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INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREA CO-MANAGEMENT (IPAC)

SECOND QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

September 1, 2008 – November 30, 2008

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

A&E	Architectural and Engineering
ACF	Assistant Conservator of Forests (post of Park Wardens)
ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADP	Annual Development Plan
AF	Arannayk Foundation
AIDAR	Agency for International Development Acquisition Regulations
AIG	Alternative Income Generation
BCDP	Bangladesh Cetacean Diversity Project (WCS project)
BELA	Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association
BRAC	Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee
CCNs	Cooperating Country Nationals
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CHT	Chittagong Hill Tracts
CHTDF	CHT Development Facility (UNDP funded project)
CIPD	Center for Indigenous Peoples Development
CMC	Co-Management Committees and Councils
CMO	Co-Management Organization
CO	Contracting Officer
CODEC	Community Development Center
COP	Chief of Party
CPF	Cultural Preservation Fund (of IRG)
CTO	Cognizant Technical Officer
DC	District Council
DCOP	Deputy Chief of Party
DEC	Development Experience Clearinghouse
DFID	United Kingdom's Department for International Development
DFO	Division Forestry Officer
DoE	Department of Environment
DoF	Department of Fisheries
DPP	Development Project Proforma
dTS	Development & Training Services, Inc.
EC	European Commission
ECA	Ecologically Critical Areas
ELI	Environmental Law Institute
ERD	Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance
EWC	East-West Center
FAR	Federal Acquisition Regulation
FD	Forest Department

FRUG	Federation of Resource User Group
FUG	Forest User's Groups
GDA	Global Development Alliance
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GOB	Government of Bangladesh
IARC	International Agricultural Research Centers
ICFS	Inland Capture Fisheries Strategy
ICRAF	International Center for Research in Agroforestry
IEC	Information, Education, Communication
IPAC	Integrated Protected Area Co-management
IQC	Indefinite Quantity Contract
IRG	International Resources Group
IUB	Independent University of Bangladesh
IUCN	World Conservation Union
JU	Jahangirnagar University
KAP	Knowledge Attitude and Practice
KM	Knowledge Management
LOI	Leaders of Influence
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MACH	Management of Aquatic Ecosystems through Community Husbandry
MNP	Modhupur National Park
MoEF	Ministry of Environment and Forest
MoFL	Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock
MoL	Ministry of Land
NAPA	National Adaptation Program of Action
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NRM	Natural Resources Management
NSP	Nishorgo Support Project
NWP	Nature, Wealth and Power
PA	Protected Area
PLACE	Prosperity, Livelihoods and Conserving Ecosystems (PLACE) IQC
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
PPP	Public Private Partnerships
ProAg	Program Agreement
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
RDRS	Rangpur Dinajpur Rural Service
RFTOP	Request for Task Order Proposal
RMO	Resource Management Organizations
RPA	Resource Planning Allocation
RUG	Resource User Groups
SEALS	Sundarban Environment And Livelihood Support (EC funded project)

SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
SOW	Statement of Work
TO CO	Task Order Contracting Officer
TPP	Technical Project Proforma
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society
WFC	World Fish Center
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

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Introduction

The technical support contract for the Integrated Protected Area Co-Management (IPAC) Project was awarded on June 4, 2008 by USAID/Bangladesh through the PLACE Indefinite Quantity Contract (IQC) to IRG through Task Order no. EPP-I-01-06-00007-00. The IPAC contract provides for technical advisory services and other support to be provided over the next five years to GOB environment, forestry and fisheries agencies and key stakeholders engaged in the further development and scaling up of the collaborative management or co-management of protected areas in Bangladesh.

IPAC is designed to contribute to sustainable natural resource management and enhanced biodiversity conservation in targeted landscapes with the goal of preserving the natural capital of Bangladesh while promoting equitable economic growth and strengthening environmental governance. IPAC is being implemented by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, and Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, through a consortium of partners led by International Resources Group.¹

This second quarterly progress report for IPAC covers the period September 1, 2008 to November 30, 2008. This report describes recent progress in implementing IPAC, including a brief summary of activities carried out in the last quarter, issues and constraints encountered and priorities for the upcoming quarter. Annexes for this report include a list of recent reports and deliverables; key reports are posted on the IPAC page of the Nishorgo website (www.nishorgo.org). Additional detailed information about the scope and purpose of IPAC, as well as targeted results and a schedule for completion of deliverables can be found in the Annual Work Plan and other supporting documentation posted on the IPAC page and available from the IPAC team. For more information, contact: IPAC, House 68 (2nd floor), Road 1, Block I, Banani, Dhaka 1213, Bangladesh tel. 880-2-987 3229 or visit www.nishorgo.org.

Summary of Recent Progress

During the second quarter, the IPAC team, partners and local stakeholders moved ahead to accomplish many follow on tasks related to mobilization and start-up, including most of the priority activities identified in the previous quarterly report.

