ADB ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Uzbekistan: Rural Basic Education Project

Project Name	Rural Basic Education Project
Project Number	40049-013
Country	Uzbekistan
Project Status	Closed
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Loan
Source of Funding / Amount	**Loan 2380-UZB: Rural Basic Education Project** Asian Development Fund — US$ 30.00 million
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development
Sector / Subsector	**Education** - Secondary
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Gender equity
Description	The justification for funding basic education in rural areas rests on inequities in the provision of quality education services. A comprehensive school survey revealed clear disparities between rural and urban schools. Across the country, schools in rural communities that are remote from provincial and district centers are disadvantaged in almost every aspect in relation to the quality of school facilities, as well as availability of learning and teaching inputs. About 80% of Uzbekistan s 9,773 basic schools are located in rural areas. The vast majority of rural basic schools are considered in very poor condition requiring emergency repairs and major rehabilitation works. Common defects were leaking roofs, water infiltration to the building structures, damaged windows and doors, defective floors, malfunctioning sanitary and plumbing facilities, broken heating systems, and leaking water supply system. Most classroom furniture is also in very poor condition. About 70% of schools had no science laboratory equipment and lack modern teaching aids and learning materials. Teaching techniques and subject knowledge of many teachers particularly in rural schools are inadequate and outdated. Most teachers still apply traditional teaching methods, devoting attention mostly to narrow subject knowledge, requiring students to memorize and repeat notions and definitions. Critical thinking, problem solving, communication skills and teamwork do not receive sufficient attention. Although training programs for teachers have been revised gradually, the current in-service training system needs to become more flexible to adjust to specific subject related requirements of teachers in rural school, who work under difficult circumstances. To address the issues in rural schools, the Government launched the National Program for Basic Education Development (NPBED) 2004 2009, which aims to strengthen basic education to meet international standards and remove disparities. The investment costs of the NPBED, are estimated at $1.2 billion, to be financed by a combination of 75% budget financing, 20% foreign investment financing, and 5% local donor contributions. Major investments include school construction and rehabilitation, and significant salary increases for teachers. It is proposed that the Asian Development Bank (ADB) intervention will complement Government s NPBED and focus on improving the relevance and quality of basic education in rural areas. Other ongoing ADB interventions in the education sector provide assistance in addressing issues related to (i) policy planning, governance and management; (ii) curriculum modernization and textbook development; and (iii) improving teaching and learning through information and communication technology (ICT). The impact of the Project will be improved opportunities for graduates from rural basic schools to progress to higher levels of education. The Project outcome will be improved equitable access to and enhanced quality and relevance of basic education in rural areas in three project oblasts. The expected outcome will be achieved by (i) upgrading of school facilities, (ii) enhancing the capacity of teacher training institutions and raion education departments to strengthen teaching in rural schools, and (iii) increasing community participation in school life.
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	In accordance with the Government's development strategy, the Project is included in the country strategy and program (CSP) update 2006-2008.

Impact	Improved opportunities for children in rural areas to progress to higher levels of education.

Project Outcome	
Description of Outcome	Improved equal access to, and enhanced quality and relevance of, basic education in rural areas in three project oblasts
Progress Toward Outcome	To be evaluated at PCR stage.
Implementation Progress	
Description of Project Outputs	Schools in rural areas upgraded In-service training for teachers in three project oblasts improved. Community participation in rural schools is strengthened
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)	A review mission visited Uzbekistan 15-17 June 2011 and agreed with the government to close the project on July 31 2011. Government of Uzbekistan wrote to the ADB on 29 June 2011, requesting for closure of the project and cancellation of the undisursed balances under the loan. The project accounts for Jan-July 2011 were audited in August 2011. The undisbursed balance in the project imprest account is being reimbursed to ADB accounts. PCR of the project is schedule to be completed before 31 December 2011. The borrower's PCR has been received for ADB review and the PCR mission is scheduled from 10-21 October 2011.
Geographical Location	Uzbekistan

Safeguard Categories	
Environment	C
Involuntary Resettlement	C
Indigenous Peoples	B

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects
Environmental Aspects
Involuntary Resettlement
Indigenous Peoples

Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation	
During Project Design	MOPE and Ministry of Finance.
During Project Implementation	MOPE (EA), Ministry of Finance, Mahalla committees and oblast administrations of the 3 oblast regions. They are all members of the project steering committee.

Business Opportunities	
Consulting Services	A total of 26 person-months of international and 85 person-months of national consulting services will be contracted, financed by ADB funds. International and national consultants financed from ADB funds will be recruited as a firm under quality and cost-based selection methods, using full technical proposals. The Government has agreed to recruit individual national consultants for the PIU in accordance with ADB's procedures for recruiting individual consultants. Consulting services under the three components will include experts in the field of (i) teacher development, and (ii) community participation. In addition, the Project provides budget for engaging national training providers and a national media firm.
Procurement	All ADB financed goods, and related services will be procured in accordance with ADB's Procurement Guidelines. The Project will provide laboratory equipment, teaching aides, classroom furniture, and learning materials. Equipment and goods estimated to cost more than $500,000 will be procured under international competitive bidding procedures. Equipment and materials estimated to cost $500,000 or less will be procured under Government procedures acceptable to ADB. Learning materials and other equipment and materials valued at $100,000 or less will be procured by shopping.

Responsible ADB Officer	Asadullah Sumbal
Responsible ADB Department	Central and West Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Public Management, Financial Sector and Trade Division, CWRD
Executing Agencies	*Ministry of Public Education* *Mr. Bahtiyor Kh. Daniyarov* *Republic of Uzbekistan*

Timetable	
Concept Clearance	27 Oct 2005
Fact Finding	01 May 2007 to 28 May 2007
MRM	18 Oct 2007
Approval	06 Dec 2007
Last Review Mission	-
PDS Creation Date	06 Jun 2006
Last PDS Update	02 Sep 2011

Loan 2380-UZB

Milestones					
Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing		
			Original	Revised	Actual
06 Dec 2007	10 Jun 2008	30 Sep 2008	30 Jun 2012	-	24 Oct 2011

Financing Plan		Loan Utilization			
	Total (Amount in US$ million)	Date	ADB	Others	Net Percentage
Project Cost	43.00	Cumulative Contract Awards			
ADB	30.00	06 Dec 2007	7.40	0.00	100%
Counterpart	13.00	Cumulative Disbursements			
Cofinancing	0.00	06 Dec 2007	7.40	0.00	100%

Status of Covenants						
Category	Sector	Safeguards	Social	Financial	Economic	Others
Rating	Partly satisfactory	-	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	-	Partly satisfactory

Project Page	http://www.adb.org/projects/40049-013/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=40049-013
Date Generated	15 February 2016

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