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Implementation Completion Report [ICR]

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NEPAL: Hill Community Forstry Project (Cr. 2028-NEP) ICR

Archives



R2002-230 Other #: 32

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Hill Community Forestry Project - Nepal - Credit 2028 - P010330 - Implementation Completion Report [ICR]

## **DECLASSIFIED WBG** Archives

OED ID: C2028

Type: ES

## This PIF was posted on April 13, 2000

OED ID:

C2028

Type:

ES

Country:

Nepal

Project Description:

Hill Community Forestry

Sector:

AX / Agriculture

Subsector:

AT / Forestry

Lending Instrument:

Specific Investment

L/C:

C2028

# Operations Evaluation Department PROJECT INFORMATION FORM

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## A1. General Project Information

OED ID :	C2028		3. Key Dates		
Type:	ES			Original	Latest
Country:	Nepal				
Project Description :	Hill Community Forestry		Departure of Appraisal	Mission	04/30/1988
			Approval		05/30/1989
Sector:	AX / Agriculture		Signing/Agreement		08/18/1989
Subsector:	AT / Forestry		Effectiveness	11/16/1989	05/14/1990
Lending Instrument :	Specific Investment		Physical completion	06/30/1997	06/30/1999
L/C:	C2028		Closing	06/30/1997	06/30/1999
			ICR receipt in OED		12/15/1999
			Review date		02/07/2000
			ES posting or PAR app	oroval	04/13/2000
1. Reviewer:	Nalini Kumar				
i. Reviewei.			4. Key Amounts (\$U\$	S million)	
				,	
<ol><li>Do you agree w primary Sector a</li></ol>	rith the assigned Yes		Original Commitment	-	30.5
primary Sector a	O No		Total Cancellation	-	22.08
			Total project cost	3	
Sugg. Sector:			Original	<u> </u>	45.39
Sugg. Subsector:			Latest		18.41
5. Cofinanciers	First	Sec	cond	Third	
Name	DANIDA		IDP		
Original Commitment	(\$US million) 6.03		0.64		
Total Cancellation (\$	A	***************************************			
		1		L	
6. Distribution of la	atest cost among component types	7	. Applicable disbursem	ent profile (no. c	of years):
(\$US million):		-	10		
	;	-			
Physical	4.34	8	. Number of supervisio	n missions:	18
Technical assis				(.	
Balance of payr		c	Name(s) of primary a	uthor(s) of ICR (	indicate if
Line of credit	0	-	not known):	dulor(3) of fort (	indicate ii
Other	8.04	-	Ethel Sennhauser		
10. Names of mana	iners				
15. Harries of maria					
	At entry		At exit		
Task manager	Ai Chin Wee		Ethel Sennhauser		
Division chief	Chaim Helman		Sector Director: Ridwa		
Department director	Shinji Asuanama		Cty Dir:Hans Rothenb	ouhler	
		***************************************			

## A2. Project Objectives Evaluation

sub: impl If Yo the of a	ere the project objectives obtantially revised during oblementation?  Yes, did the Board approve revised objectives as part a formal restructuring?  te of Board approval	No	Did the project include a monitoring and evaluation system for the implementation phase?  If Yes, rate the extent to which the syst of the following five criteria for a good N	
	objectives were substantially ren n sections B1 and B2 on the re		Clear project and component objectives verifiable by indicators	Negligible
2. Tak	king into account the country's	evel of	A structured set of indicators	Negligible
dev imp	velopment and the competence olementing agency, to what exte	of the ent did the	Requirements for data collection and management	Negligible
proj	ject design have the following of	characteristics:	Institutional arrangements for capacity building	Negligible
	emanding on Borrower / plementing Agency	Substantial	Feedback from M&E	Not Available
	emplexity	Substantial		
Ris	skiness	Substantial		
	r this particular project, rate the he project's objectives:	importance		
Physical	1	Substantial	Institutional	Substantial
	I (interest rates; pricing /	Substantial	Social	Substantial
	icies; cost recovery		Environmental	Substantial
Economi			Private sector development	Not Applicable
	o-economic policies I; monetary; trade)	Modest	Other (specify):	
(TISCAL				

ES

## **B1a.** Outcomes — Relevance

<ol> <li>Indicate the relevance of each objectives in terms of the Bank' current country or sectoral objection.</li> </ol>	s / Borrower's	2. Summary Rating of
Physical Financial (interest rates; pricing / tariff policies; cost recovery)	Substantial Substantial	Rate the extent to which, the project's goals were of the Bank's / Borrower's staking account of the reletive importance of each project's objectives:
Economic		
Macro-economic policies (fiscal; monetary; trade)	Substantial	Average rating (weighted scores on relative importa
Sector policies	Substantial	
Institutional	Substantial	
Social	Substantial	If your overall rating differ
Environmental	Substantial	please comment on reason
Private sector development	Not Applicable	
Other (specify):	200000000000000000000000000000000000000	
	f	

he project's goals were consistent with he Bank's / Borrower's strategies, aking account of the relevance and elative importance of each of the project's objectives:	Substantial
Average rating (weighted by scores on relative importance)	Substantial
f your overall rating differs from the avolease comment on reasons for this di	

