



# Ethnic Minority Development Framework

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## VIE: Central Region Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project

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## **A. Background and Context**

### **1. Project Rationale**

1. Persistent poverty in mountainous and isolated communities in Viet Nam is closely connected to a deficient infrastructure development including lack of a clean and efficient water supply and sanitation provision. The Government's Socio-Economic Development Plan (SEDP) 2006–2010 puts a considerable emphasis on provision of a rural infrastructure.

2. Rural water supply and sanitation is a particularly important concern as some 38% of the rural population still lacks access to piped drinking water. Even where piped water is available it often does not meet safety standards. Pollution from salinity intrusion, livestock waste, commercial waste, and agricultural chemicals is an increasing concern in some areas, and endangers people's health. Estimates suggest that up to half the cases of infectious diseases in Viet Nam are related to poor water supply and sanitation problems.

3. The low per capita consumption and low population density in remote areas makes attaching these communities to other regional water supply services a financially unattractive proposition. However, a majority of these communities have a good potential for establishing a locally based water supply service that can be economically developed to meet local demand for clean water.

4. The primary objective of the sector Project is to develop the rural water supply and sanitation sector initially in six provinces of Central Viet Nam. The main Project component includes: (i) development of sustainable community based pipe water system; (ii) development of improved household and public sanitation system; (iii) Development of community based Information Education and Communication (IEC) for health and hygiene behavior; and (iv) Strengthening institutional capacity of relevant stakeholders. Each of these six provinces has identified a particular commune as a pilot sub-project. The Provinces in the Central Region have poverty levels higher than the national average; the investments for water supply and sanitation by local government, therefore, are limited. In the region, only 10% to 15% of households are served by a private tap or public standpipe. About half of the households obtain water from shallow dug wells, which are easily susceptible to bacterial contamination and saline intrusion; and 20% to 25% of people in the central region receive water from relatively expensive private deep wells. The region suffers from water shortages in the dry season and contaminated supplies from flooding of dug wells in the wet season. Groundwater is exploited heavily for irrigation of cash crops, resulting in frequent shortages of water. Shallow groundwater contains high levels of salinity, turbidity, hardness, fluoride, iron, manganese, aluminum, and also pollution from human and industrial waste and from livestock. Surface water is often of poor quality due to turbidity, organic matter, and pollution by surface runoff that contains micro-organisms and agricultural chemicals. River water in the lower reaches is polluted by industry and settlements upstream. As a result, many rural households, particularly ethnic minority people, have little choice as to their source of drinking water and they are sometimes forced to buy water from vendors or fetch water from long distances at high costs. The poor households have to use highly polluted water for many of their daily water needs.

5. Whilst aimed generally at improving health and welfare of households participating in the project it will, in turn, hasten the reduction of rural poverty in the region. The provision of clean water might facilitate an improvement in quantity and quality of marketable production, particularly from arable crops, livestock husbandry and/or fishing, which are the primary

income sources of poorer households. Becoming cleaner and healthier, costs and time for disease treatments will be reduced and local people can concentrate on working.

## **2. Ethnic Minority Poverty in Vietnam and in the Central Region**

6. According to the current classification accepted by the Vietnamese government, 54 different ethnic groups are recognised in Vietnam. The majority Kinh (or Vietnamese) make 87% of the total population. The 53 ethnic minority groups are varying in size from 500,000 to a few hundred members each. Ethnic minorities account for 13% of the total population, but nearly a third (29%) of Vietnam's people classified as in poverty are ethnic minority people. Ethnic minorities are over represented in poverty statistics and their poverty is more persistent than among the Kinh.

7. In the Central Region area, the ethnic minority groups make of 15.6% of the total population with 28 ethnic minority groups, including Co Tu, Xe Dang, Mo Nong, Muong, Thai, Tay, Gie Trieng, Hoa, Nung, Dao, Khemer, Gia Rai, Ro mam, Chut, Ba-na, Ca Rai, Bru-Van-Kieu, Barau, etc. The Ba-Na, Gia Rai, and Co-ho are the three biggest ethnic groups, making up 37.35% of the ethnic population, whereas the Brau and Ro-mam are two smallest ethnic groups, accounting for 0.7% of the ethnic population in the Central Region. Most ethnic groups in the region still maintain a distinct cultural tradition and are not integrated in mainstream population in terms of languages, schoolings, clothing, etc. The poverty rate of the ethnic groups in the region is higher in comparison to that of the ethnic groups in other regions.

