in Ba Thuoc district, Thanh Hoa would be confident and capable of effectively participating in formulation and implementation of national REDD+ strategy and

ERP and successfully addressing issue in climate change resilience livelihood development and combating against COVID 19 pandemic.

Below were the capacity building activities implemented.

CSDM conducted two (2) *online meetings* with staff members in each district of Tuong Duong, Nghe An province and Ba Thuoc, Thanh Hoa province on January 25, 2022 and February 10, 2022, respectively. The sub-grant agreement with Tebtebba; WB's anti-corruption policy; sub-project including planned activities, implementation, expected outcomes and related indicators; and reporting requirements and deadlines were discussed. Staff were assigned to prepare and submit applications for government permits to implement the sub- project. The Ministry of Ethnic Minorities at district levels were represented in both meetings.

CSDM organized two (2) in person *training workshops on climate change, REDD+, and emission reductions program (ERP)* on March 24-25, 2022 in Ba Thuoc district and on March 30-31, 2022 in Tuong Duong district with a combined total of 40 participants (male-12, women-25 and 3 youth). Topics covered climate change, causes, impacts, adaptation and mitigation; REDD+, increasing biodiversity, sustainable forest management, importance of forests in carbon storage, REDD+ program in Vietnam at national and provincial levels; objectives of the ERP, non-carbon benefits and tasks of each province in ERP implementation; and, benefit sharing principles including rights and obligations of beneficiaries, supervision at grassroots level, tasks of the grassroots monitoring teams, grievance, feedback, complaints and mediation, responsibilities of commune people's committees and the Emission Reduction Payment Agreement (ERPA) signed October 22, 2020 between the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), which is the implementing agency of the ERPD in Vietnam, and the WB as trustee of the FCPF.

Two (2) *training workshop on REDD+ safeguards, benefit sharing, monitoring, grievance redress mechanism and EMs' rights and traditional knowledge in REDD+ implementation* on March 26-27, 2020 in Ba Thuoc district and on April 1-2, 2022 in Tuong Duong district with a combined total of 40 participants (men-12, women-25 and 3 youth). These trainings focused on environmental and social safeguards including measures to ensure safety in REDD+ implementation in Vietnam and ensure safety of ethnic minorities; grievance and redress/feedback mechanism at village, commune and district levels; goal of the environmental and social management framework (ESMF) and safety tools; collaborative adaptive management approach (ACMA) as a participatory approach to sustainable forest conservation and management; free prior and informed consent (FPIC); ethnic minorities' rights according to the Vietnamese constitution, UNDRIP and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and importance of indigenous knowledge on sustainable forest management and in coping with climate change.

A 2-day *training on community-based climate change/pandemic resilient livelihood, climate smart agriculture and diversifying and sustaining livelihoods* was the last training conducted. Held in Ba Thuoc district, on May 18-19, 2022 it benefited 25 (men-14 and 3 youth; women-5 and 3 youth) ethnic minorities (EMs). Topics included sustainable livelihoods; impacts of climate change on agriculture and measures to cope and adapt to these; impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on agricultural production; safe food; causes of and measures to reduce food

contamination; eco-smart agriculture, features, principles, benefits and challenges; impacts of industrial farming and the use of chemicals; transition to agro-ecological approach; and indigenous knowledge on agriculture including indigenous seeds and traditional cultivation.

Participants of the above training activities were the Thai and Muong EMs from 16 communes (Co Lung, Dien Ha, Ky Tan, Lung Cao, Lung Niem, Thanh Lam and Thiet Ong) in Ba Thuoc district, Thanh Hoa province and Tuong Duong district, Nghe An province (Lien Kieu, Luong Minh, Nga My, Thach Giam, XaLung, Yen Hoa, Yen Na, Yen Tinh and Yieng My). Representatives of the Vietnam Indigenous Knowledge Network, Department of Ethnic Minorities and Department of Agriculture and Rural Development at district levels, and farmers' groups participated in some of the activities.

The participants in some of the activities shared traditional knowledge/practices of EMs like on forest protection (not cut down large trees when these are flowering to contribute to seed dispersal; and abstain from picking bamboo shoots in a certain month of the year so these will proliferate) and on the weather (when the bees' nests are at low altitudes in any year, it is a warning that there will be a big storm in that year). They also know drought tolerant tree varieties which they plant in upland areas that can survive even during unusual/prolonged drought.

Some feedback and recommendations of participants included the following:

- Are there national programs in Vietnam to respond to climate change? Almost all participants did not know about ERP and REDD+ even those in the targeted ERP areas. According to participants, there were some activities implemented by government in the communes such as on forest protection and organic agriculture but people do not know where the funds came from.
- The trainings shed light on many issues on climate change, REDD+ and ERP. It was necessary to conduct community education about the ERP and all related topics such as safeguards, grievance mechanism, benefit sharing, etc. but the implementation period of the sub- project was relatively short and benefited only a few compared to the large number of people who should participate in forest protection under the ERP. Government officials implementing the program including those in the Adaptive Collaborative Management Approach (ACMA) Committees should be trained as well on relevant skills to facilitate peoples' participation in ERP implementation and monitoring. Working together could contribute to a higher success level of the program. This was articulated further by MR. Vu Dinh Hao, Head of Ba Thuoc district's Ethnic Affairs Office *"Although Ba Thuoc is a district implementing the ERP in the North Central region, most of the leaders of the communes participating in the program do not know much about the program, so it is necessary that there are propaganda in each commune so that people understand the program and implement it effectively."*
- According to participants, the contents of the trainings will be disseminated to communities/neighbors so more EMs better understand the program and be more conscious to protect the forest/environment and contribute to the success of ERP. The representatives of the communes participating in ERP implementation have agreed to do well in community forest protection not only to reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions but for the benefit of EMs.

- Safeguards should be applied at all stages of ERP implementation and in other community programs throughout the process to reduce the negative effects. District and commune officials and other ERP implementors should understand and fully comply with safety measures. Complaint and feedback mechanisms as well must be developed and disseminated at commune and village levels so communities can raise complaints when facing problems in ERP implementation, forest protection and especially on accessing benefits from REDD+.
- What are the benefits for people who directly participate in the ERP? What needs to be done so that EMs receive benefits? Participants hoped that the benefit sharing mechanism in ERP ensured benefits to EMs to compensate their efforts in protecting forests and stimulate/encourage them to continue protecting these.
- The government needs to have a synchronous policy on forest preservation in both ERP and non-ERP areas to avoid a situation where forests are good in some areas while forests are lost in other areas. There should be more policies to support livelihoods for people participating in ERP implementation so damage to the forests is minimized. For EMs, the forests are the source of livelihood and spirituality. EMs' have traditional knowledge and practices in sustainable use and management of forest.
- Why not force industries to reduce their emissions? The largest source of greenhouse gas emissions are the industrialized countries but EMs/IPs with the least emissions have to keep and protect the forests.
- Participants in the livelihood and smart agriculture training considered the knowledge learned important in the context of climate change response including indigenous knowledge especially on climate resistant indigenous plant varieties. Participants said it is necessary to quickly collect and apply indigenous knowledge in the development of smart eco-agriculture. The elders in the villages still have the knowledge, if not documented these will be lost over time.
- Participants asked what programs and policies does Vietnam have to support people and businesses to switch from chemical agriculture to ecological agriculture and suggested that all stakeholders should be united in the development and implementation of projects.
- All the participants agreed that transition to smart eco-agriculture should not be delayed and the participants can play the core role in implementing and persuading the community to follow suit. The communes' agro-forestry workers could guide the people to transition to smart ecological agriculture. The pioneers in the transition to smart eco-agriculture need more technical support from the state. Their products should be granted certifications that could stabilize prices and encourage production. Food self-sufficiency is necessary and people are increasingly in search of safe food. In reality, farmers were less affected by lack of food caused by COVID-19 but were affected in other aspects of their lives. Traditional farming methods with no/less chemicals produce safer food. In response, MR. Ha Van An, Department of Agriculture and Rural Development of Ba Thuoc district office, said that *"The development of smart eco-agriculture is being encouraged and supported by the government, but the government's budget for this transformation is not much. In the coming time, we will propose to our superiors for support, more support for smart eco-agriculture models."*

From the few activities implemented (*climate change, REDD+, and ERP; REDD+ safeguards, benefit sharing, monitoring, grievance redress mechanism and EMs' rights and traditional knowledge in REDD+ implementation; and community-based climate change/pandemic resilience livelihood, climate smart agriculture and diversifying and sustaining livelihoods*) CSDM and the participants agreed that they will apply the knowledge they gained from the sub-project. District and commune officials will inform/communicate to local people about climate change, REDD+ and proactively propose to local authorities to fund activities on climate change adaptation and mitigation such as protecting the forest, planting more trees especially native trees, saving electricity and water; and about ERP especially the regulations on results-based payments and benefit sharing and hoped EMs will directly receive payment for forest protection and others. The participants will disseminate knowledge on REDD+ to other villagers, build and strengthen forest protection groups and continue to practice sustainable forest management, and hoped the government will provide spaces for EMs to get involved directly in REDD+ and ERP at the local level.

The educational materials³ on climate change, REDD+, EMs and women's participation in ERP compiled in Vietnamese were translated to Hmong and Thai and were used during the training activities. These materials, however, were not printed as planned.

The following planned activities were not implemented due to the non-issuance of government permit: four (4) awareness raising on women's and youth's role and participation in ERP and benefit sharing program (BSP); four (4) REDD+ and ERP dissemination activities at community levels; three (3) trainings on community-based climate change/pandemic resilience livelihood, climate smart agriculture and diversifying and sustaining livelihoods; three (3) capacity building on women's rights and the environment; one (1) consultation at district level to finalize EMs' recommendations on REDD+/ERP to be presented to REDD+/ERP implementors; one (1) workshop at province and national levels to seek support from REDD+/ERP/BSP implementors to facilitate the participation of local EMs, women, youth and PWDs in REDD+/ERP/BSP related processes; and two (2) trainings on the use of indigenous knowledge and practices to lessen the risks associated with COVID-19.

b. Centre for Rural Development in Central Vietnam (CRD), Vietnam

The objective of the sub-project was to strengthen the engagement of ethnic minorities (EMs) specially women and youths in REDD+, REDD+ processes and decision making in Vietnam under the context of climate change and Covid-19 pandemic. The subproject was planned to be implemented from January 24, 2022 to December 31, 2022 but was delayed due to the long process of securing government permit. Actual implementation was from October 14, 2022 to February 28, 2023 taking advantage of the extension period of the project. The planned sub-project evaluation by a third party was not conducted. The subproject was approved for a total of US\$59,422.63, of which US\$52,969 were disbursed (89%). The difference between the approved amount and actual disbursements was due to lower tax paid because the amount was computed based on actual expenses, the external sub-project evaluation was not conducted, and

³ Please see material in Annex 2

the depreciation of the Vietnamese Dong from an exchange rate of VND22,620 to a US\$ during budget preparation to VND23,640/US\$ when the sub-project was implemented.

The government permit to implement the sub-project was issued only on 25th August 2022 but the Ministry of Finance (MoF) required the payment of a 10% tax which needed WB's approval. The work and financial plan was also revised. Below are information on the activities implemented mostly at district level. Only EMs (Co Tu, Pa Ko, Ta Oi, Pa Hy, Van Kieu) were included in the number of participants although there were non-EMs and government representatives as well.

Planning workshop: The workshop was held in Hue City on November 11, 2022 with 50 (men-10 with 5 youth, women-40 with 10 youth) participants. The sub-project design including expected outcome, output, and activities was presented and participants raised questions related to the selection of trainees and capacity building activities. Challenges in relation to REDD+ and capacity building needs to overcome these were discussed in workshop groups. The results were collected and a list of proposed capacity building activities was prepared including the proposed training curricula especially for women and youth, proposed training and information materials like handbook, leaflets and training course were agreed.

According to the participants, the workshop provided preliminary information on REDD+ and ERP but because these are new concepts, participants requested covering also complementary topics such as: at which stage and how the EMs, women and youth can be involved; how can the community monitor and evaluate ERP implementation; safeguards, risks and risk mitigation for EMs who will be involved; and benefits and rights of EMs including women in REDD+ and ERP implementation.

Two (2) trainings were delivered on: *Piloting the transfer of emission reduction results (carbon credits) and financial management of GHG emission reduction payment agreements in the North Central region of Vietnam (Decree 107/2022/ND-CP dated December 28, 2022):* The trainings were held in Nam Dong and A Luoi districts on February 12 and 13, 2023, respectively with a total combined participants of 50 (men-30 with 15 youth, women-20 with 5 youth). The training course covered four (4) main topics: (i) introduction on emission reductions payment agreement; (ii) the payment; (iii) benefit sharing; and (iv) monitoring and evaluation of benefit sharing. Since the law is new, the concept, meaning and scope need to be explained lengthily and several questions related to the amount of money and the payment to households were raised. After the training, more than 90% of participants had insight on the benefit sharing system and the payments from REDD+ and 75% were willing to share the knowledge gained to other households in the communes.

Community-based trainings on REDD+ related topics: The six (6) separate trainings had a combined total participants of 150 (men-100 with 25 youth, women-50 with 25 youth). The trainings were held in Nam Dong and A Luoi districts on December 4-16, 2022. The topics shared were on REDD+ and climate change; deforestation and reduction strategies; REDD+ institutions;

and rights and participation of EMs in REDD+. Participatory training method was applied which allowed participants to discuss with other and share group discussion results.

More than 90% of participants said they gained a certain degree of knowledge and understanding about REDD+, ERP and related rights of EMs. At least 75% of participants were willing to apply the knowledge acquired in the communities.

Exchange visit to Huong Phung commune, Huong Hoa District, Quang Tri province: The exchange visit took place on January 13-15, 2023 that benefited 30 participants (men-10 with 5 youth, women-20 with 5 youth). The leader of the host community-based forest management (CFM) group shared activities on sustainable forest management, benefits of people involved in forest management, challenges of CFM and the solutions implemented by the CFM group. The participants and host shared and exchanged knowledge and skills in CFM involvement and experiences on participation in REDD+ and ERP including the barriers and risk of participation. Participants visited the forest, community nursery and were introduced to actual non-timber forest product planting and harvesting.

Effective engagement of women in ERP implementation, monitoring and evaluation: The same training activities were delivered to a total of 100 women including 25 youth in four (4) separate trainings. Two (2) trainings were held in Nam Dong district and the other two (2) in A Luoi district from February 14 to 24, 2023. The trainings focused on (i) background of the ERP; (ii) ERP monitoring and evaluation; (iii) benefit sharing in the ERP; and (iv) correct practices related to ERP. Participants also discussed the rights of EM women in ERP in small groups. Although the concepts related to REDD+ and ERP were new, participants understood.

Recognition of the rights of women and EMs: The three (3) separate fora were held on January 11, 2023 simultaneously in A Luoi and Nam Dong districts, and on February 9, 2023 in Hue City that gathered a total of 70 EM women participants including 20 youth. Representatives of Vietnam's Women Union participated also. The fora aimed to strengthen women's voice in relation to their rights and participation in ERP implementation. At the district fora, women representing CFM groups expressed difficulties and challenges in being involved in ERP and proposed solutions or recommendations to strengthen participation. The issues related to benefit sharing from ERP implementation was also discussed. The forum at Hue City included topics on safeguards, rights of women and EMs including to full and effective participation, and proposed remedial actions. All the issues raised by women were recorded by the government and hopefully will be considered in the ERP implementation plan.

Participants recommended that issues related to EMs' rights particularly women's rights in ERP implementation, benefit sharing, and other relevant technical assistance in sustainable forest management should be regularly shared in meetings of the women's union at district and commune levels. The issues should also be integrated in community meetings to update communities about the ERP including monitoring and evaluation of the program and recognition of EMs' rights. The participants in return, will disseminate information on the ERP, benefit sharing, and participation to other households in the communities.

Women-led dialogue on the recognition of EMs' and women's rights: The dialogue event was held in Hue City on February 18, 2023 attended by 45 participants (men-10, women-35). There was an equal number of non-EM participants of which around 10 were from local governments including the Department of Forest Ranger at province and district levels, Board of Forest Management, Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Land Management Department, Women Union, committee of ethnic minority affairs, and commune authority.

After a back ground of the ERP and safeguards were shared, participants asked questions in relation to land and forest management, benefits of people involved in forest management, livelihood options for forest dependent households, and safeguard information system. Different stakeholders responded and explained the points.

In particular, the officials from Department of Forest Ranger explained rights to land and forest use based on the Vietnamese land law, decision, decree, and resolution. The EMs paid more attention on livelihood options and raised questions on access to equal support in terms of materials (e.g. seedlings) and capital. With regard to timber production, there should be other sources of revenue such as chicken and pig raising while waiting for the timber to mature. All the discussions between local governments and EMs were recorded in minutes which will be leveraged by the government participants in a local ERP plan.

