

SUMMARY POVERTY REDUCTION AND SOCIAL STRATEGY

Country:	Pakistan	Project Title:	Flood Emergency Reconstruction and Resilience Project
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Lending/Financing Modality:	Project	Department/Division:	Central West Asia Department
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I. POVERTY AND SOCIAL ANALYSIS AND STRATEGY

Poverty targeting: General intervention

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

Repeated disasters during 2004-2014, particularly floods, have made Pakistan's poor more vulnerable. The Global Climate Risk Index ranked Pakistan 10th among the countries most affected by extreme weather events during 1994-2013.^a The Government's Pakistan Poverty Strategy Paper-II and its Vision 2025 highlighted climate change and natural disasters as serious risks to economic growth and poverty reduction.^b These documents consider investments in infrastructure, particularly roads and irrigation, to be critical to socioeconomic growth. Floods in 2014 have caused serious damage to property and infrastructure in Punjab Province and in Haveli, Kotli, and Poonch districts north of Punjab Province. Roads and irrigation (including flood management) infrastructure have been particularly hard-hit. Selection of the sectors for support under the Flood Emergency Reconstruction and Resilience Project is consistent with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) interim country partnership strategy for Pakistan for 2014-2015. The project will contribute to social and economic recovery in the flood-affected areas by helping to restore and reconstruct important provincial and district roads and irrigation infrastructure in Punjab and the Haveli, Kotli, and Poonch districts. It will have a direct poverty reduction impact by offering cash-for-work schemes for local unskilled laborers who will be hired for the reconstruction work. Restoring connectivity and irrigation infrastructure will contribute indirectly to an increase in economic opportunities in the local communities. The project will also help build capacity in disaster preparedness, which will help reduce the impact of future disasters and improve the quality of post-disaster response.

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

1. Key poverty and social issues. Roads provide the only mode of transport in Haveli, Kotli, and Poonch and are a lifeline for economic activities. The already precarious condition of these roads, which were subject to frequent landslides, was worsened by the 2014 floods. This has hampered the mobility of the local people and stemmed inflows of tourists into the region. By restoring connectivity and improving roads, the project will directly benefit 1.5 million residents of these districts, as well as tourists. Punjab was the province hit hardest by the 2014 floods. Roads and irrigation infrastructure suffered the worst damage. About 60% of Punjab's people live in rural areas and depend almost entirely on agriculture for their livelihood. Irrigated agriculture plays a vital role in the province's economy and employs 50% of the labor force. Restoring irrigation infrastructure under the project will benefit about 1 million in the province's flood-affected areas.^c The project's upgrades and repair of flood protection infrastructure will reduce the potential damage of future flooding and thereby contribute to economic stability. Project support for the reconstruction of provincial and district roads will directly benefit the people of 16 flood-affected districts in Punjab by restoring connectivity. The project will also help build human and institutional capacities for disaster risk management, focusing on improving the accuracy, timeliness, and quality of data required for better preparedness and developing post-disaster response systems. Awareness-raising campaigns related to reducing the risks from disasters and responding to them will be carried out in the project areas.

2. Beneficiaries. According to a Millennium Development Goals report for 2013, the poverty rate in the region that includes Haveli, Kotli and Poonch districts was 43% in 2003/2004.^d The area is home to 4.2 million people, 80% of whom live in rural areas. It has a fragile environment and is highly susceptible to natural calamities. An earthquake in 2005 and repeated flooding since then have substantially reversed earlier socioeconomic gains. Because land holdings are small and only 13% of the land is cultivable, residents depend largely on off-farm income, mainly from foreign remittances and government jobs. The private sectors' share of employment generation is negligible, which is one of the major reasons for rising trends in unemployment, ranging from 9% to 13%. Poor accessibility due to road damage and landslides creates food shortages and drives up prices, leaving the poor increasingly vulnerable. By restoring roads, the project will help relieve this problem by enabling an uninterrupted supply of food and daily household needs into these communities. The region has become a favorite domestic tourist destination in Pakistan, and annual tourist visitors range between 800,000 to 1 million. Better connectivity and road infrastructure will boost this industry and bring more investments and employment opportunities into the region. The poverty incidence in Punjab Province in 2005 was 32.4% in rural areas and 26.5% of the urban population (endnote iv). Punjab is Pakistan's most populous province, and 60% of its people live in rural areas. The 2014 floods caused more damage to it than any other province. Irrigation infrastructure, particularly flood protection structures, were badly damaged and need to be repaired to cope with the potential flooding in 2015. Damage to provincial and district roads have badly affected people's mobility and access to goods and services.

