



Bangladesh: Sustainable Rural Infrastructure Improvement

Project Name	Sustainable Rural Infrastructure Improvement				
Project Number	40515-012				
Country / Economy	Bangladesh				
Project Status	Closed				
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance				
Source of Funding / Amount	<table><tr><td>TA 7371-BAN: Sustainable Rural Infrastructure Improvement</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Japan Special Fund</td><td>US\$ 500,000.00</td></tr></table>	TA 7371-BAN: Sustainable Rural Infrastructure Improvement		Japan Special Fund	US\$ 500,000.00
TA 7371-BAN: Sustainable Rural Infrastructure Improvement					
Japan Special Fund	US\$ 500,000.00				
Strategic Agendas	Environmentally sustainable growth Inclusive economic growth				
Drivers of Change	Gender Equity and Mainstreaming Governance and capacity development				
Sector / Subsector	Agriculture, natural resources and rural development / Agricultural policy, institutional and capacity development				
Gender	Gender equity				
Description	The focus of the TA will be on preparing a detailed feasibility study of the proposed Sustainable Rural Infrastructure Improvement Project which will include sector analysis, design and monitoring framework, economic and financial analysis, financial management assessment, cost estimates and financing plan, procurement plan, term of reference for consulting services, plan for improving economic opportunities for women and disadvantaged groups, social and environmental safeguards, resettlement framework, selection criteria for subprojects, plan for providing low cost water supply and renewable energy to remote areas, a capacity-building plan for local government institution and LGED, and implementation arrangement				
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>Rural infrastructure is needed to realize the full growth potentials of rural Bangladesh, where 75% of the total population and around 85% of the poor live. If planned and implemented properly, with the full participation of the target population, rural infrastructure development can make a significant contribution to poverty reduction in the country. Such rural infrastructure, which includes rural roads, bridges and culverts, growth center markets, and energy, are critical in addressing low rural productivity and low non-farm employment, which are the main factors causing rural poverty in Bangladesh. Based on recent experiences, increased productivity and higher employment lead to more rapid economic growth in the country, resulting in increased supply of goods and favorable prices that benefit the poor. As a result of the improved rural infrastructure, the mobility of the rural poor increases and a healthier and literate rural population gains access to a wide range of off-farm employment opportunities. Rural infrastructure development contributes to rural poverty reduction through a number of ways including (i) the migration of underemployed farm labor to alternative employment opportunities; (ii) the cost-effective transport of produce helps farm producers realize higher farm gate prices; (iii) improved roads enable easy access to rural areas for service providers including healthcare and education; (iv) the additional traffic volume gives rise to transport-related small businesses, such as, service stations, repair shops, food stalls, and guesthouses; (v) construction of project facilities and after construction maintenance generate direct employment for poor; and (vi) poor women have access to new jobs.</p> <p>ADB has supported the government efforts to develop rural infrastructure through five projects in Bangladesh. The proposed Project will reduce poverty and raise incomes in selected rural districts in northwest of Bangladesh through fostering economic growth, governance and gender equity. The focus will be on widening access to markets and economic opportunities, improving local governance and promoting gender equity in economic opportunities. The design of the Project will be based on the lessons learned and the experience gained from earlier and ongoing support to the rural infrastructure development by various development partners including ADB. The lessons learned from previous projects stress the need for selecting project areas with high connectivity and poverty concentration, greater emphasis on stakeholders' participation in project design and implementation, strengthening local government capacity to manage and maintain rural infrastructure, fostering economic opportunities for poor and disadvantaged women and strengthening Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) in the areas of participatory development, contract management, and financial management. The project components will be assessed and finalized during PPTA implementation and project processing, but it is envisaged (in the Government's draft feasibility report) that these may include improving upazila and union roads, constructing bridges and culverts, improving rural markets, constructing boat landing stage, and institutional strengthening and capacity building of LGED and local government bodies. The feasibility of providing low cost rural water supply and renewable energy to remote rural markets will also be assessed. Based on the experience of the previous and ongoing projects, the sustainability of rural infrastructure has been an issue in respect to financing maintenance. The proposed Project will address sustainable road maintenance including preparing a maintenance plan covering alternative maintenance arrangement involving the private sector and local governments.</p>				
Impact	The impact (outcome of the ensuing project) will be widened access to markets and economic opportunities. Key performance targets include reduced cost and time for project households to access markets, better access to economic opportunities and social services of poor including disadvantaged women and improved local governance.				
Project Outcome					
Description of Outcome	The outcome of the PPTA will be a project design and feasibility study that the Government and ADB will have agreed upon for a project to be financed by ADB.				
Progress Toward Outcome					
Implementation Progress					
Description of Project Outputs	The PPTA will refine and elaborate the draft feasibility study prepared by LGED which will include sector analysis, design and monitoring framework, economic and financial analysis, financial management assessment, cost estimates and financing plan, procurement plan, terms of reference for consulting services, plan for improving economic opportunities for women and disadvantaged groups, social and environmental safeguards, resettlement framework, selection criteria for subprojects, plan for providing low cost rural water supply and renewable energy to remote areas, an appropriate capacity-building plan for local government institutions and LGED, implementation arrangements, and implementation schedule.				
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)					
Geographical Location					

Safeguard Categories	
Environment	B
Involuntary Resettlement	B
Indigenous Peoples	B

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects	
Environmental Aspects	
Involuntary Resettlement	
Indigenous Peoples	
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation	
During Project Design	The PPTA will be formulated through a participatory process involving extensive consultations with stakeholders.
During Project Implementation	LGED prepared a draft feasibility report which helped in conceptualizing the assistance. Further consultation with Government/beneficiary was conducted during TA fact-finding. These include the Ministries of Finance, Planning, and Local Government, Rural development and Cooperatives of Government of Bangladesh. At the local level, consultations were held with the local administration, union councils, market management committees, transport owners and operators, market users, non-governmental organizations and general people of the project area.

Business Opportunities	
Consulting Services	<p>TA will require the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) One international consultant for 5 pm (Rural Infrastructure Economist/Team Leader); and 2) 11 local consultants for 37 pm, all with substantial experience relevant to rural infrastructure development in Bangladesh <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Rural Infrastructure Engineer/Deputy Team Leader b) Local Governance Specialist c) Participatory Development Specialist d) Resettlement Specialist e) Poverty Reduction Specialist f) Gender and Development Specialist g) Institutional Development Specialist h) Financial Management Specialist i) Environment Specialist j) Rural Water Supply Specialist k) Renewable Energy Specialist

Responsible ADB Officer	Khan, Rezaul K.
Responsible ADB Department	South Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture Division, SARD
Executing Agencies	<p>Local Government Engineering Department Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman wahid113@yahoo.com LGED Bhaban (Level 6), Agargaon Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka 1207, Bangladesh</p> <p>Local Government Engineering Department LGED Bhaban (Level 6), Agargaon Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka 1207, Bangladesh</p>

Timetable	
Concept Clearance	13 May 2009
Fact Finding	21 May 2009 to 28 May 2009
MRM	-
Approval	05 Nov 2009
Last Review Mission	-
PDS Creation Date	11 Nov 2009
Last PDS Update	14 Mar 2011

TA 7371-BAN

Milestones					
Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing		
			Original	Revised	Actual
05 Nov 2009	20 Dec 2009	20 Dec 2009	30 Jun 2010	31 Dec 2010	26 Mar 2011

Financing Plan/TA Utilization						Cumulative Disbursements		
ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart				Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others			
500,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500,000.00	17 Jun 2022	269,156.90

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/40515-012/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=40515-012
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