Progress was especially noteworthy with respect to the following activities, which are described more fully in the main sections of this report:

- Designed and initiated the information gathering and research activities needed to develop the IPAC Communications Strategy
- Finalized the draft report on the assessment of Co-management Committees (CMC)
- Mobilized ELI Attorney Lisa Goldman to assist with the analysis of the legal and institutional framework for forest and wetland co-management

¹ In addition to IRG, the IPAC team partners include: WWF-US, dTS, East West Center, ELI, Epler-Wood International, WorldFish Center, CIPD, RDRS, CODEC, BELA, Asiatic Communications, Oasis Transformation, Module Architects, Independent University of Bangladesh and Jahangirnagar University.

- Assisted the Forest Dept to finalize the Guidelines for the Collection and Utilization of Entry Fees
- Assisted with the Nishorgo Support Project (NSP) Close Out Event and final Steering Committee meeting of NSP
- Progressed with the preparation of the first certificate course on Conservation Biology to be offered by IUB/JU in the first half of 2009
- Participated in DOF national workshop on dissemination of good practices for community based management of open water fisheries and wetlands, and collaborated with district level good practices workshop in Moulivubazar
- Facilitated completion of bamboo crafts and sewing training initiated by NSP with local communities around Modhupur National Park
- Joined the Arannayk Foundation evaluation team for visits to CHT sites and organized initial consultations with Forest Department officials in CHT and local communities leaders in the vicinity of the Pablakali Wildlife Sanctuary
- Established the basis for strong collaboration with UNDP Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Facility (CHTDF) project, and Hill District Councils, and cooperated with them to organize the Inception Workshop for IPAC in the CHT Cluster.
- Briefed Secretary of the Ministry of CHT Affairs, Chairman of the CHT Regional Council and Chairman and members of the Rangamati Hills District Council on the context, scope and objectives of IPAC
- Participated with USAID and US Forest Service in joint project design mission for EC SEALS project designed to strengthen management of Sundarbans Reserved Forests and associated natural resource based livelihoods; IPAC-SEALS collaboration reinforced by signature of a MOU between USAID and EC.
- Completed initial identification of key stakeholders for co-management of Sundarbans Protected Areas, and provided comments on draft Tiger Action Plan for Sundarbans
- Organized workshop with senior staff of DOE – the third in a series of brainstorming and planning workshops with principal GOB technical departments responsible for IPAC implementation
- Worked closely with USAID, MoFL, DOF and MACH NGO partners to finalize and obtain Ministry approval of MACH MOU needed to release funds allocated for follow-on activities
- Assisted in the preparation and review of IPAC TPP, and submitted revised TPP for approval by MoEF.
- Managed recruitment process for IPAC technical field staff, including review and short-listing of qualified candidates, organization of written tests, interviews of finalists and assignment of 36 top ranked candidates to field positions in 5 Clusters.
- Reviewed, revised and finalized scopes of works and budgets for proposed subcontractors, and requested and received consent to subcontract for most local partners
- In association with USAID, supported the organization of the official Launching of IPAC and 2 field visits in CHT by the US Ambassador, USAID Mission Director and IRG/Washington Vice President and other decision makers, partner representatives and IPAC team members.

Project Implementation

IPAC includes three main components:

1. **IPAC Strategic Framework:** Development of a coherent strategy for integrated protected areas co-management and biodiversity conservation, through support for constituency building; visioning, policy analysis and strategy development; partnership building for sustainable financing; and development of an outreach and communication strategy with a focus on awareness-raising.
2. **Capacity Building:** Building stakeholder and institutional capacity, through support for training to GOB national and local level staff, NGOs and rural communities; strengthening of existing training centers and development of new and innovative applied training courses; and development of local support services for integrated, participatory co-management.
3. **Site specific implementation:** Support implementation of co-management in Protected Areas to continue field testing and institutionalization of proven approaches for integrated PA co-management in existing and new aquatic and terrestrial protected areas; this will include the selection of additional sites to scale up the network of co-managed PA, and expanded support for alternative income generation activities, value chain strengthening, public-private partnerships, leveraged conservation financing and local level outreach to increase community interest in conservation and environmental stewardship, while contributing to improved welfare of rural communities through reduced vulnerability and increased adaptation to climate change, increased access to improved drinking water supplies and more secure and diversified livelihoods.

The project will also support **cross-cutting approaches** to take account of gender perspectives in natural resource management and to enhance gender mainstreaming processes, along with a focus on youth, to improve the livelihoods of young people and to provide a solid future constituency for conservation.

In June-July 2008, a detailed implementation plan and schedule for completion of targeted results and deliverables was prepared in close consultation with IPAC partners. The first quarter of IPAC project implementation was characterized by initial mobilization and work planning. Over the second quarter, the IPAC team, partners and local stakeholders have moved ahead to accomplish many additional follow on tasks related to mobilization and start-up, including most of the priority activities identified in the previous quarterly report.