The dialogue provided an avenue for improving mutual understanding, identifying priorities, enhancing ownership and participation, finding common ground, building constituencies and resolve for change, and influencing policy on EMs, women and youth. EMs freely contributed knowledge, expertise, and ideas about participation and rights in ERP, and government representatives listened and will hopefully consider. Since the ERP is still new, there was not much relevant data or evidence from analyses, case studies, or pilot/demonstration on EMs' and women's participation. Dialogue may be more effective when it draws on enhanced accountability by stakeholders, reporting back to constituencies and for both planners and participants to monitor and assess the results of the dialogue.

District level awareness campaigns: The two (2) campaigns were implemented simultaneously in Nam Dang and A Luoi districts on February 19, 2023. A total of 445 (men-330, women-115) EMs attended. These involved knowledge competition on REDD+ and ERP and community arts. In the knowledge competition, two (2) groups answered questions related to sustainable forest management, and EMs' rights and participation in REDD+ and ERP particularly women. The group with the highest correct answers won. The second were plays on women's roles in sustainable forest management, EMs' and women's rights on REDD+/ERP; and rendition of songs on forest. Leaflets and posters related to forest were drawn also by volunteer participants.

The campaign provided insights on REDD+ and ERP to EMs and local people especially women and youth. The attendees understood more the importance of forest management, and the roles and rights of EMs including women in ERP implementation. According to local authorities, these

campaigns should be organized at community level regularly to disseminate relevant knowledge/information on REDD+ and ERP to community people and at the same time mobilize local participation.

Integrating knowledge on REDD+ and ERP in community and CFM Meetings: The 10 meetings took place in Nam Dong and A Luoi districts on November 28, 2022 and December 28, 2022 respectively. These meetings were attended by 315 (men-95 and 35 youth, women-120 and 65 youth) EMs. The sub-project staff and the community representatives who were previously involved in the different trainings shared information related to REDD+ and ERP with the communities. The attendees asked questions on REDD+ and its implementation, rights of EMs to participate and to share in the benefits.

National workshop: The workshop was held in Hue City on February 22, 2023 with 60 participants (men-22 and 8 youth, women-24 and 6 youth) exclusive of government representatives. The workshop objective was to share the sub-project's output and lessons learned. After the report on activities, results, lessons learned and challenges, the deputy director of the Provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Development shared the results of the monitoring and evaluation of the sub-project. The representatives of the Forest Ranger Department, Women Union and Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs gave opinion about the sub-project's implementation and outputs.

Although the implementation period was short (only 4 and a half months, from October 14, 2022 to February 28, 2023), the expected outputs were achieved which can contribute to REDD+ and ERP implementation. Only the policy brief that should have been a product of the women-led dialogue was not prepared. Some recommendations were forwarded by the participants: (i) planning for REDD+ and ERP should focus more on gender inclusively and equity and sufficient indicators on gender equity and women's empowerment should be included; (ii) sub-project duration should be longer to allow retraining and/or updating of relevant policy documents.

In summary, participants said the knowledge from the trainings in their communities to improve sustainable forest management will be used. Participants will assist in forest patrolling; protecting flora and fauna in compliance with legal laws; implementing measures to prevent forest fires; maintaining and enhancing ecological values and biodiversity of forest; and harvesting non timber forest products appropriately in order to maintain forest resources in the forests. The trained EMs will also try to advocate for no conversion of natural forests and forest areas with ecological significances to forest plantation and other land use purposes; recognition of women's rights to participate in forest activities; and recognition of the legal and/or customary rights of local communities and EMs to forest and forest lands.

According to CRD, EMs in the ERP areas need capacity building on the new Decree 107/2022/ND-CP [Piloting transfer of emission reduction results (carbon credits) and financial management of GHG emission reduction payment agreements in the North Central region of Vietnam], and how to address risks related to EMs' and women's participation in REDD+, and climate smart

agriculture. In addition, the capacity and awareness of local authorities and forest owners on climate change, REDD+, ERP, safeguards, property rights and gender issues should be increased. There should be more focus on benefit sharing mechanisms and livelihood models and indigenous knowledge should be considered and integrated into REDD+ implementation.

COVID-19 prevention and online communication skills: The trainings were carried out in in Nam Dong and A Luoi districts on January 18-21, 2023. The four (4) trainings gathered a total of 100 women participants including 40 youth. The objective was to increase EMs' and local communities' understanding and skills on COVID-19 prevention and to disseminate information through social media. The focus was on community level infection prevention and control, community level testing and diagnosis, home care for mild COVID, vaccine hesitancy and communication strategy, and post-COVID and mental health. The trainer used visuals and demonstration of prevention and homecare.

A [video](#) on the sub-project activities was produced and also other materials like leaflets and posters⁴. The video is available in CRD's website and was used in the national workshop and in the community training activities and meetings. Additionally, it was forecasted in the page of University of Agriculture and Forestry to disseminate the approach, knowledge, and result of the project to the broader researchers, lecturers, and students at the university. It was recommended by the staff of the Forest Ranger Department, who is responsible for implementing the REDD+ and ERP in Thua Thien Hue province, that the video be used in workshops and conferences related to REDD+ and ERP in 2023 to disseminate the approaches used in the project as well as the result to policymakers, officials, and other communities.

c. Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN), Nepal

Objective: To increase awareness among the target indigenous peoples (IPs) and network of the country's REDD+/ERP as well as enhance capacity to advocate for their rights and meaningful participation in the REDD+/ERP implementation. The subproject was implemented from February 1, 2022 to January 31, 2023. One planned activity, IPs' participation in events, was not implemented. The subproject was approved for a total of US\$55,000, of which US\$49,548.63 were disbursed (90%). The difference between the approved amount and actual disbursements was due to the non-implementation of one (1) activity; overestimated transportation, food and accommodation in the training activities; and the strong US currency. The exchange rate used in the budget was NPR115/US\$ but reached NPR127.20 to a US\$ during the middle of sub-project implementation.

Three (3) training workshops *on REDD+, safeguards and benefit sharing plan at district/province levels* were conducted in the districts of Chitwan (Sauraha), Nawalpur (Amaltari), and Bardiya (Thakurdwara) on April 13-15, 2022, April 17-19, 2022 and June 27-29, 2022 respectively, to raise awareness and build the capacity of indigenous community leaders/representatives (Bote, Gurung, Kumal, Magar, Newar, Rai, Raji, Sherpa, Tamang and Tharu); NEFIN's Coordination Committees at province, district, municipal and village levels; National Indigenous Women's

⁴ Please see Annex 3

Federation (NIWF); Youth Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (YFIN); Federation of Nepalese Indigenous Journalists (FONIJ); and *Badghar* functionaries of Dang, Bardiya and Kailai districts. A combined total of 86 IPs (men-44 and 2 youth, women-32 and 8 youth) participated.

The focus of the training activities were on climate change including mitigation, adaptation and the potential risks associated with climate actions; REDD+ and the country's REDD+ program; the ERPD of Nepal especially the proposed activities, governance structure, possible impacts on IPs' communities, safeguard measures, non-carbon benefits and the BSP; and the ERPA signed by the Nepali government with the FCPF for carbon trade. The topics also included some of the agreements adopted by the COPs of the UNFCCC and how IPs could use these like the Cancun Safeguards and the Paris Agreement, ILO 169 and UNDRIP as well as the World Bank's safeguard policies as tools to safeguard IPs' rights in REDD+ and other climate change interventions and manage environmental and social risks related to natural resources and forests. Apart from the discussions, the participants also role-played as IPs representatives and government officials simulating dialogues between the two sides that resulted in the participants' gaining hands-on skills to deal with government officials. Participants were engaged in group discussions and each group came up with demands/recommendations for protection of their rights specifically with regard to Nepal's ongoing REDD+ program.

In the last and final training activity held in June 27-29, 2022 in Bardiya, there was also a virtual session by Dr. Radha Wagle, Chief of Climate Change Division, Ministry of Forests and Environment (MoFE) of Nepal. Dr. Wagle's presentation primarily focused on the contents of Nepal's ERPD, and the USD 45 million ERPA that Nepal signed with the WB in 2021. The session included ERP activities and associated risks to the local indigenous communities and ways to address the risks.

In the same workshop (in Bardiya) where a large majority of the population are the Tharu, there was a dedicated panel discussion with *Badghar* functionaries. The *Badghar* system, with the *badghar* as the chief/head, is a customary institution of Nepal's Tharu indigenous communities. In the past, the institution served a key role in Tharu villages affairs regulating all aspects of Tharu's social, economic and cultural life including natural resources management (e.g. when/what to harvest and who can harvest) based on traditional knowledge, practices and customary laws. The institution also oversees canal repairs and local disputes resolution. The *badghar* functionaries shared that the *badghar* is still practiced in their communities although the scope is limited.

The Tharu participants lamented that the *badghar*'s role now had been superseded with the enactment of different national laws that rendered this age-old institution devoid of powers. However, at present, the government as well as other stakeholders mainly rely on this institution for community mobilization in development works in Tharu villages. In addition, some local governments⁵ in their districts have enacted or are enacting local laws recognizing the *Badghar*.

⁵ In Nepal, local level refers to local government in any of these four forms: metropolitan city, sub-metropolitan city, municipality and rural municipality.

Below were some of the comments and recommendations of the participants:

- It was shared by most of the participants that there was no information sharing on ERP from government agencies/other organizations before the trainings organized by NEFIN. Majority of the participants were not aware of the ERP. Participants appreciated the training activities and considered these timely. The information received can be used not only in the ongoing ERP but in any REDD+/forestry interventions to be implemented in the communities to raise IPs' issues. *"Nobody, neither government agencies nor others, told us anything about this project before. We will now speak for our rights and voice our concerns within our CFUGs (community forestry user groups) meetings and also inquire about the project at respective Division Forest Offices (DFOs) and Environment Sections of the palikas (municipality),"* according to a participant in Chitwan. Participants were unanimous that they need more similar awareness raising/capacity building programs as the ERP gathers pace.
- Having been oriented on international standards of IPs' rights, the participants were concerned if the REDD+/ERP projects would uphold these rights as guaranteed by international instruments, conventions and agreements, particularly the related UNFCCC agreements, WB's ESSs, ILO 169, and UNDRIP among others. Indigenous peoples are key rights holders in climate actions and should be given preferential rights in natural resources management. Lands, waters and forests are significant basis of IPs' life ways, REDD+ or any other interventions should not violate IPs' rights to these natural resources. FPIC of IPs should be obtained, in all phases of REDD+/ERP projects.
- According to participants, all forests including customary forests in Nepal are under the community forestry/community-based forestry management due to lack of formal recognition of IPs' customary rights on forests. Participants were worried that REDD+/ERP implementation may further restrict IPs' access and use of forest resources that are vital to their economic and cultural survival which could result in the loss of their traditional knowledge, practices, culture, traditional occupations and livelihoods related to natural resources management. The non-recognition of customary forest can impact also on IPs equitable participation in ERP and on sharing of benefits from ERP implementation.
- The government and project implementers should take appropriate measures to protect and promote IPs' culture, traditional knowledge, skills, livelihood, customary institutions in the formulation and implementation of climate change mitigation and adaptation interventions. Non-carbon benefits should be given due space in REDD+ discussions. Inclusion and full and effective participation of IPs in REDD+ governance systems should be ensured.
- Provide additional support including financial to IPs for them to further enhance their knowledge and advocacy capacity to be able to dialogue with government officials and REDD+ project proponents, implementers and other stakeholders; and for IPs to document and disseminate their traditional knowledge and practices on agriculture and natural resources management, and governance systems as evidence for advocacy.

- *“We live near or within the forest. There are forests because we live there. We are not forest destroyers. We are the preservers. We worship the forests. We need a certain wood that is necessary for ceremony during marriage. As nature worshippers, we coexist with nature. We need forests for our food such as tubers. Forest is vital to our living as well as cultural continuity”,* according to Ms. Premwati Rana of Kanchanpur who participated in one of the training activities.

Four (4) dialogues on REDD+ including the benefit sharing plan (BSP) were held at district levels between IPs and government which gathered 153 (men-112 and 1 youth, women-37 and 3 youth) participants representing different government offices (Division Forest Office, National Parks, Buffer Zone), NEFIN coordination committees (province, district and village), different IPOs, indigenous peoples' experts, and media persons from radio, television and print. The dialogues were held in the districts of Kailali (January 17, 2023), Kapilbastu (January 18, 2023), Nawalparasi (January 19, 2023), and Bara (January 20, 2023).

IPs' representatives stressed the following requests: (i) Establish a dedicated desk at the Division Forest Office and appoint a focal person to resolve the grievances of IPs; (ii) Organize REDD+ training activities at local levels (ward, municipalities and district levels); (iii) Address IPs' issues and concerns on non-carbon value of forests, non-carbon benefits and BSP before ERP is implemented; (iv) Undertake FPIC prior to the implementation of REDD+/ BSP; and (v) Include NEFIN as partner in REDD+/BSP processes and ensure its institutional representation.

A national level dialogue between government, other REDD+ stakeholders and representatives of IPs was organized in Kathmandu on January 31, 2023 . It gathered 54 participants (men-31, women-23) representing IPs from the 13 districts covered by the ERP, IPOs, and other organizations namely World Wildlife Fund (WWF), National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC), United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), NEFIN secretariat and Federal Council, and government agencies like National Parks and Wildlife Department of the Ministry of Forests and Environment.

The requests of participants in the district level dialogues between IPs and some government representatives were shared. Dr. Maheshwar Dhakal, Director General of the National Parks and Wildlife Department of the Ministry of Forests and Environment, presented on the conflict between humans and wildlife, the challenges it causes and solutions in context of REDD+.

The participants supported the requests of participants in the district dialogues and suggested the following: (i) There should be institutional/collective representation of IPs in REDD+ benefit mechanism; (ii) The concerns and issues of IPs on BSP should be addressed by relevant Nepal government agencies; and (iii) All REDD+ stakeholders should recognize the historical contributions of IPs in nature conservation and should have access to the benefits of REDD+.

While participants learned from the training activities, some traditional knowledge and practices on agriculture and natural resources management were shared. For example, the Chepangs and other IPs in Nepal practice shifting cultivation (the traditional practice of cultivating a plot of land

temporarily and moving to another plot allowing the previous plot to revert to its normal vegetation). Participants claimed that the practice proved successful in terms of crop productivity, soil fertility and conservation of natural ecosystems and contributed to the communities' food security as well as nature conservation.

The IPs traditionally collect mushrooms, edible ferns and herbs, among other forest products. The Botes, known as the fishing community, fish in the local rivers and the Tharus collect *ghongi* (a type of river snail) that forms an integral part of IPs' diet. The participants emphasized that *jal*, *jamin* and *jungle* (water, land and forest) are vital to the IPs' economic and cultural survival.

Many IPs in Nepal practice burying the deceased in the forest and worship nature. The Tharus consider a tree specie *Bot Dhainru* a residing place of deceased ancestors. The practices are some reasons why IPs in Nepal have worship sites in the forests.

NEFIN published a briefing paper printed in June 29, 2022, and case studies and a position paper both printed in January 29, 2023 financed by the sub-project. All these were printed by Media Nepal. Hardcopies were distributed to participants of sub-project activities and during other events organized or participated by NEFIN; and to wider readers like other IPs, relevant government entities and other REDD+ stakeholders in Nepal. Soft copies are available in NEFIN's website for those who have computers and internet access.

A *briefing paper* "[Present status of the rights of IPs and their key concerns in Nepal's REDD+ program](#)" was published in Nepali. It covered the FCPF safeguards, Nepal's REDD+ strategy and relevant national and international laws and policies related to the rights of IPs.

The paper revisited Nepal's REDD+ journey with key milestones starting from 2007 when Nepal started its REDD readiness preparations with financial support from FCPF of the WB to the implementation of ERP in 13 Terai districts. The paper described the REDD+ programs' intended positive outcomes and possible risk to life and livelihoods of IPs and the importance of having effective safeguards measures in place. It also discussed non-carbon benefits, and equitable sharing of benefits from the program and IPs' contributions to sustainable forest management. The paper highlighted the need to recognize and respect IPs' rights in REDD+ programs and full and effective participation in related processes at all levels and requested the government and REDD+ stakeholders to consider IPs' rights and effective engagement in Nepal's REDD+ program.

[Thriving Amid the Threats](#) contains three (3) *case studies* such as the Badghar, Pewa and the Dhimal IPs. Customary institutions have long remained an inherent part of the lives of IPs in Nepal, regulating public and economic affairs including sustainable use and management of natural resources.

The badghar study is available in English and Nepali. The badghar customary institution is practiced by the Tharu IPs in the ERP area. The study highlighted the crucial role the institution plays in community governance and sustainable natural resource management and explains why

the institution is important for governments and other development actors to provide space for the participation of IPOs and/or customary institutions.

