



1. Contact Details:

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2. Brief Background about your Organisation:

In 2008, Bhutan embarked on a journey of democratic transition, making it the youngest democracy of its time. Following the transition to democracy, there was a proliferation of media and new media. The Bhutan Centre for Media and Democracy was established (formally registered in 2010) in response to this change to nurture and improve the standard of the existing media in the country that plays a critical role in fostering a culture of democracy. BCMD is one of the first registered Civil Society Organisations in Bhutan that works with a cross-section of society on issues that concerns youth, environment, governance and education, using media as a modus operandi. Its ultimate vision is to strengthen a vibrant democracy through civic engagement, public discourse and media literacy with the conviction that democracy extends beyond electoral processes.

BCMD has carried out seminal works in expanding open public discourses and forums. It continues to inspire active citizenship and the growth of a vibrant civic space. It also develops Bhutan-centric resources meeting the dearth of local content on democracy, media, and governance. (See our annual reports: <http://bcmd.bt/about-us/annual-reports/>, publications: <http://bcmd.bt/newsroom/publications/> and journal website: <http://drukjournal.bt/> and Youtube videos: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCugD65P7Y2uc7qZ3mwDW66w?reload=9> for reference).

BCMD works with a cross-section of society through partnerships with District Administrations, Local government, educational institutions/schools, and civil society organisations, including vulnerable groups like people with disabilities, LGBTIQ+, and monks/nuns.

In recent years, through the District Administration Offices, BCMD has implemented citizen education projects in Thimphu, Paro, Trashigang, Trongsa Samdrup Jongkhar. Its annual Bhutan Democracy Form and the production of Druk Journal help open discourses on issues of national importance and inform policy decisions. It provides media literacy to teachers, youth, and vulnerable groups which proved to be an emerging need in the digital age. BCMD continues

to supplement government efforts. A recent example is the *GNH-based Participatory Planning Toolkit* for Local Government Planners, which according to the Director of the Department of Local Government and Disaster Management, is “complementing” their initiatives in strengthening the capacity of the local governments. BCMD is also the first civil society organisation to produce media literacy in sign language and braille for marginalised groups. For more information, visit <https://bcmd.bt/newsroom/publications/>. BCMD actively advocates for the growth of civic space and plays a pivotal role in building a sense of fraternity among civil society organisations. BCMD is one of the elected members of the Core Coordination Committee - a body formed by registered civil society organisations to improve coordination and advocate for common issues and further shared goals.

Over the years, BCMD has developed training manuals and in-house training capacity to lead training of trainers. Under the supervision of the Executive Director who brings vast experience in curricular development, instructional design and professional development, BCMD staff will manage the project. BCMD can also rely on our network with former parliamentarians, media houses, civil society organisations and educational institutions to bring in local experts to enrich the workshops. The proposed project builds on the organisation’s experience, networks and expertise.

A board of directors with rich and varied backgrounds and professional expertise govern the Bhutan Centre for Media and Democracy. Eight full-time staff with a full-time founder-adviser manage the organisation.

3. Project details

A. Title of the project: **Capacitating the Local Government and Student Leaders to strengthen participatory, inclusive and people-centred planning in Zhemgang District, Bhutan**

B. **Executive Summary of the project.**

Context

Bhutan became a democracy in 2008 at the behest of the monarch. While democratic institutions have been in place to ensure a smooth transition to democratic constitutional monarchy, there is little understanding of democracy and an even lesser understanding of what it means to participate in daily decisions affecting their lives and communities. There is heavy reliance on the government to provide and a weak culture of participatory planning and public involvement in community development. In the fledgling democracy of Bhutan, community consultation and planning processes have excluded the voices of vulnerable groups.

Over the last decade, remarkable progress has been made in peacefully and smoothly transitioning the Kingdom of Bhutan from a traditional form of the monarchy to a modern parliamentary

democracy. However, as is often the case in countries undertaking major democratic transitions, some essential dimensions of Bhutan's system of democratic local governance still need to be further strengthened and consolidated. In the traditionally hierarchical Bhutanese society, the central agencies have been the main drivers for policy development, planning and implementation. This approach has prevented Bhutan from sufficiently developing a culture of meaningful citizen participation in planning and decision-making at the local government level and the requisite capacity for its citizens to engage with institutions in a democratic dialogue to influence decisions about local development plans.