## **B1b.** Outcomes — Efficacy

	*
Physical	Substantial
Financial (interest rates; pricing / tariff policies; cost recovery	Modest
Economic	
Macro-economic policies (fiscal; monetary; trade)	Modest
Sector policies	Substantial
Institutional	Substantial
Social	Substantial
Environmental	Substantial
Private sector development	Not Applicable
Other (specify):	**************************************

Rate the efficacy of the project, taking account of the relative importance of the objectives and the extent to which they were accomplished:	
Average rating (weighted by scores on relative importance)	Substantial
If your overall rating differs from the av please comment on reasons for this di	

ES

## B1b. Outcomes — Efficacy (cont'd)

3. Rate the extent to which e	each of the following factor	rs affected the achievement of this proje	ect's objectives:
World markets / prices	Positive	Performance of contractors /	Negative
Natural events	Not Applicable	consultants	
Cofinancier(s) performance	Positive	War / civil disturbance	Not Applicable
. , ,	£	Other (specify):	
		5	

## **B1c. Outcomes** — Efficiency

<ol> <li>Is an Economic Rate of Return (E available for this project?</li> </ol>	ERR) • Yes  No	If No, is a <b>Financial Rate of Return</b> (FRR) available?	<ul><li>○ Yes</li><li>○ No</li></ul>
If a rate of return is available, provide th	e following information	n (in percent):	
	Point Value	Weighted Range Average	Coverage / Scope
At Appraisal Not Available Not Applicable	+36 %	From: To:	+50 %
At Completion	+18 %	From : To :	+100 %
Coverage / scope of measure +100 % Comparison to Not Appl	Yes     No  I Analysis  icable	3. If no measure of efficiency was provided for this project, would it had been reasonable to expect one?  If Yes, explain:	Yes No
4. Rate the quality of the ex-post eco			Substantial
Soundness of analysis  Conduct of sensitivity / risk analysis  Consideration of institutional	Substantial Not Available Substantial	Overall rating of quality of analysis  Average rating	Substantial
		If your averall notice different from the average	age rating
constraints to achieving results  Extent to which benefits  accrue to target population	Substantial	If your overall rating differs from the aver please comment on reasons for this differ	
constraints to achieving results Extent to which benefits	Substantial Substantial		

ES

## B1c. Outcomes — Efficiency (cont'd)

5. Summary Rating of Efficiency		
Rate overall to what extent the project accomplished its goals efficiently:	Substantial	If your overall rating differs from the average rating, please comment on reasons for this difference:
Average rating	Substantial	
		, t

## **B1d. Outcomes — Summary**

evant Marginally Satisfactory
Satisfactory
) Cancellation of the research component; (ii) inadequate I&E which could not be addressed despite the ecommendations at MTR; (iii) mixed achievements under ne forest resource managment component.

## **B2.** Sustainability

Technical viability	Positive	Policy environment	Positive
Financial viability	Positive	Institution / management	Positive
Economic viability	Positive	effectiveness	
Social conditions	Positive	Local participation	Positive
Environmental concerns	Positive	Other (specify):	1
Government commitment	Positive		
Rate the probability of maintal			Likely
			Likely
Rate the probability of maintal achievements generated or ex			Likely

