



Uzbekistan: Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics in Secondary Education Project

Project Name	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics in Secondary Education Project		
Project Number	54031-001		
Country / Economy	Uzbekistan		
Project Status	Proposed		
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Loan		
Source of Funding / Amount	Loan: Secondary Education Investment in STEM Project		
	Concessional ordinary capital resources lending		US\$ 100.00 million
Operational Priorities	OP1: Addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequalities OP3: Tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability		
Sector / Subsector	Education / Education sector development - Secondary		
Gender	Gender equity theme		
Description	1. Output 1: Quality of STEM education with support of technology improved. This output will support (i) pilot testing of interdisciplinary STEM classes for grades 5-11, (ii) strengthening curriculum of STEM subjects (physics, chemistry, biology, geography, informatics and mathematics) with EdTech, (iii) upgrading e-platforms for providing pre- and in-service teacher training, (iv) updating national assessment on STEM subjects aligned with the competency-based curriculum standards, (v) improving school-based assessment in STEM subjects, (vi) designing and implementing a special arrangement of recruitment and placement of additional STEM teachers, (viii) designing and mobilizing an incentive scheme for increased girls enrollment in STEM subjects, and (viii) strengthening e-learning and training platform such as Maktab.uz. 2. Output 2: Learning environments improved. This output will support (i) upgrading, science laboratories and ICT facilities in 200 schools and pre- and in-service teacher training institutes; (ii) rehabilitating selected schools with energy efficient, disaster resilient features, and with improved WASH facilities; (ii) upgrading teaching and learning equipment and (iii) strengthening internet connection in the schools. 3. Output 3: Sector management strengthened with expanded partnership. This output will support (i) establishing STEM center with private sector engagement, and developing operational mechanism with the private sector, the academe and civil society organizations in promoting STEM in secondary education, (ii) developing the STEM network where the 200 specialized schools support disadvantaged schools in each district, (iii) strengthening the Public Education Management Information System, and (iv) mainstreaming e-procurement and e-financial management.		
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	Uzbekistan has achieved high school enrollment rates. The 2020 school gross enrollment reached 97% for secondary level with gender parity. Despite good enrollment, the overall learning achievement appears to be low, especially in the critical thinking and problem-solving domains. Learning outcome achievement in primary education is worrisome with more than a third of students scoring below minimum standard in reading, mathematics, and science. Furthermore, a significant gap in learning outcome exists between urban and rural schools, and within and among individual schools. Recent qualitative studies indicate similarly low achievement and school quality in the secondary level grades, particularly among science, mathematics, and informatics, especially in rural areas.		
Impact	Human capital strengthened for increasing the level of country's competitiveness		
Outcome	Secondary education students equipped with relevant skills that enable them to succeed in a technology driven, knowledge-based economy		
Outputs	Quality of learning and teaching in STEM education with support of technology improved		
Geographical Location	Nation-wide		
Safeguard Categories			
Environment			C
Involuntary Resettlement			C
Indigenous Peoples			C
Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects			
Environmental Aspects			
Involuntary Resettlement			
Indigenous Peoples			
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation			
During Project Design			
During Project Implementation			
Responsible ADB Officer		Tajima, Eisuke	
Responsible ADB Department		Central and West Asia Department	
Responsible ADB Division		CWSS	
Executing Agencies		Ministry of Public Education	
Timetable			

Concept Clearance	29 Sep 2021
Fact Finding	15 May 2023 to 19 May 2023
MRM	06 Jul 2023
Approval	-
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	04 Oct 2021

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/54031-001/main
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