

**UN BHUTAN COUNTRY FUND**

**BI-ANNUAL PROJECT/PROGRAMME UPDATE**

**AS OF 30th July 2010**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Participating UN Organization(s)** | UNDP; UNICEF | | |
| **MDTF Programme Number** | 00073261 | | |
| **Programme Title** | **Poverty and the MDGs** | | |
| **Approved Budget**  **(by PO, if applicable)** | **UNDP: 31,646.00**  **UNICEF: 34,000.00** | | |
| **Expenditure**  **(by PO, if applicable)** | UNDP: 32,277.70  UNICEF: 34,000.00 | **% of Approved Budget**  **(by PO, if applicable)** | UNDP: 102%  UNICEF: 100% |
| **Forecast Final Date:** | 30th July 2010 | **Delay**  **(if applicable)** | NA |

|  |
| --- |
| **Qualitative achievements:** |
| * The capacity building support provided through the trainings on home gardening, vegetable cultivation, compost making, integrated pest management and post harvest techniques; and distribution of improved seeds and small farm implements contributed to the establishment of home gardens in 588 households. These remote farming communities have become more aware of the importance of the production and consumption of vegetables for their health, and for income generation. * The booklets on Gross National Happiness produced in the national language are being distributed to policy makers, students and local government officials and is anticipated to create greater awareness on GNH amongst Bhutanese people. * The National Statistics Bureau was supported to implement the Bhutan Multiple Indicator Survey (BMIS 2010) which is UNICEF’s global Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) with add-on of UNFPA’s Demographic Health Survey (DHS). The survey covered over 15,000 households in all the 20 districts and will provide comprehensive data on some 21 MDG indicators and update the situation of women and children at district level. The survey will be critical for starting as well as scaling programmatic interventions.   200 enumerators were trained over two weeks in April 2010 on field data collection of the BMIS survey. All the enumerators were trained on important aspects of BMIS standards and protocols in gathering important data on social and economic indicators such as mortality, nutrition, child labour, disability, health and education of women and children in Bhutan.  The enumerators after having acquired relevant skills formed 40 teams comprising of enumerators, measurers, editors and supervisors conducted the field survey covering even the remotest areas. The teams have successfully collected data from all the 20 districts during the period of mid-April 2010 to mid-July 2010. The NSB is now processing the data and the results/findings are expected to be released by late October 2010. |