## **B3. Institutional Development**

<ol> <li>Was this project directed primarily toward Institutional Development?</li> </ol>	<ul><li>Yes</li><li>No</li></ul>	For this particular project, rate the following Institutional Development      National capacity     Economic management	
		Civil service reform	Not Applicable
		Financial intermediation	Not Applicable
2. If not, did the project contain	○ Yes	Legal / regulatory system	Substantial
components with significant Institutional Development objective	s? O No	Sectoral capacity	Substantial
mondional Bevelopment especiate		Other (specify):	8
Did the project's Institutional Devel	opment	Agency capacity	
activities include each of the following		Planning / policy analysis	Modest
		Management	Substantial
		Skills upgrading	Modest
Establishment of a new organization	Yes	MIS	Not Applicable
Elimination of an existing organization	No	Other (specify):	
Restructuring / privatizing of	Yes		
an organization	103		
			~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
5. For this project, rate the extent to w following ID objectives was achieve		6. SUMMARY INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT RATING	Modest
following ID objectives was achieve  National capacity  Economic management  Civil service reform  Financial intermediation  Legal / regulatory system  Sectoral capacity  Other (specify):		6. SUMMARY INSTITUTIONAL	
following ID objectives was achieve  National capacity  Economic management  Civil service reform  Financial intermediation  Legal / regulatory system  Sectoral capacity  Other (specify):  Agency capacity	Substantial Not Applicable Not Applicable High Substantial	6. SUMMARY INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT RATING  Rate the extent to which, as a whole, the project resulted in improvement of the country's/sector's ability to effectively use its human, organizational, and financial resources:	Substantial
following ID objectives was achieve  National capacity  Economic management  Civil service reform  Financial intermediation  Legal / regulatory system  Sectoral capacity  Other (specify):  Agency capacity  Planning / policy analysis	Substantial Not Applicable Not Applicable High Substantial	6. SUMMARY INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT RATING  Rate the extent to which, as a whole, the project resulted in improvement of the country's/sector's ability to effectively use its human, organizational, and financial resources:	Substantial
following ID objectives was achieve  National capacity  Economic management  Civil service reform  Financial intermediation  Legal / regulatory system  Sectoral capacity  Other (specify):  Agency capacity  Planning / policy analysis  Management	Substantial Not Applicable Not Applicable High Substantial Substantial Substantial	6. SUMMARY INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT RATING  Rate the extent to which, as a whole, the project resulted in improvement of the country's/sector's ability to effectively use its human, organizational, and financial resources:  Average rating  If your overall rating differs from the average rating	Substantial  Substantial
following ID objectives was achieve  National capacity  Economic management  Civil service reform  Financial intermediation  Legal / regulatory system  Sectoral capacity  Other (specify):  Agency capacity  Planning / policy analysis  Management  Skills upgrading	Substantial Not Applicable Not Applicable High Substantial Substantial Substantial Modest	6. SUMMARY INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT RATING  Rate the extent to which, as a whole, the project resulted in improvement of the country's/sector's ability to effectively use its human, organizational, and financial resources:  Average rating	Substantial  Substantial
following ID objectives was achieve  National capacity  Economic management  Civil service reform  Financial intermediation  Legal / regulatory system  Sectoral capacity  Other (specify):  Agency capacity  Planning / policy analysis  Management  Skills upgrading  MIS	Substantial Not Applicable Not Applicable High Substantial Substantial Substantial	6. SUMMARY INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT RATING  Rate the extent to which, as a whole, the project resulted in improvement of the country's/sector's ability to effectively use its human, organizational, and financial resources:  Average rating  If your overall rating differs from the average rating	Substantial  Substantial
following ID objectives was achieve  National capacity  Economic management  Civil service reform  Financial intermediation  Legal / regulatory system  Sectoral capacity  Other (specify):  Agency capacity  Planning / policy analysis  Management	Substantial Not Applicable Not Applicable High Substantial Substantial Substantial Modest	6. SUMMARY INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT RATING  Rate the extent to which, as a whole, the project resulted in improvement of the country's/sector's ability to effectively use its human, organizational, and financial resources:  Average rating  If your overall rating differs from the average rating	Substantial  Substantial
following ID objectives was achieve  National capacity  Economic management  Civil service reform  Financial intermediation  Legal / regulatory system  Sectoral capacity  Other (specify):  Agency capacity  Planning / policy analysis  Management  Skills upgrading  MIS	Substantial Not Applicable Not Applicable High Substantial Substantial Substantial Modest	6. SUMMARY INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT RATING  Rate the extent to which, as a whole, the project resulted in improvement of the country's/sector's ability to effectively use its human, organizational, and financial resources:  Average rating  If your overall rating differs from the average rating	Substantial  Substantial

## C1. Bank Performance

Involvement of government Involvement of beneficiaries	Substantial Not Available	Overall rating on identification / preparation	Satisfactory Satisfactory
Project consistency with Bank strategy for country	Substantial	Average rating	Sausiactory
Grounding in economic and sector work (ESW)	Substantial	If your overall rating differs from please comment on reasons for	
Other (specify):			ia.
Indicate how well the Bank took ac	count of the following	during project appraisal:	
Technical analysis (inc. alternatives)	Modest	Overall rating on appraisal	Satisfactory
Financial analysis (inc. funding provisions, fiscal impact)	Modest	Average rating	Satisfactory
Cost-benefit analysis (incl.ERR)	Substantial		
Institutional capacity analysis	Substantial	If your overall rating differs from to comment on reasons for this difference.	
Social and stakeholder analysis	Substantial	comment on reasons for this diffe	erence.
Environmental analysis	Substantial		
Risk assessment (inc. adequacy of conditionalities)	Substantial		
Incorporation of M&E indicators	Substantial		
Incorporation of lessons learned	Modest		
Readiness for implementation	Substantial		
Suitability of lending instrument	Substantial		
Considering the identification / pre rate the overall quality of the proje  Indicate the adequacy of Bank pro	ct at the time of Board	approval (Quality at Entry):	Satisfactory
Reporting on project implementation progress	Substantial	Overall rating on supervision	Satisfactory
Identification / assessment	Substantial	Average rating	Satisfactory
of implementation problems		If your overall rating differs from	the average rating, please
estimated the forest and an annual forest and an annual section of the section of	Negligible		
Use of performance indicators Enforcement of Borrower	Negligible  Negligible	comment on reasons for this diffe	
Use of performance indicators Enforcement of Borrower provision of M&E data	1		
of implementation problems Use of performance indicators Enforcement of Borrower provision of M&E data Advice to implementing agency Enforcement of loan covenants / exercise of remedies	Negligible		
Use of performance indicators Enforcement of Borrower provision of M&E data Advice to implementing agency Enforcement of loan covenants / exercise of remedies Flexibility in suggesting /	Negligible Substantial		
Use of performance indicators Enforcement of Borrower provision of M&E data Advice to implementing agency Enforcement of loan covenants /	Negligible Substantial Substantial		

