



## Biodiversity Conservation and Rural Livelihoods Improvement (P088520)

SOUTH ASIA | India | Environment & Natural Resources Global Practice |  
IBRD/IDA | Investment Project Financing | FY 2011 | Seq No: 15 | ARCHIVED on 29-Mar-2018 | ISR31872 |

Implementing Agencies: Ministry of Environment and Forests

### Key Dates

#### Key Project Dates

Bank Approval Date:17-May-2011

Effectiveness Date:13-Jul-2011

Planned Mid Term Review Date:15-Jan-2015

Actual Mid-Term Review Date:27-Feb-2015

Original Closing Date:31-Mar-2018

Revised Closing Date:31-Mar-2018

### Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

To develop and promote new models of conservation at the landscape scale<sup>1</sup> through enhanced capacity and institution building for mainstreaming biodiversity conservation outcomes. Achieving this objective would involve the demonstration and scaling up of landscape conservation approaches. This would specifically involve tools and techniques improvements, and knowledge and capacity building to support multi-stakeholder partnerships to mainstream biodiversity conservation. It would also involve improving rural livelihoods, enhancing learning, and replicating successful participatory conservation models at the landscape scale.

Has the Project Development Objective been changed since Board Approval of the Project Objective?

No

Global Environmental Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The Project Global Environmental Objective is to enhance the conservation of globally significant biodiversity and ensure its long-term sustainability by promoting appropriate conservation practices in biodiversity-rich landscapes.

Has the Global Environmental Objective been changed since Board Approval of the Project Objective?

No

### Components

Name

Demonstration of Landscape Conservation Approaches in Two Pilot Sites:(Cost \$13.11 M)



Strengthening Knowledge Management and National Capacity for Landscape Conservation:(Cost \$6.22 M)

Scaling Up and Replication of Successful Models of Conservation in Additional Landscape Sites:(Cost \$7.57 M)

National Coordination for Landscape Conservation:(Cost \$4.12 M)

## Overall Ratings

Name	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	● Moderately Unsatisfactory	● Moderately Unsatisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	● Unsatisfactory	● Unsatisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	● Substantial	● High

## Implementation Status and Key Decisions

### Implementation Status

The project is closing on March 31, 2018 after completing its implementation period.

About 40,000 households living in four project landscapes (Little Run of Kutch in Gujarat, Satpura in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, Agasthyamalai in Tamil Nadu and Kerala and Askot in Uttarakhand) were brought together by constituting over 400 village conservation committees (VCCs). These household including forest dependent communities, such as saltpan farmers, livestock keepers, farmers, fishers, and other vulnerable groups, such as landless, Schedule Caste and Schedule Tribes. Over 450 village microplans were prepared and supported under Component 1 and 3 of the project. The collective identified investments under these microplans are in the range of Rs. 35 to 45 crore. Convergence with other programs at the landscape level improved considerably resulting in a wider access of developmental benefits for the targeted project beneficiaries. There was good achievements in community mobilization, identification and prioritization of conservation-linked livelihood investments and application of new geospatial tools for landscape mapping. However, the project performance suffered on account of low budgetary allocations and delayed release of funds, which led to only partial implementation of the microplans and limited investments on conservation-linked livelihoods.

Innovative landscape level pilots were developed as new models of conservation. These are: (i) Decentralized Planning and Mainstreaming Centric; (ii) Traditional Institutions and Local Governance Centric; (iii) Community Participation and Financial Inclusion Centric; and (iv) Convergence Centric. Given the resource constraints, efforts made by the Implementing Agencies in developing these models is an achievement.

Under the second component of the project, several technical training modules and publications were brought out, including two first Landscape Atlas (for Askot and LRK), research reports, technical manuals etc. More than 10,000 officials were trained on biodiversity and landscape conservation strategies, microplanning, community mobilization, wildlife rescue and rehabilitation etc. by the three Field Learning Centres in Gir, KMTR and Periyar and at the Wildlife Institute of India. A national course on landscape management was developed at WII for policy makers, mid-career officers and frontline staff. The draft Methodological and Institutional Framework for Landscape Approach has been prepared and is under final stages of stakeholder consultations. It is expected that this will be adopted by the MOEFCC.

