PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT (ANNUAL) TEMPLATE

January - December 2025

Project Summary Information	
Project Title	Community-based Management of Tanguar Haor Wetland Ecosystem Project
Quantum Project ID	00116394
Project Duration	60 months
Gender Marker	GEN 2
Total Budget	USD 4,050,913
Donors (funding sources)	GEF
Budget (annual budget)	USD 650,135
Expenditure recorded for the reporting period	USD 70,860
Expenditure recorded for the total project	USD 70,860
Project Manager's Name	Mohammad Iftekher Hossain

1. **Executive Summary** (1000 characters maximum)

During the reporting period, the project formally entered its implementation phase following endorsement of the ProDoc and approval of the TAPP. The project's Inception Workshop, held on 13 May 2025 at the Department of Environment (DoE) Auditorium in Dhaka; 29 June in Tahirpur upazila; and 30 June at Sunamganj DC office marked the formal launching of the project. Governance structures including the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and Project Implementation Committee (PIC) were constituted.
Initial progress focused on institutional setup & coordination, stakeholder consultation, baseline validation and planning. The project contributed to UNDP CPD Output 2.2: Institutions have strengthened capacities to develop, manage and deliver policies, strategies, and actions to improve ecosystem health and manage dynamic risks, such as climate change, disasters, pandemics, and humanitarian crises.
However, procurement delays due to transition to Bangladesh Public Procurement Rules (PPR) 2025.

2. **Progress Review**

a) **Key results achieved** (2000 characters maximum)

During the reporting period, the project was officially launched through an Inception Workshop at Dhaka (national level) on 13 May 2025, was attended by 97 participants (including 23 women);

at Sunamganj (district level) on 30 June 2025, was attended 60 participants (including 05 women); at Tahirpur (upazila level) on 29 June 2025, was attended 84 participants (including 09 women) representing government agencies, the private sector, academia, civil society organizations, NGOs, community people and development partners. It served as an important platform for sharing project details, fostering stakeholder understanding, and collecting valuable feedback on the implementation plan. It also served to clarify institutional roles and responsibilities, review monitoring and financial procedures, and finalize the first Annual Work Plan (AWP).

The Project Steering Committee (PSC) and Project Implementation Committee (PIC) were constituted through formal office orders, establishing the required governance and oversight mechanisms for effective project implementation. In line with the approved Project Document, the Draft Annual Work Plan and Budget for 2026 were prepared and submitted for review and approval to facilitate timely operationalization of activities.

02 workshop conducted on Wise-use of wetland resources of Tanguar Haor to find out activities and locations for conservation and restoration of biodiversity's.

A comprehensive procurement plan was also prepared in compliance with the updated Public Procurement Rules (PPR) 2025 to ensure alignment with national regulatory requirements.

During the reporting period, several implementation challenges were encountered. In addition, the transition to the Public Procurement Rules (PPR) 2025 required the reconstitution of procurement committees, which slowed down the procurement of consulting firms for conducting studies as well as the recruitment of project personnel.

Furthermore, due to the time gap between project design and formal approval, certain baseline figures no longer accurately reflect the current situation and therefore require updating and validation.

To address these challenges, pragmatic procurement planning measures have been adopted, alongside early and proactive engagement with the Planning Commission and the relevant ministry to expedite necessary approvals. Baseline surveys have been prioritized for early 2026 to ensure that implementation is guided by updated and reliable data.

b) Output progress

Output statement	Baselines Value type	Indicators	Annual Targets	End of the project target	Progress	Means of verifications and comments to substantiate the selected response
Output 1.2: Strengthened multi-	Agricultural lands and other	Indicator 4: [GEF-7 CI 4; IRRF	100 Hectars	At least 1,911 hectares under	03 Coordination meeting	Resource surveys,