## C1. Bank Performance (cont'd)

Rate the Bank's overall performance, taking account of identification preparation, appraisal, and supervision activities:	on /	Satisfactory
Average rating		Satisfactory
If your overall rating differs from the average rating, please comment on reasons for this difference:		А

## **C2. Borrower Performance**

Rate the Borrower / Implementing Agency performance on the preparation of this project:     Satisfactory						
Rate the extent to which governments     supported project implements		ency performance on the following dime	ensions			
Dimensions generally subject to	government control					
Macro policies / conditions	High	Administrative procedures	Substantial			
Sector policies / conditions	High	Cost changes	Modest			
Government commitment	Substantial	Implementation delays	Not Applicable			
Appointment of key staff	Substantial	Other (specify):	X			
Counterpart funding	Modest					
Dimensions generally subject to Management	o implementing agency c	ontrol  Use of technical assistance	Substantial			
Staffing	Substantial	Beneficiary participation	Substantial			
Cost changes	Not Applicable	Other (specify):	L			
		The state of the s				

## C2. Borrower Performance (cont'd)

<ul> <li>Summary Rating of B Project Implementation</li> </ul>	orrower Performance on on	5. SUMMARY RATI PERFORMANCE	ING OF BORROWER
Overall rating  Average rating	Satisfactory	Overall rating	Satisfactory
	from the average rating,	Average rating	Satisfactory
		If your overall rating di please comment on re	ffers from the average rating asons for this difference:
Rate Borrower compliction     covenants / commitments			

<ol> <li>Indicate whether each of the following social concerns was a major project emphasis:</li> </ol>		3. Was this a Poverty Targeted Intervention?	Yes	<ul><li>No</li></ul>
Gender related issues Settlement / resettlement	No No	Did the project place a major emphasis on poverty alleviation?  If Yes:	Yes	<ul><li>No</li></ul>
Beneficiary participation  Community development  Skills development	Yes Yes No	Did it emphasize broad-based growth with labor absorption?	Yes	○ No
Nutrition and food security Health improvement	No No	Did it emphasize human development (education, health, or nutrition)?	Yes	○ No
Other (specify):		Did it emphasize the provision of a social safety net?	Yes	○ No
Did the project have an uninter unexpected effect on social cor	ncerns,	Indicate whether each of the follow concerns was a major project emp  Netural resource management.	_	nmental
regardless of the project's object	cuves?	Natural resource management	Yes	
Yes		Air / water / soil quality Yes   Urban environmental quality   No		
If Yes, was the effect positive of	or negative?	Other (specify):		

### D. Special Themes (cont'd)

Rate the priority of the project for audit Did the project have an unintended or unexpected effect on environmental concerns, High regardless of the project's objectives? Rate the priority of the project for impact If Yes, was the effect positive or negative? evaluation High Indicate whether each of the following private sector development (PSD) concerns was a major project emphasis: Improvement in legal or incentive framework designed to foster PSD No (e.g., trade, pricing) Restructuring / privatization of No public enterprises No Financial sector development Direct government financial and / or technical assistance to the No private sector Other (specify):

#### E. Rating of ICR

Rate the quality of the ICR by the following characteristics: Future operation of project **Analysis** Satisfactory Satisfactory Plan for future project operation Coverage of important subjects Satisfactory Performance indicators for Ex-post economic analysis Not Applicable the project's operational phase Soundness of analysis Plan for monitoring and evaluation Internal consistencies Satisfactory Not Applicable of future operation of the project Satisfactory Evidence complete / convincing Satisfactory Adequacy of lessons learned Borrower / cofinancier inputs Satisfactory Aide-memoire of the ICR mission Satisfactory Borrower input to ICR Borrower plan for future Satisfactory project operation Borrower comments on ICR Satisfactory Satisfactory Cofinancier comments on ICR SUMMARY RATING OF ICR If your overall rating differs from the average rating, please comment on reasons for this difference: Satisfactory Rate the quality of the ICR: Satisfactory Average rating

