

Complaint Closing Report

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| Project Name | Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Cities Improvement Project (KPCIP) |
| ADB Department/Division | CWRD/CWUW (Case No. SPF-2021-16-01-0119) |
| AM Function | OSPF |
| Eligibility Result | Ineligible |
| Eligibility Determination Date | 15 December 2021 |
| I. Compliant and Issues | <p>The Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Cities Improvement Project (KPCIP)¹ on 11 December 2021. The project will finance the development of urban infrastructures (water supply, sanitation, solid waste management operations, green urban spaces, among others) as well as institutional capacity development in 5 cities of KP province, benefiting over 3.5 million citizens. All 25 detailed engineering designs were completed and 31 safeguard documents, based on the DEDs, were disclosed between May and August 2021.</p> <p>The Special Project Facilitator (SPF) of ADB received a complaint on one of the sub-projects on 19 November 2021. Complainant wants the location of the solid waste management facility transferred to another location at Salhad, Abbottabad. Complainant alleged that the project would harm ecosystem, affect the quality of water, thus would also affect irrigation and crop production.</p> |
| II. Actions taken to address the problems or issues | <p>Considering the eligibility requirements of the ADB's Accountability Mechanism Policy,² the SPF has concluded the complaint ineligible for the problem-solving process. The ADB's Accountability Mechanism is a last resort mechanism and user department (i.e., CWRD) is requested to have an opportunity to address the complaint first.</p> <p>On 6 May 2022, CWRD, together with the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (GOKP), Project Management Unit, and safeguard consultants, met with the complainant through online, explaining that the proposed site was carefully selected based on ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009), geo-technical, and hydrological assessments. The GOKP accordingly prepared and disclosed Environmental Impact Assessment, Resettlement Plans, and other safeguard reports for the proposed facility in August 2021. The assessment reports indicate that none of the receptors are considered sensitive (as per IFC international criteria) as all receptors are falling outside of 250 meters perimeter from the proposed site. Furthermore, no community is residing within 250 m distance from the landfill site. The safeguard reports also indicate that</p> |

¹ ADB, <https://www.adb.org/projects/51036-002/main>

² Paras. 138, 142–143 of the ADB's Accountability Mechanism.

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| | <p><u>adequate mitigation measures for environmental impacts have been adopted in the engineering design of the facility and that facility will meet an international standard on solid waste management operations.</u> CWRD and PMU also explained that Abbottabad currently do not have an adequately controlled landfill site in the city. With the construction of the new facility, the city will significantly improve the overall environment and wellbeing of the citizens.</p> |
| <p>III. Decisions or agreement by parties concerned</p> | <p>The complainant appreciated the efforts of CWRD and PMU for sharing all information regarding the facility and measures taken by the government during the subproject design.</p> <p>On 17 May 2022, the complainant withdrew the case (Attachment 1).³ In the letter, the complainant expresses his support to the project that will improve overall wellbeing of the city and therefore the complainant has decided to withdraw the case. The complainant has requested the government to provide benefits to the community on a priority basis (e.g., <u>water supply system and community center</u>) as well as <u>close consultation during construction</u>. All of the above will be considered by the government.</p> <p>PMU and WSSC will continue consultation with the community during the project implementation and all type of grievance coming from the community will be timely logged in the project grievance redressed mechanism (GRM). The project is expected to be delegated to Pakistan Resident Mission in mid-2022. CWRD will work closely with Pakistan Resident Mission.</p> |
| <p>IV. Results and Lessons learned</p> | <p>PMU and ADB will continue to monitor the situations.</p> |

³ Shared only with OSPF as requested by the complainant.