ANNUAL REPORT Junior CCDT

A. General information

Function title: Junior CDM Specialist

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Name Programme: Carbon Credit Development Team

Country: INDIA

Reporting Period: August 2009 – October 2010

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Total number of months reported on:

14 months

Reporting date:

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B. Progress of the intervention

#	Planned Results From job description	Realized outputs during reporting period	% time investm ent
		te sustainable energy intervention taking into account the conditions in order to be registered Carbon Credit Potential Scan; For the details per organisation see part C of this report Studied current management practices, proximity with communities they work with and the NGO's organisational culture. Assessed NGO implementation capacity in the light of above. Evaluated whether the existing staff strength and structure could meet CDM implementation and monitoring requirements. Accompanied NGOs for field visits to ADATS in order to get a holistic appreciation of CDM requirements and community ownership as contributors to success. Worked to develop a comfort level within various levels of NGO management; demystified the CDM process and time frames. Helped Client NGOs get a good appreciation of shared responsibilities between themselves and the Tech Team. Tangible Outputs were realized in the below NGOs:	d for a
		THREAD : Solar Photovoltaic Lamps and Improved Woodstoves. SAMUHA : Improved Woodstoves	

		3. JSMBT: Improved Woodstoves 4. GRAM: Improved Woodstoves 5. ADMACS: Improved Woodstoves 6. Accion Fraterna: Domestic Biogas Apart from co-ordinating CDM exposure field visits for NGOs, I have actively involved myself in the Low Carbon Farming (LCF) Coalition. I have attended all FCN-LCF Coalition Meetings at Bagepalli, accompanied Richie Ahuja and Zach Willey to Participating NGOs, and developed a relationship with LCF Coordinators.	
doc con tech proj vali proj acti app	epare PIN, PDD (project design cument) and other documents which ntain information on the essential chnical and organizational aspects of the oject activity and is a key input into the lidation, registration and verification of the oject. The PDD also describes the project tivity, the approved baseline methodology plied to the project activity, and the proved monitoring methodology applied to exproject;	The following actions were done to ensure the smooth flow of PDD preparations. This includes • THREAD • Web based baseline literature scans to identify studies for firewood and kerosene consumption. Address additionality issues with desk based literature and build up the baseline scenario. • Emission Reduction calculations for Improved Woodstoves and Solar Photo Voltaic lamps at a household and project level • Primary literature scans for statistical records by visiting the Government district departments and other research organizations. • Co-ordinate questionnaire formats and explain to the field staff to ensure demographic and baseline data consistency • Monitor demographic data collection and baseline surveys for the chosen technologies as per the methodologies requirements. • Resolve issues in data collection & data entry. • Data analysis from the project level perspective to verify all participating households details with the number of villages, Gram Panchayats, Taluks and Districts are traceable and is irrefutably presentable in PDD • Draft PDD writing completed. • Gold Standard Stakeholder Consultation Report completed and hosted on GS web registry • GRAM and ADMACS • Made tentative calculations on carbon emission reduction from Improved Woodstoves to get the project size idea. • Co-ordinated questionnaire formats and explain to the field staff to ensure demographic data consistency. • Discussion on the number of households to be participating with the project area details.	

3	Assist NGOs in getting written approval from	 Explored business plan for community or household level biogas units to meet cooking and heating needs. Accion Fraterna (AF) Co-ordinated questionnaire formats and explained to the field staff to ensure demographic and baseline data consistency. Monitor demographic data collection and baseline surveys for the chosen technologies as per the methodologies requirements. Resolve issues in data collection & data entry. Data analysis from the project level perspective to verify all participating households details with the number of villages, Gram Panchayats, Taluks and Districts are traceable and is irrefutably presentable in PDD Meet district officials and other government departments to collect project related statistics. Draft Gold Standard Stakeholder Consultation Report completed and is under review. This section is being dealt by Senior CDM Specialist.
3	the designated national authority(DNA) or other parties that provide written approval;	This section is being dealt by Senior CDM Specialist.
4	Assist the NGOs in validation; the independent evaluation of a project activity against the requirements of CDM or a specific standard on the basis of the PDD;	This section is being dealt by Senior CDM Specialist.
5	Help the NGOs in getting registration of a validated project as a project activity which is carried out on the basis of CDM or another accepted standard;	I have carried out the below activities with all Client NGOs of the Tech Team over the past 14 months. With each repetition of an activity process at the next NGO, I was able to improve efficiency and offer more clarity, quickly. As a result, I believe I have discovered "best practices" for Gold Standard Preparation:
		 Understood staff and management mindsets behind taking up CDM and the impact of Gold Standard. Prepared presentations and other material to explain the importance of Gold Standard, eligibility criteria, efforts in preparations and hosting a Stakeholder consultation. Clarified Stakeholders invitation categories, explained importance of sustainable development indicators, and feedback from Stakeholders, as understood by Gold Standard. Briefed everyone on the Gold Standard Passport.