Development of IPAC Strategic Framework

As groundwork for the preparation of the IPAC strategic framework and action plan, the team mobilized ELI Attorney Lisa Goldman from October 21-November 2, to assist with the initial phase of analysis of the current legal and institutional framework for forest and wetland co-management, and identification of policy changes and legal reforms to strengthen this framework

We also moved ahead with planning for short term technical assistance missions to support community based ecotourism development and to explore carbon sequestration financing opportunities. The team supported the Forest Dept in the finalization of Guidelines for the Collection and Utilization of Entry Fees and submission of these guidelines to the MoEF for approval. We also provided comments to finalize the draft report of the CODEC evaluation of NSP in the Southeast Cluster; this report has many useful recommendations aimed at improving the effectiveness of IPAC support to Forest Dept, CMCs and local communities engaged in forest PA co-management.

Over the past few months, IPAC team provided assistance for the Nishorgo Support Project (NSP) Close Out Event and final Steering Committee meeting of NSP, which reviewed the

context, achievements to date and proposed next steps to address a number of pending policy and field level implementation issues for the Nishorgo Program.

The team participated in the CHT field visits with the evaluation team for the Arannayk Foundation, and organized initial consultations with Forest Department officials in CHT and local communities leaders in the vicinity of the Pablakali Wildlife Sanctuary.

We also worked with Asiatic to carry out the initial phase of a research action plan for the development of the IPAC communications strategy, including the preparation of KAP survey forms and questions for Focus Group Discussions designed to identify key behavior changes needed and associated messages to be featured in the communication strategy. Survey teams collected data from more than 1500 households and targeted stakeholders located in the five IPAC Clusters; the analysis and reporting is scheduled for completion in January 2009.

Capacity Building

A third brainstorming and planning workshop was organized on September 22, 2008 in Dhaka to familiarize senior staff of the Department of Environment (DOE) with the scope, objectives, expected results and team organization of IPAC, and to facilitate a dialogue on annual work planning priorities and targets for site specific implementation to be incorporated into the DPP.

The workshop was attended by 31 participants of which 24 from DoE including the Director General, Directors, Project Director, Deputy Directors, Project Coordinator, Program Manager, Assistant Directors, Research Officers, United Nations Volunteer, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, Analyst, Accounts Officer and senior professionals from development partner organizations, Ex-National Coordinator-MACH Project, and key staff from IPAC and USAID. (see workshop report for additional details).

In close consultation with IUB/JU, further progress was made on the development of a course outline and summary description for the Certificate Course in Applied Conservation Biology IUB/JU circulated an updated version of the training proposal on November 6, 2008, and useful feedback was received and compiled from USAID, project staff and partners, including Brian Smith of WCS.

As part of the support provided during the extension phase of NSP, training on Bamboo and Cane Material Products was carried out for interested stakeholders around Modhupur. About 120 men and women from the Garo community received the training. The crafts produced during the training program were displayed at the Nishorgo close out and IPAC launching events and widely appreciated. Sewing training was also provided to 48 Garo women who were not involved with any other income generation activities earlier. The trainers of the training program were locally recruited.

In November, a meeting was organized with Jill Majerus, Country Director, Action For Enterprise (AFE), Bangladesh on value chain analysis and enterprise development training. It was agreed that IPAC would aim to organize a 6 day training event in mid February, 2009, to present the methodology and key concepts developed by AFE along with information on Fair Trade to be presented by Oasis. A proposal for this training course is currently under review.

The IPAC team also participated in the DOF national workshop on dissemination of good practices for community based management of open water fisheries and wetlands, and collaborated with district level good practices workshop in Moulivubazar. Proposals for reproduction and widespread dissemination of summary documentation on “good practices” are currently under consideration.

In order to assess the expertise and promote potential collaboration with capacity building and training programs in co-management of wetlands and protected forests with national and regional institutions based in Thailand, planning began for a short visit to Bangkok and Chiang Mai, to be organized in December 2008.

In anticipation of finalization of recruitment of key field staff for all five IPAC Clusters, the team also moved ahead with planning and preparations for a 3-day orientation training for IPAC staff and partners, to be organized in the second half of December.

Site Specific Implementation

The CMC capacity assessment report was finalized and circulated to all concerned personnel. It provides an excellent review of the strengths and weaknesses of CMC, along with guidance for improving the institutional sustainability of CMC under IPAC.

CODEC completed an evaluation of NSP activities in the SE Cluster; the draft report was reviewed by IPAC staff and comments sent to CODEC. The final report will include a number of useful recommendations and guidance for IPAC implementation based on lessons learned from NSP.

Consultations with local communities were carried out in advance of the formation of a CMC for Modhupur National Park; some 150 persons attended three meetings. (See other activities carried out with financial support from NSP in the Central and Sundarbans Clusters during the NSP extension period, noted below).