The fledgling democracy in Bhutan is grappling with a host of challenges, from a limited understanding of democratic practices in the elected leaders and public servants to disenfranchised youth and citizens with a recipient mindset expecting the state to plan, decide and provide. While the transition to democracy in Bhutan has brought significant progress and evident signs of improved social and economic conditions amongst its population, it is not without challenges. In the hierarchical society of Bhutan, the state has traditionally been the main (and only) driver for agenda setting, policy-making and implementation in local community planning and development and in public service delivery to their citizens. This top-down approach has not only led to a culture of “spoon-feeding” based on the assumption that the government is there “to do everything” for citizens, but it has also shaped a passive public with a “recipient mindset.”

Historically, Bhutan has no precedents of civic participation, citizen engagement and dialogue, especially in public matters. Hence, the familiarity in the society with these notions, especially at the local level, is currently weak. Traditionally, Bhutanese citizens are not used to expressing their opinions, needs, aspirations and concerns; most of them passively defer decisions on the development of their communities and on the delivery of public services to local governments, their representatives and elected leaders, with little questioning.

Although the need for bottom-up planning and decision-making was evident since the 8th Five Year Plan launched in 1998, a close look at the prevailing community planning, decision-making, and implementation reveals the predominance of the previously described top-down approach.

With Bhutan's democracy still in its infancy, these gaps suggest that a culture of citizen participation and democratic accountability are still far from being adequately developed. On the citizens' side, large sections of the Bhutanese population still possess an insufficient awareness and understanding of their role, rights and responsibilities as citizens under the newly established democratic system. On the other side, local governments and elected representatives also have limited familiarity with the importance of their open engagement with their constituents in agenda setting, policy-making and implementation of local plans and services. They also do not possess enough knowledge on how to establish and use suitable spaces and mechanisms to ensure more active civic engagement from citizens, and in doing so, how they become more accountable to the citizens.

While Bhutanese women enjoy inheritance rights in a largely matriarchal society, gender equality in public affairs is a challenge. The 2015 Gross National Happiness Survey reported that at 58%, male attendance at Zomdu was comparatively higher than their female counterparts at 45%. From those who attended, less than one-third (28.2%) reported speaking at the meeting, indicating minimal active participation, while 72% were passive participants. Oftentimes local governments meetings are held merely to inform people of decisions rather than consulting them and including citizens in determining their needs and solutions to local concerns.

BCMD's recent interaction with the LG office bearers through Project Mikhung found that some challenges are culturally rooted while others stem from limited understanding of democracy. For instance, while there is no active oppression and discrimination against women, youth, the elderly and people with disabilities, the voices of these groups remain unheard. While women participation in Zomdus isn't poor, women rarely express their views or partake in decision-making. Young people and people with disabilities, on the other hand, are considered incompetent in matters of public affairs. There is confusion in the local elected leaders about who they can consult. They believe that unless a resident is a registered voter, they are not eligible to participate in Zomdus or consultations.

Studies also report a lack of quality engagement in community meetings, poor meeting facilitation skills, and lack of expertise and skills in Tshogpas (community leaders) to engage community members in local development (Assessment Study, DT, GT 2019). BCMD's monitoring of citizen participation shows that passive participation in Zomdu can be attributed to a lack of a sense of agency in the citizens. This is particularly true with vulnerable groups such as women, young people and PWDs. Consultative meetings indicated that the general trend of attending Zomdu is more of a formality ensuring household representation rather than for participation, as households tend to send people to "listen" and convey messages rather than share and partake in making decisions. The default practice of inviting only heads of the families has made the "zomdus" an exclusive forum where influential members hijack the agenda and silence the voices and the needs of the vulnerable.