8. In the Project Provinces, the Co-Tu, Co Ho, Hre, Muong, Thai, T'Cho and some other ethnic minority groups found. The percentages of ethnic minority groups in the Project Province, however, are relatively small, ranging from 2% to 14.4%, except one sub-project in Quang Nam Province (A Tieng Commune, Tay Giang District) where the Co-Tu ethnic minority group makes up 57.3% of the commune population.

## **B. LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORK**

### **1. Vietnamese Legal and Policy Framework on Ethnic Minorities**

9. The definition of ethnic minority in Vietnam is based on the following four criteria:

- (i) a language different from the national language;
- (ii) long traditional residence on, or relationship with, land; and long traditional social institutional system;
- (iii) a self-provided production system; and
- (iv) a distinct cultural identity and self-identification as a distinct cultural group that is accepted by neighbouring ethnic groups.

10. Article 5 of the Constitution of Vietnam (1992) acknowledges equality among ethnic groups which includes general principles as identified in the present Constitution and basic laws as follows:

- (i) Vietnam is a united nation of all ethnic groups living within the country.
- (ii) The State protects, strengthens and consolidates the unity of all ethnic groups and prohibits any behaviour that looks down upon and shows division among them.

- (iii) All ethnic groups are in a position of equality.
- (iv) All persons of all ethnic groups should automatically be citizens of the Vietnamese State. They are equal in their rights and obligations.
- (v) All ethnic groups have the right to use their own languages and writing systems and to encourage their traditional customs and culture.
- (vi) The State should carry out plans to narrow the gap between ethnic groups in terms of their economic and cultural development.

11. Beside the Constitution of Vietnam (1992) The government of Vietnam has passed a series of policy resolutions related to the ethnic minority development which can be classified into 03 basic policy resolution groups, i.e.: (i) policy group relates to creating conditions for sedentary farming and settlement of ethnic minority people; (ii) second policy group relates to creating conditions for the whole socio-economic and cultural development of the mountainous ethnic minority people; and (iii) the third group relates to allocate lands and to administrate lands at the mountainous regions and precincts of ethnic minorities.

12. The first group consists of concrete policies as follows:

- (i) Resolution No.38/CP of 12 March 1968 of the Government's Council on officially launching a campaign for shifting cultivators to practice sedentarization and fixed cultivation.
- (ii) Directive No.393-TTg of 10 June 1996 of the Prime Minister on population planning, improvement of infrastructure and production restructuring in the regions of ethnic minorities and mountainous regions.
- (iii) Resolution of the IX session Party Central Committee's No 24/-NQ/TW dated on 12 March 2003 on "Ethnic Minorities activities."
- (iv) Decision No.134/2004/QD-TTg of 20 July 2004 of the Prime Minister on a number of policies to provide support in terms of production land, residential land, dwelling houses and daily-life water to poor ethnic minority households meeting with difficulties (which is referred to as "Program 134").

13. The second group consists of concrete policies as follows:

- (i) Directive No.525/TTg of 2 November 1993 of the Prime Minister on Policies and Methods for Continued Economic and Social Development in Mountainous Areas
- (ii) Decision No.135/1998/QD-TTg of 31 July 1998 of the Prime Minister on approving the program on socio-economic development in mountainous, deep-lying and remote communes with special difficulties (which is referred to as "Program 135").
- (iii) Resolution No.22/NQ-TW of 11 November 2003 of the Party's Politburo on a number of policies for the economic-social development in the mountainous communes.
- (iv) Decision No.07/2006/QD-TTg of 10 January 2006 of the Prime Minister on approving the program on socio-economic development in special difficulty-hit communes in ethnic minority and mountainous areas in the 2006-2010 period (which is referred to as "Program 135 – Phase 2").
- (v) Joint-circular No.676/2006/TTLT-UBDT-KHDT-TC-XD-NNPTNT of 8 August 2006 providing guidelines for assessing commune capacity and decentralization procedures for commune investment owners for the Infrastructure Component under the Socio-economic Development for

Extremely Difficult Communes in the Ethnic Minority and Mountainous Areas in the period of 2006–2010.