		 Prepared Non-technical Summary, project geography maps, banners, posters and other climate change material for Stakeholder meetings. Helped in preparing the list of invitees, emails, contents for letters of invitation, awareness material, registration and evaluation forms, etc Assisted in translating the above material in local language for Stakeholder Meeting. Coordinated with the NGO Staff to compile all documents and proofs, post meeting; prepared papers for submission to Gold Standard. Prepared Gold Standard Stakeholder consultation and Passport reports. Assisted in opening of Gold Standard Account with the registry. Uploaded relevant documents into the Gold Standard registry website. Responded to review questions from Gold Standard. Co-ordinated Stakeholder feedback round. Responded to queries from the DOE after their GS Validation site visit (BCS Biogas Project) 	
6	Train NGOs in carbon credit project cycles and all aspects which come with it;	I have carried the below mentioned activities with all Client NGOs of the Tech Team over 14 months, except for TrustHelp. The approach was kept simple to ensure end to end understanding of CDM for all lines of NGO staff: • Field visits to client NGOs to understand the changes experienced by communities. • Conducted workshop to understand the mindset of staff and management on issues of climate change and relevance of chosen technology to mitigate changes they experience. • Discussed and oriented NGO staff on the man-made reasons for climate change and their effects. • Held interactive sessions to discuss carbon cycle chain, green house effect, how chosen technology would help reduce carbon emissions, and logic of CDM mechanism. • Significance of Kyoto Protocol and carbon as a commodity in CDM-CER market. • Explained the CDM process cycle with shared of responsibilities and timelines. • Demystified Additionality, Baseline, ERPA, forward funding and the buyer-seller relationship.	
7	Contribute to the establishment of a monitoring system in order to archive all relevant data that are needed for calculating GHG emissions reductions by the project activity, in accordance with the monitoring plan as described in the PDD	 Studied existing NGO implementation structure – whether they worked directly, or through SHGs or CBOs; their relationship with the grassroots. This intervention was with Accion Fraterna, JSMBT, SAMUHA, THREAD, GRAM & ADMACS Analyzed existing communication/reporting mechanisms from grassroots to decision makers, and the quality of infrastructure. Assessed if the number of villages to be covered under the proposed CDM Project could be effectively monitored to meet stringent requirements of CDM and CER deliveries throughout the project time frame. 	

		 Explained significance of monitoring with accountability for data collected in verification of emission reductions; no scope for fudging data. Prepared Monitoring Plan along with the NGOs. 	
8	Contribute to the identification and arrangements with companies which can provide the necessary hardware per sustainable energy intervention (lamps, cooking stoves, etc.);	Assisted THREAD identify various SPV and ICS vendors who meet national standards.	
9	Contribute to the identification and arrangements with companies/validators/verifiers which will act as DOEs for the network;	This section was dealt by Senior CDM Specialist.	
10	Contribute to the facilitation and arrangements with the company which will set up a computerized monitoring system and which will train the NGOs in handling and maintaining of this system.	 Co-ordinated between NGOs and Tristle Technologies to meet customized requirements for the chosen technology. Explained the digitized monitoring system to all levels of NGO staff. 	

C. Overall Analysis

A. Describe per organisation:

The overall analysis is with regard to my learning as a Junior CDM Specialist.

1. **ADATS**:

I started my role as Junior CDM specialist with ADATS, operating from Bagepalli for 2 months (June – July '09). During this time, focus was to understand and learn NGO dynamics and the pro-poor CDM concept. They learning is categorised into 2 sections:

a) Relationship between NGO and the Communities

- I started with understanding the feel of rural issues like access to health, education, energy, credit sources, socio-political issues, etc.
- Recognized the role of NGO and the grass root cadres like community based organisations, self help groups, etc in their struggle against social oppression and live a secured life of their choice.
- Importance of community ownership and the institutional connectivity for any success.
- Intimacy with every household on a daily / more frequent basis with up to date monitoring of demographics.

• Significance of data collection and issues relating to data transparency & interpretation.

b) Pro-poor CDM dynamics and the importance of carbon revenues for development

- Understand the difference between the regular CDM projects and the meaning of Pro-poor CDM project.
- Understand the simplicity and the value a real CDM project can bring for hundreds and thousands of families livelihood.
- Assessed how the key issue of project monitoring can be addressed manually without ICT at each village level with the right operational structure
- Data transparency in digitized monitoring database with accountability & tracking of emission reductions for each participating family.
- Value of end user agreement between all the participating families and the NGO with complete awareness of the project dynamics.
- Transparent sharing of ERPA details and the carbon revenue contributing to village level fund for other future development works.
- Experience the "Buyer Seller" relationship at grass root levels.
- Reforestation project helped me understand the importance of land records, issues in deeds, GPS readings, shape maps, sampling methodology, validator point of view, etc

