



बुढीगण्डकी जलविद्युत आयोजना विकास समिति
Budhigandaki Hydroelectric Project Development Committee

FEASIBILITY STUDY AND DETAILED DESIGN OF BUDHI GANDAKI HPP



PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND DISCLOSURE PLAN (PCDP)

BG-PCDP-Rev0

TRACTEBEL Engineering
GDF SUEZ



COYNE ET BELLIER
Ingénieurs Conseils

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CONSULT

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Public Consultation and Disclosure Plan (PCDP) Budhi Gandaki Hydropower Project



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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
BGDC	Budhi Gandaki Development Committee
BGHPP	Budhi Gandaki Hydro Power Project
CBO	Community Based Organization
CDO	Chief District Officer
DDC	District Development Committee
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EPA	Environment Protection Act
EPR	Environment Protection Regulation
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FPIC	Free Prior Informed Consent/ or Consultation
GoN	Government of Nepal
GRC	Grievance Redress Committee
IEE	Initial Environmental Examination
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IP/VCDP	Indigenous People and Vulnerable Communities Development Plan
KII	Key Informant Interview
LAA	Land Acquisition Act
LARP	Land Acquisition and Resettlement Action Plan
MOEST	Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology
NFDIN	Nepal Forum of Development of Indigenous Nationalities
NGO	Nongovernmental Organization
PCD	Project Displaced Person
PCD	Public Consultation and Disclosure
PCDP	Public Consultation and Disclosure Plan

R&R	Resettlement and Rehabilitation
SIA	Social Impact Assessment
VDC	Village Development Committee

1. INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

This document is the Public Consultation and Disclosure Plan (PCDP) for the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Land Acquisition and Resettlement Plan (LARP), and the Indigenous People and Vulnerable Communities Development Plan (IP/VCDP) of Budhi Gandaki Hydro Power Project (BGHPP). The project will affect the communities residing along its components and facilities, as well as in the Budhi Gandaki valley downstream, and successful implementation of the project requires coordinated efforts of various stakeholders at different levels. Hence, a Public Consultation and Disclosure Plan (PCDP) has been prepared to ensure consultation and disclosures of project related information at different phases of EIA process. The PCDP will be used as a framework to inform and educate stakeholders about the proposed action both before and after the project construction decisions are made. It presents a plan for consultation designed to: provide timely information about the project and its potential impacts to project affected groups and other stakeholders; provide opportunities to those groups and stakeholders to voice their opinions and concerns in a way that is most appropriate to their circumstances; and provide an opportunity for feedback to and discussion with, those groups and stakeholders concerning measures proposed.

This PCDP presents and describes the stakeholder consultation and disclosure procedures that will be proposed as part of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) process. Good stakeholder consultation assists in building strong relationships with stakeholders, based on mutual respect and trust, and increases the likelihood that projects are well designed and responsibly implemented. It reduces the risk of delays in Project approval and permitting processes, or the need for costly redesign of operations/facilities.

This document has been prepared following the internationally recognized principles that apply to the design and implementation of PCDP. One such principle is presented in Performance Standard 1 entitled “Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts” (International Finance Corporation, 2012). This Performance Standard states, *inter alia*, that stakeholders should be able to enter into consultations without coercion, that they should be given adequate information upon which they can comment before key Project decisions are made and that their comments will be taken into account in decision-making on a proposed project.

This PCDP presents a mechanism for stakeholder consultation, which has following key characteristics:

- **INFORM (1):** provide accurate, relevant, timely and culturally appropriate information to stakeholders about the BGHPP, its impacts and benefits, and the ESIA process
- **ENGAGE:** Provide opportunities for Project stakeholders to express their opinions and concerns about the Project, and to seek broad stakeholder support for the Project and impact management.
- **UNDERSTAND:** Enable the BGHP Project EIA team to understand the concerns and priorities of stakeholders
- **REVIEW:** Incorporate these concerns and priorities into the design, construction and operation of the BGHP Project
- **INFORM (2):** Provide feedback to Project stakeholders as the Project develops so that the consultation process continues.

The PCDP aims to:

- Identify key stakeholders and ensure there are adequate mechanism in place for stakeholder feedback and information sharing
- Provide culturally appropriate, adequate and timely information on Project development, impact assessment and management plans to Project stakeholders
- Providing culturally appropriate and timely opportunities for Project stakeholders to express their opinions and concerns in relation to the ESIA and the associated plans
- Ensure that issues raised by the stakeholders are addressed in the EIA report as well as in the project decision making and design phase.
- Establish a foundation of effective and broad stakeholder engagement that is conducive to the emergence of stakeholder support for the Project and impact management programs

The PCDP is a 'living' document that will continue to be revised over time to reflect information gained through consultation under taken at different stages of EIA study, construction, operation and decommissioning. As such, this document will also provide a depository of the records of the consultation activities completed.

The PCDP is intended to be posted on the Project Website of the Budhi Gandaki Development Committee, except for Annex 2 which contains information on private individuals.

2. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF BGHP PROJECT

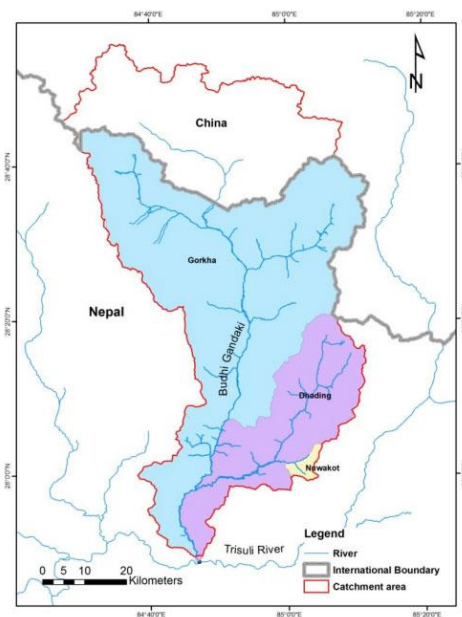
2.1. Introduction:

Budhi Gandaki Hydropower Project is a storage type project located in Central/ Western Development region on the Budhi Gandaki River of Nepal. This project was identified during the Gandaki Basin Study in late 70's. In 1984, a prefeasibility study of the project was prepared. The prefeasibility study of the Project has recommended 600 MW capacity plant with FSL 520 masl.

2.2. Location and Access:

The project lies in Gorkha and Dhading districts in Western/ Central Development region of Nepal. The project site is accessible through Benighat (At about a distance of 85 km from Kathmandu) on Prithvi Highway (Kathmandu - Pokhara). From Benighat, a pedestrian suspension bridge (Motorable Bridge is under construction) can be used to cross the Trishuli River and access the Dam and Powerhouse site both of which are at a distance of about 2 km from the road head.

Catchment of the Project:



Catchment Area:

Gorkha: 2,700 km²

Dhading: 900 km²

Nuwakot: 35 km²

China: 1,365 km²

Total: 5,000 km²

Dam Site:

About 2 km u/s of the confluence between Budhigandaki and Trhshuli at Benighat

3. APPLICABLE REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

3.1 National Requirements

3.1.1 *National Regulation on Public Consultation and Disclosures*

1. *The Interim Constitution of Nepal 2063 (2007)*

Article 27 of the Interim Constitution (2063 (2007)) guarantees the right to information of the citizen. The article states that “every citizen shall have the right to demand or receive information on any matter of his or her interest or of public interest”. Provided that nothing shall be deemed to compel any person to provide information on any matter of which secrecy is to be maintained by law”.

2. *Right to Information Act, 2064 (2007)*

The aim of this act is to make the functions of the state open and transparent in accordance with the democratic system and to make responsible and accountable to the citizen. It intends to make the access of citizens simple and easy to the information of public importance held in public bodies and to protect sensitive information that could make adverse impact on the interest of the nation and citizen.

The clause 3 of the Act ensures Right to Information. It says that every citizen shall, subject to this Act have the right to information and they shall have access to the information held in the public Bodies unless confidentiality has been maintained by laws.

The clause 4 of the Act describes the Responsibility of a Public Body to disseminate information. It mentions that each Public Body has to respect and protect the right to information of citizen. Public Body shall have following responsibilities for the purpose of protecting right to information of citizen:

1. to classify and update information and make them public, publish and broadcast,
2. to make the citizens' access to information simple and easy,
3. to conduct its functions openly and transparently,
4. to provide appropriate training and orientation to its staffs

Public Body may use different national languages and mass media while publishing, broadcasting or making information public. A Public Body shall arrange for an Information Officer for the purpose of disseminating information held in its office.