14. The third group consists of concrete policies as follows:

- (i) Decision No.327-CT of 15 September 1992 of the Ministers' Council regulating a number of guidelines and policies for the use of are land, denuded hills, forests, alluvial flats, and water bodies (which is referred to as "Program 327").
- (ii) Decision No.163/CP of 16 November 1999 of the Prime Minister on rent and allocation of forest lands to the organizations, households and individuals for the stable & long-term use in the forestry purpose.
- (iii) Decision No.132/2002/QD-TTg of 8 October 2002 of the Prime Minister on the allocation of production and residential land to local ethnic minority people in the Central Highlands.

15. The afore-said policy resolutions were promulgated to aim at creating favourable conditions to the ethnic minority people in sedentarization of farming and settlement and stabilization of production. Improvement of infrastructure for ethnic minority people in the mountainous poor communes has been paid special attention. Besides, these policies have also aimed at improving economic & cultural life, increasing education access and supporting the life of ethnic minority's community.

16. Beside the policy groups in direct relation to the ethnic minorities, two specific Decrees relating to the grassroots democracy and public participation have also been applied in this Ethnic Minority Plan, those are: Decree No.79/2003/ND-CP of 7 July 2003 of the Government on the implementation of democracy in communes, ward and township levels and Decision No.80/2005/QD-TTg of the Prime Minister on promulgating regulations for the investment supervision by the community.

## **2. ADB Policy on Indigenous People**

17. The *ADB Policy on Indigenous Peoples* (1998) focuses on the participation of indigenous peoples in development and avoiding any undesired effects of development. Indigenous or ethnic minority peoples are defined as "*those with a social or cultural identity distinct from the dominant or mainstream society, which makes them vulnerable to being disadvantaged in the processes of development*". The Policy recognizes the potential vulnerability of ethnic minorities in the development process; that ethnic minorities must be afforded opportunities to participate in and benefit from development equally with other segments of society; and, have a role and be able to participate in the design of development interventions that affect them. The impacts of a project on ethnic minorities are considered significant if they positively or negatively:

- (i) affect their customary rights of use and access to land and natural resources;
- (ii) change their socioeconomic status;
- (iii) affect their cultural and communal integrity;
- (iv) affect their health, education, livelihood, and/or social security status; and/or
- (v) alter or undermine the recognition of indigenous knowledge.

18. If the negative impacts of projects and programs are unavoidable, the policy ensures that the effects are mitigated and the affected indigenous peoples are properly compensated and that the necessary assistance and rehabilitation measures to be provided are consistent

with the needs and aspirations of affected people; compatible in substance and structure with affected people's culture and social and economic indicators; conceived, planned and implemented with the informed participation of affected communities; equitable in terms of development efforts and impact; and do not impose the negative effects of development on ethnic minorities without appropriate and acceptable compensation.

19. ADB's Policy on Gender and Development adopts gender mainstreaming as a key strategy for promoting gender equality, and for ensuring that women participate and that their needs are explicitly addressed in the decision-making process. For projects that have the potential to have substantial gender impacts, a gender plan is prepared to identify strategies to address gender concerns and the involvement of women in the design, implementation and monitoring of the project.

### **C. Potential Project Impacts**

20. The positive impact of the Project is improved health and living conditions of the rural people in the Project provinces. The Project contributes to the National Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Strategy up to year 2020, which states that by 2020, 100% of rural population shall (i) have access to clean water, with a minimum volume of 60 liters/capita per day; (ii) use hygienic latrines; and (iii) practice proper personal hygiene. The outcome of this Project will be access to clean water supply and hygienic sanitation for about 500,000 rural people in approximately 30 communes in the 6 priority provinces in the Central Coastal Region of Viet Nam, namely Binh Dinh, Ha Tinh, Nghe An, Quang Binh, Quang Nam and Thanh Hoa.