ES

## E. Rating of ICR (cont'd)

Rate the quality of borrower par project completion process on the project completion process.	ticipation in the ne following:		
Analysis	Not Available	Focus on lessons learned	Satisfactory
Concern with development impact	Satisfactory	Self-evaluation	Satisfactory
Internal consistency	Satisfactory	Evaluation of Bank	Satisfactory
Evidence to justify views	Satisfactory		3

## F. Summary of Ratings

1. SUMMARY OF RATIN	GS ICR	ES	
Outcome	Satisfactory	Marginally Satisfactory	
Sustainability	Likely	Likely	
Institutional Development efficacy / impact	Substantial	Substantial	
Bank performance	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	
Borrower performance	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	
ICR quality	<i></i>	Satisfactory	
cancellation of the research implementation could not be	fer The Evaluation Summary	rates outcome as Marginally Satisfactory ch specific and priority problems emanatir &E which could not be addressed despite nanagement component.	because of (i)  ng from field  the recommendations at

## G. Overall Judgements / Miscellaneous Comments

Enter any overall judgements or rationales and miscellaneous comments below.



1. Project Data:	ES Date Posted: 04/13/2000			
PROJ ID: P	010330 <b>OEDID</b> : C2028		Appraisal	Actual
Project Name: H	lill community forestry	Project Costs (US\$M)	45.39	18.41
Country: N	lepal	Loan/Credit (US\$M)	30.5	9.17
Sector, Major Sect.: F	orestry, Agriculture	Cofinancing (US\$M)	7.36	6.67
L/C Number: C	2028			
		Board Approval (FY)		90
Partners involved: D	ANIDA, UNDP	Closing Date	06/30/97	06/30/99
Prepared by:	Reviewed by:	Group Manager:	Group:	
Nalini B. Kumar C	Christopher D. Gerrard	Gregory Ingram	OEDST	

#### 2. Project Objectives and Components

#### a. Objectives

The main project objective was to support the implementation of Government of Nepal's forest sector strategy directed towards development of sustainable management of the country's forest resources through community participation. The project was confined to one geographical region in the country (the mid Hills) and covered 38 of the 54 districts.

#### b. Components

The project had four components: a) an institutional support component to strengthen and build the capacity of the Forest Department (FD) to implement community forestry; b) a forest resource management and restoration component; c) a training and extension component to communicate His Majesty's Government's strategy to FD staff and forest communities; d) a research component to help generate improved silvicultural techniques for conservation, increase the productivity of forest resources and provide socio economic information on resource utilization to enable better planning. In addition the project provided assistance for construction of houses, office buildings, nurseries and traing centers.

#### c. Comments on Project Cost, Financing and Dates

The credit (US \$ 30.5 million) was approved in August 1989 and became effective in May 1990. Credit effectiveness was postponed twice as a number of covenants related to field administration needed amendment. DANIDA financed the Training and Extension Component (US \$ 6.03 million) and UNDP financed technical assistance to the amount of US \$ 640,000. Total project costs equaled US \$ 18.7 million, compared with appraisal estimates of US \$ 45.4 million. This was largely for two reasons: under spending under the forest resource management component which at appraisal accounted for 65 percent of the total project cost; depreciation of the Nepali rupee. MTR was undertaken in December 1993. At the recommendation of the MTR, US \$ 13.34 million was canceled in 1995. A further US \$ 4.87 million was canceled in 1998. Finally an undisbursed balance of SDR 0.43 million was canceled in November 1999. Total disbursements equivalent to 28 percent of the credit amount were made. The project was extended twice from its initial closing date of June 30, 1997 and closed in June 1999.

#### 3. Achievement of Relevant Objectives:

- (i) Project provided support for the government strategy for development and preservation of forest resources in the mid Hill region.
- (ii) It successfully introduced the policy, legal and procedural framework necessary to establish a user-group-based approach to forest management.
- (iii) It contributed towards bringing a change in role and attitude of the FD from a policing body to one promoting and facilitating local community efforts at forest management.
- (iv) It helped create awareness and interest at the community level for preservation and managment of forest resources.

#### 4. Significant Outcomes/Impacts:

It is difficult to measure project outcome/impact since the project failed to develop monitoring and impact indicators. However the project helped establish the relevant institutional, policy and procedural framework for promotion of community forestry. A large number of Forest User Groups were established and empowered. The recalculated ERR at 18 percent takes into account the environmental benefits from forests and yields from non traditional forest products.

