Pakistan: Sindh Secondary Education Improvement Project

Project Name: Sindh Secondary Education Improvement Project
Project Number: 51126-002
Country: Pakistan
Project Status: Proposed
Project Type / Modality of Assistance: Loan
Source of Funding / Amount: Loan: Sindh Secondary Education Improvement Project
concessional ordinary capital resources lending / Asian Development Fund
US$ 75.00 million

Strategic Agendas:
- Environmentally sustainable growth
- Inclusive economic growth

Drivers of Change:
- Governance and capacity development
- Knowledge solutions
- Partnerships
- Private sector development

Sector / Subsector: Education - Secondary

Gender Equity and Mainstreaming:
- Gender equity

Description:
The proposed Sindh Secondary Education Improvement Project (SSEIP) will support investments, institutional capacity building, and reforms in secondary education. The project is aligned with, and will support the implementation of, the SESP 2014 -2018 (and subsequent SESP 2019 -2023).

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy:
Education indicators for Pakistan are grim, with a low adult literacy rate, low expected years of schooling, as well as considerable challenges in terms of access and quality of learning. Educational challenges in Sindh are more acute than in Pakistan generally. They include limited access to education, poor quality education, and weak education governance and management. The performance of the education sector is weak in Sindh, especially at the secondary education level. At least 4.9 million 10-16 year olds are out of school in Sindh. Sindh's grade 9 and 10 net enrolment rate, at 25%, is significantly lower than the average of 62% for lower middle income countries. Fully 31% of grade 5 public school students drop out before middle school. There are wide disparities in access to schooling across gender, geography, and socio-economic quintiles in Sindh. The net enrolment rate for girls at the lower secondary level was 20% in 2015 nine percentage points below that for boys, while the gap in literacy rate for girls and boys aged 15-24 was 17 percentage points. Public girls' schools make up just 33% of all public high schools in the province.

The project will support the strengthening of inclusive growth, which is a key objective of ADB’s country partnership strategy 2015 -2019. The SSEIP is in the draft Pakistan country operations business plan 2018- 2020 as a firm 2018 program.

Impact:
Inclusive and equitable quality education for all ensured (Sustainable Development Goal 4a)

Outcome:
Inclusiveness of secondary education system in Sindh increased

Outputs:
- New secondary school blocks constructed, and operated under EMO program
- Teaching capacity in five key subjects improved
- Secondary education examination system strengthened

Geographical Location:
Nation-wide

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

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects:
An environmental assessment review framework (EARF) has been prepared to guide SELD-PIU on screening, assessment and preparation of environmental checklists for project schools sites, including site specific baseline conditions and specific environmental management plan (EMP) provisions to address potential short-term impacts from project civil works. The government and ADB endorsed EARF has been disclosed. Contractors will be supervised and monitored on a daily basis to ensure compliance with the requirements of the initial environmental examination and EMPs. Monitoring results will be compiled by the contractors and presented to the construction supervision consultants in monthly project progress reports. Besides, the environmental safeguards compliance will be reviewed and monitored periodically, and semi-annual environmental monitoring reports will be prepared and submitted by PIU to ADB for its review acceptance and disclosure. Such semi-annual monitoring reports will be made available to ADB within thirty days from the end date of each reporting period. The semi-annual environmental monitoring reports will include, inter alia, a review of progress made on the implementation of the EMP provisions, grievance redress mechanism and consultations carried out during execution of works as well as issues encountered during execution of works with remedial/corrective measures actions adopted and implemented at site.
The project civil works are to be implemented within the compound of existing school sites and acquisition of additional land is unlikely. However, at some school sites, resettlement related impacts may emerge due to third-party land use (formal or informal) of existing school land by the local community. Following the finalization of the school sites and detailed design of the school buildings, each school will be screened for land availability and IR impacts outlined in the resettlement framework. A social due diligence report (SDDR), including screening and assessment checklists for all 160 project school sites, will be prepared and included as a condition for award of civil works contracts. SSDRs based on the number of civil work contract packages for the districts covered under the project will be prepared. SSDRs will be submitted to ADB for review and will be disclosed in both the ADB and SELD websites. ADB funds will not be used to finance resettlement and land acquisition. The preparation of SSDRs and monitoring of project implementation including emerging land acquisition and resettlement (LAR) issues will be funded under the loan. SELD will need to provide the funds for resettlement and land acquisition as part of their cost and expenditures.