21. The Project construction, however, may lead to land losses for the local population, and some inhabitants may need to resettle. During the project implementation, there may be some risk factors affecting communities that are used to living a rather isolated life. Project construction may bring in workers from other ethnic and cultural backgrounds staying in the area and influencing the local communities. This may lead to a risk of sexual exploitation of women, risk of STDs and HIV spreading during the project construction period. For water supply and sanitation projects, once a Project is completed but if the used water discharge system from households is not completed or not functional, the problems of hygiene surrounding their living area will continue to occur. In addition, since the water users will have to pay for the tariff, poor ethnic minority households may not be able to afford to pay for the water bills. Further more, the Central Region was the battle field-area before the year of 1975 with many explosive objects still under the ground. The construction work, therefore, is at risk of explosion.

### **D. ADB Policy and the Objectives of the EMDF**

22. ADB policy objectives concerning ethnic minority people are expressed in ADB's *Policy on Indigenous Peoples* (1998) and *Operations Manual on indigenous people* (F3/BP & F3/OP, 25 Sept. 2006). Accordingly, "An IPDF is a policy and procedural framework for IPDPs that are developed for subprojects, components, or investments, and that are to be approved during loan implementation. An IPDF sets out the indigenous peoples policy together with the screening and planning procedures, which apply to subprojects, components, or investments that are to be approved during loan implementation" (Paragraph 9, F3/OP). ADB policy recognizes the potential vulnerability of indigenous people in all development processes and aims to ensure that they have opportunities to participate in and benefit equally from development. The Bank's policy requirement is that development efforts should ensure that initiatives affecting indigenous people are effective and sustainable.

Initiatives should be compatible in substance and structure with the affected people's culture and social and economic institutions, and commensurate with the needs, aspirations and demands of the affected people. Planning of initiatives should take place in informed consent of the affected communities, and include respect for indigenous people's dignity, human rights and cultural uniqueness. ADB notion of indigenous people is basically comparable with the Vietnamese definition of ethnic minorities. The latter term will be used in all the Project documentation to substitute the term indigenous people.

23. The ADB policy requires that each stage of a project will be screened in order to ascertain its impact on ethnic minority people. In project preparation, an Initial Poverty and Social Analysis is required to determine likely affects of the project on ethnic minorities and identify what level of planning is to be needed to address impact during the project preparation. If a project is likely to have significant positive or negative impacts on ethnic minority people, an EMDF and/or EMDP is required to avoid negative impacts and ensure appropriate benefits.

24. According to ADB policy all project interventions affecting ethnic minority people must be: (i) consistent with the needs and aspirations of affected ethnic minority people; (ii) compatible in substance and structure with affected ethnic minority people's culture and social and economic institutions; (iii) conceived, planned, and implemented with the informed participation of affected communities; (iv) equitable in terms of development efforts and impact; and (v) not imposing the negative effects of development on ethnic minority people without appropriate and acceptable compensation.

25. EMDF is applicable for this Central Region Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Project, as ethnic minorities are present in the area they will be major beneficiaries of the Project. EMDF provides a framework for the necessary consultation process and information dissemination for preparation of a specific EMDP for each subproject in the Central Region provinces. The EMDP of each subproject will ensure culturally appropriate implementation of the subproject and proper social and economic benefits for the involved ethnic minority people. It will:

- (i) Ensure that the benefits from the subproject for ethnic minority people are proper and culturally appropriate;
- (ii) Avoid potentially adverse impacts on ethnic minority people; and
- (iii) Minimize, mitigate or compensate for such effects when they cannot be avoided.

26. The EMDP will be connected to the Project's: (i) community based approach to planning and implementation of water and sanitation facilities; (ii) implementation of Information Educational and Communication (IEC) and Behavioural Communication and Education (BCC) activities; (iii) Resettlement and Compensation Plan if a subproject will lead to any relocation or loss of houses, land, or other assets; (iv) HIV/AIDS and Human Trafficking Prevention Program; and (v) Gender Strategy similar to core subproject to ensure women's involvement and the benefit of the Project to women.

## **E. Subproject Selection Criteria and Procedures**

27. In order for sub-projects to be eligible it has to be demonstrated that piped water supply systems with a central water source are most economical in the proposed subprojects, by using the following criteria:

- (i) communes have relatively high population densities, and human and animal waste disposal are likely to contaminate shallow ground water layer;
- (ii) shallow groundwater layers are polluted making the water unfit for consumption, or requiring extensive treatment. Possible pollutants are salinity, fluoride, arsenic, iron;
- (iii) suitable readily accessible drinking water sources are scarce. The shallow groundwater or nearby surface water sources have too little yield in the dry season to sustain the lifeline requirements of the population, leading to drying up of shallow groundwater wells, surface streams and springs.