Achievements of Project Mikhung 1.0

Despite the disruptions of the pandemic with extended lockdowns and school closures, **Project Mikhung** continued adapting to the changes. A seminal milestone of the project was the **translation of the philosophy of Gross National Happiness into practical tools for community analyses** for the Local Government functionaries. Key government stakeholders like the Gross National Happiness Commission, the Department of Local Government, and development partners acknowledged the relevance and usefulness of the resource and the capacity building on GNH-based participatory planning. Noting the potential of Project Mikhung in transforming the planning processes at the LG, for the first time, the GNHC, DLGDM and BCMD came together for a peer-learning session in 2022. The three stakeholders agreed to work towards the shared goal of strengthening the LG to be participatory and inclusive.

Results of Project Mikhung show the emergence of more **inclusivity and openness to diverse voices** in the elected leaders and enhanced capacity to conduct **in-depth analysis** of community issues and the recognition of the **importance of data** in planning.¹ In the past, LGs invited only the heads of the family to zomdus (community meetings). Now they realise that the traditional practice is discriminatory and excludes vulnerable voices. The LG functionaries are more inclusive now as participants consulted reports reaching out to youth, women, people with disabilities and elders in the communities (<https://youtu.be/o7ZCaUW6vyY>)

An external evaluation of the project shows that more than 80% of the respondents agree that the project enhanced their **awareness about community issues**, how to investigate community issues, share their views and to participate in planning processes. The project successfully developed **critical thinking** in citizens as consumers of media information with the knowledge and skills to evaluate information sources and to **discern real from fake news**.² The project produced three resources (GNH-based participatory planning toolkit, Nurturing Student Representatives, and Whole-school approach to civic education) for the LGs and schools to infuse their practices with democratic ideals and principles.

Proposal: Project Mikhung 2.0

Based on the lessons from Project Mikhung (2019-2021), the current proposal plans to expand the project to Zhemgang in the central Bhutan with eight schools and eight gewogs taking a whole-community approach. Zhemgang district is the poorest district as per the poverty analysis report (NSB, 2022) with poverty rate at 41.4%. The project targets LG leaders and administrators who are responsible for facilitating citizen participation. It will also empower citizens and youths to participate actively and provide constructive views in community affairs. The capacity development for the LG and the schools are complementary and mutually reinforcing for greater inclusivity and participatory processes at the local government level.

The project is designed to offer a series of interrelated and hands-on learning experiences that will facilitate people-centred planning and community development. The project defines people-centred planning as a process of consultation that is participatory, inclusive of diverse (and marginalised) voices, involving a holistic assessment of community needs and assets. This project is complementary to the national decentralisation agenda and strengthening citizen participation at the community level.

C. Location of the project: Zhemgang (South-Central) are among the five poorest districts, Poverty Analysis Report 2022, National Statistics Bureau 2022.

D. Duration of the project: October -2024 to -September 2026 (24 months)

¹ An analysis drawn from the recording of testimonials from participants uploaded on BCMD Youtube page.

² BCMD (2021), An Evaluation Study on Citizenship Education Initiatives



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BHUTAN CENTRE
for MEDIA AND DEMOCRACY



Objectives *Outline the desired objective(s) of the proposed project.*

Objective 1: Strengthen the capacity of local elected leaders and administrators in inclusive consultation and participatory planning.

Objective 2: Empower community residents and vulnerable groups to take active participation in public consultation and community level planning and decision-making.

Objective 3: Cultivate a sense of ownership of their communities and enhance civic participation of young people and educators.

Objective 4: Inspire integration of participatory planning processes at the LG level with evidence

Expected Outputs/Results *Describe the expected outputs/results of the project in the community and its overall impact for Bhutan.*

1: Community meetings (Zomdus) and consultations by LGs are participatory and inclusive of diverse members of the community, including vulnerable groups

2. Community residents, including vulnerable members and youths develop an enhanced sense of ownership and actively participate in community affairs.

Activities *What activities will be carried out to achieve the above objective(s)?*

Objective 1: Strengthen the capacity of local elected leaders and administrators in inclusive consultation and participatory planning.