### Key Decisions

1. The project will close on its original closing date of March 31, 2018 and all unspent credit and grant will be cancelled.
2. The PMU in the MOEFCC will prepare and share the Project Completion Report with the Bank by April 15, 2018.
3. The World Bank launched the preparation of the Implementation Completion and Results Report, which once finalized will be publicly disclosed.

## Risks

### Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool

Risk Category	Rating at Approval	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Political and Governance	--	● Low	● Low



Macroeconomic	--	● Low	● Low
Sector Strategies and Policies	--	● Low	● Low
Technical Design of Project or Program	--	● Moderate	● Moderate
Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability	--	● Moderate	● High
Fiduciary	--	● Substantial	● High
Environment and Social	--	● Moderate	● Low
Stakeholders	--	● Moderate	● Moderate
Other	--	--	--
Overall	--	● Substantial	● High

## Results

### Project Development Objective Indicators

#### ► Landscape conservation approach successfully adopted in two landscape sites (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Date	13-Jul-2011	01-Dec-2017	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

#### Comments

This Indicator contributes to the first part of the PDO. **It is assessed as partially achieved.** It is difficult to assess the achievement in percent, as the measurement of outcomes is highly subjective. The indicator was measured by the number of sites where landscape approach is implemented and successfully adopted. By design the indicator seem to be achieved, as project was implemented in two sites and additional two sites were added later during implementation. However, it is difficult to establish successful adoption of the landscape approach, as the scale of implementation remained low and several project activities that would have contributed to successful adoption were implemented partially.

#### ► Institutional and methodological framework and guidelines for landscape conservation approaches developed and tested in high biodiversity landscapes (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No framework for landscape conservation exists	Framework under consultation for finalization	Framework under consultation for finalization	Formal approval of guidelines and procedures by MOEF based on field testing
Date	13-Jul-2011	01-Dec-2017	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018



#### Comments

This Indicator contributes to the second part of the PDO. **This indicator is partially achieved.** There was no such framework at project start. While it has been developed, it has not been field tested and formally approved by the MOEFCC. At the time of this ISR, the framework was undergoing national consultations prior to finalization. It will not be adopted formally within the project implementation period. This is first of its kind of framework developed globally and will provide strong foundation for implementing the landscape approach globally.

#### ► At least 600,000 hectares within landscapes more effectively managed for conservation outcomes (Hectare(Ha), Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	300,000.00	--	600,000.00	600,000.00
Date	13-Jul-2011	--	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

#### Comments

This Indicator contributes towards both parts of the PDO. **The indicator is fully achieved (100%).** This was measured through the successful preparation and adoption of the PA Management Plan for the Wild Ass Sanctuary in the LRK landscape. Almost 500,000 Ha area of the sanctuary is now subject to better and effective management with financial resources allocated through the State Government budget. An additional 100,000 Ha across all the other project landscapes is also effectively managed for conservation outcomes through habitat works, sustainable resource use approaches, reducing dependence on PA resources and wildlife rescue and rehabilitation.

#### ► Governmentt institutions provided with capacity building to improve management of forest resources (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Date	10-Dec-2012	01-Dec-2017	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

#### Comments

This Indicator contributes to the second part of the PDO. **The indicator is fully achieved (100%).** The indicator is measured by the number of government institutions whose capacity was built for improved management of forest resources. The Forest Departments of Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Kerala and the Wildlife Institute of India were recipient of capacity building measures. There are reports confirming the use of skills acquired during these trainings, particularly in the areas of wildlife management, rescue and rehabilitation of wild animals, nature based livelihood improvement and community mobilization and use of geospatial approaches.



### Overall Comments

Based on the achievements of outputs and outcomes against the PDO indicators, **the PDO is rated as Moderately Unsatisfactory**. Low fund availability, delayed fund release and poor use of technical resource agencies resulted in only partial achievement of two of the PDO indicators. Only one indicator was fully achieved. Measurement of the indicators is also a challenge as it is based on interpretation rather than clear unit based measurements. This increases the complexity of measuring results. The capacity of the PMU and that of the Implementing Agencies remained low for mainstreaming of biodiversity outcomes (part 2 of the PDO).

