



IFRAP
Integrated
Flood Resilience &
Adaptation Project



Ministry of Planning
Development &
Special Initiatives



INTEGRATED FLOOD RESILIENCE & ADAPTATION PROJECT

**Annual Progress Report (FY 2025-26) &
Quarterly Progress Report - Q4 (April 2026–June 2026)**
COMPONENT-1

MONITORING & EVALUATION (M&E) CONSULTANT

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Disclaimer	This M&E Quarterly Progress Report has been independently prepared by the M&E Consultant based on field monitoring, review of project records, consultations with relevant stakeholders, and information available during the reporting period. The findings, observations, assessments, and recommendations presented in this report represent the independent professional assessment of the M&E Consultant.
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Glossary of Acronyms and Abbreviations

- API – Application Programming Interface
- AWP – Annual Work Plan
- CE – Citizen Engagement
- CSC – Construction Supervision Consultants
- DQA – Data Quality Assurance
- ESMF – Environmental and Social Management Framework
- FGD – Focus Group Discussion
- FPMU – Federal Project Management Unit
- GAP – Gender Action Plan
- GIS – Geographic Information System
- GRM – Grievance Redress Mechanism
- IFRAP – Integrated Flood Resilience and Adaptation Project
- IR – Intermediate Results
- IVR – Interactive Voice Response
- JV – Joint Venture
- KII – Key Informant Interview
- KM – Knowledge Management
- M&E – Monitoring and Evaluation
- MIS – Management Information System
- MoPDSI – Ministry of Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives
- PAD – Project Appraisal Document
- PDO – Project Development Objective
- PIU – Provincial Implementing Unit
- PMIS – Project Monitoring Information System
- PSC – Project Steering Committee
- RBMEF – Results-Based Monitoring and Evaluation Framework
- TA – Technical Assistance
- TORs – Terms of Reference

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Annual Report presents an independent Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) assessment of implementation progress under Component I of the Integrated Flood Resilience and Adaptation Project (IFRAP). The review covers the full fiscal year FY 2025-26 and focuses on **process monitoring, implementation readiness, institutional strengthening, safeguard compliance, procurement preparedness, and risk management**.

FY 2025-26 should be regarded as a readiness-building and transition year for Component I. Significant progress was achieved in engineering designs, environmental and social safeguards, procurement preparation, monitoring systems, stakeholder coordination, and institutional capacity development. However, these achievements did not translate into commencement of physical works during the reporting period. Consequently, Project Development Objective (PDO) indicators and most infrastructure-related Intermediate Results Indicators (IRIs) remained at zero achievement, reflecting the component's continued pre-construction status.

1.1 Strategic Overview

The FY 2025-26 (July 2025 - June 2026) marked foundational and transitional year for Component I, during Q1, the M&E firm completed baseline fieldwork, revised the M&E Framework in line with the updated PAD and Project Paper, operationalized the PMIS, and conducted capacity-building activities to support digital data collection and geo-tagging practices. During Q2 and Q3, Component-I remained largely in a preparatory phase, with progress concentrated on technical studies, engineering designs, safeguard documentation, and review processes, while physical works had not yet commenced. By Q4, the component showed a clearer transition toward implementation readiness, including advancement of design clearances, bidding documentation, safeguard approvals, and institutional capacity required for commencement of civil works.

From a results-based monitoring perspective, the year was characterized by progressive strengthening of readiness conditions rather than delivery of physical outputs. The major emphasis remained on establishing monitoring systems, improving data quality, completing pre-construction requirements, strengthening safeguard compliance, operationalizing the GRM, and preparing procurement packages for future implementation. However, recurring delays in design-review-clearance cycles, fragmented milestone tracking, absence of a dedicated Component-I MIS, and low financial utilization remained key constraints affecting implementation momentum during the year.

1.2 Overall Performance Assessment

Overall annual performance for FY 2025-26 may be assessed as moderately satisfactory, with important progress achieved in institutional setup, baseline activities, technical preparation, safeguard documentation, and procurement readiness, but with no progress toward physical implementation. In Q1, the project established the foundation for evidence-based monitoring through completion of baseline fieldwork, testing of PMIS modules, and training of enumerators. In Q2, only two out of ten major technical deliverables were completed, namely the Preliminary Site Assessment Report and Flood Risk Analysis Report for the Irrigation Sub-Component, both with delays of about four months. In Q3, performance remained mixed, with progress on design submissions and safeguard clearances, but continued constraints due to unresolved irrigation design proposals and selected engineering approvals

By Q4, performance improved notably, reflecting a shift from design development toward procurement readiness. Key achievements included progress on design clearances, safeguard approvals, bidding

document preparation, and staffing mobilization. Nevertheless, the completion of remaining technical reviews, World Bank clearances, and procurement processes remained essential before physical works could commence. Overall, the year demonstrated an improving readiness trajectory, but not yet full implementation delivery.

1.3 Assessment of Sub-Component Performance

1.3.1 Irrigation Sub-Component

The Irrigation Sub-Component showed comparatively stronger progress during FY 2025-26. In Q1, baseline coverage included 16 irrigation schemes and 45 beneficiaries, contributing to initial field-level understanding of Component-I conditions. During Q2, the sub-component completed two key deliverables, the Preliminary Site Assessment Report and Flood Risk Analysis Report, although both were delayed by about four months due to repeated reviews, technical revisions, and extended consultations. During Q3, all fourteen irrigation design packages were submitted to the World Bank between November 2025 and March 2026, and key design-stage deliverables, including the Inception Report, Preliminary Site Assessment, Flood Risk Analysis, and related safeguard documentation, were completed or advanced through review.

By Q4, the Irrigation Sub-Component recorded substantial progress. Detailed engineering designs and tender documentation covering 35 irrigation schemes under 13 active packages continued to advance. Design Packages II to VI received technical clearance, excluding dam structures, while Packages VII to X were revised in response to review comments. Packages I, XI, XII, and XIV remained under review awaiting comments, while Package XIII was discontinued following project rationalization. Importantly, the final bidding documents for Irrigation Package 2 were approved, representing the first procurement-ready irrigation package and a key milestone toward contract award and construction commencement.

Despite this progress, pending reviews and approvals, particularly for dam-related structures and remaining packages, continued to represent the critical path for full procurement readiness across the irrigation portfolio.

1.3.2 Roads & Bridges Sub-Component

The Roads and Bridges Sub-Component progressed more slowly during FY 2025-26. In Q1, baseline coverage included roads and bridges, with 8 road-related and 4 bridge-related beneficiaries recorded in the baseline activities. During Q2, the sub-component performed significantly weaker than Irrigation, as none of the five major design deliverables were completed during the quarter despite planned completion between August and October 2025. All major deliverables showed delays of about three to five months, indicating structural bottlenecks across inception reporting, feasibility assessment, quality assurance planning, safeguard documentation, and engineering design reviews.

During Q3, the Roads and Bridges Sub-Component progressed mainly through review and clearance milestones. The Design and Supervision firm was hired on schedule, initial design submissions for Packages I to III were completed, and the Inception Report, Feasibility Assessment Report, Quality Assurance Plan, and site-specific ESMPs were cleared, with ESMP clearance completed on 17 March 2026. In Q4, detailed engineering designs for Road Packages 1 to 3 were completed and submitted, while the Inception Report and Quality Assurance Plan obtained approval. Preparation of bidding documentation for Road Package 1 advanced during the quarter, moving the package closer to procurement initiation.

Overall, the Roads and Bridges Sub-Component demonstrated improvement toward technical readiness; however, final approvals and procurement actions remained necessary before the sub-component could transition into implementation.

1.4 Environmental and Social Performance

Environmental and social performance improved progressively during the year, particularly during the second half of FY 2025-26. During Q2, several safeguard instruments and downstream activities, including ESMPs, EIAs, and design proposals for irrigation packages, remained incomplete, delaying procurement and construction readiness. During Q3, safeguard clearances advanced, particularly for roads, where site-specific ESMPs were cleared on 17 March 2026.

By Q4, implementation of the Environmental and Social Framework remained satisfactory. Overarching safeguard instruments, including the ESMF, ESCP, RPF, SEP, LMP, and PIM, remained operational and continued to guide project implementation. During the quarter, 35 site-specific ESMPs were prepared for irrigation schemes, and the World Bank cleared the ESMPs for Irrigation Packages 2, 4, and 5. The remaining ESMPs and safeguard documents were under review by the Construction Supervision Consultants (CSC), with some ESMPs returned to the CSC for further review and necessary revisions. The review and clearance process may be expedited to avoid delays in the implementation of the related schemes. Gender-responsive measures were also integrated into safeguard instruments, while preparatory work for gender assessments and gender-disaggregated monitoring arrangements was undertaken to strengthen compliance with the World Bank's Environmental and Social Standards and enhance social inclusion.

1.5 Results Framework and Implementation Readiness

Results Framework performance remained largely unchanged during FY 2025-26 because Component-I had not yet entered the physical construction phase. During Q2 and Q3, PDO indicators and most intermediate indicators remained at zero achievement, including beneficiaries regaining access to essential services, beneficiaries with enhanced climate resilience, irrigation coverage, flood protection benefits, and road rehabilitation outputs. This confirms that Component-I remained primarily in an inputs, design, safeguards, and readiness stage rather than an outputs or results stage during most of the year.

Despite the absence of physical construction outputs in Q4, the component demonstrated substantial progress against implementation-readiness milestones. Key achievements included approval of priority design packages, clearance of safeguard instruments, preparation of procurement documentation, and strengthening of implementation arrangements. These achievements improved the readiness status required for future delivery of output and outcome indicators related to irrigation rehabilitation, road connectivity, climate resilience, and beneficiary access to services.

1.6 Institutional Capacity and Project Management

Institutional and project management arrangements improved during FY 2025-26, though important systemic gaps remained. During Q1, the M&E Framework was revised and resubmitted to align with the updated PAD and revised Project Paper, reflecting refined indicator definitions, revised targets, and standardized monitoring tools across all components. The PMIS was made live and became accessible to FPMU and PIU users, with five modules tested using dummy datasets, including Results Framework, Field Monitoring, GRM, Safeguards, and Dashboard Visualization. However, integration remained pending because Component-I lacked MIS arrangements.

During Q2 and Q3, coordination between the M&E team, PIU, consultants, line departments, and the World Bank improved through regular meetings, structured communication, and support for design finalization and safeguard clearance. However, the absence of a dedicated Component-I MIS and consolidated milestone tracker remained a key management gap, as progress continued to be tracked

through fragmented spreadsheets, correspondence, and document registers, limiting real-time visibility on submissions, reviews, clearances, procurement readiness, and site preparedness

During Q4, institutional strengthening continued through further mobilization of the implementation team and targeted capacity-building activities. Recruitment of the Dam Safety Expert and Road Safety Auditor was completed, while recruitment of the Security Management Specialist remained under process.

1.7 Grievance Redress and Stakeholder Engagement

The GRM became an important measurable area of performance during FY 2025-26. During Q1, the GRM module was included among the PMIS modules tested using dummy datasets, while GRM operationalization was identified as an emerging risk because frameworks were approved but inactive and public awareness remained low. The mitigation direction proposed for Q2 included a visibility campaign and hotline activation.

During Q2 and Q3, the GRM was the only Results Framework indicator with measurable achievement, recording 100 percent resolution of registered grievances. This confirmed that the grievance mechanism was operational, even though Component-I remained in an inputs and readiness stage rather than an outputs stage. During Q4, the GRM remained fully operational, and no grievances were received under Component-I during the quarter. Therefore, no investigations or grievance resolutions were required. Continued efforts were undertaken to improve GRM effectiveness through identification of focal persons, refinement of reporting arrangements, and strengthening of grievance management procedures.

1.8 Financial Performance

Financial performance remained low during FY 2025-26 due to the project's continued focus on preparatory and pre-construction activities. As of 24 June 2026, against the approved FY 2025-26 release of PKR 4,109.93 million, expenditures amounted to PKR 182.65 million, representing an overall utilization rate of 4.44 percent. Cumulative expenditures reached PKR 192.29 million. The low expenditure level is consistent with the pre-construction status of the component and reflects the emphasis on engineering designs, safeguard clearances, procurement preparation, technical reviews, and institutional readiness rather than physical execution of civil works.

1.9 Key Risks and Strategic implications

Risk Rating	Risk Area	Key Issue	Strategic Implication
High	Procurement Readiness Delays.	Unresolved design and safeguard deliverables continued to delay procurement readiness, contractor mobilization, and start of construction.	May defer procurement, contract awards, and physical implementation during subsequent quarters.
High	Outstanding Design and Technical Reviews.	Several irrigation design packages and dam-related structures remained under review or revision during Q4.	Delays in completing reviews may postpone procurement initiation and commencement of construction activities.
High	Inadequate Milestone Monitoring.	Absence of centralized monitoring systems and milestone registers limited visibility on schedule slippages and weakened accountability.	Reduced management's ability to escalate issues early and enforce corrective action.

Risk Rating	Risk Area	Key Issue	Strategic Implication
Substantial	Site Readiness Uncertainty.	Limited visibility, on land availability, utility relocation, safeguard compliance, and field constraints was identified as a risk.	May trigger construction delays even after contract awards are issued.
Substantial	Low Financial Utilization.	Budget utilization remained low due to the pre-construction status of the component.	Continued delays in transitioning to implementation may affect annual disbursement performance.
Substantial	Specialized Staffing Gaps.	Recruitment of the Security Management Specialist remained pending during Q4.	Delayed mobilization may affect implementation support arrangements during the construction phase.

1.10 Management Priorities for Q-5 (July to September 2026)

To sustain implementation momentum and convert FY 2025-26 preparatory progress into measurable field-level outputs, management attention during Q5 should focus on securing clearance of remaining irrigation design packages and dam-related structures, completing World Bank reviews and approvals for pending ESMPs and technical submissions, finalizing procurement documentation, and launching bidding processes for priority packages.

Priority should also be given to completing recruitment of remaining specialist positions, strengthening integrated monitoring of design, safeguard, procurement, and site-preparedness milestones, and establishing robust contractor mobilization and construction-start arrangements for packages reaching procurement completion. In addition, the annual analysis strongly supports operationalization of a Component-I milestone tracker linked with PMIS, maintenance of a consolidated design, approval, and procurement register, and verification of site readiness before procurement and mobilization.