28. The existence of one or a combination of these situations will justify the exploitation of raw water sourced from deep groundwater layers, or located outside the sub-project area, and of a central water treatment facility.

29. Given that ethnic minority population in the Project Provinces ranges from 2% to 14% and they are not concentrated in one area, the selection criteria for sub-project for EMDP includes more than 50% population from ethnic minority groups. The sub-project with less than 50% ethnic minority population will include ethnic minority specific actions in the sub-project design. Once a long-list of sub-projects has been established the potential subprojects will be prioritized on a short-list based on:

- (i) poverty ratio,
- (ii) ethnic minority ratio ( 50% of the population form ethnic minority),
- (iii) Rural Water Supply and Sanitation (RWSS) coverage ratios,
- (iv) per capita investment costs<sup>1</sup>, and
- (v) readiness for implementation.

### **1. Approval of Sub-projects**

30. Following the preparation of the short-list, the final approval of sub-project will be based on a subproject appraisal report that includes (i) a feasibility study; (ii) full social impact assessment; (iii) required safeguard documents on environment, resettlement and ethnic minorities; (iv) a CBA-IEC plan; and (v) a baseline survey covering socio-economic, health, and water supply and sanitation coverage data. These documents will be prepared by the PPMUs with the assistance of the consultants. The PMCU and ADB will approve the sub-project.

31. The CBA-IEC plan will include:

- (i) demonstrated commitment of the community to the Project;
- (ii) agreement on service and tariff levels;
- (iii) an agreed community participation strategy, including benchmarks and timelines.

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<sup>1</sup> Lower the per capita investment costs will allow for a higher number of beneficiaries.

## **F. Strategy for Ethnic Minority Participation**

### **1. Project Principles for Ethnic Minority Development**

32. The principles to guarantee that the project implementation will have positive development effects for involved ethnic minority communities include:

- (i) Social and poverty analysis and social impact assessment on each planned subproject;
- (ii) Participatory strategy for social, poverty and gender analysis;
- (iii) Participation of ethnic minorities in all project activities is encouraged to guarantee that they will benefit from the project in a culturally appropriate way;
- (iv) Negative impacts on ethnic minority people should be avoided or minimized by investigating all alternative viable options for project implementation;
- (v) Preparation of resettlement and compensation plans to address negative impact of loss of land and asset;
- (vi) Preparation of EMDPs that will be carried out with full participation of the ethnic minority people involved in each subproject; and
- (vii) Schedule, budget and institutional responsibilities for EMDPs implementation will be included in each subproject plan.

### **2. Principles for Ensuring Participation of the Affected Ethnic Minority People**

33. For subproject specific planning and preparation of EMDP under the Central Region Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Project, all the ethnic minority people and different ethnic minority groups in the project areas will be identified. The major project beneficiaries will be recognized, and the scope of the project impacts on each ethnic minority group defined. Both the anticipated opportunities for improving living standards and livelihoods and reducing poverty, and the potential risks for ethnic minority people will be properly assessed. Environmentally sensitive issues like flooding, stagnation of waste water and utilization, sanitation situation will be identified and measures will be included to address these issues in project implementation.

34. Ethnic minority people, the respective village leaders, ethnic minority representatives from Women's Union and Mass Organizations in the project area will be consulted in their own ethnic language and in a culturally proper manner and at a level that is understandable for them. They will be given adequate information of the project activities, its design, expected positive and negative impacts, implementation schedule and activities and scope of ethnic minority peoples' participation in the project activities, in order to ensure proper understanding and make it possible for ethnic minority people to participate and benefit from the project.

35. Ethnic minority people's opinions, needs and aspirations will be made clear and recorded during the consultation process, and be brought into the project implementation plan and into preparing the EMDP.

