Bangladesh: Climate and Disaster Resilient Small-Scale Water Resources Management Project

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<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Climate and Disaster Resilient Small-Scale Water Resources Management Project</th>
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<tr>
<td>Project Number</td>
<td>53237-001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Country / Economy</td>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Status</td>
<td>Approved</td>
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**Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy**

Bangladesh’s population of 171.1 million (as of in 2021) is confined within an area of 14.7 million ha, making it among the world’s most densely populated countries. The country is exposed to extreme natural hazards and climate impacts, severely affecting livelihoods and food security. About 63% of the population lives in rural areas and is mainly engaged in agriculture and related nonfarm activities. Agriculture and fisheries’ subsectors most at risk from climate change and extreme weather events provide about 40% of employment and contribute significantly to poverty reduction and food security. About two-thirds of the rural population is landless, or functionally landless; increasingly frequent floods affect those with productive land. To continue the successful outcome of prior investments, the project is aligned with the government’s eighth 5-year plan, ADB’s country partnership strategy for Bangladesh, ADB’s Strategy 2030, and the goals of the Paris Agreement according to the Joint Multilateral Development Banks’ Methodological Principles for Assessment of Paris Agreement Alignment of New Operations. It will address the following Strategy 2030 operational priorities: addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequalities; accelerating progress in gender equality; tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability; promoting rural development and food security; and strengthening governance and institutional capacity.

The project will provide accelerated support to address climate impacts and food security. Specific activities include raising and strengthening flood embankments, deepening channels to increase water retention, providing efficient electric pump-pipe irrigation, training, developing capacity, and supporting climate-smart agriculture and agribusiness. Given the innovative and new climate resilience features, the project has attracted cofinancing from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Government of the Netherlands. IFAD will provide a loan of $42.98 million which will be partially administered by ADB to finance the expenditures in relation to (i) infrastructure works for the new and PE subprojects and for the BRD subproject; (ii) for goods, including equipment, vehicles, machinery, and packaging; and (iii) consulting services, including capacity development and trainings, baseline surveys, and safeguards monitoring, and for compensation for involuntary resettlement, but excluding land acquisition. The Government of the Netherlands will provide grant cofinancing of $17.80 million which will be fully administered by ADB to finance innovative pilot works and consulting services focusing on innovation. ADB’s involvement and oversight will also support value-for-money procurement, quality design and construction, and monitoring of safeguards.

**Impact**

Sustainable and inclusive development resilient to climate and disaster change achieved (Eighth Five Year Plan, FY2021-FY2025)

**Project Outcome**

**Description of Outcome**

Climate- and disaster-resilient agricultural productivity and profitability in selected geographic areas increased

**Progress Toward Outcome**

**Implementation Progress**

**Description of Project Outputs**

Participatory subproject development and management improved

Small-scale water resources infrastructure with climate and disaster resilient features developed or enhanced

Agribusinesses enhanced at the upazila (subdistrict) and WMCA levels, and vulnerable people’s livelihoods supported
### Safeguard Categories

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Involuntary Resettlement</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indigenous Peoples</td>
<td>B</td>
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### Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

#### Environmental Aspects
The project is classified as category B in accordance with the classification system of ADB Safeguard Policy Statement (SPS), thus it requires an initial environmental examination (IEE). As subprojects cannot be identified in advance, a sector lending modality is used, and IEEs are prepared for each (new) subproject, together with an environmental mitigation/management plan (EMP) for the subproject covering the physical, biological, ecological, and social environment. These EMPs outline measures to mitigate the anticipated environmental impacts during pre-construction (design), construction, and operation and maintenance stages, and relevant aspects are included in the respective contract agreements with the civil works contractors. Under the sector lending modality, an environmental assessment and review framework (EARF) has been prepared prior to ADB Board consideration of project approval. The EARF provides guidance to the project management unit and project implementation units on screening and categorization, impact assessment process (i.e., IEE), institutional arrangements, and environment safeguard criteria of sample subprojects selection during project processing, and the subsequent sets of subprojects preparation. The draft IEEs and EARF were disclosed on 26 May 2022.