1.11 Annual Analytical Review of all Quarter FY 2025-26

Quarter	Overall Stage	Key Progress	Main Gaps / Constraints	Analytical Assessment
Q1	M&E inception and operational deployment	Baseline fieldwork completed; M&E Framework revised; PMIS made live; five PMIS modules tested; training conducted in Quetta from 30 July to 2 August 2025.	Component-I lacked MIS integration; approval and tender cycles were longer than planned; GRM awareness remained low.	Q1 established the foundation for evidence-based monitoring, but real-time Component-I progress validation remained constrained by static tracking and lack of MIS integration.
Q2	Preparatory and technical review phase	Two irrigation deliverables completed: Preliminary Site Assessment Report and Flood Risk Analysis Report.	Eight major deliverables remained under review or revision; Roads and Bridges had no major completed design deliverables; delays were systemic across review and approval cycles.	Q2 showed limited movement toward implementation readiness, with procurement and construction readiness constrained by repeated reviews, safeguard delays, and fragmented tracking.
Q3	Delayed recovery and readiness advancement	All fourteen irrigation design packages submitted to the World Bank; roads ESMPs cleared on 17 March 2026; coordination improved among PIU, consultants, line departments, World Bank, and M&E team.	Component-I still did not reach physical implementation; unresolved design approvals, fragmented tracking, and limited site-readiness verification continued.	Q3 reflected delayed recovery rather than full implementation readiness, requiring accountability-driven corrective action in Q4.

Quarter	Overall Stage	Key Progress	Main Gaps / Constraints	Analytical Assessment
Q4	Transition toward procurement readiness	Design clearances advanced; 35 irrigation ESMPs prepared; ESMPs for Irrigation Packages 2, 4, and 5 cleared; Irrigation Package 2 bidding documents approved; Dam Safety Expert and Road Safety Auditor recruited.	Physical implementation had not commenced; pending technical reviews, World Bank clearances, procurement processes, and Security Management Specialist recruitment remained outstanding.	Q4 demonstrated notable improvement and stronger readiness for implementation, but full transition to civil works remained dependent on completion of pending clearances, procurement actions, and site-preparedness arrangements.

The FY 2025-26 was a preparatory but important year for Component-I. The year strengthened the core building blocks required for implementation, including baseline evidence, M&E framework alignment, PMIS testing, safeguard documentation, GRM operationalization, technical design advancement, procurement preparation, and institutional capacity development. However, the absence of physical implementation throughout the year limited achievement against PDO and infrastructure-related Results Framework indicators, which remained largely unchanged because civil works had not commenced.

The annual review indicates that Component-I is moving in the right direction but remains exposed to implementation risks linked to delayed design approvals, pending safeguard and technical clearances, procurement readiness, limited milestone tracking, site-readiness uncertainty, and low financial utilization. Addressing these issues through time-bound management action, integrated milestone monitoring, stronger accountability, and accelerated procurement will be essential to translate FY 2025-26 readiness achievements into measurable outputs during FY 2026-27.

2. OVERVIEW OF REPORTING PERIOD

This Quarterly Progress Report covers the period April to June 2026 and corresponds to the fourth quarter of Monitoring and Evaluation activities for Component 1: Community Infrastructure Rehabilitation under the Integrated Flood Resilience and Adaptation Project (IFRAP).

During the reporting period, implementation under Component 1 continued to focus on advancing the remaining pre-procurement requirements necessary for the commencement of civil works. Key activities included finalization and review of detailed engineering designs, refinement of bidding documents, environmental and social safeguard compliance, coordination with the World Bank for technical clearances, and continued engagement with CSC and concerned line departments. These efforts were directed toward strengthening procurement readiness for priority irrigation, flood protection, road, and bridge packages.

From an M&E perspective, progress during Quarter 4 was assessed primarily against readiness indicators rather than physical execution, as civil works had not yet commenced during the reporting period. Monitoring therefore focused on tracking the status of design submissions, World Bank comments and clearances, ESMP approvals, bidding document preparation, staffing arrangements, and the extent to which priority packages were positioned for procurement and implementation.

The quarter reflected measurable progress in the transition from design preparation toward procurement readiness. For the irrigation and flood protection sub-component, priority schemes were reorganized into 23 lots under 13 packages to facilitate phased procurement and implementation. Detailed engineering designs and bidding documents were further refined after incorporation of technical observations from the PIU and the World Bank. For the roads sub-component, detailed engineering designs were completed, and the Dera Allahyar to Hairdeen via Sohbat Pur Road was confirmed as the priority Phase-I Road for implementation under available financing.

Notwithstanding this progress, implementation remained constrained by pending World Bank comments on selected irrigation packages, continued review of environmental and social safeguard instruments, clarification of procurement methods for road works, and ongoing recruitment of the Security Management Specialist. These issues have implications for the timing of procurement launch and subsequent physical implementation. Accordingly, intensified follow-up with the World Bank, timely finalization of safeguard documentation, and close tracking of procurement readiness remain critical to minimizing further slippage and supporting achievement of Component 1 objectives.

2.1 Summary of Progress During the Reporting Period

During the fourth quarter, implementation under **Component 1: Community Infrastructure Rehabilitation** demonstrated continued progress toward procurement readiness. The quarter was characterized by consolidation of technical designs, refinement of bidding documents, advancement of safeguard clearances, and strengthened coordination among the PIU, Construction Supervision Consultants, line departments, and the World Bank.

- Regular fortnightly review meetings continued with the Construction Supervision Consultants to monitor progress, resolve technical issues, and expedite preparation of procurement packages for both irrigation and roads sub-components.
- Under the irrigation and flood protection sub-component, revisions to detailed engineering designs for priority schemes were finalized after incorporating technical observations received from the PIU and the World Bank. Priority irrigation and flood protection schemes were

reorganized into **23 lots under 13 packages**, enabling a more structured and phased approach to procurement and implementation.

- Bidding documents for priority irrigation packages were further refined through the incorporation of updated technical specifications, engineering estimates, and contract documentation. This represents an important step toward procurement readiness, particularly for packages where technical reviews and World Bank comments have been addressed.
- For the roads and bridges sub-component, detailed engineering designs were completed, covering feasibility assessment, hydrological and hydraulic analysis, geometric design, structural design, pavement design, and engineering estimates. Following financial and technical review, the **Dera Allahyar to Hairdeen via Sohbat Pur Road** was confirmed as the priority Phase-I Road under the available project financing.
- The Site-Specific ESMP for the priority road received World Bank clearance, enabling translation, public disclosure, and progression toward procurement. Bidding documents for the priority road package were also refined and reviewed after incorporation of technical comments.
- Environmental and social safeguard compliance progressed during the quarter. Site-specific ESMPs for several irrigation packages were reviewed, with World Bank approval received for ESMPs of Packages 2, 4, and 5, while other ESMPs remained under review or were returned to consultants for incorporation of comments.
- Gender mainstreaming and social inclusion considerations were integrated into the review of site-specific ESMPs. Gender-responsive actions and mitigation measures were incorporated into irrigation ESMPs, while preparatory work for gender assessments and collection of gender-disaggregated data continued for completion during the implementation phase.
- Institutional capacity under the component was strengthened through mobilization of the core team and completion of recruitment for the Dam Safety Expert and Road Safety Auditor. Recruitment of the Security Management Specialist remained in progress, with evaluation of the consultant ongoing and an intermittent engagement model proposed to expedite hiring.
- The Restoration of Water Supply Schemes / small community facilities sub-component remained omitted following restructuring by the World Bank. No implementation progress was therefore recorded under this activity during the reporting period.

Overall, Quarter 4 reflects a shift from broad design preparation toward targeted procurement readiness. While physical works have not yet commenced, the completion and refinement of technical, safeguard, and bidding documentation for priority packages indicate that Component 1 is progressing toward the implementation phase, subject to timely World Bank clearances and completion of remaining procurement requirements.

2.2 Key Constraints, Risks, and Forward Look

During the fourth quarter, Component 1 continued to face constraints associated with the transition from design finalization to procurement launch. These constraints are typical of infrastructure programs involving multiple technical reviews, safeguard requirements, and World Bank clearance processes; however, continued delays may affect the timely commencement of civil works and achievement of planned outputs.

Key constraints and risks observed during the reporting period included:

- **Pending World Bank comments and clearances:** Comments remained pending on selected irrigation packages, including Packages I, XI, XII, and XIV, while some packages were still under revision. This continued to affect the readiness of downstream procurement activities.

- **Safeguard clearance timelines:** Although several ESMPs were reviewed and some irrigation ESMPs were cleared remaining safeguard instruments required further review, revision, and/or clearance. The pace of procurement readiness was affected by the **time required for the CSC to incorporate review comments, revise, and resubmit the safeguard instruments for further review and clearance.** This review–revision–resubmission cycle contributed to delays in finalizing the required safeguard documentation and, consequently, affected procurement readiness.
- **Procurement readiness gaps:** Bidding documents for priority irrigation and road packages were under preparation or refinement, but procurement launch remained dependent on completion of technical, safeguard, and procedural requirements. Clarification on road procurement methods was also identified as a bottleneck.
- **Staffing and specialized support:** While the core team was mobilized and recruitment of key specialists progressed, the hiring of the Security Management Specialist remained under process. Any further delay may affect readiness for field implementation in security-sensitive areas.
- **Low financial utilization against available Funds:** Financial progress remained limited relative to the FY 2025-26 release, with expenditures reported at PKR 182.65 million against releases of PKR 4,109.93 million, indicating utilization of 4.44 percent up to 24 June 2026. This reflects the continued pre-procurement status of the component and limited commencement of expenditure-intensive civil works.

Looking forward, Component 1 is at a critical implementation-readiness stage. The immediate priority should be to finalize all remaining technical reviews, secure pending World Bank clearances, complete ESMP approvals, integrate safeguard requirements into bidding documents, and initiate procurement for priority packages. From an M&E perspective, strengthened package-wise tracking will be essential to monitor movement from design clearance to bidding, contract award, mobilization, and physical progress. Early establishment of baseline information, gender-disaggregated data collection arrangements, GRM focal points, and field monitoring protocols will also be important to support results-based reporting once civil works commence.

2.3 Project Overview and Development Objectives

Component 1 of IFRAP supports the rehabilitation and restoration of essential community infrastructure damaged by the 2022 floods in calamity-declared districts of Balochistan. The component covers irrigation systems, flood protection infrastructure, roads and bridges, with the objective of restoring access to essential services and strengthening community resilience.

The component contributes directly to the Project Development Objective:

“To improve livelihoods and essential services and enhance flood risk protection in selected communities affected by the 2022 floods.”

During Quarter 4, Component 1 continued to contribute toward the PDO through preparatory actions required for future delivery of infrastructure outputs and outcome-level benefits. While physical progress against PDO indicators will be reported after commencement of civil works, progress was recorded in relation to design completion, safeguard compliance, procurement preparation, and institutional readiness. These preparatory achievements are necessary preconditions for restoring irrigation services, improving flood protection, rehabilitating roads and bridges, and ultimately enhancing access to essential services in target communities.

Monitoring during the quarter therefore remained focused on assessing readiness for implementation rather than measuring completed physical outputs. The M&E function tracked progress against technical deliverables, safeguard clearances, bidding document preparation, staffing milestones, and coordination actions required to move priority packages from design stage to procurement and implementation.

2.4 Data Sources, Coverage and Limitations

The findings presented in this section are based on verified information compiled from project records and progress updates for Component 1. Key sources included PIU progress submissions, design and engineering documentation, bidding document status updates, safeguard review records, ESMP clearance status, financial progress information, and records of coordination with the World Bank, Construction Supervision Consultants, and concerned line departments.

During Quarter 4, M&E coverage focused on the status of irrigation and flood protection packages, roads and bridges packages, environmental and social safeguard compliance, gender mainstreaming, GRM readiness, staffing, coordination mechanisms, and financial utilization. Particular attention was given to tracking the movement of priority packages toward procurement readiness, including the status of design reviews, ESMP clearances, bidding document preparation, and pending World Bank feedback.

The following limitations were observed during the reporting period:

- Physical progress against PDO and intermediate results indicators could not yet be measured, as civil works had not commenced during the reporting period.
- Several packages remained subject to safeguard review, revision of technical documentation, and completion of related requirements. The CSC capacity constraints, particularly in incorporating review comments and completing the required revisions and resubmissions, affected the progression of these packages toward procurement launch and field-level implementation.
- Financial utilization remained low relative to available releases because the component was still largely in the pre-procurement stage, with expenditure-intensive civil works yet to begin.
- GRM systems remained operational and ready for implementation support; however, no grievances were received during the reporting period, and continued strengthening of focal person arrangements remained necessary for the implementation phase.

Despite these limitations, the M&E function remained effective in validating reported progress through systematic review of technical documentation, safeguard status, procurement readiness milestones, staffing progress, coordination records, and financial information. Continued strengthening of a consolidated, package-wise tracking mechanism will be important in the next quarter to support timely decision-making, improve visibility of implementation bottlenecks, and enable results-based monitoring once civil works commence.

3. ANNUAL M&E ACTIVITIES PROGRESS AND COORDINATION

3.1 M&E Activities

During FY 2025-26, the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) function for Component-I played a critical role in establishing the foundations for results-based monitoring, implementation oversight, safeguard compliance, and project readiness assessment. M&E activities evolved from baseline establishment and system development during the early stages of the year to comprehensive monitoring of design progress, safeguard compliance, procurement readiness, risk management, and implementation preparedness during subsequent quarters. Throughout the year, the M&E team worked closely with PIU-I, FPMU, Design & Supervision Consultants, safeguard specialists, and the World Bank to strengthen accountability, improve evidence-based decision-making, and support implementation readiness across the Irrigation and Roads & Bridges sub-components.

Key M&E activities undertaken during FY 2025-26 included review and refinement of the M&E Framework, baseline surveys and field verification activities, monitoring of engineering design submissions, validation of safeguard deliverables, assessment of procurement readiness milestones, maintenance of project performance databases, operationalization and monitoring of the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), monitoring of Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) compliance, quality assurance of quarterly reports, and systematic tracking of risks, bottlenecks, and corrective actions. Particular emphasis was placed on verifying the completeness and quality of technical submissions, monitoring review and clearance timelines, validating reported progress, identifying implementation risks, and supporting management decisions through analytical reporting.

During Q-4, M&E activities focused primarily on monitoring completion of remaining pre-procurement requirements, including review of detailed engineering designs, preparation of bidding documents, clearance of environmental and social safeguard instruments, recruitment of key specialists, and assessment of procurement readiness for priority packages. The M&E team also conducted progress reviews against approved work plans, tracked design and safeguard clearances, evaluated implementation risks, reviewed data quality, and facilitated evidence-based reporting for management and World Bank reporting requirements. As physical construction activities had not yet commenced by the end of the reporting period, M&E efforts remained concentrated on implementation-readiness monitoring rather than output-level physical verification.

3.2 PIU Coordination and Key Outcomes

During FY 2025-26, structured coordination mechanisms were established and progressively strengthened between PIU-I, FPMU, Design & Supervision Consultants, safeguard specialists, the World Bank, and the M&E team. A total of multiple coordination, review, planning, QPR validation, safeguard, GRM, and implementation-readiness meetings were conducted throughout the year to ensure alignment on project priorities, address implementation bottlenecks, strengthen reporting quality, and facilitate timely decision-making. These coordination engagements contributed significantly to strengthening project governance, inter-agency collaboration, risk management, and accountability mechanisms.