### Global Environmental Objective Indicators

#### ► Population of key indicator species/umbrella species stable or improving within PAs (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No regular surveys of key indicator species, except Wild Ass (3,863 in 2004)	--	Regular monitoring of key indicator species undertaken across all landscape sites; Wild Ass estimated at 4451 in 2014 census	Regular monitoring to assess population status
Date	10-Dec-2012	--	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

#### Comments

This indicator contributes towards the second part of the PDO. **The indicator is fully achieved (100%)**. The population of all key indicator species across all project landscapes are showing stable and/or increasing trend. In addition to the regular wildlife census undertaken by the PA management, the project supported the use of modern approaches for the census of key species at LRK, which showed an increasing trend; through a project-supported census in 2014, the Wild Ass population at LRK is estimated at 4451 against the baseline of 3863 in 2004. At another landscape site, the project supported camera-trap approach, which remarkably reported the presence of tiger from Askot landscape, which is not known to use these areas.

#### ► Forest area brought under management plans (Hectare(Ha), Corporate)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	300,000.00	600,000.00	600,000.00	600,000.00
Date	10-Dec-2012	01-Dec-2017	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

#### Comments

This Indicator is a corporate indicator that was added in December 2012 during project implementation to meet the corporate requirements. It was not part of the Results Framework at project approval. **The indicator is fully achieved (100%)**. It measures exactly what is already covered under the PDO indicator 3. Both of these are achieved through the preparation, adoption and implementation of the Management



Plan for the Wild Ass Sanctuary in the LRK landscape and additional area brought under effective management at other project landscapes.

► Areas brought under enhanced biodiversity protection (ha) (Hectare(Ha), Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	500,000.00	500,000.00	550,000.00
Date	10-Dec-2012	01-Dec-2017	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

Comments

This Indicator is a corporate indicator that was added in December 2012 during project implementation to meet the corporate requirements. It was not part of the Results Framework at project approval. **The indicator is fully achieved (100%)**. The area measured under this indicator is same as the area measured under the interim indicator 'At least two protected areas covering 550,000 hectares with strengthened management and protection (40% increase in management effectiveness)'. Results observed under the GEO indicator 1 on population of key indicator species confirms the achievement of this indicator.

Overall Comments

The GEO indicators are interlinked and achieved. Two of the GEO indicators were added during implementation in December 2012 to meet corporate requirements but the areas measured by these overlap. Overall, Additional areas, within and outside the protected area, are under better biodiversity protection and management at all the project landscape sites.

Intermediate Results Indicators

► Direct project beneficiaries (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	5,000.00
Date	10-Dec-2012	01-Dec-2017	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

Comments



This indicator contributes to the second part of the PDO. **This indicator was achieved and exceeded (500%)**. Investments that improves access for direct and indirect stakeholders to opportunities for enhancing their capacities for sustainable biodiversity-based livelihoods contributes to the success of this indicator, as such investments aids conservation outcomes. About 25,000 individuals benefitted from investments made under the project. Both Agasthyamlai landscape in Tamil Nadu and Askot landscape in Uttarakhand have reported over 7000 direct beneficiaries each. Across all landscape sites, over 50% were women beneficiaries (14,000 female beneficiaries). The inclusion of women beneficiaries is an important measure, as the practices of harvesting nature and tending to domesticated biodiversity centers around their role. The task team is currently undertaking a beneficiary feedback survey and its findings will confirm the numbers reported here, as well as provide qualitative analysis of the benefits received by them. The findings will be reported in the ICRR.

