Uzbekistan: Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in Basic Education

**Project Name**
Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in Basic Education

**Project Number**
37698-013

**Country**
Uzbekistan

**Project Status**
Closed

**Project Type / Modality of Assistance**
Loan

**Source of Funding / Amount**
Loan 2191-UZB: Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in Basic Education
Concessional ordinary capital resources lending / Asian Development Fund
US$ 30.00 million

**Strategic Agendas**
Inclusive economic growth

**Drivers of Change**
Governance and capacity development
Knowledge solutions

**Sector / Subsector**
Education - Pre-primary and primary
Information and communication technology - ICT infrastructure - ICT strategy and policy, and capacity development

**Gender Equity and Mainstreaming**
Some gender elements

**Description**
The Project will improve the quality, relevance and equitable access of basic education for all students, including students in poor and remote areas. The outcome of the Project is to improve learning through ICT use in priority subject areas in grades 5-9 in project schools with a pro-poor focus. The Project comprises four components: (i) establishment of school clusters for ICT; (ii) strengthening teacher and staff development for ICT; (iii) learning materials development; and (iv) capacity building and management support.

**Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy**

**Impact**
Improved quality, relevance, and equitable access of basic education for all students

**Project Outcome**

**Description of Outcome**
Improved learning outcomes through ICT use in priority subject areas in grades 5-9 in project schools with a pro-poor focus

**Progress Toward Outcome**
Loan was declared effective on 22 June 2006.
ICT use in schools is increasing due to project and other government efforts to provide computer classrooms to all schools. 860 Cluster Leader Schools were identified in 2006 covering schools nationwide, including poor districts. In 2007-2009 schools were rehabilitated. As of 30 Sept 2010, as reported by PIU all 860 CLSs were fully operational.

**Implementation Progress**

**Description of Project Outputs**
Component 1. School cluster network established, equipped, and functional
Component 2. Strengthened staff capacity to use ICT for improving teaching and learning and school management
Component 3. Learning materials developed
Component 4. Project sustainability and effectiveness in implementation ensured

**Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)**
PIU started its work in June 2006 and carried out specific activities for the successful startup of the Project. Highlights include: (1) list of cluster schools has been updated and approved by MOPE including the list of pilot schools; (ii) survey covering all CLSs and pilot schools was completed and specific issues related to e-readiness, power supply and connectivity have been identified and collected in a database. In 2007 EA announced two biddings (ICB 01 and NCB 01) to procure ICT equipment and furniture for 300 CLSs. NCB 01 was completed and furniture was delivered to 300 CLSs. ICB 01 was completed in January 2008. Delivery of equipment was delayed and completed by 31 Dec 2009.
Two biddings (ICB 02 and NCB 02) to procure ICT equipment and furniture for 560 CLSs were held in 2007-08. Evaluation of NCB 02 was completed and contracts were signed. All furniture was delivered to schools. Evaluation of ICB 02 was completed in Mar 2009. EA has signed contract with the suppliers. By 30 June 2010 all equipment was delivered and installed in 560 CLSs.
RFP documents for consulting services were approved and sent to shortlisted consulting firms in July 2007. Proposals were received in September 2007. Evaluation process was completed in April 2008. EA signed contract in September 2008. Contract became effective in Jan 2009. Consulting Firm (EDCIL, India) fielded its consultants in Feb 2009. Activities are ongoing. In 2010 Project completed NCB and contracted suppliers for development of e-materials in key subject areas. In parralel MOPE is financing provision of e-materials and e-books to schools. In 2011 Project continued its efforts on capacity building for CLSs. In addition, procurement of additional furniture to 860 CLS was approved and bidding (NCB) completed. The contract with JV Mebel ($1.25 million, for multiple lots) is under implementation.

**Geographical Location**
Nation-wide, Andijan, Bukhara, Fergana, Jizzakh Province, Karakalpakstan, Namangan, Navoii Province, Qashqadaryo, Samarqand Viloyati, Sirdaryo, Surxondaryo Viloyati, Tashkent, Toshkent Shahri, Xorazm Viloyati

**Safeguard Categories**

**Environment**
C

**Involuntary Resettlement**
C

**Indigenous Peoples**
B
Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects
No significant impact as civil works mainly include rehabilitation of two-three rooms in schools.

Involuntary Resettlement
No resettlement is required

Indigenous Peoples
No

Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation
During Project Design
Consultations with parents, school administration, students and local governments took place during design of the project in 2005

During Project Implementation
Additional consultations were conducted during preparation of CLS

Business Opportunities
Consulting Services
The Project will require 212 person-months (pm) of consulting services, consisting of 52.5 pm of international and 159.5 pm of domestic consultants. International consultants will be engaged through a firm using quality and cost-based selection with full technical proposals. Consultants will be recruited in accordance with ADB’s Guidelines on the Use of Consultants and other arrangements satisfying ADB on the engagement of domestic consultants. Areas of expertise required will include education reform and decentralization, software development, ICT in basic education, training, CPD, school networking, and pilot project design and evaluation.

Procurement
The Project will procure (i) standard packages of ICT hardware and peripherals, and related furniture and other equipment for 860 CLSs; (ii) non-PC based learning materials and equipment including audio-video sets; and (iii) furniture and computers for office and administrative use. ADB loan-financed goods and services will be procured following ADB’s Guidelines for Procurement. Procurement of largest value will be for ICT hardware, which may be broken in several packages each larger than $1 million to allow proper sequencing of ICT installment in schools and sufficient participation of local contractors.

Responsible ADB Officer
Bobir Gafurov

Responsible ADB Department
Central and West Asia Department

Responsible ADB Division
Uzbekistan Resident Mission

Executing Agencies
Ministry of Public Education
Bahtiyor Daniyarov
ictbep@uzpak.uz
5 Mustaqillik Sq., Tashkent, Uzbekistan, 700000

Timetable
Concept Clearance
08 Mar 2003
Fact Finding
22 Jun 2005 to 30 Jun 2005
MRM
11 Aug 2005
Approval
27 Oct 2005
Last Review Mission
-
PDS Creation Date
12 Dec 2006
Last PDS Update
02 Sep 2011

Loan 2191-UZB

Milestones

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Status of Covenants

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