

F. No. 4-14/2020-WL
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Wildlife Division)

2nd Floor, Agni Wing
Indira Paryavaran Bhavan
JorBagh Road, New Delhi- 110 003
Dated: 13-03-2023

To,
The Pay and Accounts Officer,
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,
New Delhi – 110 003.

Sub: Release of Grants-in-Aid (General) for Current Financial Year 2022-23 to the State Government of Himachal Pradesh for the implementation of Externally Aided GOI-UNDP-GEF “Securing Livelihoods, Conservation, Sustainable use and Restoration of High Range Himalayan Ecosystems (SECURE Himalaya Project), in Himachal Pradesh- reg.

Sir,

This Ministry has concurred a total of Rs. 133.93952 lakh (Rupees One Crore, Thirty-Three Lakh Ninety-Three Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-Two only), in FY 2022-23, for the implementation of the above project in Himachal Pradesh. Out of the total concurrence, the amount of Rs. 74.93952 lakh is to be spent by the State Government of Himachal Pradesh as Grants-in-Aid (General) and the balance Rs. 59.00 lakh is to be spent through the Country Office Support Services of UNDP under the Direct Payment Procedure of GFR-2017. An item-wise break-up of the sanctioned amount is provided in ANNEXURE. An amount of Rs. 18.58774 lakh (Rupees Eighteen Lakh Fifty-Eight Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy-Four only) has already been released as Grants-in-Aid (General), therefore, the balance amount to be released in CFY 2022-23 is Rs. 56.35178 lakh.

2. I am directed to convey the sanction of the President of India for release of Rs. 56.35178 lakh (**Rupees Fifty-Six Lakh Thirty-Five Thousand One Hundred and Seventy-Eight only**), as Grants-in-Aid (General) for CFY 2022-23, to the State Government of Himachal Pradesh for implementation of the Externally Aided GOI-UNDP-GEF “Securing Livelihoods, Conservation, Sustainable use and Restoration of High Range Himalayan Ecosystems (SECURE Himalaya Project), in Himachal Pradesh.

3. The funds, being released as mentioned above, are provisional and subject to audit by CAG empanelled Chartered Accountant/Firm. Further, the funds would also be subject to adjustments as per the terms and conditions levied at the time of approval of financial assistance for the scheme.

4. The State Government of Himachal Pradesh should ensure that:

- I. All procurement/consultancies are awarded as per GFR 2017; GFR is followed by implementing agency along with the economic instructions issued by the Government of India from time to time.
- II. The expenditure should be incurred during the financial year 2022-23 on the sanctioned items of work as enumerated in ANNEXURE and no deviation is made without the prior approval of this Ministry.



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- III. The expenditure incurred remains identifiable and quarterly reimbursement claims are forwarded to this Ministry.
- IV. The expenditure to be incurred conforms to the extant norms/regulations of the Government of India and also to the procurement procedure/guidelines of the UNDP. Otherwise, it will not be reimbursable and remain outstanding against the State Government of Himachal Pradesh
- V. Duly audited utilization certificates as per the format [General Financial Rule-239 form (12C)] along with physical/financial progress reports are furnished to the Ministry for the release of next installment. Statement of Expenditure, satellite photographs and latitude longitude coordinates before and after completion of work to be obtained and uploaded on the website of the implementing agency as well as of the Ministry for public access.
- VI. The interest accrued on the amount of Grants-in-Aid (General) is to be accounted as per the provisions in General Financial Rules, 2017.
- VII. The State Government of Himachal Pradesh will provide quarterly physical and financial progress reports to this Ministry.
- VIII. There should not be any overlapping of activities/duplication of work under the project with the activities of ongoing scheme of Central/State Government.
- IX. All payments are made by bank transfer, where applicable through DBT particularly of labourers, and no cash payment is to be made.
- X. Evidence of deposit of TDS, in case of contract payment and leviable goods, are obtained along with the UC and compliance of DBT scheme must be ensured in all payments where applicable.
- XI. In case of employment through contract, copy of PF & ESI contributions of employees shall be obtained, wherever applicable.
- XII. If the implementing agency does not use the Grant for the purpose for which it was released, the Implementing Agency has to refund the same with interest. Directions of Ministry of Finance shall be followed in this regard.
- XIII. The Fixed Assets created out of this grant shall not be disposed-off without approval of this Ministry.
- XIV. The members of scheduled caste/tribe communities are involved in all the "Securing livelihoods, conservation, sustainable use and restoration of high range Himalayan ecosystems (SECURE Himalaya) project activities and gender equality is maintained.
- XV. A separate bank account shall be opened for the purpose and the account shall be open for audit by Central Government or C&AG.
- XVI. Evidence of deposit of GST is to be obtained.
- XVII. The Grant is to be utilized with due approval of the competent authority/s.