During the FY 2025-26, coordination efforts particularly supported baseline planning, establishment of the GRM system, review and validation of quarterly reports, safeguard compliance monitoring, procurement readiness assessments, implementation-risk reviews, and progress verification against Project Results Framework indicators.

Key coordination outcomes achieved during FY 2025-26 included:

- Completion of baseline planning and site selection activities for irrigation and roads interventions.
- Finalization and operationalization of the Component-I Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), including nomination of focal persons, development of implementation arrangements, complaint management procedures, and coordination mechanisms.
- Continuous review and validation of quarterly performance reports, monitoring data, safeguards compliance status, procurement readiness, and implementation progress.
- Submission and review of fourteen irrigation design packages and completion of major technical and safeguard deliverables under both Irrigation and Roads & Bridges sub-components.
- Completion of detailed engineering designs for priority road packages and advancement of bidding documentation for priority irrigation and road investments.
- Preparation and review of 35 site-specific ESMPs for irrigation schemes and clearance of priority safeguard documents by the World Bank.
- Validation of reported progress, identification of data quality gaps, risk assessment, and development of corrective action plans to address implementation delays and readiness constraints.
- Strengthening of results-based monitoring, safeguard oversight, procurement readiness assessments, and compliance with the World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF).

The coordination arrangements established during FY 2025-26 contributed significantly to improving implementation oversight, strengthening accountability, enhancing quality assurance of project reporting, and accelerating progress toward procurement readiness and implementation preparedness.

3.3 Coordination Effectiveness and Institutional Learning

From an M&E perspective, coordination mechanisms demonstrated progressive improvement throughout FY 2025-26. The year witnessed increased institutional engagement among PIU-I, FPMU, consultants, safeguard specialists, and the World Bank, resulting in improved information sharing, stronger monitoring practices, enhanced review processes, and more systematic follow-up of agreed actions. Coordination evolved from project initiation, baseline establishment, and systems development activities during the first quarter to a more structured performance management and implementation-readiness oversight mechanism by the end of the reporting year.

Coordination Dimension	Maturity (M&E Assessment)	Evidence / Observation
Communication Frequency	High	Regular coordination, review meetings, quarterly reporting sessions, safeguard reviews, and follow-up engagements were conducted throughout the year among PIU-I, FPMU, consultants and M&E teams.
Data Responsiveness	Moderate	Data sharing and reporting improved during the year; however, the absence of a dedicated Component-I MIS continued to necessitate manual tracking through spreadsheets and document registers.
Inter-Agency Collaboration	High	Active engagement was maintained among PIU-I, FPMU, Design & Supervision Consultants, line departments, safeguard specialists, and the World Bank for review of technical, safeguard, procurement, and reporting deliverables.
Use of M&E Findings	High	M&E findings were regularly used to identify implementation delays, reporting gaps, safeguard issues, procurement risks, data quality concerns, and corrective actions during quarterly reviews and coordination meetings.

Coordination Dimension	Maturity (M&E Assessment)	Evidence / Observation
Follow-up of Agreed Actions	Moderate to High	Coordination meetings increasingly focused on tracking action points, assigning responsibilities, monitoring timelines, and reviewing implementation of agreed mitigation measures.
Evidence-Based Decision Making	High	Progress reviews, safeguard monitoring, procurement readiness assessments, risk analysis, and QPR validation processes increasingly relied on data verification and evidence-based reporting approaches.

Overall, FY 2025-26 demonstrated substantial institutional learning and progressive strengthening of coordination practices. Key lessons emerging from the reporting year included the importance of early consolidation of review comments, stronger milestone tracking systems, timely data sharing, integrated monitoring of design and safeguard processes, and systematic follow-up of agreed actions. The year also highlighted the need for a dedicated Component-I MIS, enhanced digital tracking tools, and stronger integration of monitoring data with project decision-making processes. Going forward, the M&E function will increasingly focus on measuring coordination effectiveness through performance indicators such as review-cycle duration, response times, action-point closure rates, procurement-readiness milestones, safeguard-clearance timelines, and implementation-readiness indicators to support adaptive project management and accelerated implementation.

3.4 Annual Coordination Meetings, M&E Observation and Recommendations

During FY 2025-26, a series of coordination and review meetings were conducted between PIU-I, FPMU, the M&E Consultants, Design & Supervision Consultants, and safeguard specialists to strengthen implementation oversight, improve monitoring systems, and address emerging implementation challenges under Component-I of IFRAP. The meetings provided an institutional platform for reviewing implementation progress, validating monitoring data, assessing project readiness, strengthening the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), monitoring Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) compliance, and identifying corrective actions to address implementation bottlenecks. Particular emphasis was placed on results-based monitoring, data quality assurance, safeguard compliance, procurement readiness, engineering designs, risk management, citizen engagement, and alignment with World Bank reporting requirements. The coordination mechanism significantly contributed to improved inter-agency collaboration, enhanced accountability, and timely identification of implementation risks requiring management attention.

Some key coordination meetings are tabulated below, along with the M&E recommendations, agreed corrective actions, and follow-up measures.

Annual Key Coordination Meetings Summary Matrix (FY 2025-26)

S. No.	Meeting Date	Participants	Purpose / Agenda	Component / Activity Reviewed	Issues / Gaps Identified	M&E Observations / Recommendations	Agreed Corrective Actions / Mitigation Measures	Responsible Person / Agency	Follow-up Status
1	20-Jun-2025	M&E Firm & D&S Firm	Coordination and implementation alignment	Component-I Planning & Monitoring	Need for coordination between implementation and monitoring arrangements	Strengthen information sharing and implementation coordination	Agreed institutional coordination mechanism	PIU-I, D&S and M&E Consultants	Completed
2	26-Jun-2025	PIU-I & M&E Consultants	Review of Need Assessment Tool	Roads Sub-component	Need for standardized assessment methodology	Ensure consistency in baseline information collection and reporting	Alignment and refinement of assessment tool	PIU-I & M&E Consultants	Completed
3	16-Jul-2025	Project Director, Infrastructure Specialist, Procurement Specialist, M&E Team	Baseline planning and sharing of sites data	Irrigation and Roads Sub-components	Baseline activities could not commence without finalized site information	Timely provision of validated site information is critical for baseline establishment and results monitoring	Updated site lists and survey findings shared; M&E roles clarified	Infrastructure Specialist, PIU-I, M&E Consultants	Completed
4	08-Aug-2025	PIU-I, FPMU and M&E Team	Finalization of GRM Implementation Plan	GRM System Strengthening	Lack of GRM focal person, need for portal integration, absence of operational complaint management arrangements	Strengthen accessibility, coordination, reporting and citizen engagement mechanisms	Interim GRM focal person designated; citizen portal integration explored; FAQs, complaint box and tracking mechanism agreed	PIU-I, FPMU, M&E Consultants	Largely Implemented
5	24-Oct-2025	DPD Irrigation & M&E Team	Review of implementation progress and GRM status	Implementation Progress & GRM	Need for improved GRM effectiveness and implementation monitoring	Continuous monitoring of grievances and implementation progress required	Agreed actions for strengthening GRM effectiveness	PIU-I and M&E Team	Ongoing
6	10-Nov-2025	PIU-I Officials and M&E Team	Review of monitoring framework and GRM activities	M&E Framework and GRM	Need for enhanced coordination and monitoring support	Institutional coordination supports improved performance and grievance management	Commitment for continued collaboration and support	PIU-I & M&E Consultants	Ongoing
7	18-Nov-2025	DPD, Infrastructure Specialist, M&E Team	QPR-I Debrief Meeting	Quarterly Progress Reporting	Progress gaps and areas requiring corrective actions identified during reporting review	Regular performance reviews are critical for adaptive project management	Agreed to address findings and implement recommended actions	PIU-I and Relevant Specialists	Ongoing
8	31-Dec-2025	PIU-I Specialists and M&E Consultants	Coordination on implementation challenges	Physical Activities under Component-I	Delays in implementation and field-level constraints	Need for enhanced implementation monitoring, coordination and follow-up	Agreed corrective measures and strengthened coordination arrangements	PIU-I, Technical Specialists and M&E Consultants	Partially Implemented

S. No.	Meeting Date	Participants	Purpose / Agenda	Component / Activity Reviewed	Issues / Gaps Identified	M&E Observations / Recommendations	Agreed Corrective Actions / Mitigation Measures	Responsible Person / Agency	Follow-up Status
9	26-Mar-2026	FPMU, PIU-I and M&E Team	QPR Review Workshop	Progress, ESF, GRM, Procurement and Results Monitoring	Reporting gaps, data inconsistencies, safeguard issues, implementation bottlenecks and risks identified	Data validation and evidence-based reporting are essential for accurate performance assessment	Responsibilities assigned; revisions and timelines agreed for QPR finalization	FPMU, PIU-I and M&E Consultants	Completed
10	02-Apr-2026	PIU-I M&E Specialist and M&E Team	Comprehensive implementation review	Progress, Procurement, ESF, Risks and Data Quality	Performance variances, delays, data quality concerns and implementation readiness issues identified	Strengthen variance analysis, risk monitoring and data quality assurance systems	Time-bound action plan developed with assigned responsibilities	PIU-I and M&E Consultants	Ongoing
11	13-Apr-2026	PIU-I M&E Specialist and M&E Team	Progress review and action tracking	Results Framework, ESF and Procurement	Delays, implementation constraints and safeguard compliance issues identified	Continued performance tracking and risk-based monitoring required	Mitigation measures and implementation timelines agreed	PIU-I and M&E Consultants	Ongoing
12	13-May-2026	Safeguard Specialists, D&S Consultants and M&E Team	Review of implementation readiness and safeguards	Procurement, Designs, ESF and Risk Management	Delays in procurement and implementation readiness; reporting and safeguard gaps	Strengthen readiness monitoring and ensure compliance with World Bank requirements	Agreed corrective actions and follow-up plan	PIU-I, D&S Consultants and M&E Team	Ongoing
13	25-May-2026	Project Director and M&E Team	Executive progress review	Physical & Financial Progress	Implementation delays and readiness constraints identified	Enhanced management oversight required to accelerate progress	Monitoring and follow-up actions agreed	Project Director, PIU-I	Ongoing
14	03-Jun-2026	PIU-I Specialists and M&E Team	QPR-II Review Meeting	PDO, PRF, ESF, GRM and Performance Reporting	Reporting gaps, data quality issues, implementation delays and risks identified	Improved analytical reporting and evidence verification required	Timelines and responsibilities agreed for incorporation of comments and report finalization	PIU-I and M&E Consultants	Ongoing
15	16-Jun-2026	Project Director and M&E Team	Annual and Quarter-End Performance Review	Progress, Procurement, ESF, Risks and Data Quality	Gaps between planned and actual progress, safeguard and implementation challenges identified	Need for accelerated implementation, strengthened monitoring and risk mitigation	Agreed action plan with assigned responsibilities and timelines	PIU-I and M&E Consultants	Under Implementation

➤ **Annual M&E Conclusion (As of 30 June 2026)**

From an M&E perspective, FY 2025-26 demonstrated a progressively strengthened coordination framework between PIU-I, FPMU, M&E Consultants, and implementation partners. Regular coordination meetings facilitated systematic review of project performance, verification of implementation progress, monitoring of safeguard compliance, and continuous assessment of institutional, technical, procurement, and operational risks. The establishment and operationalization of GRM arrangements, enhanced focus on data quality assurance, results-based monitoring, and periodic review of quarter-wise progress significantly improved reporting quality and management oversight. However, recurring implementation delays, procurement readiness challenges, engineering design constraints, safeguard-related requirements, and data validation issues remained key factors affecting the pace of project delivery. Through the agreed corrective actions and structured follow-up mechanisms, project stakeholders demonstrated a proactive approach to addressing bottlenecks and strengthening implementation readiness. Overall, the coordination process contributed positively to adaptive project management, improved accountability, enhanced inter-agency collaboration, and greater alignment with the M&E Framework, Environmental and Social Framework (ESF), and World Bank reporting requirements, thereby laying a stronger foundation for accelerated implementation and achievement of Component-I objectives during the subsequent reporting period.

4. RESULTS FRAMEWORK - COMPONENT-I (STATUS UPDATE)

The Results Framework for IFRAP continues to provide the strategic structure for monitoring progress toward the Project Development Objective (PDO) and intermediate results under Component-I. For Component-I, the indicators relate primarily to restoration of irrigation systems, rehabilitation of flood protection infrastructure, enhancement of road connectivity, restoration of essential services, and strengthening of community resilience in flood-affected areas.

During FY 2025-26, Component-I activities remained largely within the preparatory, design, safeguard, and procurement-readiness phases. During Q-1 and Q-2, progress focused on preliminary assessments, design finalization processes, planning for baseline data collection, and operationalization of the Results Framework. During Q-3, progress contributed to operational readiness through clearance of key design and safeguard documents, advancement of detailed engineering reviews, and establishment of conditions required for baseline definition once physical works commence. During Q-4, the component progressed further toward pre-procurement readiness through finalization and review of detailed engineering designs, reorganization of irrigation and flood protection schemes into 23 lots under 13 packages, advancement of bidding documentation, review and clearance of site-specific ESMPs, and strengthened coordination with the World Bank, line departments, and Design & Supervision consultants.

No construction-related physical outputs were initiated during FY 2025-26. Accordingly, progress against PDO and infrastructure-related outcome indicators could not yet be measured during the reporting year. The status of Component-I indicators therefore remains in the “preparatory / pre-procurement phase”, consistent with the current implementation stage. Measurement against PDO and intermediate indicators will commence following contract award, contractor mobilization, initiation of civil works, and completion of baseline verification exercises.

Annual progress contributed to operational readiness of the Results Framework through:

- Establishment of the Results Framework tracking structure for Component-I indicators.
- Advancement of preliminary assessments, design finalization processes, and baseline planning.
- Clearance and review of key design and safeguard documents during Q-3.
- Finalization and review of detailed engineering designs for priority irrigation, flood protection, road, and bridge schemes during Q-4.
- Reorganization of irrigation and flood protection schemes into 23 lots under 13 packages to support phased procurement and implementation.
- Advancement of bidding documentation, procurement readiness, safeguard compliance, and institutional coordination during Q-4.

4.1 : Project Development Objectives (PDO) Indicators

Indicator No.	Indicator Description	Unit of Measure	End Target	Q-1 Status (Jun-Sep 2025)	Q-2 Status (Oct-Dec 2025)	Q-3 Status (Jan-Mar 2026)	Q-4 Status (Apr-Jun 2026)	Annual Status / Remarks
PDO-1	People regaining access to at least one essential service.	Number	1,500,000	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	No physical service restoration was achieved during FY 2025-26 because civil works had not commenced. Measurement will begin after initiation of physical works and restoration of services.
Sub-Indicator-01	Of which are females.	Percentage	50	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Gender-disaggregated beneficiary tracking will commence during implementation and service restoration. Gender-responsive monitoring arrangements continued to be incorporated into safeguard and implementation planning processes during Q-4.
PDO-2	People with enhanced resilience to climate risks.	Number	1,800,000	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Flood protection, irrigation, and road interventions remained under preparation. During Q-4, these interventions advanced through design finalization and procurement preparation activities, but no outcome-level resilience benefits were yet measurable.
Sub-Indicator-02a	Of which are youth.	Number	540,000	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Youth beneficiary identification and verification remained pending and will commence upon physical implementation.
Sub-Indicator-02b	Of which are females.	Number	900,000	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Gender-disaggregated resilience tracking will begin after implementation activities generate measurable outputs. During Q-4, gender-responsive monitoring arrangements continued to be incorporated into safeguard and implementation planning.