The clause 7 of the Act prescribes the Procedures of Acquiring Information. It states that a Nepali Citizen, who is interested to obtain any information under this Act, shall submit an application before concerned Information Officer by stating reason to receive such information.

3. *Good Governance (Management and Operation) Act, 2064 (2008)*

This act intends to make legal provision in relation to good governance by making public administration of the country pro-people, accountable, transparent, inclusive and participatory.

The clause 30 of the Act has a provision of public hearing. The Chief office-holder at regional, zonal, district and local level involved in delivery of service, shall conduct **Public Hearing** as prescribed, with the purpose of making the activities of the office fair, transparent, and objective and addressing the lawful concerns of general people and stakeholders. The Act also mentions that subject matter expert, stakeholders, and representatives of civil society and officials of the local bodies shall be the participants of the public hearing.

The clause 31 of the Act describes **Grievance Management Process**.

4. Environment Protection Rules, 2054 (1997)

The Environment Protection Rules (EPR), 1997 provides the detail provisions to conduct public consultation and feedback. The different sections of EPR, 1997 relevant to the public consultation and disclosure are described below.

- Rule 4: Proposal requiring EIA will have to prepare a scoping document incorporating the public concerns and apply to Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology (MoEST) through concerned agencies. In this process a 15 days public notice in the national newspaper requesting suggestions and comments on environmental issues arising due to the proposal implementation has to be published. The MoEST is empowered to review the document and give approval with or without needed amendments.
- Rule 5: Proponent of both IEE and EIA proposals has to prepare Terms of Reference (ToR) of the proposal for approval incorporating the concerns and suggestions of the stakeholders.
- Rule 7: Proponents of the EIA proposal has to organize a public hearing in the project affected area to collect public concerns and suggestions and address the concerns and suggestions in the EIA report.
- Rule 11, Sub-rule 2, 3, and 4: Ministry (MoEST) upon receipt of the EIA shall disclose the EIA report through public notice in any one of the daily newspaper, granting a time limit of thirty days, to the general public to make a copy of the report or to study it for offering their opinions and suggestions to the Ministry within 30 days of the notice publication.

3.1.2 National Legal Requirements for LARP and IP/VCDP

1. The Interim Constitution of Nepal 2063 (2007)

Article 19 of the Interim Constitution (2063) (2007)), Right to Property, states that “(i) Every citizen shall, subject to the laws in force, have the right to acquire, own, sell and otherwise dispose of the property”

(ii) The State shall not, except in the public interest, requisition, acquire, or create any encumbrance on the property of any person. This clause shall not be applicable on property acquired through illegal means.

(iii) Compensation shall be provided for any property requisitioned, acquired or encumbered by the State in implementing scientific land reform program or in public interest in accordance with law. The compensation and basis thereof and operation procedure shall be as prescribed by the law.

2. *Land Acquisition Act, 2034 (1977AD) and Land Acquisition Rules, 2026 BS (1969AD)*

The Land Acquisition Act (LAA), 2034 (1977), first promulgated in 1961 (Land Acquisition Act, 2018) is the core legal document to guide tasks related to land acquisition and resettlement activities in Nepal. Government can acquire land at any place in any quantity by giving compensation to the land owner pursuant to the Act for any public purposes or for operation of any development project initiated by government institutions

Clause 9 of the LAA empowers the Chief District Officer (CDO) for public notification, with details of the affected property. The notification with required details is to be published in the notice boards of Project Site Office, District Development Office, Concerned Village Development Office or Municipality Office, Land Administration Office, Land Revenue Office, or any place close to the land and property acquisition sites. And, if the CDO feels that any concerned party might not be informed by the public notice, then he may inform him/her personally with other details. Land Revenue office is mandated to stop registration of the notified land and property till further notice by the CDO.

Clause 10 of the LAA describes the facts to be included in the public notice of Clause 9 such as: the documents required and the time to apply for the compensation; the time period within which the standing crops, structures etc. could be managed by the concerned party, etc.

According to Clause 11, any grievance to disable land and property acquisition could be reported to Home Ministry within 7 days of public notification by CDO. Home Ministry is required to decide on the grievances within 15 days of the receipt of the grievances. On deciding the grievances, Home Ministry is authorized in as much capacity as the district court to consult the local authority or, ask for necessary documents or, consult witnesses.

3. *Land Reform Act (LRA) 2021 (1964).*

This Act establishes the tiller's right on the land, which he is tilling. The LRA additionally specifies the compensation entitlements of registered tenants on land sold by the owner or acquired for the development purposes.

4. *The Forest Act, 1993*

Clause 68 (1) of the Forest Act 2049 (1993) states that the government may permit the use of any part of government-managed forest, leasehold forest or community forest, if there is no alternative for the implementation of a plan or project of national priority without significantly affecting the environment.

According to the Clause 68 (2), if any loss to persons or community is involved while permitting use of such land, it is required to compensate the loss.

5. *Guthi Corporation Act, 2033 (1976)*

Land acquisition must also comply with the provisions of this Act. Section 42 of this Act states that Guthi (religious trust land) acquired for a development must be replaced with other land, rather than compensated in cash.

6. *Nepal Forum of Development of Indigenous Nationalities (NFDIN) Act 2002, Local Self-Governance Act, 1999 and Tenth Plan (2007-10) and Three Year Interim Plan (2011-13)*

Nepal does not have a standalone policy on Indigenous Peoples and other vulnerable communities. These Acts have placed significant emphasis on delivering basic services to the disadvantaged and indigenous people, Dalits, women, disabled and other vulnerable groups

These Acts and Plans include policies for the development of Adivasi/Janajati (indigenous peoples) and other disadvantaged groups through following measures:

- creating an environment for social inclusion;
- participation of disadvantaged groups in policy and decision making;
- developing special programs for disadvantaged groups;
- positive discrimination or reservation in education, employment, etc.;
- protection of their culture, language and knowledge;
- proportional representation in development process; and
- making the country's entire economic framework socially inclusive

3.2 International Standard on Public Consultation

1. *The International Finance Corporation (IFC)*

The IFC has published policies and requirements regarding public consultation and disclosure to ensure projects in which it invests are implemented in an environmental and socially responsible manner. These policies and requirements are summarized below.

The IFC Performance Standard 1 (Social and Environmental Assessment and Management Systems): It highlights the importance of managing the social and environmental performance throughout the life of a project. A Social and Environmental Management System must be established and maintained and be proportionate with the level of social and environmental risks and impacts. The development of a PCDP is recognized as a tool in such a management system.

Performance Standard 5 (Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement): In such instances the developer will undertake extensive consultation and negotiation with affected parties. Such communication will include transparent access to project related information in a timely fashion to enable people to plan for the future. Here public participation will include the establishment of appropriate representative forums through which resettlement and compensation are discussed. Most of this consultation is part of the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and Resettlement Action Plan but it should be recognized as a component of the PCDP.

Performance Standard 7(Indigenous Peoples): It recognizes that indigenous groups in a project area can be at particular risks which may include loss of identity, culture, traditional lands and natural resource based livelihoods. It emphasizes the need for early engagement with indigenous groups, should they be affected, to build longer term processes of consultation, informed participation and good faith negotiation. The standard establishes means for the full development of these people's own institutions and initiatives and inappropriate cases provide the resources necessary for this Purpose.

Affected Communities of Indigenous Peoples may be particularly vulnerable to the loss of, alienation from or exploitation of their land and access to natural and cultural resources. In recognition of this vulnerability, in addition to the General Requirements of this Performance Standard, the client required to obtain the Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) of the Affected Communities of Indigenous Peoples in the following circumstances:

- Impacts on lands and natural resources subject to traditional ownership or under customary use
- Relocation of Indigenous Peoples from lands and natural resources subject to traditional ownership or under customary use
- Significantly impact on critical cultural heritage¹
- Use the cultural heritage including knowledge, innovations, or practices of Indigenous Peoples for commercial purposes

IFC Consultation Process during EIA

Generally, after an EIA has been accepted, IFC requires public consultation as an *on-going process* to be conducted during the construction and operational phases of the project.

The IFC Consultation Requirements prescribe that, during the EIA process, the client (project proponent) should conduct consultations with affected groups, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), local authorities, and other interested parties about environmental and socio-economic aspects of the project, and consider stakeholders' views.

