

July 22, 2011

Comments from Canada on Nepal's Strategic Programme for Climate Resilience

Dear Colleagues,

Canada is pleased to support the Strategic Program for Climate Resilience (SPCR) for Nepal, which was approved by the Sub-Committee for the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR) on June 28, 2011 in Cape Town. We would like to share our comments on the SPCR with the CIF Administrative Unit for reference and inclusion on the CIF Website.

The proposed investment program components are excellent and show strong promise for demonstrating timely adaptation solutions. It is also commendable that NGOs, the private sector and other development partners have been consulted and will be involved through SPCR planning and implementation. For example, this approach will encourage synergy with the EU-DFID funded watershed initiatives underway in Karnali, Rapti and Bagmati and the watershed conservation measures in Shivapuri which contributes to the water supply of Kathmandu.

One possible component which has not yet been developed for Nepal concerns the social issues relevant to communities impacted by climate change. There is a wide range of issues to be addressed, including mid to long term responses such as migration.

Not surprisingly, another area for concern is the capacity of government to implement programs, While the self assessment process has identified definite weaknesses in certain government agencies, it is not clear how these weaknesses will be addressed, unless capacity development is already underway in an earlier phase of the SPCR, as has been the approach in Bangladesh.

As well, the various component concept notes are silent on the roles of NGOs and the private sector even though the planning process has acknowledged the importance other these sectors in addressing adaptation issues. As the proposals are further developed, we will be watching for solid integration of NGOs and the private sector in program implementation.

In conclusion, we believe that the current approach, as indicated by the various component concept notes proposed, is an excellent start to the implementation of PPCR in Nepal.

Thank you and regards,

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