The paper on the badghar recommended that (i) Nepal's federal law should accord recognition to customary institutions such as Badghar which also falls under the country's international commitment; (ii) the Badghar should be integrated into the country's community/community-based forestry programs and management plans; and (iii) programs for the promotion and recognition of Badghar system should be introduced as a model of exercise of IPs' collective rights, socio-economic and spiritual wellbeing.

The pewa system is an institution to empower and educate girls/women. The system can be taken as a practice that bestows on girls/women the right over movable property and to the income generated thereof. The pewa could be cash, jewelry, livestock, poultry, furniture, and other valuables like a share from newly harvested grains and in exceptional cases women are provided land. Indigenous women in Nepal regard the pewa as personal property which the recipient has the right to control. The pewa can be considered an educational institution also through which a girl/woman learns about rearing animals, making the best use of money, finding an income source, and making decisions independently. In addition, the pewa could be a source of economic empowerment for girls/women if managed properly.

However, the practice of the pewa system is diminishing due to several factors like urbanization, migration, globalization, the influence of Hindu culture, and modern school education that have failed to value IPs' traditional practices over modern occupations and lifestyles. Therefore, there is a need to do an in-depth study in different indigenous communities, educate communities on the positive aspects and help elders transfer the knowledge to younger generations. The pewa should not be practiced in rural settings only but in growing and competitive market economies as well. If children understand pewa's importance in family's economic affairs, children could earn and invest at a young age. The paper is available in English.

The study (in Nepali) on the Dhimal IPs of Belbari highlighted land and other threats. The threats include disasters in river system, imbalance in human-nature relationships, loss of local seed varieties, etc. The paper also reflected the fact that Dhimal IPs are key actors in balancing nature and ecosystems but are being undermined by the government and other actors.

[*Demand \(Paper\) of Indigenous Peoples in Nepal REDD+ / Emission Reduction Program*](#) is a position paper (in Nepali) and included the following points among others (a) Ensure IPs rights to customary land tenure and rights to land, territories and resources; (b) Apply FPIC; (c) No displacement and access restrictions of IPs over forest and resources; (d) No militarization, false accusation and criminalization against IPs; (e) No grabbing of IPs' customary land; (f) Ensure IPs' food security and food sovereignty as IPs food system are linked with forest and land; (g) Avoid negative impacts on IPs' skills, knowledge system and innovation; (h) Collective representation and participation of IPs in all levels and phases of ERP; (i) Information dissemination and outreach in medium and format of IPs communication and languages; (j) Non-carbon benefits and equitable access to benefits; (k) There is no mention of IPs participation in BSP development –

the mechanism proposed for benefit sharing plan—ignores IPs participation in decision-making bodies which is against Nepal’s national REDD+ strategy, against WB ESS7, REDD+ Cancun Safeguards, FCPF REDD+ SESA and UNFCCC Paris Agreement as whole.

‘[Ancestral Wisdom and Forest in Nepal](#)’ video, financed by the sub-project, narrated the interconnection of IPs in Nepal’s ERP area with the forest and natural resources in multiple ways such as social, cultural and spiritual. It also portrayed the experiences and recorded the voices of IPs displaced from territories in the past, indicating the same risk in forest conservation/ERP implementation. It was screened during training activities of the sub-project, other events organized by NEFIN and distributed in flash drives because most people in the rural communities do not have access to internet. The target audience are IPs, REDD+ stakeholders, forestry sector actors and relevant government agencies. NEFIN will promote its wider dissemination.

d. Himalayan Grassroots Women’s Natural Resource Management Association (HIMAWANTI), Nepal

The objective of the sub-project was to enhance sustainable biodiversity for the prosperous living culture of Chepang ethnic group in Nepal. The sub-project was implemented from February 14, 2022 to December 31, 2022. The subproject was approved for a total of US\$55,000 with 100% disbursement.

HIMAWANTI’s permit to implement the sub-project was finally issued by the Social Welfare Council on September 13, 2022. While following-up the release of the permit, HIMAWANTI had meetings with the REDD+ Implementation Center (RIC) to seek recommendations and inputs to the training manual and in the implementation of the activities. HIMAWANTI coordinated also with organizations which are working in the sub-project targeted beneficiary communities.

A *training manual*⁶ which compiled and simplified information on REDD+, ERP, benefit sharing, national laws/documents and women’s rights was prepared in Nepali during this period. The manual was printed by Ramechhap S.P. Printing Press on June 30, 2022. The training manual was used during the capacity building activities conducted in Chepang communities by the sub-project and hard copies were distributed to participants. It included different pictures on REDD+ related topics. This will be used in future trainings on REDD+/ERP by HIMAWANTI.

The following capacity building activities were implemented for the Chepang IPs and some government officials at ward and/or municipal levels in three (3) municipalities of Chitwan District. Almost all activities were conducted in the villages of Korak (Rapti municipality), Tindobhan (Kalika municipality) and Hapani (Ichchhakamana rural municipality) to accommodate more women who cannot leave their homes which was appreciated. Most of the participants were very happy for the opportunity to participate in the trainings and requested increasing the number of days to make it more fruitful in the future. Due to the low literacy of the participants, compiled videos and photos were used. The number of participants in the different activities refer to Chepang participants only.

⁶ Please see Annex 4

Awareness raising on REDD+: The three (3) trainings benefited a combined total of 76 participants (men-39, women-37). The trainings were delivered in Korak village, Rapti Municipality (October 10-12, 2022), Tindobhan village, Kalika Municipality (October 14-16, 2022) and Hapani village, Ichchhakamana Rural Municipality (October 18-20, 2022). Topics discussed included climate change and its impacts on peoples' lives; REDD+ and its aim; Nepal's REDD+ strategies, actions and activities and implementation; roles of IPs in REDD+; sustainable forest management; how sustainable forest management and enhancement of forest carbon stocks can benefit IPs in Nepal; threats to IPs' rights on forest due to REDD+ strategies; greenhouse gas and how emissions can be reduced; carbon sequestration, carbon stocks and the role of forests; and how REDD+ mechanisms can contribute to local livelihoods and ecological resilience by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The participants were able to relate the discussions on climate change and REDD+ with everyday life. Participants committed to help reduce deforestation and forest degradation and share the knowledge gained in the trainings with other community members. The women who gather forest products for livelihood realized the importance of forest conservation. The local government representatives appreciated the topics on carbon sequestration and forest carbon stocks, assured participants that more budgets could be allocated for sustainable forest management to reduce carbon emissions, and committed to follow REDD+ safeguards measures to protect the rights of indigenous and forest dependent communities when making plans and policies related to forest in the future.

Formulation and implementation of REDD+ strategies and actions and on Emission Reductions Program and Benefit Sharing Plan: The three (3) trainings were delivered in Rapti Municipality (September 5-7, 2022), Kalika Municipality (September 9-11, 2022) and Ichchhakamana Rural Municipality (September 18-20, 2022). A total of 78 (men-24, women-54) Chepang participated. In addition to the topics in the awareness raising on REDD+, role of IPs in REDD+ decision-making processes and future impacts of REDD+ strategies; how IPs in Nepal are going to benefit from REDD+; ERP and benefit sharing plan/mechanisms and how the participation and engagement of IPs can be increased; monitoring, reporting and verification; carbon rights; carbon markets; and performance based payments were also discussed.

Government representatives were grateful to be invited, understood that the rights of IPs to participate fully and meaningfully in REDD+ related processes should be respected. They assured participants that representatives of Chepang communities will be invited in future REDD+ decision making processes.

Elements of REDD+ such as safeguards, grievance redress mechanisms, benefit sharing arrangements, monitoring, and carbon accounting: The training was delivered in Ichchhakamana Rural Municipality (October 29-31, 2022). There were 38 participants (men-16, women-22). Included in the discussion were the positive and negative impacts of REDD+ activities on IPs; safeguard measures in REDD+ implementation including in benefit sharing; national and international REDD+ safeguards guidelines like the Cancun safeguards; grievance mechanism,

how to lodge complaints; monitoring; and carbon accounting. Other topics were the Constitution of Nepal 2015, Good Governance (Management and Operation) Act (2008), Right to Information Act 2007, Environmental Protection Act 2019, Labor Act 1992, National Foundation for the Development of Indigenous Nationalities (NFDIN) Act 2002, Forest Policy 2015, Forestry Sector Strategy 2016, Community Forestry Development Guidelines 2015, National REDD+ Social and Environmental Standard 2014, and Gender and Social Inclusion Strategy 2006.

IPs' sovereign rights over land and biodiversity resources, and traditional and customary practices linked to cultural diversity: The training was delivered in Hapani village, Ichchhakamana Rural Municipality on December 4-6, 2022 that gathered 43 participants (men-21, women-22). This training focused on self-determination; traditional and customary rights over land and other natural resources; free, prior and informed consent (FPIC); security of land tenure and livelihoods during REDD+ implementation; and international instruments establishing IPs' rights like UNDRIP.

The training helped local government representatives understand the customary rights of IPs over land and other natural resources and FPIC requirements before implementation of REDD+ activities or other projects in IP communities. The Chepang participants understood IPs' rights and how to use available instruments to secure such rights.

Alternative/sustainable livelihood: The training was delivered in Hapani village, Ichchhakamana Rural Municipality on December 11-13, 2022 with 45 (men-25, women -20) participants. The majority of the IPs rely on forest resources like collecting fuelwoods and fodder as source of livelihood. The topics discussed were on livelihood activities being undertaken; traditional farming and effects of climate change on farming, traditional farming techniques and new methods that can be adopted; how farming in barren lands can contribute to sustainable forest management; and other alternative sources of livelihood to improve food security.

The activity provided an opportunity to local government participants to better understand the increasing food insecurity in IP communities. The situation is due to several factors like land problems, negative impacts of climate change, and limited skills among others. The participants realized the heavy dependence on forest based resources and should use the skills learned from the training to grow crops especially on barren areas using both traditional and modern farming methods as additional source of livelihood. The activity provided a venue for IPs and local government participants to coordinate, with the latter committing to support the former with tools, seeds and fertilizers.

Women leadership training was provided to 38 women members of existing IPs' forest based committees to increase the percentage of women in those committees. The training was delivered in Hapani village, Ichchhakamana Rural Municipality on November 20-22, 2022. The discussion included REDD+, its aim and implementation in the country; roles and responsibilities of IPs in REDD+ implementation; forest based committees and how the committees are functioning; the low percentage of women in the forest based committees; leadership and necessary skills and competition with men in leadership positions; networking and advocacy skills required to take part meaningfully in decision-making processes; IP women's rights in decision-

making and why IP women are excluded; gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) and the importance of incorporating gender in plans and policies in Nepal's REDD+ strategies; and how IP women can advocate for the inclusion of women in REDD+ benefit sharing. The local government representatives committed to conduct similar trainings to women members of the indigenous communities.

Formation of REDD+ decision making committees: The three (3) activities gathered 81 participants (men-44, women-37). The activities were held in Korak village, Rapti Municipality (November 10, 2022), Tindobhan village, Kalika Municipality (November 12, 2022), and Hapani village, Ichchhakamana Rural Municipality (November 14, 2022). Discussions included the importance of REDD+ decision-making committees in IP communities and the importance of including a maximum percentage of women; role of the committees in safeguarding IPs' rights; roles and responsibilities of existing IPs' forest based committees, opportunities and challenges; and how existing IPs' forest based committees and REDD+ decision-making committees can work together on sustainable forest management.

One committee with 7 members was formed in each of the three (3) beneficiary municipalities. According to HIMAWANTI, the members will try to lobby government for IPs to be included in REDD+ related decision making processes where recognition of IPs' rights could be advocated.

District, province and national level dialogues: The three (3) activities had a combined total of 114 participants (men-71, women-43). The district and province level dialogues were held in Hapani village, Ichchhakamana Rural Municipality on December 20, 2022 and December 22, 2022 respectively while the national level dialogue was held in Uddhami Ghar, Kathmandu on December 25, 2022. The dialogues provided a venue for IPs, government representatives and other stakeholders to interact and discuss IPs' issues/challenges related to REDD+. The topics included lack of knowledge on IPs' rights including non-recognition of customary land/forest use rights, negative impacts of climate change, inadequate skills on alternative livelihoods among others. On the other hand, the dialogues also surfaced obstacles and challenges why governments cannot address the issues and concerns of IPs.

The major recommendations of IPs consolidated from previous activities and presented included (i) protect IPs' rights to forest and lands and respect their traditional knowledge and customary practices during the implementation of any REDD+ projects/activities; (ii) take special considerations of IPs' rights including security of land tenure and resource rights and arrangements and to livelihoods in REDD+ processes during the formulation of REDD+ strategies and action plans; (iii) obtain the FPIC of IPs before the implementation of any REDD+ projects/activities in IP communities following the entire process; (iv) inform/notify regularly the IPs' REDD+ committee members [formed with the support of Himawanti] of any changes in REDD+ plans and policies; (v) ensure meaningful and effective participation of IPs in all REDD+ related processes by sending compulsory invitations; (vi) no harm should be done to the habitats of indigenous communities (residing near forest areas) during the implementation of any REDD+ project/activity; and (vii) information materials should be prepared and disseminated in appropriate formats/languages that IPs easily understand.

Reducing the risks of COVID 19 in IP communities: This training was delivered in Hipani village, Ichchhakamana Rural Municipality on September 25-27, 2022 with 38 participants (men-18, women-20). While the risks of COVID 19 has been minimized during sub-project implementation, there were still few cases in the communities due to lack of proper awareness including the importance of getting vaccinated as required by the government. Aside from travel costs to vaccination centers, people were reluctant to be vaccinated. The topics discussed included COVID-19 and associated risk and mitigations; symptoms and precautionary measures; government's standard health protocols; vaccines; and traditional practices used by IP communities. The government health officials were particularly thankful that the training was organized to increase awareness among the indigenous communities on the importance of vaccination and assured the communities on the conduct of vaccination at village level.

According to HIMAWANTI and direct beneficiaries, the knowledge gained from the trainings will be used to improve sustainable community forest use and management by reducing excessive extraction of forest-based resources like using alternative sources of energy aside from fuel wood, contributing to afforestation and restoration of forest by planting more trees, and controlling the regrowth of forest destroying plants like banmara.

The participants in some of the activities shared the following traditional knowledge: An herb called 'pongmar' by villagers found in the forests is used to cure a person who ingested poison. It is said to be effective if given on time. Another is the plant locally known as 'simrik' which is deep red in colour. The plant is fed to animals like cows, buffaloes etc with bone injuries. The IPs believe that consuming 'simrik' can join the fractured bone of the animals.

HIMAWANTI realized that application for government permit to implement a project should be done immediately upon project approval; local government representatives like Mayors, Vice-Mayors, Ward chairpersons need trainings on the recognition of IPs' rights; there should be regular communication and coordination with the representatives of local governments and indigenous communities for effective project implementation; the use of graphical resources like pictures and videos in the trainings is more effective in the communities; and traditional and customary practices of the indigenous communities should be respected during project implementation.

d. Sogosoqo Vakamarama iTaukei (SSV), Fiji

This sub project aimed at empowering forest dependent beneficiaries, and putting in place an enabling framework that will promote their appreciation and knowledge of the REDD+ program and the requirements of the ERP and therefore contribute towards the efficient and effective implementation of the country's ERP. The subproject was planned to be implemented from April 25, 2022 to December 31, 2022. The subproject was approved for a total of US\$53,947, of which US\$24,276 were disbursed (45%). The difference between the approved amount and actual disbursements in the amount of US\$29,671 was due to the suspension of sub-project in September 2022. The reason for the suspension was the non-compliance to finance reporting requirements.

A *National dialogue* with government representatives and other stakeholders was held in SSV's office located at Nabua, Suva on June 6, 2022. The dialogue was participated by 34 (men-11, women-23) iTaukei and representatives from government and industries. The discussion focused on the ERP (policy framework, outlook, intervention strategies and directions) shared by the REDD+ Unit of the Ministry of Forest (MoF); and other stakeholders' perspectives and current efforts on the ERP. The scope, methodology and content of the capacity building activities on ERP for IPs were agreed and information materials needed for the training package were identified.

The following information were highlighted: indigenous communities own over 80% of forest lands; government ministries and the REDD+ Unit identified agricultural malpractices as the cause of deforestation and forest degradation and the interventions designed to address the causes; and the need to involve indigenous forest owners and to increase awareness on sustainable forest management and smart agricultural practices. The participants reaffirmed that indigenous forest owners derive alternative livelihoods from the forests as well as other non-carbon benefits and that forests contribute to better level of resilience in the face of natural disasters. Knowledge on climate change among participants was very good and participants recommended that there should be more concerted efforts among stakeholders working with communities in delivering needed interventions.

