

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Ref. TF052526
Printed On: 10/28/2009

Reporting Period: 08/28/2003 to 06/30/2009
Report Type: Completion
Report Status: Approved

Assignment: TF052526

GEF3 MSP-VIETNAM:GREEN CORRIDOR PROJECT GEFIA - GEF-IBRD AS IMPLEMENTING AGENCY

Task Team Leader: 00000075790 - Douglas J. Graham
Approving Manager: 00000015993 - Hoonae Kim

Summary Information	
TF Status	LCLS
Recipient Country	Vietnam
Executed By	Recipient
Managing Unit	8098 - EASVS
Grant Start Date / Closing Date	08/28/2003 to 12/30/2008
Program Manager	
Orig. Grant Amount	998,634.00
Grant Amount	998,634.00
Outstanding Commitments	0.00
Cumulative Disbursements	998,634.00 as of 06/30/2009
Disbursed 08/28/2003 to 06/30/2009	998,634.00
Donor	TF602001 - MULTIPLE DONORS

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

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Ref.	TF052526	Reporting Period:	08/28/2003 to 06/30/2009
Printed On:	10/28/2009	Report Type:	Completion
		Report Status:	Approved

OVERVIEW

Overall Assessments and Ratings

Grant Objectives:

TO PROTECT AND MAINTAIN THE HIGH GLOBAL CONSERVATION VALUE OF THE

Overall progress from 08/28/2003 to 06/30/2009 with regard to Achieving Grant Objectives:

Rating: Moderately Satisfactory(Previously Rated Satisfactory on 06/30/2007)

Comment:

See further information in attachment.

Overall progress from 08/28/2003 to 06/30/2009 with regard to Implementation of Grant Financed Activities:

Rating: Satisfactory(Previously Rated Moderately Satisfactory on 06/30/2007)

Comment:

See further information in Attachment.

Grant follow-up and structure

Description and context of Grant:

The primary objective was "to protect and maintain the high global conservation value of the productive landscape in the Green Corridor". The secondary objective was "to establish a replicable model for protection, management and restoration of high global conservation values in multiple-use forest areas of strategic importance for biodiversity conservation."

For further details see the ICR in the attachment.

Expected follow up (if any): Dissemination of new knowledge/technology/best practice

Comment on follow up:

See further information in attachment.

End Date of Last Site Visit: 12/16/2008

Restructuring of Grant:

There were no major design changes to the project design although the Mid-Term Review, undertaken in December 2006, agreed to an extension of the project by one year to September 30, 2008 and to qualifying component-level indicators to make these more realistic to the scale of the project (see discussion in completion report).

It was extended an additional three months in late 2008 to December 31 2008 to allow the completion of the last project activities. was extended an additional three months in late 2008 to December 31 2008 to allow the completion of the last project activities. additional three months in late 2008 to December 31 2008 to allow the completion of the last project activities.

Activity Risk

Rating: Negligible or Low Risk

Comment:

The project is closed and represents no risks to the Bank.

Critical Issues and Pending Actions for Management Attention

There are currently no issues and actions for Management attention.

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Ref. TF052526
Printed On: 10/28/2009

Reporting Period: 08/28/2003 to 06/30/2009
Report Type: Completion
Report Status: Approved

OUTCOME

Comments on outcome achieved from 08/28/2003 to 06/30/2009

The following text first lists the original indicators of the Project Document. Because of the very large number of indicators, and the difficult of measuring them in practice, a revised set of indicators, respecting the original objectives and intent of the set of original indicators, was agreed in the Mid-Term Review in October 2006, and endorsed by Management. This revised list is provided below and is effectively the indicators used by the Bank and the Recipient to monitor progress. Note however that the final project report nevertheless included baseline date and results data for the entire original set of indicators.

Component 1: Strengthen the management of the Green Corridor: Number of community and provincial regulations aligned and strengthened increased. Number of skilled and motivated community and government staff committed and able to participate in effective conservation increased. Levels of natural forest cover and quality maintained or increased. Number of illegal hunters and illegal loggers reduced. Number of forest fires reduced. Number of community commitments to conservation increased. Extent of human settlements, agricultural land and roads does not increase in the high conservation priority sites within the Green Corridor. Inappropriate development interventions excluded from the Green Corridor.

Component 2: Improve incentives for maintaining forest cover: Fragmentation halted and connections increased. Habitat quality maintained and enhanced. Area of natural forest increased. Area of forest meeting conservation targets increased. Number of communities and State Forest Enterprises actively engaged in appropriate afforestation increased. Standard of living of local communities, especially ethnic minorities is maintained or enhanced.

Component 3: Strengthen capacity and awareness to manage at the landscape level: Number of effective regulatory mechanisms adopted by other institutions and agencies at provincial, national and international level. Quality of information related to habitat quality and species increased.