#### 5. Significant Shortcomings (including non-compliance with safeguard policies):

- (i) Research component of the project was never implemented. As a result specific and priority problems emanating from field implementation could not be addressed.
- (ii) Overemphasis on plantations as a strategy for forest restoration in the early years reduced the effectiveness of the forest restoration and management component. This was deemphasized after the MTR.
- (iii) Poor monitoring of project outcomes and impacts.
- (iv) Inadequate donor coordination which was largely responsible for non implementation of the research component and inadequate arrangements for M&E.
- (v) Weak linkage between field staff and the center and the government policy of frequent staff transfer hindered project implementation.

6. Ratings:	ICR	OED Review	Reason for Disagreement/Comments
Outcome:	Satisfactory	Marginally Satisfactory	(i) Cancellation of the research component; (ii) inadequate M&E which could not be addressed despite the recommendations at MTR; (iii) mixed achievements under the forest resource management component.
Institutional Dev.:	Substantial	Substantial	
Sustainability:	Likely	Likely	
Bank Performance:	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Given the poor performance of the Bank in the design of the plantation/nurseries activities and the research component, the Evaluation Summary would ideally reduce the Bank Performance rating to marginally satisfactory. However, this option is not available to OED.
Borrower Perf.:	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Though overall borrower performance may be judged to be satisfactory, delays in providing staff and buildings, together with frequent staff transfers, negatively affected project implementation.
Quality of ICR:		Satisfactory	

#### 7. Lessons of Broad Applicability:

The lessons identifed by the ICR are interesting and have important implications for the future management of Nepal's forests. Four lessons from the ICR are repeated here. (i) Reorientation of government institutions --the project has demonstrated that given a favorable policy and legal framework, a government department can evolve from one concerned primarily with policing to one working with communities in forest management; (ii) Restoration of forest ecosystems--Protection and management of natural regeneration has proven to be a more successful mechanism than plantation establishment to restore forest ecosystems; (iii) Sustainability and ownership--community empowerment cannot be accelerated at a pace beyond the capacity of the facilitating institution to manage expansion and the rate of learning and behavioral change required by forest users. (iv) Monitoring and evaluation--the weakness in M&E meant that ineffective strategies were supported for longer than they should have been with associated financial costs.

The Evaluation Summary adds the following: (i) Establishment of a sound policy and legal foundation and clear benefit sharing arrangements are essential for the sustainability of a forest managment program based on community participation.(ii) Multiple donor involvement in the forest sector in Nepal was a reality before the project. In such situations caution needs to be exercised during project preparation to ensure that donor overload and/or coordination does not become a handicap in project implementation. (iii) Given the potential of forest development to impact the lives of the rural poor it is important to make forest sector development an essential part of the poverty alleviation strategy of the Bank in the country.

## 8. Audit Recommended? ✓ Yes No

**Why?** (i) To provide lessons of broad applicability for programs based on community participation for the South Asia Region as a whole. (ii) To verify sustainability of the community participation effort given the concern within the FD that as forests improve and incomes increase the effort may be undermined by local elites.

#### 9. Comments on Quality of ICR:

A joint World bank-FAO-DANIDA team carried out the completion mission for the project. The ICR is satisfactory and complete and includes the Borrower's comments and comments from DANIDA. The Aide Memoire is informative and gives a clear account of the project.



1. Project Data:	Project Data: ES Date Poste			
PROJ ID:	P010330 <b>OEDID:</b> C2028		Appraisal	Actual
Project Name:	Hill community forestry	Project Costs (US\$M)	45.39	18.41
Country:	Nepal	Loan/Credit (US\$M)	30.5	9.17
Sector, Major Sect.:	Forestry, Agriculture	Cofinancing (US\$M)	7.36	6.67
L/C Number:	C2028			
		Board Approval (FY)		90
Partners involved:	DANIDA, UNDP	Closing Date	06/30/97	06/30/99
Prepared by:	Reviewed by:	Group Manager:	Group:	
Nalini B. Kumar	Christopher D. Gerrard	Gregory Ingram	OEDST	

#### 2. Project Objectives and Components

#### a. Objectives

The main project objective was to support the implementation of Government of Nepal's forest sector strategy directed towards development of sustainable management of the country's forest resources through community participation. The project was confined to one geographical region in the country (the mid Hills) and covered 38 of the 54 districts.

#### b. Components

The project had four components: a) an institutional support component to strengthen and build the capacity of the Forest Department (FD) to implement community forestry; b) a forest resource management and restoration component; c) a training and extension component to communicate His Majesty's Government's strategy to FD staff and forest communities; d) a research component to help generate improved silvicultural techniques for conservation, increase the productivity of forest resources and provide socio economic information on resource utilization to enable better planning. In addition the project provided assistance for construction of houses, office buildings, nurseries and traing centers.