Once the draft EIA is ready, its findings should be presented to the public. The information should be disseminated among the relevant stakeholders proactively, and in the local language. After consultations have been held, new details revealed during the consultations must be included in the EIA report. The EIA should also discuss measures on how public comments will be incorporated into project design and implementation.

The draft EIA report should be made readily available to the public in public places, and should contain responses to public consultation process. A non-technical summary of the document should be made available in the local language to local stakeholders.

IFC Consultation Requirement for LARP and IP/VCDP

The client will engage with displaced and affected communities, including host communities, through the process of stakeholder engagement. This engagement process includes stakeholder analysis and engagement planning, disclosure of information, consultation, and participation, in a culturally appropriate manner.

Decision-making processes related to resettlement and livelihood restoration should include options and alternatives, where applicable. Disclosure of relevant information and participation of Affected Communities and persons will continue during the planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of compensation payments, livelihood restoration activities, and resettlement.

¹Includes natural areas with cultural and/or spiritual value such as sacred groves, sacred bodies of water and waterways, sacred trees, sacred rocks, temples etc. Natural areas with cultural value are equivalent to priority ecosystem cultural services as defined in Performance Standard 6.

The client will establish a grievance mechanism that will allow the client to receive and address specific concerns about compensation and relocation raised by displaced persons or members of host communities in a timely fashion, including a recourse mechanism designed to resolve disputes in an impartial manner.

The client will obtain the FPIC of the Affected Communities of Indigenous Peoples in the circumstances of impact on land and natural resources and relocation of indigenous peoples and while preparing and implementing mitigation and IP/VCD plans. FPIC applies to project design, implementation, and expected outcomes related to impacts affecting the communities of Indigenous Peoples.

2. Asian Development Bank (ADB)

The ADB's Public Communications Policy (2011) aims to enhance stakeholders' trust in and ability to engage with ADB. The policy recognizes the right of people to seek and receive information about ADB operations. It supports knowledge sharing and enables participatory development or two-way communications with affected people.

The policy states that to facilitate dialogue with affected people and other individuals and organizations, information about a public or private sector project under preparation (including social and environmental issues) shall be made available to affected people. ADB shall work closely with the borrower or project sponsor to ensure information is provided and feedback on the proposed project design is sought, and that a focal point is designated for regular contact with affected people. This should start early in project preparation, so that the views of affected people can be adequately considered in project design, and continue at each stage of project preparation, processing, and implementation. ADB shall ensure that the project's design allows for stakeholder feedback during implementation. ADB shall ensure that relevant information about any major changes to project scope is also shared with affected people.

Safeguard Requirements 3 requires that the recipient/client and ADB ascertain whether there is broad community support from affected Indigenous Peoples communities under three circumstances. In such cases, ADB requires the recipient/client to document the processes and outcomes of consultation with, and participation of, affected Indigenous Peoples communities. Such documents are submitted to ADB for review. The Operations Department reviews the consultation process documentation done by the recipient/client, and also through its own investigation, verifies that broad community support for the project activities has been demonstrated. ADB does not proceed further with project processing if it is unable to determine that such broad support by affected Indigenous Peoples communities exists.

3. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank)

World Bank's Operational Policy/Bank Procedure OP/BP 7.50 "International Waterways" requires the proponent of a project to be built on an international waterway, which is the case of the Budhi Gandaki river, to notify the other riparians of the proposed project and project details. In the present case, the other riparians are China (upstream) and India (downstream). Nepal will carry out the notifications and obtain the necessary agreements consistent with the requirements of OP/BP 7.50.

4. STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS AND PARTICIPATION

The stakeholders are defined as any persons or parties with an interest in the project. Mainly three types stakeholders at different levels are identified This includes—“Locals” refers generally to the project displaced settlements and other local interested parties like local bodies (Village Development Committee (VDC), District Development Committee (DDC) local NGOs, community based organizations, ethnic /community organizations and local level political parties. “National” refers to interested parties within Nepal who are not “local” including regional and national NGOs, academics, Government, media, private sectors and political parties etc. “International” includes international NGOs, international donor agencies like World Bank, ADB and other International Finance Institutions (IFIs) and UN agencies.

4.1 Modes of Consultations with Stakeholders

A range of formal and informal consultative methods will be carried out during EIA study period including, but not limited to: focus group discussions (FGDs), public meetings, community discussions, and in-depth and key informant interviews (KII); in addition to the censuses and sample socio-economic surveys. Consultations will be held with special emphasis on vulnerable groups. Encouraging public participation in consultations informs the public and serves as a venue for the public to express their opinion on priorities which the Project should address.

The key stakeholders, identified to date, to be consulted during EIA study of BGHPP include:

- Communities/families/ individuals who are affected by the Project;
- Government agencies at the district, regional and national levels are as follows:
 - **District Level Agencies** -- Chief District Administration Office, District Development Committee, District Forest Office, District Land Revenue Office, District Irrigation Office, District Agriculture Development Office, District Livestock Office, District Public Health Office, District Drinking Water and Sanitation Office, District Police Office, Nepal Electricity Authority, Agricultural Development Bank, Commercial Banks, Divisional Cooperative Office, District Cottage and Small Scale Industry Office, District Women and Children Development Office, Nepal Food Corporation, District Soil Conservation Office, District Education Office etc.
 - **Regional Level Agencies**—Regional Administration Office, Regional Forest Directorate, Regional Irrigation Directorate, Regional Public Health Directorate, Regional Agricultural Directorate, Regional Education Directorate
 - **National Level Agencies**—Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology, Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation, Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Energy, Department of Electricity Development, Department of Forest, Department of Agriculture Development, Nepal Electricity Authority, Investment Board, Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development and Department of Water-induced Disaster Control,
- Local Government Bodies (VDCs and DDCs)—All the VDCs and DDCs affected by the project (see Annex 3 for details);

- Political parties (Nepali Congress, Communist Party of Nepal United Marxist and Leninist, Communist Party of Nepal United Maoist, Rastriya Prajatantra Party, and Communist Party of Nepal Maoist),
- Community Based Organizations (CBOs) of the project affected areas (Community Forest User Groups, Farmer Groups, Leasehold Forestry User Group, School Management Committees, Mother Groups, Youth Club, Saving and Credit Groups etc.), and national and international NGOs operating in the Project area
- Indigenous people and Dalits organizations at local, regional and national levels
- International donors and funding agencies, and
- The local, regional and international media

When indigenous peoples will be concerned, the consultation strategy will be guided by the concepts of Free, Prior and Informed consent² with the affected communities to enable informed participation and to ensure broad community support for the project within those affected communities. The feedback from consultations will continue to be an important component of the planning process leading to the formulation of mitigation measures and compensation plans for project affected communities.

The consultations shall be held prior the initiation of EIA study and during the preparation of EIA report.

Local Community Contacts (LCCs) will be designated by BGDC in the project area. Those LCCs will facilitate communication between the community or individuals and the BGDC. The BGDC will continue consultation and information dissemination through LCCs during construction and operation of the project.



Figure 1 Framework of PCDP of BGHPP

during construction and operation phases of the project as well. While conducting EIA for BGHPP, information disclosure and dissemination

²**Free**– the client or its representatives have not coerced intimidated or unduly incentivized the affected population to be supportive of the project;

Prior– Consultation with project-affected communities must be sufficiently early in the project planning process; and,

Informed– Consultation with all project-affected communities on project operations and potential adverse impacts and risks, using methods of communication that are inclusive, culturally appropriate and adapted to the community's language needs and decision making.

requirements will be fulfilled as per requirement of Government of Nepal (GoN) EPA/EPR and international financing institutions.

The framework of consultation and information disclosure and dissemination is given in the Figure 1. All the relevant stakeholders and corresponding organizations of stakeholders will be identified and attempts will be made to ensure their involvement in each of the Public Consultation and Disclosure (PCD) activities so that broad consensus among the stakeholders will be built to implement the project activities of BGHPP.

Throughout the study phase, consultant will instruct all of its experts to consult project area people for information collection as well as getting their views with regard to the project implications on the resources around them. Besides, the experts will be encouraged to give factual information on the project to the people and explain any queries with regard to the project to enable the local people to make a knowledgeable view of the project and its implications.

5. PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND DISCLOSURE PLAN

5.1 EIA

Public Consultation will be done using various tools including, interviews with government officials, questionnaire based information with project displaced communities, formal presentation of project environmental baseline condition, likely impacts and corresponding mitigation measures at district level seminars and workshops. The BGHP Project will use various communication tools like Print (brochure, leaflet, flyer, newspaper both local and national,), Electronic (FM radio) in disseminating the project related information to the Project Displaced People and the community. Major PCD activities required to carry out at different phases of ESIA is presented in Table 1.