5. The sanction shall be subject to the provisions contained in the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 2022, as amended till date, Wetland (Conservation & Management) Rules, 2017, Forest Conservation Act, 1980, Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, Biological Diversity Act, 2002 along with the amendments from time to time and rules framed thereunder.

6. The funds are subject to terms and conditions contained in the signed Project Document between the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi – 110003; UNDP India and accepted by the Government of Himachal Pradesh.



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7. In accordance with the revised procedure, the Reserve Bank of India may please be advised to pass on the credit to the central accounts section, Nagpur for transferring the funds to the account of the Government of Himachal Pradesh and to debit **Rs. 56.35178 lakh (Rupees Fifty-Six Lakh Thirty-Five Thousand One Hundred and Seventy-Eight only)** to the account of The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi.

8. The expenditure involved is debited to the Major Head '3601' Grants-In-aid to States Governments (Major Head) 3601.06-Centrally Sponsored Schemes (Sub Major Head), 3601.06.102-Externally Aided Projects – Grants for Centrally Sponsored Scheme (Minor Head), 3601.06.102.31- Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats (Sub Head), 3601.06.102.31.01-Development of Wildlife Habitats (Detailed Head), 3601.06.102.31.01.31 - Grants-in-Aid-General under Demand No. 28 of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change for the year 2022-23.

9. This is issued with the approval of competent authority and with the concurrence of the Integrated Finance Division of this Ministry vide its Computer Dy. No. 141186/AS&FA dated 12-01-2023 under the power delegated to Ministries/Department.

10. This sanction has been noted at Sl. No. 6 in the register of Grants-in-Aid (General) for the GOI-UNDP-GEF "Securing livelihoods, conservation, sustainable use and restoration of high range Himalayan ecosystems (SECURE Himalaya) Project for the financial year 2022-23.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr. Rajendra Kumar)
Scientist 'C' (WL)

Copy to:

1. Additional Chief Secretary (Forest), Government of Himachal Pradesh, H.P. Secretariate, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.
2. Principal Secretary (Finance Department), Government of Himachal Pradesh, H.P. Secretariate, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.
3. PCCF Wildlife, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla.
4. Nodal Officer, SECURE Himalayas Himachal Pradesh and Chief Conservator of Forest (CCF), Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.
5. The Accountant General, Government of Himachal Pradesh.
6. The Principal Director of Audit, Scientific Department, AGCR Building, I.P. Estate, New Delhi-110002.
7. The Plan Finance Division, Ministry of Finance, North Block, New Delhi-110001.
8. Director, IFD, MoEF&CC, New Delhi-110003.
9. The Resident Representative, UNDP India, Lodhi Estate 55, New Delhi-110003.
10. Guard File.



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ANNEXURE

AWP of 2022-23, Himachal Pradesh under GoI-UNDP-GEF SECURE Himalaya Project

PROJECT OUTPUTS	APPROVED ACTIVITIES	Approved Budget (Amount in Rs. (Lakh))	
		Through GIA from MoEFCC	Through Country Support Services from UNDP
Outcome 1: Improved management of high range Himalayan landscapes for conservation of snow leopard and other endangered species and their habitats and sustaining ecosystem services			
Output 1.1: Landscape level management strategies that integrate biodiversity, ecosystem services, climate mitigation, sustainable community resource use and socio-economic considerations in a gender responsive manner are developed discussed with stakeholders and supported.	1.1.2 Workshop cum Consultation on the Role of Landscape Approach in sustainable Natural Resource Management with active women participation	1.5	0
Output 1.2: Site specific participatory management plans for Protected Areas, and other Key Biodiversity Areas, including High Conservation Value Forests, Biodiversity Heritage Sites and biological corridors, and sustainable natural resource use areas designed and tested under community governance, management and enforcement regimes.	1.2.2 Implementation of select activities under Integrated Management Plan for Conservation and Wise use of Chandertal Wetland: - Facilitating Notification of District Wetland Committee (DWC) and its first meeting - - Facilitating Constitution of Wetland Mitra network through DWC and support in holding its first workshop - Signages on Do's and Dont's for visitors (3 Places) - Publications on: 1. Booklet covering cultural heritage of wetland 2. Brochure on Management plan summary, Wildlife of Chandertal, Plant diversity of Chandertal, Cultural inventory	0	4
	1.2.4 Consultation with Local People, Experts, NGOs, Stakeholder etc. for preparation of Management Plan of Seichu Tuwan Wildlife sanctuary as per the suggestion of METT	2	0