sector coordination mechanisms for planning, ecosystem-based management and compliance monitoring applied at national, district, upazila, union and community levels on the basis of Ecologically Critical Areas (ECA) management rules	wetland landscape types under degradation as reflected in Table 1in ProDoc , No current efforts at C estimation	indicator 4.1.2] Area of landscape under sustainable practices (excluding protected areas) to benefit biodiversity		sustainable practices to benefit biodiversity and including the following: (i) 500 hectares of degraded agricultural lands under sustainable environment friendly practices (ii) 349 hectares of stream/river banks stabilized (iii) 475 hectares of reed banks stabilized (iv) 587 hectares of wetland drawdown areas under sustainable grazing practice	conducted at national, district and upazila in the time of Inception period. It will be reported in the next year.	Restoration reports Annual work plans Progress reports Field visit reports
Output 2.2: Participatory conservation investment plan for Tanguar Haor defines targets and locations of habitat restoration efforts, weed eradication, restoration of degraded forests and wetland shoreline,	Gender based practices not adequately addressed due to lack of awareness , capacity and commitment	Indicator 8: Gender-responsive measures in place for conservation, sustainable use, and equitable access to and benefit sharing of natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems	Initial discussion started	(a) At least 3 planning frameworks namely: (i) Improved guidelines for ecosystem-based framework specific to TH; (ii) Strengthen scope of work for TH committees at district, upazila and	**02 workshop** conducted on Wise-use of wetland resources to find out activities and locations for conservation and restoration of biodiversities	Government and Cabinet documents Policy documents Copies of guidelines Institution staff training reports

productive land improvements, sustainable resource use and livelihood improvement (fisheries, agriculture, tourism, alternative income generation, micro-enterprises, alternative clean sources of energy for domestic use, etc.), monitoring plans and co-management arrangements		at Tanguar Haor		union levels; and (iii) Guidelines for TH management/ operational planning (b) institutions with trained staff and procedures – (i) at least 1 district ECA Committee; (ii) at least 2 Upazilla ECA Committee; (iii) at least 4 Union ECA Committee and (iv) At least 74 Village Conservation Groups		

Data sources and references (can be prepared as an annex with details)

3. **Communications, visibility, and partnerships** (1000 characters maximum)

The project gained visibility through the national-level, district level and upazila level Inception Workshop. Media coverage and stakeholder engagement enhanced awareness. Coordination initiated with Bangladesh Forest Department (BFD), Department of Fisheries, Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB), Department of Bangladesh Haor & Wetlands Development, Department of Livestock Services (DLS), Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation (BPC), Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute, district & upazila administrations, academia, community people and civil society organizations.

Parallel co-financing commitments remain on track, primarily in-kind technical support and institutional coordination.

4. **Project risks and mitigation measures** (1000 characters maximum)

During the reporting period, several risks were identified that may affect timely and effective implementation of the project. One key risk is Public Procurement Rules (PPR) 2025 required the reconstitution of procurement committees, which slowed down the procurement of consulting firms for conducting studies as well as the recruitment of project personnel.
A comprehensive procurement plan was also prepared in compliance with the updated Public Procurement Rules (PPR) 2025 to ensure alignment with national regulatory requirements.

Furthermore, due to the time gap between project design and formal approval, certain baseline figures no longer accurately reflect the current situation and therefore require updating and validation.
To mitigate this risk, pragmatic procurement planning measures have been adopted, alongside early and proactive engagement with the Planning Commission and the relevant ministry to expedite necessary approvals. Baseline surveys have been prioritized for early 2026 to ensure that implementation is guided by updated and reliable data.

5. **Lessons Learned** (800 characters maximum)

Several important lessons emerged during the reporting period. Early and proactive engagement with procurement authorities proved essential under the revised Public Procurement Rules (PPR) 2025, as procedural adjustments and compliance requirements can significantly affect implementation timelines if not addressed in advance.

It also became clear that baseline data should be reviewed and updated immediately after project approval. Delays between project design and formal endorsement may result in outdated assumptions, which can create planning gaps and affect target setting and monitoring accuracy.

6. **Way Forward** (800 characters maximum)

In the upcoming implementation period, priority will be given to completing the baseline surveys in early 2026, including assessments of water quality, income levels of target communities, and key biodiversity indicators. These updated datasets will provide a solid evidence base for planning, monitoring, and performance measurement.
Report on Resource Mapping and Database, Identification of Conservation & Restoration Hotspots, Ecosystem Valuation and Development of Integrated Conservation Management Plan (CMP).
Carrying capacity of Tanguar Haor Ecosystem with respect to all kinds of human interventions including the allowable limits of tourists.

Validated Ecological Monitoring and Enforcement plan to monitor ecological status, and enforcement measures to ensure compliance with conservation targets agreed by the management authority.

Priority actions for the project and other teams before the next reporting cycle.

Issue/observation	Action to be taken	Responsible	Timeline
Resource Mapping and Database, Identification of Conservation & Restoration Hotspots, Ecosystem Valuation and Development of Integrated Conservation Management Plan (CMP).	Firm will be contract to complete the assignment.	Project Management Unit (PMU)	February 2026

7. Annexures

Provide links to the sources of evidence (based on entries described in Q2 and 3)

Other relevant information