The plan was designed taking into account the subject matters, issues, timings, duration, venues and participants, for different stages before and after construction. Community Development Expert/Resettlement Expert, Sociologist including other members of the Team and BGHPP stakeholders will take part in public consultation and hearing and workshops.

The ESIA consultants will assess the needs of public consultations and disclosure meetings at different times and places as stipulated in the Table 1 below with a view to increase interactions among all parties concerned. Such consultations and meetings would allow effective communications between project personnel and local people and help promote effective understanding and minimize potential conflicts.

Table 1 : Approach for Public Consultation & Disclosure during the EIA Study Phase of BGHPP

S.N.	Stages of Project Cycle (EIA Study)	EIA team's responsibility	Targeted Stakeholders	Tools used	Deliverables and records	Estimated budget	Indicative timelines
A. Scoping and ToR Preparation							
1	Inception phase	First project site visit by EIA team	Chief district officer of Gorkha and Dhading district, Govt. Line agencies, Local people of some of the project affected VDCs	Consultation meetings	Minutes of meeting Appendix 1 and section 8.1	No additional cost	March-April 2013
2	Scoping notice for conducting scoping and terms of reference	Prepare 15 days scoping notice, publish it in national daily newspaper	-Project affected people/community -District and national government and non-government stakeholders	Publication of notice in a national daily newspaper, pasting of notice in VDC and obtaining "letter of deed" from VDC	Proof of notice publication letters from VDC Appendix 4 and section 8.2....	Included in ESIA budget	February 2014
3	Presentation of the project	Conduct public meetings in different places of project affected VDCs and settlements, in district centers and Kathmandu	Three levels: Local people District stakeholders National level stakeholders and donor agencies	Consultation meetings, dissemination of the project sheet and other project information	Minutes of the meetings, including questions asked and responses provided; inputs for the ToRs	Included in ESIA budget	March 2014
4	Scoping and preparation of terms of reference	Collection of baseline information	Project affected person, VDC, and local stakeholders of project affected districts	FGD and key informant survey	Records of the findings of the FGD: s Inputs for the ToRs; Opinions n caring capacity f the VDC area to serve as a host to relocation; Initial reactions with options and solutions for resettlement and rehabilitation packages	Included in ESIA budget	April 2014
B. ESIA Study and report preparation							
1	Baseline Environmental Studies	Collection of baseline information a. Physical b. Biological c. Socio-economic and Cultural	Project affected person, VDC, and local stakeholders of project affected districts	Survey of a sample of households in project area	Findings of the survey will be recorded in Social Impact Assessment part of the EIA	Included in ESIA budget	May – June 2014
2	Impact prediction, quantification and choice of mitigation options	Impact prediction, quantification and choice of mitigation options in various project phases: a. Physical b. Biological c. Socio-economic and Cultural	Project affected person, VDC, and local stakeholders of project affected districts	Focus group discussion, Key informants consultation,	Findings of the survey will be recorded in Social Impact Assessment part of the EIA	Included in ESIA budget	May – June 2014

S.N.	Stages of Project Cycle (EIA Study)	EIA team's responsibility	Targeted Stakeholders	Tools used	Deliverables and records	Estimated budget	Indicative timelines
3	Public hearing at the project development sites	<p>Notification of stakeholders at local, district and national level</p> <p>Submission of draft EIA report for public disclosure, with a copy of sent to local administrative units (DDC, VDC). Report will be disclosed at public libraries, ministries and other accessible places for public review and comments</p> <p>NEA will disclose draft EIA for public dissemination and review through their web site</p>	All related stakeholders and general public Stakeholders in affected VDC, Gorkha and Dhading district and national stakeholders	<p>Disclosure of report to VDC/DDC, libraries, ministries, and on the web site</p> <p>The dates and venue of public hearing will also be disclosed in timely fashion in print, radio and electronic media.</p> <p>Public meetings will be held</p>	<p>Proof of disclosure and invitation to public meetings</p> <p>Records of public hearing (electronic and print)</p> <p>Minutes of the meetings, including questions raised and responses provided</p>	Included in ESIA budget	May 2015
4	Incorporation of stakeholder's feedback of the public hearing	<p>Submission of draft report to the Ministry for final approval. Ministry of science, technology, and environment will publish the main content of report in a national daily providing 30 days public notification for comments and suggestions from stakeholders/general public. It is mandatory as per EPR that notice shall be published twice in a national daily newspaper</p>	All related stakeholders and general public	Public disclosure by the ministry through newspaper	Proof of notice published in national daily newspaper	Included in ESIA budget	June 2015
5	Incorporation of the concerns and suggestions of stakeholders received from the ministry and preparation of Final ESIA report for official seal	<p>Submission of final report to ministries,</p> <p>Upload of final approved ESIA report to BGDC web site</p>	All related stakeholders and general public	Hard and soft copies of the approved ESIA shall be disclosed	Proof of disclosure	Included in ESIA budget	August 2015

5.2 LARP

All the tools, techniques and strategies of public consultation and disclosure adopted for EIA are also applicable for LARP. All the Project Displaced People along with relevant stakeholders will be consulted. Project Displaced Persons will be given opportunities to participate in the planning, implementation and monitoring of the LARP. Household surveys, FGDs, KIIs and consultation meeting with the communities in the project areas during scoping and SIA will be appropriate avenues for consultation and disclosure of project related information and to collect concerns and preference of the local communities. The ESIA consultant on completion of the SIA will disseminate the SIA results to the public through public hearing. ESIA is not considered an official document, however, is a base document for LARP which is used for preliminary identification of affected land owners in the subsequent land acquisition and compensation process as per LAA. Upon the request of the project manager, the Chief District Officer (CDO) will issue an order to the respective district Land Survey and Land Revenue offices to conduct official cadastral and ownership survey. After the finalization of the official survey, CDO issues public notification for any omissions, left out, errors for claims. The ESMF consultant will prepare LARP to mitigate or minimize the adverse impacts as identified during the SIA and verified by the official cadastral and ownership survey by CDO. The draft mitigation plan in form of a Land Acquisition and Resettlement Action Plan (LARP) will be again disseminated among the affected individuals / community. The feedback received from the affected groups will be incorporated to the extent possible before finalization of the LARP. Major PCD activities required to carry out while preparing LARP is presented in Table 2.

Table 2 : Approach for Public Consultation & Disclosure for LARP of BGHPP

S.N	Stages of Project Cycle (ESIA Study)	ESIA team's responsibility	Targeted Stakeholders	Tools used	Deliverables and records	Estimated budget	Indicative timelines
1	Scoping Notification	Prepare 15 days scoping notice for conducting scoping and preparation of terms of reference, publish it in national daily newspaper	-Project affected people/community -District and national government and non-government stakeholders	Publication of notice in a national daily newspaper, pasting of notice in VDC and obtaining "letter of deed" from VDC	Proof of notice publication letters from VDC Appendix 4 and section 8.2....	Included in ESIA budget	February 2014
2	Scoping Consultation	Presentation of the project foot print conducting public meetings in different places of project affected VDCs and settlements, in district centers and Kathmandu	Three levels: Local people District stakeholders National level stakeholders and donor agencies	GIS, maps, consultation meetings, dissemination of the project sheet and other project information	Minutes of the meetings, including questions asked and responses provided; inputs for the ToRs	Included in ESIA budget	March 2014
3	Scoping	Collection of baseline information and preparation of Scoping Document and Terms of Reference and share with concerned stakeholders	Project affected person, VDC, and local stakeholders of project affected districts	FGD and key informant survey	Scoping Document having records of the findings of the FGDs; Inputs for the ToRs; Opinions on carrying capacity of the VDC area to serve as a host to relocation; Initial reactions with options and solutions for resettlement and rehabilitation packages	Included in ESIA budget	April 2014
C. SIA Study and LARP Preparation							
1	Ownership survey based on the cadastral maps	Coordinate with BGHPP and District Survey Office and District Revenue office and respective VDCs to identify ownership	Project affected person, VDCs, government agencies and local stakeholders of project affected districts	Ownership Survey	Ownership Survey Report	Included in ESIA budget	
2	Socio-economic and census Survey of the	Conduct census and sampled socioeconomic surveys, FGDs and KIIs to collect baseline information and information on project impacts in terms of: involuntary land taking; loss of residential or commercial or any other immovable property; loss of livelihood or source of income; loss of access to common property resources; loss of access to protected areas	Residence of the project affected area and its vicinity including areas of host communities, VDC and DDC officials, local community leaders	Household Survey Questionnaires and checklist for FGD and KII	SIA Report as part of ESIA	Included in ESIA budget	May – June 2014