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Output 1.3 Alpine meadows and sub-alpine forest restoration plans are developed and introduced to local communities to improve biological connectivity and habitat productivity.	1.3.1 To develop a model on rotational grazing in highly pressurized grazing pastures/areas by fencing the affected areas on cycling/periodic basis for natural regeneration/plantation. (2 each) It will include: - Consultation workshops with local community/migratory graziers (2 workshops in Pangi) - Demarcation and Bio/Social fencing of the agreed area's Approx. 10 Ha area to be targeted in each division	13	0
	1.3.8 Support to Student Chapter activity under smart school initiative to reduce fuelwood dependency and create awareness i.e. Solar passive heating panels, solar water heater, solar cookers etc.	7	0
Output 1.6 Capacity development for key government staff and community members for long-term effective conservation of biodiversity developed and implemented	1.6.1. Training in legal procedures for wildlife crimes to forest staff and other stakeholders	2	0
	1.6.2. Training of forest staff for Scientific documentation of wildlife Data	3	0
	1.6.3. Exposure Visit to Leh for learning from women based entrepreneurship Models (Sustainable Livelihoods) 10 participants (60% women)	2.5	0
	1.6.4. Training of PRI's and community and local institutions in mainstreaming conservation in developmental activities at local level	1	0
Total of Outcome 1		32	4
Outcome 2: Improved and diversified livelihood strategies and improved capacities of community and government institutions for sustainable based NRM and conservation to reduce pressure on fragile ecosystem			
Output 2.2: Pilot projects on sustainable community based natural resources management, and sustainable livelihood activities are supported	2.2.2 Support to SHGs for Handlooms value addition in marketing/branding material	5	0
Output 2.3 : New and enhanced value chain products and services providing ecologically sustainable livelihood are developed and implemented by local communities	2.3.2. Packaging and branding support to the local products including agri products and value added products (SHG Khandoma etc.)	6	0
Total of Outcome 2		11	0
Outcome 3: Enhanced enforcement, monitoring and cooperation to reduce Wildlife Crime and related threats			
Output 3.3: Community based surveillance, monitoring and wildlife crime and conflict prevention system developed and tested	3.3.7 Development of Wildlife Management Information System and App for real time reporting of Human wildlife conflict/wildlife crime cases	0	10
Total of Outcome 3		0	10

Outcome 4: Lessons learned by the project through participatory M&E, including gender mainstreaming practices, are used to fight poaching and IWT and promote community-based conservation at the national and international levels			
Output 4.2 Communication and gender strategies and awareness campaigns to increase awareness on conservation, sustainable resource use and reduction of wildlife crime, and mainstream gender in promotion of community-based conservation developed and implemented at national, state and local levels	4.2.1 Celebration of National and International Days relevant to SECURE i.e. Snow Leopard Day/wildlife awareness programme involving school children. Competitions for school children's i.e. Quiz, Painting, Declamation contest etc.	2	0
	4.2.5. Student Chapter Support to local educational institutions Continued	1.5	0
	4.2.6. Awareness campaigns to increase awareness on conservation, sustainable resource use and reduction of wildlife crime ,advertisements, publicity and installation of Signage Boards at strategic locations	6	0
	Total of Outcome 4	9.5	0
5. Project Management			
	Project Staff for State Level Project Management Unit and Landscape Level Project Management Units (including salaries of 2 Community mobilisers approved in AWP 2021-22, which are yet to be hired)	0	42
	Procurement of Office Equipments: 1 multipurpose printer (print, scan, fax, photocopy)	0.7	0
	Hiring of data entry operator cum project office helper (temporary hiring on project basis only)	1.8	0
	Operational Expenses for Landscape Project Vehicle (Fuel, Maintenance etc)	1.5	0
	Salary of office assistant for SPMU	1.43952	0
	Driver on outsourcing (for Landscape project vehicle)	2	0
	Taxi Hiring Bolero/ Scorpio (4 x 4 preferably) LLPMU-Pangi	2.5	0
	Travel for SPMU (Vehicle hiring)	1.5	0
	Interstate or any other travel to be managed by UNDP CO	0	3
	SPSC/SLTC/LLPMC meetings	3	0
	Printing and Stationary	4	0
	Contingency	4	0
	Total of Outcome 5	22.43952	45
	Total (Outcome 1-5)	74.93952	59
	Grand Total (GIA + UNDP COSS)	133.93952 lakhs	

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