VOLUME 2 – CHAPTER 8 MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF ETHNIC GROUPS ON THE NAKAI PLATEAU

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8 MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF ETHNIC GROUPS ON THE NAKAI PLATEAU

Given the scale of the Project and the degree of capacity building and institutional strengthening that is required for implementation, monitoring and evaluation are absolutely essential aspects to ensure high standards are maintained throughout all phases. Monitoring and evaluation will be both internal and external. A number of important social monitoring indicators are also provided at the end of this chapter. The monitoring of ethnic minorities and vulnerable groups will be especially important since these segments of society may become marginalised. Detecting problems and shortcomings in performance early is key to tailoring further interventions and realising income targets for all groups on the Plateau. All Monitoring Indicators will be differentiated by ethnic groups.

8.1 INTERNAL MONITORING SYSTEM

The Resettlement Office (RO) will be responsible for monitoring of the infrastructure construction so that relocation can take place on time. It will report regularly to the RMU and the RC.

The RMU will monitor progress in the preparation of the villagers for the physical move, the move itself, the post move settling-in phase and the livelihood and community development. A series of reporting tables has been developed. Every month, the resettlement progress report for each village will be prepared. This will indicate the activities completed, funds allocated and spent, relocations completed, development tasks completed, and community activities completed. These reporting cards will be collected by each village and District Resettlement Working Group, and aggregated by the RMU. By comparing the progress on the ground with the implementation schedules, the RMU can identify areas of weak implementation, and take remedial action. For those problems requiring decisions from higher authorities, the RMU will report to the RC. Both the RMU and the RO will each have monitoring units. Reports from both sources will be integrated to provide an overview.

Discussions will be held with village leaders and affected communities to assess a range of social issues and to qualitatively review progress on a regular basis as part of the ongoing consultation process. Monitoring will require the participation of the Village Facilitators who represent a range of village groups, including ethnic minorities, women and youth. This information will form part of the monitoring reporting or feedback.

Gender monitoring will ensure that women participate in livelihood restoration programmes, management and decision-making and other activities.

8.2 INDEPENDENT EXTERNAL MONITORING

The main objective of the NT2 Resettlement Policy is to ensure that Project Affected Persons are better off after resettlement and that they reach the income targets set in the Concession Agreement. Achievement of this objective may be difficult to judge by those implementing the Plan because they will be so involved in it. To overcome this, monitoring and evaluation by an independent institution, here called external monitoring, will be conducted. The candidate organization or individuals will be those with extensive experience in social surveys and familiar with the local language and socio-economic conditions.

To ensure that the best candidate is selected, the recruitment of independent external monitors will follow a competitive bidding process. A request for proposals will be advertised and sent to potential candidates, including NGOs and social science institutions. Based on a review of their work plan and qualifications, the most suitable organization will be selected to carry out the external monitoring and evaluation work for NT2. Selection will take place upon Project approval, by the RMU. A separate budget for the independent external monitor will be provided. Organizationally, the external monitoring is not unlike the Panel of Experts, in that it provides independent advice on progress. The external monitors will report to the RC.

8.3 SOCIAL INDICATORS

The main focus of the monitoring and evaluation will be on the changes in social and economic conditions of villages, individual households and households disaggregated according to ethnic groups and gender. Based on existing socio-economic characteristics of the villages and the type of rehabilitation and relocation schemes to be implemented, a set of indicators have been developed for affected households and villages, including income level, sources of income, food sufficiency, basic health and education conditions, institutional development, etc (see Annex 8-2 in Volume 1). The monitoring and evaluation will be carried out until it can be shown that the resettlement objectives have been fully achieved. This is currently estimated to be December 2010 according to the resettlement schedule in the SDP.

The methodology will include a combination of sample household survey, focus group interviews and participatory discussion, a combination of surveys and qualitative methods. A baseline socio-economic survey of a sample of affected households has been during 1998 (see Appendix H of the SDP for survey design). This has set the reference points but the results of the individual households will be compared on the village and ethnic group levels. The resettlement monitoring and evaluation work will start at the same time as implementation and will continue after the construction period until income levels of resettlers reach the stated goals laid out in the policy. The ongoing monitoring of the Pilot Village resettlement will determine agricultural output indicators and the monitoring of the resettlement process.

An evaluation report will be prepared each year following a field survey and will be submitted to the Resettlement Committee. Such a report could, for instance, show that some families are doing very well for identified reasons and that some other families are doing poorly for certain reasons. Such findings can then be used by the RMU to redirect or adjust its programs.

Specific issues to be monitored in relation to ethnicity are:

- Ethnic composition of households on the Plateau
- Agricultural performance additional training requirements
- School attendance and drop-out rates according to ethnic groups
- Health indicators by ethnic groups on the Plateau
- Representation on decision-making bodies
- Local rituals and cultural practices