➤ Analysis of PDO Indicators

The PDO indicators remained at zero achievement throughout FY 2025-26 because Component-I did not yet enter physical implementation. During Q-1 and Q-2, the project remained in the preparatory and design stages, with progress focused on preliminary assessments, design finalization, and planning for baseline data collection. During Q-3, the Results Framework moved toward operational readiness through clearance of key design and safeguard documents and advancement of detailed engineering reviews. During Q-4, the project progressed further toward pre-procurement readiness through finalization of detailed engineering designs, reorganization of irrigation and flood protection schemes into 23 lots under 13 packages, advancement of bidding documentation, and continued safeguard review and clearances.

From an M&E perspective, the absence of PDO-level achievement is consistent with the current implementation stage. The annual progress, however, strengthened the enabling conditions required for future measurement of service restoration, climate resilience, gender-disaggregated benefits, and youth-related resilience outcomes. The key priority for the next reporting period will be to convert pre-procurement readiness into contract awards, contractor mobilization, civil works, and field-level outputs that can be measured against the PDO indicators.

4.2: Intermediate Results Indicators-IRI

Indicator No.	Indicator Description	Unit of Measure	End Target	Q-1 Status (Jun-Sep 2025)	Q-2 Status (Oct-Dec 2025)	Q-3 Status (Jan-Mar 2026)	Q-4 Status (Apr-Jun 2026)	Annual Status / Remarks
IRI-3	Land area benefitting from restored irrigation systems	Hectare (Ha)	50,000	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	No field-level irrigation restoration output was achieved during the year. During Q-4, detailed engineering designs for priority schemes were completed and procurement preparation advanced through technical reviews and bidding documentation
IRI-5	Land area with improved protection through rehabilitated flood protection infrastructure	Hectare (Ha)	50,000	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	No measurable flood protection output was achieved during FY 2025-26. During Q-4, flood protection designs were substantially completed, while bidding and safeguard requirements continued to be finalized.
IRI-7	Registered grievances satisfactorily resolved in line with the GRM	Percentage	100	GRM operational / no grievances received	no grievances received	no grievances received	no grievances received	The GRM remained operational, no grievances were received.
IRI-8	Length of roads rehabilitated	Kilometers	20	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	Not Yet Measurable, Preparatory phase.	No road rehabilitation output was achieved during the year. During Q-4, detailed engineering designs, engineering estimates, and bidding documents for the priority road package were completed, while the road-sector ESMP received World Bank clearance, positioning the priority road package for procurement.

Indicator No.	Indicator Description	Unit of Measure	End Target	Q-1 Status (Jun-Sep 2025)	Q-2 Status (Oct-Dec 2025)	Q-3 Status (Jan-Mar 2026)	Q-4 Status (Apr-Jun 2026)	Annual Status / Remarks
IRI-9	Restoration of small community facilities	Number	2	Omitted	Omitted	Omitted	N/A	The activity has been omitted following project restructuring and World Bank decision, activity omitted / not applicable.

➤ Analysis of Intermediate Results Indicators

The IRI table shows that Component-I remained in the preparatory and pre-procurement phase throughout FY 2025-26, with no physical achievement recorded against the main infrastructure-related intermediate results indicators. The irrigation-related indicator for land area benefitting from restored irrigation systems remained at zero achievement against the end target of 50,000 hectares, as technical designs, assessments, and procurement preparation had not yet translated into field-level outputs. However, Q-4 reflected important progress through completion of detailed engineering designs for priority schemes and advancement of procurement preparation through technical reviews and bidding documentation.

Similarly, the flood protection indicator remained at zero achievement against the end target of 50,000 hectares because no rehabilitated flood protection infrastructure had yet been completed. During Q-4, flood protection designs were substantially completed, while bidding documentation and safeguard requirements continued to be finalized. This indicates improved readiness but not yet measurable field-level achievement.

The GRM indicator remained the only indicator with reported achievement during the year. Q-2 and Q-3 recorded 100 percent grievance resolution, confirming that the mechanism was functional despite the absence of physical implementation progress. During Q-4, the GRM remained operational, no grievances were received under Component-I, and efforts continued to identify focal persons and strengthen grievance reporting arrangements for the implementation phase.

The road rehabilitation indicator also remained at zero achievement against the end target of 20 kilometers. However, Q-4 demonstrated notable readiness progress, as detailed engineering designs, engineering estimates, and bidding documents for the priority road package were completed, and the Site-Specific ESMP received World Bank clearance, enabling progression toward procurement. This indicates that the Roads & Bridges sub-component had advanced from design review toward procurement readiness, although physical rehabilitation had not yet commenced.

The small community facilities indicator requires careful annual presentation because the quarterly records show changing status. Q-1 recorded the indicator as completed, Q-2 and Q-3 recorded it as held in abeyance, while Q-4 states that the activity remains omitted following restructuring of the sub-component and its subsequent omission from implementation planning. For the annual report, the Q-4 status should be reflected as the updated position, meaning the indicator should be treated as not applicable / omitted following restructuring, unless further clarification is provided by PIU or the World Bank.

Overall, Component-I made significant progress toward procurement readiness during FY 2025-26, particularly during Q-4, but had not yet transitioned to measurable physical implementation. The annual Results Framework status confirms that delays in design finalization, safeguard clearance, procurement readiness, and site-level preparation continued to constrain measurable achievement against PDO and IRI targets. Timely completion of remaining World Bank reviews, safeguard clearances, bidding documentation, procurement actions, and contractor mobilization will be critical for converting FY 2025-26 preparatory achievements into measurable outputs and outcomes during FY 2026-27.

4.3 Annual Results Framework Summary Table – FY 2025-26

Results Area	Annual Status	Key Annual Progress	Main Constraint	M&E Assessment
PDO Indicators	0 achievement across all PDO indicators	Results Framework operationalized and readiness conditions improved through design, safeguard, and procurement preparation.	No civil works commenced during the year.	PDO-level measurement will begin after contract award, mobilization, civil works, and service restoration.
Irrigation Systems	0 physical achievement	Priority schemes advanced through detailed engineering design and procurement preparation.	Field-level restoration not yet started.	Indicator remains in pre-procurement phase, with readiness improved in Q-4.
Flood Protection Infrastructure	0 physical achievement	Flood protection designs substantially completed and safeguard requirements progressed.	Bidding and safeguard requirements still being finalized.	Progress is preparatory but important for future hectare-based reporting.
GRM	100 percent reported in Q-2, Q-3 and Q-4	GRM remained operational, with strengthened grievance management arrangements.	No grievances received in Q-4, therefore no investigation or resolution was required.	GRM is the strongest performing IRI during the year.
Roads Rehabilitation	0 physical achievement	Road designs, estimates, bidding documents and road-sector ESMP progressed toward procurement.	Civil works not yet initiated.	Indicator remains at zero but readiness improved in Q-4.
Small Community Facilities	Updated Q-4 status: N/A / omitted	Q-4 records omission after restructuring and World Bank decision.	Indicator no longer active under current implementation planning.	Omitted / not applicable.

4.4 Annual M&E Conclusion of Results Framework

From an M&E perspective, FY 2025-26 should be interpreted as a readiness-building year for Component-I rather than an output-delivery year. The Results Framework remained active as the principal monitoring structure, but most PDO and infrastructure-related IRI indicators could not yet record measurable achievement because physical implementation had not commenced. The year nevertheless generated important enabling progress, particularly in design advancement, safeguard review, procurement preparation, GRM operationalization, and coordination with the World Bank and implementing stakeholders.

Q-4 represented the strongest quarter in terms of implementation readiness, with detailed engineering designs advanced, priority schemes reorganized into 23 lots under 13 packages, bidding documentation progressed, ESMPs reviewed and cleared, and institutional arrangements strengthened. However, the Results Framework will only begin showing measurable PDO and intermediate results once procurement is completed, contractors are mobilized, civil works commence, and field-level outputs are verified through baseline and progress monitoring.

5. REVIEW OF ANNUAL PROCESS MONITORING

Process Monitoring under Component-I of the Integrated Flood Resilience and Adaptation Project (IFRAP) provides an assessment of whether the key institutional, technical, safeguard, procurement, and coordination processes required to achieve future physical outputs are progressing in accordance with the approved work plans, contractual requirements, review procedures, and implementation arrangements.

During FY 2025–26, Component-I remained predominantly in the preparatory, design, safeguard, and pre-procurement stages, and no construction-related physical outputs were initiated. Consequently, assessment of Component-I performance solely through physical progress would provide an incomplete picture of implementation performance. The M&E assessment therefore places particular emphasis on the processes that create the conditions for subsequent procurement, contractor mobilization, and physical implementation.

During Q4, the nature of these processes changed significantly. While earlier quarters were dominated by baseline establishment, design preparation, and initial review processes, Q4 represented a transition toward procurement-readiness consolidation. Detailed engineering designs were largely completed, priority irrigation schemes were reorganized into procurement packages, bidding documentation advanced, safeguard clearances progressed, and institutional arrangements were strengthened.

Accordingly, Process Monitoring for Component-I during FY 2025-26 assesses:

- whether designs were prepared, submitted, reviewed and cleared;
- whether technical comments were addressed through appropriate review cycles;
- whether safeguard instruments were prepared, reviewed and cleared;
- whether bidding and procurement documentation progressed toward approval;
- whether consultant deliverables were submitted and reviewed against contractual requirements;
- whether required decisions and clearances were obtained;
- whether coordination and follow-up mechanisms were functioning;
- whether delays and bottlenecks were identified and acted upon; and
- whether the cumulative processes were bringing the Component progressively closer to procurement and construction readiness.

The process monitoring was undertaken by reviewing the progress of key implementation processes against approved schedules, available submissions, technical review records, safeguard documentation, procurement documentation, consultant deliverables, coordination records, corrective actions, and readiness requirements.

The process-monitoring approach recognizes that an infrastructure package does not move directly from “design” to “construction.” Rather, it passes through a series of interdependent stages:

Design Preparation → Technical Review → Comment Resolution → Design Clearance →
Safeguard Clearance → Bidding Documentation → Procurement Approval → Procurement
Process → Contract Award → Site Readiness → Contractor Mobilization → Physical
Implementation.

A delay at any critical stage can prevent subsequent stages from commencing. Therefore, the M&E assessment examined not only whether individual activities were completed, but also whether the completed process enabled the next stage to proceed.

5.1 Overall Process Monitoring Assessment

The overall process monitoring assessment indicates that Component-I made substantial progress in FY 2025-26 toward implementation readiness, particularly during Q4, but did not yet achieve full procurement and construction readiness across the entire portfolio.

The year began with site identification and initiation of technical preparation. During Q2, several technical deliverables experienced significant delays, largely associated with repeated reviews, technical revisions and extended consultations. During Q3, design submissions and safeguard clearances accelerated. By Q4, the focus had shifted from broad design preparation toward package-specific clearance and procurement readiness.

For Irrigation, detailed engineering designs and tender documentation covering 35 schemes under 13 active packages advanced substantially. Packages II–VI received technical clearance excluding dam structures, Packages VII–X were revised in response to review comments, while Packages I, XI, XII and XIV remained under review awaiting comments. Package XIII was discontinued following project rationalization. Importantly, final bidding documents for Irrigation Package-2 were approved, creating the first clearly identified procurement-ready irrigation package.

For Roads & Bridges, detailed engineering designs for Packages 1-3 were completed and submitted, while preparation of bidding documentation for Road Package-1 advanced toward procurement initiation.

Component-I demonstrated progressive strengthening of implementation processes and entered an advanced procurement-readiness stage by Q4. However, readiness remained uneven across packages, with outstanding technical reviews, safeguard clearances, procurement documentation, site-readiness verification and selected institutional requirements continuing to constrain the transition to physical implementation, which can be viewed in detail in following table.

Process Area	M&E Monitoring Focus / Indicator	FY 2025-26 / Q4 Evidence	M&E Assessment	Outstanding Issue / Required Follow-up
1. Design Preparation	Designs prepared and submitted against approved work plans and technical requirements	All 14 irrigation design packages were submitted to the World Bank during the year. By Q4, detailed engineering designs and tender documentation for 35 irrigation schemes under 13 active packages had substantially advanced. Roads Packages 1-3 were completed and submitted.	Substantially achieved, with earlier delays. Design production progressed considerably, particularly during Q3–Q4.	Complete remaining package-level revisions and convert cleared designs into procurement-ready packages.
2. Technical Review & Comment Resolution	Timeliness of review, response to observations, number of review cycles and closure of comments	Irrigation Packages II-VI received technical clearance excluding dam structures; VII-X were revised following comments; I, XI, XII and XIV remained under review.	Partially achieved. Review mechanisms are functioning, but repeated/extended review cycles caused significant earlier delays and some packages remained unresolved at year-end.	Establish package-wise comment-resolution tracker with submission, comment, response, resubmission and clearance dates.
3. Safeguard Documentation	Preparation, review, revision, clearance and disclosure/readiness of ESMPs and related instruments	35 site-specific ESMPs were prepared for irrigation schemes. World Bank cleared ESMPs for Packages 2, 4 and 5; remaining documents continued through review/revision. Roads ESMPs had already received clearance on 17 March 2026.	Substantially progressing. Safeguard processes became considerably stronger during the second half of the year.	Complete outstanding ESMP reviews/clearances and ensure safeguard conditions are incorporated into bidding documents.
4. Procurement Documentation	Preparation and movement of bidding documents through required technical/approval stages	Final bidding documents for Irrigation Package-2 were approved. Bidding documentation for priority road packages, particularly Road Package-1, advanced during Q4.	Progressing toward procurement readiness. First irrigation package reached procurement-ready status; readiness remained uneven across portfolio.	Finalize remaining bidding documents, estimates and procurement arrangements for priority packages.
5. Consultant Deliverables	Timely submission, review, revision and clearance of D&S consultant outputs	D&S consultants remained engaged. Major design, engineering, feasibility, QA and safeguard deliverables were submitted and progressively reviewed/cleared.	Moderately satisfactory. Consultants were operational and major outputs advanced, although some deliverables required repeated review/revision.	Monitor consultant performance through timeliness, quality, response time and closure of comments.
6. Required Clearances & Decisions	PIU, FPMU, World Bank and stakeholder decisions obtained within reasonable timelines	Several major technical and safeguard clearances were obtained. Remaining irrigation packages and dam structures continued to require review/clearance.	Partially achieved. Decision-making mechanisms are functioning.	Establish firm target dates for outstanding decisions and escalate overdue clearances.
7. Coordination & Follow-up	Frequency, quality and effectiveness of coordination and action-point closure	Regular coordination, review, QPR validation, safeguard, GRM and implementation-readiness meetings were conducted among PIU-I, FPMU, consultants, World Bank and M&E teams.	Effective and improving. Coordination evolved into a more structured performance and readiness mechanism during the year.	Shift further toward package-level action tracking and measurable closure of decisions.
8. Delay/Bottleneck Management	Identification, documentation, responsibility assignment,	Major delays were identified through quarterly monitoring, including design review cycles, safeguard reviews, procurement-	Functioning, but requires stronger escalation. Bottlenecks were identified, but some remained open across reporting periods.	Maintain an exception register showing age, responsibility, target closure and escalation status.

