



India: IND: 145 MEGAWATTS GRID-CONNECTED SOLAR PROJECT

Project Name	IND: 145 MEGAWATTS GRID-CONNECTED SOLAR PROJECT
Project Number	44932-064
Borrower / Company	UJJAWALA POWER PRIVATE LIMITED
Country / Economy	India
Location	
Type or Modality of Assistance	
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth
Drivers of Change	
Sector / Subsector	Energy / Renewable energy generation - solar
Gender	
Responsible ADB Department	Private Sector Operations Department
Responsible ADB Division	Portfolio Management Division, PSOD
Responsible ADB Officer	Nath, Kiron
Project Sponsor(s)	Hindustan Cleanenergy Limited
Description	IND: 145 MEGAWATTS GRID-CONNECTED SOLAR PROJECT
Objectives and Scope	The project constructed 23 megawatts (MW) of solar photovoltaic power project at village Kamalpur, District Surendranagar in the state of Gujarat. The project is designed to promote sustainable growth by diversifying energy mix in India through the addition of renewable energy capacity. The development impact of the project also includes environmental benefits through more efficient use of indigenous renewable energy resources with almost no emission of pollutants or greenhouse gases. The building of the project will help prove the feasibility of utility-scale solar power projects in India and the operational performance in a location where substantial development in solar power is planned during 2012 2017.
Status of Development Objectives	The project is meeting the development objectives as stated above.
Status of Operation/Construction	The project is fully operational.
Material Changes	-
Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	The project supports two of the five core operational areas of Strategy 2020 infrastructure and environment. The project is aligned with the India country partnership strategy (CPS), 2009 2012. One of the four strategy pillars of the CPS is to support inclusive and environmentally sustainable growth through continued focus on infrastructure development and enhanced focus on renewable energy. The project is consistent with one key outcome indicator of the CPS, which targets an addition of at least 70 MW of solar power generation through ADB assistance by 2012.

Safeguard Categories

Environment	B
Involuntary Resettlement	C
Indigenous Peoples	C

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects	The project is classified category B for environment due to limited adverse environmental impacts which are site specific, largely reversible and can be readily addressed through mitigation measures. The project site is not located in a sensitive ecosystem, and is not significant from a historical and cultural perspective. It has been observed that most of the land purchased for the project is agricultural land but the land has lost its fertility over the period of time due to saltwater ingress in the area. This location of the project site coupled with the clean nature of solar power generation ensures that the Project will not cause any significant adverse environmental and social impacts during construction and operation. The main impacts were identified as clearing of shrub vegetation, waste management and management of labor camps at the site. Most of the impacts were limited to the construction phase. Adequate mitigation actions were undertaken in line with management and monitoring of a set of recommended mitigation measures. Regular monitoring of the recommended mitigation measures is being carried out during the operational phase of the project.
Involuntary Resettlement	The project is classified category C for involuntary resettlement. The total land available for the project is 52.61 hectares (ha). The land acquired for the project is total private land and has been purchased on a voluntary basis (willing seller willing buyer basis) from the land owners. The sale of land was an opportunity to earn income from an otherwise unproductive land. The payment provided against the land purchased has helped farmers to find alternative land in a more fertile area or start an alternate livelihood. The solar power plant will be using the following associated facilities for the project: access roads, transmission lines and sub-station. The project will utilize the existing village road; no new roads will be built as part of this project.
Indigenous Peoples	The project is categorized C with respect to indigenous people. There were no permanent or temporary inhabitants dwelling on the site as confirmed by interviews with the local community/village residents during the site visit. Also, the land where the solar power generation facility was constructed is not owned, used, occupied, or claimed as ancestral domain or asset of any tribal groups.
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation	Stakeholder consultations were held with the resident of the villages where Ujjawala power plant is located. During public consultation meetings, villages were informed about proposed project, development prospects, project impacts and measures to mitigate possible negative impacts. The prospects of improving social and economic status of the region as a result of a successful project implementation as well as corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities of the Company were also discussed. The CSR activities proposed by the Company and to be taken up during the operational phase of the project include: solar light for temple; assistance for village schools; transportation facility; women empowerment programs; and drinking water facility. During site visit in February 2012, discussions were undertaken on an informal basis with a group of 7-8 community members from the villages who confirmed that they were made aware of the project. They indicated their satisfaction with the project which will bring more jobs to the village and opportunities to set up small businesses for construction and operational workers.

Timetable for assistance design, processing and implementation	
Concept Clearance	02 Aug 2010
Credit Committee Meeting	13 Aug 2012
Approval	18 Sep 2012
PDS Creation Date	06 Jul 2012
Last PDS Update	17 Mar 2021

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