

## SUMMARY POVERTY REDUCTION AND SOCIAL STRATEGY

Country:	India	Project Title:	Karnataka Integrated and Sustainable Water Resources Management Investment Program
Lending/Financing Modality:	Multitranche Financing Facility	Department/Division:	South Asia Department Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture Division

### I. POVERTY AND SOCIAL ANALYSIS AND STRATEGY

Targeting classification: General intervention

#### A. Links to the National Poverty Reduction and Inclusive Growth Strategy and Country Partnership Strategy

The country partnership strategy (CPS) of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for India, 2013–2017<sup>a</sup> is closely aligned with the Government of India's mandate of adopting a comprehensive strategy for faster and inclusive growth under its Twelfth Five Year Plan, 2012–2017.<sup>b</sup> The government recognizes the need to reduce poverty as its primary goal and aims to reinvigorate the rural economy; strengthen the agriculture and natural resources sector; create employment; and bridge the divide between regions, sectors, and genders. ADB's overarching goal of achieving poverty reduction (Strategy 2020) supports the government's priority to pursue rural poverty reduction through strengthening water resources management and irrigated agriculture.<sup>c</sup> ADB's Water Operational Plan, 2011–2020 recognizes that freshwater will play a dominant role in the sustainable development of the region's poor and emerging economies. Improving ADB operations by supporting investments, knowledge, capacities, and technologies is complementary to the government's policy framework for inclusive growth.<sup>d</sup>

#### B. Results from the Poverty and Social Analysis during PPTA or Due Diligence

**1. Key poverty and social issues.** Karnataka is the eighth largest state in the country in terms of area and ninth largest in terms of population.<sup>e</sup> It is in the medium category of the Human Development Index (0.519) against India's average (0.467).<sup>f</sup> Karnataka's Gender Development Index was 0.611 against India's average of 0.590.<sup>g</sup> It is one of the most progressive states in India and is the sixth most urbanized state, with 38.67% urban population. The contribution of the tertiary sector to Karnataka's gross state domestic product (FY2009) was 55%, the secondary sector 29%, and the primary sector 16%. Although over 60% of the rural population is employed as agricultural labor, the sector only contributes about 15% to the gross state domestic product. 23.6% of Karnataka's population is below the poverty line, and the state has a rural poverty rate of 26.1% and an urban poverty rate of 19.6%. The tranche 1 subproject (Gondi irrigation subproject) falls within the administrative jurisdiction of Bhadravathi block, Shimoga district, which is one of the best ranked districts of Karnataka in terms of the Human Development Index (0.67) and Gender Development Index (0.66).

**2. Beneficiaries.** The program will improve water availability to meet competing water demands in selected river basins in the state by implementing integrated water resources management (IWRM). It will improve water use efficiency in irrigated agriculture to provide economic opportunities to improve rural incomes. Special focus will be given to tail-end farmers; marginal, small, and landless farmers; and the poor and vulnerable women.

**3. Impact channels.** These will be (i) strengthened water users cooperative societies (WUCSs) for improved land and water management; (ii) improved and equitable access to water by small, marginal, and landless farmers; (iii) improved farm incomes; (iv) sustainable and innovative irrigation and agricultural practices, including drip and micro irrigation and crop diversification; (v) strengthened water resources and environmental management; and (vi) social inclusion and enhanced capacities of women to participate in water governance and decision-making processes.

**4. Other social and poverty issues.** The program does not directly promote off-farm livelihood activities. However, as these components are considered important in reducing pressure on the ecosystem, increasing the income, and enhancing the quality of lives of especially vulnerable populations, efforts to diversify the livelihood security base of the landless, women, and marginal and small farmers will be explored.

**5. Design features.** Pro-poor and gender-inclusive components will be incorporated in the overall program design framework. The project implementation office, in coordination with the program support consultants and support service teams (SSTs) will be responsible for the implementation of field activities for improving irrigation system efficiency; agricultural productivity; WUCS strengthening; and social, poverty, and gender inclusiveness actions.

### II. PARTICIPATION AND EMPOWERING THE POOR

1. Summarize the participatory approaches and the proposed project activities that strengthen inclusiveness and empowerment of the poor and vulnerable in project implementation.

The project was designed with extensive consultations with primary and secondary stakeholders. Local nongovernment organizations (NGOs) facilitated these consultations. It comprises three outputs: (i) state and basin level institutions strengthened for IWRM, (ii) modernized irrigation infrastructure and strengthening of WUCSs for improved irrigation management, and (iii) program management systems operational. A stakeholder analysis was conducted with Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited (KNNL) and other agencies. A communication and participation plan was prepared for adoption of participatory irrigation management processes in subproject areas.

