



# Bangladesh: Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Investment Program

Project Name	Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Investment Program		
Project Number	44167-013		
Country / Economy	Bangladesh		
Project Status	Active		
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Grant Loan		
Source of Funding / Amount	MFF Facility Concept 0082-BAN: Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Investment Program		
	Government of the Netherlands		US\$ 15.30 million
	MFF Facility Concept 0082-BAN: Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Investment Program		
	Asian Development Fund		US\$ 255.00 million
	MFF Facility Concept 0082-BAN: Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Investment Program		
	Government of the Netherlands		US\$ 17.89 million
Strategic Agendas	Environmentally sustainable growth Inclusive economic growth		
Drivers of Change	Gender Equity and Mainstreaming Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Partnerships		
Sector / Subsector	Agriculture, natural resources and rural development /		
Gender	Effective gender mainstreaming		
Description	ADB is assisting the Government of Bangladesh to improve the livelihoods of people in the country's most flood and erosion prone areas along the Jamuna, Ganges and Padma rivers. The Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Investment Program is in line with the plans of the government to strategically manage flood and riverbank erosion risks along the country's main rivers to reduce damages to people's assets and to lessen constraint to economic development. It will reduce flood and riverbank erosion risks in priority erosion reaches through structural and nonstructural interventions, and institutional and knowledge-based strengthening. It will implement three subprojects comprising climate-resilient flood embankments protecting critical riparian productive areas in central Bangladesh and capacity building initiatives. It will extend successful riverbank protection technologies of the ADB-financed Jamuna-Meghna River Erosion Mitigation Project to other areas, with necessary improvements. Also, the program supports the national-level institutional capacity strengthening for more strategic planning and implementation of flood and erosion risk management. The program was designed to be implemented over 9 years and financed in three tranches. However, at the government's request, the originally envisaged Tranches 2 and 3 of the MFF have been combined into a single and final tranche (Tranche 2) during the processing of the Tranche 2 project (Project 2) in 2021. Tranche 2 is a continuation of the works carried out under Tranche 1 and builds upon the achievements of Tranche 1.		
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	People in Bangladesh are often affected by water-related natural disasters, including floods, riverbank erosion, drought, cyclones, and tidal surges. About a fifth of the country is inundated annually. This is due largely to the location of the country on a vast flat floodplain at the confluence of three main rivers, the Jamuna (and Padma), the Ganges, and the Meghna. Riverbank erosion is one of the most prominent disasters in Bangladesh, caused by highly dynamic river morphology. It causes the loss of about 5,000 to 6,000 hectares of floodplain every year, affecting about 100,000 people. The high possibility of riverbank erosion hinders construction and rehabilitation of flood embankments. The threat of frequent flood and erosion disasters discourages investment and leads to low economic growth of riverine areas. The poor who tend to live in vulnerable riverine lands face significant social hardship. They lose their homesteads, lands, and crops, and are forced to move to other vulnerable riverine lands or urban slums. Improved infrastructure and flood and erosion risk management is essential for economic growth, livelihood improvement and poverty reduction in the areas affected by flooding and riverbank erosion.		
Impact	improved livelihoods in the project area.		
Project Outcome			
Description of Outcome	reduced flood and riverbank erosion risks in the subproject areas.		
Progress Toward Outcome	Tranche 1 is completed and financially closed on 24 October 2021.		
Implementation Progress			
Description of Project Outputs	Flood and riverbank erosion risk mitigation functioning at priority reaches Strengthened institutional systems for flood and riverbank erosion risk management, and Operational program management systems		

Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)	<p>Under Tranche 1 project, 18 km of riverbank protection works have been completed by applying innovative and cost-effective approaches for riverbank erosion management, including progressive knowledge development and a pilot of new wave protection technology with jute along 4 km of embankment and riverbank slopes. The newly built infrastructure has performed well since completion.</p> <p>The reduced scope for Tranche 2 project anticipates 30 km of riverbank protection works.</p> <p>Total revised target for the investment program is anticipated to be 48 km (instead of 60 km).</p> <p>Under Tranche 1 project, the flood embankment length had to be reduced from 23 km to 21 km due to funds constraint.</p> <p>The reduced scope for Tranche 2 project anticipates 8 km of climate-resilient flood embankment.</p> <p>Total revised target for the investment program is anticipated to be 29 km (instead of 89 km).</p> <p>Under Tranche 1 project, pavement works of 5 km of road have been excluded from the flood embankment packages due to potential cost overrun.</p> <p>Paved roads on the embankments will not be financed under the MFF as other government agencies are anticipated to undertake this work with their own funds in the foreseeable future.</p> <p>Under Tranche 1 project, 7 regulators and other hydraulic structures were originally planned, but were re-organized into a large structure during detailed design; 4 structures were constructed.</p> <p>The reduced scope for Tranche 2 project anticipates that 2 regulators with fish passes will be built.</p> <p>Under Tranche 1 project, 40 community-based disaster management units (CDMUs) have been successfully created in 40 villages, out of which 14 are led by women (i.e. 35%).</p> <p>The remaining 160 CDMUs with a minimum of 35% of units led by women will be created and made operational under Tranche 2 project.</p> <p>Recruitment of livelihood NGO has been deferred to Tranche 2 project due to funds shortage. This activity is planned under Tranche 2 project with increased target of 14 community groups.</p> <p>Under Tranche 1 project, databases for the management information system (MIS) for flood and riverbank erosion with sex-disaggregated data have been outlined. A comprehensive module based on further development of 2 existing databases is planned under Tranche 2 project.</p> <p>Due to funds constraint under Tranche 1 project, the community-based operations and maintenance (O&amp;M) activities have been deferred to Tranche 2 project. However, a comprehensive plan has been developed and submitted in 2020 under Tranche 1 project and is being updated under Tranche 2 project.</p> <p>Under Tranche 1 project, a long-term strategic plan for stabilization of main rivers of Central Bangladesh has been developed and endorsed by the Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) in 2020.</p> <p>Under Tranche 1 project, pilot studies were conducted for a new morphological short-term erosion prediction model and river survey data collected as a base to then update the Guidelines for the Erosion Protection under Tranche 2 project. Also, papers on projects lessons learned such as launching geotextile sand-filled bags, morphological processes, and grout-filled jute mattresses have been published and presented at international conferences.</p> <p>Further publications and presentations are planned under Tranche 2 project.</p> <p>Under Tranche 1 project, the project website has been developed and is operational. Establishment of the link to the BWDB's webpage and further expansion are planned under Tranche 2 project.</p> <p>The loan closing date of Tranche 1 project has been extended twice at the request of the government: (i) from 30 June 2019 to 30 June 2020 to make up for delays due to land acquisition; and (ii) from 30 June 2020 to 31 March 2021 to enable works to be completed while managing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. All works were completed in June 2020.</p> <p>Due to currency fluctuations, the US Dollar equivalent of the loan decreased to \$58.2 million, resulting in a few activities being deferred to Tranche 2 project, such as (i) livelihood development support; (ii) community capacity development support for participatory operation and maintenance; (iii) information system development; (iv) environment management and risk mitigation programs; and (v) construction of 8 km of flood embankment.</p> <p>Tranche 2 activities are ongoing.</p>
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Geographical Location	
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Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects	
Environmental Aspects	A
Involuntary Resettlement	A
Indigenous Peoples	The first and second tranches are categorized C for indigenous peoples. There are no indigenous peoples as defined for operational purposes by ADB Safeguard Policy Statement (2009) in any of the identified subproject areas of the first tranche and subsequent tranches under the investment program. As the subsequent tranches will also be categorized C, an indigenous peoples planning framework for the investment program was not prepared.

Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation	
During Project Design	The stakeholder communication strategy has been built into the design of the investment program, including the resettlement plans and the gender action plan, while no separate stakeholder communication strategy has been established. A key part of the project implementation strategy is focusing on information sharing and consultation that guide communications with stakeholders during project implementation. Such information sharing helps to build consensus and ensures continuous stakeholder support throughout the investment program implementation. Various groups of stakeholders were consulted at different stages of the investment program design. This included consultation for identifying needs, discussing possible solutions, and describing the proposed design.
During Project Implementation	The communication activities include door-to-door awareness campaigns, public meetings, publicity programs with educational institutes, etc. Stakeholder consultations were initiated during Tranche 1 project and Tranche 2 project preparation, with affected households, local representatives and other stakeholders. Socio-economic surveys were also conducted before finalizing the designs. After finalizing the designs, the proposed interventions were explained at each proposed subproject site. This close communication with local stakeholders will be maintained throughout the implementation stage. Local communities participate in project implementation through: (i) formulation of community-based disaster management committees, (ii) community capacity development activities for community-based flood and erosion disaster risk management and participatory regular O&M, and (iii) livelihood support activities. NGOs will be engaged for the implementation of these activities that involve community mobilization and participation. A significant number of local residents also participate in civil works for erosion protection and flood embankments as labor.

Business Opportunities	
Consulting Services	For Tranche 1, all procurement of goods and works were undertaken in accordance with ADB's Procurement Guidelines (2015). For Tranche 2, all procurement of goods and works will be undertaken in accordance with ADB's Procurement Regulations for ADB Borrowers: Goods, Works, Nonconsulting and Consulting Services (2017, as amended from time to time).
Procurement	For Tranche 1, all consultants, NGOs, and other institutions were recruited according to ADB's Guidelines on the Use of Consultants (2013). For Tranche 2, all procurement of consulting services are being undertaken in accordance with ADB's Procurement Regulations for ADB Borrowers: Goods, Works, Nonconsulting and Consulting Services (2017, as amended from time to time).

Responsible ADB Officer	Drieu, Olivier
Responsible ADB Department	Sectors Group
Responsible ADB Division	Human and Social Development Sector Office (SG-HSD)

Timetable	
Concept Clearance	21 Feb 2012
Fact Finding	17 Jul 2013 to 01 Aug 2013

MRM	08 Apr 2014
Approval	26 Jun 2014
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	12 Jan 2023

## MFF Facility Concept 0082-BAN

Financing Plan		Loan Utilization			
	Total (Amount in US\$ million)	Date	ADB	Others	Net Percentage
Project Cost	391.59	Cumulative Contract Awards			
ADB	255.00	-	0.00	0.00	%
Counterpart	103.40	Cumulative Disbursements			
Cofinancing	33.19	-	0.00	0.00	%

Project Page	<a href="https://www.adb.org/projects/44167-013/main">https://www.adb.org/projects/44167-013/main</a>
Request for Information	<a href="http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=44167-013">http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=44167-013</a>
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