Process Area	M&E Monitoring Focus / Indicator	FY 2025-26 / Q4 Evidence	M&E Assessment	Outstanding Issue / Required Follow-up
	escalation and closure of delays	readiness gaps and milestone-tracking weaknesses. Several legacy delays were closed during the year.		
9. Implementation Readiness	Completion of design, safeguards, procurement, institutional and site-readiness prerequisites	By Q4, Component-I entered an advanced procurement-readiness stage. Package-2 irrigation bidding documents were approved and road procurement documentation advanced.	Progressing but incomplete. Readiness is emerging at package level rather than being achieved across the entire Component.	Complete outstanding clearances, verify site readiness and initiate procurement/contractor mobilization for ready packages.

5.1.1 Design Process Monitoring

Design preparation was one of the principal process streams monitored during FY 2025-26.

For Irrigation, all fourteen design packages were submitted to the World Bank between November 2025 and March 2026. During Q4, the process progressed further through technical clearance, revision and restructuring of schemes into procurement packages. Detailed engineering designs and tender documentation covering 35 irrigation schemes under 13 active packages were advanced.

A particularly important development was the achievement of technical clearance for Packages II-VI, excluding dam structures, while Packages VII-X were revised in response to comments. Packages I, XI, XII and XIV remained under review, demonstrating that design completion was not uniform across the portfolio.

For Roads & Bridges, the design-production process performed relatively better. The detailed engineering designs for Road Packages 1-3 were completed and submitted, while the earlier delays in the Inception Report, Feasibility Assessment Report, Quality Assurance Plan and ESMP process were progressively closed.

The M&E assessment therefore distinguishes between design preparation and design clearance. While design production was substantially completed, the critical constraint shifted toward final technical approval and conversion of approved designs into procurement-ready documents.

5.1.2 Technical Review

Technical review was one of the most important process-monitoring dimensions during FY 2025-26.

The annual assessment shows that earlier delays were largely associated with repeated reviews, technical revisions and extended consultations. For example, two major irrigation deliverables completed during Q2 were delayed by approximately four months because of repeated reviews and technical revisions.

Similarly, Roads & Bridges experienced delays of approximately three to five months in several major deliverables during the earlier part of the year. These delays were subsequently resolved through consolidated review and clearance processes.

By Q4, however, the nature of the technical review problem had become more focused. The issue was no longer generalized design preparation, but package-specific clearance, particularly for irrigation and dam-related structures.

5.1.3 Safeguard Process Monitoring

Safeguard compliance showed clear improvement during the second half of FY 2025-26.

During Q4, 35 site-specific ESMPs were prepared for irrigation schemes. World Bank approval was obtained for ESMPs relating to Packages 2, 4 and 5, while other safeguard documents remained under review or were returned for incorporation of comments.

For Roads & Bridges, site-specific ESMPs had already been cleared by the World Bank on 17 March 2026 following multiple review cycles.

The overarching safeguard instruments including the ESMF, ESCP, RPF, SEP, LMP and PIM - remained operational and continued to guide implementation.

From an M&E perspective, safeguard monitoring therefore moved beyond simply verifying whether ESMPs existed. The relevant question became whether safeguard clearance was sufficiently advanced to support procurement and eventual field mobilization.

The remaining safeguard reviews therefore represent a direct procurement-readiness issue rather than an independent documentation issue.

5.1.4 Procurement Process Monitoring

Procurement readiness represents the most important process transition achieved during Q4.

The most significant milestone was the approval of the final bidding documents for Irrigation Package-2, which the QPR identifies as the first procurement-ready irrigation package and an important step toward contract award and construction commencement.

For Roads & Bridges, preparation of bidding documentation for Road Package-1 advanced during Q4, bringing the priority road investment closer to procurement initiation.

This indicates a partial transition from design stage to procurement stage.

5.1.5 Consultant Deliverables and Performance

The Design & Supervision Consultants played a central role in progressing the technical and safeguard processes during FY 2025-26.

Major consultant outputs included engineering designs, feasibility assessments, quality assurance documentation, safeguard instruments and bidding-related documentation. Several important outputs were cleared during the year, while others required revision in response to technical or World Bank comments.

The M&E assessment therefore considers consultant performance not simply in terms of whether a deliverable was submitted, but through four dimensions:

Timeliness + Technical Quality + Responsiveness to Comments + Clearance/Closure.

This distinction is important, as some deliverables were submitted but remained under review for extended periods, with multiple rounds of review, revision, and re-sharing taking considerable time. Accordingly, the Q4 analysis identifies the technical review and clearance processes, rather than the preparation of designs itself, as the principal remaining constraint.

For FY 2026-27, consultant performance monitoring should therefore incorporate measurable indicators such as:

- percentage of deliverables submitted on time;
- percentage cleared at first review;
- average number of review cycles;
- average response time to comments;
- number of overdue deliverables; and
- percentage of deliverables closed within agreed timelines.

5.1.6 Clearances, Decisions and Institutional Coordination

The FY 2025–26 coordination mechanism progressively strengthened and became more closely linked with implementation-readiness management.

Regular coordination, review, planning, QPR validation, safeguard, GRM and readiness meetings were conducted among PIU-I, FPMU, Design & Supervision Consultants, the World Bank and M&E team.

The annual M&E assessment rates:

- Communication Frequency - High
- Inter-Agency Collaboration - High
- Use of M&E Findings - High
- Evidence-Based Decision Making - High
- Follow-up of Agreed Actions - Moderate to High
- Data Responsiveness - Moderate.

This indicates that coordination was not merely administrative; it increasingly served as a mechanism for identifying risks, resolving technical issues, validating data, monitoring safeguard compliance and supporting procurement-readiness decisions.

However, the absence of a dedicated Component-I MIS means that much of the tracking continued through spreadsheets, correspondence and document registers. This limits real-time visibility of the status and age of individual package-level actions.

5.1.7 Monitoring of Delays, Bottlenecks and Pending Actions

A major strength of the FY 2025-26 M&E process was the progressive identification and documentation of implementation bottlenecks. The nature of delays evolved over the year:

Early-year bottlenecks

- delayed technical studies;
- repeated reviews;
- extended consultations;
- delayed D&S-related deliverables.

Mid-year bottlenecks

- irrigation design review and clearance;
- safeguard review cycles;
- incomplete engineering approvals.

Q4 bottlenecks

- package-specific irrigation clearances;
- dam-related technical reviews;
- remaining safeguard approvals;
- limited package-level readiness tracking;
- pending specialized security staffing.

5.1.8 Process Monitoring of Readiness for Physical Implementation

The cumulative process evidence indicates that Component-I was considerably more ready for implementation at the end of Q4 than at the beginning of FY 2025-26, although full readiness had not yet been achieved.

Readiness conditions substantially achieved:

- Major engineering designs substantially completed.

- Fourteen irrigation design packages submitted during the year.
- Priority irrigation schemes reorganized into procurement packages.
- Technical clearance achieved for Irrigation Packages II-VI, excluding dam structures.
- Final bidding documents for Irrigation Package-2 approved.
- Detailed engineering designs for Roads Packages 1-3 completed.
- Bidding documentation for priority Road Package-1 advanced.
- Major safeguard instruments progressed substantially.
- ESMPs for Irrigation Packages 2, 4 and 5 cleared by the World Bank.
- Roads ESMPs cleared.
- Dam Safety Expert and Road Safety Auditor recruited.
- Coordination and M&E oversight mechanisms strengthened.
- GRM operationalized and maintained.
- Results-based monitoring and risk tracking strengthened.

Readiness conditions still requiring completion:

- Final clearance of remaining irrigation packages.
- Resolution of dam-related technical reviews.
- Completion of outstanding ESMP requirements, including submission of pending ESMPs by the CSC and subsequent review and approval of the submitted instruments, as some ESMPs remain pending submission.
- Finalization of bidding documents for remaining priority packages.
- Package-level procurement tracking.
- Verification of site readiness, including access, land, utilities and other pre-construction requirements.
- Completion of Security Management Specialist recruitment.
- Strengthening of centralized milestone/MIS arrangements.

5.2 Management Action Plan: Next Steps for FY 2026-27 (Q5)

Given that FY 2025-26 was primarily a **process-monitoring and implementation-readiness year**, management focus should now shift from preparation to execution. The following priority actions are recommended to convert the substantial design, safeguard, and procurement readiness achievements into physical implementation and measurable project results.

➤ **Fast-Track Clearance of Outstanding Irrigation Packages**

Priority: Critical

Key Actions

- Resolve all pending World Bank comments on Packages I, XI, XII, and XIV.
- Complete revisions for Packages VII-X and obtain final technical approvals.
- Establish weekly package clearance review meetings.
- Maintain a package-wise comment resolution tracker.

Expected Outcome

- All priority irrigation packages become procurement-ready.
- Elimination of the largest remaining implementation bottleneck.

➤ **Complete Environmental and Social Safeguard Approvals**

Priority: High

Key Actions

- Finalize the remaining ESMP reviews and approvals, and expedite their submission by the CSC.
- Close all outstanding World Bank safeguard observations.
- Ensure approved safeguard requirements are fully integrated into bidding documents.
- Establish package-wise safeguard compliance monitoring.

Expected Outcome

- Full safeguard readiness for procurement and construction.
- Reduced risk of procurement delays and compliance issues.

➤ **Launch Procurement for Priority Packages****Priority:** Critical**Key Actions**

- Finalize bidding documents for all approved packages.
- Complete procurement review requirements.
- Resolve outstanding procurement method issues.
- Initiate tendering for procurement-ready irrigation and road packages.

Expected Outcome

- Transition from readiness to contract award stage.
- Improved disbursement and financial performance.

➤ **Implement Site Readiness Verification****Priority:** High**Key Actions**

Before procurement, verify for each package:

- Land availability.
- Access routes.
- Utility relocation requirements.
- Environmental and social compliance.
- Community engagement requirements.
- Security arrangements.

Expected Outcome

- Reduced risk of post-award delays.
- Smoother contractor mobilization.

➤ **Strengthening Institutional Capacity****Priority:** Moderate**Key Actions**

- Complete recruitment of the Security Management Specialist.
- Continue training of PIU, safeguard, procurement and M&E staff.
- Strengthen contractor performance monitoring arrangements before mobilization.

Expected Outcome

- Full institutional readiness for construction-phase implementation.

➤ **Improve PIU–World Bank Review Coordination****Priority:** High**Key Actions**

- Hold fortnightly technical review meetings.
- Maintain a formal comment-tracking register.
- Assign focal points for technical, safeguards and procurement reviews.
- Escalate unresolved comments exceeding agreed timelines.

Expected Outcome

- Faster review cycles.
- Accelerated package approvals and procurement readiness.

➤ **Enhance Financial and Performance Monitoring****Priority:** Moderate**Key Actions**

- Develop monthly expenditure and procurement progress dashboards.
- Track package-wise financial commitments.
- Link financial progress with implementation milestones.
- Introduce quarterly variance analysis and corrective action monitoring.

Expected Outcome

- Improved budget utilization.
- Better management oversight and accountability.

5.3 Key Risks in the Management Action Plan

The annual process-monitoring review indicates that the project's risk profile has shifted from **design-stage delays** to **procurement-readiness and implementation-transition risks**. Since no physical works commenced during FY 2025-26, the successful conversion of completed preparatory activities into procurement and construction is now the critical determinant of project performance.

➤ **Procurement and Contractor Mobilization Delays (High Risk)**

Several priority irrigation and road packages remain dependent on completion of technical reviews, safeguard approvals, and procurement processing. Any delays in these activities will postpone tendering, contract award, contractor mobilization, and commencement of civil works. This risk directly affects achievement of Annual Work Plan targets and project disbursement performance.

➤ **Outstanding Irrigation Package Approvals (High Risk)**

The irrigation portfolio remains the project's primary critical path. Although several packages have progressed through design review and clearance, others remain under revision or await World Bank comments. Continued delays could significantly affect procurement sequencing and implementation timelines.

➤ **Environmental and Social Safeguard Clearance Delays (Substantial Risk)**

Several package-level ESMPs and other safeguard instruments remain pending completion, revision, resubmission, review, and/or clearance. While packages with completed and cleared safeguard requirements are positioned to proceed toward procurement, outstanding safeguard requirements may affect the procurement readiness of the respective packages and delay their transition to implementation.

➤ **Weak Package-Level Monitoring and MIS Gaps (Substantial Risk)**

The absence of a dedicated Component-I MIS and integrated readiness-tracking system limits management visibility over design approvals, safeguard clearances, procurement milestones, and implementation readiness. This reduces the ability to identify delays early and apply timely corrective actions.

➤ **Site Readiness and Pre-Construction Constraints (Substantial Risk)**

Limited monitoring of land availability, access conditions, utility relocation requirements, safeguard compliance, and contractor mobilization prerequisites may create unforeseen delays after procurement is launched. Without systematic site-readiness verification, implementation risks may emerge during the construction stage.

➤ **Low Financial Utilization and Disbursement Risk (Substantial Risk)**

Financial utilization remained low because the component stayed in the pre-construction phase throughout the year. Continued delays in procurement and commencement of works may negatively affect future budget utilization, disbursement targets, and overall project implementation efficiency.

➤ **Outstanding Specialized Staffing Requirements (Moderate Risk)**

While most technical positions have been filled, recruitment of the Security Management Specialist remains incomplete. This may affect preparedness for field implementation, particularly in remote and operationally challenging project areas.

6. COMPONENT- I PROGRESS & ANALYSIS

This section presents the M&E assessment of progress under Component I during the reporting period **April-June 2026**. The analysis covers both irrigation and roads & bridges sub-components and focuses on the status, review, clearance, and procurement readiness of technical, environmental, social, and contractual deliverables.

During Q4, activities continued to remain at the pre-procurement stage, with progress assessed primarily in terms of:

- Finalization and review of detailed engineering designs;
- Refinement of bidding and procurement documentation;
- Progress in environmental and social safeguard clearances;
- Resolution of technical observations raised by the PIU and the World Bank; and Advancement of priority packages toward procurement readiness.