2. If civil society has a specific role in the project, summarize the actions taken to ensure their participation.

A participatory process was adopted during the project preparation technical assistance to understand the existing

<p>situation in subproject areas. An NGO was recruited to conduct the socioeconomic baseline survey for the proposed tranche 1 subproject. The survey covered 600 sample households on the tranche 1 subproject and 1,100 households on tranche 2 (Vijaynagara and Tungabhadra left bank canal) subproject areas.</p> <p>3. Explain how the project ensures adequate participation of civil society organizations in project implementation. WUCS SSTs will be recruited through the program support consultants, but will be sourced from locally based and experienced NGOs. The SST will comprise two community organizers (one male and one female); one participatory on-farm water management agent; and an agricultural extension agent to promote on farm training, women's participation and agriculture extension. These agents will interface with the government and rural communities. For output 1 of the program stakeholder participation assessment and communication strategy has been prepared to guide the IWRM process.</p> <p>4. What forms of civil society organization participation is envisaged during project implementation? SSTs and other relevant civil society organizations will be engaged during implementation to create awareness for the increased participation of water users—especially vulnerable groups—in WUCSs. This will also help farming and rural communities to participate in farm and off-farm income-generating activities (including linkages with ongoing state and national government initiatives), improved irrigation and agricultural activities, and monitoring of project activities.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information gathering and sharing (M) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consultation (M) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collaboration (M) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partnership (M)</p> <p>5. Will a project level participation plan be prepared to strengthen participation of civil society as interest holders for affected persons particularly the poor and vulnerable? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, because the Program has a resettlement framework which outlines a consultation and participation framework.</p>			
<b>III. GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT</b>			
Gender mainstreaming category: Effective gender mainstreaming			
<p><b>A. Key issues.</b> Women's participation in irrigation management in subproject areas continues to be low (10%–15%), as WUCS membership is linked to landownership and most women do not have land rights. Only 20% of women are legal land owners, so most are not able to participate in WUCSs despite the requirement for at least two out of the 11 people on the board of management to be women. Women's participation in agricultural extension services, systems management, and improved crop management practices is negligible. Findings from primary and secondary data sources indicate that women constitute 49.30% of the population of the Gondi subproject area, with 45% engaged in agriculture and related activities. Female literacy is 52.41% in comparison to male literacy, which is 66.86%. Focused group discussions conducted with women and other groups highlighted that about 85% of men are the main decision makers of households and manage household finances. There is an overall lack of awareness of the value of women's participation in governance and institutional strengthening. Women gave high priority to animal husbandry; skilled employment opportunities in farm and non-farm activities; and rural infrastructure strengthening. Of the Water Resources Department's (WRD's) technical staff (3,769 filled positions), 11% (428) are women. Of these, 16% are of the assistant engineer grade with only 2% representation at the senior level of superintending engineer. The program will train at least 600 WRD staff, of which at least 30% (200) will be women.</p>			
<p><b>B. Key actions.</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender action plan <input type="checkbox"/> Other actions or measures <input type="checkbox"/> No action or measure</p> <p>The program is expected to mainstream gender in the context of IWRM and irrigation management. The gender strategy will strengthen women's professional development in IWRM to support basin planning of water resources. It will increase women's participation in water governance and leadership, with 30% women in WUCSs and at least two women on WUCS boards of management planned by 2020. It will also focus on expanding women's knowledge of on-farm water management, agriculture, operation and maintenance, and systems management. The gender strategy will enable women to gain easier access to water for agricultural and nonagricultural domestic use. Gender mainstreaming activities in off-farm income-generating activities will also be pursued and promoting women's participation in decision making through WUCSs.</p>			
<b>IV. ADDRESSING SOCIAL SAFEGUARD ISSUES</b>			
<p><b>A. Involuntary Resettlement</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Safeguard Category:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> FI</span></p> <p>1. Key impacts. No land acquisition or displacement is anticipated at this stage.</p> <p>2. Strategy to address the impacts. Not applicable.</p> <p>3. Plan or other Actions.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Resettlement plan  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resettlement framework  <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental and social management system arrangement  <input type="checkbox"/> No action         </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Combined resettlement and indigenous peoples plan  <input type="checkbox"/> Combined resettlement framework and indigenous peoples planning framework  <input type="checkbox"/> Social impact matrix         </td> </tr> </table>		<input type="checkbox"/> Resettlement plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resettlement framework <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental and social management system arrangement <input type="checkbox"/> No action	<input type="checkbox"/> Combined resettlement and indigenous peoples plan <input type="checkbox"/> Combined resettlement framework and indigenous peoples planning framework <input type="checkbox"/> Social impact matrix
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<p><b>B. Indigenous Peoples</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Safeguard Category:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> FI</span></p> <p><b>1. Key impacts.</b> No specific adverse impacts are anticipated for scheduled tribes (indigenous people). Project 1 is categorized C for indigenous peoples. There are no indigenous peoples, as defined by the Safeguard Policy Statement (2009), in any of the areas of project 1 and subsequent projects under the investment program. As these would also be categorized C, an indigenous peoples planning framework has not been prepared. As part of the WUCS strengthening, specific actions will be taken to ensure the participation of scheduled tribes and scheduled castes</p>			