#### ▲ Female beneficiaries (Percentage, Custom Supplement)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	12,000.00	14,000.00	2,500.00

#### ▶ At least two protected areas covering 550,000 hectares with strengthened management and protection (40% increase in management effectiveness) (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	20.00	20.00	40.00
Date	13-Jul-2011	01-Dec-2017	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

#### Comments

This indicator contributes to the second part of the PDO and is linked with one of the GEO indicators and measures the same areas. **It is partially achieved.** The management effectiveness certainly increased due to improved management practices supported under the project. However, no METT scoring was undertaken so it is not possible to establish the percent increase in management effectiveness. The preparation of the Management Plan and its approval for LRK and habitat works undertaken in other Protected Areas have contributed to the outcomes under this indicator.



► At least 50,000 ha of targeted production areas outside PAs managed for conservation outcomes (Hectare(Ha), Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	15,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
Date	13-Jul-2011	01-Dec-2017	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

#### Comments

This indicator contributes to the second part of the PDO, as it contributes to mainstreaming of conservation outcomes. **This indicator is fully achieved (100%)**. It is measured through a combination of investments that targeted community areas for pasture development, water harvesting structures for habitat improvement, support to individual farmers for sustainable farm forestry, promotion of organic farming and skill training for alternate livelihoods. All four landscapes contributed to this indicator. Given limited data available at this stage, the ICRR will look into specific contribution to this indicator from each landscape.

► New areas outside protected areas managed as biodiversity-friendly (ha) (Hectare(Ha), Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	15,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
Date	10-Dec-2012	01-Dec-2017	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

#### Comments

This indicator contributes to the second part of the PDO. This was a corporate indicator and was added in December 2012 during implementation. **This indicator is fully achieved (100%)**. There is an overlap of the area between this and the previous indicator and they both report from the same area.

► At least 20% of target user groups adopt alternate and/or sustainable resource use practices (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	5.00	10.00	20.00
Date	13-Jul-2011	01-Dec-2017	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

#### Comments

This indicator contributes to the second part of the PDO. **This indicator is only partially achieved (50%)**. Anecdotal reporting indicates that about 10% user groups have adopted sustainable use practices but no proper and final assessment was done by the landscape sites to estimate the percent achievement for this indicator. Several sustainable resource use practices, such as, promotion of organic fertilizers, sustainable forestry management etc. contributed to the achievement of this indicator. The ICRR will review in detail the achievements reported under this indicator.



► At least 75% of targeted villages or user groups completed and successfully implementing micro-plans with conservation benefits (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	Income increases reported for limited beneficiaries but not measured	20% increase in incomes for VPs/user groups where microplans are prepared in Year 1-3
Date	13-Jul-2011	--	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

Comments

This indicator contributes to the second part of the PDO. **The indicator is partially achieved.** Though 75% of targeted villages or user groups were completed, the microplans implementation remained partial and investments made on livelihoods were much less than originally envisaged in the project. Only a small number of activities identified in the microplans could be implemented due to lack of funds. The project also did not measure both conservation benefits and income increases.

► At least 20% of targeted populations in landscapes have improved cash or non-cash improved incomes from project-supported interventions (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Current baselines vary depending on source of income and dependency [e.g., salt mining, Rs 40,000- 50,000 /HH/year; fishing and grazing (supplement incomes) and much higher for wild plant trade	--	Income increases not measured and cannot be varified	10% increase in incomes for VPs/user groups where micro-plans prepared in Year 1
Date	10-Dec-2012	--	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

Comments



This indicator contributes to the second part of the PDO. **It is only partially achieved.** Large part of the population benefitted from non-cash incomes through sustainable access and use of natural resources, agro-forestry, improved pastures etc. Real income increase was not measured/estimated and the reported results are based on only anecdotal evidence available. The ICRR will look into this in more details and will try to ascertain the gains received for some of the livelihood investments made for the targeted populations in the landscape.

► National curriculum for landscape conservation developed and training institutionalized through five new annual training courses (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	5.00	5.00
Date	13-Jul-2011	--	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

Comments

**This indicator contributes to both part 1 and 2 of the PDO.** It is fully achieved. **The national curriculum has been developed and five trainings for different levels (policy-making, mid-career and frontline staff) of officers was conducted at WII. It is expected that the developed courses will be offered continuously after project closure.**

► Key stakeholders from at least five national priority landscapes trained in landscape conservation approaches (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	500.00	1,000.00	250.00
Date	13-Jul-2011	01-Dec-2017	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

Comments

This indicator contributes to the second part of the PDO. **This is achieved and exceeded (400%).** There is good documentation for confirming this. Several stakeholders from more than five national priority landscapes received training on various aspects of landscape approaches. These trainings were imparted at the three FLCs and WII.