Significant progress was achieved in strengthening implementation readiness through completion of detailed engineering designs, restructuring of priority irrigation schemes into procurement lots, advancement of ESMP reviews, and preparation of bidding documents for priority irrigation and road packages. Despite these achievements, no physical construction activities commenced during the quarter. Accordingly, Component I remained within the implementation readiness phase, with continued emphasis on securing remaining technical and safeguard clearances prior to launch of procurement processes.

6.1 Detailed Design & Tender Documents of All Irrigation Packages.

Target Start Date: June 2025

Planned End Date: November 2025

Status: In Progress

Actual End Date: Not yet achieved

During the reporting period, revisions to detailed engineering designs for priority irrigation and flood protection schemes were finalized following incorporation of technical observations received from the PIU and the World Bank. Priority schemes were reorganized into twenty-three (23) lots under thirteen (13) packages to facilitate phased procurement and implementation. Final design documents underwent review and quality enhancement processes, while bidding documents for priority irrigation packages were further refined through incorporation of updated technical specifications, engineering estimates, and contractual provisions. Priority packages continued to be processed toward procurement readiness.

Analysis of Delays and Contributing Factors

The activity remains behind the original schedule due to continued review and clearance requirements associated with detailed engineering designs and related procurement documentation. Multiple rounds of technical review, incorporation of World Bank observations, and package restructuring were necessary to ensure technical quality, safeguard compliance, and procurement efficiency. While substantial progress was achieved during Q4, final clearances remain a prerequisite for completion of the activity.

6.2 Environmental and Social Safeguard Requirements for Irrigation Packages

Target Start Date: June 2025

Planned End Date: November 2025

Status: In Progress

Actual End Date: Not yet achieved

Review of Site-Specific Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) continued during the reporting period. Consultants incorporated comments received from the World Bank to facilitate final approval of safeguard instruments prior to procurement. ESMPs for Packages 2, 4, and 5 received World Bank approval, while Package 6 remained under review. ESMPs for Packages 3 and 10 were returned for further revision and Package 9 was submitted for review. Continuous coordination with Construction Supervision Consultants was maintained to expedite completion of safeguard requirements.

Analysis of Delays and Contributing Factors

The principal cause of delay continues to be the iterative safeguard review process involving consultants, the PIU, and the World Bank. Additional revisions were required to ensure compliance with Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) requirements and incorporation of project-specific mitigation measures. Although progress was achieved through approval of selected packages, remaining ESMPs are dependent on closure of outstanding observations and completion of the review process.

6.3 Design & Tender Documents for Roads Packages

Target Start Date: June 2025

Planned End Date: September 2025

Status: In Progress

Actual End Date: Not yet achieved

During the reporting period, detailed engineering designs for road and bridge packages were completed, including feasibility assessments, hydrological and hydraulic analyses, geometric design, structural design, pavement design, and engineering estimates. The Dera Allahyar-Hairdeen via Sohbatpur Road was confirmed as the priority Phase-I road for implementation under available financing. Engineering design documents were finalized following incorporation of technical observations received from the PIU and the World Bank. Bidding documents for the priority road package were subsequently refined and reviewed to facilitate procurement initiation.

Analysis of Delays and Contributing Factors

While technical design activities have largely been completed, progression toward procurement remains dependent on finalization of related documentation and procedural clearances. Additional time has been required to address technical comments, validate engineering estimates, and ensure compliance with procurement and safeguard requirements. These processes have extended the implementation timeline beyond the originally planned completion date.

6.4 Environmental and Social Safeguard Deliverables for Roads Sub-Component

Target Start Date: June 2025

Planned End Date: August 2025

Status: In Progress

Actual End Date: Not yet achieved

Environmental and social safeguard compliance continued to advance during Quarter 4. The Site-Specific Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) for the priority road package received World Bank clearance, enabling translation, disclosure, and progression toward procurement. Coordination among the Communication & Works Department, Construction Supervision Consultants, and the World Bank remained ongoing to expedite completion of all remaining safeguard and technical requirements.

Analysis of Delays and Contributing Factors

Although major safeguard milestones have been achieved, remaining activities continue to require coordination among multiple stakeholders and compliance with disclosure and procurement requirements. Previous iterative review processes contributed to schedule variance, while final readiness remains dependent on completion of all related documentation and procurement preparations.

6.5 Restoration of Small Community Facilities

Target Start Date: June 2025

Planned End Date: June 2025

Status: Omitted Following Restructuring

Actual End Date: Not Applicable

The restoration of small community facilities remained outside the active implementation scope during the reporting period. The sub-component was restructured and subsequently omitted in accordance with the World Bank's approved restructuring arrangements. Consequently, no implementation progress was recorded during Quarter 4.

Analysis of Delays and Contributing Factors

No implementation delays are associated with this activity because it remains excluded from the current implementation scope following restructuring decisions approved by the World Bank.

6.6 Hiring of Project Staff

Target Start Date: June 2025

Planned End Date: June 2025

Status: In Progress

Actual End Date: Partially Achieved

The core project team remained fully mobilized throughout the reporting period. Recruitment of the Dam Safety Expert and Road Safety Auditor was successfully completed, strengthening technical preparedness for future implementation activities. Recruitment of the Security Management Specialist remained under process, with evaluation activities continuing during the quarter. An alternative engagement modality was also considered to facilitate timely hiring and strengthen institutional readiness.

Analysis of Delays and Contributing Factors

Although key technical positions have been filled, the activity remains ongoing due to the pending recruitment of the Security Management Specialist. The delay is associated with evaluation requirements and efforts to identify the most appropriate engagement arrangement in line with project needs and World Bank recommendations. While this has not affected routine coordination, monitoring, or technical review activities, timely completion remains important for full institutional readiness.

6.7 Overall Analysis

Tracking during Quarter 4 indicates that Component I continued progressing toward procurement readiness, with the most significant achievements observed in finalization of engineering designs, advancement of safeguard clearances, preparation of bidding documentation, and strengthening of institutional arrangements. The principal constraints remained concentrated within technical review and clearance processes rather than design preparation itself.

For the irrigation sub-component, substantial progress was achieved through completion of design revisions, restructuring of priority schemes into procurement lots, and advancement of ESMP approvals. However, pending technical comments and remaining safeguard reviews continue to delay transition to procurement.

The Roads & Bridges sub-component demonstrated comparatively stronger readiness, with detailed engineering designs completed, the priority road identified, safeguard clearance obtained, and bidding documentation substantially advanced. Remaining actions relate primarily to procurement processing and completion of final readiness requirements.

Overall, Quarter 4 represented a transition from detailed design development toward procurement preparedness. While no measurable physical progress was recorded, the completion of critical technical and safeguard milestones has significantly reduced implementation risks and positioned Component I for commencement of procurement activities in subsequent quarters.

6.8 Annual Variance Analysis

From a risk perspective, Q4 shows that Component-I moved beyond broad preparatory delay and entered a more focused **pre-procurement readiness stage**. The most important progress was recorded in the refinement of irrigation design documents, reorganization of priority irrigation and flood protection schemes into **23 lots under 13 packages**, completion of road and bridge engineering designs, clearance of the priority road ESMP, and advancement of bidding documents for priority packages.

However, Q4 did not fully eliminate the implementation-readiness risk. For irrigation, Packages II-VI were cleared excluding dams, but Packages VII-X remained under revision and Packages I, XI, XII, and XIV still awaited World Bank comments. This confirms that the main bottleneck has narrowed from general design preparation to package-specific clearance and conversion of approved designs into procurement-ready bidding documents.

The roads and bridges sub-component demonstrated stronger progress during Q4. Detailed engineering designs, estimates, and bidding documentation for the priority road package were completed or substantially advanced, and the priority road ESMP received World Bank clearance, supporting movement toward procurement. The confirmation of the Dera Allahyar to Hairdeen via

Sohbat Pur Road as the priority Phase-I road under available financing also helped sharpen implementation sequencing.

Safeguard clearance remains a mixed area. While the World Bank approved irrigation ESMPs for Packages 2, 4, and 5, several package-level ESMPs remained under review or revision. This requires continued close follow-up because safeguard clearance is a prerequisite for procurement launch and field mobilization.

The management implication is that Q4 should be considered a **procurement-readiness consolidation quarter**, not yet a physical implementation quarter. The priority for the next reporting period should be to close remaining World Bank comments, finalize outstanding ESMPs, complete bidding documents for all priority packages, clarify road procurement requirements, and maintain a package-wise tracker showing status from design clearance to bidding, contract award, and contractor mobilization.

Overall, Component-I has made tangible progress during Q4 but remains somewhat behind the pace required for timely physical implementation. The focus is now shifting from completion of technical studies to finalization of the remaining irrigation packages, safeguard clearances, and initiation of procurement. Continued M&E attention should therefore focus on package-wise readiness milestones, timely completion of CSC reviews and clearances, follow-up on pending comments, and ensuring that approved designs are effectively translated into tender-ready works packages.

Summary of the annual analysis is provided in table below.

Component-I: Design Phase Deliverable Tracking - Q1 through Q4 Schedule Variance Analysis

Activity	Planned End	Q-1 Status (Sept 2025)	Q-2 Status (Dec 2025)	Q-3 Status (Mar 2026)	Q-4 Status (Jun 2026)	Cumulative Schedule Variance	Technical Remark	Risk Rating
Preliminary Site Assessment Report (Irrigation)	16 Jul 2025	Ongoing (pre-deadline)	Completed (17 Nov 2025)	Completed	Completed	Closed in Q-2 (+4 months)	Deliverable remained closed during Q4 with no outstanding actions. Outputs continued to support detailed engineering design refinement and procurement readiness activities for irrigation packages.	Closed
Flood Risk Analysis Report (Irrigation)	16 Jul 2025	Ongoing (pre-deadline)	Completed (22 Nov 2025)	Completed	Completed	Closed in Q-2 (+4.2 months)	Remained closed during Q4. Findings continued to inform climate-resilient engineering design and flood protection planning. No implementation concern remains associated with this deliverable.	Closed
ESMP/IEE/EIA Report (Irrigation)	14 Oct 2025	On track	Ongoing, unresolved (+2.5 months)	Completed	Partially Closed. ESMPs for Packages 2, 4 and 5 approved by WB; Packages 3, 6, 9 and 10 remained under review/revision.	Approximately 4–5 months for original deliverable; package-level clearances continue.	The original safeguard deliverable was completed; however, package-specific ESMP approvals became the key safeguard bottleneck during Q4. Progress is evident, but full procurement readiness remains contingent upon clearance of the remaining irrigation ESMPs.	Moderate (Partially Resolved)
Design Proposal – 05 Packages (17 Schemes)	15 Aug 2025	Delay already registered	Ongoing, unresolved (+4.5 months)	In Progress	Partially Progressed. Packages II-VI cleared (excluding dams); Packages VII-X under revision; Packages I, XI, XII and XIV awaiting WB comments.	Delay now exceeds 10 months for unresolved packages.	Q4 reduced part of the backlog through package restructuring and selective clearances; however, unresolved irrigation packages continue to represent the principal procurement-readiness bottleneck and remain on the project's critical path.	High – Escalation Required
Design Proposal – 09 Packages	13 Dec 2025	Not yet due	Ongoing, at threshold	In Progress	In Progress. Final bidding documents approved for Irrigation Package-2; several remaining packages continue under review.	Planned end exceeded by approximately 6 months for unresolved packages.	The activity moved from design review toward procurement readiness; however, incomplete package approvals continue to delay full transition into procurement. Approval of Package-2 is a significant positive milestone but does not eliminate overall schedule risk.	Substantial / High
Hiring of D&S Firm (Roads)	Jun 2025	Completed (23 Jun 2025)	Completed	Completed	Completed	On time	Consultancy remained fully mobilized throughout Q4 and continued supporting engineering design finalization, bidding document preparation, safeguard coordination, and procurement-readiness activities.	Closed
Design Phase Inception Report (Roads & Bridges)	12 Aug 2025	Delay already registered	Ongoing, unresolved (+4.6 months)	Completed (WB cleared Jan 2026)	Completed	Approximately 5 months	Q4 confirmed closure of this legacy delay. Activities moved beyond inception planning into final engineering design and procurement preparation.	Closed

Activity	Planned End	Q-1 Status (Sept 2025)	Q-2 Status (Dec 2025)	Q-3 Status (Mar 2026)	Q-4 Status (Jun 2026)	Cumulative Schedule Variance	Technical Remark	Risk Rating
Feasibility Assessment Report (Roads & Bridges)	12 Aug 2025	Delay already registered	Ongoing, unresolved (+4.6 months)	Completed (WB cleared Jan 2026)	Completed	Approximately 5 months	Fully resolved. Outputs were successfully integrated into completed engineering designs and prioritization of the Dera Allahyar–Hairdeen via Sohbat Pur Road package.	Closed
Quality Assurance Plan (Roads & Bridges)	12 Aug 2025	Delay already registered	Ongoing, unresolved (+4.6 months)	Completed (WB cleared Jan 2026)	Completed	Approximately 5 months	Legacy delay resolved. Q4 activities focused primarily on design completion and procurement readiness rather than quality assurance planning.	Closed
Site-Specific ESMP Reports (Roads & Bridges)	12 Aug 2025	Delay already registered	Ongoing, unresolved (+4.6 months)	Completed (WB cleared 17 Mar 2026)	Priority Road ESMP cleared; remaining Roads ESMPs for Packages 2, 4 and 6 awaiting WB clearance.	Priority road closed; remaining package-level safeguards ongoing.	Major safeguard milestone achieved through clearance of the priority road package. However, partial safeguard risk remains because a number of Roads ESMPs still require final World Bank approval.	Low to Moderate (Mostly Resolved)
Design & Tender Documents for Roads Packages I-III (Design Submission)	Sept 2025	Completed (Sept 2025)	Completed	Completed	Detailed Engineering Designs finalized; Priority Road identified; Bidding Documents refined for procurement processing.	Design production completed on time; procurement preparation continued in Q4.	Q4 confirms that delay was not associated with design preparation but rather with downstream review and procurement processes. Technical preparation is now substantially complete.	Low (Procurement Readiness Stage)
Detailed Design & Tender Documents, Irrigation Package 2	Not specified in Q3 table	Not separately tracked	Not separately tracked	Not separately tracked	Final bidding documents approved for Irrigation Package 2. This represents a distinct Q4 procurement-readiness milestone under the irrigation sub-component.	Not applicable as a newly tracked Q4 milestone	This should be added as a Q4-specific milestone because it demonstrates movement from design review to procurement readiness for at least one irrigation package. It also provides a possible template for accelerating remaining package documentation.	Moderate, positive movement
Hiring of Project Staff / Specialized Support	June 2025	Partially achieved	In progress	In progress	Core team remained mobilized. Recruitment of Dam Safety Expert and Road Safety Auditor was completed. Security Management Specialist hiring remained in progress, with evaluation continuing and intermittent engagement proposed to expedite hiring.	Partially achieved; specialized support pending	Q4 strengthened technical readiness through recruitment of Dam Safety Expert and Road Safety Auditor. However, pending recruitment of the Security Management Specialist remains an institutional readiness dependency, particularly for field implementation in sensitive locations.	Moderate

From a risk perspective, Quarter 4 demonstrates a clear transition from design preparation to procurement readiness. Most of the legacy delays affecting design studies, inception reports, feasibility assessments, quality assurance plans, and safeguard documentation were either fully resolved or significantly reduced. The Roads and Bridges sub-component is now largely positioned for procurement, supported by completed engineering designs, finalized priority road selection, and clearance of the priority road ESMP.