(vulnerables) in the planning and decision making process. Is broad community support triggered? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>2. Strategy to address the impacts.</b> The interests of indigenous peoples will be included as part of the social development strategy, and scheduled tribes and scheduled castes will not be deprived of benefits from the program.
<b>3. Plan or other actions</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous peoples plan <input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous peoples planning framework <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental and social management system arrangement <input type="checkbox"/> Social impact matrix <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No action <input type="checkbox"/> Combined resettlement plan and indigenous peoples plan <input type="checkbox"/> Combined resettlement framework and indigenous peoples planning framework <input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous peoples plan elements integrated in project with a summary
<b>V. ADDRESSING OTHER SOCIAL RISKS</b>
<b>A. Risks in the Labor Market</b>
<b>1. Relevance of the project for the country's or region's or sector's labor market.</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unemployment (L) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> underemployment (L) <input type="checkbox"/> retrenchment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> core labor standards (L) The project is expected to increase the number of unemployed and underemployed target populations, especially the landless, women, and the poor, with skilled farm and off-farm job opportunities. The project will address core labor standards, in the context of irrigation infrastructure development. These will be a requirement in the contract conditions for all bidding documents and contractual agreements for works.
<b>2. Labor market impact.</b> The project will positively impact the agricultural labor market by providing unskilled and skilled employment opportunities, especially for the landless and vulnerable farming households, focusing on higher value agricultural and irrigation practices.
<b>B. Affordability</b> The program will promote improved irrigation management, agricultural practices, and farm and off-farm income-generating activities at no cost to the target populations. This is expected to influence an increased number of socially excluded and marginal populations to participate in project activities.
<b>C. Communicable Diseases and Other Social Risks</b>
1. Indicate the respective risks, if any, and rate the impact as high (H), medium (M), low (L), or not applicable (NA): <input type="checkbox"/> Communicable diseases (NA) <input type="checkbox"/> Human trafficking (NA) <input type="checkbox"/> Others (please specify) _____
2. Describe the related risks of the project on people in project area. Not applicable.
<b>VI. MONITORING AND EVALUATION</b>
<b>1. Targets and indicators:</b> Key targets and indicators that will contribute to promoting pro-poor, inclusive, and gender relevant impacts include the following: (i) by 2020, 600 WRD staff, including 200 women staff, will be trained and certified in IWRM; (ii) by 2020, at least 30% of WUCS management board members will be women; and (iii) relevant government departments will become knowledgeable regarding gender equality and social inclusion approaches in agriculture, irrigation, and water resources management.
<b>2. Required human resources:</b> The management information system (MIS) will contain sex-disaggregated data.
<b>3. Information in PAM:</b> The FAM includes a comprehensive benefit monitoring and evaluation system and MIS database. Project management unit (PMU). Monitoring of implementation of the gender action plan will be done during review missions and the midterm review, and regular progress reporting. Socioeconomic baseline surveys will be undertaken at program midterm and completion stages against a control group to monitor achievements against target indicators.
<b>4. Monitoring tools:</b> The PMU will be responsible for submitting periodic (semiannual) progress reports on the gender action plan, and will prepare compliance and safeguards monitoring reports on a quarterly basis. A midterm review of the loan will be undertaken 24 months after loan effectiveness to evaluate the scope of the loan, implementation arrangements, safeguard issues, achievement of scheduled targets, contract management progress, and other issues (including midcourse corrections). An evaluation will be undertaken 1 year after closure of the program. Findings of the completion report will be shared and disseminated within ADB and with key government officials at the national and state level.

<sup>a</sup> ADB. 2013. *Country Partnership Strategy: India, 2003–2017*. Manila.

<sup>b</sup> Government of India, Planning Commission. 2013. *Faster, More Inclusive and Sustainable Growth: An Approach to the 12th Five Year Plan*. Delhi.

<sup>c</sup> ADB. 2008. *Strategy 2020: The Long-Term Strategic Framework of the Asian Development Bank, 2008–2020*. Manila.

<sup>d</sup> ADB. 2011. *Water Operational Plan, 2011–2020*. Manila.

<sup>e</sup> Government of India. 2011. *Census of India 2011: Provisional Population Totals*. Bangalore.

<sup>f</sup> Government of India, Planning Commission. 2011. *India Human Development Report 2011: Towards Social Inclusion*. Delhi.

<sup>g</sup> Government of India, Ministry of Women and Child Development. 2009. *Gendering Human Development Indices: Recasting the Gender Development Index and Gender Empowerment Measure for India*. Delhi.

Source: Asian Development Bank.