In September, several IPAC team members joined the Arannayk Foundation evaluation team for visits to CHT sites and organized initial consultations with Forest Department officials in CHT and local community leaders in the vicinity of the Pablakali Wildlife Sanctuary.

In September-October, the team worked closely with USAID to also establish the basis for strong collaboration with the UNDP Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Facility (CHTDF) project, the CHT Regional Council and the Rangamati Hill District Council.

On October 15, the team joined the USAID Mission Director to brief the Secretary of the Ministry of CHT Affairs on the context, scope and objectives of IPAC

Working through our local NGO partner, CIPD, the team also moved ahead in close collaboration with CHTDF and the Rangamati Hill District Council to organize the Inception Workshop for IPAC in the CHT Cluster. This workshop was held in Rangamati on October 30, 2008. Key staff participated from Forest Dept, DOF, DOE, and BFDC. Stakeholders from communities surrounding the Pablakhali WS and Kaptai NP also had an opportunity to participate and to voice their concerns during the workshop. A representative of the Rangamati Hill District Council was the chief guest of the workshop. The Workshop served to reinforce collaboration with the UNDP CHTDF project, and to present and discuss the scope and objectives, anticipated results and planned interventions of IPAC (see detailed workshop report).

The IPAC also participated with USAID and the US Forest Service in the project design mission for the EC funded SEALS project. SEALS is being designed to strengthen the management of Sundarbans Reserved Forests and associated natural resource based livelihoods. In October, IPAC-SEALS collaboration was reinforced by the signature of a MOU between USAID and EC.

Field visits to the Sundarbans Cluster were completed in September-October to identify key stakeholders and a draft report has been prepared. The IPAC team also provided comments on the draft Tiger Action Plan for Sundarbans.

Performance Monitoring

During the first quarter, a Performance Monitoring Plan was prepared to outline performance monitoring activities, organization and staffing of monitoring activities and to provide information for each proposed performance monitoring indicator. In the second quarter, several additional common indicators were incorporated into the IPAC PMP, including:

1. Number of people receiving USG supported training in environmental law, enforcement, public participation, and cleaner production policies, strategies, skills, and techniques and
2. Number of people receiving USG supported training in global climate change including framework convention on climate change, greenhouse gas inventories, mitigation, and adaptation analysis

Additional annual targets were also developed for common and custom indicators. See updated targets in Annex 3.

During this quarter, job descriptions for the PMAR team members were also updated and qualified persons recruited, tested and selected. One centrally based Advisor and five Cluster level PMAR Associates are being mobilized through WorldFish. The PMAR Associates and Data Analyst visited Sundarban Cluster and North-East Cluster (Tanguar Haor) to get first hand impression on fisheries resources, and constraints and opportunities for IPAC to work on PA co-management.

Several questionnaires have been finalized to monitor fish catch. Questionnaires include: Fish catch survey, Gear Survey, Fish aggregating device (FAD) survey, Length-frequency monitoring survey and organized fishing monitoring format. Other supporting documents such as instruction guidelines for monitoring (in Bengali), fish code list and gear code list have also been prepared.

Other Cross-Cutting Elements

DoF-WorldFish jointly established a stall at the Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Center, Dhaka in October for demonstrating World Food Day 2008. Extensive TV coverage from different TV channels provided coverage of the event and highlighted IPAC plans for increasing food security through support for sustainable livelihoods and participatory NRM in and around targeted Protected Areas.

The team noted the significant success achieved by the UNDP CHTDF project in mainstreaming gender in their field support, training and other assistance provided to communities in the CHT; in the coming months, IPAC will build upon and utilize their successful approach in the implementation of IPAC. Advance planning continued for short term technical assistance by IPAC partner dTS to carry out a gender assessment in the first quarter of 2009.

Project Management

Transition from Nishorgo Project Support to IPAC

The five year Nishorgo Support Project officially ended on November 30, 2008 after a 6 month extension. Accordingly, the transition process of gradually shifting key IRG project staff selected to continue with IPAC from full time work on NSP to full time work on IPAC was completed in November. 20 technical and support staff are now employed by IRG for IPAC.

Over the past quarter, the NSP/IPAC team worked closely to help ensure the successful completion of a number of NSP close out activities, including the organization of exchange visits and alternative income generation training for communities living near the Modhupur National Park (MNP). A framework management plan was also prepared for MNP. Architectural and landscape designs were also developed for infrastructure development and restoration of Forest Dept facilities damaged by cyclone Sidr in the Sundarbans Protected Areas.

Philip DeCosse, COP of NSP joined the NSP/IPAC team in November to supervise the organization of the NSP Close Out Event, as well as launches and media events for the

IRG/CPF Tripura book and the landmark Guide to Wildlife. He also made a final presentation to the 7th meeting of the NSP Steering Committee convened on November 13. The lessons learned and recommendations emerging from the NSP close out events are being taken up by the IPAC team and Forest Dept, and will be analyzed and discussed in greater depth during the seminars on lessons learned from participatory management of wetlands and forest protected area co-management. Planning is underway to organize these seminars in March, 2009.