Component 4: Establish a participatory monitoring and evaluation system: M&E system developed and functioning. Participatory monitoring groups identified and trained. Mechanism established and implemented for conflict resolution and community consultations. Long-term research and monitoring program developed and in place. Reports on the M&E process published and disseminated. Reports and other outputs of the project disseminated in accordance with communication plan. Key decision makers aware of project outputs and outcomes. Stakeholders actively participating in project meetings. Mid term and end of project workshops conducted and reports of proceedings and feedback documented. Reference to, or reports on Green Corridor project included in proceedings of workshops, meetings and conferences and in policy discussion papers.

Revised set of Indicators (see discussion above)

Ecological: Area of natural forest is maintained or increased.

Ecological: Number of flagship species is maintained or increased (gibbon, douc langur tiger, tiger prey).

Ecological: Threat to forest from illegal activities is reduced.

Institutional: Capacity of stakeholders to manage forests for sustainable management and conservation is increased.

Institutional: Number of community and provincial regulations for conservation is increased.

Social: Standard of living of local communities is maintained or enhanced.

Social: Attitude of local communities towards using forest resources in sustainable manner is enhanced.

Grant Outcome Indicators

Grant outcome indicators are listed below.

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Ref. TF052526
Printed On: 10/28/2009

Reporting Period: 08/28/2003 to 06/30/2009
Report Type: Completion
Report Status: Approved

[See Attachment for details](#)

Baseline

Value:

Date:

Progress to

Date:

Date:

Target Value:

Date:

COMPONENTS/OUTPUTS

Output and Implementation by Component

ESTABLISH PARTICIPATORY M&E

Implementation Rating: Moderately Satisfactory (Previously Rated Moderately Satisfactory on 06/30/2007)

Rating:

Status: Completed

Planned Output: M&E system developed and in place.

Actual Output: M&E system in place and operational with complex indicators simplified along the four results areas

STRENGTHEN CAPACITY FOR LANDSCAPE MGMT

Implementation Rating: Satisfactory (Previously Rated Satisfactory on 06/30/2007)

Rating:

Status: Completed

Planned Output: Communities trained in conservation.

Actual Output: A Training Needs Assessment and Training Plan produced, over 50 courses conducted.

IMPROVE INCENTIVES FOR FOREST PROTECTION

Implementation Rating: Moderately Satisfactory (Previously Rated Satisfactory on 06/30/2007)

Rating:

Status: Completed

Planned Output: Conservation grants implemented.

Actual Output: 40 grants were approved and implemented.

STRENGTHEN MANAGEMENT OF GREEN CORRIDOR

Implementation Rating: Satisfactory (Previously Rated Satisfactory on 06/30/2007)

Rating:

Status: Completed

Planned Output: Conservation Zonation Plan

Actual Output: Finalized and being used by province in discussion on identification of priority areas for conservation

Comment on planned and actual Output

See further comments in Attachment.

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Ref. TF052526
Printed On: 10/28/2009

Reporting Period: 08/28/2003 to 06/30/2009
Report Type: Completion
Report Status: Approved

Comment on component implementation progress

See further information in Attachment.

EXECUTION

Bank project related to the grant

Project ID / Name: P059144 - VN - GREEN CORRIDOR PROJECT
Project Status: Lending
Global Focal Area: Biodiversity
Product Line: GM - GEF Medium Sized Program

Implementing agency and contact details

Agency: World Wide Fund for Nature - Indochina Program
Contact: Tran Minh Hien
Address: 53 Tran Phu Street, Hanoi, Vietnam
Phone: 84-4-733-8387 Email: Hien.Tranminh@wwfgreatermekong.org
Website:

Implementation performance ratings from 08/28/2003 to 06/30/2009 with regard to:

Project Management: Moderately Satisfactory (Previously Rated Not Rated on 06/30/2007)

Brief Comment:

Insufficient oversight and rapid resolution of financial problems but good technical management.

Financial Management: Moderately Satisfactory (Previously Rated Moderately Satisfactory on 06/30/2007)

Brief Comment:

Financial reporting has been a bit lax and not responsive to Bank requests.

Counterpart Funding: Satisfactory (Previously Rated Moderately Satisfactory on 06/30/2007)

Brief Comment:

Good data on counterpart funding has been provided.

Procurement: Moderately Satisfactory (Previously Rated Moderately Satisfactory on 06/30/2007)

Brief Comment:

No annual procurement plans were prepared.

Monitoring and Evaluation: Moderately Satisfactory (Previously Rated Moderately Satisfactory on 06/30/2007)

Brief Comment:

Monitoring indicators were well defined but only at end of project.