A Resettlement Framework (RF) including procedures and provisions to be followed for screening, identification and assessment of potential IR impacts and guide the EA on measures needed to address any emerging LAR issues during project implementation has been finalized for the project to ensure compliance with ADB's IR safeguard requirements of SPS 2009. The government endorsed and ADB accepted RF will be disclosed.

Social safeguards compliance will be reviewed and monitored regularly through PIU Safeguards staff assisted by safeguards experts mobilized through project implementation and supervision consultants. The monitoring results will be compiled and reported as periodic social monitoring reports to be submitted semi-annually by the implementation consultant’s and PIU’s staff for EA’s and ADB’s review and acceptance. Semi-annual social monitoring reports will be made available within thirty days from the end date of each reporting period and accepted semiannual social monitoring reports will be disclosed on EA’s and ADB’s web site.

ADB’s no-objection to the commencement of civil works for project school sites (if any) with IR impacts will be conditional to ADB’s review of the RF monitoring report confirming completion of the compensation payment and delivery of other entitlements. Since, it is likely that the RP completion could be achieved before or after due date for the periodic social monitoring report, so to confirm RP implementation special monitoring report focused on RP payment progress can be required and submitted as and when RP implementation is deemed complete.

The project is screened as category C project for Indigenous peoples planning requirement under SPS 2009 and EA shall ensure that project school sites financed under the loan do not have any indigenous peoples’ impacts within the meaning of the Safeguard Policy Statement (2009). And if during detailed design stage or implementation of the project or consequent to any change of site and scope any impacts are identified to the indigenous people, EA shall take all steps and measures to avoid impacts to IPS and ensure that the project complies with the applicable laws and regulations of Pakistan and the ADB’s Safeguard Policy Statement 2009.

### Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation

#### During Project Design

**Consulting Services**

All individual consultants and firms will be recruited in accordance with ADB’s Procurement Regulations for ADB Borrowers: Goods, Works, Nonconsulting and Consulting Services (2017, as amended from time to time). An estimated 2438 person-months (51 international, 2387 national) of consulting services (including PIU staff) are required to (i) facilitate project management and implementation, and (ii) strengthen the institutional and operational capacity of the executing and implementing agency. Consulting firms will be engaged using the quality- and cost-based selection (QCBS) method with a standard quality cost ratio of 90:10. Full technical proposals (FTP) will be used for hiring the project implementation firm, teacher training and examination development firm, and design and supervision firm. Individual consultant recruitment will be used for hiring individual consultants including PIU staff. The least cost selection (LCS) will be used for the engagement of audit firm with an estimated contract amount of less than $100,000.

**Procurement**

All procurement of goods and works will be undertaken in accordance with ADB’s Procurement Regulations for ADB Borrowers: Goods, Works, Nonconsulting and Consulting Services (2017, as amended from time to time)

The project will provide school equipment such as laboratory, office and ICT, solar panels, along with construction of about 160 new secondary level school buildings in 10 districts. Open competitive bidding procedures will be used for the construction of secondary level schools including installation of solar panels and procurement of all equipment estimated to cost more than $100,000. Civil works may use pre-qualification (PQ) exercise. Request for quotations (RFQ) will be used for the procurement of off-the-shelf equipment, small works, furniture and vehicles worth $100,000 or less.

**Responsible ADB Officer**

Norman LaRocque

**Responsible ADB Department**

Central and West Asia Department

**Responsible ADB Division**

CWSS

**Executing Agencies**

School Education and Literacy Department, Government of Sindh

### Timetable

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<td>Fact Finding</td>
<td>28 May 2018 to 11 Jun 2018</td>
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<td>MRM</td>
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<td>Approval</td>
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<td>Last Review Mission</td>
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### Project Page

https://www.adb.org/projects/51126-002/main

### Request for Information

http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=51126-002
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