

## Modifications to the Games Protocol for the Second Cycle

**Background.** Based on feedback from play during the first cycle there has been concern that some communities may have been using coercive methods to ensure high contribution rates. In one village there was a (forestalled) attempt to keep a record of which households were playing the game; in another there were reports that individuals playing were to be required to tell under oath how they played and in the event that they contributed less than the full amount, were to be fined by the village for the amount that the village would have received had they contributed the full amount. While such actions may reflect on methods that are used to achieve collective action within these villages, they violate the rules of the game which stipulate that individuals should be free to determine how much to contribute or not.

**Actions.** These concerns have been taken very seriously and the following modifications are being introduced to the game form as of the start of the second cycle:

1. Communities are to be told during the first public meeting that:
  - a. respect for the decision of individuals are a condition of play and that attempts to identify or sanction any individuals for their actions will be considered a violation of the community's engagement with the project.
  - b. such a violation will result in exclusion from the end-of-game (January) lottery for supplementary community funds and may lead to a cancellation of the entire project.
2. The number of supplementary community funds to be allocated by lottery to all eligible communities will be increased from one \$500 prize to three \$500 prizes. Going forward, to be eligible for this lottery, communities should return their completed project accounting form to NEPI offices by 31 December AND it must be that there were no reports of attempts to impose sanctions on or otherwise coerce people playing the games at any stage up to the time of the lottery.
3. Evidence for coercive behavior will be gathered (a) by random audits shortly after play of the games; these audits will be held in at least every second community (b) during the September consultations and (c) by receiving complaints from individual villagers. In addition, all survey respondents are provided with contact information and advice that they can report any efforts to identify how they played to us privately if they wish.
4. Envelopes will now be opened in a semi-public manner such that although the envelopes will be opened in full view, the specific contribution from each envelope is not counted out publicly.