S.N	Stages of Project Cycle (ESIA Study)	ESIA team's responsibility	Targeted Stakeholders	Tools used	Deliverables and records	Estimated budget	Indicative timelines
3	Dissemination of SIA as part of draft ESIA through public hearing and community consultation	Notification of stakeholders at local, district and national level Submission of draft ESIA report for public disclosure, with a copy of sent to local administrative units (DDC, VDC). Report will be disclosed at public libraries, ministries and other accessible places for public review and comments BGDC will disclose draft ESIA for public dissemination and review through their web site	All related stakeholders and general public Stakeholders in affected VDC, Gorkha and Dhading district and national stakeholders	Disclosure of report to VDC/DDC, libraries, ministries, and on the web site The dates and venue of public hearing will also be disclosed in timely fashion in print, radio and electronic media. Public meetings will be held	Proof of disclosure and invitation to public meetings Records of public hearing (electronic and print) Minutes of the meetings, including questions raised and responses provided	Included in ESIA budget	May 2015
4	Official Cadastral Survey	ESIA team has no responsibility in this regards. Upon the request of the project manager CDOs as chairperson of the Compensation Fixation Committee of the respective project district will order to conduct official cadastral survey	Project affected person, VDCs, government agencies and local stakeholders of project affected districts	Cadastral Survey, KII and consultation meeting	Cadastral Survey Report	Under BGHPP cost as it is not included in ESIA budget.	
5	Issue public notification for any omissions, left out ,errors for claims	Upon the request of the project manager CDOs of the respective project district to issues notice as a chair person of the Compensation Fixation Committee	Project affected person, VDCs, government agencies and local stakeholders of project affected districts	Publication of notice in a national daily newspaper and pasting of notice in the offices of the VDCs, school and other public places accessible to the local people	Proof of notice publication	Included in ESIA budget	
6	Preparation of LARP and dissemination with stakeholders	Based on the finding of SIA and cadastral and ownership identification surveys, the ESIA consultants will prepare LARP	Project displaced person, Affected VDCs, government agencies and other local stakeholders of project affected districts including host communities	Public hearing, community meeting, public notice, website publication	Proof of disclosure and invitation to public meetings Records of public hearing (electronic and print) Minutes of the meetings, including questions raised and responses provided	Included in ESIA budget	
7	Final LAARP	Finalization of LARP incorporating input provided by the stakeholders and submission of final report to ministries, BGDC Upload of final EIA report to BGDC web site	All related stakeholders and general public	Hard and soft copies of LARRP shall be disclosed	Proof of disclosure	Included in ESIA budget	August 2015

5.3 IP/VCDP

The tools, techniques and strategies of public consultation and disclosure adopted for EIA and LARP are also applicable for IP/VCDP. The project affected vulnerable communities will be consulted following the principles of FPIC. Household surveys, FGDs, KIIs and consultation meeting with the vulnerable communities including indigenous peoples in the project areas during scoping and SIA will be appropriate avenues for consultation and disclosure of project related information and to collect concerns and preference of the local vulnerable and indigenous communities. The ESIA consultant on completion of the SIA will disseminate the SIA results among the affected vulnerable communities. Based on the social impact assessment, the ESIA consultant will prepare Vulnerable Community Development Plan (VCDP) to mitigate or minimize the adverse impacts and to enhance positive impacts as identified during the SIA. The draft VCDP will be again disseminated among the affected individuals / community. The feedback received from the affected groups will be incorporated to the extent possible before finalization of the VCDP. Major PCD activities required to carry out while preparing VCDP is presented in Table 3.

Table 3 : Approach for Public Consultation & Disclosure for IP/VCDP of BGHPP

S.N	Stages of Project Cycle (ESIA Study)	ESIA team's responsibility	Targeted Stakeholders	Tools used	Deliverables and records	Estimated budget	Indicative timelines
1	Scoping notification	Prepare 15 days scoping notice for conducting scoping and preparation of terms of reference, publish it in national daily newspaper	-Project affected people/community -District and national government and non-government stakeholders	Publication of notice in a national daily newspaper, pasting of notice in VDC and obtaining "letter of deed" from VDC	Proof of notice publication letters from VDC Appendix 4 and section 8.2....	Included in ESIA budget	February 2014
2	Scoping consultation	Presentation of the project foot print conducting public meetings in different places of project affected VDCs and settlements, in district centers and Kathmandu	Three levels: Local people District stakeholders National level stakeholders and donor agencies	GIS, maps, consultation meetings, dissemination of the project sheet and other project information	Minutes of the meetings, including questions asked and responses provided; inputs for the ToRs	Included in ESIA budget	March 2014
3	Scoping	Collection of baseline information and preparation of Scoping Document and Terms of Reference and share with concerned stakeholders	Project affected person, VDC, and local stakeholders of project affected districts	FGD and key informant survey	Scoping Document having records of the findings of the FGDs; Inputs for the ToRs; Opinions on carrying capacity of the VDC area to serve as a host to relocation; Initial reactions with options and solutions for resettlement and rehabilitation packages	Included in ESIA budget	April 2014
4	Preparation of draft SIA	Conduct census and sampled socioeconomic surveys, FGDs and KIIs to collect baseline information and information on project impacts in terms of: involuntary land taking; loss of residential or commercial or any other immovable property; loss of livelihood or source of income; loss of access to common property resources; loss of access to protected areas	Residence of the project affected area and its vicinity including areas of host communities, VDC and DDC officials, local community leaders	Household Survey Questionnaires and checklist for FGD and KII	SIA Report as part of ESIA	Included in ESIA budget	May – June 2014

S.N	Stages of Project Cycle (ESIA Study)	ESIA team's responsibility	Targeted Stakeholders	Tools used	Deliverables and records	Estimated budget	Indicative timelines
5	Dissemination of SIA as part of draft ESIA through public hearing and community consultation	Notification of stakeholders at local, district and national level Submission of draft ESIA report for public disclosure, with a copy of sent to local administrative units (DDC, VDC). Report will be disclosed at public libraries, ministries and other accessible places for public review and comments BGDC will disclose draft ESIA for public dissemination and review through their web site	IPs, Dalits, and other vulnerable communities and other related stakeholders and general public in affected VDC, Gorkha and Dhading district	Disclosure of report to VDC/DDC, libraries, ministries, and on the web site The dates and venue of public hearing will also be disclosed in timely fashion in print, radio and electronic media. Public meetings will be held	Proof of disclosure and invitation to public meetings Records of public hearing (electronic and print) Minutes of the meetings, including questions raised and responses provided	Included in ESIA budget	May 2015
6	Preparation of IP/VCDP and dissemination with stakeholders	Based on the finding of SIA, the ESIA consultants will prepare IP/VCDP	IPs, Dalits and the vulnerable communities residing at the project area Affected VDCs, government agencies and other local stakeholders of project affected districts including host communities	Public hearing, community meeting, public notice, website publication	Proof of disclosure and invitation to public meetings Records of public hearing (electronic and print) Minutes of the meetings, including questions raised and responses provided		
7	Final IP/VCDP	Finalization of IP/VCDP incorporating input provided by the stakeholders and submission of final report to ministries, BGDC Upload of final ESIA report to BGDC web site	IPs, Dalits, and other vulnerable communities and other related stakeholders and general public in affected VDC, Gorkha and Dhading district	Hard and soft copies of IP/VCDP shall be disclosed	Proof of disclosure	Included in ESIA budget	August 2015

6. RESPONSIBILITIES OF IMPLEMENTING PCDP

This section confirms the roles and responsibilities of those involved in the execution of the PCDP of BGHPP during preparing ESIA report including LARP and IPVCDP. This section tries to clearly define the roles and responsibilities of the various players in the public consultation, participation and disclosure process.