Additional Comments on Implementation Performance:

Performance of the project team in Hue province was satisfactory. Project resources were efficiently deployed, a strong working relationship was developed with the local partner and the project worked with impressive diligence and commitment at field level. However performance at the WWF country program office in Hanoi was less than satisfactory - particularly in relation to financial management systems, compliance with agreements reached during supervision missions on the use of these systems; and procurement issues. These issues were highlighted during the 2008 supervision mission but in terms of

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Ref. TF052526
Printed On: 10/28/2009

Reporting Period: 08/28/2003 to 06/30/2009
Report Type: Completion
Report Status: Approved

ratings, do not overshadow the good performance at the field level.

PROGRAM

Program Specific Ratings

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

Program Specific Questions

1. Please comment on additional resources leveraged

Substantial additional resources were leveraged for this project by WWW and their counterparts in DARD. See Attachment for details.

COMPLETION

Overall Assessments and Lessons Learned

Main lessons learned:

World Bank - most shortcomings of this project relate to project design issues - notably over-ambitious objectives for such a small project addressing such complex issues. More rigorous and critical assessment of project design will be needed to avoid this issue recurring in future. To some extent, this is a recurring problem specific to small GEF projects which are obliged to adopt over-ambitious targets as part of the review/approval process. As with other GEF projects, the World Bank needs to adopt a clear position regarding the construction of infrastructure on high biodiversity value forest areas receiving GEF support. Similar issues apply to the ongoing GEF project at Chu Yang Sin, and previous GEF supported interventions at Nahang Nature Reserve and Ba Be and Yok Don National Parks. These issues need to be tackled at strategic and land use planning level, since they ultimately undermine the purpose for which global conservation funds have been awarded.

Recipient - in approving this project, GoV agreed to pilot CFM as per the project document. This agreement was respected in a rather minimalist way, with only a few small pilots allowed to start up. CFM remains an important element to future conservation strategies in Vietnam and it needs to be further promoted by the Government. A further lesson is raised by the construction of the Ho Chi Minh Highway through the Green Corridor landscape. This construction project has inflicted damage on the integrity of forest systems in the corridor and will make future management of these forest much more difficult in future. Infrastructure development in this manner, especially in areas receiving support from the international community, inflicts reputational damage on Vietnam's international credibility on matters relating to conservation and environmental management.

Overall outcome (and its Sustainability): Rated Uncertain

Comment:

See Attachment for a more detailed discussion.

Bank Performance: Rated Satisfactory

Comment:

The project received regular and high-quality technical supervision, the WB encouraged the project to adjust its approach at mid term stage, agreed to a revised log frame and then facilitated an extension to the project when requested. The World Bank also facilitated linkages to senior levels in the provincial government in tandem with ongoing IDA support in the province's forest sector.

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Ref. TF052526
Printed On: 10/28/2009

Reporting Period: 08/28/2003 to 06/30/2009
Report Type: Completion
Report Status: Approved

Additional Assessment

Development / strengthening of institutions: Rated Substantial

Comment:

See fuller text in Attachment.

Mobilization of other resources: Rated Substantial

Comment:

See text in attachment.

Knowledge exchange : Rated Substantial

Comment:

See text in attachment.

Client's policy / program implementation : Rated Modest

Comment:

See text in attachment.

Efficiency : Rated Moderately Satisfactory

Comment:

The project covered a large target area, and as noted above, the Mid-Term Review identified the risk that a project as small as this could not be expected to successfully address the broad range of management challenges facing the Green Corridor. It is clear that the project has succeeded in developing a close working relationship with its institutional partner in the Green Corridor - the Thua Thien Hue Forest Protection Department, and so there are prospects for the project catalyzing changes and approaches in the mainstream working of FPD. It is also clear that the project has succeeded in developing capacity at various different levels within the landscape.

The project promoted a wide range of different activities, including biodiversity surveys, remote sensing of forest resources, ranger training, promotion of ecotourism, community forestry piloting, environment impact assessment and monitoring. This no doubt helped broaden awareness of the range of approaches that can be used at landscape level and the project has done very well to manage such a broad range of activities.

However, this type of 'diffuse' strategy risks diluting project impact such that the longer-term efficiency of investments is ultimately rather low. Only time (and post-project monitoring) will clarify whether the 'diffuse' approach adopted by this project will ultimately bear fruit by achieving sustained changes in approaches to corridor management but as a latter section of this memorandum makes clear, there is a significant risk to some long term conservation and development impacts.

Complexity and a risk of 'overstretch' is common to other landscape level approaches to conservation in which all face the challenge of addressing multiple issues in a complex biological, cultural, and institutional landscape.