Official National Launch of IPAC

In close collaboration with USAID and with assistance from Asiatic Communications and other partners, the team devoted considerable efforts to the planning and organization of the official national launching ceremony of IPAC, which was held on November 18, 2008 in Rangamati. The US Ambassador and USAID Mission Director joined the Secretary of the Ministry of CHT Affairs, the Chief Conservator of Forests and representatives of the Department of Fisheries and Department of Environment as well as IPAC partners, local authorities and key stakeholders to officially launch IPAC amid extensive press coverage. The event was followed by two days of field visits to a range of sites in the CHT, including AF assisted herbal gardens, community conservation areas and Kaptai National Park, one of the important sites for field level implementation of IPAC.

Staffing

A major effort was undertaken to recruit the best qualified technical field staff to support IPAC implementation at the field level. Following the advertisement of key positions in the national media, the IPAC team reviewed and short-listed the most qualified candidates, and in close collaboration with IUB, CIPD, RDRS, CODEC and WorldFish, organized written tests and interviews of finalists. By the end of the quarter, assignments were being made of the top ranked candidates to more than 40 field positions in 5 Clusters.

Administration and Finance

During the last quarter, the team finalized scopes of works and budgets for proposed local subcontractors, and requested and received USAID consent to subcontract for most partners. On November 9, a half day orientation and training session on financial management and invoicing was organized with local partners (subcontractor representatives and accountants).

The team also worked closely with USAID, MoFL, DOF and MACH NGO partners to finalize and obtain Ministry approval of MACH MOU needed to release funds allocated for follow-on activities. Field office leases were transferred to IPAC and renewed. The Dhaka office lease was also renewed for use by the IPAC team.

Considerable effort was also dedicated to the preparation of the IPAC TPP. Following the formal review in October of the TPP by a committee convened by MoEF, the IPAC team then helped in November to finalize a revised TPP for approval by MoEF. A three person team was mobilized to assist the MoEF and MoFL in assessing the priority needs and estimated costs of RPA investments for IPAC. IPAC DPPs are now under preparation with FD, DOF and DOE and are due to be finalized in the first quarter of 2009.

Issues Arising and Recommended Actions

Resolution of issues cited in the last quarter. The main issues noted in the last quarterly report (delay in signature of MACH MOU and in organization of DOE planning workshop) were successfully resolved. Considerable effort was required and provided to move ahead with subcontract approvals, but with the arrival of the USAID CO, much progress was made in this regard as well. Despite the nomination of new senior staff in the MoEF, more effort is needed and will be organized in the next quarter to raise the profile of IPAC in the MoEF and to move ahead with pending policy implementation issues. Relations are already excellent with the Forest

Dept, and developing well with the DOF. In the next quarter, similar progress is expected in the development of working relationships with DOE.

Mobilization of support for IPAC in the CHT. During the team's initial visit to the CHT in September, the Chairmen of the CHT Regional Council and Rangamati Hills District Council were both briefed on the scope and objectives of IPAC, and priority interventions were discussed. In the ensuing weeks, the team worked to address questions raised during these initial meetings. The Chairman of the Rangamati Hills District Council then designated a representative to be Chief Guest at the IPAC Inception Workshop for the CHT Cluster, and also served as the chief host along with the Secretary of the Ministry of CHT Affairs for the National Launching Ceremony of IPAC, organized in Rangamati in November. However, additional dialogue will be needed with the CHT Regional Council to fully address their concerns.

Renewed emphasis on field level implementation. IPAC was designed and organized to avoid a hiatus in the continued implementation of interventions piloted by MACH and Nishorgo. However, there are still fundamental institutional capacity and related structural problems which work against the sustainability of both pilot efforts – and more time is needed to fully assess and resolve those issues. The MACH NGOs do have access to an Endowment Fund and after some delay, the MOU between DOF and these MACH NGOs was signed, but additional staff and resources need to be mobilized by IPAC to reinforce and carry forward activities started by MACH. Similarly, although NSP completed the ADP process for another year in July-August, and NSP field support to CMCs and FD was extended into November 2008, a number of measures are needed to address several continuing issues and challenges. Many of these issues were noted in the Nishorgo Close out Event and in the NSP Evaluation for the SE Cluster prepared by CODEC, but their full resolution is unlikely to be easily or quickly achieved. However, with the completion of the bulk of activities required for the mobilization and start up of IPAC, and with the recruitment of training of field staff posted to each of the five IPAC Clusters well underway, more emphasis can now be given to supporting site level implementation (component three) along with both deeper and broader capacity building (component two) and the necessary strengthening and further development of the IPAC strategic framework and enabling environment (component one).