Three (3) *divisional consultations* were conducted after the national dialogue, to obtain, share and disseminate views, experiences and information on the ERP and gather additional ideas for the training package for IPs. A combined total of 97 (men-26, women-71) IPs, government representatives and other stakeholders participated. The consultations were held at the Tokatoka Resort, Nadi on June 20-21, 2022 (Western Division); and at SSV's office, Nabua, Suva on June 23, 2022 (Central Division) and July 5, 2022 (Northern Division).

Representatives of the REDD+ Unit of the MoF provided inputs on the ERP followed by group discussions. SSV found out that the level of knowledge of participants on climate change was adequate and was further enhanced during the consultations but participants from the western division felt the need for more awareness on the science behind climate change and on forest carbon and non-carbon benefits.

The participants in the three (3) divisions highlighted the need to further protect the forest environment and promote associated traditional knowledge on forest protection and food security. Participants learned the importance of coordination and networking among civil society partners, the value of blending traditional and scientific knowledge in forest conservation and management, and the potentials of using traditional, cultural and social structures in decision making to drive the program with indigenous communities.

Participants recommended that the potentials of forests to provide community resilience in times of disasters should be recognized; sustainable alternative forms of livelihoods that could be derived from forest ecosystems encouraged; community governance, leadership and networks among all stakeholders should be strengthened; information flow from national to

community levels should be improved; and the knowledge and information should be transformed into values that could cause desired change of behavior. The western division proposed to move to smart agriculture from the current agricultural practices.

The participants in the western division consultation shared their knowledge on forest products used for food and for making traditional handicrafts as well as those that provide medicines, oils and cosmetic products and totems for cultural identity

Two (2) *trainings of trainers* were conducted at the national level. The participants reviewed the draft community capacity building curriculum, discussed training strategies, carried out demonstrations, and prepared training plans and budgets during the first training. The content of the community trainings was updated, training strategies were further developed and logistical arrangements were finalized in the second training. Some 36 (men-6, women-30) IPs and government representatives were trained to deliver trainings at the district levels. The trainings were conducted at the SSV's office in Nabua, Suva on August 6-8, 2022 and September 9-12, 2022.

Unfortunately, no capacity building activities to be conducted at district level were intended for IP beneficiaries at the community level and one (1) national level dialogue were not delivered. The 11 planned training activities at district level were supposed to provide information on Fiji's ERP, BSP, environmental and social safeguards, and grievance redress and feedback mechanism to IPs at the community level. The national dialogue should have provided a venue for the sub-grantee to share the outcome and outputs of the sub-project, lessons learned and recommendations to governments and other REDD+/ERP stakeholders. The unfavourable situation was due to SSV's non-compliance with financial reporting requirements of the project. Tebtebba proposed that 50% of the second instalment of the approved grant could be released upfront, and the other 50% upon completion and presentation of the lacking documents, but the sub-grantee never responded to the offer.

Component 2: Regional Exchange and Sharing of Lessons Learned

This component financed activities that aimed to document and publicize project activities with a view to highlighting good practices and lessons learned. Activities supported included a launch workshop, a regional lessons learned and sharing workshop as well as the conduct of a research.

The *launch workshop* was organized virtually in 20-22 April 2022 with the following objectives: 1) Provide project partners an orientation on the status of the CBP, the new environmental and social framework and the project's results and monitoring framework; 2) Consult, clarify and level off on project implementation and compliance to reporting requirements; and 3) Bring project partners together to network, share and learn from each other's context and project strategies.

The workshop gathered participants from sub-grantee organizations, representatives of the Regional Steering Committee (RSC), members of the research team and the WB. There were presentations on IPs and benefits from REDD+, environmental and social framework (ESF), the

overall project, research on IP women and benefit sharing in ERPs implementation, sub-projects, and reporting requirements.

A *regional sharing workshop*⁷ was co-organized with ANSAB. It took place 12-14 February 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand with the following objectives: i) Share first-hand experiences, achievements, challenges and lessons learned from the IPLC organizations implementing sub-projects on capacity building in Fiji, Nepal and Vietnam; ii) Share country/regional level experiences on capacity building of IPLCs and their meaningful participation and inclusion in REDD+ and ERP processes, programs and projects of relevant government and donors; and iii) Consolidate gaps, barriers, challenges, good practices and lessons learned; and draw specific and practical recommendations to improve effective participation and inclusion of IPLCs in REDD+ and ERP processes, programs and projects including access to benefits.

The workshop gathered 65 participants from sub-grantee organizations, IPLC representatives from other FCPF countries, REDD+ focal points from ERP countries, CSO/IP FCPF observers in the region, members of the regional advisory committee for CSOs/LCs and regional steering committee for IPs, representatives of regional organizations working on REDD+, and the WB.

The workshop served as a venue to share information on the FCPF CBP and the new program Enhancing Access to Benefits while Lowering Emissions (EnABLE) of the WB; and progress of the sub-projects, as well as parallel and panel discussions, working group discussions, and questions and answers.

Another focus of this component was a *regional research on IP women and benefit sharing in ERP implementation*⁸ conducted in Fiji, Indonesia and Nepal with the assistance of a research consultant as research coordinator. The research in Fiji and Nepal took place from March 22, 2022 to August 15, 2022. Country researchers were engaged who utilized a combination of the following data-gathering methods: review of literature, key informant interviews (KII), focus group discussions (FGDs) (to the extent possible observing strictly international and national COVID-19 related restrictions/protocols in community outreach) and ensure that FPIC was secured in indigenous peoples' communities where the research will be undertaken, and to collect other forms of information (e.g. photos, maps, stories and drawings). The research consultant's contract ended September 15, 2022 to allow consolidation based on the country studies submitted.

There was no full research conducted in Indonesia due to the emerged health condition of the country researcher. Instead, an online FGD with 5 women village representatives from the local chapter of *Aliansi Masyarakat Adat Nusantara* (AMAN) in East Kalimantan/Borneo. This was conducted September 10, 2022 to collect feedback on IP women's awareness of the ERP and related benefits and if they received or will receive any benefits. The information gathered was included in the synthesis section of the research output.

⁷ The draft report is attached as Annex 5

⁸ The final report is in Annex 6

The draft study was put into a process of editing and verification which lasted up to October 29, 2022. Copy editing and lay-out was finalized by December 9, 2022. The final output, a consolidation of the three country researches, was submitted to the company selected for printing but was recalled upon the request of the WB to review the final manuscript before publication. The communication on the request for review was received on December 16, 2022. On January 11, 2023, Tebtebba received constructive comments from the Bank.

The revisions were an extra effort solicited from the research consultant and country researchers and it was quite difficult to push an immediate deadline. The Fiji country researcher responded on a positive note, but the other (Nepal) was fully engaged until after 3 weeks of the request⁹. It may not have been explicitly stated in the operational guidelines but as per indigenous peoples', research and work ethics, Tebtebba cannot directly revise the study based on the comments received because the study was contracted. The same applies in the editing process where the edited manuscript is sent back to the researchers/writers for consideration and approval.

The revised country cases were edited and the synthesis was revised, accordingly. Verification was completed by March 6, 2023. However, the editing run, lay-out and quality assurance was encumbered by time and availability of technical staff, thus, was not printed at project closing date.

The report will be disseminated through Tebtebba's website (www.tebtebba.org), social media, listserves; RSC members; and at side events during the session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) and at the COP of the UNFCCC. This will also be shared with the offices of the national REDD+ focal points as an input to their ERP implementation particularly their benefit sharing plan.

Component 3: Management, M&E and Reporting

This component financed incremental costs of implementing the project, including but not limited to sub-grant proposals review, risk management (e.g. low performance, operational changes), fund disbursements, procurement and financial management of the grant funds, monitoring and evaluation and reporting, operation of a grievance redress mechanism, and a one-time audit at project completion. The grievance redress mechanism was shared with sub-grantees and is available in the project's sub-page in the website of Tebtebba. Complaints can

⁹ Tebtebba received WB's comments in January 11, 2023 and emailed request for revision to the research consultant and country researchers the following day. The concerned country researcher acknowledged but that she can work on it after 3 weeks. The request was resent January 27 and country researcher sent initial responses on February 2 but the file was not accessible until February 22. On March 3, the revised synthesis report was received. Tebtebba requested the country researcher on March 4 to finalize but the consultant said she was travelling until March 8. On the same day, Tebtebba reworked the Nepal report integrating country researcher's comments and sent to consultant for review. The country researcher approved the revisions on the Nepal case study on March 6.

be sent in writing, email or phone call. There were no complaints received during the life of the project.

The project management team (PMT) was composed of a full time team leader and a finance staff supported by a part time procurement staff, gender focal person, a staff of the Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Program who replaced the Deputy Executive Director/Publication, Information and Awareness Department Manager and the Manager of Administration and Finance Department who contributed to project implementation as needed. The finance staff was in charge of disbursements and financial management of the grant proceeds.

The PMT coordinated the day-to-day implementation of the project, carried out fiduciary tasks and conducted project M&E and reporting including preparation and updating of work and financial and procurement plans. It also coordinated with the WB through the WB Task Team Leader (TTL). The PMT was supervised by the Management Committee (ManCom) of Tebtebba which is headed by the Executive Director.

Tebtebba used emails as the main mode of communication with sub-grantee organizations. Sub-grantees submitted monthly summary of expenses substantiated by scanned/photographed supporting documents annotated in English and quarterly activity reports. The monthly summary of expenses were reconciled with the list of activities which have been implemented during the month being reported and for which expenses have been incurred. The original copies of supporting documents of expenses were required to be provided quarterly to Tebtebba which were returned to sub-grantees after review as agreed during the launch workshop. There were delays in the submission of these reports or these were incomplete like lacking data in the activity reports despite the template provided or insufficient supporting documents for expenses. Follow-ups were undertaken by Tebtebba and to some extent affected the preparation of required reports especially to close the project.

The project received funds from the WB through a Designated Account (DA). Requests for the release of funds from the grant proceeds was through the Client Connection Account Management System (AMS). To register in the system, the client organization or Tebtebba provided all the documentary requirements and follow prescribed steps. The WB continued to provide coaching on the use of Client Connection and STEP through emails.

The first Withdrawal Application (WA) was for reimbursement of retroactive financing and the succeeding withdrawals were through advances. A total sum of US\$413,274.05 was credited to the DA as of project closing date without any delay. Only US\$358,517.16 (86.75%) of the total amount received from the WB was disbursed. The forecast for the last WA was high compared to actual disbursements. The forecast included amounts for sub-projects (CRD and NEFIN) expecting full budget utilization (US\$11,900), cost for the regional sharing workshop was overestimated by US\$24,000, and the publication and dissemination of the research output (US\$10,000). The publication of the research output was eventually cancelled because the printing was not done within the project closing date.

The project was allocated US\$460,000 but only US\$358,517.16 (77.94%) was disbursed. Aside from the items listed above in relation to the forecast used in the last WA, the early closing of the CSDM sub-project and the suspension of the sub-project in Fiji were also factors of the low fund utilization of the project (US\$67,600).

PROJECT PROGRESS TOWARDS EXPECTED RESULTS

The achievement of the PDO was to be measured by three (3) indicators and the intermediate results by five (5) indicators. This project did not achieve all the PDO indicators and one (1) of the intermediate indicators. The information in the table below were collated from the summary of the feedback evaluation and/or participants lists submitted by sub-grantees or derived from sub-project presentations during the regional sharing workshop.

Contributions of each component to the achievement of the indicators

Indicator	Component 1					Component 2	Total	Target
	CSDM	CRD	NEFIN	HIMAWANTI	SSV			
PDO 1								25
PDO 2								3
PDO 3	105	943	293	514			1,855	
	100% (men-39%, women-61%)	75% (men-51%, women-49%)	100% (men-65%, women-35%)	100% (men-45%, women-55%)	70% (men-26%, women-74%)		79% ¹⁰ of which 51% were men, 49% were women	80%
IR 1	65	448	86	398	159		1,156	300
IR 2	2*	1	5*	4*	4*		16	6
IR 3	40	150	207	116			513	25
IR 4, 50% Women	105	943	293	514			1,855	50
	61% were women	49% were women	35% were women	55% were women			49% were women	50%
IR 5						3	3	3
<i>Sub-Project Total</i>	<i>105</i>	<i>1,265</i>	<i>293</i>	<i>514</i>	<i>167</i>			
Total Beneficiaries	2,344							

*Included district, province, division & national level consultations/dialogues

IR – intermediate result

Sub-grant agreements were signed between Tebtebba and the sub-grantees starting January 2022 with the last signed in April 2022. The final month, December 2022, in the original sub-

¹⁰ Computed as follows: 1,855/2344 (number of direct beneficiaries/participants who indicated that their level of confidence to engage in the formulation and implementation of REDD+ strategies and actions, and in ERP/BSP programs is confident, more confident or very confident in the feedback/evaluation form and/or participants who said they are 'satisfied' and the training is 'useful' in the participants list/total number of direct beneficiaries or participants).

agreements was set aside for reports preparation and submission. However, sub-projects implementation suffered delays or a sub-project was suspended or even closed prematurely.

The implementation by SSV, the last to sign the sub-grant agreement, was suspended in mid-September 2022 when it did not comply with financial reporting requirements. On a quarterly basis, sub-projects were supposed to submit original copies of documents supporting expenses incurred which will be returned by Tebtebba after verification as discussed and agreed during the launch workshop. For the monthly finance reports, soft copies of supporting documents are sufficient. SSV provided soft copies of supporting documents but some were not legible. In other instances, the amounts in the supporting documents did not match with the amount being reported. Tebtebba sent several emails for SSV to complete the supporting documents or provide clarification. In some emails, Tebtebba asked SSV what support can be provided, suggested online discussion to resolve the issue and even requested assistance from the RSC member in Fiji but SSV did not reply to any communication.

Tebtebba offered to release 50% of the second installment upfront, and the other half upon compliance with the finance reporting requirement but did not receive any response. Tebtebba, with no source of funds to return to the WB in compliance with the Letter Agreement, had no recourse but to send a formal letter requesting the refund of unspent funds per documents submitted in March 2, 2023. Similar to previous communications, no reply or at least acknowledgement of receipt of the letter was received. With the project closing date approaching, Tebtebba requested assistance from the WB.

This finance reporting issue caused the non-implementation of 71% of planned activities and only 45% disbursement of the agreed budget. As a consequence, IP beneficiaries at the community level were deprived of capacity building activities. The 11 planned training activities at district level were not conducted as well as one (1) national level dialogue. The activities at district level were supposed to provide information on Fiji's ERP, BSP, environmental and social safeguards, and grievance redress and feedback mechanism to IPs at the community level. The national dialogue should have provided a venue for the sub-grantee to share the outcome and outputs of the sub-project, lessons learned and recommendations to governments and other REDD+/ERP stakeholders.

In Vietnam, the implementation of the sub-project by CSDM was stopped in May 2022 due to the non-issuance of the required government permit while CRD started implementation only in November 2022 after the permit was granted in mid-October 2022 and completed the activities in February 2023, i.e. two (2) months behind the original closing date for the subproject. As noted above in the description of Component 1, only 24% of CSDM's activities were implemented and 26% of the agreed budget was disbursed as a consequence of the non-issuance of a government permit. Implementation of the sub-projects in Nepal were also delayed due to the long process of securing a government permit. HIMAWANTI started implementation in September and had to fast track delivery of activities to be able to close the sub-project timely in December 2022 while NEFIN started implementation upon receipt of the first tranche of the grant in February 2022 but had to slow down in July 2022 while waiting for government approval. Except one

activity (support for IPs to participate in events and dialogues), NEFIN completed the sub-project in January 31, 2023, a month behind the original closing date for the subproject.

A discussion and/or training on the Results Framework was undertaken with the WB in March 28, 2022. Tebtebba realized that the indicators should be clarified and a tool was needed to gather data for the indicators. A feedback/evaluation tool¹¹ was drafted by Tebtebba and circulated to sub-grantees through emails but took time to gather inputs. It was finalized only in June 2022 in coordination with the WB. Part I (Participant's Feedback/evaluation) was to be administered to participants for them to provide self-assessment on points like level of understanding of the topics discussed during the training activity; will they apply what they learned; are they satisfied with the training activity; are they confident/ready to participate in REDD+ activities to be implemented by government/other REDD+ entities, and provide comments on the training. Part II (Indicators) was to be used by sub-grantees to collate responses of participants in the feedback form and included post survey questions for PDO indicators 1 and 2. For PDO 1, the sub-grantees will ask participants who indicated they will definitely participate in formulation and implementation of REDD+ strategies and actions if they were able to participate, how many times, and in what specific activities and who organized these. For PDO 2, sub-grantees will ask direct beneficiaries what benefits did they receive from ERP programs and from which government agency.

