

ONE-DAY CONSULTATION- CUM-REVIEW MEETING

Pilot Executing Agencies (ICZMP)

Date: 8th November 2011

Venue: Gandhinagar

A ONE-DAY CONSULTATION-CUM-REVIEW MEETING OF PILOT EXECUTING AGENCIES INVOLVED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERATED COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROJECT IN GUJARAT

BACKGROUND

Gujarat Ecology Commission has been designated as the State project Management Unit of ICZMP, Gujarat. It works in collaboration with other pilot executing agencies such as Marine National Park & Sanctuary, Gujarat Pollution Control Board, Gujarat Ecological and Educational Research Foundation, Bhaskaracharya Institute for Space Application and Geo-Informatics, Jamnagar Municipal Corporation, etc. After a passage of one year since the ICZM Project was declared effective and the activities were commenced in September 2010, it was felt essential to review the physical and financial progress achieved by each of the Pilot Executing Agencies. It was also necessary to discuss and deliberate on limitations faced and the corrective feasible actions to be taken in that regards.

With above objective, a consultation cum review meeting was convened in Gandhinagar on 8th November 2011 which was inaugurated by Shri K.U.Mistry, Chairman, GPCB.

At the outset, Shri. C.H.Pandya, IFS, Director, Additional Project Director, ICZM Project welcomed the chairman GPCB and other participants.

Opening remarks were given by Mr. A. K. Verma, IFS, Member Secretary, GEC and Project Director, ICZM, Gujarat. He elaborated, issues and items which are important to discuss in the meeting. He said that ICZM Project is in Pilot phase and all PEAs are working for environment but with different mandates. A better co-ordination among the PEAs and SPMU is important. He emphasised that every PEAs should know, what other PEAs are doing and what are the outcomes achieved by the partner agencies. He said that during first visit by the World Bank mission in all 3 states, which are implementing ICZM Project in India World Bank had appreciated the work of the Gujarat State. He highlighted the working of the World Bank, SICOM and informed that 6 new coastal states/UTs would be soon a part of the ICZMP India in the second phase.

Mr. K.U.Mistry, Chairman, GPCB inaugurated the meeting. He emphasised on the inclusion and maximising the safety audit, control activities, disaster management, fire preparedness,

oil spill preparedness, risk identifications, risk calculation, risk mitigation, laboratory analysis, online monitoring, conducting intensive research for capacity building & trainings, addressing health hazards, plan and establishment of Information centre.

Presentation by Marine National Park & sanctuary

Mr. P.H.Sata, DCF, MNP&S presented overview of the progress made by MNP&S under ICZM Project. He briefed about the progress in mangrove plantation in 5100Ha, entry point activities by EDCs like construction of RCC road by EDC Khijadia, Construction of sanitation blocks by EDC Kharaberaja, Construction of Hard Murrum road in rann area etc. He highlighted about the proposed activities under ICZMP such as Sea Turtle Preservation and Conservation, nature trail for coral and mangroves, coral transplantation over 1000 sq mt, marine oceanarium at Dwarka etc.

Major decisions taken during the meeting are as follows;

1. It was decided that whenever force account is used for the mangrove plantation activities, there should be proper maintenance of records.
2. On the topic of the boat procurement, Mr. A.K.Verma, had decided that earlier none of the bidder qualified for the bidding due to specification. So, we should emphasise on the specification and retendering of boat procurement should be done as early as possible.
3. It was decided that different techniques for mangrove plantation have different cost implications, so cost for different techniques should be properly examined and area specific rates arrived at. This matter should be looked into by Director, GEC.
4. There should be support of the few EDCs to that place where new EDCs are in process of formation, so that experienced EDCs can work with newly formed EDCs.
5. On the topic of achieving physical targets, it was decided that money should not be considered as driving force rather focussing on achieving targets is more important.
6. On the topic of the eco-tourism, Mr. A.K.Verma has suggested that RFO, ACF should visit to Sunderbans, Gulf of Manner etc. which would be helpful for designing of the mangrove trail and other ecotourism activities.

7. Mr. C.H.Pandya said that PRA are helpful for the identification of the needs and that needs can be carried out by other departments also but it is required to focus on the environment needs which can be fulfilled by PEA.
8. Mr. Nischal Joshi Said that MNP have to submit GPS locations and maps of mangrove which are planted by the MNP.
9. Mr. Nischal Joshi said that any activity which is proposed by MNP and is not included in the DPR, then in that case SPMU will have to take up the matter with World Bank for approval.
10. On the topic of procuring solar lights for the Ajar Island, Mr.A.K.Verma decided that it is necessary to have MoU between MNP and EDCs, so that procurement work can be accelerated.

Presentation by GEER Foundation

Mr. S.B.Patel, Deputy Director, GEER Foundation presented overview of the progress made by GEER Foundation under ICZM Project. He briefed about the progress like Recruitment of staff, strengthening of laboratories, improvement of infrastructure and equipments, Survey of coastal flora of Gujarat, survey & study of coastal & marine fauna. Annual plan for the year of 2012-13 has also been highlighted during the meeting.

Major decisions taken during the meeting are as follows;

1. On the topic of the Communication plan, Mr. Bharat Pathak said that there should be communication packages, so that reports can be developed into good form of presentation. Mr. A.K.Verma said that SPMU will share communication plan with all PEAs and then all PEAs should give their inputs. PEAs should also give their size of communication needs. Mr. C.H.Pandya said, for planning the communication strategy we should focus that communication expert or communication consultant should have knowledge of Gujarati also.
2. It was decided that results of flora and fauna survey should be published on websites.

