Tajikistan: CAREC Corridor 3 (Dushanbe-Uzbekistan Border) Improvement Project

Project Name | CAREC Corridor 3 (Dushanbe-Uzbekistan Border) Improvement Project
---|---
Project Number | 42052-022
Country / Economy | Tajikistan
Project Status | Closed
Project Type / Modality of Assistance | Grant
Source of Funding / Amount | Grant 0245-TAJ: CAREC Corridor 3 (Dushanbe-Uzbekistan Border) Improvement Project
Asian Development Fund | US$ 120.00 million

Strategic Agendas
- Inclusive economic growth
- Regional integration

Drivers of Change
- Gender Equity and Mainstreaming
- Governance and capacity development
- Private sector development

Sector / Subsector | Transport / Road transport (non-urban)

Gender | Effective gender mainstreaming

Description
CAREC Corridor 3 covers almost 7,000 km of roads and runs across Central Asia in the north-south direction, linking the Russian Federation to the Persian Gulf. The corridor serves as a main conduit for regional and international trade. The project will complete the corridor’s missing link in Tajikistan’s territory - the section from Dushanbe to the Uzbekistan border. This will help further reduce transport cost and travel time, and increase regional and transit trade.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy
The project is part of the government’s 2010-2011 Public Investment Program and fits with the ADB country partnership strategy for Tajikistan 2010-2014. It is also an integral part of the CAREC transport and trade facilitation strategy and action plan, 2008-2018. The regional dimension is now fully embedded in national planning in Tajikistan. The road is part of the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Corridor 3 that spans almost 7,000 km from the Russian Federation in the north to the Persian Gulf in the south. The 62-km highway passes through the Gissar Valley and the town of Tursunzade, two major economic areas in Tajikistan. Gissar Valley has the largest agricultural output in the country, producing cotton, grain, fruits, and vegetables. Tursunzade is home to Central Asia’s largest aluminum processing plant and several small light industry clusters. Tajikistan depends on this road corridor for investment, job creation, trade and ultimately economic growth and poverty reduction.

Impact
Increased national and regional trade, and further economic growth.

Project Outcome
- Improved connectivity and mobility along the Tajikistan sections of CAREC Corridor 3

Description of Outcome
Improved connectivity and mobility along the Tajikistan sections of CAREC Corridor 3

Description of Project Outputs
1. Reconstructed and upgraded Dushanbe-Tursunzade-Uzbekistan border road sections of CAREC Corridor 3
2. Improved infrastructure and facilities at the Dusti border crossing point
3. Gender and border communities developed
4. Improved road operations
5. Due diligence report for the ensuing Project

Implementation Progress
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)
The international road maintenance specialist commenced the work on 2 September 2013. The improvement of MOT website to include information such as current and planned projects, road transport conditions has been completed in June 2015. A national web designer was engaged on 1 September 2013 to revise and upgrade MOT website. The contract management specialist was mobilized in December 2013. The final report on improving contracting modalities, contract processing, and contract performance monitoring has been submitted to MOT in August 2014. Consultants were recruited for implementing the gender action plan (1 national consultant and 2 NGOs). 139 recipients have been selected to receive grants which were distributed before the grant closing date in Mar 2016. These female entrepreneurs received required training and funds for investing in their chosen businesses. The EA will continue monitoring proper usage of grant funds by beneficiary female entrepreneurs.

Geographical Location
Nation-wide, Dushanbe, Dushanbe, Nohiyai Hisor, Nohiyai Rudaki, Shahrinaw District, Tursunzoda, Tursunzoda District

Safeguard Categories
- Environment: A
- Involuntary Resettlement: A
- Indigenous Peoples: C
Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects
The project includes the road widening section from the West Gate to Tursunzade (km 5–km 50). The project does not pass through any environmentally sensitive areas. The project executing agency prepared an environmental impact assessment, which ADB disclosed on its website. Significant impacts associated with the project are typical of a road project which includes traffic disruption, traffic noise, vibration, and air quality. Mitigation measures for all impacts are included in, and will be implemented through, the environmental management plan. The design features an improved road surface, which will lessen traffic noise and limit progressive degradation.

Involuntary Resettlement
Civil works will entail significant land acquisition and involuntary resettlement impact with about 376 households to be affected because of the road widening. The project executing agency prepared a land acquisition and resettlement plan, which ADB disclosed on its website. The project executing agency will be responsible for meeting all ADB safeguards requirements. ADB will directly select an external reviewer to monitor resettlement and compensation progress, and provide training on safeguards to mitigate potential risks.

Indigenous Peoples
The project affects neither indigenous peoples nor vulnerable groups.

Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation
During Project Design
Farmers, entrepreneurs and traders, workers, local communities, central and local governments, nongovernment organizations (NGOs), personnel of public enterprises and state institutions (particularly the aluminum plant), unemployed, pensioners, and others associated with the proposed project area. In addition, President’s office; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, Investment and Trade; Customs Service Department; Land Committee; Environmental Committee; District Architect; District Committee on Women and Family Affairs; Divisional Roads Office. EBRD, JICA, OSCE, UNODP, USAID, IsDB, Embassy of PRC, and the World Bank were consulted to build multi-stakeholder coalition for the project. All developing partners agree with the importance of the Project.

During Project Implementation
Local communities, project affected persons, central and local governments, nongovernment organizations, and others associated with the proposed project area are being consulted as needed from time to time.

Business Opportunities
Consulting Services
A suitably qualified international project management consultants will be recruited through international competition

Procurement
Two major procurement packages are envisaged for the civil works and one procurement package for goods and equipment. International competitive bidding will be conducted.

Responsible ADB Officer
Samukhin, Oleg

Responsible ADB Department
Central and West Asia Department

Responsible ADB Division
Transport and Communications Division, CWRD

Executing Agencies
Ministry of Transport

Timetable

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Grant 0245-TAJ

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Financing Plan

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Project Page
https://www.adb.org//projects/42052-022/main

Request for Information
http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=42052-022
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