

PROJECT INFORMATION

The information given hereunder is intended to provide suppliers, contractors, consultants and other interested persons with general information concerning the Project. Detailed information may be obtained from the Executing Agency indicated below. The particulars given with respect to "consultants" and "procurement" are based on present project planning and may change in the course of project implementation as the circumstances require.

Project: Emergency Baipaza Landslide Stabilization Project

Borrower: The Republic of Tajikistan

Project Description: The Baipaza landslide in southern Tajikistan blocked the Vakhsh River following an earthquake on 3 March 2002. This earthquake had its epicenter in neighboring Afghanistan with a recorded magnitude of 7.4 on the Richter scale. Initially, the landslide blocked the narrow waterway of the Vakhsh River approximately 5 km downstream of the Baipaza Hydro Power Station (BHPS) in Khatlon Region, southern Tajikistan. As a consequence, the water level rose by about 7 meters (m), threatening to flood the BHPS. Also, generation of power and supply of water for irrigation was disrupted. The Government took the immediate measure of blasting the landslide materials from the river to avoid flooding the BHPS. Since the first movement of 3 March, the landslide has been moving at speeds varying between a few millimeters to 1 centimeter a day. There is an imminent danger that sudden movement of the landslide will completely block the river thus submerging the BHPS. The Project aims to restore reliable water flows and initiate disaster prevention measures by (i) minimizing the occurrence and the magnitude of the landslide, (ii) mitigating its impact on the flow of the Vaskhsh River and its blockage, and (iii) studying a long-term solution.

Cost Estimates: The Project is estimated to cost \$6.65 million equivalent, of which \$2.40 million (36%) is the foreign exchange cost and \$4.25 million equivalent (64%) the local currency cost. The cost estimate includes physical and price contingencies, and \$0.7 million equivalent for taxes and duties.

Financing Plan:

Source	(\$ million)			
	Foreign Exchange	Local Currency	Total	%
Asian Development Bank	2.40	2.92	5.32	80
Government	0.00	1.33	1.33	20
Total	2.40	4.25	6.65	100

Loan Amount and Terms:

The loan of SDR 4,001,000 (\$5.32 million equivalent) will be provided from the Special Funds resources of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and will have a term of 32 years with a grace period of 8 years, and an interest charge of 1.0% per year during the grace period, and 1.5% thereafter.

Period of Utilization:

31 May 2004

Estimated Project Completion Date:

20 November 2003

Executing Agency:

Ministry of Energy

Implementation Arrangements:

The Implementing Agency will be Barki Tajik, a state-owned electricity utility. The project implementation unit (PIU), which has been established within Barki Tajik, will be responsible for the overall project management, including (i) recruitment and supervision of domestic consultants, (ii) supervision of implementation and quality control of the project works, (iii) monitoring and evaluation of project progress and impacts, and (iv) preparation of reports and communications with ADB. The PIU is staffed by local experts supported by domestic consultants. Provision has also been made for an international consultant to provide assistance and training in the design and execution of the emergency works.

Procurement:

The Project will finance civil works, materials, machinery and equipment, and technical assistance. Procurement will be in accordance with the ADB's *Guidelines for Procurement*. Mainly force account and local competitive bidding will be used for civil works, with some minor works to be awarded on direct selection basis, taking into account the urgency of such works and the small amount of each contract. Purchase of equipment will be based on international shopping procedures. Advance procurement action has been approved, with retroactive financing from 14 April 2002 up to a ceiling of \$800,000 equivalent.

Consulting Services:

Part A: A total of 61 person-months of individual domestic consulting services will be required to help implement emergency works and procurement. Qualified and experienced domestic consultants are available for these engineering and construction works, and will be responsible for survey investigations, detailed design, preparation of bidding documents, assistance during the bidding period, bid evaluation and contract negotiation, work supervision, quality control, and environmental monitoring and evaluation. A further 4 person-months of individual international consultant services has been allocated to assist with design, construction supervision, and procurement of emergency works in the early stages of implementation.

Part B: The services of 9 person-months of international and 33 person-months of domestic consultants are required to prepare a feasibility study for a long-term solution and confirm the most cost-effective solution for maintaining reliable flow of water in the Vakhsh River. The consultants will be selected and engaged through a consulting firm under the quality-and-cost-based selection method in accordance with the ADB's *Guidelines on the Use of Consultants*.

Project Benefits and Beneficiaries:

The project components are designed to reduce the risk that the landslide will block the flow through the Vakhsh River. Beneficiaries of the project will include electricity consumers and industrial, agricultural, and potable water users downstream. The potential losses that the Project aims to avoid are estimated as follows: (i) \$20 million for the repair of the BHPS and about \$40 million in lost power generation, (ii) loss of production of the aluminum smelter plant, (iii) significant lost agricultural production from 173,000 hectares (ha) of irrigated land, and, (iv) loss of potable water supply to around 650,000 people living in nine regions dependent on the Vakhsh River flow.