#### c. Comments on Project Cost, Financing and Dates

The credit (US \$ 30.5 million) was approved in August 1989 and became effective in May 1990. Credit effectiveness was postponed twice as a number of covenants related to field administration needed amendment. DANIDA financed the Training and Extension Component (US \$ 6.03 million) and UNDP financed technical assistance to the amount of US \$ 640,000. Total project costs equaled US \$ 18.7 million, compared with appraisal estimates of US \$ 45.4 million. This was largely for two reasons: under spending under the forest resource management component which at appraisal accounted for 65 percent of the total project cost; depreciation of the Nepali rupee. MTR was undertaken in December 1993. At the recommendation of the MTR, US \$ 13.34 million was canceled in 1995. A further US \$ 4.87 million was canceled in 1998. Finally an undisbursed balance of SDR 0.43 million was canceled in November 1999. Total disbursements equivalent to 28 percent of the credit amount were made. The project was extended twice from its initial closing date of June 30, 1997 and closed in June 1999.

#### 3. Achievement of Relevant Objectives:

- (i) Project provided support for the government strategy for development and preservation of forest resources in the mid Hill region.
- (ii) It successfully introduced the policy, legal and procedural framework necessary to establish a user-group-based approach to forest management.
- (iii) It contributed towards bringing a change in role and attitude of the FD from a policing body to one promoting and facilitating local community efforts at forest management.
- (iv) It helped create awareness and interest at the community level for preservation and managment of forest resources.

#### 4. Significant Outcomes/Impacts:

It is difficult to measure project outcome/impact since the project failed to develop monitoring and impact indicators. However the project helped establish the relevant institutional, policy and procedural framework for promotion of community forestry. A large number of Forest User Groups were established and empowered. The recalculated ERR at 18 percent takes into account the environmental benefits from forests and yields from non traditional forest products.

#### 5. Significant Shortcomings (including non-compliance with safeguard policies):

- (i) Research component of the project was never implemented. As a result specific and priority problems emanating from field implementation could not be addressed.
- (ii) Overemphasis on plantations as a strategy for forest restoration in the early years reduced the effectiveness of the forest restoration and management component. This was deemphasized after the MTR.
- (iii) Poor monitoring of project outcomes and impacts.
- (iv) Inadequate donor coordination which was largely responsible for non implementation of the research component and inadequate arrangements for M&E.
- (v) Weak linkage between field staff and the center and the government policy of frequent staff transfer hindered project implementation.

6. Ratings:	ICR	OED Review	Reason for Disagreement/Comments
Outcome:	Satisfactory	Marginally Satisfactory	(i) Cancellation of the research component; (ii) inadequate M&E which could not be addressed despite the recommendations at MTR; (iii) mixed achievements under the forest resource management component.
Institutional Dev.:	Substantial	Substantial	
Sustainability:	Likely	Likely	
Bank Performance:	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Given the poor performance of the Bank in the design of the plantation/nurseries activities and the research component, the Evaluation Summary would ideally reduce the Bank Performance rating to marginally satisfactory. However, this option is not available to OED.
Borrower Perf.:	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Though overall borrower performance may be judged to be satisfactory, delays in providing staff and buildings, together with frequent staff transfers, negatively affected project implementation.
Quality of ICR:		Satisfactory	

#### 7. Lessons of Broad Applicability:

The lessons identifed by the ICR are interesting and have important implications for the future management of Nepal's forests. Four lessons from the ICR are repeated here. (i) Reorientation of government institutions --the project has demonstrated that given a favorable policy and legal framework, a government department can evolve from one concerned primarily with policing to one working with communities in forest management; (ii) Restoration of forest ecosystems--Protection and management of natural regeneration has proven to be a more successful mechanism than plantation establishment to restore forest ecosystems; (iii) Sustainability and ownership--community empowerment cannot be accelerated at a pace beyond the capacity of the facilitating institution to manage expansion and the rate of learning and behavioral change required by forest users. (iv) Monitoring and evaluation--the weakness in M&E meant that ineffective strategies were supported for longer than they should have been with associated financial costs.

The Evaluation Summary adds the following: (i) Establishment of a sound policy and legal foundation and clear benefit sharing arrangements are essential for the sustainability of a forest managment program based on community participation. (ii) Multiple donor involvement in the forest sector in Nepal was a reality before the project. In such situations caution needs to be exercised during project preparation to ensure that donor overload and/or coordination does not become a handicap in project implementation. (iii) Given the potential of forest development to impact the lives of the rural poor it is important to make forest sector development an essential part of the poverty alleviation strategy of the Bank in the country.

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**Why?** (i) To provide lessons of broad applicability for programs based on community participation for the South Asia Region as a whole. (ii) To verify sustainability of the community participation effort given the concern within the FD that as forests improve and incomes increase the effort may be undermined by local elites.

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A joint World bank-FAO-DANIDA team carried out the completion mission for the project. The ICR is satisfactory and complete and includes the Borrower's comments and comments from DANIDA. The Aide Memoire is informative and gives a clear account of the project.