Replicability: Rated Uncertain

Comment:

The project has generated some lessons, although better analysis and documentation of lessons learned by the project would have greatly helped in sharing these lessons more widely in Vietnam. An important lesson is that the diverse challenges inherent in any landscape level approach require a serious commitment of official support and resources to address effectively. MSP support has been useful in terms of introducing a range of approaches, piloting these on a small scale and encouraging provincial partners to adopt a more integrated approach to resource management. However, the scale of resources available was not sufficient to create incentives to adopt more far reaching changes - CFM most prominent of these, nor to sufficiently scale-up new approaches to the extent of widespread adoption throughout the Green Corridor.

The stated objective of the project to develop a new model for landscape level forest protection and regeneration proved unrealistic and over-ambitious for such a short (4-year) project. With respect to that objective, the outcome can only be

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Ref. TF052526
Printed On: 10/28/2009

Reporting Period: 08/28/2003 to 06/30/2009
Report Type: Completion
Report Status: Approved

considered moderately satisfactory.

Main recommendations to stakeholders:

See text in attachment.

Main recommendations to Bank Management:

See text in attachment. In summary, a few issues are the following:

- pay attention to unrealistic project objectives for small projects such as MSPs
- ensure better linkages with larger projects to better ensure sustainability
- continue to give attention to the issues of community-based forest management, which remains to be really tried and tested in Vietnam but which is important to ensure better conservation outcomes.

PROCESSING

Manager's comments on this GRM report:

Date:09/15/2009 User ID:WB15993 Name:Ms Hoonae Kim Operation

performed:Approved by Manager

objectives of the report are truncated. This happened in other TFs as well, apparently due to the system error in downloading the

text. TTL informed me that this is only a system issue.

GRM report history - Requested on 08/18/2009, due on 07/31/2009

Action	Name	Status	Date
Created	Giang Thanh Huong Le	Draft	08/31/2009
Changed	Giang Thanh Huong Le	Draft	08/31/2009
Changed	Giang Thanh Huong Le	Draft	08/31/2009
Changed	Giang Thanh Huong Le	Draft	08/31/2009
Mail sent to Reviewer	Douglas J. Graham	Draft	08/31/2009
Submitted to TTL	Jiang Ru	Draft	08/31/2009
Submitted for Approval	Douglas J. Graham	Submitted	09/03/2009
Approved by Manager	Hoonae Kim	Approved	09/15/2009

DOCUMENTS

List of documents attached to this GRM

- 1) Green Corridor ICM

DISBURSEMENTS

Disbursements Summary in USD

Date From	Date To	Planned Cumulative	Planned Period	Actual Cumulative	Actual Period
07/01/2003	12/31/2003	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2004	06/30/2004	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Ref. TF052526
Printed On: 10/28/2009

Reporting Period: 08/28/2003 to 06/30/2009
Report Type: Completion
Report Status: Approved

07/01/2004	12/31/2004	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2005	06/30/2005	100,000.00	100,000.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2005	12/31/2005	100,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2006	06/30/2006	200,000.00	100,000.00	350,000.00	350,000.00
07/01/2006	12/31/2006	308,634.00	108,634.00	350,000.00	0.00
01/01/2007	06/30/2007	308,634.00	0.00	350,000.00	0.00
07/01/2007	12/31/2007	308,634.00	0.00	646,615.00	296,615.00
01/01/2008	06/30/2008	308,634.00	0.00	646,615.00	0.00
07/01/2008	12/31/2008	308,634.00	0.00	646,615.00	0.00

INTERNAL COMMENTS

Date:09/15/2009 User ID:WB15993 Name:Ms Hoonae Kim Operation performed:Approved by Manager objectives of the report are truncated. This happened in other TFs as well, apparently due to the system error in downloading the text. TTL informed me that this is only a system issue.

Date:09/03/2009 User ID:WB75790 Name:Mr Douglas J. Graham Operation performed:Submitted for Approval Ms. Hoonae Kim:

This GRM includes the ICM for this project which is the same one recently submitted to you as a Word document. It has been reviewed and cleared by Jiang Ru of EASER (GEF Regional Coordinator).

Date:08/31/2009 User ID:WB199291 Name:Mr Jiang Ru Operation performed:Submitted to TTL As we discussed last Friday, I noted that all changes had been made in this submission. Therefore, I have no further comments. Please submit to the manager.

Date:08/31/2009 User ID:WB75790 Name:Mr Douglas J. Graham Operation performed: Mr. Jiang Ru:

This ICM was already sent to you and reviewed by you, as a Word document. The same document (with agreed changes) is attached to this GRM.

Not all the text fields of the GRM have been completed as fuller information is available in the ICM and the structure of the GRM and ICM are not compatible.

Please advise if you have any questions.