3. Mr. A.K.Verma indicated that Sagarika can be published quarterly which was earlier published monthly by SPMU. It was also decided that short write up should be submitted to SPMU by all PEAs for Sagarika.
4. On the topic of the specification of the tenders, Mr. A.K.Verma said that there should be consultation with experts for deciding the specifications. ToR should also be prepared in advance so that tenders can be published.
5. Mr. A.K.Verma said that SPMU need proposal from PEAs for self empowerment, he also said that deviation on some topics can be accepted but PEAs should have to submit proposal and SPMU will discuss then with the World Bank but this should not be considered as rule.

Presentation by JMC

Mr.M.D.Rana, Executive Engineer, JMC presented overview of the progress made by JMC under ICZM Project. He briefed about the progress like Sewerage pipe line and manhole construction under national shopping procedure at Prabhukrupa Society is completed, Fencing around STP site under national shopping is completed, PMC contract awarded to M/s Mott MacDonald, IFB for two packages for providing underground sewer network was published and work has been awarded etc. Annual Action Plan 2012-13 has also been discussed during the meeting.

Major decisions taken during the meeting are as follows;

1. It was decided that IEC activity should be outsourced and JMC should submit ToR and Proposal for the same.
2. It was felt that for the details of industrial approval, JMC can take information or suggestions from GPCB.
3. It was decided that success of STP is very important so that it can be replicated in other coastal cities.
4. It was decided that for the sewerage collection system, quality should be ensured and maintained.
5. It was also narrated that there fencing of the STP system has been completed and approval for the same is awaited. It should be approved as early as possible. It was

also decided that monitoring should be proper, watchmen can also be deputed for the work.

6. It was decided that there should be proper communication strategy like demonstration of STP to public and JMC should convince public about the quality and work of the STP.

Presentation by GPCB

Shri S. M. Jha, Sr. Environmental Scientist, GPCB, made the next presentation about the progress of GPCB with respect to the ICZM Project. He briefed about the various components taken up by GPCB under the ICZM Project including monitoring of sea water quality in the Gulf of Kachchh, procurement of scientific instruments and upgradation of laboratories at Bhuj and Jamnagar.

The following are the important decisions taken therein:

1. Shri A. K Verma pointed out that interpretation of data with comparison with thresholds and standards and its symbolic depiction would give a better idea about the status of coastal waters. A simple colour coding system may be used to classify areas based on the varying degrees of pollution based on the data collected by GPCB.
2. Shri. Bharat Pathak stressed on the need to have a technical workshop with participation of various stakeholders like fisheries, NIO, GPCB, GEER. Following a discussion Shri. Nischal Joshi asked GEER to initiate the process to organise the same.

Presentation by GMB

Shri Atul Sharma, Executive Engineer, GMB, was next to present the contribution of GMB in the environmental management of the GOK. He briefly explained the Oil spill disaster contingency plan for GOK and the environment management plan for the GMB ports.

Presentation by BISAG

Shri. Ajay Patel, Project Manager, BISAG, briefed about the works done by BISAG, the status of the ICZMP component of BISAG and the annual action plan for 2012-2013. BISAG also

demonstrated working of the customised software that may be used as a decision support system for ICZMP preparation.

Some important decisions taken were as follows:

1. Clarifications of ambiguities in the DPR and addition of the methodology used, as discussed in the previous review meeting are to be completed.
2. Technical workshop, similar to the one conducted earlier, to be conducted again for all the PEAs with emphasis on the use of GIS and RS for coastal management and a involvement of more stakeholders including National level agencies.
3. A consultation meeting of other experts who have worked in coastal areas with application of GIS and RS.
4. A separate meeting is to be conducted for mapping of ICZM activities for all the PEAs

Consultation on Procurement

Shri.Vasavada, Sr. Procurement Advisor, SPMU Gujarat, gave a talk about the procurement process to be followed. During the brief talk he stressed, that cancellation of Tenders must be avoided by taking adequate precautions, to ensure timely project execution. He also suggested that the Pre-bid meeting may be conducted before issuing the bids rather than before to prevent lapses and loss of time.

Additionally Shri Nischal Joshi suggested that the GEC website may be used for advertising bids.

Consultation regarding Finance

Shri. V. J. Desai, Consultant-Finance, SPMU Gujarat, spoke at length about compiling finance related information from various PEAs. He also discussed the various issues in compiling finance related information from each of the PEAs.

Concluding Session and Discussion

Shri Nischal Joshi, HOO, SPMU Gujarat, discussed the Status of Agreed Actions as per the Aide Memoire issued by the World Bank for each PEA. He also discussed the format of the Outcome-Output grid that each PEA needs to prepare. This will help the PEAs not only in self-assessment of their progress with respect to achievement of their targets but also help in identifying the lacunas and the weak links that may hamper the overall progress of the project.

The following important points were discussed:

1. Discussing about the submission of a revised recruitment plan, Shri. Bharat Pathak confirmed that though interviews had already taken place none of the post had been filled up, and a second round of interviews was proposed to take place in the month of January. Shri. A. K. Verma suggested that instead of a revised plan GEER may specify that they want to continue with the same and in addition it may ensure that the 4th round of interviews are done as planned along with commencement of work of the two field stations.
2. GPCB had been asked to submit a report regarding the capacity building of its regional offices in Bhuj and Jamnagar, which it confirmed to have been completed. Also certain changes that were proposed in the DPR had been completed and GPCB would be submitting the same by November 9th, 2011.
3. MNP & S while commenting on the query regarding the status of MoUs to be signed with village level organisations, said that out of the proposed 21, only 17 of the organisations have been registered thus the signing of MoUs is possible only with then.
4. It was proposed that a system for sampling and monitoring mangrove plantations need to be developed. In addition a report regarding the force account plantations may be prepared.
5. In case of JMC the issue of site fencing and watchman cabin setup was agreed upon, for the STP plant site.