Uzbekistan: Solid Waste Management Improvement Project

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<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Solid Waste Management Improvement Project</th>
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<td>Project Number</td>
<td>45366-004</td>
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<td>Country</td>
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Strategic Agendas
- Environmentally sustainable growth
- Inclusive economic growth

Drivers of Change
- Governance and capacity development

Sector / Subsector
- Water and other urban infrastructure and services - Urban policy, institutional and capacity development - Urban solid waste management

Gender Equity and Mainstreaming
- Some gender elements

Description
The project fully supports the government’s priority of improving Tashkent’s solid waste management (SWM) system through an investment package to accelerate waste minimization and recycling initiatives, upgrade and rehabilitate the city’s solid waste collection and transfer systems, and develop a new sanitary landfill (SLF) to potentially serve the city until at least the year 2060. Concurrently, it will assist government to develop a national SWM strategy and investment program in order to guide national SWM sector improvements over the medium term. The project also supports the government’s recent proposals to progressively increase private sector involvement in SWM provision, reduce carbon emissions and improve air quality.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy
The Project aims to provide an improved SWM system in Tashkent city, resulting in upgrading urban infrastructure and services. The Project will support the development of an international standard sanitary landfill, rehabilitation of transfer stations and a modernization of the waste collection and transfer fleet. The Project will also provide capacity development support and formulation of a national SWM strategy.

Impact
Improved urban environment and quality of life for the residents of Tashkent city.

Project Outcome
Description of Outcome
Improved SWM services and management in Tashkent city

Progress Toward Outcome
- The contracts for the individual EA consultants were awarded in July/August 2015. Contract for waste collection bins was awarded in November 2016, with all collection bins delivered and contract completed in June 2017.
- The contracts for project implementation consultant and audit consultancy firms were awarded in January 2017. The engagement of capacity building is completed in September 2017. The procurement of transfer trucks & trailers (contract amount $13.6 million) has been completed and the contract registered, recruitment for capacity building consultant completed and the consultant mobilized in February 2018.
- In view of the Inter-Agency Tender Committee’s dismantle in 2017, this progress discontinued by the government realignment of functions amongst agencies. The procurement transactions review and approval by the government is pending, the evaluation of technical proposal for the sanitation landfill design and supervision consultant has been delayed for two months; the planned procurement for sanitation landfill will be postponed again. The delays will significantly affect the contract awards for this year and disbursement for 2019. The EA/IA is urged to take necessary actions to cause the design consultant contract awarded in Q3 2018. On 26 September 2018, the EA submitted the Submission 3 for the design and supervision consultant, the contract is expected to be awarded in the first week of October 2018, however, the procurement of the sanitation landfill will be delayed to Q1 2019, as the design and preparation of BD will only commence after the consultant mobilization which is late October 2018.

Implementation Progress
- The implementation of the capacity building program is ongoing, the draft National Solid Waste Strategy is being prepared with the draft to be submitted in December 2018.

Geographical Location
Ohangaron Tumani, Tashkent

Safeguard Categories
- Environment: B
- Involuntary Resettlement: B
- Indigenous Peoples: C

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects
Environmental Aspects

Taking into account the potential environmental impacts associated with the construction and operation of sanitary landfill, rehabilitation of transfer stations and demolishing the transfer stations, the project team recommends that the project should be classified as a “B” project in accordance to ADB’s SPS 2009 for environment. The initial Environmental Examination (EIE) including environmental management and monitoring plan (EMP) will be prepared. The loan covenant to empower the implementation of EMP will be included in the loan document.

Involuntary Resettlement

The project will need to acquire about 30 hectare of land. Therefore, the project team recommends that the project should be classified as a “B” project in accordance to ADB’s SPS 2009 for Involuntary Resettlement. The land acquisition and resettlement plan (LRP) will be prepared and loan covenant will include all requirements to implement LARP.

Indigenous Peoples

In the project area and affected areas, none of the community, group of people maintain a separate cultural and social identity from the mainstream Uzbekistan society that would classify them as ethnic group, ethnic minority or indigenous people as describe in ADB SPS, 2009. Therefore, the project team recommends that the Project should be classified as a “C” project in accordance to ADB’s SPS 2009 for Indigenous Peoples.

Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation

During Project Design

Female Mahalla advisors will be trained to provide practical recycling advice, in partnership with the national and city women’s committee. A rapid household survey of recycling practices and gender roles was conducted under project preparatory technical assistance, and consultations were held with local farmers and waste pickers on the development of the resettlement plan and specific gender measures.

During Project Implementation

Further consultations are identified in the respective plans and will continue during project implementation. Lack of civil society involvement was identified as a risk in the DMF but will be addressed through adequate information disclosure and effective management. The household survey found households willing to minimize and segregate solid waste.

Business Opportunities

Consulting Services

All consultants will be recruited according to ADB’s Guidelines on the Use of Consultants (2013, as amended from time to time). Consultants support will be provided under the project to the EAs and PIU. This support will include project management, financial management, procurement, contract administration, safeguards implementation, and monitoring and evaluation. For the EA, four individual specialists will be engaged. Given that these experts will function independently of each other, they will be recruited using the individual consultant selection method. For the PIU, a consulting firm will be engaged to provide specialist technical support in the technical design and engineering aspects of SWM, procurement of civil works and goods contracts, and construction monitoring and supervision. In addition to the PIU consultants, two consulting firms will be recruited for the following sub-projects (i) SLF design and supervision, and (ii) community collection points design and supervision. The project also provides technical support through a firm of capacity development consultants in five strategic areas: (i) national SWM strategy formulation; (ii) waste minimization and recycling program development; (iii) formulation of an associated media and public awareness program; (iv) a transport logistic assessment to define optimal solid waste collection and transfer system designs; and (v) operational and management support for SWM system operations. Given the envisaged technical complexities and the requirement for high quality, all consulting firms will be engaged using the quality- and cost-based selection method with a quality cost ratio of 80:20 in accordance with ADB’s Guidelines on the Use of Consultants (2013, as amended from time to time). The exception to this will be the recruitment of a firm of auditors which will be recruited using least cost selection, as the contracts are very small and routine in nature.

Procurement

Procurement capacity assessment of the IA has been undertaken and included as a linked document. Based on the findings of the assessment, the thresholds for procurement of goods and works as well as consulting services have been defined, and the degree of ADB oversight (prior and post review) has been recommended. These are set forth in the underlying procurement plan.

Responsible ADB Officer

Ruoyu Hu

Responsible ADB Department

Central and West Asia Department

Responsible ADB Division

Urban Development and Water Division, CWRD

Executing Agencies

State Committee for Ecology and Environmental Protection (formerly State Committee for Nature Protection)

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Tashkent

Uzbekistan

Loan 3067-UZB

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