Team building, improved coordination and strengthened communication. During the first six months, a series of brainstorming and planning events were organized with the three technical departments responsible for implementing and institutionalizing IPAC. Broad agreement was reached on the targeted Clusters for IPAC. Regular meetings were also held with the large number of partners in the IPAC team. Numerous field visits and site level assessments were organized or planned to gather needed information for the development of the IPAC communication strategy as well as capacity building and enterprise and AIG interventions. Several important events were organized to initiate IPAC project support in new areas and to officially launch IPAC. Significant progress was made in preparation and approval of the required TPP/DPP and subcontracts, and with field staff recruitment. Accordingly, in the next quarter, it will now be possible to organize a series of needed team-building, orientation training and specialized briefings and training sessions that are needed to move ahead with the achievement of targeted results, improve partner coordination, information sharing and to further clarify roles and responsibilities in project implementation.

Priorities for Next Quarter

Component 1 – IPAC Strategy Development

Complete fieldwork for KAP survey and Focus Group Discussions; prepare summary report and organize next stage of development of the IPAC Communications strategy

Develop plans for first policy roundtable, to be facilitated by Asiatic

Organize follow up mission by ELI Senior Attorney Jay Pendergrass to assist with further development of recommendations for improved legislative and institutional framework for IPAC, included potential linkages between proposed legislation related to co-management of protected areas, establishment of new fisheries sanctuaries and promotion of village forestry

Mobilize Policy Advisor to track and support resolution of policy issues, including:

- Formal adoption of guidelines for entry fee collection and utilization

- Preparation and approval of GO for CMC in new sites

- Access to leases in managed wetlands

- Clarification of permission to construct CONIC

- Benefit sharing and rights to plantations in Protected Area landscapes

- Approval and funding of Chunoti carbon sequestration pilot

- Promotion of Public Private Partnerships in support of PA co-management

Work with interested constituencies to develop networks and alert systems to respond to threats to Protected Areas

Mobilize Epler Wood International (EWI) to assist in developing strategies to support community based ecotourism development

Develop TOR for economic analysis of natural resource based livelihoods, ecosystem services and potential economic contributions from the Sundarbans

Plan short term TA by IRG/W to assist with analysis of carbon sequestration financing opportunities and climate change mitigation and adaptation intervention strategies

Component 2 – Building Institutional Capacity

Assist with visit of Dhaka University students to LNP and Hail Haor

Assist with planning, preparation of communication materials and organization of additional district level workshops to disseminate “good practices” in collaborative management of fisheries and wetlands

Prepare and organize orientation training for IPAC field staff and partners Dec 22-24, 2008, and follow up with preparation of foundation training

Organize orientation session for performance monitoring management team / field staff

Follow up with organization of bamboo craft training and other AIG activities in CHT, Sundarbans and other targeted Clusters

Organize additional specialized short courses for IPAC staff and partners, including short course on outreach /communication, and 6 day course on value chain analysis, enterprise development and fair trade.

Finalize design for Conservation Biology Certificate Course; prepare for initial course offering in 2nd quarter of 2009

Finalize and circulate CODEC evaluation report; complete rapid assessment of most successful elements in participatory wetlands / fisheries management pilot projects (FFP, CBFM, MACH)

Organize lessons learned seminars for co-management of wetlands, protected forests and environmentally critical areas, both nationally and in targeted Clusters

Proceed with university visits in Thailand and follow up on prospective collaboration in capacity building and long and short term training activities with institutions in India and Thailand

Update the institutional and capacity building assessments prepared for MACH and Nishorgo, and agree upon the process to be supported for the development of a capacity building strategy for the scaling up and institutionalization of the IPAC system

Work with Forest Dept and stakeholders to develop concept paper for FAO assisted capacity building grant (National Forestry Program Facility)

Complete advance planning and initial organization of cross / exchange visits for selected groups

Organize initial visit by Jeff Fox, East West Center, to plan for WriteShops and applied research case studies

Component 3 – Site specific implementation

Organize Inception Workshops in four more IPAC Clusters, and proceed with analysis and integration of results from site level assessments (PRA, Oasis surveys, Asiatic KAP/FGD, others) in all Clusters

Assess, prioritize and schedule key steps for supporting the establishment, strengthening and formalization of key CBO (RUG, FUG, RMO, CMC) and federations to be mobilized and engaged in co-management interventions in each Cluster

Organize visits to all MACH sites to assess current status and facilitate collaboration with MACH NGO partners and new IPAC staff

Visit all Nishorgo sites to assess pressing issues related to CBO sustainability, encroachment, illegal felling, etc.