Maisha Hyman

03/24/2000 08:36 AM

Extn: 36994

**OEDST** 

\*\*\* DRAFT \*\*\*

Subject: NEPAL: Hill Community Forestry Project (Cr. 2028-NEP)

This ICR has been approved by you and is now ready to go to the Region.

To:

Mr. Hans M. Rothenbuhler

Subject:

NEPAL: Hill Community Forestry Project (Cr. 2028-NEP)

OED Review of Implementation Completion Report

Attached for your review is OED's Evaluation Summary for the above project. This form contains OED's ratings and comments on the ICR. Any comments you may have should reach me no later than c. o. b. March 31, 2000.

Gregory K. Ingram

Manager

Sector and Thematic Evaluations Group

cc: Messrs./Mmes.:

P. Garg

R. Thompson

P. Nicholas

R. Ali

E. Sennhauser

N. Kumar

## THE WORLD BANK GROUP

	ROUTING SLIP	<b>DATE</b> : March 24, 2000		
	NAME			ROOM. NO.
Mr.	Gregory Ingram, Manager, OEDST			Н 3-373
	URGENT		PER YOUR REQUEST	
	FOR COMMENT		PER OUR CONVERSAT	ION
	FOR ACTION		NOTE AND FILE	1011
1	FOR APPROVAL/CLEARANCE		FOR INFORMATION	
	FOR SIGNATURE		PREPARE REPLY	
✓	NOTE AND CIRCULATE		NOTE AND RETURN	
	NOTE AND CIRCULATE		NOTE AND RETURN	
RE		roject	t (Cr. 2028-NEP)	
	Implementation Completion Report			
DE	MARKS:			
KE	WARNS:			
This ICR has passed the OED's Panel review and requires your signature before being				
sent to the Region.				
	$\checkmark$			
FD	OM ML		ROOM NO.	EXTENSION
	lini Kumar, Task Manager	Н 3-361	31743	



Date Created: 01/12/2000 12:57:34 PM Last Updated: 03/22/2000 02:54:44 PM

Access Delegation List:

Status: Open

1. Project Data:		ES Date Posted:		
PROJ ID: P	010330 OEDID: C2028		Appraisal	Actual
Project Name: H	ill Community Fores	Project Costs (US\$M)	45.39	18.41
Country: N	epal	Loan/Credit (US\$M)	30.5	9.17
Sector, Major Sect.: Forestry, Agriculture		Cofinancing (US\$M)	7.36	6.67
L/C Number: C	2028			
		Board Approval (FY)		90
Partners involved: DANIDA, UNDP		Closing Date	06/30/97	06/30/99
Prepared by:	eviewed by:	Group Manager:	Group:	
Nalini B. Kumar C	hristopher D. Gerrard	Gregory Ingram	, OEDST	

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Chris Genard 22 Mar. 2000

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ES-Rev1-06/99 2

#### 8. Audit Recommended? • Yes O No

**Why?** (i) To provide lessons of broad applicability for programs based on community participation for the South Asia Region as a whole. (ii) To verify sustainability of the community participation effort given the concern within the FD that as forests improve and incomes increase the effort may be undermined by local elites.

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Run Date: 12/16/99

	028 Group: 10
"Country: Nepal Project Description: Hill Com	nmunity Forestry
	Agriculture
Subsector: 01.07 /	Forestry
Lending Instrument Type:	SIL
L/C:	C2028
Original IDA/IBRD Commitments: Total Cancellations:	30,500,000 (\$US) 21,518,723 (\$US)
Total Cancellations.	21,310,723 (400)
	3.000
Key Dates OR	RIGINAL ACTUAL
Approval	5/30/89
Signing/Agreement	8/18/89
	1/16/89 5/14/90 5/30/07 6/30/00
Closing 6 ICR Receipt in OED	5/30/97 6/30/99 12/15/99
Tek keceipe in old	12/13/33
N11. K	3
EVALUATOR NAME: Nalini Kumar	
EVALUATOR SIGNATURE:	DATE:
Please confirm the above information, sign a	and date this sheet and return a r
to Helen Sioris when the EVM/Regional memo/P	PIF packet is submitted to OED Dir
************** TO BE COMPLETED BY EVAL	UATION OFFICER ************************************
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	( mm / dd / yy )
* * Name of Reviewer:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
* Name of Reviewer.	,
*	
* Type of Evaluation: PCR Review	PAR Review
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* from those made in the PCR Review?	, allielenees in one jaagemenes
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* Yes	No
* If Yes, please discuss in detail on page	
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* Total Project Cost (\$US mill)	
*  * Applicable Disbursement Profile:	,
* (see note 11 in the PIF, page 31)	
*	1994
* Number of Supervision Missions:	/ 1 / 100
*	12/12/99 >