6.1 Roles and Responsibilities of the Project Proponent

The Government of Nepal (GoN), through the BGHPP/NEA or Bhudi Gandaki Development Committee (BGDC), is responsible for ensuring that conditions are conducive for a transparent and efficient public consultation, participation and disclosure process. In particular, GoN through BGHPP/or BGDC is expected to:

- Support the consultants by providing them with required information related to BGHPP through national, regional and local government structures;
- Remove unnecessary administrative and bureaucratic hurdles,
- Avoid provocative or controversial statements particularly on the issues related with LARP and IPVCDP (e.g. land price, compensation rate, resettlement package etc.)
- Avoid manipulating stakeholders or pressurizing anyone to adopt a position about the project;
- Assist the Consultant Team in explaining the need for, rationale of and details of the project in a neutral way;
- Assist the Consultant Team to respond to technical questions and queries about the project in a neutral and non-defensive way;
- Facilitate or enable the Project Displaced Persons (PDPs) to participate meaningfully in the BGHPP; and
- Arrange all required resources both human and financial to implement the PCDP.

6.2 Roles and Responsibilities of the ESIA Team

The ESIA team will take full responsibility for all public participation, consultation and disclosure activities related to the ESIA including LARP and IPVCDP of BGHPP. This responsibility includes but is not limited to:

- Identification of the key stakeholders and preparation of the Stakeholders list.
- Preparation of the PCDP and confirmation of this plan as acceptable to stakeholders, especially with the project displaced communities.
- Ensuring appropriate and effective public disclosure of all information pertaining to the BGHPP.
- Arranging for and facilitating all public consultation, participation and disclosure events.
- Setting up effective channels of communication with all stakeholders and use existing forums for discussions when appropriate.
- Providing regular feedback to all stakeholders with respect to the findings of the consultation process and the recommendations of the specialists.
- Ensure that the consideration of mitigation measures is done in a participatory manner with the project displaced communities.
- Monitor the work of the specialists and ensure that they are operating in accordance with the agreements between the communities and the consultant.

7. GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM

Process and procedures, adopted from international standards, is foreseen by which general public as well as all the people affected by the project can bring their comments, concerns, and grievances to the project developer, for consideration and redress. It is expected that through a participatory process, acceptance of the project and grievances can be minimized. However, it is necessary to establish an effective grievance redressed mechanism to address complaints/grievances related with preparation of ESIA, LARP and IP/VCDP for BGHPP.

Any grievances and objections while preparing ESIA, LARP and IP/VCDP of BGHPP will be referred to the project Grievances Redress Committee (GRC) which allows all interested parties including project displaced persons (PDPs) to appeal any disagreeable decisions, practices and activities. The project GRC will be formed at four layer—VDC, district and national levels and formal court of appeal system. The later will ensure that all PDPs will have the option of accessing the court of law in case of dissatisfaction with the decision of the GRCs.

The composition of the GRC at national level will be:

- i. Chairperson of BGDC - Chairperson
- ii. Representative from Budhi Gandaki Concern Committee (*Sarokar Samittee*) from each project district-- members
- iii. Representatives from concerned ministry (Home, Forest, Agriculture, Land Reform, Energy) as per the compliant case-members
- iv. Social and Environmental Focal Person of BGDC-- Member Secretary
- v. Representative from ESIA Consultant (as per the requirement of the case)- member

The composition of the GRC at District level will be:

- i. CDO of the respective project district- Chairperson
- ii. Representative from district government offices (Forest, Agriculture, Land Reform, Energy, Education, Public Health, Irrigation, Road (as per the nature of the complaint) case- Members
- iii. Representative from Budhi Gandaki Concern Committee (*Sarokar Samittee*) from each project district- Members
- iv. Representatives from district level network or federation of community forest users group, farmer group, mother group, irrigation/water user group, youth club etc.) – Members
- v) Representative from Secretaries of the project affected VDCs
- vi) Representative from ESIA consultant- member
- Vii) Representative from District level organization of IPs, Dalits and women- member
- vii) Social and Environmental Focal Person of Project Developer-- Member Secretary

The composition of the GRC at VDC level will be

- i. Chairperson of respective VDC- Chairperson
- ii. Representative from Dalit - Member
- iii. Representatives from local NGO/CBO ((forest users group, farmer group, mother group, irrigation/water user group, youth club etc.) – Members
- iv) Representative from women - Member
- v) Representative from IPs— Members
- vi) Representative from ESIA consultant –members
- vi) Community liaison appointed by BGDC- Member

There is potentiality of three types of grievances: grievances related to ESIA, related to LARP & IP/VCDP (e.g. resettlement requirements, grievances related to compensation or entitlements and community support and development and issues which arise during project construction).

A grievance record file will be maintained at each level of GRC where all written and oral grievances will be filed and recorded. The general public as well as affected persons can register their grievances at the respective VDC level GRC. All cases will be registered, categorized and prioritized by the designated member at each GRC. ESIA, Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) and IP/VCDP related grievances will be referred to GRCs while land acquisition related grievances will be addressed as per the Clause 11 of LA Act of Nepal 2034 (1977), where CDO is assigned the sole responsibility. GRCs will meet periodically(as and when required) to discuss the merit of each case and fix a date for hearing and notify the complainants to submit necessary documents in proof of her/his claim/case; resolve grievances within 2 weeks of receipt of complaint. Proposed mechanism for grievance resolution is given below:

Stage 1:

All the complaints related to ESIA, LARP and IP/VCDP of BGHPP shall in first instance be attempted to settle at the VDC level GRC through informal discussion and formal meeting and hearing with the concerned personal and parties. When all the grievances will be reviewed and examine, the decision will be made and informed in writing to the complaining party within two weeks of receipt of the complaint.

Stage 2:

If the complaining party is not satisfied with the response from the VDC level GRC, the complaining party can appeal to the District Level GRC. While lodging the complaint, the complaining party must produce documents to support his/her claim. All the grievances will be reviewed and a decision will be informed to the concerned party within two weeks of the receipt of complaint.

Stage 3:

If the complaining party is not satisfied with the response from district level GRC, the complaining party can appeal to the National level GRC. While lodging the complaint, the complaining party must produce documents to support his/her claim. All the grievances will be reviewed and a decision will be informed to the concerned party within two weeks of the receipt of complaint.

Stage 4:

Any complaining party can exercise its constitutional right to approach the court of law at any time if he/she chooses to do so.

8. SUMMARY OF ALL CONSULTATION ACTIVITIES COMPLETED TO DATE

8.1 Inception visit

Consultation with stakeholders was conducted during field reconnaissance on March 11-13, 2013. The participants in the reconnaissance were Dr. Frederick Brusberg (Sociologist), Eng. Jean-Pierre Chabal (Community Development/ Resettlement Expert), Dr. Silva Larson (Economist) from Tractebel Engineering (France)/Coyne et Bellier; Dr. Sandesh Bhattarai (Biologist/ Flora), Eng. Salil Devkota (Environmental Engineer), Mr. Ram Kumar Sharma (Socio-Economist), Dr. Toran Sharma (Environment Expert/ Team Leader), Mr Kishore Upadhyaya (Fish biologist) from NESS and Mr Damber Awasthi (Public Communication Officer), Eng. Ganesh Bahadur Shahi (Electrical Engineer) from Jade Consult. Mr. Lilanath Bhattarai, Director, Budhi Gandaki Hydroelectric Project, NEA also joined the team on March 12th and 13th.

The team visited the dam site and the two alternative areas for location of the hydro plant. Conducted meeting with the Chief District Officer, Gorkha on 11th March 2013 and conducted field reconnaissance of some potentially flooded areas on the right bank of the Budhi Gandaki River, up to a distance of approximately 10 km downstream from Arughat Bazar on 12th March 2013. Similarly, the team visited a potential resettlement area in Salyantar. They carried out reconnaissance of some potentially flooded areas, including Tripureshwor Village, on the right bank of the Aankukhola River, the major left bank tributary to the Budhi Gandaki River. Conducted meeting with the Chief District Officer, Dhading on 13th March 2013.

The status of the Budhi Gandaki Hydropower Project was presented during the meeting with the Chief District Officers of Gorkha and Dhading. The CDOs were found informed on the concerns and issues of the local population regarding the Budhi Gandaki Hydropower Project. The major issues raised included the avoidance of flooding newly built bridges and the town of Arughat Bazar. The CDOs stressed that compensation and resettlement packages should be "meaningful". Concerns of Local Stakeholder gathered at CDO Office were as follows:

- Project should be built for overall development of the area and reduction of load shading problem of the country.
- Inventory of the historical and religious place of the area is to be prepared by the Consultant and such places under inundation to shift in appropriate places.
- The project should also enable to invest compensation amount received by the affected families.
- Shifting people from their original place is sometimes very difficult due to socio-cultural factors such as shifting Chepang community from forest area.
- There is also tendency of the people to demand the project at the beginning and put higher demand once it is started to build. Ankhgukhola HP Project is such an example where the project has estimated to pay 200% time more compensation, that what they have thought at the initial stage.
- Dhading people are positive and dreaming about Budhigandaki HP Project. However, their expectation of an attractive compensation and meaningful resettlement has not to be ignored.