With the late finalization of the tool, feedback/evaluation from participants were not gathered for activities implemented earlier (CSDM and NEFIN) but sub-grantees were able to gather responses in the participants lists on whether the training was 'useful' and if participants were 'satisfied'. The information was collated and included in intermediate results 'IR 1: Total beneficiaries with improved capacity, who directly utilize results of REDD+ activities' and 'IR 4: Direct beneficiaries satisfied with activities, of which 50% are women' in the Results Framework¹². Only HIMAWANTI submitted a summary of participants' responses to the feedback form. For CRD and SSV, the data for the intermediate indicators and PDO 3 were derived from the presentations during the regional sharing workshop and from the activity reports submitted. A combined total of 2,344 direct beneficiaries participated in Component 1 activities.

The post survey to gather data for PDO 1 and 2 indicators among some participants were not undertaken within the timeframe of the sub-projects due to the delays in sub-projects implementation. Sub-grantees prioritized the preparation of activity and finance reports. In relation to the enjoyment of benefits from the ERP/BSP (PDO 2), the ERP/BSP were not yet implemented in the beneficiary ERP countries.

While the project did not achieve all the targets, Tebtebba hopes that some of the feedbacks from sub-grantees and participants will be fulfilled. According to CSDM, the knowledge gained about REDD+, ERP and benefit sharing could be used during discussions with relevant government authorities on some points like (i) measures to adapt to climate change especially in

¹¹ Kindly refer to Annex 7

¹² Please refer to Annex 8

preserving forests like planting more native trees; (ii) people living close to the forest possess indigenous knowledge on forest protection and they are the most proactive forest defenders; and (iii) to communicate EMs' right to participate in ERP processes and monitor ERP implementation including benefit sharing.

Still in Vietnam, CRD said the participants will use the knowledge from the trainings in their communities to improve sustainable forest use and management by assisting in forest patrolling, observing proper harvesting practices of non-timber forest products, and implementing measures to prevent forest fires. The trained EMs will also try to advocate for the recognition of women's rights to participate in forest activities, recognition of legal and/or customary rights of local communities and ethnic minorities to their forest and forest lands and no conversion of natural forests and forest areas to other land uses.

Likewise, HIMAWANTI in Nepal will apply the knowledge gained to increase IPs engagements, including women and youth, in the discussions on formulation and implementation of REDD+, ERP and BSP strategies and actions with relevant local/national government agencies; advocate for the recognition of IPs' rights over land and forests; and improve sustainable community forest use and management to increase carbon sequestration.

Also in Nepal, NEFIN got this feedback from the district forest office (DFO) of Nawalparasi during the workshop and looks forward to the realization, *"Indigenous peoples need to timely intervene if they really want their concerns addressed in law making. Apart from the (forest) regulation, there (are) other regulations in the formulation phase, such as the buffer zone regulation. Now the government is drafting the forest regulation procedure. We can give space to indigenous peoples concerns there. We are open to talk with NEFIN."*

PROCUREMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES

Procurement of goods and services were subjected to post review by the WB. In terms of goods, Tebtebba procured the following: one (1) unit each of desktop, laptop and printer and publication of the research output through the request for quotation procurement method; and services of individual consultants for the research such as research coordinator, three (3) country researchers and an editor, and an auditing firm all procured under the direct selection method.

There were lapses in procurement due to the change in procurement staff from Phase 2 and Tebtebba's overall limited experience in procurement under WB policies and procedures. For example, the audit firm was originally planned to be procured using the Consultant's Qualifications (CQS) method but direct method was used instead due to the shortened grace period from four (4) months to two (2) months which resulted to a very tight audit period. Aside from that, audit firms in the Philippines are very busy from March to May preparing client's reports for submission to the government. The change in procurement method was submitted to the World Bank for no objection that enabled the updating of STEP where procurement activity 'Tebtebba 10' was cancelled and a new activity was added using the direct selection method for the procurement of the audit firm.

The WB continued to provide coaching through emails and phone calls to assist Tebtebba. This project contributed to staff development of the PMT and to Tebtebba’s institutional strengthening as a whole.

FINANCE STATUS

The project was financed by a Small Recipient Executed Trust Fund grant from the FCPF through the World Bank with a total grant amount of US\$460,000. Initially, 60% was allocated to Component 1 (Sub-Grants), 28% to Component 2 (Regional exchange and sharing of lessons learned) and the remaining amount to Component 3 (Management, M&E and reporting including a one-time audit). The allocation was revised in January 2023 to increase the budget for Component 2 to cover foreseen expenses as follows: 57% for Component 1, 32% to Component 2, and 11% to Component 3. Only US\$358,517.16 (78%) of US\$ 460,000 was disbursed as of project closing date as shown in the table below. Of the US\$358,517.16, 54% was spent for Component 1, 32% for Component 2, and 14% for Component 3. One reason for the low disbursement was the tedious process of securing government permit to implement activities in Vietnam which led to the premature closing of a sub-project. Another is the non-completion of the sub-project in Fiji due to non-compliance to finance reporting requirements.

The budget column below shows the revised figures submitted by Tebtebba in January 24, 2023 and issued a ‘no objection’ by the WB in January 31, 2023. The realignment allowed some funds under Components 1 and 3 to be reallocated to Component 2 especially for the regional sharing workshop held in February 2023.

Component/Activity	Budget (US\$) as Revised Jan 2023	Total Expenses	Balance
Component 1: National Capacity Building and Awareness Raising	261,847.00	195,001.76	66,845.24
CSDM, Vietnam	13,208.00	13,207.91	0.09
CRD, Vietnam	59,422.63	52,969.00	6,453.63
NEFIN, Nepal	55,000.00	49,548.85	5,451.15
HIMAWANTI, Nepal	55,000.00	55,000.00	0.00
SSV, Fiji	23,393.00	24,276.00	(883.00)
Unallocated amount	55,823.37		55,823.37
Component 2: Regional Exchange and Sharing of Lessons Learned	148,208.00	113,929.43	34,278.57
1. Project launch workshop (virtual) for 3 days)	3,709.00	3,708.60	0.40
DSA/food	2,430.00	2,429.60	0.40
Hosting costs	79.00	79.00	0
Documentation/Interpretation	1,200.00	1,200.00	0

<i>2. Lessons learned workshop (face-to-face co- organized with ANSAB for 3)</i>	79,280.00	55,203.81	24,076.19
Airfare	34,450.00	22,647.15	11,802.85
Travel incidentals	11,440.00	7,587.99	3,852.01
Accommodation	9,295.00	6,253.61	3,041.39
Workshop package	3,675.00	2,932.89	742.11
Welcome dinner	1,225.00	1,772.46	(547.46)
Perdiems	8,800.00	7,800.00	1,000.00
Kit bags	1,020.00	544.95	475.05
Documentation & report writing	2,000.00	1,466.06	533.94
Interpretation	4,500.00	3,300.00	1,200.00
Office supplies, materials	875.00	413.92	461.08
Others (travel delays, medicines, passport cost)	2,000.00	484.78	1,515.22
<i>3) Project Sub-page updating</i>	<i>6,020.00</i>	<i>5,883.81</i>	<i>136.19</i>
<i>4) Research on IP women & benefit sharing</i>	<i>59,199.00</i>	<i>49,133.21</i>	<i>10,065.79</i>
Researchers (3)	27,591.00	27,352.59	238.41
Research Coordinator	7,268.00	7,267.63	0.37
Editor	2,000.00	1,711.30	288.70
Printing	7,500.00		7,500.00
Dissemination	2,000.00		2,000.00
Gender coordinator's time	12,840.00	12,801.69	38.31
Component 3: Grant Administration and Project Management	49,945.00	49,585.97	359.03
<i>a. Administration, M&E and Operational Cost</i>	<i>45,945.00</i>	<i>45,585.97</i>	<i>359.03</i>
Equipment (Laptop, desktop & printer)	2,375.00	2,374.80*	0.20
Project Team Leader (full time)	22,689.00	22,633.82	55.18
Finance Staff (full time)	10,824.00	10,802.19	21.81
Admin & Finance Dept Manager (20%)	5,012.00	5,001.78	10.22
Procurement Staff (10%)	1,568.00	1,565.29	2.71
Communication and Supplies	1,895.00	1,076.10	818.90
Bank charges	1,582.00	1,331.99	250.01
Monitoring and Evaluation, translation and safeguard compliance assurance		800.00	(800.00)
<i>b. Audit</i>	<i>4,000.00</i>	<i>4,000.00</i>	<i>0</i>
TOTAL	460,000.00	358,517.16	101,482.84

*Net book value US\$1,750.00

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL FRAMEWORK

This project was prepared as per the World Bank's new ESF. The activities were implemented considering the relevant ESS standards: ESS1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8 and 10. These were integrated into the design and ESCPs prepared for each implementing agency prior to approval of the SRETF. During project implementation, the E&S risks were managed by: (i) conducting screening to ensure that activities under Component 1 (e.g. capacity building and awareness raising programs) were consistent with the ESF and incorporated appropriate E&S objectives; (ii) ensuring that activities

were widely consulted on with the key stakeholders and enjoyed broad support of the main beneficiaries; and (iii) promoting transparency and public information disclosure. The ToRs for the capacity building activities were designed in alignment with the principles of the relevant ESSs. Other provisions in the ESCP included reporting requirements; maintenance of qualified staff; development of a project operational manual (POM); implementation of the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) and Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), which included provisions for occupational health and safety measures for project workers, avoiding negative impacts to biodiversity and ecosystem services, stakeholder engagement and disclosure, and maintenance and operation of project/sub-project grievance mechanisms. These provisions were adhered to during the implementation of grant activities.

The POM included compliance to the ESCP and sub-grantees were required to comply with the provisions as provided in the sub-grant agreement. During sub-project implementation, all pertinent information related to the ESCP was included in the progress reports.

Environmental and Social Commitment

The sub-projects were selected through a call for proposals and screening with the support of experts and members of the RSC. The call for proposals was uploaded to Tebtebba's website and invitations were sent to IPOs and national REDD+ focal persons. The screening¹³ of sub-project proposals considered some criteria like contributions to the achievement of the PDO, that sub-projects were designed in coordination with IPs or were endorsed by them, ensured active and proportionate participation of women and youth, activities piloted elements of REDD+ and facilitated dialogues between IPs and governments. Sub-grant recipients were also required to have had previous experience in working with IPs, capacity to address relevant national labor and health and safety standards and other government requirements, and capacity to communicate with beneficiary communities, among others. Selection of sub-projects was outlined in the POM.

According to CSDM, the sub-project was developed in consultation with some district authorities like the Departments of Agriculture and Ethnology, Oriental Medicine Association and Humanities, and Ethnology Association and the local communities. The sub-project was shared with these groups upon approval. After participating in sub-project activities, ethnic minorities were expected to share the gained knowledge with forest protection groups and communes and provide feedbacks on the ERP implementation.

For CRD, which has been implementing projects in the sub-project sites, said information on the capacity building needs of beneficiaries on REDD+/ERP was gathered during community visits. At project commencement, they provided leaflets about the sub-project to different stakeholders at provincial, district, and commune levels and organized commune meetings to introduce the project and answered questions. The community forest management groups (CFMGs) included the activities in their annual plans.

¹³ The result of the screening is found in Annex 1 of the First Progress Report

Leaders of NEFIN's provincial/district/local groups and its networks were consulted during the development of the sub-project. Before the implementation of activities, the groups selected representatives to participate considering gender composition and were consulted in venue selection. The beneficiaries' views were solicited for the opening and closing sessions, and appropriate role play exercises. Several meetings with the representatives of the beneficiaries were organized by HIMAWANTI to get their consent on the sub-project. HIMAWANTI staff paid several visits to the communities to present and discuss the activities after approval of the sub-project.

The activities were implemented during COVID-19 hence, the project provided a platform for addressing the knowledge gap of IPs with respect to the impacts of the pandemic through local organizations knowledgeable of and sensitive to the culturally specific needs of the participating IPs and trainings were delivered following Covid-19 protocols. COVID-19 kits were distributed to staff and local communities for control of infections.

Grievance Redress Mechanisms

Tebtebba and the sub-grantees established grievance redress mechanisms (GRM). Indigenous peoples and other interested stakeholders had the ability to raise feedback or complaints on the sub-grant award decisions, governance of the project and other issues specific to the project with Tebtebba. The GRM was shared with sub-grantees and is available in the project's [sub-page](#) at Tebtebba's website. Feedbacks or complaints could be sent in writing, email or telephone call to the PMT through relevant addresses indicated in the GRM. Processing and documentation of complaints was also outlined in the POM. There were no complaints received during the life of the project. Except for SSV, sub-grantees' GRMs are available at the sub-projects' websites¹⁴.

According to CSDM, they translated the GRM to Vietnamese, discussed it during activities and encouraged anyone to submit complaints to CSDM staff, even verbally. CRD said the GRM was developed with representatives of the beneficiary communities in the Kinh language and hard copies in Vietnamese were distributed and CRD allowed EMs to use it in other projects. NEFIN, due to time constraint, requested participants to register any inconveniences/grievances such as abuse, harassment, discrimination, etc. with the visiting team leader or at the NEFIN office. According to HIMAWANTI, the GRM was translated to the Nepali language and grievance panels in the sub-project areas were organized. SSV (Fiji) said existing traditional system at community levels will be used. In Fiji's traditional system, there is a village administrator (Turaga ni Koro) who receives all types of grievances and disputes and calls a meeting with the parties involved to settle the complaint or direct these to the proper government authorities. The GRM of SSV's sub-project will be used only if complaints were not resolved at the community level.

¹⁴ CSDM <http://www.csdm.vn/2022/02/co-che-giai-quyet-khieu-nai-grievance.html>,
CRD http://crdvietnam.org/en/grievance/?zarsrc=30&utm_source=zalo&utm_medium=zalo&utm_campaign=zalo,
HIMAWANTI <http://nhimawanti.org.np/news/47-grievance-redress-mechanism>,
NEFIN <https://nefinclimatechange.org/supporting-rights-and-effective-participation-of-indigenous-peoples-in-nepals-erp-implementation-project/>

Except for SSV, the four (4) sub-grantees replied to the questions on complaints and compliance to ESSs in the reporting template. All claimed that national labor standards and existing sub-grantees' policies on handling staff/personnel complaints were implemented. CSDM and CRD complied with Vietnam's Labour Code 2019 revised in 2022; and NEFIN and HIMAWANTI with Nepal's Labor Act 2017. At project closing date, there was no complaint received regarding the project either by Tebtebba or the sub-grantees.

Trainings

Based on activity reports submitted to Tebtebba, CSDM conducted awareness raising workshops on climate change, REDD+, ERP and benefit sharing programs; and trainings on safeguards, benefit sharing, monitoring, grievance redress mechanisms, EMs' rights, and traditional knowledge in REDD+ implementation; and on community-based climate resilient livelihoods and smart agriculture. The activities were conducted at district levels. CRD organized either trainings, dialogues, meetings or campaigns on the new government policy on REDD+ and related topics, ERP, benefit sharing, EMs' and women's rights, and COVID-19 at district levels. These were participated by EMs, non-EMs and government representatives.

In Nepal, NEFIN conducted sub-national training workshops on REDD+, ERP, safeguards and the benefit sharing plan to enhance/build the capacities of IPs/EMs to effectively participate/engage in REDD+/ERP implementation. NEFIN also organized dialogues on REDD+ including the BSP at district levels and a national dialogue between representatives of IPs, government agencies and other stakeholders. HIMAWANTI focused on climate change and its impacts, REDD+, REDD+ strategies, ERP, benefit sharing, safeguards, forest and forest carbon stock, and introduction to carbon accounting. All activities were organized at the villages.

In Fiji, SSV organized a national dialogue where the country's ERP was shared and the scope, content and methodology of sub-project's capacity building activities were agreed. Consultations at division levels were also conducted where the ERP was shared and additional inputs to the training package were gathered. Training of trainers were organized also.

CRD and HIMAWANTI organized trainings related to COVID 19. All sub-grantees provided COVID 19 kits to participants and trainers/facilitators and were required to observe other health protocols like physical distancing.

There were no capacity building activities related to the use of non-timber forest products (NTFPs) implemented. CSDM encouraged EMs to apply indigenous knowledge like on how to gather herbal medicines and bamboo shoots to allow these to regenerate while CRD included a discussion on the value of NTFP, its contribution to biodiversity, sustainable harvesting and establishment of nurseries for medicinal plants in some of its activities.

According to CSDM, they did not encounter any problems with EMs' cultural practices because most of the rituals are geared towards forests protection. For CRD, the implementors at community level have knowledge of the culture and the village head was always invited in the

activities to provide guidance. NEFIN is aware of the tangible and intangible cultural heritage, particularly those of the Tharu communities, related to arts, crafts, monuments, houses, food and IP languages which are always respected and enjoyed by participants and training facilitators. HIMAWANTI mentioned that the IPs in the sub-project sites preserved cultural heritage. During the activities in the villages, HIMAWANTI staff stayed in the homes of beneficiaries and enjoyed the traditional food, and respected and learned more about beneficiaries' culture.