### **3. Preparation of Subproject Specific EMDP**

36. An EMDP will be prepared for each subproject and an acceptable EMDP should address:

- (i) Aspirations, needs, and preferred options of the affected ethnic minority people (men and women) in designing water and sanitation facilities at the community level;
- (ii) Local social organization, cultural beliefs, sanitation and hygiene practice and resource use patterns among the affected ethnic minority people;
- (iii) Potential positive and negative impacts on ethnic minority people (men and women);
- (iv) Measures to avoid, mitigate, or compensate for the adverse project effects;
- (v) Measures to ensure project benefits will accrue to the ethnic minority people;
- (vi) Measures to ensure Project benefit will accrue to women and children;
- (vii) Measures to strengthen social, legal, and technical capabilities of government institutions to address ethnic minority issues;
- (viii) Measures to involve Women's Union, Mass Organizations, and Village Leaders in the Commune level Water and sanitation committee;
- (ix) Measures to implement IEC and BCC campaign using ethnic minority cultural media;
- (x) Budget allocation; and
- (xi) Monitoring.

37. The subproject specific EMDP for each subproject involving ethnic minorities more than 50% of the population will accordingly assess these issues, based on the project EMDF. The draft EMDP will be submitted to ADB for review and approval.

38. The Social Impact Assessment (SIA) including Social, Gender and Poverty Analysis that will be conducted during the subproject feasibility study, will deliver a Summary Social Analysis with special attention to social organization, cultural habits, and land and resource use among the affected ethnic minority people. It will also justify the purpose of the subproject specific EMDP. The SIA will assess all the potential and expected positive and negative impacts on ethnic minorities, suggest measures to avoid, mitigate and compensate the negative impacts and measures to ensure the benefits for all ethnic minority people involved in the project. Subproject specific plans and actions will be prepared according to the project Social, Gender and Poverty Analysis. *Community Based Approach to planning and implementing water and sanitation facilities, implementation of IEC and BCC and Gender Strategy* will be included in the sub-project. Subproject specific *Resettlement and Compensation Plan* will also be prepared as relevant.

#### **4. Consultation and Participation Strategy**

39. All project activities that will potentially impact on ethnic minority people will be consulted with them in all project phases. The participation of ethnic minority people will be ensured through Project's community based approach to planning and implementation to water and sanitation facilities, community mobilization and IEC and BCC activities. The Provincial Project Management Units (PPMU) will be responsible for ensuring community participation through Commune level Water and Sanitation Committee, Women's Union and Village Promoters. It is crucial to invite all villagers to the meetings, and conduct separate meetings with and vulnerable households to get their perspective on the project activities.

40. Many ethnic minority people in remote communes, especially women, are not fluent in the Vietnamese language and their reading skills are limited. It is therefore important that all information and communication with ethnic minority people will take place in their own ethnic language and in a way and at a level that will enable low educated ethnic minority people to

understand the content. All information and communication with ethnic minority people has to take place using participatory methodology and with emphasis on pictorial instead of written information.

41. The PPMIU will set up regular meetings with the Commune Committee, Women's Union, Village Leaders, local community to ensure that all the involved people have full awareness and understanding about the project content. The aim of the consultations is that all the ethnic minority people who are expected to be affected by the project will be properly and timely informed about the project, its scope, implementation schedule and activities, as well as of expected impacts on the local community. These meetings will be regular and scheduled to follow set milestones throughout the project phases. The PPMU will coordinate with province level Ethnic Minority Office or the district level officials dealing with local ethnic minority issues in order to ensure that all concerns, conflicts and grievances can be expressed and assessed in a timely manner.

## **5. Potential Negative Impacts of the Project and their Mitigation**

42. If the subproject implementation will lead to land losses, loss of assets, and/or relocation, the affected people have to receive timely information about the planned procedures. The PPMU will provide the affected people with assistance to fully understand their rights to compensation and grievances, as well as of the compensation and grievances procedures.

43. Technical design of the Project, particularly the route of the water-pipe and the drainage system shall be consulted with local people. Technical focus should be taken to the water discharge system from households to ensure that used-water is not concentrated and contaminated the residential areas.

44. Local people will contribute labour for Project constructions. Central Region Provinces were the battle-field before the year 1975 and there are many explosive objectives are still under the ground. Mine clearance must be carried out before construction work.