3. Impact channels. The project's upgrades and repair of irrigation and flood protection infrastructure will reduce the potential damage of future flooding and thereby contribute to economic stability. Project support for the reconstruction of provincial and district roads will directly benefit the affected population by restoring connectivity.

<p>4. Other social and poverty issues. Other flood relief and recovery issues are being addressed by the government, civil society organizations, and other development partners.</p> <p>5. Design features. Design features include (i) cash-for-work schemes for local unskilled laborers to be hired during the reconstruction work; (ii) the incorporation in the multihazard risk assessment of poverty and social issues, which will provide first-hand information for developing inclusive and pro-poor strategies and plans for social protection, preparedness, and post-disaster response; (iii) roads reconstruction designs that will include safety measures for the local population; (iv) the piloting of projects to mitigate the risks from such disasters as landslides and breaches in flood protection structures; (v) awareness-raising for the poor on reducing disaster risks and improving the response to disasters; (vi) and a gender action plan. These provisions will be tracked by the project's monitoring and evaluation system.</p>
<p>II. PARTICIPATION AND EMPOWERING THE POOR</p>
<p>1. Participatory approaches and project activities. Preliminary consultations were held with the local communities and relevant departments to discuss the potential impacts of the project. Focus group discussions were held with the representatives of civil society organizations to hear their concerns and views about the project. Grievance mechanisms will ensure representation of the local communities</p> <p>2. Civil society organizations (CSO). Given the scope of the project, the CSO role will be limited. But they could be engaged for information sharing and collection of data during activities such as multihazard assessment and mapping exercises.</p> <p>3. Forms of civil society organization participation, rated as high (H), medium (M), low (L), or not applicable (NA) M <input type="checkbox"/> Information gathering and sharing M <input type="checkbox"/> Consultation M <input type="checkbox"/> Collaboration L <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership Participation plan. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. For women's participation a gender action plan (GAP) has been prepared. The project is tentatively assigned category B, which only requires a land acquisition and resettlement framework (LARF) at this stage.</p>
<p>III. GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT</p>
<p>Gender mainstreaming category: effective gender mainstreaming</p> <p>A. Key issues: Gender disparities are quite low in Haveli, Kotli, and Poonch districts in terms of access to education.^e However, economic opportunities for women are limited. They are mostly employed in education and the public sector. With many men working abroad, the role of women in agriculture and livestock rearing has increased. Women in rural areas prefer to work inside the home and are mostly engaged in local producing handicrafts. With fewer economic opportunities, women are more susceptible to the adverse effects of natural calamities. After the 2005 earthquake, the majority of the women affected faced difficulties in accessing compensation because they had no legal titles. In Punjab Province, women participate actively in economic activities and household decision making. The gender parity index for primary education is 0.94 higher than in other provinces. More than 70% of women in rural Punjab are engaged in agriculture and livestock work. Frequent disasters in the province have adversely affected the livelihood patterns of rural women, most of whom have lost their livestock. According to a 2014 flood report, women faced difficulties in accessing health facilities because roads and bridges were inundated.^f Gender disaggregated data and analysis are not available for developing gender-inclusive and -responsive disaster management systems.</p>
<p>A. Key actions. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender action plan Other actions or measures <input type="checkbox"/> No action or measure</p> <p>Key activities of the GAP include (i) ensuring women's participation in the consultation and awareness-raising activities; (ii) increasing income-earning opportunities for women and encouraging them to operate private nurseries and engage in roadside plantation for land stabilization (30% of procurement from forest nurseries comes from operations owned by women); (iii) addressing particular concerns of women in the road reconstruction works by providing safe walkways, safety signs, waiting sheds, and other amenities; (iv) collecting gender-disaggregated data under the multihazard risk assessment in 16 districts in Punjab (In Haveli, Kotli, and Poonch districts, a similar exercise will be carried out by World Bank); and (v) improving women's representation in project coordination units (one social and gender specialist is to be hired in each unit).</p>
<p>IV. ADDRESSING SOCIAL SAFEGUARD ISSUES</p>
<p>A. Involuntary Resettlement Safeguard Category: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> FI</p> <p>1. Key impacts. Reconstruction and rehabilitation of damaged roads and irrigation schemes will be within the existing rights of way. Land acquisition is not envisaged for this work, although some compensation for resettlement issues may still be needed in subprojects involving roads, bridges, and irrigation facilities. Flood protection works may require the acquisition of some land, but these impacts are expected to be insignificant.</p> <p>2. Strategy to address the impacts. The project is assigned category B for involuntary resettlement. A LARF has been prepared by the executing and implementing agencies to address and/or compensate impacts in accordance with ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009) and Pakistan's Land Acquisition Act of 1894. The framework will guide the process of preparation of land acquisition and resettlement plans (where required) and their implementation and monitoring. The project will engage three resettlement specialists who will assist in preparing, implementing, and monitoring resettlement plans.</p>

