



Project Summary Information

Date of Document Preparation: October 19, 2020	
Project Name	Rural Infrastructure Development Project (Previously: Prosperous Villages Project) ¹
Document Code	PD0000328-PSI-UZB
Country	Republic of Uzbekistan
Sector/Subsector	Rural Infrastructure
Status of Financing	Approved
Project Description	<p>This is a multi-sectoral rural infrastructure project. The project has the following two components.</p> <p>Component 1: Demand-driven Investments in Basic Infrastructure and Services. The Project will finance sub-projects comprising investments in basic infrastructure and services which will be planned and prioritized jointly by participating district administrations and communities. The types of investments will include: access to water supply for drinking, irrigation, and agricultural production; sanitation services; rehabilitation of social facilities; rehabilitation of roads, footpaths and bridges; rural electrification, and energy efficiency improvements. Investments are subject to a negative list that includes housing construction and renovation or any investments that require physical displacement or resettlement of people.</p> <p>Component 2: Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Institutional Support. This component will support a project implementation structure within the Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction (MoEDPR). The component will provide financing for operational costs, consultants, essential equipment, technical assistance, and training. Funding will also be provided for information dissemination, beneficiary assessments, periodic surveys, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) activities, a management information system (MIS), project audits, and a project-level grievance redress mechanism (GRM) that will handle grievances.</p>
Objective	The Project Objectives are to: (i) improve the quality of basic infrastructure and services; and (ii) strengthen participatory local governance processes in targeted rural villages.
Expected Results	The expected results of the project are improved access to basic infrastructure and services by rural population in the Ferghana Valley and other lagging regions of the country.

¹ The Government of Uzbekistan requested AIIB and the lead co-financier WB to change the name of the project from “Prosperous Villages Project” to “Rural Infrastructure Development Project”. The request was approved by AIIB on September 22, 2020, and the amendments to the legal agreements of AIIB and WB with the Republic of Uzbekistan reflecting the name change were countersigned on October 5, 2020.

Environmental and Social Category	Category B
Environmental and Social Information	<p>Because this Project will be co-financed with the World Bank (WB), AIIB has agreed with the WB that: (a) the World Bank's Environmental and Social Safeguard Policies (Safeguard Policies) will be used; and (b) AIIB will rely on WB's determination as to whether compliance with the Safeguard Policies has been achieved under the Project. AIIB is satisfied that: (i) the Safeguard Policies are consistent with the Bank's Articles of Agreement and materially consistent with the provisions of AIIB's Environmental and Social Policy (including the relevant Environmental and Social Standards); and (ii) the monitoring procedures that the WB has in place to ascertain compliance with its Safeguard Policies are appropriate for the Project. Under the World Bank's Safeguard Policies, the Project has been assigned Category B.</p> <p>An Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)² and a Resettlement Planning Framework (RFP)³ have been prepared for the project. The ESMF and RFP have specified rules and procedures for the sub-projects' Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and Resettlement Action Plan (RAP). No Project activity or sub-project that would be categorized as a Category A activity would be eligible for inclusion under the Project.</p> <p>Stakeholder Consultation and Information Disclosure. Extensive consultations were held with various stakeholders during the preparation of the ESMF and RPF. The draft ESMF and RPF have been disclosed in the project regions and three public consultation meetings were held in August 2019. The ESMP and RPF documents (in English and Russian) have been published on the PIU website⁴ and also on the WB's external website⁵. The hyperlinks are also disclosed on AIIB's website.</p> <p>Project Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM). A four-tier GRM will be established, one at village level and the others at district, regional and PIU offices. The Facilitating Partner (NGO) will assist the affected persons in registering their grievances and being heard.</p>
Cost and Financing Plan	<p><u>Total Estimated Project Investment:</u> USD 183.6 million (joint co-financing with the WB)</p> <p><u>AIIB loan:</u> USD82 million</p> <p><u>World Bank's IDA:</u> USD100 million</p> <p><u>Government of Uzbekistan:</u> USD1.6 million</p>

² <https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/101551567745588689/environmental-and-social-management-framework>

³ <https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/711031567746568673/resettlement-policy-framework>

⁴ Please see the English documents here: <http://ridp.uz/>

⁵ <http://projects.worldbank.org/P168233/?lang=en&tab=documents&subTab=projectDocuments>

Borrower	Republic of Uzbekistan		
Project Implementation Entity	Project Implementation Unit under the Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction		
Implementation Period	Start Date: February 1, 2020 End Date: June 30, 2024		
Expected Loan Closing Date	December 31, 2024		
Contact Points:	AIB	World Bank	Project Implementation Unit
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Date of Concept Decision	August 28, 2019		
Date of Appraisal Decision	October 2019		
Date of Financing Approval	December 2019		

Independent Accountability Mechanism	<p>As noted above, WB's Safeguard Policies will apply to this Project instead of AIIB's ESP. Pursuant to AIIB's agreement with WB, AIIB will consequently rely on WB's corporate Grievance Redress Service (GRS) and the independent accountability mechanism, the Inspection Panel, to handle complaints relating to environmental and social issues that may arise under the Project.</p> <p>Consequently, in accordance with AIIB's Policy on Project-affected People's Mechanism (PPM), submissions to the PPM under this Project will not be eligible for consideration by the PPM.</p> <p>For information on how to submit complaints to the WB's GRS, please visit http://www.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/products-and-services/grievanceredress-service. For information on how to submit complaints to the WB Inspection Panel, please visit www.inspectionpanel.org.</p>
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