1. Capacity building for Local Government officer bearers in GNH-based participatory planning

1.1. A 5-day training of trainers for 25 participants on GNH-based participatory planning for Zhemgang district.

The training of trainers will ensure expertise within the system to assist the institutionalisation of the participatory planning practices. It



helps build a critical mass of change agents from within the district including local civil society organisations.

1.2. A 6-day workshop for 25 LG elected leaders and administrators on GNH-based participatory planning in eight gewogs (county) of Zhemgang.

The trainers will co-facilitate the training of fellow LG officials and elected leaders on participatory planning with BCMD. This exercise will provide an opportunity for the trainers to practise participatory planning as co-facilitators with BCMD trainers. They will serve a catalytic role as they have more authority over planning processes in the District.

Objective 2: Empower community residents and vulnerable groups to take active participation in public consultation and community level planning and decision-making.

2. Community Empowerment for participatory consultation and planning

2.1. One day Citizen Empowerment workshops in ten gewogs of Zhemgang.

The Citizen Empowerment workshop will ensure that the citizens move from passive spectators to more active citizens engaging actively and constructively with the LG officials and elected leaders.

2.2. Consultation and co-development of ten community development plans by LGs and community residents.

This activity provides an authentic and hands-on experience for both LG and the community residents to jointly analyse community issues and co-develop community development plans.

2.3. One Peer-learning Events with 80 LG leaders and government officials in the district

The participants of the ten gewogs will present their co-developed gewog plans at the Peer Learning Event, including the youths and educators involved in implementing Local Initiatives, to share lessons from their experience, demonstrate participatory planning processes and inspire other LG and district administrators. The Peer-Learning Event creates a platform for the LGs, community residents, youths and educators to engage in deliberations on active participation of citizens in community development.

2.3.1. A public recognition and grant for implementation of three best gewog plans.



To incentivise and handhold implementation of participatory planning processes, the project will recognise three best gewog plants with a seed funding to supplement their gewog block grants from the government. With this incentive, it is likely that the gewogs will take the process more seriously that has real implications for their community development.

This is a new component to the project based on the MEL observation in the first phase of Project Mikhung where the implementation of the co-developed plans were left for the LGs to mobilise resources.

2.4. Implementation of three best gewog plans

The implementation of the three best gewog plans can be documented as an exemplary approach to citizen engagement in planning processes for sharing in the larger forums (Activity 4.2) for district administrators across the country. This can be used by relevant government agencies as educational resources during orientation of LG officer bearers and officials to further promote the idea of holistic assessment of communities and more inclusive and participatory planning processes.

Objective 3: Cultivate a sense of ownership of their communities and enhance civic participation of young people and educators.

3. Capacitating youths for civic action and ownership of their communities

3.1. An eight- day training of trainers for 40 teachers from eight schools on Asset-based community mapping and Nurturing student-representative in the target district.

40 teachers from eight schools in Zhemgnag district will be trained on Asset-based community mapping that provides a strength-based approach to analysing communities. Further, they will be trained on Nurturing Student Representative to shift the role of student leaders from being “substitute for authorities' ' to being democratically elected “ representatives of student body” embodying democratic values, dispositions and a sense of agency.

3.1.1. A 2-day step-down training on community mapping in eight schools in Zhemgang district.

3.1.2. A 2-day step-down training on Nurturing Student Representative in 6 schools in Zhemgang district.



The teachers trained under activity 3.1 will orient students and student leaders in their schools to the knowledge and skills of community mapping and to nurture agency and more democratic leadership in youths.

3.2. Seed money to carry out eight local initiatives in the community by the youths in the target district.

In groups, the youths in the district will map their communities, identify issues and ideate solutions, and carry out small projects (Local Initiatives) with seed funds. These projects will provide more hands-on experience to young people as they learn to be more active civic actors in their communities.

3.4. Youths present community assessment & Local Initiatives at the Peer-Learning Events.

Youths present community assessment & Local Initiatives at the Peer-Learning Events (Activity 2.3). The youths will share their experiences of implementing the Local Initiatives at the Peer-Learning Event with participants from the Local government and communities. Such events will showcase the importance of diverse voices in community development and create opportunities for more open deliberation on issues, collaboration and partnership.