Follow up with CMC in LNP and Teknaf to adopt guidelines and procedures for local management of dormitories and visitor facilities

Move ahead with review and approval of Management Plan / Action Plan for Modhupur National Park

Move ahead with planning and preparation of strategic management plan for Sundarbans, in consultation with key interested stakeholders

Develop MOU for collaboration with BCDP, WCS and Ministry of Water Resources for establishment of new marine protected area and associated sanctuaries in the Sundarbans

Performance Monitoring and Cross – Cutting

Organize team building session with all IPAC partners

Complete methodology and data collection sheets for periodic performance reporting from field sites

Recruit PMAR Technical Advisor; elaborate on management structure for PMAR team and arrange orientation session for PMAR team members.

Proceed with mapping and PMP baseline data collection in new Clusters/Sites; complete methodology and data collection sheets, formats for monthly, quarterly and yearly reporting

Facilitate and support organization of IPAC Steering Committee

Organize short term TA by dTS for gender analysis

Administration, Finance and Staffing

Continue liaison with FD, DOF and DOE to finalize DPP and designate project coordinators for IPAC

Complete process for signature of subcontracts, and follow up with Cluster Coordinators to finalize arrangements for office set up and logistical support provisions in all Clusters

Complete procurement of additional needed equipment for IPAC and subcontractors

Complete updating of job descriptions for all new IPAC personnel

Expand office space in Banani to enable Technical Coordinator (Wetlands & Fisheries) and supporting staff to join the team in the main IPAC office.

Complete assessment of staffing needs, identification of qualified candidates and develop proposals for USAID approval to fill critically important positions as needed

Provide periodic expenditure projections, VAT reports and financial progress reports

Annex 1 - Activity Calendar

Sept 2	Presentation of CMC Assessment to Forest Dept
Sept 3-5	Mohdupur National Park site visit
Sept 9-12	Participation in Arannyk Foundation evaluation mission; visit to PWS
Sept 16-19	Field visit to Sundarbans with Forest Dept and SEALS team
Sept 22	Brainstorming and planning workshop with Dept of Environment
Sept 25	SEALS design workshop - Khulna
Oct 13	Meeting with IPAC Partners; review of Asiatic survey plans
Oct 15	Meeting with Secretary, CHT Affairs
Oct 16	Debriefing – EC/SEALS Project design team
Oct 20	Start of Asiatic KAP Survey fieldwork
Oct 21	Review of results of UNDP CHTDF evaluation team
Oct 22–Nov 2	Mission by Lisa Goldman, ELI
Oct 29	Coordination Workshop with UNDP CHTDF
Oct 30	Inception Workshop – IPAC CHT Cluster, Rangamati
Nov 4	Presentation of Vitti landscape plans for Sundarban PA
Nov 13	Nishorgo Close Out Event and NSP Steering Committee Meeting
Nov 15-22	Visit by Cynthia Pflugh, IRG Corporate Vice President
Nov 16	Tripura Book Launch
Nov 17	Wildlife Book Launch
Nov 18-20	IPAC National Launch and field visits – CHT
Nov 27	EC - SEALS debriefing for Forest Dept.

Annex 2 - Listing of IPAC Reports and Deliverables

IPAC Summary (powerpoint) – for DOE Workshop, Sept 22, 2008

IPAC Summary (powerpoint) – for CHT Cluster Inception Workshop, Oct 30, 2008

Summary Report on Brainstorming / Planning Session of DOE and IPAC, Sept 22, 2008

Report of the IPAC Inception Workshop for the CHT Cluster, Rangamati, Oct 30, 2008 (draft)

Performance Monitoring Plan, November 24, 2008 (revised with additional indicators)

Trip Report on ELI Legislative Review – Lisa Goldman, November 25, 2008 (draft)

Guidelines for the Collection and Utilization of Entry Fees, November, 2008 (revised draft, in English and Bangla)

Outline and short description for Certificate Course on Conservation Biology, draft prepared by IUB/JU in November, 2008

IPAC TPP: drafted in Sept, reviewed in October, revised in November 2008

Summary note for DOF Workshop on “Dissemination of Good Practices”, October, 2008

Consultant Report on Stakeholder Assessment for Sundarban Cluster

Commentary of draft Tiger Action Plan for Sundarbans

Scene setters and briefing notes for Nishorgo Close Out, Book Launch and IPAC Launch

CMC Assessment report (drafted and revised by Prof. Niaz and team)

Nishorgo Support Project Evaluation report (draft by CODEC)

Protected Areas of Bangladesh: A Guide to Wildlife, by M. Monirul H. Khan, published by Nishorgo Program, Forest Department with support from USAID / NSP, November, 2008.