► At least 10 new documents on good practice prepared and knowledge dissemination events sponsored (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	A number of good practice notes from previous projects exist	--	15.00	+10 new dissemination notes
Date	13-Jul-2011	--	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

Comments

This indicator contributed to both part 1 and 2 of the indicator. **The indicator is achieved and exceeded (150%)**. Fifteen new documents were prepared at WII and the three FLCs that included research reports, training manuals, guidelines, landscape atlases, management plans etc. Several knowledge dissemination events were organized.

► Adoption of landscape management approaches in two additional sites with project funding (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	2.00	2.00
Date	13-Jul-2011	--	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

Comments

This indicator contributes to part 1 of the PDO. **This indicator is partially achieved**. Even though the landscape approach in the two additional landscapes was taken up, it could only be partially implemented due to delayed and inadequate project funds. It is difficult to measure the implementation in quantitative terms.

► Adoption of landscape management approaches or specific elements of it in three additional sites with GOI funding (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	In 3 landscapes from State Government budget	Landscape conservation funded by GOI in 3 or more additional landscape
Date	13-Jul-2011	--	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

Comments

This indicator contributes to the part 2 of the PDO. **It is fully achieved**. While GOI did not fund any additional sites Government of Gujarat



funded two additional landscape based on the design of BCRLIP during project implementation, thereby promoting landscape management approaches. Forest Department of Kerala decided to follow the landscape approach through in Agasthyamalai (Kerala) landscape from own funds. GOI is continuing BCRLIP as a Central Sector Scheme under the MOEFCC and has allocated some budgetary resources for the next financial year (starting April 01). This is a good outcome and will help sustain the landscape approach beyond the project period.

► Effective and well-staffed national coordination unit within MOEF actively supporting landscape approaches (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	5.00	11.00
Date	13-Jul-2011	--	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

Comments

This indicator contributes to both the parts of the PDO. **It is partially achieved.** Staffing remained a critical issue throughout the project period. There was an initial delay of over one year in recruiting the staff. Some key positions, such as, communications expert was never appointed. The position of M&E specialist also remained vacant for the major part of the project.

► On time completion of key project outputs against implementation plan (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Weak capacity	--	Consolidated bi annual progress reports not submitted; updated procurement plans not shared and uploaded on to STEP platform; IUFR submission is generally delayed	Bi-annual progress reports, annual work plans approved in time, quarterly FMRs and annual audit reports submitted, procurement plans updated
Date	13-Jul-2011	--	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

Comments

This indicator contributes to both parts of the PDO. **This is assessed as not achieved.** Throughout the project implementation period, the various outputs, such as, bi-annual progress reports, annual work plans approved, quarterly FMRs and annual audit reports, procurement plans updated were not done in a timely manner. There remained a significant delay in meeting these milestones. Approvals of the Annual Plan of Operations and other administrative decisions also took long time.



► Design of landscape sites for Component 3 (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	This indicator was achieved as landscape activities were initiated but with a delay of over 1 year	Landscape activities initiated
Date	13-Jul-2011	--	16-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

Comments

This indicator contributes to both parts of the PDO. **This is partially achieved.** This indicator was to be achieved by the third year of the project but there was a delay of over one year in initiating the activities for this indicator, including in identifying, finalizing and designing the landscape sites for component 3.

Overall Comments

Interim indicators that related to knowledge management, institutional roles and outputs from the State Governments and their Implementing Agencies are achieved but those relating to investments were generally only partially achieved. A full realization of such indicators was not expected (and was flagged in previous ISRs) due to insufficient budget allocation and changed fund flow arrangements that caused delays in funds reaching the implementing agencies. This impacted implementation progress and achievement of results.