#### Involuntary Resettlement
The project is categorized as B for involuntary resettlement safeguards. Land acquisition will be avoided and where feasible, alternatives as lease agreements and other means of negotiated settlements will be used as guided in SPS 2009 to minimize involuntary resettlement impacts. The project anticipates 13.9 ha of additional land to be required that are currently used by 1,430 households, resulting in some economic impacts on affected households through the permanent loss of agricultural land. It is however anticipated that this impact will generally not exceed 5% of economic capacity for each affected household. Further project impacts would be minimal temporary economic disruptions during construction. No physical displacements or significant impact on livelihood are anticipated. Following the requirements of the sector lending modality, a draft resettlement framework, aligned with government’s legal regulations and ADB SPS (2009) has been prepared. The draft resettlement framework was disclosed on 25 May 2022.

#### Indigenous Peoples
The project is categorized as B for SEC/indigenous peoples (IPs) safeguards. A small ethnic communities planning framework (SECPF) (for IPs) has been prepared for the project and outlines the detailed consultation and plan preparation requirements, implementation arrangements of the SEC Plans/Indigenous Peoples Plans (IPPs), and the grievance redress mechanisms. The participatory rural appraisals (PRAs) of the 30 new subprojects completed to date have identified: (i) one village/community with people from the Santal tribe in the Gopalpur Jalalpur subproject in Naogaon District; (ii) in Nalbunia Subproject in Borguna District, a Rakhaine community is adjacent to the subproject boundary; and (iii) in the Bakkhali Rubber Dam subproject it was found that people from the Chakma community fall just outside the subproject area, within Ramu Upazilla of Cox’s Bazar District. For the 37 PE subprojects that have been visited during the project preparation period, no IPs have been identified. Preparation of SEC Plan/IPP is triggered when SEC/IP communities are identified during the PRA. The draft SEC Plans and SEC Framework were disclosed on 25 May 2022.

### Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation
During Project Design
The stakeholder communication strategy has been built into the design of the project, by (i) the participatory nature of the subproject preparation process including PRAs and design meetings with subproject WMCA members, community participation in construction for earthworks and other simpler construction works, handover of completed subprojects to WMCA for operation and maintenance, and for agriculture, aquaculture and women’s development; and (ii) the preparation of the resettlement plans where resettlement is required, the SEC plans where there are SEC/ IPs, and the gender action plan. For each subproject, design documents, including drawings, will be shared by LGED with the WMCA and local stakeholders for their approval, and will be only finalized after their approval.

During Project Implementation

### Business Opportunities
Consulting Services
Procurement of consulting services will be undertaken in accordance with ADB’s Procurement Policy (2017, as amended from time to time) and the Procurement Regulations for ADB Borrowers: Goods, Works, Non-consulting and Consulting Services (2017, as amended from time to time) and the associated ADB staff instructions.

Procurement
Procurement of goods and works will be undertaken in accordance with ADB’s Procurement Policy (2017, as amended from time to time) and the Procurement Regulations for ADB Borrowers: Goods, Works, Non-consulting and Consulting Services (2017, as amended from time to time) and the associated ADB staff instructions.

### Responsible ADB Officer
Drieu, Olivier

### Responsible ADB Department
Sectors Group

### Responsible ADB Division

### Executing Agencies
Local Government Engineering Department

### Timetable

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<tr>
<td>Concept Clearance</td>
<td>24 Dec 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fact Finding</td>
<td>05 Oct 2021 to 19 Oct 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>MRM</td>
<td>26 May 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>19 Sep 2023</td>
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<td>Last Review Mission</td>
<td>19 Sep 2023</td>
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### Project Details
- **Project Page**: [https://www.adb.org/projects/53237-001/main](https://www.adb.org/projects/53237-001/main)
- **Date Generated**: 29 September 2023
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