45. To counter any risk of HIV/AIDS or STDs, abuse of Ca-Tu ethnic minority girls by construction laborers during the project construction, a prevention of HIV and human trafficking program will be included in the construction contractor's contract. The construction laborers, women and men from the ethnic minority villages will be targeted for this program.

## **6. Mechanism for Grievances and Conflict Resolution**

46. One of the aims of the consultation process and regular meetings is to minimize incidences of dissatisfaction among the project-affected people. Local stakeholders' opinions and concerns will be part of the project planning and implementation. The participatory approach will encourage people to raise any concerns before conflicts may appear. However, if any beneficiaries of the project are not satisfied with deliveries or compensation received or any other issue, village leaders will make a grievance to the PPMU. The complaint will be assessed and negotiated into a solution between the PPMU and local authorities. However, if the conflict is not solved amicably, it will be taken to the Executing Agency (EA) under the MARD.

## **7. Disclosure**

47. It is crucial that all communication concerning the Project with ethnic minority people will take place at an appropriate manner. Information will be delivered in their own ethnic language and in a culturally proper way. Among ethnic minorities many people, especially elder persons and women, are not fully literate and their knowledge in the Vietnamese language is limited. Therefore public meetings will be arranged in villages, using participatory methodology and ethnic minority language. Information will be posted in a central public location like in the village leader's house in each village and be mostly pictorial in order to guarantee accessibility of the information for ethnic minority people with poor literacy skills.

48. Local people's opinions will be recorded in an appropriate way through minutes from the village meetings. Notes also will be taken from all regular meetings between PPMU and village leaders or village representatives chosen at village meetings. All the concerns from involved people will be recorded this way and brought into the project planning and for making necessary adjustments in the activities throughout the project phases whenever needed. Any concerns or claims brought up in village meetings or other consultations will be recorded in the same way. EMDP will be disclosed at district level in a public meeting including all relevant stakeholders. The EMDPs will be web-posted as part of ADB's Public Communication Policy.

## **G. Institutional Arrangements**

49. The PPMU will be responsible for the implementation of the EMDP and monitoring that all the activities throughout the Project are taking place in a culturally appropriate way for the involved ethnic minority people. The PPMU will have to set up routines for regular dialogue and meetings with the Commune level Water and Sanitation Committee, local authorities and traditional village leaders representing the villagers. Tay Giang District People's Committee and A Tieng Commune People's Committee will cooperate and monitor the EMDP implementation of the PPMU. In coordination with PPMU and Commune level Water and Sanitation Committee, the Mass organisations, particularly Women Union will play an active role in implementing and monitoring of the EMDP. Quang Nam Provincial Department of Ethnicity and Tay Giang district officials with responsibility for ethnic minority issues will also monitor the implementation of EMDP and will provide feedback to PPMU.

## **H. Budget and Financing**

50. A cost estimate for implementation of each Ethnic Minority Development Plan (EMDP) will be integrated into the project budget with potential land acquisition, resettlement and compensation costs, external monitoring and ethnic minority consultant.

## **I. Monitoring and Evaluation**

51. The goal of the EMDP is to ensure that: (i) the Project will benefit the involved ethnic minority communities, (ii) negative impacts are avoided to the greatest extent possible, and (iii) when negative impacts are unavoidable, these are mitigated and compensated properly. The impacts of each subproject on ethnic minorities will be documented using community-based participatory monitoring approach. The subproject specific EMDP will identify and include specific indicators for monitoring the impacts of the project on involved ethnic minority

people. It will be the responsibility of each PPMU to set up routines for internal supervision and monitoring of activities against the set goals during the project implementation in order to monitor the success of the project in reaching the set goals after the project implementation.

52. Added to the internal monitoring, an external monitoring and evaluation will be conducted by an independent consultant specialized in ethnic minority and rural water and sanitation programs.

53. An independent body will be engaged for doing external monitoring of the Project. The external monitoring will evaluate the Project impacts also by comparing the development in the Project communes with a non-electrified reference commune. A baseline social assessment will be conducted in such a commune for comparison and followed parallel with the monitoring of the Project communes.

#### **J. Implementation Arrangements**

54. The Executing Agency will be responsible for preparation of EMDP. The budget for preparation of EMDP will be included in the implementation Consulting Service budget.