The details of inception visit and the persons met during the field reconnaissance on March 11-13, 2013 are presented in Annex 1.

Similarly, another field reconnaissance was carried out by a team including social anthropologist, GIS and environment expert on 18-19 May 2013. The main objective of the field reconnaissance was to collect information on numbers of structures, volume of forest resources, agriculture land size and land productivity and land price to be flooded as result of the Budhi Gandaki Hydropower Project. The details of collected information and the persons consulted during the field reconnaissance are presented in Annex 2.

Annex 1: Inception Visit Field Note

Benighat Bazar-acroos Trisuli River (Photo 1386-1402)

Over 30 years old settlements and the settlements has been increasing after 1980. The Bazar is connected with Pokhara Highway through a Suspension bridge over Trisuli river. More than 170 families are settled here, they belong to different ethnic caste groups such as Muslim, Pariyar, Brahmin, Chhetri, Newar, Gurung, Newar etc .

This is a major market centre for two main VDCs namely Salang and Ghyampesal. Benigaun, Toriswara, Rampur and Sanodarbung are the main settlements that depend on this market.

Daily consumer goods including cloths are the main items available in the market.

The market has small to large shops transacting Rs 30,000-Rs 40, 000/day to Rs 30,000-40,000/month.

The volume of trade of Benighat market has been reduced since the development of road to Attarkhel and development of market there. Bus service up to Arughat is also available from his market.

This market has number of community buildings as follows:

- Chandeshwari Amaa Samuha (Mothers Group) Building-newly built
- Sitadevi Lower Secondary school where 250 students are studying
- Likanda Mahadev (lord Shiva) Temple- under construction in one ropani of land (20 ropani=1Ha)

Budhigandaki Survey Office is also established here 1.5 years ago.

Land price of this area is Rs 80,000 for 18 ft *45 ft of land.

Kalleri Gaun (Settlement)- Potential Camp site (Photo 1403/04/07/08)

This settlement is located across the Budhigandaki River about 2 km north of Benighat Bazar where about 26 households of Magar communities (disadvantaged Janjati /Adivasi) are residing in two clusters. A large chunk of the area below the settlements is a productive land which is expected to be inundated.

Barkheghat, Gyalchok VDC 9- Powerhouse Site/ Potential Camp site (Photo 1410)

Located further north of Kallerigaun, the Barkheghat has good tar (flat) land where 10 households are residing and needs to be shifted if Budhigandaki HP is constructed.

Bungkot Ghat

This is located 20 km north of Benighat on the way to Arughat. Located in Namjung VDC, the ghat a a historical Satal (resting place), constructed by Bhimsen Thapa, the first Prime Minister of Nepal. The *Satta* together with a mango garden in a large chunk of land is regarded as the famous cultural and historical place of the area.

Fishling (Photo 1419)

An alternative site of Power House, where additional height of 60 meter and 7 km tunnel are supposed to be built. Five houses upside of the proposed site are reported.

Meeting at CDO Office, Gorkha (Photo 1427-29)

Objective of the visit and status of project were briefed by the NESS Team Members to the officials. The International Team Leader noted that the study will study follow the national laws and international good practices according to the requirement of international funding agencies such as World Bank and ADB. He also noted that the public consultation will be made and their opinions will be sleeked even to prepare the terms of Reference (ToR) and scoping documents. The Team Leader requested the CDO to express his impression, concern, requirement towards the project.

The International Resettlement Expert noted that the resettlement is the key issue Budhigandakai hydropower Project as both physical and economic resettlement is required considering the size of population under the project. He also requested the CDO for the restriction of additional houses and structures in the project area.

In response, the CDO noted that at this stage he has not much concern except the continuation of project work and expressed his commitment of cooperation for the project related activities.

12 March, 2013

Arughat Bazar

Reached to Arughat Bazar (Photo 1438-48) visiting the historical Gorkha Durbar at Gorkha headquarters via Ahale Bhanjyang (Photo 1436).

Different cultural sites on Gorkha sides were observed such as Subarnabarna Bihar (Photo 1449-51), Bhimsenthan (Photo 1452-55), Gautam Buddha Mandir (Temple) (Photo 1456-58), Ganesh Mnadir (Photo 1459/60), old Bhimsenthan (Photo 1461) etc. All these sites fall within the impounded zone.

People were found positive towards the project with the expectation of an handsome compensation and development of city in another place.

The average price per ropani of land in the bazaar area is reported to be Rs 80 00,000.

Baluwatar, Dhawa VDC , Gorkha(Photo 1465-68)

120 households, 60 percent of which were Tamang (marginalized Janjati) and Gurung (disadvantaged Janjati) are residing in Baluwatar in a flat productive agricultural. Other castes include Brahmin, Damai, Kami etc. The women of the area were found active. A Mahila Smuha (women group) Bhawan (building) has been constructed along the motorable road with the joint investment (equivalent of Rs250,000) of Gandaki Mahila Samuha and Janjati Mahila Samuha two years ago (Photo 1465).

The land price of the area is reported to be Rs 20,000/hath.

The area has a 25 years old Manakamana temple the building of which is found totally damaged.

Ghat Bensi, Borlang VDC 7 , Gorkha (Photo 1470-78)

The area has newly constructed suspension bridge, one small brick making factory and a hotel cum grocery soap. Altogether 110 households were reported to be settling there, 50 percent of whom are Kumal (marginalized adivasi) while 50percent are from Newar (advanced Janjati and Brahmins). The Kumals are also doing faming on contract basis.

One old temple, Bhumethan Temple remains there from years as a religious site (photo 1473). The people expressed their desire of resettlement from the Hydropower project.

Devithan Tar of Boralang VDC is a very rich in terms of its land type, productivity and irrigation facility. The settlement has a very old irrigation system named as Bhimsen kulo (canal).The area has also the newly constructed drinking water system. An old Ganesh Temple (photo 1479/80) and two Silalekh (events/activities sculptured in a stone) (photo 1481/82) are seen adjacent to the motor able road. On the top of the hill, a temple made by the mother of the 1st Prime Minister of Nepal Mr Bhimsen Thapa is also reported (photo1483).

Meeting at Arughat Bazar with NEA staff and local elites (Photo 1484-1487)

Peoples' concerns/Voices

- Project has to be built but inundation of the main market has to be protected wherever possible as Arughat is the traditional trekking road when there were no any motorable roads. Arughat is the second largest trade centre of Gorkha district and third largest trade centre of Dhading district.
- It will be better if Arughat is protected shifting the dam further down, If Arughat is inundated; an better alternative of new town has to be proposed
- The project will affect many fertile land one of the critical area is Ghatbesi, where people are also more sensitive.
- Why the selection of Consultant is so delayed?
- Share of the project to be provided to the local people as per the NEA modality of Chilime Hydropower, and this is the expectation of local people. Such provision will also build the local ownership over the project. The local people often discuss about purchase of the share by sale of property (land and animal), use of remittance income and other savings.
- According to the local people following area could be the potential area for resettlement: i) Dhuseni of Khari VDC 2 , Dhading ii) Salyantar of Dhading iii) Ghyalchok Tar, Gorkha iv) Richok Tar, Dhading, v) Construction of ring-road around the dam and settlement along the road side. iv) Many households have also homestead land in upland hills, so they can be settled there..
- Employment opportunities, new business opportunities, tourist flow are expected and outgoing youths will be retained in the country.
- This project should be a model project in Nepal using international experience and knowledge. As the project is connected with the Pokhara highway people from 75 districts will have opportunity to observe and enjoy it.
- Local people, technicians should be mobilized as much as possible during the study period also.
- 90 percent people are positive about the project while 10 % oppose it to do the politics.

13 March, 2013

Observation of Arughat Bazar (Photo 1490-1492) Arughat Small hydropower Project, Arughat Bazar, Gorkha (Photo 1488/89)

150 KM Small Hydropower was established in 1985 for Arughat Bazar, Istul khola (stream) is the source of the project, water of which is also used for irrigation purpose.

Laximanarayan Mandir at Arughat (Photo 1493/94)

Educational Institutions in Arughat Bazar at Gorkha Site : Primary School-1, 3- Boarding School, 1 Higher Secondary School, Plus 2 School, 1- Bachelor level college.