2. THREAD

- > THREAD, works in 12 districts through CBOs called Orissa Nari Samaj and functions as cluster level committees with sanghas at each village.
- My first mega-NGO experience in terms of operations. It helped me learn about their association with tribals (Adivasis) empowerment and various other programs like food security, sustainable agriculture, etc
- > CDM Project size covered over 100,000 households. Ensure to develop a coding system to manage & track such a vast demographic data.
- > Establish a system to check if CBOs are still actively operating at village / block level.
- > Determine the administrative flow of the state as per the list of Villages, Gram Panchayats, Blocks and Districts before the start of the project.
- > Check out the infrastructure efficiency in terms of systems & accessibility.
- > Analyse the quality and quantity of human resources working in ratio with the villages covered.
- > Arrange orientation at regular intervals about the project credentials, scale & timelines. This helps in clarifications and support between staff.
- > Data entry and management should be decentralised as per the region and appoint a CDM co-ordinator to ensure action on ground.
- It was the first Gold standard experience. Considering the vast geographic coverage, we planned for 3 regional level G.S meetings and 1 State level round up meeting.
- > Ensure that sustainable development indicators are translated in plain language and hand outs are given in groups with examples experienced in daily life for active participation from the stakeholders.
- > Need to have good translators to communicate with examples on sustainable development indicators, ERPA, etc

3. SAMUHA & JSMBT

- > SAMUHA & JSMBT are mutually benefit trusts registered as CBOs with main activities involving disabilities program, micro finance & NRM.
- > Demographic data and other baseline data collection was taken as a financial cost which effected their projections.
- > Gold Standard meetings were hosted with great flair highlighting the climate change issues through cultural songs which enhanced awareness. I believe to take this approach in future work plan approach for G.S meetings.
- > Demonstration of CHULIKA was arranged in a more participative way with benefits in local language followed with lunch made on CHULIKA.

4. Accion Fraterna

- > AF is again different in its structure and approach. It helped me understand the relativity between watershed management and agriculture.
- From operations point of view, it works with groups of farmers federated at each village level. They mainly work on sustainable agriculture and alternate livelihoods programs followed with policy advocacy.
- > Ensure for higher number of women participation than men from villages.
- Project area and number of households covered should be in consultation with staff.
- As a best practice, I opted to incorporate daily life examples for blind sustainable development indicators with each indicator divided into 3 question
 - i. Does the baseline situation impact the indicator?
 - ii. Does the proposed CDM technology improve baseline conditions?
 - iii. If yes then how best can we monitor?.
- > More charts showing the comparative scenarios were put up in stakeholder meeting for better understanding of climate issues.
- Accion Fraterna has helped increase my understanding for sustainable agriculture with the application of various bio pesticides and fertilizers.

B. Overall Learning:

- Exposure of over 14 months to varied NGOs work conditions, programs, systems, reporting & operations structure, grass root cadres, etc has helped me see the world from the ground and understand CDM in a better way.
- > Importance of data, purpose of data and management of data in a systematic way is the key learning
- > I often come to ADATS to understand and resolve the client NGO dynamics operating under various conditions and geographies. Discussions are always welcomed.
- > I sometimes also try and replicate few best practices as observed in a network NGO as applicable in case of another NGO to address issues which may be related to reporting or systems, etc.
- > Consultation of Gold Standard meetings have now been streamlined with a standard procedure for hosting and preparing reports. This resulted in managing these meetings with better time management.
- > Writing PDD for 2 technologies (SPV & ICS) has been a great learning. However, more time needs to be devoted to understand the finer points.
- > At a conceptual stage I understand all key sections of PDD and have reached early stages of carbon emission reduction calculations.
- Apart from CDM, Low carbon farming coalition program has given me a better understanding of agriculture under sustainable practices. How a coalition could be a success while maintaining the individual identity of each participating organization.
- While NGOs through CDM / VER market mechanism are experiencing a change i.e., from grant to business mode, I believe that for success of social business projects; NGOs should invest more on human resources trainings like organization development, have more exposure visits, better computer operating knowledge and good internet connectivity.

D. Work plan coming 6 months

- > Focus on reaching to the pilot target of 20 projects by ensuring Gold standard stakeholder meeting reports and PDD submission happens in parallel.
- Assist LCF coalition in every possibility by sharing learning from Bagepalli reforestation CDM project like GPS readings, LCF software, etc

- > I would like to expand my exposure beyond Gold Standards and be a key contributor for all activities mentioned below with client NGOs having the following broad level work in pipeline:
 - Seva Mandir Likely to start Gold Standard stakeholder preparations by November.
 - i. Prepare for Gold Standard meetings.
 - ii. Ensure demographic data and baseline survey is completed
 - iii. PDD writing
 - iv. Host Country Approval
 - v. Validation
 - vi. Registration

THREAD – As per the meeting with G.John at FCN office in Bangalore, THREAD wants to go ahead with only ICS and drop SPV. So the plan is:

- i. Demographic data details to start with south region and ensure baseline survey is completed.
- ii. Prepare PDD as per region for ICS
- iii. Gold Standard Stakeholder feedback round PDD, Passport and Stakeholder report
- iv. Host Country Approval
- v. Validation
- vi. Registration
- Accion Fraterna Gold Standard Stakeholder meeting is completed Stakeholder feedback round, Passport and Stakeholder report
- ii. Host Country Approval
- iii. Validation
- iv. Registration
- > There is lot of interest for FCN services from NGOs across India. Would go to their project area as per the instruction of FCN convenor and assess their capacities. Hopefully, in the next 6 months we will get to see more NGOs joining the FCN tech team client list.