Objective 4: Inspire integration of participatory planning processes at the LG level with evidence

4. Documentation and Knowledge-sharing

4.1. A Case study of Zomdus/public consultation in the target gewogs to establish a baseline followed by an evaluation at the end of the project with recommendations on the way forward for the LGs to integrate participatory planning.

The case study will delve into the current practice of public consultation and planning at the LG level, identify best practices and issues to establish a baseline. This will be followed by intervention with a series of capacity development for the target stakeholders described in the section above and an evaluation at the end of the project. The study will highlight immediate results of the intervention and recommend strategies for relevant government agencies to institutionalise participatory planning processes.

4.2. A national-level seminar with 120 participants to inspire the adoption of participatory planning and the way forward to institutionalise



the practice.

The Seminar will provide a platform for the gewogs and the youths to showcase exemplary practices of participatory planning and youth engagement to inspire change at the community level. The findings from the evaluation study and the recommendations will be deliberated at the seminar by a panel of experts drawn from the LG, bureaucracy, civil society and the academic to further synthesise and distil recommendations to make participatory planning a reality. The seminar will see participation of LG office bearers from 19 other districts and key stakeholders, development partners and civil society organisations. The seminar will create a platform for development partners and CSOs to forge partnership and shop for community development ideas to collaborate and support.

Resources required *What resources (inputs) are required?*

- Capacity building workshops/training
- Training resources
- Supervision from BCMD
- Seed fund to implement local initiatives and best gewog plans by the youths and the LGs respectively

Monitoring & Evaluation *How can Bhutan Foundation help you track the progress of the project? Include the M&E framework or project log frame.*

<i>Project Summary</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Means of verification</i>	<i>Risk/Assumption</i>
<i>Goal: Strengthen participatory planning and holistic assessment of the community leading to the development of plans and programs that a to the needs of the community (people-centred).</i>					
Outcome 1: Community meetings (Zomdus) and consultations by LGs in the target districts become participatory and inclusive of diverse members of the	Change in how zomdus/consultations are conducted	PWDs and young people are excluded from Zomdus LG plans are mostly capital	LGs reach out actively to vulnerable groups for consultation. LG plans capture emerging social	Evaluation study	



community, including vulnerable groups.		/infrastructure oriented	issues including those related to vulnerable groups.			
<i>Output 1.1.</i> Strengthened the capacity of 25 local elected leaders & administrators of eight gewogs in Zhemgang district in participatory planning.	% of the LG elected leaders and administrators		50% of the LG leaders and administrators become inclusive and consultative in their approach.	Survey reports	1.1. We assume that the project will be able to cover 10 gewogs in Zhemgang district. This will be pursued through collaborative planning of the project schedule with LGs/District Administration	
<i>Activities</i> 1.1.1. A 5-day training of trainers for 25-30 participants on GNH-based participatory planning for Zhemang district.	Number of participants		1.2. 25-30 district officials and civil society members trained as trainers on GNH-based participatory community analysis and planning in two districts	Registration form Event photographs/videos		
1.1.2. A 6-day workshop for 25-30 LG elected leaders and administrators on GNH-based participatory planning in ten gewogs (county) of Zhemang.	Number of participants and gewogs covered		1.2. 25-30 local government elected leaders and administrators in the district trained on GNH-based participatory	Registration form Event photographs/videos		



			planning.			
<i>Output: 1.2.</i> Inspired integration of participatory planning processes at the LG level with evidence						
<i>Activities</i>						
1.2.1. A Case study of Zomdus/public consultation in the target gewogs to establish a baseline followed by an evaluation at the end of the project with recommendations on the way forward for the LGs to integrate participatory planning.	Copy of the study # of the recommendations for participatory planning adopted by the LGs.		One baseline study and one evaluation study	Copy of the study uploaded on BCMD website		
1.2.2. A national-level seminar with 120 participants to inspire the adoption of participatory planning and the way forward to institutionalise the practice.	# of seminar participants		100 participants attend the seminar to share their experience and inspire other LGs	Registration form Media coverage	<i>We hope to engage the heads of the district administration and the local government in other districts. Online participation will be made possible where in-person attendance is not possible due to competing priorities, logistics or budget limitations.</i>	
<i>Outcome 2:</i>		Zomdu participants are	75% of the residents have an enhanced sense of ownership	Evaluation study		