However, the irrigation sub-component remains the critical path for Component-I implementation. Although substantial progress was achieved through restructuring schemes into procurement packages, approval of Package-2 bidding documents, and clearance of selected packages, multiple irrigation packages remain under revision or await World Bank comments. Consequently, procurement readiness remains uneven across the irrigation portfolio.

The overall risk profile has therefore shifted from "broad design-stage delays" to a more concentrated "package-clearance and procurement-readiness risk."

The principal management priority for the next quarter should be:

1. Expediting clearance of remaining irrigation packages.
2. Finalizing outstanding irrigation ESMP approvals.
3. Converting all approved designs into procurement-ready bidding packages.
4. Tracking package-wise readiness through a dedicated milestone monitoring system.
5. Accelerating procurement initiation and contractor mobilization planning.

Overall Assessment: Component-I has substantially reduced historical design-related bottlenecks during Q4 and entered an advanced procurement-readiness stage. Nevertheless, unresolved irrigation package approvals continue to pose a High Risk to timely implementation and remain the most critical factor affecting commencement of physical works.

7. KEY GAPS, RISKS AND PROPOSED MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

7.1 Key Gaps Identified

Monitoring during the fourth quarter (April-June 2026) indicates that Component-I has progressed beyond the broader design-development stage and has entered a more focused procurement readiness phase. Significant advances were recorded in finalization of detailed engineering designs, preparation of bidding documents, review of environmental and social safeguard instruments, and prioritization of implementation packages. However, several institutional and process-related gaps continue to affect the pace of transition from technical preparation to procurement and construction.

The key gaps identified during Q4 are summarized below:

➤ **Absence of a Dedicated Component-I MIS and Centralized Readiness Tracking System**

Component-I continues to operate without a dedicated Management Information System (MIS) capable of providing real-time visibility of design reviews, safeguard approvals, procurement milestones, and implementation readiness. Progress tracking remains dependent on multiple spreadsheets, correspondence records, submission registers, and consultant reports, creating challenges in consolidated reporting and timely management decision-making.

➤ **Limited End-to-End Tracking of Package-Level Procurement Readiness**

While substantial progress has been achieved in design completion and package restructuring, a consolidated package-level tracker covering design clearance, safeguard approval, bidding documentation, procurement processing, contract award, and mobilization has not yet been fully institutionalized. As implementation moves closer to procurement, the absence of such a mechanism may reduce visibility of emerging bottlenecks.

➤ **Pending Technical and Safeguard Clearances for Selected Priority Packages**

Several irrigation packages remain under review, revision, or awaiting World Bank comments despite progress achieved during the quarter. Similarly, some site-specific safeguard instruments continue to require review and approval before procurement can proceed. These pending clearances represent the principal bottleneck affecting implementation readiness.

➤ **Limited Visibility of Site Readiness and Pre-Construction Conditions**

Although design and safeguard requirements are advancing, a structured mechanism for monitoring land availability, access conditions, utility relocation requirements, contractor mobilization prerequisites, and pre-construction readiness across priority schemes is not yet fully operationalized. This creates a risk that implementation constraints may emerge after procurement initiation.

➤ **Pending Recruitment of Specialized Technical Support**

The recruitment of key technical experts has improved institutional readiness; however, the Security Management Specialist position remained under evaluation during the reporting period. Completion of this recruitment process will be important for supporting implementation in geographically dispersed and potentially challenging operational environments.

7.2 Risks Emerging from the Delay Analysis

Quarter 4 demonstrates that the primary implementation risk has shifted from design preparation to procurement readiness and package-level clearance. While several longstanding design and

safeguard bottlenecks were addressed during the reporting period, unresolved technical reviews, pending World Bank comments, and outstanding safeguard clearances continue to have the potential to delay procurement processing and commencement of physical works.

Accordingly, management attention should focus on accelerating package clearances, strengthening readiness tracking mechanisms, and ensuring that approved designs are rapidly converted into procurement-ready works contracts.

The following table presents the status of key packages/activities:

S#	Package / Activity	Design / Technical Documentation Status	Design-Related Outstanding Issue	ESMP / Safeguard Status	Procurement / Bidding Status
1	Irrigation – Package I	Awaiting comments	Comments/review outstanding	Awaiting submission by the CSC for Package 1, 3, 10, 11, 12 and 14	Not yet in bidding
2	Irrigation – Package II	Design cleared	No major design issue reported	ESMP cleared	Final bidding documents approved
3	Irrigation – Package III	Design cleared	No major design issue reported	Safeguard status to be confirmed	Not yet in bidding
4	Irrigation – Package IV	Design cleared	No major design issue reported	ESMP cleared	Not yet in bidding
5	Irrigation – Package V	Design cleared	No major design issue reported	ESMP cleared	Not yet in bidding
6	Irrigation – Package VI	Design cleared	No major design issue reported	Safeguard status to be confirmed	Not yet in bidding
7	Irrigation – Packages VII–X	Under revision	Design/technical revisions outstanding – 4 packages	Safeguard requirements subject to completion/review, as applicable	Not yet in bidding
8	Irrigation – Package XI	Awaiting comments	Comments/review outstanding	Pending review/clearance	Not yet in bidding
9	Irrigation – Package XII	Awaiting comments	Comments/review outstanding	Pending review/clearance	Not yet in bidding
10	Irrigation – Package XIII	Dropped	N/A	N/A	N/A
11	Irrigation – Package XIV	Awaiting comments	Comments/review outstanding	Pending review/clearance	Not yet in bidding

7.2.1 Procurement and Contractor Mobilization Delays (High Risk)

Despite significant progress in design refinement and bidding document preparation, procurement of several priority irrigation and road packages remains contingent upon completion of outstanding technical reviews, safeguard approvals, and World Bank clearances. Continued delays in these processes may affect contract award timelines and commencement of physical works.

Potential Impact:

- Delayed commencement of construction activities.
- Compression of implementation schedules and annual work plans.
- Delayed achievement of Component-I outputs and PDO-level outcomes.
- Potential increase in implementation and contract management pressures.

7.2.2 Pending Irrigation Package Clearance (High Risk)

Although Packages II-VI have progressed through review and clearance processes, multiple irrigation packages remain under revision or continue to await World Bank comments. Since these packages form a major portion of the planned infrastructure portfolio, further delays may significantly affect procurement sequencing and implementation progress.

Potential Impact:

- Delayed issuance of bidding documents.
- Deferred procurement and contractor mobilization.
- Reduced implementation progress during subsequent quarters.
- Increased risk of cumulative schedule slippage.

7.2.3 Safeguard Clearance and Compliance Risks (Substantial Risk)

Environmental and social safeguards continued to advance during Q4, including approval of selected irrigation ESMPs and clearance of the priority road ESMP. However, a number of irrigation ESMPs remain under review or revision. Delays in completion of safeguard requirements could affect procurement processing and compliance readiness.

Potential Impact:

- Procurement delays due to incomplete safeguard requirements.
- Extended review cycles and additional revision requirements.
- Delayed commencement of field activities and contractor mobilization.

7.2.4 Weak Package Level (Substantial Risk)

The absence of an integrated package-level monitoring system limits management's ability to track the progression of schemes from design clearance through procurement and implementation. As Component I enters procurement readiness, stronger monitoring and reporting arrangements become increasingly important.

Potential Impact:

- Reduced visibility of emerging bottlenecks.
- Delayed corrective actions and escalation.
- Weak accountability for overdue deliverables and clearances.

7.3 Management Actions to Address Delays

Based on the Quarter 4 assessment, the following management action matrix outlines priority actions required to support the transition from procurement readiness to implementation. These actions are intended to accelerate package clearances, strengthen monitoring arrangements, and improve implementation preparedness during the forthcoming reporting period.

Management Action	Purpose	Key Measures	Lead Responsibility	Timeline	Expected Result
Establish Package Readiness Review Mechanism	Accelerate clearance of priority packages and strengthen accountability.	Conduct fortnightly package-level reviews; track pending WB comments; monitor readiness status of each package.	FPMU / PIU	Next Quarter	Improved visibility and faster resolution of bottlenecks.
Implement Consolidated Procurement Readiness Tracker	Improve monitoring of critical-path activities.	Track technical reviews, safeguards, bidding documents, procurement status, and mobilization readiness.	PIU / M&E Consultants	Next Quarter	Enhanced package-level monitoring and early warning capability.
Fast-Track Outstanding Irrigation Package Clearances	Address the principal readiness bottleneck.	Prioritize packages awaiting comments; conduct focused technical review sessions; maintain comment-resolution matrix.	PIU / D&S Consultants / World Bank	Next Quarter	Increased number of procurement-ready irrigation packages.
Accelerate Safeguard Clearance Process	Complete remaining ESMP reviews and approvals.	Follow up on pending irrigation ESMPs; monitor revision timelines; integrate approved safeguards into bidding documentation.	PIU / Environmental & Social Team / Consultants	Next Quarter	Full safeguard compliance for priority packages.
Advance Procurement Documentation for Priority Packages	Facilitate timely launch of procurement activities.	Finalize bidding documents; resolve procurement method issues; complete pre-procurement reviews.	PIU / Procurement Team	Next Quarter	Procurement-ready packages available for tendering.
Strengthen Site Readiness Monitoring	Identify implementation constraints before procurement.	Develop package-wise readiness checklist covering land, access, utilities, safeguards, and mobilization requirements.	PIU / Line Departments / M&E Consultants	Next Quarter	Early identification and resolution of field-level constraints.
Complete Recruitment of Specialized Technical Support	Strengthen institutional readiness.	Finalize recruitment of Security Management Specialist and monitor deployment arrangements.	PIU	Next Quarter	Enhanced implementation and risk-management capacity.
Strengthen PIU-World Bank Technical Coordination	Reduce review and clearance turnaround times.	Continue structured technical review meetings; track closure of agreed actions; prioritize unresolved clearance issues.	PIU / World Bank / Consultants	Next Quarter	Faster disposition of comments and improved package clearance rates.

The Q4 assessment indicates that Component I has made meaningful progress toward procurement readiness through completion of engineering designs, advancement of bidding documentation, approval of selected safeguard instruments, and improved institutional preparedness. The principal implementation challenge is no longer broad design preparation but rather the timely clearance and conversion of priority packages into procurement-ready contracts.

Going forward, management attention should focus on resolving outstanding irrigation package reviews, completing remaining safeguard clearances, institutionalizing package-level readiness tracking, and accelerating procurement actions for approved packages. Timely implementation of these measures will be critical for translating preparatory achievements into physical implementation progress and reducing the risk of further schedule slippage under Component I.

8. CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN FOR NEXT QUARTER (JUL - SEP 2026)

8.1 Implications if Unaddressed

Monitoring findings for Quarter 4 indicate that Component I has made substantial progress toward procurement readiness; however, several critical activities remain dependent on completion of outstanding technical reviews, safeguard clearances, procurement documentation, and package-level readiness verification. If these issues are not addressed in a timely manner, the transition from preparation to physical implementation may continue to be delayed.

The following implementation risks are likely to materialize if the identified gaps persist:

- Procurement of priority irrigation may continue to be delayed due to pending technical and safeguard clearances.
- Contractor mobilization and commencement of civil works may be postponed because procurement-ready packages remain subject to unresolved reviews and approvals.
- Progress monitoring may continue to rely on fragmented reporting systems, limiting management's ability to identify emerging bottlenecks and take corrective action.
- Delays in package-level tracking may reduce visibility on implementation readiness, safeguard compliance, and procurement sequencing.
- Pending specialized technical support and unresolved site readiness issues may create implementation challenges during the transition to field execution.

Issue	Impact on Implementation	Responsible Entity	Corrective Action	Timeline
No dedicated Component-I MIS and package readiness tracking system	Limited visibility on package status, procurement readiness, and implementation bottlenecks.	PIU Component-I with FPMU	Develop and operationalize a consolidated package-level readiness tracker covering design, safeguards, procurement, contract award, and mobilization milestones.	Q5
Incomplete package-level milestone monitoring	Risk of delayed identification and escalation of overdue actions.	PIU Component-I	Establish a structured milestone register linked to irrigation and road package tracking and update monthly.	Q5
Pending technical reviews and package clearances	Delays in procurement launch and commencement of civil works.	PIU Component-I / D&S Consultants / World Bank	Accelerate closure of outstanding comments and maintain package-wise clearance status monitoring.	Immediate and ongoing
Pending safeguard reviews and approvals	Procurement readiness may be delayed due to incomplete safeguard compliance.	PIU Safeguards Team with Consultants	Complete review and approval of remaining ESMPs and integrate safeguard conditions into procurement packages.	Q5
Limited site-readiness monitoring arrangements	Pre-construction constraints may emerge after procurement.	PIU Component-I with Line Departments	Introduce site readiness verification and maintain package-wise readiness register prior to tendering.	Q5
Pending Security Management Specialist engagement	Potential constraints in institutional readiness for field implementation.	PIU / FPMU	Complete recruitment process and define deployment arrangements linked to implementation requirements.	Q5

Severity: Moderate to High: The identified gaps may not immediately affect design completion; however, they directly influence procurement readiness, contractor mobilization, and transition to physical implementation. Delays at this stage could affect achievement of annual implementation targets and overall project timelines.

Probability: High: Several irrigation packages, safeguard instruments, and procurement readiness requirements remain under review or are awaiting finalization, clearance, and re-submission by the CSC. In addition, prevailing security risks may further affect field activities and implementation schedules. Therefore, the likelihood of continued schedule slippage remains high unless close coordination, timely follow-up, and proactive management attention are maintained, particularly for CSC reviews and security-related constraints.

8.2 Key Forward Actions

➤ Accelerate Closure of Outstanding Technical Reviews

Priority attention should be given to irrigation packages that remain under revision or await World Bank comments. Structured tracking of comments, agreed turnaround times, and follow-up actions should be maintained to support timely clearance and conversion of designs into procurement-ready packages.

➤ Advance Procurement Documentation for Priority Packages

Procurement documentation for priority irrigation and road packages should be finalized through continued refinement of technical specifications, engineering estimates, and contractual documentation to facilitate tender launch immediately upon receipt of remaining approvals.

➤ Complete Remaining Safeguard Requirements

The PIU and consultants should continue close engagement with the World Bank to expedite review and clearance of outstanding ESMPs and ensure safeguard requirements are fully integrated into procurement documentation and implementation planning.