3. Plan or other Actions.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Resettlement plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Combined resettlement and indigenous peoples plan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resettlement framework	<input type="checkbox"/> Combined resettlement framework and indigenous peoples planning framework
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental and social management system arrangement	<input type="checkbox"/> Social impact matrix
<input type="checkbox"/> No action	
B. Indigenous Peoples	Safeguard Category: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> FI
1. Key impacts. Indigenous peoples as defined in ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement are not present in or around the subprojects. No indigenous peoples plan or framework is required for this loan. Is broad community support triggered? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No No indigenous or tribal people live in or around the project areas.	
2. Strategy to address the impacts.	
3. Plan or other actions.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous peoples plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Combined resettlement plan and indigenous peoples plan
<input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous peoples planning framework	<input type="checkbox"/> Combined resettlement framework and indigenous peoples planning framework
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental and social management system arrangement	<input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous peoples plan elements integrated in project with a summary
<input type="checkbox"/> Social impact matrix	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No action	
V. ADDRESSING OTHER SOCIAL RISKS	
A. Risks in the Labor Market	
1. Relevance of the project for the country's or region's or sector's labor market L <input type="checkbox"/> unemployment L <input type="checkbox"/> underemployment L <input type="checkbox"/> retrenchment L <input type="checkbox"/> core labor standards	
2. Labor market impact. The project will offer significant labor opportunities by hiring local laborers under the cash-for-work scheme. The project raises no unemployment, underemployment, or retrenchment risks. There are no issues related to core labor standards in the project area. However, to mitigate possible risks, the bidding documents for contractors will include instructions for compliance with core labor standards.	
B. Affordability Not applicable, the project has no impacts on charges/fee etc.	
C. Communicable Diseases and Other Social Risks 1. The impact of the following risks are rated as high (H), medium (M), low (L), or not applicable (NA): L <input type="checkbox"/> Communicable diseases NA <input type="checkbox"/> Human trafficking <input type="checkbox"/> Others (please specify) _____	
2. Risks to people in project area. Under project's health, safety, and environment plan, medical services provided to workers during construction include a resident medical doctor and one paramedic (included in the contract and paid for by the contractor).	
VI. MONITORING AND EVALUATION	
1. Targets and indicators. Gender disaggregated data and analysis of multihazard vulnerability and risk assessment available for the 20 most vulnerable districts, landslide risk mitigation measures employ local communities, all road and bridge designs include gender-sensitive safety measures for pedestrians, and cash-for work schemes for hiring local unskilled labor.	
2. Required human resources. Two social and gender officers will be placed in the project coordination units and will be responsible for social and gender reporting and implementing the project's gender action plan.	
3. Information in the project administration manual. Periodic reports as mentioned in the PAM.	
4. Monitoring tools. Periodic reports, monitoring reports, field reports.	

^a S. Kreft, D. Eckstein, L. C. Kerestan and U. Hagen. 2014. Global Climate Risk Index 2015, Who Suffers Most from Extreme Weather Events? Weather-related Loss Events in 2013 and 1994 to 2013. <http://germanwatch.org/en/download/10333.pdf>

^b Government of Pakistan, Ministry of Planning, Development and Reform, Planning Commission. 2014. *Pakistan 2025: One Nation–One Vision*. Islamabad.

^c ADB estimates for the six flood-affected irrigation zones in Punjab Province to be covered by the project.

^d Official poverty estimates by province are not available for more recent years. Government of Pakistan. 2013. *Pakistan MDG Report, 2013*. <http://pk.undp.org>

^e The youth literacy GPI in 2014/2015 stood at 0.87.

^f *Multi-sector Initial Rapid Assessment – Punjab Floods*. 2014. National Disaster Management Authority, Punjab Disaster Management Authority, and Humanitarian Country Team in Pakistan. Islamabad.