Community residents of eight gewogs, including vulnerable members and youths developed an enhanced sense of ownership and actively participated in community affairs.	% of participants	passive recipients of information Decisions are made by few vocal male participants	of their community and participate actively in decision-making			
<i>Output 2.1.</i> Empowered community residents & vulnerable groups of 10 gewogs to take active participation in public consultation & community level planning & decision-making	<i>% of participants</i>		75% of participants who begin to participate actively in community consultations. 75 % of the community residents, including vulnerable members, who believe their voices are heard and considered			
<i>Activities</i>						
2.1.1. One day Citizen Empowerment workshops in eight gewogs of Zhemgang.	# of participants		200 community residents participate in citizen empowerment workshops and co-planning of their community development plan in			



			eight gewogs.			
2.1.2. Consultation and co-development of eight community development plans by LGs and community residents.			Eight community plans co-developed by LGs and community residents.			
2.1.3. One Peer-learning Event with 70 LG leaders and government officials in the district	<i># of participants at the event</i> % of gewog plans		One peer-Learning events with 70 participants (including project staff) are organised 75 % of Gewog Plans capture issues beyond infrastructural development alone.			
2.1.4. Implementation of three best gewog plans	# of gewog plans implemented		2.4. Successful implementation of three best gewog plans demonstrating citizen engagement in planning & decision-making.			
Output 2.2. Cultivated a sense of ownership of their communities and enhanced civic participation of young people in 6 schools in	% of youths	Youths are not involved in consultation or decision-making	50% of the youths with heightened sense of ownership of their community			



two target districts.		in their communities and schools	and active participation in community services and decision-making.		
<i>Activities</i>					
2.2.1. An 8- day training of trainers for 40 teachers on Asset-based community mapping and Nurturing student-representative in the target district	% of teachers		40 teachers trained as trainers in Asset-based community mapping and Nurturing Students Representatives 75% of the teachers report proficiency to inspire active civic participation of youths and youth leadership		
2.2.2. A 2-day step-down training on community mapping in eight schools in the target districts	# of students		160 students in eight schools trained on community mapping and leadership.		<i>With many teachers leaving the system for work abroad some schools may have limited human resources to carry out the project. In such cases, BCMD will employ unemployed graduates looking for jobs for a small stipend to assist the schools.</i>
2.2.3. A 2-day step down training on Nurturing Student Representative in 6 schools in the			75 % of the students report enhanced		



target districts, including Paro			awareness of civic action and ownership of their communities.		
2.2.4. Seed money to carry out eighth local initiatives in the community by the youths in Zhemang	<i># of local initiatives</i>		Implement eight local initiatives 160 students in eight schools trained on democratic leadership. 75 % of the students report adoption of democratic leadership values and practices		
2.2.5. Youths present community assessment & Local Initiatives at the Peer-Learning Events.					