➤ Strengthen Package-Level Monitoring and Reporting

The M&E function should transition from activity-level reporting toward package-level readiness monitoring covering design status, safeguards, bidding documents, procurement progress, and implementation readiness indicators.

➤ Strengthen Institutional and Technical Readiness

Completion of specialized technical recruitment, including the Security Management Specialist, and continued coordination among PIU, consultants, line departments, and the World Bank should remain a priority to support transition into implementation.

8.3 Corrective Action Plan for the Next Quarter (July – Sep 2026)

With Component I now entering an advanced procurement-readiness phase, the corrective action strategy for the next quarter should focus on converting completed technical outputs into procurement-ready and implementation-ready packages. Unlike previous quarters where emphasis was placed primarily on design completion, the immediate priority is successful closure of outstanding package reviews, safeguard approvals, procurement preparation, and readiness verification.

The corrective action approach should therefore be strongly accountability-driven, supported by package-wise monitoring, regular management reviews, and clearly defined closure targets.

Priority Area / Issue	Implementation Risk	Corrective Action	Responsible Roles	Timeline	Expected Result
Pending irrigation package clearances	Delayed procurement and commencement of civil works.	Finalize review and clearance of packages under revision or awaiting World Bank comments; maintain package-wise status tracking.	Lead: PIU Project Director / Technical Leads Support: D&S Consultants, FPMU, World Bank	Next Quarter	Increased number of procurement-ready irrigation packages.
Outstanding safeguard approvals	Delays in procurement processing and implementation readiness.	Complete review, revision, and approval of remaining ESMPs and integrate safeguard conditions into bidding documents.	Lead: PIU E&S Specialists Support: Consultants, World Bank E&S Team	Next Quarter	All priority packages meet safeguard readiness requirements.
Procurement readiness of priority packages	Slow transition from design to implementation.	Finalize bidding documents, engineering estimates, contract documentation, and procurement planning arrangements.	Lead: PIU Procurement & Technical Teams Support: D&S Consultants	Next Quarter	Priority packages ready for procurement processing.
Weak package-level milestone tracking	Limited visibility on implementation readiness.	Operationalize package-wise readiness tracker covering design, safeguards, procurement, mobilization, and implementation milestones.	Lead: PIU M&E Specialist Support: M&E Consultants, FPMU M&E Team	Next Quarter	Improved monitoring, reporting, and early warning capability.
Site readiness verification	Delays during contractor mobilization and early execution.	Establish package-wise readiness checklist covering access, land issues, safeguards, utility constraints, and mobilization requirements.	Lead: PIU Technical Teams Support: Line Departments, Safeguards Team, M&E Consultants	Next Quarter	Site constraints identified and addressed before procurement.
Specialized technical capacity	Reduced preparedness for implementation risks.	Complete engagement of the Security Management Specialist and align specialist inputs with implementation readiness planning.	Lead: PIU / FPMU Support: Procurement Team	Next Quarter	Enhanced institutional and operational readiness.
PIU–World Bank technical coordination	Extended review cycles and delayed approvals.	Continue structured technical review meetings and maintain action-tracking mechanism for closure of pending comments.	Lead: PIU / World Bank Support: D&S Consultants	Next Quarter	Faster review cycles and improved approval timelines.

Quarter 4 demonstrates that Component I has substantially reduced several of the legacy design-stage bottlenecks that characterized earlier reporting periods. Detailed engineering designs have largely been completed, priority irrigation schemes have been reorganized into procurement packages, bidding documents have been further refined, and progress has been achieved in both irrigation and road-sector safeguard clearances.

Nevertheless, Component I has not yet transitioned to physical implementation, and the critical path now centers on package-specific clearances, safeguard approvals, procurement readiness, and mobilization planning. Going forward, management focus should therefore concentrate on accelerating closure of outstanding package reviews, strengthening package-level readiness tracking, and ensuring that approved designs are rapidly translated into procurement-ready contracts. Successful implementation of these actions will be essential to support commencement of civil works and achievement of Component I outputs in subsequent quarters.

ANNEXURE

Key meetings and training during the reporting period are summarized below:

Coordination Meeting

Date: 2nd April 2026

Venue: PIU-I Office, Jinnah Town, Quetta.

Participants:

- Mr. Muhammad Anwar, M&E Specialist, Component-I, PIU-I
- Mr. Rizwan Ahmed, Team Leader, M&E Consultants (IFRAP)
- Mr. Nazeer Ahmed, M&E Associate, M&E Consultants (IFRAP)

Agenda:

- Reviewed implementation performance by comparing reported physical and financial achievements with the approved annual work plan, implementation schedule, and quarterly performance milestones.
- Assessed progress against the Project Results Framework (PRF) to determine the extent of achievement of planned outputs, intermediate outcomes, and performance indicators, while identifying areas requiring accelerated implementation.
- Examined the implementation readiness of project interventions, including the progress of detailed engineering designs, procurement processes, bidding documentation, statutory approvals, and other pre-construction requirements.
- Analysed implementation constraints, scheduling delays, and operational bottlenecks affecting project delivery, and assessed their implications for achieving planned milestones.
- Conducted a variance analysis between planned and actual progress to identify performance gaps, underlying causes, and potential impacts on annual targets and overall project timelines.
- Reviewed compliance with the Environmental and Social Framework (ESF), including the status of Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs), adherence to the World Bank Environmental and Social Standards (ESS), and outstanding safeguard actions.
- Evaluated key implementation risks across institutional, technical, procurement, financial, environmental, and operational aspects, together with their likely implications for project performance and delivery.
- Discussed appropriate mitigation strategies, corrective actions, implementation responsibilities, and realistic timelines to address identified gaps and minimize implementation risks.
- Assessed the quality, completeness, and reliability of monitoring data, supporting evidence, and project documentation to ensure compliance with the approved M&E Framework, data quality standards, and World Bank reporting requirements.
- Reviewed the implementation status of actions agreed during previous coordination meetings, evaluated progress against commitments, and established a time-bound action plan to strengthen implementation performance and facilitate timely achievement of project objectives.



Coordination Meeting:

Date: 13th April 2026

Venue: PIU-I Office, Jinnah Town, Quetta.

Participants:

- Mr. Muhammad Anwar, M&E Specialist, Component-I, PIU-I
- Mr. Rizwan Ahmed, Team Leader, M&E Consultants (IFRAP)
- Mr. Nazeer Ahmed, M&E Associate, M&E Consultants (IFRAP)

Agenda:

- Assessment of progress against the Project Results Framework (PRF), including outputs, intermediate results, and key performance indicators.
- Identification of implementation delays, bottlenecks, and critical constraints affecting project progress.
- Gap analysis between planned and actual progress, including underlying causes and implications for quarterly and annual targets.
- Review of environmental and social safeguard compliance, including the status of ESMP approvals and implementation of World Bank Environmental and Social Standards (ESS).
- Review of the status of engineering designs, procurement activities, bidding documents, and implementation readiness.
- Assessment of institutional, technical, procurement, financial, and operational risks, along with their potential impact on project implementation.
- Discussion and agreement on mitigation measures, corrective actions, responsible persons, and implementation timelines to address identified issues.
- Monitoring of previous meeting action points, follow-up on agreed commitments, and development of a time-bound action plan to improve implementation performance and ensure timely achievement of project milestones.



Coordination Meeting

Date: 13th May 2026

Venue: PIU-I Office, Jinnah Town, Quetta.

Participants:

- Mr. Kaleemullah, Social Safeguard Specialist, Component-I, PIU-I
- Mr. Rizwan Ahmed, Team Leader, M&E Consultants (IFRAP)
- Officials of CSC Consultants, Component-I

Agenda:

- Review of the status of engineering designs, procurement activities, bidding documents, and implementation readiness.
- Identification of implementation delays, bottlenecks, and critical constraints affecting project progress.
- Discussion and agreement on mitigation measures, corrective actions, responsible persons, and implementation timelines to address identified issues.
- Review of data quality, monitoring evidence, documentation, and reporting requirements to ensure consistency with the M&E Framework and World Bank reporting standards.
- Review of environmental and social safeguard compliance, including the status of ESMP approvals and implementation of World Bank Environmental and Social Standards (ESS).
- Assessment of institutional, technical, procurement, financial, and operational risks, along with their potential impact on project implementation.
- Monitoring of previous meeting action points, follow-up on agreed commitments, and development of a time-bound action plan to improve implementation performance and ensure timely achievement of project milestones.
- Gap analysis between planned and actual progress, including underlying causes and implications for quarterly and annual targets.



Coordination Meeting

Date: 25th May 2026

Venue: PIU-I Office, Jinnah Town, Quetta.

Participants:

- Mr. Waseem Ahmed, Project Director, Component-I, PIU-I, IFRAP
- Mr. Rizwan Ahmed, Team Leader, M&E Consultants, IFRAP

Agenda:

- Discussed the overall physical and financial progress against the approved work plan, implementation schedule, and quarterly targets.
- Review of the status of engineering designs, procurement activities, bidding documents, and implementation readiness.
- Identification of implementation delays, bottlenecks, and critical constraints affecting project progress.



Debrief Meeting

Date: 3rd June 2026

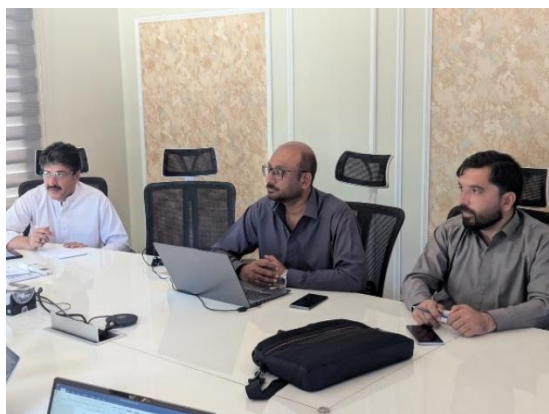
Venue: PIU-I Office, Jinnah Town, Quetta.

Participants:

- Mr. Muhammad Anwar, M&E Specialist, Component-I, PIU-I
- Mr. Kaleemullah, Social Safeguard Specialist, Component-I, PIU-I
- Syed Ahmed Ali Shah, Environment Safeguard Specialist, Component-I, PIU-I
- Ms Samina Mengal, Social & Gender Specialist, Component-I, PIU-I
- Mr. Rizwan Ahmed, Team Leader, M&E Consultants (IFRAP)
- Mr. Sanaullah, M&E Associate, M&E Consultants (IFRAP)

Agenda:

1. Reviewed the overall findings and observations of QPR-2 and assessed progress achieved during the reporting period.
2. Discussed progress against the Project Development Objective (PDO), Project Results Framework (PRF), and key performance indicators.
3. Reviewed physical and financial progress under the Irrigation, Roads, and Bridges sub-components against approved quarterly targets.
4. Assessed the status of engineering designs, procurement activities, bidding documents, and implementation readiness.
5. Reviewed progress on Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) implementation, including the status of ESMP approvals and compliance with the World Bank Environmental and Social Standards (ESS).
6. Discussed the status of Gender, Citizen Engagement, and the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), including reporting requirements and institutional readiness.
7. Identified implementation delays, reporting gaps, data quality issues, and inconsistencies requiring further validation and supporting evidence.
8. Discussed key implementation risks, bottlenecks, and their potential impact on project timelines, and agreed on appropriate mitigation and corrective measures.
9. Reviewed comments and recommendations from FPMU and agreed on actions required to strengthen the quality and analytical content of the quarterly report.
10. Agreed on follow-up actions, responsibilities, and timelines for incorporation of comments and submission of the finalized QPR-2.



Coordination Meeting

Date: 16th June 2026

Venue: PIU-I Office, Jinnah Town, Quetta.

Participants:

- Mr. Waseem Ahmed, Project Director, Component-I, PIU-I, IFRAP
- Mr. Rizwan Ahmed, Team Leader, M&E Consultants, IFRAP

Agenda:

- Review of overall physical and financial progress against the approved work plan, implementation schedule, and quarterly targets.
- Identification of implementation delays, bottlenecks, and critical constraints affecting project progress.
- Gap analysis between planned and actual progress, including underlying causes and implications for quarterly and annual targets.
- Assessment of progress against the Project Results Framework (PRF), including outputs, intermediate results, and key performance indicators.
- Review of the status of engineering designs, procurement activities, bidding documents, and implementation readiness.
- Review of environmental and social safeguard compliance, including the status of ESMP approvals and implementation of World Bank Environmental and Social Standards (ESS).
- Assessment of institutional, technical, procurement, financial, and operational risks, along with their potential impact on project implementation.
- Monitoring of previous meeting action points, follow-up on agreed commitments, and development of a time-bound action plan to improve implementation performance and ensure timely achievement of project milestones.
- Discussion and agreement on mitigation measures, corrective actions, responsible persons, and implementation timelines to address identified issues.
- Review of data quality, monitoring evidence, documentation, and reporting requirements to ensure consistency with the M&E Framework and World Bank reporting standards.



Two Days Training / Refresher of M&E Field Staff

Date: 16th June 2026

Venue: M&E Consultants Office, Jinnah Town, Quetta.

Participants:

- Mr. Rizwan Ahmed, Team Leader, M&E Consultants, IFRAP
- Mr. Rizwan Saleem, IT Specialist, M&E Consultants, IFRAP
- Mr. Shumail, IT Expert, M&E Consultants, IFRAP
- All M&E Field Staff

Agenda:

- Conducted a comprehensive refresher training for M&E field teams on the revised Monitoring Tools (MTs) to ensure standardized data collection and reporting across all project districts.
- Oriented participants on the project's M&E Framework, including its objectives, results chain, performance indicators, and reporting requirements aligned with the Project Results Framework (PRF).
- Provided detailed guidance on the application of revised monitoring checklists, data collection instruments, and indicator definitions to improve data consistency and quality.
- Strengthened participants' understanding of monitoring methodologies, sampling approaches, field verification procedures, and evidence-based reporting practices.
- Demonstrated the correct use of digital data collection platforms (ODK/mobile-based tools), including form completion, validation checks, geo-tagging, and photo documentation requirements.
- Reviewed common data quality issues identified during previous monitoring rounds and discussed corrective measures to enhance data accuracy, completeness, timeliness, and reliability.
- Reinforced procedures for documenting physical progress, safeguards compliance, beneficiary verification, and supporting evidence in accordance with project monitoring protocols.
- Enhanced participants' capacity to prepare monitoring reports, maintain proper documentation, and ensure timely submission of field monitoring data to the central M&E team.
- Facilitated interactive practical exercises, case studies, and question-and-answer sessions to strengthen participants' understanding of the revised monitoring tools and reporting procedures.
- Emphasized compliance with World Bank reporting requirements, data quality assurance protocols, ethical data collection practices, and continuous coordination among PIUs, field teams, and the M&E consultants to ensure effective monitoring and reporting.