Annex 3 – Updated PMP Targets

Table 1- Common Indicators of the U.S. Foreign Assistance Framework for IPAC

Indicators	Baseline	2009	2010	2011	2013	Notes
1: Number of hectares under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance.	134,268 ha	36,450 ha	105,725 ha	175,000 ha	453,804 ha	These targets include the total area of the landscapes being managed around targeted PA sites; PA management plans will be prepared for these areas to specify improved NRM practices for the core PA and adjacent buffer zones and landscapes inhabited by surrounding communities
2: Number of hectares in areas of biological significance under improved management as a result of USG assistance.	46,111 ha	18,701 ha	40,000 ha	82,464 ha	305,372 ha	These targets include the core protected areas of the targeted sites, except for the ECA Sundarbans
3: Number of hectares of natural resources showing improved biophysical conditions as a result of USG assistance.	32,743 ha	5,000	25,000	50,000	70,000	These areas are a subset of sites brought under improved NRM (indicator 1)
4: Number of hectares in areas of biological significance showing improved biophysical conditions as a result of USG assistance.	2673 ha	3,000	20,000	40,000	65,000	These areas are a subset of core protected areas under improved management (indicator 2)
5: Number of policies, laws, agreements or regulations promoting sustainable natural resource management and conservation that are implemented as a result of USG assistance.	2	2	5	10	20	Based on # of national enabling policies, laws and regulations, # of new co-management agreements, # of regulations or conventions adopted by communities to support community patrolling, wetland protection and PA management
6: Number of people with increased economic benefits derived from sustainable natural resource management and conservation as a result of USG assistance.	137,830	100,000	150,000	200,000	500,000	Based on data from participation in AIG activities and other inventions linked to increased economic benefit
7: Number of people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation.	32, 203	5,000	10,000	15,000	20,000	# of men (60%) and women (40%) trained through support from IPAC

8: Number of people with increased adaptive capacity to cope with impacts of climate variability and change as a result of USG assistance.	137,830	50,000	75,000	100,000	200,000	Based on a composite index integrating key factors affecting local level adaptive capacity; includes # of persons benefiting from IPAC assistance related to training and AIG that directly enable increased adaptive capacity
9: Quantity of greenhouse gas emissions, measured in million metric tons Carbon, reduced or sequestered as a result of USG assistance (million metric Ton C).		4.29	5.57	6.85	8.26	Requires baseline assessment of vegetative cover and annual surveys of changes related to IPAC interventions
10. Number of people in target areas with access to improved drinking water supply as a result of USG assistance	0	5,000	10,000	20,000	30,000	Includes # of persons benefiting from IPAC interventions and leveraged assistance in landscapes around PA
11. Number of people receiving USG supported training in environmental law, enforcement, public participation, and cleaner production policies, strategies, skills, and techniques	0	150	300	450	750	
12. Number of people receiving USG supported training in global climate change including framework convention on climate change, greenhouse gas inventories, mitigation, and adaptation analysis	0	-	25	50	50	

Table 2 - Custom Indicators for IPAC

Indicators	Baseline	2009	2010	2011	2013	Notes
13: Number of individuals benefiting from use of improved stove and bio-gas plants.	25,166	5,600	19,600	28,000	44,800	Improved wood stoves and bio-gas plants will be installed in the targeted areas to reduce pressure on supplies of fuelwood
14: Market and non-market revenue generated from AIG, ecotourism and other economic activities in targeted sites	\$0	\$250,000	\$800,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Includes revenues generated from AIG support, ecotourism enterprises, PA employment, entry fees; requires baseline surveys of current revenues and annual surveys of added revenues
15: Increase in density of indicator bird species in wetland and forested landscape	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	Baseline survey to be carried out with revised set of Indicator birds for forest health and additional bird species selected for wetlands
16: Amount of leveraged financing for conservation	\$0	\$4,300,000	\$8,600,000	\$12,900,000	\$21,500,000	Includes PPP, new donor and GOB investments and leveraged carbon financing
17: Number of individuals that are aware of a national Protected Areas network.	20,000	50,000	500,000	1,000,000	2,500,000	Estimated number of persons reached through awareness raising and other actions of communication strategy; based on annual surveys of sample population
18: Improved capacity of Forest Department, DOE& DOF to support integrated conservation and development programs.	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	Based on composite index of factors relevant to institutional strengthening of the FD, DOE and DOF and progress in shifting operating paradigm to promote co-management and integrated conservation issues and climate change.
19: Number of communities with co-management agreements.	Forest – 8 wetland -16	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	After the initial assessment through RRA/PRA and from inputs from, dof FD, target values will be set.
20: Number of training curriculums developed and trained modules designed and taught	0	4	6	10	20	Includes diploma and certificate courses on biodiversity, climate change, wildlife management, Protected Area management etc.
21: Number of recorded visitors to targeted Pas.	55,428	50,000	250,000	500,000	1,000,000	This will capture increase in number of registered visitors in the PAs, additional information will be recorded on actual revenue earned Based on adoption of entry fee payment systems by the Government.
22. Number of GOB protected area management units with improved capacity for co-management	5	9	15	19	45	Based on composite index reflecting changes in effectiveness of protection, community participation, stakeholder representation, economic benefits generated, operating budgets, staffing and infrastructure improvements