Perception of local people

Majority of the people in Arughat Bazar are outsiders, except few Kumals. So if better compensation is provided they will manage themselves and only about one third of the households are required to be resettled.

Land price: Rs 250,000/1*30 hatha.

Salyantar, Dhading (Photo 1503)

Huge flat plain (3 hour walking long length area), no irrigation, Road, drainage is being developed under the government budget.

Salyantar people will welcome the affected people from Salyantar and hope to get the benefited from the Budhigandaki HP.

Tripushewar VDC , Dhading

Almost a 100 year old Shiva temple and pati (resting place). (Photo 1512-1516)

Huge area of irrigated fertile land of the VDC fall under inundated area (Photo 1509/10).

A Suspension bridge under inundation (Photo 1511/1520)

Meeting at CDO Office Dhading, Dhadingbesi(Photo 1525/26).

Mr Lila Bhattari, Project Director, Budhi Gandaki briefed about the project status and noted that the project construction will require at least 10 years including 2.5 year study period, 1 year tendering and 7 year construction period.

The International Team Leader and other Consultant noted that the rehabilitation is a major issue of the project. The project also requires international fund and the International funding agencies are more concern about public issues. They emphasized on the cooperation and coordination of Local Administration as vital and asked about the concern of the CDO.

In response The CDO expressed the following Concern:

It will be appropriate if Arughat Bazar is protected even reducing the dam head, because huge investment is made to construct motorable bridge to link and develop Arughat Bazar. CDO is committed to provide all types of support required for the successful study and implementation of the project.

Persons Met during Inception Field Visit on March 11-13, 2013

1. Mr Bhojanath Timilasina- Benighat Bazar, Business man and Local Elite
2. Mr Puspanath Timilsina- Benighat Bazar, Business man and Local Elite
3. Ms Indra Kumari Tiwari, Chairperson, Gandaki Mahila Bikash Samuha, Dhawa VDC , Baluwatar, Gorkha
4. Ms Mira Bhatta, Member Gandaki Mahila Bikash Samuha, Dhawa VDC , Baluwatar, Gorkha
5. Mr Bishnu Dhakal- Local Elite, Dhawa VDC , Baluwatar, Gorkha
6. Mr Ram Chandra Pokharel, NEA Staff 9841722173 (involved in NEA Review Study)
7. Mr Bhakti Lamichhane- Local Leader of United Maoist , Arughat Gorkha and Chairperson, Squatter Commission 9808553381
8. Mr. Rishi Pd. Khanal- Local Elite, Arughat Gorkha 9741137148.
9. Mr Bhja Prasad Shrestha, Hotel Owner Arughat , Gorkha98417121667
10. Mr Budddi Bahadur Bhujel, Local Farmer, Tripureshwar Dhading
11. Mr Padam Silwal, Local Elite, Chainpur Dhading 9841512482
12. Chief District Office (CDO) Dhading District
13. CDO, Gorkha District
14. Local Development Officer (LDO), Gorkha
15. LDO, Dhading
16. Chief, District Police Office, Gorkha
17. Chief, District Police Office, Dhading

Annex 3: Districts, VDCs and Settlements Directly Affected by BGHPP

DISTRICTS	VDC		SETTLEMENTS	ELEVATION	AFFECTED	TYPES OF AFFECT	
GORKHA	1	ARU CHANAUTE	1	ARUGHAT	480 - 520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			2	MANGALTAT	510 - 520	AGRI FIELD	ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			3	SIMARAPHANT	510 - >520	AGRI FIELD	ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
	2	ARBAN	4	SHANTI BAZZAR	510 - 520	AGRI FIELD	ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
	3	ARU POKHARI		HADI KHOLA	490 - 520	AGRI FIELD	ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
				ISTUL KHOLA	490 - 520	AGRI FIELD	ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
	4	TANDRAN	5	MAITHUM TARIPHANT	470 - 520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
	5	DHAWA	6	BOLAN	470 - 520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			7	BALUWATAR	460 - 520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			8	TANDRAN KHOLA	480 - 520	AGRI FIELD	ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
	6	BORLAN	9	GHATBESI	415 - 520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			10	MAHADEV TAR	410 - 520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			11	PIPALTAR	210 - 520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			12	SATBISETAR	440 - 520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			13	JALBIRE	500 - 520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			14	APSWARA	440 - 520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			15	KUMALGAON	440 - 520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			16	KYAMUNTAR	400 - 440	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
	7	BUNKOT	17	JYADUL SIMALTAR	440 - 520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
18			THAPATAR	480 - 520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT	
19			JYADULCHABISE	480 - 520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT	
			BAHI KHOLA	400 - 520	AGRI FIELD	ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT	
8	NAMJUN	20	GAGATETAR	440 - 520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT	

DISTRICTS	VDC		SETTLEMENTS	ELEVATION	AFFECTED	TYPES OF AFFECT	
		21	BUNKOTGHAT	420 -440	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT	
		22	DHATUWATAR	400 -520	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT	
	9	PHUJEL	23	PIPALDANDA	390 - 520	AGRI FIELD	ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			24	MAJHIGAON	440 - 520	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			25	DHABE	480 -520	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			26	KERABARI	430 -520	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			27	ALAICHE	480 -520	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			28	GAIRIGAON	420 - 520	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			29	KHUDITAR	380 - 480	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
	10	DARBAN	30	BHASBHASE	380 -420	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			31	DARBUNPHANT	400 - 440	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			32	MAGARDIHI	480 - 520	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			33	APTAR	480 - 520	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			34	DARBUNPHANT	360- 380	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			35	EKLE PHANT	360 -400	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			36	GYALMADOBHAN	340 -400	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
11	GHYALCHOK	37	BASERI	360 -520	AGRI FIELD	ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT	
DHADING	12	BUDHATHUM	38	CHACHULI	515 -520	AGRI FIELD	ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			39	PITTHE	515 -520	AGRI FIELD	ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			40	BUDHATHUM	510 -520	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			41	SUKAURBESI	510 -520	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
	13	MULPANI	42	SIURENI	505 - 520	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			43	LAMBESI	505 - 520	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT

DISTRICTS	VDC		SETTLEMENTS	ELEVATION	AFFECTED	TYPES OF AFFECT
14	SALYANTAR	44	THULIBESI	500 - 520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
		45	BISAL BAZZAR	480 -520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
		46	DHODENI	480 -520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
		47	BAMSAGAON	480 -520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
		48	KACHHARGAON	460 - 480	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
		49	BUTTARGAON	480 -500	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
15	AGINCHOK	50	HASE PASAL	460 -520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
16	TRIPURESHWOR	51	ACHANETAR	510 -520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
		52	Belghari	500 -520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
		53	KHAHARE BAZZAR	500 - 520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
		54	SUKAURA	480 - 520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
17	SALYANKOT			515 - 520	RIVER FLOOD PLAIN	
18	JYAMRUN	55	TIMILSINAGAON	500 - 520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
		56	SIMLE	500 -520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
		57	DHUNGANIYAGAON	480 -520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
		58	TARIBESI	500 -520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
19	CHAINPUR	59	DHUMREGAIRA	440 -520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
		60	PAKHAGAON	460 -520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
		61	LUMO	440 -500	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
		62	EKALTAR	500 -520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
		63	JYAMIRESWARA	500 - 520	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
		64	MANTAR	420 -500	SETTLEMENT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT

DISTRICTS	VDC		SETTLEMENTS	ELEVATION	AFFECTED	TYPES OF AFFECT	
		65	TALLO RAMPUR	460 -520	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT	
		66	RAMPURTAR	480 -500	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT	
	20	KHARI	67	KHUMTAR	480 - 520	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			68	BHAGEGAON	400 - 420	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			69	SIMLETAR	400 - 420	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			70	KUMALTARI	460 - 520	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			71	PACHUWADADA	420 -480	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			72	KALIMATI	460 -520	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			73	PIPALTAR	420 -460	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
	21	MAIDI	74	MAJJUWATAR	400 - 420	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			75	DIDADA	460 500	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			76	JOGETAR	380 -420	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			77	MAJHITAR	380 - 500	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
			78	RATMATE	480 - 520	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT
22	SALAN	79	JHARLYANDITAR	460 - 520	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT	
		80	TALLO TAREBHIR	360 - 400	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT	
		81	MATHILLO KALGHERI	320 - 360	SETTLMNT	PHYSICAL + ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT	

Annex 4: Areas Indirectly Affected by BGHPP

In Progress