E. Estimated budget and timeline of the activities:

Budget

Sl. No	Activity	Sub-activities	Budget (USD)
1	Capacity building for Local government officer bearers in GNH-based participatory planning	1.1. A 5-day training of trainers for 25-30 participants on GNH-based participatory planning for Zhemgang district.	11,053
		1.2. A 6-day workshop for 25 LG elected leaders and administrators on GNH-based participatory planning in ten gewogs (county) of Zhemgang.	14,198
2	Community Empowerment for Participatory consultation and Planning	2.1. One day Citizen Empowerment workshops in eight gewogs in Zhemgang	5,070
		2.2. Consultation and co-development of eight community development plans by LGs and community residents.	1,446
		2.3. One Peer-learning Events with 80 LG leaders and government officials in the district	6,259
		2.4 Implementation of three best gewog plans	10,843
3	Capacitating youths for civic action and ownership of their communities	3.1. A 8- day training of trainers for 40 teachers from eight schools on Asset-based community mapping and Nurturing student-representative in the target district.	20,000
		3.1.1. A 2-day step-down training on community mapping in 8 schools in Zhemgang district.	500
		3.1.2. A 2-day step-down training on Nurturing Student Representatives in 8 schools in Zhemgang district.	500
		3.2. Seed money to carry out 8 local initiatives in the community by the youths in the target district.	2,679
		3.3. Youths present community assessment & Local Initiatives at the Peer-Learning Events.	1,500
4	Documentation and Knowledge-sharing	4.1. A Case study of Zomdus/public consultation in the target gewogs to establish a baseline followed by an evaluation at the end of the project with recommendations on the way forward for the LGs to integrate participatory planning.	12,952
		4.2. A national-level seminar with 120 participants to inspire the adoption of participatory planning and the way forward to institutionalise the practice.	13,000
5			
Total Project Cost			100,000



Timeline

Sl. No	Activity	Sub-Activities	Budget (USD)	Year 1				Year 2				
				Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
		Inception phase - orienting partners to project and broad planning		X								
1	Capacity building for Local government officer bearers in GNH-based participatory planning	1.1. A 5-day training of trainers on and GNH-based participatory planning for Zhemgang district.	11,053.00			X	X	X				
		1.2. A 6-day workshop for the LG elected leaders and administrators on GNH-based participatory planning in ten gewogs (county) of Zhemgang.	14,198.00					X	X			
2	Community Empowerment for Participatory consultation and Planning	2.1. One day Citizen Empowerment workshops in eight gewogs of Zhemgang.	5,070.00					X	X			
		2.2. Consultation and co-development of eight community development plans by LGs and community residents.	1,446.00						X	X		
		2.3. One Peer-learning Events with other gewogs in the district and government officials	6,259.00						X	X		
		2.4 Implementation of three best gewog plans	10,843.00							X	X	
3	Capacitating youths for civic action and ownership of their communities	3.1. An 8- day training of trainers for 40 teachers from eight schools on Asset-based community mapping and Nurturing student-representative in the target district.	20,000.00		X	X						
		3.1.1. A 2-day step-down training on community mapping in 6 schools in Zhemgang district.	500.00				X					
		3.1.2. A 2-day step-down training on Nurturing Student Representative in eight schools in Zhemgang district.	500.00				X					
		3.2. Seed money to carry out 8 local initiatives in the community by the youths in the target district.	2,679.00				X	X				



		3.3. Youths present community assessment & Local Initiatives at the Peer-Learning Events.	1,500.00						X		
4	Documentation and Knowledge-sharing	4.1. A Case study of Zomdus/public consultation in the target gewogs to establish a baseline followed by an evaluation at the end of the project with recommendations on the way forward for the LGs to integrate participatory planning.	12,952.00	X	X	X	X				X
		4.2. A national-level seminar with 100 participants to inspire the adoption of participatory planning and the way forward to institutionalise the practice.	13,000.00								
		Closing Phase- Project end report									
Total Project Cost			100,000.00								

F. Co-funding:

Has your organization received any financial assistance from any other sources for this project?

No

G. Sustainability Plan

How will the project activities be continued after the funding has stopped?

BCMD will adopt multiple strategies to ensure the sustainability of the practice. Firstly, we plan to work closely with a relevant government agency (Department of Local Government and Disaster Management/Planning Department within the Ministry of Finance/Cabinet) that has the mandate for capacity building of the Local Government. Through the evaluation study and the national seminar the project plans to propose the adoption of a framework for participatory planning for the LG. The framework can serve as a guide (or a checklist) for the LG to ensure that their consultation and planning processes are inclusive and participatory.

Secondly, other LGs across the country could draw inspiration when the project publicly recognised and supported the implementation of the best three gewog plans.

Lastly, through the whole-community approach, the residents, including vulnerable groups and the youth would already be capacitated through the project to demand and participate actively in LG consultation, planning and decision-making.

Signed-off:

Ms. Tandin Wangmo
Executive Director

27 June, 2024



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