## Data on Financial Performance

### Disbursements (by loan)

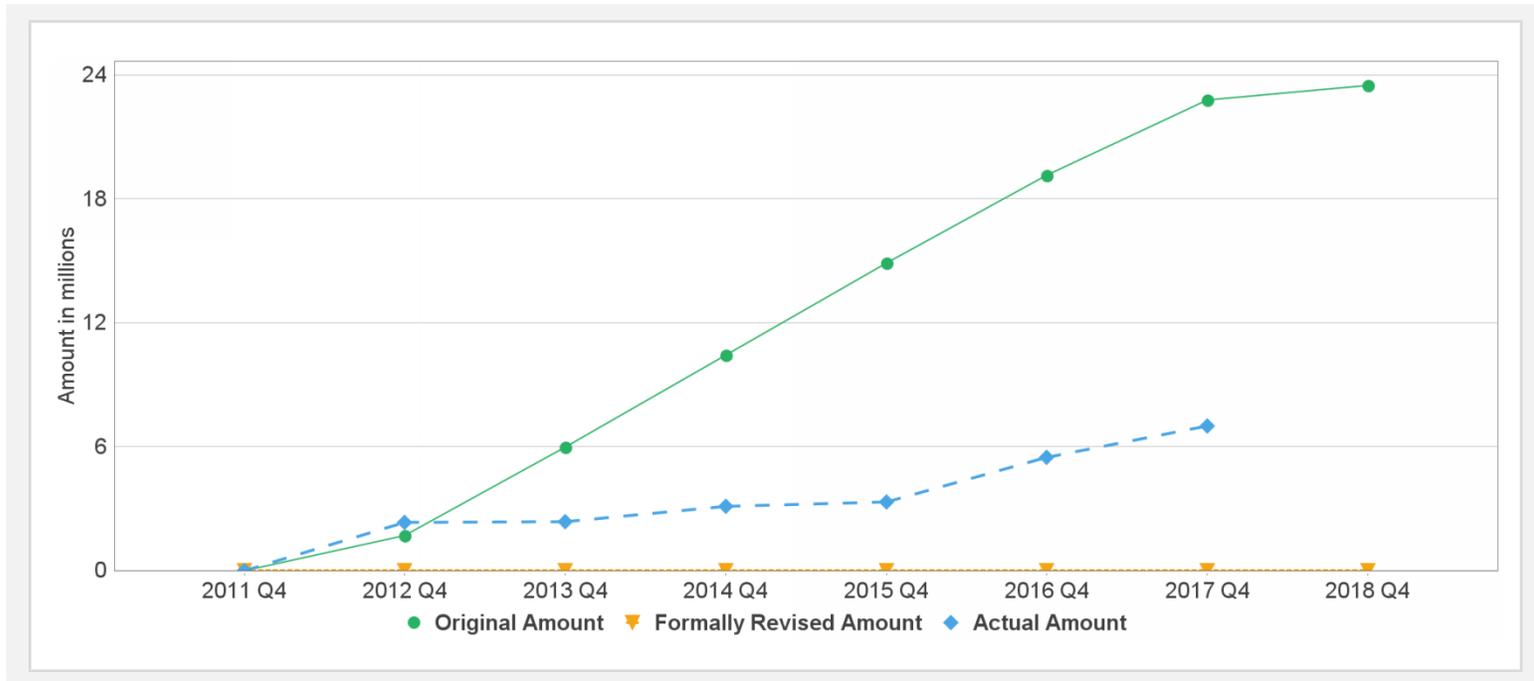
Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Disbursed
P088520	IDA-49430	Effective	USD	15.36	15.36	0.00	3.17	10.66	23%
P088598	TF-96651	Effective	USD	8.14	8.14	0.00	5.34	2.80	66%



### Key Dates (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P088520	IDA-49430	Effective	17-May-2011	14-Jun-2011	13-Jul-2011	31-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018
P088598	TF-96651	Effective	14-Jun-2011	14-Jun-2011	13-Jul-2011	31-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2018

### Cumulative Disbursements



### Restructuring History

There has been no restructuring to date.

### Related Project(s)

P088598-Biodiversity Conservation and Rural Livelihoods Improvement