NEFIN cited low education/economic status, lack of opportunities for representation in decision making roles and access to training opportunities as typical factors that prevented women and youth participation in REDD+/ERP planning, implementation and evaluation. The constraints were addressed by self-selection of participants, simplifying training materials and using Nepali language and local examples and appropriate audio-visual aids and providing travel/accommodation expenses. The beneficiaries of HIMAWANTI's sub-project have very low literacy and most of the women are occupied with their household chores all the time. HIMAWANTI organized training activities at the villages so the women do not leave their homes and made sure women were aware of the schedule of activities. For CSDM, the number of youth participants was low because most of them were either in school or were working in industrial zones outside the communities.

There were no reported incident/accident that had significant adverse effect on the environment, the beneficiary communities, sub-projects staff including those related to travel and COVID-19 infections or violation of any community protocols.

CHALLENGES

At the sub-projects' level, securing permits from government entities (Nepal and Vietnam) caused the premature closing of one (1) sub-project in Vietnam (CSDM), short time for sub-project implementation in Vietnam (CRD) and Nepal (HIMAWANTI, NEFIN), language barrier, and low literacy of targeted beneficiaries. Non-completion of the sub-project in Fiji was due to non-compliance to finance reporting requirements. All the above including risks associated with COVID-19, monsoon season, and elections (Nepal) posed challenges.

Before the sub-project of CSDM in Vietnam closed prematurely, the sub-grantee tried to revise the proposal to concur with government requirements but still did not qualify. The two (2) sub-projects in Nepal and the remaining sub-project in Vietnam (CRD) fast tracked implementation of activities after receiving government approval. The sub-projects were completed as follows: (HIMAWANTI) on time per sub-grant agreement (December 31, 2022), NEFIN with one (1) month (January 31, 2023) extension and CRD with two (2) months extension (February 28, 2023) from the original closing date of December 31, 2022.

Training materials were translated to national and/or local languages to the extent possible and visuals were used during the training activities. Tebtebba exerted efforts to resolve the issue related to non-compliance to finance reporting requirements (SSV, Fiji) by communicating

through emails and suggesting online discussion to provide assistance but did not receive any response from the sub-grantee. As a last resort, Tebtebba requested assistance from the WB.

Online meetings were held by sub-grantees especially during the early months of sub-projects implementation when government restrictions on face to face meetings were still in place. When the restrictions were eased, face to face training activities were conducted but COVID-19 kits were provided to trainers/facilitators and participants. There were no cases of participants and/or trainers contracting the COVID-19 virus. Activities were rescheduled when the weather was bad.

Compliance with WB policies and procedures remained a challenge to Tebtebba. The online systems like the Client Connection Account Management System (AMS) and STEP used by the project were upgraded by the Bank for ease of use but there were no adequate trainings. Aside from these was the changes in the WB Team assigned to the project. In addition, reports submitted by sub-grantees were either late and/or were incomplete. The risks of contracting the COVID-19 virus and government related protocols prevented face to face sub-project monitoring.

CONCLUSIONS

The timeframe for sub-project implementation was shortened and/or delayed due to government requirements (Nepal and Vietnam) or the sub-project implementation was stopped (CSDM) or suspended (SSV). In the original timeframe, all planned activities were to be implemented by the end of November 2022. The last month (December 2022) was dedicated to the preparation and submission of all reports. The shortened period made it difficult for sub-grantees to gather data for the PDO indicators. At least two (2) sub-projects were not completed that affected funds utilization.

Annexes

1. Summary of approved sub-projects and status of planned activities as of closing date
2. [Educational materials prepared by CSDM \(separate file\)](#)
3. [Poster, leaflet prepared by CRD \(separate file\)](#)
4. [Training manual prepared by HIMAWANTI \(separate file\)](#)
5. [Draft regional sharing workshop report \(separate file\)](#)
6. [Research on IP women and benefit sharing in ERP implementation \(separate file\)](#)
7. Results Framework Tool
8. Results Framework and Monitoring

Annex 1: Summary of Approved Sub-Projects and Status of Activities at project closing

Basic Information	Sub-Project Summary		Status of Activities Feb 28, 2023
<p>Country: Vietnam</p> <p>Sub-Grantee: Centre for Sustainable Development in Mountainous Areas (CSDM)</p> <p>Effectiveness/Months of Implementation: Planned: January 24, 2022/11 months Actual: January 24, 2022 to May 20, 2022/4 months due to non-issuance of government permit</p> <p>Area/s of Implementation: Ba Thuoc District, Thanh Hoa province and Tuong Duong district, Nghe An province</p> <p>Beneficiaries: Thai, Muong, Mong and Kh'mu Total – 740 Male – 330 Female – 330 Youth - 80</p> <p>Proposed Budget in US\$ Total – 66,248.14 FCPF support – 51,155.47 Counterpart - 15,092.67</p> <p>Total actual expenses in US\$: FCPF – 13,207.91 Counterpart – 58.80</p>	<p>Title: Enabling and mobilizing the participation of ethnic minority communities in the implementation of Vietnam ERP and combating against COVID 19</p>	<p>Expected Results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • least 15 EM/IP (8 male and 7 female) project beneficiaries who will participate in the formulation and implementation of REDD+ strategies and actions; • at least 10 EM/IP (6 male and 4 female) project beneficiaries who will participate in Emission Reduction Programs and Benefit Sharing Plans; • at least 14 (7 male and 7 female) Beneficiaries who will feel project investments reflected their needs; • at least 16 (8 male and 8 female) beneficiaries will contribute in combating the spread of COVID 19, particularly using indigenous knowledge, traditional herbal and practices 	<p>At least 105 (men-38 and 3 youth; women-55 and 9 youth) ethnic minorities participated in training activities organized by CSDM; PDO3 (Beneficiaries who feel project investments reflected their needs-100% (men-39%, women-61%); Intermediate Result 1 (IR1): Total beneficiaries with improved capacity who directly utilize results of REDD+ activities-65; IR 2 (Meetings and capacity building activities held between IPs and national REED+ decision making entities)-2 at district levels; IR3 (target beneficiaries benefiting from ERP and BSP activities at the local and national level)-40; IR4 (Direct beneficiaries</p>
	<p>Objective: Ethnic minority groups in Ba Thuoc district will be confident and capable effectively participating in formulation and implementation of national REDD+ strategy and ERP and successfully addressing their issue in climate change resilience livelihood development and combating against COVID 19 pandemic.</p>		

Basic Information	Sub-Project Summary		Status of Activities Feb 28, 2023
Government permit: application disapproved			satisfied with activities)-105, of which 61% were women.
	Activities: 1. Awareness raising workshop on CC, REDD+, ERP and benefit sharing programs	2 workshops for 40 participants	Completed in March 2022 with 40 participants (men-12, women-28 with 3 youth)
	2. Trainings on REDD+ safeguards, benefit sharing, monitoring, grievance redress mechanisms, EMs/IPs' rights, and traditional knowledge in REDD+ implementation	2 trainings for 40 participants	Completed in March and April 2022 with 40 participants (men-12, women-28 with 3 youth)
	3. Production of education material on CC, REDD and IP and women participation in ERP and benefit sharing	1500 copies produced in the Kinh, Thai and Mong languages and distributed to IP communities.	Done in May but not printed
	4. Awareness raising workshop women and youth on their right and role and participation in implementation and monitoring of ERP and benefit sharing program	2 workshops for 60 women 2 workshops 40 youths	Not done
	5. Organize REDD+ and ERP communication events at community levels by EM people, women and youth	4 events organized for 260 participants	Not done
	6. Trainings on community based climate change/pandemic resilient livelihood, climate smart agriculture and diversifying and sustaining livelihoods	4 trainings for 100 participants (one training with 25 participants)	Only one (1) completed in May 2022 with 25 participants (men-17 with 3 youth, women-8 with 3 youth)
	7. Trainings on using indigenous knowledge, traditional herbal and practices against COVID 19	2 trainings for 40 participants	Not done

Basic Information	Sub-Project Summary		Status of Activities Feb 28, 2023
	8. Capacity building on rights and environment for women	3 trainings for 90 women	Not done
	9. There will be consultation workshop at district level to gather/finalize recommendations from EMs/IPs and IPOs send to REDD+/ERP implementors	1 consultation workshops for 20 participants	Not done
	10. Support/facilitate local IP, women, youth, PWD and LGBTI to participate in REDD+, ERD, benefit sharing events at national, provincial levels.	1 national virtual workshop with REDD+ implementors 1 provincial workshops for 20 participants that will include district REDD+ implementors	Not done
<p>Country: Vietnam</p> <p>Sub-Grantee: Centre for Rural Development in Central Vietnam (CRD)</p> <p>Effectiveness/Months of Implementation: Original: January 24, 2022/11 months Actual: October 14, 2022 to February 28, 2023/4.5 months</p> <p>Area/s of Implementation: A Luoi and Nam Dong Districts, Thua Thien Hue province</p> <p>Direct Beneficiaries: Paco, Ta Oi, Katu, Bru-Van Kieu, and Pahy Total – 1,200 Male – 600 Female – 400 Youth – 200</p> <p>Proposed Budget in US\$:</p>	<p>Title: Promoting the effective engagement of ethnic minorities (EMs) in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Emission Reduction Program (ER-P) through strengthening knowledge and capacity of EMs in REDD+ process</p>	<p>Expected Results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1000 EMs increased capacity and awareness on REDD+ • At least 70% of women beneficiaries effectively engaged into the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of ER-P and PRAP • At least 320 EMs increased knowledge on COVID-19 prevention and improved communication skills • EMs influence safeguards on ER-P in the region; Lessons of EMs engaging in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of ER-P are documented and widely shared 	<p>A total of 1,265 (men-552 and 88 youth; women-464 and 161 youth) ethnic minorities participated in training activities organized by CRD; PDO3 -75% (men-51%, women-49%); IR1- 448; IR2-1; IR3 150; IR4-943, of which 59% were women.</p>
	<p>Objective/s: Strengthen the engagement of ethnic minorities specially women and youths in REDD+, in REDD+ processes and decision making in Vietnam under the context of climate change and Covid-19 pandemic</p>	<p>Activities:</p> <p>1. Organize planning workshop</p>	<p>1 workshop for 50 participants</p> <p>Completed September 2022 with 50 participants (men-10 with 5 youth, women-40 with 10 youth)</p>
	<p>2. Develop communication materials related to REDD+ and ER-P include (but not limited),</p>	<p>100 posters, 1000 leaflets and 400 handbooks published in Vietnamese at</p>	

Basic Information	Sub-Project Summary		Status of Activities Feb 28, 2023
<p>Total – 74,532.46 FCPF support – 59,422.63 Counterpart – 15,109.83</p> <p>Total actual expenses in US\$: FCPF – 52,969.00 Counterpart – 2,555.46</p> <p>Government permit: Approved</p>	<p>sustainable management and use of NTFP; climate change and REDD+; conflict management; gender equity; benefit sharing mechanisms; participatory land-use planning; engagement of women and youth in REDD+ implementation, monitoring and evaluation; covid-19 and resilience approach.</p>	<p>least 1000 EMs will have access and share or disseminate to other 1000 EMs</p>	<p>Completed October 2022</p>
	<p>3. Document new developments and case-studies replaced by trainings on the practice of “Decree 107/2022/ND-CP dated December 28, 2022 on piloting the transfer of emission reduction results (carbon credits) and financial management of GHG emission reduction payment agreements in the North Central region of Vietnam”.</p>	<p>2 trainings for 50 participants</p>	<p>Completed February 2023 with 50 participants (men-30 with 15 youth, women-20 with 5 youth)</p>
	<p>4. Organize community-based trainings on REDD+ related topics on (but not limited to) the climate change and REDD+; conflict management; gender equity; benefit sharing mechanisms; participatory land-use planning; engagement of women and youth in REDD+ implementation, monitoring and evaluation; covid-19 and resilience approach.</p>	<p>6 trainings for 150 EMs with 33% women</p>	<p>Completed December 2023 with 150 participants (men-100 with 25 youth, women-50 with 25 youth)</p>
	<p>5. Organize exchange visits for EMs to one of 5 ER-P provinces in coastal central of Viet Nam for participants a visual view and discussion with other communities in the ER-P the climate change adaptation, mitigation of Covid-19 impacts, recognition of rights, conflict management, and livelihood improvement.</p>	<p>1 exchange visit for total 30 EMs (15 per district)</p>	<p>Completed January 2023 with 30 participants (men-10 with 5 youth, women-20 with 15 youth)</p>
	<p>6. Organize the trainings for women who are the members of women unions and the FMCs to strengthen knowledge and skills on facilitation, conflict management, tenure rights, ACMA, climate smart agriculture, benefit sharing mechanism, covid-19 and women leadership.</p>	<p>4 trainings for 100 women</p>	<p>Completed February 2023 with 100 women participants including 25 youth</p>

Basic Information	Sub-Project Summary		Status of Activities Feb 28, 2023
	<p>7. Support women-led fora on recognition rights for EMs and women on tenure rights, carbon right, forest product rights, safeguard, benefit sharing, forest governance, impact of Covid-19 pandemic and the utilization of forest resources for livelihood improvement. The results of the fora will be synergized and translated into the policy recommendations for improving the implementation of ER-P and policy reform in forest sector.</p>	<p>1 fora at province and 2 at districts level for 70 women</p>	<p>Completed January and February 2023 with 70 women including 20 youth</p>
	<p>8. Support women-led dialogues for recognition of EMs' and women's rights with landscape policy makers and relevant stakeholders to harmonize interests and concerns of related right recognition for EMs including women, youth and persons with disability both on the land and utilization of forest resources, and engagement in REDD+ processes.</p>	<p>1 half-day policy dialogue for 45 participants with 35 EM women and 10 representatives participants from local government and organization including Department of Forest Ranger at province and district level, Board of Forest management, Women Union, Department of natural resources and environment, committee of ethnic minority affair, department of agriculture and rural development, land management department, and commune authority</p> <p>1 final policy brief (in Vietnamese)</p>	<p>Completed February 2023 with 45 participants (men-10, women-35)</p> <p>No policy brief prepared</p>
	<p>9. Support to organize district level awareness campaigns on "youth and forest governance". The campaign may include the competition exhibition of photos featured out the good practices of youth, children and women in the forest governance and sustainable livelihood activities in their landscape.</p>	<p>2 awareness campaigns 445 participants with 115 women</p>	<p>Completed February 2023 with 445 participants (men-330, women-115)</p>
	<p>10. Training on COVID-19 and online communication skills with health and relevant agencies to develop and organize awareness raising and capacity events on the covid pandemic and its impact and how to respond to outbreak.</p>	<p>4 trainings for 100 women</p>	<p>Completed November 2022 with 100 women participants including 40 youth</p>
	<p>11. Establishing an information network and the procedures for COVID-19 knowledge-sharing activities with EMs and government agencies</p>		

Basic Information	Sub-Project Summary		Status of Activities Feb 28, 2023
	for sharing experiences on coping with the pandemic, particularly on the sustainable use of forest resources and traditional knowledge.		
	12. Produce a documentary film in Vietnamese to be broadcasted and newspaper articles on the engagement of EMs in ER-P in Thua Thien Hue province and utilization of their traditional knowledge in mitigating impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic.	15-minute documentary video in Vietnamese with English subtitles; at least 5 articles (on the national and provincial levels newspapers). At least 2000 people at two districts (70% are EM) access information from documentary film	Completed February 2023
	13. Integrating knowledge on REDD+ and ER-P in community meetings and CFM meetings There will be 10 meetings for community and CFMs organized during the project duration in which the relevant topics on REDD+ and ER-P will be presented and mutually shared among the meeting participants.	10 meetings with 315 participants	Completed November and December 2022 with 315 participants (men-130 with 35 youth, women-185 with 65 youth)
	14. Organize a national workshop with participants of wide range of stakeholders (community representatives, government authorities, State forest owners, private sectors) in Viet Nam. The national government authorities and donor will also be invited to participate to hearing stories from the ground.	1 workshop with 60 participants	Completed February 2023 with 60 participants (men-30 with 8 youth, women-30 with 6 youth)
<p>Country: Nepal</p> <p>Sub-Grantee: Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN)</p> <p>Effectiveness/Months of Implementation: Original: February 1, 2022/11 months Actual: February 1, 2022 to January 31, 2023 but</p>	<p>Title: Supporting Rights and Effective Participation of Indigenous Peoples in Nepal's ERP Implementation</p> <p>Objective/s: The target Indigenous Peoples and their network will have both increased awareness of the country's REDD+/ERP as well as enhanced capacity to advocate their rights and meaningful participation in the REDD+/ERP implementation.</p>	<p>Expected results</p> <p>Increased participation of 313 indigenous peoples of ERP area of Nepal in Emission Reduction Programs and Benefit Sharing Plans</p> <p>Increased participation of 313 indigenous peoples of ERP area of Nepal in implementation of REDD+ strategies and actions</p> <p>Indigenous peoples effectively advocate their rights and contribute in REDD+ implementation in 13 districts of Nepal</p>	<p>A total of 293 (men-190, women-103) IPs participated in training activities organized by NEFIN; PDO3 -100% (men-65%, women-35%); IR1- 86; IR2-5; IR3-207; IR4-293, of which 35% were women.</p>

Basic Information	Sub-Project Summary		Status of Activities Feb 28, 2023
<p>implementation slowed down in due to processing of government permit</p> <p>Area/s of Implementation: TAL 13 districts (Rautahat, Bara, Parsa, Chitwan, Nawalparasi (East of BardaghatSusta), Nawalparasi (West of BardaghatSusta), Rupendehi, Kapilvastu, Dang, Banke, Bardia, Kailali and Kanchanpur)</p> <p>Direct Beneficiaries: Chepang, Raute Bote, Majhi, Mushar, Tharu, Danuwar, Raji, Sonaha and Banakariya Total – 313 Male – 156 Female – 157 Youth – (at least 10)</p> <p>Proposed Budget in US\$: Total – 68,750 FCPF support – 55,000 Counterpart - 13,750</p> <p>Total actual expenses in US\$: FCPF – 49,548.63 Counterpart – 7,856.20</p> <p>Government permit: No information provided</p>	<p>Activities:</p> <p>1. REDD+ province-focused/district focused/sub-national level training-workshop on REDD+, safeguards and benefit sharing plan and advocate their rights</p>	<p>3 events for 90 participants</p>	<p>Completed April and June 2022 with 86 participants (men-46 with 2 youth, women-40 with 8 youth)</p>
	<p>2. Case studies on indigenous peoples' customary institutions in the ERP areas related to land and forest management and their publication</p>	<p>3 case studies prepared and published in Nepali and disseminated. The target audience of activity 2 (case study, briefing paper and video) are the REDD+ and climate action-actors including indigenous peoples, relevant government agencies, and other stakeholders.</p>	<p>Completed January 2023 (badghar, pewa and dhimal)</p>
	<p>3. Summary/Briefing paper of FCPF safeguards/ SESA/Nepal's REDD+ Strategy or REDD+ and climate change related documents</p>	<p>1 publication that will facilitate IPs' access to information on REDD+/ERP and their safeguards and other climate change related documents. This is expected to result in their increased understanding of the topics, thereby enhancing their advocacy capacity for their rights in REDD+.</p>	<p>Completed June 2022</p>
	<p>4. Video documentary on Indigenous Peoples, their lands and climate action including REDD+/ERP to make both IPs and non-IPs audiences aware of climate action from the view point of IPs</p>	<p>An 8-10 minutes video prepared in Nepali language with sub-tittle in English and disseminated through its networks, relevant agencies and stakeholders and in different events and occasions.</p>	<p>Completed January 2023</p>
	<p>5. Production and dissemination of recommendation paper on one of the most relevant item: REDD+ strategies and actions, ERP, benefit sharing plan and IPPF</p>	<p>Recommendation paper (1) will be build on the feedbacks collected during the training-workshops and meetings with indigenous peoples at local and national levels to call the concerned government agencies/relevant stakeholders for action also in the interest of IPs during REDD+/ ERP implementation.</p>	<p>Completed January 2023</p>
	<p>6. Support to Indigenous Peoples to participate in events and dialogues</p>	<p>At least 13 IPs activists are expected to have the capacity to participate in events and dialogue for their cause with government and other stakeholders.</p>	<p>No activity</p>

Basic Information	Sub-Project Summary		Status of Activities Feb 28, 2023
	7. Dialogue with District Forest Office / local REDD+ entity of all 13 REDD+ districts	4 events for total of 160 participants (including District Forest officers/ representatives from local REDD+ entities and IPs representatives) that could lead to the government officers/ REDD+ local government authorities gaining an increased understanding of IPs perspectives on REDD+/ERP including their participation, benefit sharing and being positive to address their concerns in REDD+/ERP implementation.	Done January 2023 207 total participants (men-143 & 1 youth, women-60 & 3 youth)
	8. National dialogue with relevant Government agencies and stakeholders on REDD+/ERP safeguards and benefit sharing	1 dialogue (50 participants) between IPs and representatives of REDD Implementation Center (RIC), and relevant stakeholders will be aware of indigenous peoples' issues and concerns in the ERP coverage area (TAL area) with regard to their meaningful participation, safeguard and benefit sharing and will be positive to policy formulation/planning responsive to the IPs issues/concerns.	
<p>Country: Nepal</p> <p>Sub-Grantee: Himalayan Grassroots Women's Natural Resource Management Association (HIMAWANTI)</p> <p>Effectiveness/Months of Implementation: February 14, 2022/10.5 months, no change in timeframe but implementation of activities at community level started only in September upon receipt of the government permit</p> <p>Area/s of Implementation:</p>	<p>Title: Enhancing Sustainable Forest Management & Biodiversity Preservation for Prosperous Living Culture of Chepang Communities in Nepal by increasing their engagement in REDD+ mechanism and decision making process through capacity building trainings and workshops</p>	<p>Expected results:</p> <p>Increased participation of direct project beneficiaries in formulation and implementation of REDD+ strategies and actions;</p> <p>Increased participation of project beneficiaries in Emission Reduction Programs and Benefit Sharing Plans</p>	<p>A total of 514 (men-229, women-285) IPs participated in training activities organized by HIMAWANTI; PDO3 -100% (men-45%, women-55%); IR1-398; IR2-4; IR3-116; IR4-514, of which 55% were women.</p>
	<p>Objective/s: to enhance sustainable biodiversity for prosperous living culture of Chepang in Nepal</p> <p>Activities:</p> <p>1. Capacity building trainings in formulation and implementation of REDD+ strategies and actions, and in ERP and Benefit Sharing Plan.</p>	<p>Strengthen the engagement of targeted forest dependent beneficiaries in REDD+ implementation mechanisms and decision-making</p>	<p>Completed September 2022 with 78 participants</p>

Basic Information	Sub-Project Summary		Status of Activities Feb 28, 2023
<p>Kalika and Rapti municipalities & Ichchhakamana rural municipality of Chitwan district</p> <p>Direct Beneficiaries: Chepang Total – 425 Male – 120 Female – 240 Youth – 65</p> <p>Proposed Budget in US\$: Total – 66,161 FCPF support – 55,000 Counterpart - 11,161</p> <p>Total actual expenses in US\$: FCPF support – 55,000 Counterpart – 7,921.88</p> <p>Government permit: approved.</p>	<p>Analyze the drivers of deforestation and mechanisms for Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) as well as define the reference levels; Clarification of Carbon rights issues and distribution mechanisms for REDD-plus benefits; Gain knowledge about the carbon markets and fund-based mechanisms and performance based payments for emissions reductions and carbon stock enhancements.</p>	<p>processes, ERP programs and benefit sharing plans. (3 trainings for 25 women, men and youth participants per municipality)</p>	<p>(men-24, women-54)</p>
	<p>2. Awareness raising on REDD+ mechanisms and reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, forest carbon stock conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (REDD+)</p>	<p>Chepang communities become aware of the REDD+ mechanisms and the importance of REDD+ and become aware about the rights of forest dependent IPs in REDD+ mechanisms (3 trainings for 25 women, men and youth per municipality)</p>	<p>Completed October 2022 with 76 participants (men-27, women-49)</p>
	<p>3. Incorporating and publishing women’s rights, laws and policies documents related to REDD+ to raise awareness and support the capacities of indigenous and forest dependent communities to participate. It will include the general information about the REDD+ mechanism, ERP information and REDD+ benefit sharing mechanism to be prepared before the initiation of any training</p>	<p>1,000 copies of about 20-25-page booklet published in a simplified manner in Nepali to be distributed to direct beneficiaries</p>	<p>Training Manual completed June 2022</p>
	<p>4. Capacity building activities including on the elements of REDD+ such as safeguards, grievance redress mechanisms, benefit sharing arrangements, monitoring, and overview of carbon accounting</p>	<p>Enhancement of the knowledge of 45 women, men and youth from 3 municipalities. The trainings would also help to support the establishment and/or strengthening of independent grievance and conflict resolution mechanisms</p>	<p>Completed October 2022 with 38 participants (men-16, women-22)</p>
	<p>5. Formation of REDD+ mechanism process decision making committees at municipality level/Capacitate existing IPs’ forest based committees and securing the maximum percentage of women representation in those committees</p>	<p>Increased capacity of existing IPs’ forest based committees; One committee formed in each of the municipalities. (3 trainings for 25 women, men and youth participants per municipality)</p>	<p>Completed November 2022 With 81 participants (men-44, women-37)</p>

Basic Information	Sub-Project Summary		Status of Activities Feb 28, 2023
	Capacity building training in women leadership to the existing IPs' forest based committees and securing the maximum percentage of women representation in those committees	Increased number of women representation in those committees ensure transparency in equitable benefit sharing mechanism of REDD+ benefits (3 days training for 35 women from 3 municipalities).	1 Completed November 2022 with 38 women participants
	6. Capacity building trainings to increase the understanding of indigenous sovereign rights over land and biodiversity resources as well as traditional and customary practices linking to their cultural diversity. The training would include safeguards for self-determination, free, prior and informed consent, and special consideration of indigenous peoples' rights and livelihoods, including security of land tenure and resource rights and arrangements in REDD-plus process.	Enhance and strengthen the understanding of the topics (3 days training for 45 women, men and youth from 3 municipalities)	Completed December 2022 with 44 participants (men-22, women22)
	7. Capacity Building training on alternative/sustainable livelihood like farming on new techniques and tools improving farming & increasing access to forest resources like barren lands by cultivating them that also would help in sustainable forest management	Enhance farming knowledge and skills to increase the productivity (3 days training for 45 women, men and youth from 3 municipalities)	Completed in December 2022 with 45 participants (men-25, women-20)
	8. Gathered recommendations and learnings from the trainings are shared with the district/provincial/national level governments and other stakeholders including raising awareness on the proper inclusion of IPs and understanding of related international instruments on the rights of IPs to lobby for the inclusion of indigenous communities rights in REDD+ design and implementation process and also securing their rights to equitable benefit in REDD+	District/Provincial/National level government stakeholders gets cognizant about the facts and gaps about the IPs rights in REDD+, which would help them to address the issue of exclusion of indigenous communities' rights in REDD+ design and implementation process and securing their rights to equitable benefit in REDD+; they become aware with the REDD+ strategies and actions and in ERP and Benefit Sharing Plans, which will help to secure the rights of indigenous communities in REDD+ benefit sharing mechanism; raise awareness about the importance of proper inclusion of indigenous peoples, and understanding of related international rights provisions amongst	Completed December 2022 with 114 participants (men-71, women-43)

Basic Information	Sub-Project Summary		Status of Activities Feb 28, 2023
		government officials and other stakeholders; support local government agencies in their capacity assessment, conducting dialogue sessions, training sessions and interventions in different organizational capacity areas with focus on marginalized and underprivileged IPs communities (1 activity each at district, province, national levels with 35 participants per activity)	
	9. Capacity building training to reduce the risk of COVID 19 within the IPs communities in Chitwan District	Prevent the spread of SARS-CoV-2 or the virus causing COVID-19 (3 days activity for 45 women, men and youth from 3 municipalities)	Completed September 2022 with 40 participants (men-18, women-20)
<p>Country: Fiji</p> <p>Sub-Grantee: Soqosoqo Vakamarama I Taukei</p> <p>Effectiveness/Months of Implementation: April 25, 2022/8 months, there was no change in the timeframe but sub-project implementation was suspended in September due to non-compliance with finance reporting requirement.</p> <p>Areas of Implementation: Western Division: Ba Province (Tavua district); Nadroga/ Navosa (Namataku district); Ra Province (Saivou district) Central Division: Naitasiri Province (Nabobuco district); Serua Province (Serua district);</p>	<p>Title: Enabling indigenous forest dependents to effectively participate in Fiji's Emission Reductions Program</p> <p>Objectives: This sub project is aimed at empowering forest dependent beneficiaries, and putting in place an enabling framework that will promote their appreciation and knowledge of the REDD+ program and the requirements of the ERP and therefore contribute towards the efficient and effectively the implementation of the country's ERP.</p>		<p>A total of 167 (men-43, women-124) IPs participated in training activities organized by SSV; PDO3 -70% (men-225%, women-74%); IR1- 159; IR2-4; IR3-116;</p>
	<p>Activities:</p> <p>1. Training of Trainers on Fiji's ER Program, Benefit Sharing Plan, Safeguards elements, Gender and the Feedback Grievance Redress Mechanism</p>	<p>1 training for 15 indigenous women</p>	<p>Two part training completed June 2022 with 36 participants (men-6, women-30)</p>

Basic Information	Sub-Project Summary		Status of Activities Feb 28, 2023
<p>Northern Division: Bua Province (Bua district); Cakaudrove Province (Saqani, Tunuloa and Taveuni districts); Macuata Province (Labasa and Wailevu districts)</p> <p>Direct Beneficiaries: iTaukei Total – 800 Male – 200 Female – 500 Youth – 100</p> <p>Proposed Budget in US\$: Total – 74,157.00 FCPF support – 53,947.00 Counterpart – 20,210.00</p> <p>Total actual expenses in US\$: FCPF support – 24,276.00 Counterpart – no amount reported</p> <p>Government permit: not required based on application</p>	<p>2. District Trainings on Fiji’s ER Program, Benefit Sharing Plan, Safeguards elements, Gender and the Feedback Grievance Redress Mechanism in the Provinces of Ba, Ra, Nadroga/Navosa, Naitasiri, Namosi, Serua, Cakaudrove, Bua and Macuata.</p>	<p>11 3-days district trainings with 50 participants per training</p>	<p>Not done</p>
	<p>3. National Consultations with the respective Permanent Secretaries for Forestry, Agriculture, iTaukei Affairs, Lands & Mineral Resources, Rural and Maritime, REDD+ Steering Committee, REDD+ CSO Platform the private sector and the IPs which will include the head of the women Provincial leaders.</p>	<p>Two (2) 1-day national consultations with 50 participants each, one at the beginning of sub-project implementation and another just before completion (one completed with 23 participants)</p>	<p>One completed June 2022 with 34 participants (men-11, women-23)</p>
	<p>4. Consultations at Divisional levels (West, North, Central) to be participated by IP communities, officers from the research centres of the Ministries of Agriculture and Forestry located within the 11 districts which include the Naduruloulou Research Centre, Dobuilevu Research Centre, Nacocolevu Research Centre, Koronivia Research Centre, the Divisional Forestry beat officers, officers from the TLTB offices in the districts and representatives from the Provincial Offices, Provincial Conservation Officers, District Officers and Divisional Commissioners.</p>	<p>Three (3) 1-day consultations for 50 participants each</p>	<p>Completed June and July 2022 with 97 participants (men-26, women-71)</p>

Annex 7: Results Framework Tool

PART I

TABLE 1: Beneficiary Feedback/Evaluation Tool *(This form should be ready before the training and the text should be both in English and in the language understood by participants. The accomplished forms should be summarized, translated to English (if needed) and sent to Tebtebba as an annex to the activity reports).*

Title of training

Date

Venue

PARTICIPANT'S FEEDBACK/EVALUATION

*(It is very important that participants understand very well what to do. Participants should rate their knowledge on the topics below **before** and **after** the training. Responses to Parts a and b will feed into output indicators 1 and 3.)*

Part a. *(To be filled up by all participants **BEFORE** the start of the training)*

Topics of this training <i>(The topics should be listed by the facilitator/s before the training. It is possible that participants have varying degrees of understanding of the different topics so the rating for one topic could be higher while the rating for other topics could be lower.)</i> To what extent do you understand the topics below? 0 means you do not understand the topic at all and 5 means you have mastery or understand the topic very well.	Rating					
	0	1	2	3	4	5

Part b *(To be filled up by all participants **AFTER** the training)*

Topics of this training <i>(Should be the same with the questions in Part A)</i> To what extent do you understand the following topics after participating in this training? 0 means you still feel that you do not understand anything, 5 means you now understand the topic very well.	Rating					
	0	1	2	3	4	5

Part c (To be filled up also **AFTER** the training)

(To the facilitator/s, participants of trainings on **formulation and implementation of REDD+ strategies and actions** should respond to question numbers 2 and 3; participants of trainings on **Emission Reduction and Benefit Sharing Programs** should respond to question numbers 4 and 5; but **all participants** should respond to the other questions: 1, 6, 7, 8 and 9. Sub-grantees may add specific questions that are appropriate to beneficiaries' circumstances/contexts but the guide questions below will remain)

1. Will you apply what you learned? Yes ____, No ____. If your answer is Yes , kindly respond to the questions below. If your answer is No , please proceed to Question No. 6 .		
Intermediate Result 1/Output Indicator 1 (Beneficiaries with improved capacity, who directly utilize results of REDD+ activities)		
2. How will you apply the knowledge gained from the training to improve sustainable community forest use and management?		
3. Please explain briefly, for example, in what aspects of your community initiatives/work on sustainable community forest use and management can you or you think the knowledge from the training can be useful?		
Intermediate Result 3/Output Indicator 3 (Target beneficiaries benefiting from ERP and BSP activities at the local or national level)		
4. Which of the topics above (Parts a & b) can you use in your engagements/discussions with local and/or national REDD+ government agencies and/or in your participation in their activities on Emission Reduction and Benefit Sharing Programs and how?		
5. Please explain briefly, for example, in what aspects of your engagements/discussions with local/ national REDD+ government agencies and/or in your participation in their activities on ERP and BSP can you or you think the knowledge you gained from the training can be utilized?		
PDO 3/Outcome Indicator 3 (Beneficiaries who feel project investments reflected their needs)		
6. After participating in the training, do you feel confident/ready to participate in REDD+ activities to be implemented by local/national government REDD+ entities? Kindly check one (1) only.		
	Not confident/ready	
	A little confident/ready	
	Confident/ready	
	More confident/ready	
	Very confident/ready	
7. If your response in Question No. 6 is either 1 or 2, what can make you confident?		
8. Are you satisfied with the training you received? Yes ____, No ____. Whether satisfied or not, kindly explain?		
Intermediate Result 4/Output Indicator 4 (Direct beneficiaries satisfied with activities)		
9. Do you think the training provided enough knowledge for you to participate in the implementation and formulation of REDD+ strategies and actions or in Emission Reduction and Benefit Sharing Programs? (Yes ____, No ____.). If No , what additional trainings do you need and why?		
Comments/reactions on the training, if you have any.		

Name (optional): _____ Gender (required) _____ Age (required) _____

Contact number (required) _____

Thank you so much for your time

PART II

Part d. Indicators

The draft of the Table below was circulated to Sub-Grantees and the WB Team assigned to the Asia-Pacific FCPF Capacity Building on REDD+ Project for inputs and comments. The final version was shared with the Sub-Grantees and the WB Team with a note that the Table will be used by sub-grantees to consolidate sub-project results in preparing the Completion/Assessment Report and Tebtebba will consolidate the data in the Overall Report for the WB.

For PDO indicators (Outcomes) 1 and 2 below, that require Post Survey, the Sub-Grantees can gather data either face to face or through social media. The Post Survey should be undertaken by the Sub-Grantee before the preparation of the completion/assessment report.

Reports/information/data on COVID-19 related activities should not be included in the Table below but will be reported in Section C after the table.

(Column 1) Indicator Name	(Column 2) No. of Beneficiaries	(Column 3) Indicator Description	(Column 4) Methodology/Mean and Sources of Verification	(Column 5) Post Survey Questions
Overall Project Medium Term Outcome: Strengthened engagement of targeted forest-dependent/indigenous peoples/ethnic minority beneficiaries in REDD+ processes and decision making at country and regional levels				
Guide: Your responses to PDO 1/Outcome Indicator 1 should come from a post survey you have to undertake either face to face or through other means like social media. You should ask some participants of Formulation and Implementation of REDD+ Strategies and Actions activities the questions under Column 5, put the appropriate number of beneficiaries under Column 2 (No. of Beneficiaries) disaggregated by sex and whether they are adults or youths, attach the Means and Source of Verification (these are enumerated under Column 4), and respond to the additional questions in Column 5. Kindly read also Column 3 (description of indicator). It is very likely that VERY FEW participants in the activities will be included in this indicator.				
PDO 1/Outcome Indicator 1. Increased participation of direct project beneficiaries in formulation and implementation of REDD+ strategies and actions (disaggregated by gender)	Men - Women -	Direct beneficiaries including representatives of sub-grantee organizations who participated or who indicated they will definitely participate in formulation and implementation of REDD+ strategies and actions	Document acknowledging participation in activities organized by local and/or national REDD+ government entities The baseline survey result which is integrated in kick-off workshop and final evaluation report	Were you able to participate in REDD+ activities in your country? Yes (How many) ____ If yes, how many times? _____. What specific activities and who organized these? Please enumerate_____

(Column 1) Indicator Name	(Column 2) No. of Beneficiaries	(Column 3) Indicator Description	(Column 4) Methodology/Mean and Sources of Verification	(Column 5) Post Survey Questions
			<p>Copies of resolutions and/or recommendations submitted by beneficiaries to local and/or national REDD+ government entities</p> <p>Post survey on participants who indicated they will definitely apply the new knowledge or skills in their community work/activities</p>	<p>If you forwarded resolutions and/or recommendations, were these considered/acted upon by the REDD+ office/agency? Kindly indicate the status _____</p>
<p>Guide: The data for Intermediate Result 1/Output Indicator 1 and the responses to questions 2 and 3 below should come from the summary of PARTICIPANTS' FEEDBACK/EVALUATION gathered from participants of formulation and implementation of REDD+ strategies and actions activities. Please summarize all data/responses to the questions for all these activities. NOTE: The Feedback/Evaluation form was late and some sub-grantees (NEFIN, CSDM) were not able to use it. For these sub-projects, at least there is a column (Is the activity useful?) in the Participants List that should have been filled-up and can be used here.</p>				
<p>Intermediate Result 1/Output Indicator 1 Beneficiaries with improved capacity, who directly utilize results of REDD+ activities</p>	<p>Men - Women -</p>	<p>All participants of capacity building activities on formulation and implementation of REDD+ strategies and actions including representatives of sub-grantee IPOs with a score of 3 and above in the Feedback/Evaluation Form (Part B in the Form) and has indicated they will apply the new knowledge or skills in their work/activities (Part c Question #1). For CSDM and NEFIN, this should be the number of participants who said the training is 'useful' in the Participants Lists.</p>	<p>Survey after each activity on formulation and implementation of REDD+ strategies and actions using the Participant's Feedback/Evaluation Form;</p> <p>Sub-grantees reports; participant lists;</p>	
<p>Question 2: How will you (beneficiaries) apply the knowledge gained from the training to improve sustainable community forest use and management?</p>				
<p>Question 3: Please explain briefly, for example, in what aspects of your community initiatives/work on sustainable community forest use and management can you or you think the knowledge from the training can be useful?</p>				
<p>Guide: Intermediate Result 2/Output Indicator 2 is just the number of meetings/dialogues/trainings funded by the sub-project and undertaken with governments and other stakeholders. These are part of planned activities/sub-project deliverables.</p>				

(Column 1) Indicator Name	(Column 2) No. of Beneficiaries	(Column 3) Indicator Description	(Column 4) Methodology/Mean and Sources of Verification	(Column 5) Post Survey Questions
Intermediate Result 2/Output Indicator 2 Meetings and capacity building activities held between IPs and national REDD+ decision making entities		Number of meetings, consultations, dialogues, workshops and/or capacity building activities organized under the sub-projects participated by representatives of direct beneficiaries, sub-grantee organizations, national/local REDD+ decision makers, and other stakeholders	Reports of meetings/activities Reports of sub-grantees;	
<p>Guide: Your responses to PDO 2/Outcome Indicator 2 should come from a post survey you have to undertake either face to face or through other means like social media. You should ask some participants of Emission Reduction Programs and Benefit Sharing Plans activities the questions under Column 5, put the appropriate number of beneficiaries under Column 2 (No. of Beneficiaries) disaggregated by sex and whether they are adults or youths, attach the Means and Source of Verification (these are enumerated under Column 4), and respond to the additional questions in Column 5. Kindly read also Column 3 (description of indicator). It is very likely that VERY FEW or NONE of the participants of the activities will be included in this indicator.</p>				
<p>PDO 2/Outcome 2. Increased participation of direct project beneficiaries in Emission Reduction Programs and Benefit Sharing Programs (disaggregated by gender)</p>	<p>Men = Women =</p>	<p>Direct beneficiaries who participated in ERP and BS programs capacity building activities who received benefits from ERP/BSP programs.</p> <p>Number of proposals and/or recommendations /resolutions submitted by direct beneficiaries after participating in capacity building activities (individually or as a group) requesting for ERP/BSP benefits</p>	<p>Document acknowledging participation and/or copies of proposals/recommendations/resolutions submitted by direct beneficiaries and received by ERP/BSP government entities;</p> <p>In case there was payment received, the report of REDD+ office</p> <p>Post survey on who among the participants received benefits from ERP and BSP programs and on the status of proposals/recommendations/resolutions submitted</p>	<p><i>The questions below will be asked in countries where the ERP/BSP are being implemented by the government and if the sub-grantee implemented activities specific to ERP and BSP:</i></p> <p>What benefits did you receive from ERP/BS programs?</p> <p>Which ERP/BS government agency provided these?</p> <p>Was the proposal you submitted applying for benefits from the implementation of ERP approved? If not yet, what is the feedback from the REDD+ government agency to whom you submitted?</p>
<p>Guide: The data for Intermediate Result 3/Output Indicator 3 and responses to questions 4 and 5 below should come from the summary of PARTICIPANTS' FEEDBACK/EVALUATION gathered from participants of Emission Reduction Programs and Benefit Sharing Plans activities. Please summarize all</p>				

(Column 1) Indicator Name	(Column 2) No. of Beneficiaries	(Column 3) Indicator Description	(Column 4) Methodology/Mean and Sources of Verification	(Column 5) Post Survey Questions
data/responses to the questions for all these activities. NOTE: The Feedback/Evaluation form was late and some sub-grantees (NEFIN, CSDM) were not able to use it. For these sub-projects, at least there is a column (Is the activity useful?) in the Participants List that should have been filled-up and can be used here.				
Intermediate Result 3/Output 3 Target beneficiaries benefiting from ERP and BSP activities at the local or national level	Men - Women -	All participants of capacity building activities on ERP and Benefit Sharing Programs including representatives of sub-grantee IPOs with a score of 3 and above in the Feedback/Evaluation Form and has indicated they will apply the new knowledge or skills in their work/ activities. For CSDM and NEFIN, this should be the number of participants who said the training is useful in the Participants Lists.	Survey after each activity on Emission Reduction and Benefit Sharing Programs using the Participant's Feedback/Evaluation Form Reports of sub-grantees; participant lists	
Question 4. Which of the topics above can you use in your engagements/discussions with local and/or national REDD+ government agencies and/or in your participation in their activities on Emission Reductions and Benefit Sharing Programs and how?				
Question 5. Please explain briefly, for example, in what aspects of your engagements/discussions with local/national REDD+ government agencies and/or in your participation in their activities on ERP and BSP can you or you think the knowledge you gained from the training can be utilized?				
Guide: For PDO 3/Outcome Indicator 3, use the data from the Feedback/Evaluation Form Question 6 on 'Confidence'. It should be the total number of participants who said they are confident, more confident or very confident. For CSDM and NEFIN, these are the participants who said the training is 'useful' and they are 'satisfied' in the participants' list. Kindly summarize participants' responses to Questions 7 and 8 below.				
PDO 3/Outcome 3. Beneficiaries who feel project investments reflected their needs (disaggregated by gender)	Men - Women -	Percentage of participants indicating that their level of confidence to engage in the formulation and implementation of REDD+ strategies and actions and in ERP and BS programs is confident, more confident and very confident in the Feedback/Evaluation Form. For CSDM and NEFIN, these are the participants who said the training	Results of surveys (self-assessment) after every capacity building activity using the Participant's Feedback/Evaluation Form	<i>No post survey question will be asked for this indicator, the Participant's Feedback/Evaluation Form included a question on this.</i>

(Column 1) Indicator Name	(Column 2) No. of Beneficiaries	(Column 3) Indicator Description	(Column 4) Methodology/Mean and Sources of Verification	(Column 5) Post Survey Questions
		is useful and they are satisfied in the participants list.		
Question 7. If your response in Question No. 6 is either 'Not confident/ready' or 'A little confident/ready', what can make you confident?				
Question 8. Are you satisfied with the training you received? Whether satisfied or not, kindly explain.				
Guide: The data for Intermediate Result 4/Output Indicator 4 is from Question 9 (those who responded YES) in the Feedback/Evaluation Form. For CSDM, and NEFIN, kindly use the data from participants who said "they are satisfied with the activity" in the Participants List.				
Intermediate Result 4/Output 4: Direct beneficiaries satisfied with activities, of which 50% are women	Men - Women -	Participants who feel they do not need additional capacity building activities. For CSDM and NEFIN, this refer to participants who said they are 'satisfied' in the participants list.	Results of surveys (self-assessment) to be conducted after each activity using the Participant's Feedback/Evaluation Form	
Question 9. Do you think the training provided enough knowledge for you to participate in the implementation and formulation of REDD+ strategies and actions or in emission reduction and benefit sharing programs? (Yes ____, No ____? If NO, what additional trainings do you need and why?				
Guide: Intermediate Result 5/Output Indicator 3.b is a deliverable of Tebtebba and ANSAB				
Intermediate Result 5/Output Indicator 5: Regional knowledge exchange among IPLCs		Number of activities undertaken by Tebtebba under Component 2: Number of learning activities among IPs/IPLCs conducted at regional level Number of knowledge products produced and disseminated	For Tebtebba: Reports of launch and lessons learned workshops; Copy of publication research on "IP women and benefit sharing in ERP implementation"	

Annex 8: Results Framework and Monitoring

Indicator Name	Corporate	Unit of Meas	Baseline	End Target	Frequency	Results	Description of Indicator
Project Development Objectives: Strengthen the engagement of targeted forest-dependent beneficiaries in REDD+ processes and decision making at the country and regional levels.							
Project Development Objective Indicators							
PDO Indicator 1: Increased participation of direct project beneficiaries in formulation and implementation of REDD+ strategies and actions (number, disaggregated by gender)		Number	00	25	Annually	No post survey undertaken	Direct beneficiaries including representatives of sub-grantee organizations who participated or who indicated they will definitely participate in formulation and implementation of REDD+ strategies and actions
PDO Indicator 2: Increased participation of direct project beneficiaries in Emission Reduction Programs and Benefit Sharing Programs (number, disaggregated by gender)		Number	00	3	Every 6 months	No post survey undertaken	Direct beneficiaries who participated in ERP and BS programs capacity building activities who received benefits from ERP/BSP programs. Number of proposals and/or recommendations/resolutions submitted by direct beneficiaries after participating in capacity building activities (individually or as a group) requesting for ERP/BSP benefits
PDO Indicator 3: Beneficiaries who feel project investments reflected their needs (percentage, disaggregated by gender)		Percentage	00	80	Every 6 months	Total – 79% of which 51% were men and 49% were women	Percentage of participants indicating that their level of confidence to engage in the formulation and implementation of REDD+ strategies and actions and in ERP and BS programs is confident, more confident and very confident in the Feedback/Evaluation Form. For CSDM and NEFIN this refers to those who said they are 'satisfied' with the training and the training is 'useful' in the participants list.
Intermediate Results Indicators							

Intermediate Result (IR) 1: Total Beneficiaries with improved capacity, who directly utilize results in of REDD+ activities		Number	00	300		Total - 1,156 men – 530 women – 626	All participants of capacity building activities on formulation and implementation of REDD+ strategies and actions including representatives of sub-grantee IPOs with a score of 3 and above in the Feedback/Evaluation Form and has indicated they will apply the new knowledge or skills in their work/activities. For CSDM and NEFIN, this refers to those who said the training is 'useful' in the participants list.
IR 2: Meetings and capacity building activities held between IPs and national REDD+ decision-making entities		Number	00	6		Total – 16 National – 4 Sub-national – 12	Number of meetings, dialogues, workshops and capacity building activities organized by the sub-projects and participated by representatives of direct beneficiaries, sub-grantee organizations, national/local REDD+ decision-makers and other stakeholders
IR 3: Target beneficiaries benefiting from ERP and BSP activities at the local or national level		Number	00	25		Total – 513 men – 296 women – 217	All participants of capacity building activities on ERP and Benefit Sharing Programs including representatives of sub-grantee IPOs with a score of 3 and above in the Feedback/Evaluation Form and has indicated they will apply the new knowledge or skills in their work/activities. For CSDM and NEFIN, this refers to those who said training in 'useful' in the participants list.
IR 4: Direct beneficiaries satisfied with activities, of which 50% are women		Number	00	50		1,855; 49% (915) were women	Participants who feel they do not need additional capacity building activities in the Feedback/Evaluation Form. For CSDM and NEFIN, this refers to those who said 'satisfied' in the participants list.
IR 5: Regional knowledge exchange		Text	00	Launch Workshop		Launch workshop	

among IPs				Lessons learned workshop Research on IP women And benefit sharing		Lessons learned workshop Research on IP women and benefit